

# THE HILLTONE

Hiltonia Association

P.O. Box 7291

Trenton, NJ 08628

VOLUME V, NUMBER THREE

AUGUST 1986

## Come and Get It!

Come join your neighbors for a farewell to summer, hello to fall picnic at 209 Buckingham on Saturday, Sept. 6 (Rain date: Sept. 7).

The fun begins at 3 p.m. The Hiltonia Association will provide beer and soda, hot dogs and hamburgers. You are asked to bring chairs or a blanket, and a salad or dessert.

The charge is \$3 per person, with kids 12 and under free.

Terry Castro, who did such a great job organizing our successful Membership Pool Party in June, is coordinating this End of Summer Picnic, too.

She asks picnic goers to give her a call at 396-3916 after Aug. 26 to let her know what salad or dessert you're bringing. And if you'd like to volunteer to give her a hand with the preparations, that's great, too.

See you there!

•FOOD•

FUN!

•DRINK•

•GOSSIP•

•GAMES•

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# From The Editor's Desk...

Ever long for that small-town life, where you can do business with your neighbors and rest assured that if you're not happy with the job, you know where to find them?

Well, Trenton's not a small town and Hiltonia's not really a small neighborhood. But I, for one, think it's still nice to patronize your neighbors' businesses if you can. Nice for them, and nice for you, because neighbors do tend to look out for each other.

There's just one problem: How do you find out exactly what business your neighbors are in?

Enter the Hiltonia Business Directory, the first issue of which will appear this fall, if all goes well.

If you live in Hiltonia and operate a business -- retail, wholesale, free-lance, part-time, professional, contractor or whatever -- please take a minute to tell me about it.

All you need to do is fill out the form below, attach your business card (if you have one) and drop it off at 205 Renfrew Ave. by Sept. 15. You'll find a box on the front steps to put it in. (That box, by the way, is still hungry for any news you'd like to share with your neighbors. And thanks to all of you who contributed items for this issue.)

There's no charge, although donations (made out to the Hiltonia Association) to defray printing costs would be gratefully accepted.

And with a little luck, we'll all have somewhere other than the Yellow Pages to turn next time we need a butcher, baker or candlestick maker.

—Alison Cumming

## Hiltonia Business Directory form

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Services \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

RETURN TO  
205 Renfrew  
by Sept. 15

Attach business card if you have one.



● One break-in (on Cornwall) and two unsuccessful burglary attempts (on Cornwall and Stuyvesant) have been reported in recent weeks. Our Crime Watch network, in which residents call other residents on the Crime Watch "tree," has broken down this summer. If you are on one of the trees and receive a call about a crime, please do your best to reach the person who's next on the list. If you can't reach them, skip down to the next name until you reach somebody. If you don't know who is on your tree, call Betty Walton or Ellen Wry, our Crime Watch chairmen. And if you're the victim of a crime, please call Ellen or Betty so all of us can be informed.

● More than 60 eager Hiltonia Association beer pumpers helped to ensure another successful Heritage Days festival in early June. Special projects co-chairman Bill Anderson turned over a check for \$550 to the association's treasury and reported that nearly \$14,000 worth of beer was pumped at three stands during the festival. A special thanks to all the volunteers, who made this Hiltonia's most profitable Heritage Days.



These are the members of the Hiltonia Executive Board:

Norma Stern (President)	396-3361
Bea Scala-Fischler (VP)	599-9520
Clem Mapp (Corr. Sec)	392-3563
Janet Doyle (Rec. Sec)	695-2371
Joe Priest (Treas.)	392-1091
Cindy Helmke (Civic)	989-1297
Linda Reid (Membership)	394-2314
Marion Vogler (Wel. Wagon)	393-5632
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
Denise Mortimer (Sunshine)	393-9705
Terry Castro (Social)	396-3916
Ken Kyte (TCCA)	392-6036
Bill Harbach (TCCA)	392-6380

## Some Highlights Of Recent Meetings

● The Executive Board voted this month to donate \$50 in memory of Trenton firefighters Robert Mizopalko and Joseph Woods Jr., who died after being trapped in a burning restaurant downtown. The money will be sent to a fund that has been established to purchase signal devices for the city Fire Department that could help save other trapped firefighters.

● Hiltonia's youngsters will be treated to a Halloween party this year, the board has decided. Look for more details in the next Hilltone.

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# Neighborhood News

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Hiltonia is having itself a Baby Boomlet! Here's a hearty Hello to a few of our really new newcomers:

\*Joe and Mary LaPlaca of Buckingham are justifiably proud of little Paul, born March 29, a half hour before the beginning of Easter Sunday.

\*Leo Jablonski Jr. and his wife, Tina, of Cornwall, became the parents of Derek on July 22.

\*And on Stuyvesant, William and Sharon Young have welcomed Salena Lauren, born July 26. Her big brother is 3-year-old Billy.

Dr. Franklin Din of Kensington, a dentist in Princeton, is a volunteer speaker for the Dental Health Program Fluoridation Education Initiative, a program run by the N.J. Department of Health to explain the benefits of fluoridation. He is available to speak to groups at no charge. Call him at 924-4421.

John Connolly, son of John and Peggy Connolly of Renfrew,

plans an August wedding to Leslie Kasprzak of New Hampshire. They will be living in Philadelphia, where John is a student at the Pennsylvania College of Podiatric Medicine.

Bobbie Shelingoski of Buckingham is one of 11 students accepted into the nurse-midwifery program at the University of Medicine and Dentistry in Newark. She'll begin the 12-month program in September, and plans to practice in the Trenton area after she's certified.

Bea Scala-Fischler of Cadwalader and Norma Stern of Cornwall threw a poolside coffee and dessert party at Bea's house for Democratic Congressional candidate Jeffrey Laurenti on June 30.

Glad to hear that Joan Anderson of Kensington, chairwoman of the association's Worthy Projects committee, is back home and on the mend after a long illness.

Condolences to the family of Marie C. Graham of Cadwalader, who died July 11 at the age of 86.

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# Grads head near and far

Hiltonia's young people are moving on, up and -- in some cases -- out. Here are some of our spring and summer grads:

Loren D. Lybarger, 21, of Cornwall, received his B.A. in European history from Earlham College in Richmond, Ind. He's off to the West Bank of Jordan, where he will teach English to Palestinians for three years.

Yvette Pellettieri, 18, of Kensington, graduated from Princeton Day School. She'll be attending Alfred University in the fall.

Stephanie Flores, 18, of Renfrew, has spent part of her summer out at the University of California at Berkeley preparing for her freshman year. She graduated from Notre Dame High School.

Paul Wegner, 17, of Buckingham, graduated from the Lawrenceville School. He heads off to England next month to spend a year at the Rugby School.

Kim Topper, 17, of Buckingham, graduated from Notre Dame High School, and plans to attend Boston University this year to study theater arts.

Michael Paci, 14, of Cadwalader, graduated from the Middle School of Princeton Day

School and will start high school there in September.

Lisa Noble, 13, a Hiltonia newcomer on Kensington, graduated from St. Cassian's School in Upper Montclair.

And the Hughes Nursery School at Blessed Sacrament graduated 4-year-old Rory Connolly of Renfrew and 5-year-old Kelly Lyn Jedynak of Stuyvesant.

Dara Lewis, 5, of Cadwalader, graduated from the Trinity Cathedral Day School nursery school and will start kindergarten there next month.

Congratulations and good luck to all our grads.

## Babysitters...

Two teens answered the Hilltone's call for local youths interested in working in the neighborhood.

If you're looking for a babysitter, try 13-year-old Allison Jedynak of Stuyvesant, an eighth-grader at Blessed Sacrament who says she has experience and references. Call her at 392-8987.

Also interested in babysitting is Lisa Noble of Kensington. Lisa is also 13 and says she has experience, too. Call her at 989-1345.

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# HILTONIA REFLECTIONS

## HILTONIA REFLECTIONS

BY PAT FLORES

In 1925, Samuel Hilton began developing the area he named for himself, and advertised as "this wonderful place for a home."

On Sunday, July 13, 1986, The Trentonian carried a full-page article on page 43 about the inception of Hiltonia, naming the earliest residents and the streets where they lived.

The feature was written by Sally Lane, who is very much an historian. Going back into the archives of the Trenton Times, she reports that on Sunday, March 1, 1925, a small story at the top of a real estate page proclaimed, "Hilton To Start Large Operation," with a sub-headline: "Developer of Hiltonia Plans Dozen Houses at Cost of \$240,000."

As a complement to the newspaper story, John Vogler of Buckingham Avenue called to reminisce about the early days of Hiltonia. He consented to type up his thoughts, and kindly allowed me to share them with you. We all thank you, John, for giving us a glimpse into the past. Here is John's story:

### MOONSHINE IN HILTONIA

I grew up in the West End, about a mile from Hiltonia. By 1930, Hiltonia was semi-developed, with houses only on Cadwalader, Buckingham and Kensington, plus a few on lower Cornwall. The Depression had halted all development and most of Hiltonia consisted of streets, sidewalks and empty lots.

My father was a city sanitary inspector, and in this period he investigated a complaint of foul odors from an empty lot in Hiltonia. Much to his surprise, he found that a prohibition still in one of the homes was discharging its waste products into an adjacent empty lot.

The "Revenooers" were dispatched, and Hiltonians were wary of strangers thereafter.

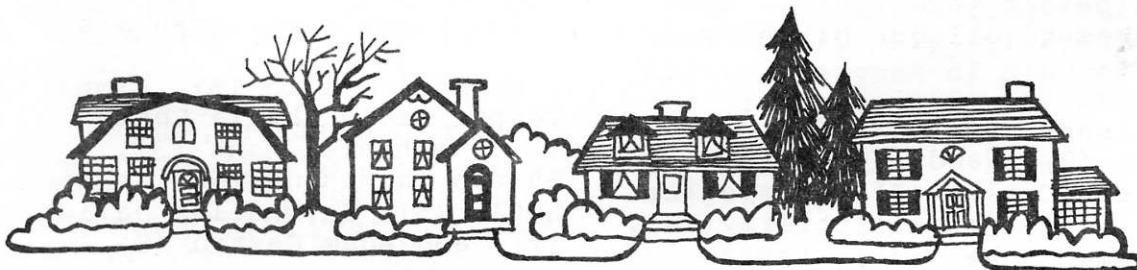
When I was a teenager I often got summer jobs cutting weeds on these empty lots. I received \$2 for a 50-foot lot -- good money for those Depression days. It was hard, hot work, usually taking one morning for a 50-foot lot. I would work with scythe and sickle all morning, swim in the canal after lunch, and return after dinner to work until dark. The bushes, vines and poison ivy were tough. The few residents were so unfriendly that I had to carry my own drinking water.

I never dreamed that I would one day live on "Cracker Hill," as Hiltonia was called in those days.

A note from Pat: According to John, Cracker Hill was a nickname bestowed by "locals," because when the new homeowners were through paying their mortgages and taxes, they would have only enough money left to buy crackers. It appears that in 60 years, we have come full circle.

\* \* \* \* \*

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



# Sidewalk scheme crumbles

If you've been wondering what ever happened to the sidewalk controversy of a few years ago, Civic Committee chairman Cindy Helmke might have the answer for you.

She called the city and found out that even though inspectors have in the past issued citations that order residents to repair broken sidewalks and curbs, the city will not take legal action to enforce the citations.

That's bad news for the conscientious Hiltonians who

spent sizable sums to fix their sidewalks as ordered a few years back. And probably bad news for all of us who use the sidewalks and have a stake in seeing that they remain safe.

Citations or no, Hiltonia newcomers might be interested to learn that, just as it is your legal responsibility to clear sidewalks in front of your property of snow, it's also your legal responsibility to repair broken curbs and sidewalks.



July was one of the most popular of birthday months for Hiltonia's youngsters. Best wishes to all our birthday kids:

Michael Paci (14), Horace Cobb (9), Randi Kyte (13), Eileen Conlon (3), Tom Vogler (17), Yvette Pellettieri (18), Jeremy Knobel (2), Steven Flores (15), Stephanie Schragger (15), Allison Jedynak (13), Kelly Jedynak (5), Nicole Priest (11),

Elizabeth Frontiero (5), and Rachel Marie Frontiero (1).

Happy August birthdays to:

Sean O'Connor (17), Amy Kyte (10), Seamus Doyle (8), Kathleen Doyle (8), Tahin Johnson (3), William Frontiero (9), and Beth Walton (13).

September's children are:

Michael Grillo (5), Kimberly Topper (18), Sheila Conlon (2), Nathaniel Monk (3), Sharon Thompson (16), Jessica Noble (5), Seychelles Jalloh (7), and Adam Castro (8).

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



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# Fall walks will star park

The Friends of Cadwalader Park are planning a series of early Saturday morning walks this fall. You can join them for an hour of walking, talking and breakfast snacks. Look for more details in an upcoming newsletter.

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The Friends have spent \$4,000 on tree maintenance in the park since 1983. All of the money came from dues and donations by people interested in preserving this historic bit of greenery.

\* \* \* \* \*

Catherine Paci and Ken Kyte met with Mayor Arthur Holland and the city's public works director and head of park maintenance to discuss increased enforcement of city ordinances in the park. The ordinances are posted in English and Spanish at each entrance.

\* \* \* \* \*

To keep all three ponds along Cadwalader Drive flowing and to prevent stagnation, stench and death of animals, the city agreed to turn on the water at the head of the upper pond and to repair a terra



cotta drain in the deer paddock pond.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Young Friends of Cadwalader Park planted marigolds near the Roebling Statue, succeeding the tulips planted last spring by other Friends. It sure was nice to see so many Hiltonia children in a picture in the Trenton Times taken at the time of the marigold planting.

## A CALL FOR HELP

The Hiltonia Association has sent a letter to the city complaining about disorderly conduct in the park and seeking enforcement of park rules.

The Board voted to send the letter after member Bill Anderson displayed an envelope full of drug paraphernalia he found at the park one day.

**Free!**

Cadwalader Park will host three more free concerts this summer. Each runs from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Bring a chair. Mon., Sept. 1: Adonis

Sun., Aug. 17: Gale Jackson

Sun., Aug. 24: Sand Storm

Mon., Sept. 1: Adonis

## SAFE HOUSES



### for our kids

Has your son ever felt he was being followed by a stranger? Has your daughter ever forgotten her key?

In the hope that Hiltonia can provide our children with temporary havens when these small emergencies occur, we are attempting to organize a "Safe House" program.

Volunteers would agree to open their homes to children who need to wait a few minutes for a parent, make a phone call, or whatever. This is not a babysitting service, and no one should expect to make use of it on a regular basis. What we hope to provide is an extra measure of security for parents on those days when regular arrangements break down or unusual circumstances occur.

A few Hiltonians have already agreed to provide "Safe Houses," but in our large neighborhood we need many more to make the program work. If you would be willing to volunteer, please call Alison Cumming at 394-7754 or Janet Doyle at 695-2371. Look for more on this in the next Hilltone.

## NEXT MEETING SET FOR SEPT. 16

The next general meeting of the Hiltonia Association will be held Tuesday, Sept. 16, at 217 Cornwall.

A discussion on the current controversy over the siting of an incinerator on Duck Island is tentatively scheduled. Look for a flyer with more info in a few weeks.

## Classified

FREE TO GOOD HOME: Preferably with no children, two adult female cats, one longhaired, one short. Call Michele Guhl at 695-5528.

\* \* \* \* \*

NEEDED: Part-time clerk typist to do daytime office work for Lee Lybarger at 129 Cornwall. Call 396-1099.

\* \* \* \* \*

LOOKING FOR an Avon Lady? Try Norma Stern, 217 Cornwall, 396-3361.

# No rest for the wicked...

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You might have taken a vacation this summer, but city tax officials sure didn't.

First, of course, they were busy as bees sending out those new tax bills: \$14.68 per \$100 of assessed value. Ouch.

But they didn't stop there. The dread Data Collectors have arrived in Hiltonia! Armed with tape measures and insatiable curiosity about your home, these foot soldiers in the Great Revaluation are knocking on doors, scouring our basements, and ferreting out improvements.

Don't worry that you might miss them: If you do, you'll find a post card inviting you to arrange an appointment.

Most of us who attended the May Hiltonia Association meeting on revaluation left feeling less informed and more angry than when we arrived. If you were among them, you might be interested to know that the association sent a letter complaining about the non-appearances of Tax Assessor Joseph Kucinski and Revaluation leader Michael Carrafiello, and the failure of their stand-ins to provide much information.

Appended to our letter was a list of questions that weren't answered to our satisfaction. Those questions -- concerning the qualifications of the revaluation firm and the procedures it will follow -- have now been answered after a fashion by Mr. Carrafiello. If you'd like to see those answers or a copy of the form the data collectors will be using, call Bea Scala-Fischler at 599-9520.

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## COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

The Community Family Program of the Greater Trenton Community Health Center is looking for families in Mercer County to provide children in crisis with a temporary home.

Unlike foster programs, children stay in the homes for a maximum of 30 days and frequently less. Families receive a retainer of \$100 a month plus \$17 for each day the child stays. Community families receive orientation and training.

If you have space and love to share, call the Community Family Program at 394-6229.

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The Trenton Free Public Library wants you to know that the main library at 120 Academy Street has a large collection of magazines, books, pamphlets and pictures for residents interested in stylistically authentic home restoration.

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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.