



School District and Community News



June-July-August 2014

TOWN/VILLAGE of EAST ROCHESTER

317 Main St. East Rochester, NY 14445

Mayor
Fred Ricci

Deputy Mayor
Mark Florack

Trustees

John R. Alfieri, Ted Conners, Amy Monachino

Administrator
Martin G. D'Ambrose

Clerk-Treasurer and Tax Receiver
Gerri Raschiatore

Upcoming Town/Village Meeting Dates

Town/Village Business Meeting

7 pm Thursdays Aug. 14, Sept. 11, Oct. 9, Nov. 13, and Dec. 11

Town/Village Board Workshop Meeting

7 pm Thursdays Aug. 28, Sept. 25, Oct. 30, Nov. 20, and Dec. 18

Planning/Architectural Board*

7 pm Tuesdays Aug. 12, Sept. 9, Oct. 14, Nov. 18, and Dec. 9

Zoning Board*

7 pm Tuesdays Aug. 19, Sept. 16, Oct. 21, Nov. 25, and Dec. 16

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

How to reach us

Town/Village of East Rochester
317 Main 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



FROM THE TOWN/VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR: UPDATES and THANK YOUS on the MUNICIPAL BUILDING MOVE

In late July/early August the Town/Village of East Rochester relocated virtually all of its departments and services to the newly renovated Eyer Building, 317 Main St. (Remaining in their previous locations are the Department of Public Works, at 200 Ontario St., the Fire Department, 415 Main St., and the Community Resource Center, 333 E. Chestnut St.) Bringing this important project to a conclusion has been an educational and rewarding journey. However, I would be remiss if I didn't thank the many key players responsible for the vision, determination, and dedication necessary to make this endeavor a reality.

First let me say 'thank you' to Mayor Fred Ricci, Deputy Mayor Mark Florack, Trustees John Alfieri, Ted Conners, and Amy Monachino, and former Trustee Michael Flanigan. These individuals had the unenviable task of planning, funding, and voting to support what I have referred to as our "Haley's Comet." This once-every-75-years event is what I truly believe can change a community for the better, and it can be seen only once in a lifetime.

The next 'thank you' goes out to the staff of this fine community, whom I have the privilege of working with on a daily basis. They have been tireless in their support from day one, and we could never be where we are without them. Combined, these talented individuals have more than 236 years of municipal experience. They bring that impressive experience to work and put it to good use every day for the benefit of our residents and business owners, as well as the many visitors to our fine community.

And, saving the best for last, I wish to thank the entire East Rochester community for understanding the vision necessary to make this project a reality, as well as their faith in the administration and staff to see it to its completion. It has been, and continues to be, a pleasure to serve the citizens, businesses, and visitors of the Town/Village of East Rochester. Thank you!

Please get in touch with me directly if you have any questions. My contact information has remained the same: phone 585-586-3553, fax 585-586-4792, and email mdambrose@eastrochester.org.

– Martin G. D'Ambrose, Town/Village Administrator

The Town/Village of East Rochester Clerk's office is now located in the newly renovated Eyer Building, at 317 Main St. Our office is on the second floor, directly across from the south elevator. You can access us from either the large main municipal parking lot or the Main Street entrance adjacent to the diagonal parking.

The Clerk's office will continue to deliver the same services we have in the past; for more details please see our Website, www.eastrochester.org. Our hours of operation (8:30 am to 4:30 pm weekdays), phone number (585-586-3553) and fax number (585-586-4792) remain the same.

As always, it's a pleasure to serve the citizens, businesses, and visitors of East Rochester.

– Gerri Raschiatore, Clerk-Treasurer

Save the date! East Rochester Christmas Festival – Saturday, Dec. 13
Much more info to come as the date approaches!

2014 Bulk Refuse Pickups:

Oct. 6-10 and Dec. 1-5

Fishing and hunting licenses can be purchased at Town/Village Hall from 8:30 am-4:30 pm weekdays.

For more information please visit www.eastrochester.org/departments/clerk/clerklicenseinfo.php.

~ FREE SUMMER CONCERT CONCLUDES ~

We hope you enjoyed Smoke House (rock, blues, and R&B), Mr. Mustard (Beatles, Beatles, and more Beatles!), and Code Five Rock (oldies and country) in June, July, and early August.

Please join us for our last concert of the season: the modern rock and country of Red Eyed Jack, set for 7 pm Wednesday, Aug. 20, weather permitting. Food and beverages from local merchants will be available – including the famous Alfieri popcorn!

Thank you for your support this summer!

~ LOCAL HISTORY OFFICE SETTLES INTO NEW LOCATION ~

The Office of Local History, previously housed at 901 Main St., relocated to the second and third floors of the Eyer Building around the end of July/beginning of August. This move coincided with the resettlement of the town/village government's other departments.

The basement contains our storage area for artifacts not currently being displayed elsewhere in the building, and is climate-controlled to preserve the material.

The second floor houses an unattended exhibit area containing display cases of village artifacts, along with a revolving collection of historical photographs on the walls. We also plan to have a large-screen TV showing a continuously running program of highlights in village history from 1897 to the present. This area will be open during the normal office and library hours. In the future we plan to have large TV sets placed in strategic locations throughout the building, and to expand our static displays to other areas of the complex.

Our reference library and work area are on the third floor. This is manned by the dedicated staff of Assistant Historian Anita Mance, Photo Curator Barry Nenno, and numerous volunteers. **We're open to the public from 9 am to 1 pm Wednesdays through Saturdays**, and everyone is welcome to stop in and talk with us at any time during those hours. We look forward to your visits!

– Jim Burlingame, Town/Village Historian

~ EAST ROCHESTER COMMUNITY NEWS TV-12 EXPANDS WITH NEW STUDIOS ~

With the move into the new Eyer Building this summer, East Rochester Community News (Channel 12) is seeing a welcome improvement to both our facilities and production capability. The move combined our previous small shooting studio (on the second floor of the former Local History building) with the programming operations at our former site (158 Commercial St.). Merging these two locations will make for better efficiencies and improvements at ERCN. The new facility in the Eyer Building has a larger shooting studio, capable of hosting two different sets at the same time. Video feeds from the Town/Village Board room (on the third floor of the Eyer Building) can now be fed to the studio in the basement, making live broadcasts of Town/Village Board meetings possible. A new dedicated edit suite will have updated computers, software, and audio/video monitoring, allowing us to produce better-quality programming. The station's new operations area is large enough to run two independent broadcast channels, hold all our field equipment, and store our library of more than 1,200 programs currently archived.

ERCN is also proud to announce we recently made a new arrangement with Pittsford, and our new studio will be instrumental in this enhanced agreement. Not only will ERCN be helping Pittsford with the production of several new shows, we have also taken over the responsibility of program scheduling and the broadcast feeds for both townships. Broadcasting Pittsford's content from ERCN's facility has greatly improved the visual quality of Pittsford's programming. In turn, Pittsford has committed to a substantial financial contribution to help cover operating expenses. We're very pleased to be working closer with Pittsford and to see the investment they're making. This new relationship strengthens local community programming. Our goal is to make our new facility available to all four townships in our broadcast area (ER, Pittsford, Perinton, and Fairport) for production of programming of interest to viewers in all four of those communities.

Viewers can watch our broadcast in several different ways. Time Warner customers can watch on cable channel 12 (with a Time Warner-supplied cable box), or channel 98.4 (with no cable box, after you rescan for new channels on your digital TV). We can also be seen using Roku (for those who do not subscribe to Time Warner) and on any computer (via Web streaming). Simply go to the Town/Village of East Rochester's home page and click on the 'Watch TV-12' button.

Our 28 volunteers would like to sincerely thank our viewing audience for watching!

– John Schroth, Station Director

News from the E.R. Youth Activity Center (for students in grades 6-12)

317 Main St. 586-1003 open 3-7 pm Monday, Wednesday, and Friday

Our staff – Sam Hook, Liz LaDelfa, and Tim Bovay – started identifying potential participants for our **Summer Youth Employment Program** in February. These youth filled out applications in March, and in April participants attend interviews, and parents of 14- and 15-year-old participants attended a parent meeting. Brady Farnand and Sherri Maine are staff who started on Monday, July 7 with a three-hour Job Readiness Training class. We had 18 youth participants register to start work at this time. Our summer work program is also project-based; this year's summer project is 'Great and Green.' The grant's goals are to (1) show kids in our community they can easily help others by donating food, (2) teach them to appreciate their town, and (3) show them how to plant and grow their own food. About 80% of the vegetables the participants picked went, and will continue to go, to the ER Community Resource Center for distribution throughout the community, and 20% came back to the Center for the youth to learn to prepare healthy meals. We were able to do this project with funding from Youth As Resources, which is sponsored by the Rochester Area Community Foundation and the Monroe County Youth Bureau. We also received donations from Wegmans, and Father Leone from St. Jerome's Church.

Some of the participants were able to participate in Foodlink's 'Cooking Matters' program, where they learned about nutrition and how to cook healthier meals. The participants were also able to work with the Holy Childhood representatives, who came to the Youth Center three times this summer to plant flowers with our students; these flower pots are being sold, with proceeds going to the ERCRC.

During the time HC was at the Center, our participants were able to interact with Holy Childhood consumers, and play games and eat lunch with them. Collaborating with Holy Childhood staff and consumers, the Youth Center participants worked side-by-side to make these plants for the community-service project.

Students also worked at job sites in the community, preparing for careers while learning valuable job skills and building a portfolio for future job interviews. We would like to sincerely thank Surace's, Village Fair, Second Thought Resale Shop, Sunoco, ER Junior/Senior High School, Rubino's, Debbie Supply, Pelligrino's, the Rivers Organization, and the ERCRC for providing mentoring and work positions for our students.



Summer Youth Training and Employment program participants

The ER Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring **Day Camp in Northside Park** from 10 am to 1pm weekdays this summer. Even with the extreme heat, participants are enjoying the time they spend at Day Camp. They make many different crafts, including tie-dye shirts, suncatchers, masks, and sidewalk paint. Sports is also an important part of Day Camp; each week we focus on a different sport, teaching the students skills they can work on throughout the school year. There are snacks and water provided for all who participate. Friday, Aug. 22 is the Day Camp closing party; hope to see you there.

Students are washing and shining the ER Police Department's vehicles several times this summer. In addition, they volunteered at the Karknocker 5K race in the village on Friday, July 25, helping with safety and traffic flow.

Save the date: the **annual Halloween party** at the Eyer Park lodge, for kids in pre-school through fifth grade, is set for Wednesday, Oct. 29. Also, **'Our New Beginning Get Together'** is planned for **4 to 7 pm Friday, Sept. 19**, at our new location in the Eyer Building. This will provide us with time to introduce the new sixth-graders to what the Youth Center has to offer, and the entire community to our new facility. Please come and check us out, and see what we do!

Thank you to Neera Marwaha, proprietor of the ER Sunoco gas stations, for a generous donation to the Youth Center.

Are you out of school and between the ages of 17 and 21? Stuck in a rut when it comes to where your future is going? We can help you find a job, choose a career path, get your High School Equivalency Certificate, look into colleges, apply for your driver's license, and whatever you need to get you on track for a successful future. Slots are going fast; call us while they're still available!

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

ER COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

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

Teresa Quinzi-Willette, director Pat Cragg, associate director

SUMMER CLOTHING CLEARANCE SALE

9 am to 2 pm Wednesday, Aug. 20 through Friday, Aug. 22, at the Resource Center – \$2 a bag (with a few exceptions)

The **FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION** program is temporarily discontinued. For more information call the CRC at 586-0525, or watch Channel 12. Please note this particular distribution is for ER residents only. *Thank you!*

ADVENT CRAFT SALE VENDORS NEEDED! This year's event is set for 9 am to 3 pm Saturday, Dec. 13, at ER Schools. Please contact the ER CRC for more information.

Library notes....

Welcome to the new East Rochester Public Library! We have a brand-new look, and much to offer in our new facility. Come and explore the new Children's Room, exclusively on the first floor of the Eyer Building, across from the Senior Center. Enjoy exploring our Story Time room, where the Youth and Children's Coordinators, Alicia and Kelly, will be reading to and creating crafts with children.

We have a new service desk on the first floor, for your ease and convenience in checking out materials. Upstairs is the Reference Desk to help with questions about the Adult collection, which is on the second floor. Also on the second floor are the new Library computer terminals, just recently installed. We have both black-and-white and color printing for your convenience, as well as access to Microsoft Office 2010.

Also upstairs: a small conference room for tutoring or quiet study and a comfortable lounge area to enjoy peaceful moments reading; you can also peruse our magazine collection and new books while there.

For those of you interested in used books, the Book Nook has a permanent location in the new Library. Although regular Book Nook hours are yet to be determined, come and see all the gently used books for purchase on our shelves. Interested in helping out at the Nook? Contact Library Director Meredith Fraser at 586-8302 to become a member of the Friends of the ERPL.

We really hope you will enjoy this new facility! Special thanks to Martin D'Ambrose for facilitating the two NYS Grants that helped fund our new Library. Thanks also to Jeannette Pullano and all the members of the Library Board who helped in this transition, and to Maggie Broker, Friends of the Library President, for her efforts in getting the new Book Nook up and running. We'd also like to extend our sincere gratitude to all the volunteers who helped make this a smooth transition. *Hope to see you at the Library soon!*

NEWS FROM THE E.R. SENIOR CENTER

Welcome to our new home! Please feel free to drop in and visit our Senior Center. If you are 55 or older, you can participate in all the activities. **Membership** (per calendar year, January-December) is \$4 for East Rochester residents and \$5 for all others. Trips are open to anyone interested.

Senior Citizen activities continue through the summer, as our members take advantage of the air conditioning. In July, we had a **Christmas in July Stocking Stuffer tour**. Passengers enjoyed receiving a gift for their stocking at each place they visited. Our July and August program meetings are **picnic days** at our Center. We will close at noon on Fridays. **Podiatrist Dr. Merkel** saw patients by appointment on Monday, Aug. 11.

In September, we have a **three-day trip to Virginia Beach** planned; literature is available on request. We'll also have a day tour to the **Merry-Go-Round Playhouse in Auburn to see a matinee of 'The Will Rogers Follies.'** Our next **AARP Safe Driving Course** is scheduled for 9 am to 3:30 pm Wednesday, Sept. 17; registration is required.

Our **Comedy Fashion Show** has two dates booked for September – one at Brightonian Assisted Living and the other at Cherry Ridge. New "models" (men and women of all shapes and sizes) are always welcome. It's a lot of fun and gives pleasure to many people.

Our **Spaghetti Dinner and Pinewood Derby** is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 20. All are invited to race a car of their own making (kits are available), or just watch.

The **Singles Group** continues to grow. They meet for dinner at different local restaurants every other week, and transportation is provided for those who want it. *The fellowship and friendship are outstanding!*

E.R. POLICE DEPARTMENT IN EXPANDED LOCATION AT EYER BUILDING

The East Rochester Police Department is settling into its new location, in the lower level of the Eyer Building. As one can imagine this was a major move, not only for us, but also for the other entities within the Town/Village of ER. I'm looking forward to a new beginning, and the much-needed improvements and additional space.

I feel that putting all of ER's entities together can only improve day-to-day operations. Merely having the Town/Village offices, court, and police department in one area will benefit all.

Access to the department is from the ground floor, either from the Main Street entrance or the west side parking area. Once in the building, you can get to the police department window by going down the stairs in the foyer. (Appropriate signage in the foyer will direct you, if needed.)

Our new facility is twice the size of what we worked in before. We have an additional interview room and updated holding cells, larger property and locker rooms, a break room, and a couple of storage rooms. We will also have a 'sally port,' where the police cars will be able to pull in with prisoners, who can then be transported into the police department. As with any major move, there were a few small stumbling blocks once in the new location. However, our six-month plan consists of working to get adjusted to our new facility. We're changing and modifying things as needed to better operate, and should have a good handle on everything within the next few months.

– Steven Clancy, ERPD Chief

THANK YOU FROM THE E.R. FIRE DEPARTMENT!

On behalf of the members of the East Rochester Fire Department and the 2014 Firemen's Field Days committee, I would like to thank the community, local businesses, entertainment sponsors, and visitors who supported us during this year's Field Days. We sincerely hope your experiences at the barbecue, parade, and/or carnival were fun and memorable, and we hope you'll join us again next year!

A huge thank you also goes to the dedicated and hardworking members of the ER Fire Department.

For more information about our department, please visit www.erfd.org.

– Michael D. Romach, ERFD Chief

Photos from a DWI/distracted driving reenactment the ER Police and Fire departments sponsored in conjunction with several other agencies are on the school district's Website, at www.tinyurl.com/nxlrbs.

~ THE E.R. TOWN/VILLAGE COURT BENCH PRESS ~

The East Rochester Town/Village Court has moved from the former West Commercial Street location to a new space on the third floor of the Eyer Building. Our larger area will allow defendants, attorneys, and all other interested parties to fit in the courtroom at any given time. (With our previous setup only a certain number of people could be seated at a time, which created an uncomfortable and sometimes awkward flow for people waiting to be seen in court.) In addition, an elevator in the Eyer Building will make it more convenient for people with disabilities to conduct their court business. The Court has jurisdiction over cases involving all misdemeanors and violations that occur within the Town/Village of ER, along with cases involving summary proceedings (landlord/tenant evictions), small claims of \$3,000 or less, and all Village Ordinance violations, including parking tickets. Even though East Rochester is only 1 square mile we are a busy court, with our justices hearing anywhere from 60 to 100 cases a week. On a much more positive note, our justices perform about three weddings in our courtroom every month.

ER Town/Village Court has two part-time justices who share the caseload. Judge Terrence Brown-Steiner was appointed in 2010 after Judge Victoria Argento was elected to serve in Monroe County Court; he then ran for the position in 2011 and was elected to serve a four-year term. Judge David Bonacchi ran for the position in 2012 when a vacancy was created by Judge Scott Odorisi's bid for Supreme Court justice. Our office is staffed by two full-time clerks: Michon Ball is the clerk for Judge Bonacchi and Jackie Root is the clerk for Judge Brown-Steiner. We look forward to being able to better serve you in our new environment this fall!

PHARMACEUTICAL WASTE DROP-OFFS

The ER Police Department (254 W. Ivy St.) accepts pharmaceutical waste (including undated or unwanted prescription or over-the-counter medications, needles, syringes, and pill bottles) from 10 am to 2 pm the third Wednesday of each month: Aug. 20, Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 19, and Dec. 17. For more information go to www.eastrochester.org or call 586-4399.

~ ASSESSMENT OFFICE IN NEW LOCATION ~

The Town/Village Assessment Office is now located on the second floor of the Eyer Building, on the south (Elm Street) side, along with the Building Department.

Office hours are 8:30 am to 4:30 pm weekdays. In addition, the Assessor can meet with residents by appointment. The Assessor maintains the assessment role, which lists property tax assessments and exemptions. This involves approving and monitoring various exemptions, including senior citizen, school tax relief (STAR), and veterans exemptions.

The Assessor also reviews every transfer of real property for accuracy, including the basic information on the buyer, seller, and sale price. Properties are reviewed annually for changes, including permits for new construction, demolition, change of use, and market conditions.

Nick Morabito, the sole appointed assessor in East Rochester since October 1988, is a NYS-certified Residential Real Estate Appraiser and a licensed Real Estate Broker and Realtor. Mr. Morabito also holds the following designations: professional assessor and member of the Institute of Assessing Officers since 1989, and state-certified professional assessor since 1990.

State law (RPTL 305) requires all properties to be assessed at a uniform percentage of market value each year by our Assessment Office. East Rochester has chosen to assess at 100% of full market value. Since the assessment update in 2000, the equalization rate has been 100% 14 out of 15 years.

FROM the BUILDING DEPARTMENT

There's lots of time left for those summer projects! Please remember **building permits are needed for the following:**

- * POOLS (any pool capable of holding 24 inches of water, per NYS law)
- * ROOFS
- * SHEDS (larger than 47 square feet)
- * DECKS
- * FENCES
- * ENCLOSED FRONT PORCHES
- * NEW CONSTRUCTION/ADDITIONS
- * DEMOLITION
- * SOME INTERIOR REMODELING

Reminder: Please call the Building Department, at 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 4:30 pm 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.

Fall Leaf Collection Schedule and Guidelines for Curbside Leaf Pickup

Curbside leaf pickup will begin in mid-October and run until Dec. 15, weather-permitting. We collect your leaves from the curb in the following manner:

Large leaf piles: We collect your large piles of leaves at the curb using a leaf vacuum machine. Please place your leaf piles between the sidewalks and curb. Please do not place your piles in the road, as they pose a hazard for drivers and children and can clog up the storm drains. Do not mix any yard debris, garbage, brush, or branches with the leaves, 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 for the entire village.

Bagged leaves: Residents are encouraged to bag their leaves whenever possible, using clear plastic or recyclable paper bags. (These particular types are required for two reasons: Clear bags allow us to distinguish between leaf bags and garbage bags. We recycle all the leaves we collect and don't want to accidentally throw your leaf bags into the garbage truck, and thus pay unnecessary landfill fees. Recyclable paper bags allow us to recycle the bags along with the leaves.) Bagged leaves will be picked up on your regular scheduled garbage-collection day, with a separate truck. Please be aware that wet leaves can be very heavy, and we have a weight limit of 50 pounds per bag. Each bag of leaves is hand-loaded onto a truck for disposal, so 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 can't efficiently collect them.

What do I do with my leaves in the summer? We use the large leaf vacuum trucks only in the fall. Therefore, in the spring and summer, all leaves must be bagged for collection.

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

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