



INSIDE



SPORTS

Boys basketball beat Minutemen, **p14**

Wrestlers win over Mainland, Vineland, **p14**

Eel as bait used many ways, **p12**

Lower Twp.

Temporary library working out fine, **p3**

FEBRUARY 2010

TIDE TABLE

	HIGH	LOW		
	am	pm	am	pm
2/18	10:15	10:36	4:02	4:10
2/19	10:51	11:16	4:44	4:46
2/20	11:33		5:32	5:30
2/21	12:06	12:27	6:31	6:24
2/22	1:07	1:36	7:40	7:30
2/23	2:19	2:55	8:52	8:41
2/24	3:32	4:09	9:59	9:51
2/25	4:38	5:12	10:58	10:55
Full Moon		2/28		
Last Quarter		2/5		
New Moon		2/13		
1st Quarter		2/21		
Apogee		2/12		
Perigee		2/27		

Town Meeting on Convention Hall, Friday, Feb. 19, 1 p.m. in the City Hall auditorium.

No stopping or standing for parking issue

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – When it comes to parking in Cape May, the idea rarely takes a rest.

Cape May City Council introduced two ordinances Tuesday related to parking spaces and parking related revenue.

Ordinance 200-2010 would authorize the Department of Public Works to install

‘I don’t want the city to be a National Historic Landmark city with more parking meters per square foot than any other National Landmark city.’

– Jerry Gaffney, former councilman

meters along Beach Avenue from Trenton to Wilmington Avenue, and along side streets up to the next block. Additionally, the ordinance

calls for metering streets one block up from Beach Avenue, such as New Jersey Avenue.

When asked how much revenue would be raised by the

new metering, Mayor Edward J. Mahaney Jr. said the changes proposed under four new ordinances would result in \$150,000.

The issue of adding meters to previously un-metered spaces has angered some homeowners along Beach Avenue. Attorney Sanford Schmidt told city council he has been retained by some neighbors in the eastern section of Cape May who don’t want to see parking meters installed in front of their homes.

“This is upsetting for them.

Please see **Stops**, page A2

Diocese hears foundation’s plan to save WWC High

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

NORTH WILDWOOD – Save Wildwood Catholic Foundation board members repeated a power point presentation given on Jan. 28 to members of the Wildwood Catholic Advisory Board and Nick Regina, executive director of Catholic Schools for the Camden Diocese.

The meeting came on Jan. 29, a day after several hundred people packed the Wildwood Catholic auditorium to hear the foundation’s plan to save the school.

Then on Feb. 4, Glenn Ortman, an accountant who donated his professional services to the foundation, was asked by Ken Calemme, Wildwood Catholic Advisory Board member, to attend a meeting with Ad Hoc Wildwood Catholic Advisory Committee members Joe Bogle, Bea Pessagno and Steve Del Monte.

Also attending was Father Joseph Perreault, a former principal of Holy Spirit High School. The board members were originally told the ad hoc chairman did not want to hear from either Save Wildwood Catholic board member in attendance, but only wanted Ortman to answer questions.

Eventually, however, Father Perreault asked the board members present if there were any strings attached to the \$500,000 in Save Wildwood Catholic pledges as to how the money would be spent.

Foundation members told Perreault the one big string attached was, after the first \$100,000 was paid to the school as a subsidy, another \$50,000 would be allocated as \$1,000 scholarships for the first 50 new students who enroll at Wildwood Catholic.

The remaining amount would go toward capital improvements and the rest of the plan developed as part of the Save Wildwood Catholic vision, such as the college step and the professional internship programs.

Foundation members were asked if Save Wildwood Catholic would be willing to fund a position for a president of the proposed Wildwood Catholic Academy, which would consist of Wildwood Catholic High School and Cape Trinity Catholic Elementary School. The members said yes, adding that \$75,000 salary was included in the \$500,000 in pledge money and had already been included in our power point

Please see **Plan**, page A2



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

Welcome to Cape May

The welcome sign at the Jackson Street parking lot looks different than most people are accustomed to seeing it. Crews removing snow from the streets after three significant snowstorms in two weeks piled it high in the lot. The area continues to dig out and hopes for warmer weather to melt snow and help recover street parking. Below, a front end loader awaits its driver to resume clearing snow on the promenade on Beach Avenue, Cape May.



Snow collapses roof on horse barn

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

LOWER TOWNSHIP – Heavy snows are being blamed for the collapse of a portion of a barn where 30 horses were being stabled at a long-time equestrian center.

Nancy Hall from the Hidden Valley Ranch said no horses were injured when a section of the roof collapsed.

“With the snow we got, we had quite a bit of damage to the barn. A large portion of the roof caved in – it happened the night of the (Feb. 6) blizzard,” Hall said.

The horses, half of which are rescues, including retired racehorses, are being kept outside, but have access to water and hay. Hall said they couldn’t get the horses to other farms.

She said the barn with the show arena is part of an equestrian center dating back to the 1940s or 1950s. At one time the ranch had 200 horses and a restaurant, and its owners, Louis and Mary Ellen Taylor, had a summer camp, Bible school, and gave horse riding and swimming lessons. The state now owns the land, which she leases to operate as a non-profit.

All 30 horses were in the barn at the time of the collapse and all were taken out safely. The roof collapsed near where they were stabled.

Hall said they have made



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

Above, horses draped in blankets to keep warm. Below, an inside-out view of the collapsed portion of the roof.



efforts to remove snow from the room to prevent more damage. They tried heating the barn to melt snow on the roof, but it was ineffective. Hall said someone tried to

shovel some of the snow off the tin roof, but stepped through the roof.

“Some builders suggested we have a structural engineer look at it. We’re waiting for

him to tell us if we can repair what is standing or do we have to rip it down and have a barn raising,” Hall said.

Hall said the non-profit can’t afford to build a new barn on its own. She said the idea of Hidden Valley Ranch was to make an affordable place for the average person to own a horse.

“We are trying to keep board down. In North Jersey you would pay \$1,000 a week, but here we ask \$400 a month. We are trying to keep it affordable so people can continue to enjoy this sport,” Hall said.

Hall said they get by because of volunteer help. She also said they were very fortunate to have as much land as they do because it allows a larger turnout. But the collapse of the roof section and its potential effect on the rest of the building causes Hall to worry about the center’s future.

“The barn’s definitely going to need a roof. We’re praying the rest of it’s going to be salvageable,” she said.

Two fundraisers have already been organized. One is a beef and beer at the Cape May VFW on March 6. The event will run from 8 p.m. to midnight and is \$20 per ticket. The second is a dinner at the Oyster Bay Restaurant in Cape May on March 21. The dinner will start at 6 p.m. and is \$100 a plate. See the announcements in the community events listings.

State of emergency called off

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY COUNTY – After one week since the county declared a state of emergency the county modified its proclamation to remove all 16 Cape May County municipalities from the list of designated disaster areas.

At 9 a.m. on Feb. 12, Emergency Management

Director Frank McCall modified the state of emergency set on Feb. 5. The proclamation gave the county the authority to request resources on behalf of these municipalities.

While the state of emergency was lifted, Atlantic City Electric continued to work to restore power. Over 100,000 customers lost elec

Please see **State**, page A2

Cape May Police to get assessed by NJLEAC

CAPE MAY – Chief Diane Sorantino announces the visit of a team of assessors from the New Jersey Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission (NJLEAC), will be arriving on Feb. 28, to examine all aspects of the Cape May Police Department’s policy and procedures, management, operations and support services.

Verification by the team that Cape May Police Department meets the Commission’s state-of-the-art standards is part of the voluntaray process to gain accreditation.

As part of the on-site assessment, agency employees and members of the community are invited to offer comments via telephone. The public may call 609-884-

9533 on March 1, between the hours of 9 and 11 a.m.

The telephone comments, are limited to 10 minutes and must address the Police Department’s ability to comply with NJLEAC’s standards. Copies of the standards are available for review at the Cape May Police Department, 643 Washington St., Cape May. Accreditation Manager, Sgt. John Bobik, can be reached at 609-884-9500.

Persons wishing to offer written comments about the Cape May Police Department’s ability to meet the standards set for accreditation are requested to write:

New Jersey State Chiefs of Police Association, 830 Bear Tavern Rd., Suite 105, West Trenton, N.J. 08268