



US jet shot down over Iran. **NATION & WORLD, A7**

AVALON KEEPS ON TRUCKIN' ... SAND



WAYNE PARRY, STAFF WRITER

Avalon Administrator Scott Wahl describes the almost annual sand restoration operation his borough must carry out to combat beach erosion.

Nearly annual backpassing ritual helps borough between Army Corps projects

WAYNE PARRY
Staff Writer

AVALON — To the certainties of life including death and taxes, add this: Beach erosion, particularly in South Jersey.

Almost every year, Avalon's beaches erode enough to the point where the borough needs to truck sand from wider beaches in the southern part of town to badly eroded beaches in the north end.

The process, known as "backpassing," is not cheap. Avalon last week approved a \$670,000

VIEW: For video of Avalon Administrator Scott Wahl talking about beach replenishment, point your smartphone camera at the QR code, then tap the link. **NEWSVU**

plan to truck sand from wider beaches in the southern part of town to badly eroded beaches in the north end.

Please see **AVALON**, Page A8



Police chiefs honor HERO Campaign.

LOCAL, A2

Casino smoking foes plan protest during Sherrill visit

WAYNE PARRY
Staff Writer

ATLANTIC CITY — Casino workers who want smoking banned in the gambling halls will hold a protest on the Boardwalk as Gov. Mikie Sherrill addresses a major casino conference later this month.

Casino Employees Against Smoking Effects (CEASE) plans a rally on the Boardwalk on April 15 during the East Coast Gaming Congress.

That is when Sherrill will be the keynote speaker at the conference.

In a recent interview with The Press of Atlantic City, the Democratic governor called on the state Legislature to "get to work"

to resolve the issue, but did not take a position for or against casino smoking.

In a statement, the anti-smoking group asked Sherrill to call for an end to smoking in Atlantic City's nine casinos.

"While we appreciate Governor Sherrill's commitment to finding a solution, the time for discussion has passed," said Nicole Vitola, a longtime dealer at Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa and a co-leader of CEASE. "For 20 years, casino workers in New Jersey have been the only workers in the state still subjected to toxic secondhand smoke in the workplace."

Please see **SMOKING**, Page A8

OC man seeks monthlong celebration of US veterans

W.F. KEOUGH
Staff Writer

At 82, Ed Dixon, of Ocean City, has turned a personal conviction into a shore-wide campaign, urging towns across South Jersey to designate August as Veterans Appreciation Month.



Dixon

What began as frustration in 2023 has grown into a steady march from council chamber to council chamber, building local support while aiming for national recognition. Dixon, a U.S. Navy veteran, was present

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for a high-stakes Cold War confrontation that would later be remembered as a turning point in nuclear brinkmanship. He sat down recently to discuss his background and his passion for honoring those who serve their country in the military.

Please see **DIXON**, Page A8



Cedar Creek girls prep for tough season.

SPORTS, B1



What are the healthiest cereals?

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