

Photo courtesy of Capt. Jack Moran AVALON - Above, this 20-foot fishing boat caught fire at a fuel dock in Avalon. Captains Moran and Neeld from SeaTow responded to the fire and were recently cited for their efforts.

Fire –

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battling the fire on his own with the water hose. Moran said the state police took him to his Sea Tow vessel so he could join the effort and fight the blaze. Moran said it was approximately an hour before the department was able to get another pump to the site and put foam on the boat and smother the fire.

"It burnt for so long and was extremely hot. For a small boat it had a lot of fuel so they must have filled the bilge with fuel is our guess,' Moran said.

He said the boat was engulfed in flames and had burned down to the water line. Moran and Neeld began attaching air bags to the vessel to keep it afloat while towing it back to shore.

"As soon as I put one air bag on, I stepped on the boat so I could make my way around to attach more. When I put weight on it, all the water ran off to the one side exposing the fumes again and it was so hot the fire shot right back up again," Moran said.

He and Neeld were once again fighting the fire and had to call the fire department back, which had already left the area. The two put water on the boat for another

half hour until help arrived and deployed more foam. This time, firefighters remained on the scene until the boat

was taken into shore. Moran said a woman who was on the vessel sustained burns to her leg, while the male occupant was burned on the hand, but both have since recovered.

"Fortunately, neither one of them was seriously injured,' Moran said.

The "Efforts Above and Beyond" citation awards were announced at the 2012 Sea Tow Annual Meeting held in Orlando, Fla., on Nov. 14. Neeld and Moran were unable to attend the event because they were occupied in Cape May County with the Hurricane Sandy cleanup effort. Moran, owner of Sea Tow Cape May, said his team of six boat captains salvaged roughly 30 vessels throughout the county following Sandy.

"Capt. Scott Neeld and Capt. Jack Moran are commended for outstanding performance of duty, going above and beyond, and bringing great credit to Sea Tow and the marine assistance industry," Capt. Joe Frohnhoefer, Sea Tow Founder and CEO said of the incident.

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Mall -

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for the animals to eat or play with," Klineberger said. Cape May County Zoo Parks

Director Michael Laffey said they gave all their animals pumpkins, putting them in their habitats to do with them what they wanted.

'Some of the animals eat them. The big cats used them almost as playthings," he said. Rocky got his own pumpkin, as did Vijay and Harmani, the snow leopards.

Laffey said the bears would break them open and eat the

"We put them in all the small mammal exhibits Laffey said. Laffey said the zoo receives a fairly large number of pumpkins from farmers pumpkins that didn't sell as Halloween or Thanksgiving decorations. The zoo puts natural elements, such as the pumpkins, in the exhibits to enhance their appeal for the animals. He said when designing a habitat, they cre-

ate spaces where the animals can hide. They also create places where they can hide food, so the animal must forage for it as they would in the

The zoo did not take other items, such as corn stalks or straw, because they were out in the elements and subject to containing mold.

At some point, whatever is left of the pumpkins goes into the zoo's compost heap. The county's park and zoo has a lot of trees, which yield a lot of leaves, which also become compost. The compost is used to nourish the flowerbeds around the park and zoo.

"It's a great way to recycle,"

Laffey said. Pumpkins are one of the few food items the zoo receives from the public. Laffey said they have received deer from the Department of Transportation, and did give the meat to some of the big cats, also to help replicate their natural environment. However, Laffey said, he doesn't want the public dropping off dead deer at the zoo's doorstep.

"They would have to be a fresh kill, not more than a couple hours," he said.

The zoo also uses a lot of Christmas trees for natural shelter in the exhibits. Again, Laffey said, a lot of them are unsold Christmas trees, which is good because they are free of hidden hooks or tinsel, which could be a danger to the animals.

"Some companies say, when they are done selling trees, 'Come get them'," Laffey said. "We use a couple hundred

Laffey said a company that was clearing land for a construction project brought them hollow logs about three feet in diameter and cut in six-foot sections. He said they were so perfect for the animal habitats they almost look like they were fabricated to fit in.

Klineberger said the small evergreens they used for their Christmas decorations would not have to be recycled because they were rented

"Instead of purchasing cut trees, we rented them from Marlboro Farms, which owns

Legate's Farm," she said. Klineberger said to rent ball trees is much more economically and environmentally sound than to put cut trees on the mall. This is the second year the BID has opted to rent trees, and fee includes the company digging up the trees, preparing the ball, delivering them and, eventually, coming back to pick them up.

Klineberger said the city has been very cooperative with the mall decorations and their removal. This year they asked for the pumpkins to be removed in anticipation of Hurricane Sandy, not wanting them to become projectiles.

"This year, because of the storm, Cindy and Hilary found the zoo," Klineberger

Honor-

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Teitelman Middle School, with one player attending Cape Trinity Catholic School. "Football season is a huge commitment," Lare said. "It starts at the end of June and ends the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

Lare said the 26 team members practiced five days a week in order to hone their skills. He said there is no greater joy parents can witness than what these kids accomplished. Their playoff sweep included a 38-0 win "arch rival" Middle Township, as Mayor Mike Beck put it.

Most of those honored with certificates of appreciation were people who helped in

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DEC. 25TH TO DEC. 27TH

the response to Hurricane Sandy.
"The township would not

survive without the people who support us," Beck said. First to be awarded certificates were members of the Lower Township Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT), including Linda Bowker, Joan Koeck, Cynthia Craft, Cathy Harron, Colleen Hendrickson, Rick Kraus, Dennis Maloney, Bill Craft, George Strayline, Paul Bowker, Claire Jeucher and

Rich Sambenedetto. According to one member who spoke for the group, CERT members are just a part of the community like any other citizen, but they have received 40 to 60 hours in areas like sheltering and how to ascertain needs after an emergency event. She said they are not first responders,

and the training allows them to take care of themselves first, then their families, and then others.

The training is free and meant to supplement the work of first responders.

Following the CERT members were nurses who provided assistance during the evacuation and sheltering of residents: Penny Becicao Kraus RN, Cathy Betham RN, Cheneen Austin RB, and Barb Duffy LPN.

Also honored were the Township Rescue Squad's Patricia Brannon and Brittany Conrad; the Villas Volunteer Fire Company, Town Bank Volunteer Fire Company, and Erma Volunteer Fire Company; the Lower Township Rescue Squad and Lower Township Community Response Team. Honored for their efforts to

collect food and other needed supplies were Heather Gray, Erica Young and Deanna Wareham. The three organized a food collection effort immediately after the storm to support relief efforts in the more effected areas to the north. Gray said they got the word out through social media, mainly on Facebook, and in about two hours were able to fill the first truck with goods. She said they started collecting at 11 a.m. and people were still giving at 7 p.m. About eight tons of food and other items were collected.

"We just got the ball rolling. This is something the commu-

nity did," Gray said. Scott and Julie Lindholm were also honored for helping with the transportation of the goods. A number of individuals, businesses and other agencies transported collected materials to various locations throughout the state, including: Keith Yatsk and Kim Polillo of Victorian Gardens Landscaping, Chris Donnelly, A Safe Keeping, Ace Hardware, North End Thrift, Bumble Bee (Snow's), Westside Market, Hello Photography, Gorgeous Lobster House, Seashore Foods, A Piece of Cake, Back Bay Bistro, DRBA, Lower Township Public Works.



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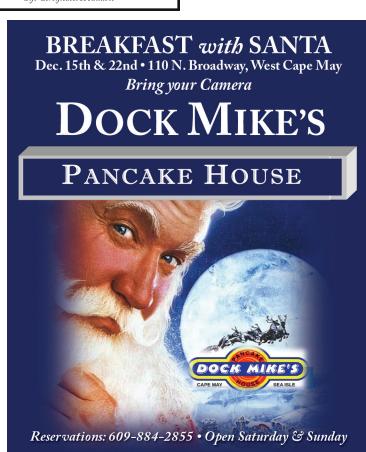
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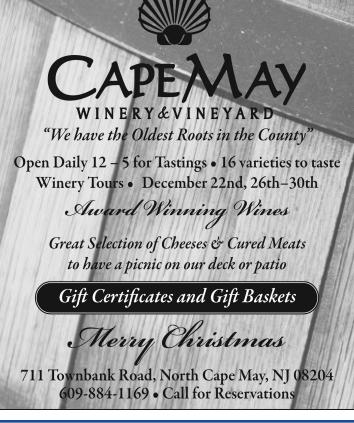
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> Moon Phases Last Quarter, Dec. 6 New Moon, Dec. 13 First Quarter, Dec. 20 Full Moon, Dec. 28 Perigee, Dec. 12 Apogee, Dec. 25