



Clerk's Office

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

Volume 8 Summer Issue 2009

The Clerk's Office continued making technological strides in 2008-09 with the integration of its land records management system into the county's newly established Parcelink™ — a digital, map-based website that combines a wealth of geographic and tabular knowledge into one comprehensive picture. The integrated system allows users immediate access to the Clerk's current deed and mortgage information. (See back for more about this new feature.)

In 2008, the Clerk's Office expanded its e-filing system to include the acceptance of entire electronic instruments for recordation via the Internet and the sharing of data across county and municipal lines. Back-scanning of our documents now offers customers electronic deed and mortgage records dating back to 1950 and digitized maps dating back to 1818, all of which are searchable on-site in our records room or remotely via the Internet. In addition, the Clerk's office expanded its digital records to include liens, beginning mid-November 2007 to present.

Looking ahead to June and November, this year promises to be another exciting election year, with our first-ever election of a Lieutenant Governor in November. In June, voters will elect their party's candidate choice to fill state and municipal seats in November's General Election. In this gubernatorial election year, we are pleased to be able to offer extended office hours during peak election periods in an effort to better accommodate the county's absentee voters.

As always, our goal remains to keep improving on the way we go to business, to educate the public as to what we do, and to serve our customers better and more efficiently, in a courteous and friendly manner.



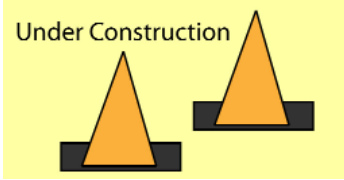

Erma Gormley, County Clerk

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County Clerk website gets a facelift

The summer of 2009 will see some changes to the County Clerk's Web site. In an effort to make our site more user-friendly and improve upon the availability and access of information, our site will undergo a major transformation in the coming months. Changes will be evident this summer. We ask for your patience while we work out any necessary "kinks" during the reconstruction phase, and we welcome any suggestions you might have on ways to further enhance our services to the public. Feel free to fax your comments to Angela @ 973-383-7493.



2009 Scheduled Elections & Campaign Report Filing Dates

Any candidate running for office (county, municipal, school or other) must file campaign finance reports with the State Division of Elections (see box below for mailing address). Further, a **complete copy** of each report also must be filed with the County Clerk. A schedule of filing dates follows:

Annual School Election — April 21, 2009

Last day to register to vote in School Elec: March 31, 2009
 29-Day pre-election March 23, 2009
 11-Day pre-election April 10, 2009
 20-Day post-election May 11, 2009

Byram Municipal Election — May 12, 2009

Last day to register to vote in Municipal Elec: April 21, 2009
 29-Day pre-election April 13, 2009
 11-Day pre-election May 1, 2009
 20-Day post-election June 1, 2009

June Primary Election — June 2, 2009

Last day to register to vote in Primary: May 12, 2009
 Deadline to change party affiliation: April 13, 2009
 29-Day pre-election May 4, 2009
 11-Day pre-election May 22, 2009
 20-Day post-election June 22, 2009

General Election — November 3, 2009

Last day to register to vote in GE: October 13, 2009
 29-Day pre-election Oct. 5, 2009
 11-Day pre-election Oct. 23, 2009
 20-Day post-election Nov. 23, 2009

MAIL CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS TO:

NJ Election Law Enforcement Commission
 P.O. Box 185
 Trenton, NJ 08625-0185
 WEB: www.elec.state.nj.us

PACs & CAMPAIGN QUARTERLY FILERS

1st qtr – April 15, 2009 3rd qtr – October 15, 2009
 2nd qtr – July 15, 2009 4th qtr – January 15, 2010

Voters to elect New Jersey’s first Lieutenant Governor in 2009

This year, on Nov. 3, 2009, when voters cast their ballot choice for governor, they also will be voting for the state’s first-ever Lieutenant Governor.

New Jersey’s Republican and Democratic gubernatorial primaries in June will determine a single winner from each party to face off in the November General Election. At that time, each party’s chosen candidate will have chosen a “running mate” to accompany him on the ballot for the position of Lieutenant Governor — something unprecedented in our state’s history.

Any Independent candidate wishing to run for governor also may join in the November General Election (with his/her running mate) so long as they filed their petition by 4 p.m. June 2, 2009.

To be eligible to vote in the June 2nd primary election, a person must:

- ◆ be a registered voter (deadline to register to vote is 21 days before the election)
- ◆ be affiliated with either the Republican Party or the Democratic party, or be undeclared (in which case you will declare one of the two parties prior to voting)

Note: “Independent” voters, i.e., registered members of the Green Party, Libertarian Party, Natural Law Party, Reform Party, U.S. Constitution Party or the Conservative Party can participate in the convention of that party, according to its bylaws, but **may not** vote in either the Democratic or Republican Primary. Previously affiliated voters may become unaffiliated, and affiliated members may change parties, but they must file the declaration form to do so no later than **50 days before** the primary. The deadline to change party affiliation for the June 2nd primary is April 13.

SUSSEX COUNTY PARTY CHAIRS

Democratic Chair:
Edwin Selby



Phone: 1-800-WIN-SCDC
 Reg Mail: P.O. Box 3126
 Newton, NJ 07860
 Email: info@sussexdems.com
 Web: www.sussexdems.com



Republican Chair:
Ailish Hambel

Phone: 973-383-4120
 Reg Mail: P.O. Box 425
 Newton, NJ 07860
 Email: ailishsussexnjgop@gmail.com
 Web: www.sussexcountygop.com

Clerk's Office hosts Law & Order program



for our
Northern
New Jersey
Girl Scouts



Passports now required for sea & land travel

Beginning June 1, 2009, travel regulations change under the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) to require persons entering the United States at sea or land ports of entry to present either a U.S. passport book or U.S. passport card, or other trusted traveler card including NEXUS, FAST, or SENTRI. Persons no longer will be able to gain entry into the U.S. by producing a birth certificate or other such personal means of identification.

To accommodate persons crossing by land or sea between the U.S. and Canada, Mexico, Bermuda and the Caribbean, the State Department in 2008 introduced a new "passport card." The requirements for obtaining a passport card and its validity are identical to that of a passport book:

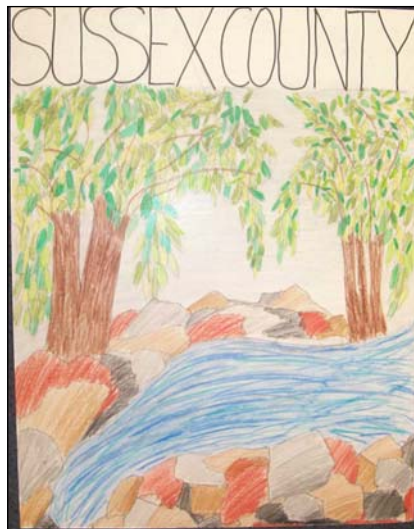
Validity: Adult: 10 years Child: 5 years

The cost is less for a passport card and its smaller size makes it a convenient and more portable alternative to the traditional passport book. **Note that the passport card cannot be used for air travel; it is only valid for land or sea travel.**

Pricing for both the passport book and the card is subject to change. Applicants should call the County Clerk's Office for current fees and payment requirements. Personnel also will be able to instruct residents as to what ID documentation is required in applying for a passport.

2009 Annual "My County" Poster Winner Sponsored by Sussex County Constitutional Officers

Nancy D. Fitzgibbons, Surrogate
Robert Untig, Sheriff Erma Gormley, County Clerk



First Place Poster, drawn by **Alaina Kurish** of Immaculate Conception School.

Pictured left is the winning poster of the 2009 "My County" poster contest submitted by fourth-grade student Alaina Kurish. Alaina's poster, along with runner-up posters for 2nd and 3rd place and a special Tourism Award, will be displayed in the County Building during the annual State Fair held at the Sussex County Fairgrounds July 31 through August 9, 2009.

Fairgoers can see the posters on display at the Clerk/Surrogate booth during fair week between 10 a.m. and 10 p.m.

County's parcelink now integrated with the Clerk's deed & mortgage records

What kinds of information are available at parcelink?

You will find just about any information relating to land parcels in Sussex County, and you'll find it in a variety of technological formats. You'll find data including, but not limited to:

- Tax assessments
- **Deeds, Mortgages & Liens**
- Aspects of stormwater management
- Municipal boundaries, parcel boundaries
- Street addresses, ownership info
- Lakes, streams & rivers
- Aerial imagery
- Location of bridges, monuments, mile markers, traffic lights
- Transportation routes including bus routes & station stops, county roads and railroad
- Location of shade trees, wetlands, and core Highlands preservation areas

- Location of developable land, preserved farmland & open space

How can this information benefit me?

If you're a **private citizen**, it lets you understand your community better. It tells you where your kids go to school, and what your voting district is. As a member of the local community, you can use **parcelink** to obtain information about a property you might be interested in purchasing — you'll find everything from tax assessment information to property liens to wetlands delineations and anything in between. Maybe you need to confirm your parcel is in a developable area and not in a flood zone; or maybe it's as simple as finding out whether or not your new property will have access to sewer service and public water.

If you're a **merchant**, **parcelink** can tell you the areas of highest population density and what the area traffic patterns are. It tells you where you should set up a new shop, and where to advertise. Whatever your questions about Sussex County land, chances are good you'll find the answers at **parcelink**.

Visit **parcelink** at <http://njgin.sussex.nj.us/parcelink>. Once there, if you have trouble navigating the site, contact the Office of GIS at: **973-579-0430, option 4 for assistance**. Personnel are available to answer your questions during regular office hours, Mon-Fri, between 8 am and 4:30 pm.

email: gisinfo@sussex.nj.us web: <http://njgin.sussex.nj.us/parcelink>

Clerk's Office continues to be profitable for county and taxpayers

Sussex County's Recording Division collected \$1,439,835 in fees for transactions and documents processed and placed on record during 2008. Realty Transfer Tax collected from real estate transactions gave Sussex County an additional revenue of \$628,992, with the State of New Jersey realizing a revenue of \$3,530,610 generated from such transactions within the county.

When comparing the county revenue generated from the Recording Division to the division's total operating expenses in 2008 of \$945,196, Sussex County realized a profit of \$1,123,631 as a return on the operation of the Recording Division. That's a profit of \$2.20 for every tax dollar spent.

Document Volume in 2008 Totaled 36,059

Deeds	4,490	Passports	955
Mortgages	16,911	Notary Oaths	619
Cancelled Mortgages	4,069	County ID Cards	301
Miscellaneous	3,067	Maps	834
Notices of Settlement	4,270	Licenses	1
Trade Names	539	Disclaimers	3

SUSSEX COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

83 Spring Street, Suite 304
Newton, NJ 07860



Phone: 973-579-0900
Fax: 973-383-7493
www.sussexcountyclerk.com



Erma Gormley,
County Clerk

Regular Office Hours

Mondays – 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday through Friday – 8:00
a.m. to 4:00 p.m.