

SPRING 2007



PUBLISHED BY THE BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG

The Borough of Watchung Community Newsletter

Mayor's Message

Having our first snow storm in February is a bit unusual. However, once again congratulations to the Public Works Department as they continue to do a fine job clearing the roads. The cold weather should keep the snow on the dam for a while and the children can enjoy sledding. Please beware—the snow on the lake slows the freezing process making it unsafe.

The Library Committee continues to meet and have visited several new libraries gathering ideas which may be incorporated in their plan. I know they plan to visit the Fanwood Library as that is a community of a similar size. I am confident the committee will have a plan this year.

The committee reviewing the Ness property is moving toward the first-phase plan to define the wetland area in order to submit our request for a one million dollar open space grant from Somerset County.

Regarding Best Lake, I had hoped we would be into construction by now, however we do have final plans and work on reconstruction of the dam and dredging will begin this spring. A conceptual plan is in Borough Hall for your viewing. I am pleased the style fits the site and the area.

Spratford Park is complete and we are planning a dedication ceremony on the 14th of April. Carol Spratford and her family will be able to be there. I am looking forward to it and hope to see many of you in attendance to honor Elmer.

Councilman Bill Nehls is planning another Emergency Services Pancake Breakfast in April. Final details will be posted on our website and channel 22.

We have received word that NJDOT will begin the second stage of the Route I-78 reconstruction project and work is scheduled to begin on or about March 9, 2007. The work will be ongoing (weather permitting) to November, 2007. A major change will be eastbound access to the Garden State Parkway will be from the local lanes only. Errant Vehicles will be directed to utilize the U-turn at Exit 54. There will be advance warning signs with directions.

Please note the request from the Watchung Educational Foundation in this letter. Sign up for their spring Walkathon fundraising event on Sunday, April 22nd.

Finally, as a charter lifetime member of the Optimist Club, please take note of their request for new members. An increase in membership will greatly aid the club in continuing their excellent events for our youth.

Mayor, Al Ellis

**BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG BULKY WASTE COLLECTION
REGISTRATION APPLICATION**

Please return this application with your check made payable to the Borough of Watchung

Name: _____ Number of Permits : ____ @\$35.00 = ____
(one per 350 lbs. of material)

Address: _____ District # 1 2
(Circle District Number)

Telephone No. _____

Materials must be out at the curb be 7:00 AM on the Monday of your designated week.

Please indicate the items you are planning to dispose of on collection day by checking below.
(approximate weights included)

- Air conditioner	100	_ Refrigerator	400
- Bathtub	400	_ Rug 5x8	50
- Chair (large stuffed)	75	_ Sink (porcelain)	40
- Chair (small straight)	25	_ Sofa	150
- Cedar chest	70	_ Sofa bed	300
- Coffee table	50	_ Stove	250
- Desk (large)	100	_ Table (large)	100
- Dishwasher	150	_ Table (small)	50
- Door	50	_ Tire (auto)	20
- Dresser (adult)	170	_ Toilet & tank	100
- Dryer	200	_ TV (portable)	75
- Freezer	250	_ TV (console)	100
- Gas barbecue grill	70	_ Washing machine	300
- Hot Water Heater (40 gal)	150	_ Window	30
- Lawn mower	100	_ Other (Please list with est. weight)	
- Mattress (double)	75	-	
- Microwave oven	80		

STATEMENT OF AGREEMENT

I agree there will be no construction materials, regular household garbage, hazardous waste, flammable explosive waste, containers with excessive liquid, mandatory recyclable materials and similar types of items included in the materials set at the curb for collection. I will not knowingly exceed the weight limitation of 350 lbs. of material per permit sticker. I understand and agree that any unauthorized material or materials that exceed the weight limitations as determined by designated Borough officials and/or the contractor will be left at the curb and must be removed by the end of the collection day.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

FOR DEPARTMENT USE ONLY

Check No. _____ **Amount:** _____ **Date:** _____ **Initials:** _____

District # ____ **Permit Numbers Rec'd:** _____



BULK PICK UP
DISTRICT #1
(June 4-8)

ACORN ROAD
ANDERSON ROAD
APPLETREE ROW
BEECHWOOD PLACE
BLUE WOLF TRAIL
BROOKDALE ROAD
CAIN CIRCLE
CARRAR DRIVE
CEDAR LANE
CEDAR ROAD
CRESTWOOD DRIVE
DALE ROAD
DAWN WAY
DEER RUN
DOGWOOD LANE
DRIFT ROAD
DUG WAY
EVERGREEN LANE
FAWN LANE
FOREST DRIVE
GENTIAN LANE
GILDERSLEEVE PLACE
GLEN EAGLE DRIVE

GLENVIEW DRIVE
GUINARD DRIVE
HEATHER LANE
HIGH OAKS DRIVE
HIGH TOR DRIVE
HILL PLACE
HILLCREST ROAD
HILLSIDE AVENUE
HUGHES LANE
INDIAN RUN
JOAN DRIVE
JOHANNA LANE
KAPPELMAN DRIVE
KNOLLWOOD DRIVE
LAKEVIEW AVENUE
LAKEVIEW TERRACE
MAPLE STREET
MOUNTAIN BLVD.
NATALES WAY
PARK PLACE
PARLIN LANE
PHILLIP LANE
PINE LANE

REYNOLDS DRIVE
RIDGE ROAD
ROBIN GLEN ROAD
ROCK AVENUE
ROCK ROAD EAST
SCHMIDT CIRCLE
SCOTT DRIVE
SHAWNEE DRIVE
SNODEN LANE
SPENCER LANE
STANIE BRAE DRIVE
STANIE GLEN
STIRLING ROAD
STONE GATE
SUNLIT DRIVE
VALLEY VIEW ROAD
VERONA PLACE
WASHINGTON DRIVE
WASHINGTON ROCK ROAD
WATCHUNG CREST DRIVE
WETUMKA LANE
WILDWOOD TERRACE
WINANS LANE
WINTER LANE

DISTRICT #2
(June 11-15)

APPLETREE ROW
BAYBERRY LANE
BIRCHWOOD LANE
BONNIE BURN ROAD
BROOK DRIVE
BUMBLE BEE LANE
CANTERBURY LANE
CARDINAL DRIVE
CENTURY LANE
CHELSEA CLUB COURT
COREY LANE
CRYSTAL RIDGE DRIVE
DEVONSHIRE LANE
DIAMOND COURT
EAST DRIVE
EATON ROAD
EDGEMONT ROAD
ELSINORE DRIVE
ELLISEN ROAD
EMERALD DRIVE
FOX CHASE DRIVE
FRIAR LANE

GALLOWAE
GRAND VIEW DRIVE
HILL HOLLOW ROAD
HYDE CIRCLE
JARED COURT
JOHNSTON DRIVE
JOHNSTON DRIVE EXTENSION
KING RICHARD'S COURT
KNIGHTSBRIDGE
KRISTY LANE
MAREU DRIVE
MEADOWLARK ROAD
MOUNTAIN DRIVE
NEW PROVIDENCE ROAD
NOTTINGHAM DRIVE
OAKRIDGE LANE
OAKWOOD ROAD
OAKWOOD ROAD EAST
OAKWOOD ROAD WEST
OLD SOMERSET DRIVE
ORCHARD ROAD
PLAINFIELD AVENUE
PRICE DRIVE

PROSPECT AVENUE
REDMONT ROAD
ROUTE 22
SEQUOIA DRIVE
SHADY BROOK COURT
SHERWOOD DRIVE
SKYLINE DRIVE
SOMERSET STREET
SUMMIT WAY
SUNBRIGHT ROAD
TALL TIMBERS ROAD
TEMPLAR DRIVE
TUTTLE ROAD
UPPER DRIVE
VAIL LANE
VALLEY DRIVE
VALLEY ROAD
WATCHUNG AVENUE
WILL LANE
WOLFORD COURT
WOODED ROAD
WOODLEDGE ROAD



TRAFFIC AND BEAUTIFICATION

Another busy year is starting and, thanks to our T&B members and Charlie Gunther and the Public Works Crew, our town will be as beautiful as ever.

Operation Pride will be held on March 24th this year. This is a fun community project so please join us.

Our long awaited Spratford Park on Somerset Street is almost finished and will be dedicated in the spring to the memory of Elmer Spratford, one of our esteemed past councilmen.

The spring will also be our Annual planting in the triangles by Borough Hall. This project always makes the town such a picturesque place to live and to drive through.



Department of Public Works—Spring Cleanup

The Department of Public Works will again have a Spring Cleanup. Use biodegradable paper bags for all lawn debris and secure small branches and twigs in manageable bundles at your curbside. Trash or refuse will not be picked up and only small branches arranged in manageable bundles will be accepted. Your own contractor should remove large limbs/trees, which have fallen outside of the Borough's Right-Of-Way. Remember, raking of leaves and debris into the gutter is strictly prohibited by ordinance and may result in the issuance of a summons.

The curbside spring pickup will begin on April 2nd and continue through April 30th. If you have any questions regarding our conditions, please call the Dept. of Public Works at 756-0091 ext.14 or 753-6115.

Wood chips available while supplies last. Arrangements can be made by contacting Public Works Dept. at 753-6115

RECREATION
UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual Community Picnic-Mobus Field
Sunday, May 28th 12:00-3:00 pm
Rain date Monday, May 28th
Hot dogs, pizza & fun for whole family



Outdoor Concert-Mobus Field
June 2006, 7:00-9:00 pm
details to be posted



CAMPS

Summer Playground-Mobus Field
June 25th-August 3rd-9:00-3:00
Swim Days at Brook Hill
Registration packet available in May



Little Wonders-Mobus Field
(ages 2 1/2-6 1/2)
Jun.18-22, Aug.6-10, Aug.20-24-10-12 noon
Educational activities,arts,crafts, outdoor play



Sports Squirts Camp-Mobus Field
August 13-17, 4:00-5:30 pm (ages 3-5)
FEE: \$90.00

FOR AGES 5-14:

Golf Camp-Mobus Field
July 16-23rd-3:15-5:00 pm
FEE: \$115.00



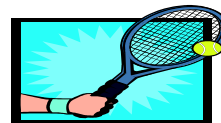
Lacrosse Camp-Mobus Field
July 23-27th-3:15-5:15 pm
FEE: \$110.00



Field Hockey Camp-Mobus Field
July 30th-August 3rd-3:15-5:15 pm
FEE: \$110.00



Multi Sports Camp-Mobus Field
August 13-17th-9:00-3:00 pm
FEE: \$180.00



THERAPEUTIC RECREATION PROGRAMS

The Recreation Commission offers a Therapeutic Recreation program through a cooperative effort with the Somerset County Parks Commission. Further information regarding the Therapeutic Recreation program is available by contacting Somerset County's Therapeutic Recreation office at (908) 526-5650 or online at www.somersetcountyparks.org

RECREATION—continued

PROGRAMS

Women's Volleyball—(age 18 & older)
Pick up style league
Monday nights—7-9 pm- through June
Valley View School

Jr. Volleyball—(grades 6-8)
Instructional league
Monday nights—7-8 pm-starts in March
Valley View School

HOCKEY

Summer Field Hockey (age 14 & older)
Wednesday nights—6:30-8:30 pm
Starts June 27th

Jr. Field Hockey-Girls (grade 6-8)
Instructional League—8 weeks
Sundays— 3-4 pm-(volunteers needed)
Starts September 9th

OPEN GYM BASKETBALL

18 and older- Pick up style league
Friday nights-7-9 pm (starts September)
Valley View School

TENNIS

Courts open during normal park hours
Please reserve court call: 908-756-0080,X35
Lessons available February-August

SOFTBALL

Watchung Ponytail Softball Web: www.whponytailsoftball.com

BASEBALL

Watchung Little League Web: www.watchunglittleleague.org

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

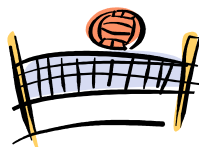
FOOTBALL

Watchung Hills Pop Warner Web: www.watchunghillspopwarner.org

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

BASKETBALL—e-mail: Watchunghoops@optonline.net

*****ANNUAL WATCHUNG LITTLE LEAGUE & PONYTAIL PARADE***
WILL TAKE PLACE APRIL 21st—9:00 AM**





TREES & OUR ENVIRONMENT

The roots of trees help keep streams and rivers clean by preventing soil erosion. Soil washed away by stormwater and deposited in waterways causes a buildup of sediment that can harm aquatic organisms and make rivers, lakes and harbors more susceptible to flooding.

Trees are among the hardest working natural resources in our community. They enhance our quality of life with their beauty and provide habitat for birds and other creatures. But trees also contribute a significant amount of the oxygen in the earth's atmosphere and they play a major role in keeping the environment clean.

Drinking water supplies also benefit from trees. Their leafy crowns break the impact of falling rain so that more water has time to evaporate or drip gradually onto the soil, replenishing groundwater supplies, instead of racing to the nearest storm sewer.

"Trees also scrub ozone, sulfur dioxide and other pollutants from the air we breathe and in some areas where landfills or manufacturing activities have polluted the ground or surrounding wetlands, cleanup projects sometimes call for planting certain types of trees that help absorb the toxins through a process called phytoremediation."

Trees fight global warming

With growing concerns about climate change, Watchung residents have a simple way to fight global warming in their own back yards just by planting and protecting trees. Large trees on the south, east and west sides of a house can reduce energy use for air conditioning, cutting summer electricity usage by 5 to 10 percent. In the winter, deciduous trees drop their leaves so that the sun's rays help warm the house, reducing heating fuel consumption. As a result, trees help reduce a household's carbon footprint all year long.

"In Watchung we appreciate our trees and we have a long tradition of protecting them," said Mayor Ellis. "The municipality will release an ordinance this year that discourages unnecessary tree removal and will require replacement, especially those that are damaged or destroyed during construction.



BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG RESIDENT EMAIL

To sign up for the Borough of Watchung Resident Email mailing list, go to the bulletin board on www.watchungnj.com and click on Watchung Resident Email Mailing List. Follow the instructions for filling out the form. When the completed form is submitted, you will receive an email confirming your subscription. **YOU MUST REPLY TO THIS EMAIL TO CONFIRM YOUR SUBSCRIPTION.** If you do not follow the instructions on the email and reply to it, you are not signed up to receive emails. This confirmation eliminates the possibility of people signing other people up for the service without their knowledge. You can cancel or amend your subscription by logging on to <https://mail.watchungnj.net/mailman/listinfo/watchung-news>. Your information is kept private and can only be seen by the list administrator. Contact bhance@watchungnj.com with any questions or problems.

PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN LEAD POISONING

Lead Poisoning is the #1 environmental health issue affecting children under six.

If your home was built before 1978, your children could be at risk. Each year, nearly 5,000 New Jersey children are diagnosed with dangerous levels of lead in their blood. This statewide problem affects urban, suburban and rural households.

Financial assistance is available to help residential property owners remediate lead-based paint hazards. Families with a lead poisoned child may be eligible to receive assistance to relocate to lead-safe housing.

If you need help to eliminate lead-based paint hazards from your home call the DCA Hot line at 1-877-DCA-LEAD or Visit www.lead-safe-nj.org

LEAD BASED PAINT? THE DCA CAN HELP

NOTE: Information on Planning Board and Board of Adjustment activity is available on the Borough's official website www.watchungnj.com through the "Meeting Agenda" & Meeting Minutes" links.

Cat Licenses

Cat licenses are due during the month of May. **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 April of licensing 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 AM to 4:00 PM.

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 cats seven months of age or older must be licensed. If you have more than one cat to register, please provide requested information for each cat. You may use a separate sheet of paper or pick up additional registration forms at Borough Hall. Proof of vaccination must be submitted with this form for each animal registered. 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: _____

Cat: Male _____ Female _____ Breed: _____ Date of birth: _____

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

Cat's Name: _____

Neutered _____ Spayed _____ Rabies inoculation (compulsory) Date expires: _____

Proof of rabies vaccination must be sent with this application.

Veterinarian's Name: _____



Fee Schedule:

During May, \$3.00 for NEUTERED cats

Maximum Fee \$15.00 per household

During May, \$5.00 for NON-NEUTERED

Maximum Fee \$25.00 per household

After May 31st, a \$2.00 late fee per license Is added.

Fee Calculation

License Fee Neutered: \$3 x _____ \$ _____
Maximum \$15.00 (#cats)

Non-Neutered Fee: \$5 x _____ \$ _____
Maximum \$25.00 (#cats)

Late Fee: \$2.00/cat \$ _____
After 5/31/05

Total Due: \$ _____

Make check payable to: Borough of Watchung

LIBRARY NEWS



CHILDREN—AGES 2 AND 3 WITH CAREGIVER

Friday Fun Storytime - 10:30 AM

(child must be 24 months when program begins)

Books, songs, fingerplays, flannelboard stories, puppets and crafts.

March 9 & 23; April 13 & 27

JUST THREES-AGE 3 ONLY WITH CAREGIVER

(child must be 36 months when program begins)

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

Monday, April 23rd at 10:30 AM

BIRTH THROUGH AGE 4 WITH CAREGIVER

Music to Move By with Ann Wild

Music, rhythms and fun for everyone!

Wednesdays, Mar. 14 & 28, Apr. 11 & 25

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

YOU MUST CHOOSE ONE OF THE TWO SESSIONS



AGES 3 AND 4 WITH CAREGIVER

(child must be at least 36 months when program begins)

Stories and Stuff

Age-appropriate books, songs, crafts, handplay, rhythm and stuff!

Monday, March 12 & April 30—11:00 AM

AGES 4 to 7

Miss June's Room

Project & story with snack

Thursday, March 1 & April 5—4:00—5:00 PM



AGES 5 & UP

For Dog Lovers: Bake A Biscuit!

Read to a dog and bake dog biscuits!

Tuesday, April 3—4:00 PM



AGES 6 AND UP

Baking and Books with Doug

Bake something delicious to eat and hear some great stories

Tuesday, March 13 & April 17—4:00 PM

Downstairs Seniors Room



—Continued on next page—

SECOND GRADE & UP

(for those children who know how to play Chess)

Watchung Library Chess Club

Tuesdays—6 PM –Downstairs Seniors Room

March 6, 13, 20, 27, & April 3, 10, 17, 24



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.

AGES 7 & UP

A Wild Spring! - (A two-part program)

Part 1: Tuesday, March 20 & Part 2: April 10—3:30 PM

Why did the chipmunk cross the road? Join a Naturalist from the Somerset County Parks Commission Environmental Educational Center for a two-part program where you'll discover some wild facts about amazing animals in your neighborhood. Learn which creatures call your backyard home, find out how to spot them, and discover what they're up to! It's busy out there - don't miss what's happening!

AGES 8 & UP

Rats!!! And Other Small Animals/Great Pets

Presented by: MCR 4-H Club

Monday, April 9—7 PM –Downstairs Seniors Room

If the names Scabbers, Templeton, Cluny the Scourge, and Chiaroscuro ring familiar, you won't want to miss this very special program on how to raise rats, rabbits, Chincillas and Guinea pigs. Real pets will be on hand, as owners answer questions and show you how to raise small animals.

GRADES 5 & 6

Animation Workshop Club—(a four-session class)

Presented by: Children's Technology Workshop

Wednesday, March 21, 28, & April 11, 18—4:00-5:00 PM

Lights! Camera! Action! Kids become movie producers in this digital stop motion animation workshop. Working in teams of two or three, the young movie moguls work through the animation process including concept generation, scripting, character, set and prop development, filming using stop motion techniques, editing, creating special effects and producing the final production. In the final class, the kids' productions will debut on the silver screen as they enjoy each other's work in a film festival. All final productions will be uploaded to CTWorkshop's FTP site for easy access by students and their friends and family.

THIS IS A FOUR-SESSION CLASS.— Individuals selected MUST COMMIT to attending all four sessions.

IMPORTANT: Given the anticipated popularity of the class and the limited number of seats available, individuals who are interested in attending must fill out an entry form at the library by Monday, March 12 10:00 AM—at that time, twelve names will be pulled from the returned entry forms.

The selected twelve will be notified by phone. Additional information about the content of the program can be obtained by calling Mark Noble of Children's Technology Workshop at 908-264-9147

GRADES 6 & UP

Chocolate Fever!

Tuesday, April 24—7:00 PM

If you think you can never have too much chocolate, you're right! Come and enjoy a fountain of chocolate and a feast of chocolate treats to eat!

—Continued on next page—

FAMILY PROGRAMS

The Mystery of Marbleizing—(Ages 3 to 93)

Presented by: Apple Annie

Thursday, March 15 at 7:00 PM

Join Nancy Leary of Apple Annie Productions for an interactive marbling program. Individuals will make their own patterned paper, trinket boxes, and many other paper items such as stationary and masks. The history of the craft will also be discussed.

Monday Morning Moms

(Moms & Caregivers with Young Children)

Monday, March 5 & 19, April 2 & 16— 10:00-11:00 AM

Why travel to the mall or Wegmans café to chat with your friends? Bring your little ones and meet at the library! Light refreshments, and a crateful of toys and books to keep toddlers busy will be waiting for you here. Bet out of the house and stop by the library! (No program—just time and space for you).

Masters of the Celtic Harp- (All Ages)

Thursday, March 8 - 4:00 PM at the Watchung Arts Center

Enjoy the music of two of the foremost harpers of Ireland and Scotland in a family-friendly concert that will soothe and delight. Grainne Hambly and William Jackson will be playing harps, concertina, tin whistle and bouzouki. The result: Two great players and one fantastic show! **REGISTRATION REQUIRED AND LIMITED!**

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Watchung Movie Matinee—(ADULTS)

Wednesday—1:00 PM

March 7-	My Dog Skip	April 4-	Finding Neverland
March 21-	Cinderella Man	April 18-	Seabiscuit

BOOK CLUBS

Tasty Bites and Books

Third Monday of the Month—12:00 Noon

March 19—*The Ha-Ha* by Dave King April 16—*Regeneration* by Pat Barker

Watchung Book Club

Second Thursday of the month—7:00 PM

March 8—*War Reporting for Cowards*—by Chris Ayres
April 12—*Fierce Invalids Home from Hot Climates*—by Tom Robbins

Social Action Book Club

Thursday, March 22—7:00 PM

The Way We Eat: Why Our Food Choices Matter— by Peter Singer

Current Book Club

Second Monday of the Month—7:30 PM

March 12—*Digging to America*—by Anne Tyler April 9—*The Memory Keeper's Daughter*—by Kim Edwards

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. CELL PHONE USE NOT PERMITTED IN LIBRARY AND DURING PROGRAMS IN THE SENIORS ROOM AND WATCHUNG ARTS CENTER

SUPPORT THE WATCHUNG EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The Watchung Educational Foundation is an independent, non-profit, community based philanthropic organization. Our mission is to independently finance curriculum enhancement through a grant process, to benefit the students of the Watchung Public Schools.

The Watchung Educational Foundation consists of volunteer members of the Watchung community who are actively working on our children's behalf. Our goal is to increase awareness of our purpose and plan fundraising activities and events in order to raise money for the Bayberry and Valley View Schools. The money will provide an ongoing and centralized source of additional funds and resources to assist the Watchung Public Schools in maintaining and enhancing the quality of education.

Through the success of our efforts and the generosity of our contributors, innovative and creative projects will be funded that will enrich the curricula and improve technology. To date, we have funded the Peaceful Playground, Rainbows and Battle of the Books projects.

We all have an important stake in the quality of our public school system. In economic ways and more importantly, the invaluable experience our children will gain from the program enhancements that generous donations will fund.

The Watchung Educational Foundation organizes ongoing fundraising activities throughout the year. One of our most successful fundraising activities is the RIC Program. We collect and recycle empty Inkjet Cartridges. Not only do we financially benefit from this activity, but it also helps to protect our environment. If you or your company would like to participate in this program, or you would like to make a donation to our organization, please visit our website at www.wefund.org for more information.

We invite you to participate in our spring Walkathon fundraising event on Sunday, April 22, 2007. Through this cooperative community effort we hope to encourage unity, promote ongoing relationships and provide the important link between our school system and the community. More information will be available shortly.



YOUR LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT WHAT WE DO FOR YOU

The title notwithstanding, it is impossible to describe in a brief article all the services your local health department provides, but it is extremely important that you and all we serve understand how we serve you. The residents of the State of New Jersey may be called upon to determine the source, and thus the extent, of the public health services they receive. If this comes to pass, the public will have to make an informed decision and your local health department is here to help you make that decision.

Your municipality receives public health services from the Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission, of which it is a full member. The Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission is a full service public health department providing services dictated by national standards, State health and environmental laws, and the needs of the communities we serve.

Due to the consolidate nature of the Commission, your municipality shares public health services with five other towns. This allows the costs of these services to be reduced, but at the same time provides for local response and services. The Commission and its staff are involved in your town thus enabling us to understand your needs, get to know you and the community, and provide quality local services at a reduced price with no loss of services. Our proximity and knowledge of the community is particularly important in these times requiring emergency preparedness activities.

The Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission provides a complete array of public health and environmental health services. Just a few of these services are: health screenings and clinics, such as blood pressure checks, well-baby clinics, and flu clinics; emergency response, preparedness, and planning; environmental health activities such as wells, safe drinking water, septic systems, and indoor air issues; participation in local health activities such as municipal drug and alcohol committees, team response with local police, fire, EMS, and emergency management; working with numerous local partners to provide the best public health services possible. We also provide health education and information sessions, inspect all the local restaurants and schools, respond to local complaints, and investigate cases of communicable disease in the community. Our activities are endless.

We are your local health department and we plan on being here for you for many years to come. If we can provide you with any assistance or information ,please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here to prevent disease, promote the well-being of our citizens, and protect your health. Let us help you become healthy, and by so doing we will make our community healthy. Contact us at 732-356-8090 or by email at mbrhc@middlebrookhealth.org.

Public Health
Prevent, Promote, Protect

WATCHUNG FIRE DEPARTMENT



During 2006, the Watchung Volunteer Fire Department responded to 284 calls, held 25 training drills and attended 5 mutual aid training sessions totaling over 2600 man hours.

Please help us find you in case of an emergency. House numbers should be clearly visible to all emergency services. Numbers should be a minimum of 3" and reflective. It is recommended that these markings be on a mailbox or a lawn marker at the street. Valuable time can be lost trying to determine the correct address for our response.

Remember Daylight Savings Time starts earlier than usual this year. On March 10th, when you change your clocks, change your smoke and carbon monoxide detector batteries. Test your detectors at least once a month. As a family, prepare an evacuation plan with 2 ways out of each room and a meeting place outside your home. Practice your plan so you are prepared in case of an emergency.

Are you planning major renovations or rebuilding your house or business? You can help the fire department by allowing us to train at the structure prior to demolition. We can perform search, rescue, ventilation, ladders, hose line advancement and other valuable training in a real setting. Information is available at the Construction office at the time you apply for the demolition permit. During 2006, we were given permission to train at O'Conner's multiple times, as well as a few homes in town. Please help us in our training efforts so we can better serve the community.

Are you planning to sell your home? If so, there is a new law in effect that requires the seller to have a minimum of one 5 to 10 pound ABC dry chemical fire extinguisher mounted and visible in the kitchen area of the residence. As a reminder, you must also have smoke and carbon monoxide detectors mounted, operating and inspected prior to the sale. For assistance on the number and location of these required items, please contact the Bureau of Fire Prevention at (908) 756-0080.

Do you have a hydrant on or near your property? During spring and summer, they can become hard to find when grass and plants start to grow. You can help us by keeping these hydrants clear and visible to us. Cut back new growth in the warm weather. Being able to quickly find a hydrant can save us precious time in an emergency. Please adopt a hydrant and help out!

The Watchung Volunteer Fire Department is always in need of new members. Any person, 16 years of age or older with a desire to serve their community, can join. We have many responsibilities to perform from firefighters to drivers and pump operators. Training is provided at no cost to you. If you would like to know more about membership, please stop down at the firehouse at 57 Mountain Blvd., on Sunday mornings between 10:00 AM and 12:00 noon or call (908) 561-9389 and leave a message with your name and phone number.



The Optimist Club of Watchung Wants You!

Have you ever thought about giving something back to the community? Would you like to help make Watchung a better place for your children to grow up? If so, a rewarding experience awaits you as a member of the Watchung Optimist Club.

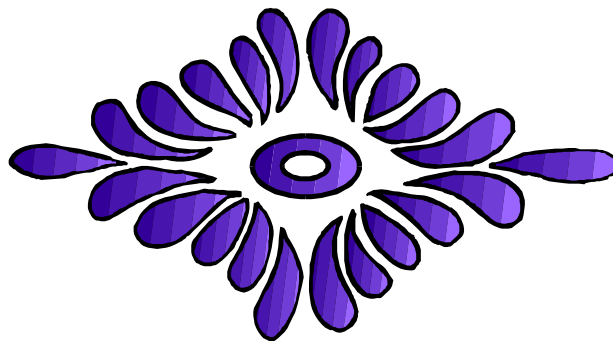
The Watchung Optimist Club is a service organization that has served Watchung since 1965. During that time, thousands of the borough's children have participated in our programs. The Optimist Club sponsors many of the community's annual events that you already know about. The Annual Fishing Derby at Watchung Lake, the Cub Scout Pinewood Derby, the Oratorical Contest at Valley View School, and the Annual Watchung Hills Regional High School Sports Banquet.

Did you know that Optimist International is one of the most active community service club organizations in North America? It's comprised of more than 115,000 members in 3,500 clubs. Promoting the motto "Friend of Youth," the Optimists conduct positive community service programs that reach in excess of 6 million young people each year. For more than 80 years, Optimist Clubs have worked with their local communities all over North America sponsoring more than 65,000 annual youth oriented grassroots volunteer service projects.

Learn more about the Optimist Club of Watchung and see how you can get involved in a positive way. The time commitment is small, but the payback is great. If you have ideas for new programs, we'd love to hear about them.

For more information on how you can begin to make a difference in the lives of Watchung's kids, please go to our website at <http://watchungoptimists.com>

Or contact: Joel Stambaugh - 908-769-7356



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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

Ed 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: 561-0190

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