



VILLAGE DESPATCH

Fall 2009

MAYOR'S CORNER

Mayor

Jason Koon

Deputy Mayor

John Alfieri

Trustees

Mike Flanigan

Mark Florack

Andrew Serrano

Administrator

Martin G. D'Ambrose

Clerk-Treasurer

Ray Parrotta

Upcoming Dates

Public Forum 7:30 pm
Oct 8, Nov 5, Dec 3, Jan 7

Annual Organizational
Meeting 7:30 pm
January 4, 2010

Business Meeting 7:30 pm
Oct 13, Nov 9, Dec 14, Jan 11

Planning Board* 7:00 pm
Oct 13, Nov 10, Dec 8, Jan 12

Zoning Board* 7:00 pm
Oct 20, Nov 17, Dec 15, Jan
19

* A pending application is
required and applicant
must be on the agenda to
participate.

How to Reach Us

Village of East Rochester
120 West Commercial St
East Rochester, NY 14445

Office Hours

8:30 am to 4:30 pm
Monday through Friday

Department of
Motor Vehicles visits
every Wednesday
10:00 am to 3:30 pm

Phone 586-3553

Fax 586-4792

www.eastrochester.org



The Village had a busy and exciting summer filled with fun activities for all. Some of the notable events included the * Concert/Movies in the Park series, * Farmer's Market, * Police Department Bike Rodeo and the Karnocker 5K race and Fireman's Field Days. (* Denotes separate article in this newsletter).

The Village completed the essential sanitary sewer project on E. Maple Avenue. New playground equipment was installed in Northside and Eyer Parks, numerous catch basins were rebuilt and sidewalks were replaced on the 200 block of W. Ivy Street and around the lodge and bathrooms in Eyer Parks with a \$50,000 CBDG grant. Ontario Street was profiled and resurfaced, improving drainage and driving (this road has not had any major work in over 20 years). Horseshoe pits were added to Eyer Park, and the * Town Court made major renovations to its courtroom and clerks' office space thanks to a 2008-09 Justice Court Assistance Program grant. Most of the work was done by the DPW staff. The Library and Senior Center received a new handicap access ramp as well as hosted many events which were well attended. * The YAC hired 29 summer interns (10 more than in 2008) through a Rochester Works grant and held a Fundraiser/Block Party to raise funds for Gilda's Club, a cancer support organization.

The project on E. Maple Avenue is more significant than what is obvious on the surface. This sanitary sewer is the main trunk line providing service for the Village as well as for residents from the Town of Pittsford. Since the line was fixed, it has significantly reduced the strain on older sewer mains upstream. The project included new curbing, improved drainage, new driveway aprons and striping. The project was completed under budget, allowing the Village the opportunity for additional improvements.

At the August Board meeting the Trustees authorized a plan drafted by residents to actively promote the sale of homes in the Village to responsible families interested in the benefits of living in a family-centered, historic community. The dates for * "Village Living Sundays" will be posted on the Village web site, ERCTV-12 and newspapers very soon. The entire Board and I are very proud of this community and residents and welcome the influx of families looking for the charm and closeness we experience every day.

This year we will install sidewalks on Oak Street, Walnut Street, Northwood Avenue and the 100 block of Hickory Street through a Community Development Block Grant. The Board and Village staff worked closely with residents to address concerns about safe pedestrian access in the community. We will continue to actively pursue grants and have targeted the Chestnut Street/Wilson Avenue entrance into Legion Eyer Park as well as Cedar Place, Brizee and William Streets. The Village



Veteran's Day Ceremony on Nov. 11 is at 11:00 am at the gazebo in Edmund Lyon Park. We have a long tradition of honoring our service people, and this ceremony is a point of pride in our Village. Many thanks to all involved! This has also been proclaimed Nick Verzella Day by the Village Board.

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ER YOUTH ACTIVITY CENTER

Youth participants and staff at the East Rochester Youth Activity Center used this summer to work, serve the community and hone their skills. Our 2009 Summer of Opportunity Program is now completed, a program that benefited all in the East Rochester Community. Our program this year grew in youth participation and local business involvement. In 2008, 9 businesses participated in the program, and this year 5 additional new businesses eagerly joined our program. Three Counselors in Training visited all business sites each week. These visits encouraged open dialogue.

The Summer of Opportunity Program is funded under two grants from Rochester Works! and paid 29 of our youth who worked this summer.

We held a party the last day of our program where we enjoyed food, games and presented awards for:
Shane Cutlip- Outstanding improvement throughout the years in the program;

Nick Garritano, Shane Cutlip & Shea Parrotta- perfect attendance;

Shea Parrotta- recognition of most dedicated hours worked;

David Pomar- Overall Awesome Kid Award;

James Griswold- For receiving the most bee stings at one time in the history of the program

INTERESTED EMPLOYERS: you can earn a Tax Credit by hiring a youth. Please call Barbara Maine, 586-1003 for more information.

Out Reach Programs

On two separate days, six youths helped build and landscape houses for Habitat for Humanity. (see photos in this issue) Our youth hosted "lunch and fun" on two separate occasions. They shared lunch and played games with the attendees from School of the Holy Childhood.

Some youth attended educational meetings regarding college acceptance on a St. John Fisher Tour. Youth attended a Rochester Works! Tour, meeting with a youth advisor who taught them how to do job searches. OSHA gave a presentation on safety requirements to

prevent injuries and protect the health of American workers.

Community Days was a party in Edmund Lyon Park attended by over 135 people. This event raised money for Children and Adults with cancer, and we exceeded our goal of \$200. All proceeds were donated to Gilda's Club of Rochester. Nineteen Youth Participants and six staff members worked on this worthwhile project. This was made possible by a YAR Grant (Youth as Resources) our youth applied for and received. **YAR is funded by The Monroe County Youth Bureau and the Rochester Area Community Foundation.**

OUR YEARLY FREE HALLOWEEN PARTY for kids pre-school through fifth grade is scheduled Tuesday October 27, 2009, at Eyer Park Lodge for all to come and enjoy. Come for crafts, games, free donuts and cider. This is sponsored by the Village of East Rochester. Cub Scout pack #67 will help with some of the games.

An upcoming YAR Grant for the fall is now in the planning stage. If you are interested, please contact East Rochester Youth Activity Center, 586-1003. We are looking for people of all ages to plan and execute this project.

We are still accepting children's clothing sizes birth to 2 years of age. Please drop them off at YAC. (This is to help the Women's Care Center)

Anyone interested in volunteering at the East Rochester Youth Activity Center should call the Center at 586-1003. Volunteering your time and talent is a rewarding experience for the adult and our youth.

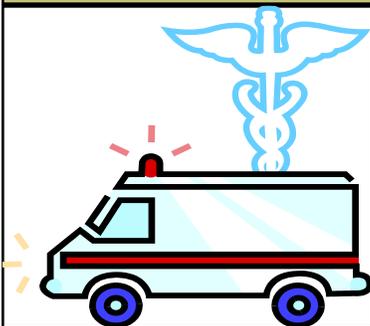
If you would like to serve on the Board of Directors, please call the Center at 586-1003. Both youth and adult members are needed. The time commitment is small - one to two hours a month!! You can make a lifelong impression on a youth for a tiny time investment!

Center hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday
3:00 pm—7:00 pm.

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ER VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE CORPS.



NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

The East Rochester Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Inc. is in need of your help so that we may continue to provide our community with the best pre-hospital medical care available.

We currently have two different types of memberships available:

- Running Active Member – this member may become a driver or EMT/first medic and must be able to fulfill a minimum monthly requirement of 24 hours.
- Auxiliary Affiliate Member – an applicant who is currently a member of any emergency services agency. This member may be a driver or medic and must be able to fulfill a minimum monthly requirement of 12 hours.

Thanks to several businesses in East Rochester, we are able to offer discounts on products and services from village businesses to any ambulance corps member as well as a small stipend for taking calls and covering shifts.

For more information on the privileges and responsibilities of these two memberships or to make arrangements to visit our base and learn more about us, please call 586-5723 and leave your name and number. We will contact you to discuss this rewarding experience. We also offer an Explorer Post for young adults ages 14-21. If you are interested in joining please call 586-5723.

The East Rochester Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Inc. would like to thank the following businesses for offering their support to our organization by offering discounts on their products and services for our members. We encourage everyone to support these businesses.

Chateau Hair Design – Amy Loughlin

Despatch Pizza Kitchen

Etna Bakery

Metro Health East Pharmacy

JP Motors

Pat's Radiator Shop

Rubino's Subs

Salvatore's Pizzeria

East Rochester Outdoor Pool

Wellness Center

Your Flower Shop

HEALTH AND SAFETY FAIR

The East Rochester Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Inc. will

hold their annual free Health and Safety Fair on October 17, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the East Rochester Community Center, 120 West Commercial St. This year's Health and Safety Fair is being held in conjunction with St. Jerome's Church.

Some of the vendors include:

Non-fasting glucose and cholesterol checks

Blood Pressure Checks

Metro Health East Pharmacy

Dental Care

Weight Management

Exercise for good health

Child Car Seat Checks

East Rochester Fire Dept.

East Rochester Police Dept. plus much more.

We have something for all ages, please stop by and visit us.

SWINE FLU (H1N1) UPDATE

Fall is here, and so is flu season. Here are some tips to protect yourself and your families from influenza. Get a flu shot to protect yourself from influenza. Currently there is no shot available for the Swine Flu, but there are some tips to help you stay healthy.

Tips for Protecting Yourself Against Swine Flu:

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when sneezing or coughing. Throw the tissue away after using it.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after sneezing and coughing. Alcohol based hand sanitizers are also effective. However, after using these, let your hands air dry to avoid contamination.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.
- Avoid close contact with people who are ill.
- If you do become sick with swine flu, **stay home** from work or school and limit your contact with others to keep from infecting them.
- Try to stay in good general health, get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage stress, drink plenty of fluids and eat nutritious food. Try not to touch surfaces that may be contaminated with the flu virus.
- Periodically disinfect your cell phones, keyboards, door knobs and other surfaces.

Symptoms are similar to those of regular flu. If you live in an area where swine flu has been identified and you become ill with influenza-like symptoms, contact your healthcare provider. They can determine whether influenza testing or treatment is necessary. There are two medications available to treat swine flu and are most effective when they are used within 2 days of showing symptoms.

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E R PUBLIC LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

The Friends of the East Rochester Public Library will sponsor the second Country Day on Saturday, September 26th, 2009. The event will feature the band JB & Co, playing from 11 am until 2 pm. There will be a face painter available for the kids from noon until 2 pm. There will be crafts for the kids such as sand art, bracelet making, bandana coloring, and pumpkin decorating. Free snack foods will be provided. Hot dogs will be available to purchase. Stop by the library and Jean Daniel Senior Center for this fun and free event!

Fall Drop-In Story times begin Monday, September 14 with Miss Nancy. The following are the dates and times included for Fall.

Babies' Fun Time meets Monday mornings

9:45-10:15am on the following days:

September 14, 21, 28 October 5, 19, 26

November 2, 9, 16

5-7 Year Olds meet Monday afternoons for Story time 3:15-3:45 pm on the following days:

September 14, 21, 28 October 5, 19, 26

November 2, 9, 16

2-4 Year Olds meet Thursday mornings for Story time 10:30-11:00am on the following days:

September 17, 24 October 1, 15, 22, 29

November 5, 12, 19

Danette Weingarten hosts the Adult Book Discussion on the third Thursday of each month at 7 pm. All books will be available at the library. Upcoming books to be discussed include:

September - *Change of Heart : A Novel* by Jodi Picoult

October - *Look Me in the Eye: My Life with Asperger's* by John Elder Robinson

November - *The Christmas Pearl* by Dorothea Benton Frank

The November book discussion will meet Thursday, Nov. 19th

December - no meeting, Happy Holidays!

JEAN DANIEL SENIOR CENTER EVENTS

Saturday, Oct. 3, we are having our Suburban Card Games Tournament from noon until 4 pm. Neighboring clubs from Webster, Penfield, Perinton, Pittsford and Brighton are invited.

Our annual Craft & Bake Sale will be held on Saturday, Oct. 10. There will be booths for home baked goods, crafts and a large white elephant collection for you to choose from. Soup, chili, donuts and coffee will be available for purchase. The sale is open from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm.

Flu Clinic is open to the public on Wednesday, Oct. 14, from 11 am to 3 pm. The Sibley Nursing Service sponsors the clinic.

On Monday, Oct. 12, our Seniors will host a Line Dance Luncheon at the Green Lantern Inn. Following a buffet lunch at noon, there will be line dancing until 3 pm, under the direction of Will Herzog. You must make a reservation in advance.

Dr. Paul Merkel, Podiatrist, will be at our Center on Monday, Nov. 9, with appointments starting at 1:30 pm. Call for an appointment if you need this service.

The annual Christmas Dinner Party will be held at the Country House on Thursday, Dec. 17. Dinner will be served at 1 pm, followed by entertainment featuring Paul Killion, with "Music for Seniors".



Librarian Laurie Hoagland reading to children during children's summer library program on a beautiful day in the Village.

ER VILLAGE WEBSITE

The Village Web site has now been active since February thanks to village resident Erick Ovando for spearheading this important project. The site is updated frequently. The Channel 12 link feature is now active as well as the New Video Tour Book. Please bookmark this site or set the village web site as your default. If you have questions, please use the **Contact Us** section on the main page.

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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS



Fall Leaf Collection Schedule and Guidelines for Curbside Leaf Pick Up

Beginning October 15 - December 15, 2005: We will collect your leaves from the curb in the following manner:

Large leaf piles: We will collect your large leaf piles at the curb using a leaf vacuum machine. Please place your leaf piles between the sidewalk and curb for collection. Please **do not** place your leaf piles in the road, as they are a hazard for drivers and children, and can clog up the storm drains. Please do not mix any yard debris, garbage, brush or branches with the leaf piles, as they can damage our equipment. Please be patient with us when you put out a leaf pile. It usually takes us one week with two trucks to make one pass through the entire Village.

Bagged Leaves: Residents are encouraged to bag their leaves whenever possible, using clear plastic bags or recyclable paper bags. Bagged leaves will be picked up on your regular scheduled garbage collection day with a separate truck. Please be aware that wet leaves can become very heavy, and that we have a maximum weight limit of 50 pounds per bag. Each bag of leaves is hand loaded onto a truck for disposal. Please be considerate of our workers when placing your leaf bags out for collection. Please do not place leaves in a garbage can, as we cannot efficiently collect them.

Please consider your neighbors when putting items at the curb for pick up. Placing items at the curb for pick up in a neat, orderly manner benefits everyone, and allows us to provide all residents with the best possible service. Thank you for your cooperation.

VILLAGE LIVING SUNDAYS

On August 10, 2009 the Board of Trustees approved a real estate publicity program called "**Village Living Sundays**" which was presented by village residents Matt Hogan, Brandi and Matt Marino. The goal of this program is to promote homes for sale in the village highlighting services and quality of life that

can be found here. East Rochester is an attractive place to live because of many factors, including our municipal refuse and recycling pick up, (automatically available to every resident in the village), easy access on our well maintained network of sidewalks to nearby businesses and community events, such as the concert and movies in the park series and the fireman's parade, 5K and carnival. Longtime residents rely on these services and they are an integral and unique selling point for living here. The first event will take place this fall, and will continue again in the spring of 2010.

ER OFFICE OF LOCAL HISTORY

The main purpose of the Local History Department is to collect data and materials pertaining to the history of East Rochester. Many projects are currently in progress. Among those are: entering information into a computer database, organizing over 5000 photographs, clipping newspapers, history presentations to the local schools and organizing exhibits for display at various locations around the Village. The first-floor exhibit hall includes kiosks of early village photographs; an apothecary display from the Franklin Drug Store; a miniature model of the "Reading Room" and a collection of Village memorabilia. The walls contain maps and early photos of the Village.

Materials available in the local history collection include old newspapers, school year books, early tax assessors' roll books, and files on organizations, businesses, churches, sports, schools, and Village histories. Vital statistic records, deaths, marriages, etc, are available and constantly being updated. If you have information you would like added to a "family biographical folder" or any other artifacts or photos that pertain to the village, please call the office at 381-3023.

The Local History Room is staffed by a small number of volunteers reporting to the Village Historian. A computer is used to organize records. It also contains a database of over 5000 photographs. The Local History Office is open Wednesday to Friday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. and Saturday from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. The staff is always looking for additional materials and photographs. Please stop and visit the office.

The Local History department is currently accepting suggestions on where to place historical markers in the village. Many have been placed but we feel there are more areas in the Village that would benefit from one. If you have a suggestion call 381-3023.

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ER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Now that school is back in session, the E R Police Department would like to remind everyone that the Village speed limit is 30 mph and in School Zones it is reduced to 20 mph. **"Please watch out for our children and obey the Crossing Guards."** Please note that the intersection at Ivy & Main Streets has a newly reduced speed limit.

Also, winter is fast upon us and the "3:00 am-6:00 am" parking ordinance will be in effect from November 15 - April 15. This means no vehicles are allowed to be parked on Village streets between these dates and times. Here is a list of designated parking areas in the village:

- ♦ 200 block Main street alternate side parking per signage
- ♦ 160 West Commercial Street Municipal Lot (
- ♦ 108 East Maple Ave. Municipal Lot (PG's)
- ♦ 105 Main Street Municipal Parking Lot
- ♦ 100 + 200 blocks East and West Maple Ave. railroad bank (except few spots per signage)
- ♦ Edmund Lyon Park parking lot Main Street
- ♦ Concrest Park parking lot 500 block West Ave. and along Forest Road

Congratulations to the ER Police Department which has been re-accredited for another 5 years. The Department also received a Best Practices certificate from the NYS Chiefs of Police for its policy on sex offenders. **Chief Tando** received the certificate on September 15th.

Even though rain was scheduled for the day of the Bike Rodeo, 20 eager children learned bike safety, maneuvered an obstacle course and took a safe bike ride around Edmund Lyon Park with officers. Each participant received a commemorative shirt from the Department. **Target** donated a gift card, which was used to purchase a variety of prizes including 2 bikes, helmets and stuffed animals. **Your Flower Shoppe, Concept II (Kitchen Designs)** and **Valenti Sports** also donated to the cause. **Wegmans** and **A+ Sunoco** provided water, hot dogs and the trimmings. **Sergeant Monachino** and **Officer Wilder** did a great job getting donations and organizing the event. Thanks to everyone involved.

Over the summer, the Rochester Police Department and the Monroe County Sheriff's Department SWAT teams trained here. They used the Eyer Building and practiced room/hallway entries. We also had some ER officers train with them. Feedback from both departments was excellent.

We have a recent addition to the Police Department fleet. We purchased a 2005 Dodge Durango with 42,000 miles on it from the Pittsford Fire District for \$9,000. Originally we were looking at a new Ford Crown Victoria, but the cost with no emergency equipment was \$23,000. The Durango was a good buy for budgeting reasons, with an additional benefit of having four-wheel drive, a terrific asset in our inclement weather.

If you have any questions, please contact the East Rochester Police Department at 586-4399.

VILLAGE COURT RENOVATION

Thanks to funds totaling over \$26,000 from the Justice Court Assistance Program (JCAP) the East Rochester Town Court has a new look! Walls have been removed, the court clerk's office relocated, new carpeting and lighting installed, and a new bench has been built. Judges Victoria Argento and Scott Odorisi, along with their clerks, Kimberly Cammilleri and Amy Monachino, are enjoying their new home.

Space has always been a challenge for the court with between 80-140 people scheduled for court every Monday night. When attorneys and family members are factored in, attendance can easily exceed 200. The renovations allow for a much more professional and functional atmosphere. Until these changes, jury trials had always taken place in the trustees' Board Room on the first floor of the Village Office. Now the courtroom has the space to allow for a jury panel and newly built witness stand.

Besides updating the courtroom, the court clerks' office was moved across the hall to a larger space. JCAP funds awarded two new work stations, a supply cabinet, and filing cabinets for them. A doorway was also cut allowing the clerks easier access to the file storage room.

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VILLAGE COURT RENOVATION

continued

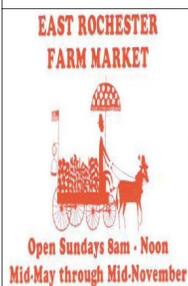
Over the past two years the court has been able to take advantage of additional awards through the New York State Division of Technology to obtain four new computers for the court clerks' office and courtroom, and an all-in-one copier and printer. With this equipment, the clerks are able to update cases and process necessary paperwork for the Judges during court. A speaker / conference-call phone was also received which allows defendants arraigned during the night to place a call to a friend or family member as well as to an attorney.

The Town Court hears vehicle and traffic cases, misdemeanors, village ordinance matters, and civil matters such as small claims and evictions. In 2008 over 1,100 people came before the two judges. In 2009 the Court is seeing an increase, as it has already heard over 1300 cases.

The Court staff would like to acknowledge and thank Marty D'Ambrose for his help coordinating this project; and Dave Bussey, along with all of the DPW workers who arranged their schedules around the Court's to ensure this project was completed.

ER FARMERS MARKET

Every Sunday from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm, come to Techniplex parking lot and find the freshest fruits and veggies as well as locally produced breads, pastries, fudge, preserves and other farm stand staples.



September is "Eat Locally Month". Get a market passport and visit 8 different farm markets during this month. When the card is full, drop it off at Abundance Cooperative Market, 62 Marshall Street in Rochester to receive a free gift and to be entered in a drawing for a \$100 Abundance gift certificate. For locations and times of the markets in the program, check www.nyfarmersmarket.com/regionwestmonroe.htm.

October 18 is free pumpkin day, and the following Sunday come see the pumpkins local children have carved. Market Manager Diane Steeley has brought in a variety of vendors and many farms with a wide range of specialty produce. She urges people to come down and buy the freshest produce, locally grown, at very reasonable prices.

ER COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

The Annual Advent Craft Sale will be held on December 12, 2009 from 9 am until 3 pm at the East Rochester High School gym on Woodbine Avenue. Admission is free and the building is accessible to all. We feature handcrafted items of many varieties, including gift items for the holidays, decorating and baked goods. Coffee, donuts and pizza will be available at the ERCRC table in the Hall.

The ERPTA Breakfast with Santa will also begin at 9 am. Prepaid tickets are available at the ER Elementary School office. Enjoy your breakfast with St. Nick, then shop at the Advent Craft Sale and visit with your neighbors and friends, new and old. Contact Pat Cragg 585-586-5593.

The Advent Craft Sale is sponsored by the East Rochester Association of Churches to benefit the East Rochester Community Resource Center, a non-profit agency serving the needy of our community.

Angel Food Ministries. Anyone may apply for special boxes of foods through the Angel Food Ministries at greatly reduced cost, through the ER First Baptist Church, (the distribution center) 586-5287 and The ER Community Resource Center at 586-0525. The menu changes each month. Call us for more information and to order.

ER Resource Center and the ER Fire Department sponsor gift baskets for the needy every Christmas season. Applications are due NO LATER than November 27. For your convenience, see page 8 for an application.

ER ADVENT TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

The Advent tree lighting ceremony will be held in the gazebo at Edmund Lyon Park, Main Street, East Rochester on Sunday, November 29th, 2009 at 5:00 pm. Refreshments will follow.

In case of bad weather, the ceremony and refreshments will be at the E.R. First Baptist Church, 119 West Elm Street, East Rochester, NY *This event is sponsored by the Village of East Rochester and the ER Association of Churches.*

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**YAC Habitat for Humanity
volunteer Chelsea Seward**



**Taking the plunge at
YAC Community Day**



Karknocker 5K beginning



**Kickin' Back performed at
Concert in the Park series**



**New playground
equipment, Northside
Park**



**Clerk Monachino,
Judge Argento, Judge Odorisi,
Clerk Cammilleri**

E R Community Resource Center and ER Fire Dept. 2009 Christmas Program for the Needy in East Rochester
Send, or bring, to ER Village Office @ 120 W. Commercial St. or Community Resource Center @ 333 East Chestnut St.

Last Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Father's Name _____ Mother's _____

(If living at home)

(If living at home)

Social Security No's _____

(last 4 numbers....)

Child's Name Age Sex Size Child's (Reasonable) Wish List or interests

Household Income Total _____ WK__ MO__ YR__

From : Employment__ Public Assistance__ Disability__ Unemployment__ Other__

DEADLINE FOR APPLYING IS November 27, 2009 Please return the form as soon as possible.

(First come – first served...)

If you have any questions, please contact the Resource Center 586-0525.

Thank you!

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ER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Village and local businesses are in the process of forming the East Rochester Chamber of Commerce with a target inception date of October 1st, 2009. Our organization promises to be a valuable asset to the business community and the Village through our future community functions, dynamic monthly speakers and the numerous benefits and discounts to our members.

In a small town, with a large number of small businesses, our Chamber of Commerce will serve an important role in the business community and will be an active and valuable asset for the community as a whole. We are actively searching for individuals and businesses to serve as committee leaders and future speakers. For further information, or to join the East Rochester Chamber of Commerce, please contact Joe Cavallaro at 585-234-2576, PO Box 87, East Rochester, N.Y. 14445-0087

VOLUNTEER SPIRIT LIVES!

During the Summer Concert/Movie series in the Park, Despatch Pizza Kitchen and Alfieri's popcorn stand provided treats at reasonable prices. The free music and community closeness generated by these events are two things ER stands for, and just one example of what can happen when volunteers share their talents.

Northside Park kids got a taste of that this summer when Rosalie Rosini and Peg McGee taught crafts on Tuesday evenings. The ladies showed their caring with a pizza party at the end of summer, attended by many who had enjoyed the craft classes all summer long.

The Place family provided yet another example of the volunteer spirit of ER by planting and maintaining flowers around the "Welcome to ER" sign by the Industrial Park. Thank you to all volunteers!! You make ER the "Greatest little town in the world"!

The Next Three Bulk
refuse pickup weeks

October 5-9, 2009

December 7-11, 2009

February 1-5, 2010

WATER TOWER UPDATE



The Village Board has been evaluating its options with the water tower. The question is whether we should keep it or not. While many have expressed sentimental reasons for keeping this local

landmark, we must also consider the economics of owning and maintaining the structure, which include future demolition costs and how much revenue the tower can generate from various cellular telecommunication companies that lease antennae space both now and in the future.

We have evaluated proposals from telecommunication companies and have obtained input from Mr. Larry Warren, P.E. (East Rochester resident and structural engineer). To date, we have rejected the proposals received because the terms and conditions were not in the Village's best long-term interest. We learned that the present and future revenues may in fact exceed the projected maintenance and periodic painting costs. Yearly revenues can be set aside in our capital reserve fund and pay for future operation and maintenance costs, while still leaving funds for other capital projects. We are still studying our options and confirming our projections, but this is the direction that the facts learned to date are taking us.

We will keep everyone informed as we continue our efforts. We are committed to doing what is best for the Village!



Village Trustees Andy Serrano, Mike Flanigan, John Alfieri and Mark Florack enjoying the Concert in the Park series

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PARTNERS IN RESTORATIVE INITIATIVES

In the fall of 2008, East Rochester Town Justice Victoria M. Argento agreed to be the first Judge in Monroe County to implement the Restorative Justice Program in her court. Partners in Restorative Initiatives (PiRI), or Restorative Justice, is a non-profit organization committed to repairing relationships and building community through restorative practices.

"During my time on the bench in East Rochester, I have witnessed many individuals who appeared before me for relatively minor offenses and then were arrested later for more serious matters. I thought that the Restorative Justice Program could assist the Court and the community by preventing first time offenders from having further arrests. The program focuses on how a person's actions affect them, their family, the alleged victim and the community at large, in ways that the accused may have not considered." said Judge Argento of her decision to use PiRI.

The process provides an opportunity for participants to develop an appropriate agreement that addresses the needs of the victim, the community and the offender.

Confidentiality is offered to all parties. If the conference does not reach conclusion, the matter is referred back to Court without admissions or record of proceedings.

Community Conferencing offers a practical, time-effective diversion program for handling crimes and misdemeanors; initiates dialogue between all stakeholders in a conflict and reduces the risk of repeat offenses; provides trained facilitators and a confidential space with no financial costs to participants; and allows participants to take ownership of their actions by working with community members to create a written, credible agreement for repairing harm. (Courtesy of Partners in Restorative Initiatives)

PiRI strives to give an equal voice to all, and provide everyone with a safe and respectful environment in which to address concerns and to establish a foundation of trust and open communication. It is a completely voluntary process; parties cannot be ordered by the court to participate. Court Clerk Kimberly Cammilleri screens cases which might be

appropriate to be referred to the program. In court, Judge Argento briefly introduces the program to specific defendants, then gives them the option to speak to PiRI representatives who attend each of her court sessions. They in turn explain the program in detail to the selected defendants. If a defendant is interested in the program, then the PiRI representatives contact the victim to see if they want to participate, and schedule an appropriate time for a session. Within approximately six weeks a report is given to Judge Argento.

So far, four cases have been successfully resolved using PiRI, including two which involved indirect mediation for which letters of apology were written and restitution paid to a local business. Many more cases are pending. Those individuals who have used the program have expressed their appreciation for it, calling it "beneficial" and "worthwhile".

On June 4, 2009, Court Clerks Kim Cammilleri and Amy Monachino and Judge Vicki Argento were recognized by PiRI at its Open House for their commitment to the program and their willingness to be the initial participating Court. Judge Argento has much praise for Sue Klassen, "A tireless and enthusiastic champion of the principles of restorative justice" and all the PiRI volunteers who, she says, "devote tremendous amounts of time and energy to the program, and are a joy to work with". She also acknowledges that "the success of the program would not be possible without the hard work of the Court Clerks, the willing participation from the District Attorney's Office, the Public Defender's Office and the assistance of Village Administrator Martin D'Ambrose in scheduling PiRI sessions at the Village Offices."

Anyone interested in becoming involved in Partners in Restorative Initiatives can contact the ER Town Court at (585) 385-2576.