



# WATCHUNG RESCUE SQUAD 31<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL TREE OF LIGHTS FUNDRAISER Saturday, December 4th at 5:30pm



*The TREE OF LIGHTS will illuminate THE VILLAGE GREEN  
and a spectacular FIREWORKS DISPLAY will illuminate the SKY*

The 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Tree of Lights will once again light up the Village Green this holiday season. Please join us for the festivities on Saturday, **December 4<sup>th</sup> starting at 5:30 PM.** (Rain/snow date December 5<sup>th</sup>).

The Rescue Squad is proud to illuminate the holiday tree, and thanks to Garden State Fireworks, the skies will light up with a spectacular fireworks show!

You can be part of the celebration by placing a red light on our tree In Honor Of or a white light In Memoriam Of a person, family, friend or others.

The names of Honorees and Remembrances received by November 30th will be posted on the Village Green in time for the ceremony. The display and our website will be continually updated throughout the Holiday Season.

To place a light on the tree, please complete the Dedication Order Form and mail it along with your tax-deductible donation of \$50.00 per light in the envelope provided.

Your contribution to the Tree of Lights is not only a symbol of your feelings of gratitude and love, but also serves to help the Watchung

Volunteer Rescue Squad with major endeavors.

This year, through the generosity of the residents and businesses, the squad continues to provide high-quality, excellent Emergency Service.

Thank you in advance for your continued support and contributions.

To learn more about the squad or for information about becoming a volunteer, please visit our website at [www.watchungems.org](http://www.watchungems.org) or call us at 908-755-1297. Adult volunteers are desperately needed!

## THIS YEAR'S TREE OF LIGHTS IS DEDICATED TO

### ***THE EDUCATORS OF WATCHUNG:***

*Watchung Hills Regional High School*

*The Giving Nest Preschool*

*Bayberry School*

*ValleyView School*

*Mount St Mary's Academy*

The members of the Watchung Rescue Squad are proud to dedicate this year's tree in honor of all the teachers and educators in Watchung. They work hard to make a difference. We are proud of our teachers and thank them for always being there.

Teachers are a lot like First Responders: they work hard to get the credentials required to do their job, then practice and prepare so they can excel and make a difference. Although teaching can be a thankless job, it's still such an important part of our community. When the global pandemic struck, teachers were asked to educate our children remotely, without warning or preparation. Everyday they had to think of ways to teach and keep their students engaged, active and learning. Since this was unprecedented, there weren't guidelines or rules; they had to quickly dive in, get creative and find solutions. The demands on them were never-ending and there was no relief in sight. At the same time, many teachers were also battling their own personal struggles at home. The endless stress of juggling their personal and professional lives made many feel like finding some sort of balance was just unattainable. Teachers, like First Responders, try to have a plan going into a situation. But even the best laid plans don't always work out. In addition, how teachers budgeted their time was a double-edged sword. At times, they've felt pressed for time, overwhelmed and exhausted. Yet when they have had adequate time, it has allowed for new experiences which in turn created strength, confidence and a sense of momentum.

Our teachers took a crisis and turned it into a success story! They worked hard, went above and beyond and set examples for our children to do the same. We are thankful for their diligence and resolve and appreciate all they do for our community every day, and every year. We are privileged and thankful to be able to trust them with our children's future.

They are our neighbors, our friends, our leaders, and they truly deserve recognition for their efforts. It is with great honor that we dedicate this year's Tree of Lights to The Educators of Watchung.



PLEASE JOIN US ON THE VILLAGE GREEN FOR THE TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY FOLLOWED BY A FIREWORKS SHOW  
presented by GARDEN STATE FIREWORKS

**Please Complete and Return the Attached Dedication Card Promptly to Display Your Light!**  
The Watchung Rescue Squad is a 501(c)3 organization and your donations are tax deductible.