



Our Community, Our Neighborhood, Our Town

ABERDEEN UPDATE

Fall 2013

The Official Newsletter of Aberdeen Township

www.aberdeennj.org

Solar delivering strong savings

When Township officials and partner Nexus Energy Solutions (NES) officially turned on the power launching a state-of-the-art 557,000-KWh solar installation earlier this year, chief goals were to save on Aberdeen's electrical bills and advance the cause of sustainability. The initial numbers are in, and the Township is already seeing substantial savings.

"Comparing a three-month period from last year to this year, we have seen a \$15,000 savings in our electric bills attributed to the installation of the solar panels at the five sites," said Robert Brady, Director of Public Works. "In addition to the financial benefits of this installation are the environmental benefits achieved through renewable energy."

Completed without expenditure of municipal funds, the five-site installation is operating under the terms of a 15-year Power Purchase Agreement between the Township and NES. Projected savings over that 15-year term are pegged at \$750,000, with considerable additional savings

Continued p 4

The Glassworks:

"An exciting, productive addition to our community"



The Glassworks' 'Main Street'-style retail area will include merchants, service shops and restaurants.

The former Anchor Glass site, which has stood fallow for years in Cliffwood, will soon be reborn as The Glassworks, Somerset Development's mixed-use proposal just approved by the Aberdeen Township Planning Board. Approval, which includes razing the existing factory buildings, calls for a "Main Street" concept for the 51 acres, encompassing 75,000 square feet of retail space, a 110-room hotel, a three- or four-screen movie theater, 500 residential units (including 110 affordable units), and nine acres of parks and open space.

"The Glassworks will be an exciting and productive addition to Aberdeen," said Mayor Fred Tagliarini. "With its combination of homes and shopping, it will be a true mixed-use community. The Council is very excited that the work of the Planning Board is bringing this project to

fruition, and we look forward to the factory coming down and the site cleaned up."

"It will be a wonderful project, and I am ecstatic that the factory, which has not been operative for many years, is going to be taken down," added Deputy Mayor Margaret Montone. "The Glassworks is going to be a great asset to the community."

While the factory will be demolished, historic vestiges will remain – specifically, three towering smokestacks. "In all our projects, we strive to retain some of the site's history," said Tom Michnewicz, vice president-development of the Lakewood-based Somerset. "The stacks are part of the original plant, and after demonstrating that they're safe, will become an integral part of the project as the focal point of the two-acre Glassworks

Continued p 4

Contents

- 2-Road fixes continue
- 2-Brush pickups expanded
- 2-Sign up for alerts
- 2-Recycling on rise
- 3-Aberdeen Day scenes
- 3-Public Info office
- 3-Outdoor dining coming

Road fixes continue

Aberdeen's ongoing road improvement program saw the completion of several projects, while plans are underway for future roadwork throughout town.

Projects recently completed by the township include the reconstruction of Northland Ln. (from Lloyd Rd.



Councilmen Robert Swindle (l.) and James Lauro visit NJDOT road construction site on Rte. 35 and Cliffwood Ave.

to Noble Pl.), and Canfield Ln. (from Courtland Ln. to Cambridge Dr.), as well as a complete mill and overlay of South Atlantic Ave. between Rte. 34 and Chilton Ln.

Looking ahead, in a project funded by the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), work is on tap for the continuation of the sidewalk project on the northbound side of Rte. 34, with this latest phase completing the area extending from

Sign up for alerts

Residents and businesses are reminded to sign up for emergency and other alerts via the CodeRED Emergency Notification System and Nixle, Aberdeen's newest communications tool to reach the community with important information.

Nixle provides low level notifications by e-mail and text. Code Red—used mainly for emergencies and other important community matters—utilizes phone, e-mail and text.

Brookview Ln. to the Henry Hudson Trail.

Additionally, bids are being requested for reconstruction projects on Raritan St. in Cliffwood Beach and Beaver Pl. in Strathmore, along with mill and overlay and drainage work on Delaware Ave. in Cliffwood.

Meanwhile, the NJDOT began work in September on the long-awaited project designed to prevent flooding and improve safety along a 1.25-mile stretch of Rte. 35 between Greenwood Dr. in Aberdeen and Prospect Ave. in Old Bridge.

"With an anticipated completion date of fall 2015, this major safety improvement and congestion relief project by the state will raise this flood prone section of the highway by as much as four feet," noted Councilman James Lauro, who had been in discussions with NJDOT about the roadway for

years in his prior role as Aberdeen's long-time Director of Public Works. The project also includes roadway rehabilitation, widening, drainage and safety enhancements.

"Like many residents of Cliffwood and Cliffwood Beach who've been delayed or forced to take detours every time Rte. 35 floods, those construction crews are a sight for sore eyes," said Councilman Robert Swindle. ●

To register for CodeRed, log onto the Aberdeen Township website at www.aberdeennj.org and follow the Code Red link on the right side of the page. Those without Internet access may call (732) 583-4200, ext 221 Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

To receive alerts via Nixle, go to the township's website or Facebook page to sign up. Registration can also take place by sending a text message with the user's zip code to 888777 or online at www.nixle.com. ●

Recycling on the rise

The advent of single-stream recycling in the Township in April 2012 has resulted in an overall increase in recycling. According to Robert Brady, Director of Public Works, the final figures for 2012 showed a 3% increase in recycling over 2011—a trend that appears to be continuing in 2013. And while recycling totals are up, overall curbside solid waste pickup has decreased by 11%.

"The difference in the numbers can be attributed in part to the fact that we now take in metals and electronics in our yard," said Brady. "In previous years, those materials were in the waste stream."

With the switch to single-stream recycling, once-a-month curbside pickup of bottles, cans and plastics followed by newspapers, mixed paper and cardboard two weeks later, was replaced by twice-a-month pickup of all recyclables. There were no changes in the materials to be recycled.

"The overall result of this change is a more efficient process, one that has encouraged greater recycling by Township residents," said Brady. ●

Brush pickups expanded

Beginning next spring, the Aberdeen Public Works Department will introduce twice yearly curbside brush pickups. The pickups will take place once in the spring and the fall. Detailed information on pickup dates will be included in the 2014 Aberdeen Township Calendar.

"Additional pick-ups will be added as necessary following major storms that result in downed trees and branches," said Public Works Director Robert Brady.

Residents also continue to have the option to drop off brush and branches at the Public Works Garage on Lenox Road off Cliffwood Avenue, Monday through Saturday, from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. ●

Scenes from Aberdeen Day 2013

Aberdeen Day 2013, coordinated by The Aberdeen Recreation Department and the Aberdeen Economic Business Council, drew large crowds to venues around town, including Matawan Regional H.S., and the Route 34 shopping centers for food and beverage tastings and other events sponsored by DeMarco's Livoti's and Gallo's.

A. Aberdeen Day started with a morning fishing contest at Cliffwood Beach organized by the Environmental Board. Pictured here (l. to r.) are winners: Ricardo Soares, Alexander Biava, Cody Taylor, Gary and Gunnar Rumpf.

B. The NFL's famed Punt, Pass and Kick competition made its local debut at Aberdeen Day this year.

C. Free children's rides, a classic car show, entertainment, and displays by crafters, businesses and non-profit organizations, attracted enthusiastic crowds to the main event at the high school.

D. The Aberdeen Police Department finished on top once again, taking the 'Mayors Trophy' evening softball game at Fireman's Field with a 20-19 win over the Department of Public Works team.



Winners of Aberdeen's Got Talent, organized by Susan McGowan of Hometown Realty and DJ Mike Pantina of Total Sound Entertainment, were (l. to r.) Sara Schulman (2nd Pl.), Gianna Isabella Petrone (1st) and Siera Mollakuque (3rd).

Outdoor dining permits now available for 2014 warm-weather season

Outdoor dining is coming to Aberdeen starting next spring. Aberdeen food businesses wishing to offer outdoor dining options can now apply to the Township for zoning permits allowing sidewalk seating during the warm-weather season.

In August, the Aberdeen Township Council approved an ordinance that allows restaurants and other food businesses in properties that permit such uses to offer outdoor dining from May 1 through October 1 of each year. The ordinance resulted from a joint effort between the Township Council, the Aberdeen Economic Business Council (EBC) and the Township's Zoning Office.

The ordinance includes detailed specifications regarding the size of the dining area, the size and placement of tables and chairs, as well as permanent barricades designed to prevent vehicles from injuring diners. At the end of each business day, all items associated with outside dining would have to be removed from the sidewalk.

"Outdoor dining is extremely popular with consumers and restaurants alike. In addition to fulfilling the demands of eligible businesses that have long wanted to offer this option, this measure should also help us attract new restaurants to Aberdeen," said EBC Chairman Carmine Visone. "Businesses interested in incorporating outdoor dining are urged to speak with their landlords prior to applying for the permit, as some shopping centers may have restrictions prohibiting this option and may also levy special fees."

Mayor Fred Tagliarini added: "We are very pleased to have worked with the EBC, our Zoning Office and other Township officials to come up with a solution that gives restaurants and other food businesses the option to offer outside dining in a manner that won't compromise the safety of diners, employees and passersby. We hope to see those businesses that wish to incorporate outside dining begin to take advantage of this crowd-pleasing option next spring." ●

New Public Information Office

In an effort to provide residents with a single destination for details on Township services throughout the year and during natural disasters and other emergencies, Aberdeen has created a new Public Information Office.

The office is staffed by Brittany Frederick, who joined Aberdeen Township upon completion of her Bachelor of Arts in public administration from Kean University, and previously interned at Town Hall. In her role as Public Information Officer, Frederick is responsible for assisting residents, maintaining the township's recently revamped website and Facebook site, and issuing news and information through the Nixle text program and email blasts. She will also serve as the primary contact person during emergencies. ●

Township of Aberdeen MUNICIPAL DIRECTORY

Police, Fire & Rescue
Emergencies 9-1-1

Aberdeen non-emergency
Police and Fire 732-566-2054

TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

732-583-4200

Fred Tagliarini, Mayor, ext 382

Margaret Montone,

Deputy Mayor, ext 384

Harvey M. Brenner, ext 381

Greg Cannon, ext 385

Connie Kelley, ext 386

Jim Lauro, ext 380

Robert Swindle, ext 383

TOWNSHIP MANAGER

732-583-4200

Holly Reycraft, ext 117

Catherine Morello, Admin. Asst.
ext 118

TOWNSHIP DEPARTMENTS

732-583-4200

Township Clerk, ext 119

Resident Assistance/Mass Transit
Secretary, ext 100

Construction Official, ext 121

Engineering, ext 101

Planning & Zoning, ext 121

Finance, ext 128

Municipal Court, ext 141

Public Works, ext 400

Public Information, ext 130

Recreation, ext 134

Tax Assessor, ext 122

Tax Collector, ext 137

Service Requests, ext 100

HELPFUL NUMBERS

Animal Control

732-521-6016

Future Sanitation

732-919-3345

Electricity (JCP&L)

800-662-3115

Matawan-Aberdeen Public
Library

732-583-9100

Gas (NJ Natural Gas Co.)

800-221-0051

Water (NJ American Water)

800-652-6987

Township of Aberdeen
One Aberdeen Square
Aberdeen, NJ 07747

www.aberdeennj.org
Visit us on Facebook

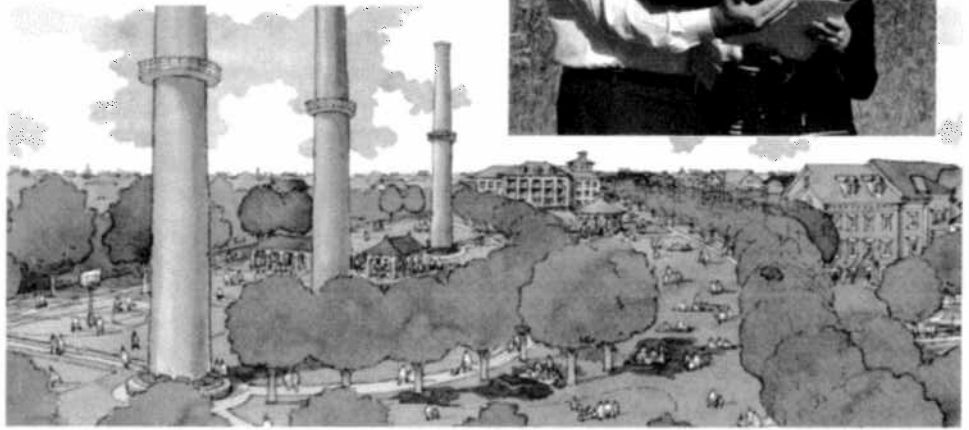
Glassworks (con't)

Park. We will turn this under-utilized property into a beautiful residential community that will enhance residential property values in the area."

Nearly 18% of the 51 acres will be open space. In addition to Glassworks Park, the plan calls for residential greens and a fitness trail.

While the site's primary manufacturing functions have been shuttered for years, a portion of the site continues to be used for warehousing. "That has allowed the property to remain on the tax rolls during site planning," noted Michnewicz. "The warehouse will eventually be demolished."

History will also be reflected in the architecture, drawing from styles inspired by the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The residences will be



Mayor Fred Tagliarini and Deputy Mayor Margaret Montone review plans with old Anchor Glass buildings in background. The plant's smokestacks will be retained as a focal point of the site's two-acre Glassworks Park.

a combination of two and three-story townhouses and apartments. The retail portion, designed in a Main Street format, will include merchants, service shops and restaurants.

The Glassworks will emerge in phases, beginning with a first phase of 256 housing units and 12,000 square feet of retail. Somerset is projecting a build-out of five to seven years, "depending on market conditions," said Michnewicz.

"To date, the Council, Planning Board and developer have had a good working relationship, and we expect to continue in that vein for the betterment of Aberdeen," concluded Mayor Tagliarini. ●

PRSRST STD
ECRWSS
U.S. Postage
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

**To: Postal Customer
Aberdeen, NJ**



Solar (con't)

over the 25-year life of the system.

The solar installations are located at the Municipal Complex on Church Street; pumping stations at Riverdale Drive in the Cliffwood section, Noble Place in Strathmore and Greenwood Avenue at Cliffwood Beach; and the Public Works Complex on Lenox Road in Cliffwood Beach.

"We have made this commitment to both save Township funds and to advance the sustainability goals of the Green Team Advisory Committee, and it is very rewarding to see the positive early results of this effort," said Mayor Fred Tagliarini. ●