



BOROUGH NEWSLETTER

Borough Hall • 1 West Maple Avenue • Merchantville, NJ 08109

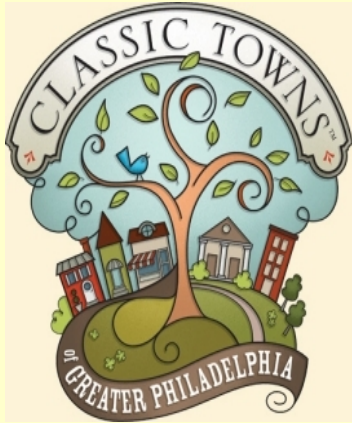
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www.merchantvillenj.gov • www.merchantville.com

Volume 16, Issue 1

Merchantville's Municipal and Community Newspaper

Summer 2010



MUNICIPAL MEETINGS

Borough Council

2nd & 4th Monday of each month
7:30 @ Borough Hall, 2nd Floor

Board of Education

856-663-9010

2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month
7:30 @ Public Library

Planning Board

2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month
7:30 @ Borough Hall, 2nd Floor

Historic Preservation

1st Tuesday of each month
7:30 @ Borough Hall, 2nd Floor

Shade Tree Commission

2nd Thursday of each month
7:00 @ Borough Hall, 2nd Floor

Public Events

3rd Monday of each month
7:30 @ Borough Hall, 2nd Floor

Board of Health

Quarterly 7:30 @ Borough Hall

Municipal Court

Every Wednesday evening
6:00 @ Borough Hall, 2nd Floor

McFarlan's Market OPENS!

The much missed and long awaited reopening of the local grocery shop is no more. Owners, Pete Burgess and Janet Stevens put the final touches on their Merchantville market, stocked the shelves and opened their doors on Saturday, May 29th. The former Philly Fruit was renamed McFarlan's Market in honor of William McFarlan, who owned a Meat Market at the site in the 1800s. McFarlan's Market features Boars Head and Bell & Evans,



DiBruno Brothers, Metropolitan Bakery and Green Mountain coffee. McFarlan's is open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sundays. Phone: 856-662-1400 • Fax: 856-

662-1401. Visit their website @ www.mcfarlans.com or better still - stop in and support their investment in our town! Our community thanks you Janet and Pete!

137th Birthday Celebration on June 5th

It's that time of year again! Join in the fun at Merchantville's BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION! Entertainment, a bouncy house, and petting zoo will be on hand for family fun at Residents are encouraged to break out their sneakers, strollers and bikes and head to the Community Center at 212 Somerset Ave. from 10AM to 3PM on Saturday. As usual there will be plenty of food courtesy of vendors and cooked up by our very own Niagara Fire Company! If you want to join in the fun but don't feel like walking to you'll find plenty of parking streetside along Greenleigh and Somerset!

C-P touts Merchantville as Hot Shopping Spot

In their May Camden County Guide the Courier Post touts the Borough for it's eclectic mix of shops and eateries and diverse blend of family and independently owned businesses accented by historic storefronts. It compliments the colorful awnings and vintage signs and lampposts . . . Good Press!

A Message from Mayor North

Summer is upon us, and the horrific snowfalls of this past winter are starting to fade from memory. The longer day light hours and hot summer days are here. It's time to be outdoors and enjoy vacations, day trips to the shore, swimming, early evening walks around town, saying hello to neighbors and ice cream. In addition, summer brings back the farmers' market and the once-a-month free outdoor movie.

Children enjoy being out of school, staying up late and sleeping 'til mid morning. Baseball, softball, soccer, kickball, tennis and volleyball pickup

I know this is going to show my age, but I wonder how many kids or their younger parents know the enjoyment of playing Hide-and-Seek or Kick-the-Can?

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Study of West End accepted

On April 23, 2010, licensed professional planners, Remington & Vernick, of Had-donfield, released a 38 page preliminary investigation for determination of an area in need of redevelopment: West Maple Avenue, Block 9, Lots 1-12 and Block 10, Lots 1-10. The investigation was authorized by the Planning Board at the direction of the Mayor and Council. This preliminary investigation recommends that the area of Block 9, Lots 2, 3 & 4 be declared an "Area in Need of Redevelopment" and Block 9, Lots 9, 10, 11 & 12 be declared an "Area in Need of Rehabilitation." On May 11, 2010 the Planning Board accepted the report and recommended that Council adopt an area know as Lots 2, 3 and 4 Block 9 as areas in need of redevelopment.

You may obtain a copy of the entire study at the Municipal offices in Boro Hall. You can also or read it/print it online @ www.merchantville.com.

Grants received

The Borough has received \$60,000 in grant monies for a joint project with the town of Pennsauken which is expected to rejuvenate the West Maple neighborhood in the West End and a \$25,000 federal funds grant to upgrade and extend the Chestnut Avenue Pedestrian Path and Bikeway.

Community Center fees

A public hearing will be held on June 14, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Meeting Room, at Borough Hall, 1 West Maple Avenue, on a proposed ordinance to set the Community Center discount fee for the residents of the Borough of Merchantville. A copy of this Ordinance is available at no charge to the general public during normal office hours.

Borough earns JIF award

Merchantville took 1st Place for Best Overall Performance from a town of 26 to 49 employees at the annual JIF Award breakfast. Chief Bauer credited Sgt. Fred Koehler for his excellent job with safety meetings, training and reporting. His efforts coupled with those of borough employees and elected officials won \$700.00 for lowering claims by 15% and \$1,500 dollars for overall performance in 2009.

Community Garden has openings

Garden plots are now available to any Merchantville resident wishing to plant a sunny garden in the field behind the community Center. Last summer, two families had 10' x 10' adjacent plots and enjoyed a bountiful harvest. Water is available, however all the labor must be done by participants. Community gardens provide access to fresh produce and plants as well as access to satisfying labor, neighborhood improvement, sense of community and connection to the environment.

If interested, please email Lisa McSpar-ron at lmcsparrron@comcast.net or by phone at 856-48808299 or email Kris Donahue at kedonohue@hotmail.com or by phone at 856-663-5418.

Volunteer for the Farmers Market

Due the to increased popularity of the Merchantville Farmers Market the addition of vendors needed to keep up with the large public demand and plans this Spring to increase the monthly frequency of this program there is a need for additional volunteers. Assistance is needed with advertising, setting up, cleaning up and meeting vendors, just to name a few. Supporting local farmers in this way has profound benefits that include a powerful and positive environmental impact. So if you would like to meet a lot of nice people while supporting the downtown and the environment please consider joining us in volunteering at the Farmer's Market.

To help this effort call Steve Volkert at 609-929-4735 or email him at stevevolkert@msn.com. The Market takes place every Friday from 4pm - 8pm!

Primary Election Reminder

Date: **June 8, 2010**

Polls Open: **6 A.M.-8 P M**

Polling Place for Districts 1, 2 & 3:

Niagara Fire Hall, 22 East Park Avenue

Primary candidates

Mayor: **Frank M. North (D)**
Mark Brunton (R)

Council: **Steven J. Volkert (D)**
Anthony J. Perno, III (D)
James Moore (R)
Steve Rogers (R)

County Budget introduced

The Camden County Freeholders introduced a 2010 Budget of \$323 million that increases employee contribution toward health benefits, freezes wages for employees not covered by current union contracts, has a wage cut for elected officials, and imposes furlough days for all non-public safety employees and raises taxes a net 2.3 percent. This year's budget reflects a statewide budget crisis that has cut an estimated \$1.8 million in direct funding and several million in funding to county agencies that the county government supports. They come on top of mandated increases like a \$1 million hike in pension costs, a \$5 million increase in health insurance, and the cost - in excess of \$1 million dollars - of the historic storms this past winter.

Resurfacing of Evesham Road

The Camden County Board of Freeholders announces that milling and resurfacing of Evesham Road will begin on or about Thursday, June 3, 2010 and is scheduled to be completed by June 28th, weather permitting. The roadwork will be between the hours of 6:00 am and 3:00 pm, Monday through Friday. During this period there will be two lanes of travel, one in each direction.

Furloughs planned for 2010

The Camden County Freeholder Board, as part of its ongoing effort to increase cost savings in preparing this year's budget and anticipating a tougher year in 2011, is furloughing 750 employees without pay for 4 days in 2010. "In each of the past three years, we have cut the amount of money taxpayers pay for county government. Since 2004, we have downsized the workforce by over 600 employees without impacting services to residents."

Good Neighbor honored

Freeholder and resident, Carmen Rodriguez, received the 2010 Camden County American Red Cross Good Neighbor Award honoring individuals and groups in the community whose lives and contributions to the community mirror the humanitarian principals of the Red Cross. This award was She was honored with two others May 13, 2010 at Tavis- tock County Club.

Find sheriff sales and public notices in minutes

The NJ Press Association gives you access to public notices 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to statewide notices about hearings, advertisements for bids, financial reports, adoption of ordinances, and other government activities legally requiring public notice. You can find local sheriff sales, foreclosures, RFP, bid requests for school districts, town board meetings, variances applied for and variances granted, plus many other types of public legal notices. It's free! Try it out today @ www.publicnoticeads.com/NJ

Trail user surveys online

During the past several months, RTC conducted Trail User Surveys on three community trails: the one-mile Merchantville Bike Path, the 2.5-mile Blackwood Railroad Trail and the 6.5-mile Monroe Township Bikepath. A total of 644 completed survey forms were returned to RTC for analysis. Asked if they would like to have their community trail be part of a trail network reaching across the region, 68 to 99 percent responded yes. View the surveys at www.trailink.com.

Kosherzenko fundraiser boosts MLL Girls Softball



Colleen Kosherzenko, who died tragically at the age of 23 from cancer, was part of the MLL girls softball scene throughout her childhood. Her former softball coach and family friend, Jim Brady and his daughter Shannon organized a Softball Game Fundraiser in her memory this past Sunday, May 23rd. All proceeds from the event were donated to MBBL Girls Softball. The event was attended by a crowd of more than 100 friends and fans. Her former teammates and current MLL Softball coaches donned Colleen "K" tee's to bat the ball and run the bases in her honor. The 7th inning stretch yielded a 50/50 in excess of \$100 and a gift raffle that included cases of pasta, coolers and gift baskets.

Camden County Spay and Neuter Clinic June 27

The Camden County Animal Shelter is sponsoring a spay/neuter clinic on Sunday, June 27 at the Lindenwold Senior Citizens Center 2119 White Horse Pike in Lindenwold.

For \$35 they will spay/neuter and vaccinate any cat brought in a regulation carrier. For an appointment call (856) 401-1300. Check the Camden county Animal Shelter website for a list of all their services @ www.ccasnj.org.

Great reviews for FOAM Cafe

"Been going to this great little coffee house for a few months now. Great sandwiches and soups (the chili is a personal fave!), and the muffins and cupcakes are to die for!"
"Four courses and coffee and mimosas for \$20 a person. Each course was better than the next!"

"The warm and comfortable atmosphere made us feel at home immediately. Everything we tried during our first visit was delicious and of the highest quality. The cranberry orange muffin was my surprise favorite."

"Open Mike Night on Thursday is a blast!"

Check out the FOAM facebook page and stop by to see what everyone's talking about! Tom Guggino and Bob Wagner can usually be found on Saturday nights at Foam Cafe. Bob plays harmonica and Tom plays guitar and sings. Their music is country folk and blues. If you like sweet melodies, fun and stories then come out and have a good time at Foam. The duo is called 'Cheap but not Easy' and they play from 7 to 9 pm.

Discover Andrea's Artz

Attention all savvy artists, creative individuals and those with a passion for art and its impact on the world around us. An emerging visual artist, Andrea Terika, was selected to attend the Art Instruction School of MN during high school which then lead to an undergraduate career study at Rowan University. In 2005, graduated with a BA in Art, concentration Graphic Design. She had the chance to witness the various affects urbanization art has on society while growing up in Camden and has come to realize that Art is what brings the world together. Andrea's Artz LLC @ www.andreasartz.com is the place for you offering distinctive decorative art forms. Don't hesitate to become a creative member, membership is Free! Membership includes: Quarterly " Seasonal Artz" newsletters, special offers on select original artworks by Andrea and private invitations to Andrea's art venues.



NJ Transit fares increased on May 1st

The NJ TRANSIT Board of Directors has approved new fares that took effect on May 1, 2010. The fare increase is needed to close a budget gap in Fiscal Year 2011 that is approaching \$300 million. New River Line fares: Adult One-Way:\$1.50, Reduced Fare for children, seniors and customers with disabilities: \$0.70. Local bus fares: One-zone fare will change from \$1.35 to \$1.50 and a monthly bus pass will increase from \$45.00 to \$50.00.

NJ TRANSIT Travel Alerts are available via email. They updated 6AM-10PM on weekdays and 10AM-7PM on weekends. Lines/routes are displayed on this page only if there is an alert or advisory in effect. **My Transit** is NJ Transit free email alert system, delivering critical travel information about delays, service disruptions, schedule changes and more to your cell phone, handheld wireless device or email inbox. Log on @ www.njtransit.com to learn more.

Camden Catholic HS @ www.camdencatholic.org

Camden Catholic High School's "Irish Summer" program of athletic camps and theater and enrichment programs for area elementary and high school students kicks off with the first session of Boys Basketball Camp beginning June 21. This year's Summer Theater Program takes place July 12 through 29. It is aimed at two age groups: grades 3-8 and grades 9-12. The program runs from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Cost is \$300 per student. The Summer Enrichment Programs for students entering grades 5-9, begin on July 13 and end July 30, with two morning sessions at 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Topics include study skills, math skills, English grammar and composition, Spanish, journalism, art techniques, environmental science, and forensic science. Cost is \$200 for one session; \$350 for two sessions.

Woodbine Swim Club @ www.woodbineswimclub.com

Since 1958, Woodbine Swim Club has been providing families of the greater Merchantville area with a home away from home for the summer. Woodbine is much more than just a place with a pool; we are a community of families who make those beautiful summer days even more enjoyable. You can swim, play basketball, dig in the sandbox, enjoy the company of friends in the sun or in the shade, or even at a party. Some of our members spent the summer here as children and now they are sharing that experience with their own children. Woodbine is the place to build memories that last a lifetime. For information about how you can join in the fun, please contact Linda Bakshas at 856-663-9742.

Moorestown Friends @ www.mfriends.org

ESF offers four different camps: NEW for 2010! Innovation Project (ages 10-16) for students interested in a fun and unique summer experience focused on innovation, creativity, communication, problem solving and collaboration! Day Camp (ages 4-8) features arts & crafts, swimming, sports, music & drama, world cultures, science, fencing, martial arts, archery, theme days, special events and much more. Sports Camp (ages 7-14) offers instruction and league games in soccer, basketball, baseball, street hockey, lacrosse, team handball, football and golf with swimming available daily. Senior Camp (ages 9-15) includes art, swimming, sports, archery, martial arts, fencing and "True Life Adventures" into the worlds of outdoor adventure, drama, broadcast media, music production, ESF Ultimate Games, cooking and more. ESF camps offer 2-9 week options. Extended day available.

Mommy and Me Music Classes

Come and enjoy a host of new themes this summer! We've expanded our age-group offerings to include preschoolers and beyond! Week-long camps are \$99, Don't miss out on the fun with your 6 months to 4 year old ! This is a great way to bond and learn with your child. We feature instrument play, interactive songs, live music, dancing, puppets, picture book songs, rhythm and movement! Our July session begins Friday, July 2 at 1-1:45 p.m. Only \$55 for five weeks! Call us today to find out more! Parsons Center for the Arts, 100 West maple Avenue, Merchantville. Visit our website @ www.parsonsart.net or call 856.904.1971 for information.

Merchantville Parks & Playgrounds

The Borough offers a Summer Parks and Playgrounds Recreation Program for the children of Merchantville scheduled from June 28, 2010 through July 30, 2010. Children who have completed pre-K through 10 years of age are invited to participate. Fees: \$100.00 for Merchantville Resident -1st child; \$80.00 for second child and \$125.00 for Non-residents. Registration will be available at the Birthday Celebration or on the first day of the program. The program takes place on the grounds of the Community Center at 212 Somerset Avenue. Resident Patricia Fields, who teaches at Merchantville School will run the program. Call 856-662-2472 ext. for more information.

PVI HS @ www.pvi.org

Paul VI High School will be offering a three-week theatre camp for students entering grades 5-9 from July 6th – July 29th from 10:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.. These students will be given the opportunity to explore their creativity while strengthening their skills in acting, voice and dance classes instructed by a team of professionals under the direction of Paul VI High School's theatre staff and teachers of the Next Stage Dance & Drama Academy. All classes and rehearsals will be held at Paul VI High School and culminate with a performance of "Once on This Island, Jr" on Thursday, July 29, 2010. Cost is \$400.

The Goddard School @ www.goddardschool.com

Most summer camps for kids offer plenty of play. But how many prepare your child for school readiness while creating joyful, lasting summer memories? The Goddard School® goes far beyond just summer camp fun. Our summer program combines songs, stories, exploration, physical activities and learning adventures in a safe, nurturing environment. Science and Nature, Arts and Crafts, Manners, Computers and Technology, Literature and Language, Music and Movement, Sports and Games, Cooking and Drama are brought to life. Local school programs are available in Cherry Hill at 2050 Springdale Road, Phone: 856-751-7234 or in Moorestown at 235 Strawbridge Drive, Phone: 856-235-7006

Saint Peter's Cherub's Summer Program

All families who are registered members of our parish and have children who will be entering 1st, 2nd, or 3rd grade in public, parochial, private, or home school the following September are invited to send those children to our Cherub's Summer Program. Fun activities are provided in a Catholic atmosphere with a special emphasis on our beautiful faith. Activities include arts & crafts, games, music, stories, snacks, and a talent show with prizes for all. Our Cherub's program is limited to 20 students on a first come basis. A donation of \$30 per child is requested to help defray our expenses.



Tips for Mosquito and Pest free yards

All pre-adult mosquito stages must be in stagnant water to develop into adult mosquitoes. Swimming pools are a common problem. All pools must be checked and maintained to keep them mosquito-free. Maintain screens to prevent adult mosquitoes from entering your home or business. Personal protection is strongly urged if you are outside when mosquitoes may be active - generally dawn and dusk. Insect repellants containing between 10-35% DEET are very effective, however, be sure to follow the label directions and take extra precautions with children and infants.

The Camden County Mosquito Commission suggests checking around your yard for mosquito breeding containers. For more information call 856-566-2945.

Here are some tips to help eliminate mosquito breeding:

Dispose of unnecessary containers that hold water or turn them upside down or put holes in the bottom so all water drains out.

Dump the water from the flowerpot dishes every week.

Stock fish or add mosquito larvicide to ornamental ponds.

Change bird bath, fountains and pet bowl water weekly.

Screen vents to septic and other water tanks.

Keep boats upside down or positioned to drain.

Keep tarps watertight so water won't pool on top.

Don't dump leaves or clippings into basins or streams.

Do not allow water to collect on sagging awnings.

Do not allow trashcan lids to fill with water.

Recent changes to state laws

On April 1, 2010, current signs which say YIELD to pedestrians in a crosswalk must say STOP for a pedestrians in a crosswalk. Chapter 319, 2009 A-1329 revises laws concerning pedestrian safety and traffic control and requires drivers to stop and remain stopped for pedestrians under certain conditions. The law was passed by the legislature on 1/18/2009 and is effect.

On the same day changes to the Graduated Driver License (GDL) law were addressed and include displaying an identifying decal on the front and rear license plate. In addition, Parent / Teen Orientation is discussed as an important way for families who have teens approaching driving age to get the most up to date information about the GDL Law, driver education and training, insurance requirements and current resources that are available to both teens and parents. Information about NJ state laws can be accessed @ www.njleg.state.nj.us

Condo fire causes residents and pets to evacuate

Dozens of emergency personnel and volunteers battled a blaze at the Greenleigh Court condominiums that broke out after noon on May 4th. Smoke was seen streaming from a third-floor residence of the A building in the complex located in the 200 block of Maple Avenue. There were no injuries but a cat and some dogs were being treated by rescuers. The cause of the fire is under investigation but thought to be caused by wiring. A great gallery of photos are available on the Action News Channel 6 website @ abclocal.go.com/wpvi.

BOE awards contracts for coming year

The Merchantville board of education approved contracts for "professional services" for a one-year term commencing April 27, 2010 until the Reorganization of the Board of Education.

1. Auditor CPA Solutions, Inc.
2. Board Solicitor Leonard Wood, Wade, Long, Wood & Kennedy
3. School Physician Dr. Goberman
4. Insurance Broker of Record Conner-Strong
5. Business Administrator William Thompson
6. Treasurer of School Funds Carin Haabak
7. Regulatory Services PARS Environmental
8. Purchasing Agent William Thompson
9. Architect of Record Lammey and Giorgio
10. Official Newspapers The Courier Post & The Retrospect

School Budget for 2010 - 2011 Decreased by 12%

Proposed Tax Increase = 4% or \$39/yr for average household (\$32.50 per \$100,000 of assessed value)

Included in the 2010 -2011 School Year Budget that was voted down on April were reduced the following:

- Pre-K 4 year old program eliminated
- Kindergarten reduced from full to half-day program
- Guidance counselor position eliminated
- Non-instructional aides reduced by 40%
- Physical education program reduced by 50%
- Music instruction program reduced by 50%
- Computer instruction reduced by 60%
- Secretarial/administrative support services reduced
- Reduced allowable surplus from \$250,000 to \$175,000
- Reduced maintenance/custodial purchased services
- Reduced OT, PT & Speech services
- No new computer equipment purchases
- No textbook purchases
- Minimal supply budget
- Salary freeze for the Chief School Administrator
- Reduced co-curriculars & clubs - looking for volunteers

The Budget was defeated by a vote of 198 (yes) to 203 (no).

Newly Elected School Board members: Mark Iannucci (262), Jennifer Perno (263) and Edward Bohn (277).

Kindergarten registration

Merchantville School held registration for Kindergarten on Monday, May 3rd. Any resident who was unable to attend may pick up a packet in the office in advance. At the time of registration parents must bring proof of residency. Home owners will need a copy of their deed and tenants must bring a copy of their lease and sworn statement from their landlord. Proof of age in the form of a birth certificate and a current vaccination record and physical exam are also required.

Eight grade graduation will take place on Monday, June 21st at 6:30 p.m. in the Auditorium. The class has been fundraising for graduation events but has fallen short of their goal and is looking for sponsors. If interested please make checks payable to Merchantville 8th Grade. More information about school activities can be found @ merchantvillepta.org. BOE agenda and minutes can be found @ www.merchantville.k12.nj.us.

Task Force sponsors Spring Cleanup

The Merchantville Task Force sponsored a Spring Cleanup on May 1st from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Residents and neighbors met at the gazebo at Centre & Chestnut poised with rakes and shovels to help spruce up the Boro. As in years past, there were free hot dogs and drinks after wards for all who help courtesy of PNC Bank. The picking up, sweeping up, raking up and planting of the Downtown, West End Business District, Wellwood park and the Community Center received a great jump start from this event for the coming season of community events. Thanks to all who came out to support this beautification!

Merchantville Historical Society News



At the April meeting the society discussed the possibility of an open meeting in October on the topic of paranormal investigations. It was revealed that the South Jersey Ghost Research group has visited a local home with interesting results. They will be contacting a speaker from this nonprofit organization to attend this meeting.

It was decided that our Historical Society tee shirt would be imprinted with five post cards from our collection. The shirts will be available for the first time at our Birthday Celebration table at a cost of \$10 (M, L, XL) and \$12 (XXL). They would like to make this the first of a series of "post card shirts" depicting Merchantville's history.

Any members who would like to receive minutes via email please contact Marge Disch @ mmdisch@comcast.net or by phone at 856-663-4855.

mind * body * spirit * union

On March 1st Manifest Health Alternative Medicine opened it's doors at 220 N. Centre Street in Merchantville. Lifelong resident and owner, Brigid Brennan, is a certified Ayurvedic Health Practitioner from the California College of Ayurveda and Massage Therapist from the Lourdes Institute of Wholistic Studies. She offers Individual and Group Yoga Lessons, Ayurvedic Consultations, Shiatsu, Swedish and Pregnancy Massage, Reiki Sessions, Hula Hoop Group and Workshops of all kinds. Also teaching at Manifest Health are Melissa Walling, Alyson Pray and Toulia Cucinotta, Melissa has been practicing and studying yoga for 12 Years. She is a registered yoga teacher and did her training at Yogawood in Collingswood NJ. Alyson Pray, a dance instructor and certified Reiki practitioner who grew up in Pennsauken, teaches movement-based healing classes and offers holistic lifestyle and nutritional consultations. Toulia is a recent graduate from Vhyana Yoga in Philadelphia and teaches all levels of Vinyasa yoga.

View the class schedule and learn more about the healing powers of meditation, massage and yoga on their facebook page or website @ www.manifesthealthnj.com.

Register for St. Pete's fall football season

Registration for the 2010 Football and Cheerleading season is \$135 a child and is open to all children ages 5-14 regardless of what school you go to or what town you live in! Please click the "Calendar" link for our dates in May, June and July. Registrations taken after the July dates will be \$150. You can print the forms from the "Handouts" link. All registrations must be paid in full by July 22, 2010. No equipment or uniforms will be issued unless you are paid in full. Ask how you can earn your registration back if you are paid in full by July 22, 2010. Anyone new to the organization or anyone that did not play last year must hand in a copy of a birth certificate.

Mothers Helping Mothers

If you are home with the kids during the day or are new to the area try our group. We are a nonprofit Mother's Group that meets every first and third Friday morning each month at the First Presbyterian Church in Merchantville, NJ (space rental only, no affiliation). We provide a social and support network for moms and our children, as well as a staffed nursery for infants to 6 year-olds, monthly kids' outings, monthly Moms' Nights Out as well as playgroups and community service projects. Contact Us Today! If you are interested in joining or would like more information, please contact Amber Bibelheimer at faithandhope@hotmail.com. We look forward to sharing coffee, cake, and camaraderie at our next meeting. Tell a neighbor, bring a friend, and spread the word! You can also visit us @ www.mothershelpingmothers.com.

Grace Church Food Pantry

Please keep your generosity coming and, as you shop remember the following items that need replenishing: Packages of dried milk, canned meats, canned fish, canned stews, canned fruit, Peanut butter and jelly, cereals, pasta and pasta sauce, packaged and canned soups, beans, macaroni and cheese dinners, and anything else your discretion might deem acceptable. Monetary donations to buy food will be gratefully accepted and used to purchase items low in supply. If you can spare a few hours of your time about once a month, we can use additional help assisting dispensing food at the Food Pantry. Please call Dolores Clark at 662-6209 or Normal Bush at 786-6911 to volunteer or if you have any other questions about the Food Pantry.

Cafe BellaVita warms the heart

Located in the center of Merchantville, Cafe BellaVita is our own little Italian Bistro. Cafe' BellaVita serves up the finest Italian fare



with exciting dishes. Every dish is created using only the freshest, finest ingredients. Carlo Finazzo and Linda Vendome make every guest feel welcome as they serve up the finest meats and seafood, freshest vegetables, and fresh baked dinner breads daily. Their award

winning menu and attention to detail create a truly enjoyable dining experience! @ www.cafebellavita.com or 856-665-8388.

MERCHANTVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY • 130 SOUTH CENTRE STREET

Registration for any program is available 3 weeks in advance of the event date.

Call for registration at Merchantville (856-665-3128) or register online at <http://www.camdencountylibrary.org/events>

Adult, Children and Family Programs June and July 2010

Little Ones Playgroup - Saturdays, 11 a.m. – 12 noon

Birth to 3 years and their caregivers

Meet our youngest members and make new friends. We have special books and toys too!

I Really Like NJ - Wednesday, June 9, 3:30 p.m.

All ages

Local singer/songwriter Sara O'Brien celebrates the community where you live. A program inspired by "The New Jersey Song" and "Fly Me to My Home". Kids will be encouraged to take pride in their community & learn that what they do and where they live matters. Create community through music and self-expression!

Investigating Invertebrates - Tuesday, June 15, 3:30 p.m.

Grades Pre-K – 6

Animals without bones? How can that be? Yet, invertebrates outnumber by far their bony relatives and are among the most successful creatures on the planet. Get a hands-on look at some of these weird yet wonderful creatures. Presented by the New Jersey Academy for the Aquatic Sciences

Real Pirates of Philadelphia - Wednesday, June 23, 2:30 p.m.

Grades K – 5

Looking for a buried treasure? For a pirate, this was often not a chest of gold but sugar, tobacco or other ship cargos. The Independence Seaport Museum helps us discover the role of early maritime economics from the point of view of 17th and 18th century pirates and privateers. Philadelphia was once considered a pirate depot and pirates actually played a large role in the American Revolution. Plus, one lucky student will get to dress up like a pirate!

Jingle Jangle Wind Chime - Wednesday, June 30, 2:30 p.m.

Grades K – 5

Seashells are beautiful and can make music in the wind. Make wind chimes so you can admire the music! Presented by Maggi Liebe, Camden County Environmentalist

Summer Puzzle Afternoon - Thursday, 7/1, 7/8, 7/15, 7/22 & 7/29, 2:30 p.m.

Join us for a relaxing afternoon. We'll have a least 2 ongoing puzzles to stimulate your thought processes and light refreshments to fill you up!

Merchantville Film Forum - Wednesday, July 7, 6:30 p.m.

Adults 18 and older

Join other adults for screening and discussion of classic films. Bring your dinner in a sack. We have the water, snacks, pizza and soda. Call for titles.

A Message from Mayor North – continued from page 1

These were great games and loads of fun when played in the early evening hours. What could be more fun than hanging out with friends, enjoying pizza and soda at the end of the day?

What is described sounds like the perfect summer for our children. Unfortunately, I regret that this is not what has been going on since the weather has gotten warmer. Both our police and public works department are reporting soda cans, candy wrappers and other debris thrown on the ground in the parks, rather than depositing rubbish in trashcans. Damage to park benches, tables and public property are the primary result of skateboarders using these items to hone their skills.

I have personally stopped and talked to many of these young people and asked that they refrain from using foul language, pick up after themselves, and not to use skateboards on the benches or vandalize public property. With the exception of one time, the kids have been very respectful.

In my youth there was always a parent at home. Today's economy has, unfortunately, made it necessary for both parents to work, leaving many school age children alone at home during the day. I would encourage all children to entertain themselves playing games of volleyball, softball, baseball or tennis at one of our three sports fields.

I am hoping that all residents of Merchantville have a safe, and happy summer. That wish includes all members of our Borough family of Police, Fire Department and Public Works employees as well. Let's work together to make that wish a reality.

Car Show rolling back into town this July



After a year hiatus, back by popular demand is the 12th annual Merchantville Car Show. This event has seen significant growth over the past 12 years to over 800 cars. Originally started as a local day of fun for families in Merchantville and the surrounding communities, it has grown to draw participants from over 9 states and fill up most of the major parks and thoroughfares throughout the town center. All proceeds from the event benefit the Merchantville Task Force, a non-profit organization dedicated to the enrichment of the community and downtown area.

The day is comprised of a large car show that features cars, trucks, motorcycles, vintage bicycles – virtually anything with wheels – with various family-oriented activities throughout the late afternoon and evening. The major streets through town – Park Avenue, Chestnut Avenue, and Centre Street are closed to traffic and participating vehicles are displayed on the roads and parking lots along these streets. Food from among the best local establishments as well as automotive novelty vendors are located along the show route and in the town center park near the old train station. Street entertainers – magicians, DJ's, live bands, and a Center State show with Elvis Impersonator "Mark Reno" – entertain the crowd.

Hundreds of town and local volunteers provide information and assistance! Just look for people in the Car Show T-Shirts. Safety rules for the show include: No open alcohol, boom boxes, bicycles, scooters, skateboards and rollerblades on Show Grounds. Information and registration is available on their website @ www.merchantvillesscarshow.com.

Make Merchantville's downtown your destination

Keep your eyes peeled for the opening of Olivia's Corner Cafe where The Half Moon Cafe was located.

Check out the treasures at K & K Antiques, 21 North Centre.

Get great service and a home-cooked meal day or night at the Merchantville Diner, 24 South Centre.

Then work off all those meals at American Karate Systems, 44 West Chestnut.

PSE&G launches pole-mounted solar project

Over the last month, Public Service Electric & Gas, New Jersey's largest power company has been installing solar panels on light and utility poles across its distribution network in an effort



to meet a state mandate that 20 percent of electricity come from alternative energy sources by 2020. They have asked New Jersey regulators to approve a \$773-million proposal to bring the benefits of 120 megawatts of solar power directly to communities and customers throughout its service territory.

This will be the largest pole-mounted solar project in the United States. The program will result in savings to municipal and county budgets and will utilize brownfields and other underdeveloped properties for solar generation. Read more about this installation at www.philly.com.

Pay your MPWC bill online

The Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission now accepts online payments. Just select the "Pay Your Bill" button right from our homepage. In order to pay your bill online, you will need your account number and your PIN number, both of which are located on your bill. If you have not yet received a bill containing your PIN number, contact the Customer Service Department. Please have your account number ready when calling for your PIN. Most major credit cards are accepted (the system does not currently accept Visa credit cards), as well as all forms of Debit (including Visa), or you may pay directly from your checking account via e-Check. If you have any additional questions, please contact our Customer Service Department Monday thru Friday From 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM.

Dine downtown in comfort and style



The Blue Monkey Tavern on the first floor at 2 South Centre Street now occupies the space where the Collins House Restaurant used to be. The tavern was entirely renovated in 2008 with a 20 foot square mahogany bar as the room's centerpiece with more than 7 HD flat screen televisions throughout the bar. There are a variety of seating types throughout for groups big and small and larger, more private areas to accommodate small gatherings. The Gungor brothers undertook a complete renovation of this historic Collins House in the summer of 2008 under the direction of resident Joe Miraglia, owner of DSGNTEC, an interior design firm. The exterior was completely painted and appointed with new windows, awnings and signs.

