Cold Spring church creates its own little town of Bethlehem

By BETTY WUND

COLD SPRING — Four years ago, the congregation at First Assembly of God of Cape May decided they would create their own version of Bethlehem for the census and the baby Jesus in the manger.

Mrs. Christy said. “Each year our gift shop in the village is a reflection of the congregation’s expression of the real meaning of Christmas. It is a unique opportunity, the participants’ hard work and cooperation reflects the great interest during the years.

The vision was to offer an interactive walk through the village of Bethlehem leading to a Nativity scene, according to Geri Christy, one of the organizers of the event.

The presentation wouldn’t be just a world with Mary and Joseph and the baby Jesus in the manger, with a few animals and some shepherds. It would be the village of Bethlehem, with people walking in the way they would have done 2,000 years ago.

The actors would be dressed in costumes of the Ancient Israelite and given coins to pay their taxes to the Roman government, and Roman soldiers would collect the coins, she said.

“I think this is important to understand what we are to be celebrating on Christmas,” Christy said.

“Each year our gift shop in the village is a reflection of the congregation’s expression of the real meaning of Christmas. It is a unique opportunity, the participants’ hard work and cooperation reflects the great interest during the years.”

The money comes from the state Department of Community Affairs (DCA) to help local property owners rehabilitate homes, according to Mayor Pamela Kaithern.

Seebach, 70 percent affordable, is one of the criteria that the DCA’s award and very pleased that our application was so favorably received,” Kaithern said. “This means West Cape May gets funds to fix homes

By JACK FICHTER

WEST CAPE MAY — The borough was awarded a $125,000 revision of the DCA’s funding formula for Lower Cape May Regional School District.

The plan was to keep the small space as it was until the time of Jesus’ birth, the village in a reflection of the congregation’s expression of the real meaning of Christmas. It is a unique opportunity, the participants’ hard work and cooperation reflects the great interest during the years.

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