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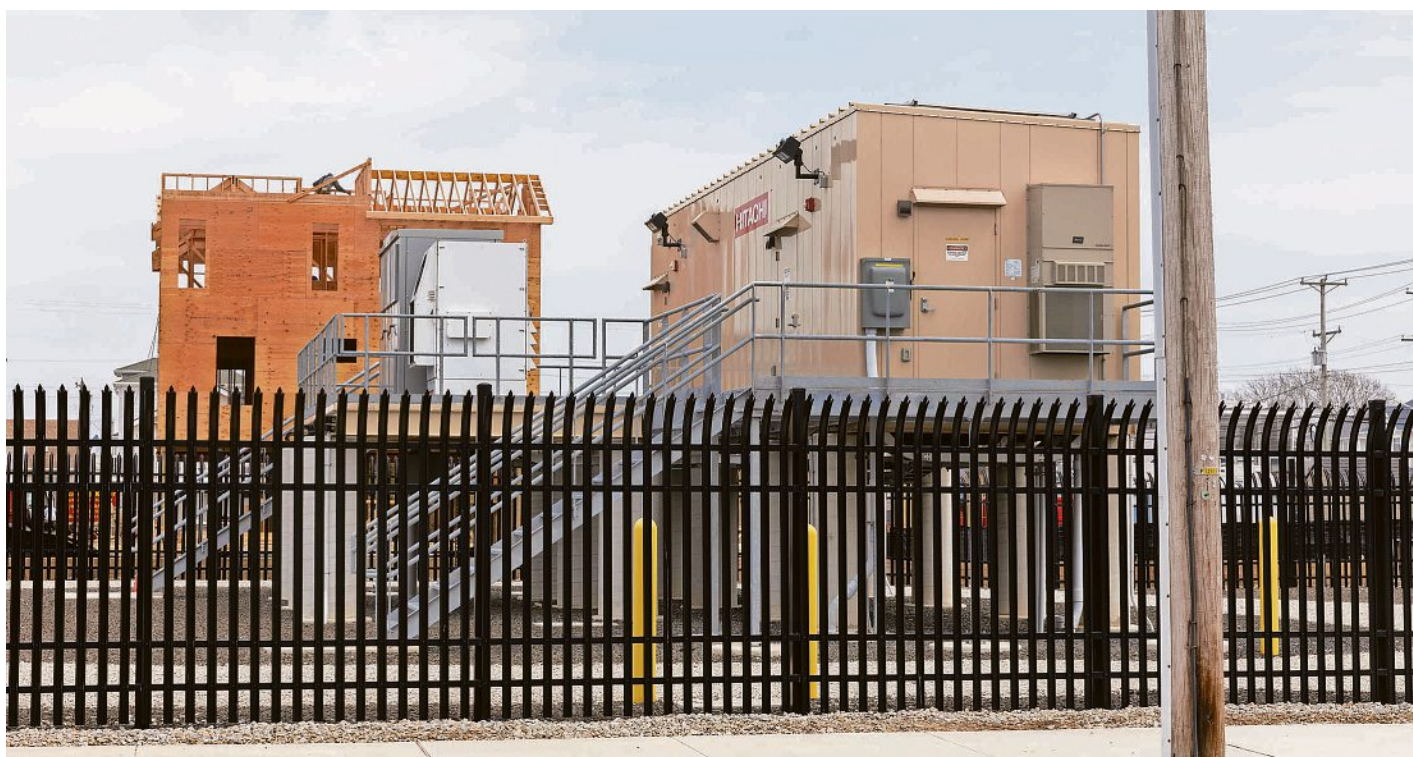


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# Burlington County Times

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A lithium battery storage facility is seen on Second Avenue on Beach Haven on Long Beach Island with new homes being built on adjoining properties. PHOTOS BY PETER ACKERMAN/ASBURY PARK PRESS

## FBI director sues The Atlantic, claims false reporting

Jana Winter  
 REUTERS

FBI Director Kash Patel filed a defamation lawsuit against The Atlantic and its reporter Sarah Fitzpatrick following the publication of an article on April 17 alleging the director had a drinking problem that could pose a threat to national security.

The magazine's story, initially titled "Kash Patel's Erratic Behavior Could Cost Him His Job," cited more than two dozen anonymous sources expressing concern at Patel's "conspicuous inebriation and unexplained absences" that "alarmed officials at the FBI and the Department of Justice."

The article, which The Atlantic subsequently titled "The FBI Director Is MIA" in its online version, reported that during Patel's tenure, the FBI had to reschedule early meetings "as a result of his alcohol-fueled nights" and that Patel "is often away or unreachable, delaying time-sensitive decisions needed to advance investigations."

In The Atlantic's story, the White House, the Department of Justice and Patel denied the allegations. The article included a statement from the FBI attributed to Patel, "Print it, all false, I'll see you in court - bring your checkbook."

"The Atlantic's story is a lie," Patel said in an interview with Reuters. "They were given the truth before they published, and they chose to print falsehoods anyway."

"We stand by our reporting on Kash Patel, and we will vigorously defend

See PATEL, Page 2A

## Turning to batteries

### AC Electric powering Long Beach Island

Amanda Oglesby  
 Asbury Park Press  
 USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW JERSEY

BEACH HAVEN — When Jim Ciulla looks out his living room window in Beach Haven, he sees a tan trailer designed to supply additional power to Long Beach Island on hot summer nights and busy tourist weekends.

But the former volunteer firefighter also sees a fire risk close to his "dream house."

He worries the lithium-ion batteries stored within the power company's trailer could ignite and create an

See AC ELECTRIC, Page 3A



The 2 megawatt-hour battery storage system is the first of its kind in Atlantic City Electric's service region, according to the power company.

## Car dealership approved for old bowling alley property

Joseph P. Smith  
 Cherry Hill Courier-Post  
 USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW JERSEY

Vineland Hyundai has its city approval to construct a new dealership on a property off South Delsea Drive that once hosted a popular Vineland bowling alley.

The site plan for the dealership, which is to have four buildings, received final approval after a public hearing April 15 before members of the zoning board. Their approval was unanimous.

Board members gave the project a boost in August 2025 when they approved a use variance for the business. The property, a little more than 9 acres in size, is in an area zoned for business uses, but not specifically for dealerships.

Cumberland County Autogroup LLC is the purchaser of the property, at 3565 S. Delsea Drive, and it was the applicant at this week's board hearing.

The new facility is to replace the

See DEALERSHIP, Page 2A



A rendering of a proposed building for a new Vineland Hyundai dealership site at 3565 S. Delsea Drive in Vineland. Redcom Design & Construction LLC prepared the rendering. PROVIDED BY CUMBERLAND COUNTY AUTOGROUP LLC

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