



HOUSE OF THE WEEK

Page B1



ELTC STARS TO PERFORM AT MASKED GALA

Page A3



More historic design standards proposed

Preservationists want windows, solar panels, satellite dishes, turbines addressed

INSIDE

Cape May unsure where certificate designating city as National Historic Landmark located.
Page A2

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — Additional items may be added to the city's Historic Preservation Design Standards to govern solar panels, wind turbines, satellite dishes and replacement windows.

At an Oct. 4 City Council meeting, Mayor Edward Mahaney said the design standards first went into effect in 2003. He said Cape May's historic design standards became a prototype for other towns and are referred to by the state Historic

Preservation Office.

The mayor said technology, materials and tastes have changed and some issues have popped up that need to be addressed.

"I really believe that the design standards are the driving force behind maintaining our National Historic Landmark status," said Warren Coupland, chairman of the city's Historic Preservation Commission (HPC). "I believe it's also the critical document for maintaining the historic character of the city."

He said the Historic Preserva-

tion Design Standards have not been updated since 2002. While the design standards address windows, they need to be "tightened up" due to misunderstandings about wood replacement windows, Coupland said. He said the proposed addendums are in sync with guidelines from the Interior Department and the National Park Service.

Coupland said solar panels located on roofs are very visible. Roofs are generally a significant feature of historic buildings, and solar panels diminish the character of the building and have a detrimental

effect on the streetscape, he said. "Cape May is in a unique situation being a National Historic Landmark in its entirety," he said.

If solar panels can be hidden from a public thoroughfare on a flat or parapet roof, they may be acceptable, Coupland said. Three buildings in the city have solar panel installations, one of which is not visible to the public and two that are barely visible, he said.

Another installation is located at the very back of a property

See Design standards, Page A2

Andy Boyt Memorial Paddle Out

6th annual event helps survivors of firefighters

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — At noon on Columbus Day, more than 50 people gathered on Steger's Beach for the 6th annual Memorial Paddle Out and Pasta Fundraiser in honor of Lt. Andy Boyt.

A former Cape May firefighter, Boyt passed away suddenly at the age of 45 in 2011. He joined the city's fire department in 1991, advancing through the ranks to lieutenant.

Friends and a number of Cape May firefighters paddled out on surfboards into the chilly ocean to form a circle, say a prayer, splash the water and throw flowers in the air. Following the ocean ceremony, the public was invited to a pasta lunch at VFW Post 386 benefiting the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation.

Boyt's widow, Michelle, said the event remembered, honored and celebrated "someone who was so precious to the community." She said her husband was an avid surfer and the surf-



Jack Fichter/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

Surfers paddle out in a ceremony Oct. 10 honoring late firefighter Andy Boyt as a fundraiser for the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. Boyt was a Cape May firefighter who died in 2011 at the age of 45.

ing community organized the event not long after his passing.

"Since we've been doing this, we've raised over \$20,000," Michelle Boyt said. "Last year we raised \$11,000."

Many of the participants rode a wave into the beach in his honor after the ceremony off shore.

During a brief ceremony

on the sand before the surfers paddled into the surf, John Vandevaars offered a prayer and asked the crowd to remember a time they spent with Andy Boyt.

Cape May Fire Chief Alex Coulter said a ceremony was held Oct. 9 in Emmitsburg, Md., at the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation to honor the 112 line-of-duty deaths

from the fire service in the past two years. Four of the firefighters were from New Jersey, he said.

Former Cape May fire chief Jerry Inderwies Jr. said he worked with Boyt for almost 20 years in the fire department.

"He would help you without question," Inderwies said. "He's missed to this day."

Roseann Ave. drainage work awaits permits

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

VILLAS — Work to relieve flooding in the area of Roseann Avenue will be delayed until spring while the township awaits Coastal Area Facilities Review Act permits for the project.

A project is pending to provide for drainage and storm water improvements and road reconstruction of Roseann Avenue and Bayshore Estates, an area plagued with flooding problems.

Township Manager Jim Ridgway said a meeting was held Oct. 3 with engineers from Mott MacDonald,

Lower Township Municipal Utilities Authority Director Mike Chapman and Engineer Marc DeBlasio and Lower Township Public Works Superintendent Gary Douglass.

Ridgway said he signed a dewatering permit with the state that will allow the township to pump water out of Roseann Avenue before new storm water pipes are installed in the street.

"In the event there's a large amount of water under the ground, it will allow us to take the majority of it out," he said. "It will also help the contractor in deciding how to provide the

See Drainage, Page A4

Child porn sting nabs North Cape May man

CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE — Dennis Krueger, 45, of North Cape May, was arrested Sept. 30 for third-degree possession of child pornography, according to county Prosecutor Robert L. Taylor and Lower Township Police Department Chief William Mastroiana.

The investigation stemmed from a Peer2Peer monitoring operation by members of the State Police and the county Prosecutor's Office's Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC) for subjects that download and/or share illegal child pornography.

The operation revealed that an unknown subject downloaded several videos/images of suspected child pornography via a Peer2Peer network. The investigation resulted in a search warrant execution Sept. 30 at a residence in North Cape May by members of the county Prosecutor's Office, Lower Township Police De-

partment, State Police ICAC Unit, Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), and State Parole Board. During on-site forensic previews of the computers, multiple files of suspected child pornography were located. Several computers and cell phones in Krueger's residence were seized as evidence. Krueger was arrested and placed in the Cape May County jail in lieu of \$25,000 bail, pending court.

During the warrant execution, another resident at the same location, Ryan Krueger, 22, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, a disorderly person's offense, and released on a summons pending court.

Taylor stated that individuals charged with a third-degree crime are subject to a term of imprisonment of three to five years in state prison and individuals charged with a disorderly person's offense can serve up to six months in jail.

Twin sisters sworn in as city police officers

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — City Council welcomed two new full-time police officers to the Cape May Police Department on Oct. 4, twin sisters Kara and Kourtney Brussell.

The sisters have worked for the department since 2013, when they graduated from the Class II Academy in Cape May County. They will attend the Basic Police Officer Academy in late January.

The Brussell sisters each completed the Cape May Police Department Field Training Program in September 2015 and since then have been working as squad officers on various shifts to substitute for full-time officers. Once they graduate from the Basic Police Officer Academy, Cape May's police department will have three shifts with a female officer on duty, allowing the department to handle interactions

See Twin sisters, Page A4



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Twin sisters Kara and Kourtney Brussell have been working as squad officers on various shifts and will attend the Basic Police Officer Academy in late January.

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