



# ABERDEEN UPDATE

Spring 2008

The Official Newsletter of Aberdeen Township

[www.aberdeennj.org](http://www.aberdeennj.org)

## New technologies aiding Aberdeen P.D.

Law enforcement technology recently put into use by the Aberdeen Police Department is improving the safety of officers and the public by providing immediate, direct access to local, state and federal crime databases and by facilitating the sharing of information between law enforcement agencies.

Info-Cop, wireless-based law enforcement information software that provides police officers in the field with direct access to local, state and federal



Using LiveScan, Lt. Cole fingerprints a young Aberdeen resident as her mom looks on. The system can help find missing children.

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## Local dep't. dissolved

## Health services shift to county, bringing savings

Continuing efforts to consolidate certain municipal services, in late February, Aberdeen and Hazlet officially dissolved their joint health department in order to become part of the Monmouth County Health Department.

The move, which came shortly after the retirement of long-time Health Officer **Bob Scapicco**, is viewed as a 'win-win' situation for residents who can now take advantage of the expanded services offered by the county health department, at a significantly reduced cost to the township.

Annual savings for Aberdeen are estimated at more than \$100,000.

"There will be no cutback in services offered to our residents. If anything, they will find far more programs available," explains **Karen Ventura**, Aberdeen Township Clerk. Along with services previously offered by the Aberdeen-Hazlet Health Department such as flu shots and rabies clinics, residents can now receive blood pressure checks, free or reduced price mammograms, and free childhood immunizations for children whose families are without insurance. Most of these

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## Celebrating under the bright lights



Members of the Athletics in the Aberdeen-Matawan girls softball league celebrate victory under the bright new lights at Oakshades Park's Fireman's Field, which recently underwent a major upgrade that also included a new infield with extensive drainage improvements, new dugouts, and a higher fence along the first baseline to protect cars parked nearby. Infield, drainage and dugout improvements were also recently completed at Ross Field in Cliffwood Beach and Cambridge Field on Lloyd Road.

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## More roads getting makeovers

Aberdeen's ongoing road improvement program continues to make its way through town, with construction underway or soon to begin on Gerard Avenue, Marshall Concourse and Woodmere Drive. Work is expected to be completed on seven additional streets later this year.

Along with reconstruction, the Marshall Concourse and Woodmere Drive projects will include the installation of new water mains.

Over on Gerard Avenue, plans are in the works for the addition of supplemental seasonal parking for events at Fireman's Field. The Township is currently in negotiations to acquire land from the NJ Turnpike Authority for the addition of 30-35 parking spaces. Projects slated to commence later this year include full reconstruction of Imperia Place, Ives Place, Beacon Lane, Idlewild Lane, Idlewild Court, Intone Lane, and Stevenson Avenue.

According to **Bill Skorton**, project manager for Township Engineer CME Associates, the project will include new roads, concrete curbs, new sidewalks (with the exception of Stevenson Avenue) and drainage improvements. The Idlewild project will be completed in two phases starting later this year, beginning with the section between the road's two intersections with Imbrook Lane. This will be followed by the section that runs from Imbrook to Lloyd Road. ●



Director of Public Works Jim Lauro (r.) shows Councilman Vincent Vinci piping being installed under Gerard Ave. as part of road reconstruction.

## Health services (continued from page 1)

services are offered at multiple locations around the county.

Other services offered by the county include a Child Health Home Visiting Program for pregnant women and children up to age 6, and a Healthy Traveler Program for international travelers that provides education and vaccinations for those traveling abroad.

To obtain services and to check locations, residents should call the county department directly at (732) 431-7456. Residents can also visit the department's website at [www.shore.co](http://www.shore.co).

[monmouth.nj.us/health/health](http://monmouth.nj.us/health/health) to learn about programs and services offered.

The Monmouth County Health Department now provides services to a total of 22 municipalities. Along with Aberdeen and Hazlet, the department serves Asbury Park, Avon, Bradley Beach, Farmingdale, Howell, Manasquan, Matawan, Neptune City, Oceanport, Union Beach, Allentown, Atlantic Highlands, Belmar, Englishtown, Lake Como, Marlboro, Millstone, Neptune, Roosevelt and Wall Township. ●

## More shared services...

Health services are not the only area being targeted for savings by the Township Council through shared-services initiatives.

The Council recently passed resolutions providing interlocal service agreements for grass-cutting and grounds maintenance services jointly with the Borough of Matawan and the Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School

District, and for the purchase of non-leaded and diesel fuel with the School District. In both cases, Aberdeen will serve as the lead agency for the purposes of administering the agreement and procuring vendors through the bidding process.

Working with the township's department heads, the Council continues to explore other options for shared services. ●

## SENIOR SPECIALS

The Recreation Department's annual series of day trips for residents 55 and older will continue with a trip to The Renault Winery & Atlantic City on Wednesday, 7/9. Tickets are \$21 and include bus transportation, family-style lunch at the winery in Galloway Township followed by a visit to a casino. Register by 5/27. Future trips include a cruise on The Spirit of Philadelphia (8/28), The Tropicana Atlantic City (9/16), The Tides (10/30), and Platzl Brauhaus (12/4). Please call (732) 583-4200, ext. 129 for additional information.

### 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.

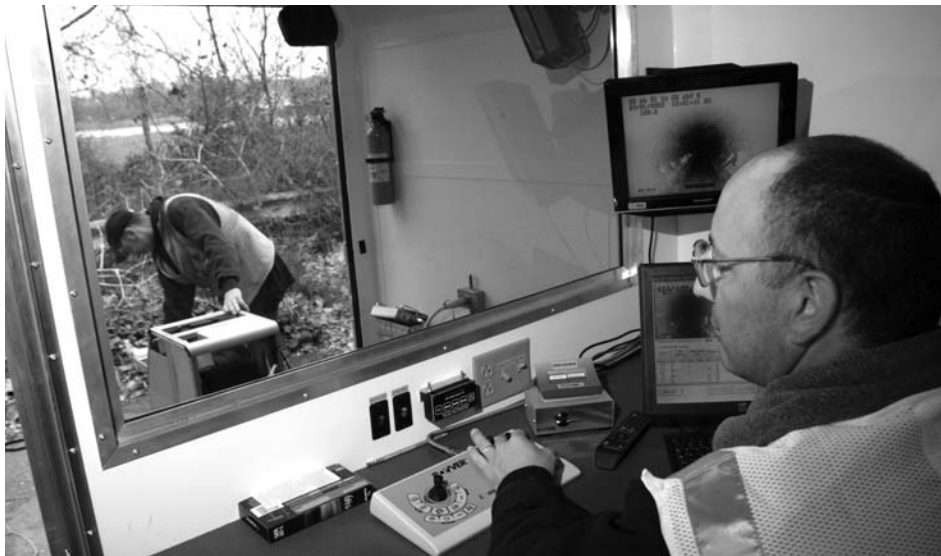
Aerobics 11:15 a.m. – Noon

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

## Warning! Read this before buying that inflatable pool

The Aberdeen Township Zoning and Building Departments are advising homeowners that, under state law, dedicated fences are required for inflatable (or storable) swimming pools which hold at least two feet of water and have a filter. Just as with inground and above-ground pools, inflatable pools require barriers with a self-locking gate or other safety devices, along with zoning, permits and inspections.

For more information on requirements for pool approval and installation, or on spas, hot tubs, fences and other accessory structures, please contact the Zoning Office at (732) 583-4200, ext. 101. For information on electrical requirements for pools or building information, call the Building Department at (732) 583-4200, ext 120. ●



As systems operator George Sisti monitors equipment inside specially equipped trailer, Matthew Dimitracopoulos helps guide camera down into sewer system in Cliffwood Beach.

## Sewer inspections go high-tech

In a development that would have made Ed Norton envious, members of Aberdeen's Public Works Department are currently undergoing training in the use of new sewer line video equipment that can provide an up-close look at the condition of the township's storm and sanitary sewers.

Traveling up to 600 feet underground, the state-of-the-art equipment can be used to inspect sewers before starting road work, to check on the status of completed repairs and to conduct regularly scheduled inspection of sewers. Once training is finished, the Public Works Department plans to use the equipment on a weekly basis as part of a preventative maintenance program

designed to help the Township keep costs down by spotting small problems before they become big ones.

The camera will also be used to inspect for inflow and infiltration in the sanitary sewers. Inflow and infiltration—or the way that groundwater and stormwater enter into a sanitary sewer system—increases the load on the system, causing potential damage and resulting in increased costs for the township.

According to **Bob Brady**, utilities supervisor for the Aberdeen Public Works Department, prior to purchasing the equipment, the township used private contractors to inspect sewers, usually before starting road work. ●

## Volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed for the Aberdeen Environmental and Shade Tree Advisory Board and Historical Commission.

The Environmental and Shade Tree Advisory Board provides guidance and information to the Township Council on environmental issues affecting residents, reviews the environmental aspects of site plans for proposed developments, and conducts a twice yearly clean-up at Cliffwood Beach and the annual Family Fishing Contest.

The Historical Commission collects and maintains historical information for the Township and works with the Council to share it with the public.

To apply for a position with either organization, please send a letter with your qualifications and/or reasons for interest to Mayor **David Sobel**. He can be contacted through the township website: [www.aberdeennj.org](http://www.aberdeennj.org) or call and leave a message for the Mayor at (732) 583-4200, ext. 380. Appointments are made by the Aberdeen Township Council.

## LIBRARY NEWS

The Library will offer the following adult programs in May and June:

- 5/12 Movie: *Michael Clayton*, 2:30 p.m.
- 5/12 It's Not about the Stuff, 7 p.m.
- 5/14 Financial Program, 7 p.m.
- 5/15 Mindful Yoga Group: A Therapeutic Approach to Yoga with a Mind-Body Focus, 7 p.m.
- 5/19 Movie: *There Will Be Blood*, 2:30 p.m.
- 5/19 Panic and Anxiety Workshop, 7 p.m.
- 5/21 Healthy Habits Healthy Kids, 7 p.m.
- 5/22 The Pros, Cons and Updates on Reverse Mortgages, 7 p.m.
- 5/23 Free Vision Screening, 10 a.m. -12 p.m.
- 5/28 Preparing for Your Move, Now or Later, 7 p.m.
- 5/29 Mindful Yoga Group, 7 p.m.
- 5/31 Vintage Music Concert, 2 p.m.
- 6/2 Movie: TBA, 2:30 p.m.
- 6/5 How to Stop Worrying & Feel Better, 7 p.m.
- 6/9 Movie, TBA, 2:30 p.m.
- 6/9 Beading/Knotting, 7 p.m.
- 6/11 Glucose Screening & Hearing Test, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- 6/12 Book Club Meeting, *The Art of Mending*, by Elizabeth Berg, 7:30 p.m.
- 6/16 Movie: TBA, 2:30 p.m.
- 6/16 Book Discussion: *Murders in Monmouth*, by George Joynson, 7 p.m.
- 6/20 Origami, 4 p.m.
- 6/21 Concert: Kick off the Summer, Catch the Reading Bug By Presley & Melody, 2 p.m.
- 6/23 Movie: TBA, 2:30 p.m.
- 6/23 Landlord-Tenant Law, New Jersey Bar Foundation, 7 p.m.
- 6/25 Astrology: Basic & Beyond, 7 p.m.
- 6/26 Sleeping Disorders, 7 p.m.
- 6/30 Movie: TBA, 2:30 p.m.

## Technologies

(continued from page 1)

crime databases, was installed in all 10 of Aberdeen's patrol division vehicles and the dispatch center in June 2007.

Instead of relying on limited information from dispatchers through two-way radio calls, officers use Info-Cop to tap into a wireless computer network to gain access to complete motor vehicle and warrant information, as well as photo images. Using a central server, Info-Cop allows officers to contact the National Crime Information Center, the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System, state criminal records, and individual computer-aided dispatch and records management systems.

### A wealth of information

"The Info-Cop software system puts a wealth of criminal justice information at our officers' fingertips," says Lt.

**Joseph Cole**, Administrative Commander of the Aberdeen P.D.

"Rather than tie up phone and radio lines to the dispatch center, the system allows officers to make roadside checks of vehicle registrations, driver's licenses, wanted persons, sex offender and terrorist registries, and provides instant information relating to chemical and other hazardous material spills."

The system also allows officers to share information with law enforcement agencies around the state who use the software. The sharing feature enables officers to track suspicious vehicles and persons who may have been involved in criminal activity, and also allows for quick distribution of photographs of missing and wanted persons, which are sent directly to the mobile computers. A chat feature allows officers to communicate sensitive information to other officers and the dispatch center without interception from scanners and the like.

### Freeing dispatchers' time

Lt. Cole adds that a side benefit of the system is that it allows dispatchers to devote more attention to incoming emergency calls—rather than accessing info for officers in the field.

Since last summer, the department has also been reaping the benefits of LiveScan, an automated fingerprint system that allows officers to fingerprint offenders electronically, and transmit the impressions via computer

directly to the New Jersey State Police for review.

Before LiveScan, the fingerprints would be rolled in ink, and mailed to the state police for entry into the criminal justice information system. This process would often take weeks of turnaround time, with the results sometimes disclosing a different name and age than the subject had provided. In addition, if this person were to commit a crime in another jurisdiction during the turnaround period, officers would have no reasonable way of locating such information.

### Fast turnaround

With LiveScan, the turnaround time is usually less than one hour, and often as little as 20 minutes. "By confirming the offender's identity right away, the system greatly reduces the chance of misidentification, and may also disclose information regarding prior

crimes. Now, instead of wasting valuable time attempting to locate the offender weeks later, they are normally still present when the results are transmitted back to us," Lt. Cole notes.

He adds that Aberdeen's mobile LiveScan system can assist efforts to find missing children or special needs adults. At last September's Aberdeen Day, for example, over 50 youngsters were photographed and fingerprinted. Their parents were then given a card containing the photo and fingerprint. "The card is turned over to the parents or guardians for their safekeeping, with no record being kept by our department," Lt. Cole explained. "Should an emergency arise, the card is given back to us to expedite the investigation. This is a great tool to help our officers investigate cases of missing children." ●



Sgt. David Mauro demonstrates Info-Cop system to Councilman Vincent Vinci, a retired member of the Aberdeen P.D.

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## Take the survey...

All 53 municipalities in Monmouth County, including Aberdeen, are working with Monmouth County Emergency Management to identify natural hazards and plan for future disasters as part of the county's Multi-jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Planning Project.

The Aberdeen Township Office of Emergency Management is asking residents to complete a brief online survey designed to gauge their level of knowl-

edge about natural disaster issues and vulnerable areas in the community. The information provided will help coordinate activities to help reduce the risk of injury or property damage in the event of a natural disaster.

To participate, go to [www.aberdeen.nj.org](http://www.aberdeen.nj.org), click on the Emergency Planning Survey item and follow the links provided. For more information, contact Chief **John T. Powers** at 732-583-4200 ext. 221. ●

## Volunteers help Babe Ruth League bat 1.000

From major league ballparks to ballfields in cities and towns across America, there's no surer sign of spring than the start of the baseball season. Locally, baseball began in early April as more than 450 participants ages five to 18 continued a tradition of baseball in Aberdeen that dates back more than 50 years through the Matawan-Aberdeen Babe Ruth League (MABRL) and its predecessors.

The Babe Ruth program was founded over 55 years ago in a suburb of Trenton as The Little Bigger League. The program was renamed when Babe Ruth's widow Claire, after learning of the organization's merits, gave permission to change its name to honor her late husband. Today, the league is the premier amateur baseball and softball program in the world, serving over 1 million players.

The Matawan-Aberdeen Babe Ruth League offers boys and girls the opportunity to play baseball in a co-ed

Ruth program is due to the millions of volunteer hours spent every year from the chairman of the 17-member International Board to the local league manager and team coaches. On the local level, the Matawan-Aberdeen Babe Ruth program is currently led by a pair of Aberdeen residents: president **Patrick Egan** and vice president **Fred Tagliarini**, who serve on a 15-member board of trustees.

### Long-time involvement

Egan has been a trustee for six years, the last five as president, and has coached kids ranging from five to 18 years of age. An Aberdeen resident since 1999, he grew up in Matawan, where his family roots go back four generations, and participated in the Matawan Borough Baseball League and Babe Ruth program. Outside of his MABRL responsibilities, Egan is

also involved with Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) baseball for 12-15 year-old players. A father of three boys and three girls, Egan's oldest son, now in high school, is a former Babe Ruth player and his two youngest sons, ages five and seven, currently play in the league.

Tagliarini became involved approximately 20 years ago and has held numerous positions over the

years, including president, vice president, coach and manager. A native of Staten Island, Tagliarini played in the Babe Ruth program there. Both of his sons, now 27 and 16, are MABRL alums.

Egan estimates that he and the trustees spend hundreds of hours on behalf of the league each year. "Our volunteers are a fantastic group of people who help the league run

smoothly," he says. And those volunteers can be busy year round. The season starts in January with registration. From there, teams have to be selected, schedules completed, uniforms and trophies ordered, field maintenance completed and spon-



V.P. Fred Tagliarini (l.) and president Pat Egan lead the 15-member Board of Trustees that keeps the Matawan-Aberdeen Babe Ruth League running smoothly.

sors lined up. Games begin in early-April and the season winds down after All-Star play finishes at the end of July. August, when many families are on vacation, is the only quiet time. Budgeting for the coming season takes place in the fall.

### Seeing players progress

"The most satisfying moments come from seeing how the players progress and grow over the years to become young men and women, many of whom go on to play on the high school level," Egan says.

Tagliarini, who remains active in the program even though his sons no longer participate, says an ongoing love affair with the game and the satisfaction gained from giving back to the community keeps him motivated.

He credits a strong relationship with the governing bodies in Aberdeen and Matawan for helping to make the program a success. In particular, he praises the efforts of the Aberdeen Township Council and Aberdeen's Recreation Director **Jim Colabelli** for their assistance with everything from financial stipends used to help purchase equipment and uniforms, help with field permits, and ensuring that township fields are maintained—citing the recently completed improvements at Fireman's Field, Cambridge Field and Ross Field. ●



Members of the league's 12-year-old Athletics team practice pick-off move at Cambridge Field.

environment on teams coached by men and women. In some areas, the Babe Ruth program also offers the Bambino Buddy-Ball Division for players ages 5-20 who are either physically or mentally challenged. Although not currently offered by the MABRL, the league is looking into the possibility of adding a buddy ball program.

Nationally, the success of the Babe

## 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  
Janice Gallo Ext. 382  
Tom Perry Ext. 384  
Joe Raymond Ext. 385  
Vincent Vinci Ext. 386

ACTING TOWNSHIP  
MANAGER

732-583-4200  
Jim Lauro 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](http://www.aberdeennj.org)

## Saving the planet and tax dollars...

Since last year, Aberdeen residents have participated in an enhanced recycling program that now includes cardboard and mixed paper in the monthly pick-up of newspapers, and plastic bottles in the monthly pickup of cans and glass containers. Beyond the primary goal of helping the environment, the program is delivering increased revenues to the township that help keep property taxes down.

In 2007, Aberdeen contracted with Future Sanitation to provide trash, recycling and bulk-pick-up services. The new contract gave Aberdeen control of its recyclable materials, meaning that the Township maintains possession of its recycling and directs where it goes. Previously, the carting company took all recycled materials and benefited from their sale.

"We urge our residents to get on board with this mandatory program," says **Jim Lauro**, Director of Public Works and Acting Township Manager. "The more we recycle, the more we help our environment and our local tax bills."

Indeed, during 2007 Aberdeen realized nearly \$15,500 in income from 765.09 tons of recycled newspapers, bottles and cans, while also saving almost \$55,000 in landfill charges that would have been incurred for that tonnage. "With the program expanded to include mixed paper and cardboard, those figures should go even higher in 2008," notes recycling coordinator **Bob Brady**.

Aberdeen offers additional options for residents who prefer not to wait for their monthly recycling pick-ups or those who have bulk items that they immediately wish to dispose of. Residents can bring those regularly recycled items along with appliances and other products containing metals (refrigerators, air conditioners, washers, dryers, water heaters, bed frames, etc.),

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

To: Postal Customer  
Aberdeen, NJ

as well as batteries, antifreeze, motor oil, and worn American flags to a designated disposal area at the Public Works garage on Lenox Rd. off Cliffwood Ave. Hours are: weekdays from 6:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m., or the third Saturday of the month from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. ●



Aberdeen recycling coordinator Bob Brady explains newspaper and mixed paper recycling procedures to Councilwomen Wilhelmina Gumbs (c.) and Janice Gallo. Top photo: Aberdeen now offers safe disposal of motor oil, batteries, anti-freeze, and worn American flags.