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Nearby vendors see boost from new Convention hall

Sept. 15, 2012, 11:41 a.m. EDT
The Press of Atlantic City (N.J.)

CAPE MAY, N.J. (AP) — Joe Bogle is selling more fudge, so he's pleased with the new \$10.5 million Cape May Convention Hall.

Bogle, owner of The Original Fudge Kitchen just east of the new hall on The Promenade, is one of the many merchants reporting an increase in sales since the hall opened Memorial Day weekend.

"It's certainly helped our business. I wouldn't call it a dramatic increase, but it helped. We stay open all the time, and last winter it was tough," Bogle told The Press of Atlantic City ().

Convention centers can add millions in revenue to a tourist economy. Their biggest impact is not felt in the summer, but in the off-season, when concerts, conferences and other events draw people who might not be visiting otherwise.

Cape May can look to find its place in the convention market in September,

Mahaney said he expects the new hall to host that many events by its first

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