

RUSH TOWN NEWS

Volume 15, Bi-Monthly Issue No 1

February/March 2010

www.TownofRush.com

Dear Residents:

In addition to happenings within the Town, my letter also provides you with information regarding several Monroe County and City of Rochester programs that provide assistance to those who may need help and who qualify for the assistance.

RUSH MARKET UPDATE

The owners of the property and their Architect appeared before the Planning Board on January 19, 2010, for the initial Site Plan Review. The plan was favorably received by the Planning Board; however, there are a few minor issues that need to be resolved which are being addressed by the Architect and the Engineer for the Town. The expectation is that these issues will be resolved prior to the next Planning Board meeting on February 16, 2010. No work will be done on the site until final approval is given by the Planning Board. It is fair to assume that final approval could be given as early as February 16.

HOME IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Monroe County's Home Improvement Program (HIP) provides grants and loans to income-eligible homeowners for home repairs and improvements in the suburban towns and villages.

Eligible repairs include structural (roof, foundation, windows, exterior paint or siding), major systems (plumbing, heating or electrical) and accessibility accommodations (ramps, lifts, doorways, bathrooms). Routine maintenance, remodeling or cosmetic improvements are generally not eligible repairs.

Depending upon the cost of needed repairs and household income, you may qualify for a grant up to \$10,000. Applications are processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact the Community Development Office at 753-2000 for additional information.

The following program guidelines are used to determine eligibility:

- Household income within program limits (see income limit charts, page 2)
- Owner-occupied one or two-family home
- One complete year of ownership
- Prior HIP grant recipients may apply for one repeat grant 10 years after completion of the first project (mobile homes not eligible for repeat grant)
- Prior first-time homebuyer grant recipients are not eligible to apply until the five year affordability period has expired
- Mortgage paid current
- Property taxes paid
- Less than \$50,000 cash or liquid assets
- Proof of homeowner's insurance
- Property value within maximum FHA mortgage limits

Eligible Areas

Residents of all Monroe County towns and villages are eligible; however, **Greece, Irondequoit and the City of Rochester administer their own home repair programs.** Homeowners in these areas should contact their municipality directly.

Applications

Applications are available at most Town and Village offices; online at monroecounty.gov; (*Click on Get It Done Online, under Quicklinks, click on Online & PDF Forms, scroll down to Planning and Development, Click on Home Improvement Program Brochure; Home Improvement Program Cover Letter and Home Improvement Program*

Application) and at Monroe County's Community Development Office. Completed applications, with all required documentation, should be submitted to:

Monroe County Community
Development Office
8100 CityPlace
50 West Main Street
Rochester, New York 14614
(585) 753-2000
(585) 753-2028 FAX

If your application is approved, you will be contacted for an inspection of your home.

Income Limits (Effective 04/27/09)

Family Size	Family & Senior Grants
1	\$37,250
2	\$42,550
3	\$47,900
4	\$53,200
5	\$57,450
6	\$61,700
7	\$65,950
8	\$70,200



Grant Amounts

Families with household incomes below the limits are eligible to receive a grant for 100% of eligible project costs, up to \$10,000.

Accessibility Grants



Households with a disabled member with incomes below the limits are eligible to receive an additional grant for 100% of accessibility improvements, up to \$2,500.

Repayment

You will not have to repay a grant unless you sell or transfer ownership of your home within the affordability period, generally five (5) years after completion of the project. If you transfer ownership during this time, you will be required to repay the full grant amount.

HOME OWNERSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

There is help through Monroe County for first-time home buyers, which is being handled by Providence Housing Development Corporation. For more information, go to the following website: www.providencehousing.org, click on Housing, and then click on Home Ownership Application.

BEHIND ON YOUR RENT?

Layed off? Furloughed? Behind on your rent? **Heading Home** is a new program to help those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless due to the national economic downturn. **Heading Home** is funded by the City of Rochester and County of Monroe.

For more information, call 1-866-669-1688 or visit www.RocHeadingHome.com.

SPEED LIMIT ON A SECTION OF EAST RIVER ROAD

The Monroe County Department of Transportation (DOT) has recently studied the conditions of two separate horizontal curves on East River Road. The more southerly curve is located near Rush-Henrietta Town Line Road. Based upon their findings, the DOT is recommending a reduction in the speed limit from 55 MPH to 45 MPH in the section (0.7 miles) immediately south of the Rush-Henrietta Town Line Road. This proposal requires a Resolution from the Town of Rush and New York State DOT approval. At the Town Board meeting on December 30, 2009, the Town Board passed a Resolution supporting the recommendation of the Monroe County Department of Transportation.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (ZBA) ANNUAL REPORT

The function of the ZBA is to review applications for variances from the Town Zoning Ordinances. The Rush Zoning Board of Appeals processed seven (7) applications during 2009 with the following results:

Approved	2
Approved with modifications	2
Denied	1
Pending	2

THANK YOU

We would like to thank **Donald F. Knab** for twelve years of dedicated service as Town Councilman and as Deputy Town Supervisor, and prior to this service, his many years of service as a Town Fire Marshal. We wish you continued success, Don, in all of your future endeavors!

We wish everyone a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

If you have any questions or concerns about Town matters, I encourage you to call me at 533-9058.

Sincerely,



William R. Udicious



Town Clerk's Office

Submitted by Pamela Bucci, Town Clerk
Mon.- Fri. 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM, Thurs. until 6 PM
Phone: 533-1312
Pam@townofrush.com

CONSERVATION TREE, SHRUB & PLANT PROGRAM

Forms for the 2010 Conservation Tree, Shrub & Plant Program are available in the Town Clerk's Office or by visiting www.monroecountyswcd.org. All orders and payments are due and payable to the Monroe County Soil & Water Conservation District (MCSWCD) by March 17th. Tree pick-up is scheduled for April 22-23, 9AM – 6 PM, at the garage directly behind Building A at the MCWSD, 1200A Scottsville Road, Rochester, NY 14624.

Just a Reminder

TOWN & COUNTY TAXES

For those homeowners that are responsible for paying their own taxes, **payment must be made by February 10th to avoid any interest penalty.** As instructed on your bill, all payments for Town and County taxes are made payable to me, Pamela Bucci, Collector, and can be either mailed or paid in person. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact my office at 533-1312.

Assessor's Office



Submitted by: Dan Stanford, Assessor
Mon. & Fri. 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Dan@townofrush.com

Colleen Statskey, Assessor's Clerk
Mon. - Thurs. 9:00 AM - 12:45 PM

Colleen@townofrush.com

EXEMPTIONS

March 1, 2010 brings the deadline for real property exemptions. If you have an exemption that is renewed every year, you must submit that application to the assessor by **March 1st**. The Assessor's Office mails out renewal forms, however, it is the property owner's responsibility to make sure that the exemption is filed regardless of whether you have received a renewal from the assessor.

Common exemptions that need to be renewed are Enhanced STAR, Agricultural Land, Senior Low Income and Non-Profit. Please make sure that your exemption is filed with this office by March 1, 2010.



Recreation Department

Submitted by: Patricia Stephens, Supervisor

Mon., Wed. 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Thursdays 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Phone: 533-2340

Pat@townofrush.com

Men's Senior Basketball



The Men's Seniors Basketball program (55 and older) meets at the Monica Leary School gym on Thursdays from 7:30PM to 9:00PM. Please call Dick Wallace at 334-8202 for more information.

Skating Classes and Free skate times! ESL Sports Center and the Town of Rush Recreation Department have joined together to offer affordable skating classes to the Town of Rush residents. In addition, ESL will be offering FREE skate times to **RUSH RESIDENTS ONLY**. Please see classes and free skate times on page 4. You can sign up for these classes at the Rush Town Hall or go to www.townofrush.com under Recreation and

download an application to send in by mail. If you have any questions, please call Patricia at 533-2340.

3/13 - 12:45-1:45pm

3/20 - 12:45-1:45pm

3/27 - 12:45-1:45pm

Skating – Adult

Adult Basic Skills Skating Class

A skating class designed for adults (other specialty classes will be held through programs at ESL during this time also). Classes cover a wide range of skating skills from basic forward and backward moves to more advanced elements and maneuvers. Skaters will be divided into groups based on their ability levels for 25 minute group lessons with 25 minutes of additional practice time. Adult Basic Skills is a nationally recognized program accredited by the USFSA. This Session will be held Fridays beginning 4/30/10 – 6/11/10, seven weeks, from 6:25 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. Ages 15 and up. The \$100 fee is per adult.

Skating – Youth & Teen

Basic Skills Skating Class

A skating class designed for skaters 3 years old – Adult. Classes cover a wide range of skating skills from basic forward and backward moves to more advanced elements and maneuvers. Skaters will be divided into groups based on their ages and ability levels for 25 minute group lessons with 50 minutes of additional practice time. Basic Skills is a nationally recognized program accredited by the USFSA. Session 1: Presidents Clinic Tuesday-Friday, 2/16/10-2/19/10, 4 days, 1:00 p.m., to 2:20 p.m. Ages 3 and up, \$70. Session 2: Saturdays 3/6/10-4/17/10, 7 weeks, 11:20 a.m., to 12:35 p.m., ages 3 and up. The fee is \$100 per child.

Figure skates and hockey skates (limited amount) are available to rent for an additional \$3 per class for all classes listed above.

Free Skate Times for

RUSH RESIDENTS ONLY

(ESL has Master Resident List)

2/6 - 12:45-1:45pm

2/20 - 2:00-3:00pm

2/27 - 12:45-1:45pm

3/6 - 12:45-1:45pm

Rush after School Program: There is availability in the Rush after school program. Please call 533-2340 for more information.

SPRING PROGRAMS

Flag Football Camp



Marcus Robinson will again be coaching the Flag Football program this spring. We have added an additional day during the week so that the participants can play games. The program will run for 6 weeks. The days and dates are Mondays April 26th -June 7th, and Wednesdays April 28th - June 9, 2010 from

6:00PM-7:30PM at the Monica Leary Gym and fields. Due to the Memorial Day holiday there will not be camp on May 31st. The cost will be \$50.00 for Rush resident and \$55.00 for a non-Rush resident. The participants need to be 8-12 years old and need to have some prior experience with football. The participants will be working on fundamentals and skills on Mondays and playing the game of football on Wednesdays. The sign up for this program begins March 1st. Applications can be downloaded from the Town of Rush website at www.townofrush.com.

Basketball Camp

Coach Marcus Robinson will be conducting Spring Basketball Camps. The location for the 6 week camp has not been confirmed. Upon registering for this program beginning March 1st the location will be selected. Marcus will be working with children in grades 3rd-8th. The children will be practicing skills on Tuesdays and playing games on Fridays. The dates are as follows; Tuesdays April 27th-June 1st 2010, and Fridays April 30th-June 4th from 6:00PM-7:30PM. The cost will be \$60.00 for Rush residents and \$65.00 for non-residents. Sign up for this program also begins March 1, 2010. Applications can be downloaded from the town of Rush website at www.townofrush.com.

PLEASE DO NOT DROP OFF YOUR CHILD FOR ANY OF THE RECREATION PROGRAMS. YOU

MUST WALK YOUR CHILD IN AND SIGN THEM BOTH IN AND OUT. THANK YOU.

If you do not hear from the Recreation Department, the programs go on as scheduled. For any questions, please call the Recreation Department at 533-2340.

Library News



Submitted by: Kirsten Flass, Director
Mon., Wed., Fri. 1 PM - 8 PM,
Tues., Thurs. 11 AM - 8 PM
Saturdays 10 AM - 2 PM (Sept. - May)
Phone: 533-1370, Fax: 533-1546
www.libraryweb.org/rush

Dear Neighbors,

Wine-Tasting Benefit:



As of the writing of this newsletter, a limited number of tickets are still available for the **6th Annual Wine Tasting Benefit** sponsored by the Friends of the Rush Library and Erie Station Fine Wines. It will be held on **Saturday, February 6th, from 7-9:30 pm** at the Rabbit Room in Honeoye Falls. Tickets are \$25 per person (cash or check only.) In addition to tasting wines, we will continue our tradition of offering hors d'oeuvres, a chocolate-tasting table, coffee and dessert, as well as the silent auction table. *Thank you to Heather Iannone & our wonderful Friends Group, our Sponsors, and everyone who donated items for our Silent Auction.* A complete list of our sponsors will be in the next newsletter! Proceeds from this fundraiser will support our Reading Garden, our Summer Concert Series, plus additional projects and programs inside the library but outside of our operating budget. **This is a fun evening and we'd love to see you there!**

Garden Committee: It may be the middle of winter, but the library's garden committee is already dreaming of spring. If you have a fondness for pulling weeds (some people do!) and general garden work, please contact Rob Lewkowicz at 755-8596 for information on springtime volunteer opportunities and upcoming committee plans. No green thumb required!

Art on Display: Come in and see the works of local artists, **Andrew VanAtta Kieffer and Mary Kelly Weston**. Andy is a perception painter of landscapes who studied internationally; he is inspired by New York State's natural beauty, and enjoys using oil paints in a naturalistic style. Kelly is a portrait painter with many years of experience as an advertising illustrator for Kodak, and she also

enjoys teaching painting. Some of their works are on display for your enjoyment.

Tax Forms are now available inside the library. You can also download and print NYS forms at <http://www.tax.state.ny.us/> and federal forms at <http://www.irs.gov/formspubs/> or stop in and our library staff members will be happy to help you. Printing forms at the library costs 15¢ per page.

Calling All Inventors: Do you have an idea for a new invention? The Chester F. Carlson Patent & Trademark Center at the downtown Central Library can help you protect your idea. As a Patent & Trademark Depository Library, they are partners with the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, and can offer (free of charge) the resources and specialized databases you would find in the nation's Capitol. The Central Library's staff can help you navigate through the process, either one-on-one or in a group. For more information, call the Science & History Division at 428-8110.

The Community Craft Project: The Rush Library is pleased to be collaborating for the fourth year with the **Monroe County Fair Association** on a community service project. This year the project is the creation of **lap blankets** for nursing home residents & dialysis patients. They could be knitted, crocheted, quilted, or sewn. You can drop off completed projects at the library and they will be on display until June 20th; then they'll be delivered to the Fair & Expo Center in time to be exhibited at the Monroe County Fair in July.

New Computers were installed successfully in January thanks to our Monroe County Library System's tech staff. We will continue to run Windows XP on them until Windows 7 becomes certified for use with our Carl circulation and catalogue software. Microsoft Office has been upgraded to the 2007 version for your convenience. Remember to bring your flash drive if you want to save your work and thank you for your patience during the upgrade!

Collection on Display: Local residents have graciously loaned us a collection of Victorian "**Hair Receivers**" to display for 2 months. These are *les objets d'art* that women traditionally kept on their dressers to collect loose hair, which was later used for weaving into jewelry, stuffing pillows & pincushions, or for helping them to fashion the elaborate hairstyles of that time period. Come in and see this exquisite collection from a bygone era!

Meeting Room: Do you have a crafting or writing club, or a small non-profit group looking for a meeting space? The Library has a community meeting room that may be available for your group to use! It can accommodate 12-15 people

comfortably, and is free for non-profit organizations. Stop by the library for a copy of our Meeting Room Policy.



Mini Book Sales: Volunteer Friends have begun a new fundraiser, “**Second Chance, Second Week**”

Book Sales. During the *second full week of each month* they will set up a table with themed book sale items, and proceeds will help us buy new books! February’s theme is *romance novels*, and in March you can buy *history & political books*. The mini sales will only run for one week, with a \$2 bag sale on that Friday.

Memorial Day Essay Contest: The members of the American Legion Stevens-Connor Post have asked the Rush Library to collaborate with them on a Memorial Day Essay Contest open to Rush residents. The theme is “**What Does Memorial Day Mean To Me?**” and there will be 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes for three different age groups. The 1st place winning essays in each age category will be read at the Memorial Day Ceremony at Pine Hill Cemetery. **The deadline for submission is April 15, 2010.** Further details are available at the Rush Library, and essays may be submitted there as well.

2009, A Record-Breaking Year: The Rush Library once again set new records for both patron visits & circulation of materials last year... *we are very grateful for your continued patronage!*

Looking forward to seeing you,

Kirsten

*Upcoming Events at the Rush Public Library
for February and March, 2010
Submitted by Joan Celentano-Children’s and
Adult Services and by
Trish Vanable, Teen Services*



FEBRUARY

Chocolate Desserts for Valentine’s Day! Join us on either **Tuesday, February 9th or Thursday, February 11th from 7-8:00 pm** with local resident and chef, **Valerie Mertsock**. Valerie will demonstrate how to make (and let you sample) silky rich ganache tarts plus chocolate tulip cups (perfect for filling with fruit, custards and more.) Sure to impress, these

desserts are quick, easy, and require little-to-no baking... perfect for your Valentine! Space is limited and registration is required.

Ready, Set, Go... A 10-week Story Time program for children ages 3-5 begins on **Thursday, February 11th from 11:30-12:15**. This program is for children who are able to sit by themselves in a group with their peers, listen to stories, and participate in simple games and craft activities. **Children must be 3 years old by February 1st.** All dates and times will be given at the first session. Please register in advance for this program.

Library Knit Chicks: is our bi-monthly casual knitting circle at the library, meeting on the **second & last Saturdays of each month from 10-ish ‘til noon. We’ll meet February 13th & 27th, and March 13th & 27th.** Join us for coffee, tea, cocoa and conversation.

Saturday Stories: for children ages 2 and up on **Saturday, February 13th from noon-1:00 pm**. Children will be listening to the story *Guess How Much I Love You* by Sam McBratney. Each child who attends this program will receive a FREE copy of this book, courtesy of Kohl’s Department Store. Children will also be able to make a Valentine card and decorate a cookie. Space is limited and registration is required. If you cannot attend this story time, don’t worry! Each *child* who checks out a Rush library book during the week of **February 15th through the 19th** will also receive a copy of this book (while supplies last.)

Four February School Break Activities:

1. **Tween Wij:** Come & hang out on your day off and Wii DANCE on **Monday February 15th, from noon-1:30**. Learn all the latest dance moves! Soda and snacks will be provided. For ages 11-14. Please call to register.
2. **Mardi Gras Party:** for kids ages 5 and up on **Tuesday, February 16th from 2-3:00 pm**. Children will get in the spirit of New Orleans by making a crown, a mask, or a miniature float of their very own. (Please bring in an empty shoe box if you would like to make a float.) Play “pass the baby” and enjoy some Mardi Gras music and treats. Space is limited and registration is required.
3. **Tween Game Day:** Kids ages 11 & up, join us on **Wednesday February 17th, from 3:30-5:00 pm**. While playing Magic 8 Ball, you might get any of

these cards: "Sing the first line of any song you can think of", "Name 2 countries that start with one of your initials", "Balance a penny on your nose". You may even get points for twitching, rolling your eyes, or tickling people... OMG!! Please call to register in advance, snacks & soda will be provided.



4. **E.P.I.C. Babysitters Training Course** will be held on **Thursday, February 18th from 11:30am-4:30pm (during school break week).** This class is for students ages 11-16 and is designed to teach roles and responsibilities of the babysitter, including skills in accident prevention and emergency recognition. Students are encouraged to bring a bag lunch, and refrigeration is available. The fee for this class is \$40 (cash or check only) and includes a Certificate of Completion. Space is limited and registration is required.

American Girl Club is back for 6-10-year-olds! Join us on **Tuesday, February 23rd from 3:30-4:30pm**, and also on **March 2nd and 9th**. We'll be exploring the world of **Felicity Merriman** who lives in Williamsburg, Virginia in 1774, just before the Revolutionary War. Felicity is a spunky 9 year old who would rather be riding horses than doing "sitting down kinds of things." Children will listen to An American Girl story and participate in a craft or activity related to the period. Space is limited for this popular program, and registration is required.

Rush Reader's Book Club will be held on **Thursdays, February 25th & March 4th, from 7-9:00 pm**. This month's selection will be *The Glass Castle, a Memoir* by Jeanette Walls. "Jeanette Walls grew up with parents whose ideals were both their curse and their salvation." Her mother was a painter & writer who couldn't stand the responsibility of providing for her family, and her father drank and disappeared for days. Jeanette and her siblings learned to fend for themselves and hers is a story of triumph above all odds! Space is limited and registration is required. Coffee and dessert will be served!

NEW!

Daytime program for our local "Recycled Teenagers", ages 50 and up: Our first in a series of topics will be "*Beating the Winter Blahs*" on **Friday, February 26th from 2-3:00 pm**. Learn new tips and strategies on how to cope with the long winter by a Community Health Educator from MVP

Health Care. Coffee and dessert will be served. We would like to have at least 6-8 people attend this program, so if you are interested, please tell your friends and register in advance. (Next class will be held on Friday, March 26th)

MARCH

Saturday Crafts for Kids: ages 6 and up on **Saturday, March 6th from 11:00 am-noon**. Mrs. Celentano has cleaned out the craft closet and found lots of fun kits, including Easter and St. Patrick's Day crafts- bracelets, wreaths; bags, etc. Come and be creative! Space is limited and registration is required.

Tween Book Club: for 11-15 year olds on **Saturday March 6th, from 12:30-1:30 pm**. We are reading *Alcatraz vs. the Evil Librarians*. In this madcap fantasy/action story, 13-year-old Alcatraz suddenly discovers that there's evil lurking at the local library, and only his talent for breaking things can right it all! It's zany, it's kooky, it's plain silly. Pick up the book at the circulation desk starting Feb 17th, and then join us for pizza donated by Barbeque & Pizza Too! Please register in advance.

Crafter's Corner for Adults: **Kelly's Art Workshop Tuesday, March 9th from 6:30-8pm**. Have a painting started but not finished? Come to our Art Studio! Bring your painting and supplies and join **Kelly Weston** of Rush, a retired Kodak advertising illustrator, who will be there to help you bring your painting to a closure--or start a new one! (No turpentine please.) This program is free, but space is limited and registration is required.



Friends of the Rush Library: will meet on **Wednesday, March 10th at 7:00 pm**. We'll be wrapping up the Wine-Tasting Benefit and discussing the Tea Party, the Summer Concert Series, the June Book Sale, plus other fundraising and advocacy efforts. We'd love *your* help!

Gentle Decluttering: Let go...and find peace! This program for adults will be held on **Tuesday, March 16th from 7-8:00pm**. If you are filled with shame and guilt, if your home makes you feel sad, if you aren't living the life you want, it's time to let go...of all the STUFF! You *can* be happy in your home again, learn how with expert **Diane Zielinski**. This should be a fun evening, please register in advance for this program.

GENESEE Model-N-Gineers Ontario Train Expo!

Join the crew once again on **Saturday, March 20th from 11am-1:30 pm**. Children of all ages are invited to see and learn about N-Scale model trains. View life-like miniature lay-outs; learn about scale-model building, train preservation and history of model train enthusiasts. Free and open to the public, no registration is necessary.

Discover Ireland: A travelogue will be presented on **Tuesday, March 23rd from 7-8:00 pm** by world traveler **Joyce Roeder**. Come journey 'round the Emerald Isle through castles, pubs and gardens as we explore the historic sites and enjoy the beautiful landscapes of this lush green country. Coffee, tea and dessert will be served. Space is limited and registration is required.



Rush Readers' Book Club: is meeting on **Thursdays, March 25th and April 1st, from 7-9:00 pm**. We will be participating in "If All of Rochester Read the Same Book" sponsored by Writers and Books. This year the selection is *Bel Canto*, a fascinating novel by Ann Patchett. AudioFile Magazine says, "Mixing art and politics can have unexpected results, but rarely are they so poignant." The author will be in Rochester March 24-27, and many readings and interviews will be held throughout Monroe County for readers. We'll have readers' guides and a schedule of community events in March. To participate in *our* discussion, please register in advance, as space is limited. A limited number of paperback copies will be for sale at the circulation desk.

Daytime Program for "Recycled Teenagers" ages 50 and up: The second in a series, **Memory Enhancement**, will be held on **Friday, March 26th from 2-3:00 pm** presented by a Community Health Educator from MVP Health Care. Learn easy techniques to improve your memory, how to stimulate your brain and keep it sharp, how to know the difference between normal forgetfulness and Alzheimer's disease. Coffee and dessert will be served. We would like to have at least 6-8 people attend this program, so bring a friend! Space is limited; please call to register.

*A special **thank you** goes out to **Trisha Vanable** who volunteers all of her time spent running our tween & teen programs, our knitting classes, and

organizing & updating our web site. We appreciate your gifts of time and talent, Trish!



*Office of the Fire Marshal/
Emergency Preparedness Administrator*
Submitted by: *Richard L. Tracy*
Phone: 533-1312
Rick@townofrush.com

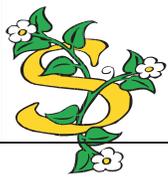
Fire Escape Plans

This month I would like to provide you with important information on fire escape planning. In the event of a fire in the home, it is important that every family member be familiar with how to safely exit the home.

Make and practice a fire escape plan.

- Plan for two ways to escape from each room.
- Plan for everyone in your home-including babies and others who need help to escape.
- Pick a place to meet after you escape to check that everyone got out.
- Practice your escape plan every month.
- Practice getting out with your eyes closed, crawling low to the floor.
- Involve children in making and practicing your escape plan.
- Teach children to never hide during a fire-they must get out and stay out.
- Clear toys, boxes, and other debris from exits.
- Check that windows open easily. Fix any that stick.
- Be sure that security bars on doors and windows have a quick-release latch, and everyone knows how to open them.
- Never open a door that feels hot. Escape another way.
- Escape first, then call for help.

If you have any questions or require assistance in preparing a fire escape plan, please contact me either by e-mail at rick@townofrush.com or by calling the Rush Town Hall at 533.1312.



Rush Senior Citizens
Submitted by: Sue Miller, Secretary

Well, here we are already a month into a new decade. Will you call it two thousand and ten or twenty ten? Whatever your choice is, we seniors choose to make it another great year.

We voted in our new officers for 2010, and they are President – **Carol Coombe**, Vice President – **Marge Williams**, Secretary - **Suellen Miller**, and Treasurer - **Anne Marie Miller**. This was done at our annual Christmas party at the Wishing Well Party House and, of course, it had to be one of the snowiest days. The buffet was delicious and the decorations beautiful, but we had to cut short the entertainment and race through our meeting, although we did save a few minutes to give out 20 door prizes. After that, a VERY speedy exodus took place. The snow and wind made visibility almost zero and, as fast as we brushed the snow off our cars and windows, we were covered again. All made it home safely though and chalked it up to just another Rochester winter day!

Our first meeting of the New Year was on January 14th and Rush Town Judge Paula Anderson swore in the 4 new officers, which means we're now official!! All members present had a choice of three trips to vote on for our one extended excursion for the year. And the winner was - Coastal Maine, in September. We'll be away for 6 days and 5 nights. Price and exact itinerary to follow in the next newsletter.

Our next trip is local – we're going to see The Mendon Players on Thursday Feb. 18th. This is free to seniors, and if we have enough people, we'll have a school bus to transport us. The title of this year's comedy is **"Those Wedding Bells Shall Not Ring Out, Or The Bride Wore Green Chili Peppers."** We laugh every year at the zany antics of these local people. There are even snacks, popcorn (free), cheese and cracker tray, soda, wine and beer! If you're interested, contact Mary Anne at 533-1185

In March we take our annual trek to Cartwright's Maple Tree Inn in Angelica. If you've never had buckwheat pancakes, you're in for a treat. They're absolutely delicious with sausage and REAL maple syrup, and all you can eat. We don't have an exact date for this,(have to wait to see how the sap is

running,) but you can check with Mary Anne towards the end of February.

On April 19th we'll be traveling to Syracuse to Turning Stone Casino, so all you big gamblers out there, start saving your pennies and dollars and join us for a fun and hopefully profitable day. Remember, you don't have to be a member to travel with us.

I can't give away any more information on the rest of our trips; if I tell all now, I won't have anything to say in subsequent newsletters, so stay tuned.

If you'd like to join our club and are a Rush resident 55 years of age or older, we meet the second Thursday of each month at the Rush Firehouse for a pot-luck luncheon, meeting and sometimes entertainment. Please bring your own table service and a dish to pass that will serve 10-12 people. (Seniors are a hungry bunch). Coffee will be provided. See you at 11:30! For more information on the Rush seniors please call our President Carol Coombe at 533-2163. Have a lovely Valentine's Day!



**Rush Fire District
Fire Department &
Rush Ambulance**

Submitted by: Robert Faugh, Fire Commissioner
Phone: 533-2058, www.rushfd.org

FIRE DISTRICT: The Organizational Meeting was held on January 2nd. Bob Faugh was elected as Chairman and Larry Meston was elected as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners. Robert Kuhls was appointed as Treasurer and Karen Wanderslaben was appointed to the Secretary position. The Fire Commissioners meeting will be held the third Tuesdays of each month at 7 pm at Station One. All of our meetings are open to the public.

FIRE DEPARTMENT AND AMBULANCE: The three Chiefs were approved by the Board of Fire Commissioners and the line officers for the department were approved by the Board of Directors at their Organizational Meeting. See web site for complete list.

FIRE DISTRICTS' COSTS: A recent article in the Democrat and Chronicle showed the increase in Monroe County Fire Districts' tax rate levies. Our

district had a **34%** increase over 10 years. The inflation rate over that period was 32%. **Our rate was actually LOWER than reported because of a one year tax increase in 1997 of .50 per thousand for the new addition at Station One. During that 10 year period, we also updated the West Rush station, completely replaced our radios and paging system and purchased a \$320,000 pumper tanker fire truck.** Ridge Culver had a 288% increase. North Greece 219%, Ridge Road 161% and Henrietta 124%. All these districts have paid staff on duty 24 hours a day. The average was 105%. A map in the same article showed fire station locations with the ideal situation being no residence more than 1.5 miles from a fire station. Based on dense population locations in the town, 70 % of the Rush residents are within that 1.5 miles circle. 100% within a 3 mile radius of a fire station (Incl. Henrietta, Scottsville, Honeoye Falls, Avon & East Avon.)

ANNUAL REPORT:

Total of 372 Fire & EMS Calls for 2009. That is a call every 23.5 hours. We had an average of 18 Firefighters respond to any calls that sounded serious. We had one serious property loss fire, had no injury or deaths involved in any fires. We still report many false alarms. PLEASE, if your system goes off, call 9-1-1 and tell them what is going on. DO NOT RELY on your system for our response. (The little boy that cried wolf syndrome is not a myth)

Total Ambulance Calls 221 or 60% of our responses. In addition, another 18 ambulance responses were emergency scene stand bys. We responded to 37 MVA's. We only had to use our heavy extrication equipment on 3 calls. We transported 143 patients with another 26 being transported by a full ALS/BLS ambulance. We used an ALS "fly car" Medic on 60 calls. Henrietta Ambulance provided 95% of our ALS for 2009.

Our average response time to get a properly equipped "first responder" EMT on scene was 5 to 6 minutes 90% of the time. This response time is exceptional and beat almost everyone in Monroe County, most of which are paid services. We have two "first responder" officers' cars with AEDs and plan on two more to be equipped with automatic defibrillators (AED's). Several other officers that respond to the scene have basic life support equipment. 3,000 man - women hours were expended on these calls. All these hours were

donated by your relatives, friends and neighbors. Another 3,500 hours were donated for training, seminars, drills, carnival, maintenance on equipment/ buildings and local, regional and state meetings.

RESCUE TRUCK SOLD: The Rushville Fire Department has purchased our 1991 Rescue truck that we are replacing in the spring. It sold for \$60,000. This money will go back into the vehicle replacement fund.

FUND DRIVE: We have received over \$50,000 from the 2009 annual fund drive. **Thank you very much!** The per resident donation is unmatched ANYWHERE in Western NY. 70% of our residents donated. The money goes for general operations such as Fire Prevention, Girl/Boy Scouts and Explorer sponsorships, training/seminars, fire and EMS equipment, office costs and the rest into Rescue Truck and Ambulance replacement funds. No fund drive money is ever used for our few social functions.

FIRE PREVENTION: Keep up the good work, watch those candles and wood stoves. Keep the hydrant near your home clear of snow. Let's continue to have a safe winter!

RUSH FD WEB SITE: We update the NEWS section of our web site with pictures and information every few days. www.RushFD.org .

LADIES AUXILIARY

The Rush Ladies Auxiliary would like to thank everyone who helped and attended our Children's Christmas Party held on December 11th. It was a huge success.

We would also like to send a huge thank you to the Rush Fireman for putting on a Christmas Dinner for us on December 14th. We all enjoyed it very much.

RUSH FIREMEN'S LADIES AUXILIARY WILKINS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

The Rush Fireman's Ladies Auxiliary Wilkens Scholarship Award was created in memory of Grace "Betty" Wilkins for her contributions to the Rush community through her generous volunteer efforts. This award will be given to either one or two residents of the Town of Rush, depending upon the number of qualified candidates. The amount of this award is \$1,000 for each resident selected.

Guidelines for applying for this scholarship are as follows: **Applicant must be a resident of the Town of Rush. Applicant must provide evidence of satisfactory grades. Applicant must have contributed to the community through religious affiliated activities , scouting, volunteer work etc. Emphasis will be placed on the amount and diversity of public service. Applicant must be planning to attend an accredited college or technical school at which he/she will earn a degree.** Applications can be obtained at the Rush Henrietta Senior High School guidance office. The final selection of the recipient will be made by the Scholarship Selection Committee. A "certificate" will be presented to the recipient of the Rush Firemen's Ladies Auxiliary Wilkens Scholarship Award, at the Senior Awards Ceremony at the appropriate school. The check will be sent to the winner after the Scholarship Selection Committee receives verification that he/she is enrolled in a degree program. Please return the completed applications by **Monday, April 12, 2010** to the:

Rush Firemen's Ladies Auxiliary
Attn: Scholarship Selection Committee
1971 Rush-Mendon Rd
Rush, NY 14543

CHICKEN & BISCUITS DINNER

The Ladies Auxiliary will hold its annual Chicken and Biscuits Dinner on Sunday, March 14, 2010 from 12:00pm until 6:00 pm., at the Rush Fire House. The cost is \$7.50 for Adults, \$6.50 for Seniors and \$3.50 for children 12 and under. Take outs are available. Proceeds from this dinner help fund the Wilkens Scholarship Award.



JOIN THE EASTER BUNNY for an Easter Egg Hunt at the Rush Firemen's Field at 1971 Rush-Mendon Rd on Saturday, March 27 at 1 PM. Rush residents from 0-8 years of age are welcome to hunt for Easter Eggs in four different categories (0-2 years), (3-4 years), (5-6 years), and (7-8 years). Perhaps you will be the lucky person who finds the silver or gold coin and receive a special prize. Treats for all the kids. Snacks for everyone.

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME: Ladies 18 years of age or older and residents of Rush who are interested in joining the Rush Ladies Auxiliary should contact: Joan Madigan at 229-4168 or jnmadigan@aol.com or by visiting www.rushfd.org/ladiesaux.htm.



Gazebo near Rush Dam

RUSH TOWN HALL
 5977 EAST HENRIETTA ROAD
 RUSH, NEW YORK 14543

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**ECRWSS
 POSTAL CUSTOMER**

February, 2010 Calendar

<i>Conservation Board</i> <i>Court</i> <i>Library Board of Trustees</i> <i>Zoning Board of Appeals</i> <i>Seniors Lunch</i> <i>Planning Board</i> <i>Board of Fire Commissioners</i> <i>Town Board</i>	7:30 PM 5 PM 7:15 PM 7:00 PM 12 noon @ Rush Firehouse 7:30 PM 7:00 PM @ Rush Firehouse 7:00 PM	<i>Thursday - 4th</i> <i>Mondays - 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd</i> <i>Tuesday - 2nd</i> <i>Thursday - 11th</i> <i>Thursday - 11th</i> <i>Tuesday - 16th</i> <i>Tuesday - 16th</i> <i>Wednesdays - 10th and 24th</i>
Other Important Information and Dates: <i>Valentine's Day</i>		<i>Sunday, 14th</i>



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Other Important Information and Dates: <i>St. Patrick's Day</i>		<i>Wednesday, 17th</i>

For legal notices and meeting agendas, refer to The Rush-Henrietta Post, The Sentinel, and our website at www.townofrush.com or contact the Town Clerk's Office at 533-1312.

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