

Cape May Star and Wave

154th YEAR NO. 12 CAPE MAY, N.J.

SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY

THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2008

50¢

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MAR/APRIL TIDE TABLE				
	HIGH		LOW	
	am	pm	am	pm
3/27		12:17	6:18	5:58
3/28	12:44	1:05	7:09	6:45
3/29	1:38	2:05	8:08	7:43
3/30	2:41	3:16	9:10	8:52
3/31	3:46	4:23	10:08	10:00
4/1	4:46	5:20	11:00	11:01
4/2	5:40	6:09	11:46	11:56

Patio precision: New regulations and fees set for mall

By **CHRISTOPHER SOUTH**
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - City council voted last week to approve two separate ordinances dealing with patio permits on the Washington Street Mall. Ordinance 139-2008 was passed on second reading after a public hearing, establishing conditions for having a patio permit on the mall. Ordinance 146-2008 established a new fee scale

for patio permits, and was introduced on first reading.

City manager Lou Corea said it was the city's intention to limit the number of permits being issued, and would only be offering the permits to businesses serving food. The fee ordinance establishes fees of \$5 per square foot for businesses with liquor licenses, \$4 per square foot for restaurants without a liquor license, and \$2 per square foot for a business

that serves ice cream, pizza or pretzels, for example, but has no table service. In all cases, patios will be limited to the linear frontage of the business and could not extend farther than the inside edge of the bluestone line in front of the building.

The ordinance requires all patios be fenced with a black wrought iron or aluminum fence of one of five approved designs. Patio tables must be constructed of metal, wood or resin

compound. Tables and chairs must be black, hunter green, natural wood stain, or brushed or shiny aluminum. Vinyl or plastic tables or chairs are not permitted. Chairs must be of a style without arms.

Fencing, which cannot be higher than 36 inches, must be black and either the St. Catherine, Aberdeen, Cathedral or Windsor Plus style.

Please see **Patio**, page A2

COAH sets new guidelines

Cape May City Council adopts ordinance to try to comply with affordable housing

By **CHRISTOPHER SOUTH**
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - City council adopted a new ordinance last week in an attempt to bring the city into compliance with affordable housing requirements set down by the state.

City solicitor Anthony Monzo said as a result of new regulations, the city cannot force developers to undertake the entire burden for affordable housing. Monzo said the New Jersey Council On Affordable Housing has proposed rules implementing a growth share approach to affordable housing. Cape May, he said, would be required to establish one non-age restricted affordable housing unit for every five market-rate housing units produced.

For commercial development, the new COAH requirement is to provide one non-age restricted affordable housing unit for every 16 new jobs or employment opportunities created as a result of non-residential development.

The new Ordinance 142A-2008 also eliminated the "payment in lieu of construction" section from the original ordinance. According to Deputy Mayor Niels Favre, city council decided to "step away from" the payment in lieu of construction provision of the earlier draft of the ordinance and instead require affordable housing be built in Cape May.

"This is a good ordinance...it will help us bring people back to the community," he

Please see **COAH**, page A3



Rosanne M. Borgo/Cape May Star and Wave

Easter egg scramble!

Children were a blur of color as they set off searching for eggs at the annual Easter Egg Hunt in Cape May on Saturday, March 22. At left, Cape May Point Easter Bunny Linda Shaw Derher poses with twins George and Virginia Williams and their family, from left, grandmother Caroline Cromelin, dad Paul, mom Carey and aunt Margaret Cromelin. After enjoying rides on a fire truck and visiting with the famous bunny, kids in Cape May Point had their own Easter Egg Hunt. Below left, Patrick Hodlowski, 3, of Glen Mills, Pa., and his mom, Kristin, show off the golden egg Patrick found in the hay at the Cape May Egg Hunt. Below, Patrick with the other golden egg winners and their prizes, from left, Tristan McKeough, 2, of Glenside, Pa., MacKensie McDonough, 6, of West Cape May, and Janelle Gehrke, 6, of Cape May.



Cape May City Council introduces ordinance changes

By **CHRISTOPHER SOUTH**
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - City council introduced five ordinance changes last week, affecting street closures, development fees, fire zones, permit fees, and a lease agreement with the Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts.

City council introduced ordinance 143-2008 amending Section 440-20 of the city code, to allow the city manager to close certain streets for public events. The ordinance was introduced to give the city manager the authority to close certain streets for parades, concerts, or other recreational events. The new authority would likely not result in the closing of Lyle Lane for summer music con-

certs at the Rotary Bandstand. City council previously heard recommendations from Police Chief Diane Sorantino and Fire Chief Jerome Inderwies saying they preferred that Lyle Lane remain open.

Ordinance 144-2008 was introduced to allow the Historic Preservation Commission to collect escrow fees for professional services related to demolitions. HPC attorney Robert Fineberg requested the change on behalf of the HPC at the

previous city council meeting, saying when applications make a case for demolition, the HPC does not have the resources to investigate the applicant's claims. The change, if

Please see **Ordinance**, page A2

Changes affect street closures, development fees, fire zones, permit fees and a lease agreement with MAC.

Beck, Lare form independent ticket for Lower Township mayor and councilman

By **CHRISTOPHER SOUTH**
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LOWER TOWNSHIP - Ending all speculation, former Lower Township Councilman Mike Beck has announced his intention to run for mayor of Lower Township.

Beck, an independent candidate, is joined by former West Cape May Commissioner Kevin Lare, who is running for the council-at-large

seat.

Right out of the gate, Beck said he and Lare would not accept any campaign contributions from any individual, person or company doing business with Lower Township.

"You cannot serve two masters," Beck said. "People must know the decisions we make are based solely on the interest of township, not the interest of contributors or a

special block of people, who may have an agenda."

Beck said political agendas tend to drive good people out of politics, and he doesn't want to be part of that.

"My candidacy is a call to people who understand what I'm talking about," he said.

Beck said those are the people

Please see **Beck, Lare**, page A7

Mahaney makes three running for mayor

By **CHRISTOPHER SOUTH**
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - Ed Mahaney is one of three candidates to file petitions for mayor in Cape May.

Mahaney, like the other two candidates, has previous experience serving as mayor of Cape May.

But Mahaney believes he is uniquely qualified to provide the strong leadership he believes the city needs. Mahaney believes leadership is lacking in city government, and questioned whether some

others are even up to speed on the existing form of government.

"I don't think some candidates and existing members of council understand the form of government," he said.

Mahaney said some are under the impression the city manager holds all the power in Cape May and the council and mayor have only ceremonial duties.

"Council and the mayor set tone and administrative policy and the direction the city is going to meet the needs of the city for the future," he

said. "Council, led by the mayor, set the overall goals and objectives for the city. The city manager is the hands-on administrator who implements policy. The way some members of council are operating they have the roles reversed."

Mahaney also believes planning and development is lacking in the governing body, which he said spends too much time on low priority issues, such as whether to keep Lyle Lane open or closed during summer concerts, and not enough time on

the long range development of the city.

"And the powers of the planning board are being usurped by volunteer committees. As a consequence we have not had the master plan being worked on for a long time," he said.

Mahaney said he would use his education, work experience, networking abilities, and elected experience to advance the position of Cape May for the long term.

Mahaney served on Cape

Please see **Mahaney**, page A2

Road closing March 30 for Ocean Drive Marathon

The 10th annual Ocean Drive Marathon will be held on Sunday, March 30, starting at 8:30 a.m. Lower Township motorists should avoid Route 109 and Ocean Drive from the Route 109 bridge to Wildwood Crest on this date between 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Motorists in the area between these hours should be prepared to expect lengthy traffic delays and/or temporary detours to allow the runners to pass.

Route 109 north will be closed from Cape May to Ocean Drive. Motorists leaving Cape May will be rerouted through West Cape May. Ocean Drive northbound will be closed from the Route 109 bridge to Wildwood Crest during this time. All traffic will be diverted northbound onto Route 109 north and the Garden State Parkway.

Anyone wishing to travel on Ocean Drive during these times must come in through Wildwood Crest as only the southbound lane will be open. Lower Township Police Officers will be stationed throughout the race to strictly enforce the detour.