

From the desk of Mayor Frank Nunziato

I'd like to begin by sharing some positive messaging. I realize there are many businesses in Rutherford that were deemed "non-essential" by Executive Orders and therefore had to temporarily close their doors. I'm proud to say that many of these businesses have found creative ways to continue offering their services while complying with social distancing requirements.

I'd like to remind everyone to continue to support our local businesses during this time and to check the list of open businesses on the Borough website that gets updated regularly. We're all in this together and it's important to support our local businesses as much as possible. Our local businesses are the ones that sponsor our teams and organizations when times are good. They're an integral part of not just our economy, but our community.

Additionally, please keep those affected by COVID-19 and their families in your thoughts. Some are navigating a mourning period without access to the traditions we've taken for granted for so long. There is no playbook for this. None of us have experienced life, or death, the way we are currently experiencing it. Call, text, or simply leave a note for a friend or neighbor you may not have seen in a while. Let them know you're thinking of them even if you can't be with them.

Unfortunately we've had to suspend all community events indefinitely. This was not a decision the Council and myself made lightly, but felt it responsible thing to do in light of the current situation.

I cannot tell you how proud I am of how our town has conducted itself during this crisis. Our Borough employees have adjusted to all the changes asked of them. Our school district adapted to an entirely new way of teaching overnight. Our residents have complied with common sense social distancing, donated their time, money and skills to help our first responders and shown what community is all about.

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

- Mayor Frank Nunziato
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**Please visit the Borough webpage
dedicated to COVID-19 related information:
www.rutherfordboronj.com/covid-information**

In addition to archives of the Daily Updates made by the Mayor and Council since the COVID crisis began, you can find helpful resources on the Borough website such as:

- A list of [Open Rutherford Businesses](#)
- [COVID-19 Resources for Businesses compiled by Bergen County](#)
- [State of New Jersey COVID-19 Jobs and Hiring Portal](#)
- [State of New Jersey webpage dedicated to helping people feeling stressed or anxious during this outbreak](#)

Report from:

Council President Tom Mullahey
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- At Monday's Mayor and Council meeting we passed two resolutions: one that temporarily reduces the monthly permit parking fee in half for April and May and another that postpones the previously scheduled parking permit increase from July 1 to January 1, 2021. All payments are still due on the first of the month and can be mailed or placed in the drop-box on the side of Borough Hall. If you choose to stop using your parking permit, please return the placard so you will not be billed for the month and it can be offered to someone on the waiting list.
- By now you should have received your official 2020 Census form in the mail. As Chair of the Rutherford Census Committee, it's my duty to remind you to fill this out. It's important that we all be counted as Rutherford receives federal funding and grants based on our population. It also factors into our representation in Washington DC. If you're curious about how well Rutherford has responded to the Census, visit the Borough website for a link to the official Census website.

More Council Reports on the following page

Councilwoman Maria Begg-Roberson

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- The Green Team continues to work tirelessly to ensure that our town is environmentally sustainable. Even in the midst of COVID-19 and a governmental shutdown, they are working to meet all the requirements to earn the highest level of certification, silver, in the prestigious, Sustainable Jersey Certification. It is a long and arduous process. Thank you to Co-Chairs Eileen Eastham, Julia Siegel, and the rest of the Green Team for the steps they are taking to ensure that Rutherford is ranked highly for its sustainable practices among other New Jersey municipalities.

Councilman Mark Goldsack

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At the April 13 Mayor and Council meeting, the following resolutions were passed:

- Passed Resolution No. 75 - this resolution suspends all community events indefinitely
- Passed Resolution No. 73 - this resolution cancels the fireworks exhibition that was scheduled for July 5, 2020

Although we recognize that canceling all community events and the fireworks is discouraging, we feel that these are necessary steps to protect the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Borough as we continue to battle the COVID-19 pandemic. Please know that we reserve the right to reassess these decisions in the future, and have left open the possibility of moving forward with our Labor Day Street fair, but will make a determination as to how to proceed based on the current circumstances and ultimately based on what we feel is necessary to protect the residents of the Borough.

- Passed Resolution No. 76 - this resolution authorizes the Borough to enter a Memorandum of Agreement with Simon Griskonis as Liaison to the Farmer's market.
- Resolution No. 76 allows us to begin taking the steps necessary to move forward with the Farmer's market in the event circumstances permit us to do so. However, as with all other events in the Borough, we reserve the right to suspend the Farmer's Market if a statewide health emergency is still in place. Ultimately, as with all other events, our decisions will be based on what we feel is best for the health and safety of our residents.

Councilwoman Stephanie McGowan

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- Kip Center:
The Kip Center remains available to continue wellness checks for our 55+ community. Please contact the 55 Kip Center Director, Cathy Baviello at 201-460-1600 or cathy@55Kipcenter.org.
- Access for All Rutherford:
Congratulations to the Access for All Rutherford committee for their participation in the promotion of Rutherford residents who are uniquely abled creating Face Shields for first responders utilizing 3D printers! This initiative, launched by the South Bergen Jointure Commission and Felician University International Center for Autism and disabilities in Education (I-CAdRE), asked families to "foster" a 3D printer and create Face Shields for Holy Name Hospital and for our own local first responders. What an amazing way to bring attention to Autism Awareness Month by showing how ABLED our residents are!
- Rutherford Volunteer Fire Department & EMS:
Donation of PPE and Reminders
Thank you to all the residents who have generously donated PPE such as masks, gowns and gloves to our first responders! If you have materials to donate, including hand-made masks, please contact the Mayor's office at 201-460-3022 to arrange pick-up. THANK YOU to the amazing volunteers of our Rutherford Fire Department and EMS who continue to protect and serve our Borough through the most extenuating circumstances. We are so thankful that you volunteer your time and talent to keep us all safe!