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MARCH TIDE TABLE

	LOW am	HIGH pm	LOW am	HIGH pm
29	6:05	6:36	12:16	
30	6:51	7:17	12:18	12:57
31	7:30	7:54	1:03	1:33
1	8:07	8:28	1:45	2:07
2	8:41	9:01	2:23	2:37
3	9:15	9:34	3:01	3:07
4	9:48	10:06	3:37	3:36

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2007

Cape May City Council advances ordinances

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – On March 20, Cape May City council introduced Ordinance 98-2007 to regulate tents erected on commercial and rented property, which is not related to ongoing discussion on beach tents.

A beach tent ordinance was pulled from the agenda and city council is planning to introduce an ordinance regulating beach tents at the April 3 workshop, scheduled for 1 p.m. at City Hall.

Ordinance 98-2007 established a \$100 for erecting a tent for commercial or non-commercial use on private

property. The permit period is 72 hours, which according to city solicitor Tony Monzo gives the user a day to set up for an event, one day for the event, and a day to take down the tent.

Any contractor erecting a tent must have a license, Monzo said.

Second reading on this ordinance is scheduled for Monday, April 16. The meeting is scheduled a day earlier due to school board elections on Tuesday, April 17.

City council passed Ordinance 92-2007 establishing Chapter 341 in the city code dealing with noise as a nuisance. Monzo said the new ordinance was enacted to comply with Department of

Environmental Protection regulations for noise ordinances. The DEP provided a model ordinance and strongly recommend municipalities pass a similar ordinance, Monzo said.

Violations not subject to a reading of a decibel meter would be transferred to the nuisance ordinance. City manager Lou Corea said the city had not yet purchased a decibel meter because it was waiting for the ordinance to be passed. Once purchased, city employees will have to be trained to operate the meter.

Council passed Ordinance 93-2007, modifying the city code pertaining to non-residential trailers on private property. The ordinance

raised the fee for a permit to temporarily place a non-residential trailer on private property from \$25 to \$100. Trailers would only be permitted during the construction period.

Council also passed Ordinance 83-2007 pertaining to road openings. The ordinance establishes how restorations must be done and establishes standards for an escrow account for withholding funds from contractors who do not restore the road properly.

"This ordinance tightens the city's ability to enforce proper restorations," Corea said.

Ordinance 95-2007 established new sewer rates in the

city of Cape May. The regular sewer rate will increase from \$2.70 per 1,000 gallons of water use to \$3.50; and peak demands rates will increase from \$6.51/1,000 to \$8.25 per 1,000 gallons of water used. The peak period runs from April to October. The rates are effective Jan. 1, 2007.

Finally, Ordinance 96-2007 established two 15-minute parking spaces. The spaces are being established on Trenton Avenue and Gurney Street adjacent to two bed and breakfast operations in lieu of loading zones. The 15-minute spaces require one-third less space than a loading zone and establish a time limit a vehicle may occupy that space.



Second annual Nun Plunge

There they go – racing toward the water for the second annual Nun Plunge – a fundraiser for Our Lady Star of the Sea. Below left, Sister Linda accepts praise from onlookers. Below right, Cezanne Cworkowski and Caitlin Laffey bundle up after their plunge.

Photos by
Christopher South



602 Broad getting attention

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – The city-owned historic structure at the corner of Broad and Elmira is getting attention as the city is considering widening Elmira Street.

Since the city has been talking about widening the one-way block of Elmira between Lafayette and Broad, concern has been expressed over the future of the home known as 602 Broad Street. The city has said the street can be

widened without disturbing the building, but the sidewalk would literally go up to the side of the building.

At the March 20 council meeting, Councilman David Kurkowski said he received correspondence from an individual who suggested moving the house to 518 Elmira.

"We ought to put it back on the agenda and look at ways to preserve it," he said.

Deputy Mayor Niels Favre said demolition of the structure was "not a viable option," and asked 602 Broad be put on the agenda for city

council's workshop on April 3.

City manager Lou Corea said the home could be offered for sale at fair market value, and he knew there was some interest in relocating the structure.

But during public comment, resident Michael Eldridge Hughes said he has had conversations with members of the black community who would like to see the structure be turned into a black history museum. The idea

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Infrastructure needed?

By CHRISTOPHER SOUTH
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY – City resident Jeanne Powick suggested city council adopt a 'planning infrastructure' before going forward with capital improvements including in a citywide revitalization project.

Powick told Cape May City Council everyone is concerned that Cape May is well maintained, but she believes the money needed for the revitalization project would

"exceed the capital budget significantly."

Powick said the city residents have made it clear they want to stay in town, and they are afraid the taxes needed for the revitalization project will force them out of town.

"I believe we need proper infrastructure in place to maximize the benefit for the taxpayers," Powick said.

Powick quoted Cape May developer Curtis Bashaw, who was speaking concerning a project to beautify the Cape May Library building and grounds, saying infrastruc-

ture needed to be put in place before the flowers went in.

"You don't want six months down the road to have dead plants," Powick said.

Powick then said the city is now engaged in talks about spending tens of millions of dollars with no infrastructure or planning. She said the city needs a five-year plan to talk about the amount of revenue – not taxes – available for the project.

"No one told me how much this is going to cost me," she

Please see **Council**, Page A2



Christopher South/Cape May Star and Wave
Matthew Van Thuyne, 19, of Broomall, Pa. and John Braconner, 20, of Springfield, Pa. finished seventh and eight overall in the Ocean Drive Marathon held last Sunday. For more photos, please see Page A5.