



SUMMER 2008

# TwinCapes

TRAVELLER

Hit the Boards  
Sculpture in the Sand  
A Garden State of Mind  
Music Venues

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS



### FEATURE

#### SCULPTURE IN THE SAND

by Margaret Montet.....22

### SHORE SCENE

#### HIT THE BOARDS

by Carol R. Cool.....10

#### A GARDEN STATE OF MIND

by Heidi Heath Tony.....34

#### MUSIC VENUES

by Jennifer Popiel.....44

### DEPARTMENTS

#### ALL ABOARD

A letter from the director.....4

#### AROUND & ABOUT

Events taking place in a shore area near you.....72

### FERRY INFORMATION

(SPECIAL SECTION).....50

Fares .....52

Schedules .....54

Ferry on Foot .....56

Area Maps .....60



The boardwalks in Delaware and New Jersey are hot spots for visitors and locals alike—check out some boardwalk history on page 10.



Sand castle contests in Cape May and Rehoboth Beach are great ways to be competitive and creative. Read about them on page 22.



The Leaming's Run way of gardening is broken down and the secret is out! Learn great gardening tips and more on page 34.

### Way Beach Music



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SUMMER-08

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## TwinCapes TRAVELLER

Exploring the Delaware Bay and its many attractions and destinations

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# Love Those Great Events!

**NORTH WILDWOOD  
ITALIAN-AMERICAN FESTIVAL**

JUNE 27 - 29

**FOURTH OF JULY FIREWORKS**

JULY 4

**FOURTH OF JULY FREEDOM  
FESTIVAL**

JULY 4-6

**NJ STATE BBQ CHAMPIONSHIPS  
AND BLUES FESTIVAL**

JULY 11 - 13

**CHRISTMAS IN JULY BOAT  
PARADE**

JULY 19

**WILDWOODS BABY PARADE**

AUGUST 7

**WWE LIVE WRESTLING**

AUGUST 8

**WILDWOODS CLASSIC CUP XXIV  
HOBIE CAT RACES**

AUGUST 16 - 17

**WILDWOOD BLOCK PARTY  
AND FESTIVAL**

AUGUST 23

**ROAR TO THE SHORE  
MOTORCYCLE RALLY**

SEPTEMBER 4 - 7

**CLASSIC CAR SHOW AND AUCTION**

SEPTEMBER 18 - 21

**IRISH FALL FESTIVAL**

SEPTEMBER 18 - 21

**SUNSET LAKE  
SEAFARERS CELEBRATION**

SEPTEMBER 20

**AN OLDE TIME ITALIAN FESTIVAL**

SEPTEMBER 26 - 27

**THUNDER ON THE BEACH MONSTER  
TRUCK RACE**

SEPTEMBER 26-28



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# ALL ABOARD

Welcome aboard the Cape May-Lewes Ferry

## WELCOME TO ANOTHER SUMMER SEASON IN THE TWIN CAPES REGION!

The summer season at the shore is in full swing, and this issue of *Twin Capes Traveller* is packed with a variety of articles that highlight the many happenings and venues you'll encounter while visiting the Delaware Bay area.



Nowhere in the country can you find boardwalks like the ones in the mid-Atlantic region. *Traveller* writer Carol Cool takes us on a stroll along some of the area's most famous boardwalks and gives us a rare glimpse into

their historical beginnings. As she takes us from Atlantic City's popular boardwalk south to Delaware's, the reader will delight in little nuggets of trivia that highlight what makes these destinations so popular for tourists and locals alike.

While strolling the boardwalk, you're likely to pass by one of the popular music venues featured in Jenn Popiel's article on some of the area's hot music spots. On both sides of the Bay, you can find a roster of musical events taking place on the boardwalk or in local pubs and restaurants. Some of the world's best-loved bands have passed through the area and offer the perfect evening event after a long day on the beach.

The summer season is also the perfect time to witness one of the shore area's popular sand-castle contests. Two of the biggest events on the East Coast take place in Rehoboth Beach, Del., and Cape May, N.J. *Traveller* contributor Margaret Montet writes that visitors actually plan their vacations around these events and that the professional sculptors travel from across the country just to participate.

If you're looking for a break from the beach, be sure to visit the country's largest annual flower garden—Leaming's Run Gardens and Colonial Farm in

Swainton, New Jersey. Writer Heidi Tony walks us through this paradise-like destination while getting gardening tips from owner and designer Jack Aprill. From Aprill's unusual gardening practices to practical tips on how to start your own garden, the article provides a behind-the-scenes look at this popular New Jersey destination.

With all of these options, and many more, we're sure that the Twin Capes region will be the ideal destination to meet all your vacation needs. Thanks for using the Cape May-Lewes Ferry.

Jim Johnson  
Executive Director  
Delaware River & Bay Authority



## ON THE COVER:



Photo courtesy of  
Brian Tharan

Some very intriguing sand sculptures are built right here in Cape May and Rehoboth Beach. Check out the techniques and secrets to building your own prize-winning sand sculpture on page 22.

# Music Venues

By Jennifer Popiel

With gas and food prices skyrocketing, most families and singles are living on a tight budget. So it's no wonder that when something is free, most people will take advantage of the opportunity.

For music lovers of all ages, look no further than the most popular beach destinations of the Delaware Bay, which provide an extensive lineup of free performances.

Dewey Beach, Delaware, has grown in popularity—becoming the hot spot for music—since the mid '90s when the owners of the Ruddertowne Complex and Bottle & Cork decided Dewey Beach would be the perfect setting for a music conference. Since then, the must-see Delaware Music Festival, Dewey Beach Music Conference & Festival, Popfest, Jamfest, Americana Fest, and Chickfest have been thriving, bringing talented musicians from all over the world.

"I love the fact that fans in their 50s are side-by-side with people in their 20s at Popfest," says Vikki Walls, Director of Dewey Beach Concerts and Festivals. "It's so diverse at these events!"



According to Walls, the festivals have changed the outlook of the town in the off-season with hotels selling out and restaurants staying open beyond Labor Day, all to accommodate the crowds that come to town for the live music. To view the exciting lineup for the 2008 season, visit [www.deweybeachfest.com](http://www.deweybeachfest.com).

For families who want to include their children in the quest for live music, there are plenty of opportunities. Situated in the middle of the .38-mile boardwalk facing the Atlantic Ocean, the Bethany Beach Bandstand lures a crowd from Friday to Sunday, Memorial Day through Labor Day, beginning at 7:30 p.m. To cap off the season, there's the traditional Labor Day extravaganza—the Jazz Funeral and the Lifeguard Finale. View the complete schedule at [www.townofbethanybeach.com](http://www.townofbethanybeach.com).



Conceived in 1963 by the late William Hayes, the Rehoboth Beach Bandstand has flourished over the years as host to national and local acts playing Thursdays through Sundays from 8 to 9:30 p.m. beginning in June.

Program Director Corey Groll explains, "We maintain a tradition of 40 percent new and 60 percent returning acts with party, classic rock, and military bands drawing the largest crowds as they allow the audiences to actively engage in the music. Military bands especially are always an honor to have in our area." Visit [www.rehobothbandstand.com](http://www.rehobothbandstand.com) for details.

Sea Isle City, N.J., offers free "Summer Concerts Under the Stars" on Mondays and Wednesdays, 7:30 to 9 p.m. from June 16 to August 27. For a complete schedule call (609) 263-TOUR.

With delectable Caribbean treats and engaging theme-night entertainment, Cabanas on Beach Avenue in Cape May, N.J., is one place families are sure to enjoy. Be sure to check out the Kids' Karaoke on Mondays from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. and Tuesdays Kids' Carnival at lunchtime. "Cabanas is considered the locals' gathering place; however, we warmly welcome all newcomers to hang out with us," say owners Charlene and Charlie Walters. The mature

crowds enjoy Wednesday Reggae nights featuring live performances by George Wesley and Rolly Gray & The Sunfire, while Thursdays feature Always Motown Adult Night Out with the fabulous nine-piece Motown band, X-clusive. DJ Rick Rock will entertain the Happy Hour crowd from 3 to 7 p.m. daily with oldies but goodies and big powerhouse bands will rock the house on Fridays and Saturdays from 10 p.m. until closing.

Also featuring live entertainment in Cape May are the Ugly Mug, one of the area's favorite night spots with a relaxing atmosphere, and Carny's, one of the best-known bars at the Jersey Shore with a youthful and energetic atmosphere.

Summer 2008 boasts a wide array of talented musicians that locals and vacationers ages 21 and up won't want to miss. Love Seed Mama Jump has become a household name along the Atlantic shore. They have far exceeded the three- to four-year average life span of cover bands with well over 14 years engaging crowds, have released several



CDs, and are the official rock band of the Washington Redskins. Originally from Sussex County, Del., this entertaining group will be appearing at the Bottle & Cork, the Rusty Rudder (house band on Thursday nights), Cabanas, and the Rehoboth Beach Bandstand to name a few.

The owner of the Starboard in Dewey Beach, Del., Steve Montgomery (affectionately known as Monty) never charges a cover and features three rocking house bands: Laure Lee & Tripp Fabulous, Doug Segree Duo, and Jimi Smooth & HitTime.

Voted "Best Local Artist" by *What's Up? Annapolis* and part of the Dewey tradition for the past nine summers, Doug Segree says, "The Starboard is my home away from home; it is a great place to play with very few rules: Have a drink and have fun performing."

In business for over 40 years, the Starboard has ranked among the top





40 bars in the United States; it's known for its customer devotion and anything-goes atmosphere. "You gotta love Suicide Sundays," says Segree. "It's the only place where there is a line out the door at 9 a.m. for the traditional bloody Mary bar, eggs Benedict, home fries, and live music."

Although the following venues charge a fee, they are well worth the money and won't break your budget.

Open since 1936 and famous for booking national recording artists as well as regional and local acts, the Bottle & Cork presents concerts from May through October; for ticket information call (302) 227-3888.

Celebrating its 35th year performing as a band and its 25th consecutive summer of Monday performances, national touring act The Fabulous Grease band says that the Bottle & Cork is one of its favorite places to perform hits from the '50s to '90s. Band president Harry Pasquito says, "From what I understand, we have become one of the must-do things on almost everybody's list of vacation activities."

Other national acts have included LIVE, Dave Matthews Band, Emerson Drive, Fuel, Goo Goo Dolls, and 3 Doors Down.

Playing for over seven years, Mr. Greengenes, Burnt Sienna, and Kristin & The Noise are among the regularly scheduled regional acts.

Home of the famously delicious cocktail, the Dewey Devil, Northbeach is considered one of the hippest dance clubs on the East Coast; featuring two separate dance floors and a stellar light and surround system, it is the place to be seen this summer. Surprise national acts are lined up for the 2008 season from mid-May through Labor Day; tickets available at Ticketmaster.

For enthusiasts of classical, jazz, Celtic, and symphonic, the Cape May Music Festival will run from May 18 to June 15. It is located at the Cape May Convention Hall and Episcopal Church of the Advent. For information or tickets, call (609) 884-5404.

There is no excuse for not finding something to do this summer. Get out there and enjoy what each of these venues has to offer!

