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INSIDE



SPORTS

Caper Tiger football loses nailbiter, **B1**

LCMR girls soccer had record season, **B1**

Lou Rodia's fishing report, **B3**

NOVEMBER 2010 TIDE TABLE

	HIGH		LOW	
	am	pm	am	pm
11/18	5:16	5:31	11:22	11:14
11/19	5:55	6:13	11:59	11:51
11/20	6:33	6:54		12:46
11/21	7:11	7:34	12:29	1:27
11/22	7:49	8:15	1:08	2:09
11/23	8:29	8:57	1:49	2:52
11/24	9:11	9:43	2:33	3:38
11/25	9:57	10:35	3:21	4:26

New Moon	11/6
1st Quarter	11/13
Full Moon	11/21
Last Quarter	11/28
Apogee	11/15
Perigee	11/3,30

INSIDE:



Christmas Parade benefit Nov. 20

WEST CAPE MAY – Another fundraising event for the West Cape May Community Christmas Parade? You betcha! Mark your calendar for Saturday, Nov. 20 when WCM Volunteer Fire Company will sponsor a roast pork dinner served buffet style at the Fire Hall, 732 Broadway in West Cape May. Dinner is from 4:30 until 8 p.m. and includes roast pork, mashed potatoes, a veggie, salad, desert and beverage. Parade Lady Charlotte Daily will be there to greet you at this last scheduled event. Tickets are available at the door for just \$15 per person with all proceeds benefitting the parade.

Expert testimony on Beach Theatre questioned

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – The attorney for Frank Investments offered George Thomas, a professor at the University of Pennsylvania and author of 12 books on architectural history as an expert of what is and is not of historic value in Cape May.

Robert Fineberg, board solicitor for the Cape May Historic Preservation Commission, portrayed Thomas as a hired gun who contradicted his own testimony on the Beach Theatre.

The sides argued their cases before the Cape May Zoning Board of Adjustments, last week, where Frank Investments is appealing the HPC's denial of a partial demolition permit. Frank Investments owns the Beach Theatre and the adjacent retail, but is only seeking to demolish the theater. At a previous meeting in August, representatives of Frank Investment testified that the operation of the Beach Theatre was no longer feasible and they wished to demolish it and build six luxury condos and create parking spaces. The HPC granted a demolition permit in 2007, but the permit expired after a year. Frank Investments were forced to reapply for the demolition permit but this time they were denied. They appealed to the zoning board asking that the construction officer issued them a demolition permit.

Last week, applicant's attorney Stephen Nehmad called architect Stephen Fenwyck of Linwood to testify on the existing Beach Theatre and proposed redevelopment. Zoning board chairman Arnold Pitman advised Nehmad the board was not there to judge a new building, but Nehmad said he wanted Fenwyck to testify if its use was a permitted use under

Please see **Beach**, page A2

Convention Hall demolition begins by month's end

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – Steps toward the demolition of Convention Hall and the adjacent Solarium have already begun with the wrecking ball expected to be put to work before the end of the month.

City council awarded a contract, Nov. 3, for the demolition of Convention Hall and the Solarium to make way for a new 20,000 square foot Convention Hall.

The present Convention Hall was built after the 1962 storm that destroyed the 1917 structure. It was closed in April 2008 when engineers deemed the building structurally unsound.

The Solarium is a 1994 replica of one built around the time of the original Convention Hall. Efforts to save the Solarium have been deemed by the city to be too expensive.

Members of the Convention Hall Project Team met last week and announced the project was on schedule for its projected Memorial Day 2012 opening.

In July the city outlined what some considered an ambitious framework for opening the new structure. A conceptual phase began on Aug. 1 with a deadline of Sept. 15, when the city hoped to develop the final design and complete construction documents. According to City Manager Bruce MacLeod, this phase is scheduled to run until Jan. 15, 2011, with Nov. 15 being the midpoint of the current phase.

The city previously planned to award one demolition/construction contract, but decided to break out the project into three parts: demolition, pilings, and construction. The demolition process began with advertising for bids on Oct. 1, resulting in the award of a contract to Albrecht and Heun on Nov. 3. The cost for the demolition came in under budget, Mayor Ed Mahaney said, because the two lowest bidders have their own recycling facility.

MacLeod said letters were sent to property owners within 500 feet of the demolition site, and permits were expected to be obtained by the end of this week. Mahaney said there would be some additional salvage work done before the demolition began.

"There are some things Public Works

Please see **Demolition**, page A2



David Nahan/Cape May Star and Wave

Vocal stylings at 34th Cape May Jazz Festival

Above, Demetria Joyce Bailey, backed by her horn player Tony De Santis put on two shows on Saturday at Aleathea's at the Inn of Cape May at the fall Jazz Festival. The festival was held Nov. 12 to 14 in various locations around town, such as Our Lady Star of the Sea auditorium, Victorian Gardens at the Marquis de Lafayette, the Boiler Room at Congress Hall and Cabanas. At left is Taeko Fukao performing at Carney's Other Room on Beach Avenue, Friday night. The twice-yearly Jazz Festival attracts big name jazz acts and local favorites who attend year after year. The April and November Jazz Festivals, organized and produced by the Friends of Cape May Jazz. Bank of America is a major sponsor of the Jazz Festival, now in its 17th year.



Local veterans tell us their stories

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

The following are stories of two local veterans told to the Star and Wave on the occasion of Veterans Day 2010.

James Roney

Master Sergeant James Roney of Cape May is a veteran of World War II, who served his country for over 40 years between 1945 and 1987.

In July 1945 he was sent to the Mediterranean Theater in Italy. His duty as part of the 88th "Blue Devils" Infantry Division was to garrison the Morgan line, which was the borderline between Italy and Yugoslavia. It was considered to be a highly risky area where anything could happen at any time.

"We did lose personnel there," he said.

There were times when the men on the other side of the border would get anxious and fire at the American troops, who would be forced to then return fire according to Roney. He said they would also come across the Morgan

line and try to cut the American communication lines.

"We were always looking right at them," he said. "They were just across the valley."

Roney was originally supposed to be a combat engineer after he received training at Camp Claiborne, La., but due to an Army special transfer, he was assigned to infantry.

Roney said his defining moments in the military were at the beginning and the end of his service with the 88th. At the beginning of his tour he was 18 years old and apparently had a habit of getting into trouble, now referring to himself at that age as a "smart a**."

As a private first class he said he got exceptionally inebriated one night and didn't arrive to formation on time the next morning. When he was punished for his actions, he had a few choice words about the Army.

His First Sergeant approached him and said the Captain wished to see him.

Please see **Stories**, page A3



Jim Roney



Patrick Sbarra

Mazurek: Budget info should not have been released

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

VILLAS – At Monday's Lower Township Council meeting, Ward 2 Councilman Wayne Mazurek said the 2011 township budget projections should not have gotten to the press.

"These are my views, I'm not speaking for council," he said. "Information about the possible budget shortfall has leaked out to the press and I

Please see **Info**, page A7

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