155th YEAR NO. 22 CAPE MAY, N.J.

SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY

THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2009

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### INSIDE



**SPORTS** 

Baseball season opens at LCMR, A16

Little League resuts, A15

CG petty officer leads Navy to gold, A15

### COMMUNITY

Kiwanis Annual Car Raffle underway, **A5** 

#### **ARTS**

Music Festival continues, A13

East Lynne opening, A13

MAY/JUNE TIDE TABLE HIGH LOW				
	am	pm	am	pm
5/28		12:03	5:47	5:43
5/29	12:27	1:05	6:43	6:46
5/30	1:17	2:09	7:41	7:53
5/31	2:20	3:13	8:38	9:01
6/1	3:23	4:13	9:33	10:07
6/2	4:24	5:08	10:26	11:08
6/3	5:22	5:59	11:16	

1st Quarter 5/30, 6/7
Full Moon 6/15
Last Quarter 6/22
New Moon 6/29
Perigee 6/23
Apogee 6/10

## Settlement near between Cove Restaurant and city

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - On Tuesday, City Solicitor Anthony Monzo said the city could have a settlement with the Cove Restaurant in a couple of days, ending a dispute stemming from a proposed improvement.

At issue is a deck constructed on the dune side of the restaurant that over the years was roofed and closed in. According to Monzo, that issue was resolved in 1997, but the city is now taking issue with plans to reconstruct the deck with a concrete foundation.

The Johnston family was represented at last week's city council meeting by attorney Lou Dwyer, who filed suit against the city on his client's behalf. Cape May City Council passed a resolution last week saying it objected to any approvals being granted by the Planning Board for the Cove project, and asked the Planning Board to rehear the application.

The resolution specifically asks no approvals be given for improvements in the vacated portion of Third Avenue. According to the resolution the area was vacated by Ordinance 195 in January 1965, and the dimensions of the vacated area were corrected and confirmed by ordinance in 1968. The original ordinance stated no building or structure would be allowed to be constructed in the vacated portion of Third Avenue, with the exception of maintenance of the stone jetty.

The resolution further states that the Planning Board was not aware of

the prohibition when it approved an application for the improvement at the Cove Restaurant. The Planning Board, however, did not adopt a memorializing resolution establishing its approval before the city asked the Planning Board to rehear the application.

"The resolution laid out the city's position with regard to the reconstruction of the addition put on a few years back," Monzo said. "The city reserved certain rights on vacated portions of Third Avenue."

Monzo said the city believes public safety would be jeopardized by the modifications proposed in the application. Monzo said the city came to an agreement with the Cove Restaurant in 1997 giving them some relief for the deck. Monzo said the windows, walls and roof were constructed with-

out approval, but that matter was rectified in 1997. Last week, Dwyer called the assertion the addition was constructed without permits "erroneous"

According to Dwyer, the deck was constructed after obtaining a permit in 1970. He said a permit for the roof was issued in 1980, and the deck was closed in the 1990s, also with a per

Please see Cove, Page A2

# New look unveiled for LT police cars

Township decides to incorporate Cape May Lighthouse

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH Cape May Star and Wave

LOWER TOWNSHIP - The Lower Township's Police Department has taken a page from the old and a page from the new in selecting new vehicles for the patrol fleet.

Police Chief Edward
Donohue elected to go back to
the distinctive black and
white look, which a number
of municipalities, including
neighboring Middle
Township, have already done.
North Wildwood has opted
for a blue and white scheme
on their newer vehicles.

Donohue also decided to go with Dodge Chargers over the Ford Crown Victorias, which had been standard in many departments. Donohue indicated other departments, such as the Ocean City, Trenton and Atlantic City Police Departments had already purchased several Dodge Charger Police Vehicles. According to

Donohue there are only two car companies that currently provide a decent police package vehicle, which is the Ford Crown Victoria and the Dodge Charger.

The Dodge Charger comes with a V8 Hemi Engine, which Donohue said should resist wear and tear longer and requires less vehicle maintenance and should therefore be able to stay in the fleet as a front line vehicle, for a longer period of time.

The Chief and his staff researched the issue for several months and based the switch by taking the following into account:

 The trunk area of a front line vehicle must be large enough to carry numerous pieces of equipment including: traffic cones, flares, fire extinguishers, pry tools, blankets, first aid kits, oxygen bottles, etc., that officers are required to carry in their vehicle

 The battery system of the car must be strong enough to run headlights, radios, overhead lights, sirens and mobile data computer terminals for each car.

Please see Cars, Page A14



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

### Cape May celebrates Memorial Day

Happy Beacham of the VFW Auxiliary and Carol Haggerty of the Military Order of the Cooties Auxiliary place wreathes at the Veteran's Memorial, Columbia and Guerney in Cape May, as part of Memorial Day celebrations.

### Foster homes needed for kittens Animal Shelter looking for your help

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - The Cape May County Animal Shelter is looking for people to be foster parents to kittens until they are old enough to be adopted. The animal shelter took in 1,300 animals in 2008, the majority of them cats. According to shelter personnel, the shelter could see hundreds of kittens come in during the spring season. And frequently the shelter gets newborn litters, which

are too young to adopt out. Typically the shelter will wait until a kitten is eight to 12 weeks old before putting them up for adoption. Until then, the kittens need to be bottle-fed with kitten replacement milk.

According to shelter manager Judith Davies-Dunhour, they also like to keep newborn kittens out of the shelter because they are more susceptible to picking up disease from other Placing animals. Christopher South the newborns in Stor and Wave foster care allows "Mary," an orange and white kitten is them to be healthy enough to be adoptone of the many waiting to be adopted ed on at the Cape May County Animal Shelter. Additionally, she

said, the kittens are

typically in a happier environment in a foster home.

The shelter also provides shots, medicine and moral support for the foster parents. The foster parents also receive a supply of litter, canned cat food, KMR brand milk replacement, as well as a litter of kittens.

Foster parents need to fill out a volunteer application, and if there are already pets in the foster home, they must be current on their vaccinations. Approval for fostering may also require a home visit by the shelter manager.

When the foster kittens have reached an appropriate age and size, the shelter will place them in a local veterinarian's office, or bring them back to the shelter, where they would be available for adoption.

In the event people are not interested in being foster parents for kittens but want to help, the shelter is accepting monetary donations or donations of wet and dry Purina kitten food, or bottles for feeding and KMR (kitten milk replacement). The shelter always

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## Lear wins designer contest

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH Cape May Star and Wave

MIAMI, Fla. – Ben Lear, son of Cape May Police Lt. Chuck Lear, finished first in the 2nd Annual Student Fashion Designer Competition during the Miami Fashion Week earlier this year.

Lear, 22, was named the 2009 student winner, submitting one of his designs from the Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale. A 2005 graduate of Cape Christian Academy, Lear graduated from the Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale with an associate's degree in Fashion Design on March 26. "They have the student

competition every year and as long as you are in fashion school and can make a design you can (enter)," Lear said. One of the instructors suggested students enter the competition.

"We had to do designs for her, so she said we might as well submit them. The show wanted three designs," Lear said. Lear said he sent in his designs and the competition really wasn't on his mind when a friend contacted him. "I was in Dallas Texas when

I found out. A friend texted me and said I was picked as one of five finalists," he said. Lear described the experience as "surreal," saying he never expected to be picked

as a finalist.

Lear does choreography and cheerleading in Miami, where he is part of a team. He

Please see **Lear,** Page A14



And they're off!

Jennifer Kopp/Cape May Star and Wave

West Cape May Elementary School students, parents, alumni and assorted guests participated in the school's annual Bike-A-Thon, one of the most popular events of the school year. Pictured is the start.

## Restaurant Week in CM

CAPE MAY - Are you looking for an excuse to come to Cape May after the holiday weekend? Have you been longing to dine at one your favorite restaurants or have been thinking about trying some place new? Well drop everything and come on down here because May 31-June 7 is Cape May Restaurant Week. That's right, eight days not seven. Think of it as a Chef's Week. You know, like a Baker's Dozen. For eight straight nights you can get a great three-course dinner at your choice of some of the best Cape May has to offer for a fixed price of \$35.09 for First Tier Restaurants and \$22.09 for Second Tier Restaurants.

All participating restaurants will offer a three course meal, including appetizer, entrée and dessert, from a menu that shows at least three choices for each course every night they are open during Restaurant Week. Sometimes all you need is a nudge to try a new place, so nudge on over to your computer because everything you need to know about the participating restaurants can be found by visiting the official Cape May Restaurant Week website, cmrestaurantweek.com

With 20-plus restaurants already signed up and more coming on board everyday, locals and visitors alike have a chance to try some place new or come back to their favorite haunt.

Cape May has long been known for its variety of fine dining experiences, from casual sit-down to formal dining, now is the perfect time to begin your Epicurean Quest. Start planning your dining excursions today.

Cape May Restaurant Week is sponsored by Cape May Magazine and the Chamber of Commerce of Greater Cape May. For more information or to make your reservations visit cmrestaurantweek.com.