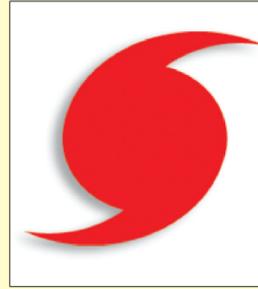


Trick or Treating:
Lower Township, Friday, Nov. 2, 6 to 8 p.m.
Cape May, Cape May Point, West Cape May, Saturday, Nov. 3, 5 to 7 p.m.



B-section:
LCMR ties
Middle Twp. 0-0 after 2 overtimes



Storm photos on facebook at Capemay Starandwave Newspaper



Cape May Star and Wave

158TH YEAR NO. 44 CAPE MAY, N.J. SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY WEDNESDAY, October 31, 2012 50¢

Cape area spared the worst of Hurricane Sandy

By ERIC AVEDISSIAN
 Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE – Cape May County's barrier island communities sustained the brunt of Hurricane Sandy, experiencing record flooding, and devastation from wind and lashing waves.

By the time the storm left the area with as much ominous bluster as it arrived, those few who remained on the barrier islands saw the utter destruction Hurricane Sandy wrought.

Heavy gusts felled trees, sent lawn furniture flying and sent objects hurtling through windows. Boats moored in the bay were sent into streets, while beaches sustained widespread erosion.

"The barrier islands were hit particularly hard. With the storm system, most of the damage was severe flooding, and the barrier island communities reported extensive beach erosion," said Cape May County Communications Director Lenora Boninfante.

On Oct. 26, Cape May County issued a voluntary evacuation for Saturday, Oct. 27 and a mandatory evacuation on Sunday, Oct. 28 by 4 p.m. for the barrier islands.

Boninfante said the evacuations for the barrier islands remain in effect.

The Cape May County Office of Emergency Management opened shelters for its residents on the mainland.

Ocean City, Upper Township and Strathmere residents were directed to the Upper Township Middle School



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – Hurricane Sandy left her calling card on Beach Avenue in Cape May, where crews have been removing tons of sand from the street. Shown above, the sand from Poverty Beach is more than halfway up the signpost at Beach and Wilmington Avenues. Above right, Freeholder Director Gerald Thornton, shown with Emergency Management Communications Center Director Martin Pagliughi, addressed the press at a conference held at the main library in Cape May Court House. See more photos on pages A8.

and the Upper Township Elementary School. Residents in Wildwood, Wildwood Crest, North Wildwood, West Wildwood, Cape May, West Cape May and Cape May Point were sheltered at the Woodbine Developmental Center.

Pets were sheltered at the Lower Township Animal Shelter.

There were 509 people

housed in the shelters, including 121 at Upper Township Middle School, 259 at Woodbine Developmental Center, 85 at Middle Township Elementary School #2, 39 at Villas Fire Hall and 5 at Upper Township Elementary School.

For over 36 hours, Hurricane Sandy brought tremendous damage to Cape May County.

"The communities that are appearing to have the most damage are Ocean City, Strathmere and Sea Isle City," Boninfante said. "Sea Isle City had a lot of water damage and flooding. They had a lot of problems to their roads."

A Category 1 hurricane when it barreled up the east coast, Sandy transitioned into a nor'easter as it made land-



fall. Local, county and emergency management officials monitored the hurricane as it swept up the east coast, gathering momentum and dumping torrential rain and high winds in its path.

Hurricane Sandy came through Cape May County between 6:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Oct. 29, amid howling gales and a drenching downpour. Winds earlier that day clocked in at 50 to 55 mph sustained with gusts to 75 mph.

The hurricane brought a storm surge with 15- to 23-foot high waves.

It's estimated over 8 inches of rain fell, and severe flood-

ing plagued barrier islands throughout Cape May County. Combined with the high winds and rains and the full moon tide, floodwaters didn't recede, producing record high tides.

Beaches throughout the county saw significant beach erosion. From Cape May, where sand choked streets near the beaches, to Ocean City, where relentlessly pounding waves depleted the beaches, the county's shoreline took a beating.

Four National Guard trucks, stationed in the county, assisted with various rescues throughout the hurricane's

Please see Sandy, page A2



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

Above, sand was piled along Beach Avenue after being removed from the roadway, Tuesday.

Sand on Beach Ave. was biggest problem

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
 Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – For the second year in a row, Cape Island was ultimately spared by a hurricane that devastated shore towns and inland municipalities north of it.

Hurricane Sandy was a much larger storm system than last year's Hurricane Irene and was predicted to hit the southern tip of New Jersey with full force.

When Sandy finally passed on Monday evening, the three municipalities on Cape Island experienced minimal property damage and little loss in power and there have been no reports of serious injuries or fatalities.

Cape May City Manager Bruce MacLeod said Cape May was extremely lucky. He said the majority of city properties kept all utili-

Please see Sand, page A2

WCM was 'fortunate'

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
 Cape May Star and Wave

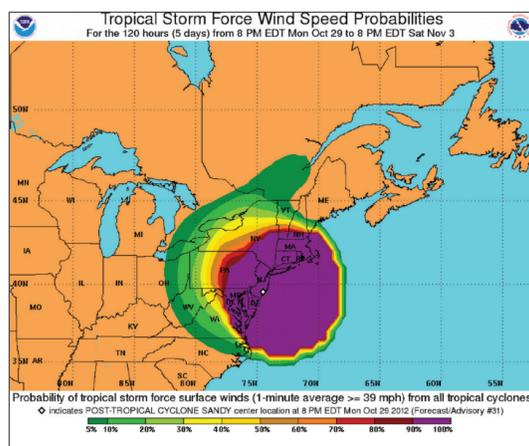
WEST CAPE MAY – "Fortunate" is a word heard often when speaking to emergency management officials and first responders of Cape Island following Hurricane Sandy, as the storm passed leaving minimal damage and no reports of injuries or fatalities.

The West Cape May Volunteer Fire Hall was used as a shelter on the island and welcomed five people,

according to West Cape May Emergency Management Coordinator Dan Rutherford. He said one of those five individuals was transported to the Woodbine Developmental Center because of medical needs. The center was a shelter for residents of Wildwood, Wildwood Crest, North Wildwood, West Wildwood, Cape May, West Cape May and Cape May Point.

Rutherford said the other four individuals including

Please see WCM, page A2



A graphic provided by the National Weather Service shows the wind speeds and locations where Hurricane Sandy would hit.



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

Above, the message was short and to the point on this sign, one of two posted at the entrances to Cape May Point.

Dunes prove their value in the Point

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
 Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY POINT – A strong beach and dune system and some prior planning are credited for Cape May Point being spared some of the bad effects of the storm experienced in other coastal communities. Borough Clerk/Administrator Connie Mahon said much of the credit goes to the foresight of local residents like Dick Miller and Megane Smith,

who were instrumental in getting the dune system started.

According to Mahon, Smith got Commissioner Jim Hanley to work on the dune project prior to Mayor Malcolm Fraser's involvement. Hanley got on board with Bernie Moore of the Office of Coastal Management, and when Fraser was in office, he got U.S. Sen. Frank Lautenberg behind the project. As a result, Cape May Point is

Please see Dunes, page A3



REGISTER NOW TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY

1ST ANNUAL "SOLEMAN" 5K RUN AND 1 MILE FUN WALK FOR CHARACTER

Raise awareness of the importance of character in people and to raise money for the Gene Sole Scholarship Fund.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH AT 9:00AM
 CAPE MAY CONVENTION CENTER

Registration is \$25 ~ 5K Run & 1 mile fun walk is \$10 .Pre-registration by November 1st guarantees each runner to receive a run-tee shirt.

Information and registration at SolemanRun.com or call the Washington Inn 609-884-5697.

Local Business support needed and always welcomed for scholarship fund.