

June 17, 2022

# The Rutherford REPORT

rutherfordboronj.com

THE BOROUGH OF RUTHERFORD NEW JERSEY

On Twitter: @Rutherford07070

On Facebook: Borough of Rutherford NJ

**Borough Hall is closed Monday June 20th in observance of Juneteenth. Sanitation will be collected.**

## From the Desk of Mayor Frank Nunziato

I'd like to congratulate the Rutherford Pride Alliance for hosting an incredibly successful inaugural Pride Fest on Saturday June 4th. I had many conversations at Pride Fest with residents of all ages who were grateful for the sense of inclusivity and community they experienced that day. I'm grateful that through this event I was able to connect with residents who shared how important it was to have their town celebrate diversity and how happy the day made them. It's my hope that Rutherford becomes a beacon for inclusivity for anyone wanting to live in a safe and welcoming community. I hope all who attended enjoyed the event as much as my wife and I did. Thank you to the Pride Alliance for pulling together such an amazing day, and I look forward to it again next year.

In the spirit of maintaining a welcoming community, I'm excited to announce a project I hoped to begin when I first took office, but was temporarily sidelined by COVID in 2020 and my own health emergency in 2021. On Thursday, July 14th I'll be hosting an informal meet and greet called 07070 Info for new residents curious to learn about topics like how our municipal departments, services and government work, our rich history of volunteer opportunities and more. I would like this to be the first in a regular 07070 Info series designed to help new Rutherfordians acclimate themselves to our town. Pre-registration through RecDesk is required so we can determine location based on interest.

On Monday night, Council took the first step towards allowing restaurants to sell alcohol. Current state law bases the number of liquor licenses available to a municipality on population, allowing Rutherford a maximum of 6 licenses. If the ordinance is passed at the next meeting, the next step is for the governing body to work with our attorneys to determine the appropriate auction process which would allow existing establishments to bid on the licenses.

In 2019, Rutherford residents voted in favor of alcohol sales via referendum. The process to make this come to fruition has been lengthy, but necessary, in order for the Borough and Governing Body to properly understand the intricacies of state law. As a lifelong Rutherfordian, I understand how no longer being a "dry town" could feel like Rutherford is losing part of its identity. But I also understand how having the option to sell alcohol makes practical business sense for some restaurants, and I for one want to provide every opportunity to give them options. Any restaurant can remain BYOB if they choose, but if the ordinance passes on second read, they will simply have the option to bid on a license. Whatever route your favorite restaurant chooses to take, I hope you'll join me in supporting their decision and continuing to patronize our wonderful Rutherford businesses.

Sincerely,  
Mayor Frank Nunziato

## Rutherford Day 9/24/2022

Rutherford will host its 2nd Annual Rutherford Day on Saturday, Sept. 24th from 12-6 pm at Memorial Field.

The Borough is planning on having live music, a beer garden, kids' activities, food trucks and ample space for Rutherford community groups to showcase all they do.

We are currently in the planning stages of this event. If you're a member of a community group that would like to participate in Rutherford Day, **please fill out this survey, also found under "Upcoming Events" on the Borough website, by Aug. 1st to guarantee your space.**



Estimated 3rd quarter property tax bills are currently being prepared for mailing. They are expected to be in the mail on approximately June 22.



**Thursday Evenings in July & August 8-10pm Lincoln Park**

- JUNE 30<sup>TH</sup> THE UNBROTHERS**
- JULY 7<sup>TH</sup> RUTHERFORD COMMUNITY BAND**
- JULY 14<sup>TH</sup> KIMON & THE PROPHETS**
- JULY 21<sup>ST</sup> STRING THEORY & BIG HOUSE**
- JULY 28<sup>TH</sup> ONE HIT WONDERERS**
- AUG 4<sup>TH</sup> ANDRES NIES BAND**
- AUG 11<sup>TH</sup> ELVIS & ELTON TRIBUTE**
- AUG 18<sup>TH</sup> MUSHMOUTH**

**\*\*Rain Dates will be held on the following Monday, with the exception of the June 30th concert whose rain date is July 5th.**

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## Council President Mark Goldsack

mgoldsack@rutherfordboronj.com

### Shade Tree Commission Liaison:

**SIDEWALK REPAIR PROGRAM** - The Borough is beginning a trial program which will offer partial reimbursement for new sidewalk panels installed that were damaged by a Borough tree.

As part of the program, the Borough will consider reimbursement to the property owner for the portion of the sidewalk panels directly impacted by the Borough tree for up to six (6) cubic yards of concrete. The new concrete slabs must be four (4) inches thick. The Borough will reimburse up to 50% of the cost that the Borough would have paid if our contractor had completed the work.

The reimbursement rate will be determined by the contractor bids received each year for the Borough's annual road program improvements. For example, if the applicant paid \$800 for the panels in question, but the Borough rate for the same panels would have been \$700, then the Borough will reimburse the applicant \$350.

The program is being offered as a "first come first served" basis and subject to available funds. The applicant must also be in "good standing" with the Borough, meaning they must be current on property tax payments and with no outstanding violations or fines with any of the Borough departments.

The application can be [found here](#) and on the DPW page on the Borough website. Along with the application, property owner must submit a copy of the invoice (must state 4-inch-thick pour); proof of payment; and a photo of the completed work. Approved applications will then be forwarded to the Purchasing Department for processing the reimbursement.

## Councilman Matthew Cokeley

mcokeley@rutherfordboronj.com

**Youth Arts Banners** - If your child participated in the Youth Arts Banner program, you can now pick up your child's banner at 261 Santiago Ave. I'd like to thank the Arts Council and DPW for their collaborative effort once again which allowed Rutherford's children to see their artwork on display throughout town.

### Rutherford Fire Department

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

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

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

**Mayor & Council Meetings  
Now Livestreaming!**

 **YouTube** [youtube.com/c/BoroughHall](https://youtube.com/c/BoroughHall)

**Subscribe Today!**

## Councilman Ray Guzmán

rguzman@rutherfordboronj.com

### Green Team Liaison

#### **Green Team Composting Workshop - Saturday, June 18th**

*Learn the Ins and Outs of Composting in Your Own Backyard or Apartment!*

Location: Rutherford Community Garden 280 West Erie Ave

Rain Date: June 19

Speaker: Brian Hanson-Harding, Rutherford resident & Author of Composting: Turn Food Waste into Rich Soil

- Learn how to turn your kitchen scraps and yard waste into garden gold while keeping it out of the landfill.
- Learn about various composting systems that you can use.
- Learn about indoor composting

The Green Team can help purchase your own Earth Machine backyard composter from the BCUA for the deeply discounted price of \$60.00 (checks only) at this event. To order, contact [greenteam@rutherfordboronj.com](mailto:greenteam@rutherfordboronj.com)

## Shred Day and Styrofoam Collection

with The Rutherford Department of Public Works & Green Team Committee

**Saturday, June 25, 2022**

**9:00am - 1:00pm**

*rain or shine*

**Rutherford DPW - 220 Highland Cross**

**This event is open to Rutherford Residents Only, proof of ID required.**

**Limit of 4 boxes of paper for shredding per person.**