

Cape May Star and Wave

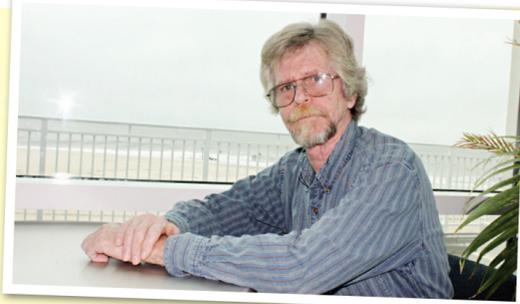


159TH YEAR NO. 42 CAPE MAY, N.J. SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY WEDNESDAY, October 16, 2013 50¢



HOUSE OF THE WEEK

Page B1



ROY BAKER FINDS MUSIC AGAIN IN OPEN MIC FORUM

Page A3



County forum gives a 'Voice to Addiction'

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

CREST HAVEN - The County Board of Chosen Freeholders first attempted to put a face on addiction - then they tried to give it a voice.

They continued dialogue they began at their first addiction awareness forum, "Putting a Face on Addiction," held on Sept. 5, by hosting a second forum, "Giving a Voice to Addiction," held Thursday, Oct. 10.

The forums have been

into a report and sent to the state for review.

According to the speakers, the most common barriers for obtaining treatment in Cape May County were the lack of rehabilitation centers, mentoring programs, awareness efforts, addiction counseling, community meetings and school based programs that could help addicts and prevent future addiction of others.

The first person to speak, Rosalie Stackhouse, said her 30-year-old grandson has been waiting over a month



Cain Chamberlin/Cape May Star and Wave

Above, Edward Shim, Cape May County Drug Court Prosecutor addresses the audience at the county drug forum, Oct. 10.

geared toward hearing from families, friends and those suffering from drug and alcohol addiction in the area. Freeholder Kristine Gabor, Health and Human Services Director Pat Devaney and Communications Director Lenora Boninfante organized the forums hoping to rally a unified approach for dealing with the rising use of heroin and other narcotics in Cape May County. Their effort has received a number of responses to the plea for residents to join the fight against drug abuse and share their concerns and experiences.

"We want to give people the opportunity to express their experiences and opinions regarding treatment and addiction," Gabor said.

Despite the rainy weather, around 60 or 70 people showed up for the forum. The county offered the first 25 people to sign in a chance to speak for five minutes about their experiences and address three specific questions:

-What barriers did you have getting treatment?

-What should be included in a treatment program?

-What would you like to see in recovery?

There were 11 people who signed up to speak, but by the end of the evening, around 20 decided to address the forum, which lasted two hours. Gabor said the suggestions and experiences provided by attendees would be compiled

to get into rehab and receive counseling.

"It's so sad to see him holding his head in his hand saying 'I need help,' but when you pick up the phone, no one is there to help," she said.

Stackhouse, who is Drug Awareness Chairman for the Greater Cape May Elks in Villas, said those who have been in jail for drug use and recovering addicts need a program that helps them readjust when returning into the community from prison or a treatment center.

Kyle, a reformed heroin addict who kept his last name anonymous, said he had a college education and a great job working at a Lexus car dealership, but when he was arrested for possession and sent to jail, he lost the position.

"When you're an addict, everything seems to come down on top of you and the mountain seems too high to overcome," he said. "I can't go back to the dealership and it's tough finding a job with that on your record."

Kyle said going to jail doesn't help addicts at all because they just meet more drug dealers inside and sometimes are able to obtain their drug of choice at a cheaper cost.

Victoria, another recovering addict and alcoholic, said she began experimenting with drugs when she was a young teen and it soon began

Please see Voice, page A2



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

Above, Robert 'Bob' Mullock, center, takes the oath of office of commissioner in the Borough of Cape May Point. Mullock was appointed to fill the seat vacated by Mayor George "Skip" Stanger. Stanger stepped down for health reasons. To Mullock's left, holding the Bible, is his wife Linda. Borough Solicitor Brock Russell (right in photo) administers the oath of office.

Mullock named as Point new commissioner

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY POINT - Point resident Robert Mullock was appointed, Oct. 10, to replace Mayor George "Skip" Stanger on the Cape May Point Board of Commissioners.

Mullock, a 30-year homeowner in the Point, and owner of Cape May National Golf Course in Lower Township and the Chalfonte Hotel in Cape May, was nominated by Commissioner Bob Moffatt to fill the vacancy.

Stanger resigned effective Oct. 1 saying a bad back was keeping him from doing the job as he thought it should be done.

In the Point's form of government, three commissioners are elected and the Board of Commissioners decides who will be mayor and deputy mayor. When Municipal Clerk/Administrator Kim Hodsdon called for nominations for mayor, Moffatt requested the matter be tabled until the next meeting, indicating the commissioners wished to discuss the

matter.

During commissioner comments, Mullock said he was honored to be appointed to the board, saying he was blessed to live in Cape May Point.

"I'm here to serve," Mullock said. "Obviously I'm not going to be mayor or deputy mayor, but I'm happy to be the commissioner of the Public Works department."

Mullock said he had received calls from a couple of people asking him to consider serving on the board of

commissioners.

"I felt like, I've been here, this is such a special place, this time I can't refuse...they needed a person," he said.

Mullock said since he was accepting the position of borough commissioner he would have to resign his seat on the Cape May Point Zoning Board of Adjustment.

vanHeeswyk and Moffatt welcomed Mullock to the Board of Commissioners. She said at the same time she was sad to see Stanger go and wished him well.

Cape May presents water study at press conference

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - The city released its own water study, Oct. 10, providing evidence it says shows West Cape May was not being billed enough for water received as opposed to being overbilled.

The study, done by Dixon Associates of Galloway, was to address an estimated 121 million gallons of missing water between 2003 and 2009, which cost West Cape May ratepayers nearly \$700,000. Recently, the borough was willing to settle with the city for \$592,000 in credits over eight years for its water customers.

However, engineer Kevin Dixon of Dixon Associates believes the unaccounted water usage is occurring on the West Cape May side of the Canning House Lane

master meter and is being consumed before entering the Cape May city system again through the Wilbraham Park meter.

"There's more water entering West Cape May uncharged than there is leaving West Cape May uncharged," Dixon said at last Thursday's press conference.

In 2010, West Cape May hired Eden Water Resource Recovery to conduct a report on the issue. The firm concluded that the water meters at Canning House Lane and Wilbraham Park were faulty, which have since been replaced.

Dixon said his firm took multiple factors into account when developing the report. He said Dixon Associates observed the background of the situation, the Eden Recovery report, the impact

on residents water bills, the installation of the new water meters and the readings at low flow (less than 100 gallons per minute).

Dixon said the water flow between Cape May City and West Cape May works on a loop system. He said water flows from the desalination plant on Canning House Lane through West Cape May to Wilbraham Park. The meter at Wilbraham Park records the flow of unused water that is pushed to the city, for which the borough is credited.

City Solicitor Tony Monzo said the original meters, which were 12-inch high flow meters, were not accurately recording at low flow. Monzo said according to the Eden report, the meters were not recording flow below 40 gallons per minute (gpm) and were inaccurately

recording flow between 40 and 100 gpm. He said flow above 100 gpm was found to be 100 percent accurate.

Both meters at Canning House Lane and Wilbraham Park were replaced in June 2012 with 10-inch high and low flow meters and activated on June 29 at a cost to the city of nearly \$270,000.

"These meters can record anywhere from five gallons per minute to, I believe, 5,500 gallons per minute," Monzo said.

The city asked that readings with the new meters be taken for at least one year. Hourly recordings were taken from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013. Dixon said this annual report was used in his firm's study to determine independently, if possible, discrepancies between

Please see Water, page A2

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2ND ANNUAL "SOLEMAN" 5K RUN

AND 1 MILE GENE SOLE & PAUL MATHIS MEMORIAL WALK

Raise awareness of the importance of character in people and to raise money for the Gene Sole Scholarship Fund.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH AT 9:00AM

CAPE MAY CONVENTION CENTER

Registration is \$25 ~ 5K Run & 1 mile memorial walk is \$15. Pre-registration guarantees each runner to receive a tee shirt.
Information and registration at SolemanRun.com or call the Washington Inn 609-884-5697.
Local Business support needed and always welcomed for scholarship fund.