

Cape May Star and Wave



159TH YEAR NO. 24 CAPE MAY, N.J. SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY WEDNESDAY, June 12, 2013 50¢



HOUSE OF THE WEEK

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Coast Guard base says farewell to Capt. Bill Kelly

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – An emotional Capt. Bill Kelly stood before a crowd of about 400 people Friday night, recollecting the past three years at Coast Guard Training Center Cape May before handing over the reins as commanding officer of the base to Capt. Todd Prestidge.

Kelly, who will now become the Deputy Commander of the Coast Guard Service Command in Arlington, Va., was recognized for his numerous accomplishments at Training Center Cape May during the Change of Command Ceremony, a time-honored tradition of the Coast Guard. At the end of the three-year stint as commanding officer, Kelly is responsible for the initial training of more than 20 percent of today's Coast Guard, which is comprised of over 39,000 active duty and reserve-enlisted members.

"You become so focused on the day-to-day training and



operations, you don't realize the totality of it. I would have never guessed it was over 20 percent," Kelly said.

Family and friends of each

captain, Coast Guard recruits, veterans and members of the community were in attendance as Rear Admiral Scott Buschman conducted the for-

mal transfer of duties and authority. Kelly considered the change of command to be a bittersweet experience, as he and his wife, Angie, and

Cain Chamberlin
Cape May Star and Wave

Left, a change of command ceremony was held for Capt. Bill Kelly (right in photo), who has served as the U.S. Coast Guard Training Center-Cape May commanding officer for three years. Kelly will undoubtedly be in line for an admiralty in the not too distant future, as most training center commanders have left Cape May for the Washington area, only to receive their star a short time later. Joining Kelly in the photo is Capt. Todd Prestidge, who will replace Kelly as training center commander.

two sons, Patrick and Tyler, fell in love with the Cape May area and the Training Center.

"If you can't enjoy working with this staff and these recruits we are privileged to have here, you had better

check your pulse," Kelly said during his speech. "As soon as my family and I drive over that bridge, we'll be counting the days until we can come back to Cape May."

Although most people in attendance were upset the event had to be held in the gymnasium as opposed to the parade field due to the rainy weather, Kelly said he was happy with the final location of the ceremony.

"I actually wanted it inside," he said. "The renovation of the gymnasium was a large effort while I've been here and I think it symbolizes the many things we've accomplished in the past three years."

Prestidge, who will be moving to Cape May with his fiancé, Corey, and children, Noah and Grace, is a 23-year veteran of the Coast Guard and most recently served as commanding officer of Cutter Resolute, home ported in St. Petersburg, Fla. He said becoming the commanding officer of the Training Center

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Wind uncovers old Ford dealership sign

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

WEST CAPE MAY – Some recent high winds uncovered a section of siding, which resulted in the revealing of an old Ford dealership sign underneath.

Halbruner-Hanson Ford was located at the corner of Sunset Boulevard and Pacific Avenue, and sold Ford trucks and cards, including the Mustang, Maverick, Thunderbird, LTD, Galaxie, Pinto and Torino. Of those, only the Mustang and Thunderbird are still in production, the others dropped in favor of other models.

The Star and Wave called former Cape May Mayor Jerry Inderwies to ask if he had noticed that the sign was uncovered.

"I saw that," he said. Inderwies said he worked for Halbruner-Hanson Ford from 1972 to around 1979,



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave
Above, the wind damaged some siding, which resulted in the removal of all the siding, revealing the old Halbruner-Hanson Ford sign.

first as a car salesman, and then for a while as sales manager. Inderwies said Alvin Halbruner owned the business, and for a time had a partner named Hanson. Halbruner retired and the dealership was bought by Wes Ouram, who had pre-

viously worked for Burke Motors in Wildwood, who Inderwies said was "in the car business for some time." "It was a great little dealership," Inderwies said of Halbruner-Hanson Ford.

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Cape May Point State Park needs volunteers

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY POINT – Whether it is hiking, birding, sunbathing on the beach or touring the facilities and historical sites, there is a recreational activity for everyone at the Cape May Point State Park, which could explain the approximate 800,000 annual visitors.

Located at the very tip of the Cape May peninsula, the state park is the southernmost point in New Jersey. Beaches, dunes, freshwater wetlands, ponds and forested trails encompass the 235-acre property that is home to hundreds of bird and animal species. Cape May Point State Park Naturalist Matt Pellegrine said the state park is only growing larger, as the park service recently purchased an additional 12-acres along Seagrove Avenue.

Considered to be one of



Cain Chamberlin/Cape May Star and Wave
Above, Naturalist Matt Pellegrine removes invasive vines from a young tree while giving a tour of the Cape May Point State Park. Pellegrine said the park needs volunteers to help get rid of these invasive plants.

the best places in North America to view the fall bird migration, birding is one of the most prominent activities conducted at the park. Every fall, visitors

converge from around the world to witness the migration of most types of North American migratory birds in

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CMPD's 'Positive Ticket Campaign' rewards kids wearing helmets

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – Young bicycle riders should be on the lookout for the Cape May Police – you just might be stopped and issued a "Positive Ticket" for riding with your helmet.

Officer Tony Genaro has headed up the previous effort that had Cape May police officers identifying and rewarding young bike riders for following the law. Quite often, bicycle riders in general do not follow traffic laws, which can result in them putting themselves in dangerous situ-

ations. With regard to bicycle helmets, New Jersey state law says that children under the age of 17 must wear a helmet while bicycling, skateboarding or rollerskating (P.L. 2005, C.208).

Genaro said they had the program a couple of years ago, when they printed a couple hundred positive tickets that read, "Congratulations! You have been caught using your head!"

The tickets informs the child they should always wear their helmet, and says helmets could prevent up to

45,000 brain injuries to children each year.

It continues, "Because you are smart enough to know that a helmet is so important, you are being rewarded with a freebie redeemable at a local merchant listed below."

Genaro said they did not have room for all the participating merchants on one ticket, so they made a couple of printings with different merchants, who offered items such as a free ice cream cone, slice of pizza, taco, fudge treat, or even a T-shirt. Genaro said kids get to pick one reward, and Cape May

businesses have shown a lot of support for the program. Genaro said they would start the 2013 campaign in mid-June.

"We are looking to start around June 15, after kids get out of school. In the past we got quite a few kids from out of town wearing helmets," Genaro said. "Families will be down and we can catch local kids when they are out of school."

Genaro said they usually commend the parents as well for having their children wear helmets.

Genaro said a lot of times

kids get pressured not to wear a bike helmet because it's uncool or something for little kids. He said the Positive Tickets are a way for the police to reinforce what kids are supposed to do anyway.

"The program is great for officers as well. Each officer gets a positive ticket book, which allows them to have positive interaction with kids and try to set the tone that way. It's a win-win," Genaro said.

Stepping out

CMPD Sgt. Tom Connelly

joined Genaro in urging children under age 17 to wear helmets. Connelly said summer is a time when they see an increase in traffic concerns.

One of those concerns is for pedestrians attempting to cross local streets. Connelly said more and more they are finding pedestrians simply stepping out into traffic and expecting cars to stop. He said this is based on a misunderstanding of the law.

New Jersey law requires motorists to stop for pedes

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