

# BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG NEWS



ISSUE 2011-01

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG

SPRING/SUMMER

## FROM OUR MAYOR

Dear Residents:

This is my first Mayor's Message as your new Mayor, being sworn in January 1, 2011. I follow in the footsteps of Al Ellis, who officially retired December 31, 2010 after eight years of service as Mayor, preceded by another fifteen years of service as a Council member. Mayor Ellis was honored at year's end by Federal, State and local representatives for his many years of volunteerism for the betterment of Watchung and was a true and dedicated leader. The blizzard of December 26, 2010 set the stage for my entry into the Mayor's position and I must express my gratitude to our Public Works Department for their outstanding response during an extremely difficult winter.

A celebration with special personal meaning for me was the 100th Anniversary of the Watchung Chemical Engine Company this past year. Charter members of that original organization were from the Titus, Mobus, Blackadar, Greves and Aldrich families and over the years a total of more than 874,000 volunteer hours of fire protection were provided. Today, 100 years later, grandchildren and great-grandchildren of those same families remain on the rolls of the WCEC, along with a host of some of the finest volunteers to be found. A true tribute to the type of community Watchung has always been.

Watchung's finest, our Police Department, responded to a record number of calls in 2010 from our residents and those passing through Watchung, always doing the commendable job they do, providing safety and security. I would like to recognize the Watchung Rescue Squad for both the countless number of hours they dedicate to our Borough each year, and the way they are able - by a ten-count, a flick of a switch and the lighting of a fuse - to turn the Village Green into a Norman Rockwell winter wonderland. Much appreciation for the emergency coverage given, as well as the aesthetic transformation.

The Borough's finances are looking better than they did in 2010. As of this writing, we're not anticipating any layoffs or furlough days and it appears we will be able to adopt a budget within the state-mandated cap. February saw the implementation of a "Reverse 911" program. This program is partnered with Warren Township, who shared federal grant funding resources with us in order to include the Borough. If you are not already signed up, you can register online through the WPD website, [www.watchungpd.com](http://www.watchungpd.com). The registration link is found at the top of the home page.

It has been brought to the Council's attention that many of you get a weekly advertising flyer packet or newspaper in your driveway. If you don't want this delivery and you're concerned about litter, please call 1-800-376-6222 to be removed and placed on a "Do Not Deliver" list.

2011 is the year the Planning Board will be finalizing the most recent Reexamination of the Master Plan. It's been in process for eight months and I want to compliment the Planning Board, Master Plan Committee and Board members, both previous and current, for their dedication. To those who serve on our Commissions, our Boards, our Committees and volunteer as Coaches, Scout Leaders, Library volunteers, etc., a resounding "thank you." To our Borough employees, who are a dedicated group of individuals, the finest I've ever been associated with - keep up the good work and professionalism.

Finally, it gives me great pleasure to serve as your Mayor. We have a very active and dedicated Council. I am both visible and available, so feel free to call Borough Hall should you wish to contact me for any reason at all.

Thank You All,

*Gerald M. Mobus*  
Mayor

**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 : \_\_\_\_ @\$40.00 = \_\_\_\_  
(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 | _ Refrigerator                         | 400 |
| - Bathtub                   | 400 | _ Rug 5x8                              | 50  |
| - Chair (large stuffed)     | 75  | _ Sink (porcelain)                     | 40  |
| - Chair (small straight)    | 25  | _ Sofa                                 | 150 |
| - Cedar chest               | 70  | _ Sofa bed                             | 300 |
| - Coffee table              | 50  | _ Stove                                | 250 |
| - Desk (large)              | 100 | _ Table (large)                        | 100 |
| - Dishwasher                | 150 | _ Table (small)                        | 50  |
| - Door                      | 50  | _ Tire (auto)                          | 20  |
| - Dresser (adult)           | 170 | _ Toilet & tank                        | 100 |
| - Dryer                     | 200 | _ TV (portable)                        | 75  |
| - Freezer                   | 250 | _ TV (console)                         | 100 |
| - Gas barbecue grill        | 70  | _ Washing machine                      | 300 |
| - Hot Water Heater (40 gal) | 150 | _ Window                               | 30  |
| - Lawn mower                | 100 | _ Other (Please list with est. weight) |     |
| - Mattress (double)         | 75  | -                                      |     |
| - Microwave oven            | 80  |  |     |

**STATEMENT OF AGREEMENT**

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

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR DEPARTMENT USE ONLY**

**Check No.** \_\_\_\_\_ **Amount:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Initials:** \_\_\_\_\_

**District #** \_\_\_\_\_ **Permit Numbers Rec'd:** \_\_\_\_\_



**BULK PICK UP**  
**DISTRICT #1**  
**(June 6-10)**

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 13-17)**

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



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

# **DONATION APPEAL**

## **HELP REOPEN OUR TENNIS COURTS!**

Dear Resident:

The Watchung Recreation Commission is reaching out to the residents of the community in hopes of raising funds to resurface our Mobus Field tennis courts, located on Brookdale Road. In order to keep our taxes at bay with the rising costs of insurances, heating, air and salt, for the heavy snows this winter, the Borough has been forced to cut many budgets, including but not limited to, the recreation activities that our community has enjoyed over the years.

Unfortunately, the tennis court repairs and patches are now failing and the courts are in such bad repair that they are now closed until a new surface is constructed. A petition was turned in to the Borough Recreation Commission in April, 2010, signed by over 180 town residents, asking that the courts be repaired. A committee was formed in 2010 by residents to raise some funds for the court repairs, in hopes that the Borough would pay the balance. Unfortunately, it was not feasible for the Borough to allocate money for the amount that was estimated at that time; therefore, fund raising efforts were put on hold.

Once again we are addressing this issue. The Recreation Commission is asking our residents for a contribution of \$25.00 or more per household, hoping to raise enough funds to repair our courts before the beginning of the 2011 tennis season. If you are able to donate funds for the courts and get them back into play, please send your check made out the Borough of Watchung, 15 Mountain Boulevard, Watchung, NJ 07069. We thank you in advance for your contribution and participation in this fund raising event.

Maria Bachert, Recreation Director



### **THE WATCHUNG HISTORICAL COMMITTEE**

The Committee continues its mission to preserve, protect and record the history of the Borough of Watchung.

We collect and organize weekly newspaper clippings to put in our yearly scrapbooks, along with a summary of important events of the year. We also photograph current events in the Borough including important changes in the landscape. We hope to publish a booklet entitled, "*Then and Now*" in the near future.

Another important project is to provide information about our veterans for the Memorial Day Service. We try to honor at least two local veterans each year. Councilman Steve Pote did his usual excellent job with the Memorial Day speech.

We are also working on a way to honor Congressman Charles A. Eaton, a Watchung resident, who was one of the original signers of the UN Charter. He is credited with helping to get the UN up and running and is probably the most notable historic figure from Somerset County. We hope to have him honored at the Somerset County level soon.

But best of all, we are finally in our new home, The Texier House! The Borough has put out bids for the renovations necessary to open the museum. We are so looking forward to moving all of our artifacts into their proper places. Once the renovations are completed and the move is made, the museum will be open to the public.

Please contact Barbara Diem at 908-756-5949 if you have any memorabilia or artifacts from "old Watchung" you would be willing to donate.

With the current budget restraints and tight economy, the Committee would also appreciate any monetary donations to help us get the museum open.

We continue to sell the Watchung Books at \$20 each and Bill Titus' Note Cards at \$15 a set. These can be purchased at Borough Hall, or again, contact Barbara Diem – 908-756-5949.

**Barbara Diem, Chairperson**  
**Betty Black**  
**Sue Tucker**

**Betty Aldrich, Co-chairperson**  
**Susan Feibush**  
**Karen Cassidy, Council Liaison**

**Dorothy Addario, Secretary**  
**Betse Titus**



## **REGISTER AND VOTE**

The last day to register to vote in the **June 7th** Primary Election is **May 17th**.

If you are a Watchung Resident age 18 and over, a 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, you may register to vote at Borough Hall, or print a form from the Borough's website at **www.watchungnj.com** and mail to Somerset County.

All voters are now eligible to vote by mail. This form is also available at Borough Hall or on our website.

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## **RABIES CLINIC**

The Warren Board of Health, in conjunction with the Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission, 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 a restart of activity in our local wildlife. 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.** All dogs must be controlled on a leash and cats must be contained in a carrier.

**DATE:** Saturday, May 7, 2011  
**TIME:** 9:00 AM TO 10:00 AM  
**WHERE:** Washington Valley Fire House  
Washington Valley Road  
Warren, NJ 07059

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## **PET LICENSING**

Every year pet owners are required by local law to license their pets. 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 owners seem to be declining and we want to tell you why it is important to license your furry friends. 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, the license 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, it's the law!** 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.

## **DEER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

Since 2003, the Borough has conducted a State-approved Community Based Deer Management Program in an effort to reduce the population of the existing deer herd in Watchung. Over the last eight years, the herd was reduced by approximately 880 deer, with a majority of the females culled carrying twins. Over the years of the program, vehicle/deer collisions have been reduced and a small semblance of return to the damaged undergrowth was seen. Due to economic downturns, the Borough chose not to fund a cost-based management program in 2010/2011, but did permit a no-cost culling program to operate under a Borough management program, provided through the auspices of Warren Blue Ridge Sportsmen, a nonprofit sport hunting club with two million dollars in insurance, an outstanding safety record and a lengthy history. The 2010/2011 season was not a resounding success, due to various factors, such as the harsh winter, lack of sites and having to function within a short, existing sport-hunting season. We will be losing ground with our control efforts if we do not maintain what we have accomplished over the last eight years. In anticipation of a fall program, the Borough is again seeking the public's cooperation in providing cull sites acceptable to the rules and regulations the Borough has established. If you feel you have a suitable site and are willing to participate in the program, please complete the form below and return it to the office of the Borough Administrator at 15 Mountain Boulevard. If you have any questions concerning the program or its rules and regulations, please call Administrator Laureen Fellin at 908-756-0080.

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**BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG**  
**Deer Management Program**  
**Property Owner Authorization Letter**

Name of all property owner(s):

Address:

Borough/Zip:

Phone:

I hereby grant permission to the Borough of Watchung and its authorized agent, to utilize my property to bait, kill, destroy, injure, shoot, shoot at, take, wound, or attempt to take, kill or wound deer within 450 feet of any occupied building on my property. This will be done as part of the Borough of Watchung Community Based Deer Management Program. I understand that I will be notified prior to any Borough Deer Management Program activity within 450 feet of any occupied building on my property.

#1 Owner Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

(Print Name): \_\_\_\_\_

#2 Owner Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

(Print Name): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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[www.watchungnj.com](http://www.watchungnj.com)

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**MAYOR GERALD M. MOBUS**

**Stephen L. Black**  
**Stephen Pote**

**Thomas Franklin**  
**William Nehls**

**Debra Joren**  
**Karen Cassidy**

**Administrator/Borough Clerk**

Laureen B. Fellin 756-0080  
[lfellin@watchungnj.com](mailto:lfellin@watchungnj.com)

**Municipal Court**

Pamela Steves 757-1407  
[psteves@watchungnj.com](mailto:psteves@watchungnj.com)

**Public Works Facility**

Robert Burns 753-6115  
[crburns@watchungnj.com](mailto:crburns@watchungnj.com)

**Construction Official /Zoning Officer**

Ed Bennett 756-6093  
[ebennett@watchungnj.com](mailto:ebennett@watchungnj.com)

**Watchung Hills Regional High School**

Grades 9 through 12  
108 Stirling Road  
Warren, NJ 07059  
647-4800

**Police**

Emergency 911  
Non-emergency 756-3663

**Emergency Management**

Contact Police Dept. 756-3663

**Engineering Office**

Tom Herits 756-0091  
[therits@watchungnj.com](mailto:therits@watchungnj.com)

**Tax Assessor**

Ed Kerwin 756-3366  
[ekerwin@watchungnj.com](mailto:ekerwin@watchungnj.com)

**Tax Collector**

908-756-8333

**Bayberry Elementary School**

Kindergarten through 4th Grade  
Bayberry Lane  
755-8184

**Fire Department**

Emergency 911  
Non-emergency 561-9389

**Watchung Arts Center**

for information call: 561-0190

**Watchung Public Library**

**Library Hours:**

Monday/Thursday.....10am-9pm  
Friday.....10am-4:30pm  
Saturday.....10am-4pm  
Sunday.....Closed  
Closed Saturdays during July/Aug.  
561-0117

**Valley View Middle School**

Grades 5 through 8  
Valley View Road  
755-4422