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CAPE MAY

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SEPT/OCT 2010 TIDE TABLE

		HIGH		LOW	
		am	pm	am	pm
9/30	12:48	1:16	6:35	7:54	
10/1	1:56	2:24	7:41	9:01	
10/2	3:12	3:36	8:54	10:04	
10/3	4:23	4:42	10:05	11:01	
10/4	5:24	5:42	11:10	11:53	
10/5	6:19	6:37		12:10	
10/6	7:10	7:29	12:42	1:06	
10/7	7:59	8:19	1:29	2:00	
Last Quarter				10/30	
New Moon				10/7	
1st Quarter				10/14	
Full Moon				10/22	
Apogee				10/18	
Perigee				10/6	

Cape May looking at other revenue sources

CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – Earlier this month voters in Cape May rejected two proposed city ordinances intended to raise municipal revenues.

Ordinance 200-2010, which would have extended parking meters on Beach Avenue between Madison and Wilmington Avenue, was defeated 495 to 256. A second ordinance, 201-2010, would have added more parking spaces by creating back-in angled parking. That ordinance was turned down by a larger margin, 547 to 200.

City Manager Bruce MacLeod said the potential revenue stream was about

‘Generally we have not made those kinds of staff reductions in area of public safety, however, as we move forward that is something we will have to evaluate as well.’

–Bruce MacLeod,
Cape May City Manager

\$150,000, a number of opponents of the expanded area for parking meters did not consider credible. MacLeod said \$150,000 is roughly 2

percent of the 2010 tax levy. The state legislature approved a measure limiting increases in the tax levy and municipal budget increases

to 2 percent.

Some municipalities, such as Lower Township, have already projected a budget deficit based on the 2 percent tax cap. With the mandated property tax cap in place, municipalities might be forced to look at other revenue sources or decrease the spending side of the budget.

MacLeod said the additional meter money was not intended to offset any anticipated deficit; i.e. there was no specific number anticipated. However \$150,000 does represent 2 percent of the 2010 budget. MacLeod said the city is now starting to look at what is needed in the 2011 budget.

“We are just starting to

amass the department head requests, which is the spending side of the equation,” he said.

MacLeod said the summer season just ended, so the administration would be reviewing the seasonal revenue levels and looking to see how much potential income there was for 2011. MacLeod said the city doesn't know yet how much it needs to raise to meet the 2011 budget.

“We haven't done a calculation or review that would give us that forecast,” he said.

MacLeod said this is the beginning of the process of determining a 2011 budget, and there have been a few

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‘I Am Responding’ computer system aids volunteer fire company

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

WEST CAPE MAY-A new computer system called I Am Responding was installed at the West Cape May volunteer fire company, and according to Fire Chief Chuck McPherson, it has made responding to an emergency call work much more smoothly.

Originally, when the department was called out, a commanding officer would show up to the firehouse and wait up to five minutes for firefighters to show up. If not enough manpower came in that five minutes, they would radio to dispatch or mutual-aid for support considering it takes five men to run a single truck on-scene, according to Deputy Chief Steve Nelson.

Now, with the new system, from the moment the commanding officer arrives at the firehouse he will know who is responding to the call and how long it will be until they get there.

It works like this. A flat screen monitor located in the garage area displays a response list. With the push of a speed dial button on a firefighter's cell phone, he or she sends a message to the system displaying what time

they responded and how long it will be before they get there. When the firefighter sends the message, they are given options for their ETA, whether it be five minutes, 10 minutes, or unable to respond.

Not only can firefighters see who has responded by looking at the monitor; they can also check the response list on their cell phone.

“It's a great advantage to the fire company and the public,” Commissioner Ramsey Geyer said. “We need to make sure that we've got all the equipment, training and manpower possible.”

McPherson, Geyer and Nelson are all very pleased with the I Am Responding system.

“Technology is our friend, and this has helped so much,” McPherson said.

The department installed the system nearly three weeks ago and received an emergency call the very next day.

“The results were obvious,” Nelson said. “It works really well.”

According to Nelson, the department received around 90 calls last year, which is apparently about average.

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Cain Chamberlin
Cape May Star and Wave

Cape Manor opens

Local officials were joined representatives of state government and private business to cut the ribbon on Cape Manor, a newly constructed group home for adults with special needs. Shown left to right are Victor Luna, chief financial officer of Collaborative Support Programs of New Jersey, West Cape May Mayor Pam Kaithern, Anthony Marchetta, executive director of New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency, and Lopa Kolluri, vice-president of Community Investment Strategies.



Cape Manor opens doors for special needs adults

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

WEST CAPE MAY – A two-year project for a special needs housing project at 339 Fifth Ave. was finally completed, Sept. 22, with a ribbon cutting officially opened Cape Manor Supportive Housing, a group home for adults with disabilities.

This joint project between the local government, Collaborative Support Programs of New Jersey, Inc. (CSPNJ) and Community Investment Strategies, Inc. (CIS) has created a handicapped accessible complex that can

accommodate seven individuals comfortably in separate apartments.

“We are so proud to have been a part of this project,” said Lopa Kolluri, vice president of CIS, a business that specializes in developing affordable housing.

CIS has built over 1,400 units for seniors, low to middle income families and people with special needs. The Cape Manor has now joined that long list.

It is located on 339 Fifth Ave. and according to Kolluri was the vision of Mayor Pamela Kaithern. The outcome of that vision is a facility giving permanent affordable homes to

young adults with mental disabilities such as autism and developmental problems as well.

“It's a modest project, with a big goal,” Kolluri said, “a goal of fulfilling dreams and providing affordable housing to those with special needs capable of living independently.”

When the property was donated by the Borough of West Cape May, the project went underway with the help of Kitchen and Associates, who were the design architects, Community Investment Builders and Naik

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Commissioners meeting raises various topics

By CAIN CHAMBERLIN
Cape May Star and Wave

WEST CAPE MAY – The West Cape May Board of Commissioners met last Wednesday for their regular biweekly meeting and started off by discussing the completion of the energy audit as part of old business.

There has been \$50,000 in funding received and it will be utilized to upgrade or replace the current system. A Solar Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) is currently being discussed as a solution to the energy upgrade. According to the board, this change would create substantial savings over a long-term period.

In other old business, there has been no further updates on the Sunset Boulevard parking lot. Also, the water system study continues after an expert evaluation of the water meters to figure out what will be need-

ed to further testing.

New business dealt with the Historic Preservation Commission's request to expand the historical district. The HPC would like to include all of Broadway instead of just a portion. Also, they would like to include both sides of Grand Avenue and Stevens Street as well as extend out to Stimpson Lane. The board is in the process of reviewing the HPC's request for the extension.

In the consent agenda, the commission is introducing and publishing a new ordinance scheduled for Oct. 27 at 1 p.m. Ordinance 343-05 in the animal control section will be amended in section 5-2 for the possession of dogs. The maximum amount of time the animal can be chained or tethered outside is now 18 hours. This change came as a request from the animal shelter liaison, Charlotte Anderson.

This year being the 223rd anniversary of the Constitution, Mayor Pam Kaithern officially proclaimed the week of Sept. 17 to 23 as Constitution Week. The mayor urged residents to read and know the U.S. Constitution and realize what it means to be an American.

Commissioner Ramsey Geyer mentioned in his reports that there are new fire hydrant attachments in the area that are consistent with surrounding fire departments. This way, there is no need for adapters and the new system makes linking the hose much faster and easier for firefighters.

The local volunteer fire company just installed a web-based emergency responder reply system called I AM RESPONDING (see related story). The system works by letting volun-

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If it's Sunday Morning...it's LUCKY BONES BACKWATER GRILLE Sunday Breakfast & Brunch • 9am - 1:30pm

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