**Rising prices exacerbating worsening food insecurity**

Social service agencies say need being met for now

**BY JACK FICHTER**
Cape May Star and Wave

Food insecurity has been rising in southern New Jersey since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020, with more and more families facing food insecurity as pandemic-related job losses compound existing budget woes.

Social service agencies in the state say this time of year is trying for those who are already struggling to make ends meet. As the spirit of giving to others during the holiday season is one known to make things a little easier, many feel the struggle is worse than ever.

Food insecurity is the spotlight during the holiday season when people are feeling generous, but it’s not on an agenda that goes away after the holidays are done, Commu-

**City Council amends vehicle-charging station rules**

**Page A2**

**House of the week**

Real Estate Resource

**COMMEMORATIVE benches last part of city monument**

Most at Soldiers and Sailors honor military service members

**By JACK FICHTER**

Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — A fundraising effort for the dedication of the 14 benches dedicated to members of the local military and other historical figures in Cape May would fall through in the second major project of the Fund for the City of Cape May. The Cape May County Park Board, the group formed to look into the park beyond the scope of what impact it would have, is instead deciding to spend, according to the Chair of the Fund for the City of Cape May Foundation, Susan Weech, “towards the preservation of historic landmarks (Edwina’s House+ a Cultural Site) and a lifetime member of the city’s Historic Preservation Commission.”

“Too, if the city takes care of the infrastructure like the size of the furniture and do the finishing elements of the park,” she said. “The Fund for Cape May is planning the Beach Plum Farm Rotary Park.”

Weech said the new year is an ideal time to look at the war monument that created a conflicting traffic pattern at the intersection of Columbia Avenue and Gentry Street. The space was inaccessible to anyone with a disability due to its height.

“With the genius of the project came the city,” Weech said. “What we suggested the street become was a bikeway and parking. The park has mult-

**COVID case numbers quadruple November**

**By DAVID NAIMAN**

Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE — The Cape May County Department of Health reported Friday the number of active COVID-19 cases across the county jumped to 231 active cases as the county passed the 2,000 mark in cumulative cases.

The County’s current active cases are so high, that it’s the highest number Cape May County has hit since the second week of April. The department of health, which has now reported that number of cases since the pandemic began, said Cape May County is one of only six New Jersey counties that have hit the 20 percent fully vaccinated mark, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

“Thur, the number of COVID positive patients has dropped to 20 in Cape Vincent,” the department of health said this week, “As Cape May County has cases continue to rise as the new wave begins to peak in the south we are not immunocompromised and also less potential to spread the virus, if you don’t take the same precautions.”

“We still want to act with respect, act with caution, and act with kindness,” the department of health said.

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