



BUSINESSES INVEST IN BOROUGH

Wood-Ridge has enjoyed economic growth throughout the spring and summer as redevelopment projects and renovations continue throughout town. "The Wood-Ridge business community is experiencing positive growth at this time, thanks in part to a low tax rate and infrastructure improvements throughout the Borough" said Councilman Dominick Azzolini.

Along Route 17, construction is underway on a new World Headquarters for Terminal Construction. Terminal is one of the nation's top 400 full-service construction companies, with a long resume of projects in the New York City Metropolitan area that includes the IZOD Center, the Metropark Train Station in Edison, and the Alexander Kasser Theatre, Academic Building, and numerous dormitories at Montclair State University.

The 17,500 square foot, \$8 million,

reinforced-concrete-and-glass World Headquarters in Wood-Ridge will include expanded offices, an outdoor patio for staff, and 40 parking spaces.

The project was profiled in *The Record* as a strong showing of reinvestment in the community.

"For more than 50 years, our family owned and operated company has called Wood-Ridge home. And in more recent years, the pro-business philosophy of the Mayor and Council has strengthened our commitment to this town," said Donald Dinallo, Terminal President and CEO. "Wood-Ridge's solid bond rating, property values, and vision for the future make it a partner we are proud to have."

Next door, the Fiesta Banquet Hall recently underwent a multi-million dollar renovation of its exterior and banquet rooms, which have hosted countless weddings, fundraiser dinners, and other community

events over the years, and the Wood-Ridge Planning Board has granted approvals for a future expansion of the parking garage and the addition of a hotel.

"We're looking forward to growing our capacity to host memorable events in the years ahead by becoming a destination as well as a venue," said owner Raf Nazar. "Wood-Ridge has been very progressive in helping us recognize this vision."

On the west end of Wood-Ridge, the first two luxury apartment buildings are rising quickly at Wesmont Station. The redevelopment will include apartments, retail, townhomes, single-family homes, walking paths, parks and public spaces.

The 70-acre redevelopment project, which replaces a remediated industrial site with a mixed-use residential community, was awarded a New Jersey Smart Growth Award during its inception.

The apartments are currently on track to open in 2012.



FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Welcome to the latest edition of the *Wood-Ridge Newsletter*. Inside of this newsletter, you will find updates on ongoing road and park improvements, as well as community events throughout our Borough.

We highlight the civic and athletic accomplishments of some of our young residents, particularly several junior wrestlers who went to States, two Little League All-Star teams who ranked highly this summer, and a Girl Scout who constructed an educational garden at Bianchi House Park.


As we acknowledge these individual achievements, we also take a look at the bigger picture that is our entire community of Wood-Ridge.

In the last year, the Fiesta Banquet Hall has undertaken a major upgrade, and Terminal Construction has decided to build a brand-new, state-of-the-art world headquarters on the site of its former office.

On the west end of town, Wesmont Station construction is progressing with roads and utilities completed, and the first residential structures rising from the ground.

As a governing body, we make strategic decisions to invest in the improvement of the Borough, and we are seeing these investments yield dividends as others make the Borough their choice for the future.

It is a bright time for Wood-Ridge.

Very truly yours,

 Paul A. Sarlo
 Mayor

ROADS TO PROGRESS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

The Borough of Wood-Ridge continues a comprehensive road improvement plan this summer with the repaving and resurfacing of Union Avenue. The project, which includes a new road, new sidewalks, and new drainage, is being partially funded with Department of Transportation grants totaling \$350,000.

"The price for this project came in well below the borough engineer's original estimate due to lower bulk costs for asphalt, concrete, milling, paving and other components," said Mayor Paul Sarlo. "With the costs of the project competitively low, we were able to strategically group together nearby roads in need of improvement."

Additional roads receiving resurfacing include 5th Street, Center Street from 6th Street to 4th Street, Main Avenue from 6th Street to Valley Boulevard, Jefferson Street, Wood-Ridge Street, Madison Street, Hill Street and Anderson Avenue.



The repaving project also includes new catch basins and an underground drainage system to mitigate the overflow of rainwater on Union Avenue. "The upgraded road system will be better able to handle inclement weather," said Councilwoman Cathy Cassidy, who serves as Liaison to the Police Department. "By upgrading this mile long road, we are taking measures to reduce hydroplaning, as well as reduce wear and tear on the road surface, which leads to potholes."

Borough of Wood-Ridge
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POSTAL PATRON
 WOOD-RIDGE, NJ 07075

PRSR STD
 U.S.
 POSTAGE
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 RUTHERFORD, NJ
 PERMIT #168



SUMMER FUN

- 393 boys and girls enrolled in June & July programs
- 30 summer jobs keeping high school and college-age students engaged in their community
- 800+ hours of community service logged by WRHS students
- Daily activities, games, and field trips to the Williams Center Inline Skating Club and Monster Golf

WR RECREATION

VETERANS PARK REDEDICATED ON MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day May 30th was highlighted by the annual parade and the rededication of Veterans Park by Mayor Paul Sarlo and the Wood-Ridge Borough Council.

Councilman Ezio Altamura served as this year's Parade Chairman and Wood-Ridge veteran Bill Schiller served as Grand Marshal, coordinating various groups along the route including American Legion Post 97, VFW Memorial Post 3616, the Ladies Auxiliary, Knights of Columbus Saint Anthony Council #11585, Wood Ridge High School Marching Band, Police and Fire Departments. After the reading of the names of deceased veterans, Mayor Sarlo remarked on the importance of all veterans' contributions to freedom.

The park was rededicated in honor of the American Legion, VFW, Ladies Auxiliary, and all veterans who have called the Borough of Wood-Ridge home. Veterans Vincent DeSanctis, Bill Haggett and John Lanzante were also honored during the ceremony.

The rededication was followed by free ice cream, hot dogs and other refreshments for all in attendance.

Veterans Park was enhanced earlier this year with a new basketball court, the installation of a bocce court, new swingsets, walkways and landscaping. The renovations were funded by a Community Development Grant,



The names of deceased veterans were read on Memorial Day.

explained Councilman Joseph DiMarco, who also serves as Chairman of the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

"With its central location in the business district and easy access to residents, Veterans Park is utilized by hundreds of school age children, parents, and seniors each day," DiMarco said. "This is a great source of pride for Wood-Ridge."

Wood-Ridge is currently submitting an application for a County Open Space Grant for a brand-new jungle gym at the park.

10-YEAR REMEMBRANCE OF 9/11 TO BE HELD

Councilman Thomas Gonnella has announced that a 10-Year Anniversary Memorial Service to honor the heroes and victims of 9/11 will be held at the Veterans Park, located on Valley Boulevard and Highland Avenue, on Sunday, **SEPTEMBER 11**, at 10:00 a.m. The Knights of Columbus Saint Anthony's Council 11585 will sponsor a Blood Drive prior to and after the service. The Community Bloodmobile will be stationed on Valley Boulevard between Marlboro Road and Highland Avenue from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon for any residents interested in giving blood.

WRFD LESSONS TO INCLUDE RIDE IN THE BIG RED TRUCK

Fire Commissioner Thomas Gonnella, Chief Paul Clemente and the Wood-Ridge Volunteer Fire Department invite the families of children ages 5-13 to the Firehouse on Sunday, **OCTOBER 2** from 1-4 p.m. The kids will be treated to donuts and apple cider, see a short film on fire prevention and then take a ride on the inside of an actual fire truck around town! A parent or guardian will have to be present the day of the event to sign a permission slip for their child to participate.

AN OUTPOURING OF RELIEF

Residents from the Borough gathered relief goods June 11 for survivors of a string of deadly tornadoes that struck Alabama this spring. A resident of Wood-Ridge drove the items to Alabama, in a donated vehicle from Enterprise Car Rental, and Office of Emergency Management Coordinator Paul Dahl and Welfare Director Susan Frattarelli coordinated the drive.



Mayor Paul Sarlo and Councilman Ed Marino presenting a check for \$9,500 to Robin Vogel of the Greater New Jersey Cystic Fibrosis Foundation on May 17, a donation from the Inaugural Mayor's 5K Race.

on the run

Councilman Ed Marino and the Mayor's 5K Run Committee have set up a website for interested residents of all skill levels who wish to participate in the Second Annual Mayor's 5K Run being held on Sunday, **OCTOBER 9**. Last year's race drew more than 400 runners, and corporate sponsors for a community event at Donna Ricker Memorial Field that was held in conjunction with the race. Visit www.raceforum.com/wood-ridge for more information or to register. This year's event will benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and Tomorrow's Children Fund.

WOOD-RIDGE SAVES MONEY WITH NEW COMBINED GARBAGE/RECYCLING CONTRACT

The Borough of Wood-Ridge will be saving \$96,000 a year thanks to a new combined garbage and recycling contract with Suburban Disposal. Previously, household garbage and recycling were managed by two separate contractors at a cost of approximately \$32,000 per month, explained Councilman and Finance Committee Chairman Dominick Azzolini.

Suburban Disposal, which previously had the Borough's garbage contract, submitted the lowest bid for a combined contract at \$24,000 per month.

"Under the new contract, Suburban Disposal will not only provide the same level of service for garbage and recycling, on the same schedule, but they will also be increasing the number of collections for grass clipping and other yard waste," said Azzolini.

Household trash is collected in Wood-Ridge on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Recyclables are collected on Wednesdays. Grass clippings are picked up on Mondays from March through November, and leaves are picked up weekdays from October through the end of December.



COACHES CORNER

A number of Wood-Ridge sports programs reported high achievements for their young athletes in recent months. Six Wood-Ridge **JUNIOR WRESTLING** members qualified for the New Jersey State Wrestling Tournament, and of the six, Evan Deluise placed 3rd in the 75 pound division; Michael Kelly placed 2nd in the 60 pound division; and Alec Kelly became a two-time state champ, winning the 80 pound intermediate division. The **11-YEAR OLD LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL ALL-STAR TEAM** finished 2nd Place in their District. The **9-YEAR-OLD TEAM** finished 2nd Place in a Paramus tournament which drew 30 teams.



The 2011 **RECREATION TRACK AND FIELD** team had 71 members this season who took in an interest in learning the basics of the sport, as well as strength and conditioning through the New Jersey Striders Track Club, a sanctioned USA Track & Field organization. Resident David Guerra earned 4th Place in the hurdles for his age group and advanced to the Regionals held in California, Pennsylvania, where he placed 8th, reported Track and Field President and Councilman Ezio Altamura.

learning off the land

Wood-Ridge High School senior Samantha Kronyak planted and maintained a community garden at Bianchi House Park during the summer. Sam rented a tiller, fenced off plots for vegetables and herbs, and secured donations from Lowes for the garden, which can be followed online www.sowgrowandgo.blogspot.com. She developed the website to teach younger children about growing their own vegetables at home and composting. The garden was her choice for a Gold Award Project with Girl Scout Troop 572. It added to a park in full bloom this summer with shrubs, trees, sod, benches and walkways after its landscaping last year. Councilwoman Cathy Cassidy, the Mayor and Council, and the Wood-Ridge Historical Society invite residents to visit the park and see the improvements. "It's a passive recreation park and a great place for residents to sit, to read, and to relax," said Cassidy.

