

**Borough Hall will be closed Wednesday, June 19th in observance of Juneteenth**

### From the Desk of Mayor Frank Nunziato

We continue to have a lot of great events planned for the summer and fall! I hope to see everyone at PorchFest tomorrow. The Arts Committee has expanded on the success of last November's PorchFest and I have no doubt this will be a fantastic day of music and community. I'd like to thank the PorchFest Chair, Matt Ackermann, as well as Arts Committee member Alex Britz and Committee Chair Eddie Narucki for coordinating the day with Borough employees and recruiting a tremendous team of volunteers, musicians and homeowners. An event like this seems simple, but cannot happen without solid communication, logistics and the ability to execute effectively in order to create a seamless and enjoyable day for all.

There will be street closures in place during the times bands are playing at each porch. A map of porches is available online. Please be mindful of pedestrians throughout town as well. As previously discussed, we have all noticed an uptick in careless driving and parking. Please be aware of who you are sharing the road with at all times. You may have noticed that the DPW re-striped the circle at the station earlier this week. We hope the more vibrant paint reminds pedestrians and drivers alike to slow down and pay attention to their surroundings, so that all of us can enjoy our Borough safely!

- Mayor Frank Nunziato




**PorchFest 2024**  
presented by  
The Rutherford Arts Committee

**Tomorrow! June 15<sup>th</sup>** Saturday

**This year has twice the music, twice the fun  
AND a Shuttle Bus between porches and  
public restrooms all day!**

**(Restrooms are located at the old  
Police Station on Donaldson Avenue)**

**Rutherford PorchFest is free to attend, and all are  
welcome. Band details and itinerary are available here:  
[www.rutherfordboronj.com/committees/arts/porchfest](http://www.rutherfordboronj.com/committees/arts/porchfest)**



Estimated property tax bills are currently being prepared and are expected in mailboxes by end of next week.

Third quarter tax bills will be due August 1, 2024. Please note: New Jersey Property Tax Reimbursement (Senior Freeze) applications for first time filers can be picked up in the Tax Collector's office. The State has increased the income qualifications. To get more detailed information please visit <https://www.nj.gov/treasury/taxation/ptr/index.shtml>

## [rutherfordboronj.com/upcoming-events](http://rutherfordboronj.com/upcoming-events)



Remaining 2024 dates are:

June 19th, 26th, Sept. 4th, 11th & 18th  
Grand Finale Sept. 21st



**Beginning June 27th**



**Wednesdays & Saturdays  
Through October**

**Saturday July 6th!  
New location:  
Lincoln Park!**

**Saturday, June 29th**

**92nd Annual Baby Parade** (pre-registration preferred through RecDesk; begins at 56 Elliot Place & travels to Lincoln Park)

**Fireworks at Memorial Park** (sponsored by Felician University)

**Saturday, September 21st - Rutherford Day at Lincoln Park**

**Councilwoman Maria Begg-Roberson**  
mbegg-roberson@rutherfordboronj.com

**Recreation Liaison**

**92nd Annual Rutherford Baby Parade!**

(Entrants must be residents & no older than 5 years)

SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 2024

CHECK IN: 9:30 AM at 56 Elliott Place

START TIME: 10:00 AM at Elliott Place

Prizes Awarded!

Rutherford RecDesk [http://rutherfordnj\\_recdesk.com/](http://rutherfordnj_recdesk.com/)

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**Councilman Ray Guzmán**  
rguzman@rutherfordboronj.com

**Police Liaison**

In effort to continue to keep residents informed, the following has been provided to me by Chief Russo from the month of May. As always, I will continue to work closely with the RDP and advocate for the residents of Rutherford.

Patrol wrote 1,227 summonses during May. The breakdown is:

- 167 moving violations
- 1,052 parking violations
- 8 local ordinances

843 of those summonses were issued by the Traffic Bureau

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**Councilman Matthew Cokeley**  
mcokeley@rutherfordboronj.com

Last November, there was a referendum question on the general election ballot asking whether or not to allow cannabis retail sales east of Route 17 in Rutherford.

I observed a lot of confusion and hearsay about what the proposed physical restrictions and boundaries of where these retail sales would be permissible. Rumors that cannabis would be sold anywhere within Rutherford proper, Park Avenue or the West End were completely untrue and unfounded.

Any retail sales would be limited to Route 17 (east side only).

Because of that confusion, at an upcoming Mayor and Council meeting, I plan to ask my colleagues to give residents another opportunity to consider this question via referendum.

If my colleagues vote to allow the question on the November ballot, I plan to host an informative town hall in September where I will be available to explain the proposed referendum as well as tax implications and other details.

There is obviously more nuance and context that I would be able to provide in a town hall-style session and I hope to have that opportunity in the coming months.

**Councilwoman Christie Del Rey-Cone**  
cdelrey-cone@rutherfordboronj.com

Hello neighbors. School, spring sports and activities are coming to a close and I hope everyone is gearing up for a safe and fun summer. Congratulations to the Rutherford Pride Alliance and the Arts Council on another beautiful and successful PrideFest. It was so joyful to see Lincoln Park filled with people and color. It's one of my favorite days of the year. I mentioned in prior meetings that I am working closely with some residents on persisting concerns around the noise and disturbances created by the Teterboro flight path over Rutherford. I continue to take meetings with the Port Authority and some elected officials outside of the Borough to move the needle towards action that we can all see. If anyone is interested in joining this effort, please reach out to me. I hope to see many of you at PorchFest (including in front of my porch!) which promises to be a day filled with community and music!

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**Councilwoman Susan Quatrone**  
squatrone@rutherfordboronj.com

As the school year winds down and we work on our summer beach reading lists, I encourage constituents to look at, and consider supporting, a bill that is pending in the NJ state legislature called the Freedom to Read Act. The bill (A-3446 in the State House) has recently passed out of Committee, the first step toward passage.

Librarians across the state have lately been dealing with attacks by community members on certain books considered controversial, and unfortunately those attacks have sometimes been directed at the library staff. This legislation would protect librarians from harassment and establish a rigorous and fair system by which challenged books can be reviewed by a committee of parents, teachers, school board members and others.

Librarians work hard for our communities and deserve protection. Families deserve to have the widest range of literary materials available to fulfill their reading needs. Individual residents have the right to express their views about the content of books they find objectionable.

I have contacted our local state legislators to express support for this bill, and I urge you to consider doing so. Our local public library leadership also supports this legislation. If you have any questions about the bill, please contact me.