

Missing children

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ness locations, public transportation, parks and hazards in the area. A program technician can assess the distance, scale and proximity of the last known sighting of the missing person. Knowing what features are in the target area, "hot spots" which would likely attract a child's attention, for example, could be identified. Additionally, possible hideouts for a runaway teen, for example, could be identified.

The technician would also be able to identify natural or man-made

hazards. Mainly, the technician tries to identify a likely path a child or elderly person would follow and work with police to identify a "best incident finder zone."

"This program will enable us to get as many eyes as possible out there in our neighborhoods to assist our officers in locating children or Alzheimer's patients, who have wandered off or may have possibly been the victims of an abduction," Donohue said.

According to Donohue, the Lower Township Police Department receives "quite a few" lost child

reports. He said in most cases they are able to locate the child within a half-hour.

"Sometimes we even find them in the house hiding under a bed," he said.

But once the time passes that initial half-hour the police put out an additional alert. They do the same with Alzheimer's patients.

With the ACIM program, the officer on the scene is in contact with the ACIM technician, and he can modify his imagery to go out as far as the officer wishes. Donohue said the police cars already have GPS

systems and satellite imagery capabilities, and the main function of the ACIM program is the telephone notification program.

"It can also work the other way," Donohue said. "If we find a missing child or an Alzheimer's patient, we can put phone calls out there saying here's a description of the person, if you have any information give us a call."

The same system could be used if there was a school lockdown or another emergency asking people to stay in their homes. Information could be sent out to the community

in a targeted area.

Although only residents with land line telephones with published numbers would be notified of an alert by the ACIM, cell phone users or those with unlisted numbers may participate in the program by registering at www.achildmissing.org.

So far, police departments in 13 other New Jersey municipalities have enrolled in the program. Donohue said he believed Lower Township was the first to enroll from Cape May County.

Water hook-ups mandatory in Lower

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there are USDA grants and loans available under the 502 or 504 plans, but applicants must meet income-based eligibility requirements.

"We're also trying to get blanket approval for Villas and Town Bank for New Jersey HMFA," DeMarcantonio said.

According to DeMarcantonio, the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency offers a 10-year loan up to \$10,000 with 1 percent interest, and there are no income requirements.

"We also have in-house financing for the connection fee - a five year payment plan that is interest free," he said.

Whatever the cost, residents who want municipal water voiced support for mandatory hookups and those with good wells tended to oppose it.

Ed McGeehan, who resides in Town Bank, said he has been waiting for municipal water since the early 1980s when he was told his area

would be getting municipal water "any day now." McGeehan said he was paying \$600 to \$700 a year on potassium chloride for a water filter, and said he couldn't understand anyone not wanting the hookup.

Steve Sheftz pointed out the presence of volatile organic compounds in water in the Town Bank area, necessitating the hookups for many residents, but also said he was concerned about the cost.

"Nowhere in Lower Township is there a (greater) need for potable water than in Town Bank," he said. "But people who were told to get a new well should get a break."

Blair Hansen of Erma said he objected to what he considered government interference, especially when he doesn't need municipal water.

"There should be another plan. Take care of the areas that need it - give it to them," he said.

Beck said the township needed to pass the mandatory hookup ordinance, fearing that someday the township

would end up with a cancer cluster from existing contamination in the township. He said the township needs to expand the infrastructure to provide water to the entire township before water had to be trucked to them, and there needs to be a way to pay for that infrastructure. Beck said there were probably people already drinking substandard water.

"There's a kid somewhere in this town who's drinking water he probably shouldn't," Beck said.

Beck told Hansen it would probably be 15 years before he would be asked to hook up to municipal water anyway.

Later, a woman named Rachel Hansen said she was getting ready to build in Erma, and would probably not see municipal water hookup in her lifetime.

"Are we going to have to pay more and more every year?" she asked.

Beck repeated that she was in an area that would not be required to hook up for about 15 years and while it was a great expense it was unavoidable.

able. "They should have passed this when they first started running lines," Beck said.

Another Erma resident, George Doherty of Seashore Road, complained about the expense, saying his calculations, based on the \$1,600 hookup fee, meter and plumbers' estimates, showed the total cost of hooking up to municipal water would be about \$7,000. Doherty said he believed the better and cheaper solution was to drill deeper, and said a 270-foot well would cost about \$4,800.

Beck said he understood not wanting to put out money for the hookups, and not wanting to pay the township for water when people already had a well, but he likened the situation to people without kids paying school taxes.

"We do it for the community. We do it for the kids," he said.

Jerry Fowler said he has been a resident of the township for 10 years and he has never drunk the water because it's not fit to drink. Council ultimately adopted

the ordinance, which says after being notified by the LTMUA to connect to municipal water, those who do not connect would be charged the minimum user fee, whether there are existing or new service lines. Connection fees may be paid in regular installments over five years from the date of connection.

DeMarcantonio said the LTMUA would begin expanding water service starting with the Milman Water Tank Project. The water tank would be connected to water lines on Bayshore Road, running from the Milman Center to Miami, from Florida to Jacksonville, Jacksonville to St. John, and Tamp Avenue to Schellenger.

"Then we're going to put out another contract as part of Milman project for water mains," he said.

The second contract would include Peters Road from Pacific to Florida, Jacksonville from Peters to Bermuda, and Florida Avenue from Peters to Bayshore. "If the funding allows we

would add a couple of projects - Bayshore Road from Pennsylvania to Washington, and Virginia to Weber. Then simultaneously, once the Milman tank project is under way or upon completion, go into Town Bank," he said.

That project would encompass Bayshore to Bayridge, Town Bank Road to Shore Drive, Clubhouse Road and Racetrack Drive.

"That's just the start of it," DeMarcantonio said. "The state has a glut of funding now and we may be able to do more streets than we're proposing."

DeMarcantonio said by the fall he hopes to have residents on the streets listed connected to municipal water. He said plans are to finish running municipal water in the remainder of Villas and all of Town Bank, focusing on areas where there are contamination issues, including saltwater intrusion and failed wells. He said Erma and Seashore Road projects are "far down the road."

CORRECTION

In last week's edition of the Cape May Star and Wave, a caption incorrectly identified an individual on the front page with the wrong first

name. The King of Cape May's 400th Anniversary is Charles "Bud" Swain.

Rug hooking artist

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home that cuts the wool strips into various sizes. She uses the strips to create her "paintings," as she calls them, because she does mostly portraits. She has a piece titled "Gisele, Frick, Frack and Me," which includes images of her, her friends and mentor. Another, titled "Square Zebras plus One," depicts her group of Nova Scotia hookers. She also adapts photographs she comes across, such as in

"Checking out the Competition," from a photo of a group of Italian teenagers; "The Redneck Wedding," adapted from a photo found on the Internet; and "Meditation in Motion," which show two men doing Tai Chi. For future projects, Nelson is planning to adapt an image of Josephine Baker and another of the Obamas.

"I get the ideas from all over and adapt them to suit my work," she said.

Nelson said she is also fascinated with borders, which

she considers an important part of the image. She was told to never give someone a piece of art that is not framed, so she makes a special effort to work a border into her design, laying out the plan on the floor of her home and then she goes upstairs and looks at it from a second-floor balcony.

For Nelson, her fabric paintings are a problem to figure out - a problem in the sense of a math problem. That is how someone who taught math and computers for 26 years might view projects. Even as a teacher at Lower Cape May Regional High School, Nelson was involved in some type of artistic expression, which she said stems from growing up in an artistic family.

Now she is something of a solo act except when she hooks with people at the Chalfonte or when her friend Doris Eaton holds a "hook-in" up in Nova Scotia. It was Eaton who told Nelson not to sell any of her work.

"She said 'Get a body of your work together and have

a show,'" Nelson said.

So Nelson finished about 30 pieces which will be featured in a month-long show at the Ocean City Arts Center, March 2-30. Some of her work has been seen on display at the Lower Township Branch Library, and in January and February her work has been on display at the Mad Batter in Cape May. She said owners Pam and Mark Kulkowicz have been very supportive of her work. Another friend called Director Lorraine Hansen at the Ocean City Arts Center.

Hansen wanted to see some of Nelson's work and she brought her about five pieces. "Lorraine was so delighted she held onto the pieces so she could show them to the board," Nelson said.

The board agreed to the show and Nelson was given about 70 feet of wall space.

The show begins March 2, but a "meet the artist" reception will be March 13 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Otherwise, her "Paintings in Wool" exhibit can be seen at the Ocean City Arts Center, 1735 Simpson Ave., Ocean City, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For information or directions call the arts center at (609) 399-7628.

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