



Mayor

Fred Ricci

Deputy Mayor

Mark Florack

Trustees

John Alfieri

Ted Conners

Michael Flanigan

Administrator

Martin G. D'Ambrose

Clerk-Treasurer and Tax Receiver

Raymond J. Parrotta

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Public Forum 7:30 pm

March 8, April 5, May 10,
June 7, and July 5

Business meeting 7:30 pm

March 12, April 9, May 14,
June 11, and July 9

Planning Board* 7 pm

March 13, April 10, May 8,
June 12, and July 10

Zoning Board* 7 pm

March 20, April 17, May 15,
June 19, and July 17

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

How to reach us

Town/Village of East Rochester

120 W. Commercial St.

East Rochester, NY 14445

phone 586-3553 fax 586-4792

www.eastrochester.org

Office hours

8:30 am - 4:30 pm Monday - Friday

**Department of Motor Vehicles visits
every Wednesday 10 am - 3:30 pm**

Meet John Alfieri, newest member of your ER Village Board

I am proud to be the newest member of the East Rochester Village Board. I was born and raised in East Rochester, graduated from ERHS in 1986, and earned degrees in business administration from MCC in '88 and business education from Nazareth College in '90. I married my high school sweetheart and classmate, Denise Payne, in 1992, and we chose to make ER our home because we feel this is a great village in which to raise our family. We have been deeply committed to giving back to the ER community since we married. Some examples:

- * My wife teaches fourth grade at ER Elementary School.
- * We are members of St. Jerome's parish, and I am a past member of their adult choir.
- * I was a 20-year member and past chief (2008-09) of the ER Fire Department, and a member of the ERFD Exempt Fireman's Association.
- * I am a former ER Little League baseball coach and board member.
- * I was recently elected president of ER Youth Football, and have coached in that league and at the JV level for many years.
- * I was a member of the village's selection committee for the fire marshal, and served on the Despatch Days committee.

My career: I am the service manager, apparatus salesperson, and corporate secretary at Churchville Fire Equipment Corp., in Churchville. We are an employee-owned \$8 million-plus company. Our more than 40 employees sell and service fire trucks and firefighting equipment in western New York and northwestern Pennsylvania. Owing a small business is a big challenge. I believe I have developed great communication and motivational skills through leading dozens of people to accomplish our goals.



*photo courtesy
of Jim Burlingame*

My family: As I said, my wife, the former Denise Payne, graduated from ERHS with me in 1986. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees in elementary education from SUNY Fredonia in '90 and '91, respectively, and teaches fourth grade in ER, where our three children attend.

My daughter Alyson is a junior. She has a wonderful singing voice and has performed at several local venues, including Sing-Out and the ER musicals. Aly plans to pursue a career in forensic science.

My son, John, is in eighth grade. He plays football and basketball, and runs track. John plays trumpet in jazz and concert band, and sings in the school choir and his own band, 'The Twerps.' An honors student, he plans to attend the University of Miami and pursue a career in broadcasting.

My daughter Francesca is a fifth-grader. She has played three instruments in jazz and concert band, sings in choir, plays basketball, and cheers. She is an honors student and recently received an award for outstanding citizenship from the village board. Francesca also earned praise and recognition from the village and the school board for coordinating a garage sale for our neighbor Carol Connell Spoor. The money raised was used toward her

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VILLAGE DESPATCH

~ *The Greatest Little Town in the World* ~

Library notes....

The East Rochester Public Library has some exciting new programs to tell you about!

Since Jan. 9, the library has been having a ‘Teen Time’ from 4 to 5 pm Mondays. Teens can relax and hang out at the library. There are fun activities planned, homework help, and discussion groups just for teens! The last Monday of every month features ‘Tween Times,’ especially for ages 10-13. There will be a healthy snack provided. Please contact Young Adult Librarian Alicia Vazquez for more information at 586-8302. No registration is required.

Children’s Coordinator Kelly Ehrich has some great story times planned for the little ones. Please join us for Crafty Kids, Pre-K, and Baby storytimes during these days and times:

Baby Storytime (ages 0-2), featuring songs, stories, and playtime: 10 am Mondays Feb. 27 and March 5, 12, 19, and 26; no registration required

Pre-K Storytime (ages 3-5), featuring songs, finger plays and stories, and crafts: 10am Wednesdays Feb. 29 and March 7, 14, 21, and 28; no registration required

Crafty Kids Storytime (ages 6-10), featuring songs, stories and art activities: 3 pm Mondays Feb. 27 and March 5, 12, 19, and 26; please register at 586-8302.

Join us for a fun and exciting book discussion for adults with Danette at 7 pm on the third Thursday of every month. The books are ‘Homer and Langley’ by E.L. Doctorow (February), ‘The Great Gatsby’ by F. Scott Fitzgerald (March), and ‘Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet’ by Jamie Ford (April). Copies of the books are available at the library, and no registration is required.

Check out the library’s Facebook page for more information, and ‘like’ us on Facebook!

Looking for a book you won’t have to worry about getting sand in on your vacation? Come take a look inside the library at our gently used book sale. Paperbacks are 25 cents, trade paperbacks are 50 cents, and hardcovers are \$1. A great value, and safe at the beach!

ER Community Resource Center

120 W. Commercial St. (mailing) 333 E. Chestnut St. (site) 586-0525

Teresa Quinzi-Willette, director Pat Cragg, associate director

The East Rochester Community Resource Center will have its Bi-Annual Clothing Clearance Sale from 9 am to 2 pm Wednesday, April 25 through Friday, April 27, at its facility at 333 E. Chestnut St. The cost is the same as it has been for the past 20 years: \$2 a bag, with jackets, coats, suits, and dressy dresses \$2 each, and adult shoes or boots \$1 a pair. Please put these dates on your calendar and come down and see us.

We hold this sale twice a year to make room for seasonal clothing coming in, since we do not have the capacity to store clothing for all seasons. The proceeds from this sale benefit the ERCRC’s building and office supplies funds, so 100% of donated funding to help the needy is used solely for that purpose. We thank the community for their continued support of clothing donations year ’round.

The Supplemental Free Food Distribution will continue from 10 am to noon the fourth Wednesday of each month at the Jean Daniel Senior Center, 120 W. Commercial St. Put the dates on your calendar! Please remember to bring your proof of income, address, and number in family. If you know a family or individual who could benefit from this, please pass on the information.

The 2012 Baccalaureate, sponsored by the East Rochester Association of Churches, is planned for 7 pm Tuesday, June 19, in the ERSD auditorium. This annual event honors our graduating seniors. We encourage the seniors and their families, alumni, and the community to attend and show support. The speaker for the evening will be Rev. Harry Williamson. Please put this event on your calendar!

~ *From the Assessor’s Office* ~

Senior citizens (65 years or older) with a maximum income (both spouses) of \$79,050 qualify for Enhanced STAR. Proof of age and income is required to apply. Only one spouse needs to be 65, and can apply before March 1 of the year they turn 65. Please call the Assessor’s office at 381-5151 for more details and an application.

VILLAGE DESPATCH

~ *The Greatest Little Town in the World* ~

~ *From the Jean Daniel Senior Center* ~

In spite of the cold weather, the seniors have been coming to the center regularly. Since there is a variety of programs, there is something that appeals to everyone. Line Dancing continues to be popular, under the direction of Will Herzog. Bingo is well-attended, as well as various card games (hand and foot, euchre, and pinochle). Choir meets every Friday morning, under the direction of Pat Cavatassi. The Craft Group meets the second Monday of every month, under the direction of Della Cialini. The pool table is used constantly, with a competition once a month. On Tuesday, Feb. 14, we held our annual **Valentine Dinner**, where we honored all those married 50 or more years, and those who have reached the age of 80 years. We had a catered dinner followed by musical entertainment. On Wednesday, Feb. 15, we hosted an **AARP Safe Driving Course** with instructor Gayle King. The cost was \$17 for AARP members and \$19 for non-members, and certificates are good for three years. **Podiatrist** Dr. Paul Merkel was here the afternoon of Monday, Feb. 20. If you need this service, be sure to call and make an appointment. On Fridays through April 13, there will be **tax counselors** here to help you with your income tax preparation. This is a free community service, but appointments must be made. On Saturday, March 17, we will have our **Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner** at the center. The **Singles Group** continues to meet every other week for lunch during the winter. This is a very popular outing. We are planning a **day trip featuring a maple syrup farm and casino** for Thursday, March 22. We also have a **four-day trip to New York City** planned for May 4-7, which is filling rapidly. If you are interested in either tour, call the Center at 385-3643 for more information.

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double lung transplant.

Why did I run for ER Village Board?

- * I feel I have experience as a business person, running a successful company.
- * My experience as a devoted husband, father, and coach is invaluable.
- * I am driven by a challenge, and can make a difference in restoring function to local government and ending the dysfunction we saw in past years.
- * I am a realist who knows we need to live within our means. We need to not only be fiscally prudent, but also look at new and alternative ways to generate revenue that doesn't come from property taxes and fees paid by our residents.
- * I believe that if an idea is good for the village and its residents, we need to find ways to accomplish it.

We will put the needs of our more than 7,000 residents above the needs of any one person or group.

What are my goals?

Public safety is my highest priority. The residents of this village must feel safe. They also must have dependable and professional emergency services 24/7/365. Psychology professor Dr. Abraham Maslow, who created Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs and stressed the importance of focusing on people's positive qualities, said, "A person must have their basic needs for food, water, clothing, and safety met in order to reach their full potential." Their need for safety is our responsibility.

Affordable cost of living. Residents of the village must be able to afford to live here. Affordable housing must be accompanied by affordable taxes, to create value for our residents.

Services. As a local government, we must provide value to our residents. Public employees must be accountable for their production, and departmental managers must be accountable for their budgets, show fiscal responsibility, and prove their function makes sense to our residents.

Partnering with our school district. If taxes keep rising and state aid keeps decreasing, we will be taxed beyond our means to pay for local education regardless of how effective we are as village leaders. We must partner with the district to provide services and end duplication our residents simply can't afford.

Planning. There is currently no Master Plan for our village. What are our goals for the next one year, five years, 10 years, 25 years? Where do we want to be as a village? What major projects are needed in our future, and what are we doing to prepare for them? I hope to not only develop the plans, but help to administer them as well.

VILLAGE DESPATCH

~ *The Greatest Little Town in the World* ~

News from the ER Youth Activity Center (for students in grades 6-12)

242 W. Commercial St. 586-1003 open 3-7 pm Monday, Wednesday, and Friday

The ER Youth Activity Center ended 2011 on a successful and positive note. More than 268 youth visited the center throughout the year. They enjoyed training programs, parties, air hockey, billiards, ping pong, television, Wii, Foosball, computers, and board games. They forged new friendships and learned new skills. The staff and the youth have had a positive experience on each other.

Our Halloween and Christmas **parties** were successes. Thank you to those who attended; we look forward to seeing you again this year. We also hosted a Valentine's Day party on Monday, Feb. 13, with food, drinks, games, and lots of fun!

What can the Youth Activity Center do for you? Are you in need of tutoring, or help with homework, portfolio development, creating a resume, filling out an employment application, getting interview tips, GED preparation, career exploration, or job searching? Our Year 'Round Program can help you with these. **We are looking for people age 17-21 who are out of school and want help getting started on their future.** In addition, tutoring is offered to non-program students in grades 3-12.

Our youth have applied for – and received! – a \$1,000 Youth as Resources grant to host a **Community Renewal Project**. We have three goals for this project: (1) to help the community with general cleanup, (2) to bring the community together for a worthy cause, and (3) to have our young people be actively involved and take pride in the town where they live. We're hoping to complete the grant in April, and are looking for youth and adult involvement. We'll be holding planning meetings on Monday nights. If you are interested in being involved in this community-service project, please call the center at 586-1003.

We have **two St. John Fisher College students who help with YAC activities** as part of the Service Scholars Program. They are Francis Christian (a history major pursuing a minor in pre-law) and Anthony Yokel (who's pursuing a degree in business management). These scholars are at the center from 3-6 pm Monday, Wednesday, and Friday to supervise center activities and help with free tutoring.

If you're interested in **volunteering at the center** or if you'd like to serve on our **Board of Directors**, please call us at 586-1003. Both youth and adult members are needed. The time commitment is small – just one or two hours a month! You can make a lifelong impression on a youth for a small investment of time!

The ERYAC promotes the '40 Developmental Assets' and 'Small Talk, Big Difference' initiatives.

– Barbara Maine, ERYAC director



Our staff: Frank Christiano (left), Liz LaDelfa, Barbara Maine, Chelsea Seward, and Sam Hook.

Bulk refuse pickup weeks for 2012:

March 5-9, April 2-6, May 7-11, June 4-8, Aug. 6-10, Oct. 1-5, and Dec. 3-7

FROM the BUILDING DEPARTMENT

During the winter, please be aware that snow deposited onto sidewalks and/or streets by private snow-removal contractors is a violation of Village Code and will result in a fine to the homeowner if removed by the Village DPW.

REMINDER: Please call the Building Department (385-3513) before starting any **construction project** to find out if a permit is required. A list of the most common permits needed can be found on www.eastrochester.org under Departments/Building Inspector/Building Permit Information (on the left side). Building permits can be acquired at our office from 8:30 am to 4:30pm weekdays. The contractor performing the work must apply for the permit, and proof of General Liability and Workers' Compensation insurance must be supplied before the permit can be issued.

VILLAGE DESPATCH

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FAQ's for the DPW

SNOW PLOWING:

What time of the day do you plow snow?

Snow is plowed at any given time when more than two inches of snow has accumulated on the roadway. It normally takes us three hours to complete a plow run of the entire village. That means some areas of the village will have more snow on the ground by the time we get to your street. If snow's falling at a rate of one inch per hour, there could be an additional three inches on the road after we've already plowed your street. Whenever snow remains on the ground at the end of the day, we come back at 3 am to plow the streets again to clean up the remaining snow.

Why do you fill up the end of my driveway with snow, and where can I put the snow from my driveway?

Our job is to keep the streets and sidewalks free of accumulating snow. Unfortunately, as a result of our plowing, snow is deposited into driveways. We certainly don't enjoy blocking the end of your driveway, but it's our job to keep the streets and sidewalks safe for traffic. Please remember – we're only doing our jobs. All snow from your property must remain on your property. It's illegal to put your snow in the road, across the street, or on anyone else's property.

Why can't I park in the street in the winter, and why can't I park across the sidewalk in my driveway?

For snow plowing, we need all vehicles off the streets so we can clear the snow from curb to curb. When it's dark out it can be very difficult to see a parked car, due to the amount of snow being pushed ahead of the plow. Thus, for safety reasons, we ask that all cars be removed from the street. Any cars left on the street will be towed at the owner's expense. We also plow all the sidewalks in the village. If there's a car parked across the sidewalk, the plow can't get through. As a result, this slows us down – the sidewalk plow has to exit the sidewalk at the previous driveway and re-enter at the next driveway. This also causes larger amounts of snow to be left in the road and in your neighbors' driveways. Any cars blocking the sidewalk will be towed at the owner's expense.

What do I do if a private snow plow contractor pushes snow into my yard or driveway?

Try to get a license plate number, or at least a description of the vehicle. Chances are they'll return for the next round of plowing. Then notify the ERPD of the situation; it's best to let them handle it.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Why am I responsible for my sewer lateral, and what do I do if I have a sewer problem?

Per NYS village law, the sewer lateral from a house to the main sewer in the middle of the road is the responsibility of the homeowner. The portion of taxes you pay to the village is for the use of the main sewer line on your street, and for the entire sewer system in the village. The main sewer system throughout the village collects sewage from all houses in the village. However, since your house is the only user of your lateral, you're responsible for its maintenance. The village is responsible for only the main sewer system. If you're having a sewer problem, please call us before you call a plumber. We will come out and check our main sewer, and let you know if the problem is ours or yours. There's no sense in paying a plumber to tell you your lateral is fine, and the problem is with the main sewer. If you need to call us after normal working hours, you must call 911. Inform them that the call is for a non-emergency, and you need someone from the village to check your sewer problem. They have a list of our names and numbers, and will contact us right away.

What do I do if I notice a hazardous situation?

Please call us if you see any type of hazardous situation, because we might not know about it. If you see any hazardous situation after normal working hours, and would like to report it, please call 911 and inform them of the hazard. A hazardous situation could be a sinkhole, debris in the road, or many other items. We appreciate you informing us of these situations, so we can resolve them as soon as possible.

Why do I need a permit to repave my driveway or to fix my sewer?

Obtaining a permit is necessary for several reasons. Any time work is done within the village's Right of Way, we need to ensure all work is done per our specifications. The permit also notifies us you're having work done that needs to be inspected by us to ensure your contractor has installed the material properly, and you haven't been taken advantage of. This is for your protection, to ensure the job has been completed correctly.

Who's responsible for the street lights in the village, and who's responsible for the water mains and water meters?

All street lights are owned, operated, and maintained by RGE. The village does not perform any maintenance of street lights, including those that aren't working. Please call RGE if you have a concern about any street light. If you have any questions relating to water main leaks, fire hydrants, your water meter, or your water bill, please call the Monroe County Water Authority. The village no longer has any control over the water system.

~ **FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE DPW at 381-1565** ~

VILLAGE DESPATCH

~ *The Greatest Little Town in the World* ~

NEW ELECTRONIC WASTE POLICY

Beginning Jan 1, 2012, the Town/Village of East Rochester has instituted new collection rules pertaining to all electronic waste, to comply with the new statewide electronic waste collecting law. As part of this new law, **landfills are no longer allowed to accept any electronic waste** collected by the Town/Village at their disposal sites.

Also as of Jan. 1, any form of electronic waste placed at the curb for collection, for either regular or bulk pickup, will incur a fee of \$25 per item if collected by the Department of Public Works. Any such disposed electronic waste items will be left at the curb by the regular or bulk refuse collection crew, and a separate crew will return in the afternoon to collect those items which remain at the curb. Upon collection, these items will be brought to the DPW garage, where we will have an electronic waste collection facility. We have partnered with Sunnking Electronics Recycling to comply with this new law.

To avoid the fee for curbside collection, any residents wishing to dispose of any electronic waste can instead bring their items to the DPW garage, 200 Ontario St., from 10 am to 3 pm Monday through Thursday. Although residents will be asked to sign in for this process, there is no fee for this drop-off service. In addition, it's available to all residents regardless of whether they have refuse service provided by the Town/Village of ER.

Examples of electronic waste (e-waste) are computers (towers, laptops, PDAs, tablets), monitors (CRT, LCD, LED), printers, scanners, copiers, fax machines, televisions, VCRs, CD/DVD players, stereo equipment, cell phones, telephones, and anything else with an electronic circuit board.

~ **From the ER Volunteer Ambulance Corps** ~

FITNESS FIRST: EXERCISE PROGRAMS

The Benefits of Physical Activity

Research shows that those who are physically active are likely to live longer, healthier lives.

The benefits of physical activity include weight maintenance, reduced blood pressure, improved glucose regulation, and stronger bone density.

Also, a person who has hypertension, diabetes, or a history of smoking can greatly benefit from including regular physical activity into his or her daily routine.

The first step: If you are over 40 years of age, are inactive, or have health issues, consult a physician before you begin an exercise program.

A complete program: There are three main components to a well-balanced program of physical activity: aerobic exercise, strength training, and flexibility training.

Commitment to a regular physical-activity program is more important than the intensity of your workouts. Choose exercises you are likely to pursue and enjoy, such as walking, running, stair climbing, biking, rowing, cross-country skiing, and swimming.

Healthy aerobic training should be performed three to five days per week, for a minimum of 20 minutes per day.

Remember, if your schedule is tight, it's better to exercise for a shorter period of time than not at all.

Strength training is another option. Strength training should be done two to three times per week, and is performed with free weights or weight machines. For the purposes of general training, two to three upper-body and lower-body exercises should be done. Abdominal exercises are an important part of strength training as well.

Flexibility training is important too, but is frequently neglected, resulting in increased tightness as you age and become less active. Stretching is most safely done with sustained gradual movements lasting a minimum of 15 seconds per stretch. At a minimum, try to stretch every day.

Did you know...?

Many Americans report getting little to no leisure time due to long work hours and household responsibilities. As a result, obesity is becoming more of a trigger for health problems and increased health spending than smoking or drinking.