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# Cape May Star and Wave

158TH YEAR NO. 52 CAPE MAY, N.J. SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY WEDNESDAY, December 26, 2012 50¢

## Public comments on LTMUA application

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH  
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPEMAY COURTHOUSE – The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection held a public hearing, Dec. 19, to get the public's input on two applications for water allocation increases.

Public comments were taken on applications from the New Jersey American Water Company, which provides water for Middle

currently served by private wells, most of which were experiencing contamination.

Ecker said the DEP has been involved in the project in some form or another for many years. He said a study done in 2009 recommended the residents with wells be put on a single water source, in this case, the municipal water system.

The LTMUA application received support from residents in the Town Bank area

*'In 1995 to 1998, the city invested \$5 million in the desal plant to ensure there was an adequate water supply.'*

– Bruce MacLeod  
Cape May City Manager

Township, and the Lower Township Municipal Utilities Authority (LTMUA), which is the water provider in Lower Township.

Matt Ecker, the executive director of the LTMUA, told the panel of DEP representatives, the township was seeking the increase to serve existing development in the Town Bank and East Villas areas of Lower Township. He said the residents were

who have contaminated well water. Mayor Mike Beck said the residents are suffering from some bad decisions made 20 or 30 years ago, which led to the contamination.

"It has resulted in people drinking water they shouldn't," Beck said.

Lower Township resident Steven Sheftz, former chair-

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## Meeting to be held on Point post office in Jan.

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH  
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY POINT – The United States Postal Service has announced the date for a public meeting in January 2013 to discuss the future of operations at the Cape May Point Post Office.

The USPS sent letters to each post office box holder in Cape May Point announcing a meeting on Jan. 15, 2013, at 6 p.m., at the Volunteer Fire Company on Yale Avenue.

The USPS has decided to cut back on operations at the Cape May Point Post Office. The purpose of the meeting is to hear from the public what changes they would prefer to see happen.

The first proposed change would be a reduction in hours from 8 to 6 hours per day. Presently all Point residents have P.O. Boxes and pick up their mail at the post office. The lobby is locked when the window is not open, except for during lunch hours.

A second proposal is to discontinue the post office services and set up home delivery with rural mailboxes.

A third would require a private business to take over post office operations at the Point.

A fourth and final option proposed was to discontinue postal services in the Point and have residents pick up their mail at another post office.

Each P.O. Box holder was mailed a survey asking them



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

Above, the Cape May Point Post Office on Yale Avenue is one of 18,000 post offices nationally targeted for either a reduction of hours or discontinuance. The Point Post Office is the social center of the borough, with nearly all of its residents visiting there daily. It is also a place where community information is shared, such as the news about the Jan. 15 meeting to discuss the post office's future.

to indicate which option they preferred and

Residents at Board of Commissioners meetings have indicated they would not like to pick up mail at another post office due to

lack of parking. Some local businesses have reportedly begun using the Cape May Point Post Office because they are able to park.

About 18,000 post offices nationwide, including

Cape May Point, are being effected by a review process called POST Plan, which could result in fewer hours or discontinuance of service.

## Fishermen's Energy gets federal project

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN  
Cape May Star and Wave

ATLANTIC CITY – Fishermen's Energy, LLC of Cape May announced it was selected by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to receive up to \$4 million for completing its offshore wind demonstration project near Atlantic City.

According to Rhonda Jackson, Director of Communication Outreach for Fishermen's Energy, the DOE chose seven projects that will accelerate the commercialization of innovative offshore wind technologies in the U.S. for grant funding and this particular project was one of them.

Fishermen's Energy has been working to construct a 25 MW (megawatt) wind farm off the shore of Atlantic City for the past few years and received its final permits for the project from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in August. Jackson said a wind farm of this size could potentially produce enough energy to supply 10,000 single-family homes with power.

She said the \$4 million grant was issued to complete preliminary tasks such as engineering, site

evaluation and other planning phases. Upon completion of those objectives, the DOE will select up to three of the seven projects for a follow-on design, fabrication and deployment phases so they can be fully operational by 2017. The selected projects will be eligible for up to an additional \$47 million in grants over the next four years, subject to Congressional appropriations. Jackson said Fishermen's Energy hopes to have the offshore wind demonstration project completed by Labor Day 2014.

Although the project has obtained all of the necessary permits, Jackson said there is still an ongoing approval process with the state Board of Public Utilities but she doesn't foresee any major delays in construction.

She said the funding is greatly appreciated and will help the project's initial phases run smoothly.

In a press release, Chris Wissemann, CEO of Fishermen's Energy, said the project will create hundreds of jobs, help to rebuild New Jersey's infrastructure and attract a new industry to the state,

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## Recruits see videos of shipmates in action

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN  
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – Members of the press and recruits of Coast Guard Training Center Cape May were given a sneak peek at the Coast Guard's Top 10 videos of 2012 and had the opportunity to vote for their favorite.

The Top 10 videos highlight some of this year's missions and operations performed by Coast Guardsmen around the nation and overseas. CWO Donnie Brzuska, public affairs officer for Training Center Cape May, said the Coast Guard responded to 22,000 calls last year alone and made roughly 4,300 rescues.

"Most of our missions are not caught on camera because the majority of them occur in the dark of night in some of the most austere environments on the planet," Brzuska said.

More than 200 recruits and staff members gathered in the Ida Lewis Auditorium to watch the videos and cast their votes. The Coast Guard began releasing the videos to the public nationwide on Dec. 22 with a new video appearing each day through Dec. 31. The public can vote for their favorite video through the Coast Guard's Facebook and YouTube pages. The winner will be announced Jan. 7 on the Coast Guard Compass, which can be found online at [www.coastguard.dodlive.mil](http://www.coastguard.dodlive.mil).



Cain Chamberlin/Cape May Star and Wave

Above, recruits from US Coast Guard Training Center-Cape May view videos of their shipmates in action. The videos gave the recruits an idea of what their jobs would be like. The recruits also voted on their favorite video.

Brzuska said allowing the recruits to watch the videos gives them an opportunity to see what they will be doing in their specific field following the initial eight-week recruit training, whether it be communications, operational support or rescue operations.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Jamie Vanacore, a rescue swimmer from Air Station Atlantic City made a surprise

appearance at the premiere to introduce a video in which she appeared called, "So Other's May Live." The video gave a glimpse into the rigorous training required to be a rescue swimmer for the Coast Guard, also known as "A School." The video was voted runner-up by the recruits.

Vanacore said she has been in the Coast Guard for 10 years and a rescue swimmer for the past two. After

servicing as a Coast Guard yeoman for nearly eight years, primarily stationed in California, she attended A School in Elizabeth City, N.C., something she had always dreamed of doing. Air Station Atlantic City is her first detail as a rescue swimmer.

When speaking with recruits, she discussed the importance of training and

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