The Rutherford Report







May 14, 2021

The deadline to register to vote for the June 8th, Primary Election is Tuesday, May 18th.

The Borough Clerk's office will be opened from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. on May 18th for those wishing to register.

From the Desk of Acting Mayor Mark Goldsack

The 2021 municipal budget was introduced at Monday's Council meeting. Although there is a 2.1% tax increase, we feel it is important to continue to fund the quality services Rutherford residents have come to expect at previous levels, despite the significant decrease in revenues the Borough experienced during COVID.

A public hearing on the Municpal Budget will be held at the June 14 Council Meeting. Meanwhile the public is welcome to view the budget which will be posted to the Borough website and social media in the coming days.

Additionally, I'd like to thank everyone for a great turn out at our first Dining Out Rutherford event of the season last week. Supporting local businesses is one of the best ways to give back to the community, especially after such a difficult and uncertain year.

We will resume weekly Dining Out evenings throughout the summer, beginning in June. Exact dates and details for future Dining Outs as well as the Summer Concerts in Lincoln Park are currently being discussed and will be announced in the coming weeks. In the meantime, Councilman Mullahey will be meeting with the restaurants to make sure the Borough is doing what it can to help promote our Downtown in partnership with them.

Finally, I'm happy to report that Mayor Nunziato is recuperating well following surgery for a brain tumor and we are all grateful for the outpouring of support that Frank and his family have received these past few weeks.

The Nunziato family wants everyone to know that having the town behind Frank has made his road to recovery all the easier.

Sincerely,

- Acting Mayor Mark Goldsack

Department News



The Rutherford Health Department would like to remind residents of the concerns that need to be taken into consideration when a bat is observed inside

a habitable area of a home. Bat activity typically increases from May through September, resulting in a higher number of calls from the public concerning rabies transmission from bats to people.

Learn more here



Dance! Parent & Child classes will be 5/15-6/19 ages 3 & 4 year olds with one Adult on Saturdays at TCC Saturdays 10:15-11 and also 11:15-12 noon. We have had a lot of success with this age group when we started last

this class last year during the beginning of the pandemic, so we are offering two different classes

- Dance 5-8 year olds TCC 5/15-6/19 12:15-1pm & 1:15-2pm This is a fundamentals of dance class that introduces the students to all different forms of dance that include ballet, jazz, tap and contemporary dances
- Rutherford Rock! In collaboration with Art Committee volunteers we are offering a fun way for our residents age 12-17, who are proficient in a musical instrument & vocals, the opportunity to play in a band. Our remarkable volunteers are all local professionals who will guide the students in jamming together to create a cohesive sound. This program will meet Mondays 12-14 yr. olds 5-6pm, and 15-17 at 6-7:00pm.
- · Youth Yoga Mondays 5/17-6/28 for 5-8 year olds 4:30-5:15pm & 9-12 year olds from 5:30-6:15 pm at the TCC. We are also introducing Parent & Child Yoga on Saturdays from 8-8:45 am for 3-6 year olds with a parent to begin on May 15th. Space is still available to sign-up.
- · Spring Tennis will begin this weekend, all programs are at capacity. We have instruction from Kinder to Adults.
- · Summer Camp Registration will open on May 24th on RecDesk.

We are happy to announce that we are moving to RecDesk, a more user friendly platform that will allow our residents the opportunity to know about all programs, leagues, and also partner programs on one webpage. This new platform also has a calendar of programming that is forward facing, so our community will be able to access schedules for all programs. There is also a text system. If residents choose to sign-up they can receive updates on all recreation activities in a text.

We need all our community to register their family on RecDesk, which they can click on the Borough website on the Recreation page to bring them to RecDesk.

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Council Reports

Councilwoman Stephanie McGowan

smcgowan@rutherfordboronj.com

Celebrating EMS Week!

In honor of the Rutherford First Aid Ambulance Corps, Inc., the Mayor and Council presented a Proclamation to commemorate Emergency Medical Services Week from May 16-22, 2022. For the last 72 years, our Borough has been fortunate to have the incredible services of these Borough volunteers, highly skilled Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) to care for our residents. Since the inception of Covid-19, our Rutherford First Aid Ambulance Corps has been on the frontlines to provide needed emergency medical attention and care. We strongly encourage resident to consider joining the Rutherford First Aid Ambulance Corps, Inc., as a volunteer EMT. On behalf of a grateful Borough, thank you to all the members of the Rutherford Ambulance Corps and to all those who serve communities across our state and country!

Authorizing Submission of Open Space Trust Fund for Park Improvement Grant

To continue the good work of maintaining and transforming open park space in the Borough, the Mayor and Council have supported a match grant application in the amount of \$67,677.50 focused on designing and providing a walking path at Tamblyn Field. Part of a three-phrase proposal by the Borough Planner with the Mayor and Council, upgrading the open park space at Tamblyn Field is a priority. As shared previously in Rutherforward, the Borough has approved the installation of a Pickle Ball court, as well as the resurfacing of basketball courts at this location which was also funded previously encumbered grant funds. We look forward to continuing the beautification of our Borough and providing great outdoor activities and space for all our residents.

RecDesk Is Launched and Ready to Go!

We are happy to announce that we are moving to RecDesk, a more user-friendly platform that will allow our residents the opportunity to know about all programs, leagues, and partner programs on one webpage. This new platform also has a calendar of programming that is forward facing, so our community will be able to access schedules for all programs. There is also a text system, if residents choose to sign-up, they can receive updates on all recreation activities in a text.

The Recreation staff has been onboarding the system and has had daily trainings with RecDesk. The last component is the credit card services, which was just integrated today & we will be having a training this week.

We need all our community to register their family on RecDesk, which they can click on the Borough website on the Recreation page to bring them to RecDesk.

Councilman Ray Guzmán

rguzman@rutherfordboronj.com

Liaison Assignment: As part of Historic Preservation Month, the Historic Preservation Committee is co-sponsoring a Zoom presentation with the Meadowlands Museum. Author Scott T. Hanson will speak on "Historic Houses for Contemporary Lives" on Thursday, May 20 at 7:30 p.m. Scott is an architectural historian and preservationist consultant with many years of practical experience. He will talk about how to respect the heritage of older homes, while updating them for modern day living. Register for the event at www.MeadowlandsMuseum.com/virtual-historic-talks

Councilman Tom Mullahey

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As this is Police Week, I'd like to acknowledge and thank the men and women of the Rutherford Police Department for all their great work all year long.

I'd also like to congratulate Brian Inguanti on completing his Eagle Scout service project. Brian partnered with Soldiers' Angels, a non-profit organization and sent 100 care packages to active duty soldiers stationed far from home. He acquired in-kind donations of personal care products and raised nearly \$2500 which covered additional items for each care package and shipping.

Councilman Matthew Cokeley

mcokeley@rutherfordboronj.com

The Rutherford Fire Department's Junior Firefighter's program is now open to 16 and 17 year old youths. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a Rutherford Volunteer Firefighter – youth or adult – email recruitment@rutherfordfd.com.

Social Services: Families in need of emergency food please contact the Social Services Director, Genevieve Kacmarcik, at 201-460-3028 or gkacmarcik@rutherfordboronj.com or me directly at mcokeley@rutherfordboronj.com and we can connect you with the Rutherford Food Pantry.