INSIDE

SPORTS Boys basketball team

beats Hammonton, BI

Lady Tigers showing good effort, **BI**

Fishing report: Collecting

'stuff' for the future, **B2**

CAPE MAY

Community Events, A4

JANUARY 2011

T IDE TABLE

am pm am pm

1/13 1:57 8:38 2:19 8:41

1/14 2:53 9:38 3:22 9:37

1/15 3:55 10:34 4:28 10:31

1/16 4:56 11:27 5:28 11:23

1/18 6:39 12:16 7:09 1:09

1/19 7:26 1:09 7:55 1:57

1/20 8:11 2:01 8:42 2:43

New Moon 1/5

1st Quarter 1/12

Full Moon 1/19

Last Quarter 1/26

Apogee 1/10

Perigee 1/22

2:51 9:30

HPC gives nod to Convention Hall design

CAPE MAY – The Historic Preservation Commission gave its approval to the new Convention Hall project, while some members of the public feared its impact on Cape May's National Historic Landmark (NHL) status.

The new building will be constructed on the site of the old Convention Hall, which by city code is not located in the city's Historic District. Some argued the beach and promenade have been tradi-

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH Cape May elements. HPC member Tom Carroll said the entire city is included under the NHL status, and urged the city to be cautious about compromising that status.

"This is a very difficult

building for us to give comment on," Carroll said. "To keep within the Victorian standard of Cape May is not possible for this type of building."

Carroll said the proposed design for the new building is

design for the new building is representative of an early 20th century municipal building, and he thought the new tionally included as historic design did a pretty good job



Rendering of new Convention Hall, courtesy of Kimmel Bogrette.

of representing that. HPC member Dave Clemans said his fear was the design would have less "grace and continuity" than

was presented, Monday night. He said he still wished the

facility was larger. Bruce City Manager MacLeod, who gave the pres-

entation to the HPC, said the building was originally conceived as a 32,000 square foot building, but it was scaled down to 20,000 square feet to stay within the \$10.5 million budget.

Resident Jeanne Powick said NHL status can be rescinded for alterations, additions or demolitions. She said Cape May has the "second largest collection of well maintained Victorian buildings" in the United States, with San Francisco being the first. Powick also related the

Please see Hall, page A2

Manager proposes a 2 cent tax rate increase for 2011

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - Cape May City Council introduced the 2011 municipal budget which includes a 2-cent tax rate increase, Wednesday, after a presentation by City Manager Bruce MacLeod and city department heads.

MacLeod's projections show an increase of \$580,692 in Local Purpose Taxes to \$8,317,887, which equates to a 2-cent tax increase based on the 2011 city assessed value. The Local Purpose Tax rate will rise to \$0.297 per \$100 of assessed value, from \$0.277. MacLeod said other city revenues like the Occupancy Tax, beach tags, building permits and parking meter fees declined in 2009 but showed a slight increase in

Beach tag sales totaled \$1,955,340 in 2010, which was around \$40,000 higher than the previous year. Revenue from beach tag sales do not go into the general fund, but are used to fund the Beach Utility.

MacLeod believes that Governor Christie will try and reduce state-aid to municipalities in order to balance the state budget, but estimates the city will receive around \$337,632 in state aid. According to MacLeod, the state aid figure is less than 3 percent of the total Cape May rev-

"The only thing that will really hurt us is the small amount of state-aid," MacLeod said.

He said any new initiatives or expanded services must include revenue to offset the city's expenditures.

"Doing more with less is not the answer," he increase revenues."

His projections for those miscellaneous revenues such as the Occupancy Tax and building permits came to \$3,892,052. Other revenue that will support the budget aside from state-aid and

Please see Increase, page A3

will be done in

collaboration

with the Mid-

Atlantic Center

for the Arts and

Humanities.

According to the

butions, heritage

and struggle of

Matthews, shows the contri-

Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave On Tuesday, a Great Blue Heron landed just outside the office of the Cape May Star and Wave on Park Boulevard. Managing Éditor Christopher South caught these pictures, shot from his office through the the window and screen. The magnificent bird lingered for a while, but then took off, spreading its large wings and it headed in a northeast direc-

Water loss issue not cooling off in West Cape May

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN Cape May Star and Wave

WEST CAPE MAY – The water loss issue in West Cape May was still the hot topic at reorganization Wednesday.

Kathy Gallagher of the West Cape May Taxpayers Association has been at nearly every meeting for months trying to get answers for her research that discovered a possible loss of 121 million gallons between 2003 and 2009, costing the borough around

Mayor Pamela Kaithern said calibrations of the West Cape May water meters done by a subcontractor hired through Eden's Revenue Recovery Associates was completed Dec. 17, but the board is still awaiting the final report. She said that even though the report is not completed, there are indications of a metering problem so it's possible there wasn't actually a loss in water. Kaithern said she suspects when the report does come out, the board will go into closed session and figure out their options.

"I've been pushing heavily for the report," Kaithern said. "I had hoped to have it for this meeting but I don't.

Both the borough and Cape May City hired experts to look at the meters, considering West Cape May purchases its water supply from the city. Kaithern said city officials told her their master meters were within acceptable margins of error when they were tested. That has done little to provide answers to West Cape May's prob-

"It's been a year and a lot of water has disappeared," Gallagher said. "I'm afraid it will take another year if something isn't

Trash service

According to Commissioner Peter Burke, the borough also saved money using the

Please see Loss, page A2





WCM supports shore towns

WEST CAPE MAY - The Borough of West Cape May, which sells no beach tags, came out in support of shore towns being targeted for spe-cial assessment to help clean

up Barnegat Bay.
The Boar Board Commissioners passed a resolution, last week, opposing legislation known as the "Save Barnegat Bay Act." According to Kaithern, this state legislation proposes to take \$1 from every beach tag sold in the state and put it into this fund dedicated to cleaning up the Barnegat Bay.
"It would create huge handicap for the beach towns," she said.

Kaithern said not only would it take money from the municipality, but she didn't believe all the funds would actually be used for helping the Barnegat Bay, which according to her is being hurt mostly by storm water runoff. Kaithern said Cape May also passed a resolution opposing the act, which was proposed by two Republican Assemblymen from Ocean County.

Black church exhibit at Carriage House

By CAIN CHAMBERLINCape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – The Center for Community Arts is asking everyone to take the opportunity to look at the African -American

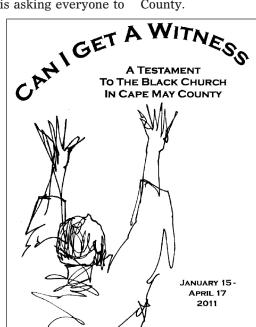
role in the community attending an exhibit dedicatan ed to that history at the Carriage House Gallery.

church's historic

The "Can I Get a Witness! A Testament to the Black Church in Cape County," exhibit will feature a collection of artifacts, photo-graphs and documents depict church's impact on the area during the 19th and

20th centuries.

Community Arts Center for Director Bernadette Executive Matthews said Cape May's stained glass window expert Dottie Rogers will display photographs of local churches and events, along with members, clergy and choirs. Documents like church deeds and lists of clergy will also be featured to better tell the story and history of these churches in Cape May County. The exhibit



A f r i c a n Americans during that time period leading up to what eventually came to be known as the "Black Church." "The Black Church has a very strong community out-reach," she said. With the arrival of Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Jan. 17, the

Center for Community Arts tradition-

ally has some sort of exhibit that dis-

plays a tribute to black history.

Matthews said this will be the thir-

Please see Witness, page A2

LUCKY BONES BACKWATER GRILLE

OPEN DAILY FOR LUNCH, DINNER & LATE NIGHT

Sunday Breakfast & Brunch • 9am - 1pm

From the traditional eggs and bacon to a saucy Huevos Ranchos (#1 favorite)to a stack of Buttermilk Pancakes or a Belgium Waffle with warm running syrup to a smoked salmon platter that's to die for!

"Sunday Breakfast at the shore never tasted so good!"

Now Offering a Complete Gluten-Free Menu From Appetizers to Desserts

