



Back in the water

O.C. defends women's title in Longport. **B1**

MISS A SCHOLARSHIPS

Two recent ACHS grads honored by the MAO. **A3**

Relative charged in Ventnor homicides

Suspect fled to N.Y. after allegedly killing mom, grandmother

VINCENT JACKSON
Staff Writer

An Atlantic County woman was arrested Wednesday afternoon in New York and charged with robbing and killing her mother and grandmother in their Ventnor highrise condo, the Atlantic County Prosecu-

tor said in a statement. Heather Barbera, 41, of Ventnor, is charged with two counts of murder, possession of a weapon for an unlawful purpose, a nightstick, and robbery, Prosecutor Damon G. Tyner said. Barbera remained in custody Wednesday at the New York Police Department

Midtown South Precinct, pending extradition to New Jersey, according to the statement. "I lost them on the same day, and she killed my whole life," said Richard Rosen, 50, of Brooklyn, N.Y., who was the one who found his mother and sister dead in their condo.

Elaine Rosen, 87, and her daughter Michelle Gordon, 67, were found dead at 10:25 a.m. Sunday inside a residence at the luxury highrise Vasar Square Condominiums at 4800 Boardwalk, Tyner said in a previous statement. The cause of death for Rosen and Gordon was

determined to be multiple blunt impact injuries and the manner of death is homicide, Tyner said. Richard Rosen said he went to check on his mother and sister in Ventnor when he couldn't reach them. Rosen on Tuesday told The Press of Atlantic City in a telephone interview that a security guard let him in the apartment after there was no answer to his

knock on the door. Rosen described his mother and sister as "simple, quiet people." He said on Wednesday he "knew" it was his niece all along. However, he said he withheld his opinion Tuesday out of concern his niece would flee from police. "I knew 100 percent that she did it," Rosen said.

See **KILLINGS**, A2



ERIN GRUGAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The state Department of Environmental Protection has expanded a recreational-use advisory to the entire Barnegat Bay, prompted by the presence of non-native clinging jellyfish that can submerge itself in sea grass and algae.

Sting in the water

Kauffman suicide note part of evidence

CLAIRE LOWE
Staff Writer

A note discovered in Dr. James Kauffman's jail cell after his apparent suicide will be seen by his co-defendants on trial for an array of charges, including the murder of his wife April Kauffman, and running a drug ring, a judge has ruled.

In a July 9 decision, Atlantic County Superior Court Judge Bernard DeLury wrote "certain aspects of the Kauffman Letter are relevant to the investigation of this matter by both sides."

The six-page letter was apparently written by Kauffman at the Hudson County jail, where he was being held on murder charges in his wife's 2012 death. Kauffman

See **NOTE**, A2

Hugin looks for upset in Senate race

JOHN DEROSIER
Staff Writer

GALLOWAY TOWNSHIP — U.S. Senate candidate Bob Hugin estimates he has been in South Jersey more than two dozen times during his campaign and figures he will be back here at least two dozen more times.

"I'd say that is probably more times than Bob Menendez has been here in many years," Hugin said. "I think he thinks he needs a visa to come down here."

Hugin, a former U.S. Marine who is the Republican running against Menendez in this year's general election,

See **HUGIN**, A2



KAUFFMAN



HUGIN

S.J. greeted by pesky, painful invasive sea creatures

MAXWELL REIL
Staff Writer

Whether it's the bay or the ocean, there are multiple species invading South Jersey waters and they can be a painful problem to the general public.

In Barnegat Bay, a particular, nonnative clinging jellyfish that can submerge itself in sea grass and algae prompted the state Department of Environmental Protection to expand a recreational-use advisory to the entire bay.

Along the coast of the Atlantic Ocean, a hydrozoan called the Portuguese man-of-war has been seen on New Jersey beaches as currents push it up from the Gulf of Mexico and water temperatures continue to rise.

The DEP had already issued advisories for clinging jellyfish in northern Barnegat Bay, the Metedeconk River in Ocean County and the Shrewsbury and Manasquan rivers in Monmouth County. About 40 clinging jellyfish were confirmed Monday in north-central Barnegat Bay in Ocean County.

Larry Hajna, a spokesman for the DEP, said it's difficult to tell where the clinging jellyfish can travel in South Jersey. "Their primary transportation from one location to another is by boat. The polyps attach themselves to boats that move from one body of water to another, so it's really important for boat owners to wash off their



CHRISTINE PERNA BURNS / PROVIDED

A Portuguese man-of-war was found washed up on the beach near Forget-Me-Not Road in Wildwood Crest last Thursday.



DEP / PROVIDED

A dime- to quarter-size clinging jellyfish has recently found its way to rivers in Monmouth and Ocean counties.

OTHER SPECIES TO AVOID IN THE OCEAN

STINGRAYS
You have to watch out for the tails in the surf or along the beach — you want to avoid those tails because they can leave large scars. All shore towns should be aware of these fish.



SHARKS
There are always sharks out in the ocean, but they aren't always around. They can be fairly large and can be dangerous for fishermen out at sea.



STARGAZERS
These large fish can have tentacles on the top of their heads, and if you were to touch these you will feel it. The two tentacles can shock you.



BLUE FISH
These fish can bite and give a nip to the hand. Though they aren't 6-foot fish like sharks, they can weigh up to 15 pounds.



boats," Hajna said. The man-of-war is not a jellyfish; it's part of the Physaliidae family, according to Matthew Landau, professor of marine science at Stockton University in Galloway Township.

See **STING**, A2



COOLER
MAINLAND HIGH: 80
SHORE HIGH: 75
See your South Jersey forecast on **C6**.

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\$1.50
Toms River and north: \$1.75