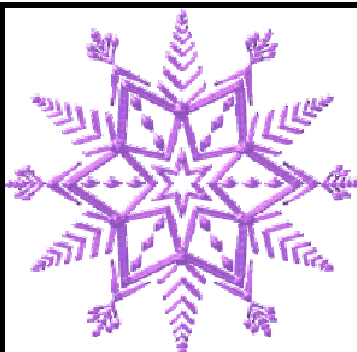


Volume Twelve
Issue Two
Winter 2006



www.merchantville.com

Borough of Merchantville, New Jersey

Merchantville Borough Newsletter

*The March wind roars _ Like a lion in the sky , And makes us shiver As
he passes by . When winds are soft , And the days are warm and clear ,
Just like a gentle lamb , Then spring is here .* Author Unknown

Log On @ WWW.NIAGRAFIRE.COM

Next time you're surfing the web check out the Niagara Fire Company's new site @ www.niagarafire.com to find out about the latest happenings at the firehouse. You will see pictures, information and the esteemed history of the Fire Company. The Fire Company will be doing their annual fund drive this spring. We appreciate all your support and, as always, we are looking for new members. Contact us at **856-662-0900** or **NiagaraFC@verizon.net**. Special thanks to all those who donated during our boot drive on September 25, 2005 benefiting firefighters and their families who were affected by Hurricane Katrina. With your help, we were able to raise over \$3000 for this worthy cause. ALL proceeds went to the National Volunteer Fire Council, who divided it between a fund for rebuilding fire departments in the affected area and to firefighters and their families who suffered losses. Thanks again!



Also, on **Sunday, March 19th**, several members of the Niagara Fire Company and their friends will be shaving their heads for the St. Baldrick's Foundation. This event will take place at the Collingswood Fire Department. They will be joined by Merchantville and many others for this worthy cause. The mission of the St. Baldrick's Foundation is to raise awareness and funds to conquer kids' cancer by shaving heads on St. Baldrick's Day. You can donate by visiting this page: http://www.stbaldricks.org/team_detail.asp?id=1370. Be sure to check out the before and after pictures of the guys. Thanks in advance for your donation and support!

Submitted by Ryan Hummell



American Cancer Society "Daffodil Days"

The Shops at North Centre • March 24th - 26th
information available @ [www.bayberrys.com/daffodil days](http://www.bayberrys.com/daffodil%20days)

Merchantville SHADE TREE COMMISSION FAQs

Who we are:

- A branch of the municipality.
- Volunteers with a wide range of experience with trees.

What we do:

- Make sure the trees on Borough property are taken care of, including monitoring their condition, pruning, selecting, purchasing, and planting new trees, and removing trees when needed.
- Arrange to have professionals do what we cannot do ourselves.

Why we do it:

- Besides being pretty, trees reduce air and water pollution, cool the environment, block wind, and increase property values. A single tree can provide enough oxygen for ten people each year!

When and where we meet:

- At 7:00 PM, on the second Wednesday of each month.
- In the Merchantville Library.

To Contact MSTC:

You can call 856.662.2474 x 173 for all matters regarding trees on Borough property or if you have questions about joining the Shade Tree Commission.

Commission Members:

Dina Turan and James Kelly (**co-chairs**) and Joe Cuzzupe, Krista Lee, Bob Paulson and James Duggan.

Submitted by Krista Lee



2006
BOROUGH NEWSLETTER
PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

JANUARY 6th
FEBRUARY 24th
APRIL 7th
 (Submissions due by March 24th)
MAY 19th
 (Submissions due by May 4th)
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:
MBPA@merchantville.com
 Delivery concerns should be directed to:
 Community Affairs Officer Fred Kohler
 @ 856-662-2474 ext. 120

GOODBYE and HELLO!

I'd like to take this opportunity to offer my personal thanks to Agnes Madden for her tireless work on behalf of the Borough as a councilperson for the past fifteen years. Agnes has been a valuable advocate for borough beautification, recreation and revitalization. And, as many have already noted, one of her lasting contributions will be appreciated for years to come by all who walk through the handsome new front door of Borough Hall. Though retiring from Borough Council, Agnes has agreed to continue to serve our community on the Planning Board and, undoubtedly, you'll still see her planting and primping the gardens downtown come Spring!

At the same time I'd like to extend my personal welcome to Pat Fields, the newest member of Borough Council. Patty may be familiar to many as a first grade teacher in Merchantville School or as Program Director of Parks & Playgrounds. She has also served our community in many other capacities over the years, most notably, the Board of Health. She is a welcome addition to council and I look forward to working with her and Council to achieve our goals in 2006!

Mayor Patrick Brennan



Borough Council First Quarter Meeting Dates

February, 27, 2006 • March 6, 2006 • March 13, 2006
 March 20, 2006 • March 27, 2006

Mayor: Patrick J. Brennan

Council Members: Frank North, Mark Pagano, Patricia Fields,
 Robert Zeiders, Paul Finnegan and John Alloway

2006 Municipal Holiday Schedule

Monday	MAY 29	Memorial Day
Tuesday	JULY 4	Independence Day
Monday	SEPTEMBER 4	Labor Day
Monday	OCTOBER 9	Columbus Day
Tuesday	NOVEMBER 7	Election Day
Friday	NOVEMBER 10	Veteran's Day Holiday
Thursday	NOVEMBER 23	Thanksgiving Day
Friday	NOVEMBER 24	Thanksgiving Day Holiday
Monday	DECEMBER 25	Christmas Day

2006 Public Works Holiday Pick-Up Schedule

MONDAY, MAY 2	East Side trash Wednesday May 31
TUESDAY, JULY 4	West Side trash Wednesday July 5
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4	East Side trash Wednesday September 6
MONDAY, OCTOBER 9	East Side trash Wednesday October 11
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10	Recycling Thursday November 9
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23	Recycling – hold until Friday December 1
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24	Recycling – hold until Friday December 1
MONDAY, DECEMBER 25	East Side trash Wednesday December 27

Contact: Public Works Director, Dan Beckett - 665-0590

FUN, FOOD AND PRIZES!!

Get ready for one of the best Chinese Auctions in the area! The Merchantville EMD will hold their annual Chinese Auction on Friday, March 3, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. in the Pennsauken High School Cafeteria located at Remington & Hylton roads in Pennsauken.

Entry tickets will be \$5.00 each. Your entry ticket will entitle you to complimentary coffee, tea, water, desserts, chips and a chance to win a door prize. Hoagies, soft pretzels and canned soda will be sold inside this year as a new feature of the EMD Auction.

Excellent prizes! Baskets valued from \$35 to \$75 will be auctioned along with a Basket of Cheer, Basket of Restaurant Gift Certificates and a Basket of Retail Store Gift Cards. This is a fun night with lots of chances to come home with some great prizes. Proceeds will benefit many, many charities to which the Merchantville EMD donates each year. Come out and support our work for the community and treat yourself to a fun night with friends! We appreciate your support! For tickets call: Peg Fleming at 856-488-2309.



Submitted by Diane Peoples

BOROUGH RESIDENT NOTICES:

SOLICITATION: Borough Ordinance 38

In general states that anyone wishing to solicit in the Borough must register with the police. The police will issue identification and this ID must be carried by the individual and presented to anyone requesting to see it.

No one may solicit anywhere in the Borough between the hours of 8:00PM to 8:00 AM.

Be aware of people soliciting, hawking, or peddling in the Borough.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact **Sgt. Fred Koehler at the Community Affairs Office at 856-662-2474 ext. 120.**

Should you observe someone soliciting in your neighborhood, or anywhere in the Borough and you feel uneasy about them, call the **Police at 856-662-0500 immediately.**

TELEMARKETERS: Recently there have been telemarketers and even some newspaper advertisements asking people to send money to a police organization claiming this money is to be used for body armor for the local police.



The Merchantville Police Department **DOES NOT** solicit funds from residents for this or any other purpose. The Merchantville Police Department **DOES NOT** approve or allow any organization to use the name of the town or the police department for this activity.

Should you have questions concerning telemarketers please feel free to contact **Chief Wayne Bauer at 856-662-0507** or **Crime Prevention Officer Sgt. Fred Koehler at 856-662-2474 ext. 120**

SATELLITE DISH ANTENNAS:

Borough Zoning Ordinance 94-9A

Satellite dishes are permitted in all zoning districts provided that they are no larger than 24".

If roof-mounted on a peaked roof or if building-mounted, the satellite dish antenna shall be mounted on a roof or wall surface which faces a rear or side yard and if roof mounted on a flat roof, the satellite dish antenna shall be mounted in the center of the roof structures;

If roof-mounted, building-mounted or ground mounted, the satellite dish antenna shall not be visible from a public right-of-way;

Any Questions:

**Contact Walt Sikorski, Zoning Officer
Phone: 662-2474 ext. 110**



SNOW REMOVAL: Borough Ordinance 73-8



The owner or owners, occupant or occupants of premises abutting or bordering upon any of the streets, avenues or highways in the Borough of Merchantville shall remove or cause to be removed all ice or snow from the sidewalks of any such streets, avenues or highways **within 10 hours** of daylight after the same shall have formed or ceased to fall thereon. The meaning of this ordinance is for all property owners, or occupants to clear the public sidewalks that about your property **within 10 hours of the storm ceasing or 10 hours after daylight, which ever is first.**

The first violation of this ordinance will cause a written warning to be issued. For any subsequent violations a summons to appear in municipal court will be issued.

Camden County's Senior Snow Removal Program For Elderly & Disabled Residents

This is the eleventh consecutive winter the Freeholders are offering a snow removal program for at-risk Senior Citizens and disabled residents. It is coordinated by Freeholder Joseph Ripa, liaison to the Department of Corrections and Camden County Division of Emergency Management. Please note the Senior Snow Removal Program has specific guidelines that will go into effect after each snowstorm of 4 or more inches of accumulation. Contact the Camden County Division of Emergency Management at **(856) 783-4808 ext. 5060** from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

DUMPSTER & STORAGE CONTAINERS:

A new ordinance adopted by Borough Council requires any property owner or resident to obtain a permit for the use of any dumpster or storage container in the Borough. There is a \$25 fee for the permit and there are restrictions on the placement of the container and the length of time it can be used.

The applications for the permit will be available in the Clerk's Office (662-2474, ext 103). More information can also be obtained through Walt Sikorski at extension 110.

OVERNIGHT PARKING:

Overnight parking permits can be obtained Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM at the police reception window.



All privately owned vehicles must be registered to the Merchantville address. Accommodations will be made for business vehicles.

Any overnight guests must telephone 856-662-2474 ext. 116 and leave a message with the vehicle description, tag number and location. **Overnight guest call in is limited to five days.** Stays of a longer duration must be cleared through the Police Chief.

Submitted by Chief Wayne Bauer and Walt Sikorski



MERCHANTVILLE

Borough of Merchantville, New Jersey

Volume 3, Issue 2

Winter 2006

WEBSITE ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

Have you ever wondered how to put your best foot forward with the visitors to Merchantville.com? Are you looking for a simple way to target your customers without the cost and hassles of a direct mailing? How about a low cost semi-annual advertising program that reaches over 3,000 unique local, regional and out-of-state visitors per month?

www.Merchantville.com is currently offering banner and button advertising sponsorship spots on its web site on a semi-annual basis. Twenty (20) Banner Ads will be featured sequentially and will rotate at 30 second intervals on every page including the homepage within the web site. Four (4) Button Ads will be featured continually in a static position on every page including the homepage within the web site. All Ads will have a direct link back to the sponsor's web site. Sponsors can advertise on a 1 year, or 6 month basis. These sponsorships will sell fast so be sure to act soon. The proceeds from this sponsorship campaign will pay for the costs associated with hosting this site, furthering our efforts to improve this web site and promotions that market our community to the public. Merchantville.com welcomes local advertisers on the community web site. A reduced rate will be offered to annual members of the MBPA.



To learn more about website advertising go to the homepage at **www.merchantville.com** and click on the ad box labeled "Sponsorship Opportunities Available". All the information you need is posted there. Thanks!



STAINED GLASS
SCULPTURE
WORKS on PAPER
JEWELRY
POTTERY
and
WOOD TURNINGS

*A gift gallery featuring the works of local artists
Barbara Hanselman and Glen Hudson*

19 North Centre Street Merchantville NJ
856-488-1830

Purrfectly Pampered Pussy Cats

The Pampered Pussycat, located at **18 S. Centre Street**, offers a wide variety of unique Cat Products, Gifts & Supplies for Cat Lovers. It's the brainchild of Rachel Knaus, a South Philly transplant who lives just over the Merchantville line in Pennsauken. Or maybe it's the idea of one of her six cats, Don Luigi, Puddin', Coon, Jinx, Mimi and Boo-Boo. She started the store with her husband, Andy, and became interested in starting a cat boutique more than two years ago. The idea dawned on her because, when she went shopping for goodies for her cats . . . well, nothing against dogs, but their stuff was just all over the place.



In their store you can find some of the most unique cat products available. Organic catnip, catnip toys and handmade cat teasers will provide your pet with hours of enjoyment. Their custom made cat bowls by Family Pet Pride & Cats Rules and the unique cat beds by Fantasy Furniture and Howlin Pet are of the highest quality and will make your pampered pet the envy of the neighborhood. Their all natural cat treats such as Kitty Kaviar are a healthy treat that most cats can't resist.

In addition they have collectable cat items such as our KitCat Clocks and our Alley Cats, these glamour pussies have plenty of attitude. The Knauses also stock plenty of gifts for cat lovers such as Snickelldoodles, door mats, realistic cat shaped door stops, mugs, cookie jars, made to order custom quilts and more items to many to list.

Their website @ **www.felinefetishes.com** prides itself on being "A Unique Boutique for Cats and Their Staff." Shop Hours are Wed. & Fri. 12-6, Thurs. 12-8 and Saturdays 12-4.

The Pampered Pussycat

856-665-2450

thepamperedpussycat@comcast.net



GRANNY'S ATTIC
Hand Painted Furniture

29 West Park Avenue
Merchantville, NJ 08109

856-488-1500

Aunt Charlotte's Candies

5 West Maple Avenue
Merchantville

856-662-0058

We Promise
"A delight in every bite"



Local Dentist Helping Children One Smile at a Time



It's not often that you get the chance to help others while helping yourself. Dr. Gary Sapienza, of Merchantville, is participating in a campaign to raise funds for local and national children's charities.

He is offering professional teeth whitening this year from March to June in exchange for your personal donation to the Smiles for Life Foundation. Fifty percent of the funds will go to **Camden County Family Support Organization** here in Merchantville and the remainder to national children's charities through the **Garth Brooks Teammates for Kids Foundation**.

"My team and I are ready to professionally whiten people's teeth for a great cause, and I'm inviting all members of my community to make an appointment with us during our Smiles for Life campaign to give themselves – and a child – a reason to smile." For more information call (856) 662-6152.

COMMUNION DRESSES & ACCESSORIES



Bayberry's

21 N. Centre Street • Merchantville

856-663-4001

Email: gifts@bayberrys.com

February 20th - April 15th

\$20 deposit • Layaway

Featuring the designs of
Us Angels • Tip Top • Sweetie Pie • Corrine

THE MERCHANTVILLE DINER



\$3.75 Daily Breakfast Special

Monday - Saturday • 6:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Sunday • 6:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

24 S. Centre Street • Merchantville

856-663-8500



CASTLE OF BEAUTY

YOUR FULL SERVICE HAIR SALON

16 S. CENTRE STREET

856-665-4646

856-662-6641



Breakfast & Lunch
Monday - Friday
7 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Saturdays
7 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

7 East Park Ave.
Merchantville

CIGAR ALLEY

17 S. Centre Street
Merchantville
www.cigaralleyenj.com



856-663-9190

Our customers can relax in our **Smoking Lounge** and enjoy their cigars.

And, every Friday night from 5-8 pm we have wine and cheese for our cigar smokers.

Philadelphia Fruit Market

856-662-1400

WE DELIVER TO YOUR DOOR



STOP BY or LOG ONTO 'www.merchantville.com' to print and fill out our NEW GROCERY ORDER FORM

Just drop off the form before noon and your order will be ready for pick up or delivery between 4 and 6 p.m.



PARSON'S

CENTER FOR THE ARTS
100 W. Maple Ave., Merchantville

Ongoing classes in painting & pottery for adults and children are also offered year round.

For more information or to register :

Phone: 856.904.1971

Email: Information@parsonsart.net

Happenings at St. Peter School

On Thursday, February 2nd, St. Peter School culminated **Catholic School Week** with a celebration of multiculturalism.



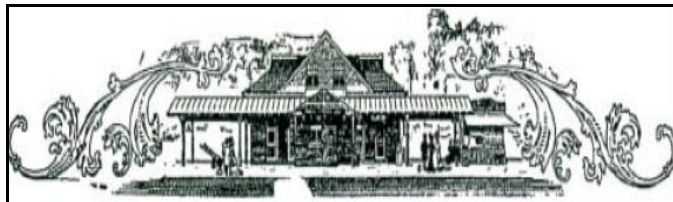
Parents and friends packed the gym to see a display of the student's musical, dancing and acting talents. Through their impressive performances, pre-school through 8th grade students revealed the unique cultures

of Kenya, Mexico, Spain, Native America, Germany, Australia, Ireland, France, Sweden, Brazil, Egypt, the Philippines and Japan.

The **Annual All-Star Basketball Day** on February 11th provided 10 hours of fun and friendly competition ending about 10 p.m. with a rousing free-throw competition. A highlight for all was the game between parents and children with the parents barely managing a victory. The day provided events for all children involved in clinic, intramural and travel programs including a very cute game for our 5 – 7 year olds.

St. Peter will hold an Open House on Sunday, March 5th from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. Student tours are available with no appointment necessary. Registration dates are Thursday, March 8th and Thursday March 16th, 8:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.- 2 p.m. Register early as class sizes are limited.

Submitted by Dorothy Foley



MERCHANTVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL MEETING - JANUARY 25, 2006

Historical Society President, Maureen McLoone, opened the meeting with a flashback to 1939, noting that the calendar for that year matches 2006, day for day!! References were made to newspaper headlines, local society news, real estate ads (a house in Merchantville for \$2,800!), fashions, current movies and automobile ads (a new Pontiac for \$758). Maureen placed copies of school photos, sports stores, and a "then and now" pictorial of a portion of Centre Street. We had a good idea of the life in Merchantville in the year 1939.

These vignettes triggered memories from the members of the Class of 1939. Did you know there was a plane crash on the second fairway of the Merchantville golf course in the 40's?... or that there were slot machines in the back room of the old Merchantville Country Club (now our Community Center) and that you could join the Country Club for \$39. Edith Silberstein, the past President of the Society, recalled a conversation with a resident who remembered watching the Community Center building being moved down the street!

There were warm memories of special coaches and teachers. John Smiley's father taught biology in 1939. Then there was the story of a quartet practicing in the basement of the school and finding a treasure trove of exams and sharing them with classmates! Eight couples met and married from the class (Helen and Vern Collins, who were married four years after graduation, attended the meeting. Their pictures were in the last Historical Society newsletter and they're still a cute couple). Also, pictured in the annual newsletter were graduates, Russ Mustchler and Pat Parvin. The Class of 1939, as represented at this meeting, stayed in the area and helped make it the wonderful community it is today. Thanks to all of them for sharing their memories with us!

The Society wishes to especially acknowledge Lisa and Albert Vitiello for their generous undertaking of producing the video of the interview with Edith Silberstein, past president.

Our next meeting at the Community Center will be on Thursday, February 23rd, at 8:00 p.m. Please join us!

Submitted by Maureen McLoone

The Country Bloom

Welcomes Spring

with Beautiful Accessories
for Your Home & Garden

featuring

Wreaths & Birdhouses

Planters

New Outdoor Lighting



Come Browse Our Charming Shop

21 North Centre Street

(856) 662-2003



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8th

MERCHANTVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Pre-School Round-Up & New Kindergarten Student Registration

For Registration Packets and Times Contact:

Alice Papa, School Secretary

Phone: 856-663-1091 EXT. 10 • eMail: papa@merchantville.k12.nj.us



WHICH GENERATION ARE YOU?

... I am older than dirt!

Hey Mom," one of my kids asked the other day, "What was your favorite fast food when you were growing up?"

We didn't have fast food when I was growing up," I informed him. "All the food was slow." C'mon, seriously. Where did you eat?"

It was a place called 'at home,'" I explained. "Grandma cooked every day and when Grandpa got home from work, we sat down together at the dining room table, and if I didn't like what she put on my plate I was allowed to sit there until I did like it."

By this time, the kid was laughing so hard I was afraid he was going to suffer serious internal damage, so I didn't tell him the part about how I had to have permission to leave the table. But here are some other things I would have told him about my childhood if I figured his system could have handled it:

Some parents NEVER owned their own house, wore Levi's, set foot on a golf course, traveled out of the country or had a credit card. In their later years they had something called a revolving charge card. The card was good only at Sears Roebuck. Or maybe it was Sears AND Roebuck. Either way, there is no Roebuck anymore. Maybe he died.

My parents never drove me to soccer practice. This was mostly because we never had heard of soccer. I had a bicycle that weighed probably 50 pounds, and only had one speed, (slow). We didn't have a television in our house until I was 11, but my grandparents had one before that. It was, of course, black and white, but they bought a piece of colored plastic to cover the screen. The top third was blue, like the sky, and the bottom third was green, like grass. The middle third was red. It was perfect for programs that had scenes of fire trucks riding across someone's lawn on a sunny day. Some people had a lens taped to the front of the TV to make the picture look larger.

I was 13 before I tasted my first pizza, it was called "pizza pie." When I bit into it, I burned the roof of my mouth and the cheese slid off, swung down, plastered itself against my chin and burned that, too. It's still the best pizza I ever had.

I never had a telephone in my room. The only phone in the house was in the living room and it was on a party line. Before you could dial, you had to listen and make sure some people you didn't know weren't already using the line.

Pizzas were not delivered to our home. But milk was.

All newspapers were delivered by boys and all boys delivered newspapers. I delivered a newspaper, six days a week. It cost 7 cents a paper, of which I got to keep 2 cents. I had to get up at 4 AM every morning. On Saturday, I had to collect the 42 cents from my customers. My favorite customers were the ones who gave me 50 cents and told me to keep the change. My least favorite customers were the ones who seemed to never be home on collection day.

Movie stars kissed with their mouths shut. At least, they did in the movies. Touching someone else's tongue with yours was called French kissing and they didn't do that in movies. I don't know what they did in French movies. French movies were dirty and we weren't allowed to see them.

If you grew up in a generation before there was fast food, you may want to share some of these memories with your children or grandchildren. Just don't blame me if they bust a gut laughing.

Growing up isn't what it used to be, is it?

MEMORIES from a friend: My Dad is cleaning out my grandmother's house (she died in December) and he brought me an old Royal Crown Cola bottle. In the bottle top was a stopper with a bunch of holes in it. I knew immediately what it was, but my daughter had no idea. She thought they had tried to make it a salt shaker or something. I knew it as the bottle that sat on the end of the ironing board to "sprinkle" clothes with because we didn't have steam irons. Man, I am old.

How many do you remember?

Head lights dimmer switches on the floor. Ignition switches on the dashboard. Heaters mounted on the inside of the fire wall. Real ice boxes.

Pant leg clips for bicycles without chain guards. Soldering irons you heat on a gas burner. Using hand signals for cars without turn signals.

Older Than Dirt Quiz:

Count all the ones that you remember not the ones you were told about-Ratings at the bottom.

1. Blackjack chewing gum
2. Wax Coke-shaped bottles with colored sugar water
3. Candy cigarettes
4. Soda pop machines that dispensed glass bottles
5. Coffee shops or diners with tableside juke boxes
6. Home milk delivery in glass bottles with cardboard stoppers
7. Party lines
8. Newsreels before the movie
9. P.F. Flyers
10. Butch wax
11. Telephone numbers with a word prefix (OLive-6933)
12. Peashooters
13. Howdy Doody
14. 45 RPM records
15. S&H Green Stamps
16. Hi-fi's
17. Metal ice trays with a lever
18. Mimeograph paper
19. Blue flashbulbs
20. Packards
21. Roller skate keys
22. Cork popguns
23. Drive-ins
24. Studebakers
25. Washing machines with wringers; and washtubs for rinsing

If you remembered 0-5 = You're still young

If you remembered 6-10 = You are getting older

If you remembered 11-15 = Don't tell your age

If you remembered 16-25 = You're older than dirt!

I might be older than dirt but those memories are the best part of my life.

Submitted by Frank North

2005 MERCHANTVILLE SCHOOL REPORT CARD

Grade 3 - (DFG DE)

Math quintile - all schools 2d
 Math quintile - similar schools 2d
 Math - advanced - 44
 Math - proficient - 47
 Math - partial proficiency - 9
 Language Arts quintile - all schools 1st
 Language Arts quintile - similar schools 1st
 Language Arts - advanced - 3
 Language Arts - proficient - 91
 Language Arts - partial proficiency - 6

Grade 4 - (DFG DE)

Math quintile - all schools 2d
 Math quintile - similar schools 1st
 Math - advanced - 44
 Math - proficient - 42
 Math - partial proficiency - 14
 Language Arts quintile - all schools 3d
 Language Arts quintile - similar schools 3d
 Language Arts - advanced - 0
 Language Arts - proficient - 89
 Language Arts - partial proficiency - 11

Grade 8 - (DFG DE)

Math quintile - all schools 2d
 Math quintile - similar schools 1st
 Math - advanced - 29
 Math - proficient - 48
 Math - partial proficiency - 23
 Language Arts quintile - all schools 2d
 Language Arts quintile - similar schools 2d
 Language Arts - advanced - 6
 Language Arts - proficient - 77
 Language Arts - partial proficiency - 17

Merchantville School District Profile: Pre-K-8

Budget - \$5.3 million
 Enrollment - 371
 White - 65%
 Black - 20%
 Asian - 2%
 Hispanic - 13%
 Special education - 13%
 Gifted - 11%
 Pct. attending private schools - 0%
 Additional kindergarten programs - Full-day, pre-K4
 Avg. 2d-grade class size - 18 Avg.
 Instructional spending per student - \$6,642
 Instructional spending quintile - 5
 Total spending per student - \$10,239
 Total spending quintile - 4
 Extracurricular costs per student - \$148
 Teacher salaries per student - \$6,370
 Revenue from state - 31%
 No. of teachers - 32
 White - 97% Black - 0% Asian - 0% Hispanic - 0%
 Avg. years experience - 22
 Avg. years experience (1999-2000) - 19
 Beyond bachelor's degree - 26%
 Teacher days in year - 188
 Daily absentee - 2%
 Beginning salary - \$39,821
 Beginning salary rank - 37
 Beginning salary 2000 - \$35,945
 Top salary - \$75,949
 Top salary rank - 20
 Less than \$40,000 - 0%
 \$40,000-\$50,000 - 17%
 \$50,001-\$65,000 - 52%
 Greater than \$65,000 - 30%

For questions or more information contact:

Christian Swanson, Superintendent
 swansonc@merchantville.k12.nj.us

Harris Ransom, Principal
 ransomh@merchantville.k12.nj.us

Phone (856) 663-1091 Fax (856) 486-9755

About New Jersey School Test Scores

This report card issued in February 2006 contains data for the 2004-05 school year. Enrollment numbers are based on the October 15, 2004 district enrollment count. These results are for all students, including special-education students and students with limited English. Only schools with total population or general education results are included here. In some cases, total population results were not released by the state to protect the privacy of students in a special population. For those schools, general education percentages are used.

Performance Levels: The state has designated student performance levels as advanced proficient, proficient and partially proficient. Using percentages, the tables show how well students who were tested know the material. It can be inferred that a school with high percentages of test-takers at the advanced and proficient levels is doing a good job of helping students meet or exceed state standards. The federal No Child Left Behind Act mandates that all students score at proficient or above on state achievement tests by 2014. The calculation showing whether a greater or lesser percentage of students tested as proficient or advanced in 2004 compared with 2003 was achieved using simple arithmetic.

Test Scores and Demographics: A school's District Factor Group (DFG) should be taken into consideration when comparing the school's performance with that of other schools. The DFG is a demographic measure created by the state Department of Education that includes income levels in the district and other factors. Schools with a rating of A tend to be in the poorest communities in the state. Those with a J tend to be in the wealthiest neighborhoods. The DFG categories: A, B, CD, DE, FG, GH and I and J. (R signifies a charter school.)

All School/Similar School Rankings: The Inquirer has identified how the schools performed in two ways: compared with all other test-taking schools in the state, and compared with all schools with similar poverty levels. In the analysis of performance among similar schools, all the test-taking schools in New Jersey were sorted into their District Factor Groups. A school in the fifth quintile would be among the bottom 20 percent in its DFG group.

Quintiles:

1st quintile (top 20% of schools)
 2d quintile (top middle 20%)
 3d quintile (middle 20%)
 4th quintile (bottom middle 20%)
 5th quintile (bottom 20%)

Numbers have been rounded. NA: Not available

For complete results from the State of NJ log onto www.merchantville.com, go to the side menu and click "Community" and then click "Education" and then click "2005 Report Card".

Merchantville School website: www.merchantville.k12.nj.us