



COVID risk level remains high throughout county

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House of the week

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168th YEAR NO. 27 CAPE MAY, N.J. Serving America's National Historic Landmark City WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2022 \$1.00



John Cooke/Special to the STAR AND WAVE

Shark spotted in Cape May

A really, really big shark was spotted July 8 in Cape May, but it posed no danger to bathers. The blimp was promoting the Discovery Channel's Shark Week scheduled for July 24-31. Traveling about 250 miles per day, the East Coast-based blimp measures 128-feet long by 44 feet high.

What to do with empty library building?

Cape May seeking suggestions for future uses at Ocean, Hughes streets

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave



Jack Fichter/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

The current site of the Cape May branch of the county library will be vacant once renovations are complete at the former Franklin Street School.

Baldwin suggested surveying residents for their ideas.

"I think some of us may have our own ideas but there might be some things

we are not thinking of," she said.

The task force will be led by Baldwin. Those interested in serving can call City Hall.

Past suggestions included creating a senior center, police station, visitor's center, community center or selling the building.

The city has applied to the state Green Acres Program for permission to build a police station on .14 acres of proposed parkland along St. John Street near the intersection of Lafayette Street. As compensation for the proposed disposal, the city proposes to dedicate as parkland about 4.86 acres of city-owned land at the Sewell Tract.

If the Department of Environmental Protection does not approve the land swap, the city would need to find another location for a police station.

Police Chief Dekon Fashaw said in the unfortunate scenario that the

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City considering light at St. Johns, Lafayette streets

County will study proposal with an eye toward greater pedestrian traffic in future

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — The city is investigating the installation of a traffic light at the intersection of St. Johns and Lafayette streets, the future site of a park and possibly a police station.

At the same time, City Council is concerned it would back up traffic on Lafayette Street.

A parking area for Lafayette Street Park is planned for the corner of the property near the intersection.

Council passed a resolution July 5 requesting the county study and evaluate the installation of a traffic light at that location. Lafayette Street is a county road.

Deputy Mayor Stacy Sheehan said a traffic light at St. Johns and Lafayette streets would back up traffic into town, toward Franklin Street and the Washington Street Mall. She said if a

traffic light were installed at the intersection, it should be placed in blinker mode during the winter.

"Putting a light there, we are also going to be backing up traffic on Lafayette Street before St. Johns," she said.

Sheehan added that while the city want to make it easier for vehicles entering Lafayette Street from St. Johns Street, the traffic light could back up traffic in both directions.

Councilman Mike Yeager said the city's Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee expressed a great concern with the safety of that intersection after Lafayette Street Park is completed.

"It's very difficult to come to a good conclusion on that intersection," he said. "It's going to be a problem no

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Scholarship foundation to mark Moore's 150th

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

WEST CAPE MAY — William J. Moore educated three generations of the borough's Black children and taught countless others tennis, becoming the first African-American tennis pro in America.

Moore had a unique method of teaching tennis that later was published in a manual still recognized as a major contribution to the sport. The tennis courts at the Cape May

Tennis Club are named in his honor.

"He was not only an educator but an athlete," former West Cape May commissioner John Francis II said.

On July 31, the day he would have celebrated his 150th birthday, the William J. Moore Scholarship Foundation will celebrate with a fundraising event at West Cape May Elementary School.

Moore was born in 1872 to parents who had been

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MOORE

Walls going up at firehouse

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — Walls are under construction at the city's new firehouse.

During a City Council meeting July 5, City Manager Mike Voll said all brick work should be completed by mid-July. The project was estimated to take 18 months, with an opening anticipated for summer 2023. Last year, council awarded a \$5.1 million contract to Dual Construction, of Mount Laurel, to build the fire station.

In his bi-weekly report, Voll said the city ordered dune fencing that has been delayed several months. The fencing retains sand on the

beach. The city sold several police cars and other old equipment on Gov.deals, an auction site used by municipalities. He said a total of five vehicles were sold.

Voll thanked the Garden Club for its work in beautifying the Colonial House and the post office and assisting Public Works in selection of plants and flowers for the beds at Convention Hall.

A four-way stop is now in operation at the intersection of Elmira and Broad streets, he said.

The city is making signs to warn beachgoers to stay off rock jetties.

"We've had issues with lifeguards constantly pulling

children off those rocks and we don't want people to get hurt," he said.

Voll said Public Works was planning to renovate Harborview Park in the fall. He said the park would be cleaned up and a installation of a gazebo is under consideration.

The city received a \$400,000 community development block grant for Kiwanis Park from the state Department of Community Affairs. Cape May also received a \$19,415 Clean Communities grant.

The state Department of Environmental Protection has awarded the city \$44,700 to update design standards for Cape May's Historic Preservation Commission.



Jack Fichter/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

Cinderblock walls are going up at the Cape May fire station under construction. The brick work is expected to be complete by the middle of the month and completion is anticipated before next summer.

NAILED IT. Rusty Nail

The Rusty Nail is back! Our famed surfer bar and restaurant is back open for the 2022 season. Stop by for breakfast, lunch and dinner—as well as delicious cocktails and the coldest draft beer in Cape May (as verified by Exit Zero Magazine).

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