

THE HILLTONE

Hiltonia Association

P.O. Box 7291

Trenton, NJ 08628

VOLUME SIX, NUMBER ONE

MARCH 1987

Happy Spring...

Blowing in on the March wind is more bad news about the state of Trenton's finances, and fears about another steep tax hike are in the air.

New association president Bea Scala-Fischler -- who began her term with a promise that she would supply neither arms to Iran nor aid to the Contras -- has been huddling with other West Ward association presidents to develop a grassroots movement to contain property taxes.

Bea has promised to fill us in on that effort at the next general meeting, which is coming up (no fooling) on Wednesday, April 1st, at 8 p.m. Watch for a flyer with details to be delivered soon.

Also on the agenda is our fledgling plan to offer some volunteer help to the Kilmer School (see story inside) and whatever new business anyone wants to raise.

It's also a good chance to pay your dues in person and get reacquainted with your neighbors, who've been hibernating during this longest of long winters.

See you there.

HELP WANTED

The Hiltonia Association serves two important functions in our neighborhood -- social and informational.

Each year, our youngsters look forward to an Easter egg hunt, a Halloween party and a Christmas party. We adults enjoy one another's company at an early summer pool party, an end-of-summer block party and a holiday party.

All year long, the association sponsors general meetings which feature speakers on topics of importance to you: your taxes, city services and the like.

But these events don't just happen. The dues you pay as a Hiltonia Association member help foot the bill for special events, and a dedicated but extremely small group of volunteers plans and organizes all of the activities.

Last year, Terry Castro went above and beyond to organize all of the children's events and all of the social affairs for adults. This year, though, she's taking a well-deserved break and we are in need of lots of volunteers to fill her shoes.

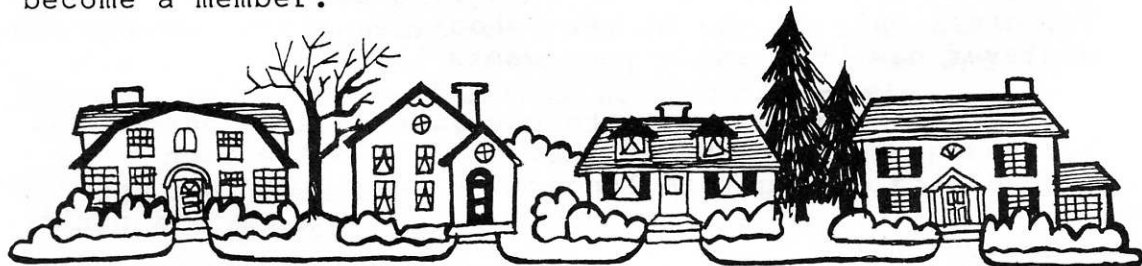
If you or your children have enjoyed any of the association's activities, please consider giving us a hand. Here are some of the things you could do:

*Volunteer to organize just one of the many special events we'll be holding this year. If enough of us help, the burden won't be too great on anyone.

*Offer to serve as our program committee chairperson, finding and arranging speakers for the four remaining general meetings.

*Suggest a topic for a general meeting, or for coverage in The Hilltone. What would you like to know more about?

*Fill out the form in the centerfold of this issue and become a member.





The Easter Bunny is threatening to boycott Hiltonia this year unless you help.

A few of you moms and dads are needed to help plan our annual Easter Egg Hunt. It's not a big deal -- just a few hours to shop for gifts, hide the eggs and supervise the hunt.

If no one helps, the party's off. So please call Bea at 599-9520.

The Executive Board

These are the members of the 1987 Hiltonia Executive Board:

Bea Scala-Fischler (Pres.)	599-9520
Ann Self (1st. VP)	695-2334
Cindy Helmke (2nd. VP)	989-1297
Dianne Wilkins (Rec. Sec)	396-1657
Denise Mortimer (Corr. Sec)	393-9705
Bill Harbach (Treas.)	392-6380
Cindy Helmke (Civic)	989-1297
Linda Reid (Membership)	394-2314
Jean Harbach (Wel. Wagon)	392-6380
Brann Wry (Refresh.)	695-4372
Ellen Wry (Security)	695-4372
Betty Walton (Security)	393-3663
Alison Cumming (Hilltone)	394-7754
Joan Anderson (Wor. Proj.)	393-3416
Kent Ashworth (Wor. Proj.)	394-7754
Pat Flores (Historian)	695-3141
Bill Anderson (Spec. Proj.)	392-8802
John Vogler (Spec. Proj.)	393-5632
Ann Self (TCCA)	695-2334
Cindy Helmke (TCCA)	989-1297

A new board of directors took office in January, and the association bid a fond and grateful farewell to Norma Stern, who served two full terms as our president. That job now falls to Bea Scala-Fischler, last year's VP.

Also leaving the board were Janet Doyle, who was replaced by Dianne Wilkins; Joe Priest, who turned the treasurer's job back over to Bill Harbach; and Welcome Wagon chairwoman Marion Vogler, who is now leaving the welcoming to Jean Harbach. Welcome to Ann Self, who joins the board as 1st vice president, and congratulations to Cindy Helmke, our new 2nd vice president. Our final new officer is Denise Mortimer, who's replacing Clem Mapp as corresponding secretary.

Thanks to all our volunteers, old and new.

HILTONIA REFLECTIONS

HILTONIA REFLECTIONS

BY PAT FLORES

Can you imagine a time when we didn't have the John Fitch Way?

Let your mind wander back in time, and peek into the '50s with me as we review some of the earliest known minutes of the Hiltonia Association.

"The annual meeting of the Hiltonia Association was held at the Trenton Country Club on Monday evening, Jan. 14, 1953, as 'Open House' for all residents of Hiltonia.

Mr. John Waldron, member of the city's Planning Board, was introduced by the president, William S. Borden, for a discussion of the proposed East-West Highway. With the exception of one dissenting voice, the Association was in favor of supporting said proposal."

"On March 29 (1953), the Executive Committee met and passed a resolution recording their approval of the East-West Highway to be constructed by the N.J. State Highway Dept. . . and to record their belief that such an artery would be to the great advantage of all the inhabitants of Trenton."

Hooray for the insight of these 'founding fathers.' The rest is now history.

Moving through the pages, we reach 1954, a new year fraught with new concerns.

"The annual meeting of the Hiltonia Association was held at the Carteret Club on Monday evening, Feb. 1, 1954.

"Mrs. Rose Lerner Perlman explained to the association the Master plan and the Planning Commission's recommendations for rezoning the city of Trenton to obtain Federal aid for slum clearance. Mr. William Borden reported that he had written a letter to the City Commission expressing our interest in guarding "Zone A," and also offering assistance in all of the zoning ordinance.

Continued. . .

...REFLECTIONS

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"Judge Goldman suggested that we propose to the commission a 'Zone AA' for Hiltonia and other interested Zone A residential districts. A motion was made and seconded to plan joint opposition to the proposed change in Zone A restrictions.

"Dr. Rank introduced Mr. Edward Rogers of the Trenton Health Department, who spoke and showed slides of substandard housing in the City of Trenton."

October 26, 1954: "A meeting of the Executive committee was held at the home of Mr. Sol Perlman, the purpose to discuss the ordinance which the Planning Board is going to submit to the City Commission. Dr. Rank reported that although the Hiltonia Assoc. has been assured that the Zoning Ordinance of 1952 would be submitted, he had discovered that the said ordinance was not being recommended by the Planning Board.

"Mrs. Perlman pointed out that the proposed ordinance contained several objectionable features. Boarding houses and business establishments would be permitted, and small inferior houses might be erected on 30-foot lots in Hiltonia."

We know these things did not come to pass, and that we have Hiltonia's tireless crusaders to thank for preserving the tenor of our neighborhood.

Other topics of concern in the minutes were police protection, a cooperative snow removal program, tree trimming and replacement and street lighting.

So what else is new? Life goes on in much the same way as always.

* * * * *

(Pat Flores is the Hiltonia Association historian. If you have information you'd like to share, please contact her at 695-3141.)

We Are The Hiltonia Association...

Cadwalader Dr.

- 127 Fischler, Michael
Scala-Fischler, Bea
205 Davidson, Laurie
Gardner, Donnie

Buckingham Ave.

- 2 Mitchell, Lillian
10 Jessel, Janet
Ogden, Evelyn
104 Conlon, Michael
Conlon, Katherine
107 Vogler, John
Vogler, Marion
119 Lehman, Andrea
Rowan, Andrew
125 McCormack, Raymond
McCormack, Mary Ann
128 Doyle, Patrick
Doyle, Janet
210 Cooper, Albert
Cooper, Katherine

Kensington Ave.

- 1 LaPlaca, Anthony
LaPlaca, Fran
6 Kutch, Eugene
Kutch, Jacqueline
7 Harbach, Bill
Harbach, Jean

- 8 Leventhal, Robert
Leventhal, Fern
119 Gartmann, Hans
Gartmann, Selma
120 Miterko, Robert
Miterko, Jane
202 Helmke, Cynthia
Cohen, Ronald

Renfrew Ave.

- 3 Rigney, James
Rigney, Carole
10 Carney, Rita
119 Walton, Betty
122 Flores, Pat
205 Ashworth, Kent
Cumming, Allison
207 Palmer, Glenn
Palmer, Sue

Hilvista Blvd.

- 10 Self, George
Self, Ann

Stuyvesant Ave.

- 1490 Mortimer, Denise
1509 Wilkins, Diane
1511 Priest, Joseph
-

...Won't You Join Us?

Membership dues are based on a calendar year and are \$7.50 per adult (over 18 years old). Please fill in the form below and include with your payment. Return to:

LINDA REID, Membership Chairman
212 Renfrew
Trenton, New Jersey, 08618

Family Name _____

First Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Date Moved in to Hiltonia _____

children (under 18)

First Name

Birthdate

Are you on the Crime Watch? YES NO

Do you wish to be on the Crime Watch? YES NO;

Committee Interests:

Civic Publicity Membership Welcome/Hospitality

Worthy Projects Children's Activities Block Party/Social

1987

Worthy Projects

The Kilmer Connection

BY KENT ASHWORTH

How would you like more than 500 kids on your doorstep in the morning?

They're here. Every Monday through Friday, over at Joyce Kilmer Elementary School across the way from the park. And not only is Kilmer Hiltonia's neighborhood public school, it holds the potential for some meaningful community contributions by the Hiltonia Association at large and by individual volunteers.

I began tapping the drum for a Hiltonia contribution to Kilmer at our last association meeting, largely as an extemporaneous notion from our worthy projects committee. That committee, you will recall, is headed by Joan Anderson; she and her husband Stu introduced me last winter to the fine points of contributing food to needy families.

Our food baskets will continue. A question before us now is whether some of us can offer, in addition, the precious commodity of our time -- our presence -- as volunteers at Kilmer.

The idea is advanced with caution: most of us are busy and it's hard to get excited about the notion of a community contribution grounded more in rhetoric than reality.

Several people at the meeting and since, however, have reacted very generously to the idea and I followed up on the suggestion to meet with Kilmer Principal Edna Pratico and a representative of the school's Parent Teacher Committee, Lisa Carmalt. Both expressed gratitude in advance for any community support our neighborhood might muster. Sue Palmer of Renfrew, who is a guidance

Continued. . .

The Kilmer Connection Cont. from page 8

counselor at Kilmer, has also been helpful in discussing such contributions as tutoring and providing speakers and/or field trip locations for a career awareness project.

Here are several things we could do:

- o Volunteer work at the library, in which we could read or tell stories to small groups of children;
- o Volunteer tutoring, which would of necessity take place between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.;
- o Participation in Kilmer's career awareness program, either by serving as a visiting speaker or volunteering one's place of work for a field trip;
- o Provision of black-and-white camera equipment and/or photo and editorial help for school publications;
- o Assistance to athletic coaches.

The possibilities here barely scratch the surface of how neighbors might devote their time to a good cause. Whether the contribution is a half-hour talk with some 12-year-olds contemplating life in the work force or regular help to anchor an ongoing tutoring program, there are few better causes than the investment in Trenton's children.

To launch the project, the executive board has voted to doante a tree for Kilmer's Arbor Dauy observance in April. The tree will be given in honor of immediate past association president Norma Stern.

More ideas are bound to follow, particularly if you can communicate them! Please use the coupon below to volunteer for one of the activities mentioned here, or to offer your latest brainstorm on how we might contribute to the Joyce Kilmer community. Or call me, Kent Ashworth, at 394-7754.

HILTONIA VOLUNTEERS FOR KILMER

NAME: _____ PHONE _____

AREA OF INTEREST: _____

OTHER SUGGESTIONS: _____

Return to Kent Ashworth, 205 Renfrew Ave.

COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

For an excellent sourcebook on Trenton, pick up a copy of the new League of Women Voters' publication, "This Is Trenton; The Capital City."

The 75-page book includes a history of our city, a map and a guide to a wide variety of city services, with helpful phone numbers included.

It is particularly useful for new residents, but longtime Trentonians will find it filled with information they can use, too.

Copies are \$4 each. To get one, call Arlene Nash weekdays at 394-0900.



Happy birthday wishes to these Hiltonia youngsters:

In January, David Grillo(15), Paul Wegner(18), Elizabeth Butterfield(5), Melissa Mapp(5), Denise Ramsey, Jennifer Mitchell(8), Jennifer Noble(17) and Billy Young(4).

In February, Robert Topper(8), David Schragger(11), Damon Priest(9), Jordan Priest(6), Lisa Noble(14), Greg Jalloh(12) and Benjamin Frontiero(3).

In March, Billy Anderson(8), Janine Carabelli, Susan Shelingoski(10), P.J. Doyle(5), Lisa Blackburn, Sarah Reid(10), Brandon Self(14), Katie Schragger(13) and Paul LaPlaca(1).

In April, George Paci(16), Evan Anderson(3), Anna Rosenthal(2), Joshua Knobel(5) and Nadir Johnson(2).

In May, Anthony Carabelli, Stephen Kitts, Charles Ramsey, Gail Zoltick(17), Kristen Mapp(2), Eric Reid(8) and Michael Frontiero(15).

(To include your child's birthday in the Hilltone, call Alison Cumming at 394-7754.)

You ought to know...

The Hiltonia Association has approved a 1987 budget of \$2,440, up from \$2,120 last year. The new budget reflects an expected membership of 200, a number we topped last year for the first time in a long while. The budget also reflects expected income of \$550 from our participation in Heritage Days, and \$300 from the sale of Hiltonia T-shirts(see back page).

The money will be used to finance our social events, publication of The Hilltone, and the work of our worthy projects committee, as well as membership in many of the city's civic organizations.

* * * * *

In a letter to homeowners, local Realtor Peter Doolan reported a large increase in average selling prices in many Trenton neighborhoods, including Hiltonia. Average selling price in the neighborhood in 1986 was \$120,000, up from \$33,000 in 1985. That's an appreciation rate of 36%. Doolan predicts an active market this year, with interest rates likely to hover around 9% and the appreciation rate remaining high.

* * * * *

The Butterfields of 209 Kensington have a vacation property in Falmouth, Cape Cod, for rent this summer. It's a three-bedroom, two-bath place two blocks from the beach. Interested? Call them at 394-3682.

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Tee Shirts!

HILTONIA...

Trenton's Premiere Address

Proud of your neighborhood? Want to brag a little?

Let the world know when you wear a Hiltonia T-shirt, available now from the Hiltonia Association.

The shirts -- emblazoned with the design you see above -- are bright yellow, made of 50 percent cotton and 50 percent polyester, and a real steal at just five bucks each.

Large and extra-large sizes are available now, and orders are being taken for kids' sizes.

To get your shirt, call Bea Scala-Fischler, 127 Cadwalader, at 599-9520.