

# CHATHAM TOWNSHIP NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE CHATHAM TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE



November/December 2014

Volume I, Number IV

[chathamtownship-nj.gov](http://chathamtownship-nj.gov)

## COMMITTEE NEWS

The **Chatham Township Committee** has had a busy calendar this fall. In addition to the establishment of a new Medication Drop Box at the Police Department, the Committee, under the leadership of Mayor Kevin Sullivan, Township Administrator Tom Ciccarone, Township Counsel Albert Cruz and Terrence Nolan of the Open Space Institute, secured 100% funding needed to acquire 165 acres of open space at **Giralda Farms**. As a result, this acquisition will have a significant local and regional benefit to our community and surrounding towns.

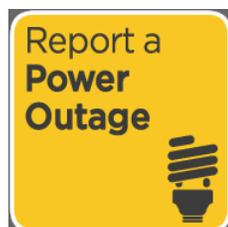
At the start of the New Year we will welcome the newest Committee members Mike Kelly and Karen Swartz. We also thank Committee members Bailey Brower and Kathy Abbott for their years of service.

On behalf of the Township Committee, we wish you and your families a safe and enjoyable holiday season and happy New Year. We hope to see you at a future Township meeting.

**Join Us:** The Chatham Township Committee typically meets the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM at the Township Municipal Building located at 58 Meyersville Road. Committee meetings are also broadcast live on Comcast channel 29 and FiOS channel 26. You can also view prior meetings online **here**.

## PREPARING FOR WINTER

As the winter months are soon upon us, we remind residents to prepare their homes for winter. Check your winter supplies of salt/sand and snow shovels. If you should lose power this winter, please contact JCP&L at this **website** or if it's a hazardous situation call 1-888-LIGHTSS (1-888-544-4877).



Do you have a generator? If so, to follow these safety tips and read more from the **American Red Cross**:

- Using a generator indoors CAN KILL YOU IN MINUTES. Exhaust contains carbon monoxide, a deadly poison gas you cannot see or smell.
- Never add fuel while unit is running or hot. Allow generator and engine to cool entirely before adding fuel.
- Never store a generator with fuel in the tank where gasoline vapors might reach an open flame, spark or pilot light.
- Do not connect your generator directly to your home's wiring or into a regular household outlet.
- Always start or stop the generator only when no electrical loads are connected.
- Keep children away from portable generators at all times.
- Allow at least five feet of clearance on all sides of the generator when operating.

## ALERT CHATHAM TOWNSHIP



As winter approaches, we remind you to register for **Alert Chatham Township Now! (ACT Now!)** the Township's Emergency & Community Alert System. Register and manage your existing profile **here**.

## SENIOR CENTER NEWS

Senior women are invited to the Reflections Friendship Group that meets Tuesdays at 2:00 PM in the Senior Center. Senior men are invited to the Current Events Group that meets on select Fridays at 11:00 AM.

The Senior Center asks residents to support the Senior Center if they use Amazon to shop this Holiday Season. When making purchases at **www.smile.amazon.com** you can designate Senior Services to receive .5% of the purchase price. For details on all Senior Center events and programs visit **here** or call 973-635-4565 or email **srcenterchatham@comcast.net**

*Note: Click on the **BOLD** text to view the related link.*

## BOARD OF HEALTH

A reminder to all residents that help is just a phone call away. No matter what problems you are dealing with, there are people who can help you find a reason to keep living. By calling 1-800-273-TALK (8255) you'll be connected to a skilled, trained counselor at a crisis center in your area, anytime 24/7. Learn more [here](#).



## LIBRARY OF THE CHATHAMS

The Library of the Chathams always has a great lineup of events. See their complete calendar of events [here](#) and register for "Book Ends" the monthly e-newsletter [here](#).



## DID YOU KNOW...

The Police Department recently installed a Medication Drop Box in the Police Department lobby. The drop box affords residents the opportunity to dispose of unused and unwanted prescription and over-the-counter medication, no questions and free to use.



Although the drop box is available 24/7 365 days a year, residents are encouraged to bring your medication Monday-Friday

10:00 AM - 6:00 PM when the lobby is unlocked. The Police Department is located at 401 Southern Boulevard. For more information, visit [www.ctpd.net](http://www.ctpd.net) or contact the police department at (973) 377-0100

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Chatham Township is served by two volunteer fire departments that serve more than 10,000 residents and respond to hundreds of emergency calls each year. If you have an interest in getting involved and supporting your community, consider becoming a volunteer firefighter. You can learn more by visiting the Green Village Fire Department [here](#) and the

Chatham Township Volunteer Fire Department [here](#).

## FIRE SAFETY

Remember to change the batteries and test your smoke alarms monthly and be sure to follow these potential life-saving tips:



- Interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the home. This way, when one sounds, they all do.
- Test alarms at least monthly by pushing the test button.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old or sooner if they don't respond properly.
- Make sure everyone in the home knows the sound of the smoke alarm and understands what to do when they hear it.

## PILGRIM PIPELINE

**Pilgrim Pipeline Holdings** has proposed installing a pipeline to carry refined petroleum products from Albany, NY to Linden, NJ that will include parts of Chatham Township and surrounding communities. We will keep residents abreast of future developments and related public meetings on this topic. Be sure to review Township Committee meeting agendas online [here](#) and follow-us on **Facebook** and **Twitter** for important updates.

## CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

The sidewalk installation project on the eastbound side of Shunpike Road between Noe Avenue and Pine Street will begin soon. Motorists/bicyclists should proceed with caution through the project work zone. Planning an alternate route around the construction area is highly recommended. Learn more [here](#).

## SEWER FEES – TAX INSIGHTS

A reminder that sewer fees are due December 1<sup>st</sup>. Payments may be made online [here](#). In addition, if you have wondered about how property is valued for property tax purposes, and want to know the actual definitions of, among other terms, "market price," "market value," "taxable assessed value" and "revaluation/reassessment," take a look at the New Jersey Division of Taxation **Property Tax Brochures**.

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## FEATURED COMMUNITY PHOTO



*A Chatham Township Holiday Tradition  
The Chatham Turkey Trot*

Send **us** your Chatham Township-themed photo for possible inclusion in a future newsletter.

## PROTECTING YOUR HOME

Chatham Township prides itself on being a safe and secure town, but recent burglaries remind us that we are not removed from or immune to crime. We want to remind you to take the necessary precautions to properly secure your home and for each of us to keep a watchful eye in our neighborhoods. Please make note of these simple tips.

**PROTECTING  
YOUR HOME FROM  
BURGLARS**



Recent thefts have been quick strikes. They enter and quickly grab any valuables lying around and exit.

1. Secure your valuables before you leave.
2. Relocate your jewelry from your master bedroom.
3. Alert a neighbor that you are going to be away and ask them to bring in your newspapers and keep an eye on your property.
4. Ask a neighbor to park a car in your driveway.
5. Make sure all your doors and windows are securely locked.
6. Leave an outside light on.
7. Purchase light timers for your home.
8. Set your alarm if you have one.
9. Call the police in advance to inform them that you will be away.

If you have questions about the security of your home, please contact the **Chatham Township Police Department** at 973-377-0100.

## CHRISTMAS PARADE

On December 14<sup>th</sup> Wickham Woods will play host to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Chatham Township Christmas Parade beginning at 11:00 AM. Contact Steve Simonfay to learn more [steve@simonfay.com](mailto:steve@simonfay.com)



## LIKE & FOLLOW US



Chatham Township is on Facebook and Twitter. Be sure to 'Like Us' and 'Follow Us'. Read more [here](#).  
[www.facebook.com/chathamtownshipgovernment](http://www.facebook.com/chathamtownshipgovernment)  
[www.twitter.com/chathamtownship](http://www.twitter.com/chathamtownship)

**facebook**

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

View the Chatham Township calendar [here](#). It includes Committee and various Board meeting dates and recycling days.



The Chatham Township Volunteer Fire Department will host its annual Christmas tree sale beginning November 29. It will be open Monday – Friday from 6:00 – 9:00 PM and on weekends from 9:00 AM – 8:00 PM. Wreaths and white pine roping are also available.

**The Chatham Township Committee** consists of Mayor Kevin Sullivan, Deputy Mayor Curt Ritter, Kathy Abbott, Bailey Brower, Jr. and Robert Gallop.

*The Chatham Township Committee aims to produce 'Chatham Township News' on a bimonthly basis. If you have a suggestion for a future article or general feedback please email us at:*  
[Communications@chathamtownship-nj.gov](mailto:Communications@chathamtownship-nj.gov)

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