

# The Finch Report

Friday, December 19, 2008



## City Public Works crews to provide trash, recycling pickups to condo dwellers

Mayor Bill Finch on Wednesday announced an early Christmas present to the residents of Bridgeport's 123 condominium associations, telling them that the City will begin providing trash and recycling pickups effective Jan. 1, a plan that should save the city approximately \$400,000 a year.

"This plan will improve services, allow the City to 'control the flow' of garbage and save taxpayers money by doing the work at a lower cost," said Mayor Finch. "Providing equitable services to all our residents will be a win-win for the city."

The plan includes providing the same level of service that had been provided under the contract with the private hauler. The city is supplying new Dumpsters, designed to handle a greater amount of trash in a more efficient manner, and has purchased a new truck, which can pick up the Dumpster with a hydraulic arm.

The Mayor praised work done by City Council members and the Public Works Department to bring the plan to fruition. The initial outlay of about \$600,000 for trucks and staffing will be recouped in about two years.

City Council President Thomas McCarthy, D-133, said, "We heard our constituents' concerns and worked with the Mayor and his staff to find a creative solution. This plan is a win-win all around for the city and the condo residents, and, ultimately, will save everyone in the City money."

Councilwoman Michelle Lyons, D-134, in whose district many of the associations are located, said, "This provides an equitable level of services to condo dwellers and solves the health hazards posed by overflowing Dumpsters."



Mayor Finch, Councilwoman Maria Valle, D-137, representatives of the Sound Coalition and Habitat for Humanity celebrated Susie Harrison's new Habitat for Humanity home during a housewarming last Saturday.



Representatives from B&E Juices and ACME United Corp., joined Mayor Finch and OPED Director Donald Eversley in announcing the sale of the former Acme United scissor factory building to B&E Juices.

## B&E Juices acquires ACME United property

Despite the tough economy, commercial ventures continue to make investments in Bridgeport, Mayor Bill Finch said Thursday, as he congratulated B&E Juices on its acquisition of the former ACME United scissor factory building on Knowlton Street.

Fairfield-based ACME United had a long history on the East Side – the 48,000 sq. ft. building was the home of the original Acme United scissor factory that opened in 1887 and closed in 1996.

"This is a great sign that commercial development is alive in Bridgeport," said Mayor Finch. "ACME is remediating the site and B&E plans to expand, all of which is great news."

B&E Juices owner Bob Clyne and his son, Mitchell, plan to make the site its headquarters and primary warehouse. This move will be an expansion of their juice distribution business currently housed in the old American Fabrics building. B&E distributes nationally recognized brands such as Snapple, Gatorade and Orangina in Fairfield County.

Walter C. Johnsen, Chairman and CEO said, "We are pleased to have B&E Juices take ownership of this property. We look forward to working with them as they develop the land, and bring new jobs into Bridgeport."

## Announcements

**Fri. Dec. 19, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.** – City Hall Annex, 999 Broad St. – Energy Saving Lighting Sale returns to City Hall Annex. Sponsored by CL&P, UI and CT Energy Efficiency Fund. Great deals on compact fluorescent bulbs, lamps and holiday light strands. Cash, checks only.

**Mon. Dec. 22, 5 to 6 p.m.** – 4200 Park Ave., Jewish Community Center – UJA Federation 19th Annual Community Chanukah Candle Lighting.

**Mon. Dec. 22, 7 p.m.** – St. Vincent's Medical Center hosts a public discussion on healthcare reform on its Healthtalk radio call-in show on WICC 600-AM. Listeners may pose a question or share their healthcare stories by calling 203.333.9422.

**Thurs. Dec. 25 and Jan. 1** – Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Please send announcements to [Elaine.ficara@bridgeportct.gov](mailto:Elaine.ficara@bridgeportct.gov) two weeks in advance of the event.