Forum -

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known as HIPAA, has been a barrier to parents getting information from prescription drug providers about what or how much of a particular drug their child is getting. She said some parents are hoping to curtail the availability of prescription drugs. Devaney said from previously expressed concerns, the county had separated issues in four areas: Research/ Advocacy, Prevention/ Advocacy, Education, Treatment, and Recovery Support.

The Research/Advocacy

committee would be explor-

ing issues such as medical necessity criteria, expunging drug charges, involuntary residential commitment, HIPAA, curtailing drug availability and the availability of Vivatrol, used to treat opiate addiction. Education, she said, includ-

ed what she called "putting a face on addiction." She said the term "addict" carries a stigma that can be a barrier to recovery. Individuals who signed up for the Prevention/ Education committee would also be discussing community education, alternate activities, parent education, youth education, and "Targeted

Education," which would involve working with the medical community and local law enforcement.

Treatment topics included length of stay in residential programs, treatment in jails, Ambulatory Detox (non residential), family involvement, more mental health treatment, short and long term detox facilities, halfway houses and sober living and day treatment; more life/social/ job skills education and engagement programs for those waiting for detox.

The Recovery/Support committee would investigate reentry programs starting in

jail and extending into the community, recovery cen-ters with activities, fellowship meetings, employment and nutrition education, mentors, resources for sober living, improved availability of Vivatrol, relapse prevention programs, job training, 12-month case management and alternative activities for young people in recovery. Devaney said when people

go to a halfway house they generally don't have jobs or social skills. "They don't have a job and they are not trained for a

job," she said. Devaney said sober living facilities, which often operate under the Florida Model, must be licensed in New Jersey.

Devaney said attendees at the third forum would be asked to sign up for the committees discussed at the March 6 meeting. She said the county would set up a schedule of meetings and hope to have the committees report back in June.

"That's kind of the game plan," she said.

Several faith-based organizations, including the Lighthouse Church in Burleigh, talked briefly about programs they were offering.

Robin Heatherington of the Lighthouse Church said, "We want to be a warehouse for all resources to come together to get people the help they need."

Assemblyman Sam Fiocchi said addiction is a family problem, and it doesn't currently have the funding it needs. He said integrating substance abuse treatment with employment leads to more effective treatment of addiction.

The author, Christopher South, is currently a volunteer member of the Prevention/ Education committee.

PAL -

Continued from page A1

on "Jimmy Kimmel Live" and "The Late Show" with David Letterman. Clips of each comedian can be found on YouTube.

'These are quality, professional comedians just like you would see in Atlantic City,' Genaro said.

He said John Lampert of Headline Entertainment, who has been involved with PAL's Comedy Night for the last seven years, was responsible for booking all three comedians. Genaro said he came up with the idea of PAL Comedy

Night nearly a decade ago as a way to raise money for the organization.

"Beef and beer benefits are so common around here, so I wanted to come up with something different – a bit more original," he said. "I always like stand-up comedy, so it seemed like a great approach to raising money and it's been really successful.'

Genaro said much like a beef and beer, there will be 50/50 raffles and a silent auction. He said each of the eight PAL youth basketball teams was to come up with a prize worth \$200 or more for the event. Lucky Bones Backwater Grille will be providing light fare, soda, beer and wine, which are all included in the ticket price, Genaro said.

According to Genaro, proceeds from PAL Comedy Night help cover the cost of uniforms, equipment and referees for the youth basketball programs. There are also roller hockey teams and back to school programs that are also supported by the PAL. He said there are currently 80 to 90 kids from the local area involved with the PAL of Cape May.

Doors for PAL Comedy Night on Friday open at 7 p.m. Genaro said even though the show doesn't start until 8:30 p.m., guests can socialize, eat and drink and sign up for the prize contests for the first hour and a half before the comedians take the stage.

"We were thrilled with the number of people we had last year, so I would love to have just as many this year," he said.

PAL of Cape May is a non -rofit organization formed to provide guidance to local youth through recreational, education, cultural, and lifeskill activities. Genaro said the PAL is based on the belief that young people, if they are reached early enough, can develop strong, positive attitudes toward police officers and their community.

"We want the kids to have a positive interaction with police officers and their peers. PAL is just our way of reaching out to them," he said. "We try to keep them busy and active with athletic and educational programs. There's a lot to be learned from sports teamwork, dedication, determination, all those things we want to see in our youth.

Tickets for PAL Comedy Night are \$35 in advance and \$45 the day of the event. Guests must be 21 or older to attend the event. Tickets can be purchased online at www. capemaypal.com and www. discovercapemaynj.com. They can also be purchased at the Convention Hall box office at 714 Beach Ave. in Cape May or by calling (609) 884-9563. For more information, contact Officer Genaro by email at tgenaro@comcast.net or by phone at (609) 374-4987.

Cost -

Continued from page A1

the neighboring U.S. Coast Guard Base. He said Cape May is also the only municipality in the region to have a Beach Utility that is required to be self-liquidating.

"If this program is extremely successful and we have more applicants than we expect, we then have a way to do cost containment on the reverse side of the ledger so that we don't have a deficit and have to pass that on to the

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taxpayers," Mahaney said in February. "We want to honor our veterans, but we don't want to place a burden on our taxpayers in doing so." At the March 4 city coun-

cil meeting, MacLeod said he spoke with officials from municipalities that have been offering free beach tags to active duty veterans. He said Ocean City gave out the highest number at 1,000 tags annually and Stone Harbor has only given out as many

Fence

Continued from page A1

and low-interest loan used to rehabilitate the Madison Avenue water tower and Canning House Lane standpipe, that could be used for funding the fence replacement project.

MacLeod said as projects were coming to a close, the

city realized it had roughly \$250,000 left in grant funding of the original \$515,000 from the USDA. He said the city filed a request with the USDA to use the leftover funding and the request was approved.

According to MacLeod, there were four improvement projects selected that

adding more signage to deter

ity to balance the budget if posal would be for this year

and that continued study was largely for the purpose of ensuring that there was not a shortfall that would have to be passed on to the taxpayers.

MacLeod said he believes if the ordinance is adopted, a special beach tag for military and former military personnel should be created for inventory and monitoring reasons.

and the rehabilitation cost approximately \$130,000.

MacLeod said if city council were to replace the fencing surround the water tower, the funding for the project would need to come from capital bond ordinances, likely from the Water and Sewer Utility.

Signage an alternative to lower speed limits

silo,"

"The other two municipalities fell between those numbers," MacLeod said. "None

as five.

were to give free seasonal beach tags to veterans and active duty military, based on the figures he gathered from other shore communities and Cape May sales, the

of them placed a value on the loss in beach tag revenue so that made it difficult to put a monetary value on this. MacLeod said if the city

city could see a loss of anywhere between \$20,000 and \$28,000. The high of \$28,000 was based on the possibility of handing out 1,000 tags as Ocean City did. He averaged the amounts and projected a \$24,000 loss to the Beach Utility. MacLeod said the city could have to cut back on other expenditures in the util-

council passes the ordinance. Mahaney indicated the pro-

totaled in excess of \$450,000.

The two main expenditures

were purchasing a generator

that would supply power to Wells 5 and 7 if there were

a major power outage, and

the rehabilitation of the "lime

operation of the desalination

plant. According to MacLeod, the generator cost \$295,000

which is used for the



By CAIN CHAMBERLIN *Cape May Star and Wave*

CAPE MAY - Instead of lowering the speed limit on certain streets from 25 mph to 15 mph, city council and public works are considering

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adding more organic drivers from speeding. Fiocca said she believed the speed limits should be reduced on Broad Street, Mansion Street, St. James Place, Schellenger's Lane, Jackson Street, Carpenter's Lane, Lyle Lane, Pearl Avenue and Page Street. She said people often drive too fast on these streets, where



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there is high pedestrian traf-fic. She said lowering the speed limit could prevent an accident. Public

Works Superintendent Bob Smith also recommended St. Johns Street be added to the list.

City Solicitor Tony Monzo said these speed limit changes could be made by ordinance, but would require an engineer's study and report. At the March 4 meeting,

council, Smith and new Police Chief Rob Sheehan discussed Fiocca's proposal. Sheehan said a 15 mph speed limit would be difficult to enforce because it is such a slow rate of speed and hard for drivers to maintain. He said the problem isn't people driving 25 mph, but people driving 30 and 35 mph on certain streets. However, Sheehan said there are certain streets on the list where attaining speeds of 30 mph or more doesn't seem possible given their length or width.

"I think if you look at this list, you could eliminate some

(streets) where a 15 mph zone may not be conducive," he said. "Schellenger, for example, I don't see people getting up to 30 mph Schellenger."

Councilman William Murray said he concurred with Sheehan because many of the streets in question are short and narrow, it's hard to reach excessive speeds.

"It would take you a bit to get up speed on Broad Street, especially St. Johns, that's only like half of a mile," he said.

Sheehan said St. James Place was the only street on the list that he has heard complaints about in terms of the posted 25 mph limit. Smith said the city responded by placing "children crossing" signs on St. James, which he said seemed to slow drivers down. Smith said "pedestrian crossing" signs at crosswalks on the Washington Street Mall and Beach Avenue helped slow vehicles down there as well.

Murray said during the summer months, speeding on the mall doesn't seem to be an issue.

"In the summer time, Carpenter's Lane, for example, you could probably walk faster than the cars driving through there because they're always stopping looking for parking spaces," he said.

Fiocca said she understood the point Murray was making, however, during the offseason and shoulder season, streets like Carpenter's Lane become short cuts for drivers who tend to speed along the mall. She said during the offseason, there are many people with their children on the mall visiting and Christmas shopping. Fiocca also said many of the streets where she requested reduced speed limits have no sidewalks.

"People go speeding through (the mall area) that time of year and that's what I'm worried about," she said. 'Some cars now can reach 60 mph in what? 2.3 seconds? So, in a short distance like a city block, they can reach 30 mph pretty easily.

Smith said signage for the streets being discussed is projected to cost about \$2,300. Mayor Ed Mahaney suggested Smith and Sheehan talk to city police officers for

Please see Speed, page A5

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