

# Cape May Star and Wave

153rd YEAR NO. 10 CAPE MAY, N.J.

SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY

THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 2007

50¢

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### MARCH TIDE TABLE

(eastern daylight time)

	LOW		HIGH	
	am	pm	am	pm
Thu	6:17	6:43		12:29
Fri	6:58	7:22	12:23	1:08
Sat	7:35	7:58	1:06	1:43
Sun	8:10	8:33	1:45	2:16
Mon	8:44	9:06	2:23	2:47
Tue	9:17	9:39	3:00	3:16
Wed	9:49	10:12	3:37	3:44

## Local communities getting 'Wi-Fi'rd-up'

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH  
*Cape May Star and Wave*

CAPE MAY – Officials from four local communities are working together, to bring Wi-Fi – wireless internet – to their municipalities to improve government services and provide free internet to the residents.

Cape May City Councilman David Kurkowski was in his

office, Tuesday, taking part in a conference call with Lower Township Manager Joe Jackson, West Cape May Mayor Pam Kaithern, and Cape May Point Commissioner Joe Nietubicz. Also participating in the call was Larry Meuntz and Harry Bellangy, who along with Kurkowski are members of an ad hoc committee investigating the cost and feasibility of bring Wi-Fi to Cape

May.

Wi-Fi is a name given to a wireless internet system. The name was perhaps designed to have a familiar sound to it, spinning off from the old Hi-Fi term.

Wi-Fi refers to a system of radio transmitters within a local area network, which relay wireless signals to internet users.

On Tuesday, Kurkowski and the others were listening to a

presentation from David Kartchner of CONXX, headquartered in Cumberland, Md. CONXX is one of several firms which have provided information on Wi-Fi technology to the committee.

Kurkowski said according to Kartchner one of the first tasks is to get broadband internet to the island.

"Right now its not on the island. We have the Comcast cable, but it's not the

degree that is required for this," Kurkowski said.

CONXX was proposing a microwave transmitter to deliver the signal to two 900 MHz transmitters. The approximate cost to get the service to the island would be \$60,000. Signals are sent out from the 900 MHz transmitters and picked up by the Wi-Fi radio transmitters placed

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### Oscar fever

The New Jersey State Film Festival hosted its annual Oscar Party, Feb. 25. Pictured top left are Maddie Craig and Lily Mullock who served as coat check girls. At left, Frank Felicetti, Diane and Ed Hutchinson and Todd Land enjoy the evening. Above, the Lynchs representing Gallo Wine.

Photos by Tina Giaimo

## Township MUA board seeks mandatory hook-ups

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH

*Cape May Star and Wave*

LOWER TOWNSHIP – Member of the Lower Township Municipal Utilities Authority and its executive director addressed township council and asked it to consider mandatory hook-ups for some 5,000 township residents.

Board member Pete Bidding reminded council about a problem with contaminated wells in the township, particularly in the Town Bank and Cape May Beach areas. However, he said there was no point in running municipal water and sewer lines in those areas unless there were mandatory hook-ups.

Mike Garcia, representing auditor Leon Costello, said Costello had prepared an analysis of mandatory hook-

ups versus voluntary hook-ups. He said the township would not only receive \$1,200 per hook-up, but would pick up an additional \$1.1 million per year in water rates. Without passing legislation requiring mandatory hook-ups, the township would lose something like \$18.2 million to offset the cost of construction.

"The shortfall would be borne by the current rate payers," Garcia said.

Garcia said the analysis showed water rates would go up about four times if the LTMUA went ahead with construction and there was not mandatory hook-up.

"It would be financially irresponsible to expand without mandatory hook-ups," Garcia said.

Councilman Wayne Mazurek wondered what kind of an impact 5,000 new hook-ups would have on the aquifer

from which the township draws its water. Pat West, engineer for the LTMUA said the township would have to have approximately three more wells to handle the need, but he did not know the effect on the aquifer. LTMUA

director Cliff Gall said the state wants the MUA to shut down Well No. 1 and move its wells inland.

"I'm really nervous with water," Mazurek said. "I would feel a lot more comfortable with some data show-

ing what's going to happen with what we have now."

Mazurek said he also didn't feel comfortable with forced hook-ups. He said the hook-up fee has been a problem for many residents, and he suggested spreading the fee out

over 10 years – or eliminating it entirely.

Gall said the payments could be spread out over 25 years.

Councilman Robert Nolan

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## Dreams really can come true

By JENNIFER KOPP  
*Cape May Star and Wave*

ORLANDO – Irene Kidd and Sharon Musson, both of Cape May, along with Musson's brother Jim Claxton and wife Leslie, of Pennsville, visit Walt Disney World in Orlando almost every winter.

In fact, last week was Jim Claxton's 33rd visit.

This year, Walt Disney World is celebrating "The Year of a Million Dreams" – a promotion which features a "Dream Team" that gives away various prizes to unsuspecting visitors to Disney's theme parks.

One of those prizes is a night's stay at Cinderella's Castle in Magic Kingdom.

"On the first day of our vacation to Disney World, we visited the Magic Kingdom and heard the winners of the Night at Cinderella Castle announced prior to the daily parade," Jim Claxton told the Star and Wave. "We said to each other ... wouldn't that be a great prize to win."

Well, talk about being in the right place at the right time.

It was after a visit to The Great Movie Ride at MGM Studios when suddenly the foursome was surrounded the Dream Team.

Musson said they asked whether they enjoyed the ride. Then they were told they had won a "dream prize" and "whisked away"



Pictured in front of Cinderella's Castle are Irene Kidd, Sharon Musson, a Dream Team member, Jim and Leslie Claxton and other Disney representatives.

to guest relations in MGM's executive offices.

"It was Jim who won," said Musson. "He was in the right seat (on the ride) at the right time. We were told we had won the night in Cinderella's Castle including dinner."

After signing some releases, who should show up but Mickey Mouse himself.

"He was dressed in the Dream Team's official uniform and gave us all a big kiss," laughed Musson. "We were told too we would be the grand marshal of the daily parade in Magic Kingdom that afternoon."

Irene Kidd said they were given official T-shirts, buttons and special Dream Team Mickey Mouse ears to

wear in the parade.

"Even though I felt a little silly in those ears, it was such a great experience. The Dream Team made us feel really special. In fact, they wouldn't leave our sides."

The group was even taught the special "parade

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## LT council gets reval petition

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH

*Cape May Star and Wave*

LOWER TOWNSHIP – Township resident Ed Butler presented Lower Township Council with a petition containing 1,500 signatures of people who are upset with the recently completed revaluation.

Butler said the signers care unhappy with what they believe is an unfair revaluation. Butler said there were questions at a Jan. 17 meeting about the certification of Tyler Technologies, CLT Division, which conducted the revaluation. Butler said the township council had a duty to see that all township residents were treated fairly; especially since some were seriously impacted by the

revaluation.

"Many people on fixed incomes are going to lose their homes. Construction people are going to lose jobs," he said.

Mayor Walt Craig said there was an appeal process whereby people could challenge their assessment. Residents said Tyler Technologies was not inclined to change their assessment, or make insignificant reductions. Craig said it was his understanding that 30-percent of the appeals were successful at the county level.

Craig said to do another assessment to satisfy the people who are unhappy would cost the township \$2 million.

"I'm saying if they didn't do it right something should be done," Butler said.