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UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP!



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COOPER LEVENSON  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

A Very Special Holiday Card Art Contest



*Amber Klimecke and Kenneth J. Calemno Jr. (center) shown with teacher Karen Marandino and her 7th grade class at the William Davies School in Hamilton Township.*



*The Egg Harbor City Board of Education honored 8th grader Riley Sodaitis at a recent Board meeting. Shown, from left to right, are: Back row: Stephen Bouchard, Board President; Jack Griffith, Principal; John Gilly III, Superintendent; Diana Caiafa, Cooper Levenson. In front is Riley Sodaitis, winning artist; and Karen Porreca, Art Teacher.*



*William S. Donio, Chairman of the Cooper Levenson Education Practice Group, presents a plaque and gift certificate to Palak Jain, a 4th grade student at the J. Harold Van Sant School in Marlton.*



*Faron Sooy, a 5th grade student at Ventnor Middle School, poses with (left to right) art teacher Victoria Reinhardt, Amy L. Houck, Esq. of Cooper Levenson and Principal Robert Baker.*



Four area students saw their artwork professionally published for the first time during the 2010 holiday season. The holiday art contest is one element of Cooper Levenson's ongoing efforts to demonstrate the firm's commitment to community, engaging students in the arts and raising awareness of the firm's chosen charity this holiday season – the Lois Braymes Foundation. The foundation was established in memory of Lois Braymes—an Atlantic City native who dedicated her life to providing the service people of our country with the hope, comfort, care and assistance they deserved.



## A Birds-Eye View

FROM THE WINDOW OF my Atlantic City office, the Revel Casino rises in the near distance like a brick and mortar embodiment of the new dawn of Atlantic City. And as the morning sun rises over the boardwalk, this resort town is readying itself for a new dawn. With new life at the Revel site

and the Sandcastle Stadium hosting the Dave

Matthews Caravan — a three-day event that promises to not disappoint — this city is finally on its way to becoming the true destination it has been striving to achieve.

In this April issue, we explore the city's rebirth, as journalist Nathaniel Hale details all the recent developments that have taken place. Hale also delves into the ongoing rift between Governor Chris Christie and Atlantic City Mayor Lorenzo Langford over the tourism district; a feud that just may be a thorn in the side of the state's rejuvenation project.

As blooming flowers and summer weather wait just around the corner, the scents of spring fill the air as residents spend their weekends outside sprucing up their yards and flower beds. Golf is certainly in the air for those eager to hit the links. This issue has young golf phenom Sal Visali taking us inside the world of this exciting sport. Visali profiles some new blood being infused into the tournament circuit, as the search for the new king of golf gets underway.

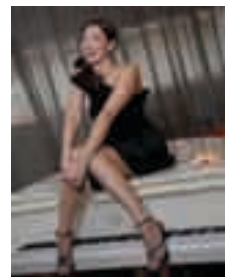
For many, the perfect accouterment for a day on the fairway is the classic cigar. Travel with me to Cuba as I recount one magical night filled with "forbidden smoke." Also, local cigar haunts are featured. These well-stocked shops are sure to have something to satisfy your cigar craving.

As this issue goes to press, no one can accurately predict the future of this great city. But much like the odds at the blackjack table, the money is always on the house. One thing is for sure: Atlantic City is certainly on a lot of people's radar lately. Hey, even Charlie Sheen picked our seaside city as one of the first stops on his "My Violent Torpedo of Truth" tour. To quote a recent catch phrase of Mr. Sheen's, Atlantic City is truly "winning!"

*Alyson Boxman Levine*

Illustration by Randy Jones

## CONTRIBUTORS



The lead anchor for NBC 40, MICHELLE DAWN MOONEY began her communications career started in college. As a pre-med student, she

took an opportunity to work as a news director and on-air personality for a local radio morning show. This move led to her hosting several morning shows ... and a change in majors. As a professional singer, songwriter, and pianist, Michelle is currently working on her debut album and has had the privilege of performing for the NY Jets and the Philadelphia 76ers. She is also a former runner-up to Miss New Jersey.



Currently a freelance writer living in South Jersey, MICHELLE TOMKO has a B.F.A from Kent State University. She is a trained actor and has been earning

a living playing poker for the past three years. A contributing writer to the *Gazette*, the former assistant editor for *Casino Connection*, and the poker columnist for *Jersey Sporting Life*, Michelle can be reached at [betsandthecity@gmail.com](mailto:betsandthecity@gmail.com).



SAL VISALI is a serious junior golfer with local ties, who has competed in many premier golf tournaments with much success. Visali, 17, is interested in journalism and

finance, two things he plans on studying in college, where he also wishes to play D1 golf. Visali is a die-hard New York Yankees fan and is particularly fond of his mother's home cooking.



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# the raw feed

After 5 and half months of one of the longest and most uneventful criminal trials in Atlantic County history and several hundred thousand in wasted taxpayer dollars later, the **State of New Jersey v. Marty Small, et. al. (Part II)** is finally over with Small and his co-defendants being found **NOT GUILTY** of all charges in their voter fraud circus, we mean trial. Small, 37, was acquitted of similar charges in 2006 and has no plans of going for a 3Peat. The normally loquacious Second Ward City Councilman, who once donned a full-length fur coat and matching hat to one of his now infamous \$mall Ball's, displayed nothing but humility following the jury's announcement, even shaking hands with one of the Attorney Generals who persecuted, we mean prosecuted him at the conclusion of the case. Sources close to Small say that the thought of losing his freedom, with two young children, **Jada, 3,** and **Marty Jr., 1,** at home with wife **La'Quetta** has matured and humbled him greatly. So much so, that the star of the documentary '**Politickin**' is actually considering a hiatus from politics so that he can focus on spending more time with his family and plan his future, which will no doubt include another run at becoming the **Mayor of Atlantic City.** We believe that this can and will happen if Small chooses to surround himself with sound advisors. As for Small's co-defendants, dubbed his "**Secret Army**" by the prosecutors, they too are looking ahead at the future, with **Floyd Tally** reportedly working on publishing a collection of poems and sketches of butterflies he worked on during breaks in the trial, while **Tom Quirk** is working on a gangster rap album. Maybe we have that confused, nonetheless, we wish to congratulate all of the defendants and their families and wish them the very best moving forward ...

Speaking of moving forward, **former Atlantic City Council President Craig Callaway,** the city's one time political street boss, is settling back into society after being released from prison last year. Callaway's new relaxed demeanor has surprised many, who expected fireworks and chaos upon his release. Thus far, the post-prison Callaway has been relatively low-key, but did appear faithfully at the Marty Small trial to support his sister **Toni Dixon** - one of Small's co-defendants. No word yet on that reported tell-all Callaway book that we reported on several months back ...

Speaking of tell-all books, we have heard whispers that another major book project is in the works centered around Atlantic City à la Boardwalk Empire ... Stay tuned...

Speaking of "**Boardwalk Empire**", the second season is set to air Sundays at 9 this fall on **HBO.** We're not going to lie, we love **Nucky, Jimmy** and the rest of the gang, but we sure do miss **Tony, Christopher, Paulie, the Bada-Bing girls** and the rest of "**The Sopranos**". Look for "**Boardwalk Empire**" / Season One on DVD in the coming weeks ...

Another thing to look for in the coming weeks will be the **May 2011 Boardwalk Journal,** which is also our **25th issue.** This **special edition** will be out on **May 6th...**

# THE INSIDER

Local News, Happenings, and Events

## Dave Matthews Band Caravan Rolls into Bader Field

DAVE MATTHEWS BAND WILL STAGE FOUR REGIONAL DESTINATION festivals this summer under the Dave Matthews Band Caravan banner, the first of which is set for June 24 - 26 at Bader Field. Fans may be surprised at the size and scope of the event, as it is a full-blown festival, at least in terms of talent.

Three stages will feature at least 28 bands each day. Other performers scheduled to appear include: Dr. Dog, Bassnectar, Ray LaMontagne, Amos Lee, Thievery Corporation, Michael Franti and Spearhead, Warren Haynes Band, Grace Potter & the Nocturnals, Guster, and others. Plus, Dave Matthews Band members Carter Beauford and Stefan Lessard will offer solo performances, and Matthews will team up with longtime collaborator Tim Reynolds for an acoustic set.

There may be more bands added to the schedule, including the potential for local bands to play. The festival weekend will also include a number of late night shows at select Atlantic City venues.

This event marks the first time Bader Field, a closed municipal airport, will be used as a concert venue. Atlantic City Mayor Lorenzo Langford said he hopes it is not the last.



Dave Matthews Band

## Consumer Affairs Division Eliminated for Cost Savings

AS OF APRIL 1, ATLANTIC COUNTY'S DIVISION OF CONSUMER Affairs will be eliminated, at a savings of \$146,574, according to County Executive Dennis Levinson. All consumer affair complaints regarding Atlantic County residents and/or businesses will be directed to the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs, Office of Consumer Protection.

According to Levinson, this decision was based on several factors, most important being that the number of complaints and inquiries no longer support the cost of continued operation. Less than half of the division's complaints are submitted by county residents.

Levinson, who recently announced he will run again for a fourth term, also noted that the state does not require counties to provide consumer affairs offices. Initially elected to the Atlantic County Freeholder Board in 1986, Levinson, a Republican, previously served as a councilman in Northfield.



Dennis Levinson



## Christie Vetoes Online Gambling Bill

IN EARLY MARCH, N.J. GOVERNOR Chris Christie vetoed a bill that would have made New Jersey the first state in the country to re-introduce online gambling. This bill would have allowed New Jersey residents to place bets through web sites run by casino companies in Atlantic City, the only place gambling is allowed in New Jersey. In a bid to generate revenue, State legislatures across the country have started working on similar bills.

"In my view, the creation of a legal fiction deeming all wagers to have 'originated' in Atlantic City cannot overcome the clear and unambiguous language of the State Constitution," the governor said in the veto.

According to Christie, the bill did not prevent gambling from popping up in Internet cafes, nightclubs and bars — against the public's will to keep betting within Atlantic City limits.



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Dr. Sukhjit Kaur, Specialty Permit #5720

# THE INSIDER

Local News, Happenings and Events

## Holt Beats Supercomputer In Mock "Jeopardy"

WATSON — THE IBM SUPERCOMPUTER THAT CLEANED up on "Jeopardy!" — lost to Rep. Rush Holt of New Jersey in a battle recently held in Washington, DC. The mock "Jeopardy!" contest, pitting Watson against Holt and some other House members, was intended to emphasize the need for increased math and science education to bolster U.S. international competitiveness. A five-time winner on "Jeopardy!" 35 years ago, Holt, a physicist, played the first round against Watson. The computer easily beat two rivals, including "Jeopardy!" legend Ken Jennings, in a recent TV tournament.

According to Holt's office, the Democratic congressman beat the computer in categories such as "Presidential Rhyme Time" and "Also a Laundry Detergent." ("What is a three-letter nickname for the Beatles?" Answer: "What is Fab?") At the end of the round, Holt earned \$8,600 to Watson's \$6,200.

"I was proud to hold my own with Watson," said Holt. "While it was fun to out-do Watson for one night in trivia; it is vital that, as a nation, we out-innovate, out-educate, and out-build the rest of the world for generations to come."



Dr. Eric Brown from IBM Research preps four members of congress — Jared Polis (D-Colo.), Bill Cassidy (R-La.), Jim Himes (D-Conn.), Rush Holt (D-N.J.) — for an exhibition game against IBM's Watson.

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

### Winning Attorney Stephen Funk



REPRESENTING MARTY Small in his high-profile voter fraud trial, lead attorney Stephen Funk had no easy task. In a trial that lasted almost six months, and ended with an across the board not guilty verdict in early March, Funk is fresh off his win and sitting front and center in the local spotlight.

A criminal and civil lawyer at the Atlantic City-based law firm Jacobs & Barbone, Funk grew up in New City, NY, right over the Bergen County border.

He attended law school at Widener University in Wilmington, Delaware and, in 1997, began his law career clerking for Judge Richard Williams, Assignment Judge for Atlantic and Cape May counties. After his clerkship, he was with a few different law firms before landing at Jacobs and Barbone in 2005.

Starting to concentrate more on criminal work at Jacobs and Barbone, Funk first met Marty Small when he served as back-up attorney in his 2006 voter fraud trial. "I am thrilled for Marty and the fact that he was found not guilty," said Funk. "He is a good guy and his family did not deserve to be torn apart for what were false charges from day one."

"I knew that the case was attracting a lot of publicity and I am not surprised that the outcome interested a lot of people," said Funk. "Many people strongly believe that these defendants should have never been charged to begin with. The state spent a lot of money unnecessarily. There was never any strong evidence that a crime was committed."

Funk knew he wanted to be a lawyer at a young age and growing up was always interested in trials — watching Court TV or fictional TV lawyers, or engrossed in a crime novel. Some of his favorite books include *Inherit the Wind* by Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee and Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Described by his peers as an opponent not to be underestimated, Funk's preparedness and well thought out strategy is evidenced in all his cases. Marty Small's case is his most memorable one to date, revealed Funk, who lives in Northfield with his wife Michelle — who is also a lawyer — and their two children, Benjamin, 6, and Samantha, 2. "There was never a moment that I thought he wasn't completely innocent during the entire process."

So what's next on the docket for this rising attorney? According to Funk, he is currently digging out from under the pile of work on his desk, as he looks forward to a few trials coming up this year.

"The most exciting thing a lawyer can do is to try a case," said Funk, and as this local attorney's career continues to flourish, expect to see much more of him in the future.



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Christopher A. Brown is board certified by the Supreme Court of New Jersey as a civil trial attorney. This is a distinction held by only 3% of the attorneys in the state of New Jersey.

Mr. Brown is also a decorated United States Army veteran who proudly served his country during Operation Desert Storm and was called upon once again during Operation Iraqi Freedom.



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## Coveted James Beard Award Goes to Chef Vola's

YOU JUST MAY NEVER GET INTO CHEF VOLA'S AGAIN! Atlantic City's old-school Italian restaurant has won a coveted James Beard Foundation America's Classics award. Operating in the basement of a former boarding house since 1921, Chef Vola's is run by the Esposito family, who bought the restaurant from the Vola clan. Louise, along with her husband Michael, and sons Michael, Jr. and Louis, work the kitchen and the dining room, serving their wonderful dishes and making everyone feel right at home.

Since 1998, the James Beard Foundation Awards Committee has recognized the nation's beloved regional restaurants. The America's Classics award is given to restaurants with timeless appeal, beloved for quality food that reflects the character of their community. This year's America's Classics honorees will be celebrated at the annual James Beard Foundation Awards, taking place on Monday, May 9, 2011 at Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall in New York City.

"The America's Classics category is very special to us," said Susan Ungaro, president of the James Beard Foundation. "They represent, in the best possible way, America's great melting pot. These special dining establishments bring their communities together around the table, something James Beard would have loved."

This was the second time in three years a New Jersey restaurant has been recognized for the prestigious America's Classics award. In 2009, Mustache Bill's Diner in Barnegat Light won for its "homemade, straight from the heart cooking."



## Charlie Sheen's Show Invades Atlantic City



SHEEN BRINGS HIS "MY VIOLENT TORPEDO of Truth" show to the Trump Taj Mahal on April 16. Attendees will experience an intimate night with Sheen in his first post "Two and a Half Men" event. Operating from an outline since the show is unscripted, Sheen will include the audience through Q&As and other types of participation. Hardcore fans have the option of a \$750 meet and greet with Sheen backstage after the event.

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## Lloyd D. Levenson's – "Life at the Shore"

# SPRING RETURNS



*Quiscalus quisculu*



Spring is finally here. I say this without any hemming and hawing because I have irrefutable scientific evidence to back up this statement. "Sure," you're thinking, "everyone knows that on March 23, 2011, the sun crossed the celestial equator in the constellation Pisces, moving northward, and the length of the night and the day were virtually identical. This was the vernal equinox, the beginning of spring in the astronomical sense."

What I say is that I know it is spring because the women who a few days ago were wearing bulky wool sweaters and snow boots have, overnight, changed to tank tops, shorts, and flip-flops. Weekend by weekend we have seen the slow but inexorable rotation of nature's great wheel of life. "Are you referring to migrating flocks of the common grackle, *quiscalus quisculu*, and to the melodious mating calls of the Pine Barrens tree frog, *hyla andersonii*?" No, I am talking about other creatures, such as the colorful herds of day-trippers from Philadelphia who have begun to edge their way up to the bulkheads, to peep over and reacquaint themselves with what a beach looks like. I also refer to the panel trucks and pickups of the building contractors who have responded to the annual call to put up new railings and to repair decks so that folks will be ready for their summer visitors.

Not to mention the fact that all of a sudden it will be necessary for me to make reservations in order to eat at a restaurant again. Already I am no longer the first car at every stoplight and the person in the front of the line whenever I go for bagels. These are the authentic signs of spring, and after the winter we had, I welcome them warmly.

Another annual sign of seasonal change is the postcard I get from a realtor asking if I



*Flipflopus tanktopus americanus*

would like to rent my house out for the summer. I confess to a lot of ambivalence about this notion. As idyllic as it could be

to swap a home with someone and to live in the South of France for a month, I cannot help feeling a bit squeamish about the thought of strangers living in our house for so long. Although I happily stay in hotel rooms that hundreds of other people have slept in during the course of that year, I am not sure how comfortable I would be living for weeks on end in someone else's home. I would be interested in my readers' thoughts on this subject, particularly if you have ever tried this house-swapping experiment yourself.

Perhaps at the heart of my reluctance is my love for Margate, Ventnor, Atlantic City, and the whole South Jersey area. To return to my ruminations on spring, there is something very special about walking the early spring beaches, weeks before the summer people arrive in force. Although a heavy shirt or light sweater might still be called for, the sun warms the sand and my bare feet transmit that heat up through my body as a tantalizing hint of the summer to come. With the weather becoming more and more delightful every day, I question whether the French Riviera or the Greek Isles can offer anything better than what I can find just steps from my house. Home, family, and spring at the shore. Does anyone need more?

Lloyd D. Levenson is Chief Executive Officer of the Atlantic City-based law firm Cooper Levenson and Chairman of the firm's Casino Law Departments in Atlantic City and Las Vegas. Mr. Levenson may be reached at (609)344-3161 or by email at [ldlevenson@cooperlevenson.com](mailto:ldlevenson@cooperlevenson.com).

## AtlantiCare invites community to show its face to help "Strike Out Stroke"

Facebook contest; stroke seminar, assessments and support group among ways to learn about risk, treatment

AtlantiCare invites the community to show its face to help the organization "Strike Out Stroke." In observance of National Stroke Awareness Month, AtlantiCare has planned a number of events and activities to increase awareness of stroke risk factors and the importance of dialing 911 for symptoms.

"Stroke knows no age limit," explained Marisa Scibilia, MSN, APN, C, program director, AtlantiCare Neurosciences Institute. "We're planning activities ranging from contests using social media to lectures and health assessments. We want the community to understand how they can prevent stroke and why it's important to dial 911 for stroke symptoms, face their risk, and help us spread this important message."

Now through May 16 - AtlantiCare will hold Strike Out Stroke video and poster contests. Visit [www.facebook.com/Atlanticare](http://www.facebook.com/Atlanticare) for details and prize information.

May 3 - The AtlantiCare Neurosciences Institute will hold free stroke assessments at locations in the community. Call the AtlantiCare Access Center at 1-888-569-1000 for locations.

May 4 - The AtlantiCare Neurosciences Institute and Bacharach Institute for Rehabilitation will hold a stroke support group meeting from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the Pomona Room of Bacharach Institute for Rehabilitation, Jim Leeds Road, Pomona, New Jersey. (Registration is requested.)

Any member of the public who has experienced a stroke or has a family member or friend who experienced a stroke is welcome to attend.

May 26 - The Heart Institute at AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center and will hold a free Matters of the Heart seminar focusing on prevention, diagnosis and treatment of stroke at 4 p.m. in the AtlantiCare LifeCenter Community Room, AtlantiCare Health Park, 2500 English Creek Avenue, Egg Harbor Township. Ciro Randazzo, MD, MPH, attending physician Department of Surgery, Division of Neurosurgery, AtlantiCare



Neurosciences Institute, based at ARMC Atlantic City Campus, and assistant professor of Neurological Surgery, Department of Neurological Surgery, Thomas Jefferson University, will discuss prevention, symptoms, diagnosis and treatment of stroke. The Heart Institute will provide free risk-based blood pressure, blood cholesterol, blood sugar and body mass index screenings prior to the lecture, from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

"The experienced stroke team at the comprehensive stroke center ARMC Atlantic City Campus and the state-designated primary stroke center at Mainland Campus in Pomona use the most advanced technology to diagnose and treat stroke," explained Randazzo, one of fewer than 100 physicians in the United States dual-trained in open and

endovascular neurological surgery.

"Stroke victims don't always get to the hospital fast enough," said Randazzo, "They ignore symptoms. This can have devastating consequences for patients and their families. We have rapid access to clot-busting drugs and the full range of surgical interventions. But there is a critical window for treating this urgent disease."

For more information about these events, stroke care at ARMC, inviting an AtlantiCare Neurosciences Institute representative to speak at your workplace or for your community group, or information about other AtlantiCare programs and services; or to make an appointment with an AtlantiCare physician, call 1-888-569-1000; or visit the AtlantiCare website at [www.atlanticare.org](http://www.atlanticare.org) or visit [www.facebook.com/AtlantiCare](http://www.facebook.com/AtlantiCare).

AtlantiCare is an integrated system of services designed to help people achieve optimal health. It includes AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center, AtlantiCare Health Engagement, the AtlantiCare Foundation, and AtlantiCare Health Services. Its more than 5,170 employees and 600 physicians serve the community in more than 60 locations. A 2009 Malcolm Baldrige Award winner, AtlantiCare was also included in Modern Healthcare's Best Places to Work in Healthcare in 2010. ARMC became the 105th hospital in the nation to attain status as a Magnet™ designated hospital in March of 2004 and was redesignated a Magnet™ hospital in 2008.

## AC Firefighters Take On "The Big Teplitzky"

THE ATLANTIC CITY FIREFIGHTERS UNION WILL prepare to take on a new challenge; "The Big Teplitzky" on April 9 to benefit Zoe (Horton) Palermo and Thomas

McMeekin Sr. Ten-month-old Zoe Palermo's mother, Shaina Horton (daughter of retired

Atlantic City Fire Captain Sam Horton), was diagnosed with a rare cancer while pregnant with Zoe. Although highly curable, mounds of medical bills have piled up for the young family. Thomas McMeekin Sr. is an Atlantic City firefighter veteran who was forced to retire in 1996 after being paralyzed in a car accident. His son, Atlantic City Police Officer Thomas McMeekin Jr., died in the line of duty in 2005.

As part of the fundraiser for the Palermo and McMeekin families, Teplitzky's at the Chelsea Hotel is challenging local firefighters to their mega-breakfast "The Big Teplitzky."

The first firefighter to finish the gut-busting four-pound breakfast, prepared by Teplitzky's executive chef Thomas Von Muenster, will receive an overnight stay at the Chelsea Hotel and dinner for two at Chelsea's Supper Club. Spectators can purchase tickets in advance for \$5 from the Atlantic City Firefighters Union or make a \$10 donation at the door, to enjoy free appetizers and specially priced Bloody Marys, Mimosas, and beer.

The Big Teplitzky consists of a heaping plate filled with pancakes, stuffed French toast, eggs any style, bacon, turkey sausage, pork roll, hash browns, grilled tomato, toast, a bagel and all the condiments anyone desires, along with orange juice and bottomless coffee or tea to wash it all down. This event kicks off the introduction of "The Big Teplitzky," and diners who can clear their plate will be crowned a "Champion of The Big Teplitzky" and have their names immortalized on the restaurant's wall.



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**YALE WINS ECAC HOCKEY CROWN**  
In March, the Yale men's hockey team skated to a 6-0 victory over Cornell in Atlantic City.



**ATLANTIC CITY'S OLDEST POKER PLAYER CELEBRATES 102!**

Andrew Amatrudo recently celebrated his 102 birthday at the Trump Taj Mahal Casino Resort with family and friends. This centenarian visits the casino daily, as he lives strategically next door, playing poker and proving that enjoying the simple pleasures in life is the secret to health.



**10TH ANNUAL MEN R COOKIN' CHARITY EVENT**

The Boys & Girls Club of Atlantic City's 10th Annual Men R Cookin' charity event was held in late February. South Jersey's leading professional and amateur chefs came together to show off their culinary skills and raise money for The Boys & Girls Club. This year had the largest turn out, with over 870 people sampling all of the delicious dishes. *Left: Dominick Mazotti, vice president of Masterpiece Advertising, was the winner of the "Best Soup or Salad" Amateur Chef Award. Right: Mark Giannantonio, president and CEO of Tropicana Casino & Resort, at the event.*



**ATLANTICARE INSTALLS 2011 MEDICAL STAFF OFFICERS**

AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center recently installed its 2011 Medical Staff officers, including incoming president of the ARMC Medical Staff, Deborah Bayer, DO, of Galloway, during its annual physician appreciation celebration. ARMC also recognized outgoing Medical Staff president Gary Rosman, MD, of Egg Harbor Township, associate director, Division of Gastroenterology, ARMC during the event. *Pictured, from left to right, are Deborah Bayer, DO, incoming president of the ARMC Medical Staff; Nancy O'Connell, director of Physician Services, AtlantiCare; Marilouise Venditti, MD, chief medical officer, ARMC; and Gary Rosman, MD, outgoing Medical Staff president.*

**LOCAL CHEERLEADERS ATTEND COMPETITION**



Egg Harbor Township Cheerleading and Dance Teams are on their way to Orlando, Florida in April to represent their town and Atlantic County. *Top: Senior Level Cheer Team, which received a third place bid for Orlando at the Battle at the Boardwalk cheerleading competition in February. Middle: Junior Level Cheer Team, which received a first place bid for Orlando at the Battle at the Boardwalk cheerleading competition. Bottom: Egg Harbor Township's Football Cheerleading Squad, which received their bid from a Wildwood Competition in November, 2010.*



**LOCAL SCHOOL SUPPORTS "BORN TO READ" PROGRAM**

*Pictured, left to right, are: Principal Jodi Burroughs; Barb Heinold, RN, clinical manager, AtlantiCare Women's Health Services; Chaia Jennings, intermediate literacy coach; Jennifer Jamison, school library media specialist; Jennifer Grocki, primary literacy coach; Brook Castaldi, intermediate literacy coach; and Robyn Boniewicz, program director, AtlantiCare Women's and Children's Services.*

In the spirit of Read Across America Day, AtlantiCare and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. School Complex, Atlantic City, participated in a "Born to Read" program to promote early literacy. Principal Jodi Burroughs joined students and the school's Literacy Team to present AtlantiCare Women's Health Services representatives with 35 custom "Born to Read" bags and more than 100 books to promote the importance of reading to infants. Each bag contained new board books; bookmarks; early literacy information; and letters written by students about the importance of reading. The bags featured a design created by seventh grade student, Nwara K. Davis.



**LOCAL BOXER  
KNOCKS OUT OPPONENT**

Atlantic City's own Isiah Seldon (blue trunks) KO's at 2:26 of the 3rd Round Juan Zapata (silver trunks) of Trujillo, Honduras, to run his pro record to (4-0-0 2 KO's) on March 4 in the Superstar Theater, Resorts Atlantic City.



**RICHMOND SPIDERS CAPTURE A-10 TITLE**

The Richmond Spiders finally captured their first A-10 crown with a 67-54 win over the Dayton Flyers at Boardwalk Hall in March. This was the Spiders' third Atlantic 10 championship game appearance.



**BULL RIDER VISITS SCHOOL CHILDREN**

Several Tropicana employees — along with PRCA Championship Bull Rider, Donnie Holladay, (Woodstown, NJ) — stopped into the Texas Ave. School to Mrs. Lilly's Kindergarten Reading Class and spoke to the children about how important it is to read a book everyday. Holladay also answered the children's questions about the upcoming Atlantic City Rodeo.

**THE 74TH ANNUAL MAXWELL FOOTBALL CLUB AWARDS BANQUET**



**Sportswriter Peter King Wins the  
Harrah's Broadcast Award**

The MFC/Harrah's Broadcaster Award, was presented at the banquet to sportswriter Peter King, NBC/Sports Illustrated. The award is given to a member of the print or electronic media who has demonstrated a commitment to football and a high degree of excellence in his work. Above image, from left to right: Jeffrey Lurie, Philadelphia Eagles owner; Ron Jaworski, ESPN-MNF Analyst; Jay Snowden, President & GM Harrah's; and sportswriter Peter King.



Michael Vick, Philadelphia Eagles QB and winner of the 52nd Annual Bert Bell Award for the Professional Player of the Year, attends the 74th Annual Maxwell Football Club Awards Banquet at Harrah's Resort in March.



Jeffrey Lurie, Philadelphia Eagles owner, makes his way into the 74th Annual Maxwell Football Club Awards Banquet at Harrah's Resort, fresh from his Oscar win for "Best Documentary Film" at the Academy Awards on March 4.

**MBCA MARCH MADNESS RAISES \$1,000 FOR CHARITY**



MBCA recently held their first charitable MBCA Mixer at the historic Knife and Fork Inn in March. The event split the donations evenly between the Shirley Mae Breast Cancer Assistance Fund and the Just For Kids Foundation.

From left to right: Amy Bird and Margret Belfield of AtlantiCare; Fran Goldstein, Sun Bank; Rene Bunting, AtlantiCare; Patti Lees, Kisby Shore; and Nick Valinote.

## Good Morning South Jersey!

As painful as it was to lose that precious hour of sleep during daylight saving time, being able to see sunlight when I leave on my dinner break after the 6 o'clock news somehow makes it all worth while. While there are still 24 hours in the day, it just "feels" like there's a little more time when you can make the most of the daylight hours, which is why I've always considered myself to be a morning person.

Yes, contrary to the night shift that I work during the week, and even the years of performing during the dinner hours at area restaurants, I've always been good at picking up steam pretty quickly in the A.M., once I get myself going. With working nights however, the problem these days is actually getting going!

Caffeine is a common staple in the news business and, going back to my days of co-hosting morning radio shows, I was definitely a five to six cup-a-day kind of girl. That is until I realized that the headaches I seemed to be getting every morning had less to do with crazy crank callers and more to do with overdosing on those delicious little (arguably) cups of java. So ... I switched to decaf. Some people may not see the point of even drinking coffee if it's of the unleaded variety, but it does give me a mental lift, and I reserve the "real stuff" for sleep deprived emergencies. Ladies and gentlemen, that time is now.

Without further ado, I am proud to announce that NBC 40 is now the home to a brand new hour of morning news. Okay, so I'm not actually "breaking" this story since some of you (I hope) may have already tuned in between 6 - 7 A.M., but for those of you haven't, here's a little of what you can expect.

When I found out that Dan Skeldon and I had been given the honor of kicking off the show for the inaugural week, I was extremely excited at the thought of taking part in such a venture. The second thing that popped into my mind ... "I'm going to need a lot of coffee, and not the fake stuff."

I must admit, getting up at 3:30 A.M. takes some getting used to after years of working the 2:30 - 11:30 P.M. shift, but is totally worth it for a brief chance to get back to my "morning person" roots. The bigger picture is being involved in a project that not only allows us to bring South Jersey even more news, weather, and sports, but lets us have a lot of fun along the way.

We all know that there always seems to

*Caffeine is a common staple in the news business and, going back to my days of co-hosting morning radio shows, I was definitely a five to six cup-a-day kind of girl.*



be more bloodshed and heartache in any given newscast compared to the happy, uplifting segments that truly put a smile on your face. No doubt, there will always be the rough stories that we'll have to present, but we're particularly excited about passing on some pleasantries along the way to hopefully make your morning routine a little brighter. From lifestyle and human interest features, to money saving tips, celebrity interviews, and special viewer giveaways, we're going to cover South Jersey like we've never done before.

So, if you haven't already tuned in, I'd ask you to at least give it a try. For me, it's worth the extra caffeine!



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## Dust Off Your Clubs, It's Tee Time

Well, it's that time of the year. The month of April means the Masters Tournament and the beginning of the golf season in the Northeast. Time for all of the dedicated golfers out there to dust off their clubs and have at it. Fortunately, the Atlantic City area is blessed with great golf clubs. Some are steeped in tradition, and all have their share of characters.

The easiest place to start is the Atlantic City Country Club. The term "birdie" was first coined there by none other than A.W. Tillinghast, a noted American golf course architect of the 1930s. Among his many course designs are Medinah, Oakland Hills, Quaker Ridge, Bethpage Black, and Winged Foot. He was a formidable player as well, competing in the U.S. Open in the early 1900s. The story is, he complimented another player's score of 3 on a par 4, as a "bird" of a shot.

The Atlantic City Country Club was the location of a U.S. Amateur, four U.S. Women's Open tournaments, a Women's Mid Amateur, and the first ever Senior event, held in 1975. The club celebrated its 100th birthday in 1997. That year, Billy Care and Duke Delcher — arguably two of the finest players ever to grace the club's fairways — both participated in international events. Care qualified and played in the British Senior Open, and Delcher was a member of the 1997 U.S. Walker Cup team. Delcher played in two U.S. Opens and made it to the quarter-finals of the U.S. Amateur tournament twice while a member of the club.

And the locker room at the Atlantic City Country Club was as good as it gets. It had a fireplace, bar, sauna, steam, jacuzzi, and even a barbershop. Lest I forget, Mr. Moon. He was the most famous locker attendant in the nation. If you knew Moon, you are smiling right now. If you did not, sorry, you missed a true legend.

Traveling a little south on Shore Road is the Linwood Country Club. The course is always in fine condition, and has some of my favorite friends to play with. Two that come to mind immediately are Mike Mackler and Dr. Joel Krachman. It is also the home of a formidable twosome and regular partners, Jake Simon and Guy Giordano. This pair wins way too much, and their high handicaps are the cause of many a conversation. I affectionately refer to them as "Burglars Incorporated." The Member-Guest Tournament is the finest anywhere, if you are lucky enough to get invited. The Tournament Committee does an outstanding job. It is truly a member-owned and operated club.

Down in Somers Point, there is Greate Bay Country Club. The course's original designer was Willie Park, Jr. Park was a two-time winner of the British Open in the late 1800s. In those days, it was called, Ocean City - Somers Point Golf Club. If you are looking for characters there, you don't have to look any further than the owners, Pat Croce and Mark Benevento. These two high energy guys will stop at nothing to pull a prank and have laugh, sometimes even at their own expense. Hockey Hall of Famer and Flyer great, Bobby Clarke is regular, as is his friend, broadcaster Steve Coates. There is a steady game there, known as the Rice




Group. This bunch of dedicated duffers play in all conditions and will not turn down any bet. Greate Bay has a very warm and inviting atmosphere.

In Galloway Township, you can find Galloway National Golf Club. The course was built by Vernon Hill, the founder of Commerce Bank. Hill has a golf course that even Donald Trump would envy. It is easily one of the top 50 golf courses in the country, and is as well run as his banks were. The Head Pro there, Mike Killian, may just be the best club professional in the U.S. Every hole would be considered a signature hole at another club.

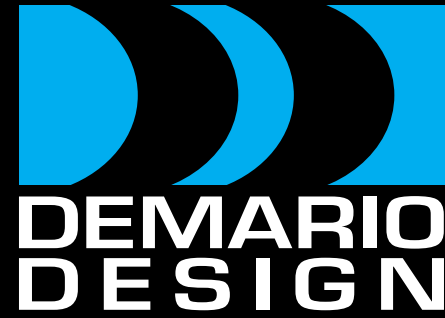
Finally, I get to my favorite: Hidden Creek Golf Club. It's located in Egg Harbor Township and was designed by Ben Crenshaw and Bill Coore. It is very fair off the tee, but the greens can be diabolical to read, difficult to chip to, and slippery to putt. Member Larry Harrison will tell you that he makes more putts from memory than by reading them.

The course has long par fours and one reachable par four; same with the par fives. You have to use every club in your bag and, when it's running hard and fast, it plays like an Irish layout. There is great membership mix of locals, Philadelphians, and national players. I'm running out of space, so my apologies to Blue Pines, Harbor Pines, Seaview, Vineyard Golf, and the Mays Landing Country Club. All fine places to tee up.

Shameless shout-outs go out to my golfing pals: Stan Bergman, Jim and Doug Fraser, Phil Perskie, Lee Nehmad, Lee Levine, Dr. Steve Zabinski, Tony Lepre, Brian Broadley, Rick Hendrickson, Ronnie Rodio, Bruce Meisenzahl, Mike Azeez, Marty and Mike Maglio ... and many more.

If you would like to make a comment, correction, or give me an idea, please contact me at [cferry.ferry02@insuremail.net](mailto:cferry.ferry02@insuremail.net). 

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## My First Time

*Sometimes it takes a few tries, and perhaps a little island magic, to become a true cigar aficionado*

Sitting in the evening air at the famed Tropicana nightclub in Havana, Cuba, watching the flamenco dancers flash by as the island beat fills the air, I glance up at the stars and am amazed at their clarity and beauty. The night before, while swimming off the shores of the island's famed Veradero Beach, I had witnessed that same stunning sky, beautifully illuminated with stars. The bevy of stars made the beach so bright it seemed almost like twilight, just like tonight. I'd had the pleasure of experiencing many superb cigars before this magical night, but just being here in Havana — amid fellow cigar enthusiasts and cigar industry greats — somehow made this cigar smoking event unique. As I light my first cigar of the evening, an El Rey del Mundo Demi Tasse, I take a sip of my ice cold Mojito and unwind amid the island breezes.

The previous morning, my tour led me to the province of Pinar Del Rio, a region of Cuba that arguably produces the best tobacco in the world. It's a daunting three-hour journey from the comfort of my Havana hotel. As I peruse the vast tobacco fields and curing barns, I can sense the dedication and years of expertise that go into cultivating the region's quality product.

Walking through the tobacco drying barn, I realize that the manufacturing process appears to be essentially the same one I've witnessed in Nicaragua, the Dominican Republic, and Honduras ... so why is Pinar Del Rio tobacco so incredibly exceptional? It turns out, by all accounts, it has a great deal to do with the soil. Surely, climate, geographical location, and skill of the manufacturer are all key ingredients to a quality product, but when the soil of Pinar Del Rio is added to the equation, an exquisite product is the result. To the untrained eye, it is impossible to detect what is so truly unique about this soil, but it is a fact there are inherent qualities that are only found in this legendary island's fields.

As I sit back and enjoy the club's exquisite decor, I look down only to realize my sumptuous entree has arrived. The sautéed lobster served inside a pineapple shell is wondrous. As I dip my last chunk of lobster in drawn butter, a gentleman hands me a Romeo y Julieta No. 2 Tubo. I decide to slip this highly coveted smoke into my purse for a worthy co-worker back at home who could not attend this event.

While living in New York City and editing a cigar magazine, I hosted numerous cigar dinners, many of which were "Ladies Only" events. Sitting in a large room filled with women all puffing away on cigars, I came to the realization that women smoke cigars for exactly the same reasons men do — relaxation, enjoyment, and camaraderie. While discussing the pairing of a Fuente Fuente OpusX with a well-heeled Riesling, I began to appreciate the similarities between the varying wine-growing regions around the world and the multitude of cigar-producing regions. I would always end these events with a cigarillo, a small, quick, and tasty treat that fits nicely into your purse or pocket and is perfect for a sophisticated smoke at the end of a beautiful celebration. I got hooked on these while traveling in Europe the prior year and always recommend the Davidoff Mini Cigarillo.

The flutter of a flamenco dancer's feathers brings me back to the evening at hand as a silver tray appears before me. On it is the last cigar of the evening and it is a Montecristo No. 2. With a quick snip of its tapered end, I had it lit in moments. As I take all the flavor into my mouth, I'm happy



this was chosen as the last cigar. As I enjoy this smoke, a casual glance over at the adjacent table scores me some quality eye contact with El Presentide himself, Fidel Castro. Surrounded by his always present bodyguards and seated a mere 10 feet from me, he is wearing his signature fatigues. As he gets up and walks past my table on his way out, seemingly pleased that the event's auction raised a substantial amount of money for his country's health system, he smiles and nods, as if he approves of a woman enjoying a cigar.

Looking back on my fond cigar experiences, I cannot remember what I smoked before my magical Montecristo No. 2 at the close of that memorable evening. As the camaraderie at our table reached a crescendo, we all raise our glasses and toast the magical soil of Pinar Del Rio. Salud!

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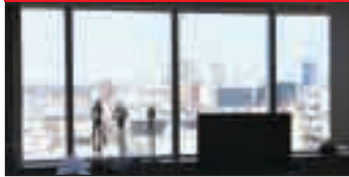
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**\$212,000**

## ATLANTIC CITY



**WINDSOR ARMS 1 BR 1 BLOCK TO BEACH**  
New floors, kitchen, bathroom & windows  
**\$115,000**

## ATLANTIC CITY



**CHELSEA VIEW SHORT SALE STEAL**  
2000 square feet of serene bayfront living  
**\$350,000**

## ATLANTIC CITY



**RECENTLY RENOVATED 2ND FLOOR CONDO**  
2 blocks to beach and low condo fees  
**\$149,000**

## ATLANTIC CITY



**LANDMARK TOWERS UNIT**  
REDUCED & READY FOR QUICK CLOSING!  
2 BR with southern ocean & bay views from private balcony  
**\$144,900**

## VENTNOR



**25 SOUTH CONDOS: 1BR WITH 0% FINANCING**  
Completely renovated w/ oak hardwood, stainless steel & granite  
**\$173,500**

## VENTNOR



**3BR/2.5 BATH HOME 2 BLOCKS TO BEACH**  
Open living room & remodeled kitchen  
**\$279,000**

## ATLANTIC CITY



**CHELSEA HEIGHTS 2 BR TOWNHOME**  
Across the street from bay with extra low condo fees  
**\$60,000**

## ATLANTIC CITY



**NEW CONSTRUCTION TOWNHOME**  
3BR, designer finishes & large backyard  
**\$619,000**

## VENTNOR



**OVERSIZED 70 X 62.5 LOT CLOSE TO BEACH & BOARDWALK**  
5 gracious bedrooms, open layout & beautiful backyard  
**\$459,000**

## GALLOWAY



**CUSTOM NEW CONSTRUCTION AT IRON GATE GALLOWAY**  
Build the home of your dreams in this private, exclusive community  
**\$899,000**

## ATLANTIC CITY



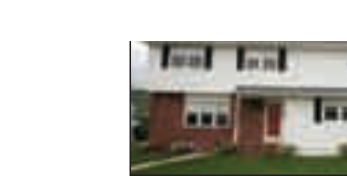
**RITZ 1 BR COMPLETELY RENOVATED CONDO**  
New hardwood floors, carpet, bathroom & vanity  
**\$169,900**

## MARGATE



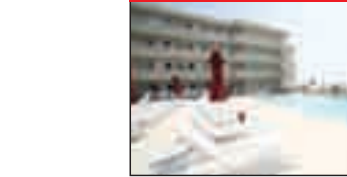
**BEACH HOUSE 2 BEDROOM CONDO**  
2-Story unit remodeled in 2009. Private rooftop deck w/ OCEAN VIEWS  
**\$500,000**

## MARGATE



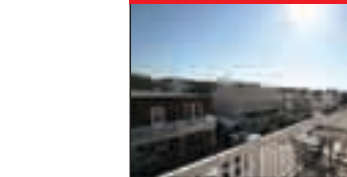
**STUNNING BEACHBLOCK HOME W/ 5BR**  
Sun drenched rooms, world-class appliances & multiple decks  
**\$1,299,000**

## MARGATE



**ISLAND HOUSE CORNER UNIT WITH WRAP AROUND BALCONY**  
Largest 2 BR, 2 BA in this beachfront building  
**\$599,000**

## ATLANTIC CITY



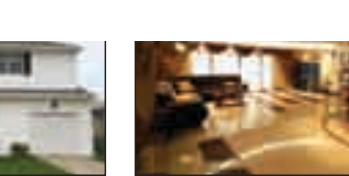
**5 UNIT INVESTMENT PROPERTY NEAR TROPICANA**  
Great rental income and Chelsea location  
**\$395,000**

## ATLANTIC CITY



**SOUTHSIDE CONTEMPORARY WITH OCEAN VIEWS**  
Upside down 3-story with elevator and sauna  
**\$500,000**

## ATLANTIC CITY



**OCEAN CLUB 1 BEDROOM SHORT SALE**  
Large terrace facing south with fabulous ocean & pool views  
**\$179,000**

## ATLANTIC CITY



**5 UNIT INVESTMENT PROPERTY NEAR TROPICANA**  
Great rental income and Chelsea location  
**\$395,000**



# Best of the Beach

## A profile of our area's most luxurious homes

*What sets this condo apart from others in the area is its corner location, mammoth wrap-around deck space and the priceless ocean views, which envelop the unit and make it a dream seashore oasis on the ocean. The corner unit is highly sought-after not only for the quiet it offers, but for the wide, free flowing design and relaxing atmosphere.*

Tic...Tic...Tic...

With the market hinting at a turnaround, this may be your last chance to snag a trophy condo at a tempting price. And, if you are looking for upscale shore living in Margate, 9600 Atlantic is your ultimate destination. Indelible summer memories will be yours as you relax, sunbathe and swim in the pool overlooking the beach—a great way to decompress after a hard day at work, a morning of shuttling the kids to local day camps or the Friday evening grind of rush



9600 ATLANTIC AVE, UNIT #1715, MARGATE

Offered at \$749,000

[www.9600Unit1715.com](http://www.9600Unit1715.com)

hour traffic leaving the City for a weekend the beach.

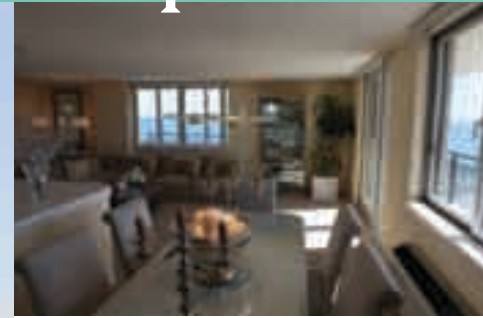
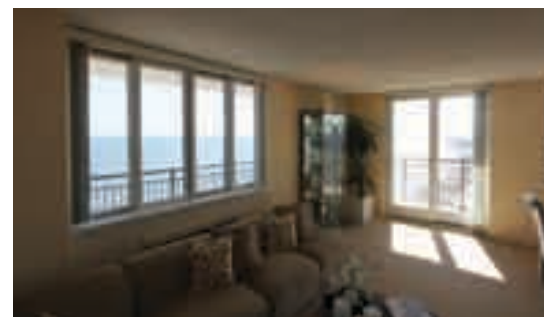
### Jewel of the Shore

9600 Atlantic boasts a brand new beautiful lobby and gym, garage parking, a gorgeous ocean front pool and deck, lobby, community and exercise rooms. You'll perk up just knowing you reside in THE building on the Island with the reputation as being the "Crown Jewel of the Jersey Shore."

No "Gotchas" Here—Has Gigantic Wrap-Around Deck and an Open Layout Designed to Make Any Entertainer Woozy with Delight

This condo design has

no drawbacks, offering 2-bedrooms and 2-full baths. The layout is open and ready to handle the rigors of summer fun and high energy entertaining at the shore. Your guests will be "wowed" from the moment they step into the unit. Dramatic ocean and skyline views pour through the windowed walls of glass, with an almost



irrepressible effect on the senses. One gigantic gulp of sweeping shoreline and surf greets you when you walk in.

Imagine the Convenience of a Central Location

From the condo, head just a few short blocks north to Atlantic and Decatur Avenues to visit

Lucy the Elephant—the "largest elephant in the world," and the oldest remaining example of zoomorphic architecture left in the United States. Painstakingly restored, this 125 year-old masterpiece is toured by throngs of fans each year. Hop on a bike and make way to the famous Boardwalk, for the ride of a lifetime. Head south from the condo to the romantic and picturesque Point in Longport. You'll be dazzled by the views, the fishing and fun.

Just a few blocks west and you have pizza, fine dining, CVS, a deli, bank, spa, and so much more. Continue west a few more blocks to the popular Marina district, with more fine dining on the bay, bars, nightclub entertainment and fun, fun, fun! Every Thursday, there's a wonderful open-air market with fresh fruits and vegetables in the parking lot at Steve & Cookies by the Bay. And don't forget "always turned on" Atlantic City is close by. Casino nightlife, world-class dining and entertainment are practically at your fingertips.

Okay, it is time to summarize. Here is a unique Southside corner unit condo that delivers world-class ocean and skyline views, a full-service, high-end building, and a convenient location. Grab your checkbook and own this gem before the market swings back around or some other

savvy buyer beats you to the punch.

How to See This Condo – In Person or Via Internet

The seller is represented by Paula Hartman of the Hartman Home Team, Prudential Fox & Roach Realtors, Margate. 609.271-7337 (Cell) or 609.487-7234 (Office).

Paula Hartman offers private web sites for all of her luxury properties. Visit this home's private web site at: [www.9600Unit1715.com](http://www.9600Unit1715.com)





Atlantic City image by Tom Briglia / PhotoGraphics Photography

# The Dawn of a New Day

*Atlantic City is getting re-energized and this seaside community is eager to get its heart pumping strong again*

BY NATHANIEL HALE

A string of bad news can take the life out of a city, but good news can act as a jolt from a defibrillator. Lately, Atlantic City has been hit with a number of chest compressions and could be ready to come off of the operating table.

This resort has endured a relentless run of disappointing developments since 2008: Profits at all eleven Atlantic City casinos have fallen off a cliff, Pinnacle Entertainment abandoned its plans for development, only after demolishing the Sands Casino Hotel, other development plans have also disappeared and the \$2.5 billion Revel casino project stalled half way through its construction because of

a lack of financing. And that's only a few of the notable negatives.

But a bold plan for the resort from Governor Chris Christie appears to have re-energized investment in Atlantic City, at least temporarily. The city is slowly moving from misery to momentum.

Since Christie first announced his commitment to the resort in June, the city has seen a stalled, \$2.5 billion casino project re-start construction, the purchase of two struggling casinos by separate, iconic gaming operators, a new law allowing for new investment from smaller gaming operations, and an incoming music festival like nothing ever planned in this city.



New Jersey Governor Chris Christie



Atlantic City Mayor Lorenzo Langford

### The Christie Plan

The newly found buzz in Atlantic City clearly began with Christie's highly touted visit to the resort in June. Rumors had swirled for months about how the governor would approach Atlantic City after he assembled a panel to examine the state's gaming, sports, and entertainment industries. For many, it seemed like another opportunity for bad news in Atlantic City, but when the panel released its report, the resort emerged as the sure-fire victor.

While other focuses like horseracing were hit hard by the commission, Christie went all in on the city's future. He argued that the resort had the most promise for a turnaround, one that needed to occur to maintain an essential piston in the state's economic engine.

He proposed creating a district in Atlantic City, which some described as a city within a city, which would be state run and made up of all of the busiest tourism areas. The goal of the state was a broad one: make Atlantic City a cleaner, safer destination that would attract a diverse flood of visitors, including families. The excitement that Christie's announcement delivered could not be matched, but was nearly impeded by the grueling legislative process.

More than six months would go by before a solid plan began to form among the Democratic state Legislature. In the end, it was decided that the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority would ultimately run the town, New Jersey's hallmark gaming regulations would be all but

dissolved, and the city government's role would be essentially limited to the neighborhoods untraveled by incoming tourists.

City officials lost their ability to make important decisions about development and planning in their own city. The Casino Control Commission lost much of its power to the Division of Gaming Enforcement, thus giving the Christie administration more power. And the CRDA became a superagency.

### The Langford Factor

One potential threat to the growing momentum in Atlantic City is the local government's opposition. As the legislation for the tourism district progressed last year, Mayor Lorenzo Langford and other local officials and politicians increasingly felt left out of the mix.

When Christie first unveiled his plan for the city, Langford surprised many by his positive reaction to the governor's initiative. He applauded the basics of the plan, thanked the governor for his commitment to the city, and pledged to work with the state in a spirit of partnership. And while state officials pledged the same, time would ultimately reveal how little input New Jersey officials wanted from the city.

News stories popped up all over the state about the ongoing legislative process — new developments with the plan, the role of the state, and the increasingly limited role of the city. Soon, the mayor and his

administration were only getting updates from the media, not the Christie administration or state legislators.

Finally, Langford's frustrations boiled over — publicly. He held a news conference in late December and blasted the governor and state Sen. Jim Whelan, his longtime political rival, for deliberately keeping the city in the dark while maneuvering a plan to minimize the power of the local government.

As the days went on, the mayor's rhetoric grew harsher, topping out when he likened the design of the tourism zone to South African apartheid.

"The hallmark of the South African system of apartheid was the doctrine of separate but unequal. It was a system where the dominant indigenous people of color were subjugated and controlled by an imperialistic white minority," Langford wrote in an editorial for The Press of Atlantic City. "In Atlantic City, the creation of a Tourism District mirrors this dogma."

The comments set off a war of words between both sides, turning what was supposed to be a partnership into a political battle.

"Look, I understand that he didn't want this to happen," the governor said during his ceremonial signing of the tourism legislation, an event Langford refused to attend. "I understand that. But the people of this region have been waiting too long for effective leadership in this city."

But the words that meant the most were his threats to file a

federal lawsuit over the constitutionality of the plan. The public threat did little to change anything immediately, but the litigation could still come. That effort was recently hampered with news that the state would prohibit the city to use public funds for such a suit, exercising their new, temporary oversight powers over the city's finances. But there are other avenues to bring the state to court over its tourism plan.

Langford has said he will wait for the CRDA to officially outline the tourism plan before deciding how he'll proceed. But a lengthy court battle, regardless of the outcome, could slow the motion of the city's

consistent development announcements and bring concern to an investment community that is finally showing interest again.

### Obstacles ahead

The feud between the state and city is not the only threat to the re-birth of Atlantic City. The state still has yet to actually implement its monumental overhaul of the city, which will undoubtedly be accompanied by many headaches.

City officials have noted a number of unanswered questions within the state's legislation, including various uncertainties concerning authority and territory.

The agency leading this complicated process also is without a permanent director. Thomas Carver, the CRDA's former executive director, resigned soon after Christie publicly dismissed the idea of him remaining the authority's leader.

The goal of the state was a broad one: make Atlantic City a cleaner, safer destination that would attract a diverse flood of visitors, including families. The excitement that Christie's announcement delivered could not be matched, but was nearly impeded by the grueling legislative process.

When Christie first unveiled his plan for the city, Langford surprised many by his positive reaction to the governor's initiative. He applauded the basics of the plan, thanked the governor for his commitment to the city, and pledged to work with the state in a spirit of partnership.

# The Dawn of a New Day



Atlantic City boardwalk at sunset

Susan Ney Thompson, the authority's chief operating officer, stepped in an acting role, but insiders say there's minimal chance of her remaining at the helm.

And there are still various uncertainties concerning investment interest here. Dennis Gomes' purchase of Resorts Casino Hotel was a relief to many who feared the city's oldest casino had little life left. But in order to turn the operations around, Gomes chose to implement a theme. Hoping to capitalize on the success of HBO's "Boardwalk Empire," Gomes is attaching a 1920s theme to the gaming hall.

Landry's Restaurants purchase of the Trump Marina is promising


because of the company's plans to attach the Golden Nugget name to the site and inject \$150 million into the property. But the location, long criticized for resembling a hospital, could continue to be hurt by its unappealing façade and its location in the city's Marina District.

One high-profile development deal that appeared to be imminent has also noticeably gone relatively quiet after making a lot of noise.

Hard Rock International made its intentions clear last year when the company lobbied to have Atlantic City's casino-size requirements lowered to 200 hotel rooms, ensuring that the legislation would prompt the company's commitment to open in the resort.

However, company officials have been quiet about the project's subsequent developments since the legislation was signed in early February. Last month, Whelan said developers were making preparations to start the building process, but skepticism is growing among some casino insiders that say the project's future could be in question.

Yet movement at the Revel site has many area residents excited, and the casino, scheduled to open next year, has begun hiring executive and supervisory positions. Jolting the local economy, Revel is expected to create about 5,500 permanent jobs once the facility is open.

There are still challenges ahead for this seaside community, but with the growing buzz about Atlantic City, there's no doubt the resort's heart is pumping once again. 



Atlantic City boardwalk images on this page by Ginny Leith



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# CATCH HIM IF YOU CAN

*With the State Assembly in his sights,  
Ventnor attorney Chris Brown shows  
no signs of slowing down*

BY FELICIA LOWENSTEIN NIVEN

If there is one defining characteristic about Chris Brown, it's his sense of duty. While other people may opt to take the easy way out, it's never been the way Chris operates. Perhaps that's the secret to the many achievements of this Renaissance man, a.k.a. attorney, a.k.a. judge, a.k.a. decorated army veteran, a.k.a. State Assembly candidate — and, as he puts it, his most important role of all, husband and father.

Born at Atlantic City Hospital, raised in Ventnor, Chris' story starts out like so many of the region's residents. His parents, Arthur Brown, Jr. and Shirley Brown, presided over a household that included Chris and siblings Kim and Kathleen. It was a picture perfect family, that is, until the year Chris turned 12.

"That's when my mother left us," he remembered. "My dad was left to raise three kids and he did it with great dignity."

As a result, Arthur was one of Chris' early role models. He served as chief of the Atlantic City Beach Patrol and taught his children through his actions as well as his words.

"My father treated everyone with kindness and respect," said Chris. "Whether you were the mayor or the dogcatcher, he spoke to you the same way. He believed that everyone had worth."



*All in the family*



Inside the State House

Chris attended Holy Spirit High School and was active on the crew team there. It's also the place where he would meet his future wife.

"Christine and I were high school sweethearts," he said. "We started dating when we were just 15."

But Chris was not ready for marriage. He planned to go to college, and eventually to enter the FBI. Since a law degree was recommended, he planned to follow that route. Of course, journeys often have little bumps along the way and Chris' career path was no exception.

He was enrolled at Rutgers University when the first detour hit. With not a lot of money for college, Chris decided to join the ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps). The U.S. Army helps pay for your college education and in return, the student serves a certain number of years as an officer following graduation. Chris competed with the other recruits with a physical test of endurance — pushups, sit-ups, a two-mile run — and skills evaluations, including land navigation, fire artillery and leadership. He did so well that he was awarded an Army scholarship. So both law school and the FBI would have to be delayed, just a bit, while he served his country.

After college, Chris was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army. He headed to infantry and airborne school. Then, he was placed in the Army reserves. That was about the time that the second detour hit.

Chris was just 21 when he learned that his father had been diagnosed with melanoma, a particularly deadly form of cancer. The decline was swift and Chris had to say a final goodbye to his dad.

"My dad had dedicated his whole life to public service," Chris said. "He particularly liked working with kids, the young life guards. We felt that we wanted to preserve his memory by helping kids go to college."

That would be the focus of the Chief Arthur R. Brown, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Foundation [chiefarthurbrownscholarshipfoundation.com](http://chiefarthurbrownscholarshipfoundation.com), which Chris and his siblings would start a few years later. The Foundation has



A gold dome adorns the State House in Trenton



Chris Brown serving his country

*"If I were try to find a way to avoid it and seek a deferment, then I'd have to live the rest of my life knowing that I didn't honor, stand up and be counted when I was asked to serve."*

— Chris Brown

awarded approximately \$200,000 in scholarships to date, and raises funds through two annual events — a Super Bowl party and a scholarship dinner in the fall.

"We are so grateful for the support that helps make a difference in so many young people's lives," said Chris. "Year after year, people continue to come out and give to this worthy cause."

While his dad's death was devastating to Chris, it only strengthened his own resolve to succeed and make a positive difference in the world. He wanted to make his dad proud.

He enrolled in Widener University School of Law. Daily life went as planned until the third year of law school. Then came the third detour. He was called in by the army to serve in Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

"Being a third year law student who had already served his time, I could have easily avoided service," said Chris. "But I didn't feel that was right. If I hadn't served, that meant that someone else, somebody's father, brother, son or husband, would have to go."

So he enlisted and spent the rest of the school year in the Persian Gulf. He returned as a decorated army veteran, awarded the Bronze Star and Combat Infantryman Badge for his service while spearheading the ground offensive in Iraq. It was one of several military awards he received.

Back on U.S. soil, Chris was just in time to make up some law school coursework in summer school. By taking extra classes

in the fall, was able to graduate law school mid-year.

It was time to pursue his lifelong dream, of applying to the FBI. Then came the fourth detour. The FBI was having problems with its entrance exam, so much so that they simply stopped giving it. It would be several years before they'd accept any new applicants. And by the time, they resumed, Chris was already well on his way to other things.

Chris began an internship with the Honorable L. Anthony Gibson, the presiding judge of the Chancery Division of the New Jersey Superior Court. He also served a judicial clerkship with the Honorable Charles R. Previti, judge of the New Jersey Superior Court.

And in between, he got married. Chris and Christine initially settled down in a house in Atlantic City but a few years later, moved to Ventnor where they still live today with their children Matthew, age 15, Daniel, age 13 and Mallory, age 11.

Married life agreed with Chris, as did his law career. He worked as the prosecutor and assistant solicitor for Egg Harbor Township and as solicitor for the Atlantic City Council and the Atlantic City Board of Education. He also served as the president and vice president of the Atlantic County Prosecutors Association. In his spare time, he was running the scholarship foundation in his father's memory.

The year that his first child was born, he opened his own law practice, Christopher A. Brown, Counselors At Law, in Atlantic City. The firm specializes in "helping people solve problems,"



The Brown Family

according to Chris. They specialize in personal injury cases and workman's compensation cases.

In 2004, Chris added another feather in his cap with an appointment as a judge in Galloway Township. It was a position where he would serve for six years.

He also became board certified by the Supreme Court of New Jersey, a distinction that only 2% of attorneys in the state hold. "I'm one of those guys who think that if I'm a member of the club, anyone can get in," he joked. "But it is a rigorous process. You have to be a member in good standing and have favorable peer reviews and reviews from judges. Then, you are invited to take a two day exam." Chris passed with flying colors.

Then came yet another detour. The year was 2009 and the army needed Chris again. This time, it was for Operation Iraqi Freedom. And even though he was a judge, which qualifies for a deferment, Chris didn't hesitate.

"This was probably the hardest time for me to leave," he admitted. "Before, I had been single. Now I had to leave a wife and three young children."

But the choice was clear to him. Quoted in a CNN story that

appears on his law firm web site ([www.cbrownlaw.org](http://www.cbrownlaw.org)), Chris said, "If I were try to find a way to avoid it and seek a deferment, then I'd have to live the rest of my life knowing that I didn't honor, stand up and be counted when I was asked to serve." That's a lesson he wants to teach his children — by example, as his own father once did for him.

The 2009 stint in the army could have been as many as 400 days but it ended up being just 110. Chris was sent to Ft. Jackson, South Carolina, Ft. Lee, Virginia and Ft. Dix, N.J. The army recognized that he was due for a promotion, from major to lieutenant colonel. That meant more time at command and staff school.

"Even though I offered to sign a paper that said I would forego the promotion, that didn't happen," said Chris. By the time he would have completed the three-month course, his time of service would be up. So they sent Chris home with an honorable discharge.

Chris went right back to business. He hired an associate, Ted Strickland, at Christopher A. Brown Counselors at Law to help with the workload. Then he turned his attention to his

newest goal, becoming a Republican candidate for State Assembly.

"It was a good time for me to do this," he explained. "Now that my kids are a little older, I've gone from their coach to their chauffeur, and so I have time to devote to this. Plus, my family is the reason that I want to run for State Assembly. The issues that concern me also concern every other family in the state. Will our children be able to afford a home when they grow up? Will they be able to find a job? I've spent 20 years serving as a prosecutor to get tough on issues like crime. At the same time, I've been a judge, trying to preserve each person's dignity. I'm also a small business owner that has had to meet payroll and budgets and make hard decisions. I understand deadlines. I've shown through my actions that I've put my commitment to the public, and this country, first and foremost. I believe that we need someone with this kind of experience at the state level."


The State Assembly job is part-time, allowing Chris to continue with his law practice. He also remains active in the community, volunteering with the Boys and Girls Club and the Marine Corps Law Enforcement Foundation, coaching one softball team this year, and serving as vice president for the Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick, a scholarship organization, and as a trustee for the Arthur R. Brown, Jr. Scholarship Foundation. He was a former head of the grievance committee for the NAACP. But ask him his most important role, and he doesn't even hesitate.



Chris with his wife, Christine, and their children, Matthew, Daniel and Mallory

"I always say that I've been privileged to be called many titles, from prosecutor to lieutenant to captain, major, judge and coach, but my favorite title is husband and dad," he said proudly.

He remains as involved as possible with his children, who attend the Ventnor Educational Community Complex, where Christine also teaches, and Holy Spirit, his alma mater.

"We're very supportive of each other," said Chris of his family. "I know that they'll be with me every step of this journey." 

*"It was a good time for me to do this," he explained. "Now that my kids are a little older, I've gone from their coach to their chauffeur, and so I have time to devote to this. Plus, my family is the reason that I want to run for State Assembly. The issues that concern me also concern every other family in the state."*

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Photo courtesy of nickvalinote.com

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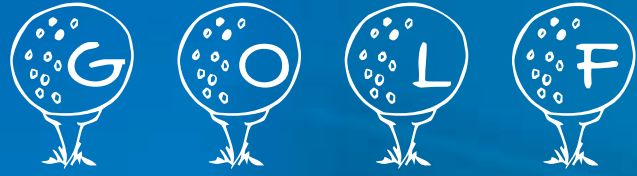
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# The Future King of



*Can Tiger Woods continue his reign over the golf world, or will some new champion dethrone the elusive king?*

BY SAL VISALI

Since 1997, if you were to look up the word “golf” in a dictionary, the definition would read as follows: Golf (noun): the sport that Tiger Woods plays; 2nd, the sport dominated by Tiger Woods. Now however, in 2011, we find ourselves in a very unique situation; one that poses a very important question for the future of the game. Is Tiger still king, or is a new class of highly skilled, competitive youngsters stealing the spotlight and the prize money? At this particular juncture the answer is still uncertain, but by the end of the 2011 season, we will have a definitive answer.

I’m sure that everyone in the viewing public, golf fan or not, is well aware of Tiger’s immense accomplishments, including 14 major titles (four short of Nicklaus’ record), over 80 professional victories, and being the highest grossing golfer of all time. So I’m going to dedicate the remainder of this article to the aforementioned up-and-comers, who, in my opinion, will dethrone the king.





### Martin Kaymer

Kaymer, a native German, emerged on the scene in 2005 at the age of 21. He started his career on small subdivisions of European golf (in other words, some insignificant tour not even worth naming). What is worth naming is Kaymer's immediate success; winning nearly every tournament he entered. Because of this, the German quickly moved up the ranks to a full time European Tour player. In his first season on the "big tour", Kaymer exhibited stellar play, and was awarded the Sir Henry Cotton Rookie of the Year award. Kaymer hasn't looked back since, recording victories at the Abu Dhabi Golf Championship ('08 '10), the Alfred Dunhill Links Championship, Open de Espania, BMW International Open, and his most touted feat, the 2010 PGA Championship (he defeated Bubba Watson in a three hole playoff). Because of his exceptional play, Kaymer was awarded a spot on the 2010 European Ryder Cup team along with fellow competitor Rory McIlroy. Kaymer and the Euro's defeated the U.S. in 2010. But perhaps Kaymer's grandest accomplishment to date was his 2nd place finish in the WGC Matchplay Championship almost a month ago, catapulting him past Lee Westwood to the top spot in the world rankings.



### Rory McIlroy

Rory is not a personal favorite of mine due to comments made during last year's Ryder Cup, and his decline of a 2011 PGA Tour card, but he's a young phenom nonetheless. He's a native of Northern Ireland who turned pro at the tender age of 17, and won his first European Tour event at age 19 (The Dubai Desert Classic), becoming the youngest winner of the event ever. In addition, McIlroy took the 2010 Quail Hollow Championship after an impressive final round 62 that set a new course record. In doing so, McIlroy joined who else but Tiger Woods, as the only players to win a PGA Tour event before the age of 21. McIlroy can also add 4 top 10's in majors, including 3 top 3's to his already extravagant resume (T10, 2009 US Open; T3 2009, 2010 PGA Championship, 2010 Open Championship).



### Jhonattan Vegas

I'm a golf fanatic (some would say obsessed) and I still didn't see this guy coming. He's a native of Venezuela, who started his career in 2008 at the age of 24. He competed on the Nationwide Tour (the "minor leagues" of American golf) in the 2009 and 2010 season, and saw a relative amount of success (nothing to get hot and bothered about). He finished 7th on the nationwide tour money list in 2010, therefore earning his PGA tour

card for this season. And as I said earlier, no one saw this guy coming. Thanks to his beautifully crafted swing, Vegas took the Bob Hope, and then contended in the following week's Farmer's Insurance Open, finishing 3rd. Following these stellar performances, Vegas became the first PGA tour rookie to lead the Fed Ex Cup point's race. Vegas' caddy said it best in an interview, "there's a new name in golf, and it's Jonny Vegas!"

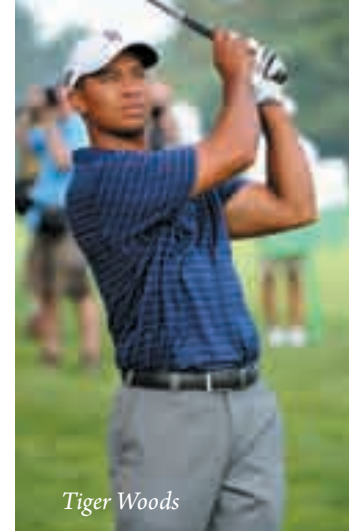


### Rickie Fowler

One of my favorite young players on tour, Rickie brings energy and excitement wherever he goes. At only 22 years old, he has his entire career ahead of him, however he's already made

quite an impact on the game. A California boy born and raised, he became very involved with junior golf at a young age and has various amateur accomplishments. He played for Oklahoma State, the #1 ranked golf team in the country, as well as became a very successful member of the American Walker Cup Team (for those of you who don't know, the Walker Cup is the amateur version of the Ryder Cup). He was even ranked as the #1 amateur golfer in the world for 36 weeks, spanning from 2007 to 2008. He turned pro in 2009 and finished tied for 7th in his first event, The Justin Timberlake Shriner's Hospital for Children Open. Since becoming a full time member of the PGA tour in 2010, he has recorded three 2nd place finishes, but unfortunately no wins yet. He was, however, selected as a captain's pick for the 2010 U.S. Ryder Cup team where he played very well. Finally, Rickie was awarded the 2010 PGA tour Rookie of the Year honors. This upset many Rory McIlroy fans that argued that he outperformed Rickie. To you people, I only have one thing to say, "Rory McIlroy is not a member of the PGA Tour." It's that simple.

I could go on and on and name 10 more players I believe will make a noble run in golf over the next 5 - 10 years, but for now, I'll keep it to just these four. However, I will give a quick shout-out to some of the deserving



Tiger Woods

names I left out: Bubba Watson, Bill Haas, Anthony Kim, Luke Donald, and Hunter Mahan.

Now let's get back to Tiger. As of this writing, the current world rankings stand as follows: 1. Martin Kaymer 2. Lee Westwood 3. Luke Donald 4. Graeme McDowell 5. Tiger Woods. This is the highest Tiger's been ranked since 1997, yet he hasn't won a tournament in over a year, and his swing (sorry Sean Foley) is not what it once was. Not to mention he can't seem to make an important putt to save his life. The Tiger Wood's legacy will always stand as one of the most impressive 12 years in the history of golf, but I'm afraid to say that, in my opinion, the sun has set on it. Perhaps I will be proven wrong ... only time will tell.

If you would like to comment on this article, please contact the author at [backseatdriver72@yahoo.com](mailto:backseatdriver72@yahoo.com).



Author Sal Visali, future king of golf

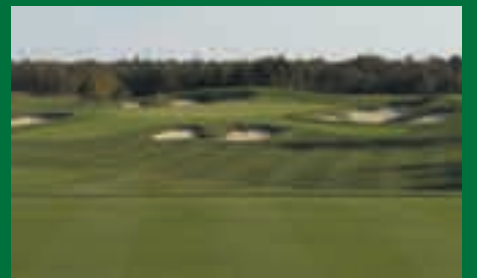
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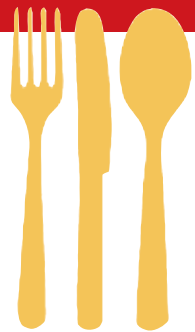
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# THE DINING GUIDE

*“Dining with one’s friends and beloved family is certainly one of life’s primal and most innocent delights, one that is both soul-satisfying and eternal.” — JULIA CHILD*

## JOHNNY’S Café & MARTINI BAR

BY VERONICA DUDO

Johnny and Joanne Liccio have always had a vision, so the success of their restaurant Johnny’s Café & Martini Bar comes as no surprise to those who know them. Nestled in the heart of the Margate business district, this charming and sophisticated, yet family-friendly, restaurant offers contemporary Italian cuisine with an Asian flair.

“We want our customers to come in and know that they’re safe,” Chef Johnny explained. “They’re in a beautiful atmosphere and they can enjoy themselves and let their hair down. They can dance if they want and have fun.”

The husband and wife team first started out in Ventnor with a small ice-cream parlor and bakery after moving to the shore full-time. “It was a great place,” said Johnny. “My kitchen was outside in the dining room. I loved it, but we just grew fast and saw an opportunity to come down to Margate, which turned out to be phenomenal.”

In 2008, they began to transform their current location into the type of establishment they always dreamed about. “When we first got here, it was a totally different concept,” Johnny explained. “It was actually a diner, so we tore it apart, redesigned it, and opened up December 2008.”

The restaurant offers breakfast, lunch, and dinner; three meals Chef Johnny enjoys preparing. “Our breakfast is one of the best on the island, so I can never stop doing breakfast,” he said. “Lunch just gets better and better, especially with our lunch specials, and dinner, that’s my pride and joy.”

In February 2010, they received their liquor license, just another step in the right direction of making their vision a reality. “We were able to have happy hour,” expained Johnny, “and we were able to add late night and local DJ and radio personality Bob Pantano on Friday nights from April to September.” In addition, their creative Happy Hour has become extremely popular. Called ‘Four to Seven’ because everything on the menu is four dollars and seventy cents; selections include 25 to 30 different food items and 20 different drink specials.

After their first year, more renovations were completed, including enclosing the outside patio and adding a second bar along with more inside seating. The restaurant’s décor is rustic, yet chic, accented with artwork for sale by a local artist. A cozy fireplace lights up the back room, which has a bar and spacious seating. In the main dining room well wishes, restaurant awards, and reviews from Philadelphia and Atlantic City establishments are proudly on display.

It’s truly a family affair at Johnny’s Café & Martini Bar. “My wife’s the owner, I’m the dishwasher,” Chef Johnny jokingly says with a smile. But all kidding aside, Johnny and Joanne work day and night to ensure their venture is a success. Their teamwork and attitude have already set them apart from other restaurants.



Their modern spin on traditional Italian dishes stems from Chef Johnny’s early childhood. “In our house in South Philly, we lived like humble people,” he remembered. “My grandmother cooked everyday for a lot of family members that lived in our house at one time or another. She would go to 9th Street and shop everyday for that meal.”

Those experiences have served as inspiration for their menu. Chef Johnny still buys the restaurant’s meats and poultry from Esposito’s Meats on 9th Street in Philadelphia. Many of the items Johnny offers on the menu were learned while cooking with his grandmother in her kitchen.

“All our pasta dishes were the favorites we ate at home, like our Rigatoni Bolognese, Seafood Lasagna, Crabs and Macaronni, and our seasonal Softshell Crabs.”

At the age of 13, Chef Johnny worked in an Italian bakery in Philadelphia. He has been a pastry chef for over 30 years and takes great pride in the deserts, which he changes every season.

“Everything’s made on the premises, made from scratch,” he said. “We have many deserts, such as our world famous Tiramisu, which is so light and airy people really don’t believe they’re eating cake. One of my favorite deserts is my Canole Martini. We use a martini glass with canole filling, and we break the shells up so you can share ... people love that.”

The Liccio’s say they have been touched by the kindness and encouragement from locals and will continue to grow their business. “We’re here to stay,” Chef Johnny declared. “We want to be a part of this community for a long time.”

Chef Johnny and Joanne, along with the staff at Johnny’s Café & Martini Bar, are ready to serve you a beautiful breakfast, luscious lunch, delicious dinner, or a divine desert; so you too can join the family.



*Inside Johnny’s Cafe*



# THE DINING GUIDE

## Lobster Ravioli

from Angelo's Fairmount Tavern



*Chef Greg Montgomery has been serving his recipe, a crowd favorite, to customers for over 10 years.*

### Lobster Ravioli

6-oz. lobster tail  
(shell removed)

6 lobster raviolis  
(pre-made)

3-oz. jumbo lump crabmeat  
(check for shells)

1 Jersey tomato  
(small, diced)

Handful of fresh spinach

### Lobster Stock

3-oz. tomato paste

1 gallon water

Salt and pepper to taste

2 carrots, bunch of celery

2 onions

Lobster shells

1 tbsp. olive oil

1 quart heavy cream

In a saucepan, placed chopped onion, celery, carrots, olive oil, and lobster shells. Saute veggies and shells until shells turn red. Add salt and pepper, 1 gallon of water, reduce by half. Add tomato paste. Strain stock. Saute lobster tail in pan. When you turn tail over, add 3-oz. stock and 3-oz. of heavy cream. Let reduce by half.

In a separate pot, salt boiling water. Cook ravioli 3 – 4 minutes, strain well. Place raviolis on plate. Add diced tomatoes and spinach to sauce, crabmeat goes in last. Place lobster tail on ravioli, spoon sauce over lobster tail and ravioli, just enough to cover. Serves one.



*Enjoy!*

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Park Place & The Boardwalk  
Bally's Atlantic City  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-340-1555

### AC Country Club Tap Room Bar & Grill

1 Leo Fraser Dr.  
Northfield, NJ 08225  
609-236-4465

### Angelo's Fairmount Tavern

2300 Fairmount Ave  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-344-2439

### Angeloni's II

2400 Arctic Ave  
Atlantic City, 08401  
609-344-7875

### Arturo's

Park Place & The Boardwalk  
Bally's Atlantic City  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-340-6709

### Atlantic City Bar & Grill

1219 Pacific Ave  
Atlantic City, 08401  
609-348-8080

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1 Atlantic Ocean  
The Pier Shops at Caesars  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-674-0100

### Café 2825

2825 Atlantic Avenue  
Atlantic City, 08401  
609-344-6913

### Carmine's

2801 Pacific Ave.  
The Quarter @ Tropicana  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-572-9300

### Casa di Napoli

801 Boardwalk  
Showboat Casino Hotel  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-343-4340

### Chef Vola's

111 South Albion Place  
Atlantic City, 08401  
609-345-2022

### Chelsea Prime

111 S. Chelsea Ave.  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-428-4545

### Continental Restaurant

1 Atlantic Ocean  
The Pier Shops at Caesars  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-674-8300

### Cuba Libre Restaurant & Rum Bar

2801 Pacific Ave.  
The Quarter @ Tropicana  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-348-6700

### DJ's Steakhouse

Brigantine Blvd & Huron Ave.  
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609-317-1000

**Fred & Ethel's  
Lantern**

**Light Tavern**  
1 N. New York Rd.  
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Smithville, NJ 08205  
609-652-0544

**Gallagher's Steakhouse  
at Resorts**  
1133 Boardwalk

Resorts Atlantic City  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-340-6555

**Gino's Pizza & Grill**  
1200 Atlantic Avenue  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-347-4747

**Girasole Ristorante**  
3108 Pacific Ave.  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-345-5554

**FIN**  
Tropicana Casino and Resort  
2831 Boardwalk  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
800-345-8767

**Flying Cloud Café**  
800 N. New Hampshire Ave

Atlantic City, 08401  
609-345-8222

**Harbor Pines Golf Club**  
500 St. Andrews Drive  
Egg Harbor Twp, NJ 08234  
609-927-0006, x 19

**Harborview**  
Brigantine Blvd & Huron Ave.  
Trump Marina Hotel Casino  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-441-2000

**Historic  
Smithville Inn**  
1 N. New York Rd.  
Smithville, NJ 08205  
609-652-7777

**Il Mulino New York**  
1000 Boardwalk at Virginia Ave.

Trump Taj Mahal Casino  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-449-6006

**Irish Pub**  
St. James & Boardwalk  
Atlantic City, 08401  
609-344-9063

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Japanese Pub**  
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**Knife & Fork Inn**  
3600 Atlantic Ave  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-344-1133

**Laguna Grill Restaurant & Martini Bar**  
1400 Ocean Ave.  
Brigantine, NJ 08203  
609-266-7731

**Little Saigon**  
2801 Arctic Ave  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-347-9119

**Los Amigos Restaurant**  
1926 Atlantic Ave.  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-344-2293

**Manna Restaurant**  
8409 Ventnor Ave.  
Margate, NJ 08402  
609-822-7722

**Max's Steakhouse**  
Mississippi Ave. & Boardwalk  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-441-6777

**McCormick & Schmick's**  
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609-441-5579

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**Morton's The Steakhouse**  
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**Ono - Pan Asian Bistro**  
Boston & Pacific Aves  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-340-7220

**OSHI Sushi & Sake**  
801 Boardwalk  
Showboat Hotel Casino  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-343-4330

**Patsy's Italian Restaurant**  
Boston & Pacific Ave.  
Atlantic City Hilton  
Casino Resort  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-347-7111

**P.F. Chang's China Bistro**  
2801 N. Pacific Ave.  
The Quarter at Tropicana  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-348-4600

**Phillips Seafood**  
1 Atlantic Ocean  
The Pier Shops at Caesars  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-348-2273

**Plate American Cafe**  
1000 Boardwalk, at Virginia Ave.  
Trump Taj Mahal Casino  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-449-1000

**Polistina's Restaurant**  
777 Harrah's Blvd.  
Harrah's Resort Atlantic City  
Atlantic City, NJ 08234  
609-441-5100

**Ram's Head Inn**  
9 West White Horse Pike  
Galloway, NJ 08205  
609-652-1700

**Red Room Cafe**  
141 N. Dorset Ave.  
Ventnor, NJ 08406  
609-822-1067

**Red Square**  
2801 Pacific Ave.  
The Quarter @ Tropicana  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-344-9100

**Reflections Cafe**  
777 Harrah's Blvd.  
Harrah's Resort Atlantic City  
Atlantic City, NJ 08234  
609-441-5100

**Rib & Chophouse**  
801 Boardwalk

Showboat Casino Hotel  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-343-4330

**Roberto's - Trump Plaza**  
Mississippi Ave. & Boardwalk  
Trump Plaza Casino Hotel  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-441-6777

**Ruth's Chris Steak House**  
2020 Atlantic Ave.  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
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Ventnor, NJ 08406  
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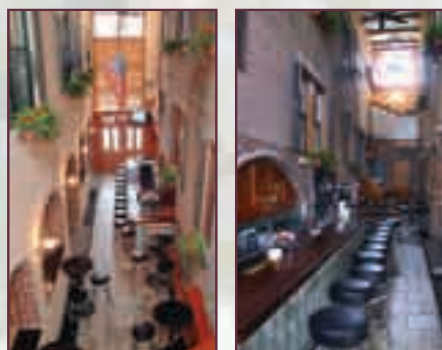


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Brigantine Blvd & Huron Ave.  
Trump Marina Hotel Casino  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-441-2000

### The Foundation Room at House of Blues

801 Boardwalk Showboat  
Casino Hotel  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
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2801 Pacific Ave.  
The Quarter @ Tropicana  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-344-7256

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Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-340-2350

### Tomatoe's Restaurant

9300 Amherst Ave.  
Margate, NJ 08402  
609-822-7535

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1000 Boardwalk at Virginia Ave.  
Trump Taj Mahal Casino  
Atlantic City, NJ 08087  
609-449-6004

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## Anthony's Out to Lunch: TONY BOLONEY'S



By Anthony Previti

I HAVE A PASSION FOR PIZZA. I crave it. I need it. Recently, I awoke in the middle of the night in a cold sweat and knew that if I didn't have pizza in next few hours I would probably go insane. I did my research, had a very serious pizza talk with my wife, and easily convinced her we were taking her mother out to lunch at **Tony Boloney's** in Atlantic City. Thankfully, not only did it satisfy my craving, it was probably the best pizza I ever had!

**Tony Boloney's** is a can't miss Atlantic City attraction. I mean that literally and figuratively. The bright blue building sits just beyond the shadow of the Revel Casino and your eyes are immediately drawn to it. If you happen to be color blind, then just follow your nose to some of the greatest grub in the city. In fact, **Tony Boloney's** even beat out the "Big Boys" and took home the gold in Guy Fieri's Food Network Cheesesteak Battle with their Cheesesteak Olé sub. (So I subconsciously decided that I had to try a cheesesteak and pizza on my visit.)

As we walked in, my mouth immediately started watering at the sight of the oversized, crispy pizza pies coming out of the oven. First on the agenda was a slice of the Winger. This giant slice came piled high with homemade, tender and juicy buffalo chicken, the freshest mozzarella, and the creamiest blue cheese dressing. My wife and mother-in-law, Linda, do not like spicy food, but after just one bite, the look in their eyes told me just how amazing the Winger tasted.

I had to concede the last slice to them, so I tried something different and ordered the Arugula Smokeout. I was blown away by the flavor

combination of the melted fresh and smoked mozzarella cheeses that were topped with a peppery arugula salad, all atop the best pizza dough on the planet. It was crunchy, cheesy, and, most importantly, delicious. Forget having a Pizza Battle and just award the first place trophy to this pie right now!

Just as I reached pizza nirvana, I begged everyone to split a Cheesesteak Olé with me. After a long two seconds of debate, everyone agreed. The 10-inch sub was so heavy that it must have been delivered to our table by the Revel Casino crane. The soft Rando's roll was packed with a ten spice-rubbed sirloin steak, fried onions, Monterey Jack cheese, shredded lettuce, tomato, and slathered with a zesty chipotle ranch dressing. It's not a sandwich, it's a flavor explosion. There really is no other cheesesteak that even tastes similar.

Don't worry, we ordered a salad too. The Po' Doc Carver salad has crisp romaine lettuce, tons of diced tomatoes, smoked mozzarella, lightly fried, crispy chicken and that fantastic Mexican ranch dressing. It was a nice way to round out the meal.

**Tony Boloney's** owner Mike Hauke also has a passion. He strives to combine the freshest, local ingredients with his original recipes and transforms them into a mind-blowing experience for his customers. Not only does he exceed all expectations, but there is no sign of him slowing down anytime soon. In fact, **Tony Boloney's** will be rolling out Atlantic City's first "Grub Truck" in the spring so keep an eye out around town.

Hauke is so serious about

stimulating the local economy and giving back to the community that he is currently organizing the 2nd Annual Pizza Slaughterfest on May 14, 2011. The Slaughterfest is an all day block party that includes an insane pizza eating contest, live bands, vendors, and activities for the whole family. Hauke admits, "Although public gluttony is mega cool, we want to raise awareness for a very special charity called Alex's Lemonade Stand that is committed to finding a cure for all children with cancer." Profits from all lemonade sales at the event will go to the charity.

**Tony Boloney's** opened in 2009 and has already established itself as an Atlantic City institution. So make a visit to the edge of the city. In a little blue building, you will find a committed owner with a passion for outstanding food that shares your dedication to the community ... and one hell of a slice of pizza.



## TONY BOLONEY'S

300 Oriental Avenue  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
(609) 344-8669

www.tonyboloneys.com

### HOURS:

Open 7 Days a Week.  
Spring Hours will be  
Monday through Thursday  
6 A.M. to 8 P.M., Friday 6  
A.M. to 10 P.M., Saturday  
11 A.M. to 10 P.M., and  
Sunday 11 A.M. to 8 P.M.

Eat in, Take Out, or  
Delivery

### PRICES:

Check out the complete  
menu and prices listed on  
their web site. Don't forget  
to memorize the new  
Breakfast Menu.

### TONY'S TIP:

Want to learn how to make  
amazing AC Inlet-style pizza  
the **Tony Boloney's** way?  
Then head over to their web  
site and sign up for a Pizza  
Making Class! Classes are  
offered on Saturday from  
9 A.M. to 11 A.M. When you  
have that mastered, sign  
up for one of their new  
homemade mozzarella  
and pasta making classes  
starting soon.

Anthony Previti is a criminal defense attorney who appears frequently in Atlantic County Superior Court and he loves food. If you would like your restaurant featured, please send an email to: [OutToLunch@boardwalkjournal.com](mailto:OutToLunch@boardwalkjournal.com).



Diana Ross image by Timothy Davis.



1. Right about now ... the crowd at House of Blues in Atlantic City was possessed by the sounds of MC Rob Base and DJ E-Rock ... Hit it! 2. The legendary Diana Ross performing at Caesars Circus Maximum Theatre. 3. Giuliana Rancic, Host of E! News recently hosted a party at the Pool After Dark, Harrah's Atlantic City. 4. Ronnie Ortiz-Magro, cast member from the hit MTV show "Jersey Shore" made an appearance at Dusk Nightclub in Caesars Atlantic City. 5. Joey Fatone (center) former member of the 'N Sync now the host of "The Price is Right" at the Palace theater, Bally's Atlantic City. 6. Talk show host and "Dancing with the Stars" contestant Wendy Williams visits Atlantic City. 7. Recording Artist Mia Martina poses before her local performance.



All images by Tom Briglia / PhotoGraphics Photography unless noted.

THE BEACH BOYS 1983 ATLANTIC CITY CONCERT



Part of the 300,000 people who saw the Beach Boys 1983 Concert



Beach Boys 1983

By Ken Calemmo and Kristine Kodytek

On Independence Day in 1983, boats upon boats anchored themselves just offshore and the beach between Arkansas and Tennessee Avenues in Atlantic City was packed with over 300,000 people.

The reason for such a crowd was more than just fireworks. The city hosted a free Fourth of July concert featuring none other than "America's Band," the Beach Boys.

The mass of concert goers took advantage of the two-hour show, comprising 28 Beach Boy Hits, which Caesars Atlantic City brought to the beach. The casino resort contracted the band to perform shortly after they were shunned by Washington, D.C.

For the previous three years (1980 – 1982), the Beach Boys had been a part of the annual Independence Day concerts at the National Mall, which usually drew about a half million fans. However, in 1983, the Beach Boys were not asked to perform.

James G. Watt, President Ronald Reagan's Secretary of the Interior, banned rock bands—who he believed encouraged drug use and alcoholism—from participating in the annual concert. Watt believed that rock bands, like the Beach Boys, attracted "the wrong element" or an undesirable audience who may bring trouble to the city.

Having attended the Atlantic City concert myself, I remember standing with my wife on top of a cooler so that we could see the band over a mobbed Atlantic City beach. It's important to mention that in 1983 the sand reached far beyond the piers we have today—so you can imagine just how many people were there that day filling the beach from sea to stage.

Contrasting James Watt's negative foreboding, I recall the show going off without a hitch. There were no problems, just great music. The audience had an amazing time.

The 1983 Beach Boys concert was a success and put Atlantic City's Fourth of July celebration in the company of other major city's celebrations. The following year, the Beach Boys returned to the Washington D.C. lineup and in 1985, they performed for one million fans in Philadelphia during the day and 750,000 in D.C. that same evening.

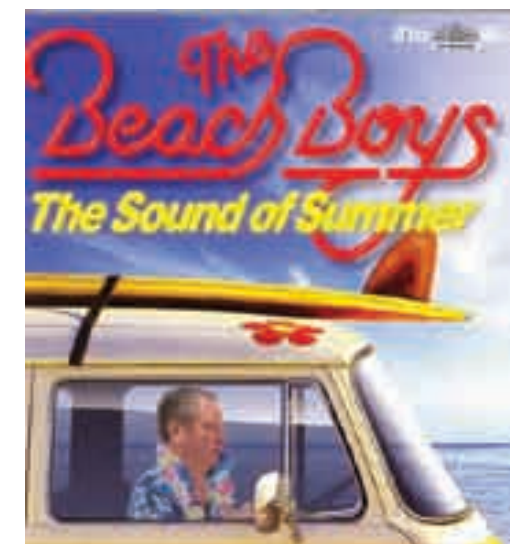
Howard Klein, Caesars Vice President of Marketing at the time, had enough foresight to see the various benefits a free, big-name concert could bring to the city. He developed "Great Vibrations Week," named after the Beach Boy's hit song, to create a successful week-long event culminating with the show. During "Great Vibrations Week," a once empty lot that existed between Trump Plaza and Caesar's became a temporary home to circus tents and performers and even boxing rings and boxers.

July 4, 2008 marked the 25th Anniversary of the Beach Boy's Independence Day bash—and they returned to the famous Atlantic City beach one more time.

This summer, Atlantic City will host a three-day music festival from June 24 - 26 featuring the Grammy Award-winning Dave Matthews Band. The festival will take place at Bader Field and features an impressive list of performers—more acts will be added until the day of the performance. Tickets for the DMB Caravan are available now!

Margo Tatum contributed to this article.

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## Chatting With a PR Guru

THINK ABOUT ALL THE LOCAL BRANDS YOU KNOW. Then think about why you know them. If Revel Entertainment, the Chelsea Hotel, Congress Hall, the Virginia Hotel, Eleganza, or Girasole came to mind, chances are Lisa Johnson had something to do with it. This savvy public relations maven is owner and operator of Lisa Johnson Communications (LJC), a local PR firm that handles all things image. Her clients range from the familiar restaurants, casinos and hotels in town, to entertainment productions, real estate developments, attorneys, physicians, and entertainers — with the occasional political campaign thrown in.

No stranger to the media herself, Johnson was a news anchor for 15 years in Delaware, Las Vegas, New Jersey, and Philadelphia. She also gained valuable work experience as the director of brand communications at the Venetian in Las Vegas. Now out on her own, the networking giant uses her eclectic skills to keep Atlantic City on the map.

As busy as she is, the hometown girl serves her community in a myriad of ways. She serves the Stockton Gala Committee, The Women's Center, the American Red Cross, the United Way, the Baptist Church Planters, and the Salvation Army. She even adopted her beloved Lhasa Apso named Totts from the SPCA.

We caught up with Johnson to discuss career choices, future plans, and the challenges of running a boardwalk empire of her very own.

### How did you get your big break into television?

I never had the proverbial big break. It was just pure determination and hard work. I started out as an intern at NBC in Philadelphia while still at the University of Pennsylvania. I was hired as an assistant assignment editor when I graduated. I eventually worked my way up to producer. I again started at the very bottom to be on air as an anchor at a small TV station in Delaware. Next, I moved back to South Jersey and began as the news anchor at NBC 40. I finally decided to spread my wings and move across the country to take an anchor job at CBS Las Vegas. It was a big risk. But it was a huge reward.

### What motivated you to leave the television field and get behind the scenes?

My Wharton Business background was itching to come out and play. When I was in Vegas, the team that opened the Venetian was from Atlantic City. They provided me with the amazing opportunity of joining their executive board and overseeing brand communications for Las Vegas Sands. Then, due to family, I took another big risk by leaving that amazing position to move back to South Jersey. But I wouldn't be where I am today if I had skipped any of the steps. I gained so much knowledge along the way.

### How has the economy changed your business?

Well of course, businesses are much more careful in how they are spending their marketing dollars. But my clients are more willing than ever to allocate budgets to campaigns and social media. LJC implements strategic public relations campaigns, which give my clients a competitive edge during a weak economy and support growth during a strong one. Positioning a company as a market leader and measurably increasing media visibility is what successful PR is all about, regardless of the economy.



Lisa Johnson

### You have worked on both coasts. Are there big differences in the way you get the job done in each region?

Not in how you get the job done, but the atmosphere in Las Vegas was one of rapid growth. You had to move fast and adjust to constant change to stay on top. In Atlantic City, with new hotel resort and entertainment projects coming on line, my experience in Las Vegas gives me an edge in helping my clients here.

### How do you give your clients the "personal touch" as your business grows?

We see ourselves as an extension of our client's business. It's just as if we were full-time staff dedicated to elevating their media exposure. I also personally meet with each client routinely. My business model is based on my skills, connections, honesty and trust. I only work with clients I know I can help. It has to be a good fit for both of us. Before LJC takes on a client, we carefully go over everything we can do for them. We only take on clients we feel our methods can help succeed.

### What is next for Lisa Johnson Communications?

Continuing to improve, innovate, and forge long lasting relationships with quality clients. Being a small business owner, especially in my business, the landscape is ever-changing. So Lisa Johnson Communications has to be ever-changing. It's probably from my fast paced reporter days, but mentally focusing on immediate goals has always worked for me.

### What is the biggest challenge in being on your own instead of within the safety of a big firm?

Just that, there's no safety net. I have to walk across the high wire all alone. It gets scary sometimes, but it's always thrilling!



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