

Cape May Star and Wave

156th YEAR NO. 32 CAPE MAY, N.J. SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY THURSDAY, August 12, 2010 50¢



INSIDE



SPORTS

Cape To Cape Challenge
Cup photos, **B1**

Teaching grandkids to fish
for snappers, **B2**

Sand Sculpting contest
photos, **B8**

Lower Township

Chief of Police offers
Hurricane Tips, **A3**

AUGUST 2010 TIDE TABLE

	HIGH		LOW	
	am	pm	am	pm
8/12	10:23	10:39	3:59	4:16
8/13	11:14	11:30	4:47	5:12
8/14	12:08	5:36	6:10	
8/15	12:24	1:05	6:27	7:12
8/16	1:22	2:05	7:22	8:17
8/17	2:26	3:10	8:22	9:25
8/18	3:35	4:14	9:25	10:30
Last Quarter			8/3	
New Moon			8/9	
1st Quarter			8/16	
Full Moon			8/24	
Apogee			8/10	
Perigee			8/25	

Special election to be on Sept. 8

CAPE MAY – Cape May's Special Election on two referendum questions has been scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 8, from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Voters will decide on two questions:

Ballot Question No. 1 asks, "Shall Cape May City Ordinance 200-2010, finally adopted on March 16, 2010, titled 'An Ordinance Amending Section 7-44.3 of the City Code of the City of Cape May and Regulating Parking Meter Zones' be adopted?"

A "YES" vote would establish metered parking along Beach Avenue from Trenton Avenue to Wilmington Avenue (from May 1 to Oct. 31, 10 hour time limit, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.), and along Madison, Pittsburgh, Baltimore and Brooklyn Avenues, from Beach Avenue to New Jersey Avenue (from June 1 to

Dead fish show up on Delaware Bay beaches

MIDDLE TOWNSHIP – A significant amount of dead bait fish washed up on Delaware Bay beaches in Middle and Lower Township Wednesday.

County health officials do not know the source of the dead fish, but the origin could be as simple as a broken fishing net that released hundreds or thousands of dead fish.

"We don't know too much," said Linda Wilde, Director of the Division of Environmental



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

A large number of mullet washed up on Delaware Bay beaches in Lower and Middle Townships, Wednesday. A broken bait net is suspected.

Health with the Cape May County Health Department. "The DEP has been contacted and they are trying to get water samples."

Wilde said they had received phone calls and every indication is they are small mullet, which would be caught for bait.

"Usually this happens on the ocean side, when bait nets break," she said. "It could be as simple as that. Most likely they are from a bait-fish boat, but we don't know for sure. The DEP has to get some to their lab for testing."

Wilde said she notified Public Works in Middle and Lower Township that they might want to try cleaning up the fish before they started to smell.

However, by Wednesday afternoon the smell of rotting fish was strong in areas of the Delaware Bay.

Green Acres money for Vance's

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – The City of Cape May has applied to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection for a Green Acres grant to fund 50 percent of the cost of a project aimed at acquiring the former Vance's Tavern property for open space.

The Green Acres Program was created in 1961 to help municipalities fund recreation and conservation projects. According to City Manager Bruce MacLeod, the program has two funding methods – one for 25 percent and the other for 50 percent. The city, he said, is

eligible for 50 percent funding because it has its own open space fund.

"The application was submitted to the NJDEP Green Acres Program," MacLeod said. "The total project budget is approximately \$3.29 million. The grant that the city has applied for is equal to 50 percent, or \$1,645,000. It requires an equal match."

Cape May's open space fund is maintained by an appropriation that is basically one cent on the tax rate. He said there are two types of funding for municipal open space programs. One is specifically a tax.

"Cape May County's open space

fund is an actual tax," MacLeod said. "The other, which is the city's program, is to create an appropriation in the current fund basis, which is on apportion with one cent on the tax rate."

MacLeod said the open space money is set aside in a special fund until such time as it is needed, and then council authorizes an appropriation. He said it's the city's intention to use money in its open space fund toward its 50 percent of total project. He said the fund now has about \$1.6 million in it, but the city has an obligation to use some of those funds toward the acquisition.

Please see **Green**, page A2



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

Being 'hip' at the Cape May Baby Parade

Like his T-shirt suggests, Brayden Ackerman, 5 1/2 months, from Virginia Beach, Va., played it cool at the 2010 Cape May Baby Parade, held Aug. 6 on Beach Avenue. See more photos and winners on page A12.

Our 2010 Miss Cape May County is from Vineland

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY COUNTY – On July 10, Anna Negron of Vineland was crowned Miss Cape May County at the annual pageant held in Ocean City.

The fact that Negron, from Cumberland County, is representing Cape May County might sound a little odd, but there is a simple explanation – not enough Cape May County candidates registered for the pageant, which gives out \$3,000 to \$4,000 in scholarships each year.

"It's all part of the Miss America system," said Betty Pruitt, executive director of the Miss Cape May County pageant board.

According to Pruitt, Miss Cape May County represents the county in the Miss New Jersey page-

ant, but according to the rules, the county cannot have a representative – or hold a pageant – if there are not enough contestants. The rules state there must be at least four candidates entered in the pageant. Last year, when the reigning Miss Cape May County was selected, the pageant board only had three contestants from Cape May County registered.



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

2010 Miss Cape May County Anna Negron is shown riding in the Cape May Baby Parade, Aug. 6. Negron represents Cape May County but resides in Vineland, Cumberland County. The pageant turned regional this year when so few Cape May County became contestants.

The board was left with a decision – cancel the pageant or open it up to contestants from outside the county.

"We could have opened it to the whole state," Pruitt said, "but we opened it only to Cape May, Cumberland and Atlantic counties."

Pruitt said if a Miss Cape May County is selected from one of the other counties they still have to agree to represent Cape May County at all events, such as the recent Cape

Please see **Miss**, page A2



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

Baby snow leopards named

Kellie Smith, 11, of Brick was the winning entrant in what became a global contest to name the baby snow leopards at the Cape May County Zoo. The zoo received 1,360 name suggestions from 690 children from across the nation and as far away as Brazil and Russia. Kellie won the contest with her suggestions of Sabu and Kaba. Sabu is the Tibetan word for snow leopard, and Kaba is the Tibetan word for snow. Snow leopards are native to Tibet and surrounding parts of Asia. Kellie is shown with above with the leopards' handlers Kim Post and Vince Sonetto. Kellie was given a basket of prizes, including tickets to Gillians theme parks in Ocean City and Sea Isle City. The Cape May County Zoological Society is now trying to raise between \$300,000 and \$500,000 for a new exhibit for snow leopards.

Lower Chamber getting a place to call home

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

LOWER TOWNSHIP – The Lower Township Chamber of Commerce has a phone number and a website, but it doesn't have an office it can use as a base for its operations, or even a central location for storing files. That has changed – to some degree.

Please see **Home**, page A2



Beach Plum Martini

smooth, refreshing and delicious

the wine bar @ WASHINGTON INN

flights of wine, classic cocktails, small plate menu
before dinner, after dinner, for dinner

NIGHTLY SPECIAL - ALL OYSTERS OFF THE MENU - \$1.00 from 5 - 7 PM

801 WASHINGTON STREET • 609-884-5697 • WWW.WASHINGTONINN.COM