

Cape May Star and Wave

157TH YEAR NO. 32 CAPE MAY, N.J. SERVING AMERICA'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CITY WEDNESDAY, August 10, 2011 50¢



INSIDE



SPORTS

USLA Championship results, **B1**

'Common Sense' charter boat, **B1**

Lou Rodia on fishing, **B3**

CAPE MAY

Community Events, **A4**

TIDES August 2011 Eastern Standard Time

	High		Low	
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
10	6:02	6:29	11:45	
11	6:57	7:18	12:41	12:39
12	7:45	8:03	1:29	1:29
13	8:28	8:44	2:12	2:14
14	9:08	9:22	2:51	2:57
15	9:46	9:59	3:28	3:38
16	10:22	10:35	4:04	4:18
17	10:59	11:12	4:37	4:58

Moon Phases
New Moon, Aug. 1, 30
First Quarter, Aug. 8
Full Moon, Aug. 15
Last Quarter, Aug. 23
Perigee, Aug. 7
Apogee, Aug. 21

Cape May discusses meters at handicapped spots

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – City Council is considering the option of making metered parking free for vehicles with handicapped license plates and tags.

The present ordinance states individuals with handicapped tags only have to put a single quarter into the meter upon arrival to activate it, and are not ticketed if the meter runs out of time. Deputy Mayor Jack Wichterman brought the idea of free handicapped parking to last Tuesday's meeting, because he said this current

'If you're not going to charge the handicapped the same fee, don't charge them at all.'

–Councilman Bill Murray

ordinance couldn't be enforced by local police.

"Normally we don't give a ticket to people with handicapped stickers because it's unenforceable," he said. "We should consider banning the activation of the meter."

There are 1,400 parking meters in Cape May City and

1,100 of them are still the old fashioned models where they only accept coins. The other 300 multi-meters print a receipt for vehicles, which is placed in the windshield letting officers know how much was put in and how long the driver has been in the space. Wichterman said a police

officer would not be able to tell whether a handicapped individual activated the meter or not with the traditional models, so they might as well not be charged at all.

"If they're only going to put a quarter in the meter, what's the big deal?" Wichterman said. "We're not here to milk them for every nickel."

"We want people to come to Cape May," he added. "This is a tourist town and I intend to keep it that way."

He said they should take a look at state statutes and see if the handicapped can be exempt from putting any money in the meters. City Solicitor Tony Monzo said he

would look into the option to see if it's possible.

The city makes over \$1 million in revenue from its meters each year, and until recently was trying to expand parking meters into the east side of town to create even more revenue.

Wichterman said the city doesn't make a great deal of money off handicapped parking anyway. Councilman William Murray agreed.

"If you're not going to charge the handicapped the same fee, don't charge them at all," he said.

Murray, however, was con

Please see **Spots**, page A2

Do the Cape May police need V-8s?

Smaller, more fuel-efficient cars discussed

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – Deputy Mayor Jack Wichterman is questioning the need for police cars with large V-8 engines in a small city with high pedestrian traffic and low speed limits.

Wichterman, who did not

The city police cover West Cape May and Cape May Point. The CMPD picked up coverage of West Cape May after the borough eliminated its police force in 2002.

Wichterman raised the issue of finding more fuel efficient police cars back in February before the new budget had been passed. The discussion was being revisited since council was voting on the purchase of a new Crown Victoria for a price of around \$22,000 - the lowest of two bids.

Council did not end up vot-



Cain Chamberlin/Cape May Star and Wave

The Ford Crown Victoria has long been the industry standard for police department patrol cars. Cape May is looking at more fuel efficient and, perhaps, smaller vehicles such as the Ford Focus for non-patrol officers.

return a phone call prior to publication, questioned the police department's fleet of Ford Crown Victorias at last week's meeting.

According to City Manager Bruce MacLeod, Wichterman said he didn't understand why the department didn't use smaller, more fuel efficient vehicles while patrolling such a small area.

ing on the matter, but MacLeod said the bid for the vehicle is able to be awarded for 60 days. He said the governing body is asking for additional information before authorizing the purchase. The new Crown Victoria was intended to replace a 2008 model the department has.

Please see **V-8s**, page A2



Christopher South and Patrick Hyland/Cape May Star and Wave

Sailboats, babies and sand...

Cape May had a lot going on over the past weekend, including the Cape to Cape Challenge Cup featuring boats from the Corinthian Yacht Club in Cape May competing against the Lewes (Del.) Yacht Club. Racers in the spinnaker class are shown above. See more photos on B6. Below left, a contestant in the 79th Annual Baby Parade, and below right, a contestant in the Sand Sculpting Contest (see photos on page A11-12). Cape May also hosted the USLA Lifeguard Championships (see photos on B1). The 79th Annual Queen Maysea was crowned Aug. 3 (see photos on page A12).



Hot dog vendors 'Kickin' it up a notch' on the street

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – Up and down Cape May's Beach Avenue you will find what most people call hot dog carts, although most carry other items, including sausages, sodas and chips.

"Just about everyone has water ice, now," said Joe Paruta, who has been vending from a cart for about four years.

Paruta and some other vendors, like Mike Cimino of Uncle Mike's Hot Dogs, have branched out over time, adding ice cream, candy, Gatorade, iced tea, and variations on hot dogs. Cimino, for example, sells regular all beef hot dogs, but he also sells his "Hot Dog Parmigiano," which has a marinara sauce and cheese.



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave

Hot dog vendor Mike Cimino hands a personal-size pizza to a customer on Beach Avenue. Some vendors are trying new products to attract business.

Paruta's version is called the "Doggy Parmigiano," which had marinara and a mixture

of Romano and provolone

Please see **Kickin'**, page A2

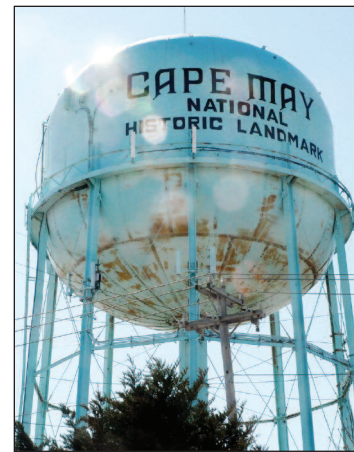
Cape May mulls repairing tower

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – City council will be making a decision at the Aug. 23 meeting as to whether the city's 700,000-gallon water tower on Madison Avenue will be replaced or rehabilitated.

City Engineer Ray Roberts of Remington and Vernick, presented information from the firm's study, which will be used by council when making their decision. Throughout this year, there have been multiple discussions about the 77-year old tower and now council members will be forced to make a decision.

Last month, an internal inspection of the tower was conducted and Roberts said the inside was in much better shape than expected. Even though the tower has consid-



Christopher South
Cape May Star and Wave

City considers whether to rehab or replace existing water tower at Madison and Columbia.

erable rust on the exterior bottom, he said the city could

get another 40 to 50 years out of it if it were rehabilitated. He also said the present tank size meets the firefighting requirements and the domestic needs of Cape May.

Roberts said firefighters look for around 3,500 gallons per minute for a three-hour period in the worst case scenario emergency. The tank storage is critical for maintaining sufficient pressure. He said the city should always have 630,000 gallons of water in storage and with 1 million gallons at the Canning House Lane waterworks site and 700,000 in the tank, the city easily meets that requirement.

He said at the city's peak water use in the summer of 2007, it was using 2.667 million gallons per day. He said even taking into account the

Please see **Tower**, page A10



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