

VILLAGE CENTER UPDATE

Work on the highly anticipated Village Center continues. By December, all of the roads and parking areas, including curbing, base pavement and new distinctive street lights will be in place for a significant portion of the site, with the balance expected to be completed next spring/summer.

Construction of Market Square, the village green at the center of the project, is expected to begin sometime this fall and completed during the spring. This new public open space will include brick walks, low decorative walls, benches, trash receptacles, and lighting - all surrounding a beautiful plaza and fountain area. "These public amenities will create the opportunity for people to come and enjoy a full range of experiences," stated Ed Yates, Township Committee liaison to the Community Development Department. "Whether visiting a restaurant, stopping by the library or shops, the Square will be a very inviting place."

The dramatic impact that the Village Center buildings along Schalks Crossing Road have had on this area is only the beginning. Two more buildings of similar size are under construction along Market Street, with the steel and wood framing expected to go up soon. When this occurs, a fuller expression of the completed village center will become apparent, as viewed from Market Street at Schalks Crossing Road. Beyond the two new buildings will be Market Square and other commercial buildings, townhouses and the new Township Library all of which will frame the Square. The single-family homes and townhouses that will line MacNamee Street along the southern boundary of the Village Center are selling briskly and are expected to be underway this fall.

The first tenants of the Village Center are expected to



Construction of the Village Center continues to progress. The buildings shown above, which front on Schalks Crossing Road, will soon be occupied.

open for business this fall, including the relocation of First Constitution Bank from Plainsboro Plaza to their new home in the Village Center along Schalks Crossing Road.

Construction of the new homes at the Village Residential site, adjacent to the Fire House on Plainsboro Road, is nearly complete. Of the 29 homes in this project, all but three are sold. Currently 19 of the homes are occupied.

Construction at the new senior housing site (*Villas & Highlands at Cranbury Brook*), located near Enterprise Drive and the Municipal Center, is well underway. Of the 102 single-family homes, 25 are sold. Construction on the 93-unit condo apartment building is underway, with the foundation work being completed during the next month and the steel frame of the building to follow. Approximately 20 of the 93 condo apartments are sold.

CAT AND DOG LICENSING

All cats and dogs in Plainsboro must be licensed. In December, renewal applications will be mailed to owners of currently licensed pets. The deadline to apply is January 31, 2006. The state mandates that a proof of rabies vaccination, expiring after November 1, 2006 is required to obtain a 2006 license. To renew, mail your payment (checks payable to Plainsboro Township) and appropriate documentation (proof of rabies vaccination and copy of spay/neuter certificate— if applicable) to the Plainsboro Township Clerk's Office

at 641 Plainsboro Road, Plainsboro, NJ 08536. The fees are: \$8.20 Neutered, \$11.20 Non-Neutered. Late Fees: (if not renewed by January 31) \$5 per pet for the first month, then \$1 each additional pet each month thereafter.

A free rabies clinic has been scheduled for Saturday, January 28, 2006 at the Plainsboro Public Works Garage. Dogs are welcome from 9am to 10am and cats are scheduled for 10am to 11am.

HOLIDAY DRIVE

The Plainsboro Township Annual Holiday Drive provides a happy holiday to our neighbors in need. The drive encompasses three programs - an Adopt-a-Family Program, a Food Drive and Toys for Tots Program. The Adopt-a-Family program allows your family or civic group adopt a family and provide them with gifts for the holiday.

The Food Drive provides food and gift certificates to local supermarkets and Toys for Tots, which is organized by the Plainsboro Police Department and PBA Local 319, provides toys for children.

The anonymous recipients are Plainsboro residents who find themselves in difficult situations - such as victims of domestic violence, sudden illness or disability, etc. Referrals are received from schools, churches, police and counselors. In the past we have had families “adopt” other families, office staff has “adopted” a group of disabled adults, and civic groups provide gift certificates to local food stores. Every effort - large or small - is welcome and all of it is much appreciated.

“Each year the generosity of Plainsboro’s residents ensures that everyone here has an opportunity to have a happy holiday. It is that spirit of giving that makes Plainsboro not just another town-but a community,” stated Committeewoman Ginger Gold-Schnitzer, Township Committee Liaison to the Public Assistance Board. To offer assistance, please contact Municipal Welfare Director Jan Bayern at 609-799-0909, ext. 218.



Volunteers from Firmenich recently assisted the Township with cleanup efforts as part of Firmenich’s Community Day.

REQUIREMENTS FOR SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL

As winter approaches, Plainsboro residents should be reminded of their responsibilities to clear snow and remove ice. The requirements outlined in Plainsboro’s ordinances include the following:

- All property owners or agents of apartment complexes must clear all sidewalks, private streets and parking lots of snow and ice within 24 hours of the end of the snowfall.
- No one should throw or place snow or ice on any public street within the Township.
- If in the interest of public safety the Township must intervene to remove snow or ice from sidewalks, private streets or parking lots, then the property owner or complex owner will be charged for the cost of such removal.

This ordinance is enforceable through fines and if found guilty in Municipal Court; violators will be fined \$50 for the first offense, \$100 for the second offense and up to \$500 for each subsequent offense. Residents should note that they have an obligation to clear snow each time there

is a snowfall and that upon completion of each snowfall, they have a 24-hour period in which to clear the snow. Each of these 24-hour periods is considered to be another violation of the ordinance. The Plainsboro Public Works Department works hard to provide safe and efficient removal of snow and ice from the Township roadways. All road surfaces are treated with a combination of crushed salt mixed with calcium chloride liquid to provide for the fast melting of frozen precipitation. Plowing operations start with the onset of three or more inches of snow. Bridges, intersection and major arteries are given first priority, followed by residential streets.

Automobiles parked on the street present a hindrance and a safety hazard to plowing operations, especially in cul-de-sac areas. Residents are reminded to observe Township ordinances and refrain from parking on roadways during winter storms. High speed passing, passing on the right and tailgating snow equipment is both illegal and dangerous. Adhering to these regulations will provide for everyone’s safety in the event of a snowstorm.