



Volume 22, Issue 6

www.gibbsborotownhall.com
Our Twenty-Third Year!

December 2009

Edward G. Campbell, III
Mayor

Jerry Bonsall, Council President
Mitch Brown
Jack Croghan
Mike MacFerren
Anita Mancini
Margie Schieber

Borough Hall Office Hours

Monday – Thursday 9 am – 4 pm
Tuesday Eve 5 – 8 pm
Friday 9 - Noon



Annual Tree Lighting
Thursday, December 10
7 p.m.
Lucas Park

*Happy Holidays from
Mayor, Council, and
Gibbsboro employees!*

Tri-Borough Acquisition Completed

\$6.5 Million Raised for Acquisition

On Friday, October 23, Gibbsboro completed its acquisition of the 58 acre Tri-Borough parcel, ending more than a decade of formal negotiation with the landowner. The parcel was the subject of an eleven year old agreement that resolved a dispute with the Borough over the company's gravel mining operations in neighboring Voorhees, Berlin Township, and Lindenwold and their desire to expand into Gibbsboro. That agreement conveyed approximately 70 acres of land and a ten year option to acquire the 58 acre tract to Gibbsboro in exchange for limited mining rights on their remaining holdings.

Funds raised for the project include \$ 623,567 in federal funds, \$3.5 million from the state Green Acres program, and over \$2.37 million from the Camden County Open Space Trust. Additionally Camden County provided an interest free loan until the other participating agencies deliver their funding. The Borough contributed \$500 thousand from its open space fund. The acquisition is one of the largest (from a valuation perspective) open space acquisitions in New Jersey for 2009.

The parcel is a key component of the Borough's open space plan and includes a ridge that affords walkers a view of the Philadelphia skyline. The tract runs from South United States Avenue to Haddonfield-Berlin Road and links Pole Hill Park to other significant Borough lands including the town's bikeway network. In the long term, the bikeway and trail network will expand across this new acquisition to link with Pole Hill Park.

Included in this issue of the Town Crier is an updated greenway and bikeway guide that can be removed for your enjoyment and future reference. Gibbsboro has an incredible resource in its growing public lands and trail system.

Gibbsboro's Annual Christmas Tree Lighting

Thursday, December 10
7:00 p.m.

Rain Date: Friday 7 p.m.

Lucas Park
(Clementon Road and
Foster Avenue)

Seasonal Music



*Highlighted by the
arrival of
Santa Claus!*



Alison Pschunder
Miss Gibbsboro 2009
will light the tree!



Hot chocolate and cookies will be served after the
tree lighting at the Gibbsboro School

Special entertainment by our students



Gibbsboro School
Bell Ringers

Gibbsboro Library News

Library Receives Graphic Novel Grant - Sometimes it pays to be small. Gibbsboro Library's small size and other factors qualified it to be the recipient of a \$3,000 grant awarded this fall from the New Jersey State Library to establish a graphic novel collection. Funding for this grant was made possible through the Florence Taylor Tischler and Nathaniel Tischler Memorial Fund. The Gibbsboro Library will use the money to develop a core collection of graphic novels for adults, teens and children. Graphic novels are original literary works combining illustrations and words in the tradition of comic books, and are popular with all age groups.

The New Jersey State Library serves as a leader in the provision, promotion and support of excellent quality library and information services for all people in New Jersey. This grant was specifically designed to help smaller libraries in the state with their graphic novel collections. Gibbsboro is one of 14 public libraries to meet the grant's following criteria: serve a population of fewer than 7,500, have per capita expenditures of under \$50, have less than 4 full time employees, and have total available funds of less than \$200,000.

"We recognize that our smaller libraries face funding challenges when it comes to providing their customers with the variety of products they'd like," said Norma Blake, New Jersey State Librarian. "Although it's rare for the State Library to fund a core collection like this, we believe it's important to bring this popular genre to smaller libraries who otherwise couldn't afford these books."

Patrons of the Gibbsboro Library can expect to see graphic novels on the shelves in early 2010.

Summer Reading Program is a Success - The Gibbsboro Library's 2009 Summer Reading Program was a huge success. Twenty-three Gibbsboro children participated in the program and read 200 books over the summer months. As a reward for completing the program, each participant received coupons for free dessert shooters at Applebee's.

Gibbsboro Library Association Needs You! Please consider joining the Gibbsboro Library Association. Membership in the Association is not a condition for the use of the library or for borrowing books. Membership is open to those interested in the development of a better and more effective library here in Gibbsboro. For more information, please call Elizabeth Hall at 435-3656.

Holiday Hours - The Library will be closed Dec. 23-31. Regular hours begin Sat., Jan. 2.

Story Time at the Gibbsboro Library

Every other Thursday 10:15-11:15

Starting January 7

Kids ages 2-3

(Parents must stay with their children, and siblings are welcome)



Enjoy story, craft and friends

To find out more and to register by December 15, please call Elizabeth Hall at
856-435-3656.



**BOROUGH OF
GIBBSBORO
49 KIRKWOOD ROAD
GIBBSBORO, NJ 08026**

**PRSRT STD
U. S. POSTAGE PAID
CHERRY HILL, NJ
PERMIT NO. 118**

**LOCAL POSTAL PATRON
GIBBSBORO, NJ 08026**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DAY	DATE	EVENT	TIME	PLACE
December				
Monday	12/7	Environmental Commission	7:30 p.m.	Borough Hall
Tuesday	12/8	Planning Board	8:00 p.m.	Borough Hall
Tuesday	12/8	Gibbsboro Board of Education	8:00 p.m.	Gibbsboro School
Wednesday	12/9	Council	8:00 p.m.	Borough Hall
Thursday	12/10	Annual Tree Lighting	7:00 p.m.	Lucas Park
	12/11	TREE LIGHTING RAIN DATE		
Monday	12/14	Second Leaf Collection Starts		
Monday	12/14	Senior Citizen's Holiday Dinner (UPDATE)	6:30 p.m.	American Legion
Tuesday	12/22	Zoning Board	8:00 p.m.	Borough Hall
Tuesday	12/22	Borough Offices Closed at 4 p.m.		
Thursday/Friday	12/24 & 12/25	BOROUGH OFFICES CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS		
Tuesday	12/29	Borough Offices Closed at 4 p.m.		
Friday	1/1	BOROUGH OFFICES CLOSED FOR NEW YEARS DAY		

PHONE NUMBERS

Borough Hall	(856) 783-6655	
Tax Assessor	Extension 107	
Tax Collector	Extension 103	
Municipal Court	Extension 104	
Borough Clerk	Extension 105	
Construction Office	Extension 107	
Local Assistance (Welfare)	Extension 150	
Public Works	(856) 784-2111	
Gibbsboro Library	(856) 435-3656	
Sewer Emergencies (Bommer Plumbing)	(856) 783-6721	*** 24 HOUR SERVICE ***
New Jersey One Call (Utility Mark Out)	(800) 272-1000	
Gas Leaks	(800) 582-7060	*** ALSO CALL 911 ***
Police/Fire	911	

Gibbsboro Bikeway Network



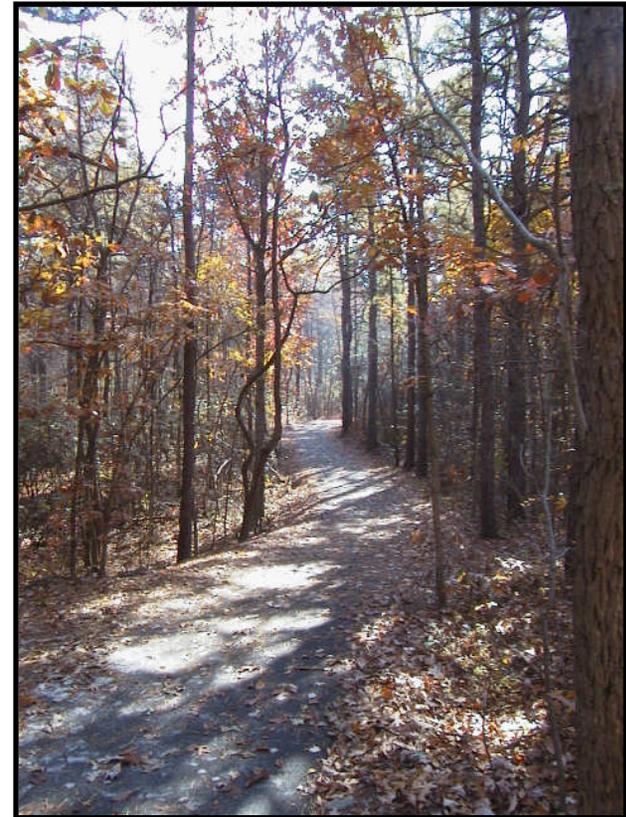
2007 Recreation Project of the Year
New Jersey Society of Municipal Engineers Honors Award

The Gibbsboro Greenway



2004 NJ DEP's Environmental Excellence Award

The Gibbsboro Greenway & Bikeway Network



December 2009

The Blue Trail

Start (0.0) Pavers crossing at Eastwick Drive near Lakeview Drive (CR 561)

End (1.1) Alton Avenue at Old Egg Harbor Road

Links The Red Trail connects at MM 0.0

Parking – Cricket Field

History Most of the Blue Trail is contained within the right-of-way for Old Egg Harbor Road. An old Indian trail once more than 50 miles long, this is the last remaining segment. The trail was a seasonal migration path for the local Lenape Indians that moved to the bays of the Atlantic Ocean in the summer and inland during the winter. When Europeans settled the area, it became a stage coach trail. Gibbsboro is working with Voorhees Township to clear hurdles to connect the current end point at Alton Avenue to the Voorhees bikeway at Clementon Road and on to Eastern High School.

Scenic Overlooks

B1 Sunshine Lake (Voorhees)

B2 Haines Point - From the intersection of Eastwick Drive and Old Egg harbor Road head south along a gravel road for about three tenths of a mile until the trail is paved. Proceed along the asphalt trail then again onto gravel. The point is directly adjacent to a private home so please respect this private property. There is a memorial to Bill and Edna Haines, donors of this land. The point is about 200 feet above sea level, the highest point in Gibbsboro and one of South Jersey's highest. On a clear day you will see the Philadelphia skyline.

The Paintworks Walking Trail

Start (0.0) Silver Lake at Lakeview Drive (CR 561)

End (0.75) Silver Lake at Lakeview Drive

Links The Borough is planning to connect the green and blue trails to this trail in 2010.

Parking – Parking is available at the Paintworks Corporate Center.

History The trail around Silver Lake is 0.75 miles long and makes one complete loop around the lake. The trail passes the Lucas Homestead which fronts on Clementon Road. The homestead served as the summer home of industrialist John Lucas and was built in 1852. The town's symbol, the varnish stacks, are located on the opposite side of the lake and are incorporated into the Paintworks Corporate Center logo. In the evening they are illuminated.

Scenic Overlooks

PW1 The John Lucas Homestead – Built in 1852 this is the home of John and Harriet Lucas, founders of the John Lucas Company. Lucas was famous for his carriage paints and invented ready-mixed paints at the Gibbsboro facility.

PW2 The Varnish Stacks – More than a hundred years old the stacks are the most visible remnant of the former paint manufacturing facility.

The Green Trail

Start (0.0) Foster Avenue and South United States Avenue

End (1.1) Lindenwold border at Slab Cabin Branch (South Branch Cooper River)

Links The Red Trail connects between MM 0.5 and MM 0.6

Parking Lindenwold Park (nearest MM 1.1)
The Paintworks Corporate Center (MM 0.0)

History The Green Trail traverses the right-of-way of North United States Avenue (unimproved) some 100 feet west of South United States Avenue. Between the bikeway and South US Avenue lies the abandoned railway corridor last used in 1978 to bring raw materials to the former Sherwin Williams factory in Gibbsboro and take finished products to Philadelphia. The railway was originally installed to bring workers to Gibbsboro from nearby Lucaston (a neighborhood in Lindenwold) by horse drawn rail car. Later the line transported freight. John Lucas, founder of the John Lucas Company, was a board member of the Reading Seashore line and used his influence to bring the rail spur to his factory in Gibbsboro.

Scenic Overlooks

G1 Bridgewood Lake – This overlook often offers a glimpse of blue herons, turtles, and ducks. Amenities include picnic tables.

G2 Cooper River Headwaters – The Slab Cabin Branch passes beneath the bikeway at the Lindenwold border. This stream is the official start of the South Branch of the Cooper River.

The Red Trail

Start (0.0) South United States Avenue between green trail MM 0.5 and MM 0.6.

End (0.7) Pavers crossing on Eastwick Drive near Lakeview Drive (CR 561)

Links The Green Trail connects at MM 0.0
The Blue Trail connects at MM 0.8

Parking – Limited parking is available at the cul de sac on Berlin Road at CR 561.

History The Red Trail is the most scenic trail in the bikeway system. It creates a short cut between South United States Avenue and CR 561. The lands traversed were acquired by Gibbsboro in 1998 from the Tri-Boro Sand and Gravel Company. Near MM 0.3 is a short gravel trail and stairway to the summit of Blueberry Hill. At over 180 feet above sea level it is among the highest points in Gibbsboro and South Jersey. The summit is part of the divide between the inner and outer coastal plain that runs through Gibbsboro.

Scenic Overlooks

R1 Blueberry Hill – Ascend the steps near MM 0.3 of the red trail. Walk about 20 feet onto the summit. Turn and look west (the steps will be at a 45 degree angle on your right). On a clear day you will see the Philadelphia skyline.

R2 Cooper River Headwaters - Near MM 0.6 an astute observer will note the springs emerging from the hills to form Honey Run, a tributary to the South Branch of the Cooper River.

The Gibbsboro Greenway and Bikeway Systems

Key

- Future Acquisitions
- Public Land
- Bikeways**
- Share the Road
- Bike Lane
- Other CC Bikeways
- Future Bikeways
- Off Road Bikeways
- Natural Trails
- Off Road (Under Construction)

