



Plainsboro Reporter

A Quarterly Township Newsletter

Summer 2008

Plainsboro HealthCare Campus To Be Considered

In April, the township's Development Review Committee held its first meeting to review development applications submitted by Princeton HealthCare Systems for the relocation of the University Medical Center at Princeton.

Princeton HealthCare Systems purchased the 160 acre FMC Corporation property on Route 1 and intends to construct a new 269 bed hospital to replace the existing medical center located in Princeton Borough. This site was chosen because it is closer to where employees live and for patient and visitor access. The size of the property will also permit additional health care related facilities to be constructed within a short distance to the proposed hospital. In addition to the hospital medical office complex, the site could ultimately contain a skilled nursing facility, continuing care retirement community, general office research complex, and a community park.

The intended uses were discussed at length by the township's Planning Board before the property was acquired. The Board was charged by the Township Committee to prepare a Redevelopment Plan for the FMC site as permitted by state law. The Planning Board tasked a special subcommittee to review plan drafts, make recommendations, and hold public meetings. The Planning Board held its own hearing and recommended to the Township Committee that it approve the redevelopment plan. The Township Committee considered the Board's request and on January 23, 2008 adopted an ordinance approving the *Redevelopment Plan for the FMC Corporation Site*. "It is critical that we insure that the hospital's site plan is consistent with our redevelopment plan," stated Township Committeeman Ed Yates.

Subdivision and site plan applications have been submitted by Princeton HealthCare Systems to subdivide the property into five parcels and for site plan approval for the hospital phase of the project. A separate application

has subsequently been submitted for the skilled nursing facility. Staff is in the process of reviewing each application for its completeness, compliance with the approved redevelopment plan, and site plan standards.

Although Princeton HealthCare Systems owns the property, FMC Corporation has an agreement to occupy certain buildings for a period while other buildings could be demolished. If approved as currently configured, the hospital plans to keep one of the newer buildings to retrofit it to their needs. The submitted plans also call for 37 acres to be donated to the township and developed as a passive community park.

"We are pleased with the planning process so far, but some important work still lies ahead," stated Mayor Peter Cantu. A second Development Review Committee meeting will be scheduled after the applicant's professionals address concerns raised by township staff. Contact the Department of Planning and Zoning for further information at (609) 799-0909, extension 217.



Rendering of the proposed University Medical Center.

Plainsboro Recognized by FORTUNE Small Business Magazine

Plainsboro Township has been named one of the “100 Best Places to Live and Launch a Small Business” by FORTUNE Small Business (FSB) magazine.

Of the 100 communities recognized Plainsboro was ranked 52nd. Only one other New Jersey community, Lyndhurst, Bergen County was named.

In evaluating Plainsboro FSB noted Plainsboro’s great schools and its proximity to transportation services to New York City. They also note that the fine dining and cultural amenities of nearby Princeton will soon be augmented by the development of Plainsboro’s new “downtown,” the Village Center.

In a letter to Plainsboro Mayor Peter Cantu, Executive Editor Richard McGill Murphy stated that “the editors of FSB compiled this list based on exhaustive statistical and qualitative research.” FSB evaluated a range of criteria

and assigned reporters to interview business owners, local officials and economic experts in all 100 communities.

“We are grateful that FSB has recognized Plainsboro,” stated Mayor Peter Cantu. “We work hard to provide our citizens a high quality of life and our businesses a supportive environment in which to succeed. To be honest, it affirms what we have thought for years, Plainsboro is a great place to live and to do business.”

FORTUNE Small Business covers news and topics of interest to small business. FSB is distributed 10 times a year and reaches 1 million owners, partners and managers of leading small businesses. FSB’s online home is CNNMoney.com.

The “100 Best Places to Live and Launch a Small Business” appears in the April issue of FORTUNE Small Business and is available online at CNN Money.com.

Volunteer Spotlight on: Maryann Sullivan



Maryann Sullivan has participated as a volunteer with the Plainsboro Domestic Violence Response Team since 2003. She is a trained advocate who provides assistance in securing emergency shelter for victims and their children. “Domestic violence can

happen to victims of all ages, races and socioeconomic and educational backgrounds”, stated Maryann.

In 2005, Maryann was appointed to the Human Relations Council by Mayor Peter Cantu. The council is charged with the development of programs designed to establish community awareness and an appreciation of Plainsboro’s rich ethnic diversity.

Also in 2005, Maryann became a member of Plainsboro’s successful all volunteer Community

Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.). C.E.R.T. members are equipped and trained to assist in the event of an emergency. Last year Maryann received an award for her dedication from the members of the team. “Maryann certainly represents the spirit of volunteerism and community service,” stated Deputy Mayor Neil Lewis.

In 2006, Maryann joined *Plainsboro on Watch* and became the Information Officer for their website. *Plainsboro on Watch* is sponsored by the Plainsboro Township Police Department with the support of the national USA on Watch organization. “The key to this program is communication” says Maryann.

Maryann is a former paralegal with the New Jersey Attorney General’s Office and moved to Plainsboro in 1989. When she is not dedicating her efforts and time, Maryann proudly watches her son play baseball as a member of the West Windsor-Plainsboro’s Northern Knights.

Keeping you posted...

Township Committee Appoints Township Clerk



In February, the Township Committee promoted Deputy Township Clerk Carol Torres to the position of Township Clerk. Carol filled a vacancy left when longstanding Township Clerk Pat Hullfish stepped down from the position.

Carol assumed her new duties on February 19th. “We are fortunate to have such a qualified individual already on staff in the township. Carol’s familiarity with both the

statutory and day-to-day duties of the Township Clerk’s office will go a long way to make this a smooth transition” stated Mayor Peter Cantu.

Carol has served as Deputy Township Clerk for Plainsboro since October 2005. Prior to her arrival in Plainsboro, Carol worked for the clerk’s office in the City of Trenton, having begun her municipal career as an employee of the city’s Division of Health. In addition to her clerking background, Carol has also served in the United States Air Force.

Concept Plan Approved For Princeton University Art Storage Museum

The Planning Board has approved a concept plan for a new 30,000 square foot building on the James Forrestal campus on the now vacant site of the former ‘Matterhorn’ building. The stand alone building will be used to process art work acquired by the University or on loan to the University’s museum. The building will be a technologically advanced art storage facility. Current facilities have outgrown their space and a new building is needed that will meet stringent requirements to preserve the art work.

The entire building will use the most current advances in the industry. “This unique plan is unlike anything we’ve seen before,” stated Committeeman Ed Yates. When art work is received the truck will be brought into a garage area where the doors will be closed and locked. The area will then be climate controlled similar in temperature and humidity to the space where it will be unpacked and checked. Each room in the building will be controlled to specific air quality, temperature, and humidity requirements. The building will not be open to the general public.

Novo Nordisk Expands U.S. Headquarters in Plainsboro

Novo Nordisk, a healthcare company with an 85-year history of innovation and achievement in diabetes care, announced plans to expand its U.S. headquarters in Plainsboro. In the past five years, the company has experienced a 150 percent increase in employees at its U.S. headquarters. “Novo Nordisk has been an exemplary corporate citizen consistently at the forefront in support of Plainsboro and its community projects and programs,” stated Mayor Peter Cantu.

Plainsboro Township worked with the Governor’s Office of Economic Growth to facilitate Novo Nordisk’s decision to stay in Plainsboro and expand. They have been in Plainsboro since 2000. Novo Nordisk plans to begin occupying the new campus located at 1100 College Road in the spring. The lease is for 15 years and the facility is the first of five, five-story buildings to be completed in Princeton Cor-

porate Campus, an 800,000 square foot master-planned office development located in Plainsboro.



Photo by Nat Clymer Photography, LLC

Mayor Peter Cantu is joined by Governor Jon Corzine and Jerzy Grubn, President of Novo Nordisk, Inc., at the recent announcement that Novo Nordisk would be expanding its national headquarters in Plainsboro.

Grant Success Eases Finances

Plainsboro continues its longstanding practice of aggressively pursuing grant funding to support municipal services.

The Plainsboro Police Department was particularly proactive in securing support. In the area of police enforcement, grants were received for communications, equipment, education and enforcement from federal, state and county funds. The communication grants will allow the township to purchase equipment to communicate with different agencies and jurisdictions which is crucial in the event of an emergency. Equipment grants were used to replace outdated radios and body armor. Education grants helped to educate our residents in the areas of Child Passenger Safety and Bicycle Safety. Enforcement grants such as Aggressive Driver, Click-It or Ticket, and Over the Limit/Under Arrest helped to keep our roads safe.

Transportation grants provided a significant benefit to Plainsboro taxpayers. Funds were secured from the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), Middlesex County and the federal government. A \$250,000 grant received from the NJDOT will be used for the Plainsboro Road Traffic Calming Project. An \$800,000 grant received from the federal government as a result of the efforts of Congressman Rush Holt, will also be used for the Plainsboro Road Project. Middlesex County awarded Plainsboro \$80,000 through its Open Space/Recreation, Pedestrian, Bicycle Program. These funds will be added to an \$80,000 grant received last year and used to construct a paved bike path along Plainsboro Road on the South side of Amtrak bridge that is a continuation of the project completed on the north side of the bridge. The Scudders/Dey Road improvements currently underway is another project that is made possible by the support of Middlesex County. The county will reimburse the township for 75% of the costs of construction and 100% of the associated engi-

neering costs. Mapleton Road Improvements is a project nearing commencement and is funded 100% by Middlesex County. Additionally, the County also provided \$1,000,000 to Plainsboro for Community Park Improvements that will include field lighting and new picnic areas.

“The Recreation Department has effectively pursued grants from both private and public sources,” stated Township Committeeman Nuran Nabi. Bristol-Myers Squibb is the sole supporter of the *America - A New Home* program that began with state funding. “This program would not be possible without our partnership with Bristol-Myers Squibb,” stated Committeeman Nabi. Recreation Opportunities for Individuals with Disabilities makes it possible to promote active community involvement for all of our residents through enhanced recreational and social programs and services for the disabled. The Community Development Block Grant is a grant that assists many different segments of our population. This grant assists with programs for the disabled as well as providing financial assistance for latchkey programs and recreational and health programs for senior citizens.

Other grants were received in the area of Public Works, such as Clean Communities, Recycling Tonnage and Community Forestry.

In 2007, the Township received notice and award of almost \$2.5 million in grant funds, not including the library project. With the competitive nature of these grants today, Plainsboro is pleased with the results and will continue to make every effort to secure funding in 2008 and beyond. “This outside funding goes a long way to easing the demands on our projects,” stated Township Committeeman Michael Weaver. “They allow us to undertake projects and provide services that would otherwise be difficult to fund.”

Tax Deadlines Approaching

The 2008 final tax bill should be mailed in July. If you wish to have an e-mail sent to you as a reminder of the date on which a tax payment is due, visit www.plainsboronj.com (click on departments, Tax Collector) to sign up for this free service. Also, for your added convenience, there is a drop box located on the first floor of the building for after-hour tax payments.

Homestead Rebate applications for residents age 65 years or older and also for disabled persons were mailed in early May. If you have not received yours, please contact the tax office at 609-799-0909 x320 for assistance in obtaining one. Non-Senior Homestead Rebate applications will be mailed in July.

Safety First...in the Water and on the Road

With summer rapidly approaching, many township residents will enjoy the benefits of a pool or outdoor spa.

Tragically, more than 250 children under the age of five drown in swimming pools and more than 2700 children seek medical attention for pool related injuries annually, according to the U.S. Product Safety Commission. By observing the following recommendations, you can help to make this swimming season enjoyable and safe.

- Fences must be at least 48 inches above grade measured on the outside of the pool. Openings at the bottom, between grade and the fence, must not exceed 2 inches. Maximum openings in the fence must not allow passage of a 4 inch sphere.
- Access gates must be self closing and swing away from the pool.
- Never leave children unattended in or near a pool. An adult who knows CPR should be actively supervising children.
- Keep rescue equipment, such as a shepherd's hook or life preserver, as well as a phone nearby.
- Never use electrical equipment of any kind near the water.
- Don't leave toys in or around the pool, as they are a temptation to children.

- Never let an individual impaired by alcohol or drugs to use the pool.

For child-friendly safety information on pools and spas, your children can visit www.splashzoneusa.com.

Cycling is also a favorite summer activity. Unfortunately, each year over 750 bicyclists lose their lives in accidents, most with motor vehicles. Most deaths are attributed to traumatic brain injury and the simple task of wearing a helmet could significantly reduce the severity of injury.

Wearing a helmet is required for all young people under the age of 17 when cycling, roller-skating, or skateboarding. When cycling, follow the rules of the road and ride with traffic, observe all traffic signs and signals, and use lights at dusk or after dark. Wear bright colors and reflective material especially late in the day.

The police will be conducting bicycle rodeos and safety inspections throughout the summer as part of a bicycle safety grant. Call the CORE Unit at 609-799-2333, ext. 619, 681, or 686 for more information or to request a bicycle safety check or rodeo in your neighborhood.

Webpage Updates Available

The Plainsboro Township website now provides visitors with a new e-bulletin service. Website users can register and receive an e-mail alerting them to any changes or updates made to the site. By registering, you will also be provided advisory notices in

the event of an emergency. To register, go to www.plainsboronj.com and select "Register for Plainsboro E-Bulletins". Please note that spam filters may prevent you from receiving e-mails. The registration page includes tips on how to alleviate this problem.

National Night Out Scheduled

The Plainsboro Police Department will be sponsoring our 25th annual National Night Out on August 5th at Morris Davison Park from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. National Night Out is intended to:

- Increase drug and crime prevention awareness
- Generate support for crime prevention

- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police/community relations

A number of public safety groups will be represented and programs will be offered. Those in attendance will be eligible to win safety equipment, as well as a new bike. Feel free to bring your bicycle and helmet for the officers to inspect.

Ordinance to Prevent Teen Drinking

Teen drinking is a common problem faced by both parents and law enforcement officials. Plainsboro Township has joined the growing number of communities creating township ordinances to prohibit the possession and consumption of alcohol by people under the age of 21.

The ordinance provides the police with a new tool for dealing with the problem of underage drinking and would allow the municipal court to decide such matters without creating a criminal record for the convicted individual. Current state laws focus on consumption and possession while on public property while our new ordinance will allow the police to investigate and hold accountable teens drinking on private property.

Police officers will investigate incidents based upon complaints or by personal observation. The ordinance will not interfere with family affairs, ceremonial or religious observances. A parent, guardian, or relative may give permission to a person under the legal drinking age to consume alcoholic beverages. "The police are not targeting the family picnic, but are focusing on the large unsupervised parties that frequently get out of hand," said Deputy Mayor Neil Lewis. Penalties for violators range from a \$250 to \$350 fine and may result in a

license suspension. The license suspension is at the discretion of the municipal court. A license suspension for a young driver is quite significant and may be a deterrent to potential offenders.

There are other benefits from enacting this ordinance other than reducing the number of underage drinking parties. Many partygoers drive to and from the party location and with those drivers off the road the township may see a reduction in the number of drunk driving accidents.

Although the new ordinance focuses on enforcement, Plainsboro police officers are active in prevention programs as well. Officers instruct 11th grade students in Defensive Driving which includes education on the dangers of drinking and driving. The police department participates in a safety expo at Quakerbridge Mall each April, partnering with other law enforcement agencies, and MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) to educate the public on drunk driving prevention.

To review the new ordinance in its entirety, visit the township website at: www.plainsboronj.com and click on the Township Code, Chapter 49.

Cell Phone Ban Takes Effect

While driving it's common to see distracted drivers on the road next to you. On March 1, 2008, New Jersey became the fourth state to ban the use of handheld cell phones while driving. Police may now stop the driver for using a handheld cell phone. Drivers are subject to \$100 fine for violating the law.

Handheld cell phone usage is the focus of the new law, and this includes texting as well as talking. Although it may be difficult for police to observe the violation, the law was enacted to protect the other drivers who share the road with distracted drivers.

Statistics provided from New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety showed that in 2006 there were 3,580 crashes involving cell phone usage, however many of those drivers were using hands-free devices. It may be the actual conversation that is distracting the drivers, but without an earpiece, searching for a number, dialing, and answering all take concentration and frequently the use of two hands.

"Using any type of handheld electronic device while driving may be dangerous and this law acts as a reminder for folks to focus on driving. We all share the same roads, so let's keep them safe", stated Deputy Mayor Neil Lewis.

At your service . . .

Township Clerk's Office 799-0909 ext. 547

Elections

The 2008 Primary Election will be held on June 3rd. Hours for voting are from 6:00am to 8:00pm.

Passports

Passports are available by appointment only. For further information, see the Township website or call 799-0909 ext. 200.

Pet Licenses

New Jersey State law mandates that all dogs six months of age or older be licensed. Renewal applications will be mailed by the Township in December to owners of currently licensed pets. If you receive a renewal, please follow the instruc-

tions and return it with the appropriate fees. Applications are available for all new pets in the Township Clerk's Office at 641 Plainsboro Road. Proof of rabies vaccination must be submitted with the application. **According to state regulation, when licensing, the rabies vaccination immunity must extend through at least ten (10) months of the 12-month licensing period.** Therefore licenses cannot be issued if the rabies vaccination expires before November 1st of each year. If for any medical reason the animal cannot be vaccinated in the required time, a letter from the veterinarian with an explanation must be submitted with the renewal form.

Submit a copy of the spay/neuter certificate, if applicable. The license fees are \$13.20 for spayed/neutered animals and \$16.20 for non-neutered animals. Late fees of \$5.00 per month were assessed as of February 1st.

Vital Records

Vital records such as birth, marriage/civil union and death certificates are issued through the Township Clerk's Office. For information regarding requirements call the office or visit the Township website.

Public Works Department 799-0099

Conservation Center Hours

Summer Hours – (April 1st – December 13th)
Monday and Thursday from 5:30pm – 7:30pm
Saturday 10:00am – 2:00pm

Brush Collection Guidelines and Schedule

Brush Collection

- Must be curbside by 7:00am the first Monday of the month designated for your street ONLY. No brush should be placed in the street or on sidewalks and no closer than 10' from any catch basin.
- Brush left curbside during non

scheduled months subject to fines and removal costs.

- Trimmings from trees, shrubs and vines accepted (max. 6 ft length and 5" diameter).
- NO roots, stumps, soil, grass
- Brush shall be neatly placed parallel to the road with limb ends facing the same direction.

April, June, August, October

Beechtree Lane, Brentwood Drive, George Davison Road, Mapleton Road, Perrine Road, Princeton Collection, Princeton Crossing, Princeton Manor, Serina Drive, Shallow Brook Estates, Woodland Drive

March, May, July, September

Brookside Court, Cooks Corner, Cranbury Neck Road, Dey Road, Eiker Road, Gentry, Grovers Mill Estates, Grovers Mill Road, Millstone Court, Nostrand Road, Petty Road, Plainsboro Road, Pollack Court, Ponds End, Scotts Corner Road, Stults Drive, Village Area, Walker Gordon Estates

Curbside Recycling

Schedule—June 9, 23; July 7, 21; August 4, 18

Remaining 2008 Bulk Waste Days

June 14, August 9, November 1

Middlesex County Programs

The following services are provided by the county.

For information, contact *Middlesex County Solid Waste* 732-745-4170 for information.

- Residential Paint Drop-Off • Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off • Consumer Electronics Drop-Off

Directory and Information

PLAINSBORO TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL OFFICES

Location: 641 Plainsboro Road

Hours of Operation:

Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:30pm

Phone: General 609-799-0909
Court 609-799-0863

Web Site: www.plainsboronj.com

Plainsboro Public Works Department

Location: Scotts Corner Road at
20 Woodland Drive

Phone: 609-799-0099

Plainsboro Police Department

Location: 641 Plainsboro Road

Phone: Non-Emergency 609-799-2333
Emergencies 9 1 1

Police

Web Site: www.plainsboropolice.com

Plainsboro Public Library

Location: 641 Plainsboro Road

Phone: 609-275-2897

24-Hour Recorded Message Lines

Park Rangers 897-7844

Passports 799-0909 x 200

Recreation Programs 799-0909 x 550

TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

All meetings are held at 7:30pm in the
Municipal Building, 641 Plainsboro Road,
unless otherwise noted.

Development Review Committee

3rd Tuesday, 6pm

Environmental Advisory Comm.

4th Monday

Fire Commissioners

3rd Monday, 7pm, Firehouse

Historical Society

3rd Tuesday, Wicoff House

Human Relations Council

2nd Monday

Library Board of Trustees

1st Tuesday, Library

Local Assistance Board

Qtrly. Call x218 for date

Shade Tree Advisory

2nd Tuesday, Public Works

Township Committee

Regular Mtg. 2nd Wednesday

Agenda Mtg. 4th Wednesday

Planning Board

1st & 3rd Monday

Zoning Board

1st Wednesday

SCHEDULES TO NOTE

Library Hours

Monday & Friday

9:00am – 5:30pm

Tuesday, Wed., Thursday

9:00am – 8:30pm

Saturday & Sunday

10:00am – 5:00pm

Passport Office

Information: 799-0909 x 200

Also check the website

Recycling/Bulk Waste

See Public Works Page

More Numbers:

School District Information

716-5000

Report Street Light Out to

PSE&G 1-800-436-7734

Report Pot Hole to

Public Works 799-0099



PLAINSBORO

Township of Plainsboro
641 Plainsboro Road
Plainsboro, NJ 08536

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Peter A. Cantu, Mayor

Neil J. Lewis, Deputy Mayor

Nuran Nabi

Michael T. Weaver

Edmund C. Yates

TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR

Robert O. Sheehan

NEWSLETTER COORDINATOR

Teresa Carson

Presorted Standard
US Postage
PAID
Plainsboro, NJ
Permit #45

**ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER
PLAINSBORO, NJ 08536**