



Monthly News & Updates

November 1, 2023 | 005

City Hall will be closed Nov. 10 in observance of Veterans Day



Photo by STEVEN GRABLE/Lincoln Park one early fall morning.

Philadelphia Ave. to undergo 'refresh'

Veterans Day service to be held at Legion Hall





Business owners on Philadelphia Avenue attended a meeting at City Hall Wednesday, Oct. 18 to learn about grants being offered by the Egg Harbor City Neighborhood Preservation Program to “refresh” the look of the downtown business district.

Property owners learned they are eligible to receive up to \$5,000 to upgrade their storefronts, which the NPP program hopes will revitalize the avenue and attract more businesses to lease vacant storefronts.

Commercial property owners and business owners operating on Philadelphia Avenue met with NPP Coordinator Karen Adams and design consultant Cindy Williams, who provided a preview of grant requirements and façade improvements, including pressure washing, painting with a suggested color scheme, awnings, blade signage, window and door upgrades and more.

Adams distributed applications and explained that businesses on the 100- to 300-blocks will be eligible to participate in the NPP’s first round of funding this year. The grants will be extended to properties in other blocks in 2024 and 2025. Grants will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis each year.

Carmen DeFeo, owner of Al's Luncheonette on the 400-block said he would participate in the program when his block is eligible.

"I'm very excited about this program," he said during the meeting. "I will definitely participate when it's my turn."

Business owners who agree to participate will have a private consultation with Williams to

The Rudolph Elmer American Legion Post 158 and its Auxiliary Unit, Richard McAnney VFW Post 5341 and the City of Egg Harbor will host their annual Veterans Day program 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 11 at the Legion hall, 527 Philadelphia Ave.

The brief but meaningful service will be held outdoors. Bring your own chair. In the event of rain, the event will be held in the Post home.

The event includes performances by the Cedar Creek High School Marching Band under the direction of Valerie Adams.

An open house with refreshments will be held following the service.

Rotary announces poster contest, parade winners



The Mays Landing-Egg Harbor City Rotary Club held its annual Halloween Parade Friday, Oct. 27.

Trophies were awarded to the winners in five costume categories and for parade route performances.

Costume Winners:
5 & Under

1st place – EJ Cruz, Minion

develop a plan for their property.

Some properties may only need new signage, others may need painting or new doors, Williams said.

The EHC NPP is funded through a five-year grant awarded to the city by the NJ Neighborhood Preservation Program in 2022. The city receives \$125,000 a year to fund improvements and programs in the NPP District and is required to provide a \$25,000 cash match.

The district includes both sides of Philadelphia Avenue and the west side of Cincinnati Avenue from the pike to Duerer Street, and the east side of the 100-block of Liverpool Avenue.

Other improvements being undertaken by the NPP include establishing a pocket park called Archway Greene at the old Ed and Rick's site next to Crossroads, and upgrading "First Responder Park" on the corner of Philadelphia Avenue and the White Horse Pike to include new landscaping, a stainless steel center of place sign, and a new flagpole to display the American flag along with a first responder flag.

The program also provides funding for community events, including the Food Truck Festival, Fall Family Festival and the upcoming Winter Bazaar. The program also funds security cameras, seasonal flowers for Philadelphia Avenue, and murals and art installations on vacant storefront windows.

For more information about NPP programs and events, email EHC NPP Coordinator Karen Adams at eggharborcityedc@gmail.com.



Fall Leaf Collection continues

2nd place – Jayce Mattia, Little Duck

3rd place – Emmanuel Martines, Batman 6-14

1st place – Maryssa Figueroa, Wednesday Addams

2nd place – Scarlet & Cecilia Canton, Voodoo Doll & Creepy Clown

3rd place – Molly Geisen, Phaedra 15 & Over

1st place – Kate Harry

2nd place – Tammie Vitullo Group

1st place – The Coven, Lisa Ruiz

2nd place – Snow White & the 7 Dorks, Leila Heist Push/Pull Small Floats

1st place – Mahalina Cantona

2nd place – Cameron & Owen Johnson



Parade Winners:

Performance

1st place – The Dance Forum So. Smithville

2nd place – EHC Crusaders Varsity Cheerleading

3rd place – Atlantic County 4-H Clover Cloggers & Twirly Birds

Community

1st place – Cub Scout Pack 76

2nd place – Funny Farm Rescue



The Public Works Department will continue its Fall Leaf Collection through December.

Residents are asked to place leaves in an accessible pile at the curb. Leaves may not be placed in the terrace/alley. Leaves ONLY may be piled up no sooner than the week of your pickup. No branches, grass or trash. If you bag your leaves, you can place them in the terrace/alley for collection on your regular ACUA yard waste pickup day. The last day for ACUA yardwaste curbside pickup is Nov. 29.

Please make every effort to comply with the schedule as follows:

Nov. 1 - Nov. 3 – Hamburg, Washington, Norfolk, New York, Baltimore, Antwerp, Bremen avenues

Nov. 6-10 – Side streets

Nov. 13-17 – Liverpool Avenue to Hamburg Avenue

Nov. 20-22 – Egg Harbor North

Nov. 24 - Dec. 1 – Cincinnati Avenue to St. Louis Avenue

Dec. 4-8 – Boston Avenue to Bremen Avenue

Dec. 11-15 – Arago Street to Diesterweg Street

Dec. 18-22 – Egg Harbor North

City ordinance to require proper storage of salt, de-icing materials

3rd place – Zion Lutheran Church

Commercial

1st place – Morrill Mobil Repair

2nd place – Village Taxi Old Adventure Village

3rd place – Youngs Rigging Ranch Car

Best in Parade

ADF Construction



The Rotary Club also announced the winners of the Halloween Parade Poster Contest.

Students in seventh and eighth grades at the Egg Harbor City Community School were invited to submit artwork. Winners were awarded \$25, \$20 and \$15 Wawa gift cards.

Poster Contest Winners:
Seventh Grade

1st place – Delylah Guzman

2nd place – Lennon Thurlow

3rd place – Alexandra Ebert
Eighth Grade

1st place – Katelyn McKenna

2nd place – Riley Hunter-Summers

3rd place – Khaniyah



The city has introduced a new ordinance to prevent salt and other de-icing materials from polluting the environment.

The ordinance has been mandated by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection's new MS4 requirements to prevent these materials from flowing into the stormwater system and polluting the waterways.

The new ordinance requires residents to safely store salt and other de-icing materials in a closed container to prevent precipitation from seeping out, or in a permanent structure on private property.

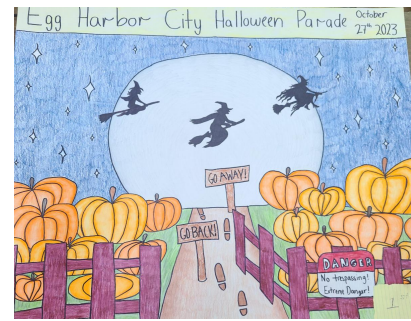
The structure must have an impermeable floor, roof and walls to protect the materials from wind and rain. Businesses using de-icing materials are required to perform weekly inspections to ensure there are no leaks.

Violations of the new ordinance can result in a fine of \$100 for the first offense, \$200 for the second offense and \$300 for subsequent offenses.

A public hearing on the ordinance is scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 9 at Egg Harbor City Hall, 500 London Ave.

4th Quarter tax payments due Nov. 1

Sommers
Honorable Mention – Tiana Nelson



If anyone did not receive their trophy, contact Rotarian and Councilwoman Kim Hesse at 609-705-2009.

PET PARENTING 101



Be careful feeding your dog Thanksgiving dinner

According to the ASPCA, Thanksgiving is not only a time for friends, family and holiday feasts, but also a time for possible distress for our animal companions.

Check out the following tips for a happy and safe Thanksgiving that your pets can enjoy, too:

- If you decide to feed your pet a small bite of turkey, make sure it's boneless and well cooked.
- Do not give your pet the leftover carcass as the bones can be problematic for the



Because City Hall will be closed on Nov. 10 in observance of Veterans Day, the grace period for fourth quarter tax payments has been extended to Nov. 13.

Fourth quarter taxes are normally due on Nov. 1, with a 10-day grace period before penalties and 18% interest accrues.

Due to the holiday, the grace period has been extended to Monday, Nov. 13.

Taxpayers can pay their taxes in person at the Tax Collector's Office or use the online tax portal to make their payments.

For access to the portal, see

<http://wipp.edmundsassoc.com/Wipp/?wippid=0107>

In addition to paying quarterly taxes, property owners are required to pay any outstanding balance on their utility account that pre-dates the sale of the utility to New Jersey American Water Company on July 1, 2023.

Tax Collector Laura Shaw recommends taxpayers not wait until the last minute to pay their taxes, which can result in paying additional penalties and interest. Shaw will be preparing the delinquent tax sale notification on Nov. 14 for public notification in the newspaper.

Any outstanding tax and utility debt will be sold as tax liens at an online auction scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 13. Avoid embarrassment and difficulties removing a tax lien by paying on time, Shaw recommends.

Questions about tax payments can be directed to Tax Collector Laura Shaw 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays at 609-965-0123 or email lauras@eggharborcity.org

**DONUTS, not VOLCANOS:
improper mulching can kill**

- digestive tract.
- While your family enjoys a special meal, give your cat and dog a small feast of their own. Offer them made-for-pets chew bones, or stuff their usual kibble with a few added tidbits of turkey and vegetables, such as sweet potato or green beans, but avoid heavy gravies and sauces.
 - Over-indulging could cause stomach upset, diarrhea or even worse – an inflammatory condition of the pancreas known as pancreatitis.
 - It's best keep pets on their regular diets during the holidays.

For foods to avoid feeding pets at any time of year, see the ASPCA website publication, **People Foods to Avoid Feeding Your Pets**

It's time to 'fall back'



Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 5.

On Saturday night, clocks are set back one hour. That means we get an extra hour of sleep and the sun will rise a little earlier.

a tree



Residents who had street trees planted in front of their homes last November are reminded that they are required to provide their newly planted tree with at least 20 gallons of water per week through the fall season.

Adding a bag of clean hardwood mulch at a depth of 2 inches around the base of the tree will keep the tender roots warm during the winter and prevent weeds and grasses from competing with the tree roots for water and nutrients.

Most importantly, keep the mulch at least 6 inches away from the tree trunk so it can breathe. Mulching too close to the stem of the tree can cause the bark to soften, can push out roots above the root flare, and cause fungus or attract insects.

Mulch 6 inches away from the trunk in a donut shape out to the drip line. NEVER pile a cone of mulch around the trunk of the tree!

Trees should not be pruned until they are at least 2 years old.

Early winter is the best time to control spotted lanternfly population

Whenever we change the clocks back or forward is a good time to ensure your home is safe:

- Replace your smoke and carbon monoxide detector batteries
- Replace outdoor lightbulbs with LEDs
- Have your furnace inspected and filter changed to ensure efficient operation
- Check your emergency kit or 'Go Bag'
- Update your list of medications
- Reset timers for outdoor lighting and security systems.

Wesleyan Church to hold Breaking Bread Coat Drive, Nov. 4



Christ's Wesleyan Church will hold a Breaking Bread and Coat Drive 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 4 in Lincoln Park on the White Horse Pike.

The event offers free sandwiches, soup, chili, chips, dessert and drinks for all. Coats, gloves, hats and assorted clothing will be available for anyone who needs them.

For more information, contact Pastor Tim Robinson at



The dreaded spotted lanternfly, an invasive species that is working its way across the country after first appearing in Berks County, Pennsylvania in 2014, lays its eggs in late September and early October, so early winter is the best time to control the population by removing egg masses from trees.

It's still warm enough in late November, early December to spend an hour or so outdoors checking for egg masses on the bark of trees, around decks and on rocks and garden ornaments.

To eliminate the proliferation of the beautiful but annoying spotted red lanternfly, crush egg masses to kill them before scraping them into a sealable plastic bag filled with a hand sanitizer and disposing the sealed bag in the trash.

Check out this brief video on how to remove egg masses effectively: <https://youtu.be/aTRr10c6weE?si=waWYmxBeAGI3Ymkd>

SustainableEHC has provided spotted lanternfly crush cards with instructions, both in English and Spanish, on the counter at the information center at Egg Harbor City Hall.

Currently, all New Jersey counties are under quarantine, which means residents should check their vehicles for spotted lanternflies before traveling in or out of the state.

The pesky bug is harmless to humans but can devour certain garden plants, fruit and hardwood trees and grapevines.

timrob331@aol.com or call 856-337-7337.

EHC Historical Society to hold holiday meeting



Egg Harbor City Historical Society will hold its annual holiday meeting 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 27 at the Roundhouse Museum, 533 London Ave.

The Cedar Creek High School Select Choir, under the direction of music teacher Jim Goodrich, will perform holiday music selections.

Seasonal refreshments will be served afterwards, including Hazel Mueller's famous Christmas stollen.

As always, the meeting is open to the public without charge.

December Newsletter Preview



Be sure to tell your friends and family members to sign



The Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), which is also a rapidly growing invasive species brought to the U.S. from China as a specimen tree in the 1700s, is the host plant for the spotted lanternfly. The Tree of Heaven, which is a highly invasive, gigantic tree found growing in yards and even through cracks in foundations and sidewalks, becomes even more aggressive when it is cut down.

According to the Penn State Extension, to effectively remove a Tree of Heaven, it should be chemically treated in summer to kill the tree before it is removed, or the roots will send out new shoots.

One of the best ways to control the proliferation of the invasive tree, it's best to remove sprouts when they first appear by digging them out before the taproot develops.

For more information about Tree of Heaven and how to control it, see <http://extension.psu.edu/tree-of-heaven>



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Sign up at www.sustainableehc.org or www.eggharborcity.org.

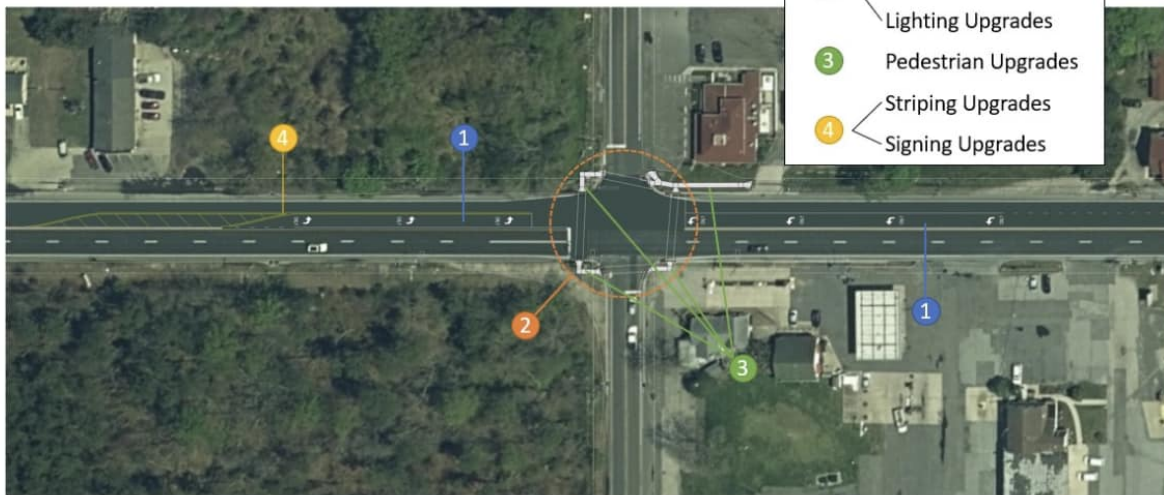
Here's a preview of stories and events that will be included in the Dec. 1 edition of the Egg Harbor City e-newsletter:

- Winter Bazaar
- Tree Lighting
- Holiday Decorating Contest
- Holiday on the Avenue Parade

Any nonprofits or community groups wishing to have their event published here is encouraged to send all pertinent information (who, what, where, when and why) and a photo, if available, to sustainableehc@eggharborcity.org well in advance of the newsletter deadline (1st of the month).

Road construction starts at dangerous Galloway Twp. intersection

Proposed Plan



Motorists traveling Route 30 in Galloway Township will experience lane and shoulder closures in both directions this week as intersection improvements start at Route 30 and Cologne Avenue (CR 614).

The improvements, which many people in the Egg Harbor City/Germania area believe are much needed at the dangerous intersection, are being funded with a \$4.1 million allotment of funds reserved for road improvements in five South Jersey towns.

From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, Nov. 1-3, the right lane on Rt. 30 will be closed in one direction at a time to accommodate the installation of traffic signal poles.

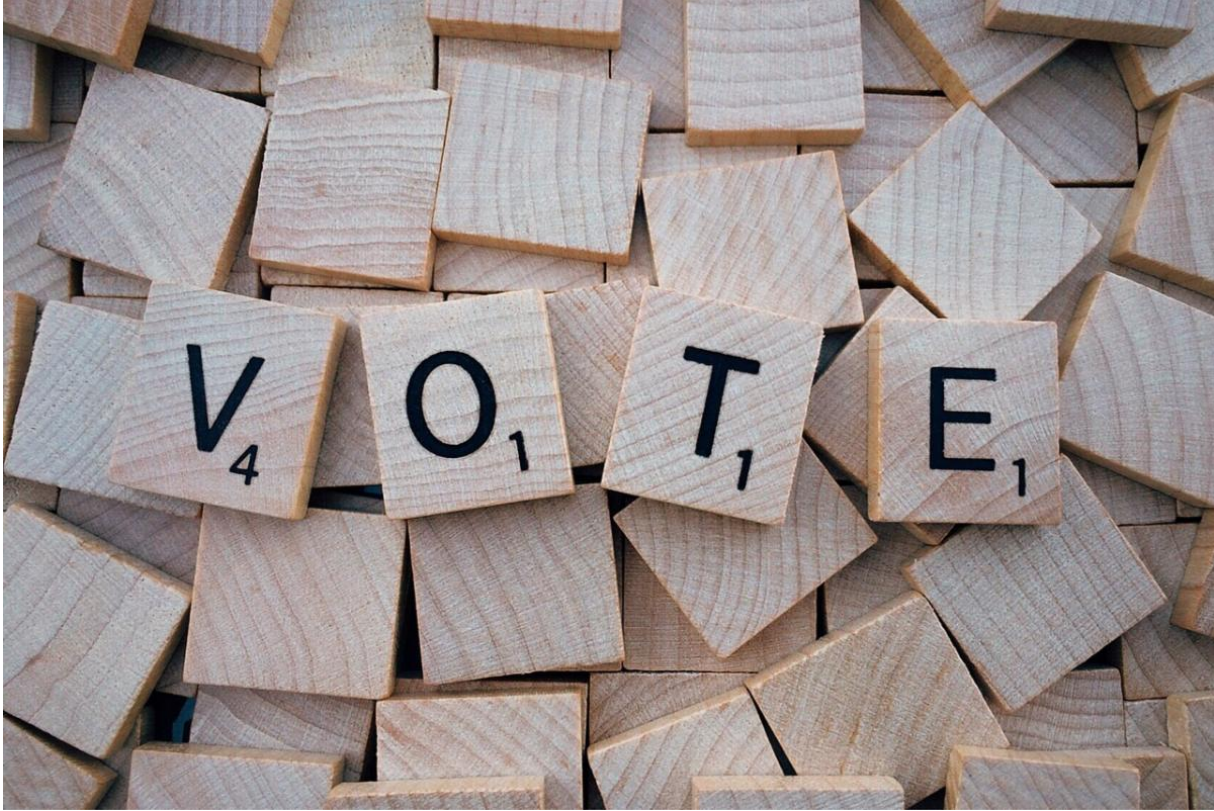
Planned improvements call for the reconfiguration of the roadway to establish a left turn lane from Rt. 30 onto Cologne Avenue. New traffic signals will control the intersection.

After the left-turn lanes are designated, Rt. 30 eastbound will be restriped to three lanes at the intersection: one lane will be for left turns only, and the other two lanes will take motorists straight through the intersection. The westbound side will have two lanes, with one for left-hand turns and the other straight through. The corners will be improved to have ADA-compliant curb ramps, pedestrian push buttons and countdown crossing signals.

The work is subject to weather conditions.

For information and updates, see www.511nj.org. Real time travel information is available at the NJ DOT Facebook page and on X.

Three seats on City Council up for grabs on Nov. 7



Residents will cast ballots 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 7 for State Senate and Assembly, Atlantic County Executive, Sheriff, Commissioner-at-large, Egg Harbor City Common Council and Board of Education.

Residents are advised that the geographic boundaries of voting districts have been changed and Egg Harbor City is no longer in the 2nd Legislative District. Along with Mullica Township and Hammonton, Egg Harbor City has been switched to the 8th Legislative District.

Candidates up for election in the 8th Legislative District are:

NJ State Senate (1 seat)

- Latham Tiver (R) of Southampton
- Gaye Burton (D)

NJ General assembly (2 seats)

- Incumbent Michael Torrisi Jr. (R) of Hammonton
- Incumbent Brandon Umba (R) of Medford
- Andrea Katz (D) of Chesterfield
- Anthony Angelozzi (D) of Hammonton

For Atlantic County government, voters will select:

Atlantic County Executive

- Incumbent Dennis Levinson (R)
- Joyce Pratt (D)

Atlantic County Sheriff

- Joe O'Donoghue (R)
- Incumbent Eric Scheffler (D)

Atlantic County Commissioner-at-large (2 seats)

- John W. Risley Jr. (R)

- Kim O'Brien (D)
- June Byrnes (R)
- Habib Rehman (D)

For Egg Harbor City voters will select:

Common Council (3 seats)

- Mattia Brown (R)
- Ryan Rodriguez (D)
- Incumbent Donna M. Heist (R)
- Incumbent Karl Timbers (D)
- Benjamin F. Risley Jr. (R)
- Incumbent Mason Wright Jr. (D)

For Egg Harbor City Board of Education (1 seat)

- James Guercioni III
- Eileen Michele DiGiacomo

Polling locations in Egg Harbor City are as follows (check your ballot for your voting location):

- Ward 1 Districts 1&3 Egg Harbor City Hall, 500 London Ave.
- Ward 1 District 2 Zion Lutheran Church, 312 Philadelphia Ave.
- Ward 2 Districts 1&2 Moravian Church, 245 Boston Ave.
- Ward 2 District 3 American Legion Post, 527 Philadelphia Ave.

Vote by mail ballots can be placed in the collection box at City Hall.

Early in person voting is available until Nov. 5 at seven locations in Atlantic County, including at the Galloway Township and Mays Landing libraries and the Hammonton Family Success Center. For a complete list of voting locations in Atlantic County, see <http://www.atlanticcountyclerk.org/elections-2/early-voting/>

For more information about voting in the Nov. 7 general election, see <http://vote.nj.gov>

STATEHOUSE NEWS

Time is ticking to get your ANCHOR property tax rebate



If you haven't already received your ANCHOR property tax rebate there's still time to register to receive up to \$1,750 from the State of New Jersey Division of Taxation.

The Affordable New Jersey Communities for Homeowners and Renters (ANCHOR) property tax relief program was approved by the governor and legislature last year to update and expand the former Homestead Benefit program and extend eligibility to renters for the first time. It also increased the threshold for eligible homeowners to qualify.

Renters are eligible to receive \$450 to \$1,500, while seniors can qualify for \$700 to \$1,750.

The state has already sent direct deposits for property tax year 2020 to 700,000 New Jersey taxpayers who filed to receive their payment by direct deposit. Those who requested reimbursement via a paper check should receive their rebate in the mail by Nov. 1.

Payments will continue to be rolled out as eligible residents apply.

The goal of the rebate program is to make living in New Jersey more affordable.

There's still time to file for the ANCHOR rebate. File an application online at www1.state.nj.us/TYTR_Saver/jsp/common/HBWelcome.jsp by Dec. 29.



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