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Blooms brighten Memorial Day in southern N.J.
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Resiliency: Ability to rebound and recover

Cape May planning for sea level rise, increasing number of major storms

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — A term likely to be heard more often with an increasing number of coastal storms is resiliency, the ability to rebound and the capacity to recover.

According to Planning Board Engineer Craig Hurless, communities not only need to recover from disasters but place themselves in a stronger position than previously to withstand additional

hazards and ensure community safety and quality of life for posterity.

He said after Superstorm Sandy in 2012 and other disasters, it's been noticed they are occurring at an increasing frequency.

The county and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) have compiled a list of all the events that have occurred within the past decade, many of which are flooding or coastal storms, hurricanes and blizzards.

— Nov. 12-13, 2009: Severe

storms and flooding associated with Tropical Depression Ida and a nor'easter that produced flooding on Elmira Street.

— Feb. 5-6, 2010: Severe winter storm and blizzard resulting in snow plow operation for a 48-hour period and police and fire assistance for more than 100 EMT calls.

— Feb. 9-10, 2010: Winter storm and blizzard with snow plow operation over a 72-hour period. Police and fire EMS responded to calls over the same period of

the storm.

— Dec. 26-27, 2010: Severe winter storm and snowstorm with snow-removal operation over a 48-hour period. EMS assisted with transport to local hospital.

— Aug. 27-28, 2011: Hurricane Irene generated heavy winds and rain, causing severe beach erosion of 141,478 cubic yards of sand and destruction of 6,760 linear feet of dune fence. Police and fire department assisted with evacuation of residents. Police communication system was lost. Public Works

crews removed sand and debris and fallen trees from streets.

— Oct. 28, 2012: Hurricane Sandy caused severe beach erosion, street flooding, road closures, tidal surges, power outages and loss of 14,000 linear feet of dune fence. Police and fire departments assisted with evacuation of residents. Public Works crews cleared roads of sand and debris during and after the storm.

— Oct. 1-4, 2015: Hurricane

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Jack Fichter/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

Solemn ceremony honoring those who served

Members of the Cape May Beach Patrol prepare to launch a boat of flowers into the ocean as part of Cape May's Memorial Day Service on Monday, May 28. Coast Guard Training Center Cape May personnel and members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary also participated in the ceremony.



Jack Fichter/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

World War II veteran John Seubert spoke of his experiences in the Merchant Marine service during a service at Convention Hall. At top left, the Mainliners Chorus, of Exton, Pa., provided patriotic songs. At left, the U.S. Coast Guard Honor Guard salutes as a bugler plays Taps.

Lower hoping preschool can be expanded

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

COLD SPRING — The Lower Township Elementary School District hopes to offer full-time day care in the near future.

Superintendent Jeff Samaniego said the district is applying for a preschool expansion grant that would allow the program to expand.

"This grant, if we get it, would be around \$2.4 million," he said. "This preschool grant is something our new governor has been talking about, it's his main platform, and we feel that we will be a great candidate to receive this grant."

Samaniego said if the school district receives the grant, preschool would increase from a half-day to a full-day program. Seven

additional preschool classrooms would be added, along with the hiring of more teachers and paraprofessionals, he said. The preschool program is open to the community.

A Preschool Referral Team (PERT) would be established to help students and staff with strategies within the classroom.

"This is a very big deal. We feel that we are a great candidate to receive this grant," he said. "We are in communication and agreement with the township having met with the town council, town manager and the mayor."

Samaniego said the township offered its full support of the school district's long-term goals if the grant is

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West Cape residents tired of 'dump truck highway'

By RACHEL SHUBIN
Special to the Star and Wave

WEST CAPE MAY — Borough residents expressed concerns about dump trucks speeding down Stimpsons Lane en route to the Higbee Beach Restoration Project during a Board of Commissioners meeting May 23.

"My whole spring has been spent listening to dump trucks go down the street," a resident said. "I did not plan to live on a dump truck highway."

Residents complained that dump trucks have been cutting through Stimpson Lane since March to avoid the construction on Broadway and Seashore Road.

"They have a total disregard for our neighborhood because they don't live

here," a resident said. "I understand the constraints of going through town, but when can they go down Broadway to Sunset Boulevard?"

Residents initially addressed their concerns to the borough in March. The project originally had an end date of Memorial Day weekend but has been extended to June 8.

"We have discussed with Cape May Police Department and Chief Marino is aware," Clerk Suzanne Schumann said.

One resident said she followed behind a dump truck and the driver was driving more than 47 mph, which she reported as a complaint to the Department of Trans-

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