



# Mahwah MATTERS

Fall 2008 Newsletter

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Michael Matthew Drozd

## MAHWAH MUSEUM

The Old Station House and Caboose located at 1871 Old Station Lane are open each Sunday from 2 PM to 4 PM. Built in 1871 the Old Station House is a historic landmark and was the first railroad station in Mahwah. Our exhibits include a collection of Erie Railroad china from the dining cars of the long distance passenger trains, items from the Erie Centennial Train of 1951 and tools of the trade featuring lanterns, hat badges, locks, timetables, and tickets used by various railroad workers. Step into the station master's office and listen to the train engineers talking to each other. Next to the Old Station is the 1929 Caboose. The Caboose was the traveling office for the train crew and contained bunk beds, sink, desk and was originally lighted by oil lamps.



*Collection of Erie Railroad china on loan from Jack Norris and other train artifacts will be on display for the remainder of the Old Station season, which ends in October.*



*Bob Adler, Station Master, giving a tour of the Train Station railroad artifacts.*

*Mahwah Eagle Scout Candidate, Nick Homler, (center) shows his drawing of a train platform he will be building for the 1929 Caboose to Mahwah*



*Museum Board Members Bob Adler (left) and Bob Worth (right). Completion of this project in September will enable him to reach the rank of Eagle Scout in Mahwah Troop 258.*



*The Old Station Museum is Mahwah's first railroad station built in 1871. It sat next to the railroad just to the north of the present station. When it was in service, there was a grade crossing at this location. In 1904, the Erie Railroad expanded from two to four tracks and took the building out of service. At the same time the overpass was constructed, our present station was constructed in 1914 replacing another structure destroyed by fire.*

### The Old Station Museum Open on Sundays 2pm – 4pm – June through October Lecture Series this Fall .....

The Mahwah Museum and the Donald Cooper Railroad located at 201 Franklin Turnpike will re-open for the season on Mahwah Day, September 27 and will be open on Saturdays and Sundays thereafter from 1 PM - 5 PM. A grant from the Stephen and Mary Birch Foundation has enabled the Museum to add to its existing exhibits a topographic model of our Township. It will be an excellent resource to show important features in Mahwah's history.

With a grant from the Saddle River Valley Lions Club, the Museum will soon have a Lee Vold Gallery featuring photos by long-time Mahwah photographer, Lee Vold, who has donated her entire photo collection to the Museum. The first exhibit will be "People and Places of Mahwah." Watch for the announcement of the opening of this exciting gallery.

Lecture Series this fall will include a program on Genealogy presented by Susan Golz on October 16 and "Spies During the American Revolution" presented by Barbara Flurchick on November 20. Both lectures will begin at 7:30 PM in the Education Building of the Ramapo Reformed Church.

# MUNICIPAL CLERK'S OFFICE

## 2009 Dog and Cat Licensing

2009 Dog and Cat Licenses will be available for purchase on Friday, January 2, 2009. In accordance with the Township Code, Dogs and Cats over 7 months of age are required to be licensed. A Rabies Vaccination Certificate, valid through and including November 1, 2009, is required. If applicable, written proof of spaying or neutering from a licensed Veterinarian is required. If the Dog or Cat has previously been licensed and the Township Municipal Clerk's Office records reflect same, proof is not necessary.

### Fees for Dog and Cat Licenses:

**\$7.00** Spayed or Neutered Dog and/or Cat

**\$10.00** Unspayed or Unneutered Dog and/or Cat



The Municipal Clerk's Office will open from 8:00AM to 8:00PM on the following Mondays – January 26, 2009, February 2, 2009 and February 9, 2009 for Dog and Cat Licensing.

Last day to license dogs and/or cats before the \$10.00 late fee per animal is imposed is Tuesday, February 17, 2009.

Licenses may be renewed in person between the hours of 8:00AM and 4:00PM Monday through Friday except Municipal holidays in the Municipal Clerk's Office or by mailing the Rabies Vaccination Certificate. Proof of Spaying/Neutering Certificate and a self-addressed stamped envelope to the **Township of Mahwah, 475 Corporate**

Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey Attention: Municipal Clerk's Office. Please do not send cash.

## Election News - Upcoming Elections

General Election	November 4, 2008
School Election	April 21, 2009
Primary Election	June 2, 2009
General Election	November 3, 2009



*Voter Registration Dates and Last Day for New Voters to Register to Vote in Upcoming Elections*

General Election	Tuesday, October 14, 2008
School Election	Tuesday, March 31, 2009
Primary Election	Tuesday, May 12, 2009
General Election	Tuesday, October 13, 2009

**Note:** Municipal Clerk's Office will open from 8:00AM to 9:00PM for Voter Registration on the above dates. Deadline for new voters to register to vote in an upcoming Election is on the above Voter Registration Dates by 9:00PM.

Absentee Ballot Request Forms are available in the Municipal Clerk's Office. Deadline Requests must be received by the Bergen County Clerk's Office in Hackensack 7 days before the Election for which you are requesting the Absentee Ballot. Or you may apply in person to the Bergen County Clerk, 1 Bergen County Plaza – Room 130 in Hackensack until 3:00PM the day before the Election. ■

## TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH

475 Corporate Drive • Mahwah, NJ 07430

Main Number	201-529-5757
Mayor/Administration Fax	201-529-0061
Clerk/Council Fax	201-529-5740
Website	www.mahwahtwp.org
Mahwah Cable Station	Channel 78
Mayor	Richard J. Martel (W) 201-529-5757 ext. 267 (H) 201-891-8137
Township Council	John DaPuzzo, <i>President</i> 201-787-3244 Robert G. Hermansen, <i>VP</i> 201-847-1847 Samuel A. Alderisio 201-529-5757 ext. 230 H. Lisa DiGiulio 201-934-8313 Allan R. Kidd 201-818-8888 Roy B. Larson 201-891-0160 John F. Roth 201-529-9358
Business Administrator	Brian Campion 201-529-5757 ext. 265
Administrative Assistant	Denise M. Storms, <i>RPPS</i> 201-529-5757 ext. 264
Administration Office	Barbara A. Trent, <i>Exec. Secretary</i> 201-529-5757 ext. 262
Board of Education	Dr. Charles V. Montesano 201-882-2403
Board of Health	John Hopper, <i>Health Officer</i> 201-529-5757 ext. 2
Chief Financial Officer/ Treasurer	Kenneth Sesholtz 201-529-5757 ext. 256
Construction Official	Gary L. Montroy 201-529-5757 ext. 241
Emergency Services	Raymond R. Roe, <i>Director</i> 201-529-1000 ext. 275
Environmental Commission	Jane DeWan, <i>Secretary</i> 201-529-5757 ext. 271
Fire Prevention (non-emergency)	Thomas Dillon 201-529-5757 ext. 240
Fire Department	Donald Stricker, Jr., <i>Chief</i> 201-828-2017
Historian	John Bristow 201-529-3136
Historic Preservation Commission	Denise M. Storms, <i>Secretary</i> 201-529-5757 ext. 264
Housing Commission	Dorothy McDonough, <i>Secretary</i> 201-529-5757 ext. 206
Human Services	Dolores Raiz, <i>Director</i> 201-529-5757 ext. 205
Access Transportation	Dolores Raiz, <i>Director</i> 201-529-2691
Affordable Housing	Dolores Raiz, <i>Director</i> 201-529-5757 ext. 205

Inspections	Gary L. Montroy, <i>Const. Code Official</i> 201-529-5757 ext. 241
Library	Kenneth W. Giaimo, <i>Director</i> 201-529-READ
Municipal Court Admin.	Lorraine Cuomo, <i>C.M.C.A.</i> 201-529-2862
Municipal Pool	Marion Crescitelli, <i>Manager</i> 201-529-4949
Planning Board/Zoning	Brian Campion, <i>Admin. Officer</i> 201-529-5757 ext. 265
Police	James N. Batelli, <i>Chief</i> 201-529-1000 ext. 200
Public Works Department	Stanley G. Spiech, <i>Director</i> 201-529-3344
Recreation Department	Dawn DaPuzzo, <i>Director</i> 201-529-5757 ext. 254
Recycling Center	John Soha, <i>Foreman/Recycling Coord.</i> 201-529-2991
Road Department	Keith P. Hallissey, <i>Superintendent</i> 201-529-3344
Senior Center Coordinator	Susanne Small 201-529-5757 ext. 213
Tax Assessor	Stuart Stolarz 201-529-5757 ext. 229
Tax Collector	Elizabeth M. Villano 201-529-5757 ext. 228
Township Clerk	Kathrine G. Coletta, <i>RMC/GMC</i> 201-529-5757 ext. 230
Utility Collector	Maryann S. Malone 201-529-5757 ext. 221
Sewer Utility	Michael McClanahan, <i>Foreman</i> 201-529-4413
Water/Sewer	Paul Scherer, <i>Superintendent</i> 201-529-4413
Zoning/Board of Adj.	Rosalie DeMartino, <i>Secretary</i> 201-529-5757 ext. 243

Governor	Jon S. Corzine 609-292-6000
U.S. Senators	Frank R. Lautenberg 202-224-3224 Robert Menendez 202-224-4744
U.S. Congressman	Scott Garrett 202-225-4465
State Senator	Kevin J. O'Toole 973-696-2323
State Assemblymen	Scott T. Rumana 973-237-1360 David C. Russo 201-444-9719
County Executive	Dennis McNerney 201-336-7300

## Mahwah Public Schools:

Administration	201-882-2408
Lenape Meadows School	201-882-2260
George Washington School	201-882-2240
Betsy Ross School	201-882-2250
Joyce Kilmer School	201-882-2270
Ramapo Ridge Middle School	201-882-2380
Mahwah High School	201-882-2300

# Mahwah and Ho-Ho-Kus Join Forces for a CERT Training Exercise

On April 26 and May 6, the Ho-Ho-Kus and Mahwah CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) had the rare opportunity to join in a real-life field exercise hosted by Ho-Ho-Kus CERT personnel.



The exercises, Operation Teamwork and Operation Teamwork Two, were conducted in daylight as well as nighttime hours at the 16 Acres on West Saddle River Road and the East Park off East Saddle River Road in Ho-Ho-Kus.

These exercises are confidence builders for each of the participants and those who plan and supervise them. This is especially important when the participants address situations that they may never have seen before, and we hope never will for real,

but are important to have the exposure to anyway. These are training exercises for every person to gain practical knowledge and experience in the event that they are confronted by similar occasions when on vacation, traveling, etc. and do not have other CERT members with them to assist.

Also participating in this joint event were the Bergen County Office of Emergency Management, Mahwah and Ho-Ho-Kus Offices of Emergency Management, Ho-Ho-Kus Police Dept., Fire Dept., Ambulance Corps, DPW and various Council representatives as well as Mahwah's Mayor Martel and former Township Council President Lisa DiGiulio.

CERT volunteers learn disaster survival and rescue skills and then stand in the gap before "first responders" arrive on the scene of an emergency. The CERT program, which is part of the Citizen Corps Program, was developed in Los Angeles, CA in 1985.

This past May the Mahwah CERT team was called upon again to participate in the graduation ceremonies at Ramapo College. To facilitate the parking procedures, our CERT team mem-

bers assumed that responsibility and managed the parking of over 1000 cars in a very timely and orderly manner.



This is the third year that our CERT team has been called upon to facilitate the parking during the Ramapo College graduation festivities.

Residents of Mahwah are invited to participate in a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training course that runs for 8 consecutive Wednesday evenings. The next course starts on **October 1st** at the Bergen Law & Public Safety Institute in Mahwah. At the completion of the program, basic CERT safety equipment will be issued to each successful participant. For an application, contact **Ray Roe**, OEM Coordinator at 201-831-2075 or email: [mahwahcert@optonline.net](mailto:mahwahcert@optonline.net). ■



## PREVENTING AUTOMOBILE FIRES

Every year the Mahwah Fire Department responds to a large number of automobile fires. About 90 percent of these fires could have been prevented if owners had invested a few minutes time every couple of months.

If you would like to prevent an automobile fire in your car, then you or your gas station attendant should periodically check or perform the following maintenance items:

- ✓ Steam clean the engine compartment at least every other year.
- ✓ Watch for oil or gasoline leaks in the engine compartment.
- ✓ Check all gasoline lines for loose fittings, cracked hoses, bent lines, or worn clamps at least yearly, ensuring that the air cleaner is replaced in its original position and is properly secured (lack of air cleaner is a common automobile fire cause).
- ✓ Visually inspect the electrical system for broken or frayed wires and ensure that all wires are making a good connection. This should be done in both the engine and passenger compartments.

- ✓ Never throw any burning material out of a window, as the wind may blow it back into the car.
- ✓ Be extremely careful while smoking, or when using an open flame inside the vehicle.
- ✓ Lock your car whenever you leave it. This prevents others from entering your vehicle and possibly setting fire to it.

The older a car gets, the greater the importance of maintenance. Remember, if you invest a few minutes of your time today in maintenance, tomorrow you may have prevented a car fire. In the long run, this investment will save you time, money, and a great deal of inconvenience.

If you should have an automobile fire, the best method of reducing damage is to quickly extinguish the fire. Therefore, the Mahwah Fire Prevention Bureau recommends that all automobiles carry a fire extinguisher in good operating condition. The extinguisher should have a minimum 10BC rating. This rating, found on the label, means that the fire extinguisher will handle either a gasoline or electrical fire. ■

## APPLIANCE DISPOSAL CONTAINING FREON

For disposal of any appliances containing a refrigerant such as refrigerators, freezers or air conditioners, please call 1-866-342-5497 to arrange a date and time to have the appliance picked up at the curb by the Township contracted hauler.

## GRASS COLLECTION/DROP OFF

Grass bag collection ends on Friday, September 26, 2008.

Brush and grass drop off at the Recycling Center ends Saturday, September 27, 2008.



## FALL LEAF PICKUP

Leaves will be picked up on a continuous schedule from October 20, 2008 through December 12, 2008. During the leaf season, your grass clippings can be mixed with the leaves left at the curb.

Leaves must be piled at the curb, NOT the road.

Leaves in plastic bags will not be picked up.

NO brush, branches or stones are to be mixed in with the leaves.



## CHRISTMAS TREES

Single family homes may place trees at the curb on the first garbage collection day of the week starting January 5, 2009. The Township will collect trees on the first pick-up day of the week through January 30, 2009. Condo Associations with their own drop off sites will have Christmas trees picked up the fourth week in January.

## THE RECYCLING CENTER WILL BE CLOSED THE FOLLOWING DATES:

Election Day	Tuesday, November 4, 2008
Veteran's Day	Tuesday, November 11, 2008
Thanksgiving	Thursday, November 27, 2008
	Friday, November 28, 2008
	Saturday, November 29, 2008
Christmas	Thursday, December 25, 2008. ■

# PHASE 5 SANITARY SEWER PROGRAM SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION

On August 15, 2008, P.M. Construction Company completed the installation of sewer mains, sewer laterals, and a limited number of water mains in the Phase 5 Sanitary Sewer Project areas throughout the Township.

The property owners with laterals connected to a gravity sewer line have been notified that they can proceed immediately with their individual hookups. The property owners with laterals connected to pressure sewer lines require individual pumps as part of the hookup of their properties. These property owners will receive notices in the near future when the pumps are delivered to the Township.

Although the Contractor has reached "substantial completion" by installation of the mains and laterals, there are a number of "punch list" and restoration items such as landscape repairs which will be completed this Fall. Some of the roadways which were excavated at the beginning of the Phase 5 Project will receive the final top course pavement this Fall. The roads which were excavated in the later areas of the Project will be paved in the Spring of 2009. The roadway trenches require a period of time

over the winter so that areas of roadway settlement can be repaired before final pavement in 2009.

Upon completion of the Project in early 2009, the Township Council will appoint a Special Assessment Committee to determine the monetary value of the benefit received by each property as a result of the installation of the sanitary sewer lines. The amount of the assessment cannot be determined at this time. The property owners will have an opportunity to discuss their preliminary assessments and they will receive formal notice of the public hearings held by the Special Assessment Committee.

When the Township Council confirms the final special assessments for the properties, the property owners may pay the assessment in one lump sum or in installments over ten years with interest at the municipal bond rate.

Each property owner will hire a private contractor at the time of hookup to make the connection to the new sewer lateral and to decommission the existing septic tank and fields. The property owner is responsible for payment to the private contractor. The Township will provide the required pump (at no addi-

tional cost) for the properties utilizing ejector pumps.

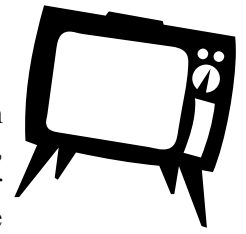
The property owners have one year from written notice that the sewer lines are operational to hookup to the sanitary sewer line.

Under section 17-7.7(d) of the Township Code (as recently amended by Ordinance No. 1614), waivers of the one year hookup may be granted if:

1. The dwelling is more than 200 feet from the lateral, or
2. The existing septic system was installed after January 1, 1990 in accordance with the applicable code, or
3. The dwelling is owned and occupied by a person at least 65 years of age, or
4. Installation requires an ejector pump, blasting rock or encountering other significant obstacles.

Once the property is converted, the property owner will receive quarterly sewer bills for the measured flow (based on a winter quarter use by the municipal customer). The quarterly sewer bill for properties utilizing private water wells will be based on a minimum flow. ■

## Channel 78 to Expand Programming



The faces and voices of Mahwah Township's top officials will soon appear in your living rooms.

Mahwah's cable television channel is launching a new program of interviews with the people who administer the Township's key agencies. The "Meet the ...." series will be broadcast on Cablevision Channel 78 and a Verizon channel yet to be determined and will be hosted by Councilman John Roth, the Council's Liaison to the Mahwah Community Cable TV Committee.

The first interview will be with Mayor Richard Martel. Subsequent programs will include, among others, the Police Chief, the Fire Chief, and the Recreation Director, the head of Department of Public Works, the Planning Board Chairperson, and the Township Council President.

"We are excited to expand our broadcast menu to another level," said Committee Chair Gail Reynolds. This new programming will seek to better inform our residents of the services, activities, and issues in our community. Our residents, particularly those who cannot physically attend the meetings of Township agencies, will be provided a window on the inner workings of Mahwah without moving out of their TV chairs.

The station started with a Bulletin Board service of Township activities, official announcements, and other events, and then expanded to include taped broadcasts of parades and other significant community happenings.

"We received such a favorable response to our experimental broadcast of the program by the Mahwah High School Marching Band during halftime of a Thunderbirds football game that we decided to put on more of the same type of events that best exemplifies our community," said Ms. Reynolds.

Other broadcasts included the Memorial Day Parade, the Senior Picnic, and the "Meet the Bunny" springtime program for children.

Dozens of accredited Mahwah agencies and organizations have been submitting a growing number of notices for broadcast.

The Committee also includes Peter Wendrychowicz, Vice Chairman; David May, Alex Michelini, and Carol Polack. ■

## TAX ASSESSMENT REVALUATION

As ordered by the Bergen County Board of Taxation and approved by the State of New Jersey, Division of Taxation, the Township of Mahwah will revalue all taxable real property for the 2010 tax year.

At the request of the Mahwah Township Mayor, Council, and Tax Assessor, the County Board of Taxation has agreed to a second, one-year extension of this program in order to ensure a more thorough examination of all current market factors that affect value. The Township has entered into a contract with Appraisal Systems, Inc. to conduct the revaluation program.

The first step of the revaluation process is the inspection of all the properties in the Township. In order to accomplish this project in a timely fashion, inspectors from Appraisal Systems, Inc. will be visiting to measure and photograph the exterior of all buildings and inspect the interior. No photographs will be taken of the interior of the property. The work will progress through the different areas of the Township. The property owners in each area will receive notification letters in advance.

The first visit from an inspector will be between the hours of 9:30am and 5:00pm. If the homeowner/occupant is not present at the first visit, the inspector will leave a card specifying a return date to do the interior inspection. The card will also have a telephone number for the owner/occupant to call to schedule an appointment if the time or date is not convenient.

All Appraisal Systems representatives will be provided with Township authorized photo identification. **Do not allow anyone to enter your home without proper identification.** Owners of rental property should notify all tenants of rental units that an interior inspection will be forthcoming by the firm. Owner/occupants will be requested to sign the field form verifying that the inspector made an interior inspection.

Any questions about the process should be directed to Appraisal Systems, Inc. at 201-493-8530 or the Township of Mahwah Tax Assessor's Office at 201-529-5757, ext. 223 or 229. You may also visit Appraisal Systems, Inc. website at [www.asinj.com](http://www.asinj.com). ■

# JUNIOR POLICE ACADEMY

In what has become an eagerly awaited summer tradition in the Township, the Police Department hosted the 7th Annual Junior Police Academy and 2nd Annual Leadership Academy during the months of July and August.



*Student recruits at the Junior Police Academy perform their morning physical training exercises under the watchful eye of Detective Guido Bussinelli.*

training (PT) and classes in the area of Accident Investigation, Internet Crime, Fingerprinting, Search and Seizure, Self-Defense, and Crime Scene Investigation. Students also went on field trips to the Bergen County Police Academy, the Staten Island United States Coast Guard installation, the Statue of

The Junior Police Academy is a two week event that is modeled after an actual Police Academy. The children learn and participate in a variety of activities during the academy. The two week Academy included morning physical



*Student recruits participate in a team tug of war at the Staten Island Coast Guard Installation while officers from the Coast Guard and teammates cheer them on.*



*While at the Staten Island Coast Guard Installation students participated in a challenge designed to simulate actual situations members of the Coast Guard may encounter.*

Liberty, and Ellis Island. This year was the largest enrollment ever with over 150 children in attendance and the graduation ceremonies were followed by a trip to a Newark Bears game and a fireworks presentation. A New Jersey National Guard Interdiction Helicopter also landed at the Ridge School and

the students had an opportunity to meet and talk with the pilot and learn about his responsibilities in safeguarding the nation. The motto of the Academy is, "Respect, Discipline and

Honesty", and while the children enjoy the activities the goal of the Academy is to create bonds between the children and police officers, improve police com-



*Team photograph of the 7th annual Junior Police Academy Class taken at the coast Guard facility next to two Coast Guard boats used to patrol the waters outside of New York City.*

## MAHWAH POLICE CAR GETS VOICE COMMAND SYSTEM

It's not exactly Buck Rodgers, but the Mahwah Police Department has equipped one of its marked patrol cars with a voice activated control system. Through the efforts of Officer William Hunt, the system was obtained at no cost to the Township from 54ward™, a New York based company. The agency will be evaluating the performance of the system in an effort to determine whether or not to place it in other marked patrol cars.



The new hardware will enable a police officer to activate and control the system in a standard police vehicle such as turning on the lights and sirens, and doing a records check of a license and registration through voice commands.

The equipment is meant to keep officers from becoming distracted while operating driving. This will allow officers to keep their eyes on the road instead of being distracted by manually operating the system or entering information.

While driving, an officer can activate the system by turning on a microphone with the push of a button to access a variety of systems

including the laptop computer within the car. The computer program is designed to read the information and commands and respond back with an electronic voice. Officer fatalities, as a result of motor vehicle accidents, continue to rise throughout the nation and the 54ward™ system is one step that can be taken to improve officer safety while operating a patrol car. 54ward™ is state of the art technology designed to both improve officer performance and officer safety. ■

## DIGITAL PATROL CAR VIDEO SYSTEM



A new in car digital video system has been installed in seventeen marked Mahwah Police vehicles. The purchase of the system was awarded to Kustom Signals Inc. through a competitive bid process with a cost of \$121,402.00. The system was purchased through the Municipal Escrow account using absolutely no tax-payer dollars.

The Municipal Escrow Account is comprised of monies seized by the Police Department from individuals involved in a criminal enterprise and subsequently forfeited through a civil court proceeding in Bergen County Superior Court. The main purpose of the system is to document interactions between police officers and motorists during a motor vehicle stop. The recordings will be used in court cases to support the officer's version of what occurred and also for training purposes in the area of officer safety.

# - LEADERSHIP ACADEMY



*Sergeant Jeffrey Dino presents a block of instruction to students on tactical entry equipment used by the Mahwah Police Department.*

The concept of the Leadership Academy was developed as a result of inquiries and requests from parents for a program to supplement the Junior Police Academy ideology for older children. The 2nd annual Leadership Academy was held at Ramapo College for students at the 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th grade levels. Over 130 students attended the Leadership Academy which is unique in its concept throughout the State. The students participate in a series of events with a goal towards building



*Leadership Academy students pose for their team photograph in Philadelphia where they visited several historic sites and climbed the stairs made famous in the "Rocky" movies.*

munity relations, and emphasize the character traits that will prepare them for adulthood. The Mahwah Junior Police Academy has been used as a model for other law enforcement agencies throughout the State.

self-esteem, team work, setting and attaining goals, and avoidance of peer pressure. Students attended classes to discuss what character traits make a good leader and participated in a number of team challenges throughout the one week Academy. This year a two night sleep-over in the College dorms highlighted the activities along with a trip to Philadelphia to see the historical



*Students in the Leadership Academy display their work from a platoon competition that they participated in. Students later gave a presentation to the class on the work they completed.*

sights of the nation. While the children enjoyed the activities, similar to the Junior Police Academy, the goal of the Leadership Academy was to impart upon the children the importance that leadership skills will have on them as they enter adulthood. Both the Junior Police Academy and Leadership Academy are under the direction of Officer Robert Curtis.

The Junior Police Academy and Leadership Academy are both sponsored through the efforts of the Police Department and the Mahwah Municipal Alliance of which Mayor Richard Martel and Councilman Samuel Alderisio are members.

While in-car camera systems have been around for several years they evolved from VHS and DVD's which were both cumbersome and difficult to catalog and store. The Kustom system that was purchased is the latest in available technology with the video and audio being downloaded seamlessly and wirelessly to a computer server when a patrol car pulls into the headquarters parking lot. The videos are automatically catalogued, and can be viewed by Administrative Officers using a variety of search features. The camera system is activated by anyone of several initiation devices in the vehicle which include, but is not limited to, the sirens, overhead lights, or alternating headlights. All the officers will be equipped with body microphones which will be used to record conversations between them and motorists. ■

## **MAHWAH POLICE WEBSITE - WWW.MAHWAHPD.ORG**

Residents are urged to continue to visit the Mahwah Police website – [www.mahwahpd.org](http://www.mahwahpd.org) The website content is continually being updated and upgraded to improve the information that is available to our residents. Our goal is to make the website more interactive for our residents so they can find out what events are being sponsored by the Police Department as well as other Police Department activities and services that are available. ■

## **COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES (CALEA)**

The Police Department continues to be extremely proud of its recognition as one of only seven (7) municipal agencies accredited in the State of New Jersey. In December of this year, the Police Department will undergo an extensive five-day reassessment by a team of CALEA assessors from across the nation. If successful, the department will receive its second re-accreditation in early 2009. Reassessment takes place every three years after an agencies' initial accreditation. Mahwah was originally accredited in 2003. The accreditation process is under the direction of Lieutenant Bruce Kuipers.



Accreditation is one of the most prestigious forms of recognition a law enforcement agency can receive, and in order to reach that level an agency must show proof of meeting or exceeding over 420 standards involving all aspects of law enforcement performance and management. Residents are encouraged to visit the CALEA website at [www.calea.org](http://www.calea.org) and learn more about the process. ■

# **AN INTRODUCTION TO THE MAHWAH SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER**

**Business Hours: 8:00 am until 4:00 pm**

## **PROGRAM GOALS**

To foster independence and continued growth in older adults with heavy emphasis on physical fitness such as Yoga, Chair Yoga, Tai Chi Chih, Pilates, Jazzercise, Meditation, Line Dancing, Zumba, Ballroom Dancing and Aerobics. Our mission is to enhance leisure time activities through class instructions and workshops. Our educational component offers the active senior the chance to continue to live and learn. From computers to book discussion groups and current events, older adults are constantly challenged and stimulated by the wide array of classes.

## **Who is eligible?**

Any Mahwah resident 60 years or older, who functions independently or who has a companion accompanying them.

## **Additional Programs or Services offered**

Beginners Art Classes, Watercolor Art Classes, Line Dancing, Ballroom Dancing, Fit 4 Life Aerobics, Jazzercise, Pilates, Tai Chi Chih, Yoga, Chair Yoga, Meditation, Seijaku, Zumba, Dance Social, Pinochle., Canasta, Bridge, Mahjong, Scrabble, Computers, Woodcarving , Knitting, Monthly Trips, Bi-month-

ly Lunch Program, Senior Club, Lectures and Presentations on health and senior related topics.

## **Why can't I just come and go as I please?**

After registering for a class you are free to participate. We encourage independence for scheduled activities. On the contrary, we are a structured program with policies and procedures to adhere to.

## **What would constitute an inappropriate participant?**

Since this is an activity center, we are unable to accommodate anyone suffering dementia or confusion. We do not have on-site medical personnel. This is not an adult day-care center.

## **Is there a fee to join?**

There is no membership fee to join.

## **Are there fees for classes/trips?**

Generally there are no fees for class participation. However, some workshops may require a fee to cover instruction and material. There will be a charge for trips. ■

## **AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

Affordable Housing Applications may be picked up at the Municipal Building at the reception area on the main floor, or in the Human Services Office on the first floor between the hours of 8:00am to 4:00pm Monday through Friday. Applications are also available in the Mahwah Library and on the Township's website. For additional information, call Dorothy McDonough, Affordable Housing Administrator, at 201-529-5757, ext. 206 or Dolores Raiz, Director, ext. 205.

## **ACCESS TRANSPORTATION**

This service is available to seniors and individuals in need of transportation for food, clothing, and other shopping, rides to Mahwah and Midland Park Senior Centers, doctor appointments, or for other appointments within our daily schedule.

**NOTE:** You may utilize our transportation system even if you currently drive locally and prefer not to drive to certain areas that we cover. For appointments and information, contact Access Transportation at 201-529-2691.

## **HUMAN SERVICES**

At times, residents are unsure of how to contact public or private agencies – you may contact Human Services for assistance with locating these sources at 201-529-5757, ext. 205 or ext. 206.

For a referral to the Center for Food Action or the Ramapo Reformed Church Clothing Closet, call Human Services. If you have food items to donate, contact the Center for Food Action at 201-934-5085. Clothing in good wearable condition (children's clothing are greatly needed) can be donated to the Clothes Closet (left side of Ramapo Reformed Education Building) on Wednesdays between the hours of 10:00am to 11:30am.

In the latter part of January 2009, any Senior Citizen or disabled individual who had earnings under \$45,000 in year 2008 (filing uncomplicated returns) may call the Senior Center at 201-529-5757, ext. 277 or ext. 213 for an appointment to have their taxes filled out by an AARP trained tax representative. Van transportation is available by contacting Access Transportation at 201-529-2691. ■

## **GET UP AND GO!**



The benefits of regular physical activity is overwhelmingly positive for everyone, but even so, most Americans, including men, women and young people, fail to

get enough exercise. Thirty minutes of moderately intense exercise done five days a week substantially reduces the risk of dying from coronary heart disease which is now the nation's leading cause of death. Physical activity can also decrease the risk for stroke, colon cancer, Type 2 Diabetes and high blood pressure. In addition, exercise may help you lower cholesterol, control and maintain a healthy body weight, assist in the maintenance and development of healthy joints and bones, promote psychological well being and reduce feelings of stress and anxiety.

Walking two miles at a fast pace, raking leaves, mowing the lawn or regular social dancing are just a few of the activities that Mahwah Health Officer John Hopper suggests as a realistic means of incorporating physical activity into your everyday routine.

More than half of all adults fail to get enough exercise to provide them any health benefits. More than a third of young people in grades 9 – 12 no longer participate in regular vigorous-intensity physical activity, such as running, high-impact aerobics or a fast game of basketball. Exercise is beneficial for all ages and will help reduce the prevalence of obesity in America.

Take advantage of the nice weather and the variety of local parks to make a commitment to a regular daily walking program. Ask a friend to join you for support and you'll encourage each other to continue. Always start with a physician's evaluation if you've been a couch potato. Select a good-fitting pair of athletic shoes and you should see an improvement in your health within months. You'll be glad you did! ■



# RECREATION DEPARTMENT

## 14th Annual Mahwah Day

Mahwah Day will be held on Saturday, September 27th at Commodore Perry Field. Find a good spot along East Ramapo Avenue at 12:00 Noon to watch our kick-off parade, and then follow the crowd to Commodore Perry Field for an afternoon filled with fun. As always, we will have kiddie rides, pony rides, clowns and a magician along with live entertainment and plenty of games for the children. Of course, food will be available throughout the day and the Township's Access Transportation buses will be available to shuttle visitors to and from the parking areas. ■

## Annual Halloween Costume Parade

The annual Halloween Costume Parade, run by the Recreation Committee, will be held rain or shine on Friday, October 31, 2008 at Commodore Perry Field. Children in costume will be judged by age group, prizes will be awarded and free refreshments will be available. The Volunteer Club of Mahwah High School will be on hand to decorate the field and lead the ghosts, goblins and princesses of all kinds around the field. As always, a very generous Secor Farms will provide us with hay

bales and pumpkins for decorating the field and apples for all of us to enjoy. ■

## Annual Veteran's Day Service

Please join us on Tuesday, November 11th at 11am for the annual Township of Mahwah Veteran's Day Service. Let's show our veterans how much we appreciate their service and sacrifice to our country by joining them on this special day. The service is held at Veteran's Memorial Park, located on Franklin Turnpike between Miller Road and East Ramapo Ave. This event is sponsored by the Mahwah Veteran's of Foreign Wars Post #7124 and the Mahwah Recreation Department. We would like to thank the Mahwah Police Honor Guard, Mahwah Boy and Girl Scouts, the students of Betsy Ross School, Mahwah High School and St. Paul's School for their continued participation in this event. We look forward to seeing you again this year. ■

## Holiday Tree Lighting

The Township of Mahwah will hold its Annual Holiday Tree Lighting Festival on Sunday, December 7, 2008 at 5 pm at Municipal Hall on Corporate Drive. Santa Claus has made special arrangements to fly

into Mahwah for the occasion. Since we can't count on having snow for his sleigh, the Mahwah volunteer firefighters have generously offered to escort Santa on their firetrucks! Santa will hear all requests for holiday gifts from kids of all ages. All persons of good cheer are welcome to join us to hear seasonal favorites sung by the choir, enjoy delicious refreshments and share the kindred spirit of good neighbors. And, of course, see the beauty and feel the magic as our tree and our hearts are lighted. ■

## Mahwah Youth Sports

The Township of Mahwah Youth Sports Boosters organize many of the youth sports in Mahwah. They offer 12 different sports in three seasons. Registration for Winter Sports (Wrestling and Basketball) will begin at the end of September. Registration for Spring Sports (Baseball, Softball, Lacrosse and Tennis) will begin in January. Please check their website, [www.mahwahyouthsports.org](http://www.mahwahyouthsports.org) for more details and to register. Please consider volunteering to assist our youth sports in some way. Coaches and assistant coaches are always needed. ■

## SUMMER RECREATION



Mahwah Summer Recreation was designed to provide a safe, nurturing, recreational program for the Children of the Township. It originated in the early

60's with a handful of children at Commodore Perry School. This year, the four week program housed at Joyce Kilmer and Mahwah High School provided services for just under 800 children.

Mini Rec children, grades K- 2, participate in music, physical education, arts and crafts, reading and play time. Children



grades 3 - 7 attend Big Rec and participate in organized sports, arts and crafts, board games and weekly visits to the Township Pool. Older teenagers have the opportunity to participate as counselors in training and eventually paid counselors.



Many are planning a career working with children and this experience provides an excellent learning opportunity.

The program provides the children of Mahwah with organized recreation, socialization time and a great way to spend a summer morning. ■



# MAHWAH CO. #4 VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE CORPS

Mahwah Ambulance Co. #4 consists of a group of dedicated town residents who volunteer their time and talents to serve our community. We have a wide variety of active members including retired executives, nurses, police officers, doctors, paramedics, local firefighters, housewives, teenagers and employees of the Township. As volunteers, it enables one the opportunity to give back to his or her community in a very charitable way.

Our progressive volunteer agency has set its sights on looking towards the future of EMS as it continues to recognize the needs of the community as well as the needs of its modern day volunteer. New ideas and changes have been implemented to make volunteerism more attractive, especially for our "Junior Core". All of our members take great pride in their work and have extensive training in the

field of EMS. Training is conducted at the Law & Public Safety Institute's EMS Academy located at 281 Campgaw Road here in Mahwah. The course is offered year round with classes in the evening, 2 nights a week, as well as a few weekend hours. During



the 10 weeks of class, trainees have the opportunity to participate in ride-alongs observing and learning from designated preceptors. This gives perspective members a chance to become acquainted with other core members.

Since its formation back in 1971 with its

limited number of members, Co. #4 ambulance has watched Mahwah's population almost triple. The primary response area for our squad has blossomed into large residential communities. With the increasing growth of our town comes the increase in 911 calls and man-hours. These increased needs of the community have been challenging, but by coming together and working as a team with Mahwah Fire Co. #4 and Mahwah Ambulance Co. #1, we are better able to continue serving the citizens of our community 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

To learn more about supporting our organization and/or becoming involved, please call 201- 327-2252. Be sure to visit us at our EMS booth this upcoming Mahwah Day on Saturday September, 27, 2008 at the Commodore Perry Field. ■

## Mahwah Ambulance Co. #1: New Ambulance

It is an exciting time for Mahwah Ambulance Co. #1. We are looking forward to the delivery of our new ambulance this Fall. Our ambulance has been designed with some of the newest features to provide our crew and patients with the most efficient, safe, and comfortable ride. Some of the features include: LED light scenes, GPS unit to provide us with the most efficient way of travel, and cameras both to view patient/crew interactions in rig and a back up camera. These new devices will help us provide improved quality care to the residents of Mahwah. Look for our new ambulance this Fall on the roads of Mahwah.

Currently, we are looking for residents to become volunteers. Prospective volunteers need to be 18 years or older to join the squad and 16 to 18 years old to join our junior squad. Training is provided free to all members. This includes CPR certification and EMT training. The next EMT training class begins in early June. If interested in joining or you would like to know more about becoming a volunteer, please call. A representative from our Membership Committee will call you and tell you how you can become a volunteer of our organization. For more information, call 201-529-9301. ■

## Board of Health Offers Free Child Health Services

The Mahwah Board of Health provides a free child health clinic once a month at the Mahwah Public Library on Ridge Road. The purpose of the program is the promotion of health and prevention of illness among infants and pre-school children. The clinic provides the opportunity for a complete medical examination, completion of State-required immunizations, and for individual parent counseling with a physician and nurses for proper physical, social and emotional development. The Child Health Conference is designed to compliment services provided by the child's primary medical care provider, and infants and children in need of further examination or treatment are referred to their family physicians or to hospital clinics.

For an appointment, residents are advised to call the Township's public health nursing agency, Health Awareness Regional Program, at (201) 996-2038. ■

## Flu and Pneumococcal Immunizations at Senior Center

In accordance with guidelines of the US Centers for Disease Control, the Mahwah Board of Health will offer influenza and pneumococcal vaccinations to Senior Citizens 65 and over and adults suffering from chronic illnesses, according to John Hopper, Township Health Officer. Inoculations will be given at the Mahwah Senior Citizens Center, located on the lower level of Township Hall, 475 Corporate Drive, during the Fall on a date to be announced. This program will not serve clients who are HMO participants. Senior Citizens and chronically ill residents who participate in an HMO should contact their medical provider for flu or pneumococcal immunizations.

Vaccination is recommended for senior citizens 65 and over because excessive mortality occurs in outbreaks of influenza in that age group. Vaccination is also recommended for adults who suffer with such chronic conditions as heart disease, kidney disease, lung diseases like asthma, metabolic diseases like diabetes, blood disorders like anemia, or a weakened immune system caused, for example, by cancer or cancer treatment, HIV/AIDS, or steroid therapy.

All participants must be Mahwah residents age 65 or over. Proof of age and residency must be provided on the day of the program. In addition, those who are Medicare Part B eligible

must bring their medicare card to the program. Chronically ill residents under 65 must present a current note from their physician indicating the need for immunization. Persons allergic to chicken, eggs, have a fever, respiratory infection, have received any other vaccine during the 14 days prior to immunization, have had an allergic reaction to a previous dose of influenza vaccine or have a past history of Guillian Barre Syndrome should not be immunized.

Board of Health advises that Senior Citizens and chronically ill residents should receive a flu vaccination annually. Pneumococcal vaccination should generally be received only once. Revaccination with pneumococcal vaccine is permissible only under certain conditions. Phone the Health Department for further information. For residents who are not Medicare Part B eligible, there is a charge of \$10.00 for pneumococcal immunization.

Residents who desire flu or pneumococcal immunization must pre-register for the program by calling the Health Department at (201) 529-5757, Prompt 2.

All registrants will be notified by mail of the date and time of the immunization clinic. ■

## Free Adult Health Consultation for Mahwah Residents

The Mahwah Board of Health offers free adult health consultation and blood pressure screening on a monthly basis at three locations in the Township, according to Health Officer John Hopper. This important health prevention program is available on the second Tuesday of every month from 1:00 to 3:00 PM at the Mahwah Senior Citizens Center, located on the lower level of Township Hall, 475 Corporate Drive, and on the fourth Tuesday of every month from 1:00 to 3:00 PM at the Norfolk Village Senior Center. Services are also available at the headquarters of the Ramapough Mountain Indians on Stag Hill Road on the first Wednesday of every month from 11:00 AM to 12:00 noon.

The National High Blood Pressure Education Program estimates that 50 million people in the United States have high blood pressure. Sixty percent of those are over the age of 60, and predominantly women. For most people, high blood pressure has no symptoms that they can feel, but that doesn't mean that there is no effect on their health. Blood pressure that is too high leads to blood vessels that are less elastic or "hardened". It can cause the heart muscle to stretch and thicken and eventually stop pumping properly. The end result is that organs such as the kidneys and brain are then deprived of oxygen and proper nutrients. Eventually untreated hypertension can lead to heart attack, blindness, kidney failure or stroke.

High blood pressure can happen to anyone. Having a family history of hypertension is a risk factor that cannot be controlled but there are several risks that can. Individuals are more likely to suffer from high blood pressure if they are overweight, smoke, have a diet high in fat, lack exercise, use alcohol heavily, are sensitive to salt in their diet or under emotional stress. Anxiety may make blood pressure temporarily higher, but after taking steps to relieve the stress, the blood pressure should be re-evaluated. Post-menopausal women are more likely to be found with high blood pressure than their younger sisters.

There is no cure for hypertension, but with your doctor's help, it can be controlled. Often an increase in exercise and change in diet will help, but sometimes medication is needed. If so, it needs to be taken as the doctor directs. Proper medication may need to be taken for the rest of your life and is not a substitute for a healthy lifestyle.

If you have hypertension and have not taken the steps to have it treated, be aware of the signs of a heart attack. Most heart attacks start slowly, with mild chest discomfort that may last more than a few minutes. It may feel like uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness or pain. It may include pain in the arms, back, neck, jaw or stomach. Heart attack victims may feel short of breath, lightheaded, nauseous or may break out in a sweat. If this happens, call 911 immediately. ■

## Annual Senior Picnic

The annual Senior Picnic takes place at the Township of Mahwah Pool. Marion Crescitelli, Pool Manager and her wonderful team make sure that our Mahwah Senior Residents enjoy a fun filled day with entertainment and plenty of food. ■



*Photo of John Spiech & Mayor Martel –  
Grilling at recent Senior Picnic*



*Getting With  
the Beat*



*Enjoying the Day*

**THE TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH  
HONORS THE MEMORY  
OF  
MICHAEL MATTHEW DROZD  
1962 - 2008**



Husband of Pamela Malone Drozd

Township Fire Inspector

Township Volunteer Fire Co. #1 Firefighter

Township Volunteer Driver, Ambulance and Rescue  
Squad Co. #1

and Friend to us All. ■



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