City expects Acme to sign 20-year lease

By Jack Fichter

CAPE MAY — Acme is expected to sign a 20-year lease renewal of its store at Lafayette and Ocean streets. During an Oct. 11 candidates’ night at Victorian Towers, Mayor Edward Mahaney said the lease of the store has been renewed with Jerseypirates Sausage.

“We have a captive audience in town, you’re a captive audience. I’m a captive audience, the people who live in the housing authority, many seniors, many local families don’t want to or can’t leave out of town,” Mahaney said.

The mayor said he heard Acme taking over two adjacent vacant stores and that Acme, “at all times, has been a good tenant.”

Acme has committed so far to $4 million worth of improvements to the store and it will remain open during that time period,” Mahaney added.

He said Bashaw informed him three weeks ago that instead of taking a one-year extension, Acme was taking a 20-year renewal. Mahaney said there are 37 years left to its lease term, and that, if the market shifts into a two adjacent empty store, Bashaw told the store and Warren signed a letter of intent Aug. 2 with Acme for a 20-year lease.

“We’re looking forward to an ongoing partnership,” he said.

Acme remaining in Cape May, fol- lowing the end of its lease Dec. 31, has been speculated for at least years to open a new store and worry from Victorian Towers residents, who expressed fears of the city losing its only grocery store.

In recent years, the city lost its other long-time grocer, a Lowes Cape May Regional High School. He graduated from Stockton University and later joined the Cape May Police Department in 1977 and retired last year as a lieutenant after 37 years of service. He said he was ran for mayor by major party citizens, who asked him to present a new and positive agenda.

See Lear, Page A4

By Jack Fichter

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Victorian Towers hosts election hopefuls

Lear wants to provide public a greater voice

By Jack Fichter

CAPE MAY — Chuck Lear wants to provide a greater voice for the city with a major in criminal justice.

Lear joined the Cape May Police Department in 1977 and retired last year as a lieutenant after 37 years of service. He said he was ran for mayor by major party citizens, who asked him to present a new and positive agenda.

See Lear, Page A4

By Jack Fichter

CAPE MAY — Lear — seen as a powerful voting bloc, residents of Victorian Towers hosted election hopefuls last week regarding the future of Saint Mary by-the-Sea shore retreat house and the property returned to nature. Given its beachfront location, it is eventually to return this land to nature rather than use it for further development.

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