# The Rutherford REPORT







February 18, 2022

Borough Hall will be closed Monday, February 21 in observance of Presidents' Day Alternate side parking is suspended as well.

There will be no Recreation sports on Friday the 18th or Monday the 21st but will continue as scheduled on Saturday the 19th.

## From the Desk of Mayor Frank Nunziato

At Monday's meeting, the Council introduced an ordinance creating a temporary15-minute parking space on Donaldson Ave for anyone visiting the Food Pantry at Borough Hall. Construction of the new police headquarters and municipal court is on schedule but has understandably caused some temporary parking constraints and we hope this space alleviates some of those issues. A vote to adopt the ordinance is scheduled for February 28th.

As I've mentioned in the past, we are committed to creating a COVID remembrance area on Borough property. The current plan is to have a site on the south side of Borough Hall where anyone affected by the pandemic can take a moment to pause and reflect. While I had hoped to have the project completed by now, it was not feasible with the current construction of the new police headquarters.

Still, my colleagues and I feel that as we approach the second anniversary of the start of the pandemic, we should take a moment to acknowledge it. On Saturday, March 12, there will be a brief gathering on Borough Hall steps to observe that date. The exact details are being finalized but on that day we plan on presenting a rendering of a memorial we hope will be a reality by March 12, 2023. We will have specifics regarding March 12th as soon as possible.

Earlier this week, Greg Recine of the Rutherford Green Team and I met with Brenda and Antonio, owners of Fiorentini Restaurant, as they signed up to be the first business in Rutherford's Green Leaf sustainable business recognition program.



Brenda and Antonio De leso, Fiorentini owners, with Mayor Nunziato & Greg Recine

I'd like to thank Green Team Chair Julia Siegel who couldn't visit Fiorentini with us this week but was instrumental in getting this program on its feet. I'd also like to thank Council Liaison Ray Guzman for introducing the Green Team and Fiorentini to get this important conversation started.

This exciting program is designed to make it easier for small businesses to be environmentally conscious. This is a huge step for Rutherford's brand and economy and shows the amazing things our committee volunteers can accomplish when they're given the chance to advocate for something they're passionate about. For more information visit <a href="www.rutherfordboronj.com/committees/green-team/green-leaf-program/">www.rutherfordboronj.com/committees/green-team/green-leaf-program/</a>

#### **Council President Mark Goldsack**

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#### **Recreation Department & Public Events:**

This week my colleagues and I approved the bulk of Borough events for the calendar year. This isn't a finite list for 2022 and more dates may be added throughout the year. Please mark your calendars so you don't miss out on these community events.

## Registration for the 4th Downhill Derby is now open!

Visit <u>rutherforddownhillderby.org</u> for more information and to register through RecDesk.

#### 2022 Event Dates

Sunday March 6th - Park Avenue closed for St. Patrick's Parade

Saturday April 30th - Shade Tree Commission's Arbor Day Festival

Saturday May 21st - Green Teem Committee Repair Cafe

Wednesdays in June - Dining Out Street Closures

Saturday June 4th - PrideFest

Saturday June 18th - Downhill Derby

July 2nd or 3rd (TBD) - Fireworks

Tuesday August 2nd - National Night Out

Wednesdays in September - Dining Out Street Closures

Saturday October 1st - Dining Out Grande Finale

Saturday October 29th -Halloween Ragamuffin Parade & Spooktacular

Saturday November 26th - Holiday Parade/Tree Lighting/Holiday Village

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## **Councilman Tom Mullahey**

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**Health Dept:** The Health Department is pleased to announce serveral upcoming clinics for residents. For more information visit www.rutherfordboronj.com/departments/health

Skin Cancer Screening
Wednesday, March 9th, 3:30 - 5:30 PM

Rutherford Health Department 184 Park Avenue Dr. Geria of Geria Dermatology, Rutherford, NJ Appointment Required CALL 201-460-3020

#### **Rabies Clinic**

Saturday, April 2nd 10am -12pm

400 Mortimer Ave Fire House All cats and dogs must be accompanied by an adult and restrained on a leash or in a carrier.

### Blood Screening Saturday, April 9th 7:00am-10:00am

Rutherford Health Department Limited Availability. Call and Schedule your Appointment TODAY! 201-460-3020 BLOOD SCREENING FEE: \$22.00

**Police Dept:** On Monday we approved the acquisition of furniture and technical infrastructure for the new police building. We're pleased with the progress of the project.

We worked with the RPD to create an ordinance allowing for a 15 Minute Parking spot on Donaldson Ave.

## **Councilman Matthew Cokeley**

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### **Rutherford Fire Department**

Applications and requirements to be a Firefighter and Junior Firefighter are now available on the Borough website.

https://www.rutherfordboronj.com/departments/fire-department/

<u>January 2022 Report:</u> The Rutherford Fire Department responded to a total of 66 incidents in the Month of January 2022 with a total of 1,105 personal hours. Incidents include the following:

2 residential structure fires in the Borough of Rutherford.

2 mutual aid structure fires in Passaic, including the large commercial building fire on January 14, 2022. Engine Company #3 operated at the commercial building fire from approximately 9:00 PM on January 14 to 6:00 AM on January 15.

7 unattended cooking calls.

14 water leaks.

In January the Fire Department responded to numerous incidents of water leaks due broken water pipes as the result of the pipes freezing. Please maintain the heat in your home at an adequate temperature to prevent pipes in your home from freezing and breaking. If you plan on being away from your home arrange to have a friend or neighbor check you home each day to be sure your heating equipment is working properly. If your kitchen or bathroom plumbing is on an outside wall simply keeping the cabinet doors open to allow heat from the room to circulate into the cabinet may prevent the pipes from freezing. This link has additional useful tips: <a href="https://www.consumerreports.org/home-maintenance-repairs/how-to-keep-pipes-from-freezing-a2277945570/">https://www.consumerreports.org/home-maintenance-repairs/how-to-keep-pipes-from-freezing-a2277945570/</a>



## Councilwoman Maria Begg-Roberson

mbegg-robers on @ruther fordboron j. com

The Hoage Tribute I am honored to serve as the liason to the Rutherford Historic Preservation Committee (RHPC). The RHPC in collaboration with the Rutherford Civil Rights Commission presented a tribute at 127 Donaldson Avenue. in 1871 Lafayette Hoage built a house in Rutherford at 127 Donaldson Avenue making him the first black and formerly enslaved man to own a home in Bergen County. I am so honored that the Hoage family made their home in Rutherford and planted their roots in our community. While they did not have an easy road being minorities in a town, their action opened the door for more diverse families to live in Rutherford. Seldom do we know the deep importance of our actions and the impact it can make on many generations to come. The Hoages had seven children who went on to occupy affluent positions in New Jersey and beyond. Thank you to the Rutherford Historic Preservation Committee for reminding our community of an important piece of history right in the heart of our beautiful little town.