



Joseph K. Hemphill

Mayor's Message

Now that the cold weather is behind us, the Borough will commence with additional planned paving projects. Our engineering team is planning updates to our sewer infrastructure now that major sewer line work has been completed on Conover Lane. 2019 will see new sidewalks along the remainder of East River Road. We anticipate the opening of Piping Rock Park later this spring, and we will notify residents in advance of the opening celebration.

Looking forward to seeing everyone on May 27th at the Memorial Day parade and the annual ceremony in Victory Park.

Historic Preservation Commission

The Historic Preservation Commission is pleased to announce a new program that is being launched. In addition to our Awards Program, the Commission is implementing a Plaque Program that is available to all residents whose property is listed in the inventory on the HPC website. Properties listed in the inventory are over one hundred years old. Letters will be sent to eligible homeowners with a form to complete if they wish to purchase a



plaque for their property. Residents can visit the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) website at www.rumsonnj.gov/rhpc to confirm if their property is included in the inventory.

Memorial Day Parade

This year a small resident committee is being spearheaded by Sarah Pomphrey to bring awareness and inspire increased patriotism for this important Memorial Day tradition. In tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice and their families, this committee is encouraging residents, organizations, and businesses to take time to honor them on this solemn day. The committee's goal is to reach out to local groups to march in the parade and to do so with pride and enthusiasm and to enlist residents along the parade route to place flags along River Road. It is the hope of the committee that people will follow the parade to participate in the ceremony at Victory Park.

Anyone wishing to volunteer is welcome and should contact the Borough at 732-842-3300 or email Sarah at Sarah.Pomphrey@cbmoves.com.

Shade Tree Commission News

The Shade Tree Commission welcomes its newest member, William Beattie. Bill is a longtime

resident and community volunteer. We look forward to having his unique perspective on the Commission. In addition to Bill Beattie the other resident members of the Shade Tree Commission are Stephen Barrett, Kristen Hall, Thomas "Burke" Honnold and Wayne Greenleaf. Our website www.rumsonnj.gov/stc contains valuable information and resources that are available for residents.

Borough awarded Tree Grant

In 2018 the Shade Tree Commission was successful in receiving a Resiliency Planning Grant from New Jersey Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry. The purpose of the grant is to utilize best management practices and fund an inventory of public trees in the Oceanic and West Park sections of the Borough. The inventory will be conducted by a forestry consultant and will locate, identify and assess trees in the public right of way and parks. This information will be used to manage the Borough's public trees in a safe, healthy and aesthetic manner. A comprehensive forestry program provides environmental, social and economic benefits for our residents. This would be the first time the Borough has conducted an inventory and it is expected to be completed in 2019.

Mature Tree Care

Rumson is blessed with having many significant and mature trees, many residents are fortunate to have one or more on their property. Many people believe only recently planted trees need care, but as trees grow and age, they require periodic maintenance to ensure a long, healthy and safe lifespan.

Think of tree care as an investment. A healthy tree increases in value with age and pays big dividends by increasing property values, beautifying our surroundings, purifying our air, and saving energy by providing cooling shade from summer's heat and protection from winter's wind.

Regular preventative maintenance, designed to promote tree health and structural integrity, ensures a tree's value will continue to grow and prevents the development of more costly problems in the future. An effective maintenance program, including regular inspections and necessary follow-up care — pruning, mulching, fertilizing, and additional soil management — can identify problems and correct them before they become damaging or fatal.

With proper maintenance, trees can add aesthetic and economic value to your property. Poorly maintained trees, on the other hand, can be a significant liability.

Environmental Commission News

Our mission is to work with the community to protect our unique natural resources. We educate our residents on what we can do to maintain and protect our land, water and air, facilitate the adoption of behaviors that will meet those ends, and motivate residents and local businesses to join in the effort.

Throughout the year we host a number of activities and events in the community to raise awareness of environmental issues: winter Movie Nights; “Clean Up Your Parks Day” each spring; and “Rally for the River Eco-Fest” each summer. For additional information on these programs and on recycling in our town visit www.rumsonnj.gov/env

Bottle Filling Stations

In order to reduce the use of disposable plastic water bottles, the Environmental Commission has worked with the schools to install bottle filling stations to facilitate the transition away from plastic water bottles. Plans include a bottle filling station in at least one of the Borough’s parks in the coming months.

Forrestdale Environmental Club

Commissioner Jennifer Crow started the Forrestdale Environmental Club to offer students the opportunity to learn how to protect our local ecosystem and to take on leadership roles in our community. These young ambassadors have gone on field trips to learn about recycling. They have given classroom presentations at Deane-Porter and Forrestdale, hosted movie nights for younger children, created educational games for the Rally for the River Eco-Fest, and helped run the Clean-up Your Parks Day event.

Movie Nights for the Waterways

More than 50 children attended the second annual movie night at Surf BBQ in January. The Environmental Club kicked off the event with a presentation of what environmental themes to look for in the film. Forrestdale science teacher Jennifer Crow played an educational game of *Kahoot* after the film.

In February at Surf BBQ, we screened the award-winning film *The Oyster Farmers*, which illustrates life on the Barnegat Bay for oyster farmers bringing these delicious and environmentally



beneficial bivalves back to New Jersey waters. *Forty North Oyster Farms*, featured in the film, provided a raw bar, and shucked fresh oysters for the 60 guests. Attendees enjoyed a casual and delicious dinner. Afterward American Littoral Society and Forty North Oysters hosted a Q&A filled with lively and thoughtful questions.

Rally for the River Eco-Fest

With the support of the Marta Heflin Foundation, the Environmental Commission and Clean Ocean Action held the first Rally for the Rivers Eco-Fest in Victory Park. Over 300 people came out to learn about the two rivers, our unique natural resource, and how we can protect them for generations to come. The Forrestdale Middle School Environmental Club, the Rumson Department of Public Works, the RFH Regional High School Crew Club, RFH Project Terrapin and other local groups hosted over 20 tables with educational and fun activities for children and adults.

COMMUNITY EVENTS - SAVE THE DATES!

- May 4th – Baseball/Softball Parade
Riverside Park: 9:00 AM
- May 4th – Green Day
DPW: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- May 27th – Memorial Day Parade
Forrestdale School at 10 AM
Ceremony at Victory Park 11 AM
- June 8th – *Rally for the Rivers Eco-Fest*
Victory Park 9 AM – 12:30 PM.



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