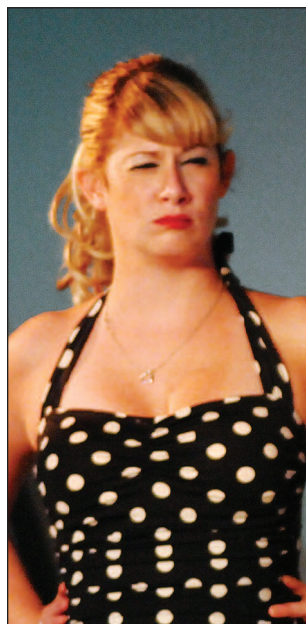




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AUG/SEPT 2010

TIDE TABLE

	HIGH		LOW	
	am	pm	am	pm
8/26	9:43	9:56	3:23	3:36
8/27	10:16	10:29	3:53	4:13
8/28	10:48	11:02	4:23	4:50
8/29	11:23	11:37	4:54	5:31
8/30		12:01	5:28	6:17
8/31	12:17	12:47	6:09	7:12
9/1	1:06	1:43	6:59	8:16
Last Quarter			9/1, 30	
New Moon			9/8	
1st Quarter			9/15	
Full Moon			9/23	
Apogee			9/21	
Perigee			9/8	

Local divers ID 1879 shipwreck

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – Local divers believe they have finally identified the wreck of a paddlewheel steamer that sunk 38 nautical miles off of Cape May over 130 years ago.

Brian Sullivan and Rustin “Rusty” Cassway have been diving the wreck they believed to be the Champion, an 1859 iron, side-wheel schooner-rigged steamer. Built by Harlan and Hollingsworth out of Wilmington, Del., it was the first large iron ship built in the United States and was purchased by Cornelius Vanderbilt for \$145,000.

What gave question to the identity of the wreck was there is another sunken paddle-wheel steamer just six miles away. The Admirals Dupont sunk off the coast of Cape May in 1865, and no one knew which wreck was which. They were identified as the Inshore Paddlewheeler and the Offshore Paddlewheeler. Then in June, Sullivan and Cassway made another diving trip to the wreck, the Inshore Paddlewheeler, which they – or at least Sullivan believed to be the Champion.

“I always thought it was the Champion,” he said.

They drove out to the site on the Research Vessel Explorer, the boat they use is a 42-foot Evans, a Chesapeake Bay workboat they have completely outfitted as a diving boat. With them were their crew: Sam

Demore, Andy Florey, Steve Gatto, Bruce Leinan, Bart Malone, Lou Sarlo, and Tom Packer.

The wreck lie in 110 feet of water, having settled on a “dimple” which was higher than the surrounding area. The divers would go down two at a time to dredge sand from the wreck site. It was during this dredging process that they found the clue leading to identity of the ship, a brass luggage tag stamped with “CHAMPION” and the number 195.

The divers had recovered a number of items including bottles, an inkwell, black powder flasks, a harmonica and a small single shot deringer. None of those items gave a clue to the identity of the wreck.

“We think this is all people’s stuff,” Cassway said, indicating artifacts spread out on a table in the Explorer. “This is not ship’s stuff.”

One item that might have belonged to the ship was the stem of a spoon stamped “Manhattan,” which was a steamship owned by the New York

Charleston Steamship Company. According to Cassway, when a ship was scrapped they often took off useable items and put them on another vessel. The Champion was heading to from New York to Charleston when it sank on Nov. 7, 1879. Cassway said the Champion was running light, carrying a

Please see **Divers**, page A12

‘I always thought it was the Champion,’

**–Brian Sullivan
from the R.V.
Explorer**

‘This actually took a lot of work, but we had a goal.’

**–Rustin Cassway
from the R.V.
Explorer**



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

Above, Brian Sullivan and Rusty Cassway display artifacts they found while diving the site of the wreck of the Champion. Built in 1859, it sank 20 years later roughly 38 miles off the coast of Cape May. Below left, a photo provided by the divers showing Sullivan holding a luggage tag reading “Champion 195” – strong evidence the wreck they have been diving is the Champion. Below right, a 2008 photo by Bradley Sheard showing divers working the wreck site.



Mid-Atlantic 500 predictably unpredictable, as usual

By R.E. HEINLY
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – The 19th Annual Mid-Atlantic \$500,000 sportfishing tournament lived up to the event’s tradition for excellence, excitement...and unpredictability. There were records set, last-minute winners, week-long winners, and an unexpected lack of one species despite promising pre-tournament catches of it.

As tournament Director Bob Glover remarked Friday evening there are always some last day and last minute winners in the MA500. This year it was a tournament record setting 177 Tuna weighed in just before Friday’s 9 p.m. deadline by Matt Kriedel’s Impulse IV. It won first prize and \$168,812 in the tuna category.

Another tournament record was set by Russell Baiocco’s American Lady with a 56 lb. Dolphin (a.k.a. Mahi Mahi) worth \$10,000.

Who would have thought, Glover continued, with all the big Blue Marlin caught in the area recently, including a 1,000 lb. and 600 lb. fish, that none over the 400 lb. minimum tournament weight would be boated for the first time in tournament history.

This lack of qualifying Blue Marlin meant that by rule the prize money for that category was added to the White Marlin pool. The winner here was the 88-pounder of Bill Zimmerman’s Billfisher weighed in on Monday.



Photos by Sandy Malone
of the Mid-Atlantic 500

Above, Skipper Matt Kriedel and the crew of the Impulse which brought in a record setting 177-pound tuna. The annual week-long events is growing bigger and bigger each year – just like the fish.

Another 88-pounder was boated by Steve Ramsey’s Lady Luck V Friday. This first place tie went to the Billfisher based on being first on the leader board and more Calcutta money. Its crew won \$791,442, a tournament high, while the Lady Luck V settled for a handsome \$298,514.

Other winners included Don Haines’ Shelly II’s 49 lb. Wahoo worth \$10,000 and Marty Judge’s Judge for most



points for releases. Tournament records were also set for number of White Marlin hooked, 558, of which 527 or 94% were

Please see **MA500**, page A2

Numbered signs should help during emergencies

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – Fire Chief Jerry Inderwies and members of the Cape May Beach Patrol have come up with what appears to be a simple solution to a serious problem.

According to Inderwies, when there is an emergency on the beach after hours, nearly everyone has a cell phone to call 911, but many people are not sure of their location. Often visitors could not remember at what street they entered the beach.

“In the past people would call for an emergency and would have to try to describe what they were near, such as a hotel,” Inderwies said.

According to City Manager Bruce MacLeod, during busier times, 911 calls can be

automatically forwarded to the county 911 dispatcher, which can lead to more confusion.

“There was an occasion



Fire Chief Jerry Inderwies and Beach Patrol Lt. Harry Back standing by one of the new signs to help people tell 911 dispatchers where they are.

when the dispatcher would hear Pittsburgh Avenue (in Cape May) and Wildwood Crest had a problem on

Pittsburgh in their community as well. Both calls ended up at county dispatch,” he said.

Inderwies said as a solution to the problem of identifying beaches they came up with the idea of numbering the beaches and posting a red sign with a white number at the beach entrances, from Poverty Beach to past the Cove. The signs are distinct enough for most people to read from the water line.

“They are to help visitors identify what beach they are at. Now the dispatcher can ask what number they see near the entrance ramp,” he said. “We knew there had been a problem over the years, and we thought a number would

Please see **Signs**, page A2

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Signs

Continued from page A1

be the easiest to identify. Numbers are pretty universal.”

On Monday some of the poles were up and most should be up by the end of this week. The number system was designed to be of

help during emergencies when the lifeguards are not on duty, such as after hours or in the off season.

In recent days the Beach Patrol has seen a number of lifeguards leave to return to school and some beaches are not being guarded. The last official day for lifeguards is

Sunday, Sept. 12. After hours staffing of the Beach Patrol Headquarters will continue through Sept. 30. After hours staffing means three lifeguards, including one lieutenant, are on duty at the headquarters to respond to an emergency, but no guards are on the stands.

Demolition may come sooner

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – Ever since Convention Hall was deemed structurally unsound in April 2008, people have been wondering when it is coming down.

It was always the intention of the city to bid the demolition of the existing Convention Hall with the construction of a new structure.

At an Aug. 18 meeting of the Convention Hall Project Team, however, discussion led to the idea of dividing the project three ways: demolition of the old structure in the fall, doing the piling work in the later winter/early spring, and starting construction in May 2011.

City Manager Bruce MacLeod said the team looked at the potential of separating the project into those three phases and awarding three separate contracts. Asked if there was a consensus on moving forward with the plan, MacLeod said, “There was an absolute consensus on separating the demolition from the construc-

tion of the new structure.”

He said there was some discussion and debate on separating the pile driving into a separate contract from the construction.

“There are pros and cons for doing it as an individual contract and some pros and cons for keeping that under the auspices of the contract of the general contractor for the construction,” MacLeod said.

According to MacLeod, separating all three contracts would allow the city and the project team to continue working on the project leading up to the May 2011 start construction date. He said it is anticipated that the specific contract for demolition be bid in late September and the award of the contract would take place in late October. Under that scenario the demolition would take place in November and December.

With three separate contracts, the timeline for pile driving would be: bids in January, awarding a contract in February, and the pile driving to be accomplished in March and April. Bids for the construction would go out in

March with the anticipation of awarding a contract in April in order to commence construction in May.

“You can see how the timelines mesh,” MacLeod said. “If you don’t separate the contracts, it’s possible pile driving wouldn’t occur until a May date in 2011.”

MacLeod said there could be a 30 to 60 day delay by not separating the contracts, which doesn’t seem like a long time, but added that time is of the essence in this project.

“It is a very aggressive timeline, yes, but it’s gotta be. We have to open by Memorial Day 2012,” Deputy Mayor Jack Wichterman said.

Wichterman commended the project team, saying it was a great committee, and said they would be hearing from the architects, who would be attending the next project team meeting scheduled for yesterday. He said the team would be presenting ideas for modifications of a preliminary design known as Scheme No. 6, which calls for the demolition of the Solarium.

MA500

Continued from page A1

released.....and for White Marlin caught (including releases) per boat fishing days at 1.39.

Marine conservation continued to be a big winner at the MA500. Blue Marlin releases were 11 of 13 or 85% and White Marlin releases were 526 of 557 or 94%. Dr. John Graves, of the College of William and Mary’s Virginia Institute of Marine Science who oversees conservation issues during the tournament, credited use of circle hooks and increases in releases by sportfishermen for the recent slight increase in the

Atlantic’s White Marlin population and a steadying of the Blue Marlin population. He emphasized however that sportfishing accounts for less than 1% of billfish fatalities. By far the biggest factor in reducing billfish mortality rates are new rules forcing the foreign flag long line commercial fleet to quickly release any they catch. This rule has applied to United States fleet for years. In addition, this year’s fundraising raffles \$25,000 was raised for the Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation and over \$3,000 for the Recreational Fishing Alliance.

A few things remain pre-

dictable at the MA500. It features world-class sportfishermen enjoying world-class hospitality and service. These anglers, while competing for big money and prestige, also bask in the camaraderie of their sport also. They and their families and friends also enjoy the unique historic attractions and fine dining and accommodations of Cape May. The MA500 also provides a big yearly boost to the area’s economy with this year’s infusion estimated at around \$5 million by tournament officials.

Dance away the pounds with Zumba on the beach

By JACKIE SISCONI
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – With the advent of Dancing with the Stars and So You Think You Can Dance, America has realized dancing is more than just an art form: it is one heck of a workout.

Zumba has piggy-backed on the popularity of these television shows and is the latest fitness craze. Zumba instructor Kelsy Wise teamed up with the Cape May Recreation Department to bring this fun and intense workout to the beaches of Cape May.

So what exactly is Zumba?

Zumba is a total body workout that incorporates dance and interval training, which tones and sculpts the body while also burning fat.

“Zumba is based on four Latin rhythms: Salsa, Merengue, Cumbia, and Reggaeton, and then it also includes various international music such as Samba, Belly Dancing, Bhangra, Flamenco, and more,” Wise said.

The class incorporates movements from all of these different styles. At times, participants are dancing at a high intensity levels, and then the next move or song will be lower intensity. This is where interval training

comes into play, helping exercisers to burn more calories and fat.

“Within one song, we may be jumping around during the chorus, and then when the verse comes in, we may do a move that is not as intense,” Wise said.

While the fitness benefits of taking Zumba are obvious, some people feel intimidated by the class because they are not skilled dancers. Wise insists that you don’t need to be a great dancer to reap the benefits of Zumba. The class is about having fun and letting loose.

“I tell people to pretend they are dancing in their bedrooms. I also mention that it might help to just focus on moving the feet and not wor-

rying about the arms or vice versa,” she said.

The way the class is structured there is a lot of repetition of moves so even non-dancers are bound to catch on quickly. Also, the incorporation of popular songs into the class helps set dancers at ease. Wise likes to include songs from artists like Lady Gaga, Daddy Yankee, and Beyonce into her routines.

Many critics argue that yes, Zumba sounds fun, but how is it more effective than running on the treadmill or lifting weights? Wise counters this critique by pointing out that the average participant can burn anywhere between 400 and 900 calories during a 45 minute class and have fun while doing it.

“Zumba makes working out something people want to do. It provides a great cardiovascular workout, and students lose track of the time and stop thinking about the rest of their lives. They just have fun,” she said.

Exercisers can expect to feel results after the very first class, and after a few more classes they will begin to see a change in their bodies. They will see more definition in their abs, buttocks, leg, and arms, and their endurance will improve with each session.

“It is awesome the feedback I get about how people feel the need to take a lot of breaks between songs when they first start, and then how amazed they are at needing fewer and fewer breaks with the more classes the take,” Wise said.

Even participants with injuries can make Zumba work for them. Depending on the injury, students can modify the dance moves to work for their bodies.

“Students can contact me or talk to me before class if they

have questions about how to modify. I also suggest people talk to their doctors about what movements they can do,” Wise said.

Wise teaches Zumba classes Mondays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. on the beach at Trenton and Beach Avenues. The summer session is scheduled to end Sept. 4, but she plans to continue the class during the fall. Time and dates are to be determined. For class schedules go to Wise’s website www.KelsyWise.com.

The class is only \$5, and according to Wise the turnout has been incredible, attracting 10 to 20 people on average. She asks participants to bring water and a towel and wear comfortable clothes.

“Students have the option of leaving their sneakers on and staying on the wooden planks, or they can be barefoot in the soft sand. Because we have the ocean right there, on hot days I tell the class to feel free to jump in if they want to cool down during the class or after,” Wise said. “They love it.”



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SUBSCRIPTION PRICES: By mail in

Cape May County: \$22;

East of Mississippi: \$25;

West of Mississippi: \$29. Mail subscriptions paid in advance.

Newsstand price\$.50 per copy.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE:

Weekly, every Thursday.

POSTMASTER:

Send address change to Cape May Star and Wave, 600 Park Blvd. #28, West Cape May, NJ 08204.

ASSISTANCE:

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Inderwies said the new system is a quick reference to allow people to report the location of criminal activity, as well.

