



City of Bridgeton  
City Hall Annex, 181 E. Commerce St, Bridgeton NJ 08302

## **Ask the Mayor**

a monthly impromptu column

### **February 2009**

Hopefully the worst of winter is behind us, the Bridgeton Zoo Coatis have told us that spring is just days away. I don't know about you but I could go for more of the same weather we had this past week. I look forward to the days of one layer of clothes instead of four.

I meet once a week with the Police Chief Ott and we go over concerns in the city. Over the past few weeks there's been a lot of talk about parking and ticketing on issues that residents feel are minor. I've heard from residents that the city has stepped up its enforcement. The Chief assures me that no one is being singled out. Police are doing exactly what they are paid to do, enforce the laws. Parking illegally is a low hanging fruit that is easy to spot and simple for a police officer to see. The police are working to not only arrest drug dealer, purse snatchers, robbers or other criminals, that gets big head lines, but they are working on the quality of life issues that we as citizens expect.

Basic enforcement in parking may seem a nuisance to the one getting the ticket, but how many times do you get to a corner in town and you find yourself inching out into oncoming traffic because you can't see around the parked SUV that blocks your view. Please take a moment when you park and make sure you are behind the yellow line make sure you are close to the curb and before you exit the vehicle look in your driver side mirror before you open your door to make sure there is no oncoming traffic (car, bicyclist, skateboarder, etc.) Driving is not a right it's a privilege and we need to think of others instead of ourselves.