

Cape May Star and Wave

158TH YEAR NO. 6 CAPE MAY, N.J. SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY WEDNESDAY, February 8, 2012 50¢



- LCMR Boys top OC in thriller, B1**
- Rebecca Holden signs with UVA, B1**
- Lou Rodia on Fishing: One boat was your favorite, B2**
- Community Events, A4**

TIDES
February 2012
Eastern Standard Time

High	Low
A.M.	P.M.
8 7:58	8:25
9 8:39	9:08
10 9:22	9:54
11 10:07	10:43
12 10:57	11:37
13 11:52	12:36
14 12:38	1:26
15 1:45	2:10

Moon Phases

- Full Moon, Feb. 7
- Last Quarter, Feb. 14
- New Moon, Feb. 21
- First Quarter, Feb. 29
- Perigee, Feb. 11
- Apogee, Feb. 27

LT Council members asking for investigations

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

'This situation is like someone knocks on your door, covered from head to toe in mud, and he tells you you have lint on your sock.'

— LT Mayor Mike Beck

VILLAS — A division that has developed in Lower Township Council has led to different sides asking for external reviews of council activities.

At Monday's first regular council meeting of the month, Councilman Glenn Douglass asked for Resolution 2012-56 to be removed from the consent agenda. This meant the resolution would be voted on separately rather than as part of a bundle of resolutions, which are normally considered routine in nature. Resolution 2012-56 was a

request by council for the Cape May County Prosecutor's Office to investigate occurrences from the Jan. 18 meeting, which was not held due to the lack of a quorum. On Jan. 18, Deputy Mayor Kevin Lare

and Councilman Tom Conrad were on vacation. The Ward 2 seat was vacant, and the Lower Township Republican Committee was meeting at the Senior Center to select a candidate to fill the vacancy.

That evening, Mayor Mike Beck and Councilman Glenn Douglass waited in the meeting room of Township Hall, expecting some word regarding the vacancy being filled. The meeting was subsequently cancelled at around 8:30 p.m. for lack of a quorum.

Prior to the meeting being cancelled, Township Manager Mike Voll, a police officer, and members of the local press walked over to the Senior Center to try to get an update on the proceedings. Republican Committee leader Jeff Lindsay told Voll no decision had been made. Voll left the meeting with the understanding Lindsay

would call him when a decision was reached. No call was forthcoming, and the council meeting was cancelled.

Following a special meeting held on Jan. 25, Lare asked for a resolution to be drafted asking for the Prosecutor's Office to look into the events of Jan. 18, particularly regarding the police officer accompanying the township manager to the Republican Committee meeting. In discussion of the resolution, Lare indicated he felt the police officer was sent to arrest Walt Craig, but he did not elaborate on the reason. Douglass asked Lare if he

Please see Asking, page A2

Recent CG grads were key in rescue

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — Capt. Bill Kelly of U.S. Coast Guard Training Center Cape May was thrilled to receive emails from a couple of graduates who recently saved the lives of five fishermen off the

"It wasn't a normal light like a buoy, it was something else," Taborda said. "We kept an eye on it and reported it."

Taborda had been aboard the cutter for just four days. He graduated from the Training Center in Cape May on Dec. 9, 2011 with Recruit Company Whiskey 185.



US Coast Guard photo

US Coast Guardians SN. Charles Gray, SN. Jarrod Reed, and SN. Pablo Taborda Jr., recent graduates of Training Center-Cape May, were instrumental in the rescue of six fishermen.

southern coast of Jamaica. On Jan. 3, Seamen Charles Gray (Norcross, Ga.), Jarrod Reed (East Liverpool, Ohio) and Pablo Taborda Jr. (Miami, Fla.) were on lookout watch duty aboard Coast Guard Cutter Venturous during a counter narcotics patrol. Around 11 p.m., the cutter was pushing its way through 35-knot winds and 12-foot high seas. At the same time, the three spotted a faint white light in the distance and reported it to the bridge.

The officer on duty believed what the watchstanders saw was a buoy, but he and the other two watchmen were convinced otherwise.

"We noticed the light as we were passing by and it looked like something was trying to get our attention," Taborda said. The crew of Venturous, carrying around 80 personnel, went to investigate the light. Using their forward-looking

Please see Grads, page A2



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

Swans over Cape May

Star and Wave editor Christopher South took a hike on the 2-mile nature trail at Lighthouse State Park near Cape May Point and was able to capture in flight one of the numerous swans that can be seen there. Throughout the winter there is an abundance of waterfowl that remain in the area. For more photos, see page A12.

Flight Deck a local favorite

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

ERMA — What was once under the radar among the numerous South Jersey diners has become a busy runway occupied by locals, summer tourists and pilots visiting the Cape May Airport. The Flight Deck Diner at 505 Terminal Drive is a year-round joint open daily for breakfast and lunch along with Friday dinners from March through November.

Sean and Chrissy McMullan took over the Flight Deck Diner in July 2010, leasing it from the Delaware River Bay Authority. Sean has been a bartender for the better part of 20 years and eventually decided he wanted his own business. His friend, Brian Marker, who is the police chief of Lower Township, originally ran the Flight Deck and asked if the McMullans would like to take over and five days later, they did.

Most of the staff stuck around and continued to work there, which Sean said made



Cain Chamberlin/Cape May Star and Wave

Above, Sean McMullan (left in photo) is the owner of the Flight Deck Diner in Erma standing next to his head cook DeJohn Nelson.

the transition much easier. In March 2011, he brought in an old friend, DeJohn Nelson to be the head cook and work alongside cook Patty Vassar. Nelson has been in the restaurant industry for all his

adult life and has always had a special place in his heart for comfort food made from fresh ingredients.

Word has traveled fast

Please see Deck, page A3

Tootsie: The new girl on the block

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

VILLAS — Last August, Joe and Nancy Montgomery were disappointed to find someone had stolen "Bayshore Trixie," a mannequin they dressed for holidays and other special occasions and seated on the glider outside their home.

Roughly six months later, the Montgomeries have a new mannequin thanks to the kindness of strangers who also live in the Villas neighborhood.

Nancy said she and her husband were home one day when Joe answered a knock on the door. When he came to tell her who was there he seemed very excited.

"He came to me all out of breath and said, 'There's someone out there with a mannequin,'" Nancy said.

According to Nancy Montgomery, Bob and Mary Reader have a residence in Villas and they make fre-



"Bayshore Tootsie" has replaced the stolen "Bayshore Trixie."

Photo courtesy of Nancy Montgomery

quent trips to New York City, where they have a friend who owns a department store. On one of their trips there, the Readers asked their friend about getting a mannequin and the friend said they could have one free.

Montgomery said the Readers had been fans of Bayshore Trixie and used to look for her. Later, the couple became aware of the theft of the mannequin, perhaps from the Star and Wave from Sept. 14, 2011, or a wooden sign Joe Montgomery placed on the glider reading, "STOLEN."

Trixie used to sit outside every day dressed in seasonal or topical outfits including Eagles, Phillies and Flyers clothing, or holiday-related outfits, such as for Easter, St. Patrick's Day, or July 4. Nancy Montgomery said sometimes people would stop by and get their picture taken with Trixie, and they set up a

Please see Tootsie, page A10

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