

Cape May Star and Wave

157TH YEAR NO. 43 CAPE MAY, N.J. SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY WEDNESDAY, October 26, 2011 50¢



INSIDE



Lady Tigers top Cedar Creek 7-0, B1

Homecoming starts out strong, B1

Lou Rodia on Fishing, B3

Garden Column, B5

Community Event listings, A4

TIDES October 2011 Eastern Standard Time

	High		Low	
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
26	7:51	8:12	1:16	1:57
27	8:40	9:03	2:05	2:51
28	9:31	9:55	2:55	3:44
29	10:22	10:50	3:46	4:39
30	11:16	11:47	4:39	5:35
31		12:13	5:35	6:34
1	12:49	1:13	6:37	7:34
2	1:56	2:16	7:42	8:35

INSIDE: See our Fall Bridal Guide insert.

Convention Hall needs more pilings up front

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – Cape May City Council was forced to approve two change orders to the Convention Hall project after it was determined the stone seawall was not stable enough to support the hall's foundation.

At its Oct. 18 meeting, city council approved two change orders to the Convention Hall project costing \$132,246, due to the unexpected but necessary alterations.

The first change order, in the amount of \$126,146, is for reworking the foundation for the entrance and open walk-

'How is this going to affect the total cost of the Convention Center? Remember, we are on a strict budget.'
– Councilman Bill Murray

ways to Convention Hall.

Deputy Mayor Jack Wichterman, who read the figures from a report at last Tuesday's council meeting, said before construction began, there was no way of knowing what was beneath the sand, mentioning rocks and old pilings. The original

foundation design was based information given by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers about the stone seawall. He said as the project progressed, it was discovered the seawall was unstable and not sufficient enough to support the foundation.

He said 26 wood pilings

would need to be placed in order to support a concrete and rebar foundation bridging the promenade to Convention Hall.

The second change order requires the installation of four wood pilings for a transformer located on the east side of the building, which will supply power to the facility. A higher concrete foundation will also need to be placed so the transformer will no longer be at grade level. The report read by Wichterman said this alteration would cost approximately \$6,100.

"The addition of piles and increased rebar and pad for concrete creates a more

secure and stronger foundation for the electric transformer, which is the main feed to power Convention Hall," Wichterman read from the report. "Also, this eliminates any concern for beach erosion under the pad."

Councilman William Murray had concerns about the city staying within its budget for Convention Hall.

"How is this going to affect the total cost of the Convention Center?" he asked. "Remember, we are on a strict budget."

Mayor Edward Mahaney said there was "contingency"

Please see Needs, page A2

Council introduces ban on smoking on beach and in parks

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
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CAPE MAY – Smoking on the Cape May beaches, promenade and in public parks could be a misdemeanor based on Ordinance 242-2011, introduced by city council at their Tuesday, Oct. 18, meeting.

Those who violate the ordinance, which would be in effect for the 2012 season, by smoking on a city beach or in a park would be subject to a minimum fine of \$100. The maximum penalty for violation is facing up to 90 days in jail or a fine of \$1,250. The police department and code enforcement are responsible for enforcing the ordinance with assistance from the beach patrol and fire department.

Deputy Mayor Jack Wichterman said the majority of the community is in full support of the ordinance, which covers all beaches, the dog park on Lafayette Street, Kiwanis Park, Harborview Park, Rotary Park and the bandstand area along with all future parks and recreation areas. Mayor Edward Mahaney said City Solicitor Tony Monzo would also need

to add Wise-Anderson Park to the ordinance.

Dr. Bob Zlotnick of Atlantic Prevention Resources, said the city should also consider adding the Washington Street Mall to the list of areas within the smoking ban. He said he felt all the children and non-smokers who walk on the mall should not be subjected to unhealthy cigarette and cigar smoke. Deputy Mayor Jack

Wichterman, who initiated the ordinance for the beach area, said the Washington Street Mall ban would be discussed next year.

Zlotnick offered the services of his organization and said they would be will-

ing to create stickers or information cards that could be handed out with beach tags, letting visitors and tourists know about the smoking ban.

Kim Burns, regional coordinator of Tobacco Free for a Healthy New Jersey was also in attendance with Zlotnick, and said Cape May's smoking ban would set a precedent for other shore towns and communities. She said it was a truly great idea for city council to approve this ordinance.

Please see Ban, page A2



Recruits help clean up the bayfront

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – Over 100 Coast Guard recruits and around 20 volunteers from the community met at the Nature Center on Saturday to take part in a the Clean Ocean Action (COA) Beach Sweep.

Nature Center Director Gretchen Whitman said she has been hosting beach clean-ups at that particular section of Cape May Harbor biannually for the past 14 years. She said COA became involved after the harbor was designated as an official beach in 2009.

Volunteers and 108 recruits from the U.S. Coast Guard Romeo 185 Company began at the Fisherman's Memorial and worked their way up the harbor, cleaning up trash and recording whatever they found on COA data cards. Whitman said these data cards help the COA identify and analyze pollution trends in the waters of New Jersey's coast.



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

Above, Coast Guard recruits from Training Center-Cape May help clean up along the Cape May Harbor on Delaware Avenue. The Coast Guard has been participating regularly in the clean-up effort.

She said they have even come up with the "Roster of the Ridiculous," consisting of items that you would never expect to find lying along the beach. Cape May visitor Bob Murphy of Hillsborough

said a couple of years ago, he found a sewing machine along the harbor. He has been helping do cleanups in Cape May for several years and said the

Please see Recruits, page A2



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

String bands are scary!

OK, string bands are not scary, but they have been a regular feature in Cape May's Halloween Parade. The Greater Kensington String Band is shown on Washington Street passing the Emlen Physick Estate, Saturday, in Cape May. The parade is a favorite event among residents and visitors. See more photos on page A10.

You thought moving was hard work?

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY POINT - They say a friend is someone who will help you move. What do they call a person who will help you move your house - literally raise your house off its foundation and move it?

Adam Marcus knows. He and his wife Dana bought the Queen Anne style home sitting at 300 Cape Ave., in mid-September.

People who have passed by the house recently have noticed the two-and-a-half story home was lifted off its brick foundation and moved to the side of the lot. The lot is being prepared for pilings to be driven and the house will be returned to its original location atop the pilings.

Marcus said they bought the home from Mary London, who owned the home for 40 years. The former Cornelius Simpson Cottage had been converted to a three-unit apartment building. The Marcuses are converting it back to a single-family home.

He said they purchased the home knowing it would need major restoration. The structure has already been gutted to ready it for all new electrical wiring and all new plumbing. It will also get a new roof and new, hurricane rated windows. Marcus said, in light of the investment, they thought it would be prudent to raise the house above flood plain, which the zoning ordinance allows.

"The property, I believe, sits just above the flood elevation. I believe the first floor is just above base flood elevations. Our plan all along was to set (the house) on pilings," he said.

Marcus said the decision was made because in Cape May Point you can raise

any home to give it a 2.5 foot crawl space. Additionally, given the home's proximity to the sea, the Marcuses felt more comfortable about investing a considerable amount of money in the house if it were put on pilings.

"We were in the midst of considering this when (Hurricane) Irene came along. It gave



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Above, the house at 300 Cape Ave. in Cape May Point has been raised and moved in order to drive pilings; part of a whole house renovation project.

us pause in the midst of the transaction. The brick foundation has held up all these years, but having an older foundation didn't make sense," he said.

Marcus hired McGonigle Builders of Media, Pa., to do the restoration work. The Marcuses permanent home is in Media, and he has had a long working relationship with McGonigle. He hired Atlantic Structure Movers to lift the house, move it, and put it back.

"We looked into the concept of raising the

Please see Moving, page A2

A NIGHT WITH
SOLE

Tuesday, November 1st 7:00PM



Featuring...

Old School

All Bar Proceeds will be donated to the Gene Sole Scholarship Fund

A Special THANKS to Old School for Donating their Time & Music!!!

