

Cape May Star and Wave

154th YEAR NO. 21 CAPE MAY, N.J. SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2008 50¢

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MAY/JUNE TIDE TABLE

	HIGH		LOW	
	am	pm	am	pm
5/29	3:09	3:56	9:20	9:58
5/30	4:11	4:52	10:12	11:02
5/31	5:12	5:47	11:05	11:59
6/1	6:11	6:41	11:58	
6/2	7:08	7:34	1:00	12:51
6/3	8:04	8:27	1:55	1:45
6/3	9:00	9:21	2:50	2:39

Petition started to halt Convention Hall ordinance

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – A group of citizens has formed a petition aimed at stopping a \$10.5 million bond ordinance for a new Convention Hall.

The petition, which is being reworked to remove the names of two petitioners, is protesting the passage of Ordinance 152-2008, which

was approved by a 4-0 vote on May 20 with Councilman David Kurkowski absent. Deputy Mayor Niels Favre made a special effort to attend the council meeting two weeks after having a total joint replacement of one of his knees. The ordinance required a super-majority of the five-member council.

Mayor Jerry Inderwies, the CFO and municipal auditor had made a special trip to

Trenton the week before to secure a waiver for a down payment on the bond ordinance.

The bond ordinance was passed over objections by former council candidate Jeanne Powick and mayor-elect Ed Mahaney, who said he agreed with Powick's remarks. Powick said the issuance of the bond ordinance was premature and the public wanted more involvement in the

process. She said the people elected a new mayor on May 13 because they were dissatisfied with the process and wanted to be more involved. She said the people of Cape May were disenfranchised by the current administration and it was the Convention Hall Committee with the input of certain group that have decided what Convention Hall would be.

Jo Tolley, a member of the

petition committee was also a Powick supporter. She said Mahaney had been correct to say at the May 20 meeting the bond ordinance said didn't have to be rushed through immediately.

"He said we would still have waiver for down payment," Tolley said.

"A lot of us thought we should wait for the new

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Memorial Day ceremonies

The City of Cape May hosted Memorial Day services Monday, May 26. Participants included local veterans organizations, city officials, the U.S. Coast Guard Training Center and the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Services were held at the Columbia Avenue monument, pictured right, as well as on the beach near Convention Hall, above. The traditional flower boat was not launched this year due to wind conditions, however, participants drew flowers from the boat and tossed them into the ocean in remembrance of those who have served their country.

Photos by Christopher South



Jazz Festival's Woodland, Stone given 'emeritus' status

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – The board of directors of the Cape May Jazz Festival voted to name founders Woody Woodland and Carol Stone emeritus status with relation to the board of directors.

Woodland and Stone were part of a 12-member board of directors, and Woodland served as the president, and Stone as the first vice-president.

According to Jazz Festival executive director David Greenspun, there would be a search for two new members to fill the vacancies created by Woodland and Stone's emeritus status. Greenspun said the board would continue to utilize the insight of Woodland and Stone,

although they would no longer be active board members.

"With Carol and Woody as emeritus, we hope we can continue to utilize them for their insight, as emeritus often do, but we are trying to move forward," he said.

Greenspun said second vice-president Lois Smith would move up to the first vice-president position, and a new president would be selected in the future. On Wednesday, he said the board would be meeting that evening to discuss who would fit in what roles in the organization. He said he believed the organization would be well served by the decisions made to make changes to the board.

The vote to assign Woodland and Stone emeritus status came as the couple

were vacationing in London. Greenspun said he didn't believe the two events were related.

"I don't know one had anything to do with other," he said.

Greenspun said there is a time when a parent needs to become a grandparent, and the timing isn't always their choice.

"This happens in every organization," he said. "I'm sure they will continue to offer wisdom and advice."

Greenspun said the change has the support of the board of directors, saying that was important for the health of the organization. He said the new board will help create vision for the future of the Jazz Festival and see it grow. He said without change it is sometimes difficult to see ourselves other than how we

are.

Greenspun said the festival would like to have more events and develop Cape May as the hub of jazz in mid-Atlantic region. He said for that to happen the festival has to be more than two weekends per year, and the current perception is the festival doesn't do much more than that. At the same time, Cape May is the only place where jazz is thriving in South

Jersey.

"People write and say there is no jazz anywhere in South Jersey other than Cape May," Greenspun said. "I think you can find jazz almost any night of the week somewhere in Cape May. The business owners seeing the appeal of jazz, it seems to be a good fit with the market and the demographics."

There is jazz music regularly at the Merion Inn with

George Mesterhazy, jazz at the Copper Fish, the Mad Batter, and Jazz Vespers on Sundays at the First Presbyterian Church.

"The work they do there is extraordinary," Greenspun said.

Greenspun said once people get a taste of the jazz offerings in Cape May they expect it and come back to Cape May for it.

Summer is here, blood supply low

Real estate office sponsors blood bank

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

TOWN BANK – While people may be cutting back on spending while they vacation, they are apparently still going to be making their way to the Jersey Shore. And as people hit the roadways, the need for blood rises in New Jersey, just as it does across the nation.

However, according to Julius Korschak of the American Red Cross – Penn

Jersey Region, only about 5-percent of eligible blood donors even bother to donate blood; so the same 5-percent are maintaining the region's blood supply.

Korschak said local blood banks are constantly trying to keep up with the demand of hospitals in the region. Locally, the Town Bank office of Sticks and Dirt Realty is sponsoring a blood bank on Saturday, May 31, at the Cape May Beach Property Owners Association building, 201 Clubhouse Road, Town Bank. The real estate office is sponsoring the event, and the association is donating the facility. Korschak said the goal for the blood bank is just 30 units.

"They have done a pretty

good job with recruitment," he said, again noting that the summer months of June, July and August are more critical than some other times of the year. Blood banks also experience a drop in donation after Christmas and New Year's.

"For the most part, because high schools are still donating supplies are not as bad as they have been in recent years," Korschak said.

According to Korschak, about 16 or 17-percent of the blood they take in comes from high school blood drives. Without them the situation would be worse. As it is, the region has to import one-third of its blood from the

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Jennifer Kopp/Cape May Star and Wave

West Cape May Elementary students are bike crazy!

West Cape May Elementary School held its annual Bike-A-Thon last Friday. Pictured are Benjamin Erickson, Livia Davis and Megan Verycken before the start. More photos on Page A11.