

Cape May Star and Wave

156th YEAR NO. 52 CAPE MAY, N.J. SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY THURSDAY, December 30, 2010 50¢



INSIDE



SPORTS

Caper Tigers beat St. Joe's, Winslow Twp., **B1**

Lou Rodia, South Jersey lake fishing, **B2**

CAPE MAY

Community Event listings start on **A4**

DECEMBER 2010 TIDE TABLE					
HIGH		LOW			
am	pm	am	pm		
12/23	8:58	9:31	2:21	3:20	
12/24	9:45	10:22	3:11	4:07	
12/25	10:34	11:17	4:06	4:56	
12/26	11:27		5:04	5:47	
12/27	12:16	12:25	6:08	6:42	
12/28	1:18	1:28	7:15	7:39	
12/29	2:22	2:35	8:25	8:38	
12/30	3:25	3:43	9:32	9:36	
12/31	4:25	4:46	10:35	10:33	
New Moon		12/5			
First Quarter		12/13			
Full Moon		12/21			
Last Quarter		12/27			
Apogee		12/13			
Perigee		12/25			

Ponderlodge demo, clean up to begin

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

LOWER TOWNSHIP – The demolition of the buildings at the former Ponderlodge Golf Course will commence in February according to the Department of Environmental Protection and is projected to be completed by March at the latest. The DEP originally planned to turn the 253-acre Ponderlodge into a Wildlife Management Area (WMA), and now that Stockton College backed out of a proposal to turn a portion of the property into a satellite campus, the initial plan can commence. Laurie Pettigrew and Lee Widjeskog of the DEP gave a presentation on the Cox Hall Creek WMA Restoration Plan last Tuesday at the Lower Township Council meeting. The original budget for the project was about \$1.4 million. Ward 2 Councilman Wayne Mazurek, serving in

Please see **Demo**, page A2

Holiday storm brings 26.5 inches of snow

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY COUNTY – Some places in Cape May County received as much as 26.5 inches of snow in northeast storm that played havoc up and down the eastern seaboard, but caused no significant damage locally.

Cape May County Communications Director Lenora Boninfante relayed information provided by the National Weather Service in Mount Holly, reporting the highest snowfall in the county was in Dennisville, which received the 26.5 inches. In the Star and Wave readership area, Erma reported 22 inches by 9:45 a.m. Monday morning. North Cape May received 21 inches of snow and Cape May 18. West Cape May received 15.2 inches of snow, and the Villas section of Lower Township just 10 inches of snow. The snow, which began on Sunday, Dec. 26, had moved out of the region by Monday morning, but blowing snow continued to plague the area, with drifting snow forcing the closure of some roadways.

The county released information saying Fulling Mill Road in Lower Township was closed and would remain closed Monday due to drifting snow. Roads where there were wide, open areas of land with little to block the wind and snow, which included Bayshore Road south of the Cape May Canal, Seashore Road south of the West Cape May Bridge, Breakwater Road at the Airport, and Shunpike Road in Lower Township. On Monday, places like Seashore Road were open but visibility was limited due to high winds and drifting snow.

Traffic remained light,

'From the point of view of maintaining power, it was a significant improvement over last year.'

–Bruce MacLeod
Cape May City Manager

which aided work crews repairing a traffic light pole at Seashore Road and Sandman Boulevard, which toppled over due to high winds.

County officers were open Monday, but as of Tuesday, some services were still affected by the snow. All Cape May County Senior Centers remained closed and no Meals on Wheels were being delivered on Tuesday. Fare Free Transportation was providing only limited service, carrying patients for Dialysis service only. The Cape May County Zoo remained closed on Tuesday. The Cape May Bridge Commission also suspended tolls on County Bridges.

Due to the extreme high winds, rough seas, and hazardous winter weather driving conditions accompanying the storm, officials at the Cape May – Lewes Ferry suspended ferry

services for Monday, and resumed operations on Tuesday. The Cape May County

Emergency Management Communications Center also announced it would begin a preliminary damage assessment and requested reports from the Offices of Emergency Management from the county's 16 municipalities.

Cape May also feels the wind

The city of Cape May also had to deal with wind and drifting snow even after the snow stopped falling, the hol-

iday still wasn't as bad as storms that hit the area last winter, when significant portions of the area lost electrical power.

"From the point of view of maintaining power it was a significant improvement over last year," City Manager Bruce MacLeod said. "But the amount of snowfall was still something we needed to put a lot of effort into to clear the roads and open up streets for traffic."

Please see **Storm**, page A2



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

Above, the Summer Cottage at 613 Columbia Ave., Cape May, looks speckled due to the blowing snow on Sunday afternoon. The snow continued all day, resulting in a high of 26.5 inches of snowfall being recorded in Dennisville. Cape May received 18 inches of snow. Below, crews work to repair a utility pole holding traffic signal lights at Sandman Boulevard and Seashore Road. Crews were able to make their repairs despite frigid temperatures and high winds. See more snow photos on page A10.

SJ Marina opposes federal fishing fee

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – Members of the South Jersey Marina are against the possible \$15 registration fee that could be put in place by the federal government if the state does not come up with its own free registration system.

Sen. Jeff Van Drew and Assemblymen Nelson Albano and Matthew Milam have fought to keep saltwater fishing in New Jersey free of charge as it has always been. They put through legislation (A-823/S-1122), which was already approved by the

Senate Environmental and Energy Committee and the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee. It still awaits the approval of the governor but Van Drew hopes it will pass by Jan. 1 and the Department of Environmental Protection will quickly configure a registration system.

"No one should have to pay to fish on God's open ocean," he said.

South Jersey Marina Manager Rick Weber also disagrees with a saltwater registration fee because

Please see **Fee**, page A2



Christmas trees in county go to good use

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY COUNTY – Many county residents appreciate having a live Christmas tree and enjoy having the pine scent waft through their homes.

After Christmas, however, the trees that were once decorated with care can be seen lying naked by the curbside.

But there is a way to bring back that evergreen scent and extend the use of your tree.

For the past 22 year, the Cape May County Municipal Utilities Authority (CMC-MUA) has been running a Christmas Tree Recycling Program with the assistance of the 16 county municipali-



Photo courtesy of the CMC-MUA

Christmas trees being ground for mulch at the Cape May County Municipal Utilities Authority.

ties.

According to Lyn Crumbock, the Assistant Recycling

Coordinator, the county MUA has the municipalities pick up the Christmas trees and deliver them to the MUA

transfer station in Burleigh, or to the Landfill Complex in Woodbine. Residents and businesses, including Christmas tree vendors, can also drop off trees at either location until Jan. 31. There is no charge for the drop off.

"This will be our 22nd year of the MUA being in receipt of Christmas trees," Crumbock said. "Each town has a program. They bring the trees to our facilities and we take them and run them through a grinder. It makes a fragrant, reusable mulch," Crumbock said.

"What I did this year was I went around to the tree sellers and stores and gave them brochures, cards to hand out to people to raise their awareness. Most people now know

when they are buying live trees there is a very good purpose to the tree in the end," she said.

Crumbock said the MUA received 34 tons of Christmas trees last year. Since the program began in 1989, the MUA has mulched 1,839 tons of trees, or an estimated 105,072 Christmas trees.

Crumbock said the trees must be free of stands and all decorations. She said flocked Christmas trees are acceptable, but wreaths, garlands, and other similar Christmas decorations are not included in the program.

The Christmas tree mulch is available free to the public beginning Saturday, Feb. 5,

Please see **Trees**, page A2

WASHINGTON INN & the wine bar

Serving Dinner from 5 pm
thru January 1st

Wishing you a Healthy & Happy New Year

801 WASHINGTON STREET • 609-884-5697 • WWW.WASHINGTONINN.COM

