



**The Official Newsletter for the  
THE BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG  
FALL/WINTER  
ISSUE 2014-02**

**FROM YOUR MAYOR**

I hope this letter finds you rested from a fun and eventful summer, even if it may have been a “staycation” at home in our great Borough! I have a number of things to report, starting with an update on the rock wall behind the police station. The existing mesh behind the police station has been reinforced to ensure that any rock falling in that area is better contained. Behind the Public Works Building, we looked at several options. We are grateful that Weldon Concrete has offered to assist with a lower cost alternative to ensure that falling rock in this area lands in a dug out area and is further contained behind a berm. We anticipate that work to start soon.

At this writing, the Borough is installing permanent generators at several locations, starting with the Police Station and then in Borough Hall and the Fire House. The Borough secured a \$100K OEM (Office of Emergency Management) grant which will be used to subsidize our efforts to further improve the Borough’s infrastructure and readiness in the case of another emergency. With this funding, the Borough will be looking to better equip CERT team members, potentially install electronic signage outside of Borough Hall, and enhance emergency equipment and materials.

We have received architectural estimates of close to \$350K for long-overdue and needed renovations to the Fire House. Renovations include improved air handling, bathroom remodeling and installation of showers, safety replacement of bay floors. A resolution also recently was passed which approves the hiring of both a structural engineer and an architect to assess the structural integrity of the existing Watchung Library and to provide a preliminary design and cost estimate of its reconstruction. The Fire House renovations and the library work are both part of a \$1M bond passed by the Council.

The Borough is in its final stages of purchasing new playground equipment to replace the well-used and worn equipment installed over a decade ago. Part of the renovations in this area will include improved drainage, installation of playground-safe ground materials, replacement of basketball backboards, and the roof replacement of the pavilion.

Drainage work is completed on Mountain Drive. Road work has been completed recently on Johnson Drive, Lakeview Terrace and Cedar Road. The town will be looking at repaving Deer Run, Knollwood, and parts of Anderson and Washington Rock Roads. The town also will be assessing the erosion at several sanitary sewer manholes in town.

Several public inquiries have been made on the Pilgrim Pipeline that is being proposed along existing PSE&G high tension lines towards the east end of the Borough. The Mayor and Council recently passed a resolution voicing the town’s disapproval and concerns. The Mayor and Council discourage residents from permitting Pilgrim any access to your property, and we wish to better understand more details about the environmental impact of this project.

The Borough was deeply saddened this June by the loss of one of our Police Officers, Christopher Hoffman, who was killed in a motorcycle accident. We are, however, very proud of the recent promotions of Lieutenant Anderle and Sergeant LaVecchia.

History Day in Watchung is scheduled for September 27<sup>th</sup>, with a Civil War encampment around the Village Green starting on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Watchung’s Harvest Festival is scheduled for October 25<sup>th</sup> from 2-5PM. Please join us in these great community events.

As part of Watchung Borough’s increasingly active participation in Somerset County’s Green Sustainability program, Watchung is supporting the creation of a Farmers’ Market in town, which will be setting up on Sundays in September through early November.

Stephen K. Pote

Mayor, Borough of Watchung





## Green Team

The Green Team was established by Borough Council to promote environmental responsibility & innovation through policies, purchasing, operational practices and community outreach. Members of the team, appointed by the Mayor, review and recommend eco-friendly, cost-efficient projects designed to improve municipal operations. The team includes residents, a variety of Borough officials, including representatives of the Finance Department and Administration. The team is currently working hard to achieve Sustainable Jersey Certification for the Borough.

The Green Team, to date, has:

Promoted the bottle-cap recycling program implemented by the Garden Club. Containers to recycle bottle caps can be found at the Borough building and Library.

Purchased anti-idling signs to be placed on Borough property and encourage drivers not to run their vehicles when parked.

Purchased rain barrels to be placed on Borough property to help with water conservation efforts.

Promoted the Grass-Cut It and Leave it Program.

Scheduled a Farmer's Market where local goods and produce will be made available to residents for the fall season. September 14th, 21st, October 5th, 12th, and November 2nd. From 8-1 on Brookdale Road.

The Borough and community organizations have also participated in actions to help make the community more environmentally responsible.

The Borough's endorsement of County shredding events.

Prescription Drop Off events hosted by the Watchung Police Department.

Community Garden planted at the Library by the Girl Scouts and overseen by the Garden Club.

Borough recycling of ink cartridges and purchasing recycled paper.

No smoking signs have been placed throughout the Borough.

The Green Team is currently looking for more volunteers. If interested, please contact Bill Hance at [bhance@watchungnj.gov](mailto:bhance@watchungnj.gov) , Shelini Parikh at [sparikh@watchungnj.gov](mailto:sparikh@watchungnj.gov) or call 908-756-0080 for additional information.

# REMINDER

**\*\* IMPORTANT \*\* IMPORTANT \*\* IMPORTANT \*\***

IMPORTANT INFORMATION – CHANGE IN POLLING LOCATIONS!!

**\*\*Voters in Districts 2 & 5\*\***

If you have previously voted at **Valley View School**, be advised that this location will no longer be used. Your **new** location will be:

**Wilson Memorial Church, 7 Valley Road**  
(parking behind church off Hillcrest Road)



## **ELECTION TIME LINES**



- Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> Last day to register to vote for the General Election
- Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> Last day Vote By Mail request forms must be received by County
- Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> Election Day polls open 6:00 am—8:00 pm

Voter Registration forms, Vote by Mail forms, Change in Party Forms, are all available at Borough Hall, or on our website: [www.watchungnj.gov](http://www.watchungnj.gov) or [www.co.somerset.nj.us/elections](http://www.co.somerset.nj.us/elections)

## ***Deer Management Program 2014-2015***

The results of the 2013 Survey that was mailed to all homeowners resulted in over 75% of the respondents indicating their opinion that the deer population is overabundant and that there is a need for a managed harvest. The Borough will again contract with the Warren Blue Ridge Sportsmen Inc. to administer the culling program, in accordance with the rules and regulations as set forth by the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife. They will utilize conforming municipal property and private lots that have authorized their use through a signed permission agreement. For a residential property to qualify to be used as a site, a minimum boundary of 450' from any occupied structure is required. For more information on the deer management program or for a permission agreement, please visit our website at [www.watchungnj.gov](http://www.watchungnj.gov).

### **DESTRUCTION OF UNDERBRUSH CAUSES SOIL EROSION**





## Communications with Residents

Providing information is a tremendous responsibility that is not taken lightly by the Borough. The Borough is responsible for keeping the residents of Watchung informed about Borough programs, events, services as well as the actions of the Borough government.

The Borough's primary and most effective means of mass communication are our website, Resident E-mails, Reverse 911 and Nixle alerts.

The Borough's website, [www.watchungnj.gov](http://www.watchungnj.gov), offers residents access to the most up to date Borough information. The website includes: directory, forms, news, traffic, advisories, Community Calendar, program and events and links to other organizations & commissions within the Borough.

Resident E-Mail is the Borough's electronic newsletters. Visit our website at [www.watchungnj.gov](http://www.watchungnj.gov) and click on the *Borough e-news Updates by Email* button to sign up for Resident E-Mail. Notifications and alerts on many subjects, not just emergencies are sent to you via email.

The Borough's Police Department has implemented the Nixle service to provide town officials the ability to communicate with residents regarding time-sensitive incidents, including both planned and unforeseen public safety matters. Nixle allows officials to record, send and track personalized voice messages to thousands of residents, businesses and local agencies in just minutes through a single phone call. Visit our website at [www.watchungnj.gov](http://www.watchungnj.gov) and click on the *Borough Police Dept. Emergency Notification Systems* button to sign up for Nixle.



The Borough has also created a profile on the popular social networking site Facebook



to assist with its outreach and communication efforts. The Borough's Facebook page is an innovative way of sharing information with residents who are fans of the site. Interested residents can "Like" the Borough page to receive traffic updates, news, events and fun facts.

Come tweet with the Borough on Twitter.  
Follow our Twitter page for updates and notifications.



Meeting information and traffic alerts can be accessed on the Borough's radio station **WPNT550/1610 AM**.

**Channel 15** is the Borough's government access channel serving residents of Watchung. **Channel 15** is available to residents and business that subscribe to Optimum. The informational channel operates 24 hours per day and provides a variety of information about programs, services, upcoming meetings and special events sponsored by the Borough.



**NEW INFORMATION REGARDING SNOW REMOVAL**

Placement or shoveling of snow, ice, or slush on to Borough streets is now prohibited! (Ordinance OR:14/05) Violators will be penalized!

Parking on Borough roads when roads are snow covered is also prohibited! (Ordinance OR:11/05). It is imperative that roads are clear of parked vehicles to allow for access by emergency vehicles and to allow for plowing.

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**FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

The Department of Public Works will again have a Fall Leaf Cleanup, beginning November 3rd and continue through November 28th. All leaves MUST BE IN BIODEGRADABLE BAGS only and placed on the grass area close to the road, not IN the road.

**NO BRANCHES, TRASH, OR REFUSE WILL BE PICKED UP.**

Regularly scheduled leaf pickup takes place in the higher density neighborhoods within the following areas: Brookdale, Stirling, and Hillcrest Roads north to Evergreen Lane; Mountain Boulevard from Washington Drive to Rock Avenue; 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 can have leaf pickup by calling Public Works at 756-0091, ext. 214.

REMEMBER: Raking leaves or debris into the gutter or street is strictly prohibited.

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



## Receiving Emergency Notifications

In the Spring 2014 newsletter I cautioned those who get their news and information from social media to verify information before they simply accept it as true and pass it along to others. But how do you know which sources to trust? What do you do during a power outage when you can't turn on the TV to watch the news? Where can you get local updates and other useful information during an emergency? If you haven't signed up already, please don't wait for another emergency and register with Nixle today.

Nixle is a free emergency alert system that provides information by text message, email or both. By texting the word Watchung to 888777, or if you visit their website at [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com) you can register and immediately begin to receive emergency messages from the Watchung Police Department, and any other locations that you choose. Traffic alerts, water main breaks with boil advisories, power outages, bear sightings, etc. As soon as is practical the police department will send out alerts and updates to keep you informed, on these, and many other issues.

Wouldn't it be nice to know that Hillcrest Rd was closed before you left the house on your way to Rt 78? If there was a water main break wouldn't you want to know if your water was safe or if you needed to boil it? If a mother bear and her cubs have been spotted in your neighborhood, wouldn't you want to know before you let your kids out to play in the yard? By registering with Nixle you can get the information you need, and since it comes directly from the police department, you know it is a reliable source.

There is also no limit on where you can receive alerts from, but you will have to register for each location separately. As long as the location you selected uses Nixle, you can receive their alerts. If you sign up to receive Watchung alerts you will automatically get alerts sent out by surrounding towns, but what if you want to know what's going on where your kids are going to college? What if your elderly parents don't get text messages, but a boil water advisory was issued where they live? By signing up to receive alerts from those locations too, you'd be in a position to help.

Your cell phone plan's text message rates may apply to any alert you receive, but there is no additional charge for the service. The information comes directly from the police department, so you know it's coming from a reliable source. Please sign up today and so you'll know where to turn for information during an emergency. If you have any questions, or if you are in need of any additional information about Nixle, please call me at (908) 756-3663, or email your questions to me at [jcina@watchungpd.com](mailto:jcina@watchungpd.com).

Chief Joseph R. Cina  
Watchung Police Department



## [The Watchung Historical Committee](#)

### WATCHUNG HISTORY DAY

The Union Army is coming! The Re-enactor/Living History organization, the 3<sup>rd</sup> New Jersey Volunteer Infantry will camp on the Village Green once again when the Watchung Historical Committee hosts the second Watchung History Day, on Saturday September 27 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Texier House Museum at 10 Mountain Boulevard, opposite Borough Hall. The regiment portrays an 1863 “post Gettysburg” recruiting encampment, where Company A has returned, tired and depleted, to their native state to recruit, rest and refit. Visitors can travel back in time and visit the various stations in the camping area. There will be drills for new “young recruits” with wooden muskets. The kind and gentle Sergeants of the 3<sup>rd</sup> NJ will, within ten minutes, turn the children into trained marching “soldiers” for “Uncle Abe” Lincoln. Please leave dogs home, they may be frightened by the loud noises of the musket firings (no live ammo ever!).

Historical Committee members and community volunteers will host tours of the museum and many local service groups will participate in the day’s activities, including the Watchung Fire Department, Rescue Squad, CERT, Parent Teacher Organization, Watchung Arts Center, Garden Club, Cub Scout Pack 32, Boy Scout Troop 32 and Watchung Girl Scouts. The first installment of the film “Reflections of Watchung”, produced by Christopher VanderFliet, Bob Adams and Brian Ericksen, will make its cinematic debut! Scouts will be selling hot dogs and homemade apple crisp. A folk music program will entertain all. Please contact Susan Tucker at [susancoletucker@gmail.com](mailto:susancoletucker@gmail.com) with any questions about Watchung History Day.

The Museum, which opened last year, portrays many facets of the history of Watchung, including displays about Moldenke’s Elsinore Castle, Congressman Charles Eaton, Watchung’s sports champions, ice cutting on Watchung and Best Lakes and more. New this year will be displays of Watchung: Then and Now— a display created by Justin Scalera, a member of Boy Scout Troop 32 as his Eagle Leadership project. Justin paired vintage photographs with his photos of the same home or location today to create both displays in the museum and a book which will be available at the museum. Another new display memorializes the two Watchung residents killed on September 11, 2001 in the terrorist attack on the World Trade Towers, Christopher Noble Ingrassia and Honor Elizabeth Wainio. The 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Francis Scott Key’s composing the Star Spangled Banner is acknowledged. Artifacts from Captain Parlin, who served in the Civil War as an officer of an African American regiment, have been donated by the Eaton family. Girl Scout Madeline Quinn has created a display about the history of Watchung’s schools.

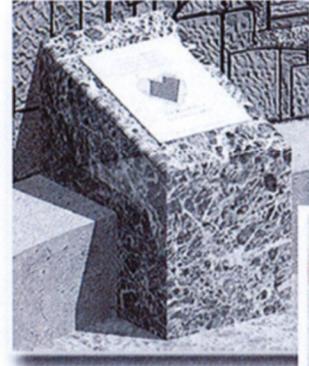
The festivities will continue when the Watchung Arts Center presents Musician/Historian David Kincaid in concert at 8 p.m. at the Arts Center, presenting a compelling combination of the songs and history of the Irish in the Civil War. Kincaid performs in period clothing, presenting an engaging all-age program appealing to both history buffs and Irish music fans alike. Concert tickets are available online at [watchungartscenter.eventbrite.com](http://watchungartscenter.eventbrite.com) and are \$16 in advance, \$20 (\$18 WAC members, \$10 students) at the door.

The Historical Committee is also seeking additional names of war veterans who lived in Watchung at the time of their service for inclusion on the Watchung War memorial. If you’re aware of a veteran to be considered for inclusion, please contact Lynn Franklin at 908-755-6276 or Barbara Diem at 908-566-5240.

# Fundraising Drive



A Touch Stone



## Watchung 9/11 Memorial

The Watchung 9/11 Memorial is designed to create a meaningful place where the plaque, with the piece of steel from the World Trade Center, will be on display. The structure's coloring and form are engineered to embrace the park's natural beauty, with a stacked stone look reminiscent of the old Wetumpka Falls. The concrete and stone structure will be augmented with granite that was once part of the base of the Statue of Liberty. Visitors will enter the surrounding walls where the plaque is mounted on a slanted stone pedestal. The piece of steel from the World Trade Center is embedded in a pink heart-shaped block, inside a white marble rectangular block. The direct interaction of placing one's hand on the heart is suggested by the design. The height will be assessable for both young people and adults.

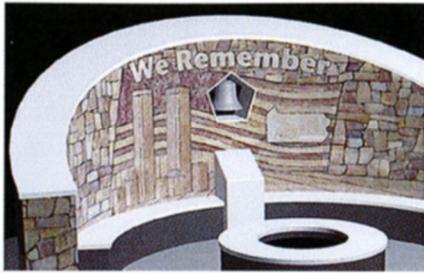
### To Donate Online:

Go to <http://watchungnj.gov> and click on the home page button that says Watchung 9/11 Memorial Fund. Please do not hesitate to call Linda Monetti at Watchung Borough Hall: (908) 756-0080 or Email: [911memorial@watchungnj.gov](mailto:911memorial@watchungnj.gov) with any questions or comments. Your support is greatly appreciated.

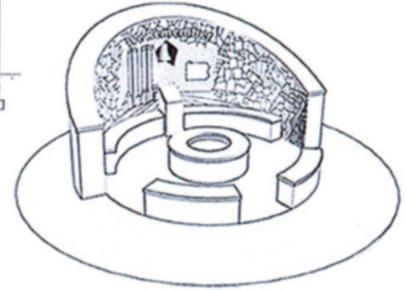
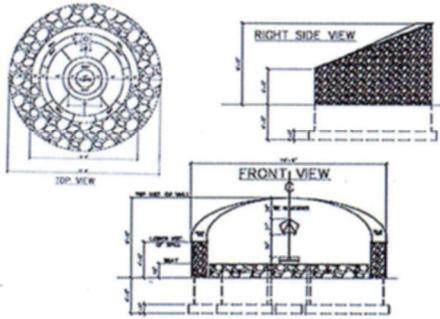


Dedicated to all who perished as a result of the attacks of September 11, 2001 and in memory of Watchung residents, Christopher N. Ingrassia and Honor Elizabeth Wainio.

<http://watchungnj.gov>



Funded by your donations.



## Dear Citizens, Neighbors and Supporters of Watchung:

Your financial support is needed to help build Watchung's 9/11 Memorial for this and future generations. We request your **tax deductible** donation at the following levels to be recognized in the Memorial dedication program and on the official Borough website:

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



Dedicate a  
Paver Brick

Borough of Watchung 9/11 Memorial

Yes, I want to help Watchung remember:

Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ For (to appear in the program as): \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your **tax deductible** check payable to:  
**"Watchung Community Foundation"** and add **"9/11 Memorial"** in the memo line.  
 This foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) - ID# 46-0621799.  
 Please mail your check to: Borough of Watchung, 15 Mountain Blvd., Watchung, NJ 07069

*A Journey Of The Heart*  
 The Watchung 9/11 Memorial

## NEIGHBORHOOD CAPTAIN PROGRAM

The Borough is in the process of establishing a “Neighborhood Captain Program”. This program is designed to identify and involve individual residents who would represent individual streets or neighborhoods. These individuals would be responsible for helping to ensure that effective two-way communication is established between the represented neighborhood and/or street and the Borough, in the event that power goes out for an extended period in neighborhoods and on streets in Watchung.

Some of the responsibilities for this volunteer would include, but not be limited to, the following (a more detailed list including required qualifications is available on the Borough’s website at [www.watchungnj.gov](http://www.watchungnj.gov) or call the Clerk’s Office at 908-756-0080):

- Representing either a designated street or several streets or defined “neighborhood”.
- Communicating to the Borough any specific issues or concerns that exist on the street(s) or neighborhood either after an incident (e.g., tornado or hurricane) or during an incident (e.g., power outage after a hurricane).
- Canvassing neighborhood to understand if there are any specific individual needs that aren’t being met (individual might require oxygen or a trip to the doctors, etc.)
- Meeting, as needed, at Borough Hall with other neighborhood or street captains to understand the current situation relating to any incident that has occurred in town.
- Assisting in the distribution of flyers, notices.

Registration Form:

Complete and return to: Borough Hall, 15 Mountain Boulevard, Watchung, NJ 07069

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## NEIGHBORHOOD CAPTAIN PROGRAM

I, \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby volunteer with the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) “Neighborhood Captain Program” of the Borough of Watchung. The OEM Coordinator will be in further communication with details and specific responsibilities.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

# *Volunteers Needed*

The Borough is looking for residents who are willing to work on our volunteer boards. Please let us know if you would have an interest in serving. Call (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.gov](http://www.watchungnj.gov). Look on the Bulletin Board and download the form into Microsoft Word. You can email the form to [volunteer\\_form@watchungnj.gov](mailto:volunteer_form@watchungnj.gov).

Please send this completed form to:

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Adjustment      | <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Health          | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Committee       | <input type="checkbox"/> Library Advisory         | <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Alliance       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Open Space Committee     | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning Board           | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation Commission    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic & Beautification | <input type="checkbox"/> Village Center Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Green Team               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Service Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain)          |   |

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Note: Currently in immediate need of volunteers for the following:  
Fund campaign / Fundraising capabilities**

**REMINDER:**  
**DOG LICENSES MUST BE RENEWED BETWEEN**  
**JANUARY 1-31**

**RABIES CLINICS**

The Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission, with the Warren Township Board of Health, will be offering fall rabies clinics listed below. All residents are encouraged to have their dog or cat vaccinated against 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 clinics are free to all.**

**South Bound Brook**

Saturday, November 1  
9:00 am to 10:00 am

South Bound Brook Municipal Garage  
44 Washington Ave.

**Green Brook**

Saturday, November 1  
11:00 am to 12:00 noon

Green Brook Fire House  
115 Greenbrook Road

**Watchung**

Saturday December 6  
9:00 am to 10:00 am

Watchung Fire House  
57 Mountain Blvd.

**Bound Brook**

Saturday December 6  
11:00 am to 12:00 noon

Bound Brook Police /Borough Hall  
230 Hamilton Street

**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 or older; people of any age with chronic medical conditions; those living in nursing homes or other long-term care facilities and those who are Health care workers in those facilities.

The Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission will be offering a public flu clinic on **Wednesday, October 1, 2014, from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm at Our Lady Of the Mount Catholic Church in Warren.** Please contact the health department at 908-753-8000 ext. 239 for further information as fall approaches.

You will also be able to search for clinics throughout the State at: <http://www.nj.gov/health/flu/findflushot.shtml>

**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 to 11 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.

## **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](http://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 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>.



## **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 2014, 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, the Mt. Carmel festival in Berkeley Heights and our Spring Community Picnic. If you'd like to see photos or learn more about upcoming events, visit our website at [www.watchungems.org](http://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 financial generosity during these hard economic times. We would not be here without your support!

This fall we will be replacing our 2001 ambulance '82' with a new state of the art rig. It has served us well; many of you have been transported to area hospitals thanks to this rig. The building of our new rig will take approximately 4 months; we are currently waiting for a new 2015 chassis and drive train. This should be completed by end of this year or early next year.

In the upcoming months, the members of the Rescue Squad look forward to beginning preparation for the 24<sup>th</sup> annual Tree of Lights Festival, which will once again light up the Village Green on Saturday, December 6th. 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 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](http://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 Hurricanes Irene and Sandy to encourage residents to keep in touch and check on their neighbors during disaster situations to help ensure everyone's safety and welfare.

We train continually to stay up to date and maintain high standards of patient care. We are currently going through training to administer NARCAN and we will be hosting a mass casualty drill and working with area emergency service organizations this fall. We are members in good standing with the NJ State First Aid Council and are members locally with District 2. One of our members is chairman of the Standards committee, responsible for certifying that rigs in our district are compliant and up to date with supplies and equipment. We will be hosting the September monthly business meeting at the Exempt Hall, something we do every 2-3 years.

If you are looking for volunteer opportunities, the Rescue Squad is always looking for dedicated members interested in joining our team. No prior medical experiences 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 ([www.watchungems.org](http://www.watchungems.org)) and click "Join Us" to learn more and download an application! If you have any questions about membership, feel free to contact us at [membership@watchungems.org](mailto:membership@watchungems.org).

# WATCHUNG RECREATION NEWS

## SAVE THE DATE

### HARVEST FESTIVAL

Saturday, Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>  
( Rain Date Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> )  
2:00pm – 5:00pm Mobus Field

***Contests, Haystacks, Pumpkin Painting, Music, Refreshments!***  
*(this event is free for Watchung residents)*

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**EXCITING NEWS!  
COMING SOON!**

**New playground equipment at Mobus Field**



Watchung Municipal Building  
15 Mountain Boulevard  
Watchung, New Jersey 07069

Phone: 908.756.0080

Fax: 908.757.7027

Watchung Public Information Channel  
15

Watchung Radio 1610 AM

Visit us on the Web  
[www.watchungnj.com](http://www.watchungnj.com)



**\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*\*\***  
**LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER**  
**Watchung, NJ 07069**

**MAYOR STEPHEN K. POTE**

**Stephen L. Black**  
**William Nehls**

Administration- 756-0080  
**Thomas E. Atkins, Administrator**  
[tatkins@watchungnj.gov](mailto:tatkins@watchungnj.gov)

**Michelle DeRocco, Borough Clerk**  
[mderocco@watchungnj.gov](mailto:mderocco@watchungnj.gov)

**William Hance, Chief Finance Officer**  
[bhance@watchungnj.gov](mailto:bhance@watchungnj.gov)

Engineering Office  
**Tom Herits** 756-0091  
[therits@maserconsulting.com](mailto:therits@maserconsulting.com)

Watchung Art Center  
For information call—561-0190

Watchung Hills Regional High School  
Grades 9 through 12  
108 Stirling Road  
Warren, NJ 07059  
647-4800

**BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Thomas Franklin**  
**Robert Gibbs**

Police  
**Emergency** 911  
**Non-emergency** 756-3663

Emergency Management  
**Contact Police Dept.** 756-3663

Tax Assessor  
**Ed Kerwin** 756-3366  
[ekerwin@watchungnj.gov](mailto:ekerwin@watchungnj.gov)

Construction Official /Zoning Officer  
**Ed Bennett** 756-6093  
[ebennett@watchungnj.gov](mailto:ebennett@watchungnj.gov)

Watchung Public Library  
561-0117  
Monday-Thursday..... 10 am-9pm  
Friday..... 10 am-4:30pm  
Saturday.....10 am-4pm  
Sunday.....closed  
(Closed Saturday during July and August)

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

**Debra Joren**  
**Dianna Beck-Clemens**

Fire Department  
**Emergency** 911  
**Non-emergency** 561-9389

Municipal Court  
**Jodi Hanson Rodriquez** 769-2265

Tax Collector  
**Ray Murray** 756-8333  
[rmurray@watchungnj.gov](mailto:rmurray@watchungnj.gov)

Public Works Facility  
**Robert Burns** 753-6115  
[rburns@watchungnj.gov](mailto:rburns@watchungnj.gov)

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