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OCTOBER TIDE TABLE

	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW
	am	pm	am	pm
10/25	7:34	7:57	1:02	1:42
10/26	8:22	8:47	1:48	2:34
10/27	9:10	9:38	2:35	3:22
10/28	10:00	10:31	3:24	4:28
10/29	10:54	11:28	4:15	5:20
10/30	11:51	5:10	6:21	
10/31	12:31	12:53	6:11	7:25

Special Fall Brides edition inside!

Liquor license referendum will not be on ballot

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

WEST CAPE MAY - A proposed referendum asking voters if they would like to see two liquor licenses offered for sale in the Borough of West Cape May will not be on the Nov. 6 general election ballot, Mayor Pam Kaithern said.

Kaithern said a "filing error" has resulted in the referendum not being on the ballot, but declined to say who was at fault. Kaithern said unless a special election is held the referendum could be delayed for as long as a year.

Kaithern made the announcement at a special meeting held Monday in Borough Hall. Kaithern was taking part in a panel consisting of herself, borough solicitor Jennifer Russo-Belles, Cape May Police Chief Diane Sorantino, and municipal auditor Leon Costello. Kaithern said the pur-

pose of the panel was to provide answers to citizen questions on the two liquor licenses the borough is considering.

Based on population figures, West Cape May is allowed to offer for sale one C-license, which permits on site consumption of alcohol, and one D-license, which is for retail sales of alcohol. The board of commissioners has said repeatedly their goal is to offer the consumption license to a new or existing restaurant. In discussion of the distribution (retail, package goods) license, the commissioners have mentioned the possibility of offering the retail license to a wine store.

The commissioners have also decided to put the question of whether or not to sell these two liquor licenses out for a public referendum. The commissioners could decide the issue by local legislation rather than making it a public question, but decided against

that option.

Kaithern said the public has started to tune into the issue as Election Day has neared and she hoped to address any fears or concerns about the license issue.

The meeting drew about 30 people, including registered voters and non-residents.

The first question asked how the commissioners arrived at sale prices for the licenses. Kaithern said the commissioners decided on minimum bid amounts based on what liquor licenses had sold for in other municipalities. The borough estimates it could raise around \$1.5 million. The borough also stands to receive about \$2,000 per year in renewal fees for each license.

Asked what would happen if bids fell below the minimum, Russo-Belles said the bids would not be accepted.

In response to another question, Kaithern said the borough has not

been formally approaching West Cape May businesses with regard to them possibly bidding on a license. Someone other than an existing business owner could also bid on the license. Commissioner Peter Burke said businesses that fail to acquire the license may still maintain the existing bring your own bottle (BYOB) policy.

Asked if a minimum number of votes (of all registered voters) were needed to pass the referendum, Kaithern said the issue could pass or fail on a single vote.

One member of the audience said the amount of tax relief given each taxpayer from the sale of liquor licenses was minimal and not a wise thing to do. Costello said taxpayers would save about 2-cents on the tax rate each year for the next 12 years.

Kaithern said the borough has to find ways to raise revenue, other than increasing property taxes. The borough does not have the luxury of cer-

Plan is not the cat's meow with state

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - At a special meeting held Oct. 15 to discuss a state mandated Beach Management Plan, Cape May City Council adapted recommendations from the state Fish and Wildlife Service to make the plan more cat friendly.

According to one source, the state didn't find the plan to be the cat's pajamas.

A source who did not wish to be named said Mayor Jerry Inderwies received a phone call from a representative of Fish and Wildlife the day after the city approved a Beach Management Plan, saying elements of the plan were not acceptable.

Inderwies said he did not get a call, but was forwarded an e-mail addressed to Public Works director Robert Smith, coming from Stephanie Egger of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

In her e-mail, Egger comments on an e-mail she received from Smith telling her about the changes city council made to the proposed beach Management Plan. Inderwies said Egger told Smith she was concerned with some of the modifications to the plan, such as the 1,000-foot buffer from nesting areas. Egger indicated she would have to consult with Todd Plover of the

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Happy Halloween!

It was a dark and not so stormy night when Star and Wave photographer Leslie Truluck photographed this spider weaving its web in the light of the full moon. On a lighter note, above left, Serenity Carlos, age 2, of Cape May, pops out of a teacup during the annual Halloween Parade sponsored by the City of Cape May. Serenity won second place in costume age 3 and under category. Lower Cape May Regional High School took first place in the marching band category. At left, Joe Piro, Gus Piro and Annamarie Mathis accept the awards on behalf of the school.

Photos by Jennifer Kopp and Leslie Truluck

Democrat Van Drew looking at ethics reform, illegal immigration and government funding

By ERIC AVEDISSIAN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE - Assemblyman Jeff Van Drew said residents in the First Legislative District know he's a hard worker. Van Drew, a Democrat who is running for state Senate against incumbent

Republican Sen. Nicholas Asselta, said he possesses a "tireless work ethic and advocacy" for residents.

Residents know Van Drew, a former Dennis Township mayor, Cape May County freeholder and state assemblyman, from his many campaign stops in front of local supermarkets and convenience stores. When he's not running for office, Van Drew said he's meeting with constituents.

"On some issues I'm liberal and on some issues I'm conservative. In some districts some Democrats tend to be more moderate or conservative than others," Van Drew said.

Cape May County, with its strong Republican base, is a conservative part of the First Legislative District, which encompasses Cape May, Cumberland and a small part of Atlantic county. For a

Democrat to get elected here is testimony to his hard work and moderate stance of issues like gun ownership and senior health care, Van Drew said.

"I'm proud to be a Democrat because to me it always represented working people, middle class people and issues of compassion," Van Drew said.

Van Drew, a dentist, served on the Dennis Township Committee in 1991 and as mayor from 1994 to 1995 and from 1997 to 2003. He was a Cape May County freeholder from 1994 to 1997. In 2003 he was elected to the General Assembly and then re-elected in 2005.

In the Assembly, Van Drew serves as the assistant majority leader. Van Drew also serves as chairman of the Assembly's Tourism and Gaming Committee, as vice chairman of the Labor Committee and on the Telecommunications and Utilities Committee.

Van Drew and his wife Ricarda have two children and live in Dennis Township.

Van Drew and his fellow Democrats running for Assembly, incumbent Assemblyman Nelson Albano and Matt

Milam, want to urge accountability for federal officials to enforce national immigration laws. Van Drew said problems with illegal immigrants are greater in Cumberland and Atlantic counties than in Cape May County.

"We need to have an intelli-

gent guest worker program. The federal government is shameful with what they've done with this issue," Van Drew said. "We want to be intelligent on immigration not soft on illegal immigration."

Van Drew said he supported legislation that holds employ-

ers accountable for paying taxes and Social Security for their employees and strengthening requirements for drivers to register with the state.

"If they're coming to work and taking direction from you, they're your employee. If you're not paying your taxes

on them and you're not doing things the right way, those illegal immigrants have the least legal ability to fight what's being done to them," Van Drew said. "There are people out there taking

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Albano, Milam want to cut state spending

By ERIC AVEDISSIAN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE - Democratic Assemblyman Nelson Albano and Matt Milam are running for the state Assembly on a platform of cutting spending, tougher enforcement of immigration laws and holding politicians accountable.

Albano, a union shop steward with Village Supermarkets, entered politics in an unlikely way. In 2001, his son Michael was killed by a drunk driver, prompting him to lobby his state representative,

Assemblyman Jeff Van Drew, to create legislation that cracks down on repeat drunk drivers. Albano's efforts resulted in Michael's

Law, which puts third-time repeat offenders for DWI convictions behind bars for 180 days.

Albano was elected to office in 2005, beating long-time Republican

Assemblyman Jack Gibson. Albano serves as vice chairman of the Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources and the Law and Public Safety committees. Albano and his wife Debra raised two sons in Vineland. "Nelson Albano knows what it's like to be a working person and part of labor, a part of the working families to help support this state," Albano said.

"You think you have to be a doctor or lawyer to be a state representative?" Milam works in his family

business, the Foundry Service Corporation, a trucking company. He is also a member of the Board of Directors for the Vineland YMCA and vice chairman of the Cumberland County Economic Development Board. He lives in Vineland with his wife Karen and their two children.

Milam said as a political newcomer, he will be an independent thinker and make his own decisions for what's best for the district.

"For 46 years I've thought on my own and I can continue to do that. If I think something's wrong for the people I'm representing or right for them, I'm going to go by what the people say. I don't have to align myself with any party - Democrat,

Republican or independent because I'm an independent thinker," Milam said.

One of the enduring issues of the campaign is the proposal by Gov. Jon Corzine to study the monetization or sale or leasing of public assets like toll roads. Both the Democrats and their Republican challengers in the First Legislative District race, Norris Clark and Michael Donohue, condemned the sale of the toll roads.

The proposal for studying monetization was in the state's 2008 budget, which Albano and fellow Democrat Jeff Van Drew, who is running for state Senate against incumbent Republican

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