

Lose

Continued from page A1

safety of citizens and property in Cape May could be assured.

In January, a \$9 million replenishment project was completed at the Coast Guard Training Center Cape May and in Cape May City. The project included pumping 620,000 cubic yards of sand from an offshore borrow area and placing it on the Coast Guard beaches. Seventy-thousand cubic yards of sand was taken from the vicinity of Convention Hall and Trenton Avenue as part of a backpassing project. The sand was redistributed in the Wilmington Avenue section of the beachfront. The Army Corps provided \$7,075,000 to make both portions of the overall project possible.

LoBiondo, U.S. Coast Guard subcommittee head, said shoreline protection is deteriorating with the unavailability of funding to the Army Corps of Engineers and the Coast Guard. He said Obama's proposed \$600 million in cuts for the fiscal year budget,



Cain Chamberlin/Cape May Star and Wave

Above, snow fence helps maintain the dune structure as part of Cape May's beach protection efforts. Congressman Frank LoBiondo has to fight for federal dollars every year for beach replenishment efforts.

which if passed will begin Oct. 1, ignores the needs and commitment of the U.S. Coast Guard and Army Corps of Engineers.

LoBiondo told the Star and Wave last month, due to budget cuts, the Coast Guard Training Center could be taking on only half the number

of recruits it has taken in past years. Capt. William Kelly, commander of TRACEN, said the base used to train around 5,000 recruits per year, but is preparing to train around 2,500 in 2013. Kelly said the base will have around 3,200 in 2012.

Smoke

Continued from page A1

at least five acres of land, 500-foot setbacks from neighboring properties, EPA certification, and certified fuel. The wood smoke, she said, while enjoyable to some is not healthy.

Township Clerk Claudia Kammer told council she received the petition for referendum with 775 signatures. As of Monday, she had validated 601 signatures, the remainder could not be validated for various reasons, including duplicate or unreadable signatures.

Andrielle resident John Fleming voiced his displeasure with council rescinding

the ordinance after it went through all the appropriate channels including public hearings.

"I'm confused," he said, "for you to take an ordinance that was adequately developed, there were public hearings, it was authorized by council, and you are rescinding it based on a petition that is not even authorized."

"It's not based on the petition," Mayor Mike Beck said. "It's based on 700 signatures, on hearing from people we hadn't heard from before."

Beck said rescinding the ordinance solves the petition situation. If the ordinance banning OWBs is rescinded the township will not have

to hold, and pay for, a special election. After rescinding the ordinance, township council plans to rewrite the ordinance to regulate but not ban OWBs.

"We'll be adjusting the ordinance one way or the other," Beck said.

Beck said the new ordinance would go before the Planning Board for review, as did the old ordinance, where people would have the opportunity to speak on the ordinance.

"They already had that opportunity," Fleming said.

Fleming said he believed the 775 signatures collected were undermining the process.

"If I got 750 signatures from

Fuel

Continued from page A1

good gas mileage."

Kindle Auto Plaza, which sells Ford, Lincoln, Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge has numerous best in class vehicles in terms of fuel economy, Sharp said. He said people commonly associate fuel efficiency with foreign vehicles like Honda and Mazda, but contrary to popular belief, the Ford F-150 pickup, Ford Fiesta, Ford Explorer and Ford Focus are at the top of the list. Local municipalities are taking advantage of these fuel-efficient vehicles as well.

Lower Township Manager Mike Voll said two Ford Focus vehicles were recently purchased to replace large 4x4 trucks at the construction office and planning and zoning office. Voll said the Focus gets 38 to 40 miles per gallon compared to the 12 miles per gallon the 4x4 vehicles were getting.

He said at \$13,071 the Focus is also the cheapest vehicle to purchase under state contract. He said three or four more Ford Focuses might be purchased to replace vehicles

in other departments, like the recreation department.

He said Lower Township also replaced a gas-guzzler 4x4 at the police department with a mid-size SUV, the Ford Escape. Voll is doing an evaluation on all municipal vehicles to see what can be replaced with better economical solutions. His ultimate goal is to reduce municipal fuel consumption by 15 percent or more in the next year. He said the police chief is on board with the plan, and Lower Township is considering the possibility of replacing the Dodge Charger Hemi V8 police cars with V6 versions.

Voll said the township is looking to save fuel in other ways. He said three out of four municipal buildings are now heated with natural gas rather than the more expensive heat oil.

"We're already showing savings in those buildings," he said. "We've already reduced municipal gas consumption by 7.2 percent since last year."

In August, 2011, Cape May City Deputy Mayor Jack

Wicherman questioned the need for large V8 police cars in the city. The Cape May City Police Department currently uses Ford Crown Victorias, but Wicherman suggested using a smaller V6 model vehicle with better fuel economy. Police Chief Diane Sorantino told the Star and Wave she was perfectly fine with exploring other options in regard to police vehicles. City Manager Bruce MacLeod said the city continues to use the Ford Crown Victorias because all the equipment is interchangeable when they replace the vehicles with a newer model.

Whether or not individuals and municipalities trade in their gas-guzzlers for more fuel efficient vehicles in the next few years, President Barack Obama and major automakers signed an agreement in July 2011 that would increase fuel efficiency standards to 54.5 miles per gallon for cars and light trucks by 2025.

critical issue in the township, in my opinion."

Beck said the township has asked their employees to do more with less and they have responded. He said the township has also cut its labor force, which has led to them being able to keep taxes down.

"We've worked to keep tax increases to zero, and I'm happy it's coming," he said.

Beck said the toolkit alone generated savings about equal to about a penny on the tax rate, which Costello said is equivalent to about \$410,000.

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**TITANIC 3D PG-13 12:00, 4:00, 8:00

**WRATH OF THE TITANS 2D PG-13 12:20

**WRATH OF THE TITANS 3D PG-13 2:50, 5:10, 7:40, 9:35

**MIRROR MIRROR PG-13 10:20, 2:30, 4:50, 7:15, 9:35

21 JUMP STREET R 12:05, 2:35, 5:00, 7:25, 9:30

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4	6:31	7:02
5	7:21	7:50
6	8:09	8:37
7	8:58	9:25
8	9:48	10:14
9	10:39	11:06
10	11:34	5:22

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