

Mayor's Message

FALL 2007



PUBLISHED BY THE BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG

The Borough of Watchung Community Newsletter

I want to thank all of you who responded to my request for communications to our officials regarding the Route 78/Diamond Hill Interchange. The New Jersey DOT is in the process of a review of all traffic, including the new projects in Berkeley Heights, Exits 41 at Drift Road, Exit 43 at Diamond Hill and the Park Avenue/Bonnie Burn overpass. That study is scheduled to be completed by the end of September. Watchung representatives will be at all future meetings, along with representatives from Somerset County. I encourage those of you who have not replied to do so; it is very important to have as many residents as possible respond in favor of this project.

Speaking of traffic, our request to lower the speed limit the length of Valley Road to 40 MPH will happen this fall. I am also following up on our request to Somerset County to have Mountain Boulevard changed into a no-passing zone from Brookdale Road all the way to the Warren border.

The following roads are scheduled for overlay this fall: Guinard, Spencer, Forest, Pine, Dug Way, Fawn, Dawn, Sequoia, Bayberry (upper section only), Sherwood from Nottingham to Elsinore, Tuttle, and Scott. Also to be resurfaced will be Corey, Sunbright, Old Somerset Road, Eaton, and Orchard, following completion of the improvement project in the area. Rockfall netting at the Police/Court Facility is in progress and should be completed shortly, with a new superior "ring net" method being used.

New Jersey's first presidential primary election will be held February 5, 2008, giving NJ residents a frontline opportunity to be heard, rather than an afterthought following other states that have already determined the choices.

ADA bathroom improvements are being completed at the Watchung Arts Center through a Community Development Block Grant which we obtained through the efforts of our Engineer, Tom Herits. We have also signed a new lease with the Arts Center officials.

We obtained a grant from the NJDOT for school crossings which provide lights embedded in the roadway on Stirling Road at Verona and Brookdale, with lighted stanchions to alert motorists to pedestrians in the crosswalk.

We are expanding the events calendar on our web site to a Watchung Community Calendar in order to avoid conflicts with organizations as events are planned.

We have had an increase in enrollment in our Summer Playground. Up to 180 children have registered at a modest fee of \$25, with some additional contribution for trips.

Best Lake is still green and my hope to begin this project of dredging and dam replacement is steadfast. The good news is the NJDEP has our application and they must respond within 90 days; that clock began July 6th. Once we get their approval we can be out to bid within 30 days. Work could begin in late fall if we get a break in the weather.

Police Chief John Frosoni announced his retirement and Captain Sean Whelan has been designated Acting Chief until January, 2008. John was appointed as Acting Chief following Chief Bob Reilly's retirement in October, 2001 and then officially became Chief in January of 2002. He met and married his wife Theresa when she was Watchung's first female police officer and they currently are living in Green Brook.

The next phase in our Library Project is completing the following committees: Allocation of Space, Building, Financial Resources and Fund Raising. If you would like to join in this new project please contact our Deputy Clerk Michelle DeRocco or me.

See you at the Mayor's Regatta September 9th 2-4 PM and the Harvest Festival on October 27th.

Mayor, Al Ellis



FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Tree Preservation

Watchung is committed to protecting our trees. Our ordinance identifies and monitors the indiscriminate, uncontrolled and excessive destruction, removal and cutting of trees. This ordinance requires that no person shall cut, remove, injure or damage any tree without having first obtained the required tree removal permit. To obtain a permit and receive a detailed copy of the tree ordinance, contact the Borough Engineer office at 908-756-0091 or stop by the Municipal Building, 15 Mountain Boulevard.

Remember the benefits of trees:

- They help anchor soil and reduce stormwater runoff, saving high costs of stormwater management.
- Reduce noise pollution
- Air Quality— a mature tree absorbs between 120-240 pounds per year of small particles & gases which are released into the air by automobiles & industrial facilities. A single tree produces nearly 3/4 of the oxygen required for one person.
- They can lower heating & cooling costs.



Like to Walk? Try these Trails

If you feel like taking a walk and enjoying open space, here are the names of a few local parks with walking trails:

Somerset County Park Commission Environmental Education Center
190 Lord Stirling Road, Basking Ridge

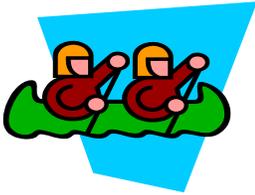
Great Swamp National Wildlife Reservation:
Trail heads found on—Long Hill Road, New Vernon;
Southern Blvd., Chatham

Sherman-Hoffman Wildlife Sanctuary: Headquarters of NJ
Audubon Society, 11 Hardscrabble Road, Bernardsville

Washington Valley Park:
Hawk watch area, Miller Lane, Bridgewater Reservoir and West Branch Area
Bernardsville

Watchung Reservation: Coles Ave. and New Providence Road, Mountainside

**These are just a few of the many parks in this area which offer walking trails.
Go out, take a hike, relax and enjoy!!**



Recreation

MAYOR'S REGATTA



The **4th Annual Watchung Mayor's Regatta on the Lake** will be held on Sunday, September 9, 2007 from 2-4 pm, at Watchung Lake. Watchung residents and their friends are welcome to watch Borough officials and employees, local teachers from Valley View Middle and Bayberry Elementary Schools, Watchung Fire, Rescue Squad and Police Department officials, the Boy Scouts, and other groups participate. The purpose of the Mayor's Regatta is to provide the community the opportunity to meet and cheer on those who are dedicated to serving our community so well! The Mayor welcomes all Watchung residents (including children) to attend. Come out to root for the Mayor's team or a favorite teacher! Light refreshments will be served. No Fee.



Watchung Recreation Annual Harvest Festival will be held on October 27, 2007—Rain Date October 28th. The costume parade starting from Valley View School will begin at 3:00 and lead to the festival at Mobus Field. Inflatable jumpers, DJ, games, prizes, ponies, light refreshments and more will add to the fun. Enter the scarecrow decorating contest and vote for your favorite. Bring your camera to this exciting family



day! 3:00—5:00 pm. No Fee.

Women's Volleyball is a pick up and older. The program starts mid October Valley View School 7:00-9:00 pm. No Fee .



style league for Watchung Women 18 years and meets on Monday nights at Valley

Jr. Volleyball is an instructional Valley View School.

league for 6-8th grades on Monday nights at 7:00-8:00 pm. Starts in January.



Open Gym Basketball is a pick up style league for Watchung adults 18 years and older. This program starts in September and meets on Friday nights at Bayberry School 7:00-9:00 pm. No Fee.

Recreation and Travel Basketball leagues for 2nd-8th grade will begin registration in October. The season runs December through March.

Jr. Field Hockey is an instructional (8 weeks) starts September 9th and



league for girls 6th-8th grade. This program (8 meets on Sundays at 3:00 pm or 4:00 pm at River-

side Park in Long Hill Township. \$40.00 league fee includes uniform.

Volunteers needed.

The Watchung Recreation Commission is pleased to announce The Junior Watchung Valley Players. The Junior Watchung Valley Players will provide a musical theatre experience for students in grades 5-9. This fall's production will be Seussical Jr. Workshops will be held in September to introduce the students to the audition process. Auditions will take place in late September. Rehearsals will be on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday evenings at Valley View Middle School. Performances are scheduled for November 29th & 30th and December 1st at Valley View. For more information please contact Laurie Wood at jrwpv@yahoo.com

RECREATION CONTACT INFORMATION

The Watchung Recreation Commission strives to be a community resource of information for recreation organizations within and around the Watchung community. Some of the sports programs offered to Watchung youth are coordinated by independent organizations. More detailed information is available at each group's web site.

Softball

Watchung Ponytail Softball Web: whponytailsoftball.com (email: WHP SL@optonline.net)

Baseball

Watchung Little League Web: www.watchunglittleleague.org

Basketball

Watchung Hoops– (email: watchunghoops@optonline.net)

Soccer

Watchung Hills Soccer Association Web: www.whsa.org

Wrestling

Watchung Hills Wrestling Association Web: www.whwa.org

LaCrosse

Watchung Hills Travel LaCrosse Web: www.watchunghillslacrosse.org

Football

Watchung Hills Pop Warner Web: www.watchunghillspopwarner.org

Watchung Hills Jr. Warrior Football Association Web: www.whjuniorwarriors.org



(Watchung Garden Club)

As always, the ladies of the Watchung Garden Club continue to donate a beautiful floral arrangement for display at Borough Hall. They are a beautiful addition to our office and make a nice welcoming touch for visiting residents to enjoy.





MANDATORY RECYCLING



OWNERS OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES : If you have not received a recycling schedule or need a Blue recycling bin please call or come to Borough Hall and we will assist you.

OWNERS OF COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL PROPERTIES : Must contact their private hauler for recycling information. The County does not handle commercial recycling.



HOME –GENERATED MEDICAL WASTE

DO NOT discard used needles and other sharps in your household garbage or put out for recycling collections.



Many hospitals in and around Somerset County participate in the New Jersey Hospital Association’s Safe Syringe Program. Hospitals provide sharps containers to the home generators that the generator returns to the hospital when full. For further information please contact New Jersey Hospital Association, 760 Alexander Road, Princeton, NJ 08543, Phone 609-273-4058 or the following hospitals:

St. Peters Hospital—New Brunswick

732-745-8600 ext. 8282
Safe Syringe Program

Princeton Medical Center—Princeton

609-497-4266
Safe Syringe Program

Somerset Medical Center—Somerville

908-685-2200 ext. 3258
Safe Syringe Program

Hunterdon Medical Center-Flemington

908-788-6100 ext. 6136
Diabetic Dept.

Waste Management, a waste hauling company, has a “**Sharps Disposal by Mail**” program. Participants are provided with an approved disposal container and mail full containers for disposal using the U.S. Postal Service. Interested? - Call Waste Management for prices & details at **877-WASTE-MD**.

TEXTILE RECYCLING

Somerset County recently began working with a new organization called Planet Aid. They purchase clothing from Somerset County and sell it to international companies, which then offer the clothing in local markets in places like Africa, Asia and Central America, where new clothing is unavailable or unaffordable. This commercial activity creates employment in these Third World countries and provides access to inexpensive clothing for many people.

All types of clean, dry textiles are accepted: sheets, blankets, curtains, shoes (pairs), towels, winter and summer clothes, belts, handbags and small stuffed animals. Please remember to recycle your **clean, used, dry textiles** in clear or white plastic bags marked “textiles.”

Health News

Hidden ways to help your heart

- **Don't skip breakfast**— eating breakfast appears to make platelets less sticky & less likely to clump together.
- **Cut sweets**-sugar is not directly related to heart disease but cutting back limits calories.
- **Lighten Up**-People who overreact to stressful situations appear more likely to have heart trouble.
- **Ask about aspirin**-shown to protect by preventing clot formation-**DON'T** start taking regularly without discussing with your doctor.
- **If you smoke-try to quit.** Fact-you'll cut your risk of heart attack by 50-70% within five years.
- **Get off the couch**—30 minutes of moderate physical activity three times a week delivers the benefits of regular exercise.— Walk briskly, climb stairs, play actively with the kids. **LIVE LONGER!**
- **Some vitamins are known to be beneficial to the heart**— C, E and beta-carotene (antioxidants) appear to slow plaque formation in the arteries. Now there is evidence that folic acid, a B vitamin, and B6 & B12 may help prevent heart attacks. A balanced diet will supply all of these.

RABIES CLINIC



The Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission will be offering one rabies clinic this winter to help our residents protect their pets against rabies. All residents are encouraged to have their dog or cat vaccinated against rabies.

Spring will be upon us and we can expect to see a restart of rabies activity local wildlife. Along with this activity comes the increased risk of exposure to rabies. If your pet has been previously vaccinated, the health department recommends that your dog or cat be vaccinated every other year. If your pet has not been vaccinated against rabies, now is the time. **The clinic is free to all.**



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in our
ity
to ra-
vacci-

DATE: Saturday, Dec 1, 2007
TIME: 9:00 am to 10:00 am
WHERE: Watchung Fire House
 57 Mountain Blvd.

BREAST CANCER

7 ways to Lower Your Risk

- REDUCE the fat in your diet.
- MAINTAIN a healthy weight.
- EXERCISE—Stay active.
- LIMIT alcohol if you drink.
- DON'T smoke.
- KEEP SCREENING-do monthly self-exams and check with doctor about mammograms.
- DISCUSS with Doctor if you are planning to take estrogen-containing pills.



FLU AND PNEUMONIA CLINICS



**CHECK OUR WEBSITE AND THE
WATCHUNG TV CHANNEL 15 FOR DATES,
LOCATIONS AND TIMES.**

www.watchungnj.com

OR

Call: 732-356-8090, ext.254

YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER

ELDERCARE ISSUES?

Adult Day Care Center:

Spend-A-Day Adult Day Health Center

(a program of SAGE)

Located at: 290 Broad Street

Summit, NJ 07901

(908) 598-5520

www.sageeldercare.org

Other Solutions Include:

Companion Service	908-273-8400
Home Health Aides	908-273-8400
InfoCare	908-598-5509
Meals-On-Wheels	908-273-5554
Support Groups	908-273-4598
Resale Shop	908-273-5564
Workshop	908-598-5531

IMPORTANT HEALTH NEWS

Whooping Cough in Teens, Older Adults

Whooping cough (pertussis) no longer is a disease seen primarily in children under age five. Since the 1980s, the number of reported cases has steadily increased, especially among adolescents and adults. This can be the result of waning immunity among adolescents and adults.

Pertussis is a highly contagious illness, caused by a bacterium that is spread through coughing and/or sneezing. Although it does not have a distinct seasonal pattern, it may increase in the summer and fall.

Although rates of pertussis in the United States have been dramatically reduced since the introduction of the childhood vaccination in the 1940s, pertussis is making a comeback and is currently the least well controlled disease among universally recommended childhood vaccinations.

While pertussis may be milder in older persons, they still can be the source of infection for children under their care. For infants, it can be life threatening.

For this reason, public health officials recommend revaccination for pertussis with a Tdap vaccine to prevent getting sick and or spreading the disease to others.

Tdap is a safe and effective vaccine for people ages 10-64 years. The Tdap vaccine is currently available under the brand names Boostrix for persons 10-18 years of age and Adacel for persons 11-64 years of age. Somerset County public health officials recommend that the public contact their healthcare provider to discuss the availability of the vaccine.

A strong argument for revaccination is that symptoms may not appear in older persons with some level of immunity or may present in a manner which makes the cough difficult to distinguish from other respiratory illnesses, such as a cold.

Pertussis infection among adolescents and adults can range from mild cough illness to classic pertussis symptoms (rapid, episodic coughing with a high-pitched whooping sound on inhalation and possible vomiting and exhaustion after the episode).

Since adolescents and adults often may have a cough for several weeks before seeking medical attention, during which time they can spread germs to others, public health officials recommend that people seek medical care and a vaccination, especially pregnant women and caregivers of young children or sick individuals.

While antibiotic treatment is recommended to prevent spreading the infection to others, it rarely modifies the course of the illness after the onset of cough. For this reason, vaccination is the most effective strategy for preventing illness and death due to pertussis.

A bout of the pertussis infection can last from six to 12 weeks, causing loss of time from school and work, as well as increased health care costs.

For more information on pertussis, go to www.pertussis.com, view the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services pertussis fact sheet at http://www.state.nj.us/health/cd/documents/pertussis_factsheet.pdf or contact the Somerset County Health Department at 908-231-7155.



GOVERNMENT TENTS OFFER FUN IN THE SUN

Looking for a fun family outing where the activities are free and hands-on, and which will give you something memorable to look back on once the lazy, hazy days of summer are long gone? Come visit the county government tents at the annual Somerset County 4-H Fair!

Visitors to the fair, **August 15, 16 and 17, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.**, at North Branch Park on Milltown Road in Bridgewater, can enjoy various displays, contests, shows, prizes and photos. You also can learn about the programs and services offered by county government.

Get a free Polaroid picture at the souvenir photo booth, sponsored by the Board of Freeholders. Photos will be taken daily from **1:30 to 3:30 p.m.** and **6 to 8 p.m.**

Free shuttle buses will run from 8:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily from the park-and-ride lot at Raritan Valley Community College in North Branch.



Dog Licenses

Dog licenses are due during the month of January. *The most efficient method is to mail your license request to Borough Hall.* Simply enclose a copy of the updated rabies certificate (**THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH REQUIRES THAT THE VACCINATION AGAINST RABIES BE VALID THROUGH DECEMBER OF THE LICENSE YEAR**) with your check for payment, and a **stamped, self-addressed envelope.** Using this method will alleviate the inconvenience of waiting at Borough Hall. Licenses can also be purchased in person, Monday through Friday from 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

All original documentation will be mailed to you with the license and tag. A license cannot be issued without proof of a current vaccination. All dogs seven months of age or older must be licensed. Please use this form to mail your request to the Board of Health, 15 Mountain Blvd., Watchung, NJ 07069.

OWNER'S NAME: _____ DATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ PHONE: _____

DOG: Male _____ Female _____ Breed: _____ DATE OF BIRTH: _____

HAIR: Short _____ Medium _____ Long _____ Color/markings: _____

DOG'S NAME: _____ Address if Different from above _____

NEUTERED _____ SPAYED _____ RABIES VACCINE- DATE EXPIRES: _____

VETERINARIAN'S NAME: _____

Proof of rabies vaccination MUST be sent with this application

Fee Schedule

License Fee - \$10.80
*Non-neutered/spayed fee - \$ 3.00
State Fees - \$ 1.20

Additional Fees:

Late Fee after Jan. 31st - \$2.00/dog

Fee Calculation

License Fee: \$10.80

Non-Neuter Fee (\$3.00) \$ _____

State Fee: \$ 1.20

ADD LATE FEE (\$2.00) (After Jan. 31st) \$ _____

PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT PRIOR TO DECEMBER 31st

**CEHCKS PAYABLE TO
BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG**

TOTAL DUE \$ _____



SAVE THE DATE
ART IN THE PARK
A JOURNEY OF THE FINE ARTS



On Sunday, September 9, 2007 from 11:00 am until 5:00 pm, the Watchung Educational Foundation is sponsoring “Art in the Park, A Journey of the Fine Arts” at Mobus Park on Brookdale Rd. in Watchung.

Nestled in a serene valley within the Watchung Mountains, surrounded by a backdrop of nature’s beauty, an amazing array of fine art will be presented for sale. There will be sculpture, jewelry and all genre of artwork. With over 50 vendors showcasing their work, there will be something for everyone.

This festival will include a variety of foods, raffles, several musical performances and many activities and workshops for all ages. For a suggested donation of \$3.00 per person come and enjoy your journey of the fine arts.

This event is rain or shine. In case of rain the alternate location of “Art in the Park” will be Valley View School on Dr. Parenty Way off Stirling Rd. In Watchung. Please call (908)822-0873 for weather updates.

The Watchung Educational Foundation is a community based, non-profit organization committed to assisting the Watchung Schools in providing a quality educational experience to all of our students. We do this by raising money in order to fund innovative and creative projects that will enrich the curricula and improve technology.

The “Art in the Park” is an event to support the Watchung Schools. Please visit our website at www.wefund.org to find out more.



Traffic and Beautification



Our summertime is in full swing. Now is the time for watering and weeding. We planted the triangles with flowering vinca this year for a “new” look.

The red, white and blue was getting a little overused. Hopefully this new plant will give us the impact that we want. Many thanks to our committee members and two men from the Public Works department for all their hard work planting.

We saw the dedication of Spratford Park this spring and it really gives a nice entrance to our lovely town. Once again, thanks to our committee members for all their time and planning in getting this project completed.



WATCHUNG ARTS CENTER

LOOKING FORWARD TO AN EXCITING 2007-08 SEASON

In mid-October, the Watchung Arts Center will begin it's new and exciting 2007-2008 season of classes, performances, and exhibitions. The Center will be closed for much-anticipated renovations during the month of September.

We are pleased to announce that, beginning on Oct. 16, professional art instructor Monica Schraiber Otero will be offering classes in painting and drawing for children of all ages. Classes will include basic techniques in charcoal, watercolor, India ink, acrylics and more for children ages 6-12. A new class, offered for young people ages 11-15, will include more involved techniques in sketching, shading, blind contour, perspective and the human figure and will utilize both wet and dry media on canvas.

Drawing—Ages 6-10

October 17-December 12 (No class Nov. 21)

Wednesdays 4:30-6:00 pm

Be the first to know how to work with charcoal, watercolors, pastels, and India ink. Explore basic techniques in drawing, such as perspective, outlining, shading and color properties, and have fun doing it! Draw portraits, favorite places, interesting arrangements as well as optical illusions and abstractions.

Painting—Ages 6-12

October 18-December 13 (No class Nov. 22)

Thursdays 4:30-6:00 pm

No previous training needed with this exciting method! Learn the fundamentals of painting using non-toxic acrylics on canvas boards. Create realistic still lifes, landscapes or paint from your imagination and amaze everyone around you.

Drawing and Painting (NEW) - Ages 11-15

October 16-December 11 (No class Nov. 20)

Tuesdays 4:30-6:00 pm

Continue exploring new techniques as you develop or improve your skills in sketching, shading, blind contour, perspective and the human figure. Use dry and wet media including pencil charcoal and pastels as well as acrylic on canvas.

Visit our continually updated website at www.watchungarts.org or call us at (908)753-0190 for more information on our programs and events.

If you wish to become a member you may pick up an application at the arts center.

Claus Cardinal
908-754-8433

All the best,
Florence Larkin
908-757-4029

Joan Plasner
908-561-2869



Nonpoint Source Pollution or people pollution

(contamination of our waterways & ocean that results from everyday activities)

The good news—we can stop this pollution by making simple changes in our daily lives.

-Litter: Place all litter, including cigarette butts & fast food containers, in trash receptacles. Never throw litter in streets or down storm drains.

-Fertilizers: avoid overuse, do not apply before a rainfall. They contain nitrates & phosphates that, in abundance, cause blooms of algae that can lead to fish kills.

-Pesticides: Many are toxic to humans, animals, aquatic organisms, and plants. Follow label direction carefully—Do not overuse and use natural alternatives whenever possible.

-Household Hazardous Products: paint thinners, moth balls, drain & oven cleaners, to name a few contain toxic ingredients. Do not pour hazardous products down any drain or toilet. Do not discard with regular household trash. Use natural, less toxic alternative whenever possible.

WATCH FOR COUNTY RUN HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL DATES.

Register and Vote!

Watchung residents age 18 and over may register to vote or request forms for absentee ballot at the Borough Clerk's office, 15 Mountain Boulevard, Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 4 PM, or by calling 908-756-0080 and requesting that forms be mailed. Either form may also be obtained through the Somerset County Government page on the Internet at <http://www.co.somerset.nj.us>.

Qualifications to register to vote are: 18 years of age or older by the date of the election, citizen of the United States; a resident of New Jersey for at least thirty (30) days prior to the election; and a resident of Somerset County for twenty-one (21) days prior to the election.

Polls are open from 6 AM to 8 PM on election days. The County Clerk must receive request forms for absentee ballots not later than October 30, 2007, 7 days prior to the election.

The ***Last Day*** to register to vote for the November 6th General Election is Monday, October 16, 2007.



LIBRARY NEWS

CHILDREN—AGES 2 AND 3 WITH CAREGIVER

(must be 24 months old when program begins)

Learning with Leisa

Enjoy a craft, some stories & a snack

Tuesday— 3:00—4:00 PM

9/11, 18, & 10/9,16

Friday Fun Storytime

Stories, songs, fingerplays, flannelboard stories and crafts.

9/28, 10/5, 10/19 (10:30 AM)

BIRTH THROUGH AGE 4 WITH CAREGIVER

Music to Move By—with Ann Wild

Music, rhythms and fun for everyone!

Wednesdays, Sept. 5 & 12, Oct. 10 & 24

10:00 AM – (with session repeated at 11:00 AM)

YOU MUST CHOOSE ONE OF THE TWO SESSIONS

INFANTS, AGE 2 to 7 months WITH CAREGIVER

Mommy and Me Yoga—with Susan Ahlstrom

Take time to explore the wonder of your new baby, your relationship with your child, and the benefits of yoga. You'll enjoy an hour of special exercises and interactions, including gentle yoga movements, explorations of baby movement patterns, playful interactions and songs. Don't miss this engaging and valuable experience!

Thursday, September 6 and October 11 from 10:30 to 11:30 AM

JUST THREES (Age 3 ONLY—WITH CAREGIVER)

(must be 36 months old when program begins)

Stories + Songs+ Crafts = Lots of Fun for 3 year olds

Monday, October 29th at 10:30 AM

The Bremen Town Musicians (Age 4 and up)

Presented by: Folktale Puppets

Enjoy this delightful retelling of the Grimm tale in which four animal friends - a donkey, dog, cat, and rooster - who no longer are wanted by their masters, set out for Bremen to become musicians.. With Halloween approaching, you can dress as your favorite character- the donkey, the dog, the cat or the rooster. (No masks please, but face painting is OK.) Come and be part of the story. Thursday, October 25th at 4:00 in the Watchung Arts Center



—*More on the Library:*

MISS JUNE'S ROOM (AGES 4-6)

Thursday, September 26 & October 11—4:00-5:00 PM

Relax and have fun making a project, hearing a story and enjoying a snack.

AGES 6 AND UP

Baking and Books with Doug

Tuesday, September 25 and October 23 at 4 PM

Bake something spectacular to eat and hear some great stories



SECOND GRADE & UP

(for children who know how to play Chess)

Watchung Library Chess Club

Tuesdays—6 PM –Downstairs Seniors Room

September 11, 18, 25 and October 9, 16, 23, 30



Enjoy an informal hour of chess playing. Drop-ins (with chess boards) are welcome, space permitting. Information for younger children who would like to play is available at the library.

NEW!! – TEEN ADVISORY BOARD (Ages 12 and up)

Thursday—October 4 at 7:00 PM

Attention TEENS! What do you want to see in YOUR library? Get active and become a member of the new Teen Advisory Board. As a member, you will assist in planning and promoting teen programs, participate in special community service projects, discuss books, music, movies and more! Membership looks great on resumes and college applications! Refreshments will be served.

CRAFACULAR TEENS (Age 12+)

Thursday—October 25 at 7:00 PM

Have an old t-shirt or two that you don't know what to do with? Well, come on down to the library and transform it into a cool, stylish new look! Refreshments will be served.

In-person—registration for Programs begins 10:00 AM, Monday, August 27th



Telephone registration begins 10:00 AM, Tuesday, August 28th.

THANK YOU FOR BEING PUNCTUAL—ALL PROGRAMS START ON TIME



◆ For safety reasons, PARENTS MUST REMAIN IN THE LIBRARY WHILE CHILDREN UNDER 9 attend programs.



- ◆ Please remember that cell phone use is not permitted during programs in the library, the Seniors Room and Watchung Arts Center.
- ◆ Some restrictions may apply to certain programs.
- ◆ Please call the library if you can not attend a program for which you have registered.
- ◆ If you have registered for a multiple-session program, and miss two sessions without calling, the library will give your place to a child on the waiting list.
- ◆ If you are on the waiting list, you will be called before the program if an opening becomes available.

continued on next page—

—Still More on the Library—



Attention Book Lovers—young and old

Friends of the Watchung Public Library Book Sale

Find a treasure or an old favorite at the Watchung Library's Book Sale or add a few new titles to your collection! Books for children and adults will be on sale.

DATES:

Friends Preview Day—Friday, September 14th
(For Members Only—New Members Welcome!)

BOOK SALE:

Saturday, September 15 through Saturday, September 22nd.

Hours: (Same as Library)

Monday-Thursday: 10 AM—9 PM

Friday: 10 AM—4:30 PM

Saturday: 10 AM—4:00 PM

More bargains may be found the following Week! Check at the library for additional sale dates.

Teen Read Week

October 15-20, 2007

The theme for this year's Teen Read Week is LOL at YOUR LIBRARY! (LOL is text-speak for "laugh out loud") Drop by the library, pick up a page-turner, and read for the fun of it! Then during Teen Read Week, vote for YOUR favorite teen books. You can get a list of nominations for the 2007 Teens' Top Ten books at the library. To celebrate Teen Read Week, the Watchung Public Library will be hosting a special event that week. And, of course, refreshments will be served.

FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The 2007 Leaf Pickup will commence on November 1, 2007 and continue throughout the fall season. All leaves **must be in BIO-DEGRADABLE PAPER BAGS** and placed on the grass area close to the road. **NO PLASTIC BAGS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR PICKUP.** Pickups will not be scheduled for any specific time or location.

Leaf pickup is limited to high density areas located within the following areas: Brookdale, Stirling and Hillcrest Roads north to Evergreen Lane; Mountain Blvd from Washington Drive to Rock Ave.; Johnston Drive to the water tower including Upper Drive and Johnston Drive Extension. All residents are urged to utilize their leaves as compost; however, should any resident in a rural area desire pickup of leaves in BIODEGRADABLE PAPER BAGS ONLY, call the office of Public Works at 756-0091, ext.14. Due to the State's New Stormwater Regulations, the Borough now has an ordinance prohibiting placement of leaves in the street.

Old man Winter is just around the corner. The Public Works Department works hard to maintain public streets, thoroughfares and right-of-ways clear for safe passage of vehicular traffic during and following periods of snowfall.

Public Works would like to remind residents that the pushing/plowing of snow onto Borough roads is prohibited by ordinance. Please take the time to advise your contractors. Remember, the icing over of residual snow in the roadways creates unnecessary safety hazards and removal takes a severe toll on the Borough's equipment. For further information regarding property maintenance and snow removal, visit http://www.codedsystems.com/watchung_nj.htm to review the Watchung Borough code and check the bulletin board on our borough website @ www.watchungnj.com.



Watchung Historical Committee

The Watchung Historical Committee is charged with the preservation of the history of the Borough of Watchung. The Committee works diligently to not only preserve what we have from the past, but actively collects items of current interest for the future. The Committee also provides a yearly summary of Borough activities and keeps news clippings which will be of interest in the future. The Committee looks forward to having a permanent home where we can display these items. We will keep you posted!

During meetings of the Committee, members often reminisce about, “the good old days.” We thought it might be fun to gather some facts about the Watchung some of us remember.

DID YOU KNOW THAT???

- **in the 1940’s and 50’s Watchung Lake was a thriving public swim club?** Five hundred to a thousand people would come on hot summer week ends to swim. The cars parked where the “village green” is now. When the lot became full, cars parked on local streets and private properties for a nominal fee.
- **the Art Center was a four-room school house for Grades 1 through 8?** There were two grades in a room. There was an outhouse behind the school until the late 1930’s. There was a little cabin and another outhouse right opposite the entrance doors to the Art Center. A local old fellow named Clem lived there until the 1960’s.
- **there was an old wood road behind the old school (Art Center)?** It went up to Woodledge Road and on to Johnston Drive.
- **Tuttle Road was the only side street off Valley road until Redmont Road was built in the early 50’s?**
- **Runnells Hospital was known as Bonnie Burn Sanitarium?** Tuberculosis patients were treated there, believing that the fresh country air was beneficial. There was a cement pool used for swimming and therapy as well as a pond for ice skating in the winter. There was a field on the east side used for Little League and Pony Tail baseball games.
- **a policeman was needed to direct traffic every morning and evening before the circle was made?** Residents thought the traffic was “just awful!”
- **the Borough Hall also housed the Police Department and the Fire Department?** There was a jail cell where the Borough Engineer and the Public Works departments are now. The telephone number for the administrative offices is the original phone number of the Watchung Police Department. (908-756-0080)
- **the Borough Hall also served as an auditorium, a gym, and a theatre?** School graduations, basketball games and Friday night dances were held there and the Valley Players produced and performed plays there. It was also the site of many community dinners, including venison, spaghetti and potluck. Where the rest rooms are now, there was a full kitchen to provide for these dinners.
- **every winter, when it snowed, Hillcrest Road (Dugway Hill) was used for sledding?** Kids and adults started at the top of Hillcrest Road and sped downhill all the way to the Washington House (now past the Delta station). You could only get one or two rides an afternoon or evening because it took so long to walk back up the hill!

continued on next page—



- **there was a big field off of Valley Road where Orchard Road is now?** The boys played football there every Sunday while the girls watched and cheered.
- **there was a spring fed pond behind the old Eaton House, where locals could swim?**
- **there was an old cabin with a beautiful stone fireplace behind the Charles A. Eaton II House off Valley Road?** The Girl Scouts and high school teenagers used the cabin to camp in every spring. A spring was used as a water supply. This was in the area where Knightsbridge road is now
- **there was a deep spring-fed quarry pit where the senior condos are being built on the Schmidt property?** Children were forbidden to go there because it was so deep!
- **the original post office was on the site of the Schmidt building?** Where the Bank of America is now located.
- **there was an old family graveyard between Lakeview avenue and Hughes Lane, near the top?** Houses dot the site now.
- **there was a beautiful old Victorian house in the triangle where the post office is now?** It was originally owned by the Miles family and then it housed Smith's Florist.
- **the Water and Wine restaurant was originally an auto repair shop called the Red Wheel?** They had a bar and grill on the lower level so that people could walk over from the lake. After that it was called Lake Edge.
- **where the Getty gas station is now, there was a delicatessen, a small gas station, a liquor store and a grocery store with a real ice cream soda fountain?**
- **next to Exit Realty on the corner was a small store with three apartments?** This was called the Honeymoon Flats because newly married couples lived there while their houses were being built. (This is below where the Rescue Squad Building stands.) The store also held the first library and some of us remember that the books always smelled musty! Dick Stevens of Watchung was Director of the Library from 1976 to 1979. Watchung became part of the Somerset County Library system in 1981.
- **Watchung had many small cabins scattered throughout the Borough?** A far cry from the large homes existing now!
- **the stone bridge on the east side of Best Lake was called the Bride's Bridge?** This was because all the brides used that location for picture taking. They took advantage of the beautiful greens surrounding the lake.

Historical Committee Members: Sue Feibush, Chair, Diddy Addario, Betty Aldrich, Betty Black, Ginny Cooper, Barbara Diem and Betsy Titus.

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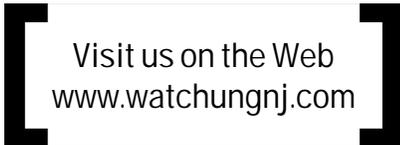
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Ed Bennett 756-6093
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Watchung Hills Regional High School

Grades 9 through 12
108 Stirling Road
Warren, NJ 07059
647-4800

Police

Emergency 911
Non-emergency 756-3663

Emergency Management

Contact Police Dept. 756-3663

Engineering Office

Tom Herits 756-0091
therits@watchungnj.com

Tax Assessor

Edward L. Kerwin 756-3366
ekerwin@watchungnj.com

Tax Collector

Catherine L. Park 756-8333
cpark@watchungnj.com

Bayberry Elementary School

Kindergarten through 4th Grade
Bayberry Lane
755-8184

Fire Department

Emergency 911
Non-emergency 561-9389

Watchung Arts Center

for information call: 753-0190

Watchung Public Library

Library Hours:

Monday/Thursday.....10am-9pm
Friday.....10am-4:30pm
Saturday.....10am-4pm
Sunday.....Closed
Closed Saturdays during July/Aug.
561-0117

Valley View Middle School

Grades 5 through 8
Valley View Road
755-4422