To the Editor:
I don't think the residents of either the Borough or the Township will be well-served by a merger of the two communities. Cost savings are difficult to project, but even the committee charged with evaluating consolidation suggested underwhelming amounts of money. The potential costs of merging the two municipalities are murkier. Each town is currently governed by its' own municipal laws. Though some have suggested that both sets of existing laws could be continued, I don't see how that will pass muster: someone, sooner or later, will sue on grounds of discrimination (that they are being charged/prosecuted more harshly than residents in other parts of the town simply because of predecessor laws). I envision expensive litigation, and, down the road, the cost of reviewing every law and rewriting every law that is not identical to the other former municipality to conform. How much it will cost to conform every detail of each municipality's union labor agreements to one another? How much will it cost to revise each town's land records and tax maps to reflect the new name? We taxpayers will have to pay these extra costs, regardless of any savings achieved. Consolidation could cost us more than it ever saves!

Dave Saltzman
(609) 430-9740
78 Montadale Drive
Princeton , NJ 08540