



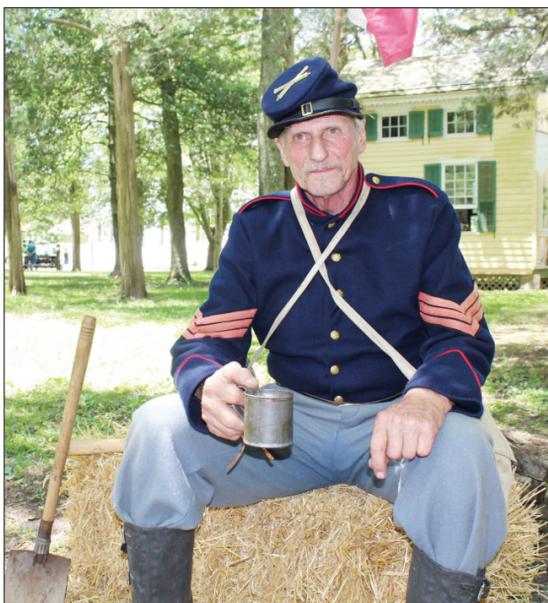
House of the week

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Reunited and it feels so good: Roof joins house

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Jack Fichter/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

Ready, aim, fire!

At top, Bob Stiles, center, captain of the Fourth Connecticut Regiment, orders his soldiers to fire June 15 during Military Timeline Weekend at Historic Cold Spring Village in Lower Township. The event featured encampments, weaponry displays and demonstrations from living-history groups depicting various conflicts throughout the centuries. Clockwise from above, Aiden Rodriguez and Matthew Jefferson representing the Vietnam War and Nicco Douglass representing the Civil War; Robert Keith, of Battery B of the Fourth U.S. Artillery, takes a break; and Robin Stiles and Jill Bennett, of the Fourth Connecticut Regiment, prepare a meal.

Basement out in latest three public safety building plans

High water table prevents underground construction

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — Early concept plans for a new public safety building to house the city's police and fire departments included a basement, but following test borings it was discovered the water table was at 8 feet, precluding a basement.

At a June 11 meeting of the Public Safety Building Advisory Committee, Andrew Adornato, of USA Architects, said a partial third floor has been substituted for a basement in the design of the building.

He said since the committee's last meeting, he has spoken with Fire Chief Alex Coulter to fine tune some of the department's needs in the new building. Three proposed floor plans were presented to the committee at the meeting.

The exact size of the building has not been set. Adornato said the concept plans range from 31,000 square feet to 34,000 square feet. Site plans have been updated for all three options for the building, including easements and rights of

way that aid in defining the amount of parking spaces, he said.

"You can pretty much maintain your existing parking spaces," Adornato said.

Architect David Bednar said option one kept the current fire museum in place while concepts two and three demolished the museum and incorporated an area in the new building to display the fire department's antique firetruck.

Option one has the building shared by the two departments. Bednar said if the fire museum were kept, the fire department would lose an apparatus bay for extra equipment. An SUV bay would be included that could house the fire chief's vehicle.

A common lobby for both departments would be located next to the fire museum. Bednar said ambulance bays would face the Franklin Street School. A room would be set aside to fill firefighters' air tanks.

On the police side of the building, a window off the

See **Basement**, Page A4

West Cape May wants speed limit reduction on parts of Broadway

By JOHN ALVAREZ
Special to the Star and Wave

WEST CAPE MAY — Following a fatal accident at Broadway and York Avenue last month, the county will conduct a speed limit study on Broadway as requested by the borough.

County engineer Robert Church attended a Borough Commission meeting June 12. According to Church, the county engineering office was contracted to conduct the speed study to determine whether the speed limit of 30 mph on Broadway can be reduced to 25 mph.

"To get it (the speed limit) down, it is going to be difficult," Church said. "I think the best way to approach this is to show the percentile speed is better at 25 mph than 30 mph due to the amount of driveways along this stretch of the road."

Church also suggested during the week or so before the study was to take place, police enforcement be strategically placed along a stretch of Broadway. This is not to pass out tickets but so drivers would pay extra attention to the speed limit and slow down, he said.

According to Church, when the study is being performed, drivers should stay close to the actual posted speed limit so the surveyors can get a more accurate count.

"If we have enforcement a week before the count, I think when we actually do the official count, we will get lower speeds because people will have the tendency to slow down," Church said. "The fear is if we go out (with a radar gun) and shoot now, we might be getting 35 mph as the actual speed, which

See **Speed limit**, Page A5

Experts: Dead dolphins not unusual this time of year

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — In the past eight weeks, two dead dolphins have washed ashore here. Volunteers from the Marine Mammal Stranding Center of Brigantine were called to the scene to assess the situation and photograph the dolphins.

According to Marine Mammal Stranding Center founder Bob Schoelkopf, several newborn dolphin

calves washed up in shore towns.

A 6-foot dolphin washed ashore June 9 on the Trenton Avenue beach. He said the cause of death was not yet known. The carcass was sent to a state lab for a necropsy, Schoelkopf said.

He said results of the necropsy would be available in one to two weeks. Schoelkopf said newborn dolphins wash ashore about this time every year. "There is a high mortality rate with newborns," he

said. "They die right after birth or they are stillborn."

Dolphins do not get the services of a midwife or hospital when birthing, Schoelkopf noted. He said it is a regular occurrence and not the result of water pollution or other environmental problem.

"New Jersey is a prime area for birthing," he said.

Schoelkopf said the problem of dolphin mortalities takes place up and down the coast of the U.S. Delmarva Now reported

last week 12 dead dolphins washed up on bay and ocean beaches in Delaware over the past couple of months. Suzanne Thurman, executive director of the Lewes-based Marine Education, Research and Rehabilitation Institute, said it was nothing out of the ordinary.

The dolphins that washed ashore in Delaware were badly decomposed while the dolphins recovered in Cape May were freshly dead.

JOB FAIR

Wednesday June 26, 2019

10am-Noon 4pm-6pm

The Harrison Room at Congress Hall

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