

Moving
ahead

Adjusting to
the new normal

Things feel so normal in spots on the mainland — and even on some streets in shore towns — that there's hardly any evidence left anything happened here in the past few days. But we all know better. **B1**

Going home
again

About 32,000 people complied with orders to evacuate Atlantic City by 4 p.m. Sunday. On Friday, they began to return as business resumed. **A6**

Gas supply
disrupted

The entire infrastructure of natural gas lines under Long Beach Island, more than 300 miles of pipeline, will have to be repaired or rebuilt. **A6**

Cleaning, repair
business brisk

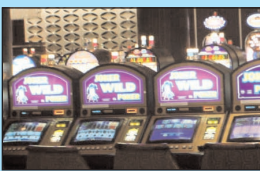
Generators, gas cans and cleaning supplies are flying off the shelves as Sandy cleanup begins. **C6**

Real team effort

High school football players pitch in to help Ocean City businesses clean up. **A7**

Poll position

A variety of changes are being made to adjust voting in the aftermath of the Hurricane Sandy. **C1**



Staff photo by Edward Lea

Casinos open
after five days

Customers start trickling in after Gov. Chris Christie lifts an evacuation order for Atlantic City. **A4**



AP photo by John Minchillo

Where's the
assistance?

Staten Island was devastated beyond recognition by Hurricane Sandy and suffered the highest death toll of all of New York City's boroughs. Yet days after the waters receded, residents feel neglected. **A3**

Photos and video

See videos and photo galleries of storm cleanup and recovery at PressofAtlanticCity.com

A.C. back in business

Residents start to return; casinos, stores reopen

Evacuation order lifted after five-day shutdown

By **EMILY PREVITI**
Staff Writer

Atlantic City reopened Friday morning after a five-day shutdown for Hurricane Sandy.

Cleanup efforts already had been in full swing to ensure the quick turnaround needed to get back to business — and capitalize on the international spotlight cast on the resort by the 900-mile-wide storm.

"Given the catastrophic nature of this event, I think we can all agree Atlantic City was blessed," Mayor Lorenzo Langford said. "But we're not out of the woods yet. ... Everyone's really passionate about what's going on here, and we'll need everyone to sustain (that) effort going forward."

With roads mostly clear of debris and test results clearing the local water supply, the city government's focus will shift to supporting residents along their return to normalcy after flooding ruined many of their homes, cars and businesses, and to providing a safe, clean environment for visitors — critical to the city's tourism industry.

"Our heart goes out to everyone affected (in other, harder-hit areas of the state), but

□ See Open, A7



Staff photo by Ben Foglietto

Edie Victor, left, and Kathy Burns, center, both of Galloway Township, and Linda Roberts, of Stafford Township, joke Friday at the Borgata in Atlantic City. Ten of the city's 12 casinos reopened Friday — story on A4.

Ventnor residents glad to finally be home

■ A damaged sewer system had prevented re-entry to the town until Friday afternoon.

By **VINCENT JACKSON**
Staff Writer

VENTNOR — Residents of this storm-pounded beachfront town were happy to return to their homes Friday afternoon after nearly a week of staying with friends and family.

This city was the last barrier island community in Atlantic County to allow its residents to return after Hurricane Sandy. Besides suffering storm damage and power outages like other island towns, this city's sewer system was flooded with seawater during Sandy's storm surge, and stopped operating at full capacity. Until the system could be restored, city officials said, they had to keep residents away.

But on Friday, at 3:30 p.m., the city finally reopened to residents, accepting them one by one through one of three checkpoints, and only after showing proof of residency or proof of ownership. A line of cars grew quickly as word spread.

Ventnor Mayor Mike Bagnell said the sewer problem had been corrected "100 percent."

A curfew remained in effect from 6

p.m. to 6 a.m., but it did not apply Friday to people who were re-entering and heading to their homes or businesses.

Bagnell said he expected the curfew to be lifted sometime today.

Some of the city's businesses were still boarded up and not all the traffic lights were working when the city was

□ See Ventnor, A10

Crews from across state, country arrive to aid storm recovery

■ A Camden County team moves tons of sand to help people in Longport.

By **LYNDA COHEN**
Staff Writer

Crews from all over the country and even Canada are helping with the recovery efforts as people return to their homes to find flood damage, power problems and mounds of sand left behind by the storm.

"Thousands and thousands of tons of sand," Camden County Freeholder Ian Leonard estimated his county's crews removed from Longport streets Friday. "There's probably millions and millions of tons of sand here, and that's without exaggeration."

With Camden County's state of emergency over, the county reached out to Atlantic County to see where its crews may be needed. On Friday morning, about 18 workers, along with five dump trucks, three loaders and Leonard came to town and started moving the sand.

"People here, they're devastated," he said. "Their basements are wrecked, their homes."

One man returned and couldn't get into his home for his insulin due to the sand. So Camden County's crew dug him out and walked him into the house.

"We're doing what we love to do," said David Geran,

□ See Help, A9



Staff photo by Ben Foglietto

Joelle Schrag, of Mays Landing, left, serves soup at Shore Fellowship Church in Egg Harbor Township to evacuees being housed there. Some of the area's evacuees returned home, others are being housed at the Atlantic City Convention Center — story on A6.

Groups, individuals aid victims

By **DEREK HARPER**
Staff Writer

Charities, churches and private residents are doing what they can to help the region recover after its battering by Hurricane Sandy.

For Jeremy DeFilippis, it's making T-shirts.

DeFilippis, 33, is a co-owner of Jetty Life, a 10-year-old surfing and skateboarding lifestyle company in Little Egg Harbor Township.

Company art director John Clifford designed a

T-shirt, featuring an outline of New Jersey submerged in water up to about Asbury Park and a red hurricane hovering over Morris County. On the back it reads "Unite + Rebuild," with profits dedicated to Hurricane Sandy recovery.

"It just went viral," DeFilippis said of the design.

The company sold 3,000 \$20 T-shirts in a day and a half. Its jettylife.com had more than 1.3 million

□ See Aid, A10

Solid job growth seen in last peek before presidential vote

■ Atlantic and Cape May counties see job growth in excess of 4 percent each.

By **CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The United States added a solid 171,000 jobs in October, and more than a half-million

Americans joined the work force, the latest signs that the uneven economic recovery is gaining strength once again.

In addition, more jobs were added in August and September than believed. But the unemployment rate inched up to 7.9 percent because not all those joining the work force found work, the government said Friday.

The report was the final snapshot of the economy before the presidential election.

"The economy is in a lot better shape than most people believe," said Joel Naroff, president of Naroff Economic Advisors. "That sets us up for stronger growth next year no matter who is elected on Tuesday."

In southern New Jersey, seasonally adjusted data released Friday showed local unemployment rates remained the worst in the state and among the worst for metro areas in the nation.

Atlantic County's jobless rate for September was 13.1 percent, said the Federal

□ See Jobs, A9

Fall back

Daylight saving time ends at 2 a.m. Sunday.

Remember to set your clocks back one hour before going to bed tonight.



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Part Sun

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Low: 33

At Atlantic City International Airport. Forecast, A2



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