



Christopher South
Cape May Star and Wave
Far left, Harley and Denise Shuler of Cape May picked up a pair of recruits during Operation Fireside held every Thanksgiving Day. Center, Bill Smigo of Cape May represented another of among 45 homes that took in recruits during the holiday. Left, Angie Kelly, wife of Training Center Cape May Commander Capt. Bill Kelly gives encouragement to recruit Elyn Wertman of Bethlehem, Pa., injured during training.

Day

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ple more mouths to feed was no big deal. Additionally, Mary Lou works for the Delaware River and Bay Authority and said the DRBA encourages volunteerism and community service by their employees (Jay is an independent electrical contractor).
"My supervisor is very receptive to allowing us to go to graduations, etc.," she said.
However, Mary Lou said they receive more than they give during Operation Fireside.
"To open your heart is a wonderful gift," she said.
Over the years, while they

have opened their home and hearts to recruits, they have touched a few along the way. They have hosted recruits who arrived feeling homesick due to the holiday. One year they received a young woman who was a single mother, and her son was in California. She was also overwhelmed at being away from home during a major holiday. With the young mother on the verge of tears, Mary Lou told her, "If you need to cry, then just cry," letting her know it wouldn't be a problem for them. By the time the young woman left she was feeling much better, having had the opportunity to call home while enjoying

some of the comforts of home, provided by the Jordan family. Mary Lou said the woman decided to come back for liberty, and she still calls them on Thanksgiving and other holidays.
The Coast Guard and American Red Cross placed more than 190 Coast Guard recruits with approximately 45 South Jersey families for Thanksgiving, which is down from years past. Last year the Coast Guard had about 300 recruits, and in other years has had over 400. Brzuska said the numbers are lower because there are fewer recruits, lately, due to high retention rates. At this time,

the Coast Guard Training Center-Cape May has approximately 200 recruits in training from more than 27 states and U.S. territories. Operation Fireside allows recruits to celebrate the holiday with a host family while they're separated from their loved ones during the rigorous basic training program.
"Our new Coast Guardsmen will be conducting dangerous frontline Coast Guard missions in the U.S. and abroad within days of graduation, and we make them Coast Guardsmen by pushing them to new levels of physical, mental and emotional toughness," said Capt. Bill Kelly,

the commanding officer of Training Center Cape May. "The volunteers of Operation Fireside make them feel at home, which is probably one of the greatest gifts for a service member separated from their family during the Holiday season."
"We're proud to say supporting military members is just one of our many Red Cross missions, and the families who host these men and women are also honored to have them in their homes," said Donna Croskey, the Operation Fireside coordinator for the Red Cross. "Even after the Holidays, many of the host families attend the

recruits' graduation ceremony and stay in touch long after boot camp."

Training Center Cape May is the Coast Guard's only enlisted basic training program, and more than 83 percent of the Service's workforce receive basic instruction here to become Coast Guardsmen. The recruits are trained in everything from firearms familiarization to basic water survival.

Bill

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Along with those two insurance plans, council also approved excess coverage in the amount of \$5 million, which comes with an annual cost of \$31,600. MacLeod said with all three plans, the city would have \$8 million in flood insurance on Convention Hall.
Jerry Gaffney, a former city mayor and a long-time insurance agent questioned the level of coverage, especially the plan through FEMA. After hearing MacLeod, Gaffney said city taxpayers would self-insure for \$400,000 for the

facility's contents. MacLeod did not believe there was \$400,000 worth of contents in the building and the city was covering \$100,000 in contents because many of the items like chairs and tables could be removed in the event of another storm.
Gaffney said the city was also self-insuring the \$50,000 deductible on the FEMA coverage and asked how much the city was saving by having it. MacLeod said deductibles for the coverage ranged from \$1,000, carrying a \$100,000 yearly premium, to \$50,000, which was the highest deductible for a build-

ing like Convention Hall. He said there were seven or eight options with different levels of deductible rates. Gaffney said the deductible was "per loss" meaning the rate would be doubled if there were more than one catastrophic occurrence in a single year. Gaffney said it was "not a wise decision" for the city to make.
He said from information he had gathered, the JIF and MEL fund had \$50 million to draw from. Gaffney said that was "nothing," given the claims filed after Hurricane Sandy. He said there are three things to consider in terms of

flood insurance - materials, location and elevation. He said the structure was built with concrete and "couldn't be any closer to the ocean." Gaffney said elevation is likely the most important factor in this case when trying to acquire flood insurance.
At a recent meeting, MacLeod said the building is elevated at 15 feet and two inches, while there is also a sump pump room at 8.5 feet. City Solicitor Tony Monzo said the elevation of the sump pump room would not result in the denial of flood insurance but could affect the insurance premiums.

Resident Charles Hendricks said the amount of premiums were already expensive. MacLeod said he did not know exactly why the premiums were so high, but believed it could be because Convention Hall is located in a V-Zone (velocity zone). According to the FEMA website, V-Zones are "subject to a greater hazard than buildings built in other types of floodplains. Not only do they have to be elevated above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE), they must be protected from the impact of waves, hurricane-force winds and erosion."

Hall has temporary CO

Hendricks, of Trenton Avenue, also asked why Convention Hall still had a temporary certificate of occupancy (TCO) six months after it has been completed. MacLeod said the TCO is valid until Dec. 31, but the city needed to obtain the "as-built survey," from the contractor for filing. He said the city received the survey on Monday, Nov. 19 and that should be the only thing standing in the way of acquiring a certificate of occupancy.

Help

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Carol Cohen, executive director of the Southern Shores Chapter of the American Red Cross will talk to attendees about protecting themselves,

their employees and businesses in a segment called, "Preparing Your Business for the Unthinkable."
A FEMA representative will then speak about keeping business records and inven-

tory secure, tips on essential items like a backup generator, how to develop a basic disaster supplies kit and ways to insure your business for storms and floods. The morning session will end with an "Ask the Experts" panel discussion featuring Cape May City Police Chief Diane Sorantino, Cape May City Fire Chief Jerry Inderwies as well as FEMA and Red Cross representatives.
"We'll be taking those 'what if' scenarios and educating people on how to prepare for

them," Cooke said. "It's just an initiative to prevent further loss."
An hour break for lunch will be from noon to 1 p.m. before the afternoon session kicks off with a presentation from Joseph Molineaux, Director of the New Jersey Small Business Development Center at Stockton College. Molineaux will discuss all forms of assistance for recovering an affected business like one-on-one consulting, disaster loan assistance through the Small Business

Administration (SBA) and other forms of technical help for restarting business operations.
Following a 15-minute break, Dave Yungmans, Constant Contact Greater Philadelphia Metro Regional Development Director, and Carolinn Pocher Woody of CPW Creative Communications, the Authorized Constant Contact Local Expert for South Jersey will lend some advice about putting businesses back on track combining the low cost, high impact approach of using social media and email marketing.

The conference will conclude with Al Balabanow of Balan Marketing, Molineaux, J Byrne Insurance and the Michael Flores, Public Information Officer for the United States Small Business Administration, who will provide helpful tips on what a merchant can do to get his or her business back on its feet following a disaster.
At 4:30 p.m. there will be a prize drawing and giveaway for items including a new Kindle Fire. The first 500 attendees will leave with a business continuation planner and a disaster preparedness guide.
For more information about "Restore the Shore: Getting NJ Small Business Back to Work," call the Chamber of Commerce of Greater Cape May at 884-5508 ext. 102 or email Doreen Talley at Doreen@capemaychamber.com.

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*TWILIGHT BREAKING DAWN PART 2 PG-13 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
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*WRECK IT RALPH 3D PG 9:40
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*FLIGHT R 12:30, 3:40, 6:50, 9:45
** No Passes

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TIDES NOV./DEC. 2012 Eastern Standard Time

	High	Low		
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
28	7:26	7:50	12:50	1:44
29	8:02	8:28	1:26	2:23
30	8:38	9:06	2:02	3:00
1	9:14	9:45	2:38	3:38
2	9:50	10:25	3:16	4:15
3	10:28	11:08	3:56	4:54
4	11:09	11:56	4:42	5:36
5	11:55		5:34	6:22

Moon Phases
Last Quarter, Nov. 6
New Moon, Nov. 13
First Quarter, Nov. 20
Full Moon, Nov. 28
Apogee, Nov. 1, 28
Perigee, Nov. 14

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