

If You See It...  
If You Hear It...

**REPORT IT!**

Help keep the Village of  
Ridgefield Park safe and  
secure.

For  
Emergencies  
Dial  
9-1-1

For  
Non-  
Emergencies  
Dial  
(201)  
641-6400



The Ridgefield Park Police Department reports 65 arrests for people driving under the influence so far in 2011. "This department is very aggressive in the enforcement and apprehension of people driving under the influence," said Captain John DiNiro of the Ridgefield Park Police Department. "Along with roving patrols we have been very successful in setting up DWI check points throughout the year," said DiNiro. "We take this type of enforcement very seriously. I am certain the actions of the Ridgefield Park Police have saved lives by taking drunk drivers off the road." Although Captain DiNiro would not be too specific he said, "We will be out there. You can expect to see us running check points in addition to roving patrols."

Chief Edward Rose offers the following advice:

- ◆ If you plan to drink, designate a driver, someone who will not drink alcohol, before going out.
- ◆ Take mass transit, a taxi or ask a sober friend to drive you home.
- ◆ Spend the night where the activity is held.
- ◆ Report impaired drivers to law enforcement. In New Jersey, drivers may dial #77 to report a drunk or aggressive driver.
- ◆ Always buckle up, every ride, regardless of your seating position in the vehicle. It's your best defense against an impaired driver.

If you're intoxicated and traveling on foot, the safest way to get home is to take a cab or have a sober friend or family member drive you to the doorstep.



During the 2011 "Click it or Ticket" campaign, 419 New Jersey police agencies participated in the two week initiative. As a result 32,228 seat belt citations were issued Statewide. In Bergen County, 6049 seat beat summonses were issued and 110 drivers were arrested for DWI.

"We are proud of the commitment by our officers during this campaign. During the 2011 campaign the Ridgefield Park Police ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in the State of New Jersey for number of seat belt tickets issued," said DiNiro. "Our Department also issued 35 child safety seat violations." "We consider it a success anytime we can correct a dangerous situation involving the safety of a child."

Chief Rose notes that the Ridgefield Park Police Department receives grant money to participate in both of these very important initiatives.

# HAVE

# A

# HAPPY

# AND HEALTHY

# NEW YEAR

# TO ALL!

# village NEWSLETTER

www.ridgefieldpark.org

VOL. 28 NO. 1

Ridgefield Park, N.J.

DECEMBER, 2011

## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Some time ago we reported that the State Department of Transportation would be undertaking a rehabilitation of the Route 46/Hackensack River Bridge, originally constructed in 1934. The initial plan called for that work to begin now; however we have now been informed that the work will begin some time next year. Whenever the project starts, we know it will severely impact traffic, particularly at "rush hours." We will keep you informed as we learn more from the state.

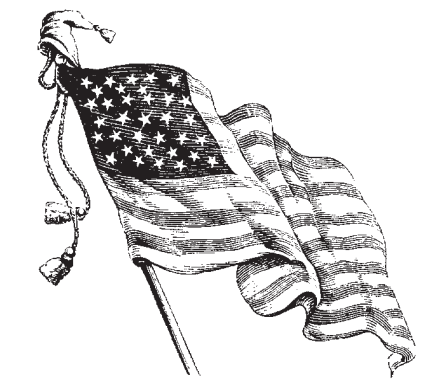
We are pleased to note that Lincoln School has been awarded "blue ribbon" status by the United States Department of Education. Lincoln School joins Grant School, which earned "blue ribbon" status last year. These achievements bode well for the public school system here in our Village and we congratulate, commend, and thank the Board of Education, the School Administration, faculty, and staff, and the parents, students, and friends who make up the Lincoln School community. Well done!

Hurricane Irene had its impact here in the Village — tidal flooding affected residents along the Overpeck Creek and a number of residents required evacuation. A large tree crashed on Eighth Street between Central and North Avenues and residents on Eighth Street were without power for one week. Considering that Irene produced record rainfalls and the fact that the Village is bordered on three sides by water, we were fortunate not to experience the devastation suffered by a number of communities. All Village emergency services, police, fire, ambulance, rescue, department of public works, and emergency management were deployed and we thank and commend all for their service to the community.

This newsletter is scheduled for delivery as we begin the holiday season. Thanksgiving is the time where we remember that even though we are in tough economic times, we are still thankful for the liberty and freedom we enjoy, and we

remember and thank those who, even today, as in the past, have sacrificed much to assure the continuation of the liberty we enjoy.

The message of Christmas, Hanukkah, and New Year are ones of joy, hope, and peace. Certainly that is our wish for all in the Village — whatever your religion or tradition. We wish for all liberty and justice, with peace, happiness, and hope for still better tomorrows.



## VETERAN PROPERTY TAX DEDUCTION

If you are a veteran or surviving spouse of a veteran or serviceperson, you may be entitled to a \$ 250 property tax deduction.

To be eligible, an honorably discharged veteran or a serviceperson must have active war time service in the United States Armed Forces during the following periods:

- \* Operation Northern/Southern Watch Aug. 27, 1992 - March 17, 2003
- \* Operation Iraqi Freedom March 19, 2003 - Ongoing
- \* Operation Enduring Freedom Sept. 11, 2001 - Ongoing
- \* "Joint Endeavor/Joint Guard" - Bosnia & Herzegovina Nov. 20, 1995 - June 20, 1998
- \* "Restore Hope" Mission - Somalia Dec. 5, 1992 - March 31, 1994
- \* Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm Missions August 2, 1990 - Feb. 28, 1991
- \* Panama Peacekeeping Mission Dec. 20, 1989 - Jan. 31, 1990

- \* Grenada Peacekeeping Mission Oct. 23, 1983 -Nov. 21, 1983
- \* Lebanon Peacekeeping Mission Sept. 26, 1982 - Dec. 1, 1987
- Vietnam Conflict Dec. 31, 1960 - May 7, 1975
- \* Lebanon Crisis of 1958 July 1, 1958 -Nov. 1, 1958
- Korean Conflict June 23, 1950 - Jan. 31, 1955
- World War II Sept. 16, 1940 -Dec. 31, 1946
- World War I April 6, 1917 -Nov. 11, 1918

\* Note: Peacekeeping Missions require actual service in a combat zone for a total of 14 days, unless a service injury was received in a combat zone.

Should you have questions, please contact the Assessor's Office at (201) 641-4771 x 7.

## BOARD OF RECREATION

Just a reminder to everyone, the Board of Recreation is made up entirely of volunteers who generously give their time to run various programs and activities for the residents of the Village. It operates on a small budget provided by the Village and assists hundreds of residents in various activities. You may contact the Board of Recreation by either email at [www.ridgefieldpark.org](http://www.ridgefieldpark.org) or (201) 641-4950 ext 610. Please remember volunteers run these programs and they will get back to you as soon as possible.

Not all activities are run by the Board of Recreation and the Board will not be able to answer your questions on these activities. Please be advised that: baseball, football, cheering, soccer, summer concerts and summer recreation at the parks, are all private activities not run by the Board of Recreation. The Board of Recreation is, unfortunately, unable to assist with any information on these activities.

Upcoming Board of Recreation events:

**Basketball** - Coaches and schedules will

be posted on the internet by the end of November. The clinic begins December 10 at Grant School. Boys division games should begin December 4 and Girls Division games should begin December 3.

**Tree Lighting** - The Board of Recreation annual tree lighting will take place on Sunday, December 4, 2011, at 5:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building. Included in the night's festivities are music by the high school band and chorus as well as singing by guest soloists and the local boy and girl scouts. Vorhees-Ingwersen Funeral Home will again be donating a bicycle for the raffle for grades K-6. Don't forget to bring your ballot and deposit it in the box. Make sure you arrive early!

**Holiday Wish Tree** - As in the past, the Holiday Wish Tree will be located at the TD Bank at 245 Main Street. The wish tree gives residents the opportunity to purchase a holiday gift for a less fortunate Village child. If you would like to participate, please stop by and select an ornament and return your gift by December 16, 2011. Your gift will then be delivered to a very appreciative child. Thanks again for your assistance!

**Holiday Display Contest** - The annual Holiday Display Contest will be held on Friday, December 23, 2011, at which time registered Village homes and businesses will be judged and prizes awarded. Judging will begin at dusk. After the contest, check for winners on www.ridgefieldpark.org. To make judging easier and to ensure that your home or business is included, you must register for the contest. Registration forms are available at www.ridgefieldpark.org or at the municipal building. You must register by December 20 to be included in the contest. There will be one contest this year for both residential and businesses can be mailed to the Board of Recreation at 234 Main Street, Ridgefield Park. You can use the form at the end of these announcements to register.

**Adult Craft** - Be on the lookout for information on the next adult crafts class. Info will be posted on the internet and in the Patriot. Also be sure to check the library or Clerk's Office for registration forms.

**Adult Trips/Activities** - Watch the Community Message Board for discount tickets to events such as the Nets, the circus

or ice shows. Periodically, the Board of Recreation is able to get discount tickets to various events. If you have a suggestion for an event, please drop us a note or leave a message on our voice mail at (201) 641-4950 ext. 610.

**Girls Softball** - Be on the lookout for registration, which will take place in January. Forms will be distributed in the schools or go to www.ridgefieldpark.org. This year the program will expand and the girls will be participating in a league, playing various towns in the area. The program is open to grades 3-8.

**Women's Softball** - Registration packets will be available in January or February. If you would like to play or have a team that would like to participate, please call the Board of Recreation and leave your name, address and telephone number and a packet will be prepared for your team.

All Board of Recreation meetings are open to the public. They are held on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building on the third floor in the Dare Room. Anyone with any questions, comments or suggestions is more than welcome to attend any meeting. Anyone needing to speak to the Board of Recreation may call (201) 641-4950 ext. 610 and leave a message on the voice mail. If you wish to send a letter, please address it to the Board of Recreation at 234 Main Street, Ridgefield Park. For any information concerning Board of Recreation activities or to get a registration form, please go to www.ridgefieldpark.org.

The Board of Recreation is always welcome to hear your comments.

HOLIDAY DECORATING CONTEST - YOU MUST REGISTER IF YOU ARE RESIDENTIAL OR BUSINESS. THERE WILL BE ONE CONTEST THIS YEAR.

Mail to: Board of Recreation, 234 Main Street, Ridgefield Park, NJ 07660 by DECEMBER 20 if you would like to enter the annual contest.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

## @ YOUR LIBRARY

We would like to start 2012 with a brief reminder of services you may not realize your library provides. Just listing these services, without explanation, is meant as a reminder. If something piques your interest, stop by the library and talk to us or check out our web page at www.ridgefieldpark.org (click on library) or friend us on Facebook. There's a lot more to the library these days than just books.

Books, magazines, newspapers, public computers, wireless network, books on cd, books on MP3 cds, playaways, downloadable audio books, ebooks for Nook, Kindle, iPad, ebooks for use on your computer, online resume assistance, online test preparation, online language learning, pass to the Museum of Natural History, free esl classes, Nooks for borrowing, homework help for elementary school children, volunteer opportunities, story time for pre-schoolers, book clubs for all ages, specialized programs for children, teens, and adults, free movies, music cds, dvds of current movies as well as older movies, large print books, internet instruction workshops, special holiday themed celebrations.

Resolve to stop by your library once a week to re-discover the world of free! We're waiting for you!

### Monthly Programs

**Sleepy Time Tales—Tues., 1/3, 1/10, 1/17, 1/24, 1/31, 2/7, 2/14, 2/21, 2/28, 3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 3/27, 7:00-7:30 p.m.** Children visit the library for stories and a snack. Feel free to wear your pajamas and bring a lovey.

**Adult Internet Instruction—Wed., 1/4, 1/11, 1/18, 1/25, 2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22, 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 3/28, 10:00-11:00 a.m.** Basic Class for those who want to learn to use a mouse, do simple Internet searches, and set up an e-mail account. Seating is limited and registration is required; out-of-towners are welcome, but preference is given to Ridgefield Park residents.

**Baby & Me—Thurs., 1/5, 1/12, 1/19, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9, 2/16, 2/23, 3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 3/22, 3/29, 11:00-11:30 a.m.** Pre-registered parents, grandparents and caregivers are welcome to bring their newborns to 2 year olds for stories, finger plays and songs.

**Children's Movies—Sat., 1/14, 2/4, 3/3, 12:00** Stop by the library or call to see what films will be playing on these dates. All movies start at 12:00 noon. You may bring your lunch or a snack if you like. Children 7 and under must be accompanied by a parent

or caregiver.

**Movies for the over 18 Crowd—Thurs., 1/5, 1/19, 2/2, 2/16, 3/1, 3/15, 2:00 p.m.** stop by the library or call to see what films will be playing on these dates. All movies are on Thursday starting at 2:00 pm. Come and enjoy a movie with some popcorn.

**Wii Tuesdays—Tues., 1/10, 1/24, 2/7, 2/21, 3/6, 3/20, 3:30-5:00 p.m.** Teens in grades 7-2 are welcome to join us for snacks and games on the Wii.

**Pre-school Story time—Wed., 1/11, 1/18, 1/25, 2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22, 2/29, 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 3/28, Pre-registered RP 2-3 year olds meet from 10:30-11:15 a.m. and 4-5 year olds meet from 1:30-2:15p.m**

**After School Story & Craft—Wed., 1/11, 1/18, 1/25, 2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22, 2/29, 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 2/28, 3:45-4:30 p.m.** For pre-registered children in kindergarten and 1 st grade.

**TGIF Jr.—Fri., 1/13, 2/3, 3/9, 3:30-4:30 p.m.** Book club for pre-registered children in grades 2-3. Games and snacks are on us. The book selections are January—"Ready Freddy! Homework Hassle's by Abby Klein February—"Roland Wright, Future Knight" by Tony Davis March—"The Trouble With Chickens" by Doreen Cronin.

**Book Buddies—Fri., 1/20, 2/10, 3/16, 3:30-4:30 p.m.** Book club for pre-registered children in grade 4. Games and snacks are on us. The book selections are January—"Dragon in the Sock Drawer" by Kate Klimo February—"All the Lovely Bad Ones" by Mary Downing Hahn March—"Word After Word After Word" by Patricia Maclachlan.

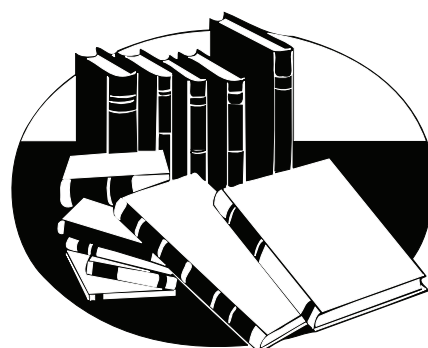
**Adult Book Club—Fri., 1/20, OR Mon., 1/30; Fri., 2/24, OR Mon., 2/27; Fri., 3/23, OR Mon., 3/26; Friday meetings are at 10:00 a.m.; Monday meetings are at 7:30 p.m.** The book selections are:

January – "The Tea Rose" by Jennifer Donnelly

February – "The Dragonfly Pool" by Eva Ibbotson March—"The Secret Order of the Gurnin Street Girls" by Elise Primavera.

**Friends of the Library, Monthly Meeting, Tues., 3/13, 7:00 p.m.** New members are always welcomed; refreshments will be served.

**Spring Story time Registration—3/31-4/7, Register your child, (ages 2-1st grade) for the spring session in the children's**



February – "Illumination Night" by Alice Hoffman

March – "Blessings" by Anna Quindlen Pick up your copy of the book at the circulation desk; it's a great way to meet your neighbors!

**Teen Book Club—Mon., 1/23, 2/13, 3/19, 7:00-8:00 p.m.** Teens in grades 7-12 will discuss the following books

January – "Scat" by Carl Hiaasen

February – "Half Brother" by Kenneth Oppel

March – "Bucking the Sarge" by Christopher Curtis

Snacks and drinks are on us. Pick up your copy of the book at the front desk.

**Library Board of Trustees—Wed., 1/25, 2/22, 3/28, 8:00 p.m.** The public is welcome to attend.

**Tween Time—Fri., 1/27, 2/17, 3/23, 3:30-4:30 p.m.** Book club for pre-registered children in grades 5-6. Games and snacks are on us. The book selections are:

January – "Moon Over Manifest" by Clare Vanderpool

February – "The Dragonfly Pool" by Eva Ibbotson March—"The Secret Order of the Gurnin Street Girls" by Elise Primavera.

**Friends of the Library, Monthly Meeting, Tues., 3/13, 7:00 p.m.** New members are always welcomed; refreshments will be served.

**Spring Story time Registration—3/31-4/7, Register your child, (ages 2-1st grade) for the spring session in the children's**



department. Storytime is for village residents.

### Special Programs

**Yu-Gi-Oh Tournament—Mon., 1/9, 7:00-8:00 p.m.** Teens in grades 7-12 are invited to bring their cards and play. Snacks will be provided, and a small prize will be given to the player with the most wins.

**Celebrate Chinese New Year—Sat., 1/21, 1:00-2:00 p.m.** Register at the desk for this fun, informative program. Learn something new, create a Chinese craft and enjoy some light refreshments.

**Evening at Hogwarts—Tues., 1/31, 6:30-8:00 p.m.** Children in grades 4-6 are invited to the final night at Hogwarts. Registration is limited and only those possessing an acceptance letter will be admitted and sorted. Quidditch, crafts and special snacks will round out the night

**ESL Testing/Assessment—Wed. & Thurs 2/1 & 2/2, 6:00-9:00 p.m.** at Ridgefield Park Junior-Senior High School. Prospective students for free ESL classes must attend both sessions in order to be qualify for classes which are held at the RP Library and the RP Junior-Senior High School. Classes are taught by teachers from Bergen Community College's Ciarco Center. Dates are tentative so check at the library before attending. Classes begin 3/1.

**Valentine Day Craft & Story—Sat., 2/11, 1:00-2:00 p.m.** Join us and make a decoration. There will also be a story and light refreshments. Registration required.

**Healing Hearts—Tues., 2/28, 3:30-5:00 p.m.** Tweens in grades 5-9 are invited to paint and decorate wooden hearts that will be given to people suffering from cancer. Fifth and 6 th graders sign up in the Children's Department; 7th through 9th graders sign up at the Adult Circulation Desk.



# RPPD BULLETIN



Chief Edward Rose  
WINTER 2011

## REMOVAL OF ICE AND SNOW VILLAGE ORDINANCE 333-2 (RESIDENTS) STATE LAW 39:4-207.9 (BUSINESS OWNERS)

Residents are reminded that snow and ice must be removed from sidewalks within 12 hours of daylight after same has formed or fallen. (333-2)

Business owners are reminded that snow, ice or any other obstructions must be cleared from a handicapped parking space, curb cut or other improvement designed to provide accessibility for the handicapped. This must be done within 24 hours after the weather condition which causes the snow or ice ceases (39:4-207.9)

At no time during the removal of snow from sidewalks, driveways or the digging out of a vehicle will the snow be cast, thrown, blown or dumped onto the street.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.



### SNOW EMERGENCIES Village Ordinance (197-25)



With the winter approaching, we have once again reached that time of year when snow emergencies unexpectedly arise. The Ridgefield Park Police Department would like to remind Village residents to vigilantly observe snow ordinance signs when parking vehicles before, during and after a snow emergency.

It is the responsibility of each individual resident to be aware of possible upcoming storms or severe changes in the weather by monitoring weather reports.

Mother nature is unpredictable and it is suggested that you remove your vehicle from the snow emergency side of the street if you have even the slightest inclination that it may snow. Parking is permitted at the town pool if no other options are available to you.

Residents who will be on vacation or who use public transportation should take special care to make arrangements with relatives or friends to ensure the prompt removal of vehicles during a snow emergency.

Absolutely **no permissions** will be granted. Vehicles in violation must be removed for snowplowing and to permit emergency vehicles to move uninhibited throughout the village. Vehicles parked in violation will first be ticketed and then towed when the plowing commences.

Also be advised that the Ridgefield Park Police Department reserves the right to keep this ordinance in effect as long as deemed necessary to ensure the safety and security of all residents.

**STOP FOR PEDESTRIANS  
IN CROSSWALKS!**

**SHOP/DINE AT LOCAL  
ESTABLISHMENTS**