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LCMR football season ends at Middle, B4



Cape May Star and Wave

158TH YEAR NO. 48 CAPE MAY, N.J. SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY WEDNESDAY, November 28, 2012 50¢

Coast Guard a family affair on Thanksgiving Day

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - For over 30 years, residents of Cape May County have been opening their homes to recruits engaged in boot camp at the Coast Guard's Training Center-Cape May.

Operation Fireside is a joint program between the Coast Guard and the American Red Cross. The Coast Guard mainly supplies the recruits. The Red Cross takes care of most of the administrative work - taking calls from families interested in hosting recruits, signing them up, and sending confirmation letters.

This year, families were assigned two recruits, whereas in the past, some families would take more. The Coast Guard's CW2 Donnie Brzuska indicated there were 45 families taking

recruits this year, so essentially 90 recruits would be placed in private homes. The other 100 would go out in groups to organizations such as the VFW and American Legion, who were hosting groups of 20 or so.

Jay and Mary Lou Jordan of Erma were one of the families opening their home for Thanksgiving. Jay is a former Marine who served from 1969-72, and who spent 1970-71 in Vietnam. Jay said his family has a tradition of hosting Coast Guard personnel that predates Operation Fireside.

"My mother did it for permanent personnel 43 years ago," he said.

Jordan said back then everything closed for Thanksgiving Day. His mother invited someone and said to bring along a Coast Guardsman he knew. The following year, when Jordan was in boot camp she invited



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Above, Janet Calloway of North Wildwood picks up two Coast Guard recruits, Veronica Lyden and Shevas Aboubakri, on Thanksgiving Day. Operation Fireside is a program that allows recruits to go out to private homes and to facilities such as the VFW or American Legion in order to enjoy the holiday. Inset at left are Mary Hauptman and John Cain, recruits who visited the home of Jay and Mary Lou Jordan in Erma. See related story regarding the Jordans on page A3

Coast Guard members again. "We've been doing this forever," he said. When asked why, Jordan

said, "Because I didn't get respect when I came home. I said I didn't want to see that kind of thing happen again."

Jordan said while the Guardians might never see combat, they have to combat Mother Nature, which

he said is the hardest thing there is.

Mary Lou Jordan said they now host recruits at both Thanksgiving and Christmas. At Christmas, not as many families are willing to take recruits. The Jordans also give their recruits the option of coming back during their liberty, which takes place on a Saturday a week before graduation. The Jordans also attend graduations for their recruits, and will also attend Sunset Parades at the Coast Guard base.

"It's a little part of being an American to give back to the recruits here," Mary Lou said. "It isn't work - it's a joy to be doing this."

She said their goal is to participate. They do that by trying to make the recruits feel at home, to relax, and to connect with loved ones. They also show them around the area. The recruits don't get to see much of Cape May while in boot camp. Sometime they do group runs off the base, but they still don't see much.

Mary Lou said she didn't hesitate to agree to host recruits. She said fixing a Thanksgiving meal was the same for six or 15, so a cou-

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Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

Above, beach chairs and umbrellas near the Cove Beach in Cape May. The city wants to raise the price of a daily beach tag from \$5 to \$6, and seasonal tags from \$25 to \$28.

Beach tag fees set to go up in Cape May

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - City council introduced an ordinance that will raise the cost of daily and seasonal beach tags in order to obtain funding for a permanent restroom facility on the beachfront.

At the Nov. 20 regular meeting, City Manager Bruce MacLeod said if passed, the ordinance would increase the cost of daily beach tags from \$5 to \$6 and seasonal tags from \$25 to \$28. He said the extra revenue would be used for building permanent restrooms in either the rear of the beach tag office or the former Oasis Restaurant on the promenade, currently

used as a ticket window for Convention Hall.

The increase in beach tag prices was originally intended to affect only weekly tag costs. At the Nov. 7 council meeting, MacLeod said weekly tags would increase from \$15 to \$20 while seasonal and daily tag prices would remain the same. He said if the change was made and weekly tag sales were at a similar level in 2013, the city could raise around \$142,000 for building a new bathroom facility. He said instead of raising the weekly price, raising the daily tag and seasonal tag fees would raise roughly the same amount. MacLeod,

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City Council adopts new dog tethering ordinance

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - City council adopted the amended ordinance of city code 145-8 (Control of Dogs) at the Nov. 20 regular meeting, which adds language to the code regarding the tethering of dogs.

Council has been working on the ordinance since September after a tethered puppy on Washington Street was attacked and killed by a pit bull mix. The pit bull mix had been passing by the prop-

erty with its owner. Witnesses said the shepherd puppy was left unattended for several hours and became tangled. The owner of the pit bull tied its leash to a trash can and went to assist the puppy, but the pit bull broke free and attacked the younger dog.

The ordinance was spearheaded by Councilwoman Deanna Fiocca and developed by City Manager Bruce MacLeod and City Solicitor Tony Monzo. Mayor Ed Mahaney said the ordinance is intended to protect dogs and keep them from being

tethered for long periods of time so the likelihood of another attack is minimal.

The ordinance says:
- A dog must be able to move freely with a tangle-free tether measuring a minimum of 15 feet in length. The chain shall not be long enough to allow the dog onto another property and must be made of lightweight, yet durable material.

- A doghouse or shelter must be accessible to the animal from the point where it is tethered.

- Dogs that are not spayed

or neutered are not permitted to be chained or tethered outside unless inside an enclosed pen or fencing.

- No dogs may be chained or tethered after dark.

- No dog shall be tethered or chained unless the owner or person responsible for the animal is on the property.

The adopted ordinance will take effect Monday, Dec. 10, which is 20 days after adoption. Mahaney said Code Enforcement would be made aware of the ordinance adoption so it could be enforced.

'Restore the Shore' seeks to help area businesses

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - Following the devastation in the north caused by Hurricane Sandy, the Chamber of Commerce of Greater Cape May in partnership with the city and Constant Contact are presenting a conference called, "Restore the Shore: Getting NJ Small Business Back to Work."

The all-day conference will

be held Dec. 3 at Convention Hall starting at 8 a.m. in order to improve small business preparedness, recovery and communication, Chamber of Commerce President John Cooke said.

"Immediately after Sandy, Cape May residents and businesses started feeling a sense of survivor's guilt and we needed to do something," he said. "We want to have a unified message that Cape May County businesses are open

and care about our neighbors to the north."

Cooke said after the success of the social media conference at Convention Hall in September, the Chamber of Commerce and the city felt a business recovery conference following Hurricane Sandy would be an ideal way to help New Jersey merchants get back on their feet and potentially stay that way. According to a Chamber of Commerce press release, 40

percent of businesses affected by a natural or human-caused disaster never reopen.

"We're all coming together because not only are some Cape May County businesses suffering, but businesses from up and down the shore," he said. "This is a broad based conference to help shore businesses get on a sure footing."

In the morning segment,

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Cape May looking at \$81,000 flood insurance bill

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY - City council approved a resolution to purchase three separate flood insurance plans for the new Convention Hall, costing around \$81,000 annually.

The city has been attempting to secure a \$500,000 flood insurance policy for

Convention Hall through FEMA. City Manager Bruce MacLeod said that coverage would include \$100,000 coverage for contents and a \$50,000 deductible with an annual premium of \$51,155.

He said the insurance coverage would be obtained through the Harleysville Insurance Company. The city met with Harleysville prior to

the Nov. 14 special meeting, called to discuss Convention Hall's flood insurance coverage.

At the special meeting, MacLeod corrected comments he made at a previous council meeting when he claimed the facility had no flood insurance. According to MacLeod, Convention Hall has had existing coverage

of \$2.5 million since April through the Atlantic County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund (JIF) and the Municipal Excess Liability (MEL). He said the cost of the \$500,000 deductible along with that coverage would be taken care of through the primary insurance from FEMA.

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