

**MUNICIPAL CLERKS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY, INC.**

***STATE OF THE ASSOCIATION*** by Elaine B. Kennedy, 2006 President



As my President's term winds down, I am left with a bittersweet feeling. I feel gratitude for having been given the opportunity to serve you; and I feel some sadness, because I am leaving behind unfinished business. I am also feeling a little tired. While I have done my best, I offer my heartfelt apology to those of you I could not help. If I could not help you, it was not for lack of trying or desire. Being President of this Association leaves one with a clear and humbling lesson: there is only so much one person can do. My door will always be open to all of you.

During 2006, our Organization saw some important changes. For the first time, we held only one Education Conference, and we did it on our own, without the guidance of Rutgers. The success of this conference has cleared the path for future Executive Committees to take that same bold step. Some people said it could not be done. We proudly proved them wrong.

We also held mini-conferences in the Northern, Central, and Southern areas of the State. One was held in the North, two in the Central and two in the South. Municipal Clerks were able to get CEU's for a fraction of the cost offered through other organizations.

*Continued on Page 5*

***LOOKING AHEAD TO 2007*** by Barbara M. Hawk, as presented on November 15, 2006 at the Annual Business Meeting of the Municipal Clerks Association of New Jersey in Atlantic City.

Wow!! What an exciting day this is for me. Little did I know that when I first started attending the advisory board meetings in 1985, with Dorothy Carlson, where this path would take me.

There is a sign on my office door that reads: "Everyone brings happiness; some when they come, and others when they leave." I find happiness in working with and helping other people solve their problems and succeeding.

Members of my family tell me I do not know the word "no!" As I have gone through the chairs of the executive board, it has been a challenge which has brought me much satisfaction. I have enjoyed working with every member of the executive board and of the association. When I first joined the executive board, I was treasurer for two years. This gave me a wonderful insight into the financial end of the association and the work that is involved in running such a wonderful organization.

Our association is set up for all of you to participate in. There is a standard operating procedure book which guides each of us in whatever position we are holding on the executive board. As you proceed through the chairs, you make many wonderful friends and confidantes that you keep forever. Our organization works locally and nationally in sharing our ideas and goals for this association.



*Continued on Page 3*

Jim Doherty, Editor  
973.875.7192 e-mail: administrator@wantagetwp-nj.org

PAST EDITORS:

J. Ford Flagg, 1954-1959      John R. Zellwenger, 1960-1970  
Joseph E. Bennett, 1971-1973      Harry C. Kates, 1974-1982  
Janet L. Lynds, 1983-1993  
Patricia Hullfish and Patricia Shuss, Co-Editors, 1994-1995  
Patricia C. Shuss, 1996-2000      Nancy Hatton, 2001-2005

Contributing Editors:

Advertising: L. Manuel Hirshblond, Toms River 732.349.1348  
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MUNICIPAL CLERKS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY, INC.  
EXECUTIVE BOARD 2007

President: Barbara M. Hawk, Laurel Springs Borough  
E-mail: barbarahawk@comcast.net  
First Vice President: Heather A. Mailander, Ridgewood Village  
E-mail: hmailander@ridgewoodnj.net  
Second Vice President: Joan Moreland, Haddon Heights Borough  
E-mail: Jmoreland@haddonheightsboro.org  
Treasurer: Vincent Buttiglieri, South Plainfield Borough  
E-mail: vbuttiglieri@southplainfieldnj.com  
Secretary: Joanne M. Kwasniewski, Fair Lawn Borough,  
E-mail: munclerk@fairlawn.org  
Immediate Past President: Elaine B. Kennedy, North Hanover Twp.  
E-mail: ebeverly@comcast.net  
Administrative Consultant: L. Manuel Hirshblond  
Legal Counsel: Thomas A. Segreto

PAST PRESIDENTS\*EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

1974*Joseph V. Valenti	1994*Kathleen A. Thorpe
1975*Alfred A. Reda	1995*Christina N. Wilder
1977*Otto M. Bock	1996*Joseph C. Favaro
1978*Norma B. Sisco	1997*Elizabeth H. Kiss
1981*L. Manuel Hirshblond	1998*Lynn Stanzlaus
1983*James F. O'Keefe	1999*Bernadette Dubuss
1985*Elizabeth G. Nolan	2000*Nancy Hatten
1987*Lewis N. Thompson	2001*Sharon L. Brienza
1988*Elaine Wallace	2002*Bernadette Standowski
1991*Mildred C. Bird	2003*Allan Susen
1992*Barbara A. Camp	2004*Joel Popkin
1993*John J. Galvin	2005*Jane Williams-Warren
	2006*Elaine B. Kennedy

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

Atlantic:	Carol A. Raph, Northfield City
Bergen:	Nancy Hatten, Tenafly Borough
Burlington:	Patricia Hunt, Moorestown Township
Camden:	Nancy Saffos, Cherry Hill Township
Cape May:	Theresa Tighe, Sea Isle City
Cumberland:	Keith Petrosky, Vineland City
Essex:	Linda Wanat, Montclair Township
Gloucester:	Dawn Marie Human, Wenonah Borough
Hudson:	Robert Byrne, Jersey City
Hunterdon:	Cecilia Covino, Town of Clinton
Mercer:	Sharon Young, West Windsor Township
Middlesex:	John Mitch, Woodbridge Township
Monmouth:	Jane Gillespie, Tinton Falls Borough
Morris:	Sheila Seifert, Rockaway Township
Ocean:	Bette Mastropasqua, Beachwood Borough
Passaic:	Jane Williams-Warren, Paterson City
Salem:	Maureen Abdill, Pilesgrove Township
Somerset:	Sharon Brienza, Branchburg Township
Sussex:	Denise Stagnari, Green Township
Union:	Kathleen Wisniewski, Springfield Township
Warren:	Theresa Tamburro, Blairstown Township

## MUNICIPAL CLERK CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION

The Division of Local Government Services has sent the following information for all persons interested in taking the Municipal Clerk Certification Examination this Spring:

**Monday, April 23, 2007** is the date of the next examination for certification as a Registered Municipal Clerk. The exam will be given at Thomas Edison State College in Prudence Hall, located in Trenton, New Jersey and directions will be provided upon acceptance of your application.

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

1. Be 21 years of age or older at time of examination.
2. Be a citizen of the United States.
3. Be of good moral character.
4. Be a high school graduate or have received an equivalency diploma.
5. Have completed at least two (2) years of higher education or have equal full-time public work experience performing duties relative to those of a Municipal Clerk. If qualifying on the basis of experience, the work must be with a county or municipal government. Also, the law allows for a combination of the education and experience that equals two years, not just two years of one or the other.
6. Have completed, successfully, the following courses from Rutgers or similar courses offered at a college certified by the NJ Dept. of Education:
  - Introduction to the Duties of Municipal Clerk
  - Advanced Duties of the Municipal Clerk
  - Local Election Administration
  - Information and Records Management
  - Municipal Finance Administration for Municipal Clerks

Application forms and additional information are available from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services, Certification Unit, P.O. Box 803, Trenton, NJ 08625-0803, or by calling (609) 633-6349. Applications can also be downloaded from the DLGS website at:

[www.nj.gov/dca/lgs](http://www.nj.gov/dca/lgs)

Completed applications, together with the application fee of \$50, made payable to the State Treasurer, must be received by the Division **postmarked** no later than **March 26, 2007**.

### PLEASE NOTE:

**The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs maintains strict adherence to the application deadline!** In the past, some students have lost their window of opportunity for taking the exam because of a failure to take this deadline seriously! The March 26, 2007 deadline is not flexible, nor is it open to negotiation or consideration of extenuating circumstances. If your application is not submitted by the deadline date, you will not be able to take the RMC Exam on April 23, 2007.

## *2007 President's Message: "Looking Ahead" (continued from page 1)*

*By Barbara M. Hawk*

My second happiness is the fun we have in working together to make this association so great. This is such a fast-paced world, and the municipal clerks have a lot more responsibilities given to them, besides their statutory duties. In a quote from a book I have read, "There is more to knowing than just being correct." I find that if I learn something every day, I am a better person. Through our education programs and our networking with each other, we become more effective and efficient in our jobs as municipal clerks.

Elaine Kennedy was a speaker at this year's "Conference of Mayors" convention, where we were very well received. The mayors asked questions about the municipal clerks and how we are involved in the daily operation of the municipality. I trust we will be invited back again next year and that we can work together in educating each other in our roles in municipal government.

Our theme for the 2007 Municipal Clerk Conference is "Lighting the Way to Better Government." The conference committee has been working very hard to build on our theme and have prepared great education sessions. We are again holding this conference at the Tropicana. Over the years we have had a very good working relationship with Ford Pfiffer, who is their catering & convention services manager. Our association will be 80 years old in 2007. We hope to have a few surprises to celebrate this milestone at our 2007 conference.

Each and every one of you is an important and integral part of our organization. I encourage you all to get involved. You can do this by signing up for a committee or by giving us your suggestions and comments. Those who have already signed up will be given the committee or committees they have chosen.

My third happiness is being blessed with a great mayor and governing body, and I will try and pass on to this organization what I have learned over the years in serving my community and working with elected officials.

I'd like to thank our 2006 president, Elaine Kennedy, for her fine leadership throughout this year.

My heartfelt thanks go to my husband Bill who has been with me every step of the way in my tenure on the executive board and every committee that I have served on over the years (we call him an auxiliary member of the association!). Thanks also to my great and wonderful family, friends and office force who have so graciously supported me and put up with me through my years as a public servant to the residents of Laurel Springs. I'd also like to express my gratitude to my pastor, David C. Meldrum, for coming here to do the invocation, and for his friendship and spiritual guidance over the past thirty-six years.

*Continued on Page 4*

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## 2007 President's Message: "Looking Ahead" (continued from page 3)

By Barbara M. Hawk

My fourth happiness will be in serving the Municipal Clerks' Association of New Jersey, Inc., in 2007. I'd like to leave you with this thought: "Happiness, like sunshine, is not to hold. Our scattered deeds of love, bring bliss untold" – Loreta Inman

Thank you and God bless.

**Barbara M. Hawk**  
Phone # 856-784-1551

### **Pictured at Right:**

Barbara M. Hawk "with her family about her", at the 2006 League of Municipalities Convention during the Annual Business Meeting of the Municipal Clerks Association of New Jersey.

Back Row, Left to right: Barbara's sister Mary Lou, Daughter-in-law Kim and Son Robert, Husband Bill, Son David and David's wife Bridget

Front Row: Barbara's Step-mother Nancy, Father Robert (90 years old—God Bless!!), Barbara herself, and Sister Judith.



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## ***STATE OF THE ASSOCIATION: Continued From Page 1***

*Elaine B. Kennedy, 2006 MCANJ President*

Another change introduced was a “casual” Executive Board meeting in August, to relieve some stress and further develop our already-terrific camaraderie. The Executive Board met at my home, and while we attended to business, the families enjoyed the lanai and pool. When we finished our meeting, we had Bill Hawk “turning and burning” for a really great barbecue, and then it was “our” turn being able to swim. Barbara is carrying this fun concept on in 2007, again at my home. I cannot wait!

Jim Doherty took on the thankless task as our Quill Editor, and he has done a great job in 2006. To help provide colorful photographs for future issues of The Quill, The Executive Board authorized the purchase of a digital camera for Jim to take pictures at our events.

This year, we are placing the study guide and updates on line. All members will also get a CD at the Annual Education Conference in March. The updates can also be purchased, if you prefer.

Laws Affecting Municipal Clerks has taken off, and the Committee is really excited! Greg Hart is chair of this committee, which has access to all bills affecting us, not just the bills we see on the Legislative Review Committee. They can give us a heads up when something is being introduced. In 2006, we fought S1219, which would have changed the Open Public Meetings Act drastically. We were successful, but similar bills are on the rise. The Laws Affecting Municipal Clerks Committee will be able to keep us informed, so we do not “find out” after the fact.

As President, I saw so many of the same faces volunteering to help the association, and, to my delight, some new faces joined in. It cannot be said enough that this wonderful organization is only as good as you all make it. Some of you may say you are too busy – aren’t we all. I also work (more than full time), teach, am a registrar for Jazzercise, play the Easter Bunny, take care of my Mom, etc., etc., etc. Am I busy? Of course I am. But I care so much about this Association that I still volunteer to help out, and I will continue to do so. A good friend mentioned that after he got involved, he realized how much effort went into making everything work (he knows who he is). Don’t be afraid to offer your help; we will accept all offers with open arms. “Many hands make for light work.”

In closing, I wish to thank my family for their support - the Executive Board (who I feel are family), Barbara, Heather, Joan, Vinny, Jane, Tom, and most of all, Manny. I will miss those Sunday phone calls. My other family - My Mom, my son, Jeff, my husband Patrick, and although you all know he is no longer here, my Dad, who taught me to reach out to the highest star - anything is possible. He will always be the wind beneath my wings.

Again, I want to thank all of you for a wonderful year and wish all the best to Barbara in 2007. Let’s all give Barbara our support. I sure will.

**Elaine Kennedy**

At the Annual League of Municipalities Convention, 2007 MCANJ President Barbara M. Hawk offered her congratulations for a job well done to the 2006 Executive Board. Barbara says she looks forward to accomplishing great things with the 2007 Executive Board.

**Pictured at right:**

2007 MCANJ Executive Board members Joanne Kwasniewski, Secretary; Vincent Buttiglieri, Treasurer; Joan Moreland, 2nd Vice President; Barbara M. Hawk, President; Heather Mailander, 1st Vice President; Elaine Kennedy, Immediate Past President.



## PEOPLE PAGE

by Sharon Brienza

### Happy New Year !

Please help me make this page a success! Send me your news articles throughout the year. You can mail your information to me at 1077 US Highway 202 North, Branchburg, NJ 08876, or E-mail it to me at Sharon.Brienza@branchburg.nj.us. I'll look forward to hearing from you all!

Sharon Brienza

### HUNTERDON COUNTY

Congratulations to Robert (Bob) Hauck who some of you may remember as an Advisory Board member from Hunterdon County as well as an Executive Board member of the Hunterdon County Municipal Clerks Association, including President. Bob retired as Municipal Clerk in Flemington and was elected to the Flemington Borough Council shortly thereafter. Bob then decided it was time to throw his hat in the ring and run for Mayor in November 2006, and won! Bob said, "It feels great and is looking forward to being Mayor... again." Bob was a Committee member and Mayor in Readington Township (Hunterdon County) from 1963-1970. In 1967, when he was Mayor, they built a new municipal building. Now 40 years later, Bob will be working on converting an old bank building to the Flemington municipal building.

Diane Schottman, Flemington Municipal Clerk, (who was Bob's Deputy for 18 years) says they are so happy because "He takes his job to heart and will be the BEST Mayor Flemington has ever had." She added that she is happy to be working closely with him again.

### SOMERSET COUNTY

Somerset County Parks Commission celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a concert featuring Frankie Lymon's teenagers, The Duprees, the legendary Jerry Lee Lewis and Chuck Berry. During The Duprees set, Branchburg Township Clerk Sharon Brienza was picked out of the audience to join them on stage for the singing of "Love Eyes." As it turned out, one of the members of The Duprees, Tony Testa, lives in Branchburg. Tony and Sharon did not know each other before the concert. Tony told Sharon afterward that he called her up on stage because he saw her having a great time in the audience!



### Wedding Bells Were Ringing!

Congratulations to Warren Township (Somerset County) Municipal Clerk Patricia DeRocco who married "her best buddy" Mike Worobij on September 30, 2006 at the Forest Lodge in Warren. Mike is a foreman in the Bridgewater DPW. The happy couple met at a retirement party for a Bridgewater employee three and half years ago and have been inseparable since. Best of luck for many years of love and happiness to you both!

### Retirement News

Congratulations are also in order for Ray (Toby) Whitlock on his retirement from the Borough of Rocky Hill (Somerset County) on July 1, 2006. Ray started his government career in 1968 when he was appointed to the Rocky Hill Planning Board, where he still serves today! He was on the Borough Council from January, 1979 until June, 1996 and was Mayor from 1987-1990. For an interim period of July 1, 1981 to December 31, 1982, Ray also served as Borough Clerk. On July 1, 1996, Ray was appointed Borough Clerk. As a member of the League Legislative Committee, Bill Dressel announced Ray's retirement at a recent meeting, after which, Montgomery Mayor Louise Wilson said that if anyone really believed Ray was retiring they were quite mistaken. She was absolutely correct as Ray has now been appointed as the Deputy Borough Clerk in order to maintain a smooth transition. Ray, our best wishes are with you and your wife Barbara in whatever you decide to do!

### WARREN COUNTY

Linda Hendershot retired from her position as Washington Borough Clerk in 2006, after serving as Clerk for 38 years. Linda outlasted five Borough Managers and 22 Mayors, but after 38 years of late nights and meetings, Linda says that "the red flag went out", and she has now moved on to a wonderful new chapter in her life. Good Luck, Linda! Kristine Blanchard, former Deputy Borough Clerk in Netcong, Morris County, replaced Linda as the Washington Borough Clerk. Our best wishes for future happiness to Linda, and continued success to Kristine!

### UNION COUNTY

Rosalie Hellenbrecht retired from her position as Municipal Clerk of the Township of Cranford on December 31, 2006 after 13 years of dedicated service. Rosalie will now have time to enjoy her summer home on Long Island where she will be boating and golfing, but most of all, she will have plenty of time to enjoy with her two grandchildren, Tyler and Kori. We wish Rosalie congratulations and much happiness as she begins this new stage of her life!

### ATLANTIC COUNTY

Township Clerk Patricia Indrieri will be retiring December 31st after 29 years of service to the Township of Egg Harbor. Pat is also celebrating the birth of her first grandchild, D'Artagnan born on September 14, 2006. Best Wishes, Pat!

## ***LINDA S. WANAT NAMED 2006 MUNICIPAL CLERK OF THE YEAR***

This year's recipient of the New Jersey Municipal Clerk of the Year Award is Linda S. Wanat, Municipal Clerk of Montclair Township.

Linda has been an active member of MCANJ since 1989, when she was appointed as Municipal Clerk. Linda has also attained both her CMC and MMC designations.

Linda has worked tirelessly for our Association in numerous capacities. She has served as Chair of the Education Committee, the Professional Development Committee, the Elections Committee and the Non-Partisan Elections Committee, as well as serving on numerous other committees.

Linda has also served as an instructor for Rutgers University, on behalf of the Registered Municipal Clerk Certification program, since 1994. She has been instrumental in drafting legislation for the consolidation of Non-Partisan election language. This year's recipient has also been a member of the HAVA mandated "statewide voter registration system" committee and has been a speaker at numerous League of Municipalities conferences on a variety of topics.

Linda has been actively involved in the International Institute of Municipal Clerks, also serving on numerous committees within that organization including the Legislation Committee, the Education Committee, the Research Committee, the Leadership Development Committee, and Program Review and Certification Committee, on which she served as the Chair. This remarkable individual has also assisted in the development of the first IIMC Ambassador's Program to train administrators and elected officials in the electoral process. Internationally, Linda has been a speaker at numerous IIMC conferences.

This year's recipient has also been a tireless worker for the young people of her community, working with the local board of education to develop the "know your town" curriculum, Linda has served as co-director of the local tutoring/mentoring program and she also developed an "adopt a book" program to help fund the restoration of archival volumes.

Linda has also been involved in many community activities including the New Jersey Symphony League, where she served as President; the Mental Health Association of Essex County where she served on the Board of Trustees; the New Jersey State Public Affairs Committee and the IIMC's Athenian Leadership Society.

Linda has been the recipient of numerous awards and acknowledgements including the YWCA Distinction Award, the Rotary Club's Outstanding Service Award, the Junior League's Community Award, the Sister Cities International Diamond Award for Outstanding Community Service, and the IIMC's Quill Award.

Our best wishes and sincere congratulations are extended to the 2006 Municipal Clerk of the Year, Linda S. Wanat.  
Way to Go, Linda!



### **HISTORY OF THE "CLERK OF THE YEAR" AWARD**

The "Distinguished Service Award" was given only once, in 1976. Thereafter, it became known as the "Municipal Clerk of the Year Award" and is awarded annually at the League of Municipalities Conference during the MCANJ annual business meeting. The recipient is chosen by the members of the Executive Board for the MCANJ and is a well-guarded secret until the announcement is made by the previous year's recipient.

Beginning in 2001, the April issue of the Quill contained a nomination form to be used by individuals or county associations who wish to nominate a Municipal Clerk for consideration by the Executive Board. This nomination form is now included in each April edition of the Quill, to meet the July 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for receipt of nominations.

## ***2007 MCANJ Committees by President Barbara M. Hawk***

### **CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

Patricia Hullfish, Chair, Plainsboro Twp. /609-799-0909  
Nancy Hatten, Tenafly Boro / 201-568-6100  
David Hughes, Summit City / 908-273-6400  
John Mitch, Woodbridge Twp./732-634-4500 x 6404  
Ian Shore, Paramus, Boro / 201-265-2100  
Harold Wiener, Chair, Irvington Twp. / 973-399-8111

### **EDUCATION**

#### **MCANJ President's Appointments**

Andrew Pavlica, Chair, Garfield City / 973-340-2001  
Sharon Young, West Windsor Twp./609-799-2400  
Kelley Smith, Harmony Twp./908-213-1600x10  
Jane Williams-Warren, Paterson City/973-321-1310  
Ann Marie McCarthy, Franklin Twp./732-873-2500 x 211  
Liaison Manual Review: Lori Buckelew, Lambertville/609-397-0110

#### **Rutgers Appointments**

Linda S. Wanat, Montclair Twp. / 973-509-4900  
Elaine Jasko, Perth Amboy City / 732-826-0290  
John Mitch, Woodbridge Twp./732-634-4500 x 6404  
Patricia Hullfish, Plainsboro Twp. /609-799-0909  
Louise Palagano, Bloomfield Twp./973-680-4000

### **EDUCATION CONFERENCE**

Joel Popkin, Co-Chair, Neptune City Borough/732-776-7224  
Elaine Kennedy, Co-Chair North Hanover Twp./609-758-2522  
Joan Moreland, Haddon Heights Borough/856-547-7164  
Bette Mastropasqua, Beachwood Borough/732-286-6000  
Bernadette Standowski, Lakewood Twp./732-905-5970  
Joanne Kwasniewski, Fairlawn Borough/201-794-5340  
Kathy Wisniewski, Springfield Twp/973-912-2200  
Elaine Jasko, Perth Amboy City / 732-826-0290  
Vince Buttiglieri, South Plainfield Borough/908-226-7606  
Heather Mailander, Village of Ridgewood/201-670-5500 x 201  
Jane Williams-Warren, Paterson City/973-321-1310  
Sharon Brienza, Branchburg Twp./908-526-1300  
Al Reda, Retired  
Administrative Consultant: L. Manuel Hirschblond  
Welcome Committee:  
Rosemary Adams, Atlantic City/609-347-5300

### **Mini Conferences – 2 Spring, 2 Fall & Professional Development**

#### **North**

Kelley Smith, Harmony Twp./908-213-1600x10  
Diane Pflugfelder, Bethlehem Twp./908-735-4107

#### **Central**

Sharon Young, West Windsor Twp./609-799-2400  
Michelle Auletta, Washington Twp./609-259-7082

#### **South**

Nancy L. Saffos, Cherry Hill Twp./856-488-7878  
Patricia A. Frontino, Glassboro Borough/856-881-9230 x 116

#### **Professional Development**

Mary Madonna, Surf City Borough/609-494-3064  
David Maffei, Pt. Pleasant Borough/732-531-9633  
Ann Marie McCarthy, Franklin Twp./732-873-2500 x 211  
Bernadette M. Park, Stafford Twp./609-597-1000  
Veronica E. Jasina, Barnegat Twp./609-698-0080  
Jim Rogers, Deal Borough/732-531-9633

### **ELECTIONS**

Linda Wanat, Co-Chair, Montclair Twp./973-509-4900  
Jane Williams-Warren, Co-Chair, Paterson City/973-321-1310  
Barbara Bascom, Upper Freehold Twp./609-758-7738  
Bonnie Leonetti, Long Beach Twp./609-361-1000  
Deanna Speck, Haddonfield Borough/856-429-4700 x 204

### **FINANCE**

Vince Buttiglieri, Treasurer, South Plainfield Borough/908-226-7606  
L. Manuel Hirshblond, Admin. Consultant/732-349-1348  
Joan Moreland, Haddon Heights Borough/ 856-547-7164  
Ferraioli, Wielkotz, Cerullo & Cuva – Auditors

### **FUNDRAISING**

Kathleen Wisniewski, Co-Chair, Springfield Twp/973-912-2200  
RoseMarie Saracino, Co-Chair, Old Bridge/732-721-5600  
Stella Ward, Old Bridge Twp/732-721-5600  
Joan Moreland, Haddon Heights Borough/ 856-547-7164  
Carol Shapner, Retired/856-293-7421

### **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/WEB PAGE**

Bette Mastropasqua, Beachwood Borough/732-286-6000  
Sharon Brienza, Branchburg Twp./908-526-1300  
Ian Shore, Paramus Borough/201-265-2100  
Gregory Hart, Old Tappan Borough/201-664-1849 x 224  
Daina Dale, Harvey Cedars Borough/609-494-2335

### **LEGAL DEFENSE FUND**

Sharon Brienza, (10) Chair, Branchburg Twp./908-526-1300

#### **North**

Laddie Wyatt (07), Plainfield City/ 908-753-3500  
Harold Wiener (07), Irvington Twp./ 973-399-8111  
Alternate: Gregory Hart, Old Tappan/201-664-1849 x 224

#### **Central**

Al Seaman (08), South River Borough/ 732-257-1999  
Sharon Young, (09) West Windsor Twp./609-799-2400  
Alternate: Rose Marie Saracino (08), Old Bridge / 732-721-5600

#### **South**

Bette Mastropasqua (09), Beachwood Borough/732-286-6000  
Carol Raph (07), Northfield City/609-641-2832  
Alternate: Deanna Speck, Haddonfield Boro/856-429-4700

### **LEGISLATIVE REVIEW**

Elaine B. Kennedy, Co-Chair, North Hanover Twp./609-758-2522  
Lewis Thompson, Co-Chair, Millville/ 856-825-7000  
Sharon Brienza, Branchburg Twp./908-526-1300  
Michael Januska, Milltown Borough/732-828-2100  
Bette Mastropasqua, Beachwood Borough/732-286-6000  
Ian Shore, Paramus Borough/201-265-2100  
Ray Whitlock Jr., Rocky Hill Borough/609-924-7445  
Deanna Speck, Haddonfield Boro/856-429-4700 x 204  
L. Manuel Hirshblond, Admin. Consultant/732-349-1348

*Continued on Page 9*



## **2007 MCANJ Committees by Barbara M. Hawk (Continued from Page 8)**

### **LAWS AFFECTING MUNICIPAL CLERKS**

Gregory Hart, Chair, Old Tappan Borough/201-664-1849 x 224  
J. Mark Mutter, Dover Twp./732-341-1000  
Sharon Young, West Windsor Twp./609-799-2400  
Harold Wiener, Irvington Twp./ 973-399-8111  
Bette Mastropasqua, Beachwood Borough/732-286-6000  
Jane Williams-Warren, Paterson City/973-321-1310  
Diane Pflugfelder, Bethlehem Twp./908-735-4107  
Vito Gadaleta, Sussex/973-875-4831  
Thomas Segreto, Legal Assistance

### **MANUAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Lori Buckelew, Editor, Lambertville City/609-397-0110  
Mary Madonna, Chair, Surf City/609-494-3064  
Nennette Perry, East Brunswick/732-390-6810  
Mark Mutter, Dover Twp./732-341-1000  
Deanna Speck, Haddonfield Borough/856-429-4700 x 204  
Michelle Auletta, Washington Twp./609-259-7082

### **MEMBERSHIP—North**

Sandra Jones, Chair, Bernardsville Borough / 908-766-3000  
Jane Williams-Warren, Paterson City/973-321-1310  
Neil Grant, Ft. Lee Borough/201-592-3570  
Cecelia Covino, Clinton Town/908-735-8616

### **MEMBERSHIP—Central**

Gretchen McCarthy, Chair, Jamesburg Borough/732-521-2222  
Colleen Eckert, Bordentown Twp./609-298-2800  
Lorraine Carafa, Loch Arbour Village/732-531-4740

### **MEMBERSHIP—South**

Carol Raph, Chair, Northfield City/609-641-2832  
Bonnie Leonetti, Long Beach Twp./609-361-1000  
Terry Tighe, Sea Isle City/609-263-4461  
LaShawn R. Barber, Tabernacle Twp./609-268-1220

### **PAST PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL**

Jane Williams-Warren, Chair, 2005  
Elaine B. Kennedy, 2006  
Joel Popkin, 2004  
Allan Susen, 2003  
Bernadette Standowski, 2002  
Sharon Brienza, 2001  
Nancy Hatten, 2000  
Bernadette Dubuss, 1999 (ret.)  
Lynn Stanzlaus, 1998 (ret.)  
Elizabeth Kiss, 1997  
Joseph Favaro, 1996  
Christina Wilder, 1995 (ret.)  
Kathleen Thorpe, 1994 (ret.)  
John Galvin, 1993 (ret.)  
Barbara Camp, 1992 (ret.)  
Mildred Bird, 1991 (ret.)  
Elaine Wallace, 1988 (ret.)  
Lewis Thompson, 1987  
Elizabeth Nolan, 1985 (ret.)  
James O'Keefe, 1983 (ret.)  
L. Manuel Hirshblond, 1981 (ret.)  
Norma Sisco, 1978 (ret.)  
Otto M. Bock, 1977 (ret.)  
Alfred Reda, 1975 (ret.)  
Joseph Valenti, 1974 (ret.)

### **PEER ALLIANCE FOR LEARNING**

*North:* Cecelia Covino, Clinton Twp./908-735-8616  
Denise Stagnari, Green Twp./908-852-9333  
*Central:* Anthony Conti, Trenton City/609-989-3030  
Lorene Wright, Allentown Boro/609-259-3151  
*South:* LaShawn R. Barber, Tabernacle Twp./609-268-1220  
Cynthia Dalessio, Pennsville Twp./856-678-3089

### **PUBLIC RELATIONS/BOOTH**

Lydia Magnotti, Chair, Jefferson Twp./973-208-6131  
Susan Caljean, Chatham Borough/973-635-0674 x 203  
Kelley Smith, Harmony Twp./908-213-1600x10  
Ian Shore, Paramus Boro/201-265-2100  
Karen Siano, Eatontown Boro/732-389-7621  
Neil Grant, Fort Lee Borough/201-592-9012  
Kathleen Hoffman, Mount Holly Twp./609-267-0170  
Cynthia Dalessio, Pennsville Twp./856-678-3089

### **QUILL**

Jim Doherty, Editor, Wantage Twp./ 973-875-7192  
Sharon Brienza, People Page, Branchburg Twp./908-526-1300  
L. Manuel Hirshblond, Advertising/732-349-1348

### **RECORDS**

Denise Szabo, Chair, Bernards Twp./908-766-2510  
John Mitch, Woodbridge Twp./732-634-4500 x 6404  
Harold Wiener, Irvington Twp./973-399-8111  
Ann Marie McCarthy, Franklin Twp./732-873-2500 x 211  
Cynthia Dalessio, Pennsville Twp./856-678-7500

### **RESOLUTIONS**

Vita Mekovetz, Chair, Readington, Twp. / 908-534-4051  
Kathleen S. Norcia, Lawrence Twp./609-844-7001  
All Advisory Board Representatives

### **SCHOLARSHIP**

Bonnie Leonetti, Long Beach Twp./609-361-1000  
Theresa Tamburro, Blainstown Twp./908-362-9635  
Barbara Shepard, Boonton Twp./973-402-4012  
Sally Bleeker, Franklin Lakes Borough/201-891-0048  
Barbara Nyitrai, South Brunswick Twp./732-329-4000 x 7313

## **To All 2007 MCANJ Committee Members:**

**Thank you for agreeing to work with me,  
as we make 2007 a memorable and won-  
derful year for our Association.**

**I look forward to hearing from you all  
during the upcoming year!**

**Barbara M. Hawk,  
2007 MCANJ President**

## ***QUICK UPDATES FROM OUR COLLEAGUES***

Sharon Brienza of Branchburg Township informs that there have been some new regulations adopted for raffle/bingo games. One of the more interesting changes is that raffle/bingo licenses do not need governing body approval if an Ordinance is adopted allowing the Municipal Clerk to adopt them. For those of you whose governing body might adopt such an Ordinance, you still have to send the application to LGCCC and wait the 15 days before issuing the license.

Michele Auletta of Washington Township (Mercer County) informs that Alcohol is no longer a prohibited prize for legalized games of chance. The citation for prohibited prizes is now NJAC 13:47-6.20. Tickets for prizes with alcohol must include the statement, "Winner Must Be At Least 21 Years of Age." A sign with this same message should be posted next to the prize.

### **2007 Clerk Education Conference**

"80 Years Lighting The Way  
To Better Government"

**Continuing the tradition established last year, THERE WILL BE ONE MCANJ CLERK CONFERENCE FOR 2007.**

**WHEN:** Monday thru Thursday;  
March 5—8, 2007  
Welcome Reception Monday evening, March 5  
Conference sessions begin Tuesday, March 6

**WHERE:** Tropicana Hotel in Atlantic City.  
The Tropicana offers many restaurants and great shopping.

**Costs:** The registration fee for this 3 day conference will be \$270 (includes all Education Sessions and Meals.)

**HOTEL RATES:** Tropicana  
North/South Towers: \$79/nite  
Havana Tower: \$95/nite  
Plus 14% Tax and Transportation Charges

**The Conference brochure with full details about the program, room rates and reservation forms will be mailed to you during the first week of January 2007.**

**If you do not receive an information package by January 15, request the information by E-mail at [mcanj2007@optonline.net](mailto:mcanj2007@optonline.net)**

This conference will offer exciting programs with CEU's in all required areas. There will be a silent auction, as well as sales of merchandise, and municipal vendors with services of interest.

**DON'T MISS OUT !**

**QScend ADVERTISEMENT**

**CONGRATULATIONS 2006  
CERTIFIED MUNICIPAL CLERKS**

**AT THE 2006 N J LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES  
CONVENTION, THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS  
WERE RECOGNIZED FOR ACHIEVING IIMC  
CERTIFIED MUNICIPAL CLERK DESIGNATION:**

Pictured below: Francine T. Paserchia, Deborah R. Pine, Kathleen Norcia and Barbara Nyitrai . Not Pictured: Jane Bakalarczyk, Karen Ventura, Carol Dray, Aime L. Sweeney



Brown's River Ad

**AT THE 2006 NJ LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES CONVENTION IN ATLANTIC CITY , THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS  
WERE RECOGNIZED FOR ACHIEVING THE REGISTERED MUNICIPAL CLERK DESIGNATION:**

**November 2005 RMC**

Patricia A. Barger, Susan M. Caljean, Beverly M. Carle, Janet J. Cassidy, Jean Chianese, Renee DeSalvo, Doris J. Flynn, Angela N. Foote, Claire J. Gray, Christine A. Helder, Nancy P. Hendrickson, Elzbieta G. Malecki Ruta, Michael E. McFadden, Catherine M. Miller, Denise K. Moules, Susan S. Nelson, Christine L. Newcomb, Mary Ann Ozment, Karen M. Seifrit, Linda Semus, Elizabeth Sterling, Evelyn A. Strelsky, Dana Tyler, Sharon R. Williams

**April 2006 RMC**

Kathleen T. Armstrong, John A. Camera, Tonya D. Carter, Martha DeJesus, Carol M. Donovan, Karen Gift, Donna M. Griffiths, Elesha M. Johnson, Donna-Marie Luciani, Elise A. McCann, Sheila L. Oberly, Eugene Padalino, Jean M. Pelligra, Henriette M. Perry, Linda M. Peryer, June Proffitt, Jeann M. Quinn, Maureen P. Ruane, Sharon Scheiner, Diane L. Seals, Kevin Sluka, Diane B. Stabley, Judith A. Sullivan, Nicole L. Tedeschi, Kimberly D. Tomkinson, Valerie Tornick Heilweil, Regina M. Toth, Kristyna Weller, Kathleen Wells

**CONGRATULATIONS 2006 REGISTERED MUNICIPAL CLERKS**



# Pay to Play Revisited

By: Thomas A. Segreto, MCANJ Legal Counsel

Last year I wrote an article which was entitled “January 1, 2006: The Day New Jersey Became ‘Pay To Play’.” 2007 is when those pay to play certifications and contribution limits are to be enforced. A year has gone by, and Pay to Play regulations have been tested. I ended last year’s article with the following words of hope:

“No one should be so naïve as to assume that this statute will completely stamp out corruption in New Jersey, but it is a step in the right direction. We should fill the lungs of our collective hope with a short prayerful breath that future discoveries of potential loopholes in the law do not suddenly undo what has been done.”

**With Pay to Play,  
there is a “Grand  
Canyon-sized,  
gaping loophole  
that swallows the  
purpose of the  
law”**

After having reviewed the reality of the practical applications of the Pay to Play amendments, I have come to the conclusion that it is little more than lip service which is being used as an ethical shield rather than an ethical sword. Think about this for a moment: if you have a fair and open contract, you don’t have to comply with the contribution limits, but the ultimate decision as to what constitutes a fair and open process, for purposes of the pay to play requirements, is made by the governing body of the local unit. In other words, in the case of municipalities and counties, those elected officials who depend on campaign contributions to ensure their continued power in their particular positions make the ultimate determination as to whether a contract, involving competing contractors (some of whom in all likelihood are major contributors) is fair and open? Also, let’s say the contract is not fair and open and the contribution limit certification is filed; problem solved, right? Wrong! The law provides that the contractor must certify that they have not given money in excess of the contribution limits to a certain list of identifiable persons and/or entities.

The Grand Canyon-sized gaping loophole that swallows the purpose of the law is the recent phenomena of cross-contributions in otherwise uninterested areas. It is a contribution “connect the dots” scenario which goes something like this: I want to work for municipality M or the County of ABC, but I know that the only way I’m going to get the job is if I contribute to the controlling political party, regardless of “fair and open” or “Non-fair and open.” I don’t want to be disqualified from working in M or ABC so I don’t contribute to them. I contribute to the same Political Party of the County of OPM who is otherwise uninterested, who collects contributions from other sources and co-mingles the contributions. Then, Political Party of the County of OPM who is otherwise uninterested contributes to controlling political party of municipality M or the County of ABC. It is legal, subject to not breaching contribution limit thresholds or wheeling, but as I have said before, there is a vast difference between being correct and being right. Ethics is not about looking for loopholes, it is about understanding the heart of what has been deemed inappropriate and simply doing what is right. If Pay to Play is to have any meaning at all, someone in Trenton has to step up and make some serious amendments. Sadly, I have the impression that until a few months before the next election, the sound of crickets will fill the halls of the Legislature in Trenton concerning Pay to Play.

Ask yourself: does it make much sense that where there is a Local Public Contracts Law (LPCL) bidding scenario, an acknowledgement of the bidder’s receipt of any amendments to the bid specifications is a mandatory non-waivable item pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A11-23.2(e), but a Pay to Play certification is not required at all? The purpose of the LPCL is to encourage competition and improve the local unit’s ability to get the best services or goods for the lowest price. Disclosure of campaign contributions places the bidders and the public on notice of a campaign contributor relationship. The LPCL should include, as a mandatory non-waivable item, a political contributor disclosure certification in which the vendor, subcontractors and any management representatives thereof must complete and update during the course of the contract.

**“If Pay to Play is to  
have any meaning at  
all, someone in Tren-  
ton has to step up  
and make some seri-  
ous amendments.”**

Next, the pay to play statute should be amended to delete the ultimate determination provision which presently exists. Local Government Services should promulgate uniform standards and criteria that local units must apply in order for contracts to be deemed fair and open. Resolutions of award should include a statement of circumstances warranting the determination of the contract being fair and open. The court should have practical jurisdiction to determine whether contracts are fair and open if an aggrieved bidder wants to challenge such a determination. Presently, an aggrieved bidder can challenge an award as not being fair and open and a local unit can assert the defense that the statute clearly and unambiguously provides that the local unit makes the ultimate decision as to whether a contract is fair and open.

*Continued on Page 13*

# Pay to Play Revisited

By: Thomas A. Segreto, MCANJ Legal Counsel

*Continued from Page 12*

Campaign finance laws should be amended to prohibit the kind of Pay to Play laundering by the political washing machines of cross local unit political party committees and PACs. It will not happen unless and until voters let lawmakers know that they are sick of “business as usual” fundraising contributions by contract holders, vendors and/or potential contractors. Right now, the ethic shield is raised upon the mere mention of impropriety and the disclaimer of, “But we are not doing anything illegal.” Either Pay to Play should be allowed or the loopholes should be closed. Politicians can’t have it both ways.

The State should improve the ELEC website and make the searches more user friendly, and make the public documents more readily accessible, which will enable municipal clerks to verify information if necessary. The ELEC website is one of the most difficult web sites to navigate. One wonders why the State of NJ puts most other forms either in HTML or PDF format, but campaign contributions require you to download proprietary software from Crystal technologies, acceptance of terms and conditions of use of the program, enabling of pop-ups, specialized procedures for viewing the document and printing it as well as a unique manner of saving the document, page by excruciating page. Once you’ve done all that, then you can search, but remember, you have to be case specific! Oh, and don’t even try to view anything with any other browser besides Microsoft Internet Explorer!

You may be wondering what this has to do with the Municipal Clerk. The Municipal Clerk is one of the key officers in the municipal purchase process and has increasing roles in the contract process. From the bid specifications to the Pay to Play certification, the Clerk is in the mix. When the mix is, let’s just say, “tainted,” our advice is to make sure you protect yourself from being tainted in the process.

If Pay to Play is to have any meaning, it should be amended as set forth above and applied to everyone who interacts with the representatives of the municipality such as the contractors, the appointees and even classes of employees with managerial/departmental functions and/or duties. It would not be pretty, and some politicians would love it at certain times and hate it at others, but it would be the right thing to do.

I hope to hear more than crickets from Trenton in the near future. Maybe if there were more “sunshine” in the world of political contributions, the operation of government would improve and actually work. At the end of the day, part of one’s fiduciary duty is to inform the public about the realities of how their tax dollars are spent and why things are the way they are.

## MASTER MUNICIPAL CLERKS ACADEMY

- Entry Level:** Sally Bleeker  
Louise Palagano  
Sharon Young
- 1st Level:** Karen Mount-Taylor  
Ann Marie McCarthy  
Rose Marie Saracino
- 2nd Level:** Carol L. Degrassi  
James Doherty  
Vita Mekovetz  
Andrew Pavlica  
Denise Szabo  
Mary Ann Young

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING CLERKS FOR ATTAINING THE MASTER MUNICIPAL CLERK DESIGNATION:**

- Kathleen M. Barney  
Sandra G. Jones  
Joanne Kwasniewski  
Gloria Pflueger  
Karen R. Siano  
Elizabeth Silvestri  
Linda Wanat  
Harold Weiner



Pictured Above, left to right: Denise Szabo, Louise Palagano, Harold Weiner, Linda Wanat, Drew Pavlica, Joanne Kwasniewski, Sharon Young, **Kathleen M. Barney, Karen r. Siano**, Gloria Pflueger



## LEGAL DEFENSE FUND



The Legal Defense Fund was established by the MCANJ to assist Municipal Clerks when actions have been taken against them in the performance of their duties.

I know many of you believe nothing could ever happen to you, but unfortunately the reality is...it can happen to you. As governing bodies and administrators change, these changes can also affect the Municipal Clerk, which is why the Legal Defense Fund is so important.

Initial membership of \$75.00, with an annual renewal fee of \$25.00 thereafter, is a small price to pay to protect your future. Applications and renewal applications were included with your annual dues membership or you can download an application form from the MCANJ website.

I urge you to complete the form as directed - hopefully, you will never need the assistance of the Legal Defense Fund, but if you do, this could prove to be your most valuable insurance coverage.

The Legal Defense Fund (LDF), is not automatic—you **have to join!** In case you ever have to call upon the LDF, here is the Eligibility Checklist for Assistance:

- You must be a Member in good standing (Municipal Clerk or Deputy Clerk) of MCANJ.
- You must be a paid member of LDF for 90 days prior to any claim filed.
- Action being taken against another member of MCANJ is not eligible for consideration by LDF
- All required forms must be properly filled out, signed and dated.
- Your Request for legal assistance must be submitted in writing, documenting the incident in its entirety, and describing the relief being sought. You must provide a copy of the written request to the MCANJ President, and forward your request within ten (10) days of the situation to be addressed. In some cases, the LDF Committee may approve a time waiver.

**Legal Defense Fund Membership Renewals** are due no later than April 15, 2007 to maintain membership in the LDF.

If you are not yet a member of the Legal Defense Fund, and wish to join, please know that Membership is effective upon receipt of a properly completed application, original signature, and membership fee. **Applications received without payment or with municipal funds are not acceptable and will be returned.**

To obtain a Renewal Form, or to complete a First time Membership Form, visit the MCANJ website: <http://www.njclerks.org/>  
Please mail the completed application with your **PERSONAL CHECK** payable to MCANJ – LDF to:

L. Manual Hirshblond, Administrative Consultant  
11 Boxwood Terrace  
Toms River, NJ 08755

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please feel free to contact me at 908-526-1300, ext. 103.

**Sharon L. Brienza,**  
Township of Branchburg  
LDF Committee Chair

**MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS ADVANTAGES:** A special message from the MCANJ Membership Committee

If you are enjoying this issue of the *Quill*, and would like to continue receiving future issues in the mail ...  
**MAKE SURE YOUR MCANJ 2007 DUES ARE PAID!**

The 2007 Executive Board is continuing the practice of tying in the mailing list of the *Quill* with the dues list for 2007 MCANJ membership. So, if you have previously been receiving an issue of the *Quill*, and find that you are not receiving any more issues in 2007, check to make sure that your MCANJ membership dues are current and up to date.  
Membership in the Legal Defense Fund also requires that your dues be paid and current.

**Don't get left behind—Make Sure MCANJ 2007 Dues are Paid!**

**21 stories of our Garden State; 21 stories to say "We're Great!"**



**SPOTLIGHT ON: MERCER COUNTY**

Mercer County, officially founded in 1838 and carved out of other surrounding counties, is named in honor of General Hugh Mercer, a distinguished hero of the American Revolution, who died from wounds inflicted during the Battle of Princeton in 1777. General George Washington led his famous December crossing of the Delaware and routed the Hessians right here in Mercer County. Further, when the Revolutionary War concluded, the City of Trenton and Princeton Township took turns serving as the temporary Federal Capital.

Mercer County is located in central New Jersey and its western border runs along the scenic Delaware River. The County consists of 13 municipalities and is home to the City of Trenton, the State's capital. The other 12 municipalities are: East Windsor Township, Ewing Township, Hightstown Borough, Hopewell Township, Hopewell Borough, Pennington Borough, Lawrence Township, Princeton Township, Princeton Borough, Washington Township, Hamilton Township, and West Windsor Township.

There are three train stations located in Mercer County; the Princeton Junction Train Station is the 3<sup>rd</sup> busiest train station in the State and the 9<sup>th</sup> busiest Amtrak Station in the United States.

Mercer County is where you will find the nationally renowned Princeton University and was home to Mr. Albert Einstein, the world famous philosopher and inventor. Other educational facilities in Mercer County include the College of New Jersey, Rider University, Mercer County Community College and Thomas Edison State College.

Mercer County is rich in arts and entertainment. In addition to exciting college sports, Mercer County is home to the Trenton Thunder Baseball team, the AA Affiliate of the Yankees; and the Trenton Titans Hockey team, the AA affiliate of the Flyers.

Trenton's War Memorial Building offers theatrical and musical performances, including venues such as the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, Boheme Opera, and the American Repertory Ballet. Princeton's McCarter Theatre is known for its Broadway-like productions and Trenton's Sovereign Bank Arena offers concerts, sporting events, and activities like the circus.

Other sites to see include the NJ State Museum, the Planetarium, the old Barracks Museum, the Battle Monument, the New Jersey State House, Kuser Farm Mansion, Howell Living History Farm, and the Grounds for Sculpture, to name just a few.

Mercer County includes over 8400 acres of parks, which provide activities such as horseback riding, boating, hiking, biking, ice-skating, picnicking and more. Some of the parks include Veteran's Park, Sayen Gardens, Etra Park, Washington Crossing State Park, and Mercer County Park. Mercer County has over 4,000 acres in preserved farmland.

Mercer County also has the dubious distinction of being the famed landing spot for a Martian invasion of the United States. In 1938, in what has become one of the most famous radio addresses of all time, Orson Welles acted out his "War of the Worlds" invasion. Welles landed his imaginary aliens on Mercer County soil, using what is now the Grover's Mill Pond in West Windsor Township as the point of first contact.

Whether you are Human or Martian, Mercer County is easily accessible from the NJ Turnpike; Routes 1, 130, and 206; and from Interstates 95, 195 and 295. Thank you for reading about our wonderful county!

Submitted by Michele Auletta,  
Washington Township



**21 stories of our Garden State; 21 stories to say “We’re Great!”: WHO WILL BE NEXT?**

Since the “Spotlight On ...” series of informational articles about New Jersey’s 21 counties began in the Quill last year, we have been graced with the stories of Mercer County, Bergen County, Sussex County, Morris County and Burlington County. That leaves sixteen more stories to tell—Don’t leave us “hanging!” Submit your article about your County to Jim Doherty at the E-mail address: [administrator@wantagetwp-nj.org](mailto:administrator@wantagetwp-nj.org), or via fax at 973-875-0199.

**DATES AND LOCATIONS OF 2007 ADVISORY BOARD MEETINGS:**

January 26, 2007: Mastoris, Bordentown  
March 8, 2007: Education Conference,  
at the Tropicana, Atlantic City  
June 29, 2007: Mastoris, Bordentown

September 21, 2007: Mastoris, Bordentown  
November 14, 2007: League of Municipalities  
Convention, Atlantic City

**DEADLINES FOR NEWS ITEMS:** The deadline for the April issue is March 1, 2007. Please send People Page news to Sharon Brienza, Municipal Clerk, Branchburg Borough, 1077 US Highway 202 North, Branchburg, NJ 08876. Questions or comments regarding this or any issue of the *Quill* should be directed to the Editor, Jim Doherty, Township of Wantage, 888 Route 23, Wantage, NJ 07461 or by calling 973-875-7192 or via email to: [administrator@wantagetwp-nj.org](mailto:administrator@wantagetwp-nj.org). Articles for submission should be prepared in Microsoft Word, using Times New Roman 10-point font, and sent as an email attachment to [administrator@wantagetwp-nj.org](mailto:administrator@wantagetwp-nj.org) by the deadline specified.

the *Quill*  
Editor - Jim Doherty  
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Toms River, NJ 08755

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