



ABERDEEN UPDATE

Fall 2016

The Official Newsletter of Aberdeen Township

www.aberdeennj.org

Ground Broken on Mixed-Use Property At Train Station

Mayor Fred Tagliarini and the Aberdeen Township Council, along with Congressman Frank Pallone and Monmouth County Freeholder Director Thomas Arnone, joined officials from NJ Transit and development partners BNE Real Estate Group and Highview Homes on Aug. 8 to break ground on the long-awaited mixed-use development that will energize an underutilized site just steps from the Aberdeen-Matawan Train Station.

Located at the intersection of Atlantic and Harrison Aves., the development will comprise five residential buildings totaling 227 one- and two-bedroom luxury rental residences and 8,000 sq. ft. of street-level retail space. Expected to be completed in the second quarter of 2018, the project aligns with the township's plan to redevelop a 20-acre site on its side of the Aberdeen-Matawan rail station into a transit village, in accordance with the guidelines set forth by the NJ Department of Transportation and the state's Transit Village Task Force. Residents will enjoy a full suite of amenities, including a lounge, state-of-the-art fitness center and an outdoor pool, as well

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Park getting all-new look Cliffwood Beachfront Transformation



As shown in this site plan, the renovated Veterans Memorial Park at Cliffwood Beach will include pirate and tall ship themed playground areas; a pirate ship themed water park (spray pad); a picnic grove with shade structures; a gazebo; and a multi-purpose field for little league, softball, and soccer.

Plans are in the works to transform Cliffwood Beach's Veterans Memorial Park into a recreational facility that will offer a variety of new amenities for all ages—most expected to be in place for the 2017 summer season. The park, which is located at Ocean Blvd. and Lakeshore Dr., currently contains a roller hockey rink, basketball courts, shuffle board courts, volleyball court, and swings.

“Under the proposed plans, which will be accompanied by the reconstruction of the nearby Seawall that was damaged during Superstorm Sandy, the park will be turned into a multi-dimensional active and passive recreation area. Major new features will include pirate and tall ship themed playground areas for ages 2-5 and 5-12; a pirate ship themed water park (spray pad) for all ages; a picnic grove with shade structures; a multi-purpose field for little league, softball, and soccer; a kayak and small water craft launch; a gazebo/

band shell; a flagpole and War Veteran's Memorial Monument; and a restroom/equipment/storage building.

Additionally, trees, shrubbery and gardens will be added to create an attractive landscaped park setting; existing basketball courts will be upgraded; the parking lot will be resurfaced and additional parking created on the site of the former skate rink; and security lighting and video surveillance will be added. The site will be raised using clean fill in selected locations in an effort to reduce nuisance flooding that has plagued the beachfront.

The estimated \$2.5 million construction cost of the improvements to Veterans Memorial Park is being partially funded through a recently awarded grant of \$250,000 from the Monmouth County Open Space Grant and local funds.

According to longtime Aberdeen resident Don Norbut, special project engineer

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Ground Breaking *(con't)*



(L to R) Mayor Fred Tagliarini, Deputy Mayor Margaret Montone, and Council members Greg Cannon, Robert Swindle, Arthur Hirsch, Connie Kelley and Joseph Martucci were on hand to help break ground for the transit village.

as proximity to public transportation.

“We are very pleased to partner with BNE and Highview Homes on the development of our transit village,” Mayor Tagliarini told attendees at the event. “This has been a long, complex process involving land purchases from multiple private and public entities, approvals from various government agencies, and market-force interruptions triggered by the recent recession and accompanying housing slump. This redevelopment will replace an unproductive eyesore with an attractive residential and retail village that would have minimal

impact on traffic and our schools, fulfill demand from young commuters and others seeking luxury rentals within walking distance of the station, introduce new retail, restaurant and service businesses to serve commuters, and create a pleasant outdoor dining environment.”

“We’re delighted to have secured such a well-located site adjacent to an active railway station, and are thrilled to be taking the next step in unlocking the intrinsic value of this property,” said Jonathan Schwartz, a Principal of BNE Real Estate Group. “We appreciate the confidence

Mayor Tagliarini and the Township of Aberdeen have placed in us and our partner, Highview Homes, and look forward to executing our shared vision for a vibrant, revitalized property that will be an asset to the township.” ■

Local Company Helps to Clean Beach



Aberdeen’s beachfront is looking a little brighter thanks to the efforts of the local office of Tata Communications, whose employees have adopted Cliffwood Beach for once-monthly clean-ups as part of the New Jersey Clean Communities Council’s (NJCCC) Adopt-A-Beach program. Tata, a leading global communications and enterprise IT service provider, strongly believes in giving back to the communities where it has offices. Since March, 15 to 20 employees from the firm’s Matawan office come to the beach during work hours to remove litter and debris. In June, the company received the NJCCC’s Adopt-a-Beach Award for its efforts at Cliffwood Beach.

Aberdeen to Help Fund Action Against JCP&L

In a shared services action, the Aberdeen Township Council has approved a plan for the municipality to join forces with other Bayshore towns to fund legal and engineering costs for the fight against Jersey Central Power & Light’s (JCP&L) proposal to construct towering power transmission lines along the North Jersey Coast Line between Aberdeen and Red Bank.

Aberdeen agreed to fund an initial installment of \$10,000 for legal and engineering services. The legal services will be performed by Bevan, Mosca & Guiditta, P.C., a Basking Ridge-based firm, whose founding principal, Murray E. Bevan, has successfully advocated for clients before the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“BPU”). Earlier in his career, Bevan served a six-year term with the BPU. Supporting engineering services are being handled by the Albany, N.Y. office of Maser Consulting, P.A., which has experi-

ence reviewing power transmission line projects in New Jersey.

The township’s commitment to the fund will be 10% of the costs incurred by the joint defense group of towns fighting JCP&L’s proposal. Aberdeen is contributing its share based upon the equalized true market value of all property in the township in comparison to the other towns involved.

“The Aberdeen Council is proud to have joined the other Bayshore towns in this fight against JCP&L’s Monmouth County Reliability project,” said Mayor Fred Tagliarini. “This financial commitment underscores our commitment to this battle, which has also drawn the support of Congressman Frank Pallone and our state representatives, as well as the citizens group Residents Against Giant Electric (RAGE).”

Tagliarini went on to note that the towns’ joint action “is focusing on the necessity of the project and whether it will truly ac-

complish what JCP&L says. Assuming this effort takes more than a year, our Council is committed to providing additional funding under the established shared services formula.”

Deputy Mayor Margaret Montone noted that the financial commitment follows the Council’s unanimous adoption on August 3rd of a resolution opposing the project. Additionally, Tagliarini was among nine Bayshore mayors signing a joint letter opposing the project. “Our Council has lined up against this project from the beginning and we are committed to doing whatever is needed to defeat it,” she said.

As previously reported, the JCP&L project would use monopoles, some as high as 210 feet, to carry the transmission lines along a 10-mile stretch between electrical substations in Aberdeen and Red Bank. The utility claims the project will enhance reliability of service to the area.

Among other things, Aberdeen’s August

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Transformation *(con't)*

with T&M Associates, bids are scheduled to be received at the end of October and the township hopes to award the contract in early-November. Plans call for work to begin in early-December, with a grand opening scheduled for July 2017.

“This is a very exciting project for Cliffwood Beach and all of Aberdeen,” said Councilman Robert Swindle. “The new park and rebuilt seawall will give residents of all ages multiple reasons to take advantage of this tremendous under-utilized resource on our waterfront. With the bandshell/gazebo, we also look for Veterans Memorial Park to become a site for concerts and other special events.” ■



Pirate ship themed water park (spray pad) promises to be a major draw at the revitalized Veterans Memorial Park.

New Recreation Programs

The Recreation Department has introduced a number of new programs this fall for residents of all ages at the Fiorendo Sigismondi Cliffwood Beach Community Center, 651 Prospect Ave.

Tiny Tot & Me is being held on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m., for children ages 3 to 5 and their parent/caregiver. The eight-week program, which began the week of October 17, offers creative and interactive activities and themed and seasonal crafts. The cost is \$35.

Qigong and Tai Chi are being offered Tuesday evenings, from October

18 to December 6, for residents 18 and older. The cost for both programs is \$35. Qigong will be offered from 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Qigong is the study and practice of nurturing your own life force, and how to accumulate, balance and coordinate the flow of energy to maintain health and well-being. Tai Chi, a complete system of therapeutic exercises, will be offered from 7:15 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Both programs are suitable for all ages, regardless of size, condition, and fitness level. No special equipment or clothing is necessary. The cost for both classes is \$35.

Zumba is running for eight weeks on

Thursday, from October 20 to December 15, from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The class, open to residents 18 and older, involves dance and aerobic movements performed to energetic music. Participants should wear comfortable clothes and sneakers and should also bring water. The cost to register is \$35.00

Plans are also in the works to introduce Yoga and line dancing, along with mother/son, daddy/daughter spring dances at the community center which opened in Cliffwood Beach last spring.

For more information or to register, contact the Aberdeen Township Recreation Department at (732) 583-4200, ext. 129 or 173. ■

Township Gathers to Unveil 9/11 Memorial

On the 15th anniversary of the 9/11 tragedy, Aberdeen Township officials, members of the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders, first-responders, residents, and clergy gathered at Town Hall to dedicate a new monument that includes a 147-lb. piece of steel from the World Trade Center, in memory of the victims of the terrorist attacks, including five township residents.

Mayor Fred Tagliarini and local clergy addressed the crowd of 125 attendees which included family members of two of the Aberdeen residents lost on 9/11. Members of the Aberdeen Township Police Department, Fire Department, Matawan Regional High School Vocal Academy, Girl Scout Troop 593, Boy Scout Troop 66 and Cub Scout Pack 66 also took part in the ceremony.



L to R: Council members Arthur Hirsch, Connie Kelley, Margaret Montone and Robert Swindle unveiled the monument dedicated to those lost on 9/11.

The memorial, constructed at no expense to taxpayers by Aberdeen-based Quality First Companies, includes the names of Aberdeen residents Stephen J. Fiorelli, Richard Rodriguez, Michael Uliano, Christopher M. Traina and Lance

Tumulty, who were among the 2,977 people who perished during the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The Tumulty family donated towards the building of the memorial. Additionally, local business Quality Electric donated the lighting for the memorial and Flowers by Gina donated their services for the ceremony. ■



The Aberdeen Township Police Department's Honor Guard performed the presentation of the colors.

Sandra Caceres Named Public Works Director

The Aberdeen Township Council has announced the appointment of veteran municipal engineer and public works manager Sandra Caceres as Public Works Director. She joins the municipality following the retirement of Public Works Director Bob Brady.

Caceres brings 19 years of experience in the field of civil engineering to her new position, including 10 years working directly in the engineering and public works departments for municipalities throughout New Jersey. Her responsibilities have included design and construction management of capital projects; control of project costs and schedules; development and oversight of annual operating and capital budgets; road grant application preparation, submittal and reimbursement; responding to residents' concerns on road conditions; review of planning and zoning board applications; managing escrow accounts; invoicing; and building department reviews and permitting.

She most recently served as Acting Superintendent of Public Works/Township Engineer for Hillside Township, where she directed the department's day-to-day operations, prepared municipal and capital budgets, and coordinated all engineering.

Prior to that, she served as a project manager for Maser Consulting, in Mt. Arlington, a multi-discipline engineering firm serving public and private sector clients. Previously, from 2006 to 2014, she served as Assistant Township Engineer for Cranford Township.



Sandra Caceres

Caceres began her career in 1996 as a design engineer for CME Associates in Parlin, where she worked on behalf of Aberdeen and Clark townships. After five years at CME, she went on to serve as a development manager, project manager and senior civil engineer for several private sector firms before going in-house at Cranford.

Caceres earned a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from the New Jersey Institute of Technology. She holds a number of professional certifications, including Certified Public Works Manager (CPWM), Professional Engineer (P.E.) and Certified Municipal Engineer (C.M.E.).

"Sandra brings a wealth of municipal engineering and public works experience to her new position, including a strong familiarity with Aberdeen through her work on our roadway evaluation and improvement programs, and water and sewer projects during her years with CME Associates," said Councilwoman Connie Kelley, who serves on the Council's per-

sonnel committee along with Councilmen Greg Cannon and Joseph Martucci.

Martucci added: "Sandra's many years of dealing with residents and officials at all levels of government will make her an asset to the Aberdeen DPW. We are very glad to have her on board." ■

Project Updates



Councilman Joseph Martucci, Deputy Mayor Margaret Montone and Mayor Fred Tagliarini receive updates from Public Works Director Sandra Caceres on road work underway in the Strathmore "A" section.

Aberdeen's ongoing road improvement program continues to make its way through town, while several additional future projects are in the planning stages.

In Strathmore, work is currently underway on complete reconstructions of Inglewood and Avondale Lanes. In Cliffwood, reconstruction of the entire length of Rose St. is currently on hold until the N.J. Dep't. of Transportation lifts the work stoppage for all local aid grant projects that were halted because of issues related to the State's Transportation Trust Fund and the associated gas tax funding debate. The township also plans to utilize \$490,000 in local aid grants to resurface deteriorated portions of County Rd. as soon as the Transportation Trust Fund issues are resolved. In Cliffwood Beach, the engineering and design work for the complete reconstruction of West Concourse is underway, with construction expected to commence thereafter, weather permitting.

Looking ahead, reconstruction projects are planned for Deerfield Ln. from Drexel Ln. to Deborah Ln. (on the creek side). Also, in the D section, Deborah Ln. will undergo a mill-and-resurface. In the High School area, a 16-inch water main will be installed down Seventh and Eighth Streets, with a full-width mill-and-resurface of both roads after the main is installed. These projects are in the early stages of design and once design is completed, the jobs will go out for bid in 2017, reports Public Works Director Sandra Caceres. ■

Aberdeen Participates in Nat'l Night Out



Aberdeen Township took part in the 33rd annual National Night Out, on August 2, with a walk in Cliffwood. Held in communities across the country, National Night Out promotes crime prevention and partnerships between police and community members. The event was sponsored locally by the Aberdeen Police Department, which provided refreshments to walkers, along with The Concerned Citizens of Greater Aberdeen and the Mayor and Township Council, who all participated. The walk started at Providence Baptist Church on Lincoln Ave. and ended at Saint Mark's AME Zion Church on Delaware Ave.

Large Crowds Turn out for Aberdeen Day Despite Unusually Warm Weather

Despite sweltering weather, Aberdeen Day 2016 attracted large and enthusiastic crowds.

Coordinated by the Aberdeen Recreation Department and Aberdeen Economic Business Council, the town-wide celebration on September 10 featured a number of annual favorites, including special business-sponsored events at shopping centers on Rte. 34, the Aberdeen's Got Talent Contest, the Family Fishing Contest at Cliffwood Beach, a free movie in the park, the Cambridge Park 5k Run/Walk, three circus performances at Matawan-Aberdeen Middle School, and the ever-popular activities at Matawan Regional H.S. In addition, two new events joined the Aberdeen Day roster: an interactive science show for children at the new community center in Cliffwood Beach and a yard sale, barbecue and bake sale at Cross of Glory Lutheran Church. Free trolley service was again offered between venues and the parking lot at the Aberdeen-Matawan train station.

The primary noon to 4:00 p.m. celebration at the high school attracted an estimated 3,500 to 3,800 guests and over 80

vendors and crafters, reported Aberdeen Recreation Director Jim Colabelli. Long-time favorites filled the afternoon, including a reptile show, pony rides and a petting zoo sponsored by Quality 1st Basement Systems, free rides for children, a classic car show, crafts, food, vendor booths, informational displays by local non-profits and performances by the band Painted Young, the Providence Baptist Church Choir and A Touch of Dance.

Additional events for children took place in locations in Cliffwood and Cliffwood Beach. For the second year in a row, the New Jersey Circus Center performed at Matawan-Aberdeen Middle School with total attendance estimated at 1,000 guests for the three shows sponsored by Aberdeen Plaza Station Urban Renewal/BNE Real Estate, Aberdeen Town Square, LLC, Addison Park, and Pure Recycling Solutions. At the Fiorendo Sigismondi Cliffwood Beach Community Center, the Grand Falloons Interactive Science Show for children in grades K-6 offered two performances to enthusiastic youngsters.

Over at the Stop & Shop center, enter-

tainment, free food tastings, massages, dog adoptions and a customer appreciation day were offered by DeMarco's Catering and Gourmet Deli, Smoothie King, Hand & Stone, Woof Gang Bakery and Stop & Shop. At Aberdeen Town Square, Livoti's presented free food and games, the Hobby Shop offered a sidewalk sale and European Wax Center offered various promotions. In the adjacent Strathmore Shopping Center, more than 20 contestants competed in the "Aberdeen's Got Talent" contest sponsored by Home Town Residential Realty in partnership with Adam Saber Entertainment. ■

JCP&L (con't)

3rd resolution claimed that "less intrusive alternatives have not been given sufficient consideration" and urged the utility to "more fully consider less detrimental means to increase the reliability of its transmission services."

"The Aberdeen Council is totally committed to this legal battle and pledges to review our financial contribution to the joint fund on an annual basis, as needed," said Councilman Joseph Martucci. ■



A



C



G



B



E



D

A- Events at the High School, including the petting zoo, attracted attendees of all ages.

B- The Grand Falloons Interactive Science Show delighted children.

C- The New Jersey Circus Center's three performances attracted an estimated 1,000 guests.

D- A warm summer night brought families to the movie night at Guisti Field.

E- Aberdeen's Got Talent brought out a variety of performers.

F- A number of families took part in the fishing contest.

G- Teammates gathered at the Cambridge Park 5k Run/Walk.

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

Greg Cannon, ext 385

Arthur Hirsch, ext 381

Connie Kelley, ext 386

Joseph J. Martucci, 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

732-583-4200, ext 129

Suburban Disposal

800-339-1757

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

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More Frequent Recycling Pick-Ups Start in Jan.

Starting in January, Aberdeen will institute every-other-week pick-ups of recycling instead of the current schedule in which Section I is serviced on the first and third Wednesdays of the month and Section II has its pick-ups on the second and fourth Wednesdays. This move eliminates the three-week gap between pick-ups that happens when a month has five weeks.

Also in January, the township will, for the first time, supply residents with designated recycling containers, one per household.

According to Councilman Greg Cannon, these changes are being put in place to further increase participation in the recycling program, which effectively decreases the amount of tipping fees paid by the township at the Monmouth County Landfill. Tipping fees are the costs for disposing waste at landfills and recycling cuts down on the amount of waste dropped off.

Cannon explained that with the current schedule, residents are faced several times a year with the three-week hiatus between pick-ups. "This leads to items that should be recycled being placed into the regular garbage pick-up, ultimately causing more tonnage at the landfill and increased costs to the township," he said.

Cannon, along with Councilman Arthur Hirsch, reviewed several options presented by Township Engineer Tim Gilen of CME Associates, for changes to the garbage and recycling program in an effort to increase participation. "The every-other-week option proved to be the most cost effective since it adds just four additional pick-ups over the year," Hirsch said.

These are the latest in a series of moves made by the Township Council to increase recycling rates. Last year, in an effort to boost compliance and save tax dollars, the Council approved a measure to allow residents to place mixed paper in the same container as their bottles and cans.

Meanwhile, homeowners continue to have the option of dropping off their recyclables at the Public Works Yard on Lenox Rd., off Cliffwood Ave., Monday through Saturday, from 7:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. The facility also offers bins for recycling TVs, computers, stereos, and other electronic products. In addition, Aberdeen provides a yearly shredding event at town hall where residents may bring up to 100 pounds of paper to be shredded, on-site, in a specially-equipped truck.

For more information on Aberdeen's recycling and trash disposal practices, visit www.aberdeennj.org and go to the "What's Happening in Aberdeen Township" section on the homepage for details. ■

Kids Enjoy Backpack Giveaway and BBQ



Over 200 Aberdeen youngsters headed back to class in style after receiving brand new backpacks filled with school supplies at the Backpack Giveaway & BBQ held at Cliffwood's Midland Park on August 27. The event was made possible by the Aberdeen Township Police & PBA Local 163, Quality 1st Basement Systems, Mount Moriah Baptist Church, the Aberdeen Township Council, Stop & Shop Supermarket, and Cliffwood Volunteer Fire Company #1.