



House of the week
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Exhausting work under way at Physick Estate
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Jack Fichter/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

The dune project would extend from Pinewood Avenue in Cape May Beach to West Miami Avenue in Villas, following a path from just north of the area of Cox Hall Creek, above, north to Fishing Creek.

Protection money

Grant would fund dune in township, help decrease flood insurance rates

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

VILLAS — A proposed project that would provide a sand dune along Lower Township's beachfront could provide not only protection from storms but decrease flood insurance premiums for hundreds of homes.

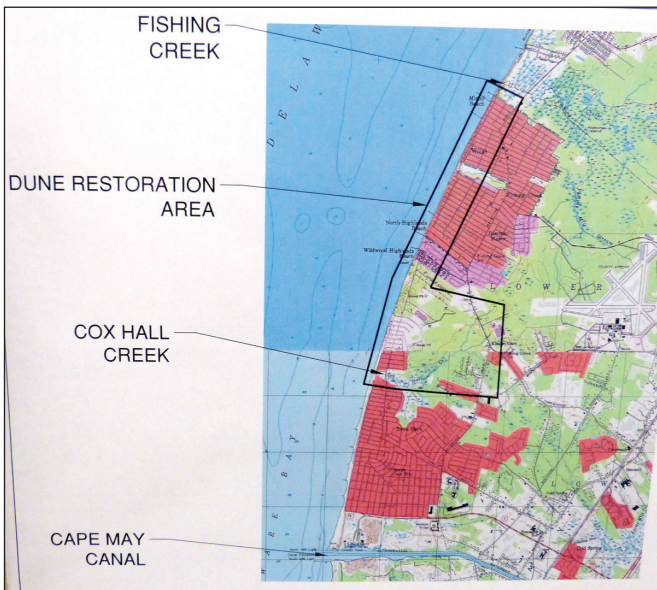
The dune would be constructed from Pinewood Avenue in Cape May Beach to West Miami Avenue in Villas, following a path from just north of Cox Hall Creek to Fishing Creek, the marsh between Villas and Del Haven.

An informational meeting was held Oct. 25 at Township Hall attended by only five residents.

The township prepared a grant application for the project in September 2014 with contracts signed in 2015. Engineer Joseph H. Maffei, vice president of Engineering Design Associates, said the official name of the project is "The National Fish and Wildlife Federation Building Ecological Solutions to Coastal Community Hazards."

The project is a partnership among the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), National Fish and Wildlife Federation, Sustainable New Jersey, New Jersey Sea Grant, Stevens Institute of Technology, Partnership for Delaware Estuary and Barnegat Bay Partnership. Maffei said the goal is to develop projects to elevate flooding and offer storm protection.

"We were one of nine



'There are people currently on Roseanne Avenue, this side of Cox Hall Creek, that are paying high premiums for flood insurance. ... These are people that aren't even on the bay.'

—Jim Ridgway, township manager

municipalities that was actually able to get the grant," he said.

Maffei said the project would restore the beach and wetlands naturally without creating seawalls and bulkheads.

The original study area stretched from the Cape May Canal to Fishing

'Hopefully, if it gets built and approved, a lot of those homes would now be protected from flooding and also protect them from insurance premiums.'

—Joseph H. Maffei, Engineering Design Associates

Creek and inland about 2 miles from Cox Hall Creek and inland from Fishing Creek, according to Maffei. Following aerial surveys, it was determined the areas in need of a dune were from Cox Hall Creek to Fishing Creek, he said.

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Officials cut the ribbon at LCMR's Field House

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

ERMA — School and Lower Township officials cut a ribbon Oct. 28 opening Lower Cape May Regional High School's \$2.8 million athletic practice facility.

Known as a field house, the 11,322-square-foot facility was constructed on the former site of the school's tennis courts. Students now use courts located in neighboring Freeman Douglass Park.

The field house was part of a \$6.3 million bond project that included new roofs on the high school and middle school, renovation of team rooms in the old high school gym, replacement of all windows in the Richard M. Teitelman School, improved drainage to playing fields, renovation of the high school parking



Jack Fichter/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

Lower Cape May Regional High School and Lower Township officials cut the ribbon on the new athletic facility known as the Field House on Oct. 28.

lot, electrical and security upgrades, new fencing on playing fields and constructing a walking path between the high school and middle school.

Superintendent Christopher Kobik thanked members who served on a committee for the project. He

said the committee came up with the idea the school district "on the outside needed to demonstrate and show publically the quality of the programing that happens on the inside."

"All of your shared ef-

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Paddle Out raises record amount for Fallen Firefighters Foundation

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — The 7th annual Memorial Paddle Out and Pasta Fundraiser, in honor of late Cape May Firefighter Lt. Andy Boyt, raised \$15,000 for the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation on Oct. 10.

Susan Lotozo, owner of Flying Fish Studios, donated \$3,500 from the sale of T-shirts from the event. Checks were presented to the foundation Oct. 26 at the city's firehouse.

The Paddle Out is a me-

Paddle Out, Page A2



Jack Fichter/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

The 7th annual Memorial Paddle Out and Pasta Fundraiser in honor of the late Lt. Andy Boyt raised \$15,000 for the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation.

Engineer updates West Cape May on roundabout, sidewalk projects

By RACHEL SHUBIN
Special to the Star and Wave

WEST CAPE MAY — Many upcoming road improvements are scheduled for the borough starting in 2019. Notably, federally funded projects will improve Myrtle Avenue and Broadway through Seashore Road.

Cape May County engineer Dale Foster gave the Board of Commissioners an update regarding the various projects in the works. Bids for the Seashore Road improvements will be opened during Nov. 11. Construction commencement is dependent on weather, and will start after Jan. 1, 2019, he said.

"There are lots of side-

walks that have to be brought up to par for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)," Foster said. "We will also be putting brick pavers in front of the Municipal Building parking lot."

Foster thanked the borough for its help in the design process and getting construction easements. Of the 37 easements applied for, 31 were granted. The purpose for the easements is to perform work where driveways are located.

"The ADA has maximum crosswalks of 2 percent, most driveways when they cross the sidewalk have a straight slope into the driveway which is greater than 2 percent," Foster said. "In order to get the

crosswalk, we have to drop down and reconstruct the apron of the driveway."

Once construction begins, a job meeting will be held every two weeks to discuss issues or complaints that arise. An overseer of the contract site will be on site every hour that the contractors are working, according to Foster.

Additional information about the roundabout at Park Avenue, West Perry Street and Myrtle Avenue was discussed. To create a roundabout, the borough would have to take four right of way parcels, which would take parking space from Cape May Lumber, CVS, Cape May Dental and

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