



# THE HILLTONE

## ATV Ordinance Passes

By Dennis Wendell

As many of you may already know, the much-followed ATV ordinance (20-39) was unanimously approved by Trenton City Council on May 21. The "Off-Road Vehicle Regulations" ordinance incorporates NJ state legislation that gives law enforcement the right to seize vehicles as contraband since their use is not permitted on City streets, parks, or private property without permission of the property owner. It also sets requirements regarding the operation of these vehicles, such as the minimum age of the driver, insurance requirements, and the use of safety gear.

This ordinance was of particular interest to Hiltonians and the residents of other neighborhoods bordering Cadwalader Park and the canal path who have witnessed these illegal vehicles riding up and down our neighborhood streets with impunity. We've also seen the damage these vehicles have caused in Cadwalader Park, where their use has torn up grassy areas and endangered park visitors.

After a similar ordinance failed last year, At-large Councilman Jerell Blakely and East Ward Councilman Joseph Harrison worked closely with Police Director Sheilah Coley and brought the new ordinance to Council in early May. It was great to see the turnout from Hiltonians at the Council meetings, special thanks go out to those who spoke in support of the ordinance and shared stories of the negative impact of these vehicles on the neighborhood and Trenton as a whole.

The full text of the ordinance can be found here: <https://ecode360.com/documents/TR0722/public/545698053.pdf>

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## Second Quarter Tax Bill

By Linda Reid

They're coming - someday.

So the City Council finally voted on the budget and passed it 6 to 1. In checking with the Trenton Tax Collector's office to see if that means the bills are on the way, I was told no, not yet, and we still don't know when.

So don't spend that money that we all thought in the old days was due on May 1, because although we still don't know when it will be due, you can be pretty sure that the August 1st bill will come AND be due on time.

That means we will all get to pay 2 quarterly bills within weeks of each other instead of being able to spread the pain over 3 months.

To access the links in this newsletter go to our Association website.

You can download this newsletter at: <http://hiltoniaassociation.org/the-hilltones-1998-thru-2020/>



## Co-Presidents' Message

By Dennis Wendell & Terri O'Prey



Life has changed in many ways since the March issue of this newsletter. Its publication coincided with the acknowledgment that we were facing a global pandemic and that social distancing and efforts to flatten the curve would become our new normal. To that end, the March issue was published only in digital format. With conditions mostly unchanged since then, we made the difficult decision to forgo hard-copy distribution of the June issue as well. This choice aligns with the goal of limiting exposure and risk—to our editor/publisher, to the foot patrol, and to our readers—and we fully expect to resume print production when it makes good sense to do so.

Another obstacle to future print production is membership dues to support the cost. Our 2020 membership level is well below average from previous years, and understandably so. During the COVID-19 crisis our personal priorities must take precedence over all else. We hope it becomes possible to bolster the rolls with membership drive activities to help close out the year with robust membership numbers. If you do wish to and are able now to join or renew your membership, visit the membership page of our site for details and a [2020 form](#). And if you have questions about membership, please contact Dr. Donnie Johnson ([DRJOHNSON821@gmail.com](mailto:DRJOHNSON821@gmail.com)).

While it seems as though overnight the world shifted, it didn't take long to settle into new routines and accept new realities. It's been normal to use Zoom and similar products in the office, but it's been a major shift to do the same for activities like City Council meetings and our neighborhood book club. The upside is that we are able to achieve some level of normalcy during this turbulent time. Venturing into the real world requires different types of planning and preparation, but even those changes by now seem almost second nature. Our next membership meeting certainly will be held under conditions that differ from previous meetings. But we are willing and eager to meet the challenges of our shared future in Hiltonia.

There have been bright spots during these uncertain times, including the Bukosky family driving the Easter bunny through the neighborhood and Pat Flores's creative, witty, and inspiring daily dispatches from her walks through our streets. And early on Michael Fischler likened the increase in foot traffic on our sidewalks to the Spanish tradition of *paseo*, leisurely strolls around town after work. We're all seeing more of Hiltonia's streets, homes, and residents, as we venture out for regular exercise, and nodding or waving as we cross socially distant paths, strengthens our connection to each other and our shared space in the world. Even if you're not able to be out and about, taking some time to people-watch and wave to fellow Hiltonians passing by can lift spirits on both sides.

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## Porchfest Trenton 2020 is Postponed

Porchfest Trenton 2020 unfortunately had to be postponed until next spring due to the pandemic. Despite our disappointment, we intend to ensure that it is even better next year.



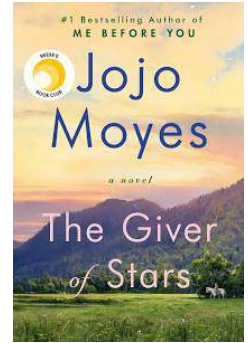
We will again be looking for Hiltonia neighbors to volunteer their porch, driveway, or front yard and host a musical band or performer for one-hour intervals. We will also need lots of volunteers prior to and during the event. For more information, check in frequently to our Porchfest website at [www.porchfesttrenton.com](http://www.porchfesttrenton.com). We'll let you know when the volunteer forms become active again.



## Hiltonia Book Club: *The Giver of Stars*, by Jojo Moyes

By Terri O'Prey

Hiltonia readers met at the Tewari residence on March 1 to discuss Moyes's sweeping tale of Kentucky pack horse librarians. We were thrilled to welcome Don Maier, who joined us for the first time. Our menu was inspired by the novel's geographical setting, and we feasted on bourbon/maple chicken wings, fried chicken, smothered pork chops, baked beans, angel biscuits, kale salad, samosas, salad, pound cake, and assorted beverages. As usual, the atmosphere was lively and collegial, with a touch of uncertainty thrown in as we discussed suddenly canceled travel plans and the looming pandemic before settling into book talk.



Inspired by a real group of librarians who on horseback delivered books to remote readers, the book offered plenty of discussion points. The WPA aspect of the library program was an interesting topic, as were gender norms of the time and place, race relations, and corporate greed versus worker rights and community well-being. All in all, we agreed that this was a good read, albeit with a somewhat neatly wrapped up ending. And, unfortunately, we could not close our discussion without acknowledging that even with progress over the past eighty years, many of the same issues remain part of our modern world.

Next up, *American Dirt*, by Jeanine Cummins, July 12, at 5 PM. Want to join the fun? Please contact Maris Williams ([maris.w@comcast.net](mailto:maris.w@comcast.net)). The meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held in cyberspace, via Zoom.



- We are in need of speakers for our general meetings. If you have any suggestions, if there is someone from whom you want to hear, please contact either Terri or Dennis to suggest someone.
- National Night Out in August has been postponed until October 6th. Watch for more details.
- We are in need of a host for the September 9th Association meeting. Please reach out to Georgia Wallar if you are willing to host (see page 6 for all contact information).
- Becky Taylor wants you to know there will be another cleanup at Cadwalader Park in the future. They are on temporary hold until the all clear is given.
- City Council meetings are now virtual. See the "Calendar of Events" section for details.
- Porchfest Trenton 2020 in June has been postponed until June 2021. Watch for more details.
- June Guerrero is our "Welcome Wagon" greeter. If you have new neighbors who have bought or rented a home in Hiltonia (within the last year), would you please share their contact information with us so we can meet and greet them? [hiltonia.association.president@gmail.com](mailto:hiltonia.association.president@gmail.com)
- You can be notified in the event of emergency situations or critical community alerts via the City's Emergency Broadcast System. Go to <https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/en-US/6211EDDC238F> and fill out the form. It's that easy.



## What Are You Doing During the Quarantine?

*We asked you to tell us your experiences during this unusual time. Here's what you said!*

Who hasn't felt panicked about the scarcity of toilet paper at some time during the past two months? I'd been due to stock up on this product—something I'd never obsessed over and purchased a few times a year without much thought—in mid-March, just in time for empty shelves and online hysteria over the crippled supply chain. Driving all over the place to scour stores was



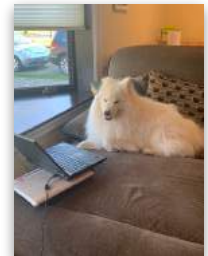
not an appealing option, so I turned to the web to source some Scott. I have to grin when I remember those optimistic and naive keystrokes that left me out of luck everywhere in cyberspace. For days after, my newsfeed was chock full of articles about bidets and the nationwide shortage of paper products. The situation was perfect water cooler talk, of course, and a wise colleague pointed me to office supplier W.B. Mason. The site was out of stock of known brands, but one product seemed a good substitute for Scott. And it was in stock. But it came only in a 96-roll bundle. It was no small investment, and with most of the country trawling the web

for toilet paper, I was convinced there was no time to lose. And I was ready to move on from this quest. Typing swiftly through checkout, I looked forward to the end of my obsession over sourcing toilet paper. And, lo and behold, the bounty arrived a few days later. Is it top quality? No. Does it fill a need? Yes. And do I have a stash if you find yourself without? Yes! . . . Terri O'Prey

I think I am on my 10<sup>th</sup> loaf of sourdough. Here is one of the better looking loaves! . . . Marc Leckington



Gabby, Xena, and Luna love having us home. We have all put on Covid weight due to increased TV watching and boredom-eating during the rainy April month. Mark and I are working from home off of our dining room table and are blessed to be working when so many aren't. But we have used the time to be productive and painted the living room and hallways. We are almost done sanding, priming, and painting our front and back wood beams which have long been ignored. We haven't had issues finding supplies, but it is now June and I still can't find a bike. Biggest lesson learned, God is in control. . . . Jessica Baer



A "frightening" quarantine moment: When my daughter came home with a twenty-five-pound bag of flour and said she wanted to bake some cookies! I stay sane during the quarantine the same way I did before the quarantine and **I plan to continue when it's over... I go for a walk!** . . . Lois Krause

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### Email Distribution & Opting-Out of the Printed Newsletter

We are trying to improve communication within the neighborhood, so we have created a new co-presidents' email list. If you are currently not receiving any neighborhood news via email, and you would like to, please send your email to [hiltonia.association.president@gmail.com](mailto:hiltonia.association.president@gmail.com) and we will add you to the list. Our co-presidents will keep you informed of neighborhood news and happenings.

We would also like you to consider "**opting-out**" of the printed form of *The Hilltone*. Please send a note from your preferred email to [kathi325@gmail.com](mailto:kathi325@gmail.com) with your name, address, and phone with your wishes (email only or print only). **We will continue to distribute it in printed format if you so choose**, but we will need your name and address to compile a list of print recipients. Thanks!





## Quarantine Experiences

(continued from page 4)

I miss going to lunch with my retired teacher friends. I miss my group of senior friends from the NAC Newtown Athletic water aerobics club. I miss doing my own grocery shopping. But I also like having my groceries delivered within two hours from Wegmans. The catch there is they don't deliver to our area code so I meet the delivery person in my sister's driveway in Ewing. My French Bulldog sees this as an opportunity to control me and make me play games with him all day! I don't think any of the above is interesting but it is different. I learned how to Zoom! Above all I miss my freedom! . . . Annette Schroth

Stayed home more, of course; used less than 1/2 tank of gas in 10 weeks. Usually I would go out somewhere almost every day. I was inconvenienced but nothing else, so one of the lucky ones. Concern for all the people who don't have it as easy as I do and for all the first responders. Did hear about 2 people who had the virus but didn't know them directly. Missed everybody - no meetings, lunches, dinners, concerts; Zoom is fun but not the same. Read a lot of books. My closets and cabinets are more orderly but I haven't felt like tackling the attic. Spent a lot of time in the yard when it got warmer, potting flowers, trimming bushes, etc. Basic cooking hasn't changed but I did bake bread successfully!!!! and tried Blue Apron dinners. . . . Georgia Wallar

## Membership Information

If you are not sure of your membership status for 2020, please contact our Membership Chairperson, Dr. Donnie Johnson, at [DRJOHNSON821@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DRJOHNSON821@GMAIL.COM) (609-943-2895).

Dues are payable for the 2020 year. Membership forms for 2020 can be downloaded at <http://hiltoniaassociation.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2019/09/2020.Membership.pdf>



....to all the neighbors who provided content for this issue !! We were able to provide a more robust issue due to your submissions and because we didn't have to pay for printing costs!

....and to our **EXTREMELY AWESOME** proofreader, Terri O'Prey!!!

## 2020 Hiltonia Association Officers

**Co-Presidents:** Dennis Wendell & Terri O'Prey, 7 Renfrew Ave. (732-996-6370; 732-996-6369)

**1st Vice President:** Jeannie Weakliem, 12 Hilvista Blvd. (609-577-7148)

**2nd Vice President:** Ali Wilson, 111 Kensington Ave. (609-331-5122)

**Treasurer:** Barry Giordano, 123 Renfrew Ave. (609-575-8705)

**Recording Secretary:** Melinda Chance, 7 Cadwalader Dr. (609-393-2715)

**Corresponding Secretary:** Michael Nalbene, 10 Buckingham Ave. (609-468-2436)

**Immediate Past-President:** Lily Knezevich, 207 Renfrew Ave. (215-534-7739)

## 2020 Chairpersons

**Adult's Social:** Lori Emmerson, 8 Kensington Ave. (908-256-4816)

**Children's Social:** Kathleen Coughlin, 205 Kensington Ave. (856-397-3799)

**Civic Committee:** Paulette Ayres, 8 Renfrew Ave. (609-695-4656), and Jeannie Weakliem, 12 Hilvista Blvd. (609-577-7148)

**Communications:** Kathi Eckert, 40 Glenwood Ave. (609-731-1705)

**Hospitality:** Georgia Wallar, 2 Buckingham Ave. (609-695-8711)

**Membership:** Dr. Donnie R. Johnson, 1502 Stuyvesant Ave. (609-943-2895)

**Nominations Committee:** Linda Reid, 212 Renfrew Ave. (609-394-2314)

**Park Projects:** Becky Taylor, 123 Cadwalader Dr. (609-240-6886)

**Porchfest:** Jeannie Weakliem, 12 Hilvista Blvd. (609-577-7148)

**Publicity Committee:** Linda Reid, 212 Renfrew Ave. (609-394-2314)

**Welcome Wagon:** June Guerrero, 201 Buckingham Ave. (732-673-0374)

**Worthy Projects:** Maureen & Jacques Lebel, 25 Cornwall Ave. (609-218-5124)



## Beekeepers Among Us

Did you know that we have beekeepers among us in this tiny hamlet we call Hiltonia? Michelle and Marc Leckington are busy tending their hives and have produced honey which they are happy to offer for sale.

A lot of people say that local honey helps them with allergies. And I



don't think you can get more local than this! Fun fact, they are not the only beekeepers in Hiltonia!



Honey is available for contactless delivery to people's homes. It's \$8.00 per pound. They will package it in any combination of

1, 1½ and 3 pound Mason jars. Payments

can be accepted via Paypal or Venmo. If you are interested in purchasing their honey, [email Marc directly](mailto:marc@hiltoniaassociation.org).

## Free Corona Virus Signs

Capitol Copy Service, who has printed our recent issues of *The Hilltone* prior to this pandemic, recently launched a new line of Coronavirus signs for workplaces to promote safety protocols and comply with new COVID-19 legislation.

As a part of this initiative, Capitol Copy Service is making all of its Coronavirus sign and COVID-19 poster art files **FREE TO DOWNLOAD** for print and distribution. Click on the links below the posters for the downloadable files.

They will gladly **PRINT** any of the posters for the **special sale price of \$1.00** (8.5"x11") and can also make any custom posters you may need. Feel free to contact them 24 hours a day by email: [Design@Capitol-Copy.com](mailto:Design@Capitol-Copy.com) or call: 609-989-8776. They are located at 116 West State Street diagonally across from the State House.



[Keep Calm and Maintain Social Distancing](#)    [STOP - Wash Your Hands](#)

[Thank You for Social Distancing](#)    [Take Out Only](#)

[We Will Beat This Together](#)    [Wash Your Hands - Prevent the Spread](#)

## Calendar of Events

*(all to be confirmed as local restrictions on gatherings change):*

**June 15<sup>th</sup>:** Hiltonia Association will hold a virtual special membership meeting at 7:00 PM. To join the Zoom meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87263642162?pwd=bnJGYytDT2ZCd29PLyszY0ovU3crUT09>. (Password 150816).

Trenton Council of Civic Associations (TCCA) meeting, 7 PM, Thomas Edison State College, 111 West State Street (usually 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month): **TBD**

Citizens Police Advisory Council (CPAC), usually 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month from 6-7 PM at the Hermitage Police Substation (Hermitage & Artisan Aves.): **TBD**

City Council Conference Sessions: **June 16<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>, May 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>:** City Council Public Meeting; City Hall **June 18<sup>th</sup> & July 2<sup>nd</sup>**; 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month at 5:30 PM. Held virtually until further notice:

- **The public will be able to participate by [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#) +1 609-453-2732 Conference ID: 173 579 920#**
- **Members of the public are asked to MUTE their phones or microphones so as to not disturb the proceedings. Members of the public will be able to comment at the specified time during the meeting.**

**August 7<sup>th</sup> :** First Friday Flamingo Social, TBA (**Would you like to host this one?**)

**September 4<sup>th</sup>:** First Friday Flamingo Social, TBA (**Would you like to host this one?**)

**September 9<sup>th</sup> :** Wednesday, General Association Meeting, 6:30 PM, **TBA**

**September 19<sup>th</sup> :** Household Hazardous Waste and Electronics Recycling, 8 AM to 2 PM; Dempster Fire Training School, 350 Lawrence Station Road, Lawrenceville.

**October 6<sup>th</sup>:** National Night Out 2020

*Note: Some of these events may be postponed. Please watch local news and emails for updates.*





## THE QUARANTINE CHRONICLES: A Pandemic Walk-About

By Patricia Flores

Buddhas, bird feeders, benches, and blossoms! These have all been discovered during daily walks through our hamlet. Walking with mindfulness has brought me to really see what is here, well beyond a cursory look. I have observed all phases of trees and shrubs as they developed buds, bloomed, dropped their blossoms, and now are in full green leaf.



A quote from Ralph Waldo Emerson puts it in perspective: "Adopt the pace of Nature. Her secret is patience." The air is fresher, the sky is bluer, and I'm taking photos to document all the wonderment. One day I concentrated on the clouds . . . recalling how we

used to lay on our backs, as kids, and find shapes the clouds have made.

Another day I was overwhelmed by the art form of shadows, and I took several intriguing photos. The trees in Hiltonia are tall, stately and magnificent, even so with those downed by Hurricane Sandy along Hilvista Boulevard. As they fell they created a myriad of shapes, each shape enhanced by your vivid imagination.



Bird feeders! Have we got bird feeders! Buddhas! Have we got buddhas! They, too, are in abundance. There are also many other yard decorations. As I walk, I wonder what each lovely object is intended to represent. One small Asian statuette I fantasized to be Cho-Cho-San from Puccini's opera Madame Butterfly. Other charmers reminded me of Tolkien: Bilbo Baggins, the Hobbit. I spotted Smaug, the dragon. Then there was Gollum, hanging out on someone's front steps! Oh yes, creativity working overtime.



So I am reinventing myself. Where have I been all my life? As I get out there each day on my walk, I wonder where my mind will wander. So far it has not failed to lead me to a new theme and new subject matter.

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## THE QUARANTINE CHRONICLES: A Pandemic Walk-About

(continued from page 7)

By Patricia Flores

Several people have suggested that my photos of Hiltonia, and the fact that they document our lockdown and record the daily unfolding of spring 2020, should be recorded into a book. My storytelling group agrees and they are assisting me.

We hope to sell the book, and after printing costs are recovered, we shall donate ALL profits to two local food banks, which two are yet to be determined. WE ARE NOT DOING THIS FOR PERSONAL GAIN.

But here is where I need your help. If I have used a photo of something in your yard, I will be reaching out to you for a signed permission to print that picture in the book. For the most part I believe this can be done online. If we don't have an email for you I'll get a paper copy to your address for your signature.

I live at 122 Renfrew and am the steward of Donna's Little Free Library. I plan to put a small box in the library where you will be encouraged to drop off the signed form. Making it easy, you won't even have to walk up to my mailbox.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation. I have been dubbed the "Friendly Bipedal Primate," The Rogue of Renfrew. Now you know my alter ego.

### Welcome to Our Newest Hiltonians!

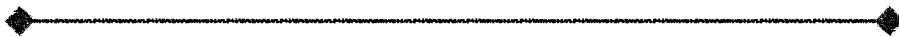


Mark, Angie and John Ratliff moved into 117 Buckingham Avenue in mid-April. Angie has long loved Hiltonia and with the help of friends Andrea Lehman and Andy Rowan, she, Mark and John were able to find the perfect home.

Mark and Angie both work for Princeton University: Mark as a Senior IT Architect with the Office of Information Technology and Angie works with Woodrow Wilson School as a Graduate Admissions Assistant. Their son John is a sophomore at Haverford College in Haverford, PA.

Mark and Angie love to entertain, camp in their 1964 Bambi II Airstream and bake. While on campus, John is a math major and sings in an a capella group.

Currently you will find Mark and Angie walking their yellow lab, Margaret, around the neighborhood and working to make their new house feel like home. Please say hello when you see them!



Aubree and Brooklyn were born to Leroy and Nicole Green at 215 Kensington on January 3, 2020 at 10:32 & 10:33 via cesarean section at 35 weeks. They stayed in the NICU for 3 days before coming home to join their big sisters Alysha (11) and Brielle (6).

Aubree (on the left) weighed 5 lbs. 6 oz. She is very quiet, laid back and is a momma's girl. Brooklyn (on the right) weighed 5 lbs. 1oz. and is our primadonna. All attention must be on her at all times, but overall she is a very happy baby who already is a daddy's girl.







### Members in Good Standing: By Address

Just in case you were not sure whether or not you had paid your membership dues for 2020, here is a chart to jiggle your memory. We have listed our paid members by their street address. The (2) indicates there are two paid members at that address.

If you have not yet sent in your dues, please download a membership form here, and mail it or drop it off to Donnie Johnson, Dennis Wendell & Terri O’Prey, or Barry Giordano. Their addresses are found on the sidebar on page 5. Membership forms for 2020 can be downloaded at <http://hiltoniaassociation.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2019/09/2020.Membership.pdf>

<b>BUCKINGHAM:</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10 (2)</b>	<b>102 (2)</b>	<b>108 (2)</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>201 (2)</b>
<b>CADWALADER:</b>	<b>3 (2)</b>	<b>15 (2)</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>123 (2)</b>		
<b>CORNWALL:</b>	<b>11 (2)</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>25 (2)</b>			
<b>GLENWOOD:</b>	<b>40</b>					
<b>HILVISTA:</b>	<b>44 (2)</b>					
<b>KENSINGTON:</b>	<b>109 (2)</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>205 (2)</b>			
<b>RENFREW:</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7 (2)</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>109 (2)</b>	<b>123 (2)</b> <b>212</b>
<b>STUYVESANT:</b>	<b>1404</b>	<b>1445</b>	<b>1502</b>			

### Notes from the Zoom Meeting with Mayor Gusciora

By Terri O’Prey

Around a dozen Hiltonians joined a Zoom call arranged by the Mayor’s Office on Thursday, June 11, at 5:30 PM. Dennis kicked off the meeting by introducing the Mayor, who then provided updates on current Covid-19 statistics and City reopening plans. Mayor Gusciora then responded to questions we’d submitted in advance and took additional questions from attendees.

#### UPDATES

**Covid-19** (for up-to-date statistics go to <https://trenton-covid-19-response-trenton-fire.hub.arcgis.com>)

- Cases are slowing (6 positive tests on the day we met).
- ~3,600 total cases (29 people hospitalized, 21 recovering at home, 10 healthcare workers).
- Testing has slowed, so the County is winding down its managed testing sites. Trenton plans to keep the ward walkup sites open, under reduced hours.
  - West Ward, Thursdays, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 801 W. State Street
- Testing is by appointment only. There is no charge for testing at any Mercer County-run site. You must have a physician’s order to be tested.
  - Don’t have a physician? Call Henry J. Austin Health Center at 609-278-5900 to see if you need testing. They can help you to talk with a doctor by phone or video.
- For more info in testing, visit: <https://www.trentonnj.org/636/Testing>.
- The City has distributed more than 150,000 free single-use face masks.
- 70% of the City’s personal protective equipment (PPE) was donated by outside groups.



## Curfew

- Emergency curfew has been lifted, but the customary summer curfew (June 11 to September 1—9:59 PM to 6:00 AM—juveniles under the age of 18 must be indoors overseen by a parent or legal guardian and off City streets and roadways by 10 PM) remains in place.
- The emergency curfew was put in place not because of Covid-19, but because of increased crime.

## Reopening

- June 15, outdoor dining will be allowed. Parklets are one way to make that possible for small restaurants. So far 15 restaurants have applied to have them built and installed. City is raising money to fund them. Stay tuned for updates on timeline and volunteer opportunities.
- Block grant funding being used for small business relief (low-interest loans).
- Trenton Central High School graduation being planned for Thunder stadium.
- Cadwalader Park will remain a pedestrian park for the time being (will continue to be blocked from vehicles).

## QUESTIONS FROM HILTONIANS

### 1. *Will we have any of the summer concert series this year?*

The 2020 Levitt AMP Summer Music Series has been cancelled. It's possible that pop-up events will unfold. Art All Night will be virtual. Thunder stadium is expected to remain closed.

### 2. *I am curious about the qualifications for the volunteers needed to build the "parklets" downtown. How "skilled" in carpentry does one need to be? I am interested in helping, but don't know if it is beyond my abilities.*

Special skills are not required. Fundraising is ongoing, so construction has not begun.

### 3. *Any reflections on the City's response to the Covid-19 crisis and increased violence in our city?*

We've been preparing for Covid-19 since Chinese New Year, when we had advance warning of its severity. Expansion of community policing had already been underway and continues. The City is working with civic groups and community members to try to find ways to end gang violence. A state pilot polling program via the Attorney General is in the works to improve policing in Trenton.

### 4. *What plans does the City have for contact tracing?*

There is limited contact tracing in Trenton; however, the State of New Jersey will hire at least 1,000 people to serve as contact tracers and will coordinate with local health agencies in this effort.

### 5. *How's the Census going?*

There are no known plans for sending out Census workers door to door.

### 6. *What's your assessment of recent demonstrations in our City?*

Residents are united in outrage, and the Floyd situation seems to have galvanized the entire nation. The Mayor has signed Barack Obama's mayor's pledge to reform the internal affairs complaint process. Most protests have been peaceful and productive. The looting involved some outsiders taking advantage of the situation. State police, county sheriff's officers, and TPD were out in force that day. As the crowd dwindled, police presence was reduced, and violence ensued. More protests are planned and the Mayor remains hopeful for systematic change.

### 7. *Is the City prepared for a second wave of Covid-19?*

The City is stockpiling PPE, has a proposal out for private testing, and is continuing to make plans for alternative emergency housing.

## NEIGHBORHOOD ADS

Do you have something to sell, trade, or give away? A service to provide? Email Kathi at [kathi325@gmail.com](mailto:kathi325@gmail.com) if you want to place an ad in the next issue of *The Hilltone* (free to residents of Hiltonia).