

Atlantic Highlands BEACON

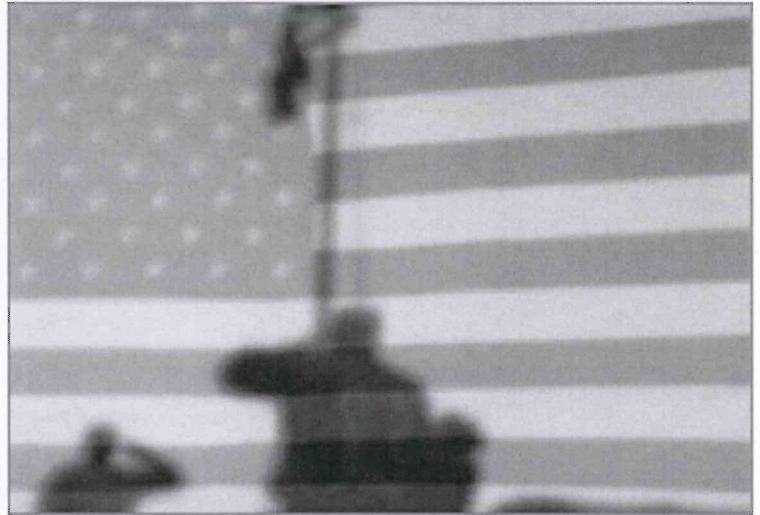
Published by the Borough of Atlantic Highlands

Mayor's Message Frederick J. Rast

Mayor Fred Rast –
Memorial Day speech, May 31, 2010

We are gathered here today to honor those veterans that served us, some of whom have given their lives. Normally we only speak of those who passed, but clearly everything that we have as a nation is owed to all of those that served. The American Legion post has a new monument honoring all our veterans. This mon-

ument is an expression of our love and gratitude to all those that served as well as those who gave the supreme sacrifice. For years now we have been involved in war in the Middle East. This war has lasted much longer than World War II, Vietnam and Korea. Although one death is too many, we can rejoice in the fact that our armed forces have been given the finest equipment in the world. It has protected the lives of so many of our soldiers. Even though the numbers of casualties are very small compared to World War II, Korea and Vietnam, we cry for our losses. The young and older people that serve and protect us are serving as volunteers and have done an exceptional job.



When I first enlisted in the National Guard in 1963 a lot of people in our country considered us only "weekend warriors." At that time even the active military forces did not accept Reservists and Guardsmen as equals. Indeed our equipment was not equal to active forces nor was our training. The truth is that citizen soldiers starting with the Revolutionary War and every other war since have served and lost their lives defending our country. Reserve and guard forces have been an important part of our military. Because of the force reductions that have occurred year after year in all military forces, the citizen soldier, National Guardsmen, and Reservists far outnumber Active Service Personnel. Now, every time that we are involved in a military operation, our Guard and Reserve Forces are brought into combat immediately for multiple combat tours. People are now starting to see

the importance of the role of the National Guard and Reservists.

A close friend of mine was telling me that he was so proud of his son, a Sergeant in the U.S. Army Rangers. The son had served three combat tours, two in Afghanistan and one in Iraq. His father said his son loved being a soldier. His name was Sergeant Ron Kubik. Only four or five weeks ago Ron Jr. was killed in Afghanistan. My wife and I attended the wake. During the wake of this young Sergeant, who was only 21 years old, I was extremely touched by the presence of dozens of Active Duty and Reserve Rangers that attended. I know I'm getting old, but looking in the faces of these young warriors, I was so taken back I started to cry. I know that I enlisted when I was 18 and I guess most of them were in their late teens or early 20's, but unlike me, most had already served multiple combat tours defending our country and its people.

Today I ask all of you to look around us. Look at the young people in the prime of their lives who are wearing our country's uniforms. They are the greatest!

After going through the pain that many of us suffered, dealing with the attitude of

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Atlantic Highlands Beacon

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Mayor's Message

Frederick J. Rast

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the general public during the Vietnam War, I say that never again should people be so disrespectful towards our service people.

At the same time this 21-year-old Sergeant was being laid to rest, another combat warrior passed away. At 84 years old, Joseph Azzolina died. I know that if Joe was still alive today, he would be standing side-by-side with me and other veterans thanking these young people for their Dedication, Loyalty and Patriotism.

I know it's not a new thing that young people go to war and die. We were all young once. However, now as an older person, I want to express how honored I am to stand side by side with these young people, and to let them know they're not alone.

To all of you who have not served, I ask you to consider that the lifestyle you are living today in the USA could never exist without the dedication of young people just like the ones that are here in uniform with us.

By the way, Ron Kubik Sr., the father of Sergeant Ron Kubik, continually told me during his son's funeral, that he was so proud of his son. While crying for his son, his chest was bursting with pride at his son's accomplishments, dedication and love for our country.

To paraphrase, the Ranger Chaplin, who spoke at Ron's wake, spoke of all the young warriors. He said they represent the best of the best, and they do God's work by protecting us from those that wish to do us harm by carrying a sword on our behalf.

For any of you who feel our nation's youth are lost, for any of you who feel that young people today are self centered, self indulgent, non productive parts of our community, I say to you to look at the young people in uniform. They truly are the finest of the finest! God Bless our service people, our Veterans, our nation and our Borough of Atlantic Highlands.

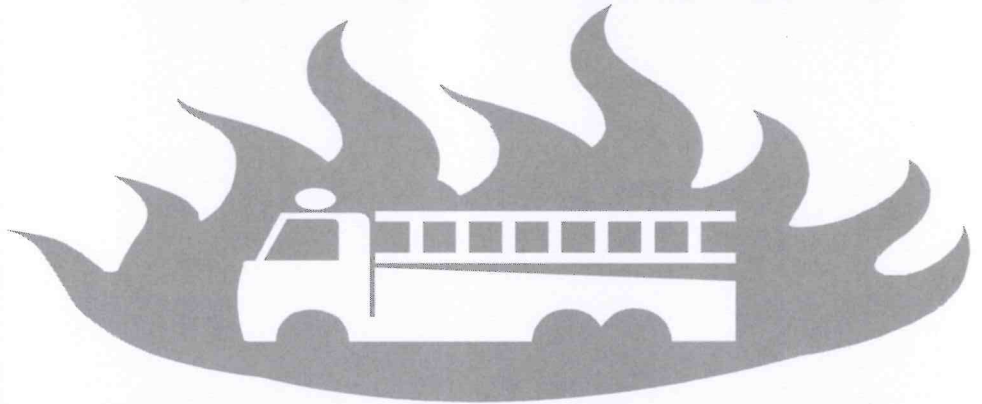
Thank You,

Fredrick J. Rast

*Mayor, Borough of
Atlantic Highlands*

There's a new engine in the firehouse

but it doesn't have wheels



Jake Hoffman, AH Harbor Commissioner and AH volunteer fire department member, said in remarks Thursday that the AHFD was completing refurbishment of a 26' Coast Guard cutter to be used as a fireboat and rescue boat in the AH Harbor and surrounding region. Finishing is taking place in the AH Fire Department garage. Completion and initial launch are expected within the month.

"The Coast Guard donated two derelict boats and a trailer to us last year. We've taken parts from both to make one functioning boat. Compared with our 18' Boston Whaler, for functionality for marina and bay rescue, this boat is more appropriate for the chop in the bay and will be invaluable to us in getting to the moored boats, and for rescue. This boat can be used for both water and land-based fires."

The boats were donated, and volunteer firemen performed the refurbishment work. The fire department will maintain the boat, which will operate out of Atlantic Highlands Harbor. All costs are absorbed by the fire department, using proceeds from the annual Fireman's Fair and donations from local businesses.

The fireboat's water gun is mounted on the top of the cabin. The water gun's range is over two hundred feet.. Its single Mercury engine can reach up to 35 miles per

hour when going to a crisis scene. The cabin is almost completely enclosed, giving the crew better working conditions, since bay weather can be harsh. "The guys were almost completely exposed in the Boston Whaler," explained Hoffman. "In winter it was rough. This is much better as it protects the crew. Also, it has sufficient space in the rear for a gurney during rescue mission. The Boston Whaler just does not have the space to accommodate a person on a gurney."

The newly refurbished boat's designation will be "Marine 85". The Boston Whaler will be sold, Hoffman indicated. Hoffman added, "To us, this refurbished cutter is worth a lot in terms of what it can allow us to do."

Hoffman indicated that the boat added to the professional quality and experience of the AH all-volunteer firemen. "Our guys work here as volunteers, but they are as well-trained as any professional. In fact some have turned professional and work for fire departments such as Newark. Incorporating equipment like this boat into our daily operations provides valuable on-the-job training and experience for our guys, and that experience makes our personnel that much more valuable."

The fireboat will be in its slip and operational before the upcoming Fireman's Fair.

Atlantic Highlands – Committed to ensure the protection of our people

Due to a recent series in the Asbury Park Press, many people have approached me expressing their fears about gangs and drug activity in town. This article stated that in various towns to include Atlantic Highlands, there is drug activity and gangs. Some gang members have been identified as residing in town.

First I would like to say that “yes”, there are a small number of gang members living in town. “Yes”, there is criminal activity and drug activity. We are not an island. Drug sales and use, crimes and gang members have existed in our town throughout its entire history. The uniqueness of our community is that the majority of our people have never been affected by their existence. Our Chief of Police grew up in town, along with many of the older police officers. Newer officers that have been recently hired have been trained and are supervised by those town grown officers. Our Police Department is one of the most professional departments I have ever worked with and served with. I started as a full-time patrolman in town in 1966. Shortly after appointment, I made the largest (for that time) arrest for “Heroin”, ever in town. Over the years we had the head of one of the largest motor cycle gangs residing in town. We had several major organized crime figures that lived in town, including a “Don”.

We have always kept this town a safe community. No one needs to be afraid to walk the streets, except for those who want to harm residents. We survived the 60’s racial unrest with no problems. People from all ethnic backgrounds live in town unmolested so they can raise their families.

In addition to our great quality police force, we have a very strong community that is built upon public volunteerism, adherence to laws and a population who accepts people without consideration of anything other than one’s actions. For those of you that are relatively new comers, I tell you, “DO NOT FEAR”. We protect each other and will continue to do so.

I hear many critics of our town’s police force saying we have too many police officers because we have no crime. This is false since we actually have 15 sworn officers. I can assure you all, as a taxpayer, that we get our money’s worth out of our Police Department. We have an extremely fair and honest group of officers. They are committed to ensure the protection of our people. We are in good hands!

Also, what makes our community unique is the fact that many of our citizens are current, former or retired police officers. Our fine volunteer organizations such as the Fire Department and First Aid Squad all play a key role in the protection of our community.

We all will not allow our community to become an unsafe place.

I have also been approached by people in town, questioning the large rat and the picket line that is occurring around the new construction site at Borough Hall. The men on the picket line, for the most part, are hard-working, good-quality family men. They merely are part of a union who is trying to embarrass the non-union company that was awarded the contract for the construction.

The truth is that within the State of New Jersey, we are required by law to pay prevailing union wages for work done on government projects, regardless if the contractor is union or not. The contracting company we are using is a fine one. It was awarded the contract not because they were the lowest bid, but because they were the lowest responsible bid company. They were actually the 2nd lowest bid. The union protests are without merit, other than the union is trying to pressure the contractor into either becoming union or hiring union workers. The job is being closely scrutinized by myself, our Council, our Borough Administrator and the Architect firm we hired.

Do not feel uncomfortable walking near the picketers, they will not bother you. They will respect you and your children to the fullest.

Feel safe in town. We are also unique in that the Mayor, Borough Administrator, Code Enforcement Officer, and Deputy Harbor Master all are retired police officers, or in my case, a former police officer, who work hand and hand with your “lifelong resident” Chief of Police and his excellent force.

Another problem that occurs over and over again is that I am constantly being told by people that perceive the town building officials as being unfair and delaying their projects. Some people think we are unfairly treating the general public and contractors. First, if you have a legitimate concern, don’t hesitate about contacting the Borough Administrator or myself. We will look into the problem immediately. However, the reality more times than not is that the people who feel they are being harassed and delayed by inspectors, most times have no one to blame but themselves for the delays.

If you apply for permits you must, by law, submit plans. Plans often are done by an Architect. By law, Commercial building plans must have an Architect do the plans. If the project plans you submit are approved, the plans have to be strictly followed. If once you get started, you or your builder wants to change anything that even slightly is different from the plans you submitted, you MUST get prior approval from the issuing authority.

We have a “steep slope” permit process

in town. It was created because of the mountain our town is built on. We have the potential for landslides if we do not protect the mountain. The majority of problems that I have seen in the past 2.5 years have occurred when either you as your own builder, or a builder who works for you, changes your project without prior authorization. If changes are needed, you must come back to the issuing authority, explaining why you want to use a different material, change locations of structures, change set back or anything that you desire to change, prior to doing it. If everyone follows the approved plans or change procedures, everything will work smoothly.

An additional problem is that it is the responsibility of the home owner or his/her representative to call for inspections during construction projects. Keep in mind, in order to save on taxpayer’s money, we in Atlantic Highlands use building inspectors only on a part-time basis. Therefore, there are often delays that will occur. They cannot be available instantly! Call in advance and set up appointments.

I cannot tell you the number of times someone has stopped me, making complaints about the lack of response from town inspectors. When I look into the true facts of the case, I find that the majority of problems were caused by the owners or their builders who were not following or reading directions.

Often times as Mayor, I am stopped by people in the streets, who “champion causes” for others, after complaints about our Building Department or Borough employee treatment. More times than not, those who are defending alleged abuses, never fully looked into the real facts before they passed on accusations or spread the accusations to myself and others. This conduct is not healthy, nor fair to our employees. We at Borough Hall do not hide anything, nor do we cover up bad conduct. Our staff has all been given their “marching orders” to cooperate with every citizen, fairly and with respect.

In the event, however, that you are treated disrespectfully by any Borough employee, don’t hesitate to contact me as your Mayor, or Adam Hubeny as your Borough Administrator. We will immediately look into the matter. We are your public servants. However, if your complaints are unfounded we will re-address your accusations with you.

I want to thank you all once again for being members of our community, for supporting your Mayor and Council, for honoring us all by being part of our town. I wish you all well and God bless you and your families, our town and our country.

SANITATION ALERT: Important changes to bulk pickup

Beginning July 1, 2010 – The Borough's policy on the collection of BULK items will change. The Borough Sanitation Department will only collect BULK once a month, per zone.

BULK items shall mean large household items, excluding building/construction materials, metals like bed frames and bicycles and all similar waste and debris which is not ordinarily generated as household garbage or which may now or in the future be excluded by the Monmouth County Reclamation Center as acceptable residential type garbage. A "reasonable" amount of bulk will be collected. The amount of bulk collected should not fill more than the back of a pickup truck - an eight foot by four foot area. If your bulk collection takes up more than an eight by four area, you will be required to get a dumpster and have a private company haul away your materials.

There will be no BULK pickup on the **3rd, 4th and 5th Saturdays** following recycling collection. BULK collections will be as follows:

Zone 1 – The First Saturday of the month

Zone 2 – The Second Saturday of the month

The collection of recycled goods, which is mandatory, will continue to be **picked-up on Wednesdays** with the **exception of the 5th Wednesday**.

Zone 1 – First and Third Wednesday of the Month

Zone 2 – Second and Fourth Wednesday of the Month

The pickup of "white" appliances: (Refrigerators, freezers, washers, dryers, air conditioners, microwaves, computers, etc.) Will be by appointment only. You should make every effort to have your appliances hauled away by the vendor that you purchased from. The Street Department will no longer travel every street, every Friday, to locate appliances.

Removal Permit: Prior to placing any appliance item at curbside for collection, the owner, tenant or resident of the premises shall complete a form provided by the Borough and pay the required fee, in order to obtain a removal permit. Such permit shall be affixed to the item to be removed by the borough.

Collection: All appliance items placed for collection shall be placed curbside no earlier than 7:00 p.m. on the day before the designated collection day and not later than 6:00 a.m. of the collection day. Before placing any refrigerator or freezer for collection, all doors must be fully removed. Refrigerators and freezers shall be placed for collection with the open side facing up.

Permit Fee: The fee for obtaining a removal permit shall be fifteen (\$15.00) dollars per item.

Enforcement: This subsection shall be enforced by the Atlantic Highlands Police Department and/or the Atlantic Highlands Code Enforcement Officer.

Penalties: The penalty for violating any section of this subsection shall be as prescribed in subsection.

TRASH PICKUP: Collection schedule

The Borough has found it necessary to adjust the collection schedule for trash pickup. Therefore, effective immediately, the Atlantic Highlands Sanitation Department

will no longer be working on recognized municipal holidays thus there will be no collection. The collection holidays effected by this change include the following:

- New Years Day
- President Birthday
- Memorial Day
- Labor Day • Veterans Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas
- Martin Luther King Day
- Good Friday
- Independence Day
- Columbus Day
- Friday after Thanksgiving

Please do not put your trash out for pickup on the above listed holidays. The collection will resume the following regularly scheduled pickup.



DEAR VETERANS AND RESIDENTS OF ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS

THE AMERICAN LEGION, C. EUGENE ALLEN MEMORIAL POST 141, IS IN THE PROCESS OF HAVING AN UPDATED MONUMENT ERECTED TO COMMEMORATE THE 14 INDIVIDUALS WHO MADE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE DURING CONFLICTS.

WE HAVE BEEN APPROVED, BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL FOR A SIX SIDED MONUMENT APPROXIMATELY SEVEN AND ONE HALF FEET HIGH, AND TWO AND A HALF FEET WIDE AT THE BASE. EACH SIDE WILL HAVE AN EMBLEM REPRESENTING THE ARMY, NAVY, MARINE CORP, AIR FORCE, AND COAST GUARD. THE SIXTH SIDE WILL BE RESERVED FOR THE NAMES OF OUR FALLEN VETERANS.

THE MONUMENT WILL BE DEDICATED ON MAY 31, 2010, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE MEMORIAL DAY PARADE.

WE ARE ASKING FOR YOUR HELP IN MAKING THIS NEW MONUMENT A REALITY BY MAKING A DONATION TO HELP DEFRAY THE COST WHICH WILL BE APPROXIMATELY \$17,000.00.

PLEASE SEND YOUR DONATIONS MADE PAYABLE TO "C. EUGENE ALLEN MEMORIAL POST 141" ALONG WITH THE TEAR OFF SHEET BELOW.

SINCERELY

THOMAS J VETH

POST COMMANDER

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

ARE YOU A VETERAN? _____ FAMILY MEMBER A VETERAN? _____



WE ARE ASKING FOR YOUR DONATIONS

\$25 ___ \$50 ___ \$75 ___ \$100 ___ OTHER ___

ALL DONATIONS WILL BE GLADLY ACCEPTED



MAIL TO: C. EUGENE ALLEN MEMORIAL POST 141
C/O THOMAS J VETH
PO Box 240
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS, NJ 07716

2010 Atlantic Highlands

Fireman's Fair & Independence week celebration program

Atlantic Highlands Municipal Harbor – June 29th through July 3rd – 6:00 pm to 11:00 pm

The Atlantic Highlands Fire Department, an all volunteer group of dedicated men and women, is proud to announce the 2010 Fireman's Fair and Independence Week events:



The extremely popular Fireworks Display will be held on Friday, July 2, 2010 (with rain date Saturday, July 3rd). This year, the Independence Day Celebration promises to be the biggest and best in recent history.

The popular Pay-One-Price (POP) will again return. You can purchase a bracelet and ride all the amusements, all night, for just one price. (excludes fireworks night)



The crowd-pleasing boat decorating contest, "Deck the Docks", continues in its fifth year thanks to the Atlantic Highlands

Harbor Commission. Trophies in addition to cash prizes for winners will be announced on July 3rd at the Fair.

You can obtain additional information at the Harbor Office.

During the 5 night fair, expect great live musical entertainment. The nightly line-up will be announced as the event nears.

The ever popular "Super Raffle" will begin shortly and tickets may be purchased well in advance of the Fair. Last year, over \$7,000.00 was awarded to 3 winners.

12 games of chance and over 14 amusement rides will be on the fair grounds.

Our food court will have some new vendors in 2010. The Fire Department will be cooking hamburgers and hot dogs. Come to the fair and have dinner.

The Atlantic Highlands Recreation

2010 has been a great year for the recreation committee!

We have a very successful Youth Basketball season, Easter Egg Hunt at Fireman's Field, and Garage Sale. Registration is ongoing for the Fall Youth Soccer Program which begins the beginning of September.



Our Summer Concerts will kick off on Sunday, July 11 at 7pm at the Gazebo Area in the Municipal Harbor. Our schedule is available online. All shows will begin at 7pm and in the event of inclement weather, we will reschedule shows at the end of the summer.



SPORTS

A special thank you to AHES and Mr. Rooney for allowing us to hold our Summer Recreation Program at the school cafeteria & playground while the library is temporarily housed at Fireman's Field-house. We are also excited to offer specialty sports clinics such as tennis, field hockey, t-ball, and a multi-sports camp. Some of which you can register kids as young as 3 years old! Be sure to check-out our website for more information.

Save the Dates for the Annual Halloween Parade and the Holiday Tree Lighting. The Halloween Parade will be held on Saturday, October 30 and the Tree Lighting will be on Saturday, December 4. Details to follow.

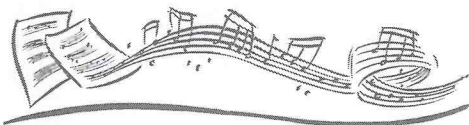
All of our information is posted on the Recreation Page of the Borough's Website. Be sure to visit there regularly for updates. Additionally, if you would like to receive Recreation e-mail updates, please send us an e-mail at:

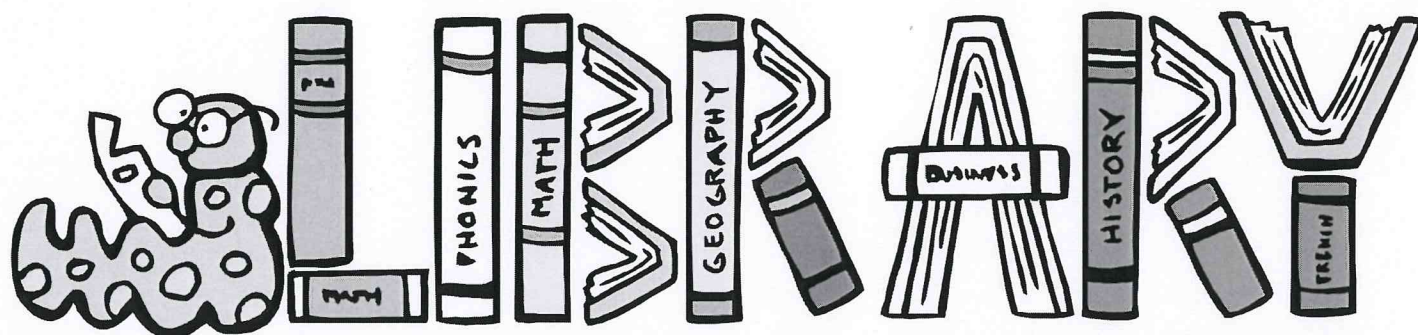


Recreation@AHNJ.com

We will include you in any announcements. We will not share e-mail addresses with anyone!

www.ahnj.com





News....

Ahoy, Kids!

Enjoy special performers, crafts, stories, contests every Thursday:

Set sail for fun and adventure at the Atlantic Highlands Library where Make a Splash – Read! is the theme for the Summer Reading Program. Children, preschool to young adult, are invited to plunge into the world of water – and water fun – through programs, a reading club, prizes, drawings, story hours, and more. Activities and stories about oceans, rivers, lakes, pools – and the creatures that live there will be featured. Dive into the excitement at the **Summer Reading Kickoff on Thursday, June 17, 3 pm at Firemen's Field** when the Picarillo Sciencetelling will be on hand with 'Pirates – the Curse of the Mutating Hand.' Log sheets for the reading program will be handed out at that time. As children reach designated plateaus of minutes read, prizes will be awarded. At the end of the summer those who have read 1500 minutes will be eligible to attend a pizza party with a special mystery guest. In addition, there will be a grand prize winner.

July 1: Let's Get Crabby – presented by Linda Cohen from Ocean Discoveries; Ages 5 & up

July 8: Pointless Pollution – presented by Clean Ocean Action, Ages 5 & up

July 15: Adventures with Chinese – with Angela Liu - Ages 5 & up

July 22: "Finding Nemo"© (Walt Disney) – Rated G; 3 – 4:30 PM; All Ages

July 29: Summer Shells – with Wanda Kelley; Ages 5 & up – 3 PM; Ages 3-5 – 4 PM

Aug 5: Making Summerglobes; Ages 5 & up

Aug 12: Jersey Traditions and Red Knots (Decoy Painting); Ages 8 and up. No exceptions!

Aug 19: "Planet 51"© (Tri-Star Pictures) – Rated PG; 3-4:30; All Ages

Space is limited; REGISTRATION is REQUIRED for each program. Don't be turned away. Register early! Also check for additional Special Programs at the Library: 732-291-1956.

Summer Mini-Camp



The Summer Mini-Camp will also incorporate the Make a Splash – Read! theme. During July and August, children 8 & up, will be offered a wide range of water experiences. Fishing, seining, salt marshes, aquariums, fly-tying, pottery-making, watercolor, and caves are among the programs that will be offered. Also, back by popular demand, Black Rocket Productions will present its new 'Lego Films and Stop Action!' workshop.

Check with the Library for details about this, and all other, programs: 732-291-1956.

Library News

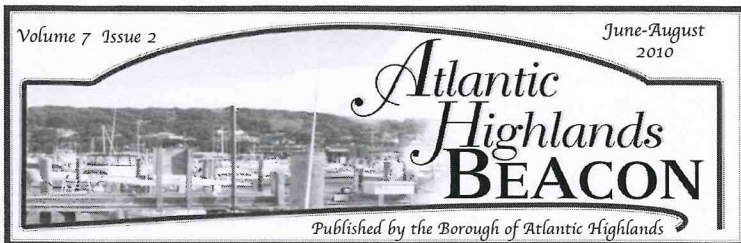


Food Pantry Drop-Off Location

Want to contribute items for the Food Pantry, but can't get there when it is open? The Library now is a permanent drop-off location for the AH Food Pantry. Bring your non-perishable items to the Library during our normal business hours. Especially needed are personal products, such as shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, etc.

Graphic Novels Collection

Don't forget to stop by to see our new Graphic Novels assortment. As a result of a \$3000 grant from the State Library last fall, over 200 new titles in this format have been added to our Library's collection. From Manga to Maus, and from juvenile to adult, we have a graphic novel for everyone.



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Atlantic Highlands Arts Council



ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS ONE MINUTE FILM FESTIVAL

Sat, July 17

STREET FAIR

2-6 pm, 1st Avenue
Food, Music & Vendors

FILM SCREENING

Music: 7 pm Film: 9 pm
A.H. Marina
Free Admission

Sun, July 11

AWARDS RECEPTION

2-4 pm, Julia's Restaurant
91 1st Ave. A.H. \$15 ea.

AH FOOD PANTRY

Non perishable food donations
accepted at all events.

RAIN/HIGH WIND VENUE

Festival will be moved to the Charles Hesse Parish Center,
55 South Ave, Atlantic Highlands

www.FilmOneFest.org

Atlantic Highlands Beacon

Published Quarterly

Email articles to:
dharris@ahnj.com

Publication subject to space
limits and editorial needs.

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