

Volume Thirteen
Issue Four
Spring 2007

The air is like a butterfly , With frail blue wings .



www.merchantville.com

Borough of Merchantville, New Jersey

Merchantville Borough Newsletter

See you at the Merchantville Arts Fest!

The 12th annual Merchantville Crafts and Fine Art Festival is right around the corner! On May 19th and 20th, our town will be filled with people checking out fine arts and crafts by artisans coming from both near (right here in Merchantville) and far (12 different states- from New Hampshire to Florida). We are looking forward to a fantastic weekend and hope to see many residents checking out the artwork on Centre Street! Of course, as a town we want to welcome both artists and visitors by showing our best side.

In addition to the artists on Centre Street, the Niagara Fire Company will be hosting a wine and beer garden. All patrons to the garden must be 21 or older, and sales will benefit the fire company. Earth Tones, a fine art and craft store located at 19 N Centre Street will be showcasing some of its featured artists demonstrating their crafts in the courtyard in front of the store (weather permitting).

Business owners: the festival runs from 10AM to 7PM on Saturday, and from 10AM to 5PM on Sunday. This is a great opportunity to generate new business, and possible repeat business with a bounce-back coupon. And don't forget, you want to stay open for the duration of the festival. Even if you normally close at five, consider staying open until at least 7PM on Saturday to maximize potential business.

We can all contribute to a fun and profitable Festival weekend. Remember to smile, and be patient with people unfamiliar with our town. Festival volunteers will be available to provide directions and information, and will be easy to spot in the Arts Fest T-Shirts. There will also be an information booth set up at the corner of Centre and Park.

Other helpful information for the weekend:

The following streets will be closed: Centre Street, from Maple to Walnut will be closed to vehicular traffic from 6AM on Saturday May 19th through Sunday May 20th at 7PM. Park and Chestnut will open overnight on Saturday. Please plan your route through town accordingly.

Main festival parking will be at the lot behind PNC Bank for visitors, the school lots for Artists, and the Verizon Lot for short-term business district parking. Signs will direct traffic to the appropriate places. Please understand that visitors may park on side streets as well.

Please do not remove any festival signage. It is there to help traffic flow and to direct festival visitors. If you have any issues with parking or signs, please speak to a festival volunteer.

Tables and chairs will be set up on Park between Centre and Maple for people to sit and enjoy refreshments. There will be food vendors set up near PNC Bank and at Chestnut and Centre.

Port-a-pots will be located behind Boro Hall by the police station, near the EMS building and also near the gazebo.

Please be courteous to the crafters. They are our guests and also potential customers.

Thank you to all of Merchantville's businesses who have displayed the festival poster in their windows and given out festival postcards to their customers. We are all looking forward to a terrific festival weekend!

The Arts Fair has been made possible in part by the Camden County Cultural and Heritage Commission through the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State (a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts).



Borough Council Meetings

Occur on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month upstairs in Borough Hall from September to May and on the 2nd Monday of the month during the summer. They are open to the public and minutes are available to the public on the town website or in the business office at Borough Hall after they have been approved.

2007

**BOROUGH NEWSLETTER
PUBLICATION SCHEDULE**

JANUARY 6th
FEBRUARY 24th
MARCH 17th
MAY 19th
JUNE 30th
 (Submissions due by June 16th)
AUGUST 18th
 (Submissions due by August 4th)
OCTOBER 6th
 (Submissions due by September 22nd)
NOVEMBER 17th
 (Submissions due by November 3rd)

Email newsletter submissions to:
newsletter@merchantville.com

Delivery concerns should be directed to:
Community Affairs Officer
Fred Kohler @ 856-662-2474 ext. 120

FREE SENIOR CITIZEN LEGAL WORKSHOP 2007 SCHEDULE

Free workshops enabling Camden County Senior and Disabled Citizens to acquire a Will, Living Will and Power of Attorney are held as follows: The first Monday, the third Monday and the fourth Monday of each month at the County Store in Echelon Mall in Voorhees and on the second Monday of each month at the Cherry hill Public Library. For time, date and pre-registration please phone: (1-800-613-1199)

2007 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

May 19 & 20 - 12 annual Arts & Fine Crafts Festival
 May 22 - BOE Budget Hearing, 7:30 p.m. in the Public Library
 May 22 - Master Plan Meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the Community Center
 May 28 - Memorial Day Services at Wellwood Park
 May 29 - Borough Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m. in Borough Hall
 June 5 - Historic Preservation Meeting, 7:30 p.m. in Borough Hall
 June 9 - 133rd Birthday Celebration & Street Fair
 June 11 - Borough Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m. at Borough Hall
 June 12 - Board of Education Meeting, 7:30 p.m. in the Public Library

Information about Borough, Community & Organization meetings and events can be found @ www.merchantville.com. For updates and additions to the Calendar between newsletter publication dates please visit the town website.

Merchantville's 2007 Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, June 5th. Residents can access information about the election through The League of Women Voters or the Camden County Board of Elections. The following residents have filed petitions for the primary.

Camden County Democrat Committee, Inc.

James F. Kelly, Jr. (One Year Term)
 Christina Winters
 Anthony J. Perno, III

Camden County Regular Republican Party

Steven Volkert (One Year Term)
 Nicholas DiMatteo
 Mark Brunton

Republicans for Open Government

Gail E. Ford (One Year Term)
 Rosemari Hicks
 Marvin C. Gaskill

MERCHANTVILLE GARDEN CLUB NEWS

You may have noticed evidence of the Garden Club hard at work on the town gardens. A small group of dedicated ladies (mostly, sometimes with assistance of husbands and others) have cleaned up the beds and are in the process of Spring planting. Help is always appreciated as we attempt to maintain the gardens....weeding and watering are an ongoing process!



We are in the process of arranging our Summer evening walking tours. Although the dates are not set as yet, we hope to have tours in June and July, which are usually midweek in the 3rd or 4th week of the month. ***Watch for further information.***

The Garden Club is currently looking for a new president. Our current president has returned to full time employment and therefore wishes to relinquish her duties.

Please contact Jane Homon at 665-0149 or lapajar@yahoo.com if you can help with the gardens, want more information, and/or have any prospects for a new president.

Kelly's Ride



Ride with us on June 2nd to honor the life of one and heal the lives of many! One great destination, Two scenic routes to choose from, Three great beneficiary organizations!

Kelly's Ride is the newest benefit bicycle ride to debut in the Delaware Valley., founded to assist young girls in need. We welcome bicyclists of all skill levels to ride with us to Ocean City, NJ and raise funds to support Robins' Nest, Inc., Amigos de Jesus Orphanage, and the Philadelphia University Scholarship Fund in honor and memory of Kelly Marie Vogdes.

Metric Century Ride: (approx. 65 miles)
Leaving from Lenape High School, Medford to Ocean City, NJ

EZ Cruise Alternative Ride: (approx. 25 miles)
Leaving from Mays Landing, to Ocean City NJ

Sign-up Today @ www.kellysride.com

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Director of Customer Services/Administrative
Assistant Public Water Distribution Utility



The Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission is seeking a qualified candidate to serve as their Director of Customer Service. This position is an administrative/staff position that reports directly to the Chief Operating Officer and has primary focus over managing all aspects of customer account activity. Qualified candidates should possess strong interpersonal skills, strong Computer Skills (Microsoft Office Suite) and have a demonstrated background and experience in the area of customer service/public relations. This position is open to all residents of either Pennsauken Township or the Borough of Merchantville and to those willing to relocate to accept this challenging position. We offer an excellent benefits package and a salary range commensurate with qualifications. Interested/qualified candidates may submit a personal resume, along with salary history and requirements to: msaraceni@mpwc.com, or mail to;

Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission
20 West Maple Avenue, Merchantville, NJ 08109

Attention: Michael A. Saraceni, Chief Operating Officer

The MPWC is an equal opportunity employer.



MERCHANTVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY 2007 SUMMER PROGRAM CALENDAR

Monday, May 14th at 4:00 p.m. For Children of all ages.

MR. MALCOLM'S ON BOARD FOR PIRATE TALES!

Join Mr. Malcolm for Pirate Week. Enjoy an interactive retelling of "Pirates of the Caribbean" and "The Curse of the Black Pearl"

Tuesday, June 5th at 3:30 p.m. For Children of all ages.

MR. MALCOLM PRESENTS "CARS" : Join us for an interactive presentation of the animated movie "Cars."

Wednesday, June 13th, 20th & 27th at 7:00 p.m. For Children of all ages.

SING ALONG WITH MISS DONNA: Miss Donna returns with her traveling guitar to sing silly songs with you. Snacks and fun for all!

Thursday, June 14th at 3:00 p.m. For Children of all ages.

SUMMER READING KICK OFF: Miss Colette's Petting Zoo, including shy bunnies, riding birds, mischievous ferrets. Snacks and prizes.

Wednesday, June 20th at 2:30 p.m. For Children of all ages.

PAPER AND GLUE DAY: Create a decoupage container.

Wednesday, June 27th at 2:30 p.m. For Children grades K thru 5.

CANDLE MANIA: Create a summer candle. Snacks and fun for all.

Wednesday, July 11 at 2:30 p.m. For Children grades K thru 5.

SAND ART: Create summer sand art. Snacks and fun for all!

Wednesday, July 18th at 2:30 p.m. For Children grades K thru 5.

JEWELRY CRAFT: String a necklace and/or bracelet to keep, using glass, plastic and macaroni beads. Fun and snacks for all.

Wednesday, July 25th at 2:30 p.m. For Children grades K thru 5.

SUNNY DAYS: Paint a sun catcher; prizes and snacks provided.

Thursdays, July 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th at 2:30 p.m. Children of all ages.

THOROUGHLY THURSDAY MOVIE AFTERNOONS: Watch a recently released feature film. Snacks provided!

Wednesdays, July 11th, 18th and 25th from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. For Adults over 18 years.

DINNER AND A MOVIE: Bring a light, brown-bag dinner; we'll provide bottled water and snacks. Join us for a film and discussion afterwards.

Saturdays, June 2nd thru August 25th from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. For Children age birth to two years and their caregivers.

MERCHANTVILLE LITTLE ONE'S PLAYGROUP: Join us for a chance to meet our youngest members and make new friends!! We have lots of books, toys and pillows for use.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR ALL PROGRAMS

856-665-3128



Margaret (Marge) Moore, a long time resident of Merchantville, now residing at Moorestown Estates, celebrated her 100th Birthday on April 22, 2007.
CONGRATULATIONS!

BOROUGH DOG OWNERS

Licensing fee correction: The licensing fees quoted in past issues of the newsletter were incorrect. The correct fees are \$9.00 for neutered dogs and \$12.00 for non-neutered dogs. Late fees will be assessed to all licenses issued after March 31, 2007. Unregistered dog owners are subject to a fine of not more than \$50.00 per dog. Registration forms can be printed off the borough website.



Merchantville's 133rd Birthday Celebration & Street Fair

Saturday, June 9, 2007

Time: 10:00 - 3:00

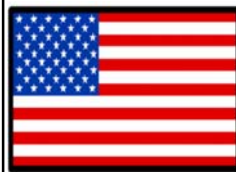
Please join us on Saturday, June 9th for our 133rd Birthday Celebration & Downtown Street Fair. This event brings residents, neighbors and visitors together for a day of shopping, exhibitions and yummy food in our historic downtown. Vendors will line Centre Street under tents brimming with a variety of unique products, services and tasty creations. A DJ, balloon bounces, dunk tank and performances by local dancers...a victorian baby parade, huge birthday cake and much, much more.

See you there!

Vendor spaces are still available. Print a Registration Form online
@www.merchantville.com

For More Information: Contact Kris Sodano
Email:birthday@merchantville.com

Merchantville was chosen as "a solid bet" in the next ten years in the March issue of Philadelphia magazine. In the issue there's a town-by-town real estate performance review with projections for 40 places in the greater Philadelphia area "whose names will go up in lights", including Merchantville as one of four solid bets in Camden County! The article covers population and wealth shifts, redeveloped suburban downtowns, buying trends and signs of neighborhood vitality. Pick up an issue at the News Nook or take a peek online...



MERCHANTVILLE'S MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES

will take place on

MONDAY, MAY 28TH

**10:00 A.M. at the VETERAN'S MEMORIAL
in WELLWOOD PARK**

These services will be held at Borough Hall if raining.

MERCHANTVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



The Historical Society is very excited about the work in progress which will enable us to apply for a grant to renovate and restore the Community Center. Margaret Westfield, of Westfield Architects & Preservation Consultants, is undertaking the task of compiling the data needed to submit a very comprehensive application to the State of New Jersey. The end result will be the awarding of a grant which will allow us to address the needs of the Community Center to bring it back to its full potential as a center for many of our community's events and groups. The society would be able to expand and establish a resource center for researchers and those who want to learn more about Merchantville's rich and rewarding past.

The support of Borough Council in this endeavor is most appreciated and significant. We are also in the process of establishing a link on the Merchantville website which will enable people to review some of the books in our collection. See you at the birthday celebration. We will have various books and ornaments for sale.



OLD EYE GLASSES & HEARING AIDS

The Merchantville Lions Club is collecting old eye glasses, frames and hearing aids. Please donate any that you have to help the needy. Recently the Lions of NJ donated over 20,000 used eye glasses to third world countries. They may be dropped off in collection boxes at the following location:

**UNITED STATES POST OFFICE
MAPLE AVE., MERCHANTVILLE, NJ 08109**

Any questions please call: (856) 663-5871

SUMMER IS GETTING CLOSE



This is the time of year when residents start to think about improvements to the outside of their homes and yards. Things such as swimming pools, decks, gazebos, new fences, sheds, garages, and additions.

Please remember to contact the Code Enforcement, and Zoning Office BEFORE you start ANY home project. Walter Sikorski is the Code Enforcement and Zoning Officer. He will be glad to assist you in filing the proper forms for permits, variances, and any other paperwork necessary to get your project completed as quickly as possible.

Please call Walter at 856-662-2474 ext.110 or email: codeenforcement@merchantville.com for an appointment to talk about the requirements and restrictions for each project.

Downpour no Match for Arbor Day Celebrants

Standing under our umbrellas with torrential rain drumming down we could hardly hear ourselves, let alone each other, speak. Only the host, recently transplanted to a new home in Merchantville, seemed not to notice the stormy weather. This year's Arbor Day tree (a Flowering Crabapple) stood serenely as dozens of people - representing the Lions Club, Borough Council, Water Commission, Shade Tree Commission, Saint Peter's Student Council, and town residents - gathered to dedicate it to the living past Mayors of Merchantville who, along with our current Mayor, Frank North, were in attendance. A plaque with their names, G. Burton German, George T. Hammond, John F. Morrissey, and Patrick J. Brennan, had been placed at the base of the tree and was unveiled at the ceremony.

Two things impressed me that day. First, a quick count estimates that the four past Mayors represent over 65 years of public service to this community. Second, this is Merchantville's 29th consecutive year as a Tree City, USA. Because the requirements are not only observing Arbor Day but having an active community forestry program, this represents countless volunteers hours on the part of Merchantville citizens who have served on the Shade Tree Commission.

Please visit this year's Arbor Day tree on the railroad right-of-way across from 25 Chestnut St. as well as one planted by the Water Commission a few yards to the east. If you would like more information about the Merchantville Shade Tree Commission, visit the Merchantville web site, contact one of its members, or come to a meeting on the second Wednesday of every month at 7:00 PM in the library. And remember, while the best time to plant a tree was yesterday, the second best time is today!

The Good Old Summer-time

A Victorian Baby Parade Saturday, June 9th at 10 am



Come one come all! Please join us at Merchantville's Annual Birthday Celebration and Baby Parade. The event is sponsored by the Merchantville Junior Woman's Club. The little tots will sashay down the promenade in our beautiful Victorian era town. Meet the ladies of the Merchantville Juniors along

Park Avenue from 9:30 - 10:15 to register for the parade. Every baby receives a prize!

The GFWC Junior Woman's Club of the Merchantville Area, Inc. serves the local and global community through support of charities ranging from local libraries and fire departments to breast cancer research to CARE. This year, we will be focusing on raising money for Children's Specialized Hospital Foundation. Children's Specialized Hospital is the

Merchantville Named Tree City USA

Merchantville has been named a Tree City USA community by The National Arbor Day Foundation to honor its commitment to community forestry. It is the twenty-ninth year Merchantville has received this national recognition.

The tree City USA program is sponsored by The National Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service.

Merchantville has met the four standards to become a Tree City USA community: a tree board or department, a tree care ordinance, a comprehensive community forestry program, and an Arbor Day observance.

"Trees in our cities and towns help clean the air, conserve soil and water, moderate temperature and bring nature into our daily lives," said John Rosenow, president of The National Arbor Day Foundation. "Tree City USA designation recognizes the work of elected officials, staff and citizens who plant and care for the community forest."

"Trees are a vital component of the infrastructure in our cities and towns, and provide environmental and economical benefits," Arbor Day Foundation President Rosenow added. "A community, and its citizens, that recognize these benefits and needed care for its trees deserves recognition and thanks."



THE MERCHANT

A SUPPLEMENT FROM THE BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

Volume 2, Issue 5

Late Summer 2006



18 S Centre Street
Merchantville
856-662-8173

DAILY SPECIALS

Tuesday

Soup with any Sandwich.....\$7.95

Wednesday

Large bowl of soup
with fresh bread.....\$4.95
Cup of soup with fresh bread.....\$3.95

Thursday

FREE 2 cup pot of tea with purchase
of any lunch entree.

Friday

Assorted finger sandwich platter with
2 cup pot of tea.....\$6.95



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featuring breakfast and lunch fare

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Reservations

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View our menus

www.collinshouse.net

**Saturday & Sunday
BRUNCH**



It's not to late . . . to plan your family vacation for 2007! In fact, now is a perfect time to book your family to Walt Disney World. Disney is offering a free dining plan for travel 8/26 through 9/22! That's an excellent value for families on a budget. Custom

Travel Services, Inc., right here in Merchantville is an Authorized Disney Vacation Planner! Call Georgiann for more details at 663-0444.

THE MERCHANTVILLE DINER

24 S. Centre Street • Merchantville,
856-663-8500



**Daily Breakfast Special
\$3.75**



Smiles for life!

Whiten Your Teeth

All proceeds to kids Charities

Here's something to smile about -

Through June we are offering professional Teeth whitening services at a reduced cost and donating 50% to **Go 4 the Goal Foundation** and 50% to **Garth Brooks' Teammates for Kids Foundation**

Gary G. Sapienza, DMD

311 East Maple Avenue, Merchantville, NJ 08019

www.SapienzaDental.com

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WATER PLANTS!

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Your Store for All Seasons!
Fresh Cut Flowers
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Classic Colonial, Victorian &
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Tuesday - Saturday : 11 - 6
13 North Centre Street
Merchantville, NJ
(856) 662-2003
www.thecountrybloom.com



*A Handcrafted Gift Gallery
featuring the works of local artists*

19 North Centre Street ♦ Merchantville NJ
856-488-1830

Gallery Hours: Thursdays - Sundays from 11-7



STAR STYLING HAIR SALON

23 North Centre Street
Merchantville, New Jersey
856-910-1441



19 N. Centre Street
856.662.4100

Elaine Prendergast-Paulson, CYT
Paula Ryan, CYT
Janice Wilson-Stridick, CYT
Sheila McCool, RYT

@www.wellspringcenter.info
For Class Schedules



18 North Centre Street
Merchantville, NJ
08109
856-663-4722

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Goodies**



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parel
Christening & Communion
Dresses**

Visit Bayberry's Online

Stop and Crop Scrap- booking

is the newest retail addition to the Shops at North Centre, located at #16, across the street from The Country Bloom. Entrepreneurs Carly Kirk & Theresa Russell will provide you with a friendly, relaxing place where you can create and enjoy a little "me time" while scrapbooking. They will be hosting Mom's Night Out, Mom and Me, Just Bag It, and Snack and Scrap nights to name a few. Special events, private parties,

Discover the Difference of our Downtown!

Spring Planting at St. Peter's Convent by Brownie Troop 933



It finally feels like spring!! Brownie Troop 933 jumped right into the season by doing some gardening for the sisters at St. Peter Church. The girls lovingly planted pink and salmon colored impatiens in the flower garden at St. Peter's Convent. The planting has become a tradition for the troop ever since we began three years ago. Sister Alice has commented on how she looks forward to it!

This planting is the second part of a three-part environmental service program for Girl Scouts called Turf to Surf. This series of service projects is aimed to improve the natural beauty of South Jersey from the Delaware River area to the Atlantic Ocean and will take place from March to May. Troops from all over South Jersey will be taking part in Turf to Surf events to celebrate the 95th Anniversary of Girl Scouting. March was Park Clean-up Month, April is Planting Month and May is Beach Clean-up. Look for Girl Scouts

in your area making our small corner of the world just a little more beautiful! Turf to Surf is one of many Girl Scout programs designed to build girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place. For more information about Girl Scouting in South Jersey, call 856.795.1560 or visit www.gscamden.org.

St. Peter School Merchantville and 7th grader, Claire Higgins are proud recipients of the State Handwriting Award for excellence from publishing company Zane-Bloser. Claire competed with thousands of students across the state to take first place at her grade level. Last year another St. Peter Merchantville student, Ashley Russell, was the State winner for 2nd grade and later won the National title.

YARD CLEAN UP - GRASS CUTTING

Spring has finally arrived, and Summer will soon follow. Residents are reminded to bundle all tree cuttings and brush. The bundles can be no longer than 4 feet, no larger than 24 inches in diameter, and weigh no more than 50 pounds. Leaves and grass clippings must be in bags or cans. All this type of debris will be collected on your normal trash day.

Pastor Schmitz Retires . . . On Sunday, April 29, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. there was a special service and luncheon to honor Pastor Charles Schmitz Jr. from First Baptist Church who is retiring. Our community joins in thanking him for his service and wishes him years of enjoyment in his retirement.

Mayor North cut a ribbon to mark the Grand Opening of the **Chestnut Station Townhouses** on Station Lane at 4 p.m. on Thursday, March



29th. These beautiful downtown two bedroom, two and a half bath townhomes feature dedicated parking spots, high efficiency heating and cooling systems, quality hardwood cabinets and floors, ceramic tile and multi media wiring.

Stop in for a look at one of their weekend open House events. More information is available @www.mainstrealty.com



**SUPPORT OUR EFFORT
TO
BEAUTIFY MERCHANT-
VILLE
HELP US BY
WATERING THE PLANTS,
PLANTERS & TREES**



Summer Parks and Playgrounds will be running from June 25th through July 27th. Information and Registration Applications will be available on Saturday, June 9th at the 133rd Birthday Celebration.

The registration fee is \$100.00 for the first child, \$85.00 for the second with a \$5.00 decrease for each additional child. Non-Residents may participate for a fee of \$125.00 per child.

If you have any questions please contact Pat Fields at 663-8691 or email Pfields@merchantville.com.

