

# **Township Times**

**[www.boontontownship.com](http://www.boontontownship.com)**



**BOONTON TOWNSHIP**

**January 2019**

# SENIOR NEWS



## Senior Freeze Property Tax Reimbursement

2018

### Eligibility Requirements:\*

- You were age 65 or older on December 31, 2017, or, if under age 65, you were receiving Social Security disability payments on December 31, 2017, and also on December 31, 2018;  
*and*
  - You have lived in New Jersey continuously since December 31, 2007, or earlier, as either a homeowner or a renter;  
*and*
  - You have owned and lived in your home or have leased a site in a mobile home park for a manufactured or mobile home that you have owned since December 31, 2014, or earlier;  
*and*
  - You paid all 2017 property taxes by June 1, 2018, and all 2018 property taxes by June 1, 2019;  
*and*
  - Your annual income did not exceed \$87,268\* in 2017 and \$89,013 in 2018.\* **Note:** With few exceptions, all income must be taken into account, including Social Security, pension, etc.
- \* Eligibility rules, income limits, and benefits may be changed by the State Budget that will take effect on July 1, 2019.

**For Additional Information:**

Visit our website: [www.nitaxation.org](http://www.nitaxation.org) and select "Senior Freeze"  
Call the Senior Freeze Hotline: 1-800-882-6597

## **Update from the Township Committee**

(your local leaders)

The first quarter of 2019 has been one of change in Boonton Township. Through a shared service agreement with Montville Township our residents are now serviced Monday through Friday with Construction Inspections, greatly expanding the number of hours building inspections are available. The transition went smoothly and feedback from residents has been overwhelmingly positive.

At our March meeting we honored retiring Chief Paul Fortunato and this month we will be appointing Michael Danyo as our new Chief of Police. Mike has been with the force for 22 years serving in patrol, as Sergeant and Lieutenant. Chief Danyo has been working on enhancing our community policing and we are excited to see him as our next leader of the Department.

There have also been significant changes in the Township's recycling program. Some items can no longer be accepted by the program and you are encouraged to check the Township's website or call our recycling coordinator if you have any questions of what can and cannot be recycled. Additionally the entire recycling market has changed. Demand has decreased for recycled materials -so no longer are we getting paid for our recyclables; instead we now pay to dispose of them. We still whole-heartedly support recycling and recognize the positive environmental impact of doing so, but this year we had to increase our municipal budget by more than \$60,000 to cover disposal fees for recyclables.

We are looking forward to spring, getting the RVA Fields open to play and having the walking path free of snow.

*-Michele, Bill, Paul, Tom and Brian*



# *Municipal Alliance Update*

## ***WHY A SURVEY?***

The Boonton Township Municipal Alliance is asking for your participation in this community survey to ensure that the programs being offered reflect the need in the Township to support youth and others in choosing healthy lifestyle behaviors. We first did this survey in 2013 and this years survey will reflect any changes in community perceptions of the risks facing our community.

The survey should only take a few minutes and your efforts are very much appreciated. Reminder, the survey is anonymous. We are offering a drawing for two \$25 gift cards. If you would like to be entered in the drawing, please include an email or phone number at the end of the survey. The Municipal Alliance thanks you for taking the time to take this survey.

CLICK on this link to access the survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FNRYSLN>





**ROCKAWAY  
VALLEY  
GARDEN CLUB**



**May 7- "Gardening With Deer"**

Speaker Marc Zukovich, owner of Stirling Horticultural Service and Landscape and designer professor at Morris County College, will discuss methods of discouraging deer browsing in your garden as well as offering suggestions of plants that are deer resistant. Slides of plants will be shown and handouts provided. Bring your questions!!

**May 11—ANNUAL PLANT SALE**

8:00 AM at Michelangelo Ristorante  
parking lot

**June 11**— This Month's meeting will be at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum at 10:00 a.m. followed by a tour of the gardens at 11:30 a.m.. We will have a brown bag lunch at the Arboretum

The Rockaway Valley Garden Club generally meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month. Meetings begin at 10:00 am (with coffee at 9:30 am) and are held at the Boonton Township Municipal Building, 155 Powerville Rd. Guests are always welcome and we encourage you to join us to see what we are about. Check us out at [rockawayvalleygardenclub.org](http://rockawayvalleygardenclub.org).



## **UPCOMING HEALTH CLINICS**

***In an effort to provide affordable clinics for our residents, the Board of Health is partnering with the Montville Health Department***

***The Following Clinics are open to all Township Residents***

**April 10th** —5 to 7 PM **Female Cancer Screening**  
To register call 973-331-3316 Fee: \$35

**April 13th**—8 to 11 AM **SMAC Blood Screening**  
To register call 973-331-3316 Fee:\$22.00  
Additional screenings are available

All screenings will be held at the

**MONTVILLE HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
195 CHANGEBRIDGE ROAD  
Montville, NJ**

### **What to do with PLASTIC BAGS**

Do Not put plastic bags in with your recycling.

Plastic bags **MUST** be returned to your local grocery store to be recycled.

Look for plastic bag bin at the store entrance.  
All plastic bags must be clean, dry and empty.





## **Historical Society of Boonton Township**

*Happenings....*

The Historical Society of Boonton Township  
invites you to the benefit performance of

  
**1776**

**Thursday  
May 23, 2019**

Wine & cheese reception at 7pm  
Performance starts at 8pm

At the Barn Theatre Skyline Dr.  
Montville, NJ 07045  
(just off exit 47 on Rt. 287)

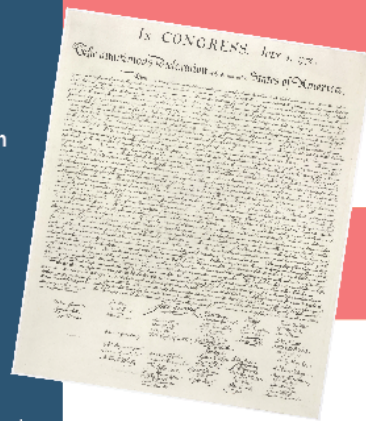
For more information or tickets  
Call 973 647 7995 or 862 368 4517

To reserve tickets please email:  
gkuchavik@aol.com

Tickets need to be purchased and picked up  
by 05/10 between noon and 4pm.

Ticket pick up at The Township of Boonton  
Municipal Building 155 Powerville Rd.  
Boonton Township, NJ 07005

Book by: Peter Stone  
Music by and Lyrics by: Sherman Edwards  
Musical Director: Tracy Lee Witko  
Directed by: Roseann Ruggiero



**Tickets on Sale NOW!**

**Price \$40 includes wine and  
cheese reception intermission  
with homemade treats.**

**\$5 discount if purchased before 4/15**

*The Boonton Township Police Department Thanks  
Chief Paul Fortunato  
For His Many Years of Dedicated Service*

After nearly 27 years of dedicated service with the Boonton Township Police Department, Chief Paul Fortunato announces his retirement as of March, 2019. Chief Fortunato served as the sixth Chief of Police in the history of the Police Department.

Chief Paul Fortunato was hired by the Township of Boonton in 1992 and attended the 41<sup>st</sup> Basic Police Class at the Morris County Police Academy. In 2004 Fortunato was promoted to the rank of sergeant and served as the commander of two patrol squads.

In 2011 Fortunato was promoted to Chief of Police. During his tenure as Chief, Fortunato oversaw the Boonton Township Police Department achieving its first state accreditation through the New Jersey Chiefs of Police Association in 2013. Chief Fortunato also served as the Township OEM Coordinator, managing the funding and hazard mitigation with the Morris County Office of Emergency Management and FEMA. Chief Fortunato focused much attention on community policing, and specifically oversaw the growth of numerous community oriented programs.

While reflecting upon his career, Chief Fortunato stated, "I have had the pleasure to work with some of the most dedicated professionals, and volunteers here in town for more than 26 years. The Police Officers, Municipal employees, Educators, Fire and EMS personnel are all working very hard to provide Boonton Township with the highest level of services possible. These hard working men and women along with our citizens, and volunteer groups, make Boonton Township a very special place to live in. It has been my honor to serve you all. I have met so many wonderful people here over the years and I will cherish those memories forever. I am especially proud of the men and women whom I have served with in law enforcement. They are some of the finest people that I will ever know. Thank You."

Chief Paul Fortunato served Boonton Township with honor and distinction and his leadership. His fellow officers wish him a happy and healthy retirement, and thank him for serving his community with integrity and commitment for so many years.

**Health Matters:**  
*A Simple Prescription for Health*

***Protect Yourself against Ticks***

With spring around the corner, it is time to protect yourself against ticks. Ticks are small and can be easy to miss. Ticks are more prevalent in tall grass and wooded areas inhabited by large animals such as deer. The most well-known tick in New Jersey is the Blacklegged tick (deer tick) which carries Lyme disease. In 2017, there were 130 reported cases of Lyme disease in Morris County. Ticks are most active during the warmer months (April-September) so it is important to protect yourself and loved ones. Follow the tips below:

Wear long sleeved shirts and long pants.

Consider tucking your pant legs into your socks, especially if you walking in tall grass or wooded areas.

Use EPA registered insect repellent with

DEET. For ticks, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends a minimum concentration of 20% DEET in repellents. The ingredients of repellents registered with the EPA have been evaluated for both safety and efficacy.

**Proper Application of Repellent**

A repellent with DEET only protects the areas to which it is applied.

Insect repellent should be applied as a thin layer, covering the entire exposed skin surface evenly. Heavy application is not necessary to achieve protection.

Using the hands to rub a spray or lotion

## **Health Matters**

### *Tick Protection*

repellent into exposed skin helps ensure even distribution of the product.

Remember to apply only to exposed skin and/or clothing. Do not use repellents under clothing.

DEET should not be applied to synthetic fabric such as rayon or to plastics, because it can damage these products.

Follow the directions on the product you are using in order to determine how frequently you need to reapply repellent.

If you are not being bitten, it is not necessary to reapply repellent.

#### DEET concentration in repellent

There is no one right answer to this question.

The various concentrations of DEET are out there to address different needs. As a general rule, higher concentrations of DEET will offer longer-lasting protection, but this effect tends to level out at concentrations of DEET over 50%.

In order to protect against tick bites, using a higher concentration of DEET (between 20% and 50%) is preferable.

At this time, products containing DEET are the only repellents applied to skin that are effective against tick bites.

For information and tips, please visit

[www.DEETonline.org](http://www.DEETonline.org).



## **Green Team**

### **Sneaker collection continues**

The Township has just shipped another large carton (our 3rd) of gently used sneakers and athletic shoes to the MORE Foundation. The following is an update from the MORE Foundation:

Dear Green friends,

...We are happy to report that our germination rate is 90% and 80,000 saplings are ready to deliver to schools in the next 3 months. This year we will plant 1,000 free trees in each of 150 schools. When we deliver the trees, we provide relevant education and training in agro-forestry.

I was able to deliver 60 pounds (54,000 seeds) of Honduran Mahogany seeds to the MORE nursery center. Honduran Mahogany is considered one of the best. Mahogany represents 20% of the trees we deliver to schoolyards each year. What this means is that all these seeds will become 50 million USD in tree value across ten years in schoolyards. Your kindness will generate *many billions of Mahogany seeds* across the next decades from 20% of the trees we plant for free. Each Mahogany tree will be worth at least one thousand USD's within 10 years. We will let you do the math.

Thus far we have planted 120,000 trees in schoolyards. Most of the trees I saw had the students first name carved in them. The students want future youth to eat the fruit they planted or study under the shade of the tree canopy they put in the ground. One million trees planted in schoolyards in Accra by the end of 2022 will change the climate of Accra and generate prosperity for all schools receiving the trees as well as billions of seeds created by one million trees.

Your support makes all this happen! Your collection of used athletic shoes make all this possible! We keep passing out trees and prosperity with your generous and continued support. On behalf of all the millions you have touched I thank you!!

**Keep dropping off your sneakers!**

## Spotlight On Our Schools

April 2019

### ***From the Desk of the Superintendent/ Principal:***

School safety and preparing our school building, students and staff for with 21<sup>st</sup> century learning expectations continue to dominate our priorities this year.

As you undoubtedly know, one of the district's long-time contracted bus drivers, affectionately known as Miss Charlene, had a serious medical issue that resulted in an accident on March 8. The driver was transported to St. Clare's in Denville and as of this writing, her condition was still critical. The students were checked by members of the Morris County Crisis Response team and a few were transported to Morristown Medical Center with minor complaints. All were released and no serious injuries were sustained by students. I am exceptionally proud of the way the students on the bus handled the situation. The older children remembered their emergency training (we do two bus drills each year) and helped the younger students off the bus through the emergency exit. Mrs. Bartel, our music teacher, was behind the bus on Valley Road and pulled over to assist and was organizing and caring for children when I pulled up. My sincerest thanks go out to all the first responders from Boonton Township, Boonton, Denville and the County for all their help.

Our staff has undergone 8 hours of intruder and active shooter training to date with two more hours planned for the upcoming months. Professionals from Blue Titan Fitness (Rockaway), experts in Krav Maga self-defense, are conducting the training and we all have learned much in the area of self-defense and responding to an active shooter. This training is thorough, physical and the scenarios we've practiced so far, quite realistic. I think the confidence of the staff has increased exponentially and while we can never plan for

## Spotlight On Our Schools

Rockaway Valley School

[www.rvsnj.org](http://www.rvsnj.org)

every instance of a security breach, we are that much more prepared for something should it happen.

In addition to our readiness training, the Boonton Township Police Department has increased its presence on campus. You may have noticed patrol cars at arrival and dismissal times and we also have an increased presence within the building. The school's partnership with the BTPD continues to grow as we each identify practical ways in which to increase the safety of our campus.

I have applied for a few grants to help us enhance safety features around the building such as additional outdoor lighting and panic alarms that connect to the police department. As yet, there have been no announcements that we are grant recipients but we remain hopeful and committed to pursuing all available avenues to the safest campus possible.

Our plans to become a Future Ready certified school are underway. The committee has been trained and is now hard at work completing the requirements for Phase 3 of Bronze level certification. They are submitting evidence to the award committee as to how Rockaway Valley School integrates technology into learning, our infrastructure and more. This is an exciting way for us to determine where we are and where we hope to go from this point forward.

In a similar vein, the Board's Technology Committee and I are working to create a 5-year Technology Strategic Plan which will include details about classroom technology and building infrastructure as well as make time line suggestions for improvements and additions to our myriad technical areas.

## Spotlight On Our Schools

Rockaway Valley School

[www.rvsnj.org](http://www.rvsnj.org)

Meanwhile some of our students will have a chance to demonstrate their knowledge of technology and engineering when they participate in a Rube Goldberg-type of competition this month. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders are working in teams in the Makerspace to perfect their machines. Second graders are also busy getting ready for their Invention Convention later this spring.

I hope you were able to attend the Spring Musical last weekend. I thought the cast and crew of *The Wizard of Oz* did an outstanding job. RVS thanks the Boonton Township Education Foundation for this wonderful opportunity for our students to participate in the performing arts. Keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for pictures!

The PreK through 2<sup>nd</sup> grades also performed admirably in the Music In Our Schools Month celebration on March 29. Mrs. Bartel, our music instructor, chose a spring theme and our youngest performers hit all their notes and charmed the audience.

More arts are on the calendar in April with the annual Visual Arts Show and Upper Grades Concert on April 2 (7:30 PM) and 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> Concert on April 5 (9 AM).

Our big-hearted Falcon community has donated 2,889 pounds of food to the Interfaith Food Pantry through February this school year and presently sits at the top of their leader list for youth organizations. I'm so proud of our students and families who remember, each month, their Morris County neighbors who may be food insecure or struggling.

Happy Spring!  
Christian Angelillo, Ed.D.  
Superintendent/Principal

## Spotlight On Our Schools

Rockaway Valley School

[www.rvsnj.org](http://www.rvsnj.org)

Boonton Township Parents who might have a handi-capped child can get free help from our public school's Child Study Team. Our school district has a mandate to locate and provide services for children between the ages of 3 to 21 who might have a physical, mental, language, or emotional difficulties. Evaluation, professional guidance, and an educational program (if needed) are available free of charge if the student is deemed eligible. For information, call:

Mrs. Christy Voorhees, Director of Special Services  
Boonton Township Public School  
11 Valley Road  
Boonton Township, New Jersey 07005  
(973) 334-4162 x-370

### Register for School

Use this link to register your child at Rockaway Valley School:

[Registration and Forms](#)

Please follow all the instructions to complete your registration.

### Now Hiring!

Rockaway Valley School is hiring substitute teachers and nurses. Substitute teachers require 60 college credits and sub nurses require an R.N. If interested, please visit our website and click on "Employment Opportunities" to download our application.



Like and follow **Rockaway Valley School** on Facebook!



## BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

Visit our local township **Cub Scout** Pack 69 or **Boy Scout** Troop 69 now and join us for our upcoming adventures.

**Cub Scout Pack 69** is currently seeking boys in Grades 1-5 to join the program. Pack meetings are held monthly at the Parish House on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:45pm. Upcoming activities include:

- March 31 – Annual Blue and Gold Luncheon – Rockaway River Country Club
- April 9 – Monthly Pack 69 Meeting
- May 14 – Monthly Pack 69 Meeting
- June 11 – Monthly Pack Meeting

For more information about the Cub Scout program, please contact Cubmaster Joanna Kuchavik ([joannakuchavik@gmail.com](mailto:joannakuchavik@gmail.com))

### **Boy Scout Troop 69 2019 Spring/Summer Highlights**

Troop 69 meets every Monday from 7:30-9 PM at the Parish House.

- April 26 – Merit Badge Fair
- April 27 – Fishing Trip
- May 27 – Canoe Trip
- June 3 – Tradeshow of Scouting
- June 3 – Court of Honor
- June 7 – Freedom Trail Hike

Check Troop website for events [www.bttroop69.org](http://www.bttroop69.org) or email Scoutmaster Craig Minitier ([craigminiter@hotmail.com](mailto:craigminiter@hotmail.com)) for more information.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

For a complete listing of events go to the  
Township Website:  
[www.boontontownship.com](http://www.boontontownship.com)

## **Meetings**

April 1	Planning Board	7:30pm
April 3	Township Committee	7:00pm
April 8	Township Committee	7:00pm
	Board of Health	7:30pm
May 6	Planning Board	7:30pm
May 8	Township Committee	7:00pm
May 13	Township Committee	7:00pm
	Board of Health	7:30pm
June 3	Planning Board	7:30pm
June 5	Township Committee	7:00pm
June 10	Township Committee	7:00pm
	Board of Health	7:30pm

June 4      **Election Day**  
polls open 6AM-8PM

## **Recycling**

### **Depot:**

April 13 and 27  
May 11 and 25  
June 8 and 22

### **Curbside:**

April 4 and 18  
May 2, 16 and 30  
June 13 and 17

# RECREATION NEWS



## **Easter Egg Hunt**

Save the Date: Saturday, April 13th  
Leonard Park: 10:00am SHARP  
Meet the Easter Bunny & bring your Easter Baskets (Raindate: Good Friday, April 19th)

## **Earth Day Clean Up**

Save the Date: Saturday, April 27th.  
(Raindate: Sunday, April 28th)  
Help clean up the Rockaway River.  
Meet at 31 Rockaway Drive at 12:00pm  
Boy Scout & Girl Scout Troops needed!

## **Township Garage Sales**

Save the date: Saturday, May 11th 8:00am-2:00pm. (Rain Date: May 18<sup>th</sup>) Start your spring cleaning. Have a garage sale at your home with the Township's help. Cost is \$15 to participate. All customers will be directed to Town Hall first for a township map locating your house as a participant. The proceeds will go to the Summer Recreation Camp. Please register at Town Hall.

## **Yoga**

Six week Adult Yoga Program- Mondays 7:00-8:00 and/or Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30. This program is held at the school. Cost is \$65 for the 6 week session or \$120 for 12. New participants are welcome any time. If interested please email [recdirector@boontontownship.com](mailto:recdirector@boontontownship.com)



## RECREATION NEWS

### Summer Camps 2019

Registration forms are available at Town Hall, Virtual Backpack and the Township Website

June 24th - August 2nd

**Recreation Camp  
Preschool Camp  
All Sports Camp**

June 24th - June 28th **Creative Crafts**

July 1st- July 3rd **Lego Camp**

July 8th - July 19th **Theater Camp**

July 8th - 12th **Engineer and Design Camp**

July 22nd - 26th **Nature Explorer Camp**



### **ANNUAL FISHING DERBY**

The Boonton Township PBA 392 will be hosting its annual Fishing Derby at Leonard Park on Saturday, **April 27, 2019**. Registration begins at 8:00 A.M. The contest runs from 9:00 A.M. until 11:00 A.M.

The contest is open to children ages 1 to 13 **who reside in Boonton Township**. Children under the age of 10 must be accompanied by an adult.

There will be food and prizes for all the children who attend. Additional prizes will be awarded for the largest fish caught in each of three age groups.

Come on out for a day of fishing and fun!

**BOONTON TOWNSHIP**

155 Powerville Road  
Boonton Township, NJ 07005  
[WWW.BOONTONTOWNSHIP.COM](http://WWW.BOONTONTOWNSHIP.COM)

Phone: 973-402-4002  
Fax: 973-402-4013

Boonton Township Committee

Michele Rankin, Chairman  
William Klingener, Vice Chairman  
Paul Allieri  
Thomas Donadio  
Brian Honan

Boonton Township Resident

Boonton Township, NJ 07005

**PLEASE READ—IMPORTANT NOTICES**