



## Point considers management plan for Lake Lily

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## House of the week

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166th YEAR NO. 38 CAPE MAY, N.J. Serving America's National Historic Landmark City WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2020 \$1.00

# Every active voter to receive mail-in ballot

## Voting machines will not be used but people may take ballot to polling place

By JACK FICHTER  
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE — Voting machines will not be found at polling places Nov. 3, but every active voter in the county will receive a vote-by-mail ballot as ordered by Gov. Phil Murphy.

Voters may mail their ballot, place it in a box at a polling location on Election Day or in a drop box at a number of locations, but will not have the option of using

a voting machine.

County Clerk Rita Fulginiti will send every active voter a vote-by-mail ballot to the mailing address on file with the County Clerk's Office. Voters are encouraged to fill out their ballot and return it to the county Board of Elections as soon as possible. Ballots will be in the mail by Oct. 5.

Four options are available for delivering a ballot to the Board of Elections.

— A voter or designated bear-

er may return the ballot into any secure official vote-by-mail drop box location throughout the county.

— A voter or designated bearer may place the ballot in any post office receptacle. The return envelope is postage-paid.

— A voter or designated bearer may personally deliver the ballot to the county Board of Elections. All ballots delivered to the Board of Elections must be signed in with valid identification such as a driver's license,

federal, state or local ID.

— A voter may personally deliver the ballot to their designated polling place on Election Day. No bearer may deliver a voter's ballot to the polling place. Polling places are designated by election district. Voters will see their election district on the ballot return envelope. Before Election Day, a post card will be mailed to the voter listing his/her polling location.

State law allows a bearer to mail or deliver a ballot for a

voter. That bearer must first sign and print his/her name and address in the box at the bottom left of the return envelope in the voter's presence before taking it. The bearer delivering the ballot may not be a candidate nor may a bearer deliver more than three ballots. At the polling place, poll workers will be able to receive a ballot only from the voter.

Polling places will be open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Nov. 3,

See Mail-in ballots, Page A2



Robert Newkirk/Special to the STAR AND WAVE

## Honoring victims of terror attacks

The Kiwanis Club of Cape May hosted a 9/11 ceremony Friday, Sept. 11, that included a U.S. Coast Guard color guard, above, first responders, Boy Scouts and local officials.

# Cape May again trying to repair City Hall leaks

By JACK FICHTER  
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — The city is beginning the process to make repairs to City Hall, which has been plagued by water leaks for years.

City Manager Jerry Inderwies said he has been in discussions with Public Works Department Superintendent Joe Picard about the repairs. Inderwies said they are first trying to determine the appropriate method and how the city wants to follow up on requests for proposals. He said the city would consult with an engineer or architect to find the best avenue to solve a very specific problem with the windows.

He said due to a low bid in an earlier repair project, flashing was not installed.

In 2012, the city engineer said City Hall needed a new roof at a cost of \$130,000. A contract was awarded that included repointing of a chimney and repairs to skylights. The engineering firm of Remington Vernick stated City Hall needed \$681,000 in repairs including replacement of all windows and the roof.

City Hall was constructed as the former Cape May High School in 1917 and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The windows are large and double hung.

Remington Vernick found City Hall's brick façade had areas of missing mortar and minor cracking in existing mortar. There were areas of spalling in the concrete cornice and façade and cracked window sills.

Frames and sills were rotted in most of the windows. At that time, Remington Vernick recommended spending \$266,000 to replace 40 large windows.

In 2013, the city finished a year long project at City Hall which replaced all the windows and repaired brick and mortar pointing to all the building to quell water intrusion.

In 2015, City Hall continued to be plagued with water leaks despite replacement of many windows.

Tom Thornton, the city's contracted engineer, provided City Council with a draft report in August 2015

See Water leaks, Page A3

# Diamond Beach group forms to address slow rescue response times

By JACK FICHTER  
Cape May Star and Wave

VILLAS — Diamond Beach residents are asking for an emergency medical services agreement with Wildwood Crest due to slow response times from Lower Township Rescue Squad, which must travel from the mainland.

During public comment at a Lower Township Council meeting Sept. 9, resident James Sanford said the Diamond Beach Citizens Action Group formed after issues were raised about the response times during a meeting Aug. 3. He said the group has about 100 members.

Sanford said an 80-year-old resident died while waiting for Lower Township Rescue to respond to his crisis.

"The circumstances were a perfect storm," Sanford said.

A call for medical assistance for a person feeling faint was placed at 9 a.m. Aug. 7 from La Quinta Towers in Diamond Beach. He said it was fortunate that a Lower Township police officer was in the area and responded within 3 minutes.

Sanford said the officer reported at 9:10 a.m. that the individual was unresponsive but breathing. He

Response time, Page A4

# Health officials: Flu shots vital this year

By DAVID NAHAN  
Cape May Star and Wave

State officials are warning of a possible "twindemic" this fall and winter and recommending all residents over 6 months of age get a flu shot.

At Gov. Phil Murphy's COVID-19 press conference Monday, Sept. 14, state Health Commissioner Judy Persichilli said the combination of a severe flu season and a resurgence of the coronavirus could strain New Jersey's health resources.

"As we enter the fall season, we are also moving into the flu season. We are preparing for the possibility of a 'twindemic,'" she said, playing off the COVID-19 pandemic.

She said it is important that everyone 6 months and older get vaccinated against the flu and recommended doing it this month or in October. The target for flu vaccinations is 70 percent, but she said less than half the people nationwide and in the state get the flu vaccine, leaving many people vulnerable.

The vaccine, she emphasized, helps

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We are preparing for the possibility of a "twindemic." That is why it is best to get vaccinated before the virus spreads in your community.'

-Health Commissioner  
Judy Persichilli

protect not only the person who receives it, but those who may be more vulnerable — older or very young and those with other health conditions.

"It helps protect those around you," she said.

The vaccine will not protect against COVID-19, but it would help protect against flu illnesses and hospitalization.

She said it takes about two weeks after the vaccine for the antibodies to be produced.

"That is why it is best to get vac-

inated before the virus spreads in your community," she added.

Persichilli noted the CDC recommends getting the vaccine before the end of October but that it is still worthwhile as late as January.

During questions later in the press conference, it was noted that in the southern hemisphere where COVID-19 had hit, the flu season was not that bad because the population had taken so many precautions to prevent the spread of the coronavirus that also helped prevent the spread of COVID-19.

"We can only hope that is the same experience that we have," Persichilli said of New Jersey. "That is why we're starting to warn people now. We don't really want to see a really bad flu season. It would stress our system terribly."

She noted that flu symptoms and COVID-19 symptoms are similar and that emergency rooms and urgent care facilities get flooded with people with flu symptoms in December and

See Flu shots, Page A5



# Free Prostate Cancer Screening

INDIVIDUAL SCREENINGS IN A COVID-SAFE ENVIRONMENT

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1PM - 3PM

Prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men and treatable when discovered in its early stages. Shore is offering free screenings in partnership with urologist Dr. Michael Schutz.

If you are 45 or older, call today to see if you need a free screening.

Call 609-653-3484 for your appointment.



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