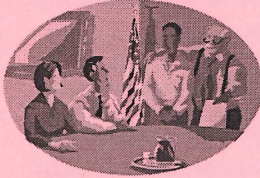
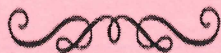


# BOROUGH OF FAR HILLS

SPRING 2018



- **Borough Council** meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 7:00 pm at Borough Hall.
- **Planning Board** meetings are held the 1st Monday of the month at 7:00 pm at Borough Hall.
- **Board of Health** meetings are held the 3rd Monday of the month at 7:00 pm at Borough Hall.



**Primary Election  
June 5, 2018**

**Polls are open from  
6 am to 8 pm**

**Borough of Far Hills  
Municipal Building**

**Voter information  
ELECTIONS.NJ.GOV**

## FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Dear Neighbors and Friends:

As I write this newsletter, the sun has finally appeared and the windy, cold, and rainy days of March and April have hopefully passed so we can welcome the spring weather. As our children and grandchildren move into their final weeks of school and families start to think about summer plans, I want to take a few moments to update you on happenings here in Far Hills. The past several months have been very busy; so let's get right to it. Taxes, I am very happy to present the 2018 budget, which was adopted at the April 23rd Borough Council Meeting. The municipal tax rate, once again, will NOT rise. As a result of much hard work by our Council members and CFO, this portion of your tax bill, despite slightly lower real estate appraisals in our area, will continue to be one of the lowest in the State of New Jersey, something of which we are very proud. There are three major components of your tax bill consisting of municipal, county and school taxes. The municipal component pays for police protection, fire and rescue squad services, sending our children to school, infrastructure, personnel including lawyers, planners and others necessary to run the Borough, snow removal, general maintenance, fairground up-keep and many other items. By being cost conscious and planning ahead by utilizing shared services and cross-training employees, I and the Council are mindful of our tax dollars and will continue to be now and in the future.

I want to thank the Far Hills-Bedminster Fire Department members for their time and effort in organizing the Easter Egg Hunt held on March 31st where over 500 children and adults enjoyed a great family day. Also, remember the Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 28, 2018. Please plan to attend this tribute to our brave military and fallen heroes. In addition, be sure to mark your calendars for the Essex Horse Trials, a two day event to be held June 23-24, 2018, featuring horse showmanship, food courts, family fun activities, and an antique car show.

The Visiting Nurse Association of Somerset Hills Rummage Sale, recently held on May 4, 5 and 6, was very successful. I would like to thank all of those who volunteer and support the VNA and acknowledge the good work they do for those in need in our community and throughout Somerset County.

On May 5th, I was invited to meet with Governor Phil Murphy to discuss issues impacting our area. State taxes, COAH, infrastructure among other issues, were on the agenda and I look forward to continuing this dialogue with the Governor and his staff in Trenton.

continued on page 2

## FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

from page 1

On May 7th, I, along with members of our police department, attended a Somerset County Office of Emergency Management meeting held in conjunction with JCP&L. The purpose was to impress upon JCP&L the need for a quicker response to storm-related power loss and to better assist our residents. Improvements to the infrastructure and response from First Energy, the Ohio based parent company of JCP&L, were also discussed.

With regard to infrastructure, I have received several inquiries about the condition of Route 202, which is maintained by the New Jersey Department of Transportation, and has fallen into disrepair over this harsh winter. We reached out to NJDOT, and they quickly responded with a temporary fix performing some patchwork and, I am told, the road is on the list for repaving sometime in the next twelve months. Councilman David Surks, who oversees our roadways, and I will continue to monitor the issue.

Finally, let me address our affordable housing COAH obligation. Over the last few months, I and the Council have held a series of public meetings and presentations from a variety of developers who want to build in our area to address our Supreme Court mandated affordable housing responsibilities. These meetings have been very well attended and we appreciate your opinions and suggestions. A few points on this complicated issue; I and the Council have and will continue to work aggressively to review all possible options, or combinations of options, as to where and what to build. We will do what is in the best interest of our residents and will continue to welcome your thoughts and input. We continue to assess the financial impact to our residents, should part of our plan be to self-fund this unfunded mandate, and will be ever mindful of the character and charm of Far Hills, and why we all moved here.

As of this writing, no definitive decisions have been made. We will continue to consider your thoughts until a final direction is chosen and presented to the court, which is monitoring our progress and has been pleased with our progress thus far. Any decision will be in keeping with the pride and tradition of our home, the Borough of Far Hills, of which we are all very proud.

As always, I thank you for your continued support. I can always be reached through the Borough Hall at 908.234.0611.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Vallone, MD  
Mayor



### RX MISSION DRIVE-IN/DROP-OFF PROGRAM

The Rx Mission Drive-in/Drop-off program is sponsored by the Somerset County Sheriff's Office, the Somerset County Solid Waste Management Division and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration.

Leftover medicines can pose serious safety and health threats and also raise environmental concerns. Medicines flushed down the drain or toilet can contaminate bodies of water, harm wildlife and end up in drinking water supplies. Unwanted or outdated prescription drugs and over-the-counter medications can be safely disposed of at the following Household Hazardous Waste events:

- June 16: Franklin Township Senior Community Center Parking Lot - 505 DeMott Lane, Somerset
- September 26: Branchburg Township Public Works Garage - 34 Kenbury Road Branchburg
- October 20: South County Public Works Garage - 410 Roycefield Road Hillsborough



Rx Collection drop boxes are available 24/7 at the following law enforcement facilities:

- Bernards Township Police Department, 1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge 908.766.1122
- Bound Brook Police Department Lobby, 226 Hamilton Street, Bound Brook 732.356.0800
- Branchburg Police Department, 590 Old York Road and Route 202 North, Branchburg 908.526.3830
- Franklin Township Police Department, 495 DeMott Lane, Somerset 732.873.5533
- Hillsborough Township Police Department, 379 S. Branch Rd., Hillsborough 908.369.4323
- North Plainfield Police Department, 263 Somerset St., North Plainfield 908.769.2937
- Somerset County Administration Building Lower Level, 20 Grove Street, Somerville 908.231.7000

### DON'T BE A VICTIM OF IDENTITY THEFT

The Somerset County Board of Freeholders is pleased to offer residents a free document-shredding program at various locations around the county.

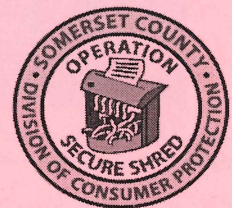
Documents will be commercially shredded safely, privately and properly by trained, licensed and bonded document-destruction specialists. Staples and paper clips do not have to be removed but binder clips must be removed. Residents may bring documents in up to six boxes, containers or bags per visit and will be asked to take back their receptacles.

All events are Saturday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm or until the trucks are full.

For additional information, call 908.203.6018, or email [PublicWorks@co.somerset.nj.us](mailto:PublicWorks@co.somerset.nj.us)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- July 7: Franklin Township Municipal Building, 475 DeMott Lane, Somerset
- July 21: Bedminster Township Public Works Building, 75 Miller Lane, Bedminster
- July 28: Bridgewater Township Municipal Building, 100 Commons Way, Bridgewater
- August 25: Somerset County Public Works Garage South County Facility, 410 Roycefield Road, Hillsborough
- September 22: Branchburg Municipal Building, 1077 US Highway 202 North, Branchburg
- October 6: Montgomery Township High School, 1016 Route 601, Skillman
- October 20: Green Brook Middle School, 132 Jefferson Avenue, Green Brook
- January 19, 2019: Somerset County Public Works Garage North, 411 Chimney Rock Road, Bridgewater



[www.co.somerset.nj.us/shredding](http://www.co.somerset.nj.us/shredding)

### FAR HILLS PHOTO DIRECTORY

Included in this newsletter is the Borough of Far Hills 2018 Photo Directory. Here you will find the face behind the name of the people who so proudly serve the residents of Far Hills.

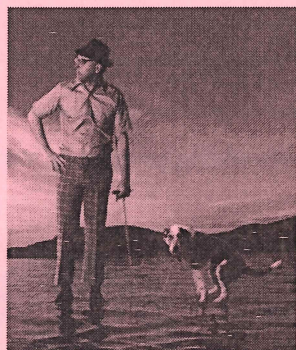
## 8 SIMPLE STORMWATER SOLUTIONS

Nonpoint Source Pollution, or people pollution, is a contamination of our ground water, waterways, and oceans that results from everyday activities such as fertilizing the lawn, walking pets, changing motor oil and littering. With each rainfall, pollutants generated by these activities are washed into storm drains that flow into our waterways and oceans. They also can soak into the ground contaminating the ground water below.

Human activity is largely responsible for storm water pollution. Everything that we put on the ground or into the storm drain can end up in our water. Each of us has a responsibility to make sure these contaminants stay out of our water. Whether we have clean water is up to you. Simple changes in your daily lifestyle can make a tremendous difference in the quality of New Jersey's water resources.

Here are eight simple ways you can reduce nonpoint source pollution.

1. Reduce or eliminate all use of fertilizers, pesticides or herbicides.
2. Vegetate your yard to filter and absorb rainwater.
3. Limit the amount of impervious surfaces on your property.
4. Use biodegradable soaps.
5. Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces.
6. Take your car to a car wash instead of washing it in the driveway.
7. Maintain your car and recycle your used motor oil.
8. Pick up after your pet.

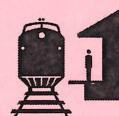


## PARKING AT THE FAR HILLS TRAIN STATION

Overnight parking permits are required Monday through Friday for any vehicle that will be parked at the train station between 2:30 am to 9:00 am. The overnight permits are \$3.00 per day.

Six-month parking permits are also available and allow parking day and night. Permits cover the period from January to June; and July to December. The six-month permits are \$190.00 and are not prorated.

For further information or to receive an application, contact the Clerk's Office at 908.234.0611.



## FAR HILLS WEBSITE - LAUNCHING IN JUNE



In the next few weeks, we invite you to visit [WWW.FARHILLSNJ.ORG](http://WWW.FARHILLSNJ.ORG) where you will find up to date information on what's happening in the Borough of Far Hills. The website provides easy access to online forms, agendas and minutes, budget and financial statements, as well as contact information for the Mayor and Council, Planning Board and Board of Health and our municipal staff.

**FAR HILLS COMMUNITY WELL TESTING**

In cooperation with the Raritan Headwaters Association, we are delighted to offer citizens an opportunity to test their well water. To participate in this program, please follow these steps:

- Review the table below for some of the most common tests currently available.
- Registration and payment can be completed online at [www.TestMyWell.org](http://www.TestMyWell.org) or in person at the Far Hills Municipal building - checks only. **Test kits will be available for pick-up at the Far Hills Municipal building beginning June 4 through June 13 between the hours of 9:30 am to 2:30 pm.**
- Water samples should be dropped off at the Far Hills Municipal building on **Monday, June 14** between **7:00 am to 9:00 am ONLY**. To ensure accuracy of testing, samples will not be accepted after this time.
- Raritan Headwaters Association will ensure that all samples reach a state-certified laboratory for testing. Residents will receive their confidential test results promptly and, if pollutants are detected, will be provided information on how to make their well water safe for consumption.
- Information and pricing for additional tests can be found at [www.TestMyWell.org](http://www.TestMyWell.org) or contact 908.234.1852 x401.

TEST	FEE	REASONS TO TEST	POSSIBLE SOURCES
Total Coliform & Fecal (E.Coli) and Nitrate Confirmation	\$60	Recommended to be tested annually. Cloudy water. Recurrent gastrointestinal complaints from people drinking water. High levels of nitrates are harmful to infants and pregnant women.	Cracks in well casing, faulty seal or seepage near well. Septic system problems. Storm water runoff. Seepage from fertilized land.
Iron	\$15	Discoloration of laundry or plumbing fixtures, rust stains. Bitter or metallic taste.	Naturally occurring deposits. Industrial wastes.
Lead	\$25	Harmful to pregnant women and children. Can cause physical or mental development problems in infants or children. Kidney problems or high blood pressure in adults.	Corrosion of household pipes, fittings, solder. Soft water may be more corrosive than hard water.
Arsenic	\$35	Can cause increased risk of cancers, gastrointestinal ailments, diabetes and cardiovascular impacts.	Naturally occurring deposits. Wood preservative.
Radon	\$50	Can be ingested or inhaled as gases are released from the water into the air. Exposure to radon in drinking water can lead to lung cancer.	Naturally occurring, produced by the breakdown of uranium in soil, rock and water which can enter the home through well water.
Gross Alpha	\$80	Can be ingested or inhaled as gases are released from the water into the air. Exposure to gross alpha emitters in drinking water can lead to lung cancer.	Erosion of natural deposits of minerals that are radioactive, may emit alpha radiation, which can enter the home through well water.

**KNOW YOUR TICKS**

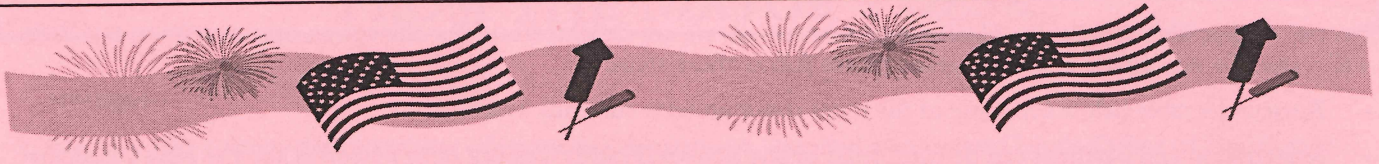


The Longhorned or Bush tick has survived the winter. Tests on this exotic tick in November failed to reveal any tick-borne diseases. The three most common ticks in New Jersey are the dog tick, deer tick, and the lone star tick which can carry a variety of diseases according to the N.J. Department of Health.

**REMOVAL:** If you find a tick, remove it properly by using fine-tipped tweezers, grasp the tick firmly as close to your skin as possible and with a steady motion, pull the tick from your skin. Do not jerk; this may rip the tick in half. Wash the area with soap and warm water.

For more information visit [www.nj.gov/health](http://www.nj.gov/health)

## MEMORIAL DAY PARADE - MAY 28, 2018

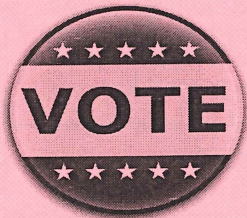


Please join Mayor Vallone and members of the Borough Council at the Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 28, 2018 to honor those who have served our country.

The event will begin at 10:00 am with a wreath-laying ceremony at the memorial in front of the Old School House in Bedminster. The Far Hills - Bedminster Fire Department will lead the parade down Main Street (Route 202) until it reaches the J. Malcolm Belcher Fairgrounds, where there will be a second wreath-laying ceremony at the memorial in front of the Far Hills Municipal Building on Peapack Road.

Following the parade, everyone is invited to enjoy free hot dogs and drinks graciously provided by the volunteer members of our Far Hills - Bedminster Fire Department.

## IMPORTANT NJ ELECTION DATES



- **May 29, 2018** - Deadline to apply for a Mail-In Ballot for Primary Election
- **June 5, 2018** - Primary Election Day
- **November 6, 2018** - General Election Day

Polls are open 6:00 am - 8:00 pm at the Far Hills Municipal Building

BOROUGH OF FAR HILLS  
6 PROSPECT STREET  
FAR HILLS, NJ 07931

