

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF MILLVILLE



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P.O. Box 803 - 1153 Holly Berry Lane

Millville, New Jersey 08332

Telephone: (856) 825-8860

Fax: (856) 825-5283

TDD: (856) 825-7939

Web Site: millvillehousing.org

info@millvillehousing.org

pressofatlanticcity.com/archives

New antenna installation closes block of High Street in Millville

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By EDWARD VAN EMBDEN Staff Writer | Posted: Thursday, October 7, 2010

MILLVILLE - A large crane closed down the 100 block of High Street for a couple of hours Thursday morning as crews from cellular carrier T-Mobile installed new equipment on the roof of Jaycee Plaza.

The Millville Housing Authority has leased room to cellular providers on the roof of the senior high rise complex for more than a decade. The idea of earning extra revenue by leasing unused space on the building, which is located at High and Main streets, was first considered in 1998.

The authority has added several antennas to the roof over the years.

Authority Executive Director Paul Dice said T-Mobile was installing what is known as a double platform, replacing a single platform, which is basically an operating panel with various dials and gauges. The crane lifted the new installations from ground level, over the plaza's garden and up past the building's eight residential floors.

In addition to cellular antennas that were installed a decade ago, the authority a year ago solicited approval from the Millville Zoning Board to add an additional three antennas to the roof.

The city diverted traffic away from the area with traffic cones as the crane, taking up an entire lane, operated. Dice said workers from the housing authority were on site monitoring the installation.

Other than a minor inconvenience to local drivers, the installation of new equipment does not mean much for Millville or its housing authority. Dice said the new equipment does not come with any more money for the authority. The authority's lease agreement with the cellular carrier allows for upgrades.