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Watchung Art Center
For 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

Watchung Hills Regional High School
Grades 9 through 12
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

The Official Newsletter for the THE BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG

FALL/WINTER
ISSUE 2013-02

FROM OUR MAYOR

Greetings!

As this is the first newsletter I am writing as your Mayor, I wanted to express my thanks to the many of you who personally have come forward to provide your support and well-wishes, following Mayor Jerry Mobus' passing and my selection as your new Mayor. While very unexpected, I am comfortable that with over eight years as a Councilman and my work experience that I am capable of keeping things moving forward at a respectable pace. I am hopeful that my first five months in office have started to demonstrate some results.

Even before Mayor Mobus' passing, the Mayor, Council, and Administration had begun working on a concerted campaign to improve the preparedness of the Borough in the event of another disaster or event like Super Storm Sandy. I had worked with Mayor Mobus to establish four committees, looking at improving Borough communications and technology (e.g., enhanced website, use of local radio station, Facebook), Borough infrastructure (e.g., permanent generators, telephone service upgrades), community readiness (e.g., organized volunteer support) and policy upgrades (e.g., updated Borough Annex).

Each of these committees has made progress. I am happy to report that in September, the Borough's enhanced website will be available. Its name is **www.watchungnj.gov.** *Please use this website going forward; it will be THE source of Watchung Borough information, and it is our goal to keep the website both current and uninterrupted.* Watchung graduated its first CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) class this past June; several of them were already put to good use during July's very successful Dok and Soc mini-triatholon on our own Watchung Lake.

You will see that we have made some significant progress on the reconstruction of our municipal tennis courts at Mobus field. We expect completion of this project by September. The decision made to replace the courts was made after careful evaluation of the existing 50 year structure.

The Historical Committee is really making the Texier Building a home. The committee has made great strides in organizing the massive collection of documents and artifacts the group has collected over the years. The initial walls are being adorned with several themes that begin to reflect on a great Watchung history that must be preserved for generations to come. The Committee has organized a Civil War reenactment on October 5th (Village Green) to coincide with the opening of the Texier House Museum.

There is a great deal of discussion about what to do with our current Watchung Library. While there are many and varied opinions on what to do, one fact is clear: the existing library cannot remain, status quo, for an extended period of time. As your Mayor, I owe you a plan that will meet the long-term needs of our community and which is fiscally responsible. The Mayor, Council, and Administration will deliver on that promise.

Continued on page 2

The Mayor and Council recently took an assertive stance on protecting your taxpayer dollars by asking the State to reconsider its request to obtain tax dollars put aside for COAH (Coalition on Affordable Housing). While the Mayor and Council are not in support of the State-mandated COAH program, we need to protect any dollars that might have been set aside to offset any State mandates to construct additional COAH housing.

A deer survey is being sent to you requesting your opinions on the deer situation in town. While I respect those who may differ in their opinion, I will make it very clear that, in my opinion, for the health, safety and protection of our townspeople and their property, this town needs to recommit itself to an aggressive deer management program. But I want to understand your opinion. Please complete this survey and the additional permission form if you are willing to include your property as part of a deer management site.

I am proud to state that we have recently appointed Watchung Police Lieutenant Joseph Cina as Watchung Acting Police Chief, after the retirement of Chief Tim Wenzel.

We have seen a lot of activity from many community groups. I have been most impressed with the community service work being done by our Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, and the willingness of our Daisies and Brownies to learn about civics and our community. Our Watchung Little League and Pony-tail League (with Warren) each had very active and successful seasons.

I have met with both Watchung School Superintendent Dr. Barbara Resko, as well as Ms. Elizabeth Jewett, our new WHRHS Superintendent, to begin to build a relationship that will look for opportunities for synergy.

The Mountain Boulevard road project (County project) remains on schedule with an anticipated completion date of December 31st. Also in town, a storm water remediation project for Mountain Drive will begin this fall, and soon Cedar Road and Lakeview Avenue residents will see the installation of storm drains and inlets to control storm water and prevent roadside erosion, a project partially funded by a DOT grant.

The Memorial Day Picnic was a great success, and now around the corner (October 26th) is our Harvest Festival.

As expected-and desired-I am getting phone calls and emails from the residents voicing your concerns, questions, comments, and sometimes compliments. Please keep them coming; I welcome constructive thoughts and input, and will do my best to address your concerns, where I can, in a timely manner.

I wish you all an enjoyable rest of the summer and fall season.

Stephen K. Pote
Mayor

- If you have hazardous products in your home or workplace, make sure you store or dispose of them properly. Read the label for guidance.
- Use natural or less toxic alternatives when possible.
- Recycle used motor oil.
- Contact your municipality, county or facility management office for the locations of hazardous-waste disposal facilities.

Keep pollution out of storm drains

- Municipalities and many other public agencies are required to mark certain storm drain inlets with messages reminding people that storm drains are connected to local waterbodies.
- Do not let sewage or other wastes flow into a stormwater system.

Clean up after your pet

- Many municipalities and public agencies must enact and enforce local pet-waste rules.
- An example is requiring pet owners or their keepers to pick up and properly dispose of pet waste dropped on public or other people's property.
- Make sure you know your town's or agency's requirements and comply with them. It's the law. And remember to:
- Use newspaper, bags or pooper-scoopers to pick up wastes.
- Dispose of the wrapped pet waste in the trash or unwrapped in a toilet.
- Never discard pet waste in a storm drain.

Don't feed wildlife

- Do not feed wildlife, such as ducks and geese, in public areas.
- Many municipalities and other public agencies must enact and enforce a rule that prohibits wildlife feeding in these areas.

Don't litter

- Place litter in trash receptacles.
- Recycle. Recycle. Recycle.
- Participate in community cleanups.

Dispose of yard waste properly

- Keep leaves and grass out of storm drains.
- If your municipality or agency has yard waste collection rules, follow them.
- Use leaves and grass clippings as a resource for compost.
- Use a mulching mower that recycles grass clippings into the lawn.

Contact information

For more information on stormwater related topics, visit www.njstormwater.org or www.nonpointsource.org

Additional information is also available at U. S. Environmental Protection Agency Web sites www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater or www.epa.gov/nps

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Water Quality
Bureau of Nonpoint Pollution Control
Municipal Stormwater Regulation Program
(609) 633-7021

www.cleanwaternj.org

Solutions to Stormwater Pollution

Easy Things You Can Do Every Day To Protect Our Water

A Guide to Healthy Habits for Cleaner Water

Pollution on streets, parking lots and lawns is washed by rain into storm drains, then directly to our drinking water supplies and the ocean and lakes our children play in. Fertilizer, oil, pesticides, detergents, pet waste, grass clippings: You name it and it ends up in our water.

Stormwater pollution is one of New Jersey's greatest threats to clean and plentiful water, and that's why we're all doing something about it.

By sharing the responsibility and making small, easy changes in our daily lives, we can keep common pollutants out of stormwater. It all adds up to cleaner water, and it saves the high cost of cleaning up once it's dirty.

As part of New Jersey's initiative to keep our water clean and plentiful and to meet federal requirements, many municipalities and other public agencies including colleges and military bases must adopt ordinances or other rules prohibiting various activities that contribute to stormwater pollution. Breaking these rules can result in fines or other penalties.

As a resident, business, or other member of the New Jersey community, it is important to know these easy things you can do every day to protect our water.

Make sure you properly store or discard any unused portions.

Limit your use of fertilizers and pesticides

- Do a soil test to see if you need a fertilizer.
- Do not apply fertilizers if heavy rain is predicted.
- Look into alternatives for pesticides.
- Maintain a small lawn and keep the rest of your property or yard in a natural state with trees and other native vegetation that requires little or no fertilizer.
- If you use fertilizers and pesticides, follow the instructions on the label on how to correctly apply it.

Properly use and dispose of hazardous products

- Hazardous products include some household or commercial cleaning products, lawn and garden care products, motor oil, antifreeze, and paints.
- Do not pour any hazardous products down a storm drain because storm drains are usually connected to local waterbodies and the water is not treated.

Register and Vote!

- **Tuesday, Sept. 24th - WHRHS School Referendum**
  (Polls Open 7:00 A.M.—9:00 P.M.)
- **Wednesday, Oct. 16th—Special General**
- **Tuesday, Nov. 5th—General Election**
  (Polls Open 6:00 A.M.—8:00 P.M.)

Watchung residents age 18 and over may register to vote or request forms for Vote By Mail Applications at the Borough Clerk's office, 15 Mountain Blvd., 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. Or the Borough Website at: www.watchungnj.com

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 Vote By Mail ballots no later than October 29, 2013 -7 days prior to the election.

ELECTRONIC WASTE- New Location

County residents can take electronic waste to:
Newtech Recycling Inc.
600A Apgar Drive
Somerset, NJ

on selected Saturdays and on weekdays. This service will continue to be **free of charge.**

They will accept electronic waste Monday through Friday from 7 AM to 5 PM, and 1st Saturday Collection dates - 8 AM to 2 PM.

For more information, contact Newtech Recycling at (732) 564-3110 or visit their website at:
www.newtechrecycling.com

NOTE: ELECTRONING WASTE WILL NO LONGER BE ACCEPTED AT THE SOMERSET COUNTY RECYCLING CENTER ON FIRST SATURDAY DROP-OFF DATES.

Vote By Mail Law

1. An applicant can apply once for all elections in a calendar year.
2. An applicant can apply once for all future general elections. This means they actually get a ballot automatically every November. The old law only provided for an application to be sent.
3. All applications must be received in the Office of the County Clerk 7 days prior to an election. Not postmarked, but physically received.
4. An individual may still go to the County Clerk's Office in person up to 3 PM the day before the election. A voter may also send an authorized messenger up to 3 PM the day before as well. The major difference is that the voter no longer has to be sick or confined to have a messenger. A single messenger can only pick up 10 ballots statewide for an election and cannot be a candidate in that election.
5. There is no longer a permanent and totally disabled category. Those voters are likely to become individuals who check the A box and receive ballots for all elections in a calendar year.
6. The old yellow applications for military voters are no longer valid. There is a special status box on the Vote by Mail Application that can be checked.
7. The new application is available on the County's website at:

www.co.somerset.nj.us/clerk
or
The Borough's website at
www.watchungnj.com

WATCHUNG POLICE DEPARTMENT SEEKS AND IS RECOMMENDED FOR ACCREDITATION STATUS

By: Lt. Joseph R. Cina
Acting Chief of Police

Over the years our rules were updated to comply with NJ Attorney General or Somerset County Prosecutor guidelines, and other policies were added as needed. After thoroughly researching several options Chief Wenzel decided that the best way to get our policies and procedures in order and up to date was to seek accreditation through the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police (NJSACOP). Becoming an accredited agency would accomplish several things. Our policies and procedures would be recognized as the best practices in law enforcement, it would enhance our operational efficiency, it would result in greater accountability within the police department, it would reduce the Borough's risk and liability exposure, and it would create a stronger defense against civil lawsuits.

We knew that we were taking on a big project in addition to our daily responsibilities. Chief Wenzel presented his plan to our Police Committee and after receiving the support of the full Mayor and Council we were ready to begin. To assist us with this enormous task we contracted with The Rodgers Group, headed by retired NJ State Police Lt Colonel Frank Rodgers, who provided us with direction and agency specific advice to achieve our goal. With the research done and the funds appropriated, in May of 2012 project manager Lt. William Kelly of the Watchung Police Department began a year-long journey that turned out to be anything but simple. Lt Kelly met with Rodgers Group representatives regularly to review and rewrite policies that were immediately implemented.

After considerable work, by June 2013 all of the required policies had been implemented, and they were sent to NJSACOP for review. Once they were reviewed, approved, and returned, an on-site inspection of our facilities was scheduled. In addition to the on-site inspection of our facilities there would be a detailed review of our procedures to ensure that they matched our policies. On July 7-8, 2013 NJSACOP inspectors were at Watchung Police Headquarters to conduct their final review and I am happy to report that they will recommend that we be approved and recognized as an accredited agency. Getting the approval of the NJSACOP inspectors was an accomplishment in and of itself, but now that NJSACOP is its own entity, we are proud to say that Watchung was the first police department in New Jersey to receive their approval based on the latest requirements. Although final approval ultimately rests in the hands of the full NJSACOP commission, we anticipate receiving final approval when they meet this fall, probably in November.

With our policies and procedures now in order, rookies and seasoned veterans have a blueprint that they can follow, regardless of what they may encounter. Our newly updated policies are also available in an electronic format, so rather than carrying those giant binders around on patrol, officers can easily access them for inquiry or review from our in-car computers. Having instant access to these documents allows officers to act quickly on complicated matters knowing that they are following what has already been determined to be the best practices in law enforcement. In the future we will be required to show compliance with the NJSACOP standards annually, and a full review by the commission will take place every three years.

Now that the project is complete we can thank Chief Wenzel and Lt. Kelly for not letting a super storm, moving targets, or anything else get in the way of progress. Moving forward we owe it to our residents and all those that we serve to maintain the highest standards of being an accredited agency.

REMINDER:

DOG LICENSES MUST BE RENEWED BETWEEN JANUARY 1-31

FREE Rabies Vaccination for Cats & Dogs

Rabies continues to be a concern in our state, with an average of 200 – 300 reported cases each year in all animals. Rabies is caused by a virus which can infect both people and animals. While the majority of rabies cases in the state have been in wild animals such as raccoons, skunks and foxes, cats are also a relatively common victim of rabies. These cases can pose a significant threat to unvaccinated domestic animals, which can contract the virus from wild animals and transmit the infection to humans.

The rabies vaccine is available at no charge for domestic cats and dogs, through the Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission. Because the vaccine is provided by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, residents can bring their pets to *any of the locations below.* Cats must be transported in a carrier and all dogs must be leashed.

South Bound Brook
Saturday, November 2
9:00 AM to 10:00 AM
South Bound Brook Municipal Garage
44 Washington Ave.

Green Brook
Saturday, November 2
11:00 AM to 12:00 noon
Green Brook Fire House
115 Greenbrook Road

Watchung
Saturday December 7
9:00 AM to 10:00 AM
Watchung Fire House
57 Mountain Blvd.

Bound Brook
Saturday December 7
11:00 AM to 12:00 noon
Bound Brook Police /Borough Hall
230 Hamilton Street

In addition, residents are reminded to take these rabies prevention measures:

- Immediately report a bite from a wild or domestic animal to the local health department *(so that post- exposure treatment can begin immediately if needed)*
- Immediately report any wild animal showing signs of unusual behavior
- Be sure all family pets and agricultural animals are up to date on their rabies vaccinations
  And Animal-proof your home and yard
- Do not feed or handle wild animals
- Avoid contact with stray animals or pets other than your own
- Try to prevent your pets from coming into contact with wild animals
  Screen off vents to attics and other areas that could provide shelter for bats

FLU CLINICS

The flu vaccine reduces the incidence of illness in the community. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that everyone over six months of age get a flu vaccine each year, but it is especially important that certain people get vaccinated either because they are at high risk of having serious flu-related complications or because they live with or care for people at high risk for developing flu-related complications.

For example, the following groups are at particular risk:

- Pregnant women
- People 50 years of age and older
- People of any age with certain chronic medical conditions
- People who live in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities
- People who live with or care for those at high risk for complications from flu, including:
  - Health care workers
  - Household contacts of persons at high risk for complications from the flu
  - Household contacts and out of home caregivers of children less than 6 months of age (these children are too young to be vaccinated)

The Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission will be offering a public flu clinic on Thursday, September 26 from 11 AM to noon at Our Lady of the Mount Catholic Church. You can also search for clinics throughout the State at:

http://www.nj.gov/health/flu/findflushot.shtml

GET YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN VACCINATED!

Although control of communicable disease, mostly by vaccination, is viewed as one of the 10 Great Public Health Achievements of the 20th Century immunizations are not always viewed as being beneficial. Immunizations, like any medication, can cause adverse events. However, a decision not to immunize a child also involves risk. It is a decision that puts the child and others who come into contact with him or her at risk of contracting a disease that could be dangerous or deadly. Consider measles. One out of 30 children with measles develops pneumonia. For every 1,000 children who get the disease, one or two will die from it. Thanks to vaccines, we have few cases of measles in the U.S. today. However, the disease is extremely contagious, and each year dozens of cases are imported from abroad into the U.S., threatening the health of people who have not been vaccinated and those for whom the vaccine was not effective. Just this year multiple cases of measles were identified in our communities.

The Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission further feels that compliance with existing regulations and recommendations will decrease the risk of communicable disease to the entire community and further promote one of the greatest success stories in public health, namely universal immunization programs. Check with your doctor or call the health department to be sure you and your family are up to date on your vaccinations.

BACK TO SCHOOL & THE IMPORTANCE OF HEALTHY LUNCHES

We all love our kids and want the very best for them. You have probably heard of the obesity epidemic in our country and how it is impacting our children. According to the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, the prevalence of obesity among children aged 6 to11 years of age nearly tripled between 1980 and 2008. While the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently reported some positive news about obesity levels it is still a major health concern as obesity in children and adolescents is associated with numerous health risks. These risks, such as diabetes and heart disease, are often carried into their adult life. One way to show your love for your child and to have a positive impact on their health is to pack them a healthy lunch. A healthy diet consists of fruits and vegetables, whole grains, and low-fat, low-salt foods. Try to avoid packing any sodas, sugar-filled fruit drinks, cookies or similar baked goods to prevent the infamous "sugar crash" as well as dental cavities. If your child likes fruit drinks, try to prepare them fruit smoothies. They are packed with vitamins and taste great without all the added sugar. It is also a good way to sneak in vegetables or other leafy greens without altering the taste of the fruit. Packing your children's lunches with healthy choices such as fresh fruits and vegetables, dried fruits, whole grain crackers and breads, low-fat yogurt and high fiber foods like seeds and nuts will help promote good health and prevent your child from being tempted by "fast food" and other unhealthy alternatives.

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. So far in 2013, the members of the Rescue Squad have responded to over 250 calls, and have provided EMS standby for various town events including the Bob Beckert 5K, Doc and Sok Triathlon, Little League Opening Day, and the Memorial Day Community Picnic. If you'd like to see photos or learn more about upcoming events, visit our website at www.watchungems.org or like us on Facebook!

During the month of May, the Rescue Squad began its annual Fund Drive in an effort to raise money for medical supplies and other daily expenses required to keep our ambulances on the road. Our fund drive efforts will continue through the end of the year. We would like to thank residents for their continued support and generosity during these hard economic times.

In the upcoming months, the members of the Rescue Squad look forward to beginning preparation for the 23rd annual Tree of Lights Festival, which will once again light up the Village Green on Saturday, December 7th. The Rescue Squad is proud to illuminate the holiday tree and Garden State Fireworks will be providing a spectacular fireworks show following the lighting ceremony. We also look forward to continuing EMS training and responding to calls on a daily basis within Watchung and to our neighboring towns.

As the storm season approaches, we would like to encourage Watchung residents to update or make a disaster preparedness plan for themselves and their families. You can learn more on FEMA's website at www.fema.gov. We are proud of the cooperation between Watchung's emergency service agencies, especially during extreme weather events. We would like to take what we have learned from last year's storm season to encourage residents to keep in touch and check on their neighbors during disaster situations to help ensure everyone's safety and welfare.

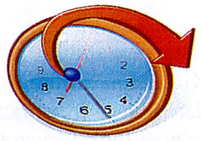
If you are looking for volunteer opportunities, the Rescue Squad is always looking for dedicated members interested in joining our team. No prior medical experience or training is necessary to join; training and uniform will be provided by the Squad. If you have the desire to help your community, please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

VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED

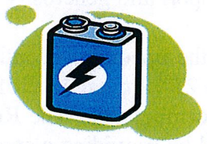
"HELP YOUR COMMUNITY AND YOURSELF"

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 its' continued support of our organization. Your **100% Volunteer Fire Department** could not continue to provide this life saving service without your generous contributions.

You and your family are cordially invited to attend

Watchung Recreation's

GERALD M. MOBUS
MEMORIAL FISHING DERBY

Saturday, Sept. 21st, 2013

9:00 am – Noon at Watchung Lake

Rain Date Sunday, Sept. 22nd

All Watchung residents are invited!

FREE EVENT

Prizes ~ Trophies ~ Refreshments!

This event is provided by the Watchung Recreation Commission.

For questions call 908-756-0080 or visit watchungnj.com

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

The Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC) has been actively meeting on a monthly basis since last June. Meetings are held on the 4th Monday of the month in Borough Hall at 7:00 pm –check our website for exact dates: www.watchungnj.com

The committee of seven (7) is comprised of members from the following boards: Planning Board, Recreation Commission, Environmental Commission, and Historical Commission, and three members from the general public.

The purpose of the OSAC is to develop strategies to maximize opportunities to provide all the residents of the Borough with parklands and green zones, to protect environmentally sensitive areas, to preserve flora and wildlife, preserve farmland and to protect land of scenic, historic and cultural value while at the same time creating public outdoor recreational opportunities (active and passive) for our residents.

Presently, the committee is studying two Borough owned Open Space properties for possible parkland development:

A) The 20 +/- acre Ness Property (former farmland) located on the north side of Mountain Blvd., on the border between Watchung and Warren.

B) Camp Endeavor, a 9 +/- acre area located at the east end of Sequoia Drive; former home to two tennis courts and a basketball court.

We invite everyone to share their ideas with the committee on how they think these properties should best be utilized. Some ideas have been; community gardens, walking trails, passive recreation (park benches, open fields, picnic tables, etc.).

Please respond to dclemens@watchungnj.com with your thoughts and take a look at the Open Space and Recreation Plan located on the Borough Web Site at www.watchungnj.com.

Committee Members:

Peter Desnoyer, Chairman — Tracee Schaefer, Secretary — Bill Jacques
Victor Lobozzo — James Stout — Susan Tucker
Dianna Beck-Clemens, Council Liaison

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

The Health Department and other emergency response agencies are here to assist during times of need, but our capacities and resources are not infinite. Therefore it is critical that we all have our own preparations in place including a plan and an emergency kit. Federal guidelines and recommendations from the experts suggest a kit of essential supplies for a minimum of three (3) days. This kit should include such vital items as water, non-perishable items, medications, and many more items. For a complete list of items and instructions on preparing a kit see **www.ready.gov.** This site also has valuable information on developing a personal preparedness plan, such as how to reach loved ones during an incident, identifying where you will meet and how you will communicate when traditional methods are not available.

As you prepare your plans and kits do not forget about those in your family with special needs, such as the elderly and the young. Also, remember to plan for your pets. We need your help and the best way you can do so is to Be Informed, Make A Plan, Build A Kit. Your life may depend on it.

GENERATOR SAFETY

We have once again entered the hurricane season and winter is fast upon us. All of these events may result in power outages and some may be for an extended period. For these reasons, and since there were many unfortunate generator related events during Sandy, the Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission would like to remind you of some basic safety measures for generator use.

Generators should NEVER be used indoors or in an attached garage; Only operate a generator outdoors in a well-ventilated, dry area, away from air intakes to the home, including doors and windows, to reduce the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Be sure to have properly operating Carbon Monoxide detectors in your home, especially around sleeping areas.

Do not plug a portable generator into an electrical outlet in your home or garage. The correct way to use a generator is to connect a heavy-duty, outdoor -rated power cord to the generator. Appliances can then be connected to the power cord.

Do not connect your generator directly to your home's wiring. A generator that is directly connected to your home's wiring can 'backfeed' into the power lines connected to your home, increasing risks of shock and electrocution.

You can learn more about generator safety from the Federal Emergency Management Agency at **http://www.usfa.fema.gov/citizens/co/generator.shtm.**

FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The Department of Public Works will again have a Fall Leaf Cleanup beginning November 1st and continue through November 29th. All leaves **MUST BE IN BIODEGRADABLE PAPER BAGS** only and placed on the grass area close to the road. **NO BRANCHES, TRASH, OR REFUSE WILL BE PICKED UP.**

Leaf pickup is limited to higher density neighborhoods 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. Any resident living in a more rural area in another part of the Borough other than the areas listed previously can have leaf pickup by calling Public Works at 756-0091, ext. 214. Only **BIODEGRADABLE PAPER BAGS ARE TAKEN.** All residents are urged to utilize their leaves as compost. Due to the State's new Stormwater Regulations, the Borough prohibits the placement of leaves in the street.

REMEMBER, raking leaves and debris into the gutter is strictly prohibited by Ordinance and may result in the issuance of a summons.

THERE WILL BE NO BRANCH PICK UP

ANY BRANCH PILES MUST BE REMOVED FROM CURBSIDE OR HOMEOWNER WILL BE SUBJECT TO A SUMMONS

NO PARKING WHEN ROADS ARE SNOW COVERED

The Borough has adopted an ordinance OR:11/05 entitled "TEMPORARY PARKING PROHIBITION FOR SNOW PLOWING AND REMOVAL" amending section 7-8.3. Whenever snow has fallen and the accumulation is such that it covers the streets and highways, an emergency shall exist and no vehicles can be parked on any of the streets or roads within the Borough.

This parking prohibition shall remain in effect after the snow has ceased until the streets have been plowed significantly, and to the extent that parking will not interfere with the normal flow of traffic.

Texier House

WATCHUNG HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

SAVE THE DATE
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2013

TEXIER HOUSE GRAND OPENING!!
&
CIVIL WAR RE-ENACTMENT

Perhaps you have noticed the flurry of activity around the Texier House on the circle. The Watchung Historical Committee has been very busy setting up displays and artifacts for a grand opening on October 5. Not all of the rooms and exhibits will be finalized, but there will be enough for residents to get a peek at some aspects of the history of Watchung. Walter Pennett's Eagle Scout project on the history of sports in Watchung will be complete. The diorama is restored thanks to Mary Ciccolello and Phyllis Juette who stepped up to the plate after our last newsletter and volunteered to restore the diorama.

Thanks to an anonymous donor, the stained glass window from Moldenke Castle has been restored and mounted in the window as you enter the foyer from the back door. It is beautiful! There were a few pieces of glass left over from the restoration and these pieces will be returned to the Moldenke family. The family is thrilled to receive the extra glass and they will put the pieces together to make a small window. A magnificent wood carving depicting scenes of the Castle has been donated by former resident Katherine Wilmerding Rule, who lived across from the Castle. The carving and other artifacts from the Castle will be on display. Not everything will be set up by October 5, but it will be a good start. .

October 5th is our Grand Opening and as part of our celebration, the 3rd Regiment of the NJ Volunteer Infantry will present a Civil War Reenactment on our Village Green. . This group will re-enact a battle, present gun drills, have displays of Civil War Memorabilia and cook over a campfire

On July 20, 2013, Christine Lutz, an archivist from Princeton University's Seeley G. Mudd Library, spent the day at the Texier House evaluating our collection. Christine is a CAPES (Caucus Archival Projects Evaluation Services) site evaluator and her visit was the result of a grant received by the Historical Committee. We are waiting for her detailed report which will contain recommendations for the restoration, storage, general care, and display of our collection. The recommendations will help assure that we get the museum up and running on the right track. We know that many items in the collection need to be professionally preserved and/or restored and over the years we will budget for this.

Another current project is developing an oral history with a volunteer film maker. Longtime residents will be interviewed so that their memories of old Watchung will be preserved. Members continue to attend valuable workshops about all aspects of maintaining a museum.

The Committee will add Iraq and Middle East War veterans to the Memorial. If anyone knows the names of Watchung residents who served in any of the Middle East Wars, please contact Barbara Diem (908-756-5949).

Cash donations, in addition to the collection of artifacts, will help us finance the massive undertaking of restoring, preserving and displaying our collection. Go to the Borough Web Page at www.watchungnj.com, under the Watchung Historical Community Foundation; you may make your tax deductible donation on line with most major credit cards! Thank you.

The Watchung Historical Committee

Barbara Diem, Chairperson	Elaine Stomber
Betty Jean Aldrich, Co-Chairperson	Richard Stomber
Dorothy Addario, Secretary	Sue Tucker
Betty Black	Sue Feibush

Council Liaison – Dianna Beck-Clemens

WATCHUNG GARDEN CLUB

The New Jersey Flower & Garden Show was held February 14—17, 2013 at the Garden State Convention Center in Edison. Thousand of people from all areas attended this magnificent show.

The Garden Club of Watchung was honored and noted for one of the Garden Club of New Jersey's:

"FIRST PLACE BLUE RIBBON AWARD"

And the second award was from the National Garden Club:

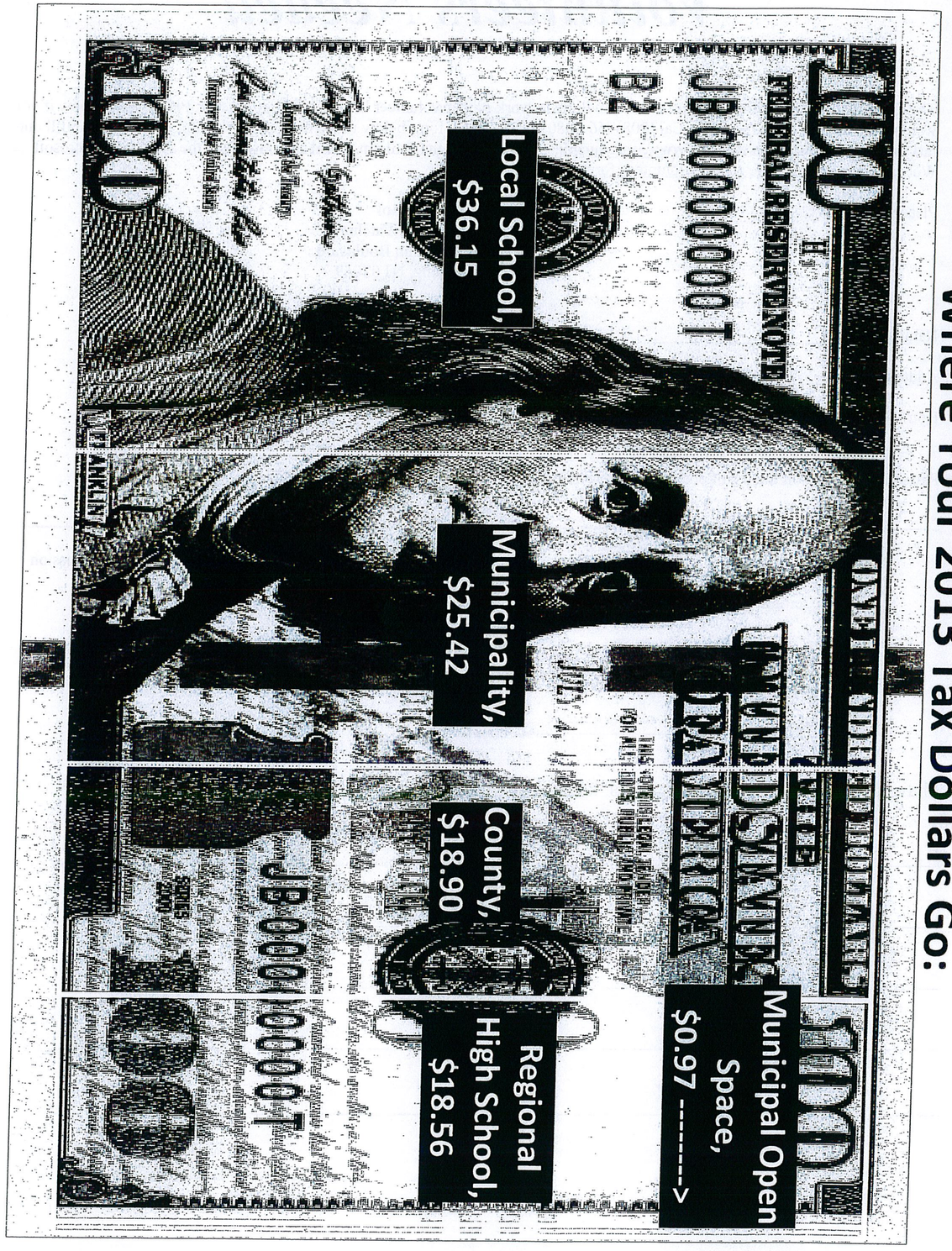
"TOP EXHIBITOR AWARD"

These awards were very much appreciated by the Watchung Garden Club ladies who were successful meeting their objectives.

The Watchung Garden Club is a member of the National Garden Club and the Garden Club of New Jersey. Meetings are held once a month, September through June each year. The club's objective is to encourage an interest in gardening, flower arranging, preservation of our environment such as trees, birds, wild flowers, and civic beautification. New members are always welcomed by calling (908)757-6566.

WATCHUNG PUBLIC LIBRARY

Children enjoyed an interactive program—***Digging New Jersey Wildlife,*** which was presented by Diana and Mike Dove of Dove Environmental Education at the Watchung Library on July 18th. This program was made possible by the Mayor and Borough Council of Watchung, the Borough Clean Communities Committee, and the funds provided by the State of New Jersey Clean Communities Program. Building on the Library's ***Dig into Reading*** summer reading theme, the program helped children discover why it is important not to litter and how litter can harm wildlife. The children also enjoyed seeing a variety of animals from the Morris Museum, and heard several animal tales and songs. Thanks to Watchung Borough, the next generation of environmental stewards learned more about local wildlife, and how each person can make a difference in his or her neighborhood.



Volunteers Needed

The Borough is looking for residents who are willing to work on our volunteer boards and committees. Please let us know if you would have an interest in serving. Cal (908)756-0080 or mail in the form below to the municipal building. You can also fill out this form on the Borough website: www.watchungnj.com. Look on the Bulletin Board and download the form into Microsoft Word. You can email the form to volunteer form @watchungnj.com.

Please send this completed form to:

Volunteer Pool
Borough of Watchung
15 Mountain Boulevard
Watchung, NJ 07069

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please include me on the list of potential volunteers for the following boards, committees and commissions.

Board of Adjustment	Board of Health	Environmental Commission
Historic Committee	Library Advisory	Municipal Alliance
Open Space Committee	Planning Board	Recreation Commission
Traffic & Beautification	Village Center Committee	

Other (Explain) _____

I have the following experience, skills, talents or special interests:

_____

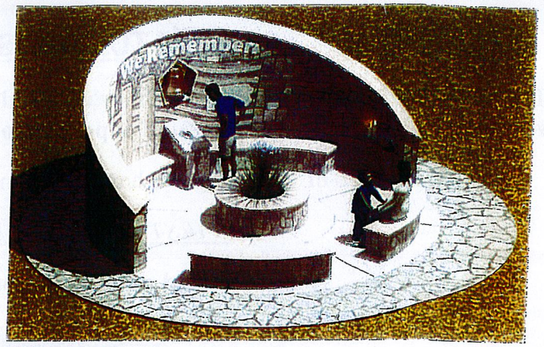
_____

_____

_____

_____

Borough of Watchung 9/11 Memorial



Dear Citizens, Neighbors, and Supporters of Watchung:

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. We request support at the following levels to be recognized in the memorial dedication program and on the official borough website as follows:

Benefactor	$1,000 or more	Supporter	$100
Patron	$500	Donor	$50
Sponsor	$250	Friend	$25

Please return the bottom portion of this letter with your tax deductible donation check made payable to: "Watchung Community Foundation." This foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) – ID# 46-0621799. Donations can also be made via PayPal on the borough website: watchungnj.com. Click on the "Community" button on the left side of the Home Page, then select "Watchung Community Foundation" in the middle of the Community Page, and then follow the PayPal instruction to complete the transaction.

Please also include any materials or services that you may be able to contribute towards the memorial construction. 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.

Borough of Watchung 9/11 Memorial

Yes, I want to help the World remember:

Enclosed is $_____ For (to appear in program as): _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please give to our memorial committee Ambassador in person or mail your check payable to: **"Watchung Community Foundation" and please add "9/11 Memorial" in the memo line.**

Please mail your check to: Borough of Watchung
15 Mountain Blvd., Watchung, NJ 07069