

## From the desk of Mayor Frank Nunziato

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your cooperation with the Governor's "stay at home" order that was issued last week. Rutherford residents and businesses alike have been doing a great job during these difficult times.

Our Borough employees have been doing a stellar job adjusting to the new schedules and routines which keep our town running. And of course words don't exist that properly thank our police department, volunteer ambulance and fire departments for the dedication they display every minute of every day. If you find yourself in need of their services, it's imperative that you meet our officers and first responders at the front door of your residence to help limit time in confined spaces. By adhering to these common sense precautions, you are helping us ensure that we will be there for you in your time of need throughout the duration of this pandemic.

We are still encouraging any residents with N-95 masks, non N-95 masks and other protective gear to contact the borough if interested in donating them.

The Borough will continue to operate by appointment only. Residents who need to conduct business are required to call ahead to schedule an appointment. If possible we encourage residents to conduct business online as much as possible for the foreseeable future.

I'd like to remind everyone to continue to support our local businesses during this time and be mindful that we're all in this together. In order to help alleviate whatever financial burden we can, the Borough it has announced it will provide garbage pick up for our businesses along Park and Union Avenues.

We are also currently in the process of compiling information specifically related to state and federal programs which would assist many of our small businesses. We intend on compiling that information and disseminating it to our small business owners in the near future.

Thank you for your cooperation. We will get through these challenging times together.

- Mayor Frank Nunziato  
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On Twitter:  
@Rutherford07070



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Borough of Rutherford NJ

**Please visit the Borough webpage  
dedicated to COVID-19 related information:**

**[www.rutherfordboronj.com/covid-information](http://www.rutherfordboronj.com/covid-information)**

Here you'll find an archive of all the daily video updates the Mayor and Council have been recording along with their transcripts. Also on this page is a link to:

- NJ State Jobs Portal for those looking for work
- NJ State information for small businesses
- Rumor control page from the NJ Office of Homeland Security
- A summary of Governor Murphy's "stay at home" order
- Other state, county and federal resources

**Report from:**

### **Council President Tom Mullahey**

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- At Monday's Mayor and Council meeting, we passed Second Reading of our Military Banner Program. The program is open to residents of Rutherford and Veterans who lived in Rutherford. Details will be advertised very soon.
- We'd like to extend our gratitude to our Emergency Services, Health Department and Borough Employees for their diligence and professionalism throughout this difficult time. Our RPD, EMS, RFD, BOE, Health Department and Borough Dept Heads and employees have been working around the clock to ensure our Borough is safe, running and up to date with this fluid situation.

Our Mayor, Frank Nunziato, has demonstrated excellent leadership throughout the process and the Council and Borough Administrator have been working hard to provide clear and accurate information to all residents.

Residents- Thank you for abiding by local, county and state directives that are meant to keep us all safe and healthy. Continue to practice social distancing and please continue to support our local businesses through this time. Together, we will get through this.

**More Council Reports on the following page**

## Councilwoman Maria Begg-Roberson

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- Meeting with Rutherford's Faith Leaders  
Mayor Nunziato and Councilwoman Begg-Roberson invited local clergy from the mosque, churches, and the synagogue to discuss how the faith leaders can support our town during the Covid-19 pandemic. The use of Zoom made this meeting possible during this time of social distancing. The clergy in Rutherford is eager to support residents during this difficult time to offer hope and solace. The borough will continue to collaborate with our faith leaders and lean on them as resident's needs grow.

## Councilman Mark Goldsack

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- Community Events - In accordance with Governor Murphy's order that all gatherings over 50 people should be cancelled, as well as the recommendation from the White House to cancel events of 10 or more, the Borough has cancelled all town wide events up until and including May 17th. The Governing Body will be re-assessing at each Mayor/Council meeting events scheduled after May 17th for potential additional cancellations as more information becomes available. If anything should change we will be sure to notify our residents accordingly.
- Shade Tree Commission - As many of you have seen, multiple trees have been taken down between Park and West Newell Aves. 4 have been scheduled on the shade tree's list to be removed due to decay and disease for over a year. 3 others were scheduled to be trimmed due to their proximity to property and roofs. Borough trees that utility companies normally trim every few years were scheduled to be trimmed due to their proximity to property and roofs. Unfortunately when our crews attempted to trim the upper branches, they noticed significant decay on many of the large branches creating a hazardous condition. Therefore the branches had to be removed fearing any type of storm or wind event would cause them to fall potentially injuring someone or causing property damaged. Unfortunately, due to the amount of branches that needed to be removed, they became no longer viable and the difficult decision was made to remove them entirely. When we return to normal operations later this year, this area is scheduled for installation of new trees to replace those removed.

## Councilman Eddie Narucki

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- The Multicultural Festival has been postponed. We are waiting to examine potential dates for the fall.

## Councilman Ray Guzman

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These past 2 weeks we entered the unknown as a community. The Covid-19 virus has brought so much uncertainty to so many aspects of our lives.

Little did I know when I took my Oath of Office a month ago that we would be dealing with a world wide pandemic. Most of us are now working or schooling from home, while there are those that unselfishly go to work, risking their health to protect and save the lives of others. Our community has proven time and time again that we come together as one during difficult times.

Well, here we are once again banding together, supporting one another, supporting our restaurants that are on the brink of closing, donating medical supplies for our first responders and hosting virtual social gatherings.

I cannot express how proud I am to be part of this caring community. This pandemic is far from over and social distancing must continue. I must continue to stress how important social distancing is to curbing this virus. Kindly continue to support our local businesses and donating medical supplies for our first responders and hospitals as it is so needed.

Know the Facts! Visit the Borough's website for daily updates from Mayor and Council. I'd like to take a moment to thank the RPD, EMS, RFD, BOE, Board of Health, OEM, The Borough Administrator and all borough employees for the collective efforts, great communications and support for our Mayor and Council.

Please continue the great caring spirit of Rutherford.  
May you all be well and stay healthy.

## Councilwoman Stephanie McGowan

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- Needed Supplies to Support our EMS:  
As the COVID-19 virus continues to challenge our first responders, our Rutherford EMS Captain, Michael Tarantino, has requested that anyone who may have N-95 Masks, surgical gowns or disposable medical gloves please consider donating them to our Rutherford Volunteer Ambulance Corp. Additionally, many community members have taken to their sewing machines and are making masks to assist health care workers in dire need. We have been told that doctors, nurses, and EMTs are using these masks over their N-95 masks to allow multiple usages of this precious commodity to remain safe. THANK YOU to everyone who is pitching in to protect our amazing first responders and for our hospital partners who need us the most right now. As Council Liaison, please email me at Smcgowan@RutherfordBoroNJ.com and arrangements will be made to pick up these essential items from you ASAP!