



TOWN OF BRIDGEVILLE

THE JOURNAL

VOLUME 58 CHAPTER 1210

OCT/NOV/DEC 2010

From the President's Desk

On behalf of all the Commissioners of Bridgeville, I hope all of our residents have had a wonderful Christmas and holiday season. I also wish everyone a prosperous and healthy New Year in 2011.

The Fall season brought special activities and also new faces to Bridgeville; let me highlight these past months.

- The Town welcomed Merritt Burke as its new Town Manager, who has done an excellent job familiarizing himself with all of our departments and researching avenues to curb Town expenses in these tight economic times.
- The Town welcomed Robert Longo as its new Chief of Police, who has spent valuable time securing grants and free equipment for the Police Department.
- The Apple Scrapple Festival had one of the largest turnouts in its 19 year history. A wealth of thanks goes to the Festival Committee for their dedication and the fine job they do in bringing the Festival to life in Bridgeville each year.
- Punkin Chunkin set an attendance record this year. This international event was televised on Thanksgiving Eve and Thanksgiving Night.
- Our thanks goes to the Bridgeville Historical Society for another successful Christmas in Bridgeville Craft Show. This event continues to be one of the best craft shows in the area.
- As you drive down Market St., you will see twelve new benches. Thanks goes to several individuals and businesses for making these benches possible for our downtown pedestrian traffic. Marty Miller of MillerMetal Fabrication constructed the metal frames; Ms. Sandy Smith, formerly of Huttig Building Supply, donated the composite lumber; Messick & Gray donated the hardware and Richard Jefferson helped in assembling the benches. From all the citizens and the Town Commissioners, we thank you for your donations and kindness.
- Thanks also goes to our Public Works employees who worked long hours to clear our streets of snow during the December blizzard and each snowfall since. When you see Rick, Jeff and Phillip, please let them know that we appreciate all they do for the Town.

Bill Jefferson

New Delaware Cell Phone Law

As of January 2nd, Delaware implemented a comprehensive statewide restriction requiring drivers to use a hands-free device to talk on cell phones while driving.

The bill allows a driver to use a headset, speakerphone or other hands-free device, but the driver must then put the phone down while talking. Drivers are forbidden from engaging in other phone-related activities such as text messaging, checking email and browsing websites.

The goal of the new law is to take the phone out of the driver's hands in an effort to avoid being distracted.

Breaking the new cell phone law is considered a "primary offense," which means police officers who spot an offending driver can pull the driver over for that violation alone. Even though the infraction carries no points, the fine is \$50 for a first offense and as much as \$200 for a subsequent violation.

National research shows that drivers using cell phones are four times more likely to get into crashes that cause injury.

Monthly Statistics

Reflects Totals from Month of:	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER
Traffic / Criminal Arrests	207 / 64	249 / 51	356 / 59
Building Permits / Revenue	14 / \$9,324.25	11 / \$15,843.05	10 / \$618.00
Certificates of Occupancy	3	2	2
Untagged / Inoperable Vehicles	3	1	3

Minutes from the Monthly Commission Meetings

October / November / December 2010

Bridgeville's new Town Manager, Mr. Merritt Burke IV was welcomed to the Town. Mr. Burke was born in Milford and raised in Lewes, Delaware. He has earned degrees from Washington College and the University of Delaware.

The Commission acknowledged the successful Heritage Shores Patriot's Day Celebration on September 11th and thanked the coordinator, Mr. John Barr, for an excellent program.

Bridgeville held a very successful 6th Annual National Night Out Celebration in late August with great food and activities for the children.

It was reported the bridge over the branch on N. Main St. underwent important repairs, due to scouring underneath the bottom footers and earth washing away. The Town appreciates Representative Wilson's efforts to expedite the repairs.

The Personnel Policy was amended to include background checks for employment applicants and to widen the type of examinations to determine the physical and mental capabilities of employees.

Mr. Robert Longo took the Oath of Office and was sworn in as the new Bridgeville Chief of Police.

Sussex County Community Block Grant funds aided the Town in demolishing the structure at 24 Church St.

The Anthony and Rosa Carannante property, adjacent to Tony's Pizza and Pasta on S. Main St., was successfully annexed into the Town on September 15th.

The Town should receive a final report concerning the Civic Center Feasibility Study during the month of December.

Bridgeville received \$75,000 in Community Transportation Funds from Senator Booth and Representative Wilson to upgrade handicap curb ramps and catch basins.

The Town has entered into a contract to replace two Rotating Biological Contactors at the Wastewater Treatment Plant through a loan from the state. The total project will likely cost close to \$500,000.

A Final Development Plan was approved by the Commissioners for the 58,000 square feet of commercial space located behind Royal Farms, known as Bridgeville Commons. The next step for the developer is acquiring tenants.

Mr. Marty Miller of MillerMetal Fabrication and Mrs. Sandy Smith, formerly of Huttig Building Supply, were presented Certificates of Appreciation for their assistance in providing 12 benches for the Town to be placed on Market St.

The Delaware Forest Service and Urban & Community Forestry Council approved a Tree Planting Grant for Bridgeville. New dogwood and plum trees will be planted in the spring of 2011 throughout Town.

The Commissioners held a Public Hearing concerning the application for a Community Development Block Grant for housing rehabilitations and demolitions offered to low and moderate income residents. Over the past 17 years, the Town of Bridgeville has received \$1,026,700 in monies for approximately 85 housing rehabs and eight demolitions. This year the Town received \$30,000 for three demolitions. The Town wishes to recognize the important work of the CDBG. This assistance is vital to financially disadvantaged people. It is also a great help to the Town.

Town Manager's Report

Welcome to winter! I just finished a brisk walk around town and could not help but notice how nice all the properties look. It has been a pleasure to serve the community of Bridgeville. Speaking of property maintenance, your Code Enforcement Constable, Mr. Jerry Butler, is working hard to maintain the high quality of life throughout the town.

Lately, we have been working with residents to remove snow in a timely manner. We have also been notifying residents of the new yard waste ban which went into effect on January 1, 2011. To summarize the ban, trash haulers are not allowed to pick up or mix yard waste with solid waste; therefore, if you have any type of yard waste, you will need to personally dispose of it or call a local company to have it removed. Please see page 5 for additional details, or contact Town Hall.

Regarding the Public Works Department, Rick, Phillip, Jeff and Bruce have been working diligently on maintaining the

high quality of water, as well as making sure your wastewater is disposed of properly. In addition, all of the men have been working extra hours to remove snow on Town roads. Several residents have called Town Hall to tell me what a great job they did during the blizzard of 2010! If you have a chance to thank them, please do; I know they would appreciate it.

Financially, the Town is in a good position heading into 2011. We have continued to evaluate our expenses while investigating new ways to increase revenues. I believe the economy will rebound in 2011 which will positively impact connection charges for residential and commercial development.

Lastly, I would like to thank the Bridgeville Police Department for keeping the roads safe and the citizens secure.

Enjoy the cold weather!

Town Manager Merritt Burke

Bridgeville Police Report

Safety Tips

Home Safety

Always lock your doors and windows, even if you are only going to be away for a few minutes.

When leaving Town for vacation or business, have a trusted friend or neighbor take care of your home. Never cancel general deliveries, such as mail, newspapers and other services.

Notify the Police Department when you are planning an absence of three or more days; we can issue a vacation watch or directed patrol for your home. This is in addition to your neighbor watching over your home.

Shopping Safety

Always close the windows and lock your car, even if you are only going to be away for a few minutes.

Always stay alert to your surroundings and the people around you. Look inside your car and around it as you approach.

Be extra careful with purses and wallets. Carry a purse under your arm; keep wallets in an inside pocket.

Walk everywhere with a sense of purpose; show you are calm, confident and know where you are going.

Credit and Identity Safety

If you write checks, submit only essential information (name/address/phone); never provide your social security number.

Safeguard your credit cards and checks; do not leave them in jacket pockets or sitting out in restaurants/stores/hotel rooms.

Make a list of all your credit/debit cards and checks, with account numbers. Keep the list in a secure location at home.

Notify issuers immediately if your credit/debit card is lost, stolen or misused.

Robert J. Longo, Chief of Police

"Working Together to Keep our Families Safe"

Town News

BRIDGEVILLE MUNICIPAL ELECTION NOTICE OF SOLICITATION OF CANDIDATES

Voting Districts Included in this Election
Districts # 1, #4 & #5 ONLY

Candidate Filing Deadline
February 4, 2011

Candidate Qualifications

- U.S. Citizen above age 21; resident of Bridgeville for at least one year.
- Live within Election Voting District they wish to represent.
- No felony convictions.
- Owner of real estate within Town, or wife/husband of the owner of real estate within Town.
- Candidate must file a written letter of intent with Commission President or Secretary by the February 4th deadline.

Voter Registration
Bridgeville Town Hall
Monday - Friday
8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
DEADLINE
February 23, 2011

Municipal Election
Saturday, March 5
Town Hall
Noon - 7:00 PM

Snow Reminders

Shoveling

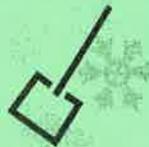
Snow and/or ice must be removed within twenty-four (24) hours of snow/ice ceasing to fall, according to Town Code. The owner or occupant of any building or lot abutting a public sidewalk is responsible to keep it clear of snow/ice.

Additionally, In order for your letter carrier to deliver your mail promptly and provide you with uninterrupted services, residents must clear the approach to the mailbox.

If you are out of Town for an extended period of time during the winter, you must make arrangements for your sidewalks to be shoveled in your absence.

Snow Plowing / Salting of Roads

Residents having access to their yard from an alleyway must park their vehicles there. If a driveway does not exist, all residents must move vehicles to the even-numbered side of the street as soon as snow/ice begins to fall. When the odd-numbered side has been cleared of snow/ice, residents must move vehicles to the odd-numbered side of the street. This will allow the Town to clear the streets completely without the need for residents to shovel their respective parking spaces.



Rental Properties Owners:

Rental Inspections/Licensing in Effect

Bridgeville has recently adopted an Ordinance requiring the registration and licensing of all residential rental units within the Town. This includes rental of single family homes, duplexes, apartments, etc.

All residential rental property owners must obtain a rental unit license from the Town. An annual fee of \$25.00 per bedroom will be charged and a Code Enforcement inspection of each rental unit must be conducted before a license may be issued. Please stop by or call the Bridgeville Town Hall (302.337.7135) for license application paperwork.

The inspection includes, but is not limited to the working condition of the following:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Electric/Heating | Plumbing | Smoke Detector |
| Windows | Water Heater | Appliances |
| Lead Paint Disclosure | General Conditions | |

The fine for non-compliance of this Ordinance is \$50.00 for each offense plus an administrative fee of \$250.00.

The intention of the licensing procedure is to protect both the owners and renters in the Town of Bridgeville

Town News

New Faces on the Block

Bridgeville is Growing!

We Welcome our New Property/Home Owners

Canvasback Circle:

The Alfred Mjaanes
The Jerome Schorrs
The Robert Wilks

Ruddy Duck Lane.:

The George Burrows
The Brian Georges

South Main Street:

The Tony Carannantes

Amanda's Teal Drive:

The Scott Fones

Emily's Pintail Drive:

L. Turner & William Mason
The Rolland Stroups
The Elwood Watkins

Whistling Duck Drive:

George Murray
Richard Novicki
The Robert Pfaus

Walnut Street:

Victoria Downes
The Johnathon Pearsons

Water Meter Readings & Billing

Please be advised Bridgeville is changing its monthly meter reading and billing dates. In the future, water meters will be read as close to the 30th of the month as possible. Bills will be mailed as close to the 5th of the following month and payment will be due on the 25th of the month. (This schedule will be adjusted slightly when these dates fall on a weekend.)

This change allows residents to track their water usage on a calendar-month basis.

Yard Waste Ban / Recycling

The following article includes critical changes for the Town brought about by the Delaware Solid Waste Authority (DSWA) concerning yard waste and a state law concerning recycling signed by Governor Markell earlier this year.

Yard Waste Ban

Effective January 1st, yard waste was banned from disposal in DSWA's Sussex landfill near Georgetown. Yard waste contributes nearly one fourth of the residential waste that goes into landfills and includes all plant materials resulting from lawn maintenance and landscaping – grass clippings, leaves, brush, garden materials, Christmas trees and tree limbs up to four inches in diameter. The ban encourages the recycling of the estimated 30,000 tons of yard waste deposited each year in Delaware's landfills.

The Town will not be offering yard waste pick-up service for Bridgeville residents; however, we recommend you contact the Town's contractual waste hauler, M-T Trash. They are formulating a possible plan to offer a yard waste pick-up service to Bridgeville residents. Contact Mr. Mike Stang at 337-7700. M-T Trash's ability to offer the service will likely be contingent on the amount of interest shown by Bridgeville residents in a yard waste pick-up service. Additional fees will apply.

IMPORTANT: After January 1, yard waste may not be co-mingled with your regular trash and cannot be placed at curbside to be picked with regular trash collection by M-T Trash or any other private waste hauler.

A list of private trash haulers who will collect yard waste and yard waste disposal sites can be found online. Visit www.dnrec.delaware.gov/yardwaste/ (See "Yard Waste Collection Options"). Sussex County options are found at the end of the list.

For those who are interested in disposing of their yard waste themselves, please visit www.dnrec.delaware.gov/yardwaste/ ("Yard Waste Drop-off Options"). This option allows you to bring yard waste to a separate location at the Jones Road Landfill near Georgetown or to the Bridgeville Collection Station on Polk Rd. (with tickets purchased in advance). Yard waste taken to these locations will be recycled into mulch and compost for the standard DSWA tipping fee. Visit www.dswa.com for more information.

Universal Recycling

Governor Markell's new Universal Recycling law will require Delaware municipalities and private trash haulers to provide curbside recycling services to all their single-family, residential customers by September 15, 2011. The Town and its waste hauler will be discussing plans to provide Bridgeville garbage collection recycling services for customers with a separate recycling receptacle. Recycling remains optional; it is not mandatory for residents.

Effective April 1, 2011 DSWA will stop its single-stream curbside recycling service. DSWA will continue to offer single stream recycling drop-off locations, such as the facility at Bridgeville Town Hall.

Community Activities

Bridgeville Historical Society News

BHS welcomes new members interested in preserving and displaying the history of Bridgeville and the Northwest Fork Hundred communities. Applications for membership are available at the Bridgeville Public Library and Town Hall.

Donations of items related to the history of our area are welcomed. If you have photographs/documents to share, please contact us. Items can be scanned if you wish to keep the original.

Friends of the Bridgeville Library

New Flagpole The U.S. and Delaware flags are flying proud in front of the Bridgeville Library, due to a joint community effort of the Friends Group, the Library Trustees, Kiwanis, Lions, Representative Wilson and Senator Booth.

Upcoming Events

- February 8 Thinking Spring - Master Gardener
Linda Peters 7 PM
- March 19 Celtic Harvest Band 3 PM
- April 7 Celebrating Shakespeare's Birthday 7 PM
Presented by "New Faces of Shakespeare"

**All Events Take Place in the Library Meeting Room
Free and Open to All**

Bridgeville Public Library News

Story Time 2-4 Year Olds - Tuesdays, 11 AM

4-6 Year Olds - Thursdays, 11 AM

Lap Sit 3 Month Olds-2 Year Olds - Wednesdays, 10 AM

Family Nights 6:30 - 8 PM

February 15 / March 15 / April 19

Great Backyard Bird Count February 18-21 Join the library in this activity. Visit www.birdsource.org/gbbc/ to learn more. We urge residents of all ages to participate. Bird watching kits are available for checkout from the library in February and are made possible by the Friends of the Bridgeville Library.

Genealogy Discussion Group 3rd Wednesday Monthly, 10:30 AM
The March meeting will be moved to Saturday, March 19th at 10 AM for a seminar on Scot-Irish genealogy by Lisa Kerr Ilowite. A lunch will be served with an Irish music presentation to follow.

Library Closings: February 21 April 22, 23

For more Information, Call the Library at 337-7401.

Kiwanis Club of Bridgeville News

Kiwanis Christmas Lights We hope everyone in Town and those passing through have enjoyed the Kiwanis Christmas lights on our main streets. Thanks to the dedication and hard work of our Christmas Lights Committee and the Woodbridge High School Key Club, we continue to keep the tradition alive, which began over 50 years ago.

Upcoming Events In January the Kiwanians will host their annual Honor Veterans Dinner and in February, another annual event, the Kiwanis Farm-City Night will honor area agri-businessmen and women. In March the club will celebrate its annual Charter Night and mark its 72nd anniversary with guests and dignitaries from throughout the Kiwanis district.

Christmas Decorating Contest Winners

The Kiwanians wish to thank all residents for their festive decorations and for participating in the decorating contest. The winning households are listed below.

Joe Ewald	Will's Island Dr.	The Ralph Dixons	First St.
Ruth Lacy	Delaware Ave.	The Robert Richeys	S. Main St.
Grayson Woods	Jacobs Ave.	Ms. Catherine Ross	N. Cannon St.

It has been the Club's privilege to serve the Bridgeville Community and the Woodbridge School District area youth for another year. Happy New Year to All!

Contact For more information, please contact President Jerry Williams at 349-9423 or Secretary Sonny Hardesty at 337-7070.

Lions / Lioness Club News

Christmas Time The Lions and Lioness members wish to thank all who helped us with our project of helping those "less fortunate" at Christmas time. We provided a number of families with food, toys, clothes and gifts. These families, most with children, would have had little or no Christmas to cheer about without our assistance. The Lioness also distributed gifts to patients at Lofland and Seaford Center Nursing Homes with no family members to provide for them at Christmas.

Looking Ahead The Lions Club Annual Show will take place on March 11 & 12, 2011. The Lions are starting to put the show together and it promises to be another fine evening's entertainment. Please come and support the Lions. Our proceeds go to those "less fortunate" and to community-wide projects.

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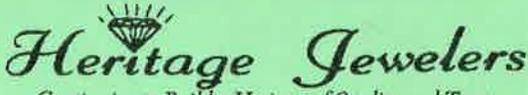
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7:00 - Community Connections

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TOWN OF BRIDGEVILLE

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Important Dates to Remember

February

- 4** Candidate Filing Deadline
Bridgeville Municipal Election
(Election Districts #1, #4 and #5 only)
- 8** Friends of the Library Gardening Program
Library Meeting Room 7 PM
- 14** Mthly Commission Meeting Town Hall, 7 PM
- 14-18** Mthly Street Cleaning
- 15** Bridgeville Library Family Night 6:30 PM
- 18** Woodbridge - No School for Students
- 18-21** Great Backyard Bird Count Bridgeville Library
- 21** President's Day Town Offices/
Library/Woodbridge Schools Closed
- 23** Voter Registration Deadline
Bridgeville Municipal Election
Election Districts #1, #4 & #5 only)

March

- 5** Bridgeville Municipal Election
Election Districts #1, #4 & 5 only
Voting: Noon - 7 PM
- 6** Bridgeville Fire Company Dinner
Noon - 5 PM Fire Hall
- 11-12** Lions Club Show 7 PM Woodbridge H.S.
- 13** Daylight Saving Time Begins
- 14** Mthly Commission Meeting Town Hall 7 PM
- 14-18** Mthly Street Cleaning
- 15** Bridgeville Library Family Night 6:30 PM
- 18** Woodbridge - No School for Students
- 19** Library Genealogy Seminar 10 AM
Friends of the Library Celtic Harvest Band
Library Meeting Room 3 PM
- 26** Court of Appeals 1-2 PM