

From the Desk of Mayor Frank Nunziato

I have exciting Diamond 4 news to share! After the latest report from the Borough Engineer, I can now announce that the softball field will be playable May 8th!

Fencing and netting has been installed, dugouts and benches constructed, break-away magnetic bases ordered are just some of the many items that have been completed in order to make the field player ready. Outfield sod is established and will be playable by the 8th .

There are some items that are still being worked on, including final electrical work, lighting, scoreboard and courtesy outlets but as we complete them, daytime games won't be impacted.

More information will be forthcoming regarding a grand opening, but for now I'd like to thank everyone who has patiently beared with us through a tough winter while many crews worked hard to make this a reality this spring.

As I'm sure you're aware, in June of 2026 the World Cup will take place throughout North America, with 8 games at MetLife Stadium between June 13th and July 19th (the cup final). A multi-week event of this scale that draws international crowds will pose some challenges to the local municipalities. It has also prompted us to look our current ordinance banning short term rentals in town.

At our next meeting, there will be a discussion regarding a potential amendment to our current short-term rental law. The concept for the amendment would be to allow regulated, licensed short-term rentals during June and July of next year, with penalties and fines for those not adhering to the guidelines we set forth. This is a unique situation, and I encourage residents to come to or watch the May 12th meeting so that they can understand the pros and cons of short term rentals and help Rutherford be prepared for the six weeks of World Cup activity.

- Sincerely, Mayor Frank Nunziato

Please be mindful of road closures due to the Lions' Club Duck Derby on Saturday, May 3rd between approximately 8:30am and 6pm on West Pierrepont Ave

The Rutherford Fire Department will conduct a ceremony to unveil a monument in dedication to

Ex-Chief Thomas M. Twist, Jr on Thursday May 8 at 7:00 pm at Firefighters Park (400 Mortimer Ave)

Chief Twist was one of the founders of Firefighters Park many years ago. Tom and his wife Sharon dedicated many hours in designing, landscaping and care for the Park.



REPAIR CAFE

Throw it away? No way!

Saturday, May 17th

11:30am-3:30pm

Rutherford Library Auditorium



At Monday's meeting, members of the Rutherford Elks received a proclamation acknowledging National Youth Fitness Week.



On Saturday, the Shade Tree Commission gathered at the newly planted Norway Spruce in Lincoln Park to read the annual Arbor Day Proclamation

DPW

Tree Removal Notice

Contractors will be removing approximately 12-15 trees, public and private, along the river on Riverside Ave between # 555 & #506. Some of the trees are private the others are town trees. Also they will be removing 4 private trees on Riverside Terrace.

Council President Stephanie McGowan

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Access for All Rutherford & Exciting New Playspace for Tamblyn Field!

In January 2025, I worked with the M&C, Borough Administrator's office, the Access for All Rutherford committee, and our grant writers, Bruno & Associates, to submit an application for a new fully accessible playground for Tamblyn Field. As shared at our Town Hall presentation, this funding opportunity was provided under Jake's Law, which was passed in 2018 to encourage the construction of inclusive playgrounds designed with standards exceeding those required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Rutherford's application for \$536,000 was approved by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection. This funding is contingent upon the passage of a legislative appropriation in the State's 2025-2026 budget. Thank you to all those who participated in the survey that was sent out, attended the Town Hall we offered, and reached out with feedback about what should be included in this needed playspace, and to the Mayor and Council for valuing the importance of inclusion. What an amazing way to demonstrate our continued commitment that Rutherford values EVERY resident of ALL abilities.

Personal Thank You to this amazing place we call home, Rutherford. As many are aware, for the past three weeks, my family endured an extraordinary challenge. The outpouring of love, support, encouragement, food, hand-holding, phone calls, texts, and hugs was simply incredible and has carried us through some very dark and scary days. We are still on this unpredictable journey, but we are now working toward healing and good health. We welcome you all to the Jeffrey's Crusaders family!

Many of us choose where to live and raise our family for a variety of reasons. For Jeff and I, we grew up here and knew we wanted our children to experience the thing that makes it so unique. Simply, Rutherford is a place we feel cared for, seen, valued, and needed. No truer words can express what we have felt and received over the past few weeks from this place we call home. So for now I will simply say "thank you" Rutherford, but hope you know how very grateful I am to you all for lifting us in our time of need, and promise to do my part in creating that same sense of beauty in paying it forward.

Councilman John Errico

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Spring is when I believe our borough is at its most beautiful, so please take advantage of this season to enjoy our fantastic amenities, restaurants, and small businesses. At our next meeting, we plan to discuss a proposed amendment to our short-term rental laws. The discussion will center around whether we should permit residents to rent out their homes, via platforms like Airbnb, for two months during the World Cup, and, if so, what sort of regulations we should impose around this activity. I know many residents may have thoughts on this topic, and I encourage everyone to join this discussion.

Councilwoman Christie Del Rey-Cone

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Hello neighbors. First, thank you to our Boro Administrator, Bob Kaleski, for his thorough review of the budget. I encourage residents to review it and ask questions. This was a budget that was worked on greatly so please let us know if you need any deeper understanding than what Bob already presented. A few items to tee up for you from the Green Team as we continue to enjoy the Spring. The Green Team will have its next Repair Cafe on Saturday, May 17 at the library. Details about time can be found on the Green Team's social media. The Green Team has also been working in earnest with the Borough Administrator and our Department Head of Public Works on a variety of improvements around town to support sustainability. I am grateful to Bob and Chris for their investment in the Green Team's efforts. Among the items they are securing are a community compost bin and more information will be available when that is finalized. Also, on the very popular topic of gas blowers, our DPW has agreed to replace the gas blowers used by the Borough with electric blowers when they break down. Finally, I had the opportunity to talk with Jim Linsalata who the Mayor has appointed to represent the Borough on the Teterboro Aircraft Noise Abatement Advisory Committee (TANAAC). As many residents know, TANAAC is the committee that was developed to manage concerns around noise from the air traffic coming out of Teterboro. There are changes in approach and departure out of Teterboro set for this year that may help with the noise issues incrementally. I have been working with interested residents on these concerns, including attending a TANAAC meeting myself. Jim's advice was a good reminder to all of us - we have to file complaints online. They do matter. The goal is not for one person to file complaints over and over. Instead, MANY of us need to complain when we hear an aircraft that sounds too low or too loud. Here is the link: <https://aircraftnoise.panynj.gov/submit-a-noise-complaint/>. Please use it. Hope to see many of you at the Library Gala on Saturday.