

From the Desk of Mayor Frank Nunziato

I'm honored to be able to return to my duties as Mayor since undergoing surgery in April. My family and I would like to thank Rutherford for the overwhelming support we received during my medical leave. The cards that the Rutherford Education Foundation and the Board of Education asked school children to send to me still brighten my office. I'd like to thank the Borough employees and the Council for their help and support and continued dedication to the town in my absence. I'd especially like to thank Council President Goldsack for assuming the role of Acting Mayor and helping to accomplish so much while I was gone. You all made it possible for me to concentrate on my health and recuperate so I could make it back to this role that I love so much.

I understand everybody is disappointed in our decision to cancel the Labor Day Street Fair. As a lifelong Rutherford resident, I am saddened that we have to cancel this event but the Governing Body feels the financially responsible thing to do is to devote our resources to smaller, more community minded events at this time.

As sad as I am that we are interrupting one tradition, I'm happy that we are in the planning stages of a new one. We have already begun planning Rutherford Day and I'm happy to see many local groups are enthusiastic about participating, which will have little cost to the Borough.

Just like many are facing financial challenges following the pandemic, the Volunteer Ambulance Corps are in need of financial support after a tremendously difficult 2020. One of the highlights of the day will be a Classic Car Show and beer garden to benefit the Ambulance Corps as well as food trucks and more. I'm looking forward to this event and hope the community will come out to support the Ambulance Corps and all the other groups participating. For a list of events check out the borough website for updates.

Sincerely,
- Mayor Frank Nunziato



September 11th Observance

The Borough will honor the memories of the six Rutherford residents whom we lost during the terror attacks of Sept. 11th, 2001 in a ceremony on Saturday, Sept. 11th at 9:00 am in Lincoln Park

The ceremony will be recorded and shared with the community via the Borough website, Facebook and Twitter accounts immediately following its conclusion.

Classic Car Show & Beer Garden
to Benefit the Volunteer Ambulance Corps,
Annual Remembrance Game
& More!

Rutherford Day
10/2/2021

at Memorial Field

Interested in participating? [Click here](#)



Wednesday,
September 1st

6pm-10pm



Wednesdays & Saturdays
Through October 30
Williams Center Plaza

Wednesdays 11:00 am - 4:30 pm
Saturdays 8:00 am - 2:00 pm



Council Reports

Council President Mark Goldsack

mgoldsack@rutherfordboronj.com

Planning Board

The Planning Board met on August 18th to consider the site plan for the redevelopment project known as Parker II. After presentation by the developer and their professionals and deliberation by the Board and our professionals, the Board voted to adopt the site plan with conditions. Those conditions will be outlined in a resolution that will be included on the Planning Board's September 16th agenda. The main point that should be taken from the discussion is that the developer and their professionals will work closely with the Borough and our professionals as we move forward with the project. The developer of the Parker II is firmly committed to being a good neighbor. A few additional items worth noting:

- **Flooding** - Flooding has always been an issue along Chestnut Street. The issue has exacerbated with the advent of increasingly powerful rainstorms. The Borough's engineer recommending increasing the size of the pipes beneath the development along Chestnut Street to temper the rainwater from larger storms. The idea being to lag the water as it comes down Chestnut so its impact is not as overwhelming.
- **Parking** - Parking along Chestnut has been a topic of discussion for some time now. The original Parker redevelopment charged extra to their tenants for parking spaces within the complex. To avoid those costs, some residents of the Parker appear to have chosen to utilize spaces along Chestnut Street. To alleviate this issue, the developer has committed to including one parking space per bedroom with the lease for a particular unit in the new building. In other words, residents of the Parker will not be charged extra to park within the complex, hopefully leading to decreased usage of parking on Chestnut. It should be worth noting that the Traffic Engineer working on Parker II did parking studies along Chestnut Street in both 2015 (before the Parker existed) and 2021 and found no differences in the amount of parking spaces being utilized on the street.
- **Affordable Housing** - The redeveloper committed to complying with the affordable housing requirements ultimately decided on by Fair Share Housing. Both the Borough and the developer understand that the Borough has an affordable housing requirement that needs to be addressed. The Borough will work with the developer and Fair Share Housing to ensure that an adequate affordable housing plan is developed and executed.
- **Streetscape** - The developer committed to working with the Streetscape Committee as it relates to all aesthetic components of the new building along its Park Avenue frontage

We forward to continuing to work with the developer and their professionals to ensure that a project is constructed that will benefit both our downtown and our Borough as a whole.

Department News

REC

All volunteer coaches must be Rutgers Certified.

We will be offering a FREE Rutgers Certification Class on 9/8/21 at 6:30 PM VIA ZOOM.

You may sign up for this class on RECDESK under Adult

Programs: RUTGERS CERTIFICATION at

<https://rutherfordnj.recdesk.com/Community/Home>

This is a lifetime certification. You only need to take the class once.

Rutherford Residents Only. You must be pre-registered.
Limited class size. Reached weekdays between
8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. at 201-460-3020 for assistance.

HEALTH

The Rutherford Health Department will sponsor

a **Pap Screening Program** which includes a breast and pelvic exam and a cervical smear for a Pap Test

starting at 4:30 PM on Wednesday, October 6, 2021. Appointments are required. [Learn more here.](#)

HEALTH

The Rutherford Health Department will sponsor a **Multi-Phasic Blood Screening Program for**

Rutherford residents, 18 years of age or older, to be

held at the Health Center, 184 Park Avenue, Rutherford, New Jersey. The Blood Screening is scheduled for the morning hours of Saturday, October 2, 2021. Appointments are required and can be made by calling the Public Health Nurses at 201-460-3020 between the hours of 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Monday-Friday. Walk-in appointments will also be taken during the same time period. [Learn more here.](#)



Council Reports

Councilman Ray Guzman

rguzman@rutherfordboronj.com

The Rutherford Historic Preservation Committee is in the process of updating the current Historic Sites Inventory which has not been revised since 2006. The Committee is encouraging homeowners of listed properties to contact the HPC through the HPC website www.rutherfordhpc.org

After a recent soft launch of the historic marker program, the HPC will be notifying eligible historic property owners by mail shortly, that they can order a bronze marker which they can proudly display on their home as one of Rutherford's historic assets.

In addition to the historic marker program, the HPC will be launching an historic walking tour app in mid September. The first of these tours will take users on a walk through lower Park Avenue noting many of the historic commercial structures and some of the history behind them.

Councilwoman Stephanie McGowan

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In keeping with our commitment of being fiscally responsible and responsive to the needs of our residents, we made the difficult decision to cancel this year's Labor Day Street Fair. I'd like to thank the Borough Administrator, Mayor Nunziato and Councilman Mullahey for thinking through this difficult decision and advocating for the best of the Borough.

I'd also like to remind people to register through RecDesk if they haven't done so already. We are preparing for a full compliment of fall, winter and spring activities for the community. Thank you to the Rec Dept for their dedication and service to the residents.

Councilman Matthew Cokeley

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Rutherford FD: On Wednesday, August 25th, Congressman Pascrell of the 9th district in the House of Representatives, called Mayor Nunziato to advise the Borough that we would be the recipient of grant money to the Rutherford Fire Department. The grant money, totaling \$238,095 will go towards replacing their aging communication systems, specifically the portable radios the men and women of our department rely so dearly upon to execute their jobs effectively and, most importantly, safely.

Congressman Pascrell is a nationally recognized leader on the issue of fire safety, having proudly authored the Firefighter Investment and Response Enhancement (FIRE) Act of 2000 which established the only federal program that delivers grant dollars directly to fire departments across America. Further, because of the Congressman's work, the nation's 32,000 career, volunteer, and combination fire departments have applied for hundreds of millions in federal grants such as this award to purchase the equipment, training, and vehicles needed to serve their communities. The AFG program also funds Fire Prevention and Safety Grants for fire awareness and prevention activities, as well as fire safety-related research. Congressman Pascrell also crafted the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response, or SAFER, grant program signed into law in 2003 which provides additional federal support for local fire departments.

In addition to Congressman Pascrell, the Mayor and Council would like to extend a hearty round of applause and appreciation to Chief Dennis Gentile and the RFD First Officers who wrote the Grant petition as only two jurisdictions succeeded in receiving this grant.

The Borough would also like to thank Bruno and Associates for their guidance and efforts.

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

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.