By JACK FICTHER

CAPE MAY — The city is alive with the sound of hammers, new trucks bumping and pressure washers racing past the sea wall. The city’s Department of Public Works has been busy maintaining public restrooms and landscaping municipal properties.

In the next few weeks, the department will be creating a new section of parking at the Welcome Center, and Sanitation Department Director Ralph Voll said he would be happy to have an additional parking area for visitors.

Mayor Zack Mullock said at an April 7 meeting that the city’s Department of Public Works would be looking to close a street on the north side of the city to create a new parking area.

A 10-foot-wide easement will be needed for the new parking area to be completed.

The easement will run from the front of the city to the shore to the road side of the beach.

The City received a credit for the change order for the work.

Harris never loved history until researching her own

By DAVID NAHANI

Cape May Star and Wave

OCEAN CITY — For someone who just published the first of a series of books on the history of people of color in Ocean City, author Loretta Thompson Harris wasn’t partial to studying history in high school.

“It was really hard to believe,” Harris acknowledged during an interview last week about her new book, “A Short History of the Western Side: Ocean City, 1850-2019.”

“After the things they taught us in school about people of color were all Indians. I al- most felt like Indians had a bad deal. My grandmother is my father’s side is Native Amer- ica.”

The overall interest in his- tory stems from listening to stories told by his grand- parents.

The neighborhood was home to Italian- Americans and Native Americans as well.

The Westside boundaries are de- fined as Second to 18th streets and from West Avenue to Bay Avenue, but it is never included the Inlet along the bay.

Harris gave her book the title “Because I’m trying to disprove some of the myths about the Westside. I want you to try to give accurate information that I found in my research. People ask me, ‘Where are you from?’ I’ll say, ‘Ocean City.’ They ask, ‘Where are you from?’ I’ll say, ‘Ocean City.’ They ask, ‘Where did you move from?’ I say, ‘Ocean City.’”

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Cape May buzzing as city spruces up for summer

By JACK FICTHER

CAPE MAY — City Manager Mike Von said at an April 7 meeting that the city’s Department of Public Works would be looking to create a new parking area at the Welcome Center.

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