



THERE'S A LOT TO BE SAID...

... LARGE CROWD SUPPORTS MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

Unfortunately, the parade was cancelled due to the weather forecast. However, we had the Memorial Day Service with Steve Kohlreiter, a Vietnam War veteran, as the grand marshal; he stressed the importance of taking time to honor the men and women who gave their lives for our freedom. We thank all the guest speakers, singers, emergency services, Road Department, and the large number of residents who gave their time and energy to make the Memorial Day Ceremony a special event. In addition, Boy Scouts Stephen Munson and Antonio Vinagre of Troop 321 played TAPS. The program was coordinated by Dina Burke, Director of Public Affairs; Bernadette Pomykala, our administrative assistant; and the Memorial Day Committee.

It is important to mention that at 9 a.m. on Memorial Day the Fire Department held its service to honor the volunteer firefighters who served our town and have passed away. It's great that they keep this tradition.

... 2017 ROAD PROGRAM

This is year four of the Township Road Rehabilitation Program. It included these streets: Hickory Street (North of Washington), Taylor Avenue, Chestnut Street (North of Washington), Clinton Avenue, Monroe Avenue (South of Washington), Walnut Street (Palm to Ridgewood), Colonial Boulevard (South of Lincoln), Lincoln Avenue (part), Mountain Avenue*, Manhattan Avenue, Edison Street, Beechwood Drive, and Spice Drive (fully funded by Suez Water).

Based on the recommendation of Town Engineer Christopher Statile, we did not join the Pascack Valley Road Paving Cooperative this year in the hopes that the bids would go out earlier and the roads would get paved in the summer to take advantage of the warm weather, which makes for smoother paving. The lowest responsible bidder was Mike Fitzpatrick & Son, Oak Ridge, NJ with a base

bid of \$747,201.20; due to some changes, the program cost about \$809,000. We were able to pave Amherst, Tulane, and Madeline streets and construct ramps at Pascack and Amherst due to the lower costs.

A review of the unit costs for asphalt and milling indicate that the individual municipal contracts were lower than the cooperative prices with \$67/ton for asphalt and \$3.25/SY for milling; the cooperative prices were \$70.57/ton for asphalt and \$3.50/SY for milling; A good thing for us!

Handicap ramp installation was done on Mountain Avenue ahead of the repaving. Engineer Statile recommended that we try for a NJDOT discretionary grant--a longshot but worth a try. We were surprised and happy to hear that we were awarded \$155,000 to repave Mountain Avenue; although this did not pay for the entire road, it certainly helped!

In addition, Bergen County paved Linwood Avenue which includes three towns Paramus, Ridgewood, and Township of Washington.

... SUEZ WATER PROJECT ON JEFFERSON AVENUE

Suez Water did a project to renew mains in the area of Jefferson Avenue. Renew means that they clean the water main and line it. Temporary piping was installed to maintain water service during construction although there could have been disruptions of water service. The project lasted about 4 weeks during which Suez excavated several openings of 6' by 6' at each end of the block.

... SUEZ WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT

Suez Water is currently replacing water mains on Andrea Lane, Edgewood Drive, and Parkway Court in order to improve service. Suez has agreed to repave those roads curb to curb; however, the repaving may not happen until 2018, but the commitment is there.

**... ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS
MEMORIAL FIELD**

The Township received a Bergen County Open Space Matching Grant of \$30,000 for replacement of existing sidewalks along Memorial Field at Pascack Road and for installation of a handicap ramp at the corner of School Street and Pascack Road, which was extended to include Ridgewood Boulevard East and Pascack Road. D & L Paving was the successful bidder. The total project cost was \$27,258. The Township will receive reimbursement for half of that amount.

... RAMP AT MEMORIAL FIELD

The Township also received a full grant of \$50,000 to construct a handicapped ramp with handrails to improve accessibility to Memorial Field/Park from the southern entrance near the fieldhouse.

**... MAYORS WELLNESS PROGRAM /
HEALTHY STEPS**

As you know, the Wellness Program was funded by the Valley Hospital Community Outreach Group. Chris Robertson, Director of ER Nursing at Valley Hospital; Larry Davino, nurse at Valley; Foodtown; Laura Rifkin, Director of the Library; and I worked together to implement the program. It was a lot of work but a great event at the Library on January 7 with various screenings, information, giveaways, and nutritional snacks. The walking part, Healthy Steps, continued every Saturday until April. Members walked in the cold, snowy weather; it was invigorating. Emily Kratzer is a volunteer CERT member and is in charge of the walkers. Due to popular demand, Healthy Steps started again in September and continues to December. However, we will probably continue on an informal basis in January 2018; we originally started in January on a snowy day!

... SHREDDING AND E-RECYCLING

The shredding and e-recycling event held on Saturday, October 21, from 9 a.m. to Noon was the busiest one yet! It was great weather, and it was great to see so many residents avail themselves of this opportunity!

**... WASTE MANAGEMENT
PERMIT RENEWAL**

Since 2016, former Hillsdale Mayor Frank and I have written letters and asked our residents to oppose the renewal of the Waste Management Permit by the Department of Environmental Protection even though a draft permit had been completed by the DEP; we wanted to have an opportunity to voice our concerns at a public hearing. I did pre-register to speak at the DEP hearing on April 27 to

outline concerns such as noise, smell, quality of life, new traffic counts, pedestrian crossing areas on the route for churches, schools, and shopping areas.

When I received a letter from the DEP regarding the permit for the Hillsdale Transfer Station, I was surprised and thrilled to read that the DEP did not issue the permit but officially asked the Bergen County Utilities Authority for comments to specifically address the adequacy of the current truck routes to and from the Facility, environmental issues, and the actual need for the continued inclusion of the Facility in the County Plan. We are in contact with the BCUA to be aware of the next step in this process. You know how important it is to keep all those trucks from traveling through the Township.

Remember the trucks travel 1.2 miles in Hillsdale but 2.3 miles through the Township. If the permit gets renewed, we should be entitled to get: part of the host fee, a contribution to help fund the costs of renovating the intersection, and another traffic study funded by Waste Management. Chris Statile, our engineer, noted in a follow-up report that the passage of one 33,000 pound truck equates to 1,429 passenger vehicles, thus exacerbating roadway damage and requiring more frequent repaving and pothole filling. Thank you for your support! However, very recent information from the NJ Department of Environmental Protection is that the permit will be renewed...ugh!

... STREET SWEEPING / TREE WORK

So far, all streets were swept twice this year; a third sweeping will be very soon. Lewis Trees, a subcontractor for PSE&G, trimmed trees near power lines on Ridgewood Rd and the roads off of Ridgewood Rd between Lafayette and Walnut. Generally speaking, the Township spent quite a bit of money this year removing many trees on municipal properties that were either leaning or dead and presented an unsafe situation.

... NJ TREE RECOVERY CAMPAIGN

The Township again participated in the Tree Recovery Campaign to replant trees lost after Super Storm Sandy. Residents picked up the bare root Dogwood and Black Gum seedlings in April at the Yard.

... RETIREMENTS

Unfortunately, two long time employees retired on March 31, Margaret Koesel, Court Clerk and Recreation Superintendent (34 yrs.) and Florence Mammolitti, Violations Clerk, Health and Recreation Secretary, and Registrar (15 yrs.). Recently, Flo also helped out in Tax Collection. Margaret and Flo were very diligent and knowledgeable in their jobs and provided friendly, efficient service to our residents and court "customers."

... ADMINISTRATION

Administrator Mary Anne Groh is extensively involved in the annual budget preparation; once it is adopted, the real work begins with addressing all the spending requests by the departments. This means reviewing and evaluating vendor bid pricing with state contract awards; it is a time-consuming job especially since state contracts may include the body of a vehicle but not some of the appurtenances, which means that they all have to be vetted separately. In addition, Mrs. Groh interfaced with the Town Engineer for the 2017 road program as well as other projects being done through grants and bids.

Mrs. Groh spent a lot of time meeting with vendors to upgrade technology such as computers and phone system in the municipal complex. The new phone system is more efficient and less costly. As the administrator, she also has to advertise, interview, and hire new employees; more information on personnel is provided in a separate section.

... EMPLOYMENT

Due to retirements, the Administrator and Mayor hired several new part-time employees: Health Secretary Cornelia Lisa, Recreation Superintendent Ann Lawson, Registrar Susan Witkowski, Assistant Registrar Cornelia Lisa, Court Administrator Lynda Lasini, Court Violations clerk Michael Kobylarz, Payroll and Purchasing Assistant Cristina Donato, and CFO Ashley Morrone. The part-time jobs noted above had been done by employees who wore several hats in a full-time situation and retired. Last year, we hired an additional full-time member of the DMF, David Castaldo, as a Laborer who subsequently obtained his CDL to become an Operator. Then Vincent Corrado was hired as the part-time Planning and Zoning Secretary. Very recently, our building department technical assistant left for a full-time job; Bride Vaughn was hired to fill that position. Having part-time positions is the case in a small town!

I appointed a new DMF Superintendent, Bill Lawlor, who is a member of the DMF staff and currently enrolled in classes necessary for certification.

... WESTWOOD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

The Girls' and Boys' Basketball Teams made into the state championships for North 1, Group 2. Unfortunately, the Girls lost the Final Game to High Point by a score of 39-37, and the boys lost the final to Newton in double overtime by a score of 72-67. I am very proud of both teams—they did a great job! The football team made it into the league playoffs; however, Newton won the game. The girls' soccer team was the lone public school from North Jersey to reach the state girls soccer final but lost in overtime to Wall at Kean University. All teams did very well in their respective sports.

... TRAFFIC-RELATED SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

During the summer, Chief Hooper, Captain Hackbarth, and I discussed and met with county personnel in regard to traffic situations. As a result, Bergen County Operations and Statewide Striping made the following road/safety improvements on Saturday, August 19.

- Installed a crosswalk on Ridgewood Road to match up with the ramp at the Westwood Regional High School main entrance.
- Removed the shoulder lines for eastbound Washington Avenue between Burke and Meisten Streets to allow the addition of white skip lines between Burke and Meisten to create and evaluate a left turn only lane. Chief Hooper reports that there is some improvement in the left turns at Washington and Pascack since the left hand turn arrows and lane markings were installed by the County.
- Painted STOP AHEAD notices on the pavement on Van Emburgh Avenue at the northbound and southbound approaches to Washington Avenue. The Road Department installed LED stop signs at the intersection.
- Refreshed the cross walks, turn arrows, and white skip lines on Pascack Road at Manhattan Avenue.
- Refreshed the same road paintings at the Pascack/Ridgewood Road intersection.

... POLICE DEPARTMENT

At the end of 2016, Chief Glenn Hooper coordinated the installation of 6 new Panasonic ToughBooks Mobile Computers and the installation and data migration of a new fileserver and 15 workstations in the police department. Additionally, we had to purchase a new accident program called Easy Street Draw to be compatible with the new technology. E-ticket was purchased and installed including training of the officers; it is going very well.

Currently, a 2018 Ford Police Interceptor will be delivered. Our new Radar Speed/ Message Board Trailer finally arrived on November 28. It not only does radar speed surveys but can post messages as well since it comes with a programmable message board. This gives the department the capability of placing the trailer at various locations with important messages to residents and drivers about future road work or events.

Congratulations to Cpl. Steve Riedel and Officer Mike Ferrarini for receiving the MADD award for being very proactive in drunk driving arrests. Sgt. Arsenio Pecora and Cpl. Saverio Fasciano attended a five day training course at New Mexico Tech, funded entirely by the Department of Homeland Security.

All Township residents are reminded with this being the Holiday Season that it usually relates to an increase

in home burglaries to be more aware of any suspicious vehicles or persons. Remember no call about suspicious activity is a waste of time. Residents should leave inside and outside lights on so as to give homes an occupied look. Also, be very careful to keep purses closed and wallets hidden as there has been quite a bit of shoplifting; what's to stop pick pockets—remember the hand is quicker than the eye!

Also, please be alert and extra careful while driving this holiday season; already we have experienced horrible accidents; about 12:15 a.m. Thursday morning, November 30, there was an accident in which an individual was driving east on Washington Avenue near Calvin Street when the actor hit and cracked a utility pole, which cracked another pole and then affected wires from a third pole. The repair was not completed until late Thursday evening due to the severity of the damage. A special supervisor had to travel here from Pennsylvania during the night and then arrange for crews who did not arrive until 9:30 a.m. that day. Fortunately, they were able to work hot and residents did not lose power. On Saturday morning around 7 a.m. a pickup truck going east collided with a pickup truck going west at the top of the hill on Washington Avenue between Jackson Avenue and Robinwood Road. Five people were taken to the hospital with one of them having to be medevaced.

The Department answered more than 7,657 calls as of November 30, made 135 arrests (juvenile and adult), and prepared to meet the requirements of the NJ Bail Reform Act of 2016 which mandates training, requires new equipment, and takes away the ability of the municipal court judges to set bail on indictable crimes and domestic violence. Our supervisory personnel and patrol officers completed the central judiciary training; and we purchased the required Live Scan for \$18,235 to confirm identities and do a records check. This Act translates into a bigger workload, the transportation of prisoners to Bergen County for processing and bail hearings, and more overtime costs.

Residents are encouraged to call the Police Department for installation of child restraint seats. The Department has certified Restraint Installation Technicians.

The Department participated in the Hidden in Plain Sight/Anti-Drug program held at Westwood Regional High School on April 25, which was sponsored by the Bergen County Offices of Drug and Alcohol Dependency and Municipal Alliance as well as Westwood and Twp of Washington. It was an Interactive Awareness Program designed for caretakers, educators, and community members and presented by Tim Shoemaker who did an excellent job. Did you know that there were 308 overdoses in Bergen County and 87 deaths in 2016? Did you know that 40% of opiate admissions for treatment involved persons 25 years old or younger? The ending statement in my speech was a quote from Audrey Hepburn (those who remember her): "Nothing is impossible; the word itself says, 'I'm possible!'"

Chief Hooper received the nationwide results of Safest Towns in America for 2015 from the Chiefs Association (2016 is not available). The list has 250 towns on it, with Twp. of Washington being #63. Congratulations to our police department for a job well done.

Chief Glenn Hooper, Captain Gregg Hackbarth, and Sgt. Michael Glock organized and implemented the 35th Annual Traffic Safety Poster Contest. Teachers and students worked hard to design and create posters that highlight safety. At the awards ceremony on February 22, winners from grades K-6 received monetary awards totaling more than \$2400 for their drawings that represented safety themes. I thank the residents and businesses who contributed the prizes. A lot of work goes into this all during the year. It is important to note that our police department was only one of 11 towns out of 99 to receive the American Automobile Association Award of Excellence.

Lt. Rich Skinner and Officer Heather Castronova organized the regional JPA (Junior Police Academy) including

Motor Vehicle Enforcement Details on Washington Avenue From Garden State Parkway Exit #168 Through the Fire House

Year	Number of Details	Total Time On Details	Motor Vehicle Stops	Moving Violation Summonses	Non-Moving Violation Summonses	Verbal Warnings
2013	32	25 Hrs. 23 Min.	80	26	16	31
2014	39	36 Hrs. 41 Min.	93	33	36	52
2015	43	52 Hrs. 11 Min.	162	44	70	90
2016	40	45 Hrs. 56 Min.	120	46	50	48
1/1/17 to 5/8/17	9	7 Hrs. 51 Min.	41	7	8	30
Totals-4 yrs + 4 mos.	163	168 Hrs. 02 Min.	496	156	180	251

Hillsdale, Westwood, and the Township. It is an excellent program in which children participate in many activities, view presentations, and see many demonstrations.

The Community Policing Unit participated in the Chief for a Day Program run by the Bergen County Sheriff's Dept. Alex Hammer, Chief for a Day, and his family had breakfast and photos with the Police Department's Command Staff, after which Lt. Skinner and P.O. Santa took Alex to the Bergen County Court House and a luncheon for photos and awards. I attended the fundraiser for Alex sponsored by Cradles to Crayons in Emerson; they raised \$9,000 at the event.

It is important to know that specific motor vehicle details were performed on Washington Avenue from Garden State Parkway Exit 168 through the Fire House from 2013 to the present. The statistics, prepared by Captain Gregg Hackbarth, are on page 4.

During the last 4 years and 4 months the department held 163 motor vehicle enforcement details on Washington Ave. in the area described above. These details were specifically aimed at the following violations: passing over double yellow lines/improper passing, failure to keep right, stop sign and inspection/equipment violations. 168 hours and 2 minutes were spent on these details. A total of 496 vehicles were stopped as a result of these details with 156 moving violation summonses, 180 non-moving violation summonses and 251 verbal warnings being issued. It should be noted that the details mentioned above do not include any radar details (we generally have 100 to 120 radar details a year on Washington Ave. during night time and early morning hours) seat belt surveys/enforcement details (we average 20 to 25 per year on Washington Ave.) or general motor vehicle stops from Officers on patrol we stop a violator on Washington Ave. during normal patrol time. A search of the Munipol computer systems for all summonses issued on Washington Ave. for any violation from 1/1/2000 through 5/8/2017 (17 years 4 months) shows that a total of 8,582 summonses have been issued on Washington Avenue. This is an average of 495 summonses issued per year.

... SAFE ZONE FOR BUYERS AND SELLERS

A neighbor, John Bratka, approached me about having a Safe Zone for buyers and sellers in the mobile marketplace. Chief Hooper implemented this new service called, OfferUp, which is a designated Internet purchase exchange location in a well-lit, accessible area that is under surveillance and marked by a sign that says MEETUP SPOT thus allowing for a safe zone for e-commerce. It is by the driveway entrance to the DMF Yard.

... NEW TRAFFIC STUDY BY BERGEN COUNTY

On April 25, 2017 Bergen County had a manual traffic count done on the Intersection—Washington and Pascack Road. In the 2006 study, 17933 cars went thru the intersection; in 2017, 18969 cars went thru the intersection. An interesting fact is that in 2006, 1843 cars going east on Washington made a left onto Pascack Road; now, 2407 cars made a left to go north on Pascack Road.

... POLICE DEPARTMENT ADDITIONAL MANDATED TRAINING

The New Jersey Attorney General's Office has mandated that every Police Officer in the State must have the following training for the year 2017 in addition to the mandated training they already have:

Active Shooter Training, mandatory 16 hours by December 31, 2017

Mental Health Training, mandatory 5 hours by December 31, 2017

This results in 21 additional hours of training per officer totaling 420 hours. Some of the training already being done include duty firearms qualifications, rifle qualifications, cell block and suicide awareness, domestic violence, deadly force and pursuit guidelines, alcotest, etc.

... COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT)

Members of the CERT Team which includes Lenny Sabino, Karla Williams, Brendan O'Sullivan, Jack Murphy, Danika Wertalik, and Emily Kratzer are the "eyes and ears" of the police department as they help with pedestrian safety and traffic flow at various functions such as the recent B Street Band Concert where approximately 1,000 people gathered and Town Day where about 3,000 people gathered.

... BLOOD DRIVE IN HONOR OF GRACE & ALEX!

The Knights of Columbus sponsored a Blood Drive in honor of Grace Skuches and Alex Hammer to help children. Unfortunately, Grace passed away on September 7 this year after a long-hard battle with brain cancer for the past 2 years.

In addition, fundraisers were held at the Washington Swim Club and the Knights of Columbus to raise funds for Frankie Aiello who has had several brain surgeries to control seizures. Thank you for your support and kindnesses to these families.

... DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL FACILITIES

Acting superintendent Tom Clossey, provided an excellent transition as we moved to the appointment of Bill Lawlor as the superintendent. Mr. Lawlor is attending management classes required for certification at the Rutgers Ecology Complex. They and members of the DMF have been doing an exceptional job being proactive as well as solving problems as they arise.

This includes an excellent job for the snow and icing event of January 7 and 8, 2017, and later as they continued to maintain and service plow trucks and salters by replacing worn plow blades, greasing and lubricating moving parts, and rinsing to prevent excel salt buildup and damage. Salters and plows were deployed on February 9 for the 8" snow event; February 12 was primarily an ice storm which required primarily salters; plows were used later to clear the roadways. Two trees came down in the windstorm on February 13 at the Ridgewood Rd extension and S. Chestnut. These storms did keep the department busy with cleanup of branches from streets and debris from catch basin grates.

For your reference, plowing begins on the main streets and hills before the side streets. Once done, each member focuses on his particular zone to ensure continuity and comprehensive coverage. In addition, I thank PSE&G for their Snow Storm Alert. I expected more power outages due to high winds and snow coming down at several inches per hour. Maybe all the upgrades that PSE&G has done worked!

Catch basins are being cleaned, inspected, and repaired, e.g. new block put in place and the walls shored up. Sewer lines are being inspected and serviced on a regular basis. As a preventative measure, enzymes are being added to the system and reports are being made. White and metal goods are being collected by appointment throughout the year.

DMF roof repairs were completed showing a big improvement. In general, a lot of repairs have been made or are in the process including bathrooms at the fields, hot water at town hall, boilers, and refurbishing of the salt shed.

Staff is continuing to maintain homes unabated by the property owners. Accurate records are being kept of service and fees because the town will eventually be reimbursed through liens on the property.

Safety/training videos are shown and discussed, focusing on seasonal hazards, fatigue management, and proper skid steer operation.

Our relatively new dump trucks with plows and salters and a new sanitation truck really made a difference in storm management and in the debris pickup. Bill Lawlor, DMF superintendent, prepared the paperwork necessary for two new dump trucks with plows, which are currently on order.

The Township is still in a position to offer the debris service at the DMF Yard on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Please make sure that you have your decal handy at the Yard.

The DMF coordinates repair projects at the various fields and facilities, for example, Intercom system, roof-mounted exhaust fan, cables to fan attic space at the police department; control box in the fieldhouse for the pump, lights and ballasts; plumbing issues; and maintenance contracts such as with Whalen and Ives for repairs to heat and air conditioning units, etc. It is important to note that we have had an unusual amount of repairs this year in various areas which require a lot of time and energy based on quotes and bidding laws. Two catch basins (Burke St. and Ridgewood Rd.) were repaired. Potholes near high traffic school zones were noted and filled.

On September 27, monthly sewer inspections were completed and scheduled lines were flushed and enzymes added to the system. An inspection of the Municipal Building resulted in the replacement of emergency lighting batteries.

The department prepared for Town Day by making sure that supplies were in place for this event as well as assisting in the setup and working all day to ensure a success.

White goods and metal were collected on October 18; 50 tons of stone was laid at the driveways and pathways at Sherry and Clark fields. Stone Mill Gardens donated 4 yards of mulch which was used to refresh the playground at Memorial. Inspection of buildings and grounds revealed multiple lights in need of replacement which was done.

All leaf collection vehicles and equipment was serviced during October; a lot of it was done in house. The two front loaders were serviced, filters changed, greased fluids replaced, and new cutting edge blades installed. Sanitation trucks have been serviced as above including replacing tires as needed. The leaf vacuum was also serviced including replacement of the worn vacuum tube.

Also, on October 20, a truck transporting large panes of glass lost its cargo on Washington Ave; DMF did the cleanup. Heavy rain on Sunday, October 29, resulted in crew members being called in for flooding issues on East Glen. They were also busy with trees and large limbs that fell on several streets with the windstorm of October 24. Seasonal and other activities included removal of water meters at Gardner, Sherry, and Clark fields; repair of lightning detector at Memorial field; shutdown of sprinkler systems; and leaf pickup.

No Parking signs were placed on local roads as designated by the Police Department based on an amended parking ordinance.

... **DEBRIS & GRASS COLLECTION PROGRAM**

The Township Grass and Garden Debris (once a week) and Household Debris (once a month) programs are currently operating the same way they have in the past. However, please check your flyer for information on hazardous materials. In addition, the Yard is open on Tuesdays and Saturdays for drop off; make sure you have your decal handy.

... **HONOREES NIGHT**

The Knights of Columbus held their annual event to thank four honorees for their volunteer services to the community and to various organizations. The honorees were: Matthew deCaux as religious instructor at Good Counsel Church, Dan Florio from Township recreation programs, Rich Miras for his dedication as a volunteer ambulance corps member; and Vito Trause for his courage as a World War II Prisoner of War (POW) and his support of local teams and programs.

... **OFFICIAL OPENING OF BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL**

The official opening of the baseball/softball season was held at Clark Field, and it was a great community event for the WT Baseball Association, parents, players (more than 300), residents, guests, etc. They did a lot of work and had a great season. On Saturday, June 10, they sponsored community day where they held major and minor championship games and a softball exhibition.

... **WALL OF VETERANS**

I thank Jim Joyce, president of the Golden Seniors, and Herman Breiffeller, member, for all the time, effort, and hard work they put in to restoring the Wall of Veterans in the Senior Center. If you know of a veteran who lived in the Township at some point or still lives here and would like to have his or her picture on the Wall, please send or bring to Bernadette at Town Hall.

... **MAYOR RUDOLPH J. WENZEL, JR.**

As most of you probably know, Mayor Wenzel passed away on Sunday, June 4, 2017. He began his council career in 1978 and then quickly moved to mayor in 1982 which ended in 2009 after 31 years of service to our community as he and his wife Janet moved to Long Beach Island. As a former marine, Rudy was very military oriented and made sure that we had a Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony. He was also an avid reader of the newspaper and enjoyed keeping up with State of New Jersey news and proposals; he mostly disagreed with proposals from the State. He was not a supporter of technology as he preferred to see everything in writing; computers and cell phones were not his

thing. Rudy loved history especially of the town, was very traditional, and protected the residential character of this community. In short, he worked very hard for our town. Rudy served on the Executive Board of the League of Municipalities and was in their Mayors' Hall of Fame.

... **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**

Habitat for Humanity began removal work at the VFW in preparation for the new housing there; fortunately, I was at town hall when they called asking if there is anything we want to keep. "Yes," I said, we would like to have the stained glass window upstairs. Originally, the building was a church then a VFW. We did get the window and the VFW flagpole, both important parts of our history. The flagpole will be installed at the Veterans monument area. In addition, the Township was very fortunate to be involved in a community service project with Stryker Corporation authorized by Jacey Raimondo, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity. Ten volunteers from Stryker accompanied by two construction supervisors, Gary and Chris, spent the entire day, August 24, on a project that included spackling, taping, and painting the Council Chambers at Town Hall and cleaning the pavilion area and the basketball court at Memorial Field. The Team Leader was Crystal Gaffney from Stryker Corporation. The Grayheads, another volunteer group affiliated with Habitat came on August 30 to continue with the painting. Amazing work!

As you know, Habitat Bergen is building four, two-bedroom affordable units on Jefferson Avenue; two (2) are earmarked for veterans and the other two (2) are for seniors 55 and over. Go to habitatbergen.org to volunteer for this project. Housing applications will be taken in December.

... **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Adams Ehrenfels earned a second year as chief of the Fire Department. As usual, he, members of the Fire Board, and members do an excellent job for our town.

The Fire Department responded to 182 calls from January to November 2017. It is important to note that the members answer many calls other than fire, for example, accidents including extrication from vehicles, flooding, and power outages.

The Fire Department continues to sponsor or participate in community events such as the Annual Easter Egg Hunt; Pancake Breakfast; Antique Custom Car, Truck, and Motorcycle Show; Memorial Day Parade; 9/11 Ceremony; Tree Lighting; Touch a Truck; and Ragamuffin Parade. The department had an Annual Inspection of Vehicles and Equipment on Saturday, June 3, to see how well everything is being maintained. I thank them for the extra work they did in painting the floors this year—nice job!

... B STREET BAND

B Street Band (echoes of Bruce Springsteen) performed at Memorial Field on Friday, August 25, from 7:30-11 p.m. The Fire Department with Team Leaders Mike Agnello and Pete Neary organized the event; Nicholas Markets/Foodtown was a food vendor. Oritani Bank sponsored the event. I thank Kevin Lynch, President, for his continuous generosity to the Township. It was an enjoyable evening with friends and neighbors spending time together. Bonus: the weather was great!

... VOLUNTEER ACTION

Please thank Bob Stickel, owner of LifeSavers, Inc., for changing all the batteries in the Defibrillators at each of our fields as well as hold training classes when necessary. He is very generous with his time and expertise for the Township.

... AMBULANCE CORPS ALWAYS READY TO HELP

The Ambulance Corps responded to 446 calls from January to November 2017. In January, the Ambulance Corps held the Annual Installation of New Officers and New Members as well as the Awards Program to recognize Members for their years of service and number of calls answered. They also continue to participate in community events such as the Memorial Day Parade, 9/11 Ceremony, Touch a Truck, Tree Lighting, Veterans' Day, and Town Day.

Please thank Ambulance Corps members for a job well done when you see them around town. Members are required to take a lot of training courses to provide this service. They should be commended because not only do they provide help as necessary but they also follow up on residents by calling or checking on them on their own time to see how they are. I think that is very special! In addition, the corps is currently waiting for their new rig.

... RISK MANAGEMENT SAFETY MEETINGS

Victor Fadini, Risk Manager for the Township, continues to conduct monthly safety meetings that include representatives from Ambulance Corps, Fire Department, Police Department, Road Department, and Administration. This is a good opportunity for all safety units to communicate, keep informed, plan training sessions, and improve safety. Since 2011 and the first time ever, the Township has received plaques and financial awards from the JIF (Joint Insurance Fund).

... HEALTH DEPARTMENT

With the retirement of Health Officer Dan Levy we now have a contract with the Northwest Bergen Regional Health Commission for our services. Cornelia Lisa from

the Town Clerk's office is now the part-time Health Department Secretary and Assistant Registrar; Sue Witkowski is the Registrar as noted.

... 9/11 MEMORIAL OBSERVANCE

took place on September 11 at 5:15 p.m., and I was very happy and very proud to see so many people including residents, very young residents, members from groups such as Golden Seniors and Woman's Club, Fire Department, Ambulance Corps, Police Department, and VFW members. I thank the DMF for working diligently to clean up around the monuments.

... COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

We were notified that our application for funding Senior Citizen Activities for 2017-2018 from the Bergen County Division of Community Development has been approved for \$3,338. However, Robert Esposito, Director of Bergen County Division of Community Development, was the guest speaker at our Mayors Meeting and indicated that CDBG will probably be changing in the sense that we cannot continue to run the same programs that we apply for every year; in short, we will have to be very creative. Mr. Esposito was very informative and clarified a lot of perceptions about how these grants are awarded especially those for First Time Home Buyer Grants and Home Improvement Grants. First time homebuyers who make approximately \$56,000 for two and \$47-48,000 for one may qualify for grants.

Right now, Mr. Esposito told us there are moneys available in the unprogrammed fund. I spoke to Engineer Chris Statile about possible ideas such as a nature trail connecting Hillsdale and Twp. of Washington and drainage or sewer system grants for problem areas. Mr. Esposito also congratulated the Township for being very proactive with handicap ramps and curbs. He noted that CDBG gave Habitat for Humanity a grant to help with the four-unit residence they are building on Jefferson Avenue in the Township.

... GRANTS

The Township has been awarded \$18,667.39 for Clean Communities 2017. It is funded by user-fees on manufacturers, wholesalers, and distributors that produce litter-generating products. Our share is determined by number of housing units and miles of municipal roadways.

Earlier this year Engineer Christopher Statile submitted a proposal to the Department of Transportation to pave Woodfield Road; we received notice that we were awarded \$165,627 for the project, which will take place in 2018.

Mary Anne Groh, administrator, compiled a list of grants received in the last several years; we are still in the process of confirming them. However, from 2014 to 2017

the total is approximately \$860,878 with application fee costs of 14,642.50, representing about 2% of the total. It is estimated that since 2010, the Township has received approximately \$1,400,000 in grants. The grants were from various agencies including FEMA, County Open Space, Community Development, DOT Road Rehabilitation Funding, DOT Discretionary Aid, Clean Communities, etc. It seems that since grants increased in the last 4 years, it helped to decrease or stabilize the municipal portion of the taxes.

... FEMA CASH REIMBURSEMENT (Grant)

Cpl. Rio Fasciano who is our OEM Deputy Director has been working to get reimbursement funds for expenses due to the “2016 Severe Winter Storm and Snowstorm Jonas.” As a result of Rio’s efforts, FEMA sent us \$16,739.85 which represents a 75% reimbursement of Township monies spent for that storm cleanup. Rio and I thank Administrator Mary Anne Groh and DPW Superintendent Bill Lawlor for their help in completing the application process. It is a lot of work.

In addition, Cpl. Fasciano just received notification we were awarded \$14,277, which is the last 10% of expenses we had due to Super Storm Sandy in 2012. Great work, Rio! I thank officer Rio Fasciano for his diligence in preparing the paperwork required to apply for storm-related funds from FEMA.

... TAX BILLS

Tax bills were delayed this year based on two glitches at the state level--the government shutdown and the amended school budgets for the towns. Because of this payments were due on August 31; however, I thank you for being very responsive in your willingness to pay before the new deadline. This is important for cash flow purposes. Again, thank you!

... ENGINEERING FOR DRAINAGE ISSUE

Town Engineer Chris Statile and Director Vladimir Wojno-Oranski formulated a plan to remediate the drainage issue ongoing from Day 1 of the building. The plan includes draining water away from the foundation walls, removing large overgrown pine trees which are dumping needles that clog the gutters, installing a shed roof to be placed over the lower stairway to prevent rain and snow from flooding the lower platform which runs into an interior sump pump. This part would actually reduce DMF costs to shovel snow and spread salt after snowstorms. Also, the irrigation system for the landscaping would need to be reset or repaired. The preliminary cost estimate was \$39,530. Specs went out to bid with the lowest cost at a little more than \$51,000. The Council approved Cifelli Company to complete the project. The cost will be

paid from a Republic Insurance Trust which the town was awarded many years ago based on various issues from the original construction.

... YJCC TO BETHANY

After a long wait and several interested parties, the Bethany Church purchased the YJCC, and it is now Bethany Community Center. They have already begun internal renovations.

... RECYCLING

I was happy about the \$5,900 revenue for December 2016 bringing the 2016 yearly total to \$46,236. This segues into the new recycling schedule. In an effort to increase service with an extra pickup in the months that have five weeks, we went through a “transition” period moving from the well-known “first and third or second and fourth” to every other week thereby picking up 2 additional “pick-ups” in a year. Thank you for your patience. In the new bid, that previous schedule would have cost about \$10,000 a month; with the new schedule, we pay about \$11,000 a month plus the fee to remove the commingled recycling. That could mean more cost and less revenue. Time will tell.

Very Important: Prices for marketing recyclables have softened especially commingled. Actually, we have to pay the vendor a fee to take the commingled away. However, paper prices are holding. We will have to recycle much more this year to make a dent into the cost of the program, which costs a little more than \$132,000 a year.

From January to the end of October you recycled 515 tons of paper and tons of commingled. Keep up the good work!

... SOLID WASTE COLLECTION ORDINANCE

There was a change to the “per bag” garbage system outlined in ordinance 16-10—and the change was...that you do not have to use the “per bag” system. Hopefully, you have worked out a “system” with your vendor in terms of color of bags, containers, days of pickup, etc. I am sure you weighed your options.

... TOWNSHIP LEAF PROGRAM

You received the pamphlet indicating the dates that of the program in each zone. It was a long leaf season due to leaves not falling as early and as quickly as usual; the DMF had been going to all the zones to pick up leaves where there were piles at the curb. Schedules were adjusted. A total of 4 crews consisting of a total of 11 workers were being used.

However, and this is important: please do not put sticks, twigs, and branches in or on the leaves because they get stuck in the vacuum. This really delays every-

thing since the staff has to actually go around and remove the branches from the piles to avoid clogging the vacuum. This is why I scheduled a special pickup of wind storm branches and twigs on Friday, November 10. However, some residents put garden debris in the barrels which added to the workload.

... TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

They are: Council President Bob Bruno, Vice President Mike Ullman, Councilmen Peter Calamari, Steve Cascio, and Tom Sears.

The council persons are always researching and discussing solutions and getting feedback to meet various needs and make improvements for our town. They initiated, approved and/or supported many Township projects such as the 2017 Road Program; the Drainage Project at the Police Station; Change in the per bag system; Memorial Field Access Project; applications for several grants; purchase of new vehicles, equipment such as the new leaf pusher, and the new speed trailer/message board. In addition, they amended or passed various ordinances, which are listed on a separate page.

... COMMUTER PARKING LOT

After discussion about Commuter Parking Ordinance #17-08, the Council voted to rescind it and stay with the original one.

... PSE&G GAS MAIN REPLACEMENT

Due to gas leaks, PSE&G did a gas main replacement on Van Emburgh Avenue from the Township to Ridgewood. You may have experienced the detour, but they did finish ahead of schedule.

... 2017 BUDGET

Mayor, Council, and Administrator worked very hard to prepare a budget that meets the needs of the Township and is fiscally responsible. Administrator Mary Anne Groh was able to provide figures and make changes quickly and easily to help in making decisions. Even though there are more and more mandates being put on the municipalities, the municipal portion is actually lower than last year by approximately \$122 on a house assessed at \$464,000. This is the second year it was reduced and was accomplished by using a zero-based budgeting approach and \$1,200,000 from surplus. In the past several years the increases got progressively smaller in order to reach this point. However, even though the municipal portion of the taxes went down, you would still pay more because the other 2 entities increased and/or are a larger percentage of your taxes: school 64.65%, county 13.20%. Actually, the percentage the Township pays of the school budget went up slightly; that also affects your bill.

... A+ FOR THE TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

It's wonderful to see the progress the Township Library has made in the past several years--amazing! It could not have been done without Director Laura Rifkin, Members of the Library Board; Friends of the Library; employees, and the many supporters of the programs. They have worked hard to make a difference in the community. You may have attended the San Gennaro Festival, Chair Yoga, St. Patrick's Day Concert, Health and Wellness Talks, Essential Oils for natural solutions to support your health, WISE, Touch a Truck, Mayors Wellness Program/Healthy Steps, Tech Tutors, and/or the Annual Haunted House. Brochures with important information and programs are available on the Library website and in hard copy at the Library Circulation Desk. Please contact the Library at 201-664-4586 or visit the website at www.TwpofWashingtonPL.org for new programs.

You might remember that Valley Hospital Community Outreach funded a Mayors Wellness Program to assist in Health Awareness. Nicholas Markets/Foodtown was a major contributor with a nutritionist available for questions as well as a presentation of healthy, nutritional snacks for the event.

It was a great program with various screenings, information, giveaways, and nutritional snacks. The walking part, Healthy Steps, was a group of residents and local area guests who walked every Saturday until the end of April. Since we had such a good turnout, Valley Outreach continued with Part 2, which started Saturday, September 9 with 15 walkers and will continue until December. We start at 10 a.m. at the library. Emily Kratzer is again in charge of the walkers. Please join us for an enjoyable, healthy hour.

... MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE

In the same fashion as Laura Rifkin manages the Terrific Township Library, she oversees the Municipal Alliance Committee to support programs for school and community.

... MUNICIPAL COMPLEX

Chief of Police Glenn Hooper coordinated the placement and installation of the new Security Camera Surveillance System at the municipal complex.

As I mentioned earlier in this report, Vladimir Wojno-Oranski, Engineering Director, and Christopher Statile, Town Engineer, formulated a site plan for drainage repairs at the Police Department which are very necessary. Details of the plan include draining water away from the foundation walls, removing large overgrown pine trees which are dumping needles that clog the gutters, installing a shed roof to be placed over the lower stairway to prevent rain and snow from flooding the lower platform which runs into an interior sump pump. This part would actually reduce DMF

costs to shovel snow and spread salt after snowstorms. Also, the irrigation system for the landscaping would need to be reset or repaired. Hopefully, this will be done shortly.

In addition, the walls of the police department were painted the week of December 11, and the new floor tiles will be replaced the first week of January; also, new floor tiles will be replaced in the town hall. Again, the state contract/quote pricing took longer than expected due to the vetting of certain items.

... STIGMA-FREE INITIATIVE

The Bergen County STIGMA-FREE Initiative is a county-wide program which aims to reduce the stigma associated with mental illness. It is dedicated to raising awareness of the disease of mental illness and creating a culture wherein residents who have the disease feel supported by their community and neighbors and feel free to seek treatment for the disease without fear of stigma. If you are interested in helping in the Township program, please contact Bernadette at Town Hall at 201-664-4404. For more information, check the Township website or the Bergen County website at www.co.bergen.nj.us/DocumentCenter/View/3370.

As a stigma free community, we continue to bring about awareness of mental illness as a medical condition. As such, WCTV hosted a second TV show; this one was to educate the public about *Tourette's Syndrome*, and the guests were Dan Ferron, Peter Junta, Tom O'Donnell and myself. Dan Ferron starred in a movie *My Life, My Story, My Tourette's* which was produced by Peter Junta. As usual, WCTV did an excellent job!

... PARKS/FIELDS

The problems with the well at Memorial Field, which was built in 2006, were diagnosed and repaired at a cost of \$7,768; the pump and pipes had to be replaced. Subsequently repairs to the electric panel were also necessary. Sprinklers at Sherry and Gardner were delayed this year because Suez Water required that a backflow valve be installed prior to installation of a seasonal meter.

... REPAIRS, REPLACEMENT, RESTORATION

Unfortunately, we had to spend quite a bit of money on repairs, replacement, or restoration this year, namely the well mentioned above, heating and air conditioning at the Municipal Complex and the Library; complex drainage issue at the Police Department; ceiling leak at Town Hall with mold abatement; ceiling and equipment repairs at DMF; vehicle repairs at Police, DMF, and Fire Departments, and plumbing issues.

... AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

The members of the Bergen Amateur Radio Association meet the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. If you are interested in joining or learning about radio communication, call James Joyce at 201-664-6725 or 201-294-7018 for details. Periodically, the Association has "flea markets" at Westwood Regional High School on Ridgewood Road for anyone interested in purchasing radio/electronic equipment.

... PLANNING BOARD

You may have noticed a new store in the Town Center called Party +, which was recently approved by the Planning Board. Although the main idea is Balloon designs by Raquel, the store has many useful party items at reasonable prices. Stop in when you get a chance; they had a presence at Town Day with balloon designs at the entrance.

On Wednesday, September 6, the Board approved another new store at the Town Center called Miracle Catering, which will be doing off premises catering but will also be serving meals and having food demonstrations at the store.

... MEMORIAL PARK/FIELD

There has been much discussion about improvements and utilization of Memorial Field/Park. Members of the Memorial Field committee have given much time and effort into "figuring out and proposing" a resolution to the problem. After polarization of passions in regard to the referendum, I am glad to say that the committee has come a long way in recent meetings. It's like a reality check. They have proposed recommendations for various "necessary parts," which will be reviewed by the Mayor and Council. A big segment still boils down to turf/natural grass and amount of money necessary to solve the problem.

Fortunately, in the past three years, we were able to obtain open space grants for a new roof, tables, and benches for the pavilion; a new fence for the perimeter of the park; and an Open Space Grant for replacement of the Basketball Court at the park which will be done in conjunction with Gardner Basketball Court; and a grant for a handicapped ramp and rails at the southern access to the field.

... RECENT NOTIFICATION "OTHER" GRANTS

Our Recycling Tonnage Grant will be \$20,584.50 and can actually go into the budget as revenue in 2018 (it is from 2015; state is always a few years behind). As far as the Open Space Trust Fund, we will also be receiving the \$13,500 matching grant for the Gardner Park Basketball Court.

... SCOUTING

Eagle Scouts Troop 321. Michael Dugan is preparing for his Eagle Scout project of pavers and benches at Good Counsel Church; Derek Lim who is working on archiving history at the library; and Ethan O'Malley is working on his electronic communication project at the Town Hall. Troop 321 held their Court of Honor where the scouts are awarded badges for their accomplishments and volunteers are honored for their service. James Stickel of Troop 321 is now planning his Eagle Scout project; he recently presented his vision for a Veterans Memorial Place at the Library to VFW Commander Steve Kohlreiter, Library Director Laura Rifkin, and Mayor Janet Sobkowicz (me).

Cub Pack 228 held its annual Blue and Gold Dinner where leaders were recognized for all their work and scouts were recognized for their accomplishments.

GirlScouts/Daisies. GS troop 5564 completed a three phase amazing Bronze Award project of presentations, beautification of the School Street/Pascack Road planting area, and revitalization of the school path bridge at Cleveland Avenue. Next time you walk through there you will see plantings, a beautiful bench, a birdbath, bike and helmet rack, and the newly painted fence. Great Job! It was disappointing that after so much time, hard work and resources were put into this project only to have it vandalized twice.

Clark Field Beautification Project went extremely well with many Daisy Scouts from three troops participating and as well as AJ Spadavecchia, Braeden Roberts, and Tyler Roberts who helped to dig holes to plant the larger trees!

Girls from Troop 5192 organized their Bronze Award which focused on improving Literacy by collecting Gently Used Books.

Troop 95583 teamed up with Operation Christmas Child to collect donations of toys, school supplies, hygiene items, accessories, and personal notes.

Troop 94343 collected items for the Pediatric Department at Valley Hospital in Ridgewood to help children express their creative side. Items included crayons, colored pencils, notebooks, markers, erasers, and gift cards to any stationery or craft store.

... AREA HOSPITALS DID WELL IN RANKINGS

Hackensack University Medical Center is once again ranked #1 in New Jersey and #4 in the New York Metro area; Valley Hospital is ranked #5 in New Jersey and #12 in the New York metropolitan area for 2017-2018, according to U.S. News & World Report. The Best Hospital methodologies include risk-adjusted survival and readmission rates, volume, patient experience, patient safety, quality of nursing care and other care-related indicators.

... FAIR SHARE HOUSING

Recently, the Township was asked to move a court overlay from one property to another. Of course, my answer was no because this would give a developer the right to put in fair share housing without going to the appropriate board.

... SHOWS FROM WCTV

The members of WCTV are volunteers who provide an avenue of communication for the public through the *GSP 168* shows that they produce and air on Cablevision, Fios, and YouTube. Some of the shows include Baseball/Softball Opening Day, Stigma Free Awareness, Memorial Day Ceremony, and Summer Musical Show.

Rich Wojcicki, a member of WCTV, is employed to produce and tape Mayor and Council meetings and budget meetings which you can watch when they occur as well as be repeated several times that week.

... FIGHTING THE FLU

The flu program was held on Wednesday, September 20, in the Senior Center at 350 Hudson Avenue. This year we offered a Quadrivalent vaccine which protects against four different flu virus strains as well as a High Dose vaccine for those 65 or older.

... FAIR SHARE HOUSING (COAH)

As you know, the NJ Supreme Court mandated that all municipalities must address affordable housing obligations. Recently, as more litigation and more developments are occurring, there is more pushback to these state mandates. Several towns (Park Ridge, Hillsdale, Dumont) approved non-binding referendums to ask if their towns should "stop issuing building and zoning permits, which may be court mandated, until the legislature establishes statewide rules determining a need for towns to construct affordable housing." It would be helpful to be able to rely on the state statute that gives towns permission to stop development that does not promote the public health, safety, morals and general welfare of the voters of the town.

The Township began a declaratory judgment action which is the established procedure to address the Township Affordable Housing Obligations through the courts. We hired a well-known expert who had been affiliated with COAH and who helped us minimize the affordable housing impact on the Township in prior affordable housing lawsuits. We also acted with approximately 250 other municipalities to join forces in order to fight the large number of affordable housing units which the Fair Share Housing organization was attempting to impose on the Township. After extensive litigation and negotiations, the Township entered into a settlement with Fair Share Housing establishing the Township's housing obligations and implementing cer-

tain minimal planning devices to satisfy the court-required affordable housing obligation of the Township. The Court conducted a fairness hearing and approved the settlement which had been reached. The Township then conducted an open forum for public questions before entering into the settlement agreement. Now that the settlement agreement has been approved by the Court, the Township will be protected against Builder Remedy Lawsuits which could have resulted in large, multi-development developments with extensive affordable housing units being incorporated in them. Other towns in Bergen County have also entered into settlements seeking to do the same, such as Hohokus. While our legislators are talking about enacting legislation addressing affordable housing and others continue to fight the concept, the Supreme Court in NJ is the final authority on this issue and it has clearly and repeatedly ruled that municipalities must provide their fair share of affordable housing units. The Township has worked hard to minimize the impact of meeting the Affordable Housing Obligation and has been successful in doing so. At the conclusion of taking the steps under the terms of our settlement, the Township will be protected from Builders lawsuits until 2025.

... RECREATION

Two hundred forty-eight children participated in Basketball, 93 in traveling basketball, 67 in wrestling, and 186 in lacrosse. 320 girls and boys participated in baseball and softball.

The summer rec program directed by Christopher Pinto went extremely well this year with about 140 children enjoying many great activities, field trips, water slides, and presentations. New to the program was busing to all non-walking trips and trips to Funplex, Liberty Science, and Medieval Times. Feedback was very complimentary; as a matter of fact, eighth graders going into ninth grade are usually not a part of summer rec; however, they want to participate next year. Chris is working on a program for that group.

The Men's Over 35 Softball League had its championship game on August 16 between the Maroon and the Blue teams. The score was tied going into the bottom of the sixth and the maroon team scored to be the champs. Vito Trause and I were there to present the Vito Trause Trophy.

Falcons Football has 71 participants and Cheerleading has 74 and both groups are doing very well. The PeeWee and Junior football teams made in into the SuperBowl; unfortunately, they did not win.

A new scoreboard was designed, ordered and installed in September. Kevin Lynch, President of Oritani Bank, was a major contributor to the scoreboard, and we appreciate his generosity.

... GOLDEN SENIORS CLUB

James Joyce, President of the Golden Seniors reports that the members of the club are enjoying trips to various places, attending exercise classes and events at the Senior Center and Library, and listening to important presentations. They went to New York City to see Beautiful, the story of Carole King, and returned to enjoy a nice dinner at Lily's Bistro in the Township. Also, they went to see the Christmas Spectacular at Radio City starring the Rockettes and, of course, Santa and closed the day with another wonderful dinner at Lili's Bistro. Josephine Padovano is the trip coordinator. In addition, the club honored seven members who reached their 90th birthday in 2017 including Neil Armentano, Harriet Birnbaum, Lucy DePaolo, Narcissa Ferri, Irene Fraser, Bill Simon, and Mary Vion.

The Golden Seniors Club raised \$2,000 for scholarships that were awarded to seniors at Westwood Regional High School. If you are interested in joining the Golden Seniors Club, please call James Joyce at 201-664-6725 or 201-294-7018. You'll be glad you did!

... GREATER PASCACK VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

I attended a Meet the Mayors event sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and held in River Vale. There were three issues/topics we had to address: Fair Share Housing, supporting local businesses, and deer/coyote problems. I summarized the current status of Fair Share as well as my opposition to the Fair Share program, talked about how we promote local businesses at Town Day as well as all year such as the Grand Opening of Nicholas Markets/Foodtown, and noted that our deer/coyote problem is not as active as Saddle River and River Vale but asked the police department to provide data on the issue.

... TOWN DAY BETTER KNOWN AS 8TH ANNUAL FAMILY FESTIVAL

Our annual Town Day Celebration/Family Festival was held on Saturday, October 7, from 11-4 p.m. with more than 3,000 people enjoying the day. Besides the many rides and activities that are "cherished" each year, a new theme was Carnival Tents with games. The entrepreneurship area was again a success with "young entrepreneurs" who designed and made creative products. There were many other attractions including Pony rides, Petting Zoo, Elvis Impersonator, Caricature Artist, Face Painting, Demonstrations, Photo Booth, and many more. The Town Day Committee deserves a huge round of applause for all their hard work and initiative in planning and implementing this event for all of our residents to enjoy. It was great to see so many of you at Town Day!

Kevin Lynch as President of Oritani Bank was a major contributor to Town Day, and we appreciate his generosity to our community—he has really made a difference!!

... TEMPLE BETH OR

There was an inaugural Mark Samitt 5K Run on Sunday, October 29, at 9 a.m. at Temple Beth Or. It was a USATF certified race. Proceeds from the run will benefit Temple Beth Or and The Melanoma Research Foundation (MRF). However, Temple Beth Or is for sale as they are joining with another congregation and moving to a new location.

... VETERANS' DAY CEREMONY

Due to the frigid temperatures, VFW Post 6192 held its Veterans' Day Ceremony in the Senior Center on the 11th day of the eleventh month and at the eleventh hour. I was very pleased that approximately 70 people came to thank the many veterans we still have here in the Township and elsewhere for their courage and commitment to protect our freedom. In the words of Elmer Davis, "This nation will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave."

... TREE/MENORAH LIGHTING

Our Annual Tree/Menorah Lighting was held on Friday, December 8, at 5:30 p.m. I thank the library for sponsoring the Snowperson event before the lighting, the ambulance corps for serving hot chocolate and donuts and cookies; the cub scouts and boy scouts for distributing candy canes and glow sticks; the fire department for bringing Santa, the Road Department for the great decorations we had this year, Jim Dugan, Alianna Eucker, Garrett Eucker, and Girl Scouts for singing holiday favorites. Beth Blackman, Temple Beth Or, represented Rabbi Noah Fabricant for the Menorah lighting.

... *SWIFTREACH911*

In our efforts to provide reliable notification of emergencies and/or important messages to our residents, the Township has a contract with SwiftReach911 enabling us to send out mass telephone calls, text messages, and/or emails to specific people or specific areas of the Township in the event of an emergency or important notification. While the Township already maintains a confidential listing of every phone number supplied through the State of New Jersey's 911 network, we do not have the means to obtain listings of the ever changing cell phone numbers and email addresses of every individual who lives, works, or frequents the Township. Please help us maintain updated information by using the SwiftReach911 link on our website at www.twpofwashington.us to provide current information by registering personal contact information, be it your home phone, business, or frequented location.

An application with more information on making changes, additions, and deletions is included in this newsletter. Please register as soon as possible so that you can be contacted when necessary.

... CONGRATULATIONS TO NEW OFFICIALS

Congratulations to the newly elected officials: Peter Calamari for Mayor, Arthur Cumming for Council, and Michael DeSena for Council!

Sincerely,
Janet Sobkowitz, Mayor



Ordinance No. Description

17-01	Revising Certain Time Limit Parking within the Township
17-02	CAP Bank 2017
17-03	Bond Ordinance Appropriating \$600,000
17-04	Bond Ordinance Appropriating \$2,946,123
17-05	Capital Ordinance General Capital Fund
17-06	Amending Prohibited Turns within the Township
17-07	Establishing Anti-Nepotism
17-08	Amending Firehouse Parking Lot Regulations
17-09	Revising Certain Time Limit Parking within the Township
17-10	Salary Ordinance 2017
17-11	Imposing a fee for Issuance of replacement animal Tags
17-12	Clothing Allowance of Officers and Firefighters 2017
17-13	Adoption Affordable Housing Obligations
17-14	Adoption Set-Aside Affordable Housing
17-15	Adoption Affordable Housing Development
17-16	Adoption Class O-R District Affordable Housing
17-17	Adoption Affordable Housing AA District
17-18	Amending Ordinance No. 17-10
17-19	No-Knock Registry
17-20	Amending Property Maintenance Code with regard to the conditions of sidewalks
17-21	Amending Firehouse Parking Lot Regulations



GS troop 5564 completed a three phase amazing Bronze Award project of presentations, beautification of the School Street/Pascack Road planting area, and revitalization of the school path bridge at Cleveland Avenue.



10U Travel Softball Team—District 4 Champions



The Contemporary Woman's Club sponsored a School Supplies drive for homeless families



Girl Scout Troops participated in the Clark Field Beautification Project



Habitat for Humanity, the organization that is currently building a four-unit residence for veterans and seniors who qualify, graciously offered volunteers from Habitat, Stryker Corporation, and the retired “greyheads” group to paint and spackle the Council Chambers, paint and clean the Pavilion at Memorial Field, and help with moving the stained glass window. Thank you volunteers for all your work! It was greatly appreciated.



Seven members of the Golden Club celebrated their 90th birthdays this year. Five members are Mary Vion, Irene Fraser, Lucy DePaolo, Neil Armentano, and Bill Simon. Not pictured are Harriet Birnbaum and Narcissa Ferri.

Halloween Party Winners
 1st Anne Marie Dunne, The Biker
 2nd Bridget McGlone, Queen for a Day
 3rd Lee Van Tassel, The Wicked Witch

Town Day 2017



Nunzio of Oritani Bank; Mayor Janet; Kevin Lynch, President of Oritani Bank; and Louis of Oritani Bank



Lt. Rich Skinner and County Police Officers demonstrate K-9 dogs.



Dina Burke, Public Affairs Director; talks to volunteers Daisy Velez, Maryanne Murphy, Rick Hanley, and Joanne Greco



VFW members Gary Pinke, Steve Kohlreiter, and Bill Thomson enjoy a song with "Elvis Presley."



Kevin Lynch, President of Oritani Bank, really enjoyed our special guest, "Elvis Presley."



Town Day Committee members held a debriefing meeting at Lili's Restaurant in the Town Center to review and discuss ideas for next year.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM (REVERSE 911)



The Township of Washington now uses an Emergency Notification System with enhanced features and capabilities, enabling us to send out mass telephone calls, text messages and/or emails to specific people or specific areas of the Township in the event of an emergency. The system has the ability to blanket the Township of Washington with notification of emergencies within minutes. The enhanced system is capable of trying multiple telephone numbers in its attempt to complete a notification to any individual or location, and it knows which one was successful so that it does not need to keep trying alternate means.



While the Township of Washington already maintains a confidential listing of every land line phone number in the Township supplied through the State of New Jersey's 911 network, we do not have the means to obtain listings of the ever changing cell phone numbers, text message numbers and email addresses of every individual who lives, works or frequents the Township of Washington.

To enhance our Emergency Notification listings, we request your assistance in building and maintaining current information about people and locations in the Township of Washington by registering your personal contact information, be it for your home, business or any frequented location.

If you are not receiving these calls, please register ONLINE at www.TwpofWashington.us. Click on the Swift 911 button located in the right margin menu and fill out the form. You will receive a confirmation email once your registration is complete.



MEETING SCHEDULE

TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETINGS - 7:30 p.m.

PLANNING BOARD

1st and Last Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

3rd Tuesday, 8 p.m.

RECREATION BOARD

2nd Thursday, 8 p.m.

BOARD OF HEALTH

2nd Tuesday, 8 p.m.

MUNICIPAL COURT

1st and 3rd Thursday, 3:30 p.m.

Meeting dates are subject to change
by the respective bodies due to holidays, etc.
All meetings are held in the Municipal Courtroom.

WCTV CABLE TV

2nd Monday, 8 p.m.

MUNICIPAL COMPLEX

DIRECTORY

MAYOR:

Janet Sobkowicz *664-0361

COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

Robert Bruno *917-626-6830

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Michael Ullman *218-7909

Peter Calamari *833-4801

Dr. Steven Cascio *664-5008

Tom Sears *666-4153

ADMINISTRATOR:

Mary Anne Groh 664-4404

TOWNSHIP CLERK:

Susan Witkowski 664-4425

DIRECTORS:

LAW: Kenneth Poller 712-1122

PUBLIC SAFETY: William Cicchetti . . . *666-9024

ENGINEERING: Vladimir Wojno-Oranski 664-4404

PUBLIC AFFAIRS: Dina Burke 664-4404

PUBLIC CABLE TV: Bob Visich 358-2626

PUBLIC LIBRARY: Laura Rifkin 664-4586

PUBLIC HEALTH: Jeanne Covello 666-8512

RECREATION: Eamonn Twomey 666-3312

E-mail address for The Citizen:

adminsec@twpofwashington.us

All Emergencies – Police, Fire and Ambulance 911

Police 664-1140

*Home Number



From the Mayor – a word about stormwater responsibility:

The Township of Washington has adopted State-mandated stormwater regulations to discourage activities which could pollute our water. These include proper disposal of pet waste, placing litter in appropriate trash receptacles, participating in our recycling programs to keep litter from entering local streams, preventing improper disposal of materials out of our storm sewers, avoid feeding wildlife, controlling yard waste to prevent spilling or blowing of materials into the street and storm drains, covering your refuse containers to stop rainwater from entering and leaking into the streets, and avoiding illicit connections of wastewater into our storm drains. Remember that hazardous products including some household or commercial cleaning products, lawn and garden care products, auto fluids and paints, should never be poured in a storm drain as all of our drains ultimately connect to local streams.



For those commercial property owners who maintain their own storm drains, these must be retrofitted to comply with New Jersey's requirements for prevention of solids or floatables from entering our sewer systems. As a reminder, leaves that are not in containers may only be placed along the street (at least 10 feet from a storm drain) seven days prior to scheduled pick-ups this fall. For more detailed information, see the applicable ordinances on our website.

By all of us sharing responsibility and making small, easy changes in our daily lives, we can keep common pollutants out of our streams and rivers. It saves the high cost of cleaning and promotes cleaner water!



TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON

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Township of Washington, NJ 07676

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