

Cape May Star and Wave

157TH YEAR NO. 51 CAPE MAY, N.J. SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY WEDNESDAY, December 21, 2011 50¢



INSIDE

LCMR downs Cedar Creek 63-44, Lindenwold 63-40, BI

Lou Rodia on Fishing: Catching cod, B3

Community Events, A4

Opinion, A8,9

Star and Wave office closed Dec. 23

TIDES
December 2011
Eastern Standard Time

High	Low	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
21	4:29	4:49	10:40	10:40	
22	5:26	5:48	11:38	11:36	
23	6:20	6:44		12:33	
24	7:11	7:37	12:30	1:25	
25	8:01	8:27	1:22	2:15	
26	8:48	9:16	2:13	3:03	
27	9:35	10:05	3:03	3:50	
28	10:21	10:53	3:52	4:36	

Moon Phases

First Quarter, Dec. 2
Full Moon, Dec. 10
Last Quarter, Dec. 17
New Moon, Dec. 24
Apogee, Dec. 5
Perigee, Dec. 21

After 35 years, Civic Affairs director set to retire

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – Picture any annual event, holiday ceremony or recreational activity the City of Cape May has to offer and odds are its inception will lead back to Terry Brown.

Brown is the Director of the Civic Affairs Department and as of March 1, 2012, he will have officially retired after 35 years and five months of service. He said working with Cape May Civic Affairs is the only job he has had since graduating college. Brown originally wanted to use his Parks and Recreation



Cain Chamberlin/Cape May Star and Wave
Department of Civic Affairs Director Terry Brown will retire in March after 35 years working for the city of Cape May.

degree from Shippensburg University (Pa.) to become a park ranger. While he was attending school, a close friend joined the U.S. Coast Guard and told him how incredible Cape May was.

"He told me it was the greatest place in the world," Brown said.

Brown and other friends from college began spending their spring breaks and summer vacations in the area and eventually he was hooked because of the plentiful jobs at the time and the scenery. Being from Grove City, Pa., he had never seen the ocean before and was instantly captivated by it.

"Once you fall in love with the ocean and the shore, it's hard to get it out of your system," he said.

After college graduation, his father, Clint, wanted him to work for the family insurance agency but Brown quickly realized he didn't like it and came back to Cape May in late 1975. At the time, Robert Smeltzer, who became the director and getting the Department of Civic Affairs up and running. Smeltzer modeled the organization after the YMCA and asked Brown if he wanted to get

Please see Brown, page A2

Public sees design for Lafayette Street park

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – The city's final design for the 38-acre Lafayette Street Open Space Project was revealed last Wednesday during a press conference at City Hall.

Mayor Edward Mahaney said it was the conceptual design of the project that

clean soil. Land acquisition is anticipated to cost more than \$3 million.

Temple University graduate and Philadelphia University grad student Julia Dougherty, one of the designers for the Lafayette project, attended the meeting to give the public a better idea of how the area would be used. Dougherty earned a degree



Cain Chamberlin/Cape May Star and Wave

Julia Dougherty, one of the designers for the Lafayette Street park project refers to illustrations during her explanation of the project at a press conference called by the city, Dec. 14.

led to the \$450,000 Green Acres state grant, which will be used for land acquisition. Properties the city still needs to acquire are privately owned lots on St. Johns Street and the former Vance's Bar property on Lafayette. Jersey Central Power and Light (JCP&L) is also expected to donate land to the city from one of its previous locations used as a coal gasification plant. JCP&L will be excavating that area of contaminated ground and filling it in with

from Temple in landscaping and architecture, and put it to use when envisioning this project, mapping it out two years ago.

Dougherty said she and her fellow teammates responsible for designing the project, surveyed Cape May residents at public meetings prior to drawing the plans and asked what they would like to see in the project.

"We asked the people of

Please see Park, page A2



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

...and Happy Holidays!

Above, an evergreen wreath with a red ribbon makes a perfect Christmas decoration on this red door at the First Presbyterian Church of Cape May. Below, the traditional Nativity display shown outside Our Lady Star of the Sea Church in Cape May. The Star and Wave wishes everyone a happy holiday season.



Fishermen's Energy obtains wind measuring device

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

ATLANTIC CITY – Fishermen's Energy of Cape May announced last week they were one step closer in building what could be the first offshore wind farm in the nation, which will be located nearest to Atlantic City.

Developer of offshore wind energy products, the group was founded by New Jersey commercial fishermen to respond to the public's need for alternative energy sources. The goal is to use the ocean for renewable energy while maintaining a successful fishing industry.

According to Rhonda Jackson, Director of Communications and Outreach for Fishermen's Energy, there was a group of engineers and specialists from Lockheed Martin who installed a wind measurement device on the roof of a seaside apartment building in



Special to the Cape May Star and Wave

The WindTracer system at the Tokyo International Airport, similar to the one installed in Margate for offshore wind farm development research being done by Fishermen's Energy.

Margate. The device, known as the WindTracer Doppler LIDAR (Light Detection And Ranging), is commonly used at larger airports to detect

wind shear and turbulence for aircraft operations. According to a Fishermen's

Please see Wind, page A2

Despite being naughty, nice things happen to BID member and wife

Couple apologizes for "stupid" act

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – Perhaps it was the Christmas season that caused Ugly Mug owner Mike Slewak to drop criminal mischief and theft charges against a couple who own a store on the Washington Street Mall.

Slewak did not appear in court, Dec. 14, but his attorney, Peter Tourison, sent a letter to the court on his client's behalf asking that the charges be dismissed. Judge Louis Belasco read the letter

into the court record, which said both the plaintiff and the defendants were long time merchants, and Slewak was satisfied they would not do anything like this again.

On Nov. 3, Steve and Pam Smarro, owners of Madame's Port, were caught on video removing a sign advertising a dinner special from the side of the Ugly Mug Bar and Restaurant. The video showed the couple outside the Ugly Mug smoking, and occasionally glancing in the window before they pulled down the sign and took it into the neighboring Pilot House, where they said they had been having dinner and cock-

Please see Nice, page A3



Happy Hanukkah

Hanukkah began in the evening on Tuesday, Dec. 20, and ends in the evening of Wednesday, Dec. 28.

WASHINGTON INN
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