

# THE JOURNAL

BRIDGEVILLE, DELAWARE

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APR/MAY/JUNE 2003



#### **NEW TOWN MANAGER**

The Town Commissioners of Bridgeville are pleased to announce the appointment of Bonnie S. Walls

of Seaford as Bridgeville Town Manager, effective July 1, 2003. Bonnie is currently serving as Bridgeville's first Director of Development.

Bonnie Walls last served as the Town Manager of Laurel where she closed out a career that spanned 31 years. She will be responsible for the day by day operations of all departments except the Police Department. She will have fiscal responsibility for all departments including the police department.

Bonnie Walls will report directly to the Bridgeville Commissioners. Her responsibilities will include personnel, economic development, and relationships with Sussex municipalities, agencies of the State of Delaware, the departments of the County and agencies of the Federal Government. She will assist the Commission in the preparation of the Town budget.

Bonnie Walls has been and continues to be active as a member of the Nanticoke Hospital Community Health Services Board, a Board Member of both the Boys and Girls Clubs of Delaware and the Western Sussex Boys and Girls Club.

Bonnie Walls is a graduate of Seaford High School and the Jefferson School Commerce in Salisbury and resides outside of Seaford with her husband, Lee. They have one grown son.

WELCOME, BONNIE



#### CONCERTS IN THE PARK

Bridgeville Historical Society Park Delaware Avenue & William Street

WEDNESDAY, JULY 2ND
287TH ARMY BAND—DE N.G.
WEDNESDAY, JULY 30TH
SMYRNA FIREMEN'S BAND
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20TH
MILFORD COMMUNITY BAND

Bring lawn chairs or blankets. Concerts start at 7:30 p.m. Sponsored by: The Bridgeville Historical Society
The Bridgeville Lions Club

#### WELCOME NEW HOME OWNERS

\* \* \* \* \* \*

Mr. and Mrs. James Dickerson Mr. and Mrs. Chris Walker Mr. and Mrs. Robert Castle Mr. and Mrs. Leon Smith ERH Properties, LLC Mr. and Mrs. Marlin Morgan Ms. Cindy Hare CHACOS, Inc.

Mrs. Clara Boguszewski



IMPORTANT....LOOK INSIDE

The June water/sewer bills are enclosed with the Town Property &

Capitation Tax Bills. To avoid a penalty on your taxes, please pay before Sept. 30, 2003.

are paid.

# MINUTES FROM THE MONTHLY COMMISSION MEETINGS:

#### **APRIL 14, 2003:**

- -Total traffic arrests for March were 65.
- -Painting of the water tower behind Town Hall was completed on March 31, 2003 by Corrosion Control.
- -Screen and new fluid end for pump replaced at Well #2 located on Cherry Alley.
- -There were three septic haulers for a revenue of \$2,298.
- -The new pump for the Bridgeville Plaza (Rts. 13 & 404) was ordered and will soon be installed.
- -Commissioners adopted Budget Amendment #1. The amended budget allows the Town to be eligible for grant funding.
- -Mr. Thomas Brown, Nanticoke Health Services, responded to a letter sent to him from the Commission pertaining to the diversion of ER patients at Nanticoke Hospital. Staffing patterns have been increased to better solve the division problem.
- -Proposed sidewalk and street improvements have been submitted to DelDOT for grant funding approval.
- -Commissioner voted to reserve sewer capacity for residents, future projects within the Town, and the Town of Greenwood.
- -Commissioners met with residents of the "Bridgeville Manor" to discuss tying into the Town's sewer system. No decisions were made.
- -Commissioners adopted Ordinance #A03-3; "An Ordinance Creating the Bridgeville Emergency Services Funding Program Providing for the Administration of Grants and Creating Funding". The ordinance creates a constant source of funds to provide emergency equipment, services and expenses for the people of this community. One quarter of one percent of each building permit will be will go toward the funding problem. The

- Ordinance becomes effective July 1, 2003.

  -Ordinance #A03-4' "An Ordinance Amending the Town of Bridgeville's Zoning Ordinance as it Relates to Applications for Zoning Permits", was introduced for the first reading. The ordinance will not permit zoning permits, building permits, and etc. to be issued to any resident making application unless all taxes, assessments, service charges and fees due the Town
- -Discussion was held regarding a Clean-Up Day. No decision made.
- -Director of Development Bonnie Walls informed the Commissioners of a new loan program being developed by the Sussex County Council. The intent of the program is to stimulate economic development in Sussex County municipalities. Commission to consider a project for discussion at the June meeting.
- -The Twenty First Century for Resource Conservation and Development Project is available for drainage improvements. The funding covers 75% with a required 25% local match. Two projects discussed were the erosion along the stream bank between Rt. 13A and the WWTP and a new box culvert under North Cannon Street (Frog Harbor). Commissioners agreed to have Davis, Bowen & Friedel pursue the drainage projects.
- -Bridgeville will host the Del-Mar-Va Firemen's Convention on May 2 & 3, 2003.
- -Employees health insurance with Blue Cross/ Blue Shield was extended for FY-04.
- -Commissioners were invited to participate in the Little League Parade and Opening Ceremony on Saturday, April 26, 2003. The Commissioners will present a check for \$1,000 to the league.
- -Commissioners of Bridgeville will meet with Commissioners of Greenwood to finalize the proposed amendment to the 1989 Bridgeville-Greenwood Sewer Agreement.
- Commission agreed to support HB#83-A Pro posed Assessment on Fines to Support Law Enforcement Technology & Tuition Reimbursement.

#### MINUTES CONT'D-APRIL, 2003

-Commissioners approved the request from North Bridgeville churches to hold a Community Day on September 6, 2003. The closing of North Cannon and Vine Streets was granted. The closing of Church Street will have to be granted by DelDOT but will be supported by the Commission if approved.

-Mr. Nick Rocks and Mr. Bob Rauch, Bridgeville South project developers, announced a detailed site plan should be ready for review in thirty to

sixty days.

-The Commissioners voted to hire Mrs. Bonnie Walls as Town Manager effective July 1, 2003.

#### MAY 12, 2003

- -There were 94 traffic arrests in April and two trucks stopped.
- -Two septic haulers for a revenue of \$2,088.
- -The WWTP was nominated for the Regional O & M Award. Bridgeville WWTP did not receive the award but WWTP personnel, Phillip Mowbray, Rick Passwaters and Doug Jones, were recognized for the nomination at a banquet held at Del Tech.
- -A water service line was repaired at 407 Cedar Street after being accidentally being hit by workman from Chesapeake Utilities.
- -Mrs. Jeanine Scott was presented a proclamation from the Town in her honor for be selected "Delaware's Young Mother Representative of the Year for 2003."
- -During the week of May 9,2003, damage occurred at the park on Delaware Avenue, Post Office, St. Mary's Church and the property at 304 S Main Street and paint damage to several vehicles. A group of young men have been named, with the investigation on-going.
- -The Commissioners decided to schedule a fall Clean Up Day. More information to follow.
- -DelDOT will hold a public meeting on the proposed bicycle/ pedestrian facilities in the Town on June 3, 2003; 4-7 p.m. in the Town Hall.

-An agreement with DelDOT, Suburban Street Aid, was signed for approximately 21 paving and sidewalk repairs in the amount of \$129,630. Necessary funding was awarded to the Town by Senator Thurman Adams and Rep. Benjamin Ewing.

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- -The City of Seaford was in Town on Sat., May 10, 2003 with their street sweeper to clean sand and salt off the streets.
- -A budget workshop for FY'04 is scheduled for Monday, May 29, 2003. Department Heads will meet with the Commissioners to review each line item. A second workshop will be held May 28, 2003. Monday, June 2, 2003, a Special Meeting is scheduled to introduce the Fiscal 2004 Budget. The 2004 Budget will be presented for adoption at the regular monthly Commission meeting on June 9, 2003.
- -Three letters have been filed with the
  Town regarding the unsafe condition of the
  property located at 104 N. Main Street.
  The Dangerous Building Inspection
  Committee will inspect the property and
  submit their findings to the Commission.
- -Mr. Nick Rocks, Bridgeville South developper, advised he hopes to present site plans at the June Commission meeting.
- -On May 22, 2003 Bridgeville will have two Police Officers, Adam Hitchens and Christopher Story, graduate from the Delaware Police Academy. The Town will have five full-time officers which includes the chief, allowing the Town to have twenty-four hour, seven day coverage.
- -Police Commissioner Jefferson reported his department continues to patrol the Church Street area regarding loitering, gambling and drugs. Officers will continue to make appropriate arrests.

#### **JUNE 9, 2003**

- There were 130 traffic arrests and one truck

#### MINUTES-CONT'D-JUNE, 2003

- stopped during May.
- -Two septic haulers for a revenue of \$1,990.
- -A new hydromatic submersible sewage pump was installed at the lift station located at the Bridgeville Plaza (Rts. 404 & 13).
- -Commissioners approved the FY'04 Budget totaling \$1,580,647.
- -Ordinance No. A03-5-An ordinance regarding increases in the building permits was adopted.
- -Highlights of The Town of Bridgeville was presented by the Commission.
- -Two new officers, Adam Hitchens and Chris Story graduated from the State Police Academy on May 22, 2003. Officer Adam Coleman recently returned from military tour of duty in Saudi Arabia. Starting July 3, 2003 Bridgeville will have 24 hour, seven day a week police coverage.
- -This is the 56th consecutive month without a NPDES violation at the WWTP.
- -Chief Parsons attended a seminar sponsored by the Delaware Emergency Management Operations on June 5th relating to emergencies that might face the State and steps that have set in place to handle the situations.
- -Revised recommendations for the Bridgeville-Greenwood Sewer Agreement were discussed.
- -A budget allows for a hydrogeological study on a parcel of land for spray irrigation will be started in the near future
- Commissioners will hold a public hearing on June 24, 2003 on a request to open a Home Décor Business at 419 S Main Street. Application filed by Lisa Miltenberger.
- Mr. Bob Ruach and Mr. Nick Rocks, Bridgeville South Developers, presented their site plans for the new development. The developers are in the process of obtaining construction permits and applications and expect to begin infrastructure work and construction of the golf course by December of this year.

# FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK.....



The Commission is please to report the adoption of our Fiscal Year 2004 Budget. This is the largest operational budget in Bridgeville's history at \$1,580,647 dollars. It is being done without any increase in property or capitation taxes. There are a number of highlights to this budget and I will mention a few. A complete list of these highlights and a copy of the budget are available at the Town Hall.

The FY'04 Budget provides funds that will allow the Bridgeville Police Department to begin patrolling our Town 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Funds are provided to hire a part time Code Enforcement Officer. For the first time in a long time Bridgeville will have an individual available to enforce our regulations in zoning, solid waste, abandoned and unlicensed vehicles, grass cutting, and occupancy violations in rental units. We will have our first Town Manager since the late Cliff Laverty with the promotion of Mrs. Bonnie Walls, Director of Development to that position. Anticipating the beginning of the new development to our South, transfer tax revenues will exceed \$100,000. Through this budget we will continue to go after those who owe the Town back property and capitation taxes. Almost \$10,000 in back taxes have been collected

This budget provides the necessary funding to renovate the existing green house at the Waste Water Treatment Facility to not only accommodate sludge drying but to provide a storage area for salt that will be used on our streets for snow control. Through the use of salt we will be able to eliminate the use of sand on our streets thus avoiding the after storm clean up that sand requires.

In FY 2005 in order to be eligible for State grants in the law enforcement area, the starting salary for a Bridgeville Police Officer must be \$28,000. We have begun the phase-in of this sal-

#### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK-CON'T:

\$26,500. These increases will make Bridgeville competitive with the other municipalities thus allowing us to retain our policemen. We will continue our eligibility for grants that this year totaled \$39,220, all for only \$6,000 this fiscal year. We will also receive a Federal Grant through the "COPS" Program sponsored by Senator Joseph Biden; this year that grant will total \$26,475.

Finally, through the efforts of Senator Thurman Adams, Jr. and Representative Ben Ewing the Town will receive \$129,630 in Suburban Street Aid Funds that will allow us to hopefully do 20 projects involving streets, alleys, and sidewalks throughout Town.

On Monday, June 9, 2003, the preliminary plans for the annexed area south of Bridgeville were approved by the Town Commission. Phase 1 of this project will include 245 homes, a championship golf course, community building, and pro shop. The full plans are on display at the Town Hall in the Commissioner's Chambers. Feel free to visit that site and see for yourself the future of our great Town. If all goes right, the golf course will be ready or play in late 2005 and our first new residents will join us in 2006 just about the same time as the realigned intersection of Routes 13 and 404 come on line.

Joe Conaway

BRIDGEVILLE PUBLIC LIBRAY

SUMMER READING PROGRAM BEGINS JUNE 10, 2003

All children will want to sign up for the Summer Reading Program. Karen Johnson, Youth Services Librarian, has scheduled some great programs and fun activities; there are lots of reading prizes to give away and many new books to read.

Each child reading for prizes should have a Sussex County Library Card, and check out all books from the Bridgeville Library. Anyone is welcome to attend the activities or programs scheduled. Programs are held at St. Mary's Episcopal Church on William Street. All the programs start at 11:00 a.m.

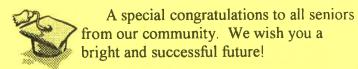
and should last about one hour and half. If a child is just visiting for a few weeks, they can get a temporary card for the Summer Reading Program. SIGN UP AND START READNG FOR PRIZES ON JUNE 10th.!

#### **COMMUNITY BRIEFS.....**

#### **CONGRATULATIONS:**

Mrs. Jeanine G. Scott was selected as "Delaware's Young Mother of the Year for 2003". Jeanine also received a Certificate of Excellence by American Mothers, Inc. for her service through Culture Arts.

Mrs. Rita Hovermale was selected "Teacher of the Year" for the Woodbridge School District...



#### **GOOD EAT'N IS BACK!!**

The Kiwanis Club Chicken BBQ is open every weekend through September. The BBQ is located approximately five miles west of Town on Rt. 404.

The Lions/Lioness Food Booth will open July 4 & 5 and remain open every weekend through August. The menu includes: oyster sandwiches, homemade crab cakes, fries, hot dogs, hamburgs and cold sodas. The trailer is located on South Main Street just after the Shore Stop.

#### APPLE-SCRAPPLE FESTIVAL

No. 12 is right around the corner. The festival committee is working to make this another great year. As the event grows more volunteers are needed and more work has to be done. If you are willing to give a little (or a lot) time to this wonderful event, contact Bonne (337-7275) or Alma (629-9582) for more info. **OCTOBER 10 & 11** 

#### **IMPORTANT**

\* The following amendment to Article IX, Section 234-43 of the Town of Bridgeville Zoning Ordinance was adopted by the Commission on May 12, 2003. ORDINANCE NO. A03-4:

No zoning permits, certificates of occupancy or building permits shall be issued or any applications for changes of zoning, conditional uses, variances, or special exceptions be accepted unless all taxes, assessments, service charges, or fees due the Town are paid and in good standing and all the subject property does not otherwise violate any Bridgeville code.

\* An ordinance to increase building permit fees was adopted on June 9, 2003 by the Commissioners, ORDINANCE NO. A03-5:

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Current:	Up to \$1,000	\$10.00
	Per \$1,000 after that	2.00
New Fees:	Up to \$1,000	\$20.00
	Per \$1,000 after that	4.00

THINK OF OTHERS...

For persons who walk their dogs, please do not allow them to defecate in other people's yards. Either take a plastic bag or a "pooper-scooper" for clean up when out for your daily walks.

Contact has been made with the SPCA and unannounced visits will be made to handle the situation of dogs running at large. Please be sure your dog is controlled at all times. Be fair to your neighbors and keep your dog safe by keeping them controlled.

HAVE A SAFE SUMMMER....

#### POOL OWNERS.....

For those who will be filling swimming pools this summer, there are metered hoses available at the Town Hall. The metered hose allows you to fill your pool only charging for water used. Pool meters may be kept out for four (4) days at a time. Call the office, 337-7135, to reserve a meter.



I INVENTED IT TO MOW THE LAWN IN ALL THIS WET DELAWARE WEATHER.

\* \* \* \* \* \*

#### HOW TO STAY YOUNG.....

- Throw out nonessential numbers. This includes age, weight and height. Let the doctor worry about them. That is why you pay him/her.
- Keep only cheerful friends. The grouches pull you down.
- Enjoy the simple things.
- Surround yourself with what you love, whether it's family, pets, keepsakes, music,plants, hobbies, whatever. Your home is your refuge.
- AND ALWAYS REMEMBER: Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.

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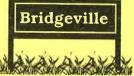
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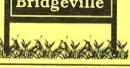
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