

THE JOURNAL

BRIDGEVILLE, DELAWARE

VOLUME 24 CHAPTER 604

APR/MAY/JUNE 2004



CONCERTS IN THE PARK

The Bridgeville Historical Society and Lions Club will host the following bands in the park, at the corner of Delaware Avenue and William Street. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy the music.

July 8 -Delaware Army National Guard-7:00 pm

July 28-Pink Grass (ladies' blue grass)7:00 pm

Aug. 18-Milford Community Band- 6:30 pm

* CHECK CONCERT TIMES

In case of rain, concerts will be moved to Woodbridge High School Auditorium—no cancellations!

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK....

Things are really poppin' in Bridgeville! Construction at Heritage Shores is well underway.



Construction in this first phase includes 171 homes, the 40,000 square foot club house and the golf course. Phase II construction will closely follow this first phase until the beginning and ending of each phase will blend together. Allen and Rocks, developer of the subdivision, has also announced that Arthur Hill, one of the top five golf course designers in the nation, will put the finishing touches on our golf course. With the addition of the Bridgeville course, Sussex County will have its third nationally recognized designer golf course (The Peninsula and Bayside Americana are the other two).

The Bridgeville Commission is pleased to announce the adoption of its Fiscal 2005 Budget. Again, this budget is the largest in Bridgeville's history and it will continue to grow as Heritage Shores is developed. Growing budgets almost always mean increased taxes and fees, but this is not the case in Bridgeville. Because of our planned growth, the Commission was able to eliminate our

Capitation Tax, a tax by and large paid by residential property owners, and to cut the monthly water meter fee in half. These cuts will result in an annual savings to the average family in Bridgeville of \$72. When you add that to the rebate in County Taxes proposed by the Sussex County Council, the residents of Bridgeville will save over \$100 in taxes and fees this year. Thank County Councilman Finley Jones the next time you see him. Planned growth, as we have here in Bridgeville, and as practiced by the Sussex County Council, has resulted in tax savings for all of us.

The FY-05 Budget also includes a number of other features. A list of the highlights of this budget can be found elsewhere in the Journal. Let me point out some of the things that have been or will be done in Fiscal 2005. We have repaid the \$200,000 operational loan executed by a previous Commission to pay bills. We will be adding a sixth policeman. With the addition of the present police trainee to our force in June, we will have two police officers available on some shifts. Two new police vehicles are being purchased. A number of capital improvements to the Town Hall are planned, including an outside sign to keep residents informed of the happenings in Bridgeville. We are developing our own website. There will be a number of improvements to our waste water treatment facility. And again, thanks to Senator Thurman Adams and Representative Ben Ewing, a number of street and sidewalk improvements are planned.

In addition, a number of new ordinances have also been adopted. They include new regulations for swimming pools, abandoned or inoperable vehicles, signs, and new single and dual meter pits.

Bridgeville, the Town with a Vision and a great place to call home.

Joe Conaway

MINUTES FROM THE MONTHLY COMMISSION MEETINGS:

APRIL 12, 2004:

- There were 193 traffic arrests; 32 criminal arrests; and 3 trucks stopped in town.
- It was the 66th consecutive month without an NPDES violation at the WWTP.
- National Water Works representatives held a field demonstration on radio read water meter equipment on April 14th.
- Recent vandalism in several neighborhoods was discussed with residents. The Commission assured the town will prosecute offenders.
- Commissioner Jefferson and Chief Parsons will address the need throughout the community with an assertive plan.
- Mr. Nick Rocks, developer of Heritage Shores, announced the signing of golf course designer Mr. Arthur Hill. Phase I will include the grading of the golf course and the entire Heritage Shores community. Mr. Rocks advised a number of homes should be built and ready for occupancy by October, 2004.
- Sussex County Emergency Medical Services will relocate to the former visitor's center (Rt. 13) along with the Delaware State Police (Troop 5).
- President Conaway, Commissioner Correll, and Town Manager Walls presented a check for \$2,000 to the Bridgeville Public Library on March 31st for the installation of new railings.
- Construction of the salt building is to begin the middle to end of May, 2004.
- Ordinance No. A04-4-An Ordinance to Regulate Swimming Pools was adopted by the Commission. The Ordinance pertains to required fencing, self-latching gates, set backs, building lines, and drainage from pools.
- Ordinance No. A04-3: An Ordinance to Amend the Code by Adding Provisions Regulating Abandoned or Inoperable Vehicles was adopted by the Commission. If an order is issued for removal by the police, expenses will be the responsibility of the owner of the vehicle plus cost of prosecution.
- The Commission adopted Ordinance No. A04-2:

- An Ordinance to Amend Zoning, Article III, by Regulating the Placement of Signs. The Ordinance allows no sign to be erected that will obstruct the view of motorists and pedestrians.
- Senator Adams and Rep. Ewing have introduced two bills for legislative action as requested by the town. The first being House Bill No. 372 which pertains to abatement of town property taxes, Section 27 of the Town Charter-the tax abatement would eliminate an exemption of ten years from taxation of town business establishments employing ten or more employees, annexing into town limits. The second bill is to change the title of "Town Treasurer", Section 20 of the Town Charter, to "Finance Director".
- During the recent Lions Club Variety Show, President Conaway was presented with the Annual Lions Club Citizen's Award for his dedicated service to the Town, County and State.

MAY 10, 2004:

- There were 223 traffic arrests for April.
- This was the 67th consecutive month at the WWTP without a NPDES violation.
- Town Commissioners, Town Manager Walls, and Public Works personnel met with representatives from National Water Works for a demonstration on radio read water meters on April 14th.
- Town Manager Walls and Water Superintendent Jones were in Rehoboth on April 27th to witness a radio field demonstration.
- Transformers were changed at Well #2-2D on May 5th.
- An application was submitted by Charles Royal for a conditional use to open at daycare and learning center at 219 First Street.
- Mr. Nick Rocks, developer of Heritage Shores, advised the actual starting date for the subdivision is scheduled for May 17, 2004 which includes the pump station and on-site work for 171 homes. The clubhouse will be 40,000 square feet with a tentative opening date for the clubhouse and golf course of Labor Day, September, 2005.

MAY MINUTES CON'T:

The "one-time limb burning" is scheduled for May 11, 2004 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.-drop off location will be the wastewater treatment facility.

-President Conaway, Commissioner Correll and Town Manager Walls attended the 2003 Governors Conservation Award and Living Soil Ceremony on April 22, 2004. Recipient for the Sussex County Urban Award were Robert and Casey Rauch of Robert D. Rauch & Associates, Inc. for their Heritage Shores project.

-The General Assembly of The State of Delaware passed the request by the town to amend Chapter 27, Volume 51, Laws of Delaware, which repeals that portion of Section 27 of the Town Charter, pertaining to abatement of town property taxes. The tax abatement would eliminate an exemption of ten years from taxation of town business establishments employing ten or more employees annexing into town limits.

-The General Assembly of The State of Delaware passed House Bill No. 336 which amends the Town Charter, Chapter 237, changing the title of the town's "Treasurer" to "Finance Director". The title better describes the responsibilities of the position.

-Presented for a first reading was an amendment to Chapter 128, Fees Established. The amendment would delete the amount of single meter pit of \$400 and dual meter pit of \$525 and increase the cost for single meter pit to \$525 and a dual meter pit to \$625. The second and final reading is scheduled for the June Commission meeting.

-Town Manager Walls and Finance Director Savage presented the proposed FY-05 Budget for review during a workshop held at 5:30 p.m. on May 10th. President Conaway scheduled a Special Meeting for May 18, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. to introduce the proposed FY-05 budget; a Special Meeting was scheduled for June 1, 2004 for the adoption of the FY-05 Budget.

-President Conaway and Town Manager Walls met with DNREC to discuss results of examinations and investigations relating to properties for spray irrigation. The properties reviewed under the contract should be capable of supporting the town's wastewater disposal needs through 2024.

-Based on the town's projected growth, the town will be able to treat, with 70% of the fields being acceptable and using a rate of one inch/week over a period of 34 weeks, the town will be able to apply 482 million gallons of treated wastewater on the fields. The WWTP plan forecasts a need of 322 million gallons by 2024, allowing for growth.

-A letter of complaint was received concerning two abandoned mobile homes located at 603 N. Cannon Street. The complaint was submitted to the Dangerous Building Inspection Committee for the inspection process per Ordinance A03-2.

-The Dangerous Building Inspection Committee is working with the town's attorney regarding the abandoned home located at 104 N. Main Street.

JUNE 14, 2004:

-There were 602 traffic arrests reported for May.

-On June 9 construction started on the new sewer force main. Teal Construction started laying sewer pipe at the WWTP.

-The Consumer Confidence Report will be mailed to all residents approximately the week of June 14th.

-The Commission adopted Ordinance No. A04-5 which amends the cost of meter pits as follows: Single-\$400 to \$525; Dual-\$500 to \$625.

-Seaford will be hosting The Moving Wall, Vietnam Replica, starting September 14, 2004 at the Industrial Sports Complex.

-Discussion was held on formulating a Neighborhood Crime Watch Program. A meeting has been scheduled for July 1, 2004. All residents are encouraged to attend.

-An application for a zoning change was submitted by Kathleen Passwaters for the property located at 418 Walnut Street. A conditional use request was submitted by Charles Royal for the property located at 219 First Street. The Commissioners have scheduled a meeting for Thursday, June 24, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall.

-The Dangerous Building Committee submitted a report concerning the property located at 603 North Cannon Street. Procedures will be taken to correct stated problems per Ordinance #A03-2.

-The revitalization of the park located at the corner of Market and Main Streets will soon be under way- a new sign, flower beds, lighting, etc.

KIWANIS CLUB NEWS

"BARBECUE MAKE OVER"-The "old oak tree" at our barbecue stand has been cut down due to extensive ice storm damage and disease. It was estimated to be approximately 170+ years old.

In addition, a new 30' x 56' pavilion has been built at the BBQ area and hopefully will provide for the needs of our patrons.

The existing BBQ pit and shelter along with the existing storage building received improvements also. A 9 1/2 foot square walk-in cooler has been purchased from the Woodbridge School District and is now in service.

The BBQ began in 1961 by the Greenwood Kiwanis Club at a location near the fire tower at the state line on Rt. 404. It moved to the present location in 1963. Sales were so good, the Greenwood Club invited the Bridgeville Kiwanis Club to share one half of the season, which now operates from the first weekend in May and every weekend through September. The Greenwood Kiwanis Club turned in their charter in 1991, and the Bridgeville Kiwanis members have operated the chicken BBQ ever since.

Few changes have been made in the forty plus years; but as we enter this new century we need to move forward to serve our customers better and hopefully improved the looks of our facility.

At the present time, the Club shares the BBQ season on weekends with 13 community organizations to assist them with their fund raising efforts. These organizations must support other children and youth programs in the Bridgeville/Greenwood area.

The Club has, this year, installed new American flags along the main streets of town. This project started in the spring of 1991 as an outward expression of one of the objects of Kiwanis International. "To co-operate in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism which make possible the increase of righteousness, justice, patriotism and good will".

The Club sponsored a Home Decorating Contest on Memorial Day. This project was a way to help us remember the true meaning of the day...a special time set aside by our nation to recognize those persons that sacrificed their lives so that we may continue to enjoy freedom everyday.

HOME DECORATING WINNERS:

1st Place— Mr. and Mrs. Joe Conaway

2nd Place— Mr. and Mrs. Bill Boyles

3rd Place— Mr. and Mrs. Dustin Knepper

HONORABLE MENTION

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Driscoll

Mr. Martin Thomas and Mr. Michael

Ballenger

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Richey

Congratulations to all and a special thanks to the Kiwanis Club.

WELCOME NEW HOMEOWNERS

Mr. William Davis

Ms. Leslie Vera

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Richardson

Mr. Ian Macpherson

Mr. Justin Moore

Ms. Jennifer Tringali

Mr. and Mrs. Brian Sweetman

Mr. Mark Yoder

BUSINESS UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP

Curves-L. E. A. Workout, Inc.

117 Market Street

REMINDERS

No outdoor burning within town limits.

When remodeling and not sure if a building permit is required, call the town office for information on permits.

Commission meetings are held the second Monday of each month in the Town Hall, 101 N. Main Street at 7:00 P.M. Meetings are open to the public.

If you see any stray dogs in your neighborhood, contact the SPCA at 856-6361.



IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR.....

To avoid violation and a possible penalty, grass must not exceed a height of eight (8) inches at any time of the calendar year. No owner of land shall permit the unregulated growth of vegetation, including but not limited to weeds, grass, hedges, bushes or shrubs, to be maintained on any property within the corporate limits of town. Obstruction and visibility of public ways is prohibited.

To avoid clogging the storm drains, please recycle all grass trimmings.

* * * * *

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

A Neighborhood Crime Watch meeting will be held Thursday, July 1, 2004 beginning at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Town Hall and we need your participation and support. Please plan on attending.

Seaford will be hosting The Moving Wall starting September 14, 2004 at the Industrial Sports Complex. The Moving Wall is an exact 1/2 scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial located in Washington, D.C. It has been traveling the United States since 1984. The Moving Wall was constructed for the sole purpose of SHARING. It brings with it education, honor, respect, a source of healing, and powerful emotions to those visiting it.

The Moving Wall is strictly not for profit and is open to the public twenty-four hours a day and no admission is charged. Contributions are accepted and staffing at The Moving Wall is all volunteered time. If you are interested in helping or have questions, please call Mr. Spuck Bennett at 629-6161.

Robert and Casey Rauch, engineers for the new development, were the recipients of the 2003 Governor's Conservation Award and The Living Soil for the Sussex County Urban Award for Heritage Shores. Our congratulations to them!

As Commissioner President Conaway has stated, construction of Heritage Shores is underway. This is a very exciting time for Bridgeville with the end results so positive. We will in the near future have

a first class development, with golf course & amenities.

Also, the FY-05 Budget is complete!!!! No increases, just savings to our residents as pointed out by Commissioner President Conaway. My personal thanks to the town department heads for doing their best to stay within their budget.

Bonnie S. Walls

* * * * *

DATES TO REMEMBER

- JULY 1 Meeting in Town Hall, 7:00 pm,
RE: Neighborhood Crime Watch
Residents encouraged to attend.
- 5 July 4th Observed-
Town Office Closed
- 8 Concert in the Park, 7:00 pm
- 12 Commission Meeting, 7:00 pm,
Town Hall
- 28 Concert in the Park, 7:00 pm
- AUG. 9 Commission Meeting, 7:00 pm,
Town Hall
- 18 Concert in the Park, 6:30 pm
- SEPT. 6 Labor Day,
Town Office Closed
- 13 Commission Meeting, 7:00 pm,
Town Hall

* * * * *

**WALKING IS A POPULAR FORM OF
EXERCISE THAT LOSES SOME
HAPPINESS WHEN IT IS DONE
BEHIND A LAWN MOWER!**

**TIME IS NOT MEASURED BY THE YEARS
THAT YOU LIVE,
BUT BY THE DEEDS THAT YOU DO
AND THE JOY THAT YOU GIVE...**

MAY POLICE REPORT

Traffic arrests	602
Complaints	131
Complaints Cleared	120

LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS
OPEN FOOD BOOTH

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 Oyster Trailer will be open every weekend (Fri/Sat) starting July 9 through August. Menu: oyster sandwiches, homemade crab cake sandwiches, hot dogs, hamburgs, french fries, and cold drinks.. The "trailer" is located just south of the Shore Shop/ Tony's Pizza on South Main Street.

Please support these organizations, all money earned is returned to the community.

POOL
METERS

Meters available at the Town Hall for pool owners. The metered hose will allow you to fill your pool with water charging only for water used, not a sewer charge. Pool meters must be returned to the office on the fourth day. Call 337-7135 to reserve a meter.

BRIDGEVILLE LIBRARY

2004 SUMMER READING PROGRAM
"DISCOVER NEW TRAILS.....READ!"

The Bridgeville Library invites you to fill your summer with fun and adventure. Programs will be every Tuesday and Thursday at 11:00 a.m. beginning June 22nd. All programs are open to the public and will be held at St. Mary's Parish Hall-North William Street. A Special Family Night is scheduled for Tuesday, August 10th at 6:30 p.m. with a special guest, bluegrass musician Jay Smar. Call 337-7401 for more information.



NEW FLAGS



A special thanks to the Kiwanis Club, Lioness Club, and Lions Club for the purchase of the new American flags on Main, Market and Church Streets.

WORD FIND.....GOOD CLEAN FUN by the bundle is hanging around the breezy washday Word Find...24 words from a laundry list of items that go on a clothesline.

APRONS
BLANKET
BLOUSE
CAPRIS
CUTOFFS
DRESS
HANKIES
JACKET
JEANS
JERSEY
KHAKIS
LINENS
OVERALLS
PAJAMAS
PANTS
PINS
ROMPER
SHEETS
SHIRT
SKIRT
SOCKS
SWIMSUIT
TOWELS
TRUNKS

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T P Z M M K N Q G T L G B H M F S O A
Z I S I I T R A E W Y S O K V E R C N
O N D A O O Z K E M C I S U I K X K B
W S P U M L C R E J G R H K F U Y S U
S C Y P H A Q Y N H D P N Y I E K G O
U K E A J Q J O V S A A E Y M R T V L
J R N R Y K Z A H N H C C M A P T I W
O L O U B F E E P O E T I U S M I W S
P X D V R D E L Q K V F O V U G T W Q
P E W G O T O O I P L E N W V P M C A
E G S S S L S N O R P A R E E H V A T
I A K V O Y T Q G Y J S S A B L U A R
J O S G P E K E N H E N D Z L D S J I
E E Q H K C O D S Q T E S T U L F J H
E Y R N S F F O T U C N S W B X S F S
B M A S D P K G N L O I C D T R E K K
B L Z D E Y Q S A H N L W Q R C X F E
B R F U R Y M O P D N D B A S S E R D

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE TOWN OF BRIDGEVILLE FISCAL 2005 BUDGET

This budget continues to reflect the growth of The Town of Bridgeville and becomes the largest operational budget in our Town's history. This budget trend will continue as Heritage Shores is developed.

No property tax increases are recommended in this budget and in fact, the budget reflects a decrease in taxes and fees paid by the residents of Bridgeville.

This budget eliminates the \$15 Capitation Tax paid by residents of Bridgeville. In addition, it recommends a reduction of the \$7 water meter monthly fee to \$3.50. If these recommendations are adopted, the average family will see a total reduction of \$72 this Fiscal Year in fees and taxes. There has not been a reduction in taxes and fees in a number of years.

This budget reflects the largest amount of carry over funds from a past fiscal year, \$100,000.

This budget reflects the efforts of the Bridgeville's Town Manager, Mrs. Bonnie Walls, and Bridgeville's Finance Director, Mr. Jesse Savage.

This budget reflects the beginning effect of the new Bridgeville subdivision on increased funding for emergency services. The budget projects a \$33,750 grant to the Bridgeville Volunteer Fire Company.

This budget has a minimum of about \$104,985 for contingencies.

This budget funds five full time police officers, Chief of Police, and the addition of a sixth full time officer later this fiscal year. Two new police cars are also provided for in this budget.

This budget contains no interest or principal payments to Greenwood Trust Company. The \$200,000 loan, borrowed by a previous Commission, has been repaid.

This budget continues the grant funding initiated in the Fiscal 2002 Budget for community based organizations including the Bridgeville Volunteer Fire Company, the Bridgeville Library, the Bridgeville Historical Society, the Woodbridge Little League, and the Apple-Scrapple Festival. A small grant to the Western Sussex Boys and Girls Club is also provided for

those who take part in their programs.

This budget provides funds for merit raises for Town employees. Funds are also being provided by adding Blood Bank memberships for Town employees.

This budget continues the ten year maintenance program for the water tower, but at a reduction in cost.

The code book for the town is being updated this year. This budget continues funding updates so that our code book will continue to be current.

This budget funds a number of improvements in the Town Hall including a new informational sign, a town promotional brochure, new carpet, painting, a new telephone system, upgrading the utility software program, and our very own web site.

This budget provides funding to begin the state mandated fluoridation program in our water system.

This budget provides funding for a number of improvements in our wastewater facility—an auxiliary generator, an RBC blower, a pump for the chlorine building, an air compressor, a sludge pump, and painting of the three block buildings.

There will continue to be repairs/repaving to town streets and sidewalks as a result of grants provided by Senator Thurman Adams, Jr. and Representative J. Benjamin Ewing.

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