

Cape May Star and Wave

153rd YEAR NO. 1 CAPE MAY, N.J. SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 2007 50¢

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JANUARY TIDE TABLE (eastern daylight time)				
LOW		HIGH		
	am	pm	am	pm
4	8:15	8:44	1:36	2:36
5	8:58	9:28	2:22	3:20
6	9:39	10:12	3:07	4:01
7	10:19	10:55	3:51	4:42
8	10:59	11:40	4:36	5:21
9	11:40		5:24	6:00
10	12:26	12:25	6:15	6:40

Newest council members chime in on term

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – It's the new year and the two newest members of Cape May City Council are observing their first six month anniversary as members of the city's governing body.

Councilman David Kurkowski and Councilwoman Linda Steenrod have completed their first semester as fresh-

man council members, and for each they found the experience rewarding.

"I think it was very rewarding and a learning experience," Steenrod said. "Some of the things we've gone through we've all learned from."

Steenrod said one of the most important things she has learned is the importance of communication and working together, be it among council, with the city manager, or with the public. Steenrod said all

parties don't always agree, but she believes all are working toward what is best for the city.

She said she found there are a lot of similarities between functioning as a member of city council and the position she held as school superintendent.

Kurkowski also described the first semester as a learning experience.

"Just learning how government does things and how government operates in Cape

May," he said.

Kurkowski said it was shortly after he and Steenrod took the oath of office that city government faced the referendum on two municipal bond ordinances – something he described as an "extraordinary event."

"But we weathered that, and I think we will be more productive in '07 than in '06," he said.

Asked if the job were harder or easier than anticipated, Kurkowski said, "Not harder,

but different, a lot slower."

Kurkowski, who with his wife operates a market research business said he found government moves at a much slower pace than private business.

"When we decide to do something it gets done that day," he said.

Steenrod also said she found government moved slowly, but she also found she was more prepared for the job due

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2006: What a year!

There's always something going on in Cape May and summer 2006 was no exception. Cape May Point hosted its annual Five-Mile and Two-Mile Run during June. Pictured above left, Tommy Foster, Taylor Mahon, Connie Mahon, Tessa Kay and Emaleigh Kaithern before the race. Cape May held its annual Fourth of July Parade much to the delight of patriotic Elise Heim, age 3, of Cape May, above. And in West Cape May, it was 10th Annual Strawberry festival that took center stage in June. The 2006 Strawberry Festival was Queen Hannah Romberger, age one and a half, of Cape May, pictured at left with mom.

Photos by Jennifer Kopp

Remembering 2006: A look back at news around the area

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

(Editor's note: This is the second part of a series looking back at the year that was.)

MAY

Steenrod, Favre, Kurkowski win seats on City Council

CAPE MAY – Cape May voters chose two new council members in Linda Steenrod and David Kurkowski, Tuesday, while reelecting Niels Favre, but not William Gaffney. Steenrod, making her first run at public office, was the top vote getter unofficially with 623 votes. Favre was second with 543, and

Kurkowski was third with 510. Councilman William Gaffney, who has held elected office in Cape May for 16 years, including a term as mayor, was fourth with 390 votes. The remaining candidates totals included Harry Stotz, 288 votes, Vince Scutti, 190 votes, and Rick Spackman, 133 votes.

LTPD racking up narcotics seizures

LOWER TOWNSHIP – Since July 2005, when Lower Township Police Chief Edward Donahue took over the helm of the LTPD, the detectives and officers of the department have seized approximately 300 bags of heroin in various incidents

around the township. The Lower Township Police Department had been racking up a string of drug arrests, recently, including a couple of substantial seizures in the first couple days of this month.

Lower affirms zoning board on Bayview marina

LOWER TOWNSHIP – Lower Township Council on May 10 upheld a zoning board decision to grant a variance forgiving half the lot area required for a duplex project at the former Bayview Marina. The township council heard an appeal of the board's Dec. 1, 2005 decision to allow Robert Olivio to build a second duplex on a 15,264

square foot lot, where 30,000 square feet is required. A neighbor of the former marina, Debbie Johns, appealed to council to overturn the zoning board's decision, saying the justification given for granting was not based in zoning

law.

Public gets look at design for revitalization

CAPE MAY – The public got a look at what could be done to improve the walking surface of the Washington Street

Mall including a three-dimensional, moving display of what the mall would look like with brick and granite pavers, gas lamps, and new benches and trees. The

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Show to benefit local boy

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
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VILLAS – Hardcore shows are known for their frenetic mosh pits which can result in bruises and hurt feelings. A mosh pit is the kind of place you enter at your own risk. It's not normally the place where you expect to see signs of benevolence toward the less fortunate.

On Jan. 13, the Villas Fire Hall will host a show featuring 14 hardcore bands, complete with mind bending guitar riffs and unintelligible screaming lyrics characteristic of hardcore music. But these 14 bands have also donated their time and talents to help raise funds to help one area youth combat a deadly disease.

Warren Alexander III has a disease called Metachromatic Leukodystrophy, or MLD. MLD is sometimes referred to as an infantile form of ALS, commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease. According to Warren's sister, Liz Unruh, "Little Warren" started showing symptoms of MLD when he was around a year old. After starting to walk and talk like other children his age, Little Warren stopped walking, talking, and even crawling.

MLD causes a toxic buildup of fatty materials (lipids) in cells in the nervous system, liver, and kidneys. So far there is no cure for MLD, and the children who develop the late infantile form, as Warren did, rarely live beyond the age of five. There are also juvenile and adult forms of

MLD that progress more slowly than the infantile form.

In August, Unruh's boyfriend Ricky Safford organized a hardcore show held at the Knights of Columbus hall in Erma. The show was a birthday present for Unruh, but part of the proceeds were going to the Steinis Foundation, a group advocating stem cell research in order to find a cure for MLD. According to Becky Alexander, Little Warren's mother, research was being done at Duke University in an effort to find a cure for the disease, which affects one in 10,000 worldwide.

Unruh said all the family has been tested for the hereditary disease. She said her

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Looking forward to spring in West Cape May

West Cape May Shade Tree Commission members Marion Courtney, Maria Iaconangelo, Bill Keegan, Mark Garland and Jim Lambrusciano planted 850 daffodil bulbs in Wilbraham Park and around the West Cape May sign by CVS on Saturday, Dec. 9. Chairperson Diane Flanagan said, "We were cold but it will be worth it in the spring!" Additional plantings of hosta and other perennials are planned for spring 2007 near the Broadway side of the park. The West Cape May Shade Tree commission meets monthly at Borough Hall and all residents are welcomed. All proceeds from annual West Cape May Lima Bean Festival and one half of the proceeds from the Farmer's Market benefit the Shade Tree Commission. Other programs this year by the Shade Tree Commission included an "Arborist for a Day program" around Labor Day and an Arbor Day tree planting and art exhibition in conjunction with the West Cape May Elementary school.