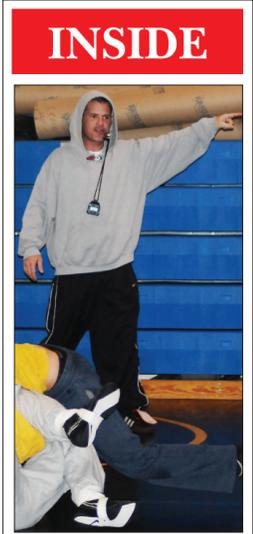


Cape May Star and Wave

157TH YEAR NO. 49 CAPE MAY, N.J. SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY WEDNESDAY, December 7, 2011 50¢



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TIDES
December 2011
Eastern Standard Time

| | High | Low | | High | Low |
|----|------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| | A.M. | P.M. | | A.M. | P.M. |
| 7 | 5:30 | 5:48 | 11:44 | 11:27 | |
| 8 | 6:10 | 6:31 | | 12:26 | |
| 9 | 6:49 | 7:12 | 12:06 | 1:06 | |
| 10 | 7:26 | 7:51 | 12:44 | 1:45 | |
| 11 | 8:03 | 8:30 | 1:22 | 2:24 | |
| 12 | 8:40 | 9:10 | 2:02 | 3:02 | |
| 13 | 9:18 | 9:51 | 2:42 | 3:42 | |
| 14 | 9:58 | 10:36 | 3:27 | 4:23 | |

Moon Phases

First Quarter, Dec. 2
Full Moon, Dec. 10
Last Quarter, Dec. 17
New Moon, Dec. 24
Apogee, Dec. 5
Perigee, Dec. 21

Ribbon cut at airport for Cape May Brewing Co.

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

ERMA - The wine lovers of Cape May County have their fair share of vineyards to choose from in South Jersey, but now the beer drinkers have something to embrace as well. The Cape May Brewing Company officially opened its doors on Dec. 1, following a ribbon cutting ceremony with members of Lower Township Council and the Delaware River Bay Authority.

Cape May Brewing Company owners Chris Henke, Ryan Krill and his father, Robert, leased property from the DRBA on Hornet



Cain Chamberlin/Cape May Star and Wave
Township and DRBA officials helped cut the ribbon for the Cape May Brewing Company, Dec. 1.

Road near the Naval Air Station Wildwood Aviation Museum in March and got the business up and running by June. Ryan said they had been incorporated since October 2010, but having a facility to brew their beer makes all the difference.

They started out making three different types of beer in a "pilot system" designed by Henke, who has an engineering degree from Villanova University. The system only made 12 gallons at a time, which was not enough to meet the demand, so the three brewers recently updated to system capable of producing 45 gallons.

They have also expanded their line of beers since June, now making an India Pale Ale (IPA), a dark and creamy stout, a wheat beer and now a honey porter that has become a big hit, according to Henke. He said they also had a cranberry stout during the fall that sold out much faster than they had expected. He said they are currently working on some holiday spiced beers. Robert said the reason the beer sells so quickly and has become so popular is because of the ingredients they use and the effort put into each batch.

Please see Brew, page A2

Cape May's Hill, a Pearl Harbor hero

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - On Dec. 7, 1941, the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor leaving over 2,000 people dead and over 1,000 wounded. It was a day President Franklin D. Roosevelt said would live in infamy. Seventy years later, it is still thought of as one of the most tragic experiences the United States has ever endured.

On that fateful day in 1941, Chief Boatswain Edwin J. Hill of Philadelphia, earned the Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions aboard the USS Nevada, docked on Battleship Row along the island of Oahu. At the time, his wife Catherine, their children and other family members were on an extended stay at the Windsor Hotel in Cape May, where Hill had vacationed for most of his life. His sister, Rose Hill Furey managed the hotel with her aunts, the Halpins, who owned the hotel from the 1920s to the 1940s.

This stay would be different from all the others, as they would soon hear the news that Hill, 46, was killed in action after 29 years of service in the Navy.

According to Hill's nephew, William Furey of Gurney Street in Cape May, the USS Nevada was docked directly behind the USS Arizona, which had been bombed and sunk about an hour prior to the Nevada's escape. Hill's actions helped free the ship from its mooring and get underway as well as give a boost of moral to the men fighting the Japanese airplanes flying overhead. Furey said Battleship Row was the primary target for the Japanese, and the Nevada was at the very back of the line, in an extremely vulnerable position.

Furey said Hill, as a Chief Boatswain, was in charge of the deck force, which was responsible for much of the routines on deck like setting the anchor and docking the ship. During the attack, Hill

Please see Hill, page A2



Painting of Chief Boatswain Edwin J. Hill by Steve Mogck



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

"Christmas time is here..."

Happiness and cheer, Fun for all that children call, Their favorite time of the year." These smiling faces from children taking part in the 46th Annual West Cape May Christmas Parade, attest to the truth of those lyrics written by Vince Guaraldi in 1965 for the Charlie Brown Christmas Special. See more photos on page A10.

Committee to study public safety building

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

LOWER TOWNSHIP - Lower Township Council has agreed to advance the formation of an advisory committee to consider what to do about the existing public safety building.

Two weeks ago, Mayor Mike Beck raised the issue of the public safety building, which has become something of a sinkhole for public funds. Beck said the building, located at the Cape May County Airport, was acquired in 1996

for \$100,000. Since then, the township has invested over \$4 million in the building and the number is still growing.

Beck said the issue is becoming critical because the building needs a new roof. At the previous council meeting, Beck recommended forming a committee to consider what to do about the problem before the township was forced to make a decision. He outlined his idea for a committee having seven voting members - himself, Deputy Mayor Kevin Lare, and five citizens, one appointed by

each of the council members. He also recommended including Township Manager Mike Voll, Police Chief Brian Marker, and Public Works Supervisor Gary Douglass as non-voting members.

On Monday, council adopted a resolution to form a committee to investigate options concerning the public safety building.

Councilman Tom Conrad initially expressed some concern about seeing the resolution on so soon.

Please see Study page A3

'Trees for Troops' at Coast Guard base

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - Thousands of families will be missing one or more members at celebrations this year because their loved ones are serving their country in the armed forces.

This is the reason behind the implementation of the Trees for Troops program in 2005.

Trees for Troops is a program of the Christmas SPIRIT Foundation where Christmas tree growers from across the nation have supported military families by providing free trees to display in their homes for the holiday season. This year will have seen the 100,000th tree delivered in the past six years to over 60 bases across the U.S. and overseas.

Of the 16,000 or more Christmas trees delivered this year, the Coast Guard Training Center-Cape May received 50, Commander



Photo by CWO Donnie Brzuska, USCG
Above Petty Officer 2nd Margarito Gonzales and Seaman Quincy Vanleck from the Coast Guard Cutter Finback home-ported at Training Center Cape May carry off free Christmas trees as part of Trees for Troops.

Owen Gibbons said. He said the junior ranks received first dibs on the trees, because many of them will be deployed at Christmas.

Gibbons said the trees were given to single family households within the base housing

Please see Trees, page A3

Cape May resident files OPRA complaint

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - A complaint filed against the city by a Cape May resident citing it would not release information on police shared services, is currently under review with the New Jersey Government Records Council.

Charles Hendricks, of Trenton Avenue, filed the complaint in late October claiming the city would not release certain information regarding the shared police service agreement between Cape May City, Cape May Point and West Cape May. During public comment at the Oct. 18 Cape May City Council meeting, Hendricks said he has documents showing West Cape May is receiving twice the police services for which they are paying; costing as much as \$400,000 per year. He feels police services in West Cape May are being subsidized by Cape

City taxpayers. His conclusion was based on council documents provided monthly by the Cape May City Police Department, which is responsible for covering all three municipali-



ties, which he referred to as "police volume reports."

According to Hendricks, at the Aug. 28 council meeting, Cape May City Mayor Ed Mahaney said the charges

made under the shared services agreement are based on an Interlocal Services Agreement formulae. The formulae are supposed to make the agreement fair to city taxpayers.

Hendricks said he was told, as a citizen, he was not able to access the formulae because they were considered confidential under the Open Public Records Act (OPRA). He filed the complaint with the Government Records Council in order to obtain the formulae. Mahaney was unwilling to comment on the matter until it was resolved by the state records council.

According to documentation Hendricks received from the records council, the city was originally required to submit information regarding the claim by Nov. 18, but asked for an extension. The city was granted the extension until Nov. 29. Now that

Please see OPRA, page A2

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