

Cape May Star and Wave

153rd YEAR NO. 11 CAPE MAY, N.J. SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 2007 50¢

INSIDE



SPORTS

Crowd roars as Stephanie Agger breaks the 1,000 point mark, **B1**

AREA

CMBO's Pete Dunne says goodbye for now, **A7**

CAPE MAY

It's a 'whodunit' in Cape May, **A4**

RELIGION/OBITUARIES...A6
OPINION/LETTERS.....A8
ARTS.....A10
MOVIES.....A13
WEATHER.....A14
SPORTS/OUTDOORS.....B1,2
EDUCATION/YOUTH.....B3
COMMUNITY/LIFESTYLE..B4
CLASSIFIED.....B8,9,10,11
PUBLIC NOTICE.....B11

MARCH TIDE TABLE

	LOW	HIGH		
	am	pm	am	pm
8	10:22	10:47	4:15	4:13
9	10:57	11:26	4:56	4:45
10	11:36		5:42	5:25
11	12:14	1:26	7:38	7:16
12	2:13	2:34	8:44	8:21
13	3:23	3:52	9:51	9:34
14	4:31	5:02	10:53	10:43

Spring ahead!
Don't forget to set your clocks ahead Sat. night!

Subcommittee endorses \$3.5 million bond

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - Hilary Pritchard addressed Cape May City Council, Tuesday and said the Mall subcommittee to the Revitalization Advisory Committee is endorsing a \$3.5 million bond ordinance to fund the revitalization of the Washington Street Mall.

Pritchard, subcommittee member and a business owner on the Washington Street Mall, said the subcommittee has met six times since December and has finalized a set of recommendations to city council.

Those recommendations include resurfacing the walkway using historic-looking materials, and creating the impression of a street with curbs and sidewalks. The subcommittee suggested brick near the buildings to suggest sidewalks, a row of granite to give the impression of curbs, and a bluestone walkway.

An alternative could be concrete or concrete aggregate. The subcommittee appears to have utilized some ideas presented by the Remington and Vernick engineering firm, but has thrown out a number of concepts, including a festival place at Ocean Avenue.

"We recommend eliminat-

ing the festival place in front of (Our Lady) Star of the Sea," Pritchard said.

The subcommittee also recommended against using pavers across Ocean Avenue, and the reduction of "water features" (fountains) from three to just one or two. They would like to see pavers installed across Decatur and Jackson Streets to create the appearance of continuity.

The subcommittee would also like to see the electrical transformers on the mall either be removed or reduced in size.

Pritchard said the subcommittee wanted to save as many healthy trees as possible and to replace others with

trees that have tap roots rather than roots that expand somewhat horizontally.

She said the subcommittee recommended the city contact planners Rhodeside and Harwell to get a revised plan, which could then be provided to the public before going out to bids.

City manager Lou Corea said the mall revitalization project has been delayed due to the referendum, and the original plan did not move forward. He said the subcommittee felt it should come up with a concept that was between the high end and low end in terms of cost.

Corea said he recommended council modify the con-

tract with Rhodeside and Harwell to allow for per diem payments for additional consultants. He said to keep with the original timeline, the city would need its new design by the end of July. Corea said the city would not have to wait for the bond ordinance to get the design work.

Deputy Mayor Niels Favre said the first work to be done on the mall is all underground, so there would still be time to discuss streetscapes. The bond ordinance could be introduced at the next public meeting.

There is a meeting scheduled with Rhodeside and Harwell, on Tuesday, March 16, from 6 to 8 p.m.



Last snow of the season?

Snow covered people - living or not - Wednesday as the area received about two inches (as of press time) of the white stuff. Above left, a woman crosses the Washington Street Mall near Perry Street. Left, a ceramic boy does a little ice fishing on Corgie Street. Above, a statue at Our Lady Star of the Sea catches snow in the palm of her hand.

Photos by Christopher South

NJPA honors Star and Wave, Sentinel with top awards

WEST CAPE MAY - The Cape May Star and Wave's Christopher South and Jennifer Kopp won awards for column writing in the New Jersey Press Association's 2006 Better Newspaper Contest.

The NJPA sent announcements of the 2006 awards to newspapers at the end of February.

South, a reporter who writes the Points South column in the Star and Wave and its sister newspaper, the Ocean City Sentinel, won a first-place award for humorous columns and a second-place award for serious columns in the statewide

competition.

Kopp, who returned to the Star and Wave as editor in January 2006, won a third-place award for serious columns.

Star and Wave publisher David Nahan won three NJPA photography awards for works in the Ocean City Sentinel. Eric Avedissian, a former staff writer and award-winner at the Star and Wave, won a second-place award for environmental writing, also for work appearing in the Ocean City Sentinel. Zack Webb, who works in the advertising departments for both newspapers, won a first-place award

for an entry in the NJPA advertising competition.

"The heart and soul of a true newspaper is its editorial page," said Nahan. "It is a place where the community can come together. Readers offer their views, our editors provide commentary on local issues and our columnists try to stimulate thinking."

"I'm proud of the work Christopher and Jennifer have done. For them to be cited in the statewide competition offers recognition from their peers, in addition to reaction they generate right here," Nahan added.

"The Star and Wave has more than a century and a

half of history as the newspaper of this island. Jennifer and Chris are real journalists upholding an important tradition."

"As a career newspaperman," Nahan said, "I believe in responsible journalism, solid writing and good photography. A lot of the work small-town journalists do is not glamorous, but it is important to keep the people informed and hold public officials to account."

South's first-place winner in the humorous column category included the columns "The Zen of One-liners" and "More Useless Information." He won the second-place award

for his "Good Protest, Bad Protest" in the serious column category.

Kopp won a third-place in serious columns for her Between the Lines column, "Teachers can make or break a student." Kopp and

South are not strangers to NJPA awards.

Christopher South started writing on a part-time basis for the Cape May Star and Wave in May

Please see NJPA, Page A2

Council gets input on beach tents

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - City council had a chance to hear from members of the business community and public before deciding how to proceed with amending the city ordinance dealing with beach tents.

According to city manager Lou Corea council had received recommendations from the city solicitor and construction official, and businesses had been invited to give their recommendations as well.

Patrick Logue of Cape May Resorts, which includes Congress Hall, was the only representative of the business community to address city council. Logue displayed images of beach tents from

Cape May history, from other American cities, and from locations around the world. Among them were images of the type of tent Congress Hall wished to use for its business - a beach cabana with flaps that can be rolled up or let down as customers desire.

"We went to great lengths to research this," Logue said.

He said the cabanas would come with a server, a cooler of bottled water, and food service.

Logue said they were seeking to place eight cabanas and one bay station on a section of the beach they would lease from the city.

Mike Shouvlín then addressed council saying he was a member of both the planning board and environmental commission. He said in both capacities he would

question why the tents were being allowed. Shouvlín asked what the square footage of the tents would be, and whether or not there had been any engineering study to determine if the tents would remain anchored in the wind or whether they were a tripping hazard.

He also questioned whether the tents would impact the city's historic designation, and whether or not they would be a barrier for emergency vehicles. Shouvlín also said Cape May should not look to Atlantic City for examples of what to do.

"The planning board continually gets comments on the uniqueness of Cape May. We don't want to look like Atlantic City or Ocean City. We don't need cabanas up and down the beach - we

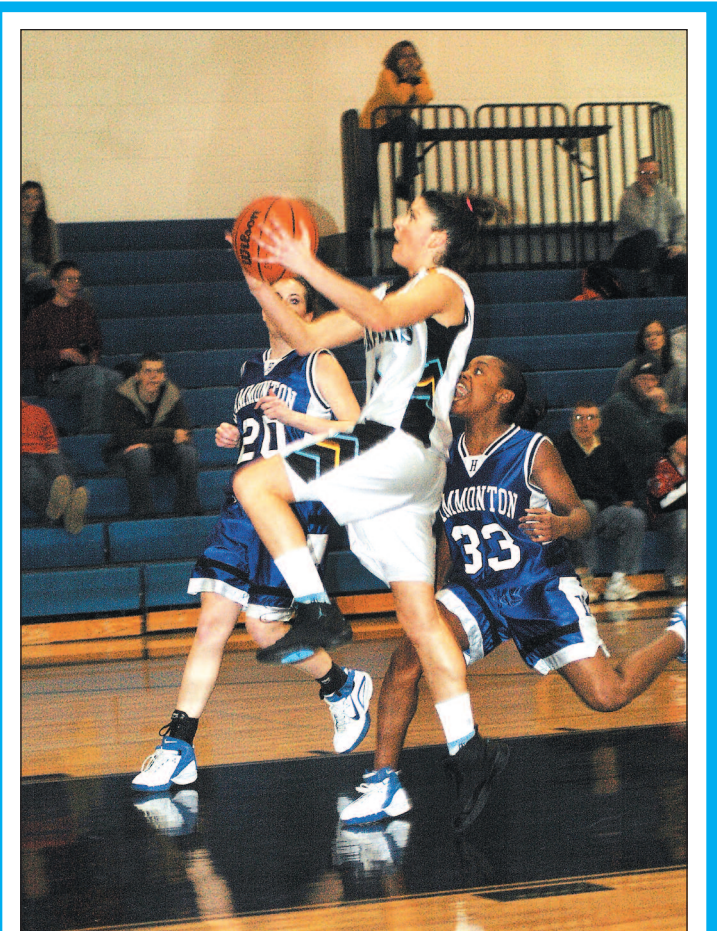
need to keep it unique, as it is," he said.

Barbara Skinner said there has been a history of beach amenities, including car races on the beach. However, she said that was in her mother's time when the beaches were much wider than they are now. Skinner also echoed Shouvlín's comments saying, "To use Atlantic City as a precedent is inappropriate for this city's beaches."

Skinner also said she didn't want Cape May's public beaches to look like a private club.

City resident Jim Wyatt said he was confused by the seeming contradiction of inviting people to use the beaches, and then ushering them around the parts of the

Please see Tents, Page A3



1,001 points strong!

Lower Cape May Regional's Stephanie Agger breaks the 1,000 point mark March 1. For story and more photos, see Page B1.