BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG NEWS

ISSUE 2013-01 THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG SPRING/SUMMER

This Newsletter was ready to go to print when our dear friend and colleague Mayor Jerry Mobus passed away suddenly. We are sending it out with his last letter to the residents of Watchung whom he loved so much.

FROM OUR MAYOR

Dear Fellow Residents:

The past few newsletters we sent out had a lot of information about Irene and the October sudden snow storm. We had hoped that Watchung and our residents would not be faced with either situation again....We all, deep down inside, were, as my Mother would say "It's wishful thinking"... Super Storm Sandy was over and above what anyone could imagine.

This Newsletter is somewhat of a chronological report to all our residents as to what actually has been done or will be done if there is ever another such event.

First I would again like to publicly thank all our emergency service groups for what seemed to be an extended, continual call of duty. The Watchung Police, Fire, Rescue Squad, Board of Ed, Public Works Depart., Office of Emergency Management, the staff of Borough Hall and my colleagues on the Borough Council.

Following the storm, the Governing Body held a special forum at the Municipal Court facility to bring the public up to date on where we were headed, and to listen to your opinions on what the Borough could do to improve, should we ever have a similar event, and also give residents the opportunity to serve on a sub-committee. The Governing Body listened to their concerns, as the input we received was valuable.

In December all the service groups met for what the Military calls an "After Action Review" or AAR, facilitated by Councilman Pote. Several areas were identified as "Needs Improvement." They are communications, electrical power, internet upgrades, and the need to be able to retro-fit local buildings to be able to serve as warming stations and possibly shelters, if needed. All the Borough's buildings were assessed to assure minimum down time in a maximum situation and we're adding wellness lists, block captains and introduction of a CERT Team. Each sub-committee has provided a report in this newsletter.

A few other announcements that need to be noted: The date for the annual Community Picnic has been changed. Historically this event has always been held on Memorial Day weekend. With so many families taking a short "holiday" away, this year the Recreation Commission has moved the date up to Saturday, May 18th, with a rain date of May 19th, giving more people the opportunity to attend. This is always a great time and I hope to see everyone there.

For a second year, the Borough, along with Somerset County, will host a "shred" event on Saturday, June 15th in the Police Department parking lot. Residents can bring their boxes of old documents to be safely and securely shredded.

I would like to close this portion of the "Newsletter" by asking for your help by serving on the CERT team, or volunteering for the Rescue Squad or Fire Department. The Borough is grateful for all who donate their most valuable resource—time.

Yours truly,

Jerry

Jerry Mobus, Mayor

WATCHUNG RECREATION'S ANNUAL COMMUNITY

PICNIC

****NOTE: New Date!****

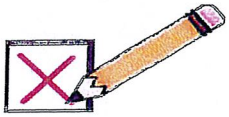
****NOTE: New Date!****

SATURDAY, MAY 18TH, 2013
(RAIN DATE MAY 19TH)

12:00 NOON – 3:00PM
MOBUS FIELD

Please join the Watchung Recreation Commission for a fun day of activities for the entire family.
Serving refreshments, hot dogs, pizza, Italian ice, Popsicles and more!

Demonstrations, music and games throughout the day.
Giant inflatable jumpers, train rides and Ponies!
Call Watchung Recreation (908)756-0080 for more information.
This is a free event for all Watchung residents. www.watchungnj.com



POLL WORKERS NEEDED!

If you are interested in serving as a Poll Worker for the **June 4th** Primary Election or the **November 5th** General Election, **contact the Somerset County Election Board at 908-231-7084** or for a complete outline of duties, responsibilities, and compensation information visit their website at:
www.co.somerset.nj.us/elections

VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINES
Last day to Register:

For Primary Election—**May 14th**

For General Election—**October 15th**

For Change of Party Affiliation Declarations:
April 10th

Lessons Learned—Always Working to Improve

First, I want to commend the members of the Watchung Police Department, as well as our Emergency Service brothers and sisters on the effort put forth during Hurricane Sandy. The Emergency Services, the DPW, Borough Hall staff and our Mayor and Council members all worked tirelessly during what was the worst storm ever experienced by most of us. No one can question the effort put forth, however when going through such an experience, there are always lessons learned. Since the end of the State of Emergency, there have been meetings attended, committees formed and the governing body continues to evaluate and improve upon our efforts to be better prepared for the next event.

One of the areas where we feel we came up short was communicating with you, our residents. This would be a good time to recognize you. For the most part, the residents of Watchung displayed your resolve and your compassion to your neighbors. The characteristics exhibited by you during this emergency are exactly what make Watchung special! We have taken some steps already to improve on our ability to communicate to our residents. We established a NIXLE account, which is a community notification system that will send updates via text message to your cell phone as well as EMAIL notifications. You can sign up for NIXLE a couple of different ways. You can text your zip code to 888777, however we found that NIXLE does not always recognize the 07069 zip code, so we suggest that you use the **07060** zip code and you will receive updates about Watchung and surrounding towns. You can also go to NIXLE.com and register your cell phone number as well as your EMAIL.

The NIXLE account is connected to our new Face Book account as well as Twitter feed. You can friend us on Face Book by searching for Watchung Police and follow us on Twitter @watchungpd. We hope that by using all three accounts, we will be able to get through to a majority of our residents, not only during a State of Emergency, but for things like closed roads, power outages or other notifications that the community should be aware of.

On another note, I would like you to know that in light of the Newtown shootings, we have been working closely with our schools to ensure that our students are as safe as possible. We have always had a plan in place, but we have been looking at that plan and improving it where possible. We have an excellent working relationship with the Watchung Public School District as well as Mount Saint Mary's High School, and will continue to work with them.

In closing, I would like to once again thank you for your help and patience during Hurricane Sandy. It is a pleasure serving this community and we will always strive to improve.

Timothy J. Wenzel
Chief of Police

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

The Watchung Historical Committee has moved all of the materials and artifacts from the library and member's homes into the Texier House. The move actually started last January when the renovations to the Texier House were completed. The first floor is totally refurbished with historically correct paint on the walls, new trim, new flooring and a new front door. Getting the heavy oak cases moved from the library and re-assembled was a daunting task and took until the fall to complete. Members have been busily sorting and roughly categorizing all materials and plotting out how the exhibits will be set up.

The Committee has applied for a CAPES grant offered by the NJ Caucus of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference, CAPES stands for *Caucus Archival Projects Evaluation Services.* If approved, this would provide professional evaluation of our collection and advice on how best to preserve, display and catalog our materials.

We reported in an earlier article that some of the stained glass windows from The Moldenke Castle had been donated to us. The windows, although beautiful, are in terrible shape and we were dismayed to learn that restoration would be too expensive for our current budget. Happily, an anonymous donor has come forward. The Castle windows are now being restored and will be used in a large window as you enter the back of the Texier House and on the sides of one of the doors.

Also relating to the Castle, many of you know that there was a cannon mounted on top of the Castle. Unfortunately the cannon was sold to someone out of town when the Castle was dismantled. The Committee has researched and actually found the cannon! After some years in Pennsylvania, it is now on the front lawn of the owner in Long Valley, NJ. Some of the Committee members traveled to the home of the owner. Pictures were taken and although the owner was very interested in what we could tell her about the history of the cannon, she is not interested in selling or donating it.

For those of you Castle buffs, Kathy Moldenke Randall, a grand-daughter of the Moldenke family has written a book, Genealogy of the Moldenke Family and it is available for sale if anyone is interested in it. It contains wonderful pictures of the Castle and surrounding properties. Please contact Barbara Diem (908-756-5949).

During the move from the Library, a supply of Watchung commemorative plates was found in the Library attic! These plates are from the 1960's and are available for purchase for $5. Call Barbara Diem (908-756-5949) for details.

With all of this activity, the Committee has also continued with maintaining scrapbooks, clippings, and pictures in keeping the ongoing history of Watchung. The Committee continues to suggest honorees for the Memorial Day Ceremony and this year long-time resident Harry Gerus was honored.

For his Eagle Scout Project, Walter Pennett is working with the Historical Committee to research and display the history of sports in Watchung. Walter will probably have the first exhibit to be completed at the Texier House.

The Historical Committee welcomes two new members appointed to the Committee - Elaine and Richard Stomber. Elaine and Richard bring museum and archivist experience to the Committee, and they already have helped the Committee find direction for the massive undertaking of setting up a local museum!

We look forward to opening the Texier House to the public this fall. We may not have all rooms completed but we will have enough organized for an Open House. And finally, now that we have a secure home for our "Watchung Treasures," if anyone has items they wish to donate to the museum, please call Barbara Diem, 908-756-5949.

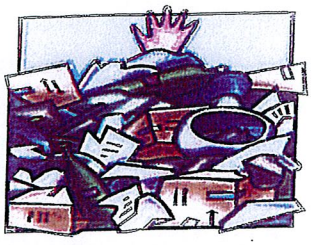
The Committee continues to have available notecards, Watchung Books, and a new Hillcrest Road Book, written by Ray Adams. Call Barbara Diem (908-756-5949.)

The Committee thanks the Mayor and Council for their support as well as Public Works who worked on the renovation and helped us with the move.

The Watchung Historical Committee

Barbara Diem, Chairperson
Betty Jean Aldrich, Co-Chairperson
Dorothy Addario, Secretary
Betty Black
Sue Feibush
Elaine Stomber
Richard Stomber
Sue Tucker
Council Liaison – Stephen Pote

WANTED: Residents with model railroad scenery and/or doll house building experience or other artistic skills that could help with the restoration of the Watchung Diorama. This diorama depicts scenes from old Watchung and is in need of refurbishing. Anyone who would like to help with this please call Barbara Diem (908-756-5949)



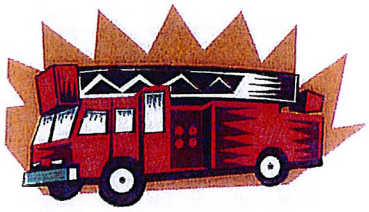
BULK PICK UP
DISTRICT #1
(June 3-7)

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 10-14)

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 ROAD
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
TIMBERLINE WAY
TUTTLE ROAD
UPPER DRIVE
VAIL LANE
VALLEY DRIVE
VALLEY ROAD
WATCHUNG AVENUE
WILL LANE
WOLFORD COURT
WOODED ROAD
WOODLEDGE ROAD

VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED

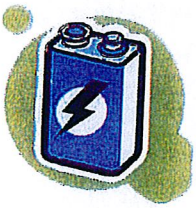


"HELP YOUR COMMUNITY AND YOURSELF"

Join the Watchung Volunteer Fire Department. We have many membership categories beginning with our junior program for residents that are 16 years of age.

FOR MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL 908-756-6288 OR PICK UP INFORMATION AT BOROUGH HALL

"CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS.....CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES"



Replace the batteries in your smoke detector and carbon monoxide detector twice a year. And don't forget to test them monthly.

The Watchung Volunteer Fire Department wishes to thank our community for it's continued support of our organization. Your **100% Volunteer Fire Department** could not continue to provide this life saving service without your generous contributions.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT
CLEAN WATER

WASHING AND MAINTAINING YOUR CAR

If you wash your car on a paved surface the soapy water and other pollutants, like oil & grease can run off into a storm drain and eventually flow directly into lakes, rivers and the ocean. These pollutants in large quantities can contaminate your drinking water, kill fish, wildlife and plants.

YOU CAN HELP!

1. Take your car to a car washing facility—they treat and recycle the water.
2. If you can't get to a car washing facility, wash your car on an unpaved surface and use biodegradable soap.
3. Keep your car well maintained.
4. Regularly check your car for leaks or drips and if you find any have your car serviced.
5. Take your car to a service center to change the oil—if you do your own oil change do it in a garage never in the street. Use a self-contained oil pan and discard the oil at a local service center for recycling. **NEVER DISCARD OIL,GAS,OR ANTIFREEZE INTO A STORM DRAIN**.
6. If you do have a spill—contain it with rags and cat litter. Clean up the spill and properly dispose of the waste.

FERTILIZERS AND PESTICIDES

If improperly applied, they can wash off lawn or garden directly into storm drains and from there flow directly into lakes, rivers and the ocean.

YOU CAN HELP!

1. Test your soil at your County's Rutgers Cooperative Research & Extension office, 310 Milltown Road, Bridgewater, NJ 08807-3587 (Somerset.njaes.rutgers.edu) or buy a self test kit.
2. Use natural, slow-release nitrogen, or low phosphorus fertilizers.
3. Look into natural alternatives such as integrated pest management.
4. If you need to use fertilizers or pesticides, follow the instructions on the label.
5. Do not apply before it rains. This does not allow them to penetrate through the soil.
6. Try to use drought-resistant native plants in gardens; they require less fertilizer and water.
7. Use a mulching mower instead of bagging grass clippings.

PET WASTE

Rain can wash pet waste that sits on a lawn or unpaved surface into storm drains, ultimately ending up in our lakes, rivers and the ocean. Pet waste contains coliform facteria and other pollutants that can make people sick and can cause beach closures. Coliform bacteria can contaminate shellfish, pollute drinking water and kill fish, wildlife and plants.

PET WASTE IS A HEALTH HAZARD AND ALSO A NUISANCE IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS.

YOU CAN HELP!

1. Use newspaper, plastic bags, or a pooper-scooper to pick up the waste when walking your pet.
2. Properly dispose of pet waste into the trash or toilet.
3. Do not dispose of in storm drains.

REGISTER READY PROGRAM

If you are or if you know of an individual with **Special Needs** who would have difficulty in meeting those needs during an emergency, sign up for **Register Ready**, a free confidential NJ online database that identifies residents with special needs in order for emergency responders to know who they are, what the needs are, and where they reside. To register online go to www.registerready.nj.gov. You may also call 2-1-1 to register by phone.

Do you know what to do during an Emergency or a Disaster? Do you want to learn how to keep yourself safe as well as your family, your neighbors and your community?

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is a program which allows residents to help during emergencies and/or disasters when Emergency Services are stretched thin. CERT training covers Fire Safety, Light Search and Rescue, Triage and Treatment, Team Organization and Disaster Medical Operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help.

Watchung, in conjunction with the Somerset County Office of Emergency Management, is looking to conduct a training class for interested residents. If you would like to get involved or learn more about the CERT program and what it does, please attend the informational session on 4/17/13 at 6:30 PM at Borough Hall Council Chambers.

CERT
COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

"OPERATION SECURE SHRED"

*On **Saturday, June 15th**, the Borough of Watchung will be hosting **"Operation Secure Shred"** - an opportunity for residents to safely shred unwanted documents. This event will be held from 9 am - 1 pm at the Police Station Parking Lot, located at 840 Somerset Street.*

Documents will be commercially shredded safely, privately and properly, by trained, licensed and bonded document-destruction specialists. Staples and paperclips do not have to be removed, and residents may bring in up to six boxes of documents. No recyclable junk mail, magazines, or newspapers will be accepted.

Additional shred events are scheduled throughout the year and available to all Somerset County residents. For more information, visit the County's website at:

www.co.somerset.nj.us

Mulch

1 year old shredded mulch (dark in color)
5 yards delivered to residents in a mason dump size truck
$50.00 per load—Prepaid at Borough Hall
Lower Level—Engineering Department
908-756-0091

Open to General Public
The public works will load your truck
Mondays and Fridays 8am-2pm
$10.00/yard—Prepaid at Borough Hall
Lower Level—Engineering Department
908-756-0091

Wood Chips delivered to residents are free upon request

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 : ____ @$60.00 = ____
(one per 350 lbs. of material)

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

Telephone No. _____

Materials must be out at the curb by 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	- Mattress (double)	75
- Bathtub	400	- Microwave oven	80
- Chair (large stuffed)	75	- Refrigerator	400
- Chair (small straight)	25	- Rug 5x8	50
- Cedar chest	70	- Sink (porcelain)	40
-Coffee table	50	- Sofa	150
- Desk (large)	100	- Sofa bed	300
- Dishwasher	150	- Stove	250
- Door	50	- Table (large)	100
- Dresser (adult)	170	- Table (small)	50
- Dryer	200	- Tire (auto)	20
- Freezer	250	- Toilet & tank	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) -	

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.

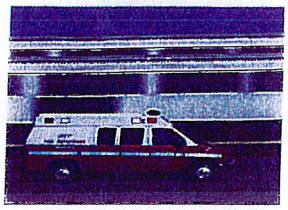
Signature:_____ Date:_____

FOR DEPARTMENT USE ONLY

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

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

WATCHUNG RESCUE SQUAD



The Watchung Rescue Squad continues to fulfill its mission to provide fast and professional emergency medical services to the residents, businesses and visitors to the Borough of Watchung and surrounding areas. In 2012, the Watchung Rescue Squad responded to just under 450 emergency calls, performed 120 welfare checks on those residents in need following Hurricane Sandy, and provided EMS standby for various local and out of town events.

The newest addition to the Rescue Squad fleet is our fully equipped first-responder Tahoe, EMS 1. This proved to be invaluable for standbys and in difficult weather conditions. In an effort to increase the squad's visibility and provide more information about our participation in community events the Squad has also created and continues to share stories and pictures on our website, www.watchungems.org, as well as our Facebook page and Twitter account.

In early December, the Squad held its annual Tree of Lights fundraising event. It was a huge success thanks to all the Watchung Borough residents who showed their support through their generous donations and attendance at the Tree of Lights Festival.

The time for our annual Fund Drive is fast approaching! Look for our mailer in early May. The Rescue Squad is dependent on the generosity of Watchung residents to maintain the high quality, free Emergency Medical Service provided to the town, as only 6% of our annual income comes from government funding.

The Rescue Squad is always looking for dedicated volunteers interested in joining our team as a Driver or EMT. No prior medical experience is necessary to join; training and uniform will be provided by the Squad. If you have the desire to help your community, please visit our website at www.watchungems.org to learn more and fill out an application! If you have any questions about membership, please contact us at membership@watchungems.org.

RABIES CLINIC

The Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission, with the Warren Township Board of Health, will be offering one rabies clinic this spring. All residents are encouraged to have their dog or cat vaccinated against rabies. Spring is upon us and we can expect to see more of our local wildlife. Just like we do, our furry friends become more active when the weather improves. 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.**

DATE: Saturday, May 4, 2013

TIME: 8:30 am to 9:30 am

WHERE: Washington Valley Fire House
Washington Valley Road
Warren, NJ

Residents should also be aware that the Health Department also offers several rabies clinics in the fall of each year. Please call 732-968-5151 in the fall to learn about available clinics.

PET LICENSING

Pet owners are required by local law to license their pets every year. In order for the license to be issued, the owner must present proof that a licensed veterinarian has vaccinated the pet against rabies and that the duration of immunity from that vaccination extends through at least ten months of the twelve-month licensing period.

The Health Commission has learned that pet licensures seem to be declining and we want to tell you why it is important to license your **dogs and cats**. Licensing your pet allows local authorities to identify the animal and its owners if it happens to get loose.

The license tag enables the quick and easy return of your loved animal. In addition, licensure proves that the pet is appropriately vaccinated against rabies. If your pet happens to bite someone then its license tells local authorities that it is current on its rabies vaccine and the bite victim has less to worry about. Your license fees are used toward the provision of animal control services. A licensed animal control officer is available to provide professional services when an animal incident occurs. Finally, failure to license your pet may lead to enforcement action and penalties by the health department and/or police department. So, please license your pet by contacting the municipal building. It is one sign of a responsible pet owner.

STRATEGIC PLANNING-WATCHUNG HEALTH SERVICES

The Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission will be reinvigorating its strategic planning efforts in the spring of 2013. In order to make the final document a realistic and valuable tool Health Officer Kevin Sumner strongly encourages the input of Borough residents. Are there strengths, opportunities, or activities of the Commission that you truly value or that you question? We would love to hear your thoughts on what you think your local health department should be doing and what it should look to accomplish over the next few years. Let your thoughts and voice be heard. Health Officer Kevin Sumner would love to talk to you. Contact him at 732-968-5151 ext. 1 or by email at ksumner@middlebrookhealth.org. The Commission staff and members want to assure that we are providing the best and most important services, in an effective and efficient manner.

COMMUNICATION IS KEY!

In the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, concerns were raised on the Borough's ability to reach out to its residents on a timely basis with emergency information when needed. After receiving input from residents and staff, Mayor Mobus appointed a committee to look into ways in which to improve our communications system.

Since then, several changes have been made. The Borough has instituted its own **Facebook page**. Although we hope to never be in the position where our website is down, having a Facebook page will provide an additional way for residents to receive emergency information through other means of communications such as iphones, ipads etc. Use *Watchung Borough* in your search and we should come right up.

Another new program available to our residents is **Nixle**. Police Chief Wenzel has this program up and running and I would urge Watchung residents to sign up for timely alerts for information on road closings and other emergency situations.

We are also updating our radio station. **1610AM radio** will be broadcasting weekly updates on Borough meetings and schedules for the upcoming week when it is not in use for storm information and other emergencies. During a storm emergency, have a transistor radio ready with working batteries to receive all storm related information. In addition, you can tune in with your car radio.

In addition, we are in the process of changing our **web site**, making it more user-friendly with the ability to host more information. We hope to have it up and running within the next few weeks.

There is still more to do and I look forward to working with our Administration, fellow council members and volunteers so that Watchung residents will have all the information they need at their fingertips in a timely and efficient manner.

Councilwoman Deb Joren
Chair, Communications Committee

FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE

Mayor Jerry Mobus established several subcommittees to deal with issues that were identified during Superstorm Sandy. The Facilities Subcommittee was tasked with looking at the Borough buildings to determine their strengths and weaknesses for potential use in future emergency situations. In addition, the subcommittee is looking at other facilities within the Borough which can also be used in such situations. The members of this subcommittee include OEM Coordinator Gary Greves, Lieutenant Joe Cina, Borough Administrator Tom Atkins, Public Works Manager Bob Burns, Assistant Fire Chief Pete Martino and Rescue Squad Captain Adam Wexler.

In the meetings that have been held to date, the Subcommittee has prioritized the Borough buildings for future use in emergencies and are evaluating those buildings as to their needs for upgrades. One of the highest priorities for the buildings is to ensure adequate power for their operations. In order to make this determination, an evaluation is underway to establish the types of generators required to ensure that the selected buildings have adequate power to act as shelters and/or warming stations and the capability to maintain and continue vital functions.

The Subcommittee is also assessing the adequacy of our communication systems in order to preserve and/or improve the Borough's capability of continuing vital communications between the emergency services and also with the residents of the Borough. In addition, methods to better handle the logistics of an emergency situation as well as the acquisition and handling of available resources and supplies are being evaluated. Furthermore, equipment which will allow the Borough to better address the aftermath of these emergency situations is also being explored.

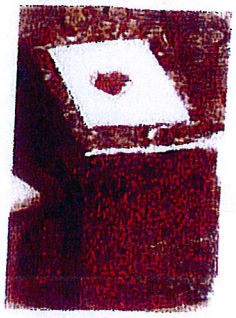
It is the goal of this Subcommittee to better protect the residents of our Borough in emergency situations and to ensure that the services that are provided to our residents are maintained.

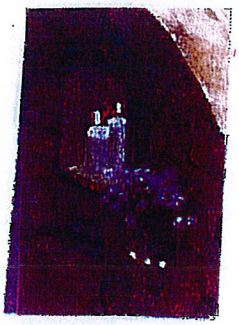
Councilman, William Nehls
Chair, Facilities Subcommittee

THE WATCHUNG
9-11
MEMORIAL

The Borough of Watchung has received a piece of steel taken from the wreckage of the World Trade Center from the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey for use in a September 11th Memorial in Watchung. A committee of local volunteers has been planning a fitting setting for this historically significant item and hopes to create a memorial that will enhance the beauty of our public space, and also provide a lasting reminder of the citizens of Watchung and all those people who lost their lives on September 11, 2001, all the brave and tireless Emergency Responders, and the entire generation of Americans that endured this national tragedy.

Your financial support is needed to help incorporate this piece of American history into Watchung's Village Green for this and future generations. The Watchung 9/11 Memorial Committee will be reaching out for donations in the near future. To date the committee has obtained granite slabs donated from the recent renovation work at the Statue of Liberty and also a bell that was previously in use at Wilson Memorial Church. Please do not hesitate to call Linda Monetti at Watchung Borough Hall at (908) 756-0080 or email to 911memorial@watchungnj.com with any questions or comments. Thank you.





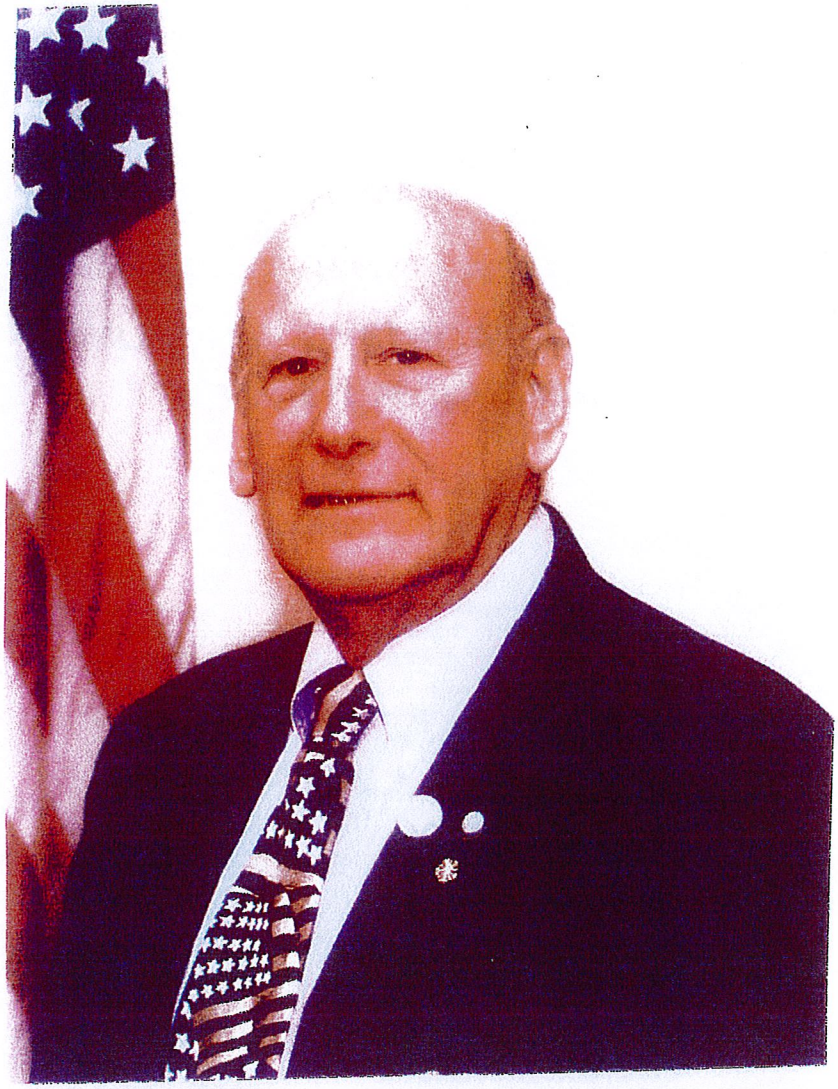
A Journey of the Heart

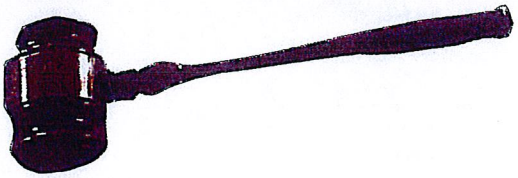
In Honor and Remembrance

Of Our Beloved

MAYOR GERALD M. MOBUS

June 9, 1942 - March 17, 2013





Gerald M. Mobus dedicated his life to the Borough in both volunteer and elected service. Nobody loved Watchung more than Jerry did. His devotion, dedication, and unselfishness to our residents could never be duplicated. It was a privilege to have Jerry as our Mayor and a greater gift to have him as our friend.

PUBLISHED BY THE BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG

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therits@watchungnj.com

Watchung Art Center
or more information call—561-0190

Police
Emergency 911
Non-emergency 756-3663

Emergency Management
Contact Police Dept. 756-3663

Tax Assessor
Ed Kerwin 756-3366
ekerwin@watchungnj.com

Construction Official /Zoning Officer
Ed Bennett 756-6093
ebennett@watchungnj.com

Watchung Public Library
561-0117
Monday-Friday.....10am-9pm
Saturday.....10am-4pm
Sunday.....closed
(Closed Saturday during July and August)

Fire Department
Emergency 911
Non-emergency 561-9389

Municipal Court
Jodi Hanson Rodriquez 757-1407

Tax Collector
Ray Murray 756-8333

Public Works Facility
Robert Burns 753-6115
rburns@watchungnj.com

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108 Stirling Road
Warren,NJ 07059
647-4800

Bayberry Elementary School
Kindergarten through 4th Grade
Bayberry Lane
755-8184

Valley View Middle School
Grades 5 through 8
Valley View Road
755-4422