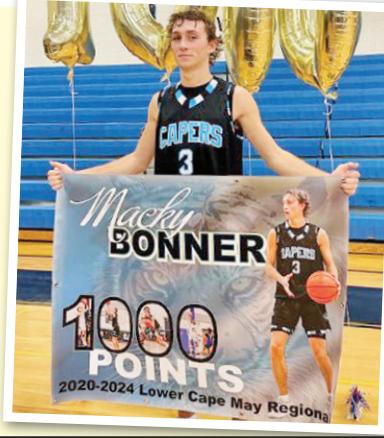




Bonner scores 1,000th point for boys basketball

Page A6



House of the Week

B1



170th YEAR NO. 6

CAPE MAY, N.J. Serving America's National Historic Landmark City

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2024 \$1.00

Project to boost safety at Schellenger's Landing

State to pay bulk of cost of installing flashing beacons for pedestrian crossing

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

VILLAS — Crossing Route 109 on Schellenger's Landing can be daunting for pedestrians in summer with traffic streaming off the Garden State Parkway at highway speeds.

The neighborhood is busy with popular restaurants, a marina, a dolphin cruise boat and an antiques store.

At a Jan. 17 meeting, Lower

Township Council approved an agreement with the state Department of Transportation (DOT) for installation of four flashing beacons with pedestrian push buttons on Route 109.

The enabling resolution noted a traffic condition exists at the intersection of Route 109 and Second Avenue and Route 109 and Schellenger's Landing Road that requires the installation of a "rectangular rapid flashing beacon with pedestrian push but-

tons, lighting, flashing beacons and signs."

While the total cost is \$120,000, the state DOT proposed an agreement that the state would assume 75 percent of the cost and Lower Township would assume the remainder of the construction and installation costs, which would not exceed \$30,000. If the cost is greater than \$30,000, the state would issue a second invoice to the township and if the cost is less, the township would receive

a refund check.

The state will provide all materials and provide labor for installation of the beacons. In addition, the state will paint lane and pavement marking and install signs that the township will maintain.

At its own expense, the DOT will periodically inspect and maintain the complete installation including replacement of light bulbs.

In other business, council awarded a \$1.2 million construc-

tion contract to Fred Schiavone, of Malaga, for improvements to Diamond Beach Park. The township received a \$773,434 county Open Space grant for the project.

The work includes fencing, a shade structure, picnic table, a single-use restroom building, exercise and playground equipment, an asphalt surface, pickleball courts, sidewalks, a drinking fountain, lighting, and a bicycle

See Project, Page A2



John Cooke/Special to the STAR AND WAVE

Hotelier and developer Curtis Bashaw of Cape May has announced his candidacy for the Republican nomination for U.S. Senate.

Hotel developer Bashaw seeking U.S. Senate seat

CAPE MAY — Hotelier and real estate developer Curtis Bashaw has announced his candidacy seeking the Republican nomination for the United States Senate for New Jersey.

"I'm running for United States Senate because we, as a nation, need to get back to our basic core values of liberty, prosperity and the pursuit of happiness," Bashaw stated in a news release. "Too many New Jerseyans believe the American Dream is out of reach and that Washington isn't working in their best interests. I'm running to bring freedom, security and opportunity to all New Jersey families — not just the political elite."

"Inflation is hurting New Jersey families, and our open border is a national security threat and a humanitarian crisis," Bashaw continued. "D.C. politicians haven't been able to fix these serious problems, and as a result, our freedom and security are in jeopardy. Throughout my career,

I've focused on bringing people together, finding common-sense solutions and helping communities reach their economic potential — and that's exactly what I'll do in the United States Senate."

Bashaw announced state Sen. Mike Testa, chairman of the Cumberland County GOP, will serve as chairman for the 2024 election. In 2020, Testa served as co-chairman for the Trump for President Campaign in New Jersey.

"It's time to make a change from the disastrous Biden-Menendez-Murphy policies that are failing New Jersey middle-class families," Testa said. "Curtis Bashaw has been a friend and supporter for many years. He's an employer who's created over 1,000 jobs who will bring back the American Dream for all New Jerseyans. I look forward to working with Curtis and his team in putting together a winning campaign that fights

The developer plans to construct an 80,000-square-foot domed indoor sports complex on the site. Aviation Sports will pay the DRBA annual rent of \$0.25



Werner Tedesco/Special to the STAR AND WAVE

Heading out to sea

The 72-foot scalloper Miss Amanda leaves Cape May Harbor for the open Atlantic Ocean.



DRBA approves lease for sports complex at airport in Lower Twp.

ERMA — The Delaware River and Bay Authority (DRBA) Commission unanimously approved a resolution authorizing the execution of a lease agreement with Aviation Sports Complex LLC for a parcel of land at the Cape May County Airport.

The developer plans to construct an 80,000-square-foot domed indoor sports complex on the site. Aviation Sports will pay the DRBA annual rent of \$0.25

per square foot during the initial 20-year term. Aviation Sports is expected to break ground for the new facility in the spring.

"Our organization's vision is to be not only an innovative leader in transportation, but also a catalyst for partnered growth and prosperity in both states," DRBA Deputy Executive Director Stephen D. Williams said. "Together,

See DRBA, Page A7

Coastal engineers gathering data on city's beach slope

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — The engineering firms hired by the city to study the beach slope, which has contributed to injuries for some swimmers, has begun their work with reports and recommendations expected this summer.

Last year, City Council approved a contract with ACT Engineers and Taylor Engineering, which will work together to compile information, according to Deputy Mayor Loraine Baldwin.

At a meeting of the Beach Safety Advisory Committee on Jan. 31, she said task one will be data collection and analysis, which will take four months.

The engineers were pro-

vided with data collected by the Stockton University Coastal Research Center and the Department of Environmental Protection pertaining to the slope of the beach, Baldwin said.

"And then they were going to work up an analysis, figure out what we need to do from there and then the next thing is the reporting and future needs," she said.

Baldwin said City Council would examine the future needs assessment and decide what action is required. She said she expected solid information from the engineers by mid-summer.

The city will receive two digital catalogs, one containing survey data and one containing permit informa-

See Coastal, Page A2



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