

GREEN GRAPEVINE

Volume 30 Issue 1

Winter 2024

Official Newsletter of Green Township

HAPPY 2024 GREEN TOWNSHIP TURNS 200!

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CONGRATULATIONS

LOU CARUSO!

Congratulations to Lou Caruso for winning the **New Jersey Volunteer Lifetime Achievement Award**. This year Lou will celebrate 50 years of Service on the Allamuchy-Green First Aid Squad where he served as Captain for 23 of those years. Even the Squad building on Maple Lane is named after him! Lou also served on the Green Township Committee from 1978-1991 and was mayor for 12 of those years. He was honored in 2018 with the Hometown Hero Award from Congressman Gottheimer.



DOG LICENSE 2024

All dogs 7 months of age and older must be licensed and all licenses are to be renewed by January 31, 2024. IF LICENSES ARE NOT RENEWED ON TIME A LATE FEE OF \$5.00 PER DOG PER MONTH WILL BE IMPOSED AFTER FEBRUARY 10TH.

Per State Law, a license cannot be issued if the current rabies vaccination expires before November 1, 2024. If you do not renew the license, a court complaint/summons will be issued. To renew and pay online or to obtain a new dog license please visit www.greentwp.com. All new dogs must be registered in person at Town Hall. For any licensing questions please call 908-852-9333 x10.





2024 BICENTENNIAL EVENTS

A Trip Down Memory Lane - April 20th

Bicentennial Bash Pig Roast - August 31st

Bicentennial Gala - December 7th

2024 Bicentennial Celebration

A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE

Presented by the Green Township Historical Society

April 20, 2024 - 7pm

**Green Township Fire House
273 Kennedy Road**

THIS IS AN
ADULTS ONLY
EVENT



Tickets \$10

PLEASE JOIN US FOR SOME LIGHT REFRESHMENTS, A CASH BAR TO BENEFIT THE GREEN TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT AND STORIES ABOUT THE HISTORY AND HAPPENINGS OF GREEN TOWNSHIP'S PAST.

TO REGISTER PLEASE EMAIL LANDUSE@GREENTWP.COM

AND PUT "MEMORY LANE" IN THE SUBJECT LINE

CELEBRATING THE BICENTENNIAL - 1824 - 2024

A LITTLE HISTORY...

ONCE UPON A TIME THERE WAS A LAKE IN THE VILLAGE OF BRIGHTON.

Actually, it was called Brighton Pond.

It was created as a millpond behind an earthen dam that is 160 feet long, 15 feet wide, and 8 to 10 feet high. The dam is still there, it has been breached but is still intact otherwise, and the Pequest River still runs through the mill race that has walls on either side that were built with large local limestone blocks. The water running through the millrace originally provided power for the Huntsville log sawmill, gristmill, and forge built by Thomas Wolverton.

Thomas Wolverton came from Hunterdon County in 1750 and purchased land from Samuel Green. He selected 91 acres at the location on the Pequest River where the land is high enough on both sides of the river to provide a suitable location for the dam and millpond. After a few years, Thomas Wolverton sold the property and after several owners, it was purchased by Joseph Gaston who built the four-story gristmill, (shown in the photos). This mill operated throughout the nineteenth century with water power supplied from Brighton Lake.

Bill Morris (who lived his entire life on this property) and his father Harvey removed the top two stories of the 4 story grist mill in 1925. Bill was thirteen years old at the time and he accidentally cut off the first digit of his left index finger with an axe. He told me several times that his mother kept that finger in a bottle of alcohol for a time.

The mill was completely demolished about 1942. The large stone grinding wheel was buried on the property and a school bus garage was built on the site.

Brighton Lake was fed by two sources. The first, Pequest Creek drains from Whittingham Wildlife Area, Muckshaw Ponds preserve, and Stickle Pond; and the other, Kymer Brook drains from Lakes Lenape, Aeroflex, Iliff, and Gardeners Pond, White Pond, and Twin Lakes. These two tributary streams come together to form the Pequest River at the upstream end of Brighton Lake.

It was because of Brighton Lake and the waterpower it provided that Huntsville was once a leading industrial, cultural, and shopping center for this area.

Huntsville at one time had a gristmill, a sawmill, a wheelwright shop, an icehouse, a limekiln, two blacksmith shops, a post office, a school, and six stores, two being the best general stores in the county. Most of these buildings are gone and the village would be unrecognizable to earlier residents.

The lake could not have been seen from Huntsville. A great view would have been from the high ground at the location of the home that is now Crossed Keys, with Turtle Pond on one side of the road and the lake on the other. At that time there were few trees to block the scene.

It would have been seen from the present-day Cahill farmhouse and also looking downstream from the Brighton Creamery building around the corner from Cahill's on Brighton Road and Kymer Brook, now a residence.

Brighton Lake today has returned to its natural state; wetlands, and woodland.

It probably looks now much as it did when the first settlers came to Green Township.

The only thing missing are the Indian campsites that were located on the banks of the rivers in this area.



GET YOUR BICENTENNIAL APPAREL

Green Township Bicentennial Online Store



Party like its 1824



SHOP NOW



Scan the QR code or visit

<https://ftcustomapparel.com/green-township-bicentennial>

Click local delivery and enter PO Box 408, Blairstown, NJ 07825,
there will be no shipping cost and you can pick up your items at
Town Hall during normal business hours.

TOWNSHIP REORGANIZATION

2024 TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Mayor - Margaret "Peg" Phillips
Deputy Mayor - Virginia "Ginnie" Raffay
Bader Qarmout
James DeYoung
Michael Rose

The Township of Green operates under the Township form of government. This is the oldest form of municipal government in New Jersey, having been first established by the Township Act of 1798. The township form of government is "government by committee" with the legislative and executive responsibilities of the municipality vested in the township committee as a whole.

The Committee establishes policies for the administration of the various departments and appoints the Township Administrator who is responsible for carrying out those policies and overseeing the day to day operations of the township.

The Township Committee members are elected officials whose three year terms of office begin on January 1 following their election at the November General Election. At the reorganization meeting during the first week of January, the Township Committee elects one of their members to be the Mayor and another to be the Deputy Mayor.

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The following were appointed as members of the Green Township Emergency Management Council:

1. **Chris Lopanik, Chairman OEM Coord.**
2. **Jennifer Assante, Deputy OEM Coord.**
3. **Jason DeClesis, Deputy OEM Coordinator**
4. **Randy Gould, GTVFD Chief**
5. **Margaret "Peg" Phillips, Mayor**
6. **Virginia "Ginnie" Raffay, Deputy Mayor**
7. **Jason Miller, Supt. of Public Works**
8. **Michael Drislane, Captain, AGFAS**
9. **Dennis Walker, GTVFD**
10. **Arturo Oliver, AGFAS**
11. **Dr. Jennifer Cenatiempo, GHS Supt.**
12. **Mark Zschack, Municipal Clerk**
13. **Linda Di Lorenzo, Municipal CFO**

GTVFD
Green Township Volunteer Fire Department
AGFAS
Allamuchy-Green First Aid Squad
GHS
Green Hills School

2024 PROFESSIONALS

Twp. Auditor - Steven Wielkotz, RMA of Weilkotz & Company, LLC
Twp. Attorney - Ursula Leo, Esq. of Laddey, Clark & Ryan, LLP
Twp. Engineer - Cory Stoner, PE, CME of Harold E. Pellow & Assoc., Inc.
Professional Planner - Jessica Caldwell Dykstra, PP, AICP of J. Caldwell & Assoc, LLC
Bond Counsel - Steven Rogut of Rogut McCarthy, LLC
Special Counsel - Kevin D. Kelly of Kelly & Ward, LL
Conflict Counsel - Robert McBriar of Schenck, Price, Smith & King, LLP
Qualified Purchasing Agent - Sean Canning of The Canning Group, LLC
Appraisal Services - Darren Raymond of Associated Appraisal Group
Open Space Advisor - Linda Gloshinski
The Land Conservancy of New Jersey



TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

Township Committee

1st and 3rd Monday - 7:00pm

The TC meeting will be moved to Wednesday if Monday is a Holiday
please check www.greentwp.com to confirm

Land Use Board

2nd Thursday - 7:00pm

Open Space Advisory Committee

1st Wednesday - 7:00pm

Recreation Advisory Committee

3rd Tuesday - 7:00pm

Environmental Committee

1st Tuesday - 7:00pm

Agricultural Committee

As needed - please check website

Board of Health

As needed - please check website

All meetings are held at Town Hall,
150 Kennedy Road unless
advertised and posted as virtual.

TAX COLLECTOR HOURS

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday

8:30am-2:30pm

Tax payments can also be put in the
drop box outside Town Hall.

Taxes Due February 1st

A MESSAGE FROM THE TAX COLLECTOR

If you are paying online, the only search information you need to type in is the name of your road. The list will populate all house numbers, and you can choose from that list. All last names were removed due to Daniel's Law. It isn't necessary to set up an account to complete your online payment.

Please refrain from post dating your checks. We are not allowed to hold them in the office, all checks must be deposited within 48 hours. Post-dated checks will be returned.

If you are paying cash for your taxes please come in on a Monday, Wednesday or Thursday so Karen can help you.

TAX COLLECTORS CORNER:

Here is a review of available deductions and programs to be sure you're taking advantage of all you can:

Municipal Property Tax Deductions

Senior Citizen/Disabled/Surviving Spouse: If you were 65 years or older as of December 31st of the previous year, you may be eligible for a deduction of \$250.00 annually from your gross property tax amount. There is an income limitation of \$10,000.00, combined if married, excluding social security. Complete eligibility requirements are listed on the application form.

Applications are available in the Tax Collector department at www.greentwp.com.

Veterans: If you have served in the armed forces, or if you are a widow of a veteran that never remarried, you may be eligible for a deduction of \$250.00 annually from your gross property tax amount. There is also a 100% permanently disabled veteran deduction which grants full tax exemptions for qualified veterans. Complete eligibility requirements are listed on the application forms. Applications are available in the Tax Collector department at www.greentwp.com.

State of New Jersey Property Tax Relief Programs:

Senior Freeze (Property Tax Reimbursement Program/PTR): Provides direct property tax relief, in the form of a refund check, to homeowners who meet the eligibility requirements. For more information and an application please call (800) 882-6597 or online.

ANCHOR Program: This program provides property tax relief to New Jersey residents who own or rent property in New Jersey as their principal residence and meet certain income limits. For more information and an application please call (888) 238-1233.



Annual Tree Lighting



What a great turnout for the Annual Tree Lighting! Santa came for a visit to take pictures with the kids and the Gingerbread Bags were handed out. We also had visits from the local Scouts who sang some Christmas Carols, Miss Green and the Allamuchy-Green First Aid Squad. A big thank you to the Green Township Volunteer Fire department who brought Santa and everyone who helped make it a great night!

CONGRATULATIONS

Holiday Home Decorating Winners

85 Yellow Frame Road
3 Old Forge Lane
11 Fawn Hollow

Save the Date!

Annual Egg Hunt

Sunday, March 24th
EverGreen Park
2:00pm



Volunteers Needed

Interested in being part of a Township Board or Committee? It's a great way to see what is going on and be part of the planning and programs in town. Openings are available on the **RECREATION COMMITTEE** and **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE**. Please call 908-852-9333 for more information.



facebook



twitter



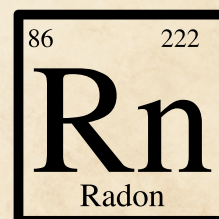
Instagram



www.greentwp.com

Free Radon Testing Kits

Green Township has applied for and been approved for the Radon Awareness Program Grant. This program will allow the Township to purchase radon test kits up to \$2,000. Please contact Patty at (908) 852-9333 Ext. 11 if you would like to receive a free test kit.



Every
Saturday

parkruns are free, weekly, community events all around the world. parkrun events are 5k and take place on Saturday morning in parks and open spaces.

This program is a positive, welcoming and inclusive experience where there is no time limit and no one finishes last. Everyone is welcome to come along, whether you walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate.

<https://www.parkrun.us/evergreen>



GREENTOWNSHIP SENIORS

Meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 1:00pm
at the Municipal Building, 150 Kennedy Road.

Interested in joining this fantastic group?

Please call Fausto at 973-600-6002

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

WAYNE AND JOY DANIEL



Wayne and Joy Daniel at a wonderful fabric store in Bangkok, Thailand; one of the 50+ countries they have visited. Wayne's favorite destination was Barbados in the Caribbean and Joy's was Santorini in the Greek Islands.

For the past 15+ years Wayne has been either the President or the Vice President of the Green Seniors club and for the past decade Joy has been its Treasurer and arranged most of the luncheons, dinners and other food related events. Joy also initiated the clubs annual Christmas cookie exchange over a decade ago. This is their way of giving back to our community.

Wayne and Joy retired, Wayne from Wall Street and Joy from the appliance industry, to Green Township 18 years ago from Montclair, NJ and live in a lakefront home on Lake Tranquility.



Members spending time with the Sparta Seniors at their annual Christmas Luncheon.

Need help paying your energy bill?

Financial Assistance Programs Available:

INCOME QUALIFICATIONS - 2023-2024 ENERGY ASSISTANCE YEARLY INCOME GUIDELINES

HH Size	USF	LIHEAP	NJ Shares Min	NJ Shares Max	PAGE Grant Max	Lifeline
1	\$44,111	\$44,111	\$27,180	\$51,520	\$73,518	\$38,769
2	\$57,684	\$57,684	\$36,620	\$69,680	\$96,140	\$45,270
3	\$71,257	\$71,257	\$46,060	\$87,840	\$118,762	
4	\$84,830	\$84,830	\$55,500	\$106,000	\$141,384	

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

Online Applications Now Available. Customers with a household income at or below specific income limits can apply. Utility heating customers typically receive an average of \$300 toward their electric or gas bill.

LIHEAP Emergency

Recipients of the federal Low-Income Home Energy Program may be eligible to receive an additional grant of up to \$1000.00 in LIHEAP Emergency funding. To be eligible, you must be a LIHEAP recipient and have a past due balance of \$300 or greater. You may apply for a LIHEAP Emergency Grant at your local agency from March 16 through June 30 each year.

Universal Service Fund (USF)

If you apply for LIHEAP, you are also applying for USF. Electric or gas utility customers can receive from \$5 to \$180 per month toward their utility bills. USF accepts applications year round.

USF Fresh Start (Erase your past due balance!)

USF customers are automatically enrolled in the USF Fresh Start program if their natural gas bill is in arrears of more than \$60. Participants are required to pay their current bill on-time, every month, for 12 months, to have a past due balance erased. 1/12th of a participant's overdue balance will be waived each month their current bill is paid.

Call: **1.800.510.3102** Apply: energyassistance.nj.gov

Payment Assistance for Gas and Electric (PAGE)

The PAGE grant is a financial assistance program designed to help low to moderate income families in New Jersey who are experiencing economic hardship and struggling to pay their electric and natural gas bills. If you are a NJ resident who rents or owns a home and are facing a crisis situation that includes a documented notice of overdue payment for gas and/or electric service—you may qualify.

Call: **1.866.657.4273** Visit: njshares.org

Lifeline Assistance Program

Lifeline Assistance Program is a utility assistance program that offers \$225 to individuals who meet the eligibility requirements of the Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled program or who receive Supplemental Security Income.

Call: **1.800.792.9745** Visit: state.nj.us/humanservices

NJ SHARES

NJ SHARES assists income-eligible households in paying their energy, telephone and water bills. The program provides relief to people who are not eligible for other types of assistance.

Call: **1.866.657.4273** Visit: njshares.org

NJ Comfort Partners

NJ Comfort Partners is a free energy saving and energy education program for qualified low-income customers. The program helps you save energy and money while making your home more energy-efficient.

Call: **1.800.915.8309** Visit: njcleanenergy.com/cp

Home Weatherization for Moderate Income Customers

Free home weatherization is available for income-qualified customers that includes a free energy assessment and completion of measures to make their home more energy efficient.

Call: **1.833.493.0692** Visit: ETGSaveEnergy.com

Customer Service: 1.800.242.5830 (Monday - Friday 7a.m. - 8p.m.)

Township of Green Garbage/Recycling Calendar

May 2023 - April 2024

MAY 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	R	G	5	6
7	8	9	10	G	12	13
14	15	16	R	G	19	20
21	22	23	24	G	26	27
28	29	30	R			

JUNE 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				G	2	3
4	5	6	7	G	9	10
11	12	13	R	G	16	17
18	19	20	21	G	23	24
25	26	27	R	G		

JULY 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	G	7	8
9	10	11	R	G	14	15
16	17	18	19	G	21	22
23	24	25	R	G	28	29
30	31					

AUGUST 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	G	4	5
6	7	8	R	G	11	12
13	14	15	16	G	18	19
20	21	22	R	G	25	26
27	28	29	30	G		

SEPTEMBER 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	R	G	8	9
10	11	12	13	G	15	16
17	18	19	R	G	22	23
24	25	26	27	G	29	30

OCTOBER 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	R	G	6	7
8	9	10	11	G	13	14
15	16	17	R	G	20	21
22	23	24	25	G	27	28
29	30	31				

NOVEMBER 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			R	G	3	4
5	6	7	8	G	10	11
12	13	14	R	G	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	G	25
26	27	28	R	30		

DECEMBER 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	G	8	9
10	11	12	R	G	15	16
17	18	19	20	G	22	23
24	25	26	R	G	29	30
31						

JANUARY 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	G	5	6
7	8	9	R	G	12	13
14	15	16	17	G	19	20
21	22	23	R	G	26	27
28	29	30	31			

FEBRUARY 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				G	2	3
4	5	6	R	G	9	10
11	12	13	14	G	16	17
18	19	20	R	G	23	24
25	26	27	28	G		

MARCH 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	R	G	8	9
10	11	12	13	G	15	16
17	18	19	R	G	22	23
24	25	26	27	G	29	30
31						

APRIL 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	R	G	5	6
7	8	9	10	G	12	13
14	15	16	R	G	19	20
21	22	23	24	G	26	27
28	29	30				

G= Garbage pick up, please have can curbside by 6:00am

R=Recycling pick up, please have can curbside by 6:00am

You are allowed 2 bulk items per week, you may want to call Blue Diamond to let them know if an item is large.

PLEASE CALL BLUE DIAMOND AT 973-598-9800 WITH ANY ISSUES OR PROBLEMS BEFORE YOU CALL TOWN HALL.

YOU MUST REFERENCE GREEN TOWNSHIP AS YOUR ADDRESS.

STUFF YOU SHOULD KNOW...

NATURAL GAS SERVICE

Elizabethtown Gas is currently working through Sutton, Pequest, Phillips and Mackerly Roads bringing natural gas to many of the homes in that area. If you are interested in a hooking into this system please call 844-886-8488.



MUNICIPAL OFFICES

CLOSED

January 15th

Martin Luther King Day

February 19th

President's Day

March 29th

Good Friday

LOST A DOG OR CAT?

FOUND A DOG OR CAT?

Call the Animal Control Officer,
Alan DeCarolis
908-377-0808

You can also call Town Hall
and speak to the Dog Licensing
Offical



EVERGREEN PARK BATHROOMS

The bathrooms at EverGreen Park are closed for the season. This closure prevents the pipes from freezing and is necessary for the protection of the systems. A temporary, handicap accessible bathroom will be available throughout the winter.



NO PARKING
SNOW PLOWING/SHOVELING



There is **NO PARKING** on any road during snow storms, cars will be towed at owner's expense. There will be **NO** plowing, shoveling, or snow blowing of snow **INTO** or **ACROSS** the roads. Please make sure all sidewalks on your property are cleared of snow within 24 hours of storm.

FIRE HYDRANTS

Ordinance 17-2.7.1 Removal of Snow Around Fire Hydrants

The owner, owners or lessees of any real property in the Township abutting any fire hydrant shall maintain the area within a five-foot radius of the perimeter of any such fire hydrant free of snow. The removal of snow shall be completed within 24 hours of daylight after the snow has formed or fallen or accumulated on or around any fire hydrant. On failure to perform the required clearance within the specified time frame, the Township, or any department thereof, may perform the clearance and bill the responsible party no more than \$75.

