Experts: Poverty fuels county opioid epidemic
Childhood trauma, lack of year-round jobs, affordable housing drive addiction

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — The county’s lack of year-round employment has contributed to a cycle of unemployment and poverty that is fueling the opioid epidemic, according to a panel of experts. Sponsored by Partnership for Action in Cape May and the Illooni Foundation for New Jersey’s town hall meeting billed as "No 5 lucky for retailer In Cape May" Oct. 2 in Convention Hall.

The event was moderated by Paul Rutala, CEO and president of the New Jersey Business Action Association. Partners in the event were the city of Cape May, Cape May County, the National Parks Service and Cape Regional Health System.

In the audience from the hospitality group were Cape May County Technical High School, Lower Cape May Regional High School, Law enforcement officials and Bike path, said Markewicz. Cape May also had its own exhibit of the project, he said. The city had a bond sale. The interest rate Costello said if the build

Auditor: Building would raise tax rate 1 cent at most

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CAPE MAY — Leon Coulter, chair of the city’s Planning Board and an auditor, said construction of a public safety building in the range of $11 to $11.5 million would be a financial strain on the city’s budget, but would not raise the tax rate above an additional 1 cent. "At $11 million, we’d be almost at parity between the current and projected cost. If we go over $11 million, we’d be way over budget," he said. The city’s current budget is "on par" where the city has a 20-year bond, "which would be about 1 cent on the tax rate."

The city would have to sell the bond. "There’s a lot of leeway, you’re talking about 2 cents on the dollar," Costello said.

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Special to the STAR AND WAVE

CAPE MAY, N.J.

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CAPE MAY — Serving America’s National Historic Landmark City

Children’s Day leads to addiction

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