

Volume Thirteen
Issue Five
Summer 2007

*Summer is a promissory note signed in June, its long days spent
and gone before you know it, and due to be repaid next January*
by Hal Borland



www.merchantville.com

Borough of Merchantville, New Jersey

Merchantville Borough Newsletter

Ladies and Gentlemen
Elvis will be in Merchantville!!



JULY 7th from 3:00 - 9:00

Raindate: JULY 14th

Giant FLEA MARKET

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22nd

9 AM - 2 PM

WELLWOOD PARK

Sponsored by:

THE WOMAN'S CLUB OF MERCHANTVILLE

Spaces: \$16.00 (Bring your own table)

Reservations: Call Jan Hanson @ 856-663-8318





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

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:

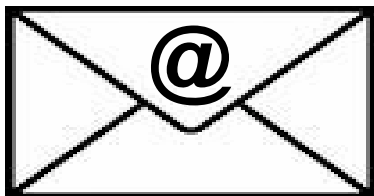
newsletter@merchantville.com

Delivery concerns should be directed to:

Community Affairs Officer

Fred Kohler @ 856-662-2474 ext. 120

MUNICIPAL EMAIL



**A merchantvillenj.gov email
directory is available online
@www.merchantville.com
For all municipal officials,
employees, boards and
commissions.**

2007 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

July 4 - Independence Day Holiday

July 5 - Historic Preservation Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Borough Hall

July 7 - 10th Anniversary Car/Motorcycle Show, 3-9 p.m. Downtown

July 9 - Borough Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Borough Hall

July 10 - Board of Education Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Public Library

July 10 - Planning Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Borough Hall

July 10 - EMD Woman's Club Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Community Center

July 18 - Woman's Club Meeting, 12:00 p.m. Community Center

July 24 - Board of Education Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Public Library

July 24 - Planning Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Borough Hall

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

PLEASE NOTE: There will be a special presentation of the "Merchantville Web Site" and discussion of the new e-mail addresses for Mayor, Council, Borough Departments and Commissions at the July 9th Council Meeting in Borough Hall @ 7:30 p.m. The public is encouraged to attend.

JUNIORS ATTEND 80th STATE CONVENTION

The 80th Annual Convention of the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC Junior Membership was held May 18th to 20th at the Hilton Parsippany. The theme of the convention was "We've Got the Power". Four members of the Junior Woman's Club of the Merchantville Area, Inc. attended, including Rhonda Aleszczyk, 2005-07 President; Amanda Park, 2007-08 President; Mary Parr, Treasurer; and Arlene Minkiewicz, Communications Chair. The club received awards for their outstanding work in the areas of Leadership, Communications, Membership, Arts, Education, Home Life/Health and the Junior Membership State Project, Children's Specialized Hospital Foundation.

The GFWC (General Federation of Woman's Clubs) is the one of the oldest and largest volunteer organization of women in the world. Two of our members hold positions on the Executive Board for the NJSFWC-JM; Amanda Park is the Public Affairs Department Chair and Rhonda Aleszczyk is the 2008-2010 State Project Investigating Committee Chair.

The Junior Woman's Club of the Merchantville Area, Inc. was established in 1939 and continues to thrive and flourish as we volunteer our time and talents. Their many fundraising activities throughout the year allow them to raise funds for charitable organizations in our community, state, and country, as well as internationally. In the 2006-2007 club year donations were made to the Merchantville and Pennsauken libraries, Niagara Fire Department, Pennsauken Lions, Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation, the Military Support Group of NJ, Lupus Foundation, Autism Speaks, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Vietnam Veterans of America, and other local and global charities. In addition, the Club sponsors the Jane B. Weilenbeck Scholarship given to a graduating female of Pennsauken High School that will be majoring in the field of Education in college.

More information about our club is available online or via email:
www.merchantvillewomensclubs.org or merchantvillejuniors@yahoo.com.

The Garden Club is looking for a new president. Please contact Jane Homon at 665-0149 or lapajar@yahoo.com if you can help with the gardens or have any prospects for a new president.

WELLWOOD CRUISE NIGHTS

The West Maple Neighborhood Preservation Program is presenting cruise nights in July and August that feature two hours of FREE live entertainment. So polish the hubcaps and cruise on over to Wellwood Park between 5:30 and 6:45 p.m. to register your car or bike on Wednesday, July 18th. Elvis impersonator Mark Reno will be performing from 7-9 p.m.



Tina Schmidt will be hosting two **Flea Markets** on the front side lawn of First Presbyterian Church at 10 West Maple Avenue on the corner of Maple and Centre St. They will take place on Saturday, September 22nd and October 27th. From Antiques, home made jar goodies, to all kinds of animal toys for people and pets to help promote an animal rescue. The weather should be good so come on out to take a stroll! Vendors accepted. Fee: \$20 for a 12x10 spot. For information call Tina at 856-662-0357.

Parsons Center for the Arts now offers piano, guitar, saxophone, clarinet and flute at your place or ours! We also now do birthday parties at your place or ours! Call for more info. Don't forget about all our summer camps and drama classes this summer beginning in July! Call 856.904.1971 or visit online @www.parsonsart.net

Master Plan Meetings Update . . . The Planning Board reports that public input to the discussions conducted by the Ragan Design Group has been very productive and thought provoking. Many residents and business representatives have provided excellent feedback that will result in a more meaningful and comprehensive Master Plan revision.

During the last several months, meetings have been held in the Community Center to discuss many aspects about our town to include land use - the "what" and "where" related to our various residential, commercial and public properties, pedestrian and vehicular traffic flow, parking, community resources - schools, parks and recreation, emergency and regular services, water, sewer, etc., Smart Growth and historic preservation, population and housing needs and other important matters that define our town now and in the future. At the meeting on June 26, 2007, residents and Members of the Board reviewed drafts of five key elements for the updated Master Plan. Several more working meetings will be required before the Board finalizes the plan document.

What is a Master Plan? It is the principle document used to formulate the contents of the Borough's Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances related to such items as when permits are required, the permitted business and residential uses in various locations within the Borough, building size and set-backs, signage, and how to request relief when a situation does not quite fit the rules. A thorough Master Plan also serves as the basis of future planning decisions for proposed capital improvements, program funding, regulation changes and future planning priorities.

If you want to get involved, regular Planning Board meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of each month. And, when the regular agenda is full, special meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday. Draft Elements of the Master Plan and Planning Board Minutes are posted on the website. Agendas are available on the website and bulletin boards inside and outside Borough Hall about a week before each meeting.



MERCHANTVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY 2007 SUMMER PROGRAM CALENDAR

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.

Tuesday, July 31st at 2:00 p.m. **PICCIRILLO SCIENCE TELLING.** Story telling while exploring the science of Liquid Nitrogen using experiments.

Saturdays 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.

MERCHANTVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Merchantville's 133rd birthday celebration was truly an enjoyable event! Special thanks to all those friends of the Historical Society who spent some time staffing the Historical Society's table: Marge Disch, Frank & Claire White, Jeanne Boyle, Helena Hubbard, Cece Torok, Barbara Silberstein, Daniel Silberstein and the town's floating table sitter, Tony Stagliano. Meeting and greeting and sharing the latest with fellow Merchantvillians has been going on as long as the town itself but never gets stale or old. We now look forward to the grant application process for the Community Center. In the fall, we will commence to establish a local inventory list of buildings of interest and import that we want to see protected and preserved. Have a great summer!

The Merchantville O.E.M. would like our residents to be educated on what actions to take should a disaster strike in our community. The FEMA website @www.fema.org has valuable information on disasters including Hurricanes, Thunderstorms, Lightning, Floods, Extreme Heat, as well as other topics. There is also a "Fema For Kids" section for teaching children! Please contact O.E.M. Coordinator Christina Zia @ 662-2474 ext. 162 for more information and any questions about Safety in Our Community.

FREE SENIOR CITIZEN LEGAL WORKSHOP

Camden County Senior and Disabled Citizens can acquire a Will, Living Will and Power of Attorney at FREE workshops on the first, third & 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 contact us by phone at 800-613-1199.



THE POLICE DEPARTMENT has received several reports of **WILD ANIMALS** in the area of Plymouth Place along the Gambler's Express Railroad tracks. Residents have reported seeing deer and possibly a fox or coyote. We have contacted animal control and they advised that it

is possible these animals are living in the wooded areas along the railroad tracks. Animal control stated these animals are usually harmless and loud noises such as banging trash can lids together will scare them away. The fox or coyote normally feeds on small rodents. Residents are asked to call the police if these animals are spotted and are urged not to approach them.

And, with **SUMMER APPROACHING**, they urge all residents to call police if they observe any suspicious persons or suspicious activity. We also ask that all residents keep their doors locked and alarms set at all times, especially when they are not home.

The Merchantville Emergency Medical Squad would like to offer the following summer safety tips.

WATER SAFETY

Swim in supervised areas only.

Obey all rules and posted signs.

Don't mix alcohol and swimming. Alcohol impairs your judgment, balance, and coordination, affects your swimming and diving skills, and reduces your body's ability to stay warm.

Never swim alone, even if you're an experienced swimmer.

Know your ability, don't try to show off.

Pay attention to local weather conditions and forecasts.

Stop swimming at the first indication of bad weather.

SKATEBOARD AND SCOOTER SAFETY

Children should never ride skateboards or scooters in or near traffic. All skateboarders and scooter-riders should wear a helmet and other protective gear.

In the event of an **EMERGENCY** remember to call 911. If you have any questions about joining the Merchantville Emergency Medical Squad, you can call the EMS building at 856-662-2077. Please leave a message and a squad member will call you back.

*****HAVE A FUN AND SAFE SUMMER*****

Pennsauken Township is now offering municipal pool memberships to Merchantville

Pennsauken's Municipal Pool is located at 6100 River Road and welcomes Merchantville residents to join. The season begins Memorial Day Weekend and ends Labor Day. There are three pools available to the public at this location: a baby pool, an intermediate pool and a main pool with a diving board.

For membership fees and additional information please call Elwood Martz at (856) 665-1000 X151.



THE MERCHANT

A SUPPLEMENT FROM THE BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

Volume 3, Issue 5

Summer 2007

Discover the Difference of our Downtown!

THE SHOPS

AT NORTH CENTRE

STOP & CROP SCRAPBOOKING

16 North Centre

YANKEE CAROLER

18 North Centre

MILLENIUM NAILS

20 North Centre

WARREN ART BOOKS

22 North Centre

THE COUNTRY BLOOM

13 North Centre

EARTH TONES

19 North Centre

WELLSPRING CENTER for YOGA & HEALTH

19 North Centre

BAYBERRY'S

21 North Centre

THE DARKROOM STUDIOS

23 North Centre

STAR STYLING HAIR STUDIO

23 North Centre

THE SHOPS

AT SOUTH CENTRE

THE COLLINS HOUSE RESTAURANT

2 South Centre

CASTLE OF BEAUTY SALON

16 South Centre

GRAHAM GALLERY

20 South Centre

WIRTH FLORIST

22 South Centre

THE MERCHANTVILLE DINER

24 South Centre

PHILADELPHIA FRUIT MARKET

27 South Centre

ONE CREATION ART GALLERY

21 South Centre

THE NEWS NOOK & CIGAR ALLEY

17 South Centre

THE CLIP JOINT

107 South Centre

THE SHOPS

ON MAPLE AVENUE

COMMUNITY SPORTS SHOP

2 East Maple

ST. CLAIRE'S THRIFT SHOP

7 East Maple

AUNT CHARLOTTE'S CANDIES

5 West Maple

THE SHOPS

ON PARK AVENUE

THE HALF MOON CAFE

7 East Park

THE FABRIC WORKS

9 East Park

PENN JERSEY COIN & STAMP

15 West Park

MODERN CARPET & DINETTE CENTER

25 West Park

The SHEPHARD'S ARK

29 West Park

Endowment fund established with \$100,000 gift

SPS

A longtime parishioner and Merchantville resident recently donated \$100,000 to St. Peter School in recognition of Sr. Alice's "exemplary leadership and tutelage" and in loving memory of his late wife, Adamary B. Assaiante. Al Assaiante was inspired by Sr. Alice and wished to assist her in her dream of establishing an endowment for SPS students. The fund is to be named the Adamary B. Assaiante Memorial Scholarship Fund. Adamary Assaiante was a "lady of true style and class" as described by her husband, and also an industrious and talented woman. She graduated from Girls High School as Valedictorian and worked as a news reporter in Philadelphia and at the Cathedral Rectory at St. Peter and Paul. She volunteered as a hostess companion for Miss New Jersey for 11 years and was a docent at the Indian King Tavern in Haddonfield, becoming an authority on 18th Century Colonialism. She was an artist, expert seamstress, animal lover, outdoorswoman and a fabulous cook (learned from the Handmaid Sisters of the Sacred Heart in Philadelphia). Ada was a convert to Roman Catholicism and because of her devotion and love for the Blessed Mother, at the time of her conversion she added Mary to Ada and her formal name become Adamary. Adamary Assaiante's memory will live on and on as the recipients of this scholarship fund, in turn, support and give back to future generations of students.



Al Assaiante, Father Anthony and Sr. Alice

A Fond Farewell to Sister Alice

The entire school and parish family at St. Peter will miss Sr. Alice as she leaves to take over her new responsibilities of principal at Villa Marie Academy in Trenton, NJ. Her leadership and grace have inspired many. Sister said in her good-bye, "there is no U-Haul big enough to hold all the love and memories I will take with me as I leave, so I've asked God to enlarge my heart so I can carry them there." Her friends at St. Peter wish her well and thank her for 18 years of service and wonderful memories.

Congratulations!

Winners of the American Legion Coloring Contest:

Kathleen Petrucelli, 1st Place; Mackenzie O'Drain, 2nd Place and, Angel Centeno, 3rd Place

To the newly elected Officers of the Student Council for 2007-2008:

Claire Higgins, President; Kevin Melia, Vice President; Madison Brandt, Corresponding Secretary; Brian Burke, Recording Secretary and, David McConnell, Treasurer.

Letter from Sister Alice to the Mayor and Council.....

Dear Honorable Frank North and Borough Council:

Thank you for the honor of the Proclamation issued on the occasion of my twenty-fifth Jubilee of Religious Life. I was quite moved by the brief but meaningful moment at the last public meeting. Twenty-five years ago I wanted to give my life to the God who gave his to me. I wanted to show forgiveness because I had been forgiven. I wanted to care for and serve others because I've been cherished and loved. Being called to the Religious Life is a privilege I have been blessed to enjoy, one that I hope more young people will come to understand and embrace. Living in Merchantville these 18 years has been another gift to me. I've come to know so many people and families, and I am a better person for it all.

The Religious Teachers Filippini have strong ties with this community, and there's no reason to think that that will ever change. Our Sisters often return and are always greeted by a familiar face and a cheerful smile. Soon I will join the ranks of the "visitors." But be certain of this: there will always be a special place in my heart for this community that I will always call "home."

Sincerely in Christ,
Sr. Alice Ivanyo, MPF