

Atlantic Highlands BEACON

Published by the Borough of Atlantic Highlands



"ANNUAL MAYOR'S MESSAGE PRESENTED"

MAYOR PETER E. DONOGHUE

Atlantic Highlands Beacon

Mayors Message:

- Page 1
- From the Editor

Borough News:

- Page 2
- 2007 Performance Art Series

Page 3

- 2007 First Aid & Safety Squad

Events & Recreation:

Page 3

- The Front Porch Club

Page 4

- Who are the people in your neighborhood
- Help plan earth day events

Page 5

Beat the heat

Page 6

Booster Club

Page 7-8

Library News - Friends of the Library

Mayor's Message

Atlantic Highlands Council Reorganization

To paraphrase the Scriptures, "And David took a stone from his pouch and threw it at the Philistine ... and he fell to the ground."

This epic David and Goliath story marked a major change in the fate of the Israelites. And I believe this borough's recent David and Goliath victory in preventing major development of our waterfront similarly marks the beginning of a new era in Atlantic Highlands: An era of political and community cooperation for what is best for our town.

In a nutshell, we and you chased away the Goliath-sized developer from our shores. And we can do even more together.

This effort proves the people and the politicians can work together to accomplish whatever they set out to do. And I continue to be determined to be a leader in that effort.

Of course, we have a lot yet to do to secure our waterfront for public use. And we will do that by fighting for the funds we need to acquire the land.

But the waterfront is not our only focus.

I am determined to increase the confidence of our residents in fair and open government.

This year, for the first time, we advertised for candidates for the professional appointments of borough attorney, auditor, engineer and bond counsel rather than rely solely on rewarding individuals and their firms politically. This is a major step toward choosing the best possible candidates and heightening the ethics of this municipal government.

Beyond that, I am confident this Council will shortly adopt a policy of "fair and open" selection of professional contractors for services such as engineering and I believe we will save significant money for the taxpayers. For too long the appointed borough engineer has had the inside track when a project was planned.

Despite these steps forward, politics still play too big a part in government, something pressure from you will help to alleviate. Regrettably, there are still several examples of unconscionable conflicts of interest in some professional appointment. But the days of "to the winner belong the spoils" are waning.

Also, this year, we openly invited all interested residents to apply to serve on our various boards and committees. And the response was good ... although not as great as it can be. In fact, several of the residents who volunteered their time were appointed this day to serve us.

As to the performance of your tax-funded local government, no one is ever completely happy. But each of us should be proud of our competent and tireless employees.

There also have been several developments that residents should find pleasing.

We have now had for a full year an intelligent and diligent borough administrator whose efforts have brought us good management practices, a fair police contract and significant other benefits. The choice of Adam Hubey to be our administrator was perhaps this Mayor and Council's most important

and beneficial decision.

After two years of good financial management that set stage for property tax stability, this Mayor and Council created a local purposes budget that produce no, repeat "no" increase in the municipal property tax rate. And we are aiming for the same kind of stability this year.

Furthermore, this administration is committed to measurable progress on creating a new public library, meeting our affordable housing obligations, completing the bike trail and answering the needs of our citizens of all ages.

The resolve of the 2006 Mayor and Council to work together can and has produced improved results. This past year there was far more humor and cooperation and less rancor and divisiveness.

And we have the potential for even greater teamwork and civility ... with the cooperation of our residents.

As I close, I reiterate my high praise for the efforts of departing Council members Stephanie Ladiana and Carl Nolan. Both were tireless advocates for town good and deserve your praise.

And I enthusiastically welcome our newest Council members, Bob Sutton and Roy Delloso, whom I am convinced will be admirable additions to the governing body. Both have demonstrated their commitment to good government and we can expect no less on Council.

Thank you for allowing me to serve you for the past three years and have a very Happy New Year.

From the Editor...

For scheduling and events - Please **DO NOT THROW THIS AWAY**. Keep it in an easily accessible place, as you may want to reference it from time to time.

*Dwayne M. Harris, RMC
Municipal Clerk*

Atlantic Highlands Fire Department

**Junior Firefighters
Exploring Post #0085**

10 East Highland Avenue
Atlantic Highlands, N.J 07716

The Atlantic Highlands Fire Department, Junior Firefighters, Learning for Life Exploring Post #0085 is looking for new members.

Membership is open to young men and woman, ages 15 to 18. Meetings are the third Wednesdays of each month, 7:00 pm, at the Fire House.

Anyone interested in joining can obtain an application by calling:

James Phillips (732) 872-9018
Chief A.H.F.D.

Martin Hawley (732) 291-7791
Fire Marshal, Atlantic Highlands

Adam Hubeny (732) 291-1444 ext. 614
Ex. Chief A.H.F.D. Borough Administrator



**Come hear and question
Mayor Peter Donoghue**

And

MEET THE MAYOR

At a TOWN MEETING-STYLE
PUBLIC FORUM

MONDAY, MARCH 12

At 7:30 p.m.

at the Shore Casino Restaurant

The Mayor's Council on the Arts proudly announces *The 2007 Performance Art Series*

2007 is proving to be an exciting year for the arts in Atlantic Highlands! The Mayor's Council on the Arts is proud to present The 2007 Performing Arts Series! We are offering an eclectic mix of entertainment, everything from a string quartet featuring members of the New York Philharmonic, a comedy night featuring A. Whitney Brown from Saturday Night Live and The Daily Show, an award-winning folk trio doing double duty, performing both at our elementary school and in the evening for a public performance, as well as an encore of last year's very successful concert featuring our very own, very talented residents of Atlantic Highlands. Tickets are very reasonably priced from \$10-\$25, children \$5.

Jokes On First! - Sunday, March 4th at 8PM--With the generosity of the First Avenue Playhouse in Atlantic Highlands, we will be hosting an evening of comedy with

A. Whitney Brown, comedian/writer from Saturday Night Live and Comedy Central.

Simple Gifts - Friday, April 27th at 7:30PM, Central Baptist Church-- This award-winning band performs on an impressive array of instruments, and presents a wide variety of international folk music. Funded in part by the Pennsylvania Performing Arts Tour, they will present a workshop and concert at the local elementary school, then put on a 2nd concert for the town in the evening. Simple Gifts has a huge following, we expect the evening performance to be sold out.

The 2nd Annual Sounds of the Highlands -Sunday, June 10th, at 3:00PM, Central Baptist Church. After their first highly successful concert last year, this dynamic group will present an encore performance featuring Atlantic Highland's own extremely talented classical, jazz, and folk musicians.

The Council's members include Janice Kollar, chairman, Laura Dubois, Joel DeWitt, David Brown, Julie Gartenberg, Beth Long, Linda Lucas, and Rich Young. It is their vision to enrich the culture and economy of our town and surrounding environs by developing a greater awareness of, excellence in, and access to the creative arts in our community.

You can support the arts in our community in many ways! Buy tickets early, make a donation of any amount to support the arts, advertise in our event programs, become a sponsor. To purchase tickets or to find out how you can make a donation, advertise or become a sponsor, please call our Arts Hotline at 732-708-1584, or visit www.AtlanticHighlandsArtsCouncil.com. Follow your ART!

Borough News **The Atlantic Highlands First Aid & Safety Squad**

The Atlantic Highlands First Aid & Safety Squad is the recipient of a grant from the Department of Homeland Security, which will be used to equip every member of the squad with personal protection equipment.

The squad applied for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant in early 2006, and beat the odds to receive the federal funds. A majority of the grant program is earmarked for fire departments around the country, though a percentage is awarded to independent emergency medical services organizations, such as the AHFAS.

"The new equipment has been ordered and once received, every member will have the appropriate gear to protect them from a variety of concerns they face every day helping their neighbors," said Bill Mount, 1st.

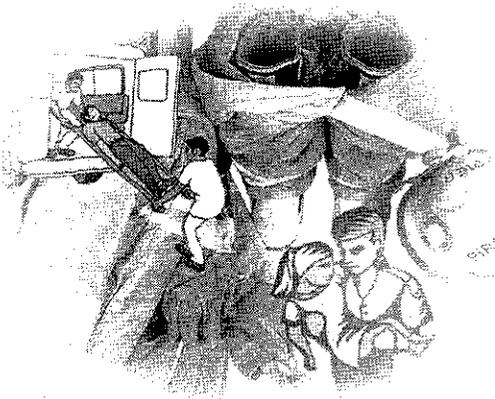
Lt. of the AHFAS. "This is an important acquisition for the squad members who give of their own time to volunteer."

Every member will be supplied with new turnout coats, pants, helmets, gloves and boots that meet or exceed federal standards.

"We are honored that the Department of Homeland Security thought so much of our squad," said Mount. "This new equipment is an important addition to our squad."

The DHS grant is the latest news from the AHFAS, which responded to 473 calls during 2006, ranging from minor cuts and scraps to multi-car accidents.

The squad also increased its membership, with the addition of a few men and women, though additional help is needed, according to squad officials.



"As the population ages, we're going to be responding to more calls," said AHFAS engineer, Richard Huff "And to be prepared, we've got to get new members in now and trained to deal with the changing world in which we live."

The AHFAS is an all-volunteer organization that provides

around-the-clock emergency medical services to area residents. The squad operates on donations from residents and the borough. For information on how to join the AHFAS or support the squad in other ways, call the squad's non-emergency number (732) 291-8118.

FRONT PORCH-CLUB

The Front Porch Club is a forum for Atlantic Highland's residents to socialize with neighbors, interact with the community and discuss new ideas and issues. The Front Porch Club (FPC) exists to improve the quality of life in Atlantic Highlands by bringing people together online and in person. The club is open to all Atlantic Highland's residents who share a desire to improve the community . . . AND HAVE FUN.

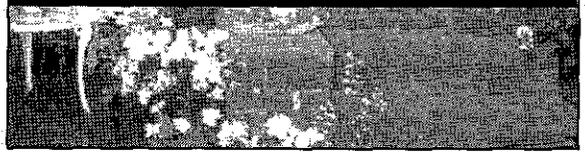
Second Saturdays @ Bellas – Join the Front Porch Club for a cocktail or two every second Saturday of the month at Bellas on First Avenue at 6PM. All are welcome to come have a drink and meet your neighbors!



The Atlantic Highlands Front Porch Club Chilifest 2006 was a great chance to gather with old friends, meet some new ones, warm up with a bowl of award winning chili and support the local library. The event raised close to \$1000 to support children's programming – thanks to all our business and family sponsors and everyone who attended!



For more info please go to www.frontporchclub.com or call 291-2163. You can register to become part of the Front Porch Club listserve on the Web site.



"Who are the people in your Neighborhood?" Featuring Local business Owners

Interesting and diverse businesses continue to open in Atlantic Highlands and many are run by local residents. In this issue, we highlight a few of the newest businesses in town started by local entrepreneurs.

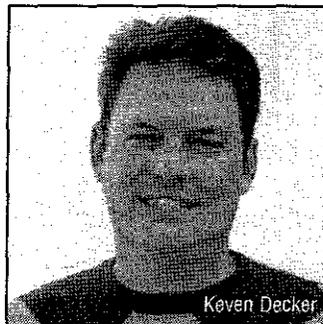


DRY CLEANING STATION
732-708-0884 or info@njdrycleaningstation.com

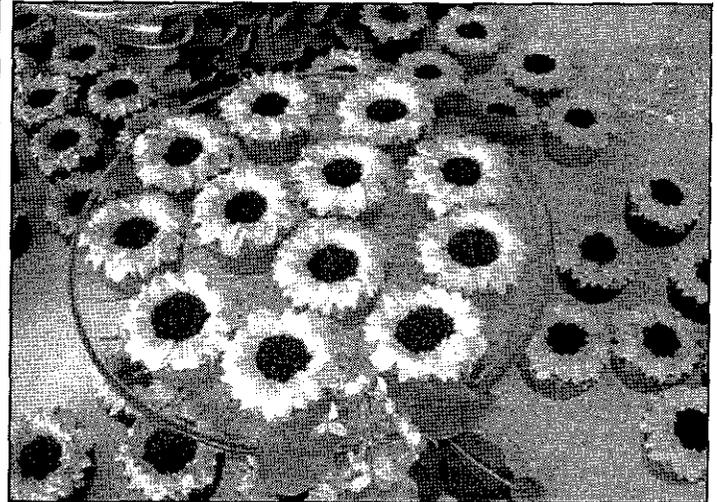
When it comes to the environment, **Dry Cleaning Station** thinks globally and acts locally...and helps its clients do the same! Doug Koloski thinks that his neighbors in Atlantic Highlands deserve a better dry cleaning alternative. The Dry Cleaning Station is designed to help change the dry cleaning industry from one of inconsistent service and an unreliable environmental record, to one of outstanding friendly service and environmental responsibility. Dry Cleaning Station utilizes GREEN EARTH dry cleaning solutions to provide great results, where garments look and feel like new and remain free of foul chemical orders. So, clients can feel good about every clothing drop-off at Dry Cleaning Station. The company provides competitively priced, high-quality results, a free pick-up and delivery service and a convenient new location on First Avenue as well.

SUCCESS FOR ALL STUDENTS FOUNDATION
732-708-9300 or
www.SuccessForALLstudents.org

AH resident Keven Decker has founded a non-profit organization to empower high schools by providing them with the resources they need to teach leadership in the classroom. These resources include, funding, leadership curriculum, teacher lesson plans, and consulting. One successful program is America's Rising Stars, which has proven to raise student performance regardless of the student's background or past performance. The Success for ALL Students Foundation is raising money through corporate sponsors, non-profits organizations, individual sponsors, and fundraising events. One upcoming event is a golf and dinner outing scheduled for June 20th at Trump National Golf Club. Leadership/ Character Education grants will be awarded to eligible schools in 2007.



Keven Decker



THE FLAKY TART - 145 First Avenue

For fifteen years, AH resident Marie Jackson has been baking for the members of Ship Ahoy Beach Club in Sea Bright, and now, thousands of blueberry muffins later, is ready to bring her goods to a wider audience. A graduate of the New York Restaurant School, she has been waiting for the perfect location to open her pastry shop- and found it in Atlantic Highlands. "The Flaky Tart" will be open first thing in the morning for coffee and fresh pastries, lunch will include specialty sandwiches and salads, and after school there will be lots of treats to choose from. Elegant as well as whimsical cakes and cupcakes are a specialty, and of course there will be plenty of flaky tarts!

HELP PLAN EARTH DAY EVENTS

Join the team that develops creative ideas and activities for the town's annual environmental celebration in late April.

Events take place on the waterfront and in the woods and are both educational and fun -- for both children and adults. To be involved, phone **Borough Hall at 291-1444 extension 692** and leave a message for the Environmental Commission with your phone number and e-mail address.

You'll be contacted before the first meeting of the planning group in late February.



Atlantic Highlands and Hazlet have joined up in an effort to keep you cool this summer and help keep the Hazlet Swim & Tennis Club open! Hazlet Swim & Tennis Club, one of Monmouth County's best kept secrets, is located on the secluded Green Acres Drive off Middle Road in Hazlet and features a diving pool (with three diving boards), an Olympic-sized pool (one of only two in Monmouth & Ocean Counties), a shallow pool and a splash pool with fountain for toddlers. The facility also boasts tennis courts, a snack bar, lounge chairs, playground, arts & crafts room and plenty of SHADE! Participation in the Hazlet Swim Team is also available to all seasonal members the Club. In addition to all of the above, swim lessons are available for a nominal fee, if you choose!

In an effort to encourage new membership, Atlantic Highlands family memberships will receive a discount off the Club's 2007 Non-Resident family membership fee of \$530.

So gather your friends, avoid the beach traffic and join in on the savings.....

If 25 – 30 Atlantic Highlands families join, Non-Resident family membership will be reduced to \$475, a savings of \$55!

If 31 – 50 Atlantic Highlands families join, Non-Resident family membership will be reduced to \$460, a savings of \$70!

- This is a fraction of the cost of other pool and beach club memberships!
- Pay for your membership before April 15, 2007 and get an additional \$10 off!
- Please note that the State of NJ recently repealed the 7% tax on municipally owned pools so you save even more!!!!



The Club is open from the end of May through Labor Day weekend.
 For a 2007 brochure, contact
 Hazlet Township Municipal offices at
(732) 264 -1700
 or volsen@hazletwp.org.

BOOSTER CLUB

Your Booster Club is committed to helping the students of HHRs, through a variety of fundraisers throughout the year. There are a number of ways you can help without spending too much of your time or money. Here are just a few that you can participate in. Check out the school website under the Booster Club page for additional details on these and others.

BRUNCH ON THE BAYSHORE - KITCHEN TOUR:

On April 29th, 2007 the Henry Hudson Booster Club will hold their second kitchen tour. The event includes a kitchen tour of some of the most beautiful homes in our area and features area restaurants who will supply a sampling of some of their tasty creations. There will also be a variety of prizes you can win on the day of this event. Tour prices will be \$35 per person if purchased prior to the event or \$40 per person the day of the event. Ticket sales will be limited. If you would like to reserve your tickets, volunteer, or participate as a donor or sponsor please contact us at HHRs Booster Club, One Grand Tour, Highlands NJ 07732. Or, email HHRsBrunch@aol.com

BUY A "BRICK": Commemorate a person with the purchase of a plaque which will be displayed on walls at HHRs. The plaques cost \$100.00 with a maximum of 200 per each year to ensure that all future classes have a chance to purchase. All wording will be approved by the Brick committee and you will be contacted if your message is not accepted.

MARKET DAY: Each month, restaurant-quality food products will be available for purchase. Market Day products are competitively priced and we earn a minimum of 10% of the profit on your purchases. Check it out at www.market-day.com. Use our account number 24707 to place your order. Orders must be in one week

before delivery. Our next deliveries are; Feb 20th, March 20th, April 17th. Check out MarketDay on the booster club website for other dates.

S&H GREENPOINTS: Anyone can donate their greenpoints to Hudson by simply handing their Foodtown Community Awards card at checkout and telling the cashier how many of your points you would like to donate. (This card must be used in conjunction with your Foodtown Club Card and the Greenpoints you donate will be deducted from your account.) Points will be used to purchase items for our gift auctions. Contact HHRsBOOSTER-CLUB@aol.com for a card.



SCHOOLPOP: Anyone who shops on-line can enroll in a program that is free to you, yet gives back a percentage to our school each time you shop!

It's easy to register. Simply go to: www.schoolpop.com, click Join, type in our school ID: 130385, fill out Profile Info & Address Info; Submit You will receive an email confirmation from www.schoolpop.com!



www.schoolpop.com!

Library News

January 2007



New Library Hours - Open During Lunch

Have you ever stood outside the library door, only to realize that it was lunchtime and the library was closed? That is a thing of the past. To better accommodate our patrons, the library now will be open 10-5, Tuesday through Saturday. And, of course, we continue to be open two evenings each week, Wednesday and Thursday, 6:30-8:30 PM.

Food for Fines

The Library will be accepting donations of non-perishable food items, personal hygiene and paper products, i.e., paper towels, in lieu of overdue fines, from Tuesday, February 6 through Saturday, February 10. This applies to library materials with overdue fines only. The food items will be collected inside the library. Please do NOT leave items in the book drop or outside the building. All food collected will be donated to the Food Pantry of Atlantic Highlands. Of course, general donations of food not associated with overdue library items also will be accepted.

New Pre-School Story Time

A new pre-school story time will be offered for 2-3 year olds at the library on Wednesday mornings, 10:30 – 10:50 starting February 7. Our own Faye Sacco will be conducting the program. Each child must have a parent or guardian in attendance.

Holiday Story Time with Santa

Though the holiday season is over, we would be remiss if we didn't publicly thank Mayor Peter Donoghue, aided by Mrs. Santa, Louise, who once again added to the seasonal festivities by reading holiday stories, as Santa, for two groups of delighted children in the Borough courtroom.

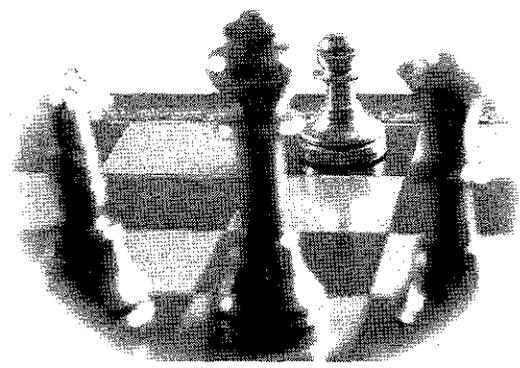
Local Artist's Works on Display

Jim Bird, local artist, has enriched the library experience with his watercolor paintings of local scenes, which have graced the walls of the library over the last several years. This year, again, not only has he enhanced our surroundings with these pieces of art, but he also has offered his paintings for sale to benefit the Friends of the Library.



Chess Club

Come join a great group of kids, learn the game, or just increase your skills and strategy in the game of chess. We have a wonderful chess master, Ralph Segal, who volunteers his time to teach children the game. Parents are encouraged to participate. Where? The Masonic Lodge, 14 East Garfield Avenue. When? 2nd and 4th Saturday of every month, 10:00 – 11:30.



Library News
Continued on page 8



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*Friends of the Atlantic Highlands
 Library 2007*



Spring: 4/07 FOL Book Sale
Earth Day, Annual AH Library Book Sale
May 07' Skateboard Day
 Summer Reading Kick Off Event

Summer: Summer Reading Winners Party
8/07'

Fall: FOL Holiday Coffee Sales begin
9/07



On Going Friends programs:

Book Lovers Reading Group: Every 3rd Thursday of the month, 10:00am, at The Indulgence Cafe. You can check out this year's selections, as well as take out the next month's book, at the Library.

Books Sandwiched In: The 1st Monday of every month, 12pm-1pm, at The Senior Citizen's Building, AH Harbor. Bring a lunch and join us as we listen to interesting speakers, from flower arranging to local artists and authors. Coffee and tea provided by Jersey Shore Coffee Roasters.

*There will be a General Meeting once a month @ the Library. Dates TBA

**Atlantic Highlands
 Beacon**
 Published Quarterly
 Email articles to:
 dharris@ahnj.com
 Publication subject to space
 limits and editorial needs.
Editor: Dwayne M. Harris
**Borough Government
 Mayor:**
Peter E. Donoghue
Council:
Peter Doyle
Jack Archibald
Roy Delloso
Kim Spatola - Council President
Lou Fligor -
Robert Sutton
Adam Hubeny - Administrator
Website: www.ahnj.com
 Graphic Design By - Denise Reintle
 Bayshore Press, Inc.
 e-mail: Bayshorepublishing@yahoo.com