**Concerts never a money-maker but losses down**

Tourism Utility consistently under budget, Rattigan says

By JACK FICHTER

CAPE MAY — The city has cut its losses on presenting winter concerts in Convention Hall after years of losing money.

Last month, Jules Herbst, president of the Taxpayers’ Association of Cape May questioned expenses being $95,000 on the beach called Emlen Physick stock, a three-day re-creation of Woodstock from Aug. 18-20 featuring tributes.

During a City Council meeting Oct. 17, heretofore under-presented Convention Hall and recreation, said the purpose of the tourism utility, which falls under the senior department, was to be a money-maker.

She said the tourism utility is not meant to be a revenue stream; however, it’s also meant to run at a significant deficit, she said. “I mean to lose money, who will be making money?” she asked.

She said the tourism utility has never gone over under budget, Rattigan said. She said the tourism utility has never been a money-maker.

When concluding the building expenses and the profits from concert-related items, including perform-ers, and promoter costs, the concerts have always been in the negative but the (tourism) utility has never gone over budget. “We have always been under budget.”

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**Family Promise names day center for Johnson**

By JACK FICHTER

NORTH CAPE MAY — Family Promise, an organization that helps families experiencing homelessness, named its day center in honor of its former executive director Laurie Johnson, who passed away May 29 following a battle with cancer.

A well-attended dedication was held Oct. 19 at the center at 505 Townbank Road.

Family Promise President Mary Ann Castagnetta said everyone in attendance came with one special reason “to honor our beloved Lau-rie.”

She announced that there’s a building that have their name on a building: you have either been rich and she’s both, rich with love and friends,” Castagnetta said. “I’ve never met another person like her.”

The Rev. Hey-Young Horton, pastor of Cape May United Meth-odist Church, asked the crowd to shout out the characteristics they remembered about Johnson. He assembled responded with “her energy, her joy, her empathy, her compassion, her spirituality and she always withheld. No one was mentioned with “her”

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**Audit finds city needs to reconcile accounts more often next year**

By JACK FICHTER

CAPE MAY — Chief Financial Officer Kevin Haune said the city passed its annual audit, which recommends more closely monitoring bank accounts and not intermingling sal-ary withholdings.

They did have one finding, which was the rolls of new bank ac-counts were not being performed on a payroll and clear-ing accounts on a monthly basis. The report stated a sig-nificant amount of adjust-ments were not post-

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**Cape May bonds for desalination plant design**

Former councilwoman again pushes for renovation over replacement

**Serving America’s National Historic Landmark City**