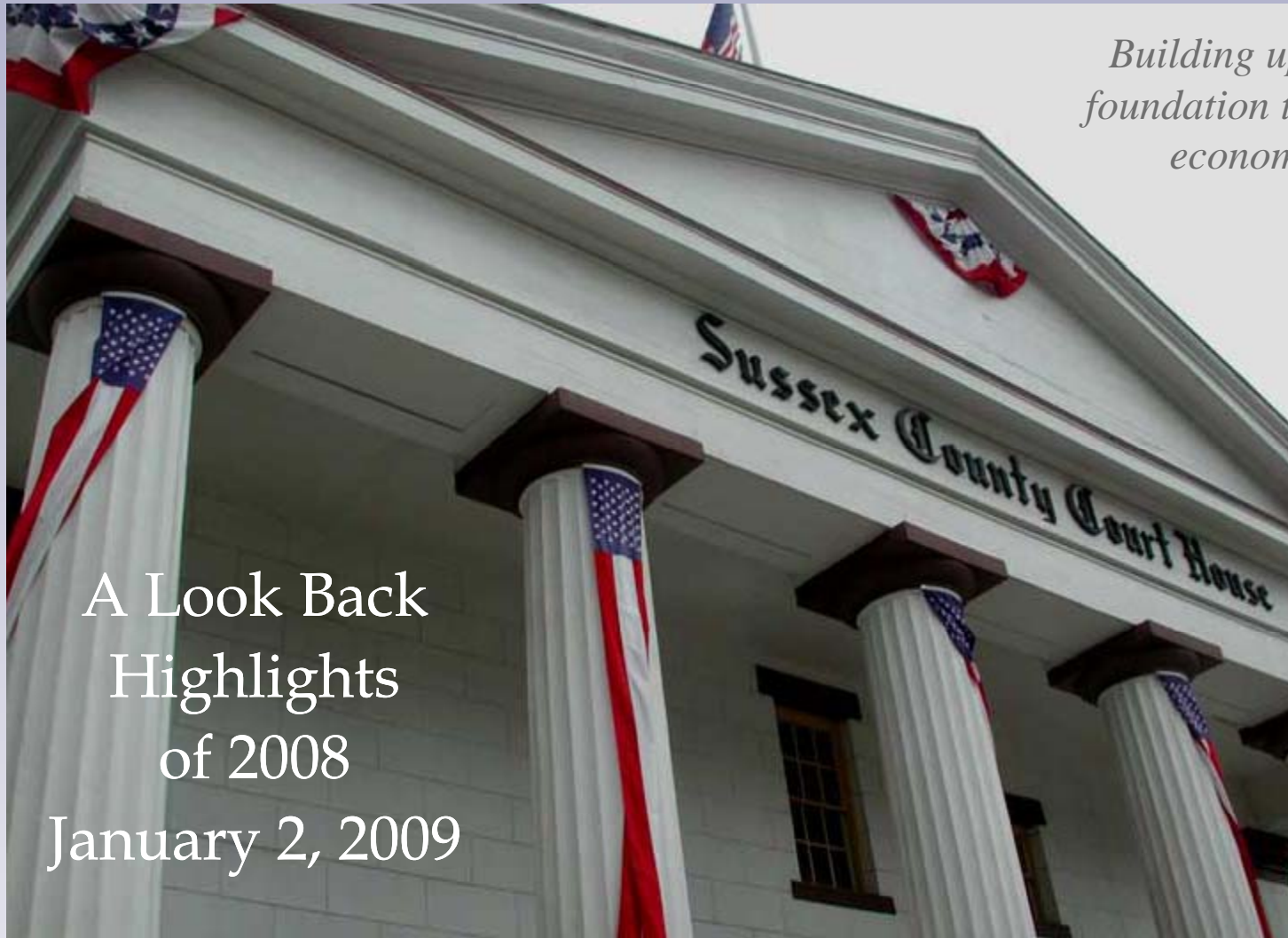


COUNTY OF SUSSEX BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

*Building upon a strong
foundation to weather the
economic storm*



A Look Back
Highlights
of 2008
January 2, 2009

During 2008 the County of Sussex, along with the rest of the nation, experienced some of the most troubling economic events in more than two generations. In response to, and in spite of, seemingly ever worsening economic news, the County set a course for even more efficient and effective services into the future



In August, the County's efforts were recognized by Standard & Poor's with an upgrade of the County's Bond rating specifically noting the County's "continued solid financial operations." The following pages highlight some of the accomplishments of 2008.

Sussex County 2008: A Look Back

Commitment to Cost Effective Government



- Recognized State leader in shared services with taxpayer savings in 2008 exceeding \$1M
 - Integration of Vernon Health Dept. into County Health system completed (\$300K tax savings in Vernon)
 - Youth Shelter agreement with Morris County - \$2.5M+ in tax savings over 5 year term
 - Agreement to provide road maintenance and storm service to Andover Borough
 - Continued discussions of 9-1-1 consolidation – additional \$200K in grant funding secured

Sussex County 2008: A Look Back

Commitment to Cost Effective Government



- ▣ Homestead Nursing Home
 - Improved case mix, resulting in increased Medicare and private pay revenue
 - Billing process reorganized to insure higher rate of return and reduction in receivables
- ▣ Restructured employee health benefits
 - Implemented self insured prescription benefit plan
 - Established self insured medical benefit plan

Sussex County 2008: A Look Back

Green and Going Greener

- ▣ Preserved an additional 1,565 acres farmland (18 farms)
- ▣ Completed energy audits of major County facilities
- ▣ Purchased seven new heavy trucks at 100%+ increase in fuel efficiency
- ▣ Completed feasibility of analysis of solar
- ▣ Purchased first hybrid car with SHARE grant for use by Health inspectors
- ▣ Awarded contract for electronic document management system to reduce paper records and to allow easy public access to documents.



Sussex County 2008: A Look Back

Rethinking Economic Development



- Commitment to redevelopment of downtown Newton
 - Grand re-opening of historic County Courthouse
 - Newton Main Street Partner
 - Completed sale of Hall of Records building returning property to local tax roll
- Promoting Agriculture and Tourism
 - Farmer's Market Kitchen opened at Sussex Tech
 - Three Season Farmer's market building at Fairgrounds bid. Funded by Federal grant
- Advocate for municipal government
 - Sussex County Wastewater Management Plan submitted to NJDEP

Sussex County 2008: A Look Back

Commitment to Maintaining Infrastructure



▣ Roads

- ▣ 32.8 miles resurfaced
- ▣ County Route 515 (Vernon) Reconstruction completed

▣ Bridges

- ▣ Montague
 - ▣ Bridge M-16 on CR 653 constructed
 - ▣ Bridge M-17 on Reinhardt Road replaced
- ▣ Wantage
 - ▣ Bridge X-20 on Berry Road - Superstructure replaced
- ▣ Stanhope/Hopatcong
 - ▣ Bridge K-09 on CR 605 Constructed

▣ Bridges

- ▣ Hopatcong
 - ▣ Bridge K-03 on River Styx Road - major deck rehab
- ▣ Vernon
 - ▣ Bridge V-45 on CR 565 rehabilitated
- ▣ Sparta
 - ▣ Bridge Q-18 on CR 669 rehabilitated
- ▣ Frankford
 - ▣ Bridge D-23 on George Hill Road rehabilitated

▣ Regional Projects

- ▣ Continued support of Route 206 improvements in Byram and establishing passenger rail along Lackawanna Cutoff

Sussex County 2008: A Look Back

Commitment to Maintaining Infrastructure



▣ Facilities

- SCCC Medical and Theatre Building opened
- SC Historic Courthouse renovation completed and reopened to public
- Sussex-Wantage Library Amphitheatre opened
- Old Grand Jury building renovations begun

Sussex County 2008: A Look Back

Commitment to Public Health

- Influenza clinics held in all 23 municipalities served
- Enhanced cancer education and screening
 - Oral cancer screening program added
 - Male/female skin cancer screenings
 - Coordination of Sussex County Cancer Coalition
- Participant in establishing Activate America Program in Sussex County to address epidemic of obesity and related diseases.
- Hand washing education program created.
- 100% of retail food establishment inspections completed.
- Point of Dispensing (POD) clinic simulation held as preparation for a large- scale medical emergency requiring mass drug distribution.



Sussex County 2008: A Look Back Commitment to Open Government



- Electronic Newsletter
 - Subscribers increased to 800+
 - Published 14 editions distributed electronically to subscriber list
- Document Imaging for Ease of Public Access
 - Engineering documents scanned to electronic format
 - County Clerk's documents scanned to electronic format back to 1964
 - Work begun on public GIS portal to County documents
 - Electronic Document Management contract awarded
- Meeting Agendas and Minutes Posted to Website