Spring in bloom

Daffodils were taller than usual March 24 at Pavilion Circle in Cape May Point, perhaps due to a mild winter, announcing that spring has finally arrived.

Emergency sewer project will tear up Lafayette St.

CAPE MAY — Lafayette Street will be torn up this week for a sewer system upgrade, according to the city's construction office.

At a March 21 meeting, City Council approved a $15,000 contract with DiSciondo and Associates for engineering, surveying and construction oversight of the sewer project for Lafayette Street.

City Engineer Dave Mullick said the sewer work is the first step in the process to bring the city's downtown water and sewer systems up to code.

Since 2016, the city has been working to replace the aging sewer system along Lafayette Street.

The project is expected to take about four weeks.

Township changes hours of its curfew for juveniles

CAPE MAY — Lower Township Council approved modifying the hours of its established curfew ordinance and adding enforcement procedures.

City Manager Dave Mullick said the council discovered the county's curfew ordinance was not consistent with the township's own ordinance.

At a March 20 meeting, Deputy Mayor David Perry said he believed the ordinance was no longer necessary.

At that time, Police Chief Kevin Lewis said he had some concerns about enforcement and the age at which juveniles are allowed to be out.

The township's curfew ordinance will now be enforced at midnight and 6 a.m. for people under 18.

By JACK FICHTER

Cape May Star and Wave

Fire station won’t be completed until summer

Supply, labor shortages contributing to delay

CAPE MAY — Completion of the city's fire station has been delayed until summer due to supply chain issues and a labor shortage, according to City Manager Mike Voll.

“We’ve increased the labor,” he said. “We’ve had problems getting enough laborers there to complete this job.”

At a March 22 City Council meeting, Mayor Zack Mullock said the city hoped to have the new fire station finished by mid-June. He said he was unable to set an exact date.

Trish Ternove, the only resident on the city’s capital improvement project steering committee, said it’s not complete and now let’s talk about the building that’s near enough for me to be talking down.

Franklin Street, said there was a delay of proposed upgrades to the streetscape only after being presented at the city’s Capital Improvement Project last June. She said she was under the impression the fire station was opening in April and the city-owned AME Church was to be completed last September.

Mullock said the city still needs to rebuild the church’s bell tower, which was destroyed in an explosion.

Ternove said she resented the city and last summer, she had to do some “fast talking to get the people to stay at the station for the fire test.”

Ternove said she resented it was not complete and now let’s talk about the fire station.

“We’re talking about a church that’s not complete. We’re talking about the street that’s not complete and now let’s talk about the core of the city,” she said.

See Fire station, Page A4

By JACK FICHTER

Cape May Star and Wave

Cape May keeps city tax rate flat in 2023’s budget

Cape May may put a lot of things down in this budget while raising the tax, he said, the fourth year in a row to have a tax increase.

Mayor Zack Mullock said the city is anticipating $55,000 from leases of city-owned property and $140,000 from emergency services. He anticipates a $70,000 increase in revenue.

According to a preliminary budget, the city increased revenue by 3.8 percent.

At a March 21 meeting, the city and county were be on any public street property.

By JACK FICHTER

Cape May Star and Wave

House of the week

CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

Barnegat Lightship discovered in East Camden shipyard

Jack Fichter/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

The Cape May Fire Station on Franklin Street is not expected to be completed until at least June.