

# ROCHESTER REPORTER



News & Facts about our Town

Published by the Rochester Town Board to keep residents informed and involved

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Youth Dept.....626-2115

**MEETINGS & EVENTS**

2/19 (M) Town Offices closed for Presidents' Day Holiday

2/20 (Tu) Planning Board, 7pm TH

2/21 (W) Youth Commission Board, 9:30am CC

2/21 (W) Town Board Audit/ Workshop meeting, 4:30pm TH

2/21 (W) Fire Commissioner Board Meeting, 7:30pm AcF

2/28 (W) Code Task Force, 6pm TH

3/01 (Th) Taxable Status Date

3/01 (Th) Public Hearing on amending TOR Code Chapter 78, 7pm AcF

3/01 (Th) Town Board, 7pm AcF

3/07 (W) Code Task Force, 6pm, TH

3/08 (Th) Environmental Commission, 7pm TH

TH=Town Hall  
CC=Community Center  
AcF=Accord Firehouse

## Local Heroes Honored

Town Supervisor, Pam Duke presented certificates to two Town heroes at the Feb. 1, 2007 Town Board meeting in recognition of their quick thinking and heroic efforts to save the life of an seriously injured Accord resident.

On January 9th, children were playing near the Accord Post Office on Main Street, when one of the boys, Nico Perretta, age 12, started running across the street. He was hit head-on by an automobile



Supervisor Duke honors bravery of Leon Decker & Tom Bauer

and knocked unconscious with multiple injuries. Leon Decker (15),

and Tom Bauer (16), ran to their friend's assistance. Leon immediately called 911.



Nico Perretta and his mom look on

Tom went to Nico, feeling for his pulse and trying to hear his  
(Continued on page 2)

## New Appointments to the Youth & Environmental Commissions

At its meeting of Feb. 7, 2007, the Town Board made the following appointments to the Youth Commission and Environmental Commission:

**Youth Commission**

- Donna Ragonese, Pam Stocking (1 year terms)
- Lolly Chase (2 year term)
- Lisa Carbone, Juliette Graham-Hays, Mary Lee, Sue Matson, Julianna Muth, Tricia Reed (3 year terms)

Sue Matson and Juliette Graham-Hays were appointed chair and vice chair, respectively.

**Environmental Commission**

- Kevin Grieser (3 year term)

The Town Clerk reminds all appointees that they must appear before the Town Clerk to take the oath of office within 30 days of their appointment.

## February Town Board Meeting Ends Abruptly

The regularly scheduled Town Board meeting of February 1, was abruptly adjourned due to audience disruptions to the proceedings related to a potential appointment to the Historic

Preservation Commission. The Board voted to end the meeting when it became apparent the meeting agenda could not be followed in an orderly fashion. Part of the outcry came from residents who

could not be admitted to the Town Hall since it was at full capacity. Following the meeting, an alternate date of Feb 7 was announced for the Board to be able to complete its unfinished business.

At the Feb. 7 meeting, the Board decided to hold its March meeting at the Accord Fire Hall in order for more participants to be accommodated.

*(Local Heroes, Cont'd from page 1)*  
breathing, terrified that Nico may be dead. Just as he was feeling for his carotid artery, Nico's eyes started to flutter, and he began to thrash around. Tom knew to keep him still and warm until help arrived. Meanwhile Leon directed traffic. Both these young men did the right thing, possibly saving Nico's life. Nico was airlifted

to Westchester Hospital.

Not only did these two heroes rescue Nico, they started a fund-raiser for Nico's mother, a single mom who works at the Accord Quick Mart, so she could travel to Westchester to be with her son. They put a donation can in the Quick Mart, and in other local stores. They also asked to do a fundraiser at the Community Cen-

ter. As a result, a Valentine Dance during the after school program is planned along with a bake sale. The boys, along with friends put flyers up in school and every available spot possible.

The Valentine's Dance is scheduled for Wednesday, February 14 from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm at the Community Center to help raise additional funds to

the Perretta family. A \$5 donation is being requested, and bake goods will be accepted as well. Music will be provided by two town residents: guitarist Josh Dewoody and drummer Stephanie Rzesewewicz. Call the Youth Commission to sign up: 626-2115.

## 3-Month Extension to Subdivision Moratorium Passed

Following a Public Hearing held in January, on February 7, 2007 the Town Board enacted Local Law #1 of 2007 to establish a 3-month extension of the Temporary Moratorium on Development that was originally enacted in February of last year. The moratorium is now due to expire in May 2007.

The extension of time is needed to allow the Code Task

Force to complete its work to bring the Town's building and zoning codes in line with the recently approved Comprehensive Plan Update. Members are determining if current town codes are in any way inconsistent with the principles and guidelines of the Update.

Where inconsistencies exist, the Task Force is to recommend to the Town Board proposed changes to ensure con-

sistency. They have already prepared a draft revision to the Town's Subdivision Law, which is available for review on the Town website. The work is ongoing and the public is welcome and encouraged to attend the Task Force meetings (see the schedule on page 1, left column).

The purpose of the moratorium is to ensure that no building permits for any non-

residential building greater than 20,000 square feet or subdivisions that are larger than four parcels be approved by the Town during the moratorium period because any such development could irreparably and irrevocably alter the landscape of the Town in a manner that is or might be inconsistent with the Plan Update.

### Notices of Town Meetings

#### Audit/Workshop Meeting Rescheduled

The Town Board will hold its next Audit/Workshop Meeting on February 21, 2007 at 4:30 pm at the Accord Town Hall. This meeting was originally scheduled to occur on Feb. 28.

#### Public Hearing

The Town Board will hold a Public Hearing on March 1, 2007 at 7 pm at the Accord Fire Hall to amend Chapter 78 of the Town Code: Fire Prevention and Building Construction. (See article on right.)

#### March Board Meeting to be Held at the Fire Hall

The Town Board will hold its next monthly Board meeting on Thursday, March 1, 2007 at the Accord Fire Hall, starting immediately after the Public Hearing mentioned above.

## Two-Year Study of Route 209 Corridor Planned

Starting this coming spring, the Ulster County Transportation Council will undertake a study of the Route 209 Corridor. The study will look at the type of traffic that uses Route 209 and the distances usually travelled. Its scope will include the six municipalities of Rochester, Wawarsing, Village of Ellenville, Marble-

town, Hurley and Ulster. A study management team will provide residents of these communities the opportunity to voice their opinion about changes they would like to see made to Route 209 usage and characteristics.

While the physical highway itself is the main focus, the assessment will also consider

affects on surrounding hamlets, by looking at feeder roads, pedestrian crosswalks and predictable detour routes.

Federal grant funds will be used to fund 80% of the cost of the study, with the remaining 20% being paid for from State funds. The study is expected to be completed in May 2009.

## Star Exemptions

Property owners with exemptions that must be renewed, must have their renewal applications filed with the Assessor's Office by March 1, 2007, Taxable Status Date. Senior and Enhanced STAR renewals were mailed in December 2006.

Questions on the above should be directed to Sharon Hornbeck, Town Assessor 626-0920.

## Public Hearing on Fire Safety & Property Maintenance Inspections

All Towns and Municipalities in New York State are required to amend their building codes to include new fire protection and property maintenance inspections. This means that Chapter 78 (Fire Inspections and Building Construction) of the Town's code has to be amended. In order

to accomplish this, a Public Hearing must be held to receive public comment on the proposed changes to the Code. This hearing has been scheduled for March 1, 2007 at 7 pm at the Accord Fire Hall. The proposed amendment to Chapter 78 will be finalized and available to Board members 10 days prior to the hearing, as well as to the Code Enforcement Officer and Town Clerk. It will also be posted on the Town website.

**List Your Business (It's Free!)** Place information about your local business on the Town's website. If you have your own website, a direct link to it will be offered. Go to [www.townofrochester.net](http://www.townofrochester.net) and click on the **Business Directory** link for more information and to sign up.