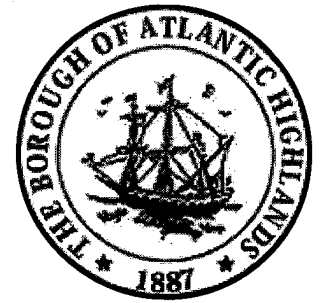


# Atlantic Highlands BEACON



Published by the Borough of Atlantic Highlands

VOLUME 9: ISSUE 1: 2012



## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

*Frederick J. Rast*

January 2012

Speech of Mayor Frederick J. Rast III  
Borough of Atlantic Highlands, NJ

My dear friends, we are very lucky to be residents of Atlantic Highlands. Our town is truly the "Jewel of the Bayshore". We have a lot to be thankful for. We live in one of the few communities that still have a walk-able downtown and numerous recreation venues. This town is truly "small town USA". We still have community events that bring together families in complete harmony with one another.

"Yes, things are expensive", but things are good. At least we get the best bang for our buck that we can expect.

People say, you can always tell how good a community is to live in by the number of children and pets you see walking on Main Street. As a lifelong resident of town, nothing makes me happier than seeing families and their dogs continually walking our Main Street. New babies and puppies always are signs of a happy community.

When I hear people who think they are sophisticated and educated, (at least in their own minds), criticize our simple way of life or in a negative fashion call Atlantic Highlands "Mayberry USA", it makes me want to choke someone. When they say that it is not "chic" to respect GOD, our flag, our elderly citizens or our town's history, it shows me actually how ignorant and phony they are.

I am proud to be part of a community that still feels it is good to attend religious services on Saturday or Sunday; fly our Nation's flag not only on town property, but at many private homes; still has a parade on Memorial Day down First Avenue where you see almost everyone participating; still supports our Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts; and where many people are part of the volunteer Fire and First Aid Squad. I think it is great to block off traffic on our streets for block parties, chillifests, car shows, arts & crafts shows, haunted house tours, and bike races. I think it is wonderful that I can teach my grandchildren how to ride a 2 wheeler on the safe hiking and bike path from our Harbor to Highlands. I LOVE being able to take my kids and their kids to our fishing pier to go "Snapper fishing".

I smile with pride to see grown men dressed up as silly Disney characters so they can walk their babies down First Avenue in the Halloween parade. Often they are also dragging their family German Shepherd, who I'm sure is embarrassed wearing rabbit ears and a bunny costume.

I love the fact that we still have a Christmas Tree Lighting in the center of town, still have Santa riding around town on a sled pulled by our First Aid Squad bringing so much joy to our beautiful children.

I am especially proud to be a member of a community that "cries" when a house fire takes the life of one our own. I am proud to be a member of a community where rich men, poor men, black, white, Christian, non Christian, have true respect and love for their neighbors. I am proud that no person needs to be in fear of walking our streets, unless they are walking our streets to do harm to our citizens.

I am also proud to be part of the governing body of this great town, a governing body that has put

## Mayor's Message

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aside all political ambition and has worked side by side with our professional town employees to keep Atlantic Highlands as great as it truly is!

We have accomplished a lot over the last four years and will continue to make all of our citizens proud of the job we will do over the next four years. I pray that the team we have been so successful with these past four years will continue as a working team for the next four years.

We have been the governing body during one of the most trying times in our history and have managed to keep our town fairly safe from financial harm!

Today we are celebrating the start of a new year "2012". We have a new and beautiful Borough Hall and library to go forward with. Today we have thoughts of future prosperity for our home town. We all must work together to build up our town and the "Hell" with those that want to run it down.

Thank you and God bless you and your families, our town, our State and this Great Nation.

# Welcome to “Atlantic PINKlands”

For the past several years Riverview Medical Center has been holding a one week community program to promote awareness and education of breast cancer, called “Paint the Town Pink”, in various communities in Monmouth County.

Riverview Medical Center, through its program coordinator, has indicated a desire to hold certain programs and events within the Borough of Atlantic Highlands for this program, scheduled for May 4 through May 12, 2012. Beginning May 4, “Pink Bank” (Red Bank), “Pink Beach” (Monmouth Beach), and “Pink Haven” (Fair Haven), will once again be transformed for Paint the Town Pink. This year, Riverview is excited to welcome FIVE new towns to the Pink family including: “Atlantic Pinklands” (Atlantic Highlands), “Pinkdel” (Holmdel), “Little Pink” (Little Silver), “Pinkson” (Rumson), and “Pinkbury” (Shrewsbury), making the event the most represented to

date. The Borough Governing Body has determined that in the interest of the community health and welfare, the Borough’s cooperation with this awareness/education program is appropriate.

Paint the Town Pink was created with the goal to encourage women aged 40 and older to pledge to have their annual mammogram, as well as raise funds to provide mammography to the uninsured and underserved in our community. Through a variety of special events and in-store specials from businesses, a “Pink Your House” contest, and involvement from community groups, this year’s Paint the Town Pink will be “bigger and Pinker” than ever before!

The opening events in Atlantic Highlands called “Bonnets and Bowsers” will be held on Saturday, May 5th at 11:00am in the Harbor. This will entail a single file of dogs adorned in pink outfits with their owners, wearing hats decorated in creative pink



designs, promenading along the pier, down First Ave to the Borough Hall and back again. These events will be preceded by a Pink Balloon Launch. Music will be provided at the gazebo for your entertainment.

For more information about Paint the Town Pink visit the new website at [www.PainttheTownPink.com](http://www.PainttheTownPink.com) and be sure to follow Paint the Town Pink on Facebook to see highlights of this year’s campaign and for a complete list of events and activities.

# Memorial Day

Memorial Day is a United States holiday observed on the last Monday of May each year.

Formerly known as Decoration Day, Memorial Day commemorates U.S. men and women who died while in military service for their country. First enacted to honor Union soldiers of the American Civil War, it was expanded after World War I to include American casualties of any war or military action.

Memorial Day and Labor Day are often referred to as bookend holidays

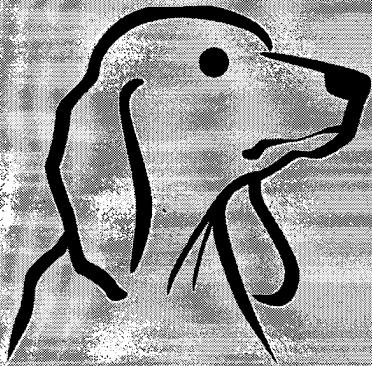
marking the beginning and the end of the summer season in the United States.

The Borough of Atlantic Highlands will hold its annual parade at 11:00am on Monday, May 28th, followed by the Flag placing ceremony in honor of our home town heroes. The National Moment of Remembrance encourages all Americans to pause wherever they are at 3:00 PM on Memorial Day for one minute of silence, to remember and honor those who have died in service to the U.S.



## 2012 Dog Licenses Available

NJ State law and Borough Ordinance 677 require every person that owns a dog to obtain a license, for each dog, from the municipality. Most licenses in Atlantic Highlands expired December 31, 2011 and were due to be renewed by



January 31, 2012. If you have not yet renewed your license, they are available at Borough Hall. There will be a \$5.00 late fee assessed to each license not renewed within 30 days after expiration. Your pet must have ten [10] months of valid rabies vaccine before a new license can be issued so check you rabies certificate [issued at time of vaccination] to be sure it does not expire before January 2012. If it does you will need to speak to your Veterinarian about administering a new rabies shot. Application forms are available at [www.ahnj.com](http://www.ahnj.com) and can be sent through the mail if you are unable to get to Borough Hall during business hours.

If you have unknowingly [or intentionally] neglected to get a license for your dog, please rectify this situation immediately.

## 2012 Spring Brush Schedule

Brush may not be put out more than 5 days prior to your zone's scheduled pick-up. All brush should be at the curb ready for pick up on the first pick-up day for your zone. The Borough will not remove any grass clippings or any containerized yard waste, ONLY brush. (Memorial Pkwy residents may bag their leaves). If weather disrupts the brush pick up schedule, we will resume where we left off and continue on a modified schedule. If you miss your scheduled ZONE pick-up residents may bring brush and leaves to the borough yard for disposal (NO GRASS CLIPPINGS).

You can go to  
[www.ahnj.com](http://www.ahnj.com)  
for more information.

Zone	First Pick Up Date	Second Pick Up Date
5	April 9-13	June 25-29
4	April 16-20	July 2-6
3	April 23-27	July 9-13
2	April 30-May 4	July 16-20
1	May 7-11	July 23-27



# WANTED

The Atlantic Highlands Historical Society is currently assembling its Exhibitions Committee and welcomes your help.

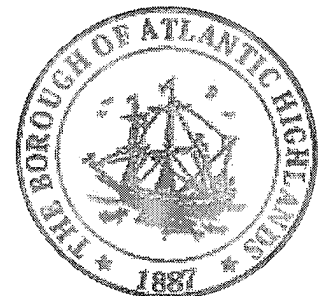
If you have an interest or ideas about the displays in and use of the Strauss Mansion please come to their meeting and see if this committee is for you. They are also interested in any writers that may want to contribute to their newsletter. You can get more info by contacting them at [info@atlantichighlandshistory.com](mailto:info@atlantichighlandshistory.com)

Anyone interested in serving on the Shade Tree Commission? We have 2 openings.

We also have 1 opening, for anyone interested on serving on the Environmental Commission.

If so please send an e-mail to me at [Mayor@ahnj.com](mailto:Mayor@ahnj.com).

*Mayor Rast*



# Recreation Updates

Don't miss out on the chance to sell some of those unwanted items in your garage, basement, and cellar!! Be sure to register for the town-wide Garage Sale scheduled for Saturday, May 19 (rain date May 20). You can register your home now through Monday, April 30 at AH Borough Hall. Registration is \$5.00 per household. You will receive a flag and your home will be listed on the map that is handed out the day of.

Summer is almost here and do you have plans for your kids?? Check out all of our offerings on our website. Summer Recreation, Tennis, Golf, Lacrosse, Soccer, and much more for all ages.

Registration for our Summer Recreation Program and Fall Youth Soccer Program start Monday, April 30. New this year, ALL registrations must be done online. Please be aware of deadlines for registration for the programs. These will be enforced. Stay tuned for more information via flyers through school and our website.

Save the Date...Wednesday, June 20, Monday, July 30, and Monday, August 20 we will offer movie in the harbor. Come join us under the stars for some great family friendly movies. Movie selection will be posted on our website as we get closer to movie nights.

Our Summer Concert Series will happen again on Sunday nights in the harbor. First concert scheduled for Sunday, July 15. We are working on a schedule and are looking forward to a fun selection of new and old bands. Please check website for more information.

The Atlantic Highlands Recreation Committee is an all-volunteer group of community members who work to bring these and many other events to our town. If you would like to help out, please contact us. Questions about any programs, please first check our website, [www.ahnj.com](http://www.ahnj.com) (follow link for Recreation). You can also e-mail us at [recreation@ahnj.com](mailto:recreation@ahnj.com) or call at 732-291-1444, ext 3505.

## Churches

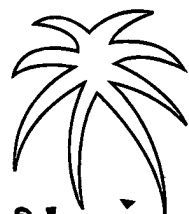
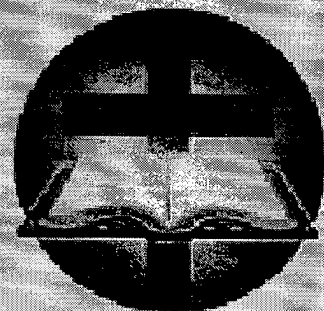
The churches of Atlantic Highlands, Highlands, and Navesink, AACC (Area Association of Community Churches) have many events happening in the next few months. We hope that you will join us!

On **Easter Sunday**, April 8, we will join together to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ as the sun rises over the Atlantic Highlands harbor. Join us at 6:30 a.m. at the Harbor Gazebo. We will have a message from Father William Dunlap, Pastor of St. Agnes Roman Catholic Church and Our Lady of Perpetual Help. There will also be special music and we will sing favorite Easter hymns together.

In June, we are excited to hold our annual Community Vacation Bible School. This non-denominational program is coordinated by all of the churches in the Area Association of Community Churches, and led by Jenn Giunta and Pastor George of Central Baptist Church. Vacation Bible School will begin on **Monday, June 25 and run through Friday, June 29**. Each day begins at 9 a.m. Children in Pre-K through 5th grade are welcome to join us as students and we need teens and adults to volunteer to work as staff members. The children will play games, learn Bible stories, do craft projects, learn songs, and have a lot of fun. For more information or to request a registration form, please call Central Baptist Church at 732-291-8111 or email them at [cbcb Beacon@aol.com](mailto:cbcb Beacon@aol.com).

This summer, Central Baptist Church is thrilled to announce their third year of Good News at the Gazebo. On **Saturday nights in August**, come and join us at

the Atlantic Highlands Harbor Gazebo to hear a great musical performances and share food and fellowship. The music starts at 7 p.m. Scheduled performers are Han Soul, Nancy Scharff, Undivided Heart, and Carl and Laurie Gentry.



### Mark the Calendar!

## 2012 Atlantic Highlands Fireman's Fair

July 3rd through July 7th

Fireworks on Friday night,  
July 6th in the Harbor



# Library News

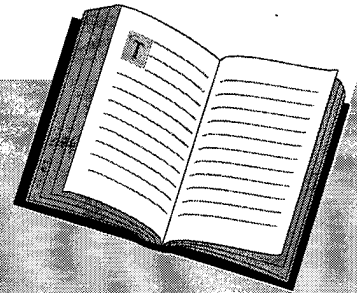
## New Library

Excitement builds as we await the opening of the new library! The construction is complete, the shelves are installed, and all that remains before the grand opening is the delivery of the circulation desk and other furniture. We anticipate that our doors will open mid-April, with a dedication at the end of the month. Stay 'tuned' for the date to celebrate this marvelous event! The opening of the new library has been a culmination of years of planning and dedication on the part of many individuals and groups. We especially thank Mayor Rast, the Borough Council, and Adam Hubeny, for bringing this project to fruition. We also thank our former Library Board for making a sizeable donation toward the new shelving and furniture, Avaya for their donation of furniture, and our wonderful Friends of the Library, who generously provided the new furniture in the juvenile department, tables and chairs for the Activity Room, along with many other needed items.

## Book Drive

Did you notice lots of people bringing boxes to that big truck outside Borough Hall on March 31? The Friends of the Library held a book drive as a fund-raiser toward for new furniture at the library. Thanks to DeAnn Cheyne for spearheading the drive, the Friends along with volunteers from Henry Hudson. Thanks, also, to all of you, who contributed the boxes and boxes of books which made the event so successful.

*Mark your calendars for these exciting History and Mystery programs to be held in our newly-renovated library in May:*



## Maritime Intrigue

Dan Lieb, founding member of the NJ Historical Divers Association, will be on hand Tuesday, May 15, at 7 PM, describing how two, very old, matching locomotives were discovered off Long Branch, and what research has revealed about these relics. He will also trace the steps from their discovery in the 1980s to an understanding of their historical significance.

The NJHDA is a non-profit organization that has been credited with discovering, identifying, and preserving numerous wrecks off of the NJ coast. Their mission is to determine the names of the many unidentified shipwrecks that lie off of our beaches and bring their history to light. Mr. Lieb, an underwater artist and illustrator, has participated in dozens of archaeological investigations on wreck sites in and out of the state of New Jersey, and was featured on an episode of the History Channel's Deep Sea Detectives. The program is free to the public.

## Dig It!!!

A fascinating program on archaeology will be given by Dr. Jean Howson, on Thursday, May 24, at 7 PM, detailing several of the sites on which she worked. A resident of Atlantic Highlands, Dr. Howson has worked 25 years as a professional historical archaeologist. She will discuss and illustrate her research at a sugar plantation in the Caribbean; the New York African Burial Ground National Historic Monument in Manhattan; and an early American tavern, closer to home in Highlands. Dr. Howson received her Ph.D. from New York University and has taught at NYU, Vassar, and Rutgers. She is currently Principal Archaeologist at The RBA Group in Parsippany. The program is free to the public.

## Summer Reading

Summer's not far away!!! Kick-off will be June 14 at Veteran's Park at 3 PM featuring Piccirillo Sciencetelling. Exciting things are planned for the whole summer. Watch for further details of the upcoming events.

Welcome the summer as a wonderful opportunity for your child to continue his or her reading! But remember,

any time is a good time to foster reading. Read to your child every day; it's never too early to start! Even a newborn responds to hearing you read. Continue reading together, even after your child learns to read; even older children enjoy listening to others read. And don't forget to stop by our beautiful, new library - often!

## Question: Can I pay my taxes and water bill with a credit card?

### Answer: YES!

The Borough once again accepts credit cards for payment of almost everything except construction permits. Discover, American Express and MasterCard may be used for all government transactions; currently, VISA may only be accepted for tax payments.

The Borough has aligned with Municipipay, a custom government payment solution that utilizes a convenience fee program so government offices can accept credit cards and electronic checks without paying merchant process-

ing fees, which is not permissible by NJ State Statutes. These are the same convenience services offered by State and Federal Governments for the electronic renewals of Motor Vehicle registrations and Income Tax payments. Major Credit Card Association rules now allow Government entities to assess a "convenience fee" on transactions paid via credit card. The convenience fee amount will be processed as a separate transaction so the fee amount is clearly identified to the cardholder. Once the fee amount is disclosed, the cardholder has the

option to decline the fee and pay with cash.

More payment options equal more satisfied citizens. According to data from the U.S. Census Bureau, there were 159 million credit cardholders in the United States in 2000, 173 million in 2006, and that number was projected to grow to 181 million Americans by 2010. It will also enable you to take advantage of the various reward programs and cash back programs, as allowed by your card provider.

## The Strauss Mansion

### *A New Jersey Historic Place*



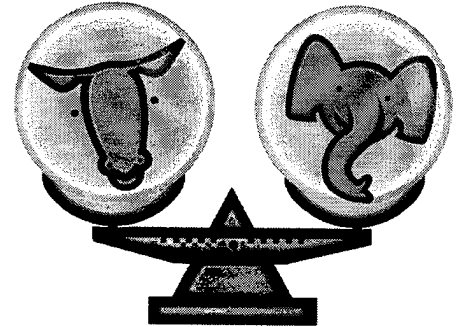
On March 13, members of the Atlantic Highlands Historical Society and a few Borough Council members went to the state Department of Environmental Protection Preservation Office in Trenton to receive the news that the request for the 119 year-old Strauss Mansion to be designated an historic site was granted. The Strauss Mansion is the home of the Atlantic Highlands Historical Society and is the only Queen Anne Style building open to the public in Monmouth County.

The society purchased the house for \$26,000 and after extensive repairs and renovations; the mansion was opened to tours and events. The mansion now holds various permanent displays and period furnished rooms including a Victorian parlor, turn of the century tool room, Native American and Lenape room, and a library. A Victorian style garden was established last spring. The mansion also houses a gift shop which sells various publications and gifts

The Strauss Mansion and Museum, located at 27 Prospect Circle in Atlantic Highlands is open every Sunday from 1-4 p.m. Admission is free. For more information please leave a message at the Strauss Mansion 732-291-1861.



# Election Information:



## SCHOOL ELECTIONS

The Atlantic Highlands Elementary School and Henry Hudson Regional School have both opted to take advantage of a new law passed in 2011, which permits School Districts to move their School Board Elections from April to November, when the General Election is held. This change eliminates the annual voter referendum on the proposed school tax levy as long as it is at or below the statutory tax levy cap. If it goes above, a general question will be placed on the ballot for approval. Any School Board member, whose term would have expired in May 2012, will continue to serve until the Organization Meeting in held in January 2013.

## VOTER REGISTRATION

The last day for Voter Registration for the June primary is Tuesday, May 15, 2012. Applications for registration can be obtained from the Division of Elections, the Commissioner of Registration's office, in the County where you live or from your Municipal Clerk. Registration forms are also available at Division of Motor Vehicle offices, or go to

<http://www.state.nj.us/lps/elections/voter-registration-application.html>.

## MAIL-IN BALLOT VOTING

In New Jersey, any voter can now vote by Mail -In Ballot for any election. You do not need a reason to vote by Mail- In Ballot. Don't feel like going to the polls? Simply vote by mail.

Now there is "no excuse" not to vote!

A voter may apply for a Mail-In ballot by completing an application and sending the it to the County Clerk, who must receive it by May 29. A voter may also apply in person to the County Clerk until 3:00 p.m., the day before the election. The County Clerk cannot accept faxed copies of a Mail-In Ballot Application since an original signature is required. **YOU CAN NOT SUBMIT A MAIL-IN BALLOT TO BOROUGH HALL!** You can however obtain an application there.

## PRIMARY ELECTION DAY

June 5, 2012 – Polls are open from 6:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

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*Atlantic Highlands*  
**BEACON**



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