



School District and Community News



June-July-August 2015

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 Meetings

7 pm Thursdays Aug. 13, Sept. 10, and Oct. 8

Town/Village Board Workshop Meetings

7 pm Thursdays Aug. 27, Sept. 24, and Oct. 29

Planning/Architectural Board*

7 pm Tuesdays Aug. 11, Sept. 8, and Oct. 13

Zoning Board*

7 pm Tuesdays Aug. 18, Sept. 15, and Oct. 20

* 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 419-8282

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: MANY NEW, RELOCATING BUSINESSES KNOW WHY E.R. IS IDEAL

The Town/Village of East Rochester has been very fortunate that so many new or existing businesses look to locate here. Some might ask why ER is the perfect location for a business; here are a few of the reasons we receive so much interest and so many inquiries:

First, it's the people, families, traditions, and loyalty that have always been hallmarks of what East Rochester embodies. Many families relocate to share in a close-knit community that reaches out to help a neighbor or friend. Coupled with families who have been here since the late 1890s, ER continues to reinvent itself.

Revitalization is the saving grace of any city, town, or village. Over the past seven years East Rochester businesses continue to leverage their location. With a recently upgraded downtown business center and expanded parking, new businesses are opening up just about every week. In the past several months, Flower City Dental, Yog N Go, Luna's Lounge, Brown-Steiner Law Offices, Media Transfer Service, Landmark Family Restaurant, DCS Group Enterprises, Fast Mart, La-Tea-Da, Guacamole Mexican Taqueria, Tavern 135, equaTEK Interactive, Skyhigh Networks, DeVita Dialysis, and Techniplex Conference Room Center have opened, or are opening, brand-new or relocated sites in ER. In addition, several other businesses are well into the planning/opening process and should be ready for customers and clients by this fall.

As always, please contact me directly if you have any questions about our Town/Village. My phone, fax, and email address are 586-3553, 586-4792, and mdambrose@astrochester.org.

It continues to be a pleasure to serve the citizens, businesses, and visitors of the Town/Village of East Rochester. Thank you!
– *Martin G. D'Ambrose, Town/Village Administrator*

~ FREE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES CONCLUDES AUG. 26 ~

We hope you enjoyed Mr. Mustard (Beatles tribute), Redeye Jack (rock and roll for all ages), Promise (Motown), and Black Rose (country hits and oldies) in June, July, and early August. **Please join us for our last concert of the season: the Greece Jazz Band, featuring ER's Gary Samulski, set for 7 pm Wednesday, Aug. 26**, weather permitting. Food and beverages from local merchants will be available – including the famous Alfieri popcorn!

Thank you for your support this summer!

HEALTH AND WELLNESS FAIR SET FOR TUESDAY, OCT. 20

Mark your calendar and save the date! The Town/Village of East Rochester plans to hold its annual Health and Wellness Fair from **9 am to noon Tuesday, Oct. 20**, at the Eyer Municipal Building, 317 Main St.

Available to all residents will be flu shots, blood pressure screenings, chair massages, and much more. In addition, vendors will be on all three floors, and health and wellness professionals will be on hand to answer questions.

Come tour the Eyer Building and start, or continue, your goal of wellness.

If you are a health/wellness professional (or appropriate vendor) and wish to participate, or if you have any questions, please call Town/Village Hall at 586-3553.

~ COME VISIT THE LOCAL HISTORY OFFICE'S NEW LOCATION ~

The East Rochester Department of Local History has completed its move into the Eyer Building, and is now in the finishing stages of emptying boxes, setting up displays, and catching up on various projects that were on hold during the relocation process.

In room 3020 (on the third floor at the end of the hall), you'll find a vast collection of information about past events and residents of the Town/Village. Our archives include many sources for researching ER's past, such as newspapers, obituaries, marriage certificates, street directories, photographs, artifacts, and much more. In addition, we've placed photographs and displays of ER history in various locations throughout the building.

We invite and encourage you to stop in and check out all our resources. Our new hours are 9am to 1 pm Wednesday through Saturday; we suggest calling us at 381-3023 first to make sure someone is available to help you. We look forward to your visit!

– *Jim Burlingame, Town/Village Historian*

E.R. COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

317 Main 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. 19 through Friday, Aug. 21, at the Resource Center – \$2 a bag (we supply the bag)
Suits, sport jackets, and winter outerwear \$2 each, adult shoes and sneakers \$1 a pair

We sell clothing only twice a year, during clearance sales, and our price of \$2 a bag for most clothing has been consistent for more than 25 years. These sales are necessary to make room for incoming seasonal clothing, because of our limited storage space. In addition, many of our clients who are eligible for free clothing won't take advantage of this service. But they will come in when we have a sale, and take pride in knowing they paid for what they got – which is why we've kept the cost at a minimum for so long.

Families or individuals who live in the Town/Village of ER and are in need of clothing or other services should call us at 586-0525 to make an appointment.

ADVENT CRAFT SALE VENDORS NEEDED!

This year's event is set for **9 am to 3 pm Saturday, Dec. 12**, at ER Schools. Vendor spaces are going fast! If you'd like to participate, please call Pat Cragg at the CRC for more information.

Library notes....

At the East Rochester Public Library we're wrapping up our Summer Reading program. We congratulate all the participating students and adults on their hard work this summer, and are confident the children are ready for the new school year. The Library would also like to invite all families of readers, young and older alike, to our ice cream social at 2 pm Friday, Aug. 14.

Thank you to all who volunteered and supported the children's programming this summer, including the teen volunteers and Friends of the Library. We couldn't have accomplished it without you! Kelly will resume her regularly scheduled Story Times and events in the fall.

We would like to introduce our two new staff members: Ali Toland, who works day shifts, and Pat Lafleur, who works nights and weekends.

Ali has worked at the Greece library for about 10 years. She started as a library page, and was promoted to desk aide after about two years. Ali will be doing clerical work for us here at ER, answering questions, and charging out books. She loves reading, music, video games, and outdoor activities.

Pat has worked at the Henrietta library for a total of 22 years. She is also an avid reader, with a bachelor's degree in English and a master's in library science, both from SUNY Geneseo. She also earned an associate's degree and a certificate in human services from MCC. Pat has two adult children, Amy and Benjy, whom she enjoyed raising after completing her degrees. She likes old movies, PBS, and listening to music. Please stop by and welcome them both!

The Adult Reading Group continues in August, September, October, and November. Be sure to stop by and pick up the latest selection!

The Friends of the Library are always in need of donations and new volunteers. The Book Nook is open from 11am-1pm Wednesdays and Saturdays, and 5:30-7:30pm Thursdays. Come see our gently used book collection, with books and DVDs available for purchase.

We can be reached at 586-8302, *and we look forward to seeing you at the Library!*

THANK YOU FROM THE E.R. FIRE DEPARTMENT!

On behalf of the 2015 East Rochester Fire Department Field Days committee and the members of the ERFD, we would like to thank the residents, local businesses, entertainment sponsors, and visitors who supported us during last month's Fireman's Field Days. We sincerely hope your experience at the barbecue, parade, and/or carnival was 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. – Sean Mullaney, Field Days chairman

NEWS FROM THE JEAN DANIEL SENIOR CENTER

Our activities have continued during the summer months as usual. Line dancing every Monday morning has been well-attended. Our July and August picnic meetings were held at the Center, with our gentlemen cooking hot dogs. September will be a busy month! We have a day trip to Buffalo for a river, lock, and canal cruise (along with a stop at Vidler's store in East Aurora and lunch at the American Grille) scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 2. The Pittsford Senior Choir is coming to entertain us on Thursday, Sept. 17. Our annual Spaghetti Dinner and Pinewood Derby is set for Saturday, Sept. 19. And we have a trip to Boston and Wildwoods, with a ride on the Essex Steam Train, planned for Monday, Sept. 21 through Thursday, Sept. 24; literature is available at the Center. Other upcoming events to keep in mind include our craft and bake sale (Saturday, Oct. 3), community flu clinic (10 am to 3 pm Wednesday, Oct. 7), and AARP Safe Driving Course (Tuesday, Oct. 13). 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.

ERCN CHANNEL 12: A MODEL FOR THE FUTURE OF COMMUNITY ACCESS!

In a time when municipal budgets get tighter and tighter each year, East Rochester Community News TV-12 is leveraging its facilities and expertise with neighboring communities, and continues to grow.

In October 2013, the Village of Fairport decided to close its cable access station because the costs of keeping up a 24/7 station didn't justify the broadcast of its only locally produced show, the monthly Village Board meeting. East Rochester approached Fairport with a solution that made sense for both communities. We would pick up the broadcast areas of Fairport and Perinton, and receive a monthly management fee for scheduling and airing Fairport's Village Board meeting. Fairport would thus drastically reduce their costs to be involved with cable access. Most importantly, the Fairport/Perinton viewership benefitted by getting better and more diverse local programming. TV-12 staff even went to visit our Red Raider neighbors to conduct interviews and tape events that were aired for the first time in many years.

Then, in June of 2014, ER and Pittsford began a new relationship. In the past, broadcast feeds would switch daily from ER to Pittsford, then back to ER. Programming was confusing and disjointed for the viewers, with no standardized community bulletin board or show scheduling. Pittsford's feed to Time Warner was not optimized, and improving the quality of the signal would have required a major investment in new equipment. Pittsford Town Supervisor Bill Smith recognized the value of community access TV, and wanted to see both an improvement in quality as well as more content that would interest the Pittsford viewers, so both communities came together and decided on a new arrangement. ER would handle the programming and broadcast feed for Pittsford, which improved the quality of their broadcast. The two communities also began to use the same bulletin board for messages. Our move into the Eyer Building was perfect timing for TV-12. We now had a new video production studio that neighboring townships, such as Pittsford, needed but didn't have. In turn, Pittsford agreed to pay a significant fee to help offset ER's annual operating expenses. Partnering between the two communities has improved the quality of the broadcast feed, and has given Pittsford a production facility and technical support to produce new programming. Most importantly, it has led to new programming that interests the Pittsford viewers and has made the broadcasts easier for residents of all four municipalities to follow.

The solidification and partnership between the four communities has strengthened cable access programming in 'our' broadcast area, and we're proud that ERCN TV-12 has become a model for other towns and villages. Sharing resources between communities is the future for strong and healthy community access programming.

ERCN is funded through a portion of Time Warner franchise fees received by the Town/Village of East Rochester, along with contributed funds from Fairport and Pittsford. The 29 volunteers of TV-12 proudly serve ER and our neighboring communities of Pittsford, Fairport, and Perinton. You can find TV-12 on Time Warner Cable channels 12 and 98.4. You can also watch us (and video-on-demand shows) on our Web streaming site – go to the Town/Village of ER's home page and click on the 'watch TV-12' button. You can also view us on Roku; find our channel in the 'community access' section. If you're having trouble getting Channel 12, please contact the station at 641-0183.

If you'd like to become involved with TV-12, please contact me at 641-0183 or ercn@astrochester.org.

– John Schroth, Station Director

VILLAGE DESPATCH – SUMMER 2015

FROM THE E.R. POLICE DEPARTMENT ~ to Protect and Serve the Residents of East Rochester ~

As summer and the school break come to an end, please be reminded that **all parks in the Town/Village of East Rochester close at 10 pm**. With the longer nights and warmer weather, calls for service increase.

The ER Police Department provides **free fingerprinting** for our Town/Village residents; non-residents are charged \$20.

We have a new Officer starting in August! Her name is Elissa Schindler, and she'll be undergoing field training for about three months before being on the road. We happily welcome Elissa to the ERPD!

Pedestrian and vehicle traffic begin to pick up during the back-to-school rush, so **please remember to obey the speed limits** (generally 30 mph, but only 20 mph around our parks and schools, which resume on Wednesday, Sept. 2).

The Police Department is helping with the creation of a **Neighborhood Watch** program, which should be in full swing by early fall.

As mentioned in our previous newsletter, which was mailed in May, we have a **pharmaceutical waste drop-off box** outside the Police Department. It's in the lower atrium of the Eyer Building and can be accessed when the building is open. This container does not except needles; they can be brought to a walk-in pharmaceutical drop-off day (the third Wednesday of every month).

For the seniors in our community: please be aware of several **scams** that are currently out there. One of the more prevalent ones involves asking for money for an accident a grandchild was allegedly in; another claims to be the IRS threatening arrest unless money is given. The list goes on and on, but please be aware and cautious, and never supply persistent, unknown callers with personal information about yourself or anyone else.

If you have questions about these or any other issues, please contact the ERPD at 586-4399. Our **non-emergency hours of operation** are 8:30 am to 4:30 pm weekdays; we are closed on weekends and holidays. – Steve Clancy, ER Chief of Police

FROM THE E.R. ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

East Rochester's 2015 Final Assessment Roll was filed on Wednesday, July 1. A copy is available in the Assessment Office (hours are 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday) and at www.eastrochester.org.

ER has chosen to assess at 100% of full market value. Since the Village-wide assessment update in 2000, the equalization rate has been 100% 15 out of 16 years.

All exemption applications for the 2016 roll are due by Tuesday, March 1, 2016. Renewal applications for Limited Income Senior, Limited Income Disability, and Enhanced STAR will be mailed throughout November and December. Additional exemption information and the Real Property Assessment Cycle are available on the Town/Village Website.

FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Curbside leaf pickup will begin in mid-October and run until mid-December, 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!

UPCOMING BULK PICK-UP WEEKS: Oct. 5-9 and Dec. 7-11

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

News from the E.R. Youth Activity Center (for students in grades 5-12)

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

The East Rochester Youth Activity Center is starting to wrap up an action-packed July and August. This summer we employed 22 youths between the ages of 14 and 18 under a **Rochester Works grant** and volunteered out their services. You might have seen these teens serving our community at places such as 1-2-3 Shoes, A Second Thought Resale Shop, Crust Pizza, Debbie Supply, Linden East Condominiums, the Rivers Organization, Rubino's Italian Submarines, Sunoco, Yog N Go, and the ER Community Resource Center, DPW, Local History Office, Public Library, and School District. Our summer program wouldn't be possible without the mentoring from these businesses and organizations, and we thank them for all they do!

During the summer our youth also helped with several events around town. At the Karknocker 5K they blocked off the roads along the route to help ensure the safety of the runners. Others helped wash and wax the ER Police cars. Community Bikes, a not-for-profit company that lets residents bring their bikes to Northside Park for free repairs, allowed our youth to learn about, and help with, the repair process.

We also were able to participate in **'Cooking Matters,' a six-session Foodlink class** that teaches teens how to cook healthy meals for themselves and their families. The participants really enjoyed being able to cook and learn different nutrition facts.

An art show held Tuesday, Aug. 11, was part of an **'Art from the Heart' grant** we received. This project encouraged students to reflect upon the meaning of 'family' and turn that into a visual representation of their feelings. Our friends from Holy Childhood joined us for part of this initiative, and enjoyed some games and lunch in the process. This was a great experience for students because it gave them the opportunity to explore their creative side, while identifying what 'family' means to them. This event was funded by a Youth As Resources grant, which is sponsored by YAR, the Rochester Area Community Foundation, and the Rochester-Monroe County Youth Bureau.

This summer the ER YAC also held a **day camp** at both Edmond Lyon Park (on Tuesdays and Thursdays) and Northside Park (Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays). Kids from the community could come and work on arts, crafts, and other activities. The camp runs from 10 am to 1 pm through Thursday, Aug. 20 at Edmond Lyon and Friday, Aug. 21 at Northside. Many thanks to the ER Chamber Of Commerce for sponsoring this camp!

We are still offering help with **High School Equivalency Test preparation**. If you're interested, please give us a call at 586-1003 to arrange a time to discuss this program further. Also, **Alateen** programs are still being offered in the lower level of the Eyer Building (room LL060) from 4-5 pm every Tuesday. These services, which provide support to teens affected by someone else's use of alcohol and drugs, are completely free and confidential; anyone interested is more than welcome to attend.

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! – *Barbara Maine, ERYAC director*

REMINDERS FROM the BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Grass, Weeds, and General Property Maintenance: Town/Village Code requires that grass be maintained at a height of less than 6 inches. New York state Property Maintenance Code also addresses maintenance of structures and surrounding property areas. All structural components (such as roofs, gutters, doors, windows, and porches) must be maintained and in good condition, and exterior property areas must be maintained in a clean, safe, and sanitary condition.

Building Permits: Permits are required for sheds, fences, decks, roof replacement, plumbing, retaining walls, driveways, pools, building additions, and new construction. All pools (including inflatable pools) are subject to NYS law if they are capable of holding water at a depth of 24 inches. Before starting any construction project, please call the Building Department at 385-3513, or visit us on the second floor of the Eyer Building, to find out if a permit is required. We are the best place to research your future projects to see if permits are required. We act as an independent third party between you and your contractor to help ensure that both parties' interests are protected. We will review and inspect your project to make sure it's built correctly and satisfies all NYS code requirements. Permit requirements and forms can be found on our Website, under Building Inspector. 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.

NEW E-WASTE POLICY IN EFFECT

As of Aug. 1, 2015, older-style televisions and computer monitors containing cathode ray tubes are no longer accepted for drop-off at the East Rochester Department of Public Works garage, 200 Ontario St. You must now bring them to an approved facility for disposal, and there will be a charge for each CRT item.

If you place a CRT item at the curb for pickup, it will be tagged with a violation sticker. If the item is still at the curb after one day/24 hours, it/they will be removed, but you will be fined \$50 for each item.

All other forms of electronic waste can still be dropped off at the DPW garage free of charge. However, before dropping off allowable e-waste, residents/commercial property owners must first check in at the DPW office. Anyone dropping off unacceptable CRT items will be subject to fines, based on the video surveillance cameras on the property. For a detailed list of acceptable and non-acceptable items, please visit www.sunnking.com/consumer-business/acceptable-materials/.

HOW TO FILE A SMALL CLAIM IN EAST ROCHESTER TOWN/VILLAGE COURT

What is a Small Claim? A Small Claim is a claim for money only, not exceeding \$3,000, in which the person you wish to sue either lives, works, or has a place of business in the town/village where you are filing the claim.

Who can use the Small Claims Court? Anyone 18 years or older can bring an action for money in the Small Claims part of the court. A minor (under 18) can file a claim by having a parent (or adult in whose custody he/she resides) accompany him/her to make the claim and appear at trial.

Starting the suit: It's generally necessary to personally appear in court to begin the suit; it can't be started by mail or telephone. However, if you are unable because of age, mental or physical incapacity, or another disability, you can ask the court to allow a person related to you by blood or marriage to help you. You don't need a lawyer in a Small Claims case. The simplified procedure in the court is designed to make it easy for a layperson to prosecute his/her own action. You can, however, retain an attorney to represent you at your own expense. To start a small claim in ER, go to the court (on the third floor of the Eyer Building) between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm weekdays. The clerk will ask you to pay a filing fee of \$10 (for claims of \$1,000 or less) or \$15 (for claims of more than \$1,000). The clerk will also ask you to fill out and sign a statement stating a) your name and address, b) the name and address of the person you're suing, c) his/her place of employment or office if you don't know the home address or he/she doesn't live in your county, and d) the nature, amount, and particulars of your claim.

Who can you sue? You can sue any person, corporation, or limited liability company you think owes you money if that person, corporation, or LLC lives, has an office for the transaction of business, or works within the town/village in which court you file your claim. You are permitted to sue municipal corporations (such as towns, villages, cities, and sewer or water districts) in Small Claims Court.

Where to sue: You can bring the claim in the court most convenient to you, but it must be in a town/village where the party being sued lives, works, or has a place of business.

When must you sue? Claims for money damages in New York state must be started within strict time limits. For example: contract claims, six years; motor vehicle accident cases, three years; assault claims, one year. A Small Claims action is begun when the claimant pays the required fee to the court clerk, not when the notice is received by the defendant.

What happens then? The court clerk will file the statement and mail the notice of claim to the defendant by both first-class and certified mail, and will advise you of the date, time, and place to come back for the trial. If the defendant refuses to accept the certified mail, his/her receipt of the first-class mail will give the court jurisdiction over the case. If the first-class mail isn't returned to the court as undeliverable within 21 days, it's presumed the defendant received the notice. The trial date will be within 45 days of the date you file the claim. If the notice can't be served within four months from the filing, the court must dismiss the claim without prejudice (which means you can refile the claim when the defendant has been located and can be served). The clerk will also provide you with information about the procedure followed in Small Claims Court. Please be prepared on the day of the hearing to provide all proof and/or witnesses to the judge. If the defendant pays you the money in question before the trial date, you need not appear in court and the case will automatically be dismissed – but be sure to notify the court of the settlement.

Judgment: After the judge has decided your case, he/she will inform both sides of the decision. The entry of the decision in the court's records is called a 'judgment.' The debtor has 30 days after receipt of notice of the judgment to pay it. Upon making payment, the defendant is entitled to have the court enter a satisfaction of that judgment on the court records.

Please call the East Rochester Town/Village Court at 385-2576 if you have any questions.