

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

www.ridgefieldpark.org

VOL. 28 NO. 3

Ridgefield Park, N.J.

SEPTEMBER 2011

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Autumn is upon us, the long hot summer — at times very dry and at times very wet, is over. We move into yet another cycle of activities. School is open, the fall sports season has the attention of many, and the various Village clubs, organizations and committees resume regular schedules. We want to commend the Citizens 4th of July committee, all those who volunteered in any capacity, and Village employees, for the conduct of yet another grand and glorious Independence Day celebration. Thanks to all of you for adding still more luster to our Village's signature event.

All should know that the Village continues to rely on volunteers for many community services. We need volunteer fire fighters, Ambulance Corps members and Rescue Squad personnel. The challenges are great, the reward for serving neighbors, friends, and strangers is the knowledge that serving others is its own reward — and the maintenance of a long American tradition. Citizens can also serve with the library and in many civic, service and fraternal organizations which are active in the Village. Certainly, the school parent organizations, as well as the recreation leagues, scouts and sports associations all welcome new members. Become involved — you will be happy you did.

Small things loom large in keeping Ridgefield Park the community we want it to be

- (1) Don't litter
- (2) Stop for pedestrians in crosswalks
- (3) Say hello to neighbors and passersby
- (4) Shop locally
- (5) Dine in our many fine restaurants
- (6) Maintain your property

WHEN WALKING AROUND THE VILLAGE — DON'T BE A ZOMBIE! SMILE! SAY HELLO TO PASSERSBY!

- (7) Be courteous to all you meet
- (8) Offer constructive advice

Yes, these are indeed challenging times. By continuing to work together for and with each other, we will emerge still stronger.

John H. Anlian
Hugo R. Poli
Margaret R. Boyd
Adam A. MacNeill
George D. Fosdick



VETERANS DAY

The Village will conduct its annual Veterans Day observance, Friday, November 11, 11:00 AM at the monument, Euclid Avenue & Mt. Vernon Street. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

PEARL HARBOR DAY

The annual Pearl Harbor Day observance will be held Wednesday, December 7, 7:00 PM at the monument, Euclid Avenue & Mt. Vernon Street. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. "REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR."

NEWS FROM SENATOR LORETTA WEINBERG

Teaneck, NJ — Recognizing that prices often fluctuate from pharmacy to pharmacy on the cost of prescription drugs, Loretta Weinberg, (D-Teaneck), District 37's Senator wants to publicize the State Department of Consumer Affairs' New Jersey Prescription Drug Price Registry ("NJPDPR") website and phone number. This site, now required by NJ State statute, can encourage consumers to comparison shop before making any medication purchases. The "NJPDPR" can be found at www.njdrugprices.nj.gov or residents can

obtain information by calling 1-800-242-5846.

Senator Weinberg, who is also the Chair of the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee, believes our residents should be armed with information to comparison shop for their prescription medications in our state.

"The difference in medication costs can be as much as \$10.00 to \$15.00 from pharmacy to pharmacy. Our residents need to know that there is a state website and phone number that can assist them in finding the best price for their medications at pharmacies in their communities. Comparing prices listed in this registry will help consumers find the pharmacy in their area with the lowest retail price for a specific prescription drug," Weinberg said.

The NJ Department of Consumer Affairs maintains this site and updates it regularly. The law requires that pharmacies maintain a list of the prices of some of the most popular medications, to be available for inspection by consumers. The pharmacies must also regularly report those prices to the NJ Division of Consumer Affairs, which are then used to update the NJPDPR database.

"The state has now made the information for price comparison shopping easily accessible so our residents can make informed decisions on where to purchase their prescriptions," said Senator Weinberg. "In these tough financial times, it's important to save money whenever and wherever we can, so I am happy to pass this information along to all Bergen County residents."

FROM THE VILLAGE CLERK'S OFFICE

For the brides and grooms to be — appointments are to be scheduled with the Registrar for Marriage License applications. Please call 201-641-4950 ext. 132

Resident parking decals can be obtained in the Police Records Office located on the first floor of the Municipal Building.

Raffle License applications must be completed at least 8 weeks prior to the date of the raffle.

SENIOR CITIZEN PROPERTY TAX DEDUCTION

If you are a New Jersey resident senior citizen you may be entitled to a \$250.00 property tax deduction.

To be eligible you must be a citizen and resident of New Jersey; be age 65 or more years as of December 31 of the year prior to tax year for which deduction is claimed. Annual income limit can not exceed \$10,000. (combined income of husband and wife) after a permitted exclusion of Social Security Benefits, or Federal Government Retirement Pension, or State, County, Municipal Government and their political subdivisions and agencies Retirement Pension.

Contact the Assessor's Office at 641-4771 x7 for further information.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

The Recycling Center is located at 24 Industrial Avenue and is open from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon, Monday through Saturday. Proof of residency is required. NO CONTRACTORS OR COMMERCIAL VEHICLES ARE ALLOWED. LICENSE AND REGISTRATION MUST MATCH TO ADDRESS IN RIDGEFIELD PARK

We now accept all types of light bulbs (including fluorescent bulbs) at the Recycling Center.

Collection Regulation Reminder

All containers and recyclables must be placed at the curb NO EARLIER than 5p.m. the night before collection and empty containers removed from the curb by 8 P.M. on collection day.

Leaf Season

LEAF SEASON begins on October 17 and ends on December 31st. Leaves must be placed in the street, along the curb line, in front of your home. It is a violation of Village of Ridgefield Park ordinance to sweep, cast or throw anything into the gutter except leaves during designated leaf season.

Trash Collection (Trash is defined as everything that is not classified as garbage)

North of Mount Vernon Street – First Thursday of each month

Mount Vernon & South – First Friday of each month

White Goods - Recycling

All white goods (appliances), computer components, monitors, printers, fax machines, televisions, stereos, radios and tires must be called into the DPW (201-440-4860) before they are placed at the curb for collection for Wednesday Collection. White goods can be placed by the curb. Refrigerators and Freezers must have the doors completely removed and the units laid flat to prevent injury.

NO PERSON, OTHER THAN AN AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS SHALL REMOVE ANY WHITE GOODS PLACED AT THE CURB.

NEW RESIDENTS

If you are new to our Village and need information relating to Public Works services such as garbage/trash collection, recycling, sweeping, etc. or Public Works related emergency call us at 201-440-4860. Outside of regular working hours all emergencies should be directed to the Police Department at 201-641-6400.

**2011 BCUA 2004
Hazardous Waste Events
9:00 a.m.- 3 p.m. (Rain or Shine)**

**Bergen Community College
400 Paramus Rd., Paramus
Sunday, Oct. 16th**

**Bergen County Law & Public
Safely Institute
28 Campgaw Road., Mahwah
Saturday, Sept. 10th & Nov. 19th**

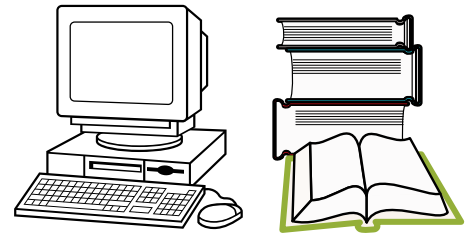
Free of charge for Bergen County residents! ID REQUIRED. For additional information call BCUA hotline at: 201-807-5825 or www.bcu.org

Village of Ridgefield Park Code 117-13- Trash Collection

All large quantities or unusual amounts of household debris, such as attic, basement, garage or house and/or apartment cleanout, at the time the house and/or apartment is changing occupant or owner, shall not be considered acceptable for trash collection. All decisions as to large quantities or unusual amounts shall be made by the Superintendent of Public Works or his designee. (Amended 5-10-88 by resolution) If you are new to our Village and need information relating to Public Works services such as garbage/trash collection, recycling, sweeping, etc. or Public Works

related emergency call us at 201-440-4860. Outside of regular working hours all emergencies should be directed to the Police Department at 201-641-6400.

For more information, visit us on the web @ www.ridgefieldpark.gov.



YOUR LIBRARY

The library trustees and staff hope that you all had a restful and enjoyable summer. We know that Villagers spent a lot of their time reading, listening to music, watching films, attending programs, and surfing the web because the library was hopping all summer long. Autumn will also be busy and we encourage you to find us on Facebook and like us) so that all of our most up to date news can be delivered right to your Facebook page. For those who don't want to be kept up to date via computer, remember to stop in each month and pick up a copy of our monthly calendar.

New Databases Just for RP Residents

The library has added both in-library and remote access to two databases especially for Village residents. Get out your library card and sharpen your standardized test taking, resumé building, and job seeking skills by using **Learning Express**. If you're interested in learning a new language, you can now do so from the comfort of your own home by diving into **Mango Languages**. Mango offers instruction in over 70 languages and has a terrific ESL component as well. Both of these databases can be accessed by going to www.ridgefieldpark.org (click on library) and then clicking on either Learning Express or Mango. You'll need an up to date library card, so make sure you have yours handy.

Friends of the Library Book and Bake Sale

The fall book and bake sale will be held on Thurs., Fri., and Sat., 10/20, 10/21, and 10/22 during library hours. There will be plenty of bargains and delicious home baked goodies for sale to support the work of the Friends of the Library. Donations of gently used materials (no magazines, encyclopedias, or text books, please) will be

accepted beginning on Mon., 10/16. Donations left outside the library generally end up being damaged and have to be thrown out. Please wait until the library is open to make material donations.

Holidays at the Library

Remember to make the library a part of your holiday must do list. With the Friends of the Library, we'll be presenting our third annual Festival of the Wreaths on Fri., 12/9. Hand made one of a kind wreaths will be on display throughout the library just around Thanksgiving and you'll want to be among the possible winners by making a small donation to the library. Check out the pictures from last year's Festival on our facebook page to see the beautiful wreaths that were on display last year. The evening will feature a shared buffet of favorite holiday sweets, live entertainment, and a visitor from up north.

ESL in Ridgefield Park

The Ridgefield Park Library, Ridgefield Park school district and the Ciarco Center of Bergen Community College continue the partnership that brings free English as a Second Language instruction to Ridgefield Park. Those with ESL needs should inquire at the library regarding these classes.

Monthly Programs

Homework Helpers-Mon., 10/3, 10/17, 10/24, 11/7, 11/14, 11/21, 11/28, 12/5, 12/12, 12/19, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Volunteer students from the high school will be available to assist elementary school children with their homework.

Sleepy Time Tales-Tues., 10/4, 10/11, 10/18, 10/25, 11/1, 11/15, 11/22, 11/29, 12/6, 12/20, 12/27, 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., 10/5, 10/12, 10/19, 10/26, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/23, 12/7, 12/14, 12/21, 12/28, 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.

Pre-school Story time-Wed., 10/15, 10/12, 10/26, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/30, 12/7, 12/14, 12/21, 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., 10/5, 10/12, 10/26, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/30, 12/7, 12/14, 12/21, 3:45-4:30 p.m. for pre-

registered children in kindergarten and 1st grade.

Book Talk with Steve Frimmer-Wed., 10/5, 7: 00 p.m. RP resident Steve Frimmer will discuss his recent book on John Lloyd Stephens, "The Man Who Found the Maya" Mr. Frimmer will happily sign copies of the book.

Baby & Me-Thurs., 10/6, 10/13, 10/27, 11/3, 11/10, 11/17, 12/1, 12/8, 12/15, 12/22, 12/29, 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.

Movies for the over 18 crowd-Thurs., 10/6, 10/27, 11/3, 11/17, 12/1, 12/15, 2:00 p.m. Movies being shown will be announced at (click on library) and on Facebook. Popcorn will be served.

TGIF Jr.-Fri., 10/7, 11/18, 12/2, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Book club for pre-registered children in grades 2-3. Games and snacks are on us. "Dear America: Voyage on the Great Titanic" by White will be discussed in October. In November children may choose from the library's books on Egypt, the pyramids, or King Tut. "Owly 1 " by Runton will be discussed in December.

Children's Movies-Sat., 10/8, 11/19, Tues., 12/27, Wed., 12/28, 12 noon. Children 7 and under must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver. Bring a snack.

Friends of the Library, Monthly meeting-Tues., 10/11, 7:00 p.m. New members are always welcomed; refreshments will be served. November and December dates will be announced.

Wii Tuesdays-Tues., 10/11, 10/25, 11/15, 11/29, 12/13, 12/27, 3:30-5:00 p.m. Teens in grades 7-12 are welcome to join us for snacks and games on the Wii.

Book Buddies-Fri., 10/14, 11/4, 12/9, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Book club for pre-registered children in grade 4. Games and snacks are on us. In October "Frankly Frannie" by Stem will be discussed; In November children may choose a book on art or poetry from the library's collection; in December "Ghost Detectives: It Creeps" by Enderle will be discussed.

Teen Book Club-Mon., 10/17, 11/21, 12/19, 7:00-8:00 p.m. Teens in grades 7-12 will discuss "The Juvie Three" by Korman in October; "The Face on the Milk Carton" by Cooney in November; and "Among the Hidden" by Maddix in December. Snacks and drinks are on us. Pick up your copy of the book at the front desk.

Library Trustees, Monthly Meeting-Wed., 10/26, 11/16, 8:00 p.m. Members of

the public are welcome to attend.

Tween Time-Fri., 10/21, 11/4, 12/16, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Book club for pre-registered children in grades 5-6. Games and snacks are on us. In October "The Wish List" by Colfer will be discussed. In November children will choose a book on art or poetry from the library's collection. In December "Island of the Blue Dolphins" by O'Dell will be discussed

Adult Book Club-Mon., 10/24, 7:30 p.m., OR **Fri., 10/28,** 10:00 a.m. King's "The Shining" will be discussed. This is a great activity for those who love to read and talk about books and a terrific way to meet new people. Stop by the library for your copy of the book to be discussed

Winter Story time Registration-12/27-1/7, Register your child, (ages 2-1st grade) for the winter session in the children's department. Story time is for village residents.

Special Programs

Karate for Teens-Wed., 10/12, 7-8 p.m. Teens in grades 7-12 are welcome to attend an introductory karate lesson taught by Sensei Dennis Melone from Rising Sun Academy, Registration is required; come in and learn something new!

Pumpkin Palooza-Thurs., 10/27, 4:00-5:00 p.m. Celebrate the season! Bobbing for donuts! You bring the pumpkin or gourd of your choice and we will supply the decorating materials and some treats. No tricks but registration is required.

Teen Board Game Night-Mon., 11/7, 6:30-8:00 p.m. Put down those controllers and try your hand at some old fashion board games! Monopoly, Scrabble, Connect Four and a variety of others games will be available. Snacks and drinks are on us. Program is for young adults in grades 7-12. Registration is required.

Arrival of the Wreaths-Thurs., 11/17. Wreath-makers for the Festival of Wreaths will deliver this year's completed wreaths to be hung in the library. The reference room will be closed beginning at 6:00 p.m. to accommodate a reception for the wreath-makers.

Friends of the Library Book and Bake Sale-Thurs., Fri., Sat., 10/20, 10/21, 10/22 during library hours. Gently used books, dvds, audio books, VHS as well as an array of home baked goodies will be on sale to benefit the work of the Friends. Donations of materials for sale will be accepted at the library during business hours beginning on Mon., 10/16.

Christmas Traditions: A Lighthearted

History of Christmas-Tues., 11/29, 7:00 p.m. Glenn LeBoeuf of Let History Live will shed light on many Christmas traditions such as where egg nog, the North Pole, Rudolph, elves, and even Santa get their start. Kick off the holiday season with some fun and useful information. Refreshments will be served; register at the desk.

Internet Sites for Job Searchers-Wed., 11/30, 10-11 a.m. Internet sites that might help in your job search will be introduced and discussed. Registration is required and space is limited; call or sign up at the front desk.

Make Two, Take One, -Tues., 12/6, 3:30-5:00 p.m. Teens in grades 7-12 are invited to paint two glass balls: one to decorate the library, the other to take home. Registration is required; come in and show us your creative side!

3rd Annual Festival of the Wreaths-Fri., 12/9, 7:00 p.m. One of a kind hand-crafted holiday wreaths will be on display and will find new homes by the end of the evening. The festival will include a shared holiday dessert table, live entertainment, and a visitor from the north. Participants are asked to bring a favorite holiday finger food dessert for sharing.

Holiday Dessert Social-Tues., 12/13, 7:00-8:00 p.m. Villagers are invited to join us for our 9th annual celebration of the holiday season. Each family is asked to bring a favorite holiday treat for sharing. Don't miss this chance to hear a special reading of "Twas the Night before Christmas", visit with our special friend from the north, and learn to play the dreidel game. Registration is required.

Welcome to Winter-Sat., 12/17, 11:00 a.m.-12 noon. Come to the library and make a craft to celebrate the start of the winter season. This is a drop-in event, no registration required.

Library Closings

The library will be closed on Mon., 10/10 for Columbus Day, Tues., 11/8 for Election Day, Thurs., 11/11 for Veteran's Day, Thurs., Fri., Sat., 11/24, 11/25, 11/26 for Thanksgiving, Sat., Sun., Mon., 12/24, 12/25, 12/26 for Christmas and Sat., 12/31 for New Years.



BOARD OF RECREATION

Just a reminder to everyone, 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.

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 e-mail at 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.

Upcoming Board of Recreation events are as follows:

Rag-A-Muffin Parade - The Board of Recreation will be sponsoring its annual Rag-A-Muffin Parade on Saturday, October 29, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. All participants should meet at the corner of Euclid Avenue and Hobart Street, no later than 10:30 a.m., with their registration form. As in the past, prizes will be awarded in all divisions and each child will receive a "goody bag". The rain date will be Sunday, October 30, 2010 at 2:00 p.m.

Wrestling - The Wrestling program for Ridgefield Park Junior Scarlets is for residents/students of Ridgefield Park, Little Ferry and Bogota. It is for ages 5-14 or grades K-8. Registration will take place at the Ridgefield Park Jr/Sr High School Auxiliary Gym on October 12th and November 9th from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Wrestlers must register with a parent or legal guardian present- New registrants

must provide a copy of their birth certificate for legal purposes. 7th & 8th grade students who attend RPJSHS may register at school with Joseph Taibi, Athletic Director, as their registration fee is waived because they are covered by school insurance. These 7th & 8th grade students must still submit a registration form and the appropriate physical documents to Mr. Taibi. If for any reason you cannot attend, you may register at the first practice, which will be November 28th at 6:30. If you cannot make the two registration dates please call Coach Encarnacion @ 201-832-9417 to make other arrangements. It is a non-refundable \$40.00 registration fee.

Basketball - Registration forms are available at the Clerk's Office, the Public Library or on the internet at www.ridgefieldpark.org. This program is open to both boys and girls who are residents of Ridgefield Park or attend school in Ridgefield Park grades 2-8. The season will run approximately from November 2011 through March 2012. Registration will take place at Roosevelt School on Friday, September 23, 2011 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. and Saturday, September 24 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Registration fees are \$40.00 for the first child and \$30.00 for each additional child. A \$5.00 late fee will be added to any registration received **AFTER** September 24, 2010. Checks should be made payable to: **RP BOARD OF RECREATION**. Late registrations should be mailed to: RP Board of Recreation, 234 Main Street, Ridgefield Park. All registration forms must be submitted by 10/21 to guarantee a spot on a team. Any registration submitted at the evaluations will be put on a waiting list only. **Fee at evaluation night is \$55 — no sibling discount — no exceptions.**

The evaluations will be at Lincoln School as follows: Nov. 1 3/4 & 5/6 Boys at 6:30 p.m. Nov. 2 at 6:00 p.m. - All girls Nov. 2 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. 7/8 Boys. Anyone interested in coaching or helping the basketball program should leave a message with the Board of Recreation at 641-4950 ext. 610. Also, anyone in at least seventh grade who is interested in training to be either a timer or scorekeeper for the basketball season should leave their name and phone number on the Board of Recreation voice mail at (201) 641-4950 ext. 610.

Adult Crafts - Be on the lookout for information on an adult crafts class that was

SHOP/DINE AT LOCAL ESTABLISHMENTS

recently started. Info will be posted on the internet and in the Patriot. Also be sure to check the internet, library or Clerk's Office for registration forms. Classes will be scheduled for September/October as well as a special one-night holiday workshop in December.

Adult Trips/Activities - Watch the Community Message Board and the Patriot 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.

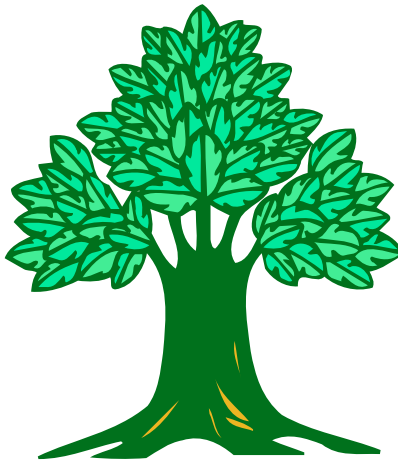
Tree Lighting - The Board of Recreation Annual Tree Lighting will take place on Sunday, December 4, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building.

Holiday Wish Tree - As in the past, the Holiday Wish Tree will be located at the TD Bank located 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 all Village homes and businesses will be judged and prizes awarded. Additional details regarding all three holiday events will be listed in the winter newsletter, to be published in December.

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 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.



SHADE -TREE NEWS

Shade Trees Enhance Village

Trees benefit the Village of Ridgefield Park in many ways. The most obvious is creating a beautiful, pleasant atmosphere by improving individual properties and by creating tree lined streets.

Besides their beauty, trees have practical purposes. First of all, trees cool their surroundings. Findings published in the Journal of Arboriculture show that "neighborhoods with well-shaded streets can be up to 10 degrees cooler than neighborhoods without trees." Secondly, trees improve air quality by removing carbon dioxide from the air. In addition, trees screen unsightly views and buffer noise: reducing noise is an important consideration for the Village which is surrounded by Routes 46, 80, and 95; the railroad; and arriving and departing airplanes from Teterboro and Newark airports.

Tree Care

Help protect and care for the trees.

- Fill the gator bags around the trees. If you are unable to do this, contact the STC.
- Give young trees as well as mature trees in summer and early fall a deep soaking once a week during hot, dry periods.
- Do not use lawn movers, weed whackers or weed killers near trees.
- Protect the trunk and bark by mulching around the trees, but ONLY a 2 to 3 inch layer of mulch.
- Report trees that need care or inspection to the STC.

Mulch Available

Village residents can get mulch at no cost; just bring a container. The Business Stimulus Fund Grant has enabled the Village to purchase a 30-yard container to store mulch made after pruning town trees or processing felled trees. The container is

usually parked at the DPW facility on Industrial Avenue along the driveway) across the north drive, across from the fuel pumps.

Do not pile mulch against the tree trunk. Place a 2-3 inch layer of mulch back several inches from the trunk so the base of the trunk and root crown are exposed. The mulch ring should resemble a doughnut not a volcano. Too mulch close to the trunk sets the stage for insect and disease problems, root rot and excessive soil moisture.

Sidewalks

The STC is continuing the Sidewalk Safety Program to correct sidewalk damages related to Village shade tree roots. There is a waiting list but anyone wanting to apply can obtain SWS forms at the Municipal Building.

Remember, A Building Permit is REQUIRED for ANY sidewalk work.

Spring Planting List

To enhance your property and gain the cooling benefits, air improvement and sound reduction from shade trees, request a tree for spring 2012. The spring planning sites are being selected now so contact the STC to place your property on the list.

STC Contact Information

Contact the STC at 201-641-4950, ext. 13 6 and be sure to leave your phone number, name and address. STC meetings are at 7:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Mondays in the third floor conference room of the Village Town Hall.

NEWS FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

New Members Needed

Residents of the Village, who have a passion for the environment, should consider joining the Ridgefield Park Environmental Commission. The Commission is working on several exciting projects and events for 2012.

Residents are welcome to attend monthly meeting on the third floor of the Municipal building every fourth Thursday at 8:00 p.m. Join us at an upcoming meeting and see how you can make a difference.

Schedule of Upcoming Meetings

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Thursday October 27, 2011

Thursday, November 17, 2011

Taking it to the Street

Can't make a meeting? Want to volunteer? Have Questions? Catch members of the Environmental Commission at the Village's upcoming Street Fair on Main Street Saturday, October 29th. We'll be distributing information and answering your questions at our table. Drop by and say hello.

What to do with Certain Batteries?

Did you know that certain non rechargeable alkaline batteries (AA, AAA, C, D and 9 Volt batteries) have not been accepted for recycling since January 1, 2010? Alkaline batteries no longer are classified as hazardous waste. In 1996, the federal government barred the use of mercury in alkaline batteries. Alkaline and heavy duty carbon and zinc batteries should be thrown out in the regular garbage.

Button Cell Batteries found in cameras, calculators, hearing aids and watches, etc. contain mercury and may be recycled at multiple locations of the Bergen County Utilities Authority (BCUA). The BCUA has set up a Hazardous Waste Hotline at 201-807-5825 to answer your questions. They also have a website at www.bcua.org to provide you with additional information.

And finally, rechargeable batteries found in cordless power tools, cellular and cordless phones, laptop computers, digital cameras, two-way radios, camcorders and remote control toys contain hazardous materials and may be recycled.

Many retailers in our area collect rechargeable batteries and recycle them. To find a retailer in our area, just visit www.rbrc.org.

VOL. FIRE DEPARTMENT

As of August 17, 2011, the Ridgefield Park Vol. Fire Department responded to 260 calls for service. The Fire Departments highlight for this issue of the news letter was the response to a fully involved car carrier fire on Rt 95. Firefighters battled to contain six out of the nine cars on the truck which were fully involved in fire. While our 4 engine companies shuttled water to the scene, the FD also needed the help from our neighbors of the Ridgefield Fire Dept. with their Tanker 5", which carries 2000 gallons of water. Little Ferry and Bogota Fire Departments each sent us an engine to cover the Village during the fire. The Fire Department was also very busy assisting our neighbors in Little Ferry, who had a car

dealership fully involved in fire, the City of Hackensack, during a high rise fire and the Township of Teaneck with a working house fire.

The Fire Department is also proud to announce that Firefighter Christopher Hartless of Truck Company #1 and Firefighter Steve Fernandez of Engine Company #1 recently passed their evaluations on completing their 150 hours of Firefighter One basic training. Congratulations!!

Michele Lynn of Truck Company #2 was recently recognized in the bulletin of the Bergen County Juvenile Fire Prevention Program as the "Educator of the Month" (See the Educator Spotlight insert). Michele has been involved in this program for many years and this recognition is well deserved.

Congratulations to Hose Company #3, Captain Radburn and all of his members, who took the First Place Trophy during the Fourth of July annual inspection. All of the Villages six Fire Companies looked great the day of the fourth of July. The hard work of the men and woman of the Fire Department showed as the trucks and equipment looked clean and neat.

The Fire Department recently obtained a World Trade Center Artifact from the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. The 206 Lbs. of Steel will be used as a memorial to remember our brother firefighter and FBI agent Lenny Hatton and those who died on September 11, 2001. The Fire Department displayed this artifact at the 9-11 Peace Bell ceremony on September 11th in Veterans Park.



EDUCATOR SPOTLIGHT

Recognizing those educators who are actively involved in providing fire safety education to the youth of the program!

This Quarter We Recognize...

Michele Lynn

At sixteen, Michele joined the Ridgefield Park Fire Department as a junior member. Michele was the first female fire-

fighter in the history of Ridgefield Park. Michele is also a Charter Member of the Fire Service Women of N.J. In addition, Michele has been active with the BCJFPP since its inception. Michele noted that around 1986 when the BCJFPP program was formed she met with other Fire Officials in the area. After speaking with several Fire Officials, Michele recalled that there had been a notable increase in suspicious nuisance fires in the area. At the request of these Fire Officials, Michele became a Fire Safety Educator and has been one for the past twenty five years. Michele was motivated to become involved in the program because she has a strong desire to help others. Michele takes pride in knowing she has made a difference in the life of children. Michele stated, "I have had the opportunity to meet many compassionate people in our community who gave their personal time to help juveniles. These friendships will last a lifetime and I'm very proud to work with and be associated with everyone involved in the program." Michele further stated, "Without the sincere commitment of Joe Masciandro, Care Plus President and CEO, our program could very well be nonexistent." Michele Lynn has been very instrumental in the success of the Bergen County Juvenile Fire Prevention Program through her volunteer work as former President of the BCJFPP Advisory Board. Currently, Michele serves as an Advisory Board Member, Educator, Chairperson of the Education Curriculum and the By-Laws Committees.

Since 2001-present, Michele has been employed as a Special Education Teacher in the Village of Ridgefield Park specializing in Autism. Prior to teaching, Michele was an Import/Export Clerk for P&O Containers.

In addition to dedicating her time to the Bergen County Juvenile Fire Prevention Program as a volunteer, Michele has also volunteered her time as Girl Scout Leader, Cub Scout Leader, and Coach for Soccer, Baseball and Basketball for her children's teams. As is evident, Michele is extremely dedicated to both her community and her family. Michele has two children, Carly and Billy, and she was actively involved in their school and extra curriculum activities while they were growing up. Currently, her son Billy is a volunteer firefighter and Carly just completed her first year of college. The Bergen County Juvenile Fire Prevention Program would like to honor Michele for her invaluable contribution to the program and twenty five years of dedicated service.

FALL FESTIVAL

It's that time of year for planning of our Fall Festival Bonanza for October 29, 2011. Last year was a true success and we hope this year will be even better.

We welcome citizens of Ridgefield Park to participate in our exciting event by displaying their wares. The commissioners have agreed to participate in the pie eating contest again which brought laughter and joy to those who watched. Participation from our business owners along with Ridgefield Park residents will make this a success. The school choirs will entertain us along with several bands from Ridgefield Park. Special needs children will have a contest which will be supervised by teachers and we are asking parents of their children to assist as needed. The fall festival will have a variety of foods, games for kids, crafts, etc. All of this will fill our streets for an exciting day. Forms have been given to all business' and we ask that they get returned to us as soon as possible so we may get our street map in motion. Put the date on your calendar and ask your family and friends to join us on this great day.

RPOEM NOW ON FACEBOOK

The Ridgefield Park Office of Emergency Management now has a Facebook page, where alerts of all kinds (storms, flooding, hazmat spills, terrorism etc.) are listed for residents to view. News Releases of the Village Emergency Services are also posted, if they are of interest to the community or surrounding area. Anyone with a Facebook account may request to "join" the page. Viewing our Facebook page does not give us access to your site or information.

SPECIAL NEEDS LIST

Elsewhere in this newsletter, you will find an application for the Village Office of Emergency Management, "special needs list".

If you will require any special assistance, during an emergency of any kind, you should complete this application and forward it to the Office of Emergency Management.

"This information is kept strictly confidential and will only be used by the Village Emergency Responders during emergency situations" stated Coordinator Douglas Hansen. It is only available from the Police computer and Emergency Management office and only by authorized persons.

This program has been in effect for several years, so you do not have to sign up again, if you have already done so. If you are not sure if you are registered, call 201-440-2570 and we will assist you.

