

The Dunellen Report



Celebrating 8 Years!

Goals and Objectives for 2019 October Update

By: Mayor Robert Seader



Mayor Seader

In this edition of The Dunellen Report, I will be presenting you an update on my Goals and Objectives for 2019 first presented in January 2019.

A goal is where we want to go, what we want to accomplish. An objective is a specific means for getting to the goal. A goal is a target; an objective is a tangible mechanism for achieving the goal.

The primary goal of my last term as your Mayor is to advance the improvements in Columbia Park. By way of background, in 2016 I presented a case to the Middlesex County Freeholders that the work begun in 2004 in Columbia Park under the Open Space grant ought to be continued. After 15 years, some of the facilities required repair and improvement, and others should be completely upgraded to reflect the needs of a new generation of students, athletes, and residents. I worked closely with the School District and our Recreation Commission to develop a plan for enhanced park facilities. The Freeholders agreed with our proposal and generously provided an additional \$1,400,000 in Open Space grant monies for renovation of the existing football field with synthetic turf, subsurface drainage, a stormwater management system, sports equipment, the reconstruction of the four tennis courts, and the purchase of a gazebo adjacent to the Senior Center building.

We are making great progress on this rehabilitation project. At the Council Meeting on June 17th, we Introduced a bond ordinance that will provide the mechanism for funding the new artificial turf football field and a rebuilding of the running track. We thank Dunellen School Superintendent Gene Mosely for his cooperation and assistance with this aspect of the project. The football field contract was awarded on August 5th and the borough's engineers are now working with the contractor. Earlier this year, on May 20th, the contract for the rehabilitated tennis courts was awarded and most of the work on this is complete. All that remains is the striping.

At the September 16th Council meeting, a contract to provide a new gazebo was awarded to Amish Country Craftsman, and at the same Council meeting our engineers, CME Associates, were authorized to undertake Land Surveying Services to prepare an Existing Conditions Plan for the Playground Area at Columbia Park. I thank Alex Miller, our Recreation Director, and Councilwomen April Burke and Stacy Narvesen for their assistance in this project. We will be replacing the old gym and play apparatus with brand new, and fun, equipment that the children will really enjoy.

Finally, we will be adding exercise equipment and attractive landscaping to the walking path in Columbia Park. I want to thank Council President Jason Cilento for his successful application for this AARP grant.

Another important concern for me is the mitigation of flooding in certain street intersections of Dunellen, and an application to FEMA to redraw the flood map to accurately delineate the flood areas in Dunellen. You will recall that FEMA made numerous errors when they redid the map in 2010 and we have been working with our congressional delegations to fix their mistake. The South Madison Avenue Culvert Project and the Pulaski Street Culvert Project are both being done under the auspices of Middlesex County and they are making slow if steady progress. We are meeting with the new owners adjacent to the Railroad Culvert project on South Avenue and hope soon to have an easement to access their property.

My third major area of concern is potholes in general and roadway repaving on specific streets. I am very happy to inform you that we did receive a grant from the New Jersey Department of Transportation for roadway improvements to South Madison Avenue in the amount of \$583,316.00. Last year we received a grant for \$225,000 for the repaving of portions of Grove Street. Our engineers have given us cost estimates for both street improvements and at the October 1st Council meeting we introduced bond ordinances to cover the costs, plus for some monies to repair a sewer break at Gertrude Terrace. We hope

...Continued on Page 14



What's Inside The Dunellen Report?

2019 Goals, October Update	11, 14	How Dunellen Got its Name	12
Municipal Alliance	11	Recycling	13-14
Town Government Directory	12	Learn About Rotary	14

Dunellen Report Information: The Dunellen Report is published quarterly in January, April, July, and October. If you plan on submitting events and articles, send them to us by the first of the preceding month. All material will be edited for content and suitability. You may submit content by email at: dunellenreport@dunellenborough.com, or by mail: The Dunellen Report, ATTN Councilman Cilento, 355 North Avenue, Dunellen NJ, 08812.

Working Together for a Substance Free Community



Photo by David Starace

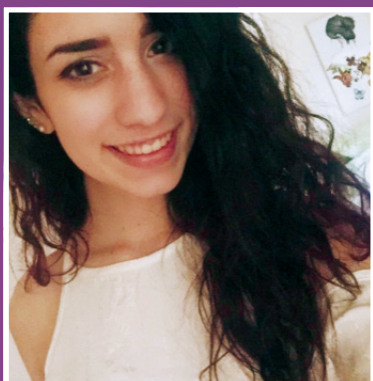
On September 5th, the Dunellen Municipal Alliance hosted its 3rd Annual Overdose Awareness Remembrance Ceremony in honor of Tyler Katarsky and other community members who have met with death or permanent injury as a result of drug overdose. This event, held at Washington Memorial Park, brought together members of our Community, Police Department, Borough Council, Board of Education, Wellspring Center for Prevention, Comfort Zone Camp and the Municipal Alliance to promote awareness and the importance of working together to make Dunellen a substance free community.

At least 3,163 people died of drug overdoses in New Jersey in 2018. That's approximately 42% of the population of our small community. Soak that in, think about that for a moment. These people were someone's child, possibly someone's spouse or parent. They were someone's neighbor, some were our neighbors. They did not choose to die this way-- addiction is an illness,

not a life choice. We need to acknowledge that and step forward to help. We cannot turn away and say it's not my problem. It is everyone's problem and we as a community must come together and stop the stigma. We need to acknowledge the problem and step forward to help through education, prevention and support. The mission of the Dunellen Municipal Alliance is to promote a substance free community through education, advocacy and community partnerships. We provide educational programs on substance, alcohol and electronic inhalant device misuse at all three Dunellen Schools. We host quarterly activities for teens to encourage them to enjoy themselves in a substance free environment. Each year we host community education programs at our Town Hall meetings.

If you are interested in learning more about the Alliance and participating in our events, you can contact us at Dunellenma@gmail.com. You can also follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @dunellenma.

Melanie's Hair Salon
WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE OUR NEWEST STYLIST



JENNA
DICKERSON

Jenna has worked with our stylists in many weddings. Her work is impeccable. Specializing in updos and makeup, Jenna is also an artist and has brought Henna tattooing back into our salon.

Welcome Jenna!

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT WITH JENNA, AND GET

10% OFF
OUR SERVICES

Melanie's Hair Salon 908-251-1881
Open Tuesday-Saturday
380 North Avenue, Dunellen

How Dunellen Got Its Name

Time: 1870's.

At the time the town was laid out, the old railroad station, which had borne the name of New Market, was abandoned. The new station, with living quarters for the stationmaster on the second floor, was erected and given the name "Dunellen."

The source of that name—there is no other Dunellen in the United States—has been the cause of wide speculation among local residents ever since. Almost everyone in Dunellen offers some explanation for its derivation, and the explanations vary amazingly:

1. Dunellen's name is a transposition of the name of one of its early settlers, Ellen Dunn. (Source: Commonly accepted local lore.)

2. Dunellen's name derives from Dunelleen, a Scottish town, named in turn for two Scottish words: dun, meaning hill; and lende, meaning land; early Scotch settlers chose it for this community. (Source: Address delivered by Alfred Osmun at the 1895 graduation exercises of Whittier School.)

3. Dunellen was named after Edward Dunham, of New Market, founder of the Seventh Day Baptist Congregation there. (Source: Gustav Kobbe's Jersey Central Guide Book published in 1890.)

4. Dunellen was named after a Dr. Dunell of New York, one of the early purchasers

of property here. (Source: "History of Middlesex County," by Clayton, published in 1882.)

5. Combining Nos. 1 and 3, "it seems likely that the maiden name of Mr. Dunham's wife as Ellen Dunn, thus furnishing a clue to the origin of the village's name." (Source: F.T. Dickerson, formerly of Dunellen, secretary and treasurer of the New Jersey Central Railroad.)

Evaluating and checking these stories reveals numerous contradictions; there are obvious flaws in most of them.

There seems to be no record of settlers in Dunellen whose former home had been Dunelleen, Scotland.

For another, not only is "Dunham" rather a far cry from "Dunellen," but also the Seventh Day Baptist pastor was not married to a woman named Ellen.

Nor does there seem to have been any one by that name in the numerous Dunn families, which have resided in this vicinity.

And as to Dr. Dunell, the history mentioned is the only record of any gentleman by that name having owned property in Dunellen at any time.

These are only a few of the popular explanations for the source of Dunellen. There is another group stemming from John Taylor Johnston (remember, he was a prominent New York financier and president of the Jersey Central Rail Road in the 1860's

and 1870's), and they, too, vary:

1. "Mr. Johnston, who was a great hand to play with words ... selected the name of Dunellen; this ... was evolved from Ellen Dunn." (Source: "Out of the Past," a series of reminiscent articles written by Henry P. Mason on the Central Railroad.)

2. "The late John Taylor Johnston called to see a native farmer named Dunn. The railroad man was invited to remain for dinner, and as the host's wife seemed to be a little slow in its preparation the farmer became somewhat impatient. Finally, he raised his voice and called aloud, 'Is the chicken done, Ellen?' Receiving no response, he called again. 'Is it done, Ellen?' Mr. Johnston had been casting about for a name to be used on the new station at that place and he quickly caught the clue, framing up the appellation of 'Dunellen.'" (Source: Senator James E. Martine, speaking at the first banquet of the Dunellen Board of Trade, November 1911.)

3. Mr. Johnston, returning home on the evening that the railroad station in the village had been completed, exclaimed happily to his daughter, "It is done, Ellen." And thenceforth decided to call the station by the name he had unconsciously coined. (Source: Popular local lore.)

4. Same as Nos. 3, but with local slant, as follows: Local workman engaged as a laborer on the station (also, in other versions, on the railroad), declared to his wife on the evening of the station's (or railroad's) completion, "It's done, Ellen;" and Johnston, to whom this astonishing bon mot was reported, immortalized it by naming the new village Dunellen. (Source: Popular local lore.)

There are likewise numerous smoking-car variations of these stories. But here again are obvious fallacies: no Ellen Dunn, as mentioned above, seems to have lived in the vicinity during the period of the village's

growth; and Johnston had no daughter named Ellen.

Discussion on the origin of Dunellen's name may go on indefinitely and probably will, but a letter from Mrs. Emily de Forest, daughter of John Taylor Johnston and widow of a one-time president of the Central Jersey Land Improvement Company, is offered herewith as the official explanation of Dunellen's name:

"My father, John Taylor Johnston, was president of the Jersey Central Railroad in its earliest days. It at first ran only from Elizabethport to Elizabeth, then it continued its course across New Jersey and he began naming the little villages, which he expected might grow into towns.

Father and Mother had one or two very intimate friends, among them one Ellen Betts, wife of Frederick Betts, of New York. He took her first name and added the prefix 'Dun' because he thought it would be a very euphonious name. That is how the name 'Dunellen' came into existence. The place then was hardly more than a railroad station. My father even tried to name some of the stations after members of his family. For instance, my Mother's name was Fanny, and Fanwood was named for her. Evona was named for my youngest sister, Eva. Father said he would like to name a station for me, his eldest daughter (named Emily), and I suggested 'Emilita' (as a joke, of course), but that name died an instant death at the hands of the rest of the family!

I wish I could tell you more about it all, but of what I have said I am perfectly sure, and I hope it is the information you want."

I hope that satisfies all of you as to the origins of the name of our borough. If you still have any questions, please direct them to John Taylor Johnston. Find references at www.aboutourtown.online/blog. •

Dunellen Government Directory

www.dunellen-nj.gov

All council meetings are held in the Municipal Council Chambers, on the first and third Monday of the month, located at 355 North Avenue, Dunellen.
Meeting commence at 7:00 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

Elected Officials

Mayor Robert J. Seader
rseader@dunellen-nj.gov

Jason Cilento, Council President
jcilento@dunellen-nj.gov

April Burke, Councilmember
aburke@dunellen-nj.gov

Jessica Dunne, Councilmember
jdunne@dunellen-nj.gov

Joseph Petracca, Councilmember
jpetracca@dunellen-nj.gov

Kenneth Bayer, Councilmember
kbayer@dunellen-nj.gov

Stacey Narvesen, Councilmember
snarvesen@dunellen-nj.gov

Municipal Clerk/Boro Administrator

William M. Robins, RMC
732-968-3033 (Phone)
732-968-8605 (Fax)
Hours: MF 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Registrar

William M. Robins, CMR
Lauren Staats, Deputy Registrar
732-968-3033 (Phone)
Hours: M-F, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and by appointment

Construction Office

Scott Luthman
101 Prospect Avenue
732-968-3323 (Phone)
732-968-3872 (Fax)
Office Hours:
M, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.
T, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
W, 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Th, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Inspections: T and Th 2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Municipal Attorney

John E. Bruder

Tax Collector

Patricia Dougherty
Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
732-968-1226 (Phone)
732-968-3903 (Fax)

Tax Assessor

Richard Gianchiglia
Office is located in the green construction office building.
Hours: Monday 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. (assessment only)
732-968-3323 (Phone)
732-968-3872 (Fax)

Parks & Recreation

Alex Miller
recreation@dunellenborough.com

732-752-2466 (Phone) Planning Board

Regular meetings are on the fourth Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m., in the Municipal Building. Board members: Roger Dornbierer (Chairman,) Kevin Bachorik, Thomas D'Amico, Barbara Seif, Randee Staats, Adam Gordon, Scott Luthman (Secretary,) Kenneth Bayer, and Robert Seader.

Code Enforcement

Property Maintenance, Zoning Violations, and Illegal Housing
George Deene
908-672-2593 (Phone)

Public Works

Hours: Monday-Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Paint Drop Off: 2nd Saturday each month (8-12p.m.)
235 Hall St. Dunellen
732-968-5455 (Phone)

MCIA Division of Recycling

Call MCIA for any questions or concerns regarding bi-weekly recycling.
1-800-488-6242 (hotline)
101 Interchange Plaza, Suite 202, Cranbury NJ 08512

A Summer for the Arts: DACC Hosts Art Camp and Music in the Park

The Dunellen Arts & Culture Commission (DACC) had a busy summer creating events for the Dunellen community. The summer art camp provided local children the opportunity to learn new skills at a discounted fee thanks to the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders through a grant provided by New Jersey State Council on the Arts / Department of State.

DACC in partnership with the Dunellen Recreation Department also held three summer concerts as part of its "Music in the Park" series. The series focused on featuring local talent: each of the bands had at least one Dunellen resident as a key member. The bands were Woke Robot, an instrumental funk-jazz group; The Paul Nagy Project, a classic rock group, and Fred Rocks NJ & Friends (Leander Galimba, Ian McBride, Athenae Alferis). At the last concert, Inspire Art Gallery & Studio set up a plein air painting studio so that attendees could also create a watercolor painting while watching the performance.

Keeping music going through to the fall, DACC is sponsoring Dunellen's celtic folk band Twopenny Porters at the Dunellen Downtown Management Organization's

HarvestFest in Washington Park on October 19 at 2:30pm.

DACC is excited that its first commissioned mural, painted by Dunellen resident Brant Maslowski, is nearing completion. The mural which is featured on the back entrance of the Arnold A. Schwartz Memorial Library building, was created using funds from the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders through a grant provided by New Jersey State Council on the Arts / Department of State. The reveal party cosponsored with the Dunellen Public Library will be held on October 19, 1:00pm-2:30pm. It will offer past DACC art workshop/camp participants the opportunity to add their own mark to the mural and a gallery show of this year's campers.

DACC is also working on its part of the AARP Columbia Park improvement grant. The Happy Little Bridge Beautification Project, which involves painting the bridge near the Kline Place park entrance, will be completed by November.

Dunellen residents who are interested in volunteering for commission activities can contact DACC on Facebook or at artsandculturecommission@dunellenborough.com. •



TOP 10 THINGS TO DO WHEN SELLING YOUR HOME:

#1. Call Me (I'll handle the other 9)

If you're curious about what your house may be worth, why not find out what houses are selling for in your neighborhood without any hassle?



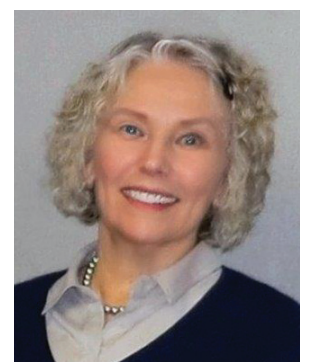
To Get Your Complimentary 2019 MARKET ANALYSIS

call

732-529-0308

or email

bseif@eabrealty.com



Barbara Seif, Realtor
Awarded the NJ Realtors® Circle of Excellence Sales Award 25 times – 1990-1993, 1995-2007, 2009-2010, 2012-2017



Boniakowski
REAL ESTATE

“My Ride-Along with a Recycling Truck”

By: April Burke, Councilwoman Borough of Dunellen

If in doubt, throw it out. That is the motto of the Middlesex County Improvement Authority (MCIA) supervisor, Angelica, that patrols Dunellen. On Wednesday, June 26th, I rode along with Angelica as she monitored the recycling efforts on that day, and also Paul Maticera, Director of Recycling for the MCIA. This ride along was the result of a meeting held with the MCIA, back in April, requested by Dunellen Borough officials following many resident complaints concerning recycling.

So, who exactly is picking up our recycling? Soltera, based out of Ewing, won the bid to collect recycling in Dunellen. They send two trucks to our town and each truck is made up of a team consisting of a driver and a thrower. These trucks are tracked by GPS that Soltera monitors, and soon the MCIA will be able to track as well. According to one of the teams, it takes about 5 hours to pick up their section of Dunellen; this could take longer if the truck needs to be emptied during the pickup. Both teams complimented Dunellen, stating we are clean and follow most rules of recycling; however, they do ask drivers of vehicles to use caution when passing the trucks.

Residents frequently complain about their recycling not being picked up, so I asked Angelica and both teams if there are things we could do to help keep this from happening. Here are some of their suggestions:

- Have your recycling out early. Recycling can start as early, or even earlier, than 7:00 a.m.
- Place your recycling off your curb at the edge of the street and away from cars, if possible.



Paul Maticera, Director of Recycling for the Middlesex County Improvement Authority, Councilwoman April Burke, and Angelica Granados from MCIA.

- Use blue recycling bins without a lid. If you do not have a blue bin, you may use any bin without a lid. Additionally, the MCIA can provide you with a sticker denoting a recycling bin to avoid confusion with a trash bin.

- NO PLASTIC BAGS. Residents oftentimes place their recycling in non-transparent plastic bags. Since the team is not able to see what is in the bag, they will leave it behind. However, it should be noted that plastic bags of any kind are NOT permitted as they damage the machines.

- Break down your boxes. Avoid leaving boxes whole as these take up room in the truck resulting in the truck having to be emptied more frequently, and this could delay your pick up.

Far too often, residents attempt to recycle items that are not meant to be recycled. On this day we saw a tire, mini blinds, styrofoam,

...Continued on Page 14

“Dreams” –A Parent Support Group

DREAMS (Dunellen Resources to Educate, Advocate, and Mediate for Special Education) holds support group meetings for Parents of children with special needs in conjunction with Dunellen schools’ Special Services Department.

Please join us at the October 3rd Support group meeting from 7 – 9 pm in the media Center at John P. Faber Elementary School.

This support group is pulled together by parents of special needs children who recognize the unique challenges of raising a child with disabilities and developmental disorders. DREAMS welcomes all parents, grandparents and professionals who wish to join in this vital voyage of discovery and commitment to our local special needs children.

DREAMS’s goal is to provide support and networking opportunities to the Families of all special needs children, helping parents and other family members to have a better understanding of our children’s disabilities and developmental disorders, teach strategies for their education and for handling a wide range of topics such as dealing with professionals, the State, the child’s behavior and medical issues, and pretty much any topic that you bring up that is of concern to you and your child.



The DREAMS booth with members Maureen McCabe and William Robins, at the recent Dunellen Street Fair, June 23, 2019. Our bake sale proceeds purchase supplemental equipment and adaptive devices used by Special Education teachers in the Dunellen School District.

DREAMS will have a booth at the Dunellen Street Fair on Sunday, September 29th, and again at HarvestFest 2019, on Sunday, October 13th. If you would like to volunteer at the booths, or to bake for our fund-raising, please contact Bill.

Administrators and members of the Special Education Department attend our meetings and are available for questions. For more information, call Bill at 732-713-6068.

Dunellen Awarded Grant by AARP Livable Communities

Submitted by: Jason F. Cilento, Council President



The Borough of Dunellen was one of 159 awardees of the 2019 AARP Community Challenge Grant program from AARP Livable Communities and AARP New Jersey! The awardees of this “quick action” grant program come from every state, Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Through this grant we have organized community organizations such as the Dunellen Shade Tree Commission, Dunellen Parks and Recreation, Dunellen Senior Club, Dunellen Arts & Culture Commission, Dunellen Municipal Alliance and others to help build and install shade trees, benches, and pollinator plants, as well as painting the footbridge to increase the vibrancy of the walking path in Columbia Park.

The project will add nature stations around the park’s existing, relatively flat ½ mile paved trail, which is accessible to users of many abilities including those in wheelchairs. Each station will have signage posted in Latin and in common names for plants, animals and insect species seen at the park. The trees, shrubs and flowers will provide habitat for animals, birds and insects. There are plans to add seating at each location to encourage visitors to observe nature, activities in the park, and as an accommodation for those who may need rest.

To date we have built all 12 benches and placed them in Columbia Park and Dunellen Arts and Culture Commission has begun painting the footbridge. The next stages to be completed will be:

1. Mulching the seating stations
2. Dunellen Shade Tree planting shrubs



and pollinator plants

3. Staining benches once dried with the Dunellen Senior Club
4. Boy Scout Troop 127 naming insects and animals
5. Placing tree tags and animal identifier plaques
6. Install new walking path entrance signs

Thank you to members of the Dunellen Shade Tree Commission, members of DACC and the Dunellen Municipal Alliance, Dunellen Senior Club, Boy Scout Troop 127 and all individual volunteers including; Pete & Terri Albertson, David & Diana Starace, Cole Sigmon, Ken Baudendistel, Adam Ambrozewycz, Lou De Robertis, James Devine, Heidi Heleniak, Rachel Appleton, Councilwoman Stacy Narvesen, Vanessa Alonso, Rob & Trina and Jaxon Rios. •

Borough Council Meeting Dates:

All meetings are held in the Municipal Council Chambers, 355 North Avenue, Dunellen, and begin at 7:00 p.m., unless otherwise noted. Meetings take place on the first and third Monday of the month. Upcoming Meetings: October 7, October 21, November 4, November 18, December 2, and December 16.

MEDEMERGE

1005 North Washington Avenue
Green Brook, NJ 08812

(732) 968-8900

For over 35 years. The doctors you know and trust!

No Appointments needed! Just walk in anytime.

PRIMARY CARE • URGENT CARE

The Latest Lab & Radiology Technology • Workers Comp, DOT Physicals & Immigration Physicals • We Participate With All Insurance Plans

Open at 8 AM Daily • 365 Days A Year
Certified Medical Home

MEDEMERGE.COM

“My Ride-Along with a Recycling Truck”

By: April Burke, Councilwoman Borough of Dunellen

Continued from Page 13...

yard umbrella, plastic baseball bats (wrong plastic), pizza boxes (grease contamination), rags, children’s play trucks, clothing, shredded paper, and a water hose in the recycling of our residents. Be sure you know you are discarding items that can be recycled. Failure to do this can slow the teams down and make it harder to collect recycling in Dunellen. So back to Angelica’s motto: If you are in doubt, throw it out!

Bulk trash items can be dropped off the Dunellen Public Works yard. The Recycling pamphlet can be found on the borough’s web site at:

http://www.dunellen-nj.gov/departments/public_works/index.php#XX4zSV6B7fg

Unsure what to recycle, reference this website or images. The web site for Middlesex County recycling is: <http://www.middlesexcountynj.gov/Government/Departments/PSH/Pages/recyclerright.aspx>.

DO Recycle

- Plastic Bottles**
coded with #1 & #2 only
- Mixed Paper**
paper, newspaper, magazines, soft cover books
- Cardboard**
corrugated, cereal, clean pizza boxes
- Cans**
aluminum and steel (tin) cans
- Glass Bottles & Jars**
all sizes, shapes and colors

Raritan Valley Mayors Alliance: Advocating for Better RVL Services

Submitted by: Jason F. Cilento, Council President



Photo caption: Mayors, elected officials and volunteers at Newark Penn Station on Wednesday, September 18th after the RVL Mayors Alliance rally to help bring attention to the needed improvements along the RVL.

On Wednesday, September 18th, I joined the Raritan Valley Line Mayors’ Alliance and volunteers at Newark Penn Station to speak with Raritan Valley Line (RVL) commuters about the RVL Mayors Alliances efforts to improve RVL services.

The RVL Mayors Alliance is advocating for:

1. Immediate restoration of off-peak direct service that was suspended last year
2. Within one year, NJ Transit should implement at least one peak period direct train into NY Penn
3. Within one year, NJ Transit should implement weekend one-seat rides into NY Penn
4. Work with Amtrak to get 100% same platform transfer Newark to NY for all peak

hour Eastbound trains

You may be asking yourself what you can do? THAT’S GREAT! Here is what you can do: Call Assemblypersons Linda Carter (908) 561-5757 and James Kennedy (732) 943-2660 and ask them to amend Assembly bill A5256, which currently asks for a feasibility study to assess RVL peak one seat ride service.

You can sign the petition here: rvlmayors.org/sign-the-petition. I hope to have the alliance come to Dunellen and make a presentation in the near future. For more information on the Raritan Valley Line Mayors Alliance visit their website at: <https://www.rvlmayors.org/>

Thank you for the support! Let’s get this done, together!

Join the Dunellen-Green Brook Rotary

Rotary International, consisting of 1,200,000 members in 170 countries, raises funds to help people internationally (such as the eradication of polio and the providing of clean drinking water) and locally.

The Dunellen-Green Brook Rotary Club meets the first and third Thursdays of every month at the Dunellen Hotel at 12:15 pm. Our club supports the Dunellen Fire Company, Dunellen Rescue Squad, Dunellen Public Library, boy scouts, little league and other groups, and provides thousands of dollars in scholarships to local high school students. Each year we donate dictionaries to the third graders in Dunellen and Green Brook. We will be sponsoring a Comedy Night at Zupko’s Dunellen Theater on Tuesday, October 15th at 6:00 pm. Tickets are available.

Please join us at HarvestFest 2019 in Washington Memorial Park on Sunday, October 13th. We will be glad to tell you all



Steve Druga and William Robins, members of the Dunellen-Green Brook Rotary Club, working the Special Needs Rotary booth at the Hillsborough Rotary Fair, August 2019.

about how Rotary helps your community.

For more information, go to our website: www.dunellengreenbrookrotary.org, or call Club Secretary Bill Robins at 732-713-6068.

The Dunellen Library Recognizes Two Volunteers

Imagine volunteering at your local public library for over thirty years. What books you have read; what programs you have attended; how many thousands of library customers you have helped?

Nothing less than a love for the people of Dunellen, and for “The Friendly Library,” as Dunellen Public is known, could bring Betty and Rosemary back, day after day, with smiles on their faces and joy in their hearts.

Libraries are happy places. Where else can you get, for free, answers to all your questions, reading material to while away the quiet hours, intellectual stimulation from programs, soul-lifting inspiration from audio books and music CDs?

But when it comes right down to it, libraries, and the Dunellen Public Library in particular, are strongest in their people. The people who work behind the Circulation Desk, the people who manage the day to day activities, the people who organize the programs, the people who read to the children, and most of all, the people who volunteer, selflessly, their time and their effort and their good cheer. Libraries are people, too, and no one embodies that more than Betty and Rosemary.



Elizabeth Hixon and Rosemary Deene at their volunteer retirement party, September 2019. Photo by: Brianna Martin

After thirty years of making the Dunellen Public Library all that it could be, the ladies are now passing the baton of service on to a next generation of volunteers. Everyone who loves the Dunellen Public Library thanks Betty and Rosemary and we wish them good luck. Thank you! •

Mayor’s Message Continued: Goals & Objectives October Update

Continued from Page 11...

to award contracts in December for work in early 2020.

While work continues on the new Dunellen Stations, on the site of the old Art Color complex where in the next few years there will be 130 townhouses and 252 rental units, there is also significant redevelopment in other parts of our downtown. A new three-story mixed-use building is now going up where the old Devine’s Pharmacy was, and on the bend of North Avenue and Bound Brook Road, the Planning Board has approved a proposal for a 40-unit apartment complex.

I am also concerned with the numerous illegal apartments around town. These are apartments within single or multi-

family houses that have been built without proper permits from the Construction Office. Without electrical, plumbing and fire inspections, these apartments run a significant safety risk for their occupants. Illegal apartments can affect the neighborhood with unwanted crowding and possibly could be a burden on the school district. I have formed a Council Committee to investigate this situation and am asking anyone with information on potentially illegal apartments to contact the Municipal Clerk’s Office.

I look forward to the next issue of The Dunellen Report where I will give you an update on our activities toward accomplishing our goals in 2020. •

Classic American Cuisine
in a Casual Atmosphere

Our focus is on quality “Americana”
food and service in a light pub atmosphere.

Classic dining upstairs,
Rathskeller downstairs.

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

732-968-2900

120 N. Washington Avenue, Dunellen, NJ
www.DunellenHotel.com



PRIVATE PARTIES • CATERING • BANQUET FACILITIES



RATHSKELLER:

Mon-Sat 11:30am-1:00am
Sunday 12:00pm-10:00pm

RESTAURANT:

Mon-Sun 5:00pm-10:00pm

KITCHEN HOURS:

Mon-Sat 11:30am-10pm
Fri & Sat 11:30am-Midnight
Sunday 12:00pm-9:00pm

LUNCH SPECIALS \$7.95 Monday to Friday

