

THE PRESS OF ATLANTIC CITY



Double murder, 25 years later

"My family and I have moved on to what we call the 'no negative zone,'" O.J. Simpson says. Plus, find out where others involved with the trial are now. **C1**

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Pool or no pool: Sea Isle weighs options on rec center

Once a school, later an emergency City Hall after Hurricane Sandy, the municipal building at 4501 Park Road is now Sea Isle City's recreation center.



BILL BARLOW / FOR THE PRESS

BILL BARLOW
For The Press

SEA ISLE CITY — Residents on Tuesday got their first detailed look at a proposed multimillion-dollar renovation to the former public school at 4501 Park Road. City Community Services Director Katherine Custer presented three options a

committee has recommended for the future use of the building, with costs ranging from less than \$2 million to 10 times that.

The first option, the cheapest, is to renovate the existing building. That did not seem popular.

There seemed to be a strong consensus to demolish the existing building and build

anew. The biggest question for City Council and for the residents who weighed in Tuesday was whether to spend the additional money to include a pool.

Speakers at the meeting were divided, with advocates saying a pool would be an asset to the town and help

See **POOL**, A2

Trop deal OK'd amid talks with Caesars

Combined company could hold four A.C. casino properties

DAVID DANZIS
Staff Writer

ATLANTIC CITY — State gaming regulators on Tuesday approved Eldorado Resorts Inc. as the new parent company of Tropicana Atlantic City.

Following a nearly two-hour hearing, the Casino Control Commission granted Eldorado a plenary license as a casino holding company, finalizing the Reno, Nevada-based gaming firm's first entry into Atlantic City.

The approval of Eldorado as an Atlantic City casino operator also sets the stage for a potential regulatory hurdle in the future should the company finalize a deal with Caesars Entertainment Corp. to combine the two.

If a deal is struck between Eldorado and Caesars, the company would hold four of the nine casino licenses in Atlantic City, putting the Casino Control Act's provision regarding "undue economic concentration" to the test.

Commissioner Sharon Harrington asked Eldorado CEO Thomas Reeg about the company's plans for future acquisitions, specifically referencing media reports of discussions with Caesars.

"I can't comment on a particular (move)," he said. "I would say we have been an inquisitive company in the past. To the extent there are opportunities that make sense for our shareholders ... we would take a hard look at

See **ELDORADO**, A2



EDWARD LEA / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Housekeepers at Harrah's Resort, above, and other casinos and hotels in the city will be equipped with panic-button devices as a result of legislation signed into law Tuesday by Gov. Phil Murphy.

Step toward safety

Murphy signs hotel-worker panic button bill in A.C.



'It means a whole lot,' Caesars Atlantic City housekeeper Iris Sanchez, 40, said Tuesday of the new law. 'I know I'm going to be able to go home at the end of the day.'

DAVID DANZIS
Staff Writer

ATLANTIC CITY — Iris Sanchez has never personally experienced violence or sexual harassment while on the job as a housekeeper at Caesars Atlantic City, but she feels safer today after New Jersey became the first state to mandate hotels provide emergency buttons to employees.

"It means a whole lot," Sanchez, 40, said outside a ballroom at Harrah's Waterfront Conference Center where Gov. Phil Murphy had just signed the new law Tuesday morning. "I know I'm going to be able to go home at the end of the day."

Murphy signed legislation that requires hotels through-

out the state with more than 100 rooms to provide housekeepers with a panic button device.

While speaking at an AFL-CIO conference, Murphy said the law will provide hotel workers with "greater security" and allow them to "immediately call for help, should they need it on the job."

"We must protect the safety of workers in the hospitality industry," Murphy said. "This new law will ensure that hotel employees performing their duties will have the means to summon immediate assistance if they are in danger."

Atlantic County's three state representatives were all sponsors of the legislation.

See **BUTTON**, A2

Interfaith conference tackles rising tide of homegrown hate

"When people say, 'What keeps you up at night?' It's those homegrown, violent extremists, it's terrorists."

COL. PATRICK CALLAHAN
State Police superintendent

COLT SHAW
Staff Writer

ATLANTIC CITY — Rabbi Francine Roston moved from New Jersey to Whitefish, Montana, in 2014.

A few years later, an argument between a Jewish Realtor there and the mother of Richard Spencer — a white nationalist leader and a Whitefish resident — prompted Andrew Anglin, publisher of the white supremacist forum Daily Stormer, to direct threats and hate toward the area's minuscule Jewish population.

Even with the worst of the online harassment behind them, armed security now accompanies Jewish community events in the area, Roston said.

"Our lives will never be the same," Roston said. "We live with the effects of trauma and fear every day."

Roston was Tuesday's keynote speaker at a conference bringing together leaders of many faiths in the Fannie Lou Hamer event room at Stockton University's Atlantic City

See **RELIGION**, A5



Rabbi Francine Roston of the Glacier Jewish Community/B'nai Shalom Congregation in Whitefish, Montana, talks Tuesday at Stockton University about how the local Jewish community was targeted by white nationalists.

COLT SHAW / STAFF WRITER



DRY DAY, WET NIGHT
HIGH: 74 LOW: 64
See your South Jersey forecast on **C6**.

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