

# CHATHAM TOWNSHIP NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE CHATHAM TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE



January/February 2015

Volume II, Number I

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

## COMMITTEE NEWS

At the **Chatham Township Committee's** reorganization meeting Committee Members Mike Kelly and Karen Swartz were sworn in and Mayor Kevin Sullivan and Deputy Mayor Curt Ritter were reelected for another one-year term. View the reorganization meeting video [here](#).

In the coming weeks and months, the Committee will review the 2015 budget and undertake a number of initiatives that will impact Chatham Township residents. Get involved and attend a future meeting. Learn more about your Committee members by viewing their bios and committee assignments and learn how to contact them by email [here](#).



*L to R: Bob Gallop, Mike Kelly, Kevin Sullivan, Karen Swartz and Curt Ritter*

**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](#).

## PREPARE YOUR FAMILY

Start The Year Off Prepared. Emergencies can happen at any time. Does your family know how to get in touch with each other if you are



not all together? Before an emergency happens, have a family discussion to determine who would be your out-of-state point of contact, and where you would meet away from your home – both in the neighborhood and within your town. Learn more [here](#).

## PILGRIM PIPELINE UPDATE

On November 14<sup>th</sup>, the Chatham Township Committee passed a **resolution** unanimously opposing **Pilgrim Pipeline Holdings'** proposed route for a bi-directional crude oil and refined petroleum products pipeline. Pilgrim hopes to build the pipelines along the route of the PSE&G power lines through Chatham Township. The Township's resolution cites "reservations and concerns about the ability for this Pipeline to endanger the health, safety and welfare of our citizens, families, property and environment." Many concerned residents attended the meeting and have begun a multifaceted initiative to prevent the pipeline from being built through Chatham Township. In December, Mayor Sullivan joined elected officials from other municipalities in Watchung where they discussed ways to keep all 39 municipalities along the pipeline informed. Be sure to review the Township Committee's special Pilgrim Pipeline webpage [here](#) and follow us on **Facebook** and **Twitter** for important updates.



## ALERT CHATHAM TOWNSHIP

With winter upon us, 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](#).



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

## PUBLIC SAFETY



Do you know your Community Police Officer? Find it **here** and learn more about the Chatham Township Police Department Community Policing initiative.

If you have questions about the security of your home, please contact the **Chatham Township Police**

**Department** at 973-377-0100.

## SENIOR CENTER NEWS

The Senior Enrichment Center of the Chathams will celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with numerous festivities in the next few months culminating with a larger celebration on April 24<sup>th</sup> at the Fish & Game Club in Chatham -- Please save the date!

On Friday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 12:30 PM Walter Choroszewski returns to celebrate our state's significant contributions to American music of the 20th century. Walter explores these music genres and showcases New Jersey artists including iconic legends Sinatra, Basie, and Springsteen, as well as numerous other music talents from the Shirelles to the Four Seasons and more. Sign up for the free program sponsored by Right @ Home. For details on all Senior Center events and programs visit **here** or call 973-635-4565 or email **srcenterchatham@comcast.net**

## LIBRARY OF THE CHATHAMS

"Take an Engaging Photograph." Professional photographer John Marelli of Madison will offer a two-hour workshop for anyone interested in taking pictures on their digital camera in its automatic setting. Techniques will be presented to help you take an engaging image through concepts of composition and lighting. Please bring your camera with a fresh disc and charged batteries. February 10<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. Sign up online on the library's **website** or call the library at 973-635-0603.



See their complete calendar of events **here** and register for "Book Ends" the monthly e-newsletter **here**.

## DID YOU KNOW...

According to the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**, falls are the number one cause of



injuries to adults. Many of these falls happen when sidewalks, driveways, and walkways are covered in snow and ice. Make sure any of these surfaces around your home are shoveled regularly and free from debris. Keep in mind that

simply clearing the snow may not be enough to keep the area safe; ice is always a concern during the winter. Your regular routine for keeping access to your home clear should include adding sand or rock salt to slippery spots. Pay particular attention to stairs, since they can be hazardous and icy in colder months.

Always be careful when clearing snow and ice around your home, and keep a few **snow removal safety tips** in mind.

## INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) will be held at the Library of the Chathams on Wednesdays starting on February 4 through April 15 from 10 AM to 2 PM. Appointments for this free service may be made in person or by calling the Library at 973-635-0603. Please bring all your financial records from 2014, copies of your 2014 Federal and State tax returns, and all printed and blank forms from the Internal Revenue Service.

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY

"The Great Swamp and the Battle to Stop a



Jetport" presented by Nicholas Platt Sunday, February 22 at 2 PM, Community Room, Municipal Bldg. Mr. Platt's talk will relate the remarkable events that took place when a grassroots organization made up of local residents took on the NY Port Authority in a battle so epic, it involved three Presidents, 462 organizations, 286 towns, and tens of thousands of volunteers and an Act of Congress that created the first National Wildlife

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Refuge where a major jetport was supposed to be. For information on all of the Historical Society's programs and events click [here](#).

## POWER OUTAGES



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).

## RECYCLING

Please keep in mind those items the acceptable and non-acceptable items for All-In-One Single-Stream Recycling. The 2015 curbside pickup schedule and new information are on our website [here](#).

## CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Did you know construction permits are needed for most construction activities including plumbing and electrical work? In addition, a permit is required prior to any activity that involves road openings including the installation of curbing. Most tree removals also require a permit. Learn more [here](#).

## FEATURED COMMUNITY PHOTO



*A Great Swamp Winter - Mural at the Municipal Building*  
Courtesy: **Art League of the Chathams**  
Send **us** your Chatham Township-themed photo for possible inclusion in a future newsletter.

## TAX INFORMATION

A reminder that first quarter 2015 property tax payments are due February 1, 2015. If the payment is

not received by the end of the grace period on February 10, 2015, interest will be charged from the first of February. The tax collector is unable to waive the interest for any reason. The tax office advises residents to pay on time to avoid any problems with weather or post office delivery delays.

If your tax or sewer payment does not have a payment stub attached, please write the BLOCK and LOT number in the memo section of your check to ensure the payment is applied to the appropriate property. Payments may be made online [here](#).

## LIKE & FOLLOW US



Chatham Township is on Facebook and Twitter. Be sure to 'Like Us' and 'Follow Us'. Read more [here](#).

[facebook](#)

[www.facebook.com/chathamtownshipgovernment](http://www.facebook.com/chathamtownshipgovernment)  
[www.twitter.com/chathamtownship](http://www.twitter.com/chathamtownship)

## PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY



Burglaries are typically quick strikes. Learn how to protect your property [here](#).

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

**The Chatham Township Committee** consists of Mayor Kevin Sullivan, Deputy Mayor Curt Ritter, Bob Gallop, Mike Kelly and Karen Swartz.

*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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