

214 Garfield Parkway
P.O. Box 109
Bethany Beach, DE 19930



A special thank you is offered to all of those individuals who contributed to this issue of the Bethany Beach Newsletter!



Town of
Bethany Beach

One of the
Quiet Resorts

We welcome your comments and suggestions. Feel free to contact us either by telephone (539-8011) or email (admin@townofbethanybeach.com).

John "Jack" Walsh, Mayor

Carol A. Olmstead, Vice-Mayor

Tony McClenny, Secretary/Treasurer

Wayne A. Fuller, Council member

Lew Killmer, Council member

Harold A. Steele, Council member

Jerry Dorfman, Council member

Clifford M. Gravier, Town Manager

Ralph J. Mitchell, Public Safety Director

Michael Redmon, Chief of Police



TOWN OF BETHANY BEACH
BETHANY BEACH NEWS - JANUARY 2006



Special points of interest:

Drawing of New Bandstand Area— Pages 6, 7

Beach Replenishment Update—Page 9

New Streetscape Design—Page 10



From the Mayor's Office

Happy New Year!!!! I'm pleased to be writing you in the first few days of 2006 and I wish all of my Bethany neighbors and friends the best of wishes in the coming year.

Our news letter is coming to you a little late this year because I wanted to bring you up to date on the recent special meeting and subsequent Town Council meeting and vote on our "Streetscape" plans.

In November the Town mailed every property and business owner information regarding possible Streetscape plans for Garfield Parkway. Written descriptions and diagrams depicting two different concepts for altering the 100 block of Garfield Parkway were included in that mailing.

Before I go any farther I'd like to tell you why there has been consideration for changing Garfield Parkway at all;

There can be no doubt that the number of visitors to our quiet little Town has increased dramatically in the last decade. Nothing drives that point home more than pedestrian counts at the intersections of Garfield Parkway and Atlantic Avenue conducted in the summer of 2004. Those counts revealed a

staggering 33,000 people, in a 12 hour period, crossing this intersection on a weekend day during the summer. Larger numbers than Rehoboth posted on a similar day at a similar location!

During the summer months our sidewalks are no longer inviting, they are hard to navigate and many people simply choose to walk in the busy streets rather than fight their way along the sidewalk. Utility poles and narrow sidewalks further exacerbate the impact of these huge crowds.

The entire "streetscape" initiative began because there was interest in making our downtown area more pedestrian friendly and more attractive. With those thoughts in mind the Town Council reviewed the two concepts I mentioned earlier in a public meeting held in our Town Hall on December 10th. Comments were heard from business owners and residents alike regarding both concepts. In addition, the council reviewed the many emails the Town received from property owners about this matter. Subsequently at the next regularly scheduled Town Council meeting, the Council voted unanimously to endorse what was referred to as Concept 2 in

a mail out.

Concept 2 keeps two lanes of traffic and a bike path while expanding sidewalks to their maximum width, removing parallel parking in the 100 block of Garfield Parkway. Please refer to the drawing on page 10.

Now that we have a clear direction, plans will be developed and finalized that will allow us to explore State and Federal funding opportunities that will help make these plans a reality.

As I'm writing construction has begun on our new bandstand. I'm looking forward to the inaugural show on our new bandstand in our new Town Square this summer and I'm quite sure we will all be pleased with the final product. Please make sure you visit our website,

www.townofbethanybeach.com,

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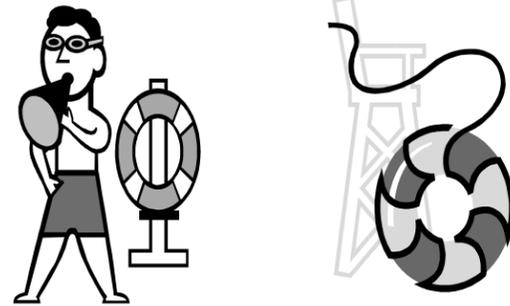
Bethany Beach Patrol Gears Up for New Season

The summer of 2005 was another busy but safe summer for the Bethany Beach Patrol. Due to large crowds, good weather, and surf conditions the number of water rescues increased yet again. We jumped from 529 water rescues and assists in 2004 to 671 water rescues and assists this past summer. The number of emergency calls stayed relatively steady as compared to previous summers; however, the number of lost/returned kids dropped. The crowds seemed to be relatively light until July 4th, but things really picked up from there as our statistics will indicate (please see statistics).

The number of junior lifeguard participants dropped this year overall, but the demand seemed to be high during the second half of the summer. I know that last year's winter weather pushed back the last day of school in a number of districts. I wonder if that altered vacation plans for many; thus, limiting the number of interested participants for our early season sessions.

We sent a sprint running relay team to Virginia Beach in August to compete in the USLA National Lifesaving Championships. They performed well taking third place in the 4 x 100 event. Throughout the season we participated in various local and regional competitions placing respectably in each.

Thank you for a great season!
 Joe Donnelly
 Beach Patrol Captain



Bethany Beach Patrol Statistics

| | 2005 | | | | | Total |
|------------------------------------|------|----|-----|-----|----|-------|
| | 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | |
| Lost Kids/Persons | 1 | 8 | 19 | 25 | 1 | 54 |
| All Emergencies | 0 | 4 | 20 | 29 | 0 | 53 |
| ER Req. Ambulance | 0 | 2 | 8 | 15 | 0 | 25 |
| Water Rescues/Assists—Rip Currents | 0 | 37 | 202 | 275 | 34 | 548 |
| Water Rescues/Assists—All | 2 | 66 | 233 | 335 | 35 | 671 |
| Junior Lifeguard Participants | N/A | 0 | 26 | | | 31 |

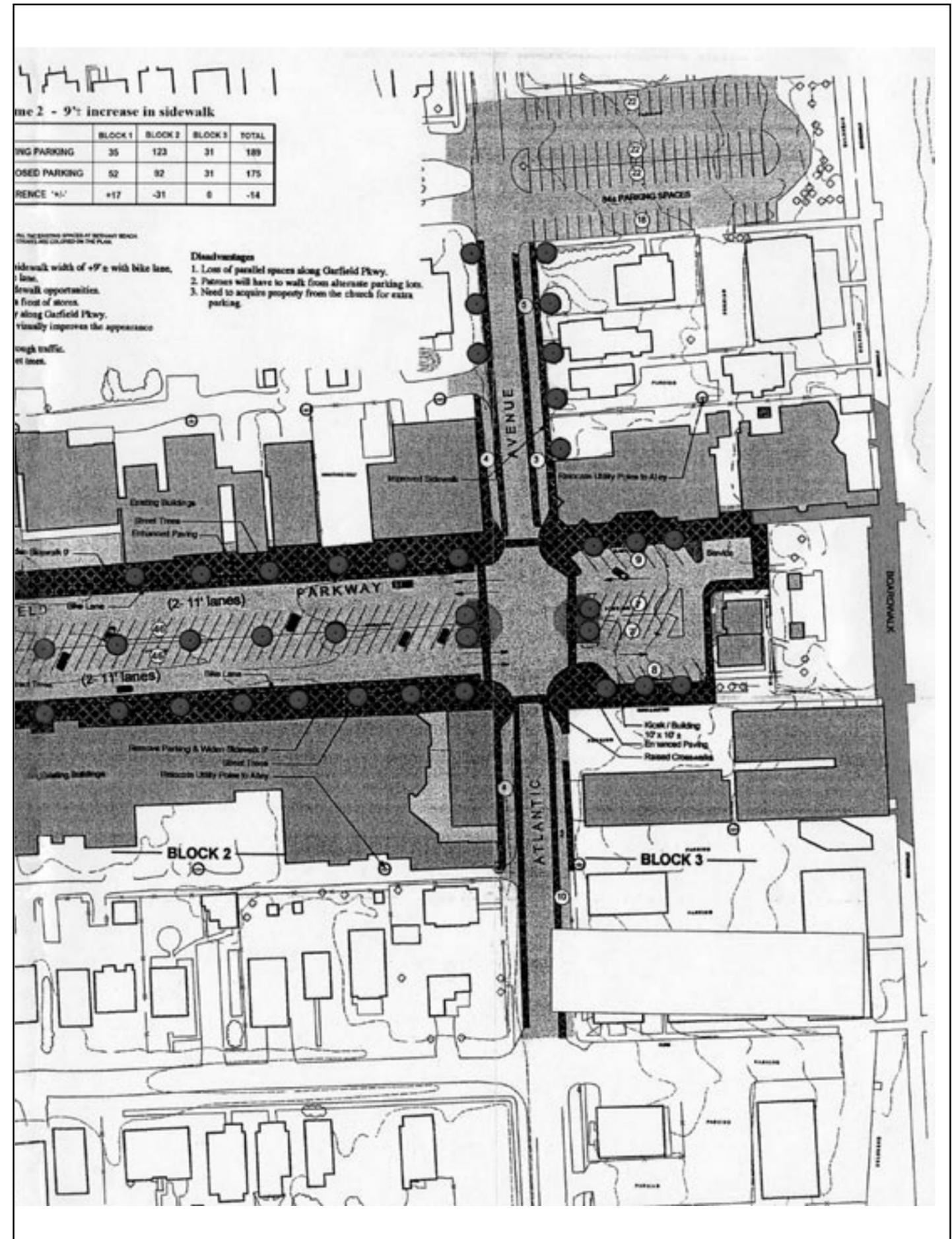


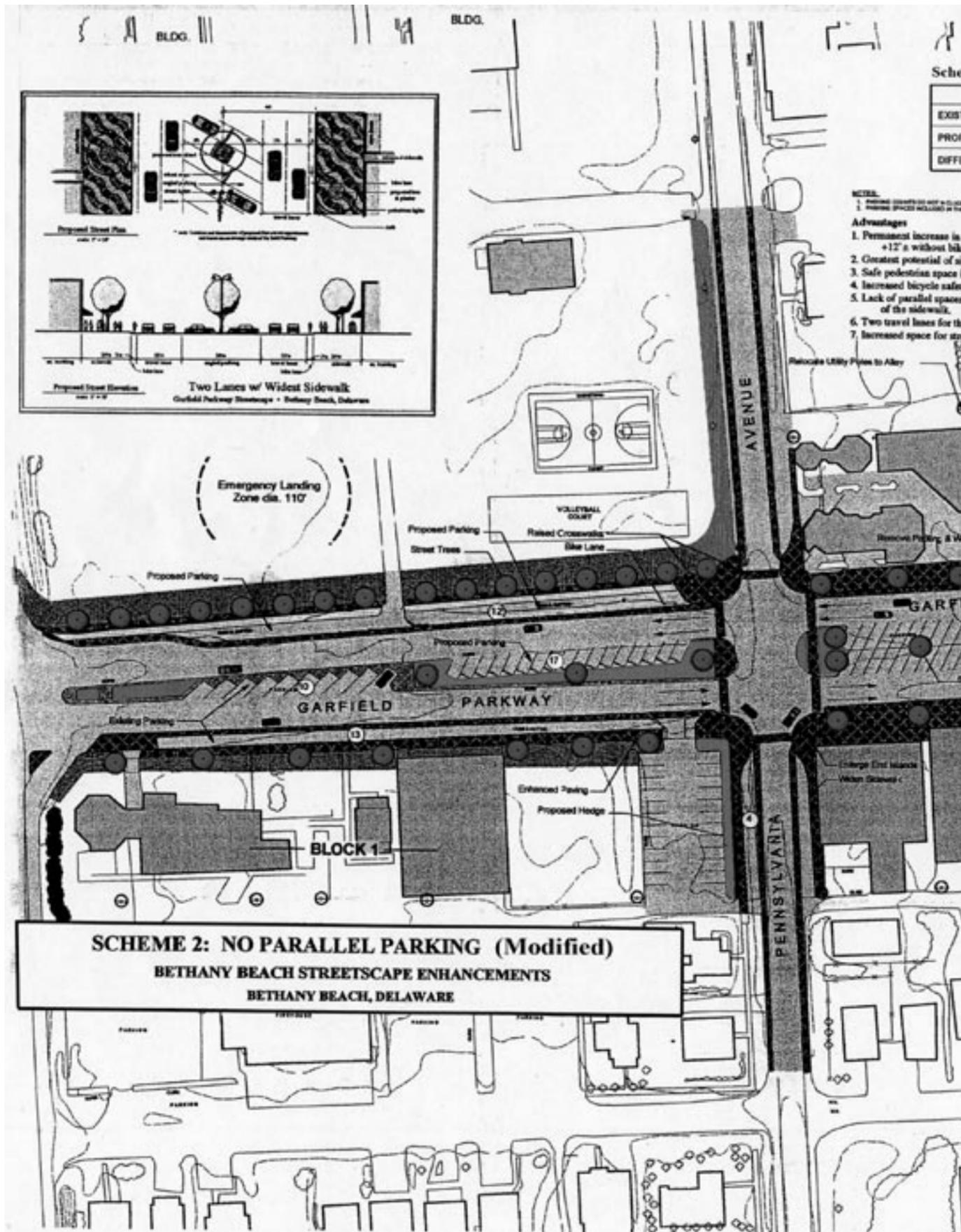
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| | 2004 | | | | | Total |
|-------------------------------|------|----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| | 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | |
| Lost Kids / Persons | 0 | 14 | 34 | 39 | 5 | 92 |
| All Emergencies | 1 | 7 | 31 | 13 | 4 | 56 |
| ER Req. Ambulance | 1 | 4 | 14 | 11 | 3 | 33 |
| Water Rescues | 3 | 46 | 199 | 231 | 50 | 529 |
| Junior Lifeguard Participants | N/A | 8 | 37 | 28 | N/A | 73 |

Due to large crowds, good weather, and surf conditions, the number of water rescues increased again.





The theme for this year's parade is "LET US ENTERTAIN YOU" depicting the new bandstand.



BETHANY BEACH INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

The Bethany Beach Parade Committee is in the process of planning for the 22nd event, which will be held on Tuesday, July 4, 2006. The parade starts at 12 Noon at Garfield Parkway and N. Pennsylvania Avenue, the Christian Church grounds, and lasts approximately 1-1/2 hours. The theme of this year's parade is "LET US ENTERTAIN YOU", depicting the new bandstand.

Float, bike and marchers registration begins at 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Central Avenue near Route 1. There is no pre-registration.

Horseshoe contest will be held at the conclusion of the parade, about 2:00 p.m., on the Christian Church grounds.

Presentation of awards will be on the bandstand at 7:15 p.m.

Fireworks will be at dusk.

Although the Town of Bethany Beach provides a great deal of logistical help, ALL FUNDS to cover the cost of putting on the parade are raised by donations from civic-minded friends like you. No amount is too small. Your tax-deductible donation will be greatly appreciated. Checks can be made payable to the Town of Bethany Beach 4th of July Parade Committee and mailed to P.O. Box 800, Bethany Beach, DE., 19930



BETHANY BEACH SEASIDE CRAFT SHOW

on the Boardwalk Saturday, June 3, 2006, 10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

This All-Crafts Show is sponsored by the Cultural and Historic Affairs Committee. Browse and buy on the boardwalk and enjoy live music. There is no rain date for the show. Volunteers are needed on the day of the event, call Gloria at 302-539-8011 ext. 23.

Flood Mitigation and Drainage Updates

What have we been doing about drainage and flooding in Bethany Beach during this past year? We found out from our hydrologist that if we built the inflatable dam at the mouth of the Loop Canal, we will cause flooding west of our town limits. As stated, if we caused other areas to flood, we would not proceed with the dam at that location. So, we are looking at alternative sites. It is important that we have the dam along the Loop Canal so that during extreme high tides, we can prevent flooding east of the dam and also provide storage for North Pennsylvania Avenue. Without that storage capacity, a storm event of an inch or less would cause flooding on North Pennsylvania Avenue. Also, without that storage ability, if we did any work along North Pennsylvania Avenue, our engineer advised us, we would be wasting our money.

We just spent money on an engineering study and construction plan for Bethany West, that includes the Tingle-Evans area. This plan has 7 priority areas. We have developed a bid package for the priority 1 area, the southwest area of Halfmoon. We are now waiting for bids before we start construction. Over 10,000 elevations shots were taken to insure that we did not create problems "up stream" of the areas where the work is going to be done. It must be remembered that Bethany Beach does not have a flooding problem. It has a flooding situation. The "problem" is how quickly can we remove the water from the flooding area? Where we can prevent flooding, we will.

In the near future, you will be advised as to what you have to do



Bethany Beach Bandstand Entertainment A Peek Behind the Scene

What is better than sliced bread? The new Bethany Beach Events HOTLINE! To be current on special events sponsored by the town, just dial (302) 539-5484. This number is listed under "bandstand" on the new information magnets.

Dial this number to hear who is performing on the stage and to check if there is a show cancellation due to weather or unforeseen circumstances. I typically make every effort to get a show in as scheduled. Often a show is not cancelled until about 6:30 PM. So if you are in doubt, call the HOTLINE.

In addition to bandstand shows, town-sponsored special events are recorded on the HOTLINE. Call it now and hear about the Cultural and Historical Affairs Committee's "An Evening with..." .

Submitted by:
Gloria Farrar
Entertainment Coordina-



tor

Museum News

Just in time for Memorial Day, Lynch Industries arrived to reconfigure the historic panels and to install the new display cases in our town hall lobby. The museum had many visitors throughout the Summer season with the town hall being open and available to the public from 8:00 AM until 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday and volunteer docents extending the availability on Saturday and Sunday. The docents were also present on afternoons

Cultural and Historic Affairs Committee

Visitors of course may continue to enjoy the museum during town hall hours and will be open only occasionally on weekends during the off-season months.

The museum is still a work in progress, and we are looking forward to a kiosk that will house two computers where a historical picture file and oral histories will be a welcome addition also. We continue to seek artifacts and pictures for the museum. These may be donated on a permanent or for-loan basis and will be greatly appreciated. Please call me at 539-2740 if you might have items to contribute or

On October 26th, our first cultural event of the season was held in the town hall meeting room. Dale Clifton, owner and creator of the Discover Sea Museum in Fenwick Island presented a fascinating talk regarding "Shipwrecks and Maritime Heritage of the Delmarva Peninsula". Artifacts collected from a few of the shipwrecks Dale talked about provided interesting viewing for all in attendance. The Shipwreck Museum is a local treasure and is located above the Seashell City shop in Fenwick Island. This coming year there is to be four other cultural events sponsored by the Cultural and Historical Affairs Committee held at the town hall:

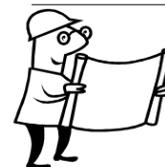
February 22nd—Russell McCabe, DE State Archivist speaks on Sussex County History

March 22nd—Gordon Wood author of "Letters to the Little Ones" a history of Ocean View and surrounding areas.

April 26th—Presentation by a representative of the Nanticoke Indians on aspects of their culture and history.

These community evenings have been enjoyable and informative, and refreshments are served! Mark your calendar and plan on joining us.

Finally, CHAC is again sponsoring the Bethany Beach Seaside Craft Show—a juried fine crafts event on the boardwalk. The date will be June 3, 2006 and interested crafters may obtain an application at www.townofbethanybeach.com/events. Applications are due by



Planning Commission Update

award.

The Planning Commission has approved several Planned Residential Developments along Route 26, and a combining of lots on Parkwood and a redrawing of property lines on Central.

With all the new construction going on, the Planning Commission has initiated an effort to improve the appearance of the community. A committee has been formed to review the zoning codes to see if there are ways to modify the strict regulations with incentives to make the architecture more attractive. More interesting roof lines, front doors facing the street, and other ways to increase the "curb appeal" are the types of things being considered. The committee is open to any suggestions from the

Beach Construction \$\$\$ On The Way

Congress has allocated \$3 million for the Bethany-South Bethany shore protection project for Fiscal Year 2006. These federal funds will be supplemented by funds from the State of Delaware to begin the initial construction phase of our beach replenishment project. The conference report was approved by the House (399 – 17, and 17 not voting) on November 9, and by the Senate (84 – 4, and 12 not voting). The bill will now be sent to the President for signature. You can find your Congressional representatives votes at: http://www.senate.gov/legislative/LIS/roll_call_lists/roll_call_vote_cfm.cfm?congress=109&session=1&vote=00321 and <http://clerk.house.gov/evs/2005/roll580.xml> You might take a moment to email or write to your Congressional representatives to thank them for their support. Please visit the following website to send your Senators and Representative a short thank you note: <http://capwiz.com/mandcmp/go/DelawareThanks>

The initial construction phase could begin as early as October 2006 and be finished in late spring of 2007, leading to a much wider beach that will offer significantly more storm protection for our community. This level of funding is a very positive step for our project.

Countless visitors and residents of Bethany Beach urged Congress to fund this important project over the past year. We are very appreciative of the support we have received from Delaware's Congressional delegation and other Members of Congress to help move this project forward. Meanwhile, the question remains, "when will we see new sand on our beaches?" We have asked the Corps of Engineers, through our consultant, to give us a tentative schedule of work. When we receive that schedule, we will post it on the website.

While we are waiting for the Corps schedule of work, we will continue working to obtain easements from ocean front property owners. In fact the Town has been working quietly for over six months to obtain those easements, and we have nearly two thirds of the 65 we need. But the project can begin only when we have all of the easements.

The easements grant access to the land for the Corps to construct and maintain the project. The easements also dedicate for public recreational use the land east of the new dune line – which will be east of the current



Charter and Ordinance Review Committee (CORC) Update

At the October Council meeting, Lew Killmer was elected chairperson of CORC for the 2005-2006 term. The former chairperson, Wayne Fuller, and acting Chairperson, Tony McClenny (September and October 2005) were able to successfully send to Town Council several new and important updates to the Town Code. An improved and expanded Property Maintenance Code was sent to the Council for their review and consideration. CORC has been working on preparing a list of updated fees and fines that will make it easier for anyone to obtain this information. A set of Operating Guidelines for Town Committees was also prepared and approved by the Town Council. CORC is continuing its review and update of the Town Code at the direction of the Mayor and Town Council.

Submitted by: Lew Killmer, Chairman of CORC



What is better than sliced bread?
The new Bethany Beach Events Hotline.....
302-539-5484

Budget and Finance Committee Report

The mission of our Budget and Finance Committee is to provide assistance and guidance to the Town Manager and staff leading to the development, drafting and review of the Town's annual budget.

Our newly selected outside auditing firm, Trice, Geary and Myers, LLC provided an on-site auditing team in town hall as they performed our annual audit. At the conclusion of the audit, our auditors provided us with their audit communication letter, in which one could expect to find suggestions for specific changes or procedural improvements. This type of communication includes a comments section, which generally addresses items the auditors consider fairly important to address and improve, which in this case was blank. The recommendations section included four items, which have been acted upon by our Town staff.

Although our fiscal year begins on April 1st (no fooling), committees are staffed each year in October. During the October Town Council meeting, chairpersons and committee members for all town committees were appointed. The chairperson for the coming year is Town Council member, Tony McClenny. Previous committee members returning for another year of service include: Bob Cuff, Don Doyle, Carol Olmstead and Phil Rossi. We are pleased to welcome two new members: Ray Aumiller and Ray Conlon.

The Budget and Finance Committee met on November 4th for the mid-year budget review. As a committee, we are pleased with our Town's year-to-date (through October 27, 2005) accomplishments as our recorded revenues are 81.7% of our annual budget and our expenditures represent 58.1% of the annual budget. These percentages are comparable to our previous year and the dollar amounts are in line with the budget. During the meeting, the committee thanks Cliff Graviet, Town Manager, and Janet Connery, Town Finance Manager, for their leadership in the Town's financial performance.

Copies of the 2006 budget are available in our Town Office and on our website located at:

Police Department

Bethany Beach Police Achieve Recognition for Law Enforcement Standards

After two years of preparation, the Bethany Beach Police Department was awarded the **Recognition Level** in their journey to achieve the coveted **Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies**

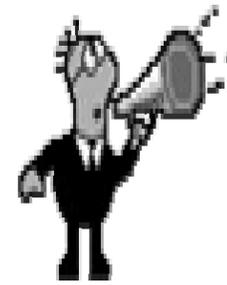
This official presentation was made in Nashville, TN on November 20, 2005 to Director of Public Safety Ralph Mitchell, Chief of Police Michael Redmon, Sergeant Rick Haden (Accreditation Manager), and Parking Supervisor Bill Dowdell (Assistant Accreditation Manager). The Bethany Beach Police Department belongs to an elite group of public safety agencies in the United States, Canada, Mexico and Barbados, who have received this prestigious, international

The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies is an independent, nonprofit organization, founded by four law enforcement membership associations: the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, the National Sheriff's Association, and the Police Executive Research Forum. The Commission is comprised of Chiefs, Sheriffs, elected officials and community leaders appointed by the four founding organizations. CALEA maintains a body of professional law enforcement standards and administers a voluntary process for participation.

The Bethany Beach Police Department had to meet all applicable standards according to its size and function. The standards address all areas of administration, operation, and technical support activities. Following a thorough self-assessment, the agency receives a vigorous on-site assessment by a team of assessors, trained by CALEA. The assessors carefully review policies, observe procedures, interview personnel, and seek public input from the community. The team's final report forms the basis for a post-assessment hearing before the Commission. The three-year award requires an agency's commitment to maintain compliance with standards and offers an opportunity for reaccreditation of their compliance.

Sergeant Rick Haden, Accreditation Manager, will lead the Bethany Beach Po-

Communications Committee Update



The committee continued over the past 6 months in its attempt to further the process of communications throughout Bethany Beach.

Some of the evolving highlights associated with the town's website were:

1. Sign-up page for Bethany Beach property owners continues to grow. This two way communication link provides a method where the town can broadcast pertinent information relating to town business, safety, etc to the townspeople's internet address. We currently have 442 signed up for this service.
2. Town documents and forms currently on our website and the list continues to grow. This service provides access to these forms directly to the public and avoids the necessity of town hall visits and related administration

action. Payment transactions can be made on-line.

3. A photo gallery category continued to be maintained and expanded to provide pictures of town buildings, seasonal images, town events, etc. "Take a look!"

4. New issues underway are:
 - a. Expanding information relating to the beach nourishment process and easement activities, with emphasis on timely reporting. This information would input the current beach nourishment segment of our website.
 - b. Add links to the DelDOT sites providing status information about the Indian River Bridge and Route 26 developments.

A town informational brochure was completed. Over 10,000 copies were circulated throughout the town. This

brochure was made available this past summer season and included information relating to shuttle schedules, parking regulations, life guard/ bandstand schedules, emergency phone numbers, trash pick-up schedules, do's and don'ts, etc. In addition to this, magnetic labels were completed. They included some of the key brochure information and were mailed to property owners.

We would like to get your opinion on these items to see if you feel the town should continue with this service?

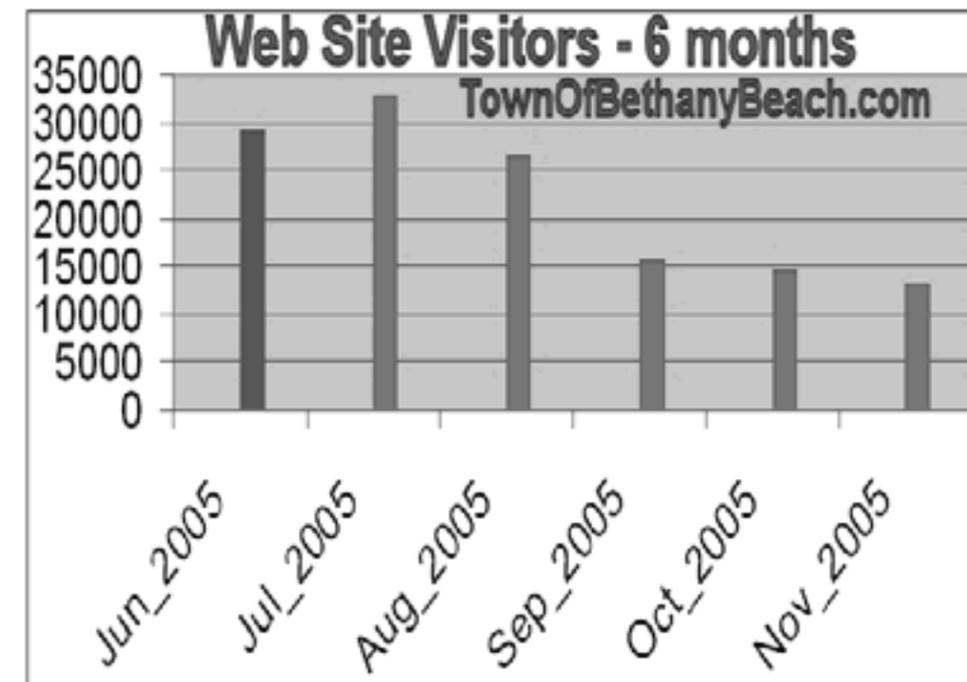
It was decided to expand our efforts toward obtaining a "volunteer workforce" to assist in Christmas decorations, etc and to update our skills inventory, looking for people with expertise that could assist the town on special projects, etc. **Please be a volunteer.**

The committee is considering the possibility of orchestrating an "open house" to acquaint the town's people with our expanded museum and town hall upgrades. This would be accomplished sometime in the upcoming spring.

Also underway is the review of possible refinements of the Town's data base, attempting to develop easy access of data that would be useful in the administrative processes of the town

The Town welcomes your use of its website as your resource to obtain information concerning government affairs, town calendars of events, and other important and timely community information.

We'd like to solicit your suggestions and recommendations



The Budget indicates the Town is in good financial health. Revenues exceed our Operating Budget allowing use of funds for capital projects.

Bethany Beach Police Achieve Recognition for Law Enforcement Standards

