PUBLISHED BY THE BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG

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Watchung, New Jersey 07069

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Watchung Public Information Channel
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Watchung Radio 1610 AM

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www.watchungnj.gov

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Lindsay Goodloe
Robert Gibbs, Council President
Daryl Eisenberg Knegten

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Police
Emergency 911
Non-emergency 756-3663

Emergency Management
Contact Police Dept. 756-3663

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

Fire Department
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Non-emergency 561-9389

Municipal Court
Jodi Mack 769-2265

Tax Collector
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amccoy@watchungnj.gov

Construction Official /Zoning Officer
Bob LaCosta 756-6093
rlacosta@watchungnj.gov

Public Works Facility
Robert Burns 753-6115
bburns@watchungnj.gov

Watchung Art Center
For information call—561-0190

Watchung Public Library
458-8455
Monday-Thursday…… 9:30 am-9 pm
Friday…… 9:30 am- 5 pm
Saturday…… 9:30 am– 5 pm
Sunday…… closed

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 2019-02

FROM YOUR MAYOR

Greetings Residents,

2019 has been filled with much change and activity in the Borough. Since January we needed to fill vacancies in the Office of Emergency Management, Municipal Judge, Plumbing Official, Construction Official, Fire Inspector, Police Department, Tax Collector and Business Administrator. In September, we will be welcoming to Watchung our new Administrator, James Damato. Mr. Damato will be here full time and brings many years of experience and knowledge. We look forward to working with him. I want to extend a large thank you to our resigning Business Administrator Tom Atkins who has diligently served our community for the past eight years. Tom's experience and assistance has been a true blessing to the residents and employees.

Our Governing Body has been very busy with the work on each committee. We have increased transparency by publishing the details of all proposed resolutions and ordinances in draft form for each meeting so residents have an ability to see the details behind all actions being considered by the Council before the actual meeting. Our Clerk Michelle DeRocco was very helpful moving this initiative forward. In the finance area, we approved a lean budget with additions for town beautification and road resurfacing and are working to obtain an AAA bond rating which provides advantages for our Borough.

Our Recreation Committee has done a wonderful job organizing and coordinating various programs and events for the entire community that have been fantastic at bringing our residents together for fun and relaxation. Feedback from the residents was that this year's community picnic was the best ever. A special thank you to Linda Monetti for all of her work in organizing the events. The 2019 summer camp program for our children looks to be busy and fun. We are eager for continued progress to provide activities and events to bring our residents together and celebrate our great Borough. I have been meeting with residents one on one to share ideas and welcome the input and experienced help from both the residents and employees.

I met several times with the Exempt Fireman and the Watchung Chemical Engine Company/ Volunteer fire fighters and proposed the town financially compensate the Exempts for termination of the current lease with the Exempts and construct the new Library, Arts and Community building on the property located at the Exempt Hall which would include an area permanently honoring the contributions of our volunteer firefighters and the sacrifices they have made to protect our community as dedicated volunteers. The proposal also included that the Exempts could utilize the new building at no cost and coordinate their activities with the other library, arts and community activities within the facility. In addition the proposal provided the Exempts with exclusive use of the old Arts Center building until such time that the property was either rented, sold or redeveloped for the remaining term of the current lease on the Exempt Hall property. Unfortunately the Exempts declined the proposal. We have researched and met with an Architect to develop preliminary plans for the construction of the new library, arts and community building on the acreage behind the Exempt Hall. Soil testing was performed to determine if the site is buildable and the results confirm that the site can be built on. An Ad Hoc committee was formed to gather and enlist information and expertise necessary for the ultimate planning, design , construction and operations of the new facility to benefit all of our residents. We now have the task of bringing all of the information and expertise together so we can also complete the best possible submission of our grant application to the State for 50% matching funds. The Governing Body will also need to evaluate and assess the future use and activity for the old Library and Art Center properties for the financial and community benefits for our residents.

Continued page 2….

Continued…...

The Historical Committee is overseeing the completion of the 9/11 Memorial walkway.

The Department of Public Works will be overseeing the resurfacing of many roads over the summer and is working in conjunction with our schools for parking lot resurfacing to garner financial benefits for the Borough and Schools through shared services. Preliminary analysis of the Lake sediment will be performed to plan for the dredging of Watchung Lake and reinforcement of the embankment and walkway.

I met with our Watchung Schools Superintendent, School Board President and Vice President with officials from the Governor's office and several officials from the NJ State Department of Education to discuss better collaboration of activities between the Borough and the Schools to help improve the school facilities and the quality of education for our children with assistance from the Borough and residents. I look forward to more collaboration and shared services and assistance between the Borough, Schools and residents involvement. I extend a heartfelt thank you to the entire Bisignano family for their tremendous generosity and love to improve the education and schools for our children. Our entire community can enjoy the new playground, basketball court and exercise area at Bayberry School.

I have been meeting with residents on a regular basis who have ideas and interests to better our community usually at 7:00 am or 7:00 pm at the Mayor's office in Borough Hall. Please reach out with your ideas and interests to serve and volunteer within our community. If we all work together for the common good our community will be greatly enriched.

I thank you for the privilege and opportunity to serve as your Mayor and look forward to all the activities and projects for the fall and winter.

God Bless You All,

Keith S. Balla

Keith S. Balla
Mayor

BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG
MCMXXVI
SOMERSET COUNTY - NEW JERSEY

IMPORTANT REMINDERS FROM THE PROPERTY MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

Did you know that the Borough's Code requires all properties to be numbered and displayed in a position easily observed and readable by police and emergency vehicles? Use reflective materials when putting your numbers on your mailbox. If your property is clearly identifiable, particularly in the dark – it could be a matter of life and death, when every minute counts! (Code XIII 13.2)

Do not put recyclable materials out for pick-up more than 24 hours In advance. All containers shall be removed from curbside promptly after pick-up. (Code XV 15-2.4)

If you have any questions, please contact Len Young lyoung@watchungnj.gov

BOARD OF HEALTH

The **Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission** will be offering several rabies clinics in the fall. Tentative dates and locations are listed below, but please confirm with the Health Commission prior to the event in case of changes. All residents are encouraged to have their dogs and cats vaccinated against rabies. Every year the health department identifies cases of rabies and vaccination is one of the best ways to be sure all your pets and you are protected. **The clinic is free to all so get your pets vaccinated now.**

RABIES CLINIC DATES

DATE: Saturday, November 2, 2019
TIME: 11:00 am to Noon
WHERE: South Bound Brook Garage

DATE: Saturday, November 2, 2019
WHERE: Green Brook Municipal Complex
TIME: 9:00 am to 10:00 am

DATE: Saturday, December 7, 2019
TIME: 9:00 am to 10:00 am
WHERE: Watchung Fire House

HEALTHY LIVING

The Watchung Board of Health, a dedicated group of local residents who volunteer their time to provide oversight and input to the health department, is interested in initiating healthy living activities amongst Borough residents. For example, they are considering programs that encourage walking and active living. If you have thoughts, ideas, or are interested in being involved, please contact MaryAnn Hance, Board of Health Secretary at 908-756-0080, or the Health Commission at 732-938-5151. We welcome your ideas because the Board wants any program they consider initiating to be a success, with your active participation.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL

One of the major activities of the health department is to investigate and prevent the spread of infectious diseases. While the health department personnel are trained, experienced disease investigators, we cannot do this job alone. Vaccination is a critical step in helping our work. Immunization against communicable disease, particularly childhood immunization, is considered one of the ten greatest achievements of public health in the 20th Century. It is recognized as one of the means by which public health has extended the average life span by 25 years over the last century. However, because of vaccine hesitancy, resistance, and other factors, we are seeing a reemergence of vaccine preventable diseases as evidenced by the recent outbreaks of measles across the United States. We know that vaccines are safe, effective, and one of the best ways to prevent illness and the spread of disease. CDC's recommended vaccination schedules for **adults** and **children can be viewed at the following websites.:**

Adults - https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/imz/adult.html
Children - https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/imz/child-adolescent.html.

Visit these sites to see if you are protected. You can also check with your doctors to be sure you and your family are adequately protected. It may make you a lifesaver!

WELL WATER TESTING

Does your drinking water come from a well? If so, when was the last time you had it tested? We recommend a private well be tested annually to be sure it is free of any harmful contaminants. For a list of recommended test items please see the list provided by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection at https://www.state.nj.us/dep/watersupply/pwta/pwta_list.htm. In addition, NJDEP provides a list of Certified Laboratories who can do the testing at https://www13.state.nj.us/DataMiner/Search/SearchByCategory?isExternal=y&getCategory=y&catName=Certified+Laboratories. If you have further questions we can assist you so contact us at 908-753-8000 ext. 239. Test your well to make sure your water is safe!

General Election - Tuesday, November 5th
Polls open 6:00 am to 8:00 pm

October 15, 2019	Last day to register to vote for the General Election
October 29, 2019	Last day Vote By Mail request forms must be received by the County
November 4, 2019	Last day to apply for Mail-in-Ballot in Person (must be done at the County Clerk's office, 20 Grove St., Somerville by 3:00 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 or www.co.somerset.nj.us/elections

VOTING DISTRICT LOCATIONS

EXEMPT HALL	-	**DISTRICTS 1 and 4**
BAYBERRY SCHOOL	-	**DISTRICT 3**
WILSON MEMORIAL	-	**DISTRICTS 2 and 5**

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*** Special School District Election ***

Watchung Hills Regional High School
Special Ballot Question
Tuesday, September 24th
All Districts will Vote at the Fireman's Exempt Hall
Polls open 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm

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BOROUGH EVENTS

9/11 MEMORIAL SERVICE

September 11th - 5:30 PM
On the Village Green

VETERANS DAY SERVICES

November 11th at 9:30 AM
At the War Memorial

TREE OF LIGHTS CEREMONY

December 7th on the Village Green
Fireworks on the Lake, Food & Refreshments

My career as a Watchung police officer began in 1993, and as many of you may remember, the winter of late 1993 and early 1994 was awful! It wasn't snow. It was one ice storm after the next. Nothing melted, rock salt was ineffective, and the ice just kept piling up on the roadways. There were ruts in each lane on RT 22 where a car's tires would travel that were separated by mounds of ice that seemed to be part of the pavement. Changing lanes over those mounds of ice was quite an adventure and vehicles, including police cars, were stuck everywhere. We would have chains put on the tires of our police cars, but they would always come undone and tear apart the rear fenders. Fast forward to today and our police fleet looks completely different.

After that awful winter we always seemed to manage our way through the snow, but flooding from Hurricane Irene in August 2011 followed by an unusual and unexpected snowstorm in October 2011 and then Super Storm Sandy in 2012 proved to be the tipping point. Based on our topography we needed to reevaluate our fleet. Since then whenever it became time to replace a police vehicle, we purchased all-wheel drive SUV's instead of cars. Our SUV's make it through just about any storm conditions that we've faced over the last few years, and the latest addition to our police fleet now includes a Ford F-150 pickup truck.

We opted for a pickup truck because it is extremely convenient when it comes to deploying bigger pieces of equipment like stacks of traffic cones, barricades, or our portable light tower, but more importantly, we now have a 4-wheel drive vehicle. The SUV's are quite capable during a typical snowstorm, but the truck now gives us the ability to make it to most places regardless of what Mother Nature throws our way. With this overhaul of our entire fleet, we are now far better prepared to respond to wherever we are needed.

Please feel free to contact me with your questions, comments, or suggestions at jcina@watchungpd.com or (908) 756-3663 ext. 117.

Chief Joseph R. Cina
Watchung PD

The Watchung Historical Committee

Since its inception, the Watchung Historical Committee has preserved the rich history and cultural heritage of Watchung. On October 12th and 13th, the Watchung Historical Committee will be participating in Somerset County's Weekend Journey Through the Past. You can find more information on other locations by visiting the link below:

https://www.co.somerset.nj.us/government/public-works/cultural-heritage/weekend-journey/participating-sites.

EVENT DETAILS

Location: Texier House Museum
10 Mountain Boulevard, Watchung, NJ 07069

Hours: Saturday, October 12th, 2019 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 13th, 2019 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Visit us to learn more about Watchung's history. The Texier House Museum is open to the public on the first and third Sundays of the month, from 2:00pm to 4:00pm, there is no entrance fee. **The Museum is closed for the summer during July and August**. It is also open by appointment and during special town events.

REQUEST FOR DONATIONS

We are still collecting donations for the restoration of the Watchung Mural. Please visit our GoFundMe page or donate directly to the Watchung Community Foundation. We really appreciate your support and look forward to bringing the mural home.

1) A **Go-Fund-Me page** for the mural has been created with the link below:
https://www.gofundme.com/removal-and-conservation-of-mural

2) Donate directly to the **Watchung Community Foundation**, a 501 © (3) a charitable tax-exempt organization, please designate in the memo the portion that it is for the Mural Restoration. You can send/deliver the check to **Watchung Borough Hall, 15 Mountain Boulevard Watchung, NJ 07069**

Watchung Historical Committee Members

Amber Murad – Chair
Chris Vander Filet
Seth Alexandar
Kim DiDonato

Dorothy Addario – Vice Chair
Chris Blackadar
Maryann Weber
Dave Mobus

Betsy Titus
Tim Logan
Ralph Diem

Steve Black – Council Liaison
Barbara Diem – Lifetime Member Emeritus
Elizabeth Aldrich – Lifetime Member Emeritus

BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG
15 Mountain Boulevard
Watchung, NJ 07069

Deer Management Program
Property Owner Authorization Letter

SHOTGUN USE

Dear Resident:

The deer culling season is fast approaching. Although no final decision has been made by the Borough Council at this time, we need to be prepared and ready in the event a program is authorized. The Borough is trying to secure all possible sites with those residents that are willing to give permission to utilize their properties for this purpose. Shooting is limited to designated sites in the program with the utmost safety and will only be done from elevated tree stands. If you are willing to allow culling on your property, please complete the portion below and return it to the Borough of Watchung by October 22, 2019. The continuation of the deer management program is strongly recommended by the Borough Wildlife Management Advisory Committee. Pursuant to Section 2-44.3b of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Watchung, you, as a property owner participating in the BOROUGH DEER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM, are hereby notified that this "Authorization Letter" could become a government record subject to public disclosure under the Open Public Records Act. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Thank you,

908-756-0080

I hereby grant permission to the Borough of Watchung and Warren Blue Ridge Sportsmen, Inc., to utilize my property to cull deer using shotguns within 450 feet of any occupied building on my property. This will be done as part of the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife approved BOROUGH DEER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM in the Borough of Watchung. The program will run Monday thru Friday, dawn to dusk. Dates to be determined by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and will be posted on the Borough website. You will be notified in writing two weeks prior to the start of the cull. Please return to the attention of Linda Monetti at Borough Hall.

Date: _____

Property Address: _____

Phone # Home: _____ Cell:_____

#1 Owner (Print Name) _____

Signature: _____

#2 Owner (Print Name): _____

Signature: _____

2019 WATCHUNG RECREATION

SAVE THE DATES

Movie Night and the PTO Ice Cream Social

Friday September13th, Phillip's Field
Ice Cream Social Starts @ 6:30 pm
Movie Starts at 7:45 pm
Serving Popcorn & Beverages

"MUSIC IN THE PARK"

Saturday Night, Sept. 21st (Rain Date Sept. 22nd)
Billy Joel Tribute Band
4:00pm to 7:00pm
Phillip's Field

JERRY MOBUS MEMORIAL FISHING DERBY

Saturday, Sept. 28th
WATCHUNG LAKE 9:00 AM – NOON (Rain Date Sept. 29th)
Prizes, Trophies and Refreshments!

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Saturday, Oct. 19th, 1:00pm – 4:00pm Mobus Field (Rain Date Oct. 20th)
Contests, Haystacks, Pumpkin Painting, Music, Amusements & Refreshments!

We hope you will join the Watchung Recreation Commission for these fun and FREE activities for the whole family!

WATCHUNG RECREATION COMMISSION Coordinator/Secretary – L. Monetti,
Chairman – B. Jacques, Vice Chairman C. Zaikov, Council Liaison – S. Black,
Members – J. Pennett, M. Onuska, M. Weber, C. Taylor, M. Candiloros, A. Murad

Borough of Watchung

15 Mountain Boulevard, Watchung, NJ 07069 - (908) 756-0080

Disaster Preparedness – Preparing Makes Sense

Emergencies and disasters can strike quickly and without warning and can force you to evacuate your neighborhood or be confined to your home. What would you do if your basic services – water, gas, electricity or communications were cut off?

Learn how to protect yourself and cope with disaster by planning ahead. Even if you have physical limitations, you can still protect and prepare yourself.

The Three Steps to Preparedness:

* Get a Kit
* Make a Plan
- Be Informed
-

Step 1: **"Get a Kit"** of Emergency Supplies

For your safety and comfort, have a disaster supplies kit packed and ready in one place before a disaster hits. Assemble enough supplies to last for a **minimum of three days.**

Keeping your kit up-to-date is also important. Review the contents at least every six months or as your needs change. Check expiration dates and shift your stored supplies into everyday use before they expire.

Disaster Supplies kit: (For more detailed information visit- **www.ready.gov**)

* Water – one gallon per person, per day
* Food
* Flashlight with extra batteries
* Battery-operated radio
* First aid kit
* Medications (7 day supply)
* Sanitation and personal hygiene items
* Copies of personal documents (medication list, birth certificates, insurance policies)
* Cell phone with extra battery
* Cash and coins (ATMs may not be accessible)
* Manual can opener
* Pet supplies (including food and vaccination records)

Step 2: **"Make a Plan"** for yourself, your pets and your family

Meet with your family and friends. Explain your concerns to your family and others in your support network and work with them as a team to prepare. Arrange for someone to check on you at the time of a disaster. Be sure to include any caregivers to your meeting and planning efforts.

Family Communications Plan: Carry family contact information in your wallet. Choose an out-of-town contact person. After a disaster, it is often easier to make a long distance call than a local call from a disaster area.

If you have Disabilities or other Special Needs: Register with NJ Special Needs Registry. The NJ Special Needs Registry is designed to help emergency responders locate and safely evacuate people who could find it difficult to help themselves in the event of a major disaster. The NJ Special Needs Registry is free, voluntary, strictly confidential, protective of your privacy, a way to protect you in a major emergency.

To register: Log onto **www.registerready.nj.gov** or telephone 2-1-1, toll free.

Continued...

ENVIRONMENTAL

TREE REMOVAL PERMITS

The Borough of Watchung loves its trees. Please, be considerate of the environment, your neighbor, your community and our trees.

Prior to removing any trees, live or dead, **ALL** residents are required to apply for a free tree removal permit which is available at Borough Hall.

A list of "native trees and shrubs" is also available at Borough Hall.

See full Ordinance on line or stop by the Engineering Department (Phone 908-756-0091) for a permit and discussion on the tree removal and tree replacement ordinance and why our trees are so precious to us here in Watchung.

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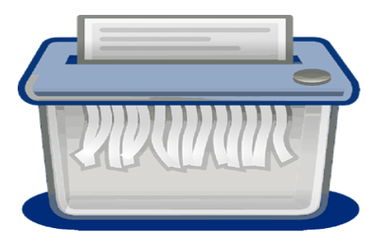

STILL TIME TO SHRED YOUR DOCUMENTS FREE TO SOMERSET COUNTY RESIDENTS!

Have Your Confidential Papers Shredded on Site by a Licensed and Bonded Shredding Company

September 28, 2019 - Branchburg Municipal Building, 1077 US Highway 202 North
October 5, 2019 – Montgomery Township High School, 1016 Route 601, Skillman
November 9, 2019 - Green Brook Middle School, 132 Jefferson Ave., Green Brook

*Call **908-203-6018** or go to www.publicworks@co.somerset.nj.us or www.co.somerset.nj.us/shredding for exact locations and/or questions.*

All events are 9 AM to 1 PM Rain or Shine

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The Department of Public Works will have a **Fall Leaf Cleanup** beginning November 4th thru November 29th. This is for **leaves only** to be recycled.

Leaf pickup is limited to high density areas located within the following streets: 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. **Outside of these areas you must call for a pickup.**

All leaves must be in **BIODEGRADABLE PAPER BAGS** only (can be purchased at most Hardware Stores or Home Depot) and placed on the grass area close to the road. **We Do Not provide the bags.**

NO BRANCHES, TRASH OR REFUSE WILL BE PICKED UP. ANY BAGS FOUND WITH TRASH OR STONE IN THEM WILL BE LEFT ON THE CURB

Due to the State's **Stormwater Regulations**, the Borough prohibits the placement of leaves in the street.
Questions? Call the Public Works Department at (908) 756-0091.

The Public Works Department is asking for your help!

If you see a pothole in the road or a catch basin covered with debris, please call Public Works Department at (908) 756-0091 or email Maria Fittipaldi at mfittipaldi@watchungnj.gov to report it.

The winter season is fast approaching; please remember it is against Borough Ordinance to push snow from your driveway into the street. Please advise your snow plow contractors.

IF YOU SEE A HYDRANT BLOCKED BY SNOW, Please call Maria at (908)756-0091

DO NOT BLOW LEAVES OR DUMP GRASS CLIPPINGS IN WATER CULVERTS IF ON YOUR PROPERTY!!!!

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ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Reduce Use of Single Use-Plastics

Live sustainably and reduce your carbon footprint by following these simple suggestions:

* Use a personal, reusable water bottle instead of the plastic ones. Approximately 50 billion plastic water bottles are used each year in the U.S. and only 23% are recycled.
* Use a reusable cup instead of a disposable one. Most disposable cups are not recyclable, because they are made of hard to recycle materials like plastic coated paper or foam. By using a reusable cup, you reduce solid waste going to landfills and also reduce water usage, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
* When you dine out, bring your own reusable container to take home left overs.
* When buying fruits and vegetables, use your own reusable bag.
* When shopping, at a food store, mall or anywhere, bring your own reusable bag.
* Skip the straw. Most straws are made from petroleum, which is a non-renewable resource and impacts the integrity of the environment. If you must use a straw, use a paper, metal, or other reusable one

Help the Environment by
Reducing Your Use of Single-Use Plastics!

Continued...

Step 3: **"Be Informed"**

Before a disaster happens it is a good idea to have a conversation with those in your support network: your friends, family and neighbors. Let them know your needs in an emergency situation; ask how they could assist with your plan and whether they would be willing to help.

During times of extreme weather events the Borough will open a warming/cooling center at the Watchung Fireman's Exempt Hall, as deemed necessary.

* Sign up for Nixle alerts – Text your zip code to 888777 to opt in for alerts
* Watchung Borough Website - **www.watchungnj.gov**
* Watchung Borough Facebook Page
* AM Radio - 1610

For more disaster preparedness information: **www.ready.nj.gov/**

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The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program educates volunteers about disaster preparedness for the hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. CERT offers a consistent, nationwide approach to volunteer training and organization that professional responders can rely on during disaster situations, which allows them to focus on more complex tasks. Through CERT, the capabilities to prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters is built and enhanced.

The CERT Basic Course training includes:

Disaster Preparedness: Addresses hazards specific to the community. Materials cover actions that participants and their families take before, during and after a disaster as well as an overview of CERT and local laws governing volunteers.

Fire Suppression: Covers fire chemistry, hazardous materials, fire hazards and fire suppression strategies. However, the thrust of this session is the safe use of fire extinguishers, controlling utilities and extinguishing a small fire.

Medical Operations Part I: Participants practice diagnosing and treating airway obstruction, bleeding and shock by using simple triage and rapid treatment techniques.

Medical Operations Part II: Covers evaluating patients by doing a head to toe assessment, establishing a medical treatment area and performing basic first aid.

Light Search and Rescue Operations: Participants learn about search and rescue planning, size-up, search techniques, rescue techniques and rescuer safety.

Psychology and Team Organization: Covers signs and symptoms that might be experienced by the disaster victim and workers, and addresses CERT organization and management.

Course Review and Disaster Simulation: Participants review and practice the skills that they have learned during the previous six sessions in a disaster activity.

CERT training is offered twice a year at Somerset County Training Academy, Hillsborough, NJ. The next basic CERT class will be in the Fall, 2019. For further information, please email Watchung CERT at **watchungcert@watchungnj.gov**

BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG
FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU
CHRISTOPHER CZUBA
FIRE OFFICIAL
908-756-0091

From the Fire Prevention Bureau

A friendly reminder to Residents and Realtors selling a home

Before any one- and two-family or attached single family structure is sold, leased, or otherwise made subject to a change of occupancy for residential purposes, the owner shall obtain a certificate of smoke alarm, carbon monoxide alarm, and portable fire extinguisher compliance CSACMAPFEC, evidencing compliance with N.J.A.C. 5:70-4.19, from the appropriate enforcing agency.

The application for a CSACMAPFEC and a checklist of requirements are available at Borough Hall, or on the Borough website **www.watchungnj.gov** click on the **Departments** tab – click on the **Fire Prevention** tab – scroll to the bottom of the page.

October is Fire Prevention Month

In 1925 President Calvin Coolidge proclaimed the first National Fire Prevention Week. The week commemorates the Great Chicago fire, which began on October 8, 1871, and did most of its damage on October 9. Since then, it's been observed every year during the week of October 9.

The 2019 Fire Prevention Week Theme is "Not Every Hero Wears A Cape. Plan and Practice Your Escape"

Essentials for creating your Home Fire Escape Plan:

* Draw the layout of your home
* Mark two exits from each room (usually a door and a window) and a path from the exit to the exterior
* Choose a meeting place outside the home where the family will meet upon exiting
* Mark the location of all smoke alarms in your home. There should be at least one on each level of your home and in the vicinity of the each sleeping area

Practicing the Plan:

* Ensure that the entire family knows how to call 911. Be sure to provide the street address and town name when calling from a mobile phone
* Take a head count to ensure that everyone is present at the meeting place, do not re-enter the home for anything
* Inform the First Responders if everyone is accounted for, or if anyone is missing and give their last known location
* Involve the younger members of the family with developing the plan
* Practice the plan with all family members at least twice per year

New Smoke Alarm Regulations in effect:

The New Jersey Division of Fire Safety proposed and adopted regulations that require the use of 10-year sealed battery type smoke alarms. This technology precludes an individual from removing the battery, thus maintaining a working alarm. Also, the 10-year sealed battery smoke alarms are designed to last 10 years and be replaced. Utilizing this new technology to ensure a working smoke alarm, will go a long way to reducing fire injuries and deaths.

Free Smoke Alarm!!

The Fire Prevention Bureau has partnered with Kidde, WABC Operation 7 Save-A-Life Program and the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety to distribute a limited number of 10-year sealed battery smoke alarms to residents in need.

* The smoke alarms may be picked up from the Fire Prevention office during normal business hours.
* The name, address and phone number of the resident receiving the smoke alarm is required.
* One smoke alarm per resident please.

Remember to test your smoke alarms monthly, Enjoy the Holiday Season and Be Fire Safe!

Watchung Seniors

15 Mountain Boulevard
Watchung, New Jersey 07069
NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

The **Watchung Seniors** meet the 2nd Wednesday of every month (no meetings in the summers), from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Meetings are held at the Fireman's Exempt Hall, lower level 31 Mountain Boulevard (next to Borough Hall). **The building is handicap accessible.** Guest speakers, trips & FUN PARTIES.

Contact Information: 908-816-0641

For more details on activities please visit the Borough Website at: **www.watchungnj.gov**

WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION ON UPCOMING TRIPS IN DECEMBER

Ask me who I am…

We are students, nurses, contractors, realtors, engineers, social workers, coaches, business owner, scientists, doctors, teachers, - the list goes on.

But we're not just a job title.

We are daughters, sons, moms, dads, sisters, brothers, friends, coffee addicts, foodies, mentors, bookworms, busy bees—and so much more.

We are all unique. And we are all volunteers.

We are the Watchung Rescue Squad.

Challenge yourself today and become more than just a job title. Ask how to become a volunteer today or visit our website at **watchungems.org** to learn more.

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

"CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS….CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES"

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.

THANK YOU!