



Joseph K. Hemphill

Mayor's Message

All of us at Borough Hall are looking forward to a full and productive 2019. Piping Rock Park renovation is nearly complete and we expect that our Recreation programs will take full advantage of the new full-size regulation playing field. It is our hope that residents will attend the Baseball Parade tentatively scheduled for early May and see first-hand our updated park!

This newsletter presents highlights from our January 1, 2019 Re-Organization meeting. I invite all residents to attend Borough Council meetings and get to know your Council members. The meeting schedule can be found on the new Borough website on the Calendar page.

Borough of Rumson Re-Organization Meeting January 1, 2019

At noon on January 1, 2019 the Mayor and Borough Council held their annual Re-organization meeting at Bingham Hall. After the motion to accept and file the Certificate of Election and a roll call, Joseph K. Hemphill was sworn in as Mayor by Martin Barger, Borough Attorney. Mayor Hemphill then administered the Oath of Office to Councilman Conklin, Councilman Rubin and Councilman Kingsbery.



Joe Hemphill sworn in as Mayor by Martin Barger.

Mayor Hemphill administered the Oath of Office to EMS Captain Mary Nichols. He thanked Mary for her service to the Borough in 2018 and for continuing her role as EMS Captain in 2019. Captain Nichols then introduced her 2019 EMS Line Officers.

The Mayor thanked Fire Chief Nick Luiten as Fire Chief in 2018 and expressed the Borough's appreciation of his service after which James Anderson was sworn in as 2019 Fire Chief and presented with his badge. Chief Anderson introduced the 2019 Rumson Fire Company Line Officers. Assistant to the Fire Chief Robert Boyer was administered the Oath of Office and was presented with his badge.

Mayor Hemphill announced the Promotion of Department of Public Works Foreman for Ronald J. Sickler.

Dr. Arthur Ashkin and his wife Aline were invited by the Mayor and Council to attend the meeting to be officially honored and recognized by the Borough of Rumson. Dr. Ashkin, a long-

time Rumson resident, had recently been awarded Sweden's Royal Academy of Sciences 2018 Nobel Prize in Physics. He received the award for his ground-breaking work in the field of laser physics. Dr. Ashkin also has the distinction of being the oldest person ever named a Nobel Laureate.

Born in 1922 in Brooklyn, New York, Dr. Ashkin earned an undergraduate degree in physics from Columbia University in 1947 and a Ph.D. in nuclear physics from Cornell University in 1952. While at Cornell, Dr. Ashkin met his



The Mayor presents an inscribed vase to Dr. Arthur Ashkin.

than sixty years and have three children and five grandchildren. He joined Bell Labs and started his work on the manipulation of micro particles with laser light in the late 1960s, and he and his family settled here in Rumson where they still reside today.

Dr. Ashkin retired from Bell Labs in 1992 after a distinguished 40-year career. He has authored many research papers, holds 47 patents and has been the recipient of numerous awards. He was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 1984 and to the National Academy of Sciences in 1996.

On behalf of all Rumson residents, the Mayor presented an inscribed vase to Dr. Ashkin in recognition of his many spectacular achievements.

Mayor's Address – January 1, 2019

The following is a report of the Borough events and activities of 2018

The Borough Council

The Borough Council members have met the year's challenges with diplomacy and with the dignity that would be expected from such an experienced Council. I applaud each of you for the contributions you have made on behalf of all the residents of Rumson.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to every Borough employee, committee member and professional for their support and assistance throughout the past year.

This year saw John Ekdahl resign his position as Mayor of Rumson after over 43 years of dedicated volunteer service to our community. I am now looking forward to picking up where John left off and serving as your Mayor for years to come.



Councilman Rubin

We welcomed Clay Kingsbery to the Council in 2018. Clay will use his extensive financial background to work with fellow Councilmen on the Borough's Finance Committee and Emergency Services Committee. Councilman John Conklin and Councilman Mark Rubin were elected in November to a three-year Council term.

On behalf of the Council members and myself, it is our honor and privilege to serve our community as your volunteer elected representatives and we appreciate your support.



Councilman Conklin



Councilman Kingsbery

Infrastructure Improvements

The Borough has benefited from recent utility infrastructure upgrades by New Jersey Natural Gas, New Jersey American Water, JCPL, Verizon and Monmouth County Engineering. These upgrades have provided improved service reliability, increased hazard resiliency, and have resulted in the resurfacing, either in part or full, of over 30 Borough streets. An additional 18 streets are scheduled for updating in 2019.

The Borough coordinates the roadwork with the utility companies when they upgrade their distribution facilities. In some cases, the utilities are required to resurface the roadways when that work is completed. Proactive planning and coordination of the utilities' repaving projects has saved our taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The Borough is in the process of completing the much-needed Piping Rock Improvement Project with funding assistance from the Monmouth County Parks Department's Green Acres Improvement Project. The project includes a full-sized baseball and multi-sport soccer playing field, a new playground, and ADA accessible walkways. Photos and a description of the project's progress are available online at: <http://www.rumsonnj.gov/pipingrock/>

For 2019, The Borough will continue with infrastructure improvement projects including street resurfacing, curb and sidewalk installation and sanitary sewer lining upgrades planned.

The Borough will also continue to seek grant funding to offset projects costs. In fiscal year 2017 the Borough received \$185,000 from the NJ Department of Transportation for the resurfacing of the portion of Hartshorne Lane that was not paved by New Jersey Natural Gas.

The Borough also received a 2018 grant award of over \$534,000 to continue the curbing and sidewalk repair on East River Road from Black Point Road to Bingham Avenue. This work is scheduled to begin in late 2019.

We have submitted a grant application for a third phase of the project to extend the River Road curb and sidewalk improvements from Bingham Avenue to Third Street.

The full 2018 Year End Engineering Report is available on the Engineering page of the new Borough website.

Major Community Events

Rumson is a small, close-knit town with a big heart and a lot of spirit. As such, there are numerous community events throughout the year that bring our residents together for fun and, often, to benefit a good cause. Some are sponsored by the Borough and others by independent entities, but all add to the feeling of community and togetherness long enjoyed by our residents.

This year we saw a great turnout for the Sixth Annual Rumson Saint Patrick's Day Parade, the Annual Baseball Parade, the Memorial Day Parade and the Halloween Parade.

In addition, our community supported the Kelleher Triathlon and the Rumson Boat Race.

The year ended with our traditional Veteran's Day ceremony, and the annual Christmas Tree lighting ceremonies in Victory Park.

Monmouth University

On September 26, 2017, we formally announced what we hope will be a long partnership between the Borough of Rumson and Monmouth University.

For years, the University has used our Municipal Boat Ramp as a launching point for their research in the Navesink River and in surrounding waterways. The University, specifically the School of Science, has grown

significantly in recent years.

In 2017, the Borough and the University announced plans to construct the Monmouth Marine and Environmental Field Station. The ribbon cutting event was attended by many Borough and University Officials.

The station will be located above the existing Sewer Pump Station, adjacent to the Municipal Boat Ramp and the Recycling Facility.

An architectural firm has been hired by the University using local donations to begin designing the new building. The facility will provide unique opportunities for scientific research and educational collaboration between the professionals and students of the University and our local Borough schools.

The facility will provide convenient access to the Navesink River, Shrewsbury River, Sandy Hook Bay, and Atlantic Ocean for the University's research vessels, one of which you may have seen stored next to the sewer pump station.

The University has already begun working with our teachers in Forrestdale School on the science research they are conducting in our waterways and on local islands. Monmouth University juniors and seniors presented lessons to six science classes at the Forrestdale School in November. Topics included discussions on the impacts of plastics in marine environments, bioluminescence, biofluorescence, and marine food chains

Rumson EMS

The Rumson First Aid Squad has dozens of volunteer members, many of whom have completed the rigorous, 250-hour Emergency Medical Technician course.

In addition to answering calls in Rumson, these volunteers also frequently respond to emergency calls in neighboring communities.



Mary Nichols

The residents of Rumson should take pride and comfort in knowing that their First Aid Squad is ready, 24-hours per day, to respond to every type of medical emergency.

Rumson Fire Department

The Rumson Fire Department responds to fire calls in the Borough and in surrounding towns. It is staffed solely by trained volunteer members.



James Anderson

the Department was ably led in 2018, by Fire Chief Nick Luiten and Assistant Fire Chief James Anderson. We thank them and all of the volunteer officers and all the Volunteer Fire Department members who

continue to support and protect our Borough.

Volunteers are always needed and Borough residents are encouraged to apply and learn about how they can assist with the Borough's First Aid and Fire Protection squads. Applications for both departments can be obtained at Borough Hall.



Robert Boyer

Department of Public Works

The Department of Public Works Toy Drive in early December was a great success. The Toy Drive brought in 900 toys, which were distributed to Family and Children's Services and the Salvation Army in Red Bank and will benefit local children in need. Thanks to everyone for your generous gifts, and to our Public Works employees who donated their time to help.

The DPW held two Green Day events again this year, in May and in October. These Green Day events offer residents free document shredding - a chance to get rid of old documents and confidential papers without risking identity theft; free book recycling for old text and story books; and electronics recycling for computers, keyboards, monitors, printers, as well as televisions and radios. The 2018 program collected 6.29 tons of material for shredding, 4.30 tons of electronics and 1.5 tons of books.

And of course, we are all very grateful to the DPW for the outstanding job they do every day throughout the year.

Parks & Recreation

Rumson Recreation offers over 20 programs annually enjoyed by more than 4500 residents of all ages. Activities include a variety of recreational youth sports and non-sports programming, summer camps, as well as featured family events and holiday parades. 2018 brought on a new user-friendly registration and sports management system. The new system streamlines the registration process and helps us manage the participants and teams in a much more efficient manner.

Rumson Recreation utilizes over 300 volunteer coaches each year and provides volunteer opportunities for local teens and seniors. The Council and I would like to thank all our Rec volunteers for their time and devotion to the benefit of our children and our community, and we would also like to thank our parents and participants for their support.

Maintaining the highest quality parks and recreational spaces is a high priority for the Borough. As such, grass playing fields are periodically closed for rest and maintenance and DPW is regularly checking our facilities to ensure maximum safety.

As part of our on-going park maintenance, the Borough installed new energy efficient lighting at

the Victory Park Basketball and Tennis Courts. The dock for the recreation and high school rowing programs was replaced and new boats were purchased. Plans are also in the works to replace the playground in Meadow Ridge Park in 2019.

Borough Staff & Commission Volunteers

We appreciate our Borough’s municipal staff, which continues to provide the best and most courteous service to our residents. Borough employees provide the high level of services our residents expect, as they work within the budget and regulatory constraints set forth by the State of New Jersey.

Our Police Department and our volunteer Fire Department and First Aid Squad are to be commended for their unconditional commitment to the safety and welfare of our residents, addressing every emergency with courtesy and respect. We appreciate your service, thank you.

Finally, I would like to extend a special thank you to the Chairs and members of all the various boards in Rumson. Each one of you volunteers a considerable amount of time attending meetings and reviewing issues important to this community. Your personal commitment is Rumson’s most valuable asset and is greatly appreciated. Your spirit of service is exemplary.

This past year, the Historic Preservation Commission presented their 2018 awards

to Kristen and John Hall for Restoration/ Rehabilitation and to Roberta H. Van Anda for Preservation Champion.

Shade Tree Commission Chairman Stephen Barrett accepted an award from The NJ Department of Environmental Protection on behalf of the Shade Tree Commission in recognition of its exemplary work in urban and community forestry. Special congratulations to our Shade Tree Commission.

Any resident interested in volunteering to help our wonderful community should reach out at any time. We welcome your involvement.

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,
Joseph K. Hemphill
Mayor

2019 Historic Preservation Commission Awards

Nominations for the 2019 Awards are due March 31, 2019. Instructions and downloadable nomination forms are available at:

<http://www.rumsonnj.gov/rhpc/awards.html>

The Recycling Center closing time has been changed to Dusk throughout the entire year:
Recycling Center Drop-Off Hours
7 AM - Dusk Monday through Friday
9 AM - 3 PM Weekends
Closed Major Holidays

Reminders:
From December 1st through March 31st, vehicles may not be parked on Borough streets between the hours of 3:00am to 5:00am. Violators will be ticketed.

The Rumson Police Department reminds all residents to lock their vehicles and to not leave valuables inside their cars.

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POSTAL CUSTOMER LOCAL

RUMSON BOROUGH BULLETIN

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