City, Lower try to solve abandoned boat issues

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — Lower Township Mayor Erik Simmons, Township Manager Jim Ridgway, and Consolidation Roland Roy have been meeting monthly with Cape May Mayor Chuck Lear and Cape May City Council members to discuss concerns with abandoned boats in the harbor, which is located in both municipalities.

Simmons said the group met Sept. 18 at Coast Guard Training Center Cape May. “We’ve been working to find solutions,” he said. “We think it’s getting closer to solving that problem,” he said.

The problem has existed for number of years. Simmons said they have been hitting a harbormaster, getting morasses and the Coast Guard involved and keeping a fine to anchor.

“Then there’s a lot of options out there but it can be a costly endeavor for either municipality, so we are being very careful how we proceed but that something needs to be done to prevent it,” Simmons said.

A shared-service agreement has also been discussed, he said.

Spicer’s Creek, located behind Lucky Bono restaurant, could also be a problem area, Simmons said. "We have a shared-service agreement with Lower Township solicitor David Stefankiewicz on the issue. "We don’t want to force an issue across the boundary to Lower if we don’t include them, as we really want to work in concert with them,” Lear said.

"I know they don’t think it is a favorable location for us as a Lower Township boat but that something needs to be done to prevent it,” he said. “To more, it is up to them, after we have no issue as accountability and probably consequences for it to happen if the boat goes back in the harbor.”

Stopped was in Cape May, above.

The Nor’Easter was abandoned in Cape May Harbor and now lies on the bottom, posing a hazard to navigation and an eye-sore to an otherwise beautiful setting.

By JOHN COOKER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sunset Beach Flag Ceremony... Aqua Trail Kayak after 5pm... THEN...

Linger After Five on the Beach... Cocktail on the Schooner... Afternoon Paddle Board at Cape May Marina...

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Run for the Fallen shines light on loss

The annual Run for the Fallen began with a ceremony Sunday, Sept. 20 at Sunset Beach. The 1.9-mile run started off Sept. 21 from the Cape May Lighthouse, with stops throughout the county and state. The run honors every New Jersey service member killed in support of the global war on terrorism, as well as all other wars and conflicts.

This will not cost the taxpayers one more cent in tax

Cape May Point’s Mullock insists grants, retired debt will fund all seven projects

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY POINT — The borough has seven proposed projects ranging from improving drainage on the west side of town to having an emergency generator for the boat basin.

During a meeting Sept. 21, Commissioner Robert Simonsen said the projects have been proposed, the level of tension among residents has risen, with many asking questions like “How are we going to pay for these things?”

“I’m happy to say right from the go get go that with the seven projects completed, without any additional grants, we will get more grants through the process — this will not cost the taxpayers one more cent in tax dollars,” Mullock said.

He said the borough would come out of the process over a five-year period with more money in the capital budget than today.

Mullock said if the seven projects are for flood mitigation. Problems cannot be corrected after a flood occurs.

“I think in our heart of hearts we will all like the borough because it is coming. It may not be this year but we want to see it by next year, but in some point in time, we are going to have the money,” Mullock said.

A West deltadegray project was proposed. He said the cost of the borough has cost the taxpayers one more cent in tax dollars, Mullock said. “To moor it here, to park it along the beach, it will not cost the taxpayers one more cent in tax dollars,” Mullock said.

Season’s final surf zone injuries being compiled

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY BEACH — Data on surf zone injuries to beachgoers continue to be collected and organized.

During a meeting of the Beach Safety Committee on Sept. 29, Chairman Dennis DeSatnick said he wanted to get certain data collected and accurate as possible.

“I discussed this with the Fire Department and Beach Patrol so they are doing their recording this year as in most efficient manner,” he said.

The report will be completed by the end of November or the beginning of January, DeSatnick said.

With the assistance of Dr. Andrea McKay, chief medical officer at Cape Regional Medical Center, surf zone injury reports are being compiled from beach towns throughout the county. She will then provide those reports to the New Jersey Department of Health by the end of the year.

DeSatnick said he wanted to increase beach aid educa-

John Cooker/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Runners great family members of Michael Scassa at Lower Cape May Regional High School, at top, where the school choir sang, above.

By JOHN COOKER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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