



Atlantic Highlands BEACON

Published by the Borough of Atlantic Highlands

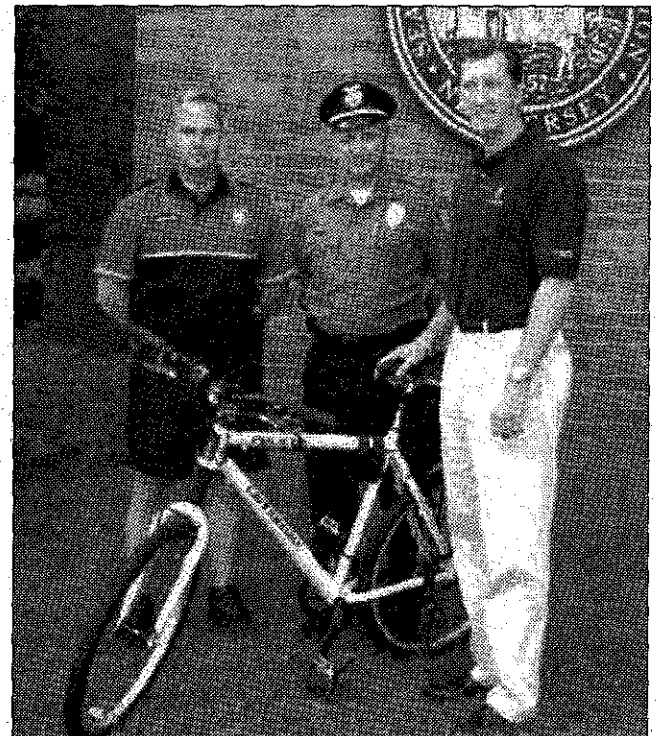
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POLICE BIKE PATROL RECEIVES NEW BICYCLE

The Atlantic Highlands Police Bicycle Patrol was the recipient of a new Cannondale Police Bicycle, from the Neumann Foundation. The bike is a fully equipped police mountain bike designed for the safety and comfort of the officers during their tour of duty. Patrolman Daniel Nonnemacher, a member of the Atlantic Highlands Police Bike Patrol, submitted the grant application on behalf of the Borough.

The Neumann Foundation is a non-profit organization established by the Neumann family, in memory of Police Officer Keith Neumann, who was accidentally killed during a pre-dawn drug raid in August of 1989. The Foundation's purpose is to provide support to Police Departments and their communities through a bike grant program. These bikes are donated to select departments based upon the information they submit on an application and only those depart-



(l-r) Patrolman Daniel Nonnemacher, Capt. John Amici AHPD and Steve Toal, of the Nuemann Foundation, presenting the bike outside of the John Stamler Police Academy in Scotch Plains.

ments participating in a certified police bike-training course are considered for the grant.

The Mission of the Neumann Foundation is to assist the bike patrols in reducing crime in parks, town centers, schools and other recreational areas in an attempt to re-acquaint the community with a highly

visible and approachable police force.

Atlantic Highlands currently has three International Police Mountain Bike Association certified members in the bike patrol, which was established in the Borough in 2003. The receipt of this new bike will increase the number of bikes in their fleet to three.

ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS SENIORS CLUB LOOKING FOR MEMBERS

Atlantic Highlands seniors invite you to join our club.

Membership dues are \$5. We meet on the second Monday of each month at the Senior Building in the Harbor.

There are various programs, social gatherings and trips.

For mor information, call Dolores Vasto at 732-291-1697

"WHO ARE THE PEOPLE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?" — FEATURING LOCAL BUSINESS OWNERS —

There seems to be a groundswell lately of interesting and diverse businesses in Atlantic Highlands — but who's running these establishments? In this issue, our Q&A will focus on a few residents who are also local business owners.

The interviews were compiled by Erinn Hill, of The Front Porch Club. The Front Porch Club is a social organization with a community focus. For more information, please email frontporchclub@com-cast.net.



Margot McCray

MTM Dance Factory
(Highway 36 South just before Grand Ave.)

Tell us about your business.

"MTM Dance Factory is a unique type of dance studio, which brings the art of dance to individuals in the most creative and fun manner. We open the doors to new ideas and opportunities for our students. We satisfy both the more serious dancer as well as the recreational student of all ages with full year and also six-week programs."

What factors encouraged you to open a business in Atlantic Highlands?

"Atlantic Highlands is a neighborhood in tune with the arts and still close to the

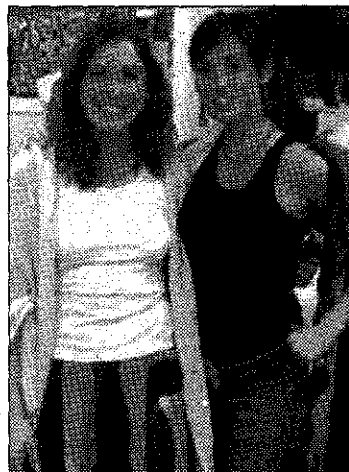
water. My husband first introduced me to this historical town years ago. It was love at first site. I knew that I would be able to share my knowledge and passion for dance with the community."

What do you consider to be the biggest challenge to owning and operating a business here?

"It is very challenging to take on entrepreneurship wherever the location might be, but the Atlantic Highlands atmosphere makes all the difference."

What's your favorite thing to do when you have free time?

"Currently, the business is still developing and requires most of our time. I am sure that my husband and I will make special occasions to relax on the beach or barbecue with friends and family as soon as possible."



Ginnie Dooley & Nicole Skarbek-Segall

Rising Tide Fair Trade
(in the Renaissance Emporium on First Avenue)

Tell us about your business.

"We like to call Rising Tide Fair Trade a 'lifestyle destination.' We try to give our customers the experience of

shopping in a bazaar in Southeast Asia or an artisans' market in South America or Africa. Our shop offers unique items from community organizations from all over the world that are produced under fair labor conditions and create economic opportunity. For this reason, our items make great gifts and you can shop all you want...guilt-free."

What factors encouraged you to open a business in Atlantic Highlands?

"Until we opened the shop, Nicole and I operated online and through trunk shows. Since we both have full-time jobs in New York, opening our own shop was never really an option. When the opportunity to join a co-op came up, we grabbed it. I have moved around quite a bit, and I have found Atlantic Highlands to be the most welcoming community in which I have lived. Operating a business here is great and everyone is very supportive."

What do you consider to be the biggest challenge to owning and operating a business here?

"I think owning and operating a business in any 'beach town' is a challenge. There is pressure to do most of your business during the summer months. I think that as Atlantic Highlands becomes more well-known as a destination for restaurants and shopping, then we will be busy year-round."

What's your favorite thing to do when you have free time?

"Definitely travel! We just returned from Brazil and are hoping to make it to India in 2006. I think we both find it completely addicting. Plus, now that we have the shop, it is a great excuse for shopping while we explore."



Laurie & Vidar Brekke

'Goin Once
(84 First Avenue)

Tell us about your business.

"Our primary business is managing eBay auctions on behalf of our customers and businesses. We also offer other 'e-services' such as web design, Internet access, music download, photography, and scanning services. Secondly, Laurie designs her own line of jewelry called 'Puss in Boots' that is also sold out of the store."

What factors encouraged you to open a business in Atlantic Highlands?

"We loved the town and its people and wanted to be a part of (re)building downtown. After having lead hectic city lives, this is the perfect place to start a 'digital mom & pop' store!"

What do you consider to be the biggest challenge to owning and operating a business here?

"Getting people to realize that we offer an effective way to not only sell their \$50 items, but their \$5,000 items. Also, as a new business, we are still learning the seasonality of a 'season-less' business."

What's your favorite thing to do when you have free time?

"Photography and music (Vidar), cooking, reading, knitting (Laurie) — entertaining friends (both!)."

UPDATE ON MGP IMPROVEMENTS (JUNE 2005)

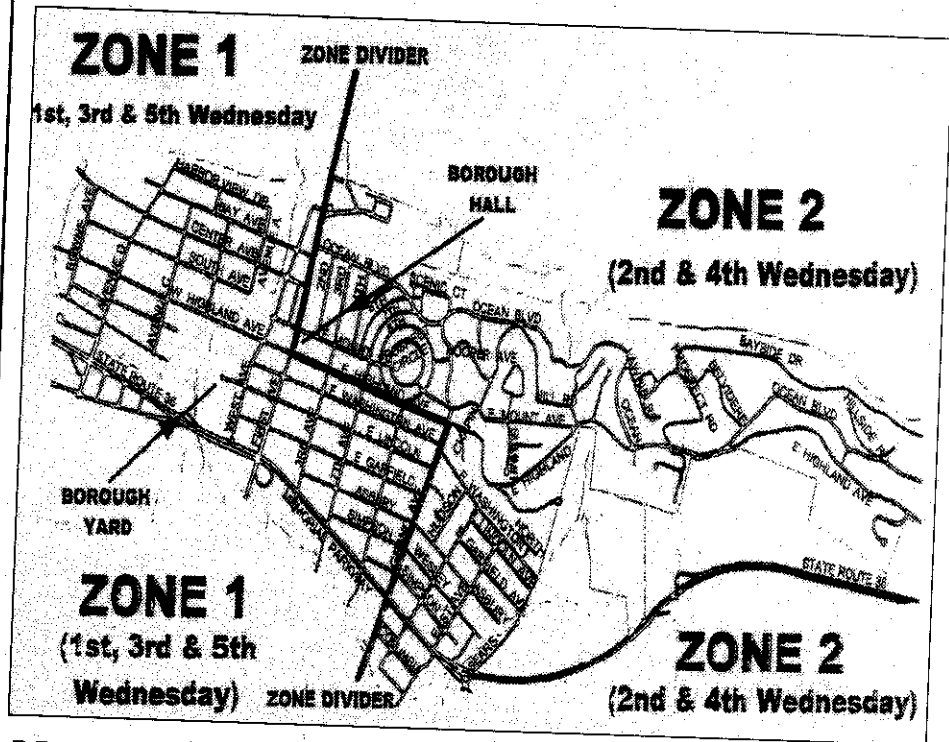
New Jersey Natural Gas continues to move forward on the restoration of affected properties in the area of the former manufactured gas plant on West Lincoln Avenue in Atlantic Highlands.

Ongoing efforts involve the restoration of Many Mind Creek between Route 36 and Highland Avenue. This work is expected to be complete by fall 2005. Evaluation continues of properties in the vicinity of the creek to the north of Highland Avenue.

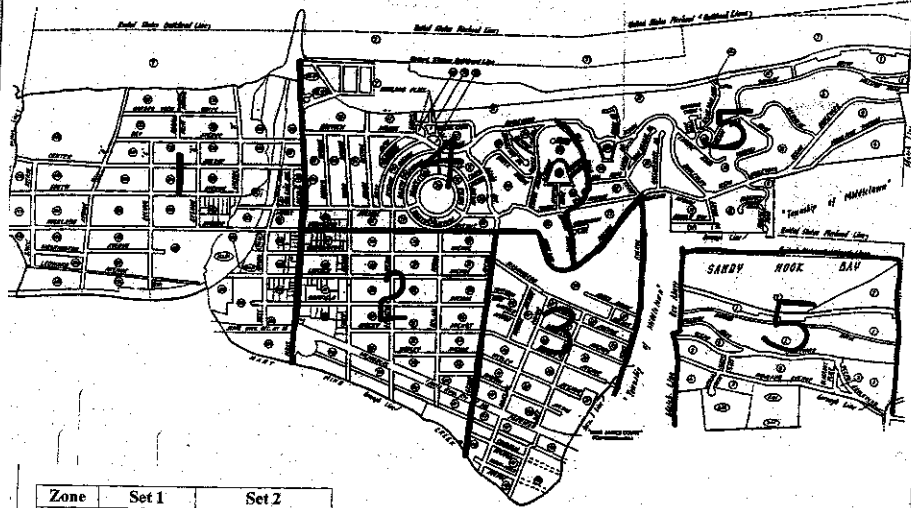
On May 4, 2005, an open house and project update was held for the public at the Fireman's Field House. New Jersey Natural Gas periodically holds these events to keep the public informed about the project.

Call New Jersey Natural Gas toll-free at 1-888-638-9924 for further information.

SANITATION & RECYCLING SCHEDULE



Note: These zones are only for recycling, garbage and brush/leaf collection use different maps.



Zone	Set 1	Set 2
5	July 5	August 1-4
4	July 11	August 8-10
3	July 18	August 11-16
2	July 25	August 17-22
1	August 1	August 23-26

2005 BRUSH COLLECTION

The Borough will be collecting brush from July 5th through August.

The map shows the five collection zones. Each zone will have two sets of dates for collection.

Brush must be put out on the **FIRST DAY** of each set to ensure pick-up. Any brush put curbside on dates not for your zone will be picked up during your zone's next set of days. After the second set is complete, there will be no further brush pick-ups. Please plan accordingly.

Mayor's Message



John Phair would have been the first person to say "life goes on." And it will ... and it has.

Nonetheless, it is important that we look back — with appreciation — on the service of those who have passed on.

As most of you know, John M. Phair, our borough administrator for eight years, died on May 17 at age 73 after a valiant but losing battle with cancer.

Although there are lots

of people who knew John more intimately than I, there are not too many more who can testify with such enthusiasm about his dedication to his family, his town and his country.

Until recently, he was full of life and humor. I'm sure he saw the irony of being afflicted with cancer just after he completed replacing several major body parts. I remember with less than fondness both John and I struggling into the Council Chambers last July, he

recovering from hip surgery, me from double knee replacement.

John had lots of stories to tell, not all of them absolutely true. For the record, he did serve in the military but he did not spend his time in the Navy training cats to swim. Nor was he in charge of underwater land mines.

In fact, he served in the Army.

Most of us know that John was the Atlantic Highlands borough administrator for the past eight years.

He also served on the Borough Council on two separate occasions, the first time with me in the 1970s.

Both as administrator and as a councilman, John was a dedicated and effective public servant. Even from his sick bed over the past several months, he was determined to see that the borough continued to operate efficiently. No conversation with him failed to include questions about borough operations and suggestions on how to handle ongoing situations.

He was a fighter with a sense of purpose, determined to get well and return to work, even at an age when most people are content to retire and relax. He was extremely reluctant to give up and go on medical leave. But he knew it was for the good of the town.

During his years as administrator, John employed talents honed in business by bringing superior managerial skills to the day-to-day running of the town.

A life-long resident with vast knowledge of his community, John was intensely concerned about the employees and residents of Atlantic Highlands. He spent

whatever time and energy was necessary to resolve issues large and small, and to provide the services residents had a right to expect, and then some. He exhibited considerable compassion and understanding toward all whom he dealt with.

John played a major role in achieving much of what is good that has happened in Atlantic Highlands in recent years.

I can't begin to tell you how appreciative I am for having had John Phair in the administrator's office when I was establishing my administration. To say the least, John was a tremendous help to me, full of information, suggestions and team spirit. It is something for which I will be eternally grateful.

And now we go on.

We have an excellent temporary administrator and are conducting a broad search to hire the most qualified permanent one we can, as soon as we can.

Although hope to keep the salary for the position moderate, we have learned in John's absence that there is an incredible amount of work to be done, even in a small town. State regulations and the fact we have not only the town to run but two utilities, too — the harbor and the water-sewer systems — require a strong, experienced and competent hand at the tiller.

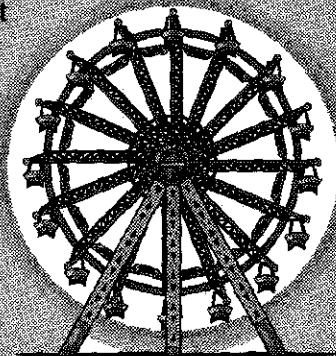
Anyone less than a top-notch replacement for John Phair would be an insult to his memory.

I know all who knew John will miss him mightily. It is sad for all of us, particularly his wife, Pat, that he has lost his battle to live... but we are all blessed that he walked among us.

FIRE DEPARTMENT HOLDS ANNUAL FIREMEN'S FAIR

The Atlantic Highlands Fire Department will hold their Annual Firemen's Fair beginning Wednesday, June 29th and will run through Sunday, July 3rd in the Municipal Harbor. Bracelet night or "POP" — Pay One Price will be on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday. Pay One Price and ride all of the amusement rides all evening. The Fair grounds open 6:00 p.m. and operate until 11:00 p.m. each night.

The fireworks display will take place on Saturday, July 2nd at 9:30 p.m. The rain date is Sunday, July 3rd. All questions can be directed to Fire Department President Damian Emerick or Fair Coordinator Adam Hubeny at 732-291-2002.



THE NEW FACES AT BOROUGH HALL

We would like to take a moment to let you know about some of the newest employees in the Borough Hall of Atlantic Highlands.

Debra DiGiorgio joined the Borough in late February of this year, as the new Water and Sewer Utility Collector. Debbie is a life long resident of Atlantic Highlands, a mother of three and currently resides on Harbor View Dr. She received an AA Degree in Business and Accounting from Brookdale Community College in April 1987, and was employed as a medical secretary for Bayshore Community Hospital in Holmdel.

Michelle Clark had been a part of the Atlantic Highlands Library for 6 years before joining the Borough, full time, as an Administrative Assistant and Planning Board Secretary. Michelle is a mother of two and has resided in Atlantic Highlands for 11 years, currently on Third Ave. Michelle also attended Brookdale Community College. She had worked for the Monmouth County Mosquito Commission and left the Little Chief Learning Station, after 9 years of service, to replace Claire Richardson who had recently retired.

Dwayne Harris is no longer a new face in Borough Hall, but he recently received his Registered Municipal Clerk certification after passing the State exam

with a grade of 87. Dwayne is also a life long resident and graduated from Seton Hall University in 1990 after studying Business Administration. The Mayor and Council on June 8th unanimously appointed Dwayne to a three-year term as the Municipal Clerk.

At the same meeting the Mayor and Council appointed Dawn Babcock, of Hamburg, as the new Chief Financial Officer in the Borough. Dawn will be joining the Borough on July 5th after a long and exhaustive search to replace Catherine Campbell, who left the Borough in January. Dawn graduated Cum Laude, from Upsala College, with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting. Dawn has been a Certified Municipal Finance Officer for 18 years and has come highly recommended by her former employers as well as the NJ State Department of Community Affairs. She will be relocating to this area.

Frederick Jahn, Senior Vice President of Jersey Professional Management, has been filling in as the Temporary Administrator since April of this year, when our former Borough Administrator, the late John Phair, took a long-term medical leave of absence. Fred serves in the capacity of Chief Administrative Officer with over 37 years of executive and administra-

tive experience in both the public and private sectors, most notably as the Municipal Administrator in Freehold Twsp for 25 years from 1968 through 1993. He also served in the United States Marine Corp as a Sergeant during the Korean War.

Last but surely not least is Elizabeth Merkel who came to Atlantic Highlands in December of 2004. Beth, a life long resident of Keansburg

became the Municipal Specialist/Insurance Coordinator in Atlantic Highlands after 17 years as a Medical Secretary. Her appointment as Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics was recently confirmed by the State Department of Health and Human Services and she has been an essential contributor to the daily operations of the Borough.

ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS FORMS SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE

A Special Events Committee has been established to manage Special Events that will be held here in the Borough of Atlantic Highlands. The purpose of the Committee is to facilitate the use of Borough facilities, services and employees for special events that are going to be held in the Borough. The Special Events committee will consist of one representative from each department within the Borough. A Special Event is defined as an event outside of the normal business operations of a public entity that would use a municipal facility, land, or road within the Borough for their special event, such as carnivals, concerts, parades, fireworks, fairs, or block parties.

Any person or organization that would like to hold a Special Event should obtain an appli-

cation from the Secretary of the Special Events Committee located at the Borough Hall. There will be a \$25.00 non-refundable application fee that shall be paid to the Borough of Atlantic Highlands and submitted to the Secretary of the Special Events Committee, Elizabeth Merkel at Atlantic Highlands Borough Hall, 100 First Avenue, Atlantic Highlands, NJ 07716.

Anyone wishing to submit a request should apply at least three months in advance so that the committee can review all applications. The Special Events Committee will approve, deny or defer applications. This Committee will meet every third Thursday of the month.

For more information you may contact Elizabeth Merkel at the Borough Hall.

The Atlantic Highlands Recreation Committee proudly presents THE 2005 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES



Sunday, June 26th

- 7 p.m. -
"The Highlands
Community Singers"
A Night of happy
sing-a-long songs

Sunday July 10th

- 7 p.m. -
"The Happy Days
String Band"
And Mummers

Sunday July 17th

- 7 p.m. -
"The Infamous Willie
Lynch Irish Band"
- 6 p.m. -
"Germaine Connolly"
Celtic Harper &
Gaelic songs

Sunday July 24th

- 7 p.m. -
Erik-Hans Vagen's "The
Firehouse Polka Band"
- 6 p.m. -
"Eamon Murray"
vocals & guitar

Sunday July 31st

- 7 p.m. -
Jim Murphy's "The Pine
Barons" country
- 6 p.m. -
"Ed Russell"
Traditional Irish Songs

Sunday Aug 7th

- 7 p.m. -
"The Barley Boys"
Irish/Bluegrass tint
- 6 p.m. -
"Keara" vocals & guitar

Sunday Aug 14th

- 7 p.m. -
"Mike Kuhl & JD Edge"

original country songs
- 6 p.m. -
"Mike Burke"
vocals & guitar

Sunday Aug 21st

- 7 p.m. -
Fred Lohotay's "The
Ragtimers" good old rag-
time music
6PM "Eamon Murray"
vocals & guitar

Sunday Aug 28th

- 7 p.m. -
"The Happy Days

String Band"
And Mummers
Sunday Sept 4th
- 7 p.m. -
"The Patriotic Pops" A
Tribute to New York &
Our Country
- 6 p.m. -
"Mike Burke"
vocals & guitar

Sunday Sept 11th

- 7 p.m. -
Joe Accurso's
"The Brookdale
Big Band" Swing

**Sunday
Sept 18th**

- 7 p.m. -
"The Saturday
Night Express"
Bluegrass/Country
- 6 p.m. -
"Keara" vocals & guitar

Raindates are the following
Monday evening, at the
same time. So bring your
lawn chairs and sit back &
enjoy the great music and
our harbor's cool summer
breezes!

Eye on RECREATION

Registration for the 2005 Summer Recreation Program, tennis clinics, and field hockey clinic is open at Borough Hall until the June 24th deadline. Additional week of tennis is opening for the week of Aug. 1-5, 8am-9am. Register at Borough Hall by July 15th. Cost \$40.00 per child.

AHRC welcome's our new Summer Recreation Director, Peter Richardson! Peter comes to our program with years of experience in coaching numerous sports, and managing recreation

and sport activities. We are proud to have him join the team!

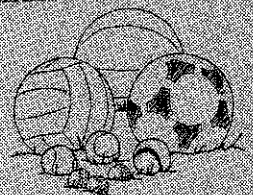
Wiffle Ball is coming to Atlantic Highlands! Visit the AHRC booth at the Firemen's Fair and sign your family up for wiffle ball tournaments, to be held later in July. Wiffle ball is a sport the ENTIRE family can play and enjoy.

UK Elite Camps in August! Sign up your kids for two fun camps presented by UK Elite. The Soccer camp runs the week of Aug. 8th from 9-12 at Henry Hudson. The Multi-Sport Camp runs the week of Aug. 22nd also at Henry Hudson. Ages 5-13 welcome and cost for each clinic

is \$135 per child. Find out more and register at **HYPERLINK** "<http://www.UKElite.com>"

The 2005 Summer Concert Series sponsored by AHRC has been announced! Look for listings in this edition of The Beacon and around town. Concerts begin June 26th, 7pm, AH Harbor Gazebo with The Highlands Community Singers.

AH/H Youth Soccer registration deadline is July 1st! The 2005 soccer season begins September 10th. Register at Highlands Community Center, Highlands.



2004 FAIR HOMEOWNER REBATE INFORMATION

Filing deadline extended to August 15, 2005. Currently, filing is limited to senior and disabled homeowners.

In accordance with Acting Governor Codey's proposed budget, over half a million FAIR homeowner rebate applications were mailed from April 26 through May 3 to homeowners who were 65 years of age or older or disabled on the last day of the 2004 tax year. Applications must be filed either online or by phone.

Since the Governor's proposed budget would suspend the FAIR program for non-senior and non-disabled residents this year, the current mailing is limited to only

senior and disabled residents. Once the State Budget for the coming fiscal year has been finalized, additional applications will be sent out as necessary with an appropriate timeline for completion. If authorized, these applications would include any and all resident groups identified in the final budget.

Senior and disabled homeowners have until the extended due date of August 15, 2005, to file 2004 FAIR homeowner rebate applications. The original due date was June 1. Applicants must meet the following conditions to be eligible for a rebate:

Own and occupy a home in New Jersey that

was their principal residence on October 1, 2004;

Have gross income under the minimum threshold (for 2003 the threshold was \$200,000, but under the proposed budget the limit for tax year 2004 would be \$100,000);

The home must be subject to local property taxes, and 2004 property taxes must have been paid.

New Jersey residents are not eligible for FAIR homeowner rebates if no property taxes are paid on their dwellings. This includes:

Homeowners completely exempt from paying property taxes on their principal residence. This can include certain dis-

abled veterans and their unmarried surviving spouses who may claim a 100% exemption from local property taxes under certain conditions.

Homeowners who made P.I.L.O.T. (Payments-in-Lieu-of-Tax) payments to their municipality. These payments are not considered property taxes for purposes of the FAIR rebate.

Additional information regarding the 2004 FAIR Rebate Program will be posted on the NJ Division of Taxation Web site @ www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation, once the State Budget for the coming fiscal year has been finalized.

ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS DEBUTS NEW WEBSITE

The Atlantic Highlands Website HYPERLINK "<http://www.ahnj.com>" www.ahnj.com has gotten a new look since the Governing Body appointed ZUMU Software as the new web manager, at its meeting held May 11, 2005. It will be live on July 1st.

The Mayor and Council believe that maintaining a modern, fresh Borough web site on the Internet is important to the promotion of business growth and tourism in Atlantic Highlands and also provides an avenue of efficient communication to Borough residents by allowing them to access information and interact with the Municipal offices at their leisure from anywhere in the world.

Atlantic Highlands has had a web site established since 2001. Borough resident Sally Sanzone had maintained it since that time. Mrs. Sanzone, who has expertise in this area, developed the original site for the Borough, bringing Atlantic Highlands into the "Internet" era. But as we all know technology advances on a daily basis, and the needs of the residents, visitors and organizations have also evolved, so it was necessary to advance our web sites potential.

ZUMU Software run by Borough resident Liz Niederberger, was founded in 1999 with the

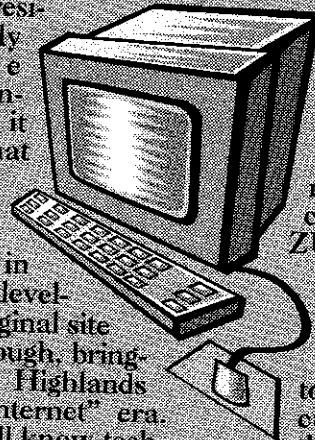
specific goal of enabling groups of individuals, (not necessarily technically oriented), to create and evolve comprehensive, multi-function websites with ultimate ease and convenience.

ZUMU has two main focuses, one of them being schools, and it is proper to note that they currently host the Atlantic Highlands and Henry Hudson websites.

Municipalities are the second focus. Each municipality has information to share with the community that lives and works within its borders. ZUMU allows Council and Board meetings, agendas, community cal-

endars, etc. to be posted and kept up-to-date with minimal effort and by anyone who can use a web browser and there is no need to pay an expensive consultant or Webmaster. It will also allow areas like the Police Dept. and the Harbor to maintain Web page and post-important information as well.

Zumu Software has designed the new Borough web site and will be transferring all information from the current site into the new site. They will also be training and assisting the Borough employees in updating and maintaining the site. Finally they will be hosting the web-site at a secure Internet Service Provider facility.





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Library News

The Friends of the Atlantic Highlands Public Library have been busy in the past few months. Many of you may have noticed the new Library sign showing in front of Borough Hall guiding the way to our library. Friends' funds purchased the sign, and the Atlantic Highlands Public Works department put the sign up and painted the old pole to finish the look.

During a trip to our library you may have noticed a brand new copier by the door. In conjunction with our Library's Board, the Friends contributed to the purchase of this much needed copier.

Thank you to all those Friends, Family & Founding, who joined up and really gave something special to our library! Let's take a look forward at the Friends Summer Calendar of Events:

June 22nd - 2005 Summer Reading Kick-Off! - Calling all kids... Be at A.H. Veterans Park at 3:00pm to kick-off the themed reading program "Dragons, Dreams & Daring Deeds." Entertainment will be provided by Brian Richards, comic magician. How many minutes can you read this summer?

June 18th - Father's Day Book Sale - from 10:00am-2:00pm in front of the library and Borough Hall. Come and pick up some reading material for Dad!

July 20th - A Bedtime Story - at 7:00pm bring the kids, ready for bed and in their PJ's, to hear a bedtime story read by Mayor and Mrs. Donoghue.

July 21st - Friends Book Club Begins! - join Friends at 10:30am at Indulgence Café as we begin our book club by reading Maeve Binchy's Circle of Friends.
August 3rd - Kids Yoga - from 10:00am-10:45am at the Masonic Lodge on E.

Garfield Ave. children ages 6-10 will have a fun introduction to yoga. Instructor: Cecelia Bellomo. (Donations will be gladly accepted by the Friends and will go toward children's programs at the library.)

August 10th - Hip Hop Yoga - from 10:00am-11:00am at the Masonic Lodge children ages 13-18 will enjoy learning yoga with a twist! Instructor: Cecelia Bellomo. (Donations will be gladly accepted by the Friends and will go toward children's programs at the library.)

August 20th - Last Day to turn in your Summer Reading Program Sheet detailing your summer reading adventures! Did you Read 2005 minutes in 2005?

September 1st - 2005 Summer Reading Program Celebration! - An invitation only event.

ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS BEACON

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