Affordable

Continued From Page 1

tually to excel into these kinds of schools that our children are fortunate enough to get into.”

However, while RODASH supports affordable housing, it claims to be opposed “high-density luxury develop-
ments and bypassing zoning rules with no input from the public.”

“We have to realize that no matter where you are geometrically located in Rumson, we are all affected by this. And that’s the school system, it’s traffic, it’s safety, it’s town services; property, values, the integrity of our town and its infrastructure,” said resident Stavros Memts-
soudis, M.D., who gave the presentation that evening.

“Even if you’re not immedi-
ately impacted, this can happen to you tomorrow or in 2025, and you should know that at that time, RODASH is going to be there for you and fight the same fight,” said Memtsoudis.

ROSAH was founded in Feb-
uary after the borough council voted against the sale agreement and planned to meet its state-imposed affordable housing man-
date. One settlement was with the Cherry Hill-based Fair Share Housing Center and the other was with Red Bank-based Yellow Brook Property Co., owned by local developer Roger Mumford.

Currently, the borough’s total affordable housing ob-
ligation is 107 units. Its real-
estate development potential (RDP), however, is 31 units. The remaining obligation, an unmet need of 76, will be addressed with inclu-
sionary overlay zoning and additional ordinances. The inclusionary overlay zoning will allow property owners to keep a property as is, or if they choose, to one day de-
develop multifamily housing with affordable set-asides.

As part of Yellow Brook’s affordable housing, will convey his land on Car-
ton Street to the borough. Since its inception, RO-
SAH has established a board of trustees, adopted bylaws and committees and applied to the IRS for 501(c)(3) sta-
tus. It has also defined its strategic goals, interviewed and obtained legal counsel, launched its website and social media platforms and fundraised. Now it is seek-
ing additional supporters, volunteers and donors to help reach an affordable housing plan “better than” the current agreement.

“No one has that I have so-

ded to is against affordable housing. People are being treated with the process that we’ve been offering input, input to have commu-

dinanza to date,” said resident Donald Devine.

The organization has taken legal actions to pursue its goals, including filing a law-
suit Feb. 28 in state Superior Court. It alleges that the adop-
tion of the resolutions “was au-

datory, capricious, unconven-
tial, and contrary to public policy,” because the adoption was done under “substantial duress” by Rumson.

Additionally, on March 5, ROSAH filed its objec-
tion to the Rumson Housing Settlements. Working with engineers and planning re-
ports, they found that the borough’s settlement agree-
ments “conflict with the intent of the Mount Laurel doctrine, is inconsistent with the borough’s master plan documents, and incom-
patible with sound planning principles,” according to the ROSAH website.

“Based on the findings of its experts, ROSAH argued that the settlement agree-
ments should not receive state court approval because they are not fair to the interests of lower and moderate-income households and fail to pro-
vide a realistic likelihood of construction that is afford-
able to such households.”

New members attend the Fairness Hearing at the Monmouth County Court-
house in Freehold, current-
ly scheduled for March 26. They are encouraging peo-
ple in the meantime to write letters to Monmouth Coun-
ty Superior Judge Linked

d to Rumson. They are also inviting people to attend the Rumson Housing Settlements, and they’re bringing along professionals to present the borough council.

LUNCH BREAK CONTINUES FEEDING CLIENTS

Pantry in Need of Nonperishable Food

RED BANK — Although the dining room that feeds breakfast and lunch to visi-
 tors is closed, Lunch Break is continuing to provide access to the message: “We’re not going to miss a meal!”

All meals are being dis-
tributed “to go” at the blue front door of the dining room, including breakfast, hot lunch, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday dinner and Saturday breakfasts. Hours of distri-
 bution remain the same as specified: Monday through Thursday, 9:30 to 10 a.m.; Con-
tinental breakfast and 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. hot lunch, Friday, 6 to 8 p.m. Commu-
nity dinner is also scheduled for a.m. to noon breakfast. In addition, bagged pro-
cxes are being distributed to those in need. Lunch Break Pantry service, which is in full swing, inc-
cludes Homebound delivery services are continuing. With schools closing, Lunch Break has come to serve more families visiting with children to utilize the lunch and breakfast services. As an added burden is the loss of collected nonperishable food from corporations now that their employees

are working from home. Lunch Break’s food stock. Lunch Break is in need of monetary dona-
tions and nonperishable food items. At this time they are not accepting dona-
tions, but pick up can be arranged. For in-
quiries, Homebound delivery services are continuing. With schools closing, Lunch Break has come to serve more families visiting with children to utilize the lunch and breakfast services. As an added burden is the loss of collected nonperishable food from corporations now that their employees

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