



HOUSE OF THE WEEK

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MV NEW JERSEY IN DRY DOCK FOR REPAIRS

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LTMUA: Quality the top priority

By BETTY WUND
Cape May Star and Wave

VILLAS — The quality of the water the Lower Township Municipal Utilities Authority sends into its ratepayers' homes and businesses is of utmost importance, commissioners say.

The problems that some municipalities have, now being highlighted in news reports, make people question their water source. Reassurance of the quality of the water and delivery was a main concern at the April 6 commission meeting. It was noted that hydrant flushing would take place the week of April 18.

"With all the heightened public awareness from Flint, Mich., which happens to us other than we all have water, we started to get some increased inquiries about water quality. We made some changes in the front office where if there is a water quality complaint it gets assigned a job work order and a special code so we can run reports on the number of water quality complaints," LTMUA Director Mike Chapman said. "Everything gets documented. I get a report and Mark (Johnson) gets a report so we can go out and do an investigation. That documents that we are satisfying our requirements by the (Department of Environmental Protection) for reporting water complaints."

He said the water source is most important and the delivery system or infrastructure is just as important. Chapman pointed out that Flint's water source is lakes and runoff. Lower Township's water comes from deep wells. The water from the wells has come from deep below the surface. Above them are two layers of clay, which serve to block runoff water that makes it into the ground, Chapman said. He said runoff does not seep into the water source.

MUA Board Chairman Brian O'Connor said the water is probably 5,000 to 10,000 years old. The wells for surrounding towns are in Lower Township or Middle Township because of the pure water source and excellent water quality.

Commissioner Steve Sheftz presented information about how storm water runoff returns to the deeper layers of the ground. He stated that in most towns dependent on runoff, water quality is determined by

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Jack Fichter/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

Pippi defiantly delightful

Cape May Stage is producing its children's spring production of 'Pippi Longstocking, the Family Musical.' It is directed by Debbie Lewis featuring actors from third to sixth grades. Performances are 1 p.m. Saturday, April 16, and 6 p.m. Sunday, April 17, at the Robert Shackleton Playhouse. Below, Aureja Jackunaite as Pippi, Connor Deignan, Brendan Bradley, Lilah Carlisle, Julia Deignan, Riley Deignan, Morgan Flickinger, Madison Groetsch, Grace Hurley, Camryn Lybarger, Olivia Lewis, Ali Martino and Elliana Mormello.



Wi-Fi? Why not? Meier wants service on beach

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — Councilman Shaine Meier is suggesting making Wi-Fi available to beachgoers in the vicinity of Convention Hall.

Meier approached his fellow council members at an April 5 meeting about the issue, saying beachgoers often lose service on the beach.

"Many people like to look at Facebook, Twitter, Internet and mail and listen to Internet radio," Meier said.

Even if beachgoers have cell phone service, they would rather use Wi-Fi so they will not use up their cell phone data service, an expensive proposal for exceedances, he said.

Meier said if the city provided Wi-Fi, users would be forced to a splash page

displaying the city's logo and information about events.

"They'd see the events there, they see offers to buy tickets, so it gives more viewership to our website," he said.

The splash page could help sell tickets in a digital format to Convention Hall events, with the ticket stored in the user's cell phone, Meier said.

He said the beach adjacent to Convention Hall would be the perfect location for city-sponsored Wi-Fi. A package of information was offered to council members but not the public or press.

Meier called for discussion of the topic at a future meeting. Mayor Edward Mahaney asked a meeting be scheduled with City Manager Bruce MacLeod, city network administrator Daniel Shustack and Meier.

Atlantic City Electric willing to move wires for bike path

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

VILLAS — Lower Township Council approved a contract with Atlantic City Electric to relocate anchors for utility poles blocking a connection between the Lower Township and Middle Township bicycle paths.

According to a resolution approved by council April 4, the cost of relocating the anchors is estimated at \$15,000 to \$20,000. The projected costs are for electrical work only and do not include any relocation of equipment used by Comcast or Verizon.

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Jack Fichter/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

Atlantic City Electric will move the guy wires attached to utilities poles along Seashore Road to allow for a bike path.

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