



RUMSON

Borough Bulletin

WINTER
2009

Settled in 1665



Work on the new Borough Hall is progressing on schedule and on budget. It is expected that we will be inviting residents to a ribbon cutting by late summer.

2008 MAYOR'S ADDRESS

The following is a report of the Borough events and activities of 2008.

THE BOROUGH COUNCIL

It continues to be my distinct privilege to work with the Council members you see here today, and I would like to acknowledge all of them for their dedicated service to the Borough of Rumson. Each Council member serves on two of the five important Council Committees and devotes countless volunteer hours analyzing and refining the services provided to Rumson's 7,500 residents. I would like to thank them and all of the Borough employees and professionals for their support and assistance over the past five years. We are very fortunate to have such a terrific team that works together to provide our town with solid responsive government, and I am honored to be part of it.

YEAR IN REVIEW

The Borough held its **Annual Memorial Day Parade and Service** in Victory Park. It is always a pleasure to showcase the many service organizations and youth groups from Rumson. Our Borough schools and musical ensembles continue to make us proud of each and every one of them. The Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts display the true colors of patriotism with each step they take. The Borough Police, EMS and Fire Apparatus vehicles display the equipment and many volunteers of our community.

Our **4th of July** celebration was the best ever. The sky was bright with vibrant color that kept everyone in awe of the brilliant display. We want to thank all the residents that generously contributed to support this event.

The **Veteran's Day** Service at Victory Park brings recognition to all those men and women who have served and are presently serving in the armed forces for our country. It is a day of reflection to honor them and to recognize the new names of service men and women added to our monument each year.

The icy air and brisk winds didn't keep anyone away from the most festive evening of the year. The **Traditional Rumson Christmas Tree Lighting** proved to be an evening to remember as the official kick-off of the holiday season. The music by Tim McLoone and the Shirleys and select members of Holiday Express, the RFHRHS Tower Singers and the Deane-Porter Third Grade Chorus kept everyone singing along with them. The homemade cookies, hot chocolate, candy canes and fun reflective necklaces helped make the evening warm and inviting. Santa's visit brought smiles to every adult and child alike.

ORDINANCES

During 2008, the Council has worked diligently reviewing the General and Land Use Ordinances for the Borough. Many changes have been made for compliance and updated accordingly. A new Ordinance Book will be available for purchase in 2009 as well as access to individual ordinances on our town website for your convenience.

BOROUGH HALL

On May 6, 2008, the Borough held a Ground Breaking ceremony for the construction of the new Borough Hall. The Borough Council and I are very excited about the construction. The new building will enable us to offer even better and more efficient service to our residents.

The builder is Benjamin R. Harvey Co., Inc., of Ocean, New Jersey, and our building is now well underway. The project is proceeding on time and on budget. We expect to have a ribbon cutting ceremony by late summer 2009.

BOROUGH RECORDS MANAGEMENT

The Borough of Rumson continues to be one of five (5) towns working with the County to be involved in developing a Digital Records Management Program. Partnering with the County, the Borough has received State of New Jersey Division of Archives and Records Management grant funding. This funding will help the Borough of Rumson improve its records management, storage and archiving.

RUMSON AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN

In accordance with New Jersey Council on Affordable Housing (COAH) regulations, several years ago the Borough and its Planning Board adopted an Affordable Housing Plan and filed that plan with COAH for approval. In 2005, the Borough submitted its 3rd Round Plan to the Council on Affordable Housing in Trenton and has been awaiting a response for over two years now. COAH continues to modify its Affordable Housing Plan formula as it deals with court cases filed in opposition to said formula. While it continues to be a moving target, COAH's revisions and affordable housing requirements for municipalities like Rumson are always carefully monitored for the impact they will have on our residents.

In 2008, the Superior Court of New Jersey required the Council on Affordable Housing to change its regulations. The change caused the Borough, and all other municipalities in the State, to re-submit a revised 3rd round housing plan by the end of 2008. The Borough submitted a plan with the help of its hired professionals, and we will now await COAH's review of the plan. The plan is available at Borough Hall.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Rumson Police Department continues to provide outstanding services to all Rumson residents. 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, the men and women of the Rumson Police Department answer your calls for assistance.

2008 was the second year for our DARE program that was first implemented in our elementary school in 2007. The relationships that have been formed between the DARE officers and the students have been proven to benefit all who are involved. DARE is a program that stresses the importance not only of the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse, but also the need for our youth to be in a position to make healthy decisions. A formal graduation was held at Forrestdale School with parents and school officials invited to attend. Several special guest speakers were also involved and spoke to the students about making the right choices. Selected students were acknowledged for their achievements in the class, and the students were provided the opportunity to read their winning essays to the audience.

In 2008, we updated our resident alerting systems. The new Code Red Alerting System provides a more efficient service disseminating information to our Rumson residents by phone and cell phone. To be sure your numbers are listed in the system, please contact Rumson Police Headquarters.

The Traffic safety division with the assistance of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission conducted a successful DMV checkpoint. Approximately 30 summonses were issued to drivers ranging from unregistered vehicles to cars not being properly inspected. Several checkpoints are planned for 2009.

In 2008, the Detectives investigated everything from burglaries to internet theft. The Detective Division was also equipped with video surveillance for the first time in an effort to combat the rash of vandalism that has occurred throughout town. Identity theft is on the rise nationwide. Please be careful to shred all personal documents.

Training of Rumson Police Officers continues to be a major focus. Topics included Firearms, Domestic Violence, Juvenile Updates, School Threats and Drills and much more. Sgt. Nixon was certified as a CPR instructor, and the department was involved with three CPR saves during the year. All five ranking officers attended supervisor training. The Sergeant's training was presented by the Deal Police Department, and the Lieutenant's training was conducted by the FBI.

Two of our police officers, Ptl. Christopher York and Ptl. Christopher Isherwood, were certified to teach courses at the Monmouth County Police Academy.

RUMSON EMS AND FIRE DEPARTMENT

On behalf of the Council, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks and commend the Rumson EMS 1st Aid Captain Bob Kelleher for his conscientious performance this past year. We are delighted to have Mr. Kelleher serve another year as Captain for the Borough. The

First Aid Squad (EMS) and its volunteers devote over 2000 hours and respond to over 350 calls each year. They are on call and available around the clock to serve the residents of this community.

2008 saw delivery of our new small versatile satellite truck. This truck will provide our fire fighters with the ability to access areas in the Borough and on private properties that the larger trucks could not. In addition, the Borough was awarded a grant from the Department of Homeland Security for the purchase of all new self-contained breathing apparatus, also known as AirPacks, for the fire fighters. The new state-of-the-art AirPacks will protect our volunteers and allow our fire fighters to enter smoke filled buildings.

At this time I would like to thank Fire Chief Joseph Ward and Assistant Chief Mike Trivett for their strong commitment to the public and for their exemplary service to Rumson. I want to extend our sincere appreciation to all of the men and women of the Rumson Fire Department for each of their steadfast efforts and around-the-clock commitment responding to fire calls.

The following are members that have passed on from the Rumson Fire Co. and the Oceanic Hook & Ladder Co. #1 this past year:

Rumson Fire Company Oceanic Hook & Ladder Co. #1

Peter L. Farnham	George Russell McCue
Thomas A. Shea	James Shea
Edwin C. Peters	William Strohmenger
John Connor	

The Rumson Fire Department and the Rumson EMS are encouraging new volunteer members to join their ranks. Anyone interested in joining either or both of these fine organizations, please call or stop by Borough Hall for an application.

RECYCLING

Our Recycling Program is working very efficiently. During 2008, Rumson recycled 8,600 tons of recyclables. The Borough attempts to recycle all of its cans and bottles, newspaper, mixed paper and cardboard, batteries, flags, leaves and brush. Your cooperation and adherence to proper recycling regulations is supported by the New Jersey Clean Communities.

WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT

2008 again saw the Borough update some of our sanitary sewer pump stations to make them more efficient and reliable. A contract was awarded for the upgrade of our Main Pump Station on Grant Avenue. This pump station handles an average of 1.2 million gallons of sewage a day from the residents of Rumson and is pumped to the treatment center in Monmouth Beach. This work is still under way and includes modernization of the 45 year old pumps and controls. It is scheduled for completion in February 2009.

RUMSON DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

TOY DRIVE

This Christmas, for the 9th consecutive year, the Rumson Department of Public Works' employees conducted a Toy Drive and collected over 832 toys for children at Family and Children's Services in Long Branch and the Salvation Army in Red Bank. Our DPW employees prepared their own publicity and donated their own time to collect and deliver the gifts, providing Christmas cheer to many needy children. We salute the Rumson Department of Public Works Employees who worked so hard to make this drive a success. We thank our generous residents for supporting this great cause.

TREE CITY, U.S.A.

For the 19th year, The National Arbor Day Foundation declared the Borough of Rumson a Tree City U.S.A. Community. This is an honor we are proud to display. Each year the Borough qualifies for this designation by meeting strict requirements under the National Arbor Day Foundation with its tree planting and maintenance program for Borough streets and parks. Our Borough streets are more beautiful than ever showcased with many new trees.

RECREATION

Rumson Recreation continued its tradition of offering a variety of excellent recreational programs and activities to the residents of

Rumson. Special programs including the Halloween Parade and the Tree Lighting Ceremony offered an opportunity for parents and adults to come together with their children and celebrate. In addition to baseball, softball, lacrosse and basketball, children also participated in a summer playground program and the Summer Hoops basketball evening program at Victory Park. In an effort to reach out to all ages, a Summer Fun Nights in Victory Park will present four shows including music, puppets and singing for younger children this summer. Details regarding dates and times of these events will be publicized in spring 2009. In 2008, crews from Rumson competed in 9 regattas, racing in three major New Jersey regattas and other venues that included Oyster Bay, St. Andrews and Philadelphia. Fine performances by both boys and girls included victories for both at the Cooper River and Lake Lenape Spirits. Girls' crews won their event at the Long Island Championships and at St Andrews; they were one of two U.S. crews to compete in the Junior Eight + at the 2008 Women's Henley Regatta. The Summer Learn to Row camps for children in grades 6-8 were filled to capacity again in 2008. Rumson Recreation also sponsored many other summer sports camps which included lacrosse, basketball, field hockey and soccer.

RUMSON PARKS

Maintained by the Department of Public Works, Rumson provides residents with six beautiful parks for both active and passive recreation. Funds were allocated through the recreation budget to purchase outdoor exercise equipment, which encompasses multiple aspects of exercise and wellness. The entire community is welcome to come to Meadowridge Park in the spring and exercise regularly. Meadowridge Park also benefited from an Eagle Scout project, which placed distance markers around the jogging/walking path. The Piping Rock baseball infield will be refurbished to improve drainage in 2009. The Borough also finalized the purchase of property from West River Road Equities, LLC, adjacent to and west of Victory Park. This acquisition added a half acre to Victory Park including an additional 105 feet of waterfront property.

ROAD AND DRAINAGE PROGRAM

Spring of 2008 marked the start of the Borough Hall Roadway Access, Parking and Drainage Program. This project included adding a water retention system and new parking lot to ready the Borough Hall site for the construction of the new building. The State of New Jersey D.E.P. recognized the Borough of Rumson for the design and construction of the new system. Over the summer, the Borough also added a sidewalk to the west side of Forrest Avenue. This project was paid for with a New Jersey Department of Transportation Sidewalks To Schools Grant Program.

RUMSON ENDOWMENT FUND

Formed in 1997, The Rumson Endowment Fund, Inc., has been the financial backbone of many projects throughout the Borough.

This year, generous donations paid for projects like the July 4th Fireworks, Tree Lighting and truck purchases including two new Army surplus pickups that will be used to evacuate people during storms.

If you are interested in making a donation to the Rumson Endowment Fund, please note that it will be tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. You will receive a confirmation for your records. If you choose to make a donation in the form of securities, please contact our Chief Financial Officer, Helen Graves, at Borough Hall (732-842-1170).

Your charitable donation is truly appreciated. Your gift will make a difference.

IN MEMORIAM

On January 8, 2008 we were all saddened by the passing of Rev. Foster "Skip" Wilson, longtime Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Rumson. Rev. Foster was also Chaplain to the Rumson First Aid Squad, former member of the Rumson Board of Education and Rumson Country Day School Board of Trustees. His spiritual guidance will always be remembered.

Former Police Chief, James K. Shea Jr. passed away on April 1, 2008. Police Chief Shea was a resident of Rumson, where he lived

for over 70 years before moving to Monmouth Beach. He attended the New Jersey State Police Academy and graduated from the FBI Academy, Quantico, Virginia. He was a member of the Monmouth County Police Chiefs Association, New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police, FBI National Academy Association and the International Association of Police Chiefs. He served the Borough of Rumson with honor for 29 years.

MISCELLANEOUS

As we begin a new year, I want to express my gratitude on behalf of the Borough Council and myself to each of the chairmen and board members that spend endless hours reviewing and attending meetings. Their commitment to our Borough is a valuable asset.

The Borough always strives to provide our residents with the most efficient services at the most reasonable cost. All of our decisions are made with the best interests of the entire Borough in mind, and your comments and suggestions are always welcome.

Thank you for attending our 2009 re-organization meeting of the Borough Council. On behalf of all our Council members and myself, I want to wish everyone a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful New Year. May God bless us all and God Bless America.

Sincerely,

John E. Ekdahl, Mayor

ALL ABOUT RUMSON

The Junior League of Monmouth County Headquarters Original Rumson Fire Company Firehouse

In 2009, the Junior League of Monmouth County will be commemorating its 70th Anniversary year as "an organization of women whose mission is to promote volunteerism, develop the potential of women and improve communities through the effective action of trained volunteers." Founded in Red Bank in 1939, the Junior League of Monmouth County established itself in Rumson in 1956 when it purchased the original Rumson Fire Company Firehouse at 55 Center Street. Since then the building has served as its Headquarters for meetings, training sessions and events. The 70th Anniversary comes at the same time that the League is engaged in a multi-phased project to authentically restore the historic centennial firehouse to its original 1906 design.

The Rumson Fire Company was incorporated in September of 1905 at a meeting held in the old East Oceanic School that once stood on Black Point Road directly behind the current firehouse site. Although Rumson already had the Oceanic Hook and Ladder Company #1, the increase in the number of homes in the southeastern part of town necessitated a fire company geographically closer to the homes in that area.

In May, 1906, the property on Center Street was secured for the new fire company's firehouse from the estate of William Everard Strong. In yet another act of generosity to this community, Alice C. Strong sold the property to the firemen for a token payment of \$100.00.

The Rumson Fire Company contracted Mr. William H. Pearsall to build the fire house, and a structure large enough to house two trucks began quickly. A hose wagon built by John W. Eyles, Mayor of Sea Bright, was ordered and ready for service in July of 1906. The following year, Mayor Eyles received a second order to build a Hook and Ladder truck with a 45 foot Seagrave extension ladder. This is the equipment that once was sheltered at 55 Center Street.

In 1910, the Rumson Fire Company had a compressed air whistle installed, which was guaranteed to be heard for five miles against the wind. According to the History of Rumson, "...it was the only one of its type used for a fire alarm; in fact, there was only one other whistle of a similar type in existence, which was used by the Canadian government for a foghorn."

After fifty years at this location, the Rumson Fire Company built a new Firehouse on the corner of Black Point Road and River Road and sold the old firehouse to the Junior League for \$1.00.

For over a half century on Center Street, the Junior League of Monmouth County has been training community leaders and making a difference in the lives of local families. Its activities are based on the needs of the communities where League members develop projects, train local leaders and then turn the projects over and step away. During the years, many of its projects have endured to become viable entities in their own right. The Monmouth Day Care Center, the Children's Wing at the Monmouth Museum and the Hand-in-Hand Day Care Center in the Long Branch School System all started as League projects. The JLMC is currently building a life skills program seeking to empower young homeless mothers by helping them to gain proficiency in the basic life skills critical to achieving self-sufficiency and independence. The JLMC is building this program with a focus on parenting skills and will add other skills training that will concentrate on jobs, budgeting, nutrition and anger management. The JLMC's goal is to facilitate the collaborations within the County that ensure that all women and families in need can access the skills training they need for success.

Phase One of the renovation project was completed last year. The historic tin walls and ceilings have been meticulously restored to their 1906 characteristics. The original long-leaf pine floors have been refinished. New windows were installed downstairs, and the League has applied for a grant for the upstairs windows. The old boiler was replaced with a new energy efficient heating system. The kitchen facilities and bathrooms have been updated with energy efficient appliances. The restroom is now handicapped accessible, and an upcoming project promises an outside ramp. The property has also been brightened by fresh landscaping. One day, the JLMC would like to remove the artificial siding on the building and return to the original shake siding in order to restore the building to its early 20th Century condition. The Junior League of Monmouth County is in the midst of a capital campaign which will determine how much more they can do on the ongoing restoration of this Rumson landmark.

The Junior League is allowing local groups and companies to utilize the building for meetings and events, thus sharing what they have so beautifully restored with a larger segment of the community. For more information about joining the JLMC, renting out their building for an event or meeting or making a contribution to their capital campaign to continue the renovation of the building, please call 732-842-2039 or visit the website at www.jlmc.org

Research sources: *The History of Rumson*; Linda Bricker, JLMC President; Deeds from the Monmouth County Archives and JLMC records.



RUMSON FIRST AID SQUAD

The Rumson First Aid Squad is an all-volunteer organization, staffed by your friends and neighbors. In 2009 we will be celebrating our 60th year of providing volunteer emergency medical services to the Borough, and we are pleased to announce that the foundation that was created in 1949 is alive and well in 2009. Thanks to the tireless efforts of our founding members, including William Fogelson, Sark Kavookjian, William Lagrotteria, James Wagner and James Fanning, the Rumson First Aid Squad continues to provide basic pre-hospital emergency care services at no cost to the patient, twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year, averaging roughly 380 calls per year.

At our December meeting, we elected a slate of new line officers for 2009. We re-elected Bob Kelleher to serve as Captain. Bob, a resident of Rumson since 2002, has served as an officer in the First Aid Squad since 2004. Bob is a claims adjuster for Chubb Insurance, an active coach with various sports in our town's recreation department and an avid marathoner and tri-athlete. Joe Truex was elected to serve as First Lieutenant. Joe has been a member of the First Aid Squad since 2006 and served as an officer last year. Joe also served as Captain (2005) and President (2004) of the Fair Haven First Aid Squad, and he remains an active member with the Fair Haven First Aid and Fire Departments. Danny Petrucelli, Jr. was elected Second Lieutenant. Dan, a lifetime resident of Rumson, joined the squad as a cadet. Dan has also served as the squad's Engineer over the past few years. As Engineer, it is his responsibility to make sure that all of our equipment and the ambulances are operational and properly supplied. Dan is a patrolman with the Oceanport Police Dept. Finally, Tom Daly was elected Sergeant. Tom, a resident of Rumson since 1976, is an attorney and a retired member of the national law firm, McCarter & English. He currently serves as a member of various boards.

The First Aid Squad also elected a new slate of executive officers at the December meeting. Ed Moran, a life-long resident of Rumson, was re-elected President. Ed works in New York City for a hedge fund management firm and is a director of the Rumson Endowment Fund. We re-elected Jen Sapnar as Vice President. Jen, a resident since 2002, is ex-Captain [2005-2007], works as a research assistant for a global packaging company and is an active coach with our town's sports recreation department. She is also an avid tri-athlete. John Wibbelsman, a resident since 1995, was re-elected Treasurer. John is an investment advisor and one of the primary architects behind the very successful Two Rivers Old Guys lacrosse league, also known as TROG. Finally, Pam Gehret, a resident since 1992 agreed to remain as Secretary for a third year.

As we look forward to 2009, we are faced with the ever increasing regulations and mandates emanating out of Trenton with respect to medical protocols and procedures. As a result, we will continue to further our training and cross training programs to stay in compliance. As part of this process, we expect to be working closely with the Borough, Office of Emergency management, the Police and Fire Departments and the service groups from surrounding towns.

We recently mailed our 2009 fund drive letter to all Rumson residents, and we appreciate your continued generosity. You can make donations directly through the mailing or online by going to our website, www.rumsonems.org. You can also make a donation through the Rumson Endowment Fund, by designating the First Aid Squad as the recipient. All donations made to the First Aid Squad are used for the procurement of medical supplies and equipment for our ambulances, training of our all-volunteer staff and the maintenance of our aging building.

As always, we are constantly looking for new members. If you are over the age of 18, please visit us at www.rumsonems.org, or speak with any of our members.

DOG LICENSES

Reminder: Dog Licenses expired on December 31, 2008. Renewals and new licenses must be applied for at Borough Hall. In order for a license to be issued, rabies shots must be valid through October 31, 2009.

Summonses are automatically generated on non-renewed dog licenses. Therefore, it is suggested that dog owners notify the Borough Offices when a dog passes away to avoid receiving a summons for non-renewal of that dog's license.

No Dogs Allowed In Borough Parks

For the safety of the children and residents of Rumson, the Borough does not allow dogs, on leash or off, in any of the Borough parks or on school properties. Thank you for your cooperation. In accordance with General Borough Ordinance 5-8.7 A

VETERANS' DAY CEREMONY

The Veterans' Day Ceremony took place in Victory Park on November 11, 2008. Boy Scout Troop 201 posted the colors, and students from Forrestdale School led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Rev. Jim Strader, Curate at St. George's-by-the-River, delivered the invocation and benediction. The ceremony was led by Daniel J. Edwards, President of the Rumson Veterans organization. BG Pete Dawkins was the guest speaker, and all attendees were moved by his stirring remarks. Students Nicholas Turi, Matthew Hughes, Katie O'Connor, Kay Murphy, Reghan Pattwell and Bridget Miles read their essays about veterans. The names of Sean M. Dawkins, Ringland F. Kilpatrick, Jr., James R. Van Wagner and Terance E. Costello were added to those on the monument.

VICTORY PARK CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

Our Tree Lighting festivities began with enthusiastic singing by the Deane-Porter Third Grade Chorus and the Rumson-Fair Haven Regional High School Tower Singers. Tim McLoone and the The Shirleys with members of Holiday Express warmed up the atmosphere for the large number of families who had braved the freezing cold temperatures for the festive event. As the wind blew icy gusts across the river, fireworks lit up the sky. It was a night filled with fun for everyone.

SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Good news! The Shade Tree Commission was notified in December that it had been awarded a "Green Communities Challenge Grant." This \$3,000 grant "can only be used by municipalities and counties to offset the cost of hiring a forestry consultant who will work with them in the development of a Community Forestry Management Plan."

Some of the goals of the Grant are to sustain healthy tree cover in NJ communities and to encourage the development of new local community forestry programs. It is also meant to encourage community involvement by adults and youth volunteers. We look forward to learning a great deal due to this grant.

SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Strangled by the Lights

Christmas is a distant memory, but here is a reminder to homeowners: Remember to remove your outdoor lights that were wrapped around your yard trees. "Tree-wrapping," winding the cords round and round each trunk and branch, can be harmful if left on year after year. As the trunks and branches grow thicker, the circling cords dig into the bark and impede the movement of food and water up and down the tree.

OCEANIC FREE LIBRARY

The Library continues to grow and change to meet the needs of the community. Perhaps the biggest change is the recent retirement of Anne Wissel on September 30th. Anne had been Director of the Oceanic Free Library for 10 years and, as such, brought the Library forward into the 21st Century by overseeing the remodeling of the Children's Room, accomplishing the improvement of our computer technology and expanding our large print, audio books and DVD collections. Thank you Anne, for your many years of faithful service! Anne was thanked publicly at an open house held at the Library on Sunday, January 25th. In addition to our acknowledgement of Anne's service, long time volunteers Jane Conger, Mary George, Elena King and Julie Lembeck were also honored. The Library depends so much on the hard work of these exceptional women; we couldn't be what we are without them!

We also want to bring to your attention the recently published book by Gene Healy, *The Cult of the Presidency: America's Dangerous Devotion to Executive Power*, which is on display and available for circulation. Gene is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John P. Healy, long time Rumson residents and loyal Library patrons. George Will cited Gene Healy's book as "the year's most pertinent and sobering public affairs book."

We do hope that you are finding our new website to be helpful. (www.oceaniclibrary.org) Debra Williams has worked tirelessly to make it user friendly and informative. At the site, you are able to renew books that are "two week" books and not already overdue. Also online are the listings of artists who currently have work on display and reminders of upcoming events such as our book club meetings. Perhaps the most exciting feature this month is the photo of Rumson's own Bernadette Hogan, who was the winner of the Teen Choice Contest sponsored by the Monmouth County Library. On November 24th, Judi Tolchin of the Monmouth County Library awarded Bernadette a Flip Video Camcorder as her prize for her winning essay in the "Teen Read Week" contest. Teens from all over the county were asked to write an essay describing what book was their favorite and for what reasons. Bernadette, an 8th grade student at Holy Cross School, is an avid reader and writer. She was one of only two winners county wide. Congratulations, Bernadette!

Many people enjoyed the beautiful water colors by Jane Lux and jewelry created by Marty Beaton which were displayed at the Library in December, and many of the items became much appreciated Christmas presents! January brings the wonderful oil landscapes of Christopher Hand and a mixed media display by "Fiber Four." Carol Howard's watercolors and pastels and Sophia Kho's lovely jewelry will be displayed in February. Stop by to find perfect Valentine Gifts. During March, we will feature sculptures by Eric Von Arx and greeting cards by Christine Scott. Also in March there will be an exhibition of children's art by Deanne-Porter (K-Grade 3) students, which will be on display in the Meeker Children's Room. We look forward to displaying the oils of Bob Wille in April, and in May we will feature Marlis Schlegel Steadman's pottery. June's exhibit is a joint photo show by Nancy Harrison and Jean Finnilla. Please come in and enjoy the work of your neighbors and local children. Don't forget that most of the items are for sale, and the artists generously donate 20% of their sales to the Library.

We are happy to announce that Rosanna Fazio has graciously agreed to chair our FOOLS (Friends of the Oceanic Library) Committee. All are welcome to participate. We hope to attract library lovers and supporters to help us work toward additional improvements and projects to enhance our Library and its profile in the community. If you are interested in learning more about the group, (or if you would like to be a FOOL!) please see our website, stop in at the circulation desk or contact Rosanna (rosanna.fazio@comcast.net). One wonderful idea that the FOOLS have already come up with is offering the Library as a location for afternoon children's parties. For more information, please visit our website (www.oceaniclibrary.org), call the Library (732-842-2692) or pick up a flier at the circulation desk.

Just a brief word about BOOK DONATIONS. Due to our limited space, we regret to say that the Library will be unable to accept any further book donations until March. We are in the process of assessing our collection and re-adjusting shelving. We DO appreciate your generosity, but at this time we simply cannot store any more donated books. PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE BOOKS BY THE BACK DOOR! Too many wonderful books have been ruined by the elements. If you have something special such as a book to be donated in memory of someone or any questions, please call (732-842-2692) and ask for Nanette.

We also wish to thank all of our generous patrons who remembered the Oceanic Free Library when filling out their Rumson Community Appeal cards. We are NOT a municipal library, and we depend on private donations. Now more than ever we need a vibrant library in Rumson, and that can only happen through the help of our donors. Our Annual Appeal letters will be in your mailboxes in mid-April. We thank you for your continued support and look forward to seeing all of our residents in the Library. We have something for everyone!

IMPORTANT!! THE NEXT TIME THAT YOU ARE IN THE LIBRARY, PLEASE GIVE US YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS. IN AN EFFORT TO CUT COSTS, WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO DO MORE BUSINESS ELECTRONICALLY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

Children's Programs: Every Tuesday
Baby Storytime Series: Ages 10 months-2 years
(with parent/caregiver) 10-10:20 am
Toddler Storytime Series: Ages 2-3
(with parent/caregiver) 10:30-10:50 am
Preschool Storytime Series: Ages 3-5 11-11:30 am
School Age Programs: Grades K and up 3:30-4:15 pm

LIBRARY HOURS:

Monday/Thursday 1:00 pm-7:00 pm
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10:00 am-5:00 pm
Saturdays 10:00 am-2:00 pm

Library will be closed:

Monday, February 16, Presidents' Day
April 10, Good Friday

- Book Club meets fourth week of the month. Call Library for details.
- Knitting Group meets Friday afternoons at 2:00 pm. All skill levels welcome.

RUMSON WOMEN'S CLUB

The Rumson Women's Club held its annual scholarship luncheon on November 2nd at the Oyster Point Hotel in Red Bank. This event makes it possible for the club to award a \$1,500 scholarship each year to a graduating senior of Rumson-Fair Haven Regional High School or a student who resides in Rumson and will be graduating from a private school. This year a greatly expanded vendor boutique and the generosity of local merchants and club members made the event a great success. Rather than academics, the scholarship is based on community service which is a focus of the Rumson Women's Club. All eligible students may pick up an application at the high school guidance office.

Club members celebrated the holiday season with a party at Bingham Hall and a trip to Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania to see their spectacular Christmas display. We participated in the Rumson Tree Lighting festivities by donating and distributing "light sticks" to all of the children. We also donated gifts to children in the foster care system through Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA), a national program of the Justice Department that trains volunteers to act as advocates for children who are in foster care.

In order to support the Women's Club's charitable efforts in the community, the group is preparing for its largest fundraising event of the year. Our Annual Gift Auction will feature a theatre ticket package including transportation and hotel accommodations, a flat screen TV, designer clothing and jewelry, and many other premium items.

The Gift Auction will be held on Friday, April 17th at the Church of the Nativity in Fair Haven. Tickets are \$10 and should be purchased in advance for this always sold-out event. 50/50 tickets are also available prior to the event. You need not be present to win. For more information or to purchase admission or 50/50 tickets please call Thea Davis at 732-842-0044 or Judy McMaster at 732-842-1522.

The Rumson Women's Club is always seeking new members. Meetings are held on the first Monday of the month, 7:30 pm at Bingham Hall. Drop in and see the women of your community working to enhance the lives of others through volunteer service.



Members of the Rumson Women's Club enjoyed the Christmas Tree Lighting event at Victory Park.

RUMSON RECREATION

Halloween and Tree Lighting Follow-up

Recreation Commission member and Events Chairman Denise Walker would like to thank all of the people who helped make the Halloween Party and Parade and the Tree Lighting Ceremony such special events. She would like to give special thanks to the members of the Rumson Senior Citizens Club, "How wonderful to have the Senior Citizens there every year. We always know that we can depend on them to help us make these events so successful." She also has thanks for the seventh grade students who helped with the Halloween Parade and Party. Our Scout troops were a big help with the Tree Lighting Ceremony. The Girl Scouts set up the luminaries that lined the walkways, and the Boy Scouts provided the Honor Guard and "were all-around great go-getters!"

Sports Registration Dates

Registration forms for the various sports programs in town are distributed to children through the public schools. Residents with children who do not attend the local public schools may register at the Rumson Borough Hall Mondays through Fridays from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

Registration forms are typically available as follows: December-baseball/softball/tee ball January-girls lacrosse (grades 3-8) and boys & girls lacrosse clinics (grades 1-2), April-crew, soccer, flag football, summer basketball and various summer camps. September-crew & basketball.

Registration Deadline/Team Size

The registration deadline for baseball, softball and tee ball was January 23, 2009. All forms received after January 23, 2009 must include an additional \$10 late fee. Additional forms may be completed at the Rumson Borough Hall. This program is for children in grades K-8.

Recreation teams that play in traveling team leagues will have a limited roster size of twelve players per team. Rumson teams are at a disadvantage when they have rosters of sixteen players who have to compete with other towns with twelve player rosters. Players on

travel teams must play within the designated age guidelines (not grade) required by the various leagues. Please register on time for all of the sports programs so we can plan ahead to include all players in our recreation programs.

The Girls Lacrosse registration (grades 3-8) and Boys & Girls Lacrosse Clinics (grades 1-2) deadline is February 6, 2009. Late registration forms may be completed at the Rumson Borough Hall-8:30-4:30 PM Mondays-Fridays.

There is something new at Victory Park! We now have a bocce ball area. The bocce ball equipment is locked in a box at the Park. Anyone who would like to reserve court time and get the key for the equipment should stop in at Borough Hall.

Additional information about recreation programs may be found on the town website www.rumsonnj.gov

You may also contact Supervisor of Parks & Recreation/Recreation Director John Hird at jhird@rumsonnj.gov or 732-530-6607.

RUMSON BOY SCOUT TROOP 201

Congratulations to Anthony Fahoury and Cameron Green, Troop 201's newest Eagle Scouts! To earn the rank of Eagle, a Scout must advance through 7 ranks, earn at least 21 merit badges, hold troop leadership positions, and plan, develop and lead other Scouts in a service project. We congratulate Anthony and Cameron for a job well done!



Anthony Fahoury created and placed signs on Gunning Island as his Eagle Scout project.

History was the theme for Troop 201 these past few months. Andrew Tort and Jeremy Susser provided the honor guard for the Veterans Day ceremony at Victory Park. They were very proud to participate in such a moving ceremony. A group of Scouts headed to Gettysburg to earn the prestigious Gettysburg Heritage Trail Medal. They hiked about 17 miles through various historic trails, visited historic Gettysburg, the Eisenhower National site, toured the Cyclo-rama and watched a film, "A New Birth of Freedom". Back at home, Troop members worked on their Law Merit Badges under the guidance of Mrs. Morse and Mr. Moscatello. In addition to researching famous trials, the Troop attended night court at the Rumson Court House. The Troop was warmly welcomed by the judge and his staff and the Scouts were given the opportunity to ask questions on the cases being heard. We completed our historical theme with a trip to Washington D.C. The Scouts spent a day visiting museums and national sites.

In January we will change gears and enjoy some R & R on the slopes for our annual ski trip. This trip guarantees lots of fun and some great stories! Cold weather doesn't stop our Troop. In February we will be going to Winterburg for our winter camping trip!

Troop 201 is always looking for new members. If you are 11 years old or have finished 5th grade, just stop by a meeting on Wednesday nights 7:30 to 9:00 in the cafeteria of Forrestdale School or contact miriamtort@aol.com.



WE HONOR THOSE WHO SERVE OUR COUNTRY

Janet and Bill Tranter of Waterman Avenue have sent in the photo shown below of Janet's son 2nd Class Petty Officer Bill Gillespie and his fiancé 2nd Class Petty Officer Aubrey Murman. Bill and Aubrey are in the US Navy and assigned to the USS NASSAU, an amphibious assault ship based in Norfolk, Virginia. The photo was taken in July when their ship returned after a five month deployment to the Mediterranean and Arabian Seas. The couple met on their ship two years ago and will be married on August 1, 2009 here in Monmouth County. The Tranters and Bill Gillespie, Sr. and Bill's sisters, Lisa and Paige Gillespie, are very proud of Bill and Aubrey.

Virginia and Royal Moss were long-time Rumson residents who now rotate between Jackson, NJ and Georgia; their daughter, Allyson Moss Erving (RFH Class of 1987), is married to Sgt. Christopher Erving, who is in the North Carolina Army National Guard. Sgt. Erving has just left for his second deployment to Iraq. The Ervings have been residing in North Carolina, and Chris had just graduated from the Police Academy when he was re-deployed and had to postpone his hopes for a law enforcement career.

Please keep the following Rumson Servicemen and women in your thoughts as we wish for their safety and success as they serve our Country: Corporal Brendan Duffy, USMC; Specialist Brian Custer, US Army; 1st Lt. Jonathan Erwin, US Army; Ensign Christian George, US Coast Guard; Petty Officer 2nd Class Patrick George, US Navy; LTC. Lisa Hou, NJ Army National Guard; SGT Kristian Kjesbu, USMC; SGT Matt Marks, USMC; MMFN Jennifer McLaughlin, US Navy and MMFN 3rd Class Kymberly McLaughlin, US Navy, 2nd Class Petty Officer Bill Gillespie, jr., Sgt. Christopher Erving, NC Army National Guard.

If anyone has information about other Rumson Servicemen and women who are presently serving in our Military Forces, please let the Editor know at avananda@comcast.net so that we can highlight them in future issues of the Rumson Borough Bulletin. We are also hoping to gather photographs of our military personnel to display at Borough Hall.



2nd Class Petty Officer Bill Gillespie, US Navy, with his fiancée, 2nd Class Petty Officer Aubrey Murman, US Navy



Rumson Senior Citizens Club

Special thanks to the community from President McCormick and all of the members of the Senior Citizens Club for making their Annual Holiday Bazaar a huge success! Appreciation is extended to the businesses and merchants who generously donated prizes and to everyone who attended. Vivian especially wants to acknowledge Jeannette DiSpirito for chairing this event, the Club's only fundraiser. All of the Committee Chairpersons and members worked very hard.

Once again, members brought in toys to be donated to the Public Works Department for its annual Toys for Needy Children collection. The Club is a community oriented group whose members enjoy "being a part." Diane Cross thanked members for helping at Forrestdale School for the Halloween Party. It is always a pleasure to work with Denise Walker and the Recreation Commission.

Several members enjoyed the High School Play, "Stoopin" on November 16th. The RFH Performing Arts Society extends an invitation to our Seniors to both the Fall and Spring performances. This is greatly appreciated.

Jeanne Cuje and Lillian Haines co-chaired the Holiday Luncheon at Salt Creek Grille on December 12th. Their helpers were Delores Ryan, Fran Merkel, Gloria Bush and Carolyn Ott. Everyone had a truly enjoyable time, especially when jolly ole Santa (aka Walter Cuje) hopped into the room, clicking his heels and handed out candy canes. We think he got his kicks kissing the girls. You have to watch those Santas!! The members enjoyed wonderful music and a delightful meal. President McCormick welcomed Honorary Member, former Mayor Chillie Callman and Lolly Ekdahl, wife of our current Mayor. We were sorry that Mayor Ekdahl was unable to be with us. The Borough Administrator, Tom Rogers, stopped by.

The annual bus trip to the Octoberfest in Pamona, N.Y. was well attended and enjoyed by all. 2nd V.P., Marge Bergman has announced that the next trip, scheduled for March 10th, will be to the Brownstone Theatre.

Members will enjoy a terrific St. Patrick's Day luncheon and great entertainment. This is one of the Club's favorite trips.

1st VP, Lillian Haines, arranged a covered dish luncheon. Hats off to all of the members for providing such delicious food. Lillian does a terrific job with "in house" entertainment. The club provided a special cake and card for Irmgard Thompson, who celebrated her 90th birthday. Lillian and President McCormick delivered a card and gift to member, Angie Cangialosi who celebrated her 100th birthday.

Members extended condolences to John Kondrup and his family in the loss of long time member and dear friend, Delores. Condolences were also extended to the family of "Red" McBride.

All Rumson residents aged 55 and over, their relatives and friends are welcome to join our wonderful club. Meetings are held on the second and fourth Mondays monthly (September through June) at 11:00 AM at Wilson Hall, Rumson Presbyterian Church. Consider joining and take part in all the fun. You simply don't know what you're missing!!

Respectfully Submitted:

Jeanne Cuje

Publicity Chairman

Schedule of Meetings:

Monday, February 9th and 23rd

March 9th and 23rd

April 13th and 27th

If a meeting must be cancelled due to inclement weather, members will be notified.

MAYOR

John E. Ekdahl

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Robert Kammerer
Shaun P. Broderick
Joan P. DeVoe
Joseph K. Hemphill
Mark E. Rubin
Frank E. Shanley

ADMINISTRATION

Thomas S. Rogers, Municipal Clerk/Administrator
Roberta H. Van Anda, Editor

www.rumsonnj.gov

RUMSON BOROUGH HALL

(732) 842-3300

DEPT OF PUBLIC WORKS

(732) 842-8941

CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

- 2 Planning Board, 7:30 pm
Womens' Club, Bingham Hall, 7:30 pm
- 9 & 23 Senior Citizens Club, Presbyterian Church, 11:00 am
- 10 & 24 Borough Council, 7:30 pm
- 16 **PRESIDENTS' DAY: NO GARBAGE COLLECTION,
BOROUGH HALL AND LIBRARY CLOSED**
- 17 Zoning Board, 7:30 pm
- 18 Recreation Commission, 7:30 pm
- 25 Historic Preservation Commission, 7:30 pm

MARCH

- 2 Shade Tree Commission, 4:00 pm
Planning Board, 7:30 pm
- 9 & 23 Senior Citizens Club, Presbyterian Church, 11:00 am
- 10 & 24 Borough Council, 7:30 pm
- 17 Zoning Board, 7:30 pm
- 18 Recreation Commission, 7:30 pm

APRIL

- 6 Planning Board, 7:30 pm
Womens' Club, Bingham Hall, 7:30 pm
- 10 **GOOD FRIDAY: NO GARBAGE COLLECTION,
BOROUGH HALL AND LIBRARY CLOSED**
- 13 & 27 Senior Citizens Club, Presbyterian Church, 11:00 am
- 14 & 28 Borough Council, 7:30 pm
- 15 Recreation Commission, 7:30 pm
- 17 Rumson Womens' Club Gift
Auction, Church of the Nativity, Fair Haven
- 21 Zoning Board, 7:30 pm

**MAY 9th SAVE THE DATE - RUMSON GARDEN CLUB
ANNUAL PLANT SALE**

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