

TOWN OF HENLOPEN ACRES — February 2020 Newsletter

Dear Neighbor:

This is the “slow time” at the Shore, when the crowds disappear and the locals take a deep breath and enjoy the peaceful quietude. We hope you’re enjoying the Winter and look forward to welcoming many of you back in a very few short months. Meanwhile, here are a few highlights of happenings in the Town.

Anniversary Celebration

Save the Date! We are pleased to be planning the 50th Anniversary celebration of Henlopen Acres’ incorporation as a town in 1970. Event Chairs Kate Lyons and Joan Donnelly are planning a festive, tented and catered event at the Marina over Labor Day weekend on Saturday evening, September 5. Further details will follow.

Marina Park

We are excited to share that the Town has hired The Ashton Group to build a small, flag-stone paved seating area at the Marina to enjoy the beautiful vistas of the Canal. The hardscape work will occur over the next few months with plantings and benches installed in the Spring. Included will be a plaque in memory of former Mayor David Lyons.



Rental Ordinance

After much consideration and input from a hearing in October 2019, the Commissioners have settled on proposed changes to our rental ordinance. A copy of the ordinance is being mailed to every owner, and another hearing will be held on April 17. The new ordinance limits rentals to a level that we believe is consistent with our exclusively residential community:

- All properties may be rented up to six times per year.
- The minimum rental period for current owners will be one week, while the minimum rental period for new owners who acquire their property after June 1, 2020 will be one month. Properties may be rented for longer periods, up to one year.
- The maximum number of occupants in a rental dwelling will be 12 persons.
- Owners will provide a copy of each rental contract to Town Hall two weeks prior to rental.

We feel this strikes the right balance in allowing all owners to enjoy their properties while at the same time permitting some level of rental income to be derived. We realize there will be differing views on this proposal and invite all residents to share their thoughts before or at the hearing. Ultimately, this decision is about what we want the Town to be going forward, a very fitting issue to consider on the 50th-year anniversary of this beautiful, little Town.

Joni Reich, Mayor

Volume 20 Issue 1

MAYOR:

Joni Reich

Commissioners:

Andrew Brittingham

Tim Hidell

Frank Jamison

Paddy Richards

John Staffier

Richard Thompson

Town Manager

Thomas Roth

Town Clerk

Lisa Michaels

Public Works

Sonny McClure

Security

Lee Stewart

Town Hall 104 Tidewaters

Hours: M-F 9-4:30

• 302-227-6411

• 302-227-3978 Fax

• 302-542-3323 Security

• townhall@henlopenacres.com

• henlopenacres.delaware.gov

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Board of Commissioners

Board Meeting

Friday, March 13, 2020 10am

Public Hearing/Quarterly Mtg

Friday, April 17, 2020 at 10am

Planning Commission

As needed

Board of Adjustment

As needed

Tree Committee

As needed

TOWN HALL HOLIDAY CLOSINGS:

Monday February 17

President’s Day

Friday April 10

Good Friday

Monday May 25

Memorial Day

Friday July 3

Independence Day

Holiday Thank You's

We would like to thank the 59 residents who contributed to the Employee Holiday Fund. A total of \$12,590 was contributed and distributed to the Town's 14 employees who serve you every day. **The Employees could not be more appreciative of your generosity!!**

A big Thank You also to everyone who participated this year in our annual Toys for Tots campaign. The Marine Corp League distributed 3 toys and 3 stocking stuffers each to over **4,000 children** from **1,100 families** all right here in Sussex County. Each year the number of children supported through this program increases. Thank you for helping us be part of this effort.

Our Deepest Sympathies to the families of:

Barry M Fitzpatrick-December 30, 2019
9 Pine Reach
Louise Baylis-November 24, 2019
53 Rolling Road

Don't forget to pick up your 2020 Town Directory and Cul-de-sac parking passes from Town Hall.

Dune Grass Planting

In March 2020, Block W and the Beach Club will participate in the State of Delaware's 31st annual beach grass planting. Please contact Lisa Michaels at Town Hall if you are willing to help plant the grass seedlings to maintain our precious dunes.

Marina Dredging

The Town has secured a permit from the Delaware Department of Natural Resources (DNREC) to dredge up to 6,500 cubic yards of silt from the Marina. We are soliciting bids on the work to be completed in 2020. We have also obtained a license from the Army Corps of Engineers to dispose of the spoils at its site on Anglers Road in Lewes. Further details will be provided as they are available.

Business Licenses

Please remember ANY contractor or service provider must obtain a business license from Town Hall prior to doing work at your property. Licenses expire each year on December 31.

Lamp Post Reminders:

When leaving Town, please remember to leave the electric on to your lamp post. This is important to the security of the Town as this is the only street lighting we have. The Town will replace the bulb and electric eye as needed. The wiring, power supply to the post and lamp post itself are the homeowners' responsibility. Please call Town hall with any questions.

For the safety of all our pets:

Please remember all dogs must be on a leash when off your property. Also, there are pet waste disposal containers at the bottom of Rolling Road, the entrance at Dodds Lane, and the Marina, so please be courteous and clean up after your pet.

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR EMPLOYEES

We are very fortunate to have a dedicated **Security Force** who go above and beyond patrolling our Town and North Shores 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. They are always available to assist you at 302-542-3323 in the event of:

- Suspicious activity
- Noise disturbances
- Emergencies
- Water leaks

Pictured from left to right, with their years of service:

- Brad Thomas 5 Years
- Jan Bennett 10 Years
- Mike Berg 9 Years
- Mike Eisenhauer 14 Years
- Lee Stewart 16 Years (Supervisor)
- Paul Riggs 12 Years
- Chad Shaw 4 Years (not pictured)

