COVID-19 Pandemic

On March 9th Governor Murphy declared a State of Emergency and Public Health Emergency across all 21 New Jersey counties in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Randolph Township had its first confirmed positive for the virus on March 17th. At press time, the reported number of confirmed cases was: New Jersey 162,068 cases and 11,880 deaths, Morris County 6,540 cases and 619 deaths, and Randolph 286 cases and 21 deaths resulting from COVID-19. On a positive note, Randolph has had 234 cases in which symptoms resolved and the individuals could return to normal activities. We extend our well wishes to those still recovering from the virus, and our deepest sympathies to the families who have lost loved ones to this terrible disease.

Randolph Township, following the direction of the Governor’s Office, closed down all municipal facilities to the public, restricted access to parks, cancelled and/or postponed programs and events, and transitioned all essential public meetings to virtual platforms. The municipal organization has remained in operation during the crisis, ensuring the delivery of essential services to the community. We are indebted to these front line workers, just as we are to the many members of our community working in the medical field and other essential service jobs.

The virus has and continues to greatly impact the Randolph community. The obvious impact has been the social distancing requirements under which we are all now operating. These requirements, particularly the restriction on large gatherings and activities, have resulted in the cancellation and postponement of numerous programs, activities, and events. Social distancing has also impacted the business community, particularly the retail sector. From the outset, the Randolph Township Economic Development Committee (EDC) worked to actively support the local business community, providing information to business owners and promoting ways the community could continue to buy local during the health emergency. For more information on the Economic Development Committee’s ongoing efforts, residents and business owners are encouraged to visit www.randolphlcoal.com, www.randolphnjedc.com and/or the EDC’s Facebook and Instagram accounts.

The economic impact of the COVID-19 emergency has created an increased demand for social services in the community. The township’s Community Service division restructured services to enhance delivery options for food (from the local food pantry) and necessary goods and supplies. The division has also seen an increase in demand for other social services, including referrals to the Morris County Social Service Department (www.hs.morriscountynj.gov) and the NJ 2-1-1 service (www.nj211.org).

One of the positive outcomes from the emergency is how our residents and local businesses stepped up to help those in need. Many have donated food, personal protective gear, sanitization products, services and money to help others in the community as well as the township. We also thank our residents for doing their part by following social distancing guidelines, staying home as much as possible, and by supporting our local businesses. Thank you! We look forward to the future and a return to a more “normal” life in Randolph Township.

COVID-19 and the Randolph Township Community – the Highs and the Lows

Whenever there is a tragic event or health emergency, both positive and negative stories emerge. You witness suffering and heartbreak as well as regular people, or “heroes,” helping others. The COVID-19 pandemic has proven no different. In Randolph Township, there have certainly been many heroes, but unfortunately too many deaths. Below is a brief recap of the highs and lows in our community.

The Highs

The Lows

The virus has and continues to greatly impact the Randolph community. The obvious impact has been the social distancing requirements under which we are all now operating. These requirements, particularly the restriction on large gatherings and activities, have resulted in the cancellation and postponement of numerous programs, activities, and events. Social distancing has also impacted the business community, particularly the retail sector. From the outset, the Randolph Township Economic Development Committee (EDC) worked to actively support the local business community, providing information to business owners and promoting ways the community could continue to buy local during the health emergency. For more information on the Economic Development Committee’s ongoing efforts, residents and business owners are encouraged to visit www.randolphlcoal.com, www.randolphnjedc.com and/or the EDC’s Facebook and Instagram accounts.

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The Highs

The Lows
MUNICIPAL DIRECTORY

POLICE, FIRE & RESCUE
EMERGENCIES DIAL
9-1-1

(All numbers Area Code 973, unless indicated otherwise)

MUNICIPAL OFFICES

Main Number ................................ 973-7100
Public Safety Number....................... 973-7100
Accounts Payable ............................ 973-7096
Animal Control ................................. 973-7100
Animal Shelter .................................. 973-7132
Assessor ........................................... 973-7075
Building Department ......................... 973-7070
Clerk ............................................... 973-7041
Engineering ..................................... 973-7066
Finance ............................................ 973-7045
Fire Department ................................. 973-7096
Health Department ............................. 973-7070
Manager .......................................... 973-7060
Municipal Court ................................. 973-7056
Parking & Recreation ......................... 973-7081
Planning & Zoning ............................. 973-7070
Public Health Nurses ......................... 973-7084
Public Works .................................... 973-7066
Recreation/Fieldhouse ......................... 973-7085
Recycling/Solid Waste ......................... 973-7070
Senior Services ................................. 973-7084
Tax Collector ...................................... 973-7047
Water & Sewer .................................. 973-7063

2020 ELECTED OFFICIALS

MAYOR
Christie Carey .................................. 973-2623

DEPUTY MAYOR
Joanne Brock ..................................... 328-7175

COUNCIL MEMBERS
Mark Fontenotskiav ................................ 973-7205
James R. Loewy ................................. 201-407-6747
Lucy Kacperski ................................. 731-6000
Marie Potter ..................................... 941-6310
Lance Tuccio ..................................... 215-4367

TOWNSHIP MANAGER
Stephen T. Mountain .......................... 973-7060

WEBSITE
www.randolphnj.org

RANDOLPH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education ............................ 361-0801
Center Grove ..................................... 361-7813
Fenbrook ......................................... 363-0600
Reno ............................................... 544-8538
Shongum .......................................... 895-2122
Randolph Middle School .................... 366-8700
Randolph High School ....................... 361-2400

OTHER HELPFUL NUMBERS

Broadway Playhouse ........................... 973-7092
Chamber of Commerce ....................... 361-1462
County College of Morris ..................... 328-5000
Ivrea Post Office ............................... 544-5619
Lakeview ......................................... 366-0000
Library ............................................ 895-3586
Mountainside Med. Center ................... 971-8005
Mr. Freedom Post Office ...................... 895-2383
Motor Vehicle Commission ................... 888-486-3339
N.J. Transit ........................................ 800-772-2222
Randolph Lake ................................ 544-3158
Rescue Squad .................................... 366-7900
St. Claire’s Hospital ............................. 973-3000

FISCAL FACTS

YOUR TAX DOLLARS

The property tax is divided among the Randolph Board of Education, the County of Morris, and the township.

The figure illustrates the percentage that each of the jurisdictions received in 2019 from the average taxpayer in the township.

Reserve for Uncollected Taxes 2.67%
Library 1.34%
Open Space/Recreation 0.81%
Municipal 14.75%
Board of Education 69.82%

2020 Municipal Budget Adopted with No Tax Increase

The 2020 municipal budget was adopted by the Mayor and Council without an increase in the municipal tax increase for the 4th consecutive year. The Council adopted the budget after an extensive evaluation process that included several budget review sessions in January and February which were open to the public. The sessions consisted of in-depth presentations by Randolph Township Department Heads, discussion by the Township Council and public comment from interested residents.

The adopted budget contains an appropriation of $32,559,449 for municipal operations. This represents a 0.01% decrease from the adopted 2019 budget. The budget also contains $9,634,340 for the operation of the Water and Sewer Utility. The Water and Sewer Utility is supported by customer billings and utilizes no property tax revenues to offset operational costs. The adopted budget meets all of the goals established at the outset of the review process including: support current level of services while maintaining existing staffing levels; minimize impact on the municipal tax rate; continue to aggressively fund important critical infrastructure improvement projects; and uphold the township’s AAA bond rating.

For further information on the 2020 municipal budget residents are encouraged to visit the township website at www.randolphnj.org or contact the Finance Department at 973-989-7045.

A Message from the Mayor

As we enter the summer months, New Jersey is beginning to re-open after several months of all of us living under a stay-at-home order due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The last few months have certainly been challenging for our community.

In spite of those challenges though, Randolph residents have been overwhelmingly positive, patient and supportive. We all came together during this time in a spirit of cooperation and with a common purpose. We complied with the restrictive social distancing guidelines and made many sacrifices. I would like to say thank you to all members of our community for the sacrifices they made.

The worst effects of the public health crisis were, of course, the deaths from COVID-19 infections and the severe illnesses and hospitalizations experienced by many of our residents. Those individuals and families were impacted far more than others. In addition to the health consequences, there has certainly been an economic impact from the COVID-19 pandemic on the Randolph community. We expect that recovery will take some time.

Some sacrifices may seem small, but they are not small to those who made them. Social distancing took its toll in many ways. There were so many important events, milestones and rites of passage that are celebrated in our society that we missed: birthdays, weddings, proms, graduations, visits with family, sports, funerals and all the social interactions that tie us together.

As a community, we had many examples of great people doing great things. For example, the township received many generous donations of medical supplies and personal protective equipment, face masks and cleaning supplies. Numerous residents donated food directly to food banks or organized food collections for the food pantry. Residents who are part of our volunteer firefighter and rescue squad organizations continued to respond to calls for assistance, while putting themselves at risk. Students sold yard signs to raise money for workers at local hospitals. Others made signs to show support for our community and to lift our spirits. Some organized letter writing campaigns to thank healthcare workers fighting on the frontline. Everyone tried to help in their own way.

A few months ago, we hadn’t heard of COVID-19; most of us weren’t familiar with the concept of social distancing and we really didn’t know anything about flattening the curve. All of that has changed. But as we move on to a new kind of normal, we will hopefully remember all the positive experiences we shared during this time.

Chris Carey
Mayor

From the Tax Office

Estimated 3rd Quarter 2020 Tax Bill

During this difficult time, the State of New Jersey has recommended that Municipalities issue an Estimated Tax Bill for the August 1, 2020 quarter. This is being recommended since the State’s fiscal year, which ends on June 30, 2020, has been extended to September 30, 2020.

Randolph Township will be issuing an Estimated Tax Bill as recommended. Residents will receive the estimated bill on or before June 30, 2020. The amount for the estimated 3rd quarter will be due on August 1, 2020, with the normal 10 day grace period.

The finalized tax bill with your remaining three (3) stubs (November 1, 2020, February 1, 2021 and May 1, 2021) will be sent once the State certifies the tax rate for 2020.

Should you have questions, please contact Linda Ann Roth, CTC, at 973-989-7048.

Making Your Payments for Property Tax and Water and Sewer Charges

Residents may make payments online or sign up for automatic payments using their checking account. Please log on to www.randolphnj.org for more information or call 973-989-7047. Residents may instead place a check and payment stub in an envelope labeled Tax Collector and drop it in the lock box located at the main door of the Municipal building.

Annual Tax Sale for Unpaid 2019 Taxes, Water, Sewer and Other Municipal Charges

The Township of Randolph will hold the annual tax sale, as required by N.J.S.A. 54:5-3 which in October 2020 for unpaid 2019 tax, water, sewer and other municipal charges. Therefore, if you have prior year(s) delinquent charges, please be sure to bring them current to prevent tax sale and a lien being placed on your property. Please call 973-989-7047 for amount(s) due to bring your account current and prevent tax sale.

For general information regarding tax sale and how they work, please visit http://www.state.nj.us/dca/divisions/digs/programs/tax_collector_docs/elements_of_tax_sales_nj.pdf
The History of the Randolph Township Freedom Festival

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced the cancellation of many events and gatherings. This includes Randolph Township’s beloved Freedom Festival and Freedom Parade, which was scheduled for July 2nd-4th. This decision was not made lightly, however, the health and safety of our community and residents are always top priority. It is hard to imagine a 4th of July celebration without fireworks at the County College of Morris (CCM) or the time-honored tradition of the Freedom Parade.

The first Randolph Township 4th of July celebration and parade were held back in 1977. For over 43 years, our community has come together to celebrate the freedom we cherish as Americans and to honor those that serve our country. The 4th of July celebration has seen many changes over the years. In its inaugural parade, the route started at Center Grove School and ended at Randolph High School where the fair and fireworks were held. The parade route has changed since then, with the current route beginning on Quaker Church Road and ending at CCM.

Thanks to the partnership between the Kiwanis Club of Randolph and Randolph Township, the Freedom Festival has grown into a fun three-day event for the whole family. The festival boasts carnival rides and games, live music, nightly, food, trucks, crafts, and other vendors, a beer garden, and it culminates with the much-anticipated Fireworks display! The Freedom Festival, including the Freedom Parade, is a Randolph tradition that brings the community together for a fun and memorable experience.

The Kiwanis Club of Randolph

The Kiwanis Club of Randolph, which was formed in 1972, is an organization comprised of volunteers who dedicate their time to fundraising and service projects that improve our community. Today the club includes over 30 members, many of whom serve on committees that bring their skills and passion to local events. Over the years, the Kiwanis Club has supported our community in multiple ways, including through scholarships and financial aid. A portion of the funds that are raised through the Freedom Festival and other events goes back into our community. Their hard work and generosity have supported the Brundage Park Playhouse and Randolph Food Pantry, amongst others. Another notable way they support our community is through their scholarship program which awards four, $3,000 scholarships to graduating seniors. Scholarships are based on the student’s service to school and community, their leadership qualities, academic achievements, and financial need.

To offset the unexpected loss of income from the 2020 Freedom Festival and to ensure a bright future for this great tradition in Randolph, we ask those who are able to please consider making a donation to the Randolph Kiwanis Club. Checks made payable to Randolph Kiwanis Club may be mailed to P.O. Box 106, Mt. Freedom, NJ 07970. All donations will be gratefully acknowledged. If you are interested in joining the Kiwanis Club of Randolph, please visit www.randolphkiwanis.org/content/membership.

Township Mourns Loss of Long-Time VFW Member and Leader Jack Sassaman

Randolph lost a true patriot when Jack Sassaman, long time member and former Post Commander of VFW Post 7333, passed away unexpectedly at his home on May 20th.

Anyone who attended a Memorial Day, Patriots Day or Veterans Day ceremony would know Jack as “the man in charge”, directing his fellow Post members, visiting dignitaries and even members of the public to their rightful positions for the event. At all the VFW ceremonies Jack was also the bugler responsible for the playing of “Taps” to honor the memory of deceased veterans. As a proud veteran, Jack invested the same spirit and energy he put forth in service to his country to ensuring the Randolph VFW Post 7333 was the best it could be. Jack Sassaman was not just the face of Randolph VFW Post 7333 – he was its heart and soul.

Jack grew up in Phillipsburg, NJ and had just begun college when he was drafted into the army at age 19. He was deployed to Vietnam and quickly rose from the rank of Private to Sergeant in the Third US Army, 1st Infantry, Signal Corp. After two years of service during the war, he returned to civilian life in 1972 where he met and married Jane, his wife of 48 years. In 1977 Jack and Jane Sassaman chose Randolph to settle down and raise their family.

Jack joined the Randolph VFW in the late 1990s. Upon joining, he set out on a mission to restore the vibrancy of the Post, which had become less active due to a decline in membership. He actively recruited new members and took on the role of Post Commander. Over the years he would also serve as District Commander and State Adjutant.

Jack Sassaman was, to quote current Post Commander Scott Montanio, “the backbone and heartbeat of the Randolph Post.” He was well respected by every Post member as well as the local, county and state officials with whom he frequently interacted. Jack will be remembered by his family as a loving husband, father and grandfather and by his community as a man who loved his country, freedom and patriotism.

To Jack, honoring and recognizing the sacrifice of Veterans was always priority number one. He will be remembered for his passion and dedication to the cause of supporting veterans and to invigorating our local VFW post. His leadership and service to Randolph VFW Post 7333 will be missed, but his legacy of supporting and honoring veterans for their service will never be forgotten.

A Letter from the Superintendent

I would like to personally express my gratitude to our staff, families, essential workers and community for all that they have done during this unprecedented moment in history. To witness first-hand the rapid mobilization of hundreds of people at the onset of this unique challenge was particularly reassuring. There is so much we can accomplish when we are collectively united. From the efforts we took as a school community to support local hospitals and healthcare workers, to the hard work of our educators to leverage technology as a means to educate our students, so much was able to be accomplished. The unique and creative ways we were, and are still, able to come together have undoubtedly changed our lives forever.

Over the course of our lives, it is inevitable that we will face adversity. As I reflect on what life was like before COVID-19, it is a reminder of how uncertain life can be. We were forced apart in order to come together, and to this day we are still navigating what this experience will mean for both the future of our schools as well as the future of our community. While life and the world as we know it changed, many things stayed the same. It was through these trying circumstances that we discovered that even while we are apart, we can still collectively come together.

While every effort has been taken to make the best out of this tragedy, we can in no way diminish or negate the pain this has caused millions of people around the world. As we continue to navigate this journey, we can take solace in the resolve of people to rise above even the most trying of challenges. When COVID-19 tried to divide us, we still found ways to stay united. We must continue to strive for this unity and collective strength. There is hope that this experience and any other obstacle we may encounter will make us stronger. Regardless of what the future holds, we are prepared to continue to meaningfully impact one another as we find ways to move forward.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Fano, Superintendent
Pedestrian Safety
The Randolph Police Department investigates several car crashes throughout the year involving pedestrians being struck by motor vehicles. The investigations tend to reveal that an action by the pedestrian contributed to the crash. The police department would like to share some safety tips.

When Walking:
• Always walk on a sidewalk when possible. If it is not possible, walk facing traffic.
• Wear bright clothing and reflective material, especially at night.
• Carry a flashlight when walking at night.
• Stay sober; walking while impaired increases your chance of being struck.
• Watch for backup lights and listen for engine noises when walking in parking lots.

When Crossing the Street:
• Stay clear of any type of obstruction in order for drivers to see you before you attempt to cross the street.
• Even though the law requires drivers to stop for pedestrians, never assume that they will; make sure they have enough time to stop. Make eye contact with the driver. If the driver is distracted he may not see you or be able to stop in time.
• Cross the street at marked crosswalks or intersections if possible.
• Look to your left, your right, then your left again, to determine if it is safe to cross the street.
• At intersections, watch for turning vehicles. Be sure that the driver sees you and has stopped completely.
• Before crossing, make sure that you look across all of the lanes of the road. If one car stops, do not assume that on the other lanes will stop. The stopped vehicle might block you from another driver’s field of vision.
• Obey traffic signals, such as the WALK/DON’T WALK signs.
• Do not wear headphones or use your phone when crossing; stay alert to your surroundings.
• At night, only cross the street in a well lit area.

Prevent Burglaries
Residents should remember to always lock their homes as well as their vehicles to prevent property from being stolen. The majority of motor vehicle burglaries that have occurred in Randolph were to vehicles that were not locked. Do not make your home appear to be an easy target. Ensure that locks work properly, have good outdoor lighting, and make sure to activate your alarm if you have one. If you have surveillance cameras, make sure they are working properly and you know how to review the footage.

See Something, Say Something!
Residents should contact the police department when suspicious activity is occurring so that an officer may respond immediately and potentially observe and address the reported activity. Unfortunately, residents will sometimes wait hours or days to report suspicious activity which results in little to no chance of officers determining who was involved or what may have occurred. The Randolph Police Department reminds residents – if you see something, say something!

COVID-19 Scams
Unfortunately as with most crises, the coronavirus pandemic has been used by scammers to attempt to steal personal information or money from victims. The Randolph Police Department would like to remind you to be wary of any unsolicited emails, text messages or phone calls, especially ones offering information, supplies, or treatment for COVID-19 or requesting personal information for medical purposes. Be sure to verify the identity of any company, charity, or person that contacts you regarding COVID-19. Verification of an organization, a website or an email address can often be done with a quick internet search. Scammers will often use web addresses that differ only slightly from the legitimate organization’s actual website address. If you feel you have been the victim of a scam, contact the Randolph Police Department immediately to report the incident. There has also been a joint federal and state task force created to investigate and prosecute a wide range of misconduct resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Residents are encouraged to report possible misconduct through the National Center for Disaster Fraud hotline at 866-720-5721. You can also visit www.fbi.gov/coronavirus to get a more details about COVID-19 scams.

Extreme Challenges Met – Vital Community Service Delivered
Recently, a hugely important message was delivered to the Randolph Rescue Squad (RRS). With simplicity, it stated: “I am amazed. Just when I think you cannot give any more than you already do, somehow you reach down and pull out a little more...Thank you.” In turn, Squad members recognize that our entire community has risen to meet the ongoing challenges presented by the coronavirus pandemic. We send our own thank you to the mayor, residents, Township Council, Township Manager, municipal employees, police and fire departments, senior citizens, businesses, students, neighbors, families, Morris County OEM, residents Laura and Tony Troisi, High Grade Beverages, and many anonymous individuals. This team effort has kept us going. We are sincerely grateful for your donations, communications, and encouragement.

It is an understatement to say that these past few months provided an extension of EMS training for Squad members. We learned quickly that our formal training and answering calls have not fully prepared us for dealing with this relentless virus. Regulations from state, county, and local sources, as well as from Dr. Ortega (RRS medical director) have been implemented, understood, practiced, and followed to the letter. Terminology has expanded rapidly: PPE (personal protective equipment), COVID-19 (the name of the illness), COVID testing and screening tent, CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), droplet virus, hand and face hygiene, sanitizers, common surfaces, UV-C disinfection light, social isolation and social distancing, quarantine, ventilator and respirator, N95 mask, gloves, at-risk populations, essential volunteer, essential employee, online schooling, and more.

In place of cancelled school and sports stand-bys, Squad members and Junior members have provided many Happy Birthday drive-bys upon resident requests. Squad meetings at Headquarters have been replaced with zoom meetings. Surprisingly, we even learned how to say “wash your hands” in several languages! None of us will ever forget this lifetime-defining experience. Together we did that for which we were trained; together we did what we could to protect our patients, our fellow emergency room and healthcare system workers, our families, our friends, our neighbors, our country, ourselves, and our RRS team. We remain in this together and we will get through this together.

Randolph Rescue Squad
1967 2018
Contact us:
✓ Dial 9-1-1 in an emergency
✓ JOIN US! To learn more about the RRS or to complete a membership application, visit our website at www.RandolphRescue.org.
✓ To make arrangements for a stand-by, send an email to info@randolphrescue.org, to Lieutenant Caitlin Costello at caitlin.costello@randolphrescue.org, or to Captain Todd Houston at captain@randolphrescue.org. Stand-bys can be scheduled 24/7. It is best to make a detailed request with as much prior notice as possible and to be precise regarding the time frame and location.
✓ For information about training classes, call Captain Todd Houston at 862-881-2929 or email captain@randolphrescue.org
✓ For other questions, email info@randolphrescue.org
✓ To reach RRS President Christopher Zelley, email christopher.zelley@randolphrescue.org
Library News

Virtual Programming
From Zoom Storytime to Chair Yoga to an online Summer Reading Club, the Randolph Library has gone VIRTUAL! While we’ve had to cancel our Outreach programs for the next couple of months, we’ve adapted and expanded our programs and online resources to continue to serve our community. Our Thursday morning Zoom Storytime alone has included over 200 participants and is going strong! We will be adding additional storytimes soon!

Many other programs will be held online this summer including those for children such as our Summer Reading Club, a puppet show, musical performances, and more. We even have our own Youtube channel—Randolph Township Library.

Thousands of titles have been added to our selection of ebooks and audiobooks. More online resources such as Creativebug, which has thousands of award-winning arts & crafts video classes taught by recognized design experts and artists, have been added. The Randolph Library continues to have something for everyone!

Through the Morris County Library, Randolph residents may enjoy a selection of over 500 wide-ranging, free classes including topics such as business management, homeschooling, photoshop, dog training, and more. Explore the course offerings by visiting our website and clicking on the link for Universal Class.

A curated selection of websites for all ages and interests will be provided to our Facebook friends and recipients of our email newsletter. A few of Library Director Lore Reinhart’s favorites have been Supercool.com (enter the ingredients you have on hand to find appropriate recipes), Tubitv.com (thousands of free movies and TV shows), lootetoknow.com (lifestyle advice), parenteoolkit.com (parenting advice) and duckster.com (a fun way for children to learn about a wide variety of topics). It’s easy to register for our newsletter. Just visit our website, click on “Mailing List,” and enter your email address. By registering, you will also be kept up-to-date on the library and its events.

As things move forward, it’s a good idea to visit our website often for current information. While our circumstances have certainly changed over the past few months, our mission remains the same—to provide services and resources to Randolph residents.

Summer Reading Club
Summertime means Summer Reading Club! We all know it’s important for kids to read over the summer. Studies show that reading during the summer helps prevent the loss of literacy skills learned during the school year. One of the most important tips to get kids excited about reading is to make it fun! The summer is a great time to step back and let kids read what they enjoy. Studies have shown that reading, even reading “below level,” helps students gain fluency, mastery and confidence. This may be an opportunity to explore new interests or read familiar authors again. The most important part of summer reading is always fun!

Even though this year has been unusual for everyone, there’s no reason not to look forward to the Summer Reading Club and some fun! This year’s theme is “Imagine Your Story!” Registration for children and teens will begin on approximately June 19th. There will be changes in the way the program is run this summer; advance notice will be provided so everyone will be able to participate. A new online system, “Read Squared,” will be used to track reading minutes. Although no in-person programming will occur during the summer, the Library staff has arranged for many fun and exciting programs to be presented via Zoom or a link on our webpage. Stay tuned for more details.

2020 Summer Music Series Cancelled
The health and well being of our residents are our priority. It is with this in mind that the decision was made to cancel the Summer Music Series. We are very disappointed that we will not be able to enjoy the community spirit and fun associated with these concerts. We look forward to their return in the summer of 2021!

Historical Society of Old Randolph
This vintage newspaper ad for Dr. Sarah E. Dehart Fernald was published in Dover, New Jersey’s IRON ERA weekly newspaper dated July 6, 1900, and is a rare piece of substantiation for Randolph Township’s first female physician.

Sarah Dehart was born in Randolph to Albert and Sarah Dehart in 1844; the large Dehart family also included Sarah’s six siblings. Their surrounding neighbors in the Center Grove section of the township included well-respected members of the Lawrence, Hedden, Dailymore, and Briant families.

Sarah’s brother, Private Job W. Dehart, served during the War Between the States and died from a disease (unknown) in 1864. The 1870 U.S. Census documents Sarah as a school teacher, and notes her mother, Sarah, as a widow and head of the family with a net worth totaling $12,000 [or a net worth of $224,000 in 2020]. Sarah’s brother John did well for himself, graduating from Yale University and in 1869 establishing a private law practice in Jersey City.

According to the publication “New Jersey Medicine,” Dr. Lucy Madana Fuller Dehart, Sarah’s sister-in-law (married to Sarah’s brother John), was New Jersey’s first woman physician; Sarah Dehart was a second woman physician licensed in New Jersey. The two women are documented in the book, “Daughters of America, or Women of the Century” with their own medical practice located in Jersey City.

The 1900 U.S. Census documents Sarah and Alexander living at the Center Grove farm and noting Alexander’s occupation as a physician, with Sarah’s occupation as a physician. Later censuses note Alexander as a farmer, and documents laborers and servants living there also, while Sarah continued to practice medicine.

On July 4, 1887, at age 43, Dr. Sarah Dehart married Mr. Alexander B. Fernald at Mt. Freedom Presbyterian Church. His family originally from Canada, Alexander was from Maine. The 1900 U.S. Census documents Sarah and Alexander living at the Center Grove family farm and noting Alexander’s occupation as a mechanical engineer, with Sarah’s occupation as a physician. Later censuses note Alexander as a farmer, and documents laborers and servants living there also, while Sarah continued to practice medicine.

Dr. Sarah E. H. Dehart Fernald passed away on September 20, 1924, and was buried at a family gravestile at Mt. Freedom Cemetery located near Mt. Freedom Presbyterian Church. Alexander passed away on April 17, 1930, and was buried at the same gravestile.

Randolph Regional Animal Shelter Update
Although the Randolph Regional Animal Shelter building is closed to the public, there are still many homeless animals waiting to be adopted! The good news is that adoptions are still taking place and the “no contact” process is simple! Please check out our website as we continue to post the animals available for adoption. Visit www.randolphregionalanimalshelter.org and click on “see our adoptable pets” or “see our pets in foster care.” If you are interested in adopting, complete and submit the online application; someone will be in contact with you. Staff members will share videos, pictures, and even FaceTime with you in order for you to get to know the pet. If both you and the staff feel it’s a good match, arrangements will be made for you to pick up your forever family member.

This time each year we have many kittens arriving. As much as we love for them to get adopted, please don’t forget about the adult animals needing homes. There are some really nice adult cats and dogs available! The adoption fee for cats and dogs age six months and over is just $50; please consider one of these older pets. Be sure to visit our Facebook page – Friends of Randolph Regional Animal Shelter – to see stories of successful adoptions, information on animal care, and videos of waiting pets.

www.randolphnj.org
RANDOLPH Quarterly 5
Safe and Smart Sun Strategies

With the warmer weather finally upon us, it’s time to be safe and smart when outdoors in the sun!

Strategies for safe sun exposure include:

- Limit skin exposure between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. when the UV rays are the strongest.
- Wear protective clothing and accessories. Protective, sun-safe clothing is available in shirts, pants and even bathing suits.
- Wear a hat with a wide brim and sunglasses to protect your face and eyes.
- Use a broad spectrum and waterproof/water resistant sunscreen with an SPF of 30 or higher. Broad spectrum sunscreen protects users from UV light, UVA and UVB rays. Sun Protection Factor, or SPF, is a measure of how well a sunscreen will protect the user from UVB rays. For example, when an SPF 30 sunscreen is used, it will take 30 times longer to burn than if no sunscreen was applied.

Sun damage is cumulative; therefore, limiting exposure and protecting yourself while outdoors in the sun is critical at all ages!

For more information, visit https://www.cancer.org/healthy/be-safe-in-sun/uv-protection.html or https://www.skincancer.org/skin-cancer-prevention

Taming Ticks and Managing Mosquitoes

The best way to protect yourself and your family from ticks and mosquitoes and prevent illness is to follow the below guidelines:

**Property**
- Keep grass well-trimmed
- Remove weeds, leaf debris and woody undergrowth
- Keep play areas, decks and patios away from the edge of your yard
- Remove standing water by emptying flower pots, tires, and other vessels
- Clean debris from gutters

**Personal Protection**
- Wear long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and socks
- Use repellents (follow product label instructions closely)
- Personal repellents, particularly those containing the active ingredient DEET may be applied to skin or clothing. Permethrin-based repellents should only be applied to clothing.
- Inspect your entire body after outdoor activity; promptly remove any ticks.

For more information, visit the Morris County Division of Mosquito Control website at www.morrismosquito.org and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at www.cdc.gov

Veterans Community Park Update

Travelers on Calais Road lately may have noticed the activity at Veterans Community Park. As the weather began to warm up in March, construction began in earnest. The early priority was to complete projects related to the community garden in order to have it accessible for the spring planting season beginning in May.

Garden-related projects completed by the contractor included:
- Fencing above and below ground enclosing the garden
- Wooden storage bins inside the garden
- Construction of planting tables
- Installation of posts and signs to designate beds

In addition, township staff and the community garden sub-committee worked on:
- Roto-tilling the soil and removing larger rocks
- Coordinating the construction of raised beds
- Purchasing and installing topsoil into the beds
- Installing hose brackets and hoses with wands for watering

Most importantly, there was development of safety procedures and a schedule of use, so all gardeners can feel safe by maintaining social distancing while working on their beds. A storage shed will also be added to the garden to allow the future storage of community tools.

General park projects that have been completed or are underway include:
- Footings and concrete slabs for pavilion, gazebo, and bandshell
- Clearing, grading, and stone base installed for connecting trail to Doby Road
- Site lighting poles set for parking lots and ¾-mile lighted walking path
- Field areas graded, topsoil spread and seeded
- Parking lots and drives graded and stone base installed

In the coming months, there should be additional work visible as the structures are constructed, the paving is completed, and landscaping and other design elements are added. We anticipate the completion of the construction phase of the park in the early fall and look forward to many years to come of activities and events at this location.

Economic Development Committee – COVID-19 Response in Social Media

The Randolph Economic Development Committee (EDC) social media team has been in high gear working to support the Randolph business community with various COVID-19 response-related posts. In addition to our regular content and sharing of Randolph Local Business Spotlights, in March and April some of our support efforts included:
- posts featuring businesses offering virtual services
- posts with ideas on how to support local businesses during COVID-19 closures
- the Reatlocal initiative featuring Randolph eateries open for delivery or pick-up
- the Shoplocal initiative featuring open Randolph groceries, farms and convenience stores
- the Donatelocal initiative featuring our amazing Randolph businesses giving back to the local community
- numerous posts sharing supportive resources: guest contributor blogs, national and state government support, employment and loan resources, as well as U.S. Chamber of Commerce and Morris County Chamber of Commerce webinars helpful to the small business community.

As we face this challenging environment together, the EDC will continue to support the Randolph business community through our various media: Randolph Local website, EDC Facebook, and Instagram.

Follow us at: @rtnejedc (on Facebook) and @randolphedc (on Instagram). And visit our websites: randolphedc.com for information about doing business in Randolph and randolphlocal.com to read about monthly featured Randolph businesses and to self-list in our directory. We invite you to get featured with the EDC in our various platforms. Reach out to the EDC today!
Parks, Recreation and Community Services

Community Services Department Resources

The Randolph Community Services Department is the “helping hand” of the Township of Randolph. Our goal is to work with the citizens of Randolph to enhance their lives through community programs and respond to local needs as they arise. Our programs touch all age groups from infants to senior citizens. Throughout the year there are programs and resources for the benefit of those in need, including fee waivers for programs and memberships, holiday and wish tree programs, and other various events.

The Community Services Department is a liaison for Randolph senior citizens. The department offers senior programming and provides referrals to other local and county services as well as non-profit and service organizations. Program and service referrals include Dial-A-Ride, Meals on Wheels, NJ211 and more.

The Community Services Department is also a liaison to Morris County Human Services. For further information on services and resources offered through Morris County Human Services, a full listing is available at https://hs.morriscountynj.gov. If additional assistance is needed beyond these services, please contact the Randolph Community Services Department at 973-989-7084.

Please note some of the resources available for residents of all ages:

- If you are in need of food, the food pantry is stocked and ready to provide non-perishable items thanks to the generous donations of the residents of Randolph. To schedule a pick up at the Community Center, please call 973-989-7084. If you are unable to pick up the items, a delivery can be scheduled following the guidelines set by the state. Deliveries will take place on Mondays and Thursdays.
- Don’t go it alone! The COVID-19 crisis has left many people feeling heightened levels of stress and anxiety. If you are concerned about your mental health or the mental health of someone you care about, NJ Mental Health Cares offers free telephone counseling, emotional support, information and assistance — all confidential. Morris County residents can call 866-202-HELP (4357) to speak to a trained specialist from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. seven days per week.
- Struggling with addiction while being ordered to stay at home without the access to meetings can be overwhelming. Mental Health Association of Essex and Morris County has online recovery meetings available at https://www.mhaessexmorris.org/online-recovery-meetings
- If you are in need of a face mask, cloth masks are available at the Community Center. To obtain a mask, please call 973-989-7084 and a mask will be left for you in the breezeway. If you are unable to drive, please call the above number and arrangements can be made for a mask to be delivered.

Senior Programs and Events

For as long as the COVID-19 “Stay at Home” guidelines are in effect for New Jersey, there will be no Dial-A-Ride program or events.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Transportation to local shopping centers two days per week.
- Monday: Roxbury/Ledgewood Shopping Center
- Wednesday: Acme/Shoppes–Rockaway (1st and 3rd)

Arrangements for transportation must be made by phone at least 24 hours in advance.

Medical Bus
Transportation to and from doctor’s office and therapy sessions. This service is available Monday–Thursday only. Appointments are available 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. It is up to you to call and schedule a ride as soon as you have made a medical appointment.

ACTIVITIES

All meet in the Senior Room at the Community Center on Calais Road.

Randolph Monthly Seniors:
Meet every last Tuesday of every month at 11:00 a.m. The program is open to Randolph Township residents age 60 years and older. Recreational, social and educational programs will be offered in addition to guest speakers, live demonstrations, luncheons, and more. An annual fee of $20 per person will be collected to provide a Senior ID Card as well as additional benefits such as direct notifications, special events and trips, and several other activities at no added cost. Contact Barbara Lukavich at 973-989-7084 for additional information.

Cards
Meets every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. Coffee, tea and cards are provided. Bring your lunch and enjoy the day! No transportation provided.

Sewing
Meets on the third Friday of each month at 9:00 a.m. No transportation provided.

The Impact of COVID-19 on Recreation Programming

The COVID-19 crisis this spring affected all areas of life in Randolph and throughout the world. Throughout this crisis the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department has remained committed to serving the residents of Randolph. Unfortunately, our normal spring programming was forced to be cancelled by the stay-at-home orders and impact of social distancing. When the decision was made to cancel all spring programs, the registered participants were notified and all previously paid program fees were returned through a credit to their Community Pass account, or upon request, a refund check. In addition, with the uncertainty regarding the viability of upcoming summer programs, anyone who decided to withdraw their registration prior to a cancellation has also received a full refund or credit.

Community Pass is the online registration system used by Randolph Township and is accessible through www.randolphnj.org by following the links to Parks and Recreation, then Online Registration. Program registration can be done 24/7 through this system. When a program credit is received, it remains in the family’s account and can be used to offset the fees for future program participation by any member of that family.

At this time, there is still uncertainty regarding the viability of our fall sports programs and what protocols will need to be in place for sports such as football, soccer, cross country, cheerleading, and ice hockey. Based on the nature of the activity, some sports will have a higher likelihood of being able to proceed than other sports.

To help in the planning for these programs, registration began on June 1 with all registrants advised not to make payment at this time. If and when it is determined that the programs can move forward, those registered will receive notification to make the appropriate payment. In this manner, the department can continue to plan for its youth sports activities without asking families to pay additional fees for programs that may not be able to take place in a normal manner.

SPECIAL EVENTS

July – August – September

Tri-County Senior Olympics
This fun-filled day of games and crazy events for seniors with six different towns participating will be held on Wednesday, September 16th in Sparta Township.
Call the Parks, Recreation and Community Services office at 973-989-7084 to join the team! Spots are limited; 24 senior participants are needed to make a team! Approximately four practices will be scheduled (dates, times, and location to be determined). There will be NO transportation provided for practice.

Senior Trips
Transportation is available for the following events. Call 973-989-7084 if you need a ride; a minimum of five people is needed to run the bus.

- July 16: Lunch at Adam’s Family Restaurant in Budd Lake at 11:30 a.m.
- July 21: Point Pleasant Beach; the bus will be leaving at 9:00 a.m. Enjoy a day walking on the boardwalk, shopping, and dining.
- August 13: Lunch at Charlie Brown’s Steakhouse in Denville at 12:00 p.m.
- August 27: Lunch at the Randolph Diner in Randolph at 11:30 a.m.
- September 8: Senior Citizen Picnic at Brundage Park at 11:30 a.m.
- September 24: “Downton Abbey” will be shown at Brundage Park Playhouse at 1:00 p.m. Cost is free.

Other trips and events may be added; contact the Community Service Department at 973-989-7084 for more information and to register for the trips.

Brundage Park Playhouse
As a result of the current Covid-19 pandemic and its consequent social distancing, we have chosen to go with an alternate virtual version of our Summer Stages Summer Camp. This comprehensive 2-week program (9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.) using ZOOM and your home computer, iPad or tablet, will deliver all of our traditional components and training in the safety of your home. We hope you will consider this new, exciting and fun programming as a viable alternative for your summer camp experience. We look forward to serving you! For further information, please go to www.brundagparkplayhouse.org.

Artworks Studio
Our Artsworks Studio in-person camps will be cancelled for the 2020 season. Please stay tuned and monitor the website for announcements regarding future workshops.
Engineering, Water and Sewer Department News

Meadowbrook Road Phase 3 & Brookside Road – Road Improvement Projects
The Meadowbrook Road Phase 3 and Brookside Road improvements are currently underway and both projects are to be completed by August 2020. The proposed improvements will require alternating traffic on the road and possible road closures with detours.

Fire Hydrant/Water System Maintenance
Randolph Township Water & Sewer Department will be continuing to perform maintenance and replacement of fire hydrants and water system valves throughout the township’s water system. Township crews will be painting and placing identifying labels on township-owned fire hydrants and checking all inline water system valves for proper operation. If you have any concerns regarding fire hydrants or other water/sewer infrastructure-related issues, please contact the Engineering/Water & Sewer Department at 973-989-7066.

Lawn Watering Restrictions
Residents are reminded that Randolph implements lawn watering restrictions each year from May 1 through September 30 to conserve water and control the amount of water drawn from its bulk supplier, the Morris County Municipal Utility Authority (MCMUA). During these months, the township enforces the odd/even lawn watering schedule for properties which receive water from the Township of Randolph and the Town of Dover. For complete information on the watering regulations and exceptions, please visit the township website, www.randolphnj.org.

Check Sprinkler Systems for Leaks
Now is a good time to check your sprinkler and irrigation systems to avoid sudden spikes in your water bill. If you see a spike in your water bill and haven’t been using more water than usual, you will need to turn off the water supply to your home and check the water meter. If the needle on the meter continues to register water use with the water turned off, there is probably a leak in your plumbing. Check for signs of a leak in your indoor plumbing, but if there are none, the leak is probably somewhere in your irrigation system. Take the below steps to try to locate the leak in your sprinkler system:

- Check the irrigation controller programming to make sure it hasn’t changed or returned to a default setting that increases water usage.
- Valve boxes that are wet may indicate loose wiring, water leaking due to damaged fittings, or worn parts.
- Leaks in sprinkler stations may present as flooding around the sprinkler’s base, water geyers from spray heads, water spraying between sprinkler heads, water laying in the grass between sprinklers, water spurting from a sprinkler’s base, or misaligned sprinkler heads.
- If you notice any issues with your sprinkler or irrigation system, it is recommended that you contact your irrigation contractor for further investigation and repairs. For more information, visit the township website or call the Engineering Department at 973-989-7066.

Stormwater Management Facilities
Residents should be aware that during the summer maintenance and clean-up of their properties, grass, leaves, branches and other debris should not be directed or discharged onto neighboring properties, township properties, or stormwater management facilities such as detention basins, drainage ditches, swales, inlets or manholes. Placing debris in these facilities is likely to cause flooding and adverse impacts to all surrounding properties.

Sanitary Sewer Usage
To assist our Water & Sewer Department staff in maintaining the township’s sanitary sewer system including the sewer pump stations, we request all residents to not dispose of items such as Swiffer mops or wipes, sanitary napkins, baby wipes, diapers, or cloths into the sewer collection system. These items can result in sewer collection lines and can result in sewer back-flowing into homes as well as into our stormwater conveyance systems and waterways. The township appreciates your anticipated cooperation.

2020 Road Resurfacing Program
Randolph Township evaluates the condition of the road system on an annual basis as part of its ongoing road maintenance program. This evaluation program is a collaborative effort between the Engineering and Public Works departments. It combines an independent rating of the road evaluation system condition, and the expertise of the Public Works Director and his crew who maintain the roads daily.

This program keeps track of all of the 154 center line miles of township roadways. The funding for this year is similar to last year, allowing for the same amount of miles of roadway maintenance. Eighteen roads, the equivalent of 4.5 miles, are scheduled for resurfacing. As in past years, if funds are available after the roads scheduled for resurfacing have been completed, additional roads could be added prior to the end of the year.

The following roads are tentatively scheduled to be milled and repaved this summer. Residents living on these roads that may be looking to install new underground utility lines, such as gas or water, from the street to their home should schedule the installation before the road is paved.

| Lawrence Road | Edinburgh Drive to Millbrook Avenue |
| Richter Street | Entire Length |
| Echo Ridge Road | Entire Length |
| Hugg Road | Entire Length |
| Fords Road | Center Grove Road to # 52 Fords Rd |
| High Street | Entire Length |
| Dover Hills Avenue | Entire Length |
| Jessica Place | Entire Length |
| Overbrook Road | Entire Length |
| Carriage Court | Entire Length |
| Treaty Road | Entire Length |
| Butternut Road | Entire Length |
| Longhill Road | Entire Length |
| Shady Lane | Entire Length |
| Valley Drive | Entire Length |
| Oyer Lane | Entire Length |
| Morgan Court | Entire Length |
| El Shaer Court | Entire Length |

Planning and Zoning Update

Affordable Housing
The township continued to be active over the last several months in settlement discussions associated with the ongoing state-wide affordable housing litigation. It is expected that the entire matter will be moving towards closure later this summer. Residents can access the most current public documents by visiting www.randolphnj.org/government/affordable_housing

Construction
While much of the heavy construction in the State was recently halted by executive order, the Wawa and Metro Storage sites on Route 10 both remained active albeit at a slower pace. Onsite work consisted mainly of stabilizing the sites as specifically permitted by the order. In addition, the contractor for Wawa was able to make transportation-related improvements which included the reconstruction of the Route 10 off-ramp at Millbrook Avenue and reconfiguration of the traffic lanes at the Millbrook Avenue and Quaker Church Road intersection.

2020 Census Information
The 2020 Census asks a few simple questions about you and everyone who was living with you on April 1, 2020. The results of this once-a-decade count are used to determine the number of seats each state has in the House of Representatives and to draw congressional and state legislative districts. Over the next decade lawmakers, business owners, and many others will use 2020 Census data to make critical decisions. The results will show where communities need new schools, new clinics, new roads, and more services for families, older adults, and children. As of May 16th the self-response rate for Randolph was 76.2%. We encourage residents to complete the 2020 Census online, by phone, or by mail – it’s not too late! Please visit my2020census.gov to begin.

Randolph Township Recycling Center
1345 Sussex Turnpike, Randolph, NJ 07869
Hours: Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. Saturday 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. • Sunday 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.