



ABERDEEN UPDATE

Fall 2006

The Official Newsletter of Aberdeen Township

www.aberdeennj.org

Fall leaf pick-ups are now under way

As fall continues and the leaves start to pile up, homeowners should keep in mind that leaves should be raked to the curb for pick-up according to the following approximate schedule:

■ Cliffwood Beach, Heather Glen, Santa Fe, and Strathmore sections A,D,F,N,O: weeks of Nov. 27th and Dec. 18th.

■ Cliffwood, High School, Heritage Estates, Storyland, Woodbrook, and Strathmore sections W,B,C: weeks of Nov. 13th, Dec. 4th and Dec. 18th.

■ Oakshades, Freneau, and Strathmore sections I & J: weeks of Nov. 20th, Dec. 11th, and Dec. 18th.

Residents who prefer to bag their leaves can bring them to the Township Garage on Lenox Road off Cliffwood Avenue, Monday through Friday, between 6:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., and on the third Saturday of each month between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Please do not put anything in the bags but the leaves (no twigs, branches, etc.).

For more information, please call the Department of Public Works at (732) 583-4200. ●

Contents

- 2-Police memorial unveiled
- 2-Library News
- 3-Soccer on roll
- 4-Aberdeen memories
- 4-Health Updates
- 5-Scenes from Aberdeen Day
- 5-Recreation News
- 6-Senior Specials

Factory being demolished to make way for 90+ affordable senior housing units



With bridge spanning Church Street already gone, decaying former factory building is being demolished to make way for affordable senior housing. At event marking commencement of the demolition (l. to r.) Councilman Vincent Vinci, Deputy Mayor Wilhelmina Gumbs, Mayor David Sobel and Township Manager Stuart Brown wield ceremonial sledgehammers.



At a special ceremony on October 20, the Aberdeen Township Council officially marked the commencement of demolition of the former South River Metals building on Church Street to pave the way for construction of senior housing on the approximately 14-acre site.

"We are pleased to formally launch the process that will redevelop this decayed industrial site into an attractive, well-landscaped property that will ultimately provide at least 90 affordable rental apartments, as well as various amenities for senior citizens," said Deputy Mayor **Wilhelmina Gumbs**.

Within a week after the ceremony,

the process began when a crew from demolition/scrap recycling contractor Mike Giordano Inc. of Brick Township removed the overhead bridge spanning Church Street that connected the vacant site to a still-active industrial building. "The bridge removal will be followed by demolition of the site's water tower and then the main building that had previously been partially destroyed by a fire," said Councilman **Vincent Vinci**. "Altogether, we expect the project to take about four to six weeks, at which time we will erect a permanent fence around the property as a means to protect the public."

While the demolition is under

New memorial honors deceased members of Aberdeen Police Department

Braving nasty weather, over 100 family members, friends and fellow officers turned out on October 7 for the Aberdeen Police Department's dedication of a special monument to deceased members of the force. The event drew family members from as far as South Carolina and Florida, as well as former Chiefs John McGinty and Joseph Kelly.

The memorial honors:

- Chiefs Adolph Menzel, Ralph E. Wallace and J. Edgar Wilkinson
- Deputy Chief Joseph J. Booket
- Lieutenants Francis P. Cherney and Francis V. Czarnecki
- Detective Stanley Parrish

■ Officers Charles Ariano, Thomas Candiloro, Wayne Fread, William Fury, Hugh Richardson and Charles Van Glahn

■ Dispatcher Edward Fitzgerald

■ Police Secretary Margaret Falco
Erected outside the Aberdeen Municipal Building, the memorial was built with labor donated by members of the Police Department and with manpower and equipment provided by the Department of Public Works. ●

LIBRARY NEWS

The Matawan-Aberdeen Public Library will offer the following children's programs from November through January:

■ Seasonal and Holiday Craft Programs to celebrate Thanksgiving and Winter. Registration for the Thanksgiving program will take place on 11/8, with the craft session held on 11/15. Registration for the Winter craft will be held on 12/6 with the session taking place on 12/13.

■ Poetry Workshop for students in grades 3-4. Listen, learn and write about poetry. Session will take place on 12/2 (register 11/25) from 10:30 – noon.

■ Storytime – Registration for the library's Winter Storytime programs for infants to five-years-olds will take place on January 9.

The library will offer the following adult programs in November, December and January:

- 12/14 Book Club Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 1/10 Conserving Energy in Your Home, 7:00 p.m.
- 1/11 Book Club Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 1/18 Prepare Now For Your Taxes, 7:00 p.m.

Film Series – the library will present a series of free dramatic films Mondays at 2:30 p.m. All films are rated PG-13.

November 13 - *Take the Lead*, starring Antonio Banderas and Rob Brown
November 20 - *Memoirs of a Geisha*, starring Ziyi Shang and Ken Watanabe
November 27 - *Unfinished Life*, starring Robert Redford, Morgan Freeman, Jennifer Lopez



From top: Procession was led by bagpipers from Monmouth County Police pipes and drums corps; Former Chief Joseph Kelly addresses the crowd as current Chief John T. Powers (l.) and Deputy Chief Richard Derechailo bow their heads; Family member pays homage to one of the departed; Despite inclement weather, a large crowd was on hand for the ceremony.

Aberdeen-Matawan Soccer League a big kick for kids 5-16

Travel around town on Saturdays in the fall and you'll see area soccer fields filled with players of all ages and the families who cheer them on as they learn and develop their skills through The Aberdeen-Matawan Soccer League.

The league, open to boys and girls ages 5 to 16, offers recreational and travel soccer programs to approximately 600 kids from Aberdeen, Matawan and surrounding towns without teams. The recreational program is geared to all ages and ability levels while the travel teams are for the more serious player, ages 8 to 16. Recreational soccer takes place in the fall and travel soccer in the fall and spring.

"The Aberdeen Matawan Soccer League has emerged as the most popular youth recreation program in our community," said Councilman **Owen Drapkin**. "Its success is testimony not only to the growing interest in soccer among boys and girls, but also to the



Melanie Schueller works with her team on fundamentals.

are representative of the hard working parents who are critical to the program's success.

Isaacson became involved with the program six years ago when his daughter started playing. Today, his 10-year-old son plays on a travel team coached by Isaacson, a former high school and college player at Rutgers University. Schueller joined the league three years ago as the coach of her daughter's team, which she continues to lead. A recreational soccer player while growing up, Schueller previously coached recreational track and field when she lived in Sussex County, N.J.

For most parents, soccer season is a three-month period from late summer to just before Thanksgiving. But for Isaacson, Schueller and their fellow board members, it's almost a year-round commitment. Isaacson estimates that he spends eight hours a week from April through December on league-related matters such as registration, organizing the end-of-year banquet, arranging for referees, and conduct-

ing weekly practices. Schueller devotes six hours per week to her team and league activities.

"The most gratifying part of my involvement comes on opening day when we are able to see all the hard work and months of planning pay off," Isaacson said. He especially enjoys seeing the smiles on the faces of the youngest players – the five- and six-year-olds – who are experiencing their first team sport and the feeling that comes from being on a team and wearing their new uniforms.

Schueller's favorite part of coaching is seeing the teams develop and come together. "The kids are learning and enjoying the game, and this shows in their expressions when they walk off the field," she noted.

Soccer moms and dads appreciate the efforts of coaches like Isaacson and Schueller. "This is a great program," commented a parent who recently relocated to Aberdeen. "Our daughter has learned more in her short time playing here under Melanie than in the previous two years in our former town."

"Dedicated people like Tyler Isaacson and Melanie Schueller are critical to the success of the soccer program and all the other first-rate youth sports leagues our community has to offer," concluded Councilman **Joe Raymond**. "The Township Council salutes the sincere efforts of these volunteers in all our leagues. Without them, there would be no programs." ●



Tyler Isaacson gives pointers to members of his team.

hard work of all the parents who keep the program going."

As a volunteer organization, the league relies on a 12-member board and over 50 coaches—many with children now playing and some who continue to lead teams after their children have grown. Aberdeen residents Tyler Isaacson, a vice president of the league and coach, and Melanie Schueller, a board member and coach,

Memories of Aberdeen: Looking back at Cliffwood Beach in the 1930s

By Sarah Phillips

I've been a resident of the township for approximately 70 years. I was raised on the east (Cliffwood Beach) side of the township in a home on Lenox Road. Back then, we had the



Sarah Phillips (r.) chats with Deputy Mayor Wilhelmina Gumbs at A&P center on Highway 35, which was once the site of a berry field.

only house on our street and there were only about 15 homes on the east side. Most people in our community did not have indoor plumbing; they had out houses and drew water from a well for drinking, bathing and cooking.

Our garbage collector drove a horse and buggy. Later, the town bought a truck and hired Henry Causby and John Reed. The school system was nothing compared to today, with one building servicing grades one through seven. The superintendent, Judge Foster, was also the township judge. We had three policemen: Chief Dick Menzel, Captain Wilkerson and Charley Adario. We had one post office near the railroad and no mail carriers. Our mayor, John Marz, served from 1935-

59 and again in 1963. The Marz family owned a great amount of farmland, including a berry field on the site where the A&P now stands on Highway 35.

Most of the people migrated from the south and brought their customs with them such as gardening, growing food and canning it for winter. My grandmother canned vegetables and fruit and made her own jelly and dried fruit. Most everybody had chickens. We sold eggs and also raised pigs that were slaughtered annually. We smoked our own ham and bacon, and

made sausage. We also had a horse. Horses and buggies were our means of transportation to get to downtown Keyport, which was our equivalent of a mall.

There were several businesses in the township: Keyport Lumber on Amboy Road; Wolfe Lumber, Mike's Esso, Building Supplies Gravel owned by Mike Collins, and a Sunoco Gas Station, all on Highway 35; a tavern owned by John Regan, Guste's Auto Repair & Gas Station, Raffa Barber Shop, and Matty's Grocery Store (later owned

by Sarah & Jim Burlew), all on Cliffwood Avenue. Bill Regan and Helen Watto owned a candy store near the school and a grocery store on Shore Concourse.

Editor's Note: In celebration of Aberdeen Township's 150th Anniversary in 2007, we will be publishing articles by current and former residents reflecting on life in our community.

*Articles will be published in Aberdeen Update or on the municipal website (www.aberdeennj.org). Please send your articles to **Stuart Brown**, Township Manager, Aberdeen Township, 1 Aberdeen Square, Aberdeen, N.J. 07747 or e-mail to stuart.brown@aberdeennj.org*

On summer weekends many people came from the city to Cliffwood Beach and rented one-room bungalows owned by Morris & Walker. Highway 35 was not as it is today and there was no Garden State Parkway. On Sunday evenings, as people traveled back home, you could walk faster than the cars moved.

Most people knew each other and got along quite well, whether black or white. ●

HEALTH UPDATES

Stop smoking assistance.

When you're ready to quit smoking, New Jersey's Quitnet, Quitline and Quitcenters can help. All three programs offer customized solutions to help you quit. NJ Quitline (1-866-NJ-STOPS) and NJ Quitnet (www.nj.quitnet.com) are free. NJ Quitcenters offer inexpensive, face-to-face counseling. Locate the nearest center at NJ Quitnet or NJ Quitline.

Free Stop Smoking Meetings in Aberdeen.

Aberdeen Township has been awarded a \$1,000 grant from the American Cancer Society to establish a program to help residents stop smoking. For more information or to join the meetings, call Maureen Belmonte at (732) 583-4200, ext. 217.

Is it a cold or the flu?

The flu is like a cold in many ways—both are respiratory infections caused by viruses. But if the flu is misdiagnosed as a cold, potentially life-threatening complications like bronchitis and pneumonia may be overlooked. Recognizing the differences can be a life saver. Colds are rarely accompanied by fever and headaches. General aches and pains are slight and fatigue/weakness are quite mild. The flu can have high fever lasting 3 to 4 days, headaches, severe aches and pains and fatigue/weakness lasting 2 to 3 weeks. For a complete list of symptoms for cold and flu along with advice on prevention and treatment, visit www.niaid.nih.gov/publications/cold/sick.pdf.

Prepared by Robert Scapicio, Health Officer for Aberdeen & Hazlet Townships

Scenes from Aberdeen Day 2006...



The 11th annual Aberdeen Day, held on September 9, was truly bigger and better than ever, with added features of an amusement ride area and many new food and craft vendors. Clockwise from left: Mayor David Sobel and Councilmen Joe Raymond and Nick Minutolo (l. to r.) visit the Aberdeen CERT booth manned by (l. to r.) Cindy Thomas, Herb Caravella and Tim Shanahan; Michael McHugh, 7, climbs his way to the top of inflated mountain; Councilmen Vincent Vinci (l.) and Minutolo discuss the day's turnout with Aberdeen Recreation Director Jim Colabelli; guests check out the crafts area which offered more vendors than in prior years; Councilman Owen Drapkin (r.) admires 1932 Ford 'Woodie' with owner Bill Seber at event's expanded classic car show.



Recreation News

The Recreation Department is currently offering the following athletic programs through April 2007. There is no registration deadline. Registration forms are available at Aberdeen Town Hall, 1 Aberdeen Square.

Men's Open Gym. Matawan H.S., Mondays (ages 18+) and Thursdays (ages 30+), 7:00- 9:30 p.m., \$30.

Men's Open Soccer. Lloyd Road School, Mondays (ages 18+), 7:30-9:30 p.m., \$30.

Instructional Basketball. Lloyd Road School, Mondays (ages 8-12), 6:00-7:30 p.m., \$15.

Cheerleading & Elementary Skills. Lloyd Road School, Mondays (ages 5 - 10), 6:00-7:30 p.m., \$15.

High School Open Gym. Matawan H.S., Wednesdays (Matawan H.S. students only), 7:00-9:00 p.m., no charge.

TOWNSHIP OF ABERDEEN MUNICIPAL DIRECTORY

POLICE, FIRE & RESCUE
EMERGENCIES 9-1-1

ABERDEEN NON-EMERGENCY
POLICE AND FIRE 732-566-2054

TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
732-583-4200

David Sobel, Mayor Ext. 380
Wilhelmina Gumbs,
Deputy Mayor Ext. 383
Owen Drapkin Ext. 381
Nick Minutolo Ext. 382
Tom Perry Ext. 384
Joe Raymond Ext. 385
Vincent Vinci Ext. 386

TOWNSHIP MANAGER
732-583-4200
Stuart Brown Ext. 117

TOWNSHIP DEPARTMENTS
732-583-4200
Township Clerk Ext. 119
Construction Official Ext. 121
Engineering Ext. 101
Planning and Zoning Ext. 101
Finance Ext. 128
Health Ext. 129
Municipal Court Ext. 141
Public Works Ext. 174
Recreation Ext. 134
Tax Assessor Ext. 122
Tax Collector Ext. 128
Service Requests Ext. 100

HELPFUL NUMBERS

Animal Control
732-922-0100
Chamber of Commerce
732-290-1125
Electricity (JCP&L)
800-662-3115
Library, Free Public
732-583-9100
Gas (N.J. Natural Gas Co.)
800-221-0051
Water (N.J. American Water)
800-652-6987

www.aberdeennj.org

Demolition Begins (from page 1)

way, an asbestos abatement specialist subcontractor retained by Giordano will remove all asbestos from the buildings. Councilman **Nick Minutolo** related that the net cost of the project will be approximately \$329,000, including \$299,000 for the asbestos removal and \$30,000 for asbestos monitoring services.

"Under the contract, the cost of the demolition was covered by the salvage value of steel from the buildings that Giordano will recycle," Minutolo noted. "This represented significant savings over a second estimate that included \$100,000 for the structural demolitions plus approximately \$500,000 for the asbestos removal."

Councilman **Owen Drapkin** added: "In awarding the contract, we were glad to be able to work with a single, highly experienced source for the demolition, asbestos abatement and scrap recycling phases of this project."

In the meantime, Icon



At the ceremony, cherry-picker operator explained demolition process to attendees.

Environmental, a unit of Township Engineers CME Associates, continues to work with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to finalize a Phase II cleanup plan for the contaminated site, which had been seized by Aberdeen after the prior owners failed to pay property taxes. The plan is expected to be approved during the first quarter of 2007, paving the way for the commencement of the environmental cleanup and ultimate construction on the site.

After breaking off final negotiations with the developer previously designated for the site, the Township Council will shortly begin discussions with other companies interested in

U.S. Post Office
PAID
Aberdeen, NJ
07747
Permit #414

To: **Postal Customer**
Aberdeen, NJ

acquiring the site. "In the interest of maximizing return on the Township's investment, we elected to move on and seek proposals from other developers with strong experience in affordable senior housing," said Mayor **David Sobel**. "Our professionals agreed that going forward with the necessary demolition and Phase II environmental study would accelerate the redevelopment process and, ultimately, do what's best for our taxpayers." ●

SENIOR SPECIALS

Introduction to Country Line Dancing – Mondays at 11:00 a.m. at the George Hausmann Senior Center. Beginner class for all ages. No experience necessary. Free of charge.

Crafting Class – Thursdays from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. at the George Hausmann Senior Center. Free of charge.

George Hausmann Senior Center Schedule

Mondays

Country Line Dancing 11:00 a.m.

Tuesdays

Qigong 9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.
Tai-Chi 10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Aerobics 11:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Wednesdays

Gentle Yoga 10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Aerobics 11:15 a.m. - Noon

Thursdays

Crafting Class 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Aerobics 11:15 a.m. – Noon

The George Hausmann Senior Center is located at 30 Noble Place in the "N" section of Strathmore.