Hands

Continued from page A1

-ever they are going through," she said. Walls said what they learned is the kids didn?t need more backpacks and the school didn?t need more repairs, but the relatives of victims needed therapy to help them cope with their loss and the subsequent grieving

"They?ve got school supplies and help with rebuilding school. Our hearts just went out to the families, and we thought funds were needed to help them get the therapy they need," she said.

Walls said they organized a fundraiser at Cabanas, Beach and Decatur in Cape May, to raise funds. The Healing Hands for Sandy Hook benefit is being held on Saturday, Feb. 23, from 3 to

Tickets are \$26 per person in advance and \$30 at the door. They can be purchased by going to www.healing handsforsandyhook.com.

Walls said some local musicians have donated their time for the event, including Kate Delaney-Chew, Johnny Miller, and Carl Behrens. She said Seashore Foods is donat-

ing food for the event. The entertainment, just from being local we all just knew of them and reached out to them. We reached out to three people who were willing to do it and are great entertainers who people know. It made for a great lineup," Walls said.

Walls said they are getting other kinds of help form the

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH

Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY POINT - Like

any beach along the Jersey

Shore, Cape May Point beach-

es receive their fair share

of flotsam and jetsam. Last

week, however, perhaps the

biggest piece ever seen float-

ed up on Pearl Avenue beach.

"I noticed it on the beach,"

said Public Works supervisor

Gibson, who said cleaning

up debris is part of regular

beach maintenance, said he

noticed what was an approxi-

mately 8'x16' section of float-

ing dock. He said there was

no yacht attached to the dock,

but he has found boats on

Point beaches from time to

"We have had everything

wash up on the beaches, from

docks, to port-a-potties (unoc-

Bill Gibson.

community as well.

"All the businesses are coming together to donate for online auction," Walls said. "MAC stepped up and has been in charge of that - basically the auction and tickets sales.'

The on-line auction currently has 58 items listed, from a growler of beer to a stay in a beautiful Cape May inn. The auction closes Feb. 22, and any of the leftover items will be offered in a live auction at the event, Feb. 23.

Walls said the Flying Fish Studio in West Cape May is donating T-shirts to sell to raise money, and Inkwell Printing has donated fliers.

'We need to get work out to help the community come together and make it a huge success," Walls said. They have been promoting the event through Facebook (www.facebook.com/healinghandsbenefit) and have been getting a good response. Walls said she would like to see the effort keep running beyond the Feb. 23 fundraiser, but that is something they have to discuss. However, she said it?s a cause she can?t easily give up on.

"This has completely affected me and I don?t even know them (in Newtown)," she said.

Walls has three children of her own, ages 1, 3 and 5. Of the other two moms, one has two children and the other has two and one on the way. Walls said it was important

for them to know that the families would be getting the money raised in Cape May.

The Newtown Parent

Dock docks at Point beach

cupied), dead sea turtles, tubs

Gibson said a clothes dryer

was found the same day, on

the same beach. He said it's

not uncommon to find larg-

er items on the beach some

time after a big storm, such

as Hurricane Sandy, or even nor'easters. He said some-

times people dump items

near tidal creeks, and if there

is a storm surge or high tide

that fills the creeks, they will

"A lot of stuff flows out of

channels and canals in upper

Delaware Bay. People dis-

card and it can travel a good

the section of dock traveled

a far distance. He said they

had no immediately plans for

the dock, which was removed

tend loader. He said if no one

Gibson said it's most likely

carry things out to sea.

distance," he said.

telephone poles, to sections of from the beach with a fron-

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full of fish; especially after

storms," Gibson said.

Connection will make sure all the money gets to the families for therapy. The organization is not taking a cut. That was important to us when deciding what charity to go through.

The Healing Hands for Sandy Hook fundraisers will be this Saturday, Feb. 23, from 3 to 7 p.m. at Cabanas. There will be live entertainment, a 50/50 drawing, buffet and drink specials.

Local businesses and individuals contributing to the fundraiser including: Aleksy Photography, Big Wave Burritos, Cabanas Beach Bar and Grill, Cape May Brewing Company, Cape May Fitness, Carl Behrens, Compass Point Travel, Dave and Chris Clemens, Disney World Resort, Dr. Talio and Dr. Papparone DDS, East Lynne Theater Company, Fairhorne B&B, Gail Pierson Gallery, Hawk Haven Winery, Inkwell Printers, Jason Raegan, Jazmin Brown Fashions, Johnny Miller, Just Skin Food, Kate Delaney-Chew, Like Minded Rebels, Lower Township PTA, Mid Atlantic Center for the Arts, Majesty Marble and Granite, Maryhouse.com, Township Elementary School # 1, Morey's Pier, MP Myers Photography, Music Together, NFL, Ocean Isle Tans~ Jacki Blair, Ruth Foley, SeaGear Marine Supply, Seashore Food Distributors, Sheer Sensations, Stalker Fishing Charter, Lobster House, and Wise Wellness Center.

wants it they would probably cut it up so it would fit in a

Public works pumps

water from lake

Gibson said the level of Lily

Lake had risen due to recent

rainstorms, and as a result

the Department of Public

Works pumped 700,000 gal-

lons of water out of the lake.

high water table from all the

rain and it was not going out,"

According to Gibson, water

from the borough drains from

the lake into Lighthouse Pond

and from the pond it goes

into the nature conserve. He

said if the levels of those bod-

ies of water are not going

down, the level of the lake

is not going down either. In

that case they have a 100 HP

pump that pumps lake water

into a 24-inch sewer line that

"We do this to prevent street

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**Escape from Planet Earth 3D PG 11:20, 4:10, 9:10
**Dark Skies PG-13 11:40, 2:00, 4:40, 7:25, 9:40
Warm Bodies PG-13 11:25, 1:50, 4:30 7:20, (9:35 Fri-Wed)

**Snitch PG13 11:15, 2:20, 4:55, 7:40, 9:55 Identity Thief R 11:45, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00 **Safe Haven PG-13 11:30, 2:10, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 Beautiful Creatures PG-13 140, 9:40 Silver Lining Playbook R 11:00, 4:20, 7:05

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flooding and get the water

"We had high water and a

dumpster.

Gibson said.

goes into bay.

safe and reliable

Maps –

Continued from page A1

Continued from page A1

the fact that you meet a lot

of people on your journey through life. The analogy I

use is that everyone has a

particular song. George's was

the love of people and passion

for music," Kurkowski said.

"He was very influential for

me, very encouraging as a

Midnight" is going to be avail-

able this week at the Whale's

Tale on the Washington

Street Mall, which he said

was very exciting. Kurkowski

said a portion of the pro-

ceeds will benefit the George

which Kurskowski described

as a foundation for the edu-

cation of the next generation

of musicians. The foundation

was created by Mesterhazy's

said

Foundation,

mentor and teacher.'

Kurkowski

Mesterhazy

hit by waves, where it would (actually) just be high water,' she said.

Still, she said she believes Cape May Point is better off than some other shore towns. "Other towns are in shock,"

she said. "Our maps are close to our zoning ordinance. But there is a lot of activity trying to get things cleared up.

She said the borough may or may not soon adopt a new flood ordinance. She said Gov. Chris Christie has pushed the advisory maps forward saying they must be used, but the construction office is able to give permits using the higher numbers. She said some people are choosing to wait to build until the final numbers are in.

"For the people in Cape May Point who want to build, there is nothing definitive as to where to set levels. When Sandy came along, FEMA thought they were doing their

best by guesstimating at the high end," vanHeeswyk said. She said one of the freeholders at the meeting was saying people should fix their plumbing and get electricity (those who lost it) and live in their homes until this is settled. VanHeeswyk said the maps were supposed to be ready in the summer, but now will not be out until September of October, and they are going to be preliminary maps. Once adopted, perhaps two years later, she said that is how the insurance companies will rate properties.

"It's just an ugly scenar-" vanHeeswyk said. "This is why not adopting an ordinance...something that might have to be codified and then thrown out.'

VanHeeswyk said there were glimmers of possible changes at last week's meeting in Ventnor, saying the people there are starting to understand the implications.

VanHeeswyk said a number of Cape May County municipalities sent representatives to Trenton to voice their concerns recently. Attorney Stew Farrell is also representing Cape May and Atlantic coun-

ties. She said the last regional

Dock-

Continued from above left

table down. We have a lot of storm drains going into the lake, and we pump it down to give the water somewhere to go," he said.

Gibson said over the course of five or six days surrounding Superstorm Sandy the borough pumped 21 million gallons of water from the lake.

TIDES February 2013 Eastern Standard Time

High Low A.M. P.M. A.M. P.M. 3:47 4:15 10:08 9:54 4:40 5:07 10:58 10:45 5:27 5:53 11:41 11:31 6:10 6:35 11:41 11:31 6:49 7:14 12:15 12:56 7:27 7:52 12:57 1:31 8:04 8:29 1:38 2:07 8:41 9:07 2:20 2:43 but there is still nothing final-"No one knows what to

meeting was held in Ventnor,

Watson, owner of the Merion fixture.

tell people, but I can say we are so much better off than almost everyone right now,

VanHeeswyk said the irony is, seven and a half years after Hurricane Katrina, the Gulf Coast still doesn't have

In other business, the commissioners passed Ordinance 612-13 after a public hearing. The ordinance allows homeowners and residents to be members of the environmental commission. There was no public comment on the ordinance, which passed by a 3-0 vote.

Commissioner Bob Moffatt said there will be some meetings held to address traffic concerns. He said in March they will begin the process of correcting traffic problems, which include speeding and parking problems.

"We will be setting dates for future neighborhood audits and hold an open workshop to investigate solutions. Moffatt said some sample audits were handed out at last Tuesday's commissioners' workshop.

"The feedback was encouraging," Moffatt said. "There are a lot of parking situations that affect the fire depart-

Moffatt said he has spoken to Cape May's Code Enforcement and Animal Control Officer John Queenan about sharing animal servic-

"Sharing animal control makes the most sense. Moffatt said.

VanHeeswyk said the Point budget was coming in with a slightly lower rate than 2013.

"The reduction put nearly \$62,000 into surplus," she said, adding that there would be handouts on the budget at the next commission meeting.

On a related issue, Mayor Skip Stanger said the Point's tax rate is going down "a tiny bit," the county tax rate is

going up. "Tipping fees for the county MUA are going to be increasing - the amount we pay per ton of non-recyclables,

Stanger said.

Above, David Kurkowski, composer of "It's Midnight," and the late

longtime life partner Vicki Inn, where Mesterhazy was a

George Mesterhazy, who was instrumental in the CD being completed.

Stanger said the move fits in with the implementation of the single stream recycling, which will official begin April 1. Single stream recycling means all the recyclables (Paper, plastic, bottles, jars, cans, etc.) will go in the same container or containers.

Special to the Cape May Star and Wave

"The county is hoping to increase the amount of recycling, which should decrease amount of trash," Stanger

Stanger said the DEP had placed about 50 new "Please Keep Off The Dune" signs. He said the old signs had been taken down, but asked that if anyone sees a sign that can't be read to call Borough Hall.

He said a handicapped walkway at Coral Avenue will have a new life. He said the ocean side of the ramp had a zigzag entrance to beach. which has been removed and the new handicapped access to the beach is being installed. He said the base would be like the Infield gravel on a baseball diamond, which he

said is easy to compact.
"The Army Corps Engineers inspected what was there and said it did not meet ADA or proper building codes or Corps standards. Stanger said.

The first Cape May Point Beach Clean-Up will be on April 27. There will be another on Sept. 21.

The commissioners passed Resolution 26-13, authorizing a contract for COAH Planning Consultants with Clarke, Canton, Hintz.

The commissione announced there would be the excavation of Central Avenue, closing the road for about three days once the project begins.

The commissioners introduced an ordinance to move the non-partisan municipal election in 2016 from May to November. New governing body members would take office in January 2017, which extends the term of current board by seven months, but saves the borough about \$4,000.

Rate-

Continued from page A1

several different reasons.

"True to our promise, much of the money from the sale (of the license) went right back into tax reductions for the year," Kaithern said. "And while it's not a whole lot of a reduction, I'm not aware of any other municipalities in the county that are reducing their taxes. People are clearly struggling in this economy, so I see this as a good thing.

One dilemma brought up during budget talks centered on a filing problem the borough's clerk's office. Elaine Wallace, West Cape May's municipal clerk, informed Kaithern of problems the clerks have with the abundance of filing.
"We need better records

management, and we'll zero in on that in the coming week," Kaithern said.

The idea of hiring a parttime clerk with the sole purpose of rearranging the borough's filing system was entertained, and the subject will continue to be discussed in coming weeks. The commission switched

gears after budget talks, and focused their attention towards a new business task force to study and report on activities in the borough's business district. The task force will be made

up of West Cape May residents and stakeholders, who will be tasked with reviewing all aspects of activities in the borough's business district. This will include looking over zoning and land issues, aesthetics, landscaping, quality of life, and traffic.

The initial members of the task force are Lynn Bowley, Dick Rigby, Dave Schultz, Curtis Bashaw, Doug Carnes and Jack Wright. The meeting ended with both Kaithern and Deputy Mayor Peter Burke discussing the misconception that the borough and surrounding cities were washed away when Hurricane Sandy hit at the end of last October. Though most of Sandy's

damage occurred northeast of Atlantic City, Kaithern said all tourists hear is that the 'shore" has been devastated.

"Just recently someone asked me if Congress Hall in Cape May was still standing,' Burke said.

Kaithern said West Cape May would need to advertise to tourists that the town is still standing, and as is evident by the new tax reduction, is still thriving.

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