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CAPE MAY

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DECEMBER 2010					
TIDE TABLE					
	HIGH		LOW		
	am	pm	am	pm	
12/23	8:58	9:31	2:21	3:20	
12/24	9:45	10:22	3:11	4:07	
12/25	10:34	11:17	4:06	4:56	
12/26	11:27		5:04	5:47	
12/27	12:16	12:25	6:08	6:42	
12/28	1:18	1:28	7:15	7:39	
12/29	2:22	2:35	8:25	8:38	
12/30	3:25	3:43	9:32	9:36	
12/31	4:25	4:46	10:35	10:33	
New Moon			12/5		
First Quarter			12/13		
Full Moon			12/21		
Last Quarter			12/27		
Apogee			12/13		
Perigee			12/25		

Bill would take a dollar from every beach tag

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – Cape May City Council voted 3-2 to draft a resolution to opposing a bill in the New Jersey State Assembly that would take \$1 from every beach tag sale in New Jersey.

Deputy Mayor Jack Wichterman raised the issue near the end of Tuesday's meeting, referring to an initiative by two Republican Assemblymen, James Holzapfel and David Wolfe, of Ocean/Monmouth County. The bill is aimed at raising

'We want to do it now because it is negatively affecting shore towns. I don't see why you wouldn't vote for it.'

–Deputy Mayor Jack Wichterman

money to save Barnegat Bay, which has been threatened by pollution. The bill would require towns to send \$1 from every beach tag sale to the state to go into the fund,

which would look at reducing fertilizer runoff, require storm drain upgrades and restrict boating. The bill would not allow municipalities to raise the cost of a

beach tag to cover the extra dollar.

According to City Manager Bruce MacLeod, Cape May sells in excess of 200,000 beach tags every season. The \$1 assessment would take away over \$200,000 from the Cape May Beach Utility or about 10 percent of its revenue. Mayor Ed Mahaney said these are funds that are used for things like beach cleaning, and more importantly, lifeguard services.

MacLeod and Wichterman talked about the inequity of the proposed assessment on beach tags.

"Other beaches that don't sell beach tags would pay nothing, and the mainland that is responsible for this problem pays nothing," MacLeod said.

None of the towns in the Wildwoods requires a beach tag, and would not be required to support the program.

Wichterman said the pollution in Barnegat Bay is primarily a result of fertilizer running off into the bay, and it has nothing to do with being a beach town.

Please see Dollar, page A2

LT mayor angered over 'Help Wanted' ad for new manager

Mayor Mike Beck said ad wasn't approved by township council.

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

LOWER TOWNSHIP – During the council comment session Monday night, Mayor Mike Beck expressed his disapproval of a published advertisement for a new township manager that was discussed through email and not as a council or in public forum.

Deputy Mayor Kevin Lare said he drafted the ad and sent it to Municipal Clerk Claudia Kammer, who then forwarded the email to members of council. She received responses from Councilmen Glenn Douglass and

'I made a commitment to open government, and I plan to stick with that commitment.'

–Lower Township Mayor Mike Beck

Thomas Conrad who approved of the contents of the ad, but did not receive word from Beck or Ward 2 Councilman Wayne Mazurek.

At Monday's township council meeting, Mazurek said he didn't even know his password and had no way of seeing the email. The email was not sent to Mazurek, but was sent to Ward 2 Councilman-elect Erik Simonsen, who did not respond to the email.

Despite getting no response from two sitting council members, the ad was still sent out for

Please see Angered, page A2



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

...and Happy Holidays

A Christmas wreath placed on a gas lamp on Lyle Lane is a nice image – especially with a dusting of snow – to reflect upon as we count down the days until Christmas. Whatever holiday people celebrate, we hope they enjoy the season. The weather service said this area could get more snow for Christmas Day.

BAN opposes sinking ship for reef

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – A plan to sink the USS Arthur W. Radford Naval Vessel as part of the DEP Division of Fish and Wildlife's Artificial Reef Program has stirred up controversy with the Basel Action Network non-profit group (BAN) who say it will put toxins in the ocean and cost American jobs.

Submerging the 9,000-ton, 563-foot ship to a depth of 135-feet in the Del-Jersey-Land Inshore reef will provide immediate ecological, recreational and economic benefits according to the DEP

website, which says it is anticipated to be a premier dive attraction in the Northeast.

A report called "Jobs and Dollars Overboard: The economic case against dumping U.S. Naval Vessels at sea," done by Colby Self of BAN says this ship could contain polychlorinated biphenyls or PCBs that will pollute the ocean and its marine life. The report also says this artificial reef project will have a negative effect on fisheries, attracting an abundance of marine life to one location causing over-fishing. Self said according to the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, artificial reefs can be harmful to

the certain species of fish they attract, because a large concentration of fish in that area becomes a fishing target, leading to the decline of the species in the vicinity of that reef.

Self is the Green Ship Recycling Campaign Director of BAN and said he wants to promote a cleaner, healthier ocean by putting a stop to the sinking of U.S. Naval Vessels in the ocean.

"Sinking them doesn't make sense," he said, "we could recycle the ship and make money back."

By recycling the ships, Self said it would create thousands of jobs

Please see Reef, page A3

Accreditation harder second time around

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – The Cape May Police Department was recently informed they were being awarded "re-accreditation," which according to Police Chief Diane Sorantino was a more difficult task than the initial accreditation process three years ago.

Sorantino said the department had to show their policies and procedures were adhering to a set of standards set up by the National Commission Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). Three years down the road they had to show they

have been maintaining those standards.



Sgt. John Bobik, left, from the Cape May Police Department received the Exceptional Duty Award from Police Chief Diane Sorantino, right, for his work as the department's Accreditation Manager.

interviews. Representatives from the department had to travel to Princeton for part of the inspection process.

Please see Harder, page A2

Fishing registry could soon be law

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – New legislation sponsored by State Sen. Jeff Van Drew to create a free registration for saltwater fishing in New Jersey passed through the Senate Environmental and Energy Committee.

The bill recently received approval from the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee, and it is expected to take effect on Jan. 1. The legislation, Assembly Bill A-823 and its companion in the State Senate, S-1122, was made to protect New Jersey anglers from paying a fee of \$15 levied by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and authorized by Congress. NOAA needed to create a National Saltwater Angler Registry Program in order to establish a national database where anglers could be identified and surveyed.

The fee would essentially cover administrative costs for the federal registry program according to Van Drew.

New Jersey can avoid paying the fee by creating its own state registry program, which is what Van Drew is pushing for. The



Department of Environmental Protection suggested a \$5 fee opposed to \$15 but Van Drew still believes it should be free, as it always has been.

"No one should have to pay to fish on God's open ocean," he said. "People are tired of paying high property taxes, tolls and so many other fees in New Jersey and the residents deserve a break."

Van Drew said a federal fee for a saltwater fishing registration would ultimately hurt places like Cape May County because most would not want to pay it, creating a decrease in the fishing community. "Every coastal state has to have a fishing registry program but we want ours to remain free," Van Drew said. "Charging for registry is not good for the residents, tourism or the state of New Jersey."

According to Van Drew, this legislation has been in the making for two years and he hopes this will put an end to the possibility of a registration fee in New Jersey.

"We've fought it off before, and we'll keep fighting it," he said.

The DEP is in the process of figuring out how they will create a free registry program and Van Drew said they must work quickly because anglers would be required

Please see Fishing, page A3

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