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Hammer honored for support of local PBA

On Monday, the Lavallette Policemen's Benevolent Association [PBA] Local No. 372 presented Sam Hammer with an honorary Silver PBA membership card.

Mr. Hammer was honored for his long-standing support of the PBA union.

Mr. Hammer, along with his wife, Louise, are the owners of the Crab's Claw Inn located on Grand Central Avenue in Lavallette.

The Hammer's have graciously supported the local PBA since its inception several years ago.

On hand to honor Mr. Hammer at the Crab's Claw were PBA members Justin Lamb and Ryan Greenhalgh, PBA Delegate Christian LaCicero, Louise Hammer and PBA President Frank White.

PBA No. 372 has also announced they will be purchasing jackets for the Lavallette Elementary School girls soccer team for winning the regular season championship.

Officials from the PBA wanted to congratulate the girls on a successful season.



The Lavallette PBA Local No. 372 recently honored Sam Hammer, owner of the Crab's Claw Inn, with a honorary PBA membership card for his continued support of the local union. On hand to present the card to Mr. Hammer was PBA President Frank White [from left], PBA Delegate Christian LaCicero, Mr. Hammer, Louise Hammer, and PBA Members Ryan Greenhalgh and Justin Lamb

Save Barnegat Bay gets council's approval to host annual run

By Brian McGinn

The inaugural Save Barnegat Bay 8K Running Race, held last June along the banks of the Barnegat Bay in Lavallette, was deemed a success by both race organizers and participants.

The event was so successful, organizers are making the 8K race an annual event in Lavallette and sought the council's approval this week to hold the event on June 23, 2007.

Officials from Save Barnegat Bay — a nonprofit environmental organization based in Lavallette — said they needed

the approval for the 2007 race earlier than last year's event because the organizer's calendars will be distributed soon and they wanted the 8K race to be included in the schedule of events.

Councilman Robert Lamb, who ran in last year's race, said he felt the event went very smoothly.

He said the race organizers also made charitable donations to a number of local volunteer organizations, like the fire department and first aid squad, as well as the local PBA.

Due to that track record, Councilman Lamb said he did not have a problem approving the date for the 2007 race at Monday night's meeting.

The remaining members of council agreed, voting unanimously to approve the race to be held on June 23, 2007.

In other news from Monday night's meeting of the Lavallette council:

- The Lavallette Police Department will soon receive a new patrol vehicle after the council approved a resolution Monday night to lease a new

SUV for the police department.

"This is our standard program," said Councilwoman Barbara Brown, the council liaison to the police department. "We are entering into this lease in December rather than in January in order to have the car by the summertime, when we really need it."

Borough Administrator Christopher Parlow explained that historically, the borough's police department has three lease payments on the books every year and by adding this vehicle, it continue to have just three lease payments in 2007.

The vehicle being leased is a 2007 Dodge Durango, valued at \$20,606. The borough will make one payment of \$7,449 in each of the next three years in order to pay for the cost of the vehicle, plus interest.

Councilwoman Brown said Lavallette Police Chief Colin Grant requested an SUV in place on a squad car because he feels the borough needs another 4x4 vehicle for incidents of inclement weather and flooding.

- Councilwoman Brown reported the hours of police overtime worked during the month of November was again down from previous years.

The councilwoman reported a total of 121.5 hours of overtime logged during the month of November, making the year-to-date total 202.75 hours less than 2005.

- Councilwoman Britta Wenzel reported that crews from the Lavallette Department of Public Works were again successful in completing a townwide Monday garbage pickup.

- Mr. Parlow reported the borough was performing a budget transfer in the amount of \$13,000 in order to pay for Phase II of the dune maintenance permit process, being performed by the engineering firm T&M Associates.

- The \$13,000 will be transferred from the department of public works salary and wages line item into the engineering line item.

During the second phase of the project, officials from T&M Associates will submit the actual applications for a dune maintenance permit to the Department of Environmental Protection.

- Councilman Walter LaCicero reported legal fees for the current year are between \$30,000 and \$40,000 below the legal fees from 2005.

- He said the total legal fees are approximately 33 percent below last year's totals, not the 60 percent above last year's fees, as some contended during the recent election.

- Councilman LaCicero reported he was concerned about the amount of sand currently

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