

The Dunellen Report



Saving Dunellen's Great American Pastime

By Michael Boylan, Dunellen Report Contributor



1956 - Dunellen Little League Little League Opening Day Parade
Photo Courtesy of John Triolo, Dunellen Historical Society

“The more people you get involved, the better it is.” That was Clem Santy speaking about the Dunellen Little League, founded by him over half a century ago, and which has fallen into tough times in recent years. The third oldest Little League franchise in the state of New Jersey, Dunellen Little League used to boast upwards of 12 teams going back through its history. Unfortunately, this year the “league” only has one team. This has forced the team to play with the five teams fielded by Green Brook’s Little League. This is a radical departure for a Little League that used to have kids coming from Green Brook, Middlesex and Piscataway to play in it. For someone as closely connected to the history of Dunellen Little League as Clem Santy, this just won’t do. What he wants is, “to keep it in our town. I know we’ve got plenty of kids here.” The issue then becomes why aren’t kids in Dunellen getting involved with Little League?

The first thing that came to Santy’s mind was the price charged to join the Little League. Though he knows that they have to charge something nowadays, for him the admission charge per player is just too much. Currently, the admission charge is \$125 per child, with a \$20 discount for each subsequent child from a family admitted, though this includes the cost of the uniform, the umpire fee, and insurance. Santy believes that with some creative solutions, the price could be brought down. Maybe then some families who don’t want to spend that much to have their kids play Little League could be persuaded to get their kids involved with what should be a great institution in town.

One way to lower prices was with what used to be a tradition in the Dunellen Little League, sponsorship. Santy noted that the Little League used to have a wide array of sponsors, including Lions Club, Knights of Columbus, American Legion, Rotary Club, and Dunellen Fire Department. Santy would be willing to help bring in sponsors however he can, saying, “If they write letters to these sponsors, I’d be glad to sign my name if they want me to.” These sponsors could help pay for the uniforms, or they could pay for ad space at Clem Santy Field. Originally known as Weeds Stadium, Santy referred to the field that now bears his name as a “beautiful field” that has

been kept in great shape thanks to the Dunellen’s Department of Public Works. It would be a shame for such a wonderful venue to eventually be made obsolete as Dunellen Little League shrinks to near nothingness. Dunellen Historical Society member John Triolo noted, “Back in the day, there was a waiting list to put your ad on the fences at the Little League Stadium.” It would be great if we could get that level of support once again.

Santy proposed some other cost saving ideas, some inspired by Dunellen Little League history. First, umpires are being paid \$50 per game, while their job could be performed by a member of the Dunellen baseball team for much less. Next, the kids in the Little League used to sell boxes of candy to raise money. Finally, there used to be a Little League tournament held in Dunellen where teams from other towns would come in and pay to participate. Whether or not these ideas are feasible, Santy’s passion for the Little League and creative solutions are an asset that Dunellen should neither forget about nor ignore.

As much as Santy cares for the Little League itself, he also cares about the kids in town and wants them to take part in an institution that can teach them great concepts, like sportsmanship and teamwork. Kids still come by his home to ask for batting lessons or any other tips that can help their game develop. As Santy puts it, “I’d rather see kids playing baseball then hanging around the TV. Keep them involved playing sports. Everybody can play baseball. Parents got to get on their kids.”

The worst part of the Dunellen Little League’s situation is that many people in town do not seem to be aware there is any issue at all. Santy has experienced it first-hand with people approaching him to ask what’s going on with the Little League. For him, the most important thing is getting the word out that there is a problem. After that, you can begin to look for solutions and hope that people will be willing to get involved. While 12 teams might be a stretch at this point, Santy says that even four teams would be a vast improvement and a great place to start. In his final call to action he says, “I need help from somebody to get this organized again. I’d hate to see this town lose its franchise.”

A Second Chance For The Old Maurer House

by Ellen Byrnes



Newly painted, the Maurer Mansion, will be one of Dunellen’s most prominent fixtures in town once fully renovated.

The historic Maurer House situated on the corner of Madison Avenue and Mountainview Terrace has seen many changes over the years. Its Queen Anne-Colonial Revival architecture was popular in the late 1800’s. Despite years of neglect, recent attention has heads turning and folks asking, “What’s going on with the house?”

The Edward Maurer house was built in the late 1800’s, but almost lost to the wrecking ball until the town was able to buy the house in 2011. A developer’s plan to put 18 houses on the 7.51 acres of land was stopped when Mayor Seader was able to secure a \$2 million Open Space Grant from the county. The town also had to put up \$100,000 towards the purchase. In the years that it took for the town to gain ownership of the property, vandals, the elements, and time ravaged the once beautiful home.

This is when a group of dedicated citizens led by Karen Seader decided to try to save the historic home. The first step was to secure the house as vandals had left the doors open and pipes had frozen, floors warped, and cans of paint were strewn across the floors. It was heartbreaking to view the needless destruction to the once grand house.

With the house secured, the small group knew they had to raise some money to really make a difference and save the house. Out of this need came “The Haunted Trail,” referred to as the scariest half mile in Middlesex County.

This coming October will mark the fourth year that crowds will line up at Columbia Park for two nights of sheer terror. Local businesses, residents and Dunellen students donate items and time to help turn Columbia Park into a haunted trail.

The other major fund raiser is “The Taste of Dunellen” which was launched last year and became an immediate success. “The Taste” offers the “Best of the Best” from restaurants in Dunellen and surrounding communities.

The monies made from these two fund raisers and the donations from local businesses and



Maurer Mansion around the turn of the century.

individuals have permitted roof, gutter and soffit repairs on the house, a new roof on the garage and two new garage doors. Broken windows in the house have been replaced, a new roof on the back addition, as well as plumbing work repaired in the basement, repairs and painting work to the entire porch, foundation and front pillars. Overgrown trees were pruned and diseased trees removed. Most noteworthy, the missing iconic lions, which had greeted visitors on the front steps for over a century have been replaced. The new lions were donated by Evergreen on Rt. 22 in Green Brook.

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The Official Dunellen Web Site:

www.dunellenborough.net

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A Letter From Dunellen's Mayor

Robert J. Seader

Dear Dunellen Residents,

I would like to tell you about a few of the new exciting events and activities occurring in Dunellen.

The Maurer House Committee, through its efforts at the Haunted Trail, HarvestFest, and Taste of Dunellen, have raised over \$40,000 that has been spent on repairing the house at 500 Mountainview Terrace. When you drive by, you will see the building has been painted, the roof and sides repaired, and statutes of two glorious lions stand guard at the front steps. Financial support is always welcome, as well as volunteers dedicated to restoring a wonderful building to its pristine glory.

The borough has received a grant for \$350,000 to continue the roadway improvements on Dunellen Avenue. By the time you read this article, we hope to have awarded a contract for the job.

Similarly, the New Jersey Department of Transportation has just awarded Dunellen a grant for \$237,500 for improvements to Madison Avenue. This is on top of the \$300,000 we received from NJ DOT last year. We will combine the grants and hopefully be able to repave from North Avenue to at least Second Street.

And the grants just keep on coming: We have received a grant from the NJ DOT's Local Aid Transit Village Program for \$400,000 to continue our decorative lighting program eastward on North Avenue. We can all agree that these Victorian Style light poles have vastly enhanced our downtown.

The Redevelopment of the 19 acre "Art Color Complex" is moving along with the developers working up their financial figures and drafting diagrams of what the layout and buildings will look like for presentation to the Borough Council and public. We are all taking our time to ensure that we all get it right.

I would like to thank all of you who came out and marched in the Memorial Day Parade last month. I think it was the best in recent years and I am proud that so many of our local organizations walked with pride down our Dunellen streets, accompanied by all our emergency service vehicles and trucks. A special thanks to the Dunellen Police who guided us along the way, the Fire Department and Rescue Squad with their colorful trucks, and the Department of Public Works who made sure roads were patched and that Washington Memorial Park was a fitting place to honor those who had fallen to protect our liberties.

Joseph Ahrens, Sign Ordinance Enforcer



Left to right: Municipal Clerk William M. Robins administers the Oath of Office to Joseph Ahrens, newly appointed Sign Ordinance Enforcer for the Borough of Dunellen

The purpose of Dunellen's Sign Ordinance, completely Revised in 2013, is to provide each business enterprise with reasonable identification and visibility. The regulations encourage the effective use of signs as a means of communication in the Borough of Dunellen and helps to maintain and enhance the aesthetic and historic environment and the Borough's ability to promote sources of economic development and growth. The Sign Ordinance also

improves pedestrian and vehicular traffic safety, controls the effect of signs on adjacent public and private property, and provides a means of enforcement of the sign regulations. Signs should provide each business enterprise with reasonable identification and visibility.

Simply put, the rules preserve and protect the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Borough of Dunellen by preventing property damage and personal injury from signs that are improperly constructed or poorly maintained. It doesn't hurt that the ordinance also promotes the use of signs which are aesthetically pleasing, of appropriate scale, and integrated with surrounding buildings and landscape, in order to meet the community's expressed desire for quality development. Doing so protects property values, the local economy, and the quality of life by preserving and enhancing the appearance of the streetscape that affects the image of the Borough of Dunellen. Finally, the ordinance allows law enforcement sufficient visual access to a building and/or business.

Joseph Ahrens will make all this a reality.

Dunellen Government Directory

www.dunellenborough.net

All Council meetings are in the Municipal Council Chambers, on the first and third Monday of the month, located at 355 North Avenue, Dunellen, and begin at 7:30 PM, unless otherwise noted.

Elected Officials

Mayor Robert J. Seader (R)
rseader@dunellenborough.net
Term expires: December 31, 2015

Council President Kenneth Baudendistel (R)
kbaudendistel@dunellenborough.net
Commissioner to Police Department
Term expires: December 31, 2015

Kenneth Bayer (R)
kbayer@dunellenborough.net
Commissioner of Department of Public Works
Term expires: December 31, 2017

Kevin Bachorik (R)
kbachorik@dunellenborough.com
Commissioner to Public Buildings & Grounds
Term expires: December 31, 2017

Jason Cilento (I)
jcilento@dunellenborough.net
Parks and Recreation Liaison
Term expires: December 31, 2016

Joseph Petracca (R)
jpetracca@dunellenborough.net
Commissioner of Finance
Term expires: December 31, 2016

Municipal Clerk
The Municipal Clerk, serves as liaison officer between the governing officials and the public.
William M. Robins, RMC
Hours: 9 am - 4:30 pm
355 North Ave, Dunellen, NJ 08812
732-968-3033 • 732-968-8605 (Fax)

Registrar
Hours: M-F, 9 am - 3 pm, and by appointment.
William M. Robins, CMR, Dunellen Municipal Registrar
Samantha Galvez, CMR, Deputy Registrar
355 North Avenue, Dunellen, NJ 08812
732-968-3033 • 732-968-8605 (Fax)

Construction Office
Scott Luthman, Construction Officer
Office: Blue Building on Prospect Avenue, off Skinner Plaza
Hours: Monday and Wednesday, 5:00 - 6:30 pm;
732-968-3323
732-968-3872 (Fax)

Municipal Attorney
John E. Bruder
Tax Collector
Raymond Murray, Tax Collector
355 North Avenue, Dunellen, NJ 08812
Hours: Monday to Friday, 9 am - 2 pm
732-968-1226 • 732-968-3903 (Fax)

Tax Assessor
Richard Gianchiglia, Tax Assessor
Mailing Address: 355 North Ave, Dunellen, NJ 08812
Office is in the Blue Construction Office building, located on Prospect Avenue
Hours: Monday, 2 pm - 4:30 pm, by appointment (assessment only)
732-968-3323 • 732-968-3872 (Fax)

Parks & Recreation
Provides recreational programs, events & sports to the residents of Dunellen by utilizing the Borough parks and schools to help enhance the lives of the community.
Acting Recreation Director: Alex Miller
recreation@dunellenborough.com
732-752-2466
Recreation Hotline/Cancellations, press 1
Senior Updates, press 2

Planning Board
Regular meetings are conducted on the fourth Monday of each month at 7:30 pm, unless otherwise noted. These meetings are held in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Building, 355 North Avenue, Dunellen, NJ, 08812.

- Roger Dornbierer, Chairman
- Robert Krause • Thomas D'Amico
- Barbara Seif • Randee Staats
- Adam Gordon
- Scott Luthman, Secretary
- Kenneth Bayer, Councilman
- Robert Seader, Mayor

Code Enforcement
Property Maintenance, Zoning Violations, and Illegal Housing
George Deene, Dunellen Code Enforcement Officer • 908-672-2593

Public Works
Hours: Monday to Saturday, 8 am - 2 pm
Paint Drop Off: 2nd Saturday each month, 8 am-12 pm
235 Hall St, Dunellen, NJ • 732-968-5455

Dunellen Shade Tree Commission Receives Award

Ken Baudendistel, Dunellen Shade Tree Chairman



Pictured: Cate Walsh DSTC, Cindy Beam DSTC, Sue Butterworth DSTC, Patrick L. Ryan, President NJ Clean Communities Council, Ken Baudendistel DSTC, Deborah Dixon NJ Transit Adopt -A -Station. DSTC members unable to attend the event: Robert Rios, Erica Grun and Ellen Mackie

The Dunellen Shade Tree Commission was presented an award by the New Jersey Clean Communities Council for their participation in NJ Transit's Adopt-A-Station Program. The award was for groups who demonstrated spirit and community pride through cleaning and maintaining a NJ Transit rail station within their community.

Dunellen Shade Tree Commission was accepted into the program in May of 2008 when they landscaped the railroad embankments on the east and west side of So Washington Ave planting a variety of flowering shrubs, trees and tall grass. Each year the Commission members maintain the site by weeding, planting flowers and laying fresh mulch.

On Thursday May 21, four members attended an awards banquet sponsored by the Trustees of the New Jersey Clean Communities Council at McLoone's Pier House in Long Branch where they were presented with their award.

- If interested in becoming a member of the Dunellen Shade Tree Commission please visit us at
- The Dunellen Borough official website at <http://www.dunellenborough.net/>
 - shadetree@dunellenborough.com
 - Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/pages/Dunellen-Shade-Tree-Commission/159893800710284>

Grant To Continue Decorative Lighting

Dunellen has been awarded \$700k from New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) Fiscal Year 2014 and 2015 Transit Village Program.

NJDOT recognizes the role that transportation plays in advancing growth initiatives. The Department's Local Aid Transit Village Program supports the establishment of mixed-use neighborhoods with a strong residential component around a transit facility. The allocation was made possible because of Dunellen's commitment to revitalization and redevelopment in a manner

that encourages the use of our transit facility. This funding is a direct result of Dunellen being a Transit Village. The Transportation Trust Fund provides funding to communities throughout the state with grant programs that help local government advance transportation projects without burdening local property taxpayers.

The funds will be used to continue the decorative lights along North and Washington Avenues. Planning has begun in hopes to have the lighting in place spring 2016.

Dunellen Report Information:

The Dunellen Report is published quarterly in January, April, July and October. Please remember that if you are going to submit dates for events and/or articles, send them to us by the 1st of the preceding month. All material will be edited for content and suitability. You may submit by email at: dunellenreport@dunellenborough.net, or by mail:

The Dunellen Report
ATTN: Councilman Cilento
355 North Ave. Dunellen, NJ 08812

What Are Your Thoughts?
We want to hear from you!

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in a Casual Atmosphere

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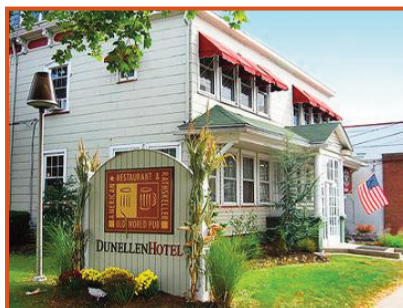
Rathskeller: "A restaurant that is patterned after
the cellar of a German city hall and in
which beer is sold."

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Dunellen Skylight Theatre Productions Presents Musical Comedy "Once Upon a Mattress."



In this hilarious musical version of "The Princess and the Pea," a kingdom is miserable because "no one shall marry until the Queen's son, Prince Dauntless marries" Yet, no one seems to be able to measure up as his bride. When the moat-swimming, "shy" Princess "Fred" steals the Prince's heart not everyone is pleased. Can she save the kingdom and charm the audience in the process?

Performances: Aug. 7th, 8th, 9th, 14th, 15th, 16th, at 7:30 pm.

\$12 Adults, \$10 Children and Senior Citizens, Active military and veterans free with ID.

Outdoors at; Washington Memorial Park, Washington Ave, Dunellen, NJ

In the event of rain, performances will be held in the basement auditorium at St. John's Church.

For information and tickets visit www.dunellenskylighttheatre.com

Girl Scout Troops Plant Flowers In Washington Memorial Park

Ken Baudendistel, Dunellen Council President



Cadette Troop # 65963 & Brownie Troop # 65515 pose for a picture before getting to work

For many years local Girls Scout Troops from Dunellen and Green Brook gather to plant flowers in Washington Memorial Park, and this year was no different. On Monday May 11th approximately 14 girls and their leaders from Daisy Troop 65402, Brownie Troop 65515, Junior troop 65862, and Cadette Troop 65963 and representing Dunellen-Green Brook Girl Scouts, Service Unit 62 met at the Washington Memorial Park gazebo to plan the occasion.

With few clouds in sight and a cool breeze blowing the girls started panting 24 flats of Blue Hawaii ageratum, and white and pink begonias in rows in front of the various monuments facing Washington Ave. Within a few hours of hard work the park was changed into a beautiful oasis of color which will line the monument walkways throughout the summer for everyone to enjoy. The

flowers are purchased by the Borough of Dunellen through the DHS Band Parent Association which raises money each year for the DHS band program

This is just one of the many annual traditions Dunellen enjoys and I want to thank all the girls, parents and troop leaders who make this possible. I hope everyone enjoys!



Troops & Leaders hard at work, planting flowers at Washington Memorial Park in Dunellen

Dunellen Downtown Management Organization

Dunellen Downtown Management Organization Committee Member Heidi Heleniak and Councilman Jason Cilento pose for a picture alongside the Dunellen Downtown Management Organization sign at the Rotary Club's Annual Car show on Sunday, June 12th. Heidi and Jason represented the Committee at a vendor booth at the event to promote the Dunellen HarvestFest and discuss the committee's newly printed marketing booklet for Dunellen.



3rd Annual Dunellen HarvestFest

The Dunellen Downtown Management Organization is excited to be sponsoring the 3rd annual Dunellen HarvestFest in Washington Memorial Park (North Washington Avenue, between Dunellen Avenue and First Street, Dunellen NJ) on Sunday, October 11, 2015 from 10am-4pm.

This event will feature artists and crafters from around the Garden State, local nonprofits, activities for kids, foods, music, dancing, and more! We will post the schedule one week prior to the event.

Participating in Dunellen's HarvestFest is rather affordable: starting at \$30 for a 10'x10' non-food vendor space. DUNELLEN NONPROFITS RECEIVE A FREE SPACE (based on availability).

Please note that this event is RAIN OR SHINE. The event will be advertised in local papers, websites, etc. For more info, please email: dunellenmanagement@dunellenborough.com

If you are a Dunellen resident who is interested in volunteering the day of the event with setup or overseeing an activity, please email: dunellenmanagement@dunellenborough.com <http://tinyurl.com/dunellenharvest> for vendor application

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DUNELLEN
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SUNDAY, OCT. 11, 2015 10AM-4PM

<http://tinyurl.com/dunellenharvest>

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- Carriage Rides
- & More!

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MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

Vendor space starting at only \$30

Memorial Day 2015



A solemn ceremony commemorating Memorial Day was held in Washington Memorial Park on May 25th, at 11:00 AM. Members of the color guard were from the Veteran's of Foreign Wars Post 5479 and the American Legion Post 119, both in Dunellen. John Rockafellow served as Grand Marshal. Bill Uhler from American Legion Post 119 delivered opening and closing remarks and introduced the speakers. Michelle Uhler sang our National Anthem and "God Bless America." The Invocation was delivered by the Father John C. Siceloff of St. John's Roman

Catholic Church. Speeches were made by American Legion Commander Keith Jarvis, Mike Horgos of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Dunellen Mayor Robert J. Seader. Chaplains Charles Wardo and Keith Jarvis noted "Those Who Have Died." Dunellen Councilmen Joseph Petracca and Jason Cilento participated in the parade and ceremony. There was a laying of wreaths by Auxiliary Presidents Colleen Mendez (American Legion) and Arlene Stoop (VFW). The Benediction was delivered by Chaplain Charles Wardo. Flag raising was by Boy Scout Troop 127. Dunellen and Green Brook thank all veterans for their service to our country.

This year's parade was outstanding with hundreds of marchers from boy scouts, girl scouts, athletic teams, martial arts clubs, the Dunellen High School Band, the Dunellen-Green Brook Rotary Club and many other fine organizations. Vehicles from the Dunellen Fire Department, Dunellen Rescue Squad, and Green Brook EMS accompanied the marchers.

Meet Jeanne Wessel, Coordinator Office of Emergency Management



Left to right: Municipal Clerk William M. Robins administers the Oath of Office to Jeanne Wessel while her son, Jonathan Frey, holds the Bible.

Jeanne is a former Lt. Colonel in the New Jersey National Guard where she was most recently Chief of the State Partnership Office and coordinated all New Jersey National Guard International Security Cooperation/Assistance Programs and Activities. She has vast experience in

Homeland Security, Anti-Terrorism, Communications, and all areas of Emergency Management.

The Emergency Management coordinator's role is to use and implement a variety of resources, techniques and skills to reduce the probability and impact of extreme events and to bring quick restoration to the community.

Emergency management coordinators are "key players" in an emergency or disaster situation. They do not need to be "in charge," but they make sure that whoever is in charge has access to the proper resources, skills, and knowledge necessary to manage the situation effectively.

The most important aspect of an effective emergency management coordinator is making sure that the responsibility, authority, and channels of communication are clearly defined before the emergency happens.

We are privileged and lucky to have Jeanne Wessel on board.

2015 Curbside Collection Schedule

July 1, 15, 29 • Aug. 12, 26 • Sept. 9, 23 • Oct. 7, 22 • Nov. 4, 18 • Dec. 2, 16, 30

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SKEETERS ... Fight the Bite!

By Marcie Tyson, Dunellen Report Contributor

Summer is a time for backyard barbecues, visits to the beach ... and mosquito bites! You can lower your risk for mosquito bites:

4. Keep your property mosquito "unfriendly" by removing all sources of standing or stagnant water where mosquito larvae can breed. Mosquitoes will develop in any standing water or puddle that lasts more than 4 days!

1. Avoid shaded areas where mosquitoes may be resting. Limit outdoor activities in the evening when mosquitos are most active.
2. If weather permits, wear protective clothing such a long sleeved shirts and pants.
3. Use insect repellents that contain DEET (N, N-Diethyl-meta Toluamide) only as directed by the manufacturer's instructions.
 - Avoid prolonged and excessive use of DEET. Frequent application and saturation of skin do NOT increase effectiveness, but will increase likelihood of adverse reactions.
 - Do not use on infants, and avoid applying higher concentration products directly to the skin of children by applying repellent to clothing and footwear. Avoid using DEET on damaged skin (sunburn, cuts, eczema or psoriasis). Contact your physician if you are allergic or have an adverse reaction to DEET.

- Dispose of tin cans, plastic containers, ceramic pots and old, discarded tires. One tire can produce tens of thousands of mosquitos in a single season.
- Drill extra holes in the bottom of recycling containers that are left outdoors.
- Inspect and clean clogged roof gutters on an annual basis - roof gutters can produce millions of mosquitoes each season.
- Eliminate standing water that collects in unused wheelbarrows, plastic wading pools, birdbaths and buckets. Cover children's sandboxes when not in use.
- Aerate water gardens and ornamental pools, or stock them with fish.
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools that are not being used. Remember that mosquitoes can also breed in the water that collects on the cover after it rains.
- Electronic Repellers and Bug Zappers have limited value and are not considered effective devices for controlling mosquitoes.

Passing On The Safety Helmet

By Terri Albertson



Departing Safety Ambassador, Danny Russomanno, hands over the bicycle helmet to new Safety Ambassador, Aaliyah Baker.

Dunellen High School's Safety Ambassador program is an ongoing program that teaches Faber Elementary School's second graders how to stay safe. The program which will begin it's 7th year in the fall is run by Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital. Each year 8 - 10 high school sophomores and juniors apply for the opportunity to become a Safety Ambassador for the upcoming school year. They are interviewed and chosen by the program's advisors, Ms. Del-Rosario and Mrs. Albertson.

They attend training in the fall and then work on their presentations. Each team of Ambassadors are given a topic that they will present once a month from February through May to each of the four second grade classes. Topics covered are: Wheels Under Your Feet (bicycle, scooter and skateboard safety), Falls Prevention, Pedestrian Safety, and Safety in and Around Cars. Presentations include important key messages presented in a fun interactive format. Each class is visited by Super Safety Man, who demonstrates way to not be safe and is then instructed by the students on how to do things safely. Presentations include songs, games, stories and even a jello brain! The second graders love to have the Safety Ambassadors visit them. The May visit is always ended with an ice cream party. As one

second grader said this year, "this is the best day ever! Safety Ambassadors and ice cream!" What more can you ask for? Education with whipped cream and sprinkles.

The Safety Ambassador for the 2015 - 2016 school year include returning members, Samantha Maurillo, Bella Guzzi, Kelly Crowe and Kevin McGrath. They will be joined by our newest members: Aaliyah Baker, Tyler Baker, Kayla Heluk, Billy Stroje, Rachel McDougall, and Sabrina Estevez.

Dunellen Shade Tree Commission

Members needed to help beautify Dunellen. Contact Ken Baudendistel at shadetree@dunellenborough.com, call Borough Hall at 732-968-3033.



Running For A Cause

Joe D. Dudley II, State Delegate, Dunellen PBA, Local #146



On a Friday in early June of each year you might see a different kind of parade proceeding down North Avenue. A procession of Police Cars from Dunellen, The Port Authority of NY & NJ and New Jersey State Police and a cache of runners with a torch. What you're seeing is the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics, a fundraising and awareness campaign undertaken by law enforcement throughout New Jersey each year. The run, founded in 1982, consists of 26 separate legs which take place throughout the State of new Jersey and which annually, raises over \$2 Million Dollars and consists of over 3000 runners.

Dunellen and Middlesex Borough Officers over the last several years have stepped up their fundraising efforts and have begun a joint endeavor with local business owner, John Ellery of Middlesex to further the local success of the Torch Run. Through fundraising and sponsorships by commercial sponsors and individuals alike, donations are collected of which 100% go directly to Special Olympics New Jersey. The fundraising efforts culminate with an annual fundraising dinner

which boasts all-you-can-eat pasta, raffles, live music and the embodiment of community spirit. The event is a social gathering of the officers of both towns who have dedicated themselves to the fundraising efforts, local Special Olympics athletes and the community which has shown unbelievable support to the cause. In 2015 alone, the concerted efforts of the joint Police agencies and Mr. Ellery has raised to date, over \$33,000.00 for Special Olympics, NJ. None of which could have been possible without support from the local businesses and the community as a whole.

In 2016 the members of Dunellen and Middlesex PBA's along with Mr. Ellery hope to make the fundraiser efforts even better and further the totals going towards helping the athletes that Special Olympics supports.

For information on the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics or how to donate in the Dunellen area, please contact Dunellen PBA President/Delegate Joe Dudley at dunellenpba146@yahoo.com.

2015 DUNELLEN STREET FAIR

Sunday, September 13 • 10 am to 5 pm along North Ave

Sponsored by: Dunellen Defender Fire Co., No. 1

Last year, the Dunellen Defender Fire Co., No. 1 once again hosted the annual Street Fair. The event was attended by thousands and had over 100 vendors. The fair stretched from Washington Avenue to Madison Avenue along North Ave. Many comments were received from both guests and vendors expressing how well they enjoyed the event.

We are again going to host the 2015 Street Fair

and look to make it more enjoyable than last years event. We hope you join us for another enjoyable event.

If you are interested in registering as a vendor for the 2015 Street Fair, you can download the application on the DOWNLOAD page of the website.

E-mail us at: streetfair@dunellenfd.com for more information,

Dunellen Police Department Welcomes Two New Officers



Left to right: Albert Nierodzik (father), Officer Marcin Nierodzik, Chief Jeffrey Nelson



Left to right: Denise Pepe and Albert Pepe (mother and father), Officer Nicholas Pepe, Chief Jeffrey Nelson

The Old Maurer House

Continued from page 11

While the future is looking brighter for The Maurer House, she still has a long way to go. When complete the house might serve as a museum to Dunellen's rich history – such as the accompanying turn of the century photos donated to the Dunellen Historical Society by Edward Maurer's great granddaughter from Arizona. It may also offer a place for small functions as well as a meeting place for small local groups and affairs.

Besides money, the house needs more volunteers. Boy Scout Troop 29 is looking to have scouts work on various Eagle Projects at the house in the coming years. A local garden club has expressed an interest in restoring the once breathtaking gardens. Independent town groups are interested in possibly sponsoring or adopting a room. If you like what you see going on at the Maurer House a tour is being planned for this fall. Stop by then and take a step back in time.

For more information, call Ellen Byrnes at 732 752 4963

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Mike Ryan, Registered Pharmacist at Devine's Pharmacy, is ready to meet the health needs of area residents.