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January 8 thru January 14, 2015

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Towns welcome 2015



Oceanport starts year by giving to those who give

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Eatontown's new mayor proud of borough

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Mayor: We'll keep WLB a great place to live in 2015

By Walter J. O'Neill, Jr.
West Long Branch — The meeting on January 1, started with Janet W. Tucci placing her hand on a bible held by her grandchildren while husband, Lex gave her the oath of office for mayor. Tucci, along with Councilmen Fred Migliaccio and Christopher Neyhart, were all reelected to their respective position in November.

"My husband, who is an officer of the court, is going to administer the oath of office for me," said Tucci.
 Standing in the rear of the meeting room was Monmouth County Superior Court Judge Tony Meli-lacci, who was about to swear in Migliaccio and Neyhart. "I hope you don't mind judge, but my husband is allowed," Tucci had a big smile as the judge nodded in approval.
 When Tucci had completed her oath, she and her husband embraced and kissed. Judge Mellacci was called at the front of the room and called Migliaccio up for his swearing in. "I promise Fred, I will not kiss you when were done," said a chuckling Mellacci. The judges swore in the two councilmen, then they took their seats with Tucci and fellow council members Steven F. Cioffi, Barbara Ruane, John M. Aria, Jr. and Jose E. Villa.
 Tucci stated that several borough employees would also be sworn into their new positions. She said that Victor C. Huhn, Jr. was unable to attend the meeting but would be taking his oath as



Monmouth County Superior Court Judge Tony Mellacci swears in Councilman Fred Migliaccio.



Councilman Christopher Neyhart is sworn in as his family looks on.



Patrick Joyce is sworn in as Assistant Fire Chief for 2015.

Fire Chief on January 2 (see related story). Patrick Joyce was then sworn in as Assistant Fire Chief.

First Aid had three officers being sworn in. Jeffrey Nevenhouse is the Captain for the new year with Gregory Malinowski as First Lieutenant and Karen Broome-Bischoll as Second Lieutenant.

"I would like to congratulate Councilman Christopher Neyhart and Councilman Fred Migliaccio on their impressive reelection victories. It is a statement of their effectiveness and dedication to the elected officials," said Tucci. She went on to say how they devote countless hours and "were always responsive to the concerns of our residents."

The mayor gave an abbreviated state of the borough report. She talked about how this past year several projects were started and completed.

The Recreation Committee presented a fantastic fall festival, summer recreation programs, summer concert series and the Easter egg hunt.

"Our Environmental Commission continues to provide residents with information on recycling and shredding events as well as working to control the Canadian Geese problem," said Tucci.

In 2014 the borough finished correcting a drainage problem on Orchard Road and Bampton Place which had failed at a cost of \$600,000. "We worked the New Jersey DOT (Department of Transportation) to install a traffic signal at the intersection of Locust Ave and Parker Road to enhance the safety of our students walking to school," said Tucci. She added that the council had lobbied hard with

Continued on page 37



Fire Chief Victor Huhn Jr. is being sworn in by Ex-Chief and current Lieutenant Victor Huhn Sr. As son and department Mascot Tyler Huhn looks on and awaits his turn to become the fifth Huhn, the sixth generation and 17th family member to serve the Borough of West Long Branch.

Fifth generation fire chief in WLB

Huhn has also been a career firefighter with the Department of Defense for over 15 years and is currently serving as a Fire Captain at the Earle Naval Weapon Station.

Because of work obligations the new Fire Chief of West Long Branch couldn't be sworn in the traditional manner on New Year's Day this year. But Huhn was sworn in on the following day, January 2 in the West Long Branch Council Chambers.

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O'port recognizes those who give

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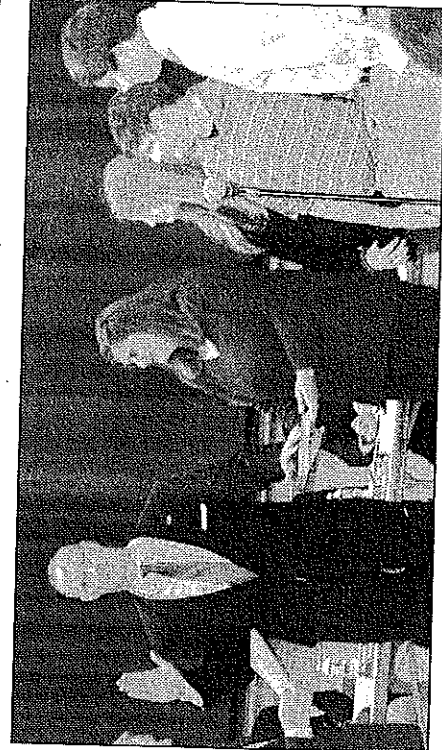
The Foundation had recently announced that an anonymous "Angel Donor" would match the funds the Kortney Rose Foundation raised for cancer research if it collected at least \$10,000 by the end of the year. While the Foundation was close, it looked like it would be a little short, stuck at around \$9,000.

With a few days to go, Councilwoman Ellynn Kahle and others reached out to the community to help collect that goal.

"We have \$2,450 to add," said Mahon. The Oceanport First Aid Squad also contributed \$500. These contributions helped lift the foundation past its goal, and ensured matching funding.

At the meeting, three re-elected council members were sworn in. Councilman Richard Gallo and Councilwoman Ellynn Kahle were sworn in for three-year terms. Councilman Christopher Paglia was re-elected to complete a one-year unexpired term.

Councilman Robert Lynch was appointed Council President. The First Aid Squad appointed John Connor as Captain, Jeremy Dalton as First Lieutenant, Ryan Kondracki as Second Lieutenant, and Margaret Lippolis as Sergeant. Mahon noted the that Lippolis



Councilman Christopher Paglia takes the oath of office.

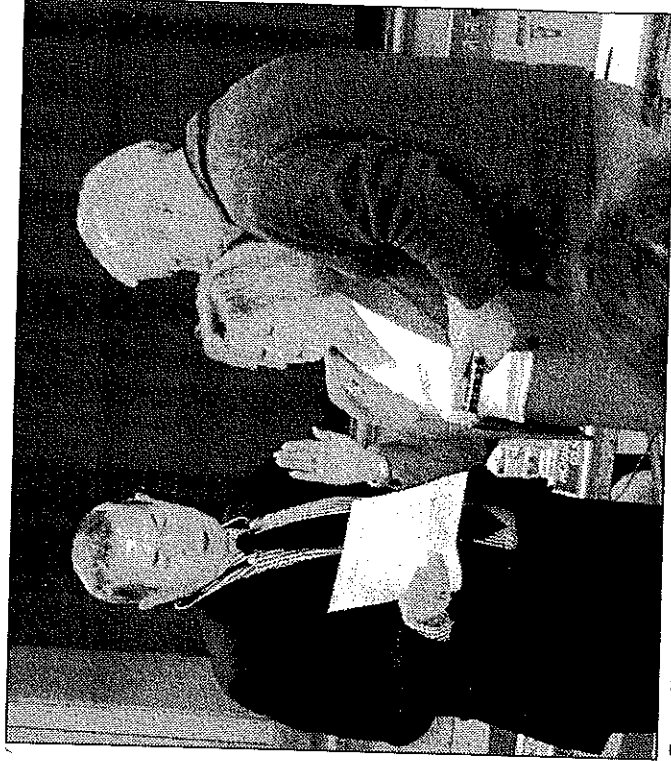


Tom Gallo, Second Assistant Fire Chief

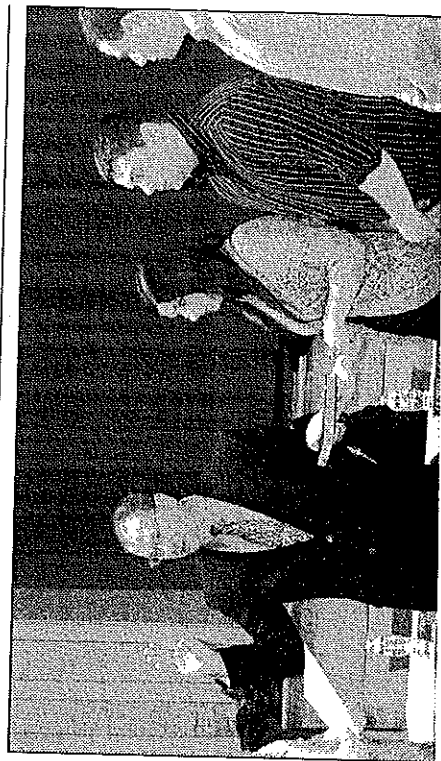
served as First Aid Squad Captain last year, and is continuing to serve as an officer.

The Fire Department swore in

SERIAL STORY



Councilwoman Ellynn Kahle, outgoing council president, is sworn in for another term.



Wes Sherman as Chief, Mike Paterson as First Assistant Chief, and Tom Gallo as Second Assistant Chief. Outgoing Chief Joseph Wolf was also recognized for his service.