



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

Yeah, they got their...Satisfaction

CAPE MAY – Above, concertgoers dance at the edge of the stage as “Satisfaction, the International Rolling Stones Show” tribute band performs at Convention Hall, Monday night. The band succeeded in getting the crowd on their feet for their final number and namesake Rolling Stones hit, “Satisfaction.” See more photos on page A10.

Ethics complaint against Mahaney is dismissed

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – The state Local Finance Board (LFB) has dismissed an ethics complaint filed with the state Department of Community Affairs (DCA) against Cape May Mayor Ed Mahaney.

The three city residents who filed the complaint, James Testa, Charles Hendricks and Matthew Glenn alleged there were conflicts of interest arising from Mahaney's discussion of naming rights for a Temple University sports facility. They said the conflict was because Mahaney was engaged in correspondence regarding proposed donations from Mahaney's estate to Temple University, while at the same time, the city awarded three contracts to Temple totaling approximately \$120,000. Mahaney is

an alumnus of the university and is listed on its “Honor Roll of Donors.”

The complaint was filed in early June and on Friday, July 23, the complainants and Mahaney received a letter from the DCA that says, “Upon consideration of the facts and circumstances relevant to this complaint, the board dismissed this complaint as having no reasonable factual basis.”

The complainants released a statement following the decision. Testa, an attorney, believes that the final determination made by the Local Finance Board was politically motivated to aid Mahaney in a re-election bid. He said the complainants are considering their available options to appeal the decision to the Appellate Division of State Superior Court.

by the superficial manner in which our complaint was handled by the Department of Community Affairs, and we fundamentally disagree with its determination. It appears our complaint was assigned to a junior staff member, a few phone calls were made, but no testimony was taken nor serious investigation pursued regarding the facts underlying the case,” the complainants say in their press release. “If the agency's resolution of this matter is correct on the facts presented, then it is a sad day for ethical standards in New Jersey local government. We continue to maintain that no public official should be able to negotiate valuable personal naming rights for a sports complex from an entity that has appealed to that official

“We are deeply dismayed

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Cape May's Cove Beach named among 21 best beaches in the USA

By MARISSA ROHNER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – Coastal Living Magazine has recently named Cape May's Cove Beach one of the 21 best beaches in the United States – the only New Jersey beach to earn the distinction.

Included on the list were beaches in Hawaii, California, the Carolinas and Florida.

According to coastliving.com, Cape May's Cove Beach “is a beach for all seasons that draws swimmers, kayakers, and surfers in sultry weather; beachcombers, birders, and surf anglers arrive during the cooler months. The gray-sand beach has been a popular seaside retreat since

Victorian days.”

On a visit to Cove Beach one of the first things you notice is a scenic view of the lighthouse and St. Mary's By-the-Sea Retreat Center from wherever you plant your towel and umbrella. Beautiful waves roll up as you enjoy one of Cape May's quieter beaches, while surfers explore waves off to your left, near the rock jetty. If you get tired of tanning, you can just take a walk towards the World War II bunker past the bird sanctuary. Everything about the cove is absolutely breath taking and the beauty doesn't stop when your beach day ends because the Cove is one of the most perfect spots to watch the sunsets, complete with a flag



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Above, the Cove Beach was selected for its various offerings.

lowering memorial service dedicated to a named veteran.

The Cove Beach has been

the beach of choice for locals and visitors alike for years and years. What makes it different from Cape May's other beaches is that not only is one offered the views, but one can enjoy peace and quiet. Located at the southern end of Beach Drive, all there is behind beachgoers are dunes, not commercial buildings or homes. It is more secluded than the other beaches.

“The Cove is so much quieter than other beaches in New Jersey. There can be so much hustle and bustle behind you, so it is nice to find peace at the Cove,” Ian of New Brunswick said.

Not only has the Cove Beach been recognized and praised in Coastal Living's

July/August edition, but it has also been admired by the Travel Channel for its quaintness, beauty, and great view of the playful dolphins.

USAToday also ranks Cape May's beaches as some of the best in Jersey, saying, “Cape May boasts clean and wide ocean beaches and cozy, secluded beaches. TripAdvisor named it the No. 2 beach destination in the USA in 2011 and visitors agree. Natalie of Philadelphia said, “I like the Cove because I can watch both the surfers and admire the lighthouse. You can't do that on many beaches.”

Local resident, Julie, said, “I have lots of memories of

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At Cape May Winery it's the grapes

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – Forget the high tech gadgets and crazy theories surrounding wine production, because if there's one thing Darren Hessington knows, it's that only the best grapes make the best wine.

Hessington is the winemaker for Cape May Winery and Vineyard, located at 711 Town Bank Road. He started at Cape May Winery in 2003, when Washington Inn owner, Toby Craig, purchased the vineyard and began transforming it into what it is today.

Hessington said the winery was originally opened in the early 90s by Bill and Joan Hayes with a small 7-acre plot producing less than 3,000 gallons of wine per year. When Craig took over in 2003, the vineyard expanded to 26 acres with plots of vines across Lower Township, the biggest plot located on Ferry Road measuring roughly 13 acres. Cape May Winery is now the fourth largest vineyard in the state, producing around 26,000 gal-

lons of award-winning wine annually. Hessington said the winery is currently set up to house 20,000 gallons, so an expansion is expected to occur in the future.

“We set a goal in 2005 to make 20,000 gallons per year by 2010. We were producing 20,000 gallons by 2008, so we definitely met our goal,”

home,” Hessington said. “To me, this is like a vacation. I love coming to work every day.”

Hessington started out in the wine industry in 1987 when he was doing the landscaping and nursery work for the Unionville Vineyard. It was there he became knowledgeable of the vines and grapes, as well as how to maintain them.

“Working in a vineyard, if you want to learn the wine stuff, it's there to learn. You just have to watch and listen,” he said.

When the former winemaker left, Hessington was asked if he wanted to take over the winemaking aspect of the business. He said his mentor was Keith

Bown, a well-known winemaker from Australia.

“He said we were glorified home winemakers and had so much more to do,” Hessington said of Bown. “He taught me everything I needed to know about winemaking and later on pushed me to come down here to Cape May.”

When Hessington came to the Cape May Winery in 2003, he immediately put his

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Above, the tasting room at Cape May Winery on Town Bank Road.

Hessington said.

In 2005, Craig had the large winery built at the current location on Town Bank Road, which has two downstairs tasting bars, one of which is in the barrel room. There are also patio and balcony areas for enjoying the vineyard as well.

“Our philosophy is to give not just the comfort of wine, but also the comfort of the wine experience. We want our guests to feel right at

Neighbors ask borough to look at winery's permits

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

WEST CAPE MAY – Residents have asked the borough to look into all the approvals received by Willow Creek Winery in an effort to ensure the vineyard is in compliance with all permits and regulations prior to opening.

The vineyard has been the target of much inquiry from citizens, especially those living on Stevens Street, where Willow Creek Winery is located. Residents have expressed concern about future events at the property, which they believe will create excessive noise, traffic and other prob-

lems. They have also voiced concern about weddings and other life events being held at the vineyard's recently constructed 12,000 square foot building.

Willow Creek Winery owner Barbara Wilde and director Kevin Celli are frustrated with the situation, as residents are voicing complaints about a business that has not even opened yet. The winery is scheduled to open in August.

Fourteen residents signed a letter, dated July 9, and sent to Mayor Pam Kaithern, Deputy Mayor Peter Burke and Commissioner Ramsey Geyer, asking the commission to find out if the winery

is in compliance with regulations on parking, sewage flow, building codes and has a certificate of occupancy. Borough Solicitor Frank Corrado is undertaking the task of looking into the approvals.

“They just want to make sure the proper process is followed,” Corrado said of the residents.

Geyer asked Corrado whether the borough has the authority to question approvals made by state agencies like the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the State Agricultural Development

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Public is warned about local burglaries

CMPD reports local burglaries

CAPE MAY – The Cape May Police Department is investigating a series of burglaries that occurred sometime between July 26 and 27 in the areas of Maryland, Philadelphia, New Jersey and Idaho Avenues.

Four homes, all occupied, and one vehicle were entered by means of unlocked doors. Small electronics along with other items were taken.

Anyone with information about these events should contact the Cape May Police Department at 609-884-9500 or Cape May County Crime Stoppers at 609-465-2800.

The public is reminded to lock their residences and vehicles when possible to help reduce the opportunity for theft.

Two arrested for burglary and weapons offense

ERMA – Police arrested two

men on burglary and weapons charges after the suspects allegedly sold stolen goods at a local business.

On Saturday, July 28, Lower Township Police received a report of a residential burglary in the Erma section of Lower Township. Reported stolen from the property was a .45 caliber handgun with ammunition and jewelry. Patrolmen Edwards and Detective Vanaman respond

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