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

The Official Newsletter for the
THE BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG
SPRING/SUMMER
ISSUE 2019-01

FROM YOUR MAYOR

Greetings Watchung Residents,

As your newly elected Mayor I would first like to thank all of the residents and Borough employees for their help and assistance in providing information, history and ideas as I serve you as your new Mayor. Having lived in Watchung for the past 20 years I have seen a lot but there is also much to learn. My wife Karen and our three children Jonah, Noah and Hannah continue to provide their unwavering support and encouragement. I come to the office of Mayor with an open mind and welcome the input and experienced help from both the residents and employees.

We have set out an ambitious agenda for the coming year. We are working diligently to plan the new library with community meeting space for community events and activities. The library will house crafting areas with flexible space for additional programs like robotics and makerspace activities. We plan for the library to have space for performances and exhibitions to fully develop and integrate the arts activities and programs within the Borough to include additional programs with community and school interaction. Several suggestions are concerts on the Green, Craft and Arts festivals on the Green and photography and music programs involving our youth and residents. I will be appointing an ad hoc committee to plan for the building and the specific needs and requirements for the new facility to benefit all our residents.

I have met several times with the Exempt Fireman and the Watchung Chemical Engine Company/ Volunteer fire fighters and proposed to purchase the building from the Exempts and construct the new town 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. As volunteer fire fighters they have been an example of public service and their volunteer service has been very cost efficient for the Borough. I look forward to the Exempts joining with the community to work together for the best viable plan for both the Exempts and the entire Borough of Watchung to cost effectively utilize the resources we have for the betterment of everyone in Watchung.

I had the opportunity to spend time with another volunteer service group, our Rescue Squad which has faithfully answered the call to serve the residents of Watchung. Both the volunteer fire department and the rescue squad are tremendous organizations for our residents young and old to give back and help within our community. I would strongly encourage all of our youth and older residents to visit both the firehouse and rescue squad for a tour to see the many opportunities available to volunteer and help.

Within the operations of the town there have been several retirements and several more likely over the next few years of the key employees within the Borough. I along with our Council are working to make sure we provide exceptional service for our residents. We are implementing plans to provide better transparency of information. We seek to provide 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. The Council meetings are now live streamed and recorded to enable our residents to view the meeting from offsite locations.

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Our recreation department has worked very hard to continue the many programs including the summer camp. Brook Hill swim club was the previous location and has closed, so the recreation dept has evaluated other options and will be looking to continue the summer camp at Round Top swim club this summer. I am also seeking to resurrect the Mayor's Regatta canoe race which former Mayor Ellis originally started for this fall as an additional family fun event in our community.

Our 9/11 walkway is nearing completion, but there is still time to get your personalized bricks. Please visit the Borough website to purchase your personalized bricks.

So far this winter has been mild and our Department of Public Works has answered the call with salt spreading and plowing when needed. We will be planning the dredging of Watchung Lake and reinforcement of the embankment and walkway in 2019.

I have also met with our Watchung Schools Superintendent and School Board President to look for opportunities to share services and resources to avail both the Borough and the school's savings to better manage finances.

I have been meeting with residents on a regular basis who have ideas and interests to better our community usually at 7:00am at the Mayor's office in Town 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, the lift is easy.

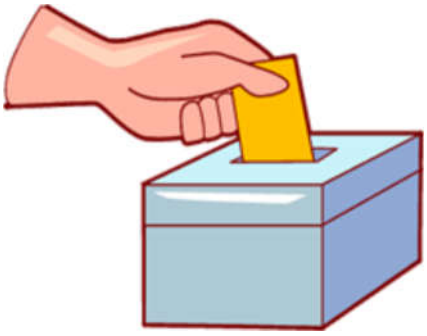
I thank you for the privilege and opportunity to serve as your Mayor and look forward to all the activities and projects for the spring and summer.

God Bless you All,

Keith S. Balla

Keith S. Balla
Mayor

June 4th
Primary Day



Polls are Open from 6:00 am to 8:00 pm

Locations: Districts 1 and 4 – Fireman's Exempt Hall, 31 Mountain Boulevard
District 3 – Bayberry School, Bayberry Lane
Districts 2 and 5 – Wilson Memorial Church, 7 Valley Road

TIMELINES

- April 10th Deadline for Change of Party Affiliation Declaration forms due at County
- May 14th Voter Registration Deadline (21 days before election)
- May 28th Deadline to apply for a Mail-In Ballot by Mail for Primary Election
- June 3th Deadline for In-Person Mail-in Ballot Applications (3:00 p.m.)
- June 4th Deadline for Submission of Primary Election Mail-In Ballots to County Boards of Election (by 8:00 p.m. on the day of election)

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

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LANDLORD IDENTITY REGISTRATION

Pursuant to N.J.S.A 46:8-26 et seq., New Jersey Law requires all non-owner occupied one (1) and two (2) -unit rentals to be registered with the Municipal Clerk. There is no fee to register, the form is simple. A copy is to be given to the tenant as well. The form is available on the Borough's website, or by calling the Clerk's Office at 908-756-0080.

The Borough successfully applied for and received a grant from the State of New Jersey's Department of Environmental Protection Department for an Electric Vehicle Charging Station. It is now installed and ready for use! You will find this charging station in the Municipal Building's lower parking lot at 15 Mountain Boulevard, off the circle. The parking spot is reserved for this purpose only, and designated by the green lines.

SAVE THE DATE! MAY 11th

WATCHUNG / WARREN GREEN FAIR

held at WARREN MIDDLE SCHOOL

100 Old Stirling Road / 10 am to 1 pm

Electronic Recycling, Document Shredding and more!

Watchung
GOING GREEN

WATCHUNG RECREATION'S

EARLY REGISTRATION
NOW OPEN
FOR WATCHUNG RESIDENTS

(OPEN TO WARREN, GREEN BROOK & LONG HILL Starting APRIL 30th)

PROGRAM WILL BE HELD @
ROUND TOP SWIM & TENNIS CLUB
106 MT. HOREB ROAD, WARREN
7 WEEK PROGRAM 7/1/19 – 8/16/19
FULL DAYS RAIN OR SHINE!
ALL WEEKLY TRIPS INCLUDED
BEFORE & AFTERCARE AVAILABLE
SPACE WILL BE LIMITED
Open for ages 6 – 13yrs.

For registration forms & information
Go to www.watchungnj.gov

Based on what I've seen and heard so far, opinions seem to be closely split over the legalization of "recreational" marijuana for personal use. If at some point it is legalized in New Jersey, before that happens, there needs to be answers to how law enforcement will deal with driving under the influence of marijuana.

Last year in a survey of 11,000 marijuana users from Colorado where marijuana is legal, 69% of those surveyed said that they had driven while high within the last year. If that doesn't scare you, 10% of them actually said that it made them better drivers! Unlike testing drivers under the influence of alcohol, at present there is not a comparable test that can quickly and sufficiently test for marijuana impairment levels that has also been accepted as reliable by New Jersey's courts. Bodily fluids can be tested for the presence of tetrahydrocannabinol or THC (the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana), but those tests take time. Even if there was a fast and reliable test for the presence of THC, we know that it can remain in the system for days or even weeks after marijuana use depending on how frequently it is smoked. In other words, just because there is THC in your system, that does not necessarily mean that you are under the influence of and impaired by THC.

Ideally, to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that a driver was under the influence of marijuana, we would need two things. First, we would need a positive bodily fluid test result from the state laboratory. Second, we would need the testimony of an officer specifically trained as a drug recognition expert (DRE) to say that in addition to the presence of marijuana in the driver's system, the driver was impaired due to marijuana use at the time of the arrest. Although necessary, the lab results will be a formality. Once a positive test result can be shown, why would the defense question or argue the presence of a legal substance? They'll admit to it, and then they'll attack the testimony, training, and credibility of the DRE. Defendants will argue that they smoke marijuana regularly to explain the presence of it in their system, while also denying that they were under the influence of marijuana at the time of the arrest. That may sound simple enough to overcome, but there's a shortage of DRE's in NJ and that training is costly and time consuming.

There are a number of other states that have already legalized the possession and use of recreational marijuana, and from their experience we have learned of some of the unintended consequences. In Colorado car crashes involving marijuana use are up. Marijuana related calls to poison control centers are up. Marijuana related hospital visits are up. The number of suicide victims found to have marijuana in their system has doubled. While those increases cannot be directly tied to the legalization of marijuana in Colorado, you also can't ignore those increases since the legalization of marijuana.

Some will argue that by regulating recreational marijuana use through legalization and taxation, it will lead to a windfall of revenue that was previously untapped. I would argue that even if those revenues trickle down to the local level, much if not all of it will go toward funding some of the unintended consequences of legalization. I'm against the legalization of recreational marijuana for several reasons, but I realize that decision is not up to me. Even if you support the legalization of marijuana, I hope you can agree that at the very least it would be a mistake to legalize it before the police and the courts are prepared to handle the arrest and prosecution of people who drive under the influence of marijuana on our roadways.

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

Chief Joseph R. Cina

Clean Water NJ

In The Home

- Shop for nonhazardous, biodegradable and phosphorous-free household cleaning products.
- If you use water-based paints, rinse paint brushes in the sink. If you use oil-based paints, you can filter and reuse the thinner used to clean brushes. Dispose of thinner through a local household hazardous waste program. Visit www.state.nj.us/dep/dshw/rrtp/hhwcps.htm for a list of local household hazardous waste facilities.
- Sweep up dirt and debris and discard on your lawn or in the trash. Hosing off pavement washes pollutants into storm drains, which may lead to local creeks, bays and the ocean.
- Rather than wash your car in your driveway, on the street or in your yard, take it to a local car wash. This not only conserves water but also eliminates the running off of harmful pollutants.
- Keep trash cans closed to prevent trash from scattering.
- If you use hazardous substances such as paints, solvents and cleaners, use them sparingly, according to the directions. Store properly to avoid spills.

- If you are working on a home improvement project, dispose of drywall and hardened concrete and mortar in the trash or visit www.nj.gov/dep/dshw/lrm/classb.htm for a list of recycling centers. Do not rinse concrete or mortar from a bucket or wheelbarrow into the street; dilute the mixture with water and rinse it into an area with vegetation or gravel.
- Participate in local recycling programs. To find out more about recycling in your area, visit www.state.nj.us/dep/dshw/recycling/index.htm.
- Dispose of unwanted chemicals at a household hazardous waste collection center in your area. Never pour hazardous materials into the street, sewer or the storm drain. For more information, visit www.state.nj.us/dep/dshw/rrtp/hhwcps.htm.
- Eliminate or, at least, reduce the use of soaps and shampoos when using outdoor showers that drain to the street.

Litter & Recycling Tips

- Reduce, reuse and recycle materials whenever possible to create less waste, which could end up on our streets and contribute to stormwater pollution.
- Pick up trash and litter on your property and put it in the trash. Always use a public trash can for trash in public areas. Recycle any reusable materials, especially cans, bottles and paper. NEVER throw litter and debris directly into storm drains. Such debris can wash into waterways and onto beaches, and clogged drains can cause street flooding and traffic congestion.
- Always put your cigarette butts in ashtrays or solid garbage cans, not on the streets. Remember, our parks, playgrounds and beaches are not ashtrays. When an ashtray or garbage can are not available, store extinguished butts in your cigarette pack until you find a proper receptacle.

- Empty automobile ashtrays into the trash, not out your car window or directly on the ground. Proper disposal will help keep our waterways clean and minimize the risk of fires.
- Make sure to properly dispose of leftover household chemicals, paints and automotive fluids. These leftover chemicals should never be thrown away. Take them to a household hazardous waste collection center where they can be recycled. To find a center near you, visit www.state.nj.us/dep/dshw/rrtp/hhwcps.htm

BULK PICK UP
DISTRICT #1
(June 3-7)

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 10-14)

BAYBERRY LANE
BIRCHWOOD LANE
BONNIE BURN ROAD
BROOK DRIVE
BUMBLE BEE LANE
CANTERBURY LANE
CARDINAL DRIVE
CENTURY LANE
CHELSEA
COREY LANE
CRYSTAL RIDGE DRIVE
DEVONSHIRE LANE
DIAMOND COURT
EAST DRIVE
EATON ROAD
EDGEMONT 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
TIMBERLINE WAY
TUTTLE ROAD
UPPER DRIVE
VAIL LANE
VALLEY DRIVE
VALLEY ROAD
WATCHUNG AVENUE
WILL LANE
WOLFORD COURT
WOODED ROAD
WOODLEDGE ROAD

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 : ____ @$80.00 = ____
(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	- Lawn mower	100
- Bathtub	400	- Mattress (double)	75
- Chair (large stuffed)	75	- Microwave oven	80
- Chair (small straight)	25	- Rug 5x8	50
- Cedar chest	70	- Sink (porcelain)	40
- Coffee table	50	- Sofa	150
- Desk (large)	100	- Sofa bed	300
- Dishwasher	150	- Stove	250
- Door	50	- Table (large)	100
- Dresser (adult)	170	- Table (small)	50
- Dryer	200	- Gas Barbecue gril	70
- Toilet & tank	100	- Hot Water Heater(40 gal)	150
- Washing machine	300	- Window	30

- Other (Please list with est. weight) ___

***COMPUTERS– SOMERSET COUNTY RECYLE - 732-469-3363**
***FREEZER/REFRIGERATOR: NJ CLEAN ENERGY PROGRAM— 866-657-6278**

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.

FOR DEPARTMENT USE ONLY

Check No._____ **Amount:**_____ **Date:**_____ **Initials:**_____

District # _____ **Permit Numbers Rec'd:**_____

Environmental Commission

PERMIT REQUIRED TO CUT

No tree shall be removed, cut down or otherwise destroyed,

Unless a tree removal permit has been obtained.

Obtain your permit at borough hall or on line.

Trees are one of Watchung's most valuable assets.

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WHY TREES MAKE US FEEL SO GOOD

Trees are known to improve air quality by capturing six common air pollutants and toxic gases, including ground level ozone, particulate matter, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide, and lead.

A young single tree can absorb 10 pounds of air pollutants per year and a mature tree removes up to 84 pounds of air pollutants per year.

Trees remove pollution from the air and soil, which provides benefits for air quality and human health, according to the U.S. Forest Service.

The net cooling effect of a young healthy tree is equivalent to 10 room sized air conditioners operating twenty hours a day.

Trees reduce erosion. Over 40% of water that falls in the area of a tree canopy will never reach the ground. A young maple can transpire 400 gallons of water which stabilizes the surrounding soil and reduces erosion.

Trees also provide shelter, housing, and food for a variety of birds, insects, amphibians, reptiles and mammals. Trees support plant life. Many varieties of plants that we enjoy have a symbiotic relationship with trees.

Trees require maintenance. Please cut the vines that are growing on them.

The Borough of Watchung requires a permit prior to removing a tree. The permit application is available at Borough Hall or online at Watchungnj.gov. Click on "Engineering Dept." If you have any questions, call Borough Hall at 908-756-0091.

Help us preserve Watchung's natural beauty and charm by following the Tree Preservation Ordinance!
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PUBLIC WORKS
2019 LEAF PICKUP

LEAF PICKUP WILL BEGIN ON APRIL 1st AND CONTINUE TO APRIL 30th

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

Please check the Borough website to see if your street is listed for pickup

2019 WATCHUNG RECREATION NEWS

SAVE THE DATES

WATCHUNG LION'S CLUB SPONSORS
THE EASTER EGG HUNT
Saturday, April 13th at Phillip's Field 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM
(Rain/Snow Date April 14th)
Music, Games, Prizes & Refreshments!
Take a picture with the Easter Bunny!

COMMUNITY PICNIC
Saturday, May 18th (Rain Date May 19th)
Noon to 3:00pm Mobus Field
Music, Food, Games and Amusements!

"MUSIC IN THE PARK"
Saturday Night, June 29th (Rain Date June 30th)
Billy Joel Tribute Band
4:00pm to 7:00pm
Phillip's Field

Movie Night and the PTO Ice Cream Social
September Date TBD, Phillip's Field
Ice Cream Social Starts @ 6:30 pm
Movie Starts at 7:45pm
Serving Popcorn & Beverages

GERRY MOBUS MEMORIAL FISHING DERBY
Saturday, Sept. 21st WATCHUNG LAKE 9:00 AM – NOON (Rain Date Sept. 22nd)
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 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

RABIES CLINIC

The Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission, with the Warren Township Board of Health, will be offering a spring rabies clinic as 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.**

DATE: Saturday, May 4, 2019

TIME: 9:00 am to 10:00 am

WHERE: Washington Valley Fire House
Washington Valley Road
Warren, NJ 07059

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SEPTIC CARE

Spring-cleaning does not just apply to your closets. When you think of spring-cleaning, you should also think about cleaning your septic tank. As a general rule of thumb, you should pump your septic tank every three years, but every household is different and depending upon your use and the age of your system, you may need to pump your tank more or less frequently. The bottom line is you need to pump and maintain your septic system to avoid problems and very costly repairs. See this septic guide for more detailed information about your septic system and its care.

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STAGNANT WATER & INSECT CONTROL

It is springtime (finally) and along with the season comes rain and winter runoff. These conditions are ideal for creating pools of stagnant water. In addition, vacant or unsold homes may result in an increase in swimming pools that are no longer being maintained. All of this may result in breeding conditions for mosquito larvae. Mosquitoes are linked with diseases such as West Nile Virus (WNV) and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE). If you live near a home that has a swimming pool that is not maintained please notify the Health Department at (908) 753-8000 ext. 239 and (732) 968-5151. For low-lying areas in your neighborhood that collect water, contact the Somerset County Mosquito Commission at 1-908-541-5021.

Below are other steps **you** can take to prevent mosquito breeding on your property:

1. Make sure there are no items in your back yard (like garbage can lids, buckets, baby pools, recycling, plant holders, etc.) which can accumulate water.
2. Remove all tires without rims or any other garbage that can store water (like jars, cans etc.)
3. Remove accumulating leaves from drainage swales or drainage areas on your property.
4. Change water in birdbaths, fountains, and troughs weekly.
5. Aerate ornamental pools, or stock them with fish.
6. Clean gutters so water does not pool.
7. Make sure stored boats are not accumulating water. Store small boats upside down.

By using these simple control measures you can help reduce the population of mosquitoes around your home, reduce the chance of disease, and will be more able to enjoy the spring and summer months!

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EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

The health department and other emergency response agencies are ready to assist during times of need, but our capacities and resources are limited. Therefore, it is critical that we all prepare for emergencies by making 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 food items, medications, important documents, and many more items. For a complete list of items and instructions on preparing a kit, see www.ready.gov or http://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies. These sites also have 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. Social media sites are a useful way to obtain current information so we encourage you to monitor local government sites including your health department: Twitter - @mbrhc,
Facebook – www.facebook.com/mbrhc, and our Website - www.middlebrookhealth.org.

Watchung Historical Committee

Legend of Watchung Mural

The Sears Mural – (painted by Garfield Hunter Jones around 1962 when the Sears store opened on Route 22 East), is in its final phase of restoration. The Legend of Watchung portrays the Dutch Captain Michelson, Chief One Feather and Princess Wetumpka the main characters of the Legend. The mural is a window into Watchung's history, and once restored it will preserve the legend and its history for generations to come.

We need an additional $8,000 to complete the restoration of the Mural. We will be hosting fundraising events; But we are also looking for donations.

The Watchung Historical Committee is seeking donations, large or small to help ensure that this beloved mural finds a new home in Watchung. **No tax payer money** is being used for this effort and we solely rely on private donations.

There are two (2) ways you can donate:

A Go-Fund-Me page for the mural has been created with the link below:

https://www.gofundme.com/removal-and-conservation-of-mural

OR

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

9/11 Memorial

The Historical Committee and The Borough of Watchung would like to thank the **9/11 Memorial Committee Members - Anthony Ingrassia, Don Monetti, Seth Alexander, Sue Tucker, and Dave Mobus**, for their time and dedication in creating the Memorial in Watchung. The Historical Committee is going to complete the 9/11 walkway this year.

If you would like to support the Memorial and purchase a Paver for the walkway; Please visit the website below to fill out the Purchase Form.

http://www.formstack.com/forms/FRB-watchung

In early December, the Rescue Squad lit up the center of Watchung during our annual Tree of Lights ceremony with a dedication to former Police Chief Sean Whelan. Thank you to all of the wonderful residents who braved the precipitation and soggy grounds in recognition of a lost hero.

We would also like to thank those residents who have continued to support our organization with generous donations.

As the festive lights dimmed and the year came to an end, we began our preparations for 2019.
This was an opportunity for new members to move into officer positions, while seasoned members stepped back and became mentors. The beginning of a new year marked the transition of leadership within the volunteer organizations in town. As Mayor Balla swore in our Captain and 1st Lieutenant at the Borough's Annual Reorganization Meeting, we began the year with a fresh slate. New agendas were made, a strategic plan was developed, and our budget was reviewed and approved by our membership. On the operations side, new members prepared to attend EMT school, our ambulances and supplies were maintained, and we continued to respond to emergency calls. It is through the tireless work and consistent dedication of our volunteer members that these agendas, schedules, training, and calls are all completed.

The Watchung Rescue Squad is perched on the hill in the center of town overlooking the Watchung circle; the facade may be of plain brick, but the inner workings are intricate, overseen by residents like you.

One such resident is Angel Quiros, a 25-year-old Watchung resident and Captain of the Watchung Rescue Squad. Angel joined the Squad in July of 2016. Shortly after, through hard work and dedication, he received his EMT certification. Angel consistently looked for additional opportunities for training and responsibility, stepping up to hold various leadership positions within the organization,
until he reached the pinnacle with his unanimous election to Captain of the organization. When describing his passion for volunteer EMS, Angel explains that it goes beyond the desire to help other people: "I needed a boost in my life and wanted to be involved in something bigger than me that I can be proud of at the end of every day of my life. I love telling people I do this voluntarily and seeing that their impression of me changes instantly."

You too can help your community and become a part of something bigger than yourself. Join Angel and the other members of the Watchung Rescue Squad today; visit our website **watchungems.org** to learn more.

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"
Replace the batteries in your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors twice a year. And don't forget to test them monthly.

The Watchung Volunteer Fire Department wishes to thank our community for its continued support of our organization. Your **100% Volunteer Fire Department** could not continue to provide this life saving service without your generous contributions.

THANK YOU!

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WATCHUNG SENIORS

The Watchung Seniors 55+ meet the 2nd Wednesday of every month (no meetings in the summer) from 11:00 AM to 2 PM. Meetings are held at the Fireman's Exempt Hall, lower level, 31 Mountain Boulevard (next to Borough Hall). **The building is handicap accessible.** There are guest speakers, trips & fun parties.

UPCOMING EVENT

BUS TRIP—Wednesday, May 8m 2019. Cruise around Lake Hopatcong, NJ aboard Miss Lotta, including lunch.

Members—$45.00; Guests—$55.00

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL—908-561-1932

NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

For more details on activities please visit the Borough Website at:

www.watchungnj.gov

PUBLISHED BY THE BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG

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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.gov

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MAYOR KEITH S. BALLA

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Stephen L. Black
George Sopko

William Nehls
Lindsay Goodloe

Robert Gibbs, Council President
Daryl Eisenberg Knegten

Administration - **756-0080**
Thomas E. Atkins, Administrator
tatkins@watchungnj.gov

Michelle DeRocco, Borough Clerk
mderocco@watchungnj.gov

William Hance, Chief Finance Officer
bhance@watchungnj.gov

Engineering Office
Tom Herits 756-0091
therits@maserconsulting.com
Arlene McCoy 756-0091
amcoy@watchungnj.gov

Watchung Art Center
For information call—561-0190

Police
Emergency 911
Non-emergency 756-3663

Emergency Management
Contact Police Dept. 756-3663

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

Construction Official /Zoning Officer
Ed Bennett 756-6093
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)

Fire Department
Emergency 911
Non-emergency 561-9389

Municipal Court
Jodi Hanson Rodriquez 769-2265

Tax Collector
Ray Murray 756-8333
rmurray@watchungnj.gov

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

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