**The Cape May Star and Wave - July 21, 2021**

**Manhattans bring "Shining Star" to Cape May**

**By JACOB FICHTER**

Manhattans, one of the best-known local week-end spots on West Cape May, has opened a new bar and restaurant with a footprint of 3,000 square feet.

The new establishment is aptly named "Shining Star," and it's located just off the Promenade, across from the West Cape May Borough Hall.

"Shining Star" will offer live entertainment, a full bar, and a menu that includes burgers, sandwiches, and other classic American fare.

**West Cape May OKs cannabis businesses**

**By JACOB FICHTER**

West Cape May Borough Council voted to allow cannabis retail stores in the borough, effective immediately.

The decision was made after a public hearing on the matter, during which residents and business owners expressed varying opinions.

Some residents were in favor of allowing cannabis retail stores, citing the potential economic benefits and the fact that other nearby communities already allow them.

Others were concerned about the impact on the community, including increased crime and public safety issues.

The vote is a turning point for the borough, which has been considering the issue for several months.

"We're looking forward to seeing how this plays out in the community," said Mayor John Monzo.

**MTRAC: Ask feds for cash to host USCG**

Funding would be used to offset cost to educate city's students

**By JACOB FICHTER**

MTRAC, the Maverick Regional Transportation Authority, is seeking a federal grant to help offset the cost of educating students in the city.

The funding would be used to support the city's school district, which is facing a budget shortfall due to the ongoing pandemic.

"We're doing everything we can to ensure our students have the best possible education," said MTRAC Executive Director, Jennifer Meier.

"But we need federal assistance to make that happen.

"We're working with our federal representatives to get a meeting with the Department of Education to discuss this urgent matter.

**Dolphins, family of four**

A pod of dolphins was spotted off the coast of Wildwood, New Jersey, last week.

The pod consisted of four dolphins, including at least one calf, and was seen near the Wildwood Crest area.

Wildlife experts say the presence of dolphins in the area is a positive sign for the health of the ecosystem.

"It's great to see dolphins returning to our shores," said marine biologist, Dr. Jane Goodall.

"This is a good indication that our coastal areas are becoming healthier and more sustainable.

"We hope to see more dolphins in the future, as they play an important role in our marine ecosystem.

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