

THE
HILLSDALE, NEW JERSEY

newsletter

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The Mayor and Council

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 3

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VIAL OF LIFE

What is the "Vial of Life"?

The "Vial of Life" is an essential little tool designed to promote the health and safety of our local residents; and it is hoped that one of these small vials (cylindrical in shape, 3" long with a plastic cap) will eventually be found in every home in Hillsdale.

Inside the vial is a form that has been filled out by the resident(s) which contains vital information that may be needed in case of an emergency at your home. If it is necessary for the Ambulance Corps, a rescue squad, the police or fire departments to be called to your home in an emergency situation, the "Vial of Life" will contain all the information necessary for them to do all that's possible to help you and the members of your family. The form will show your name, address, telephone number, physician's name, the names of relatives or friends, your past medical history, what medical coverage you have, current medication being taken, allergies to medication, hospitals where you have been treated and all information pertinent to your health and well-being.

The Vial itself and the printed form that goes with it are free. They are available from the members of the

Hillsdale Volunteer Ambulance Service. With the Vial you will receive a decal approximately 3" in diameter which should be placed on the outside of your refrigerator door at eye level. The Vial, with the completed form inside, should be strapped under the upper right-hand shelf of the refrigerator where the ambulance corps, the police or any rescue squad have been trained to look for it and the information it contains.

The use of the refrigerator as the location for the Vial is very important because in an emergency situation the rescue team knows exactly where to look; unlike a purse, a closet or a dresser drawer, the refrigerator is easily located in any household. The decal on the refrigerator door serves as a reminder that the Vial is inside.

The "Vial of Life", the decal and the information form are available to every resident of Hillsdale at no cost. They may be obtained from the Hillsdale Volunteer Ambulance Service by calling any of the members of the Membership Committee: Regina St. John (664-2180), Ed Rochman (666-9345) or Frank Manole (664-0358).

Update on Stonybrook

The Mayor and Council have agreed to auction a seven-acre portion of Stonybrook for residential development. The sale of this property will allow the retirement of the Stonybrook bonds and relieve the club's budget of the burden of debt service.

Given a successful sale, which is scheduled for the near future, the Council has indicated its intent to operate Stonybrook during the 1990 season. Plans for the club include the demolition of the old cabanas and the provision of new restroom facilities. We will have a further update in our next Newsletter.

The Autumn Leaves

You will find a green insert included in this edition of the Hillsdale Newsletter. Please read it carefully. It will give you the schedule of dates when leaves will be picked up in your area, including a map, and outlines in detail the collection procedures that must be followed along with safety tips that will prevent personal injury or property damage.

ADDITIONAL INSERTS INCLUDE:

An important letter from our chief of police. The Police Department is instituting a new program for the many residents who live alone. An application for the "Good Day" program is included. Read it carefully.

Your new recycling schedule for November, December, January and February. Post it in a convenient location for future use.

A Halloween flyer giving all details on this year's Halloween celebration sponsored by the Recreation Committee.

FIFTY-PLUS CLUB CELEBRATES 25th ANNIVERSARY

The "FIFTY PLUS CLUB" of Hillsdale was founded 25 years ago in October 1964 with approximately seven members to promote companionship and compatibility for men and women of Hillsdale in their senior years. Its purpose was to provide an area for semi-retired and retired men and women for mutual interests in an atmosphere of sociability as well as common endeavors in a non-sectarian and non-political environment.

In recent years the Club has averaged 100 dues-paying members from age 50 through 90 years. Its membership is open to all Hillsdale residents age 50 or over.

The group holds semi-monthly meetings on the second and fourth Thursdays at the United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall at Hillsdale and Magnolia Avenues. There is a token donation of 50 cents for coffee and dessert which is served prior to the meeting time at 12:30.

Some of the things of primary appeal to the

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE SENIOR CITIZENS OF HILLSDALE

Dear Senior Citizen Homeowner:

A special crime prevention program is available to you if you are 60 years of age or older.

This program is designed for your protection by making your home more resistant to crime. The funding for the program is through the County of Bergen and expires on December 31, 1989, **so it is important for you to give it your immediate attention.**

You first must call Ms. Deborah Fredericks at the Bergen County Police and Fire Academy, 646-2733 or 327-5200, to register for a Home Security Survey. Patrolman Donald Reiman, Hillsdale's Crime Prevention Officer, will be notified of your request and will conduct the survey of your home at your convenience.

The survey consists of checking all outer doors, frames, locks, windows and adequate lighting for outside of your home. Any deficiencies or recommendations will be noted in a report to you.

Should you decide to have the recommended improvements made to your home through this program, Patrolman Reiman will explain the procedure at the time of the survey. All recommended work will be completed either at no cost or at a nominal fee, depending on your annual income.

The Home Security Survey Program is directed at helping our senior citizen homeowners, but can only be done if you request it by calling Ms. Fredericks at the number listed above.

Sincerely Yours,
Ronald Schramm
Chief of Police

members and guests of the Club are the varied schedule of monthly bus trips to theater, restaurants and vacation resorts.

In addition, two special affairs held each year attract a large attendance of members and guests. The first is the annual Founder's Day Luncheon held in May; the second is the Annual Christmas Party held in December. Both include dancing, singing and dining at a well-known area restaurant.

Annual dues are a modest \$6.00 per individual per year if you join between May 1st and December 1st. However, dues are only \$3.00 for those joining between January 1st and April 30th.

For further information regarding specific dates for all coming events, those interested should call President Florence Skopal (664-3924), Treasurer Helen Schreiber (666-0626) or Trip Chairperson Betty Traficante (666-91521) who is also the Club's contact at Hillsdale House.

AN IMPORTANT SERVICE FOR THOSE OVER 65

Are you concerned about taxes, housing, senior health insurance, transportation? Do you have questions about these or any other problem areas?

For all senior citizens, for their families, for those caring for seniors and for any person concerned about a senior friend or relative, the New Jersey Division on Aging now has the:

Senior Citizen Information & Referral Service

Just call **1-800-792-8820** (toll-free)

to find answers to any questions he/she may have. Staff members of the service are available on all regular business days between the hours of 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM. At all other times, persons may leave a recorded message and a staff member will respond on the next working day. Callers are provided with the names and phone numbers of the proper agencies to service their particular query or problem. If the proper agency to handle the query or problem is another state agency, the caller is transferred to the correct agency. If the call involves a problem which best can be handled by the caller's County Area Agency on Aging, then he or she is provided with the name and telephone number of the Information & Referral specialist at the Area Agency. If it is determined that the senior citizen is not able to do the required follow-up, then the Information & Referral staff will undertake the necessary research and problem resolution on his or her behalf.

Every Hillsdale resident 65 years of age or older, and the family and friends who are caring for them, are encouraged to call the Information and Referral Service at 1-800-792-8820.

HILLSDALE HISTORY

REVOLUTIONARY WAR CLAIMS MADE BY HILLSDALE RESIDENTS

The Hillsdale area had no recorded Revolutionary War engagements, but detachments of both armies marched our old roads on forays for needed supplies from prosperous local homesteads. Toward the end of the war, the State asked those citizens who had suffered losses from destruction or foraging by either side to file claims. These claims are still on record in Trenton. The following account of two local claimants is by Hillsdale native Howard I. Durie. It first appeared in the Pascack Historical Society's *RELICS*, November 1969.

"Peter A. Westervelt, who lived on his farm near the intersection of Pascack Road and Hillsdale Avenue in Hillsdale, filed his claims in November, 1782. His losses were not large, but he was visited by both sides nevertheless. In 1776, soldiers from the Continental army took a new Indian blanket, a beehive and bees, 100 pounds of rye flour, a side of sole leather, a dressed calf skin, 2 pigs and a sheep, all valued at 5 pounds, 2 shillings and 6 pence. In 1782, soldiers or foragers from the British army took 2 horses, a pair of new shoes and a middle-size iron pot, all valued at 24 pounds, 19 shillings and 6 pence. Garret Durie, a neighbor of Peter

Westervelt and later a judge in the Bergen County Courts, lived in the present Farrell house, 156 Ell Road. He also filed two claims in 1782. The first totaled 31 pounds 8 shillings, covering 'damages which he sustained by the Continental Army,' including a horse, 4 beehives, 9 sheep, 2 calves, a bull and a great coat taken in November 1776; a woolen coverlet and a lamb 'taken by Major Lee' in 1778; and a side of sole leather, tanned skins, a hand vise and 5 shillings in silver taken in 1780. In October 1778, he was visited by the British who cleaned out part of his blacksmith shop, taking a large vise, a pick iron, a large sledge, 3 hand hammers, 4 tongs, 5 middle-size files, 2 nail molds and a pair of large pincers. They also took a horse, 4 sheep, a large 'knot' bowl and a scythe, all of a total value of 15 pounds, 19 shillings."

These claims suggest a lot about both life on our farms and life in the armies--but would you put a working beehive in the back of your wagon?

—Stanley J. Nants, Jr.
Borough Historian

Any Complaints? Help Us Help You

Hillsdale Code Compliance Officials can help local residents with complaints about safety, health and/or property maintenance. These problems include, but are not limited to, smell and noise, animal complaints and many other categories.

In order to properly investigate these complaints, the proper agency must be notified in a timely manner. When residents have a complaint, they should note the time of day, weather conditions and any other factors that will help investigators determine whether or not a violation exists, and how corrective measures can be taken.

Many times, these problems can be corrected through communications and cooperation between the code officials and the people involved with the violation. Complaints that are not corrected after a fair amount of time are issued a summons to appear in municipal court and usually are fined for failure to comply with the required codes.

All complaints including those that require immediate action, such as safety hazards, noise and odor, and violations in progress, should be called into the proper agency immediately.

Code Compliance Office 358-5016

For all complaints that concern safety, property maintenance and municipal ordinance violations.

Health Department 358-5025

For all complaints that concern noise, odors, animals, sanitation or health-related matters.

Police Department 664-4200

All emergency complaints that occur after hours, or on nights and weekends. The on-duty officer will contact the proper agency.

Your assistance in reporting these violations will

promote faster compliance and make Hillsdale a safer, more pleasant place in which to live.

LUNCH PROGRAM FOR SENIORS

For many years the Borough of Hillsdale has sponsored and subsidized a "hot lunch program" in the Senior Citizen Room at the Hillsdale Public Library. These luncheons are held at noon each Tuesday, and on the first and third Thursday of each month. There is a token charge of 75¢ per person. All Hillsdale senior citizens are invited.

For planning purposes it is necessary for reservations to be made the day preceding attendance. The telephone number to call is 358-5072.

Bingo is enjoyed by those who wish to remain until 2 or 2:30 P.M. Van transportation is available at a moderate charge for those who do not drive.

AMBULANCE CORPS TO HOST PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The Hillsdale Ambulance Service will offer a pancake breakfast on Sunday, November 12, 1989 from 9:00 A.M. till noon. The community is cordially invited to attend.

Ambulance Corps volunteers will prepare and serve the breakfast at the Corps building, 340 Washington Avenue, directly behind the fire house.

A minimal charge will be collected at the door. Advance tickets may be purchased from any corps member.

As an added feature, the membership committee will offer free "Vials of Life" (see story on Page One) and will be available to answer all questions. The members of the committee are: Regina St. John (664-2180), Ed Rochman (666-9345), Frank Manole (664-0358).

TREASURE HUNT! WHAT? WHERE? WHO?

The governing body of Hillsdale is fully aware of the reservoir of experience and talent to be found among the borough's citizens, experience and talent that would be extremely valuable if made available to the borough's official boards and committees. The governing body also realizes that many citizens are interested in serving on one of these committees and are willing to give the time required working with others who are contributing to the growth and progress of Hillsdale.

Each January at the reorganization meeting of the Mayor and Council various appointments are made. At the bottom of this page you will find a Borough Meeting Calendar noting the days and the hours official meetings are held.

PROGRESS ON INTERSECTION TO BEGIN NEXT YEAR

Construction will be getting underway on the Hillsdale Avenue/Wierimus Road/Melville Road intersection early next year. Plans have been delivered to the County by the Borough Engineer for final review and are going out for public bidding; bids are expected to be received this fall. The County is completely funding and supervising the construction of this project.

Original concept discussions regarding improvements to the intersection were held as early as the 1970's. Funding problems, residents' concerns, right-of-way acquisitions and Garden State Parkway involvement have all contributed to the delay. Construction is expected to last 15-18 months.

What? Boards/Commissions/Committees.

Where? The Municipal Building.

Who? Citizen volunteers who are the treasure of every community.

Time is precious to all of us, but if you are interested in working with others in the Borough Family and want to give your citizenship a special meaning by serving on one of these boards or committees, choose the one where you believe your help would be most valuable and send a short resume to the Mayor and Council. You can be sure it will receive consideration. For more information call the Borough Clerk, Liz Rotar, at 666-4800.

HILLSDALE APPLIES FOR STATE ROAD FUNDS

The Borough has applied to the New Jersey Department of Transportation for grant money under the New Jersey Transportation Trust Fund for road reconstruction in 1990. Three separate applications have been made with the hope that one or more will receive approval. They include Beech Street \$83,000; Evergreen Street \$100,000; and Columbus Avenue, Vincent Street, Howell Avenue \$110,000 as a joint project with Woodcliff Lake. The streets were chosen for their suitability to meet the State's criteria for funding. In 1989, the Borough received \$89,500 from the State to reconstruct Hazelwood Avenue, and \$60,000 from the County for Kinderkamack Road drainage improvements which were part of the overall Road Reconstruction Program which was worth \$379,000.

BOROUGH MEETING CALENDAR

<u>Council/Boards/Commissions</u>	<u>Agenda Work Sessions</u>	<u>Regular Public Meetings</u>	<u>Time</u>
Mayor & Council 666-4800	1st & 3rd Wednesday	.....	7:15 P.M.
Planning Board 358-5012	1st Tuesday	2nd Tuesday	8:00 P.M.
Zoning Board 358-5014	1st Thursday	3rd Tuesday	8:00 P.M.
Swim. Pool Commission 666-4800	.....	3rd Thursday	8:00 P.M.
Recreation Commission 666-4800	.....	1st & 3rd Tuesday	8:00 P.M.
Environmental Commission 666-4800	1 week subsequent to regular meeting	4th Thursday except Nov. 5th Thursday	7:45 P.M.
Board of Health 358-5025	Last Monday (no meetings June, July, Aug. & Dec.)	3rd Thursday (except August)	8:00 P.M.
Our Town Committee 666-4800	.....	1st Monday	8:00 P.M.
Hillsdale Library 358-5072	1st Thursday (except July & August)	7:30 P.M.
		2nd Tuesday (no meeting in August)	8:00 P.M.

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of Hillsdale

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