



Caper Tigers earn fall sports all-star recognition

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House of the Week

Real Estate Resource



169th YEAR NO. 47 CAPE MAY, N.J. Serving America's National Historic Landmark City WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2023 \$1.00



Provided

Members of the Cape May Maritime Museum, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the maritime history and heritage of the region, are restoring a U.S. Coast Guard vessel in a barn in Lower Township. The work is expensive and time-consuming, and the organization operates through fundraisers and donations.

Maritime museum staying afloat

Effort to restore CG-36538 continues in Lower Township

By R.E. HEINLY

Special to the Star and Wave

Since 2018, a team of dedicated volunteers has labored largely in anonymity in a barn on Route 9 in Lower Township to restore and then float their boat.

Their boat is U.S. Coast Guard motor lifeboat CG-36538. Their goal is to restore it and then launch it as both an onshore and seasonal floating museum. Their target date is the summer 2024.

Operating under the name of the Cape May Maritime Museum, an independent 501 C (3) nonprofit organization, they hope to pay tribute to and raise awareness of the area's rich maritime heritage, and in particular the role of the Coast Guard.

It is truly a labor of love for the members of the organization. They're a combination of military and civilian craftsmen who have undertaken a task, a crusade really, that is highly skilled and labor-intensive, be it restor-

ing the boat's hull or engine.

They include organization president Ed Melega, director of marketing and fundraising Jerry Tarrant, Chris Hein, Wayne Whalen, Mark Kulkowitz, Mike Adams, Karan Packer, Fred Bianco, Dave Allen, Joyce Avilla, Frank Gibson, Robert Horschak, Joe O'Rourke, Rick Sasse, Ken Smith and others who prefer anonymity.

After work in several area locations, their current one is in a barn constructed on the property of Wayne Adams. Now deceased, Adams' family has continued to honor him and the project by maintaining the headquarters.

Despite their austere financial situation and reflective of their commitment to the community, the Cape May Maritime Museum in connection with the Adams family annually offers a \$4,000 scholarship to a deserving senior at Lower Cape May Regional

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Active-shooter drills staged at Star of the Sea

Dozen county agencies participate in exercises

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — In a world in which mass shootings and violent incidents are becoming more commonplace, first responders are training to rescue victims as quickly as possible, particularly to stop bleeding from gunshot wounds.

Rescue Task Force Training was held Nov. 16 hosted by the Cape May Fire Department using the vacant Star of the Sea School building to stage a training drill that had first responders participating from 12 agencies in the county.

City employees and volunteers played the role of victims lying on the floor of classrooms, some with simulated bullet holes in their bodies and puddles of blood by their side.

The training was realistic with audible gunshots, police closing Lafayette Street and ambulances arriving to transport the wounded. The scenario

had two persons killed in the incident.

The training is an integration of law enforcement, fire department and emergency medical services (EMS) responding to any type of violent or hostile act.

While firefighters become involved in the incident to save lives, police officers are also upgrading their medical skills such as in applying tourniquets.

"What happens is law enforcement will team up with members of EMS and fire and make entry into areas where there may be mass casualties," Deputy Fire Chief Mike Eck said. "Everybody here is learning skills on bleeding control, rapid trauma assessment and methods to extricate people rapidly to get them out of the line of danger."

The concept of such rescues was developed about five years ago following a growing trend across

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City Council OKs beach tag fee hike

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — City Council approved across-the-board increases to beach tag fees to keep up with labor contracts and increased costs to maintain the beach.

Seasonal tags prices will increase from \$35 to \$40 with a \$10 discount available from Dec. 1 to the end of April in pre-season sales, weekly tags will increase from \$20 to \$25 for Saturday to Saturday, dai-

ly tags will increase from \$8 to \$10 and three-day tags will increase from \$15 to \$20.

The rate for commercial beach tags is increasing from \$100 for the season to \$125. A fee of \$5.50 will be charged to mail beach tags and if standard postage costs are exceeded, an additional fee may be assessed.

At a Nov. 8 council meeting, City Manager Mike Voll said the city agreed

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Cape May getting new phone system

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — If you called City Hall and no one answered, it's not a case of the staff taking the day off to go surfing — the phone system is broken.

Among phone extensions out of order include the tax collector's office.

At a Nov. 8 meeting, City Council approved a contract with Docutrend for VOIP telecommunications services. Voice Over Internet Protocol allows

users to make phone calls over broadband internet rather than an analog connection. The cost is not to exceed \$53,380 over a three-year period.

Councilwoman Maureen McDade said the contractor hoped to have the phone problems solved by mid-December.

City Manager Mike Voll said the restrooms on the Promenade at Trenton Avenue and Wilmington Avenue and Broadway

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John Cooke/Special to the STAR AND WAVE

Detail, forward, ho!

More than 50 mounted officers from six states and federal agencies gathered on the beach Nov. 15 in Cape May for training, which included a procession on the beach and d'fown Beach Avenue. The Cape May County Sheriff's Department hosted the event, which was thought to be one of the largest gatherings of mounted police officers for an immersive week-long tactical equestrian training.



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