



SCUTTLEBUTT

Red Bank, New Jersey

FEBRUARY 2023



FULLY LOADED

February is jam packed! Black History Month, Wear Red Day, Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day, Presidents' Day and those are just some of the better-known ones. Then there are the lesser known National days like Margarita Day, Tortilla Day (two days later for some odd reason) and let's not forget February 28th, Public Sleeping Day (*I would have expected more support for this one*).

With all the things going it's natural to want to get the deadline driven tasks out of the way. So you may have satisfied your to do list, but what about the things that truly matter? Have your fundamental priorities taken a back seat? Have they even made it to the back seat?

Being productive is a wonderful thing, but is it the only thing? Are your sacrifices impacting you and your loved ones in a negative way? Be sure to prioritize yourself so you don't get so depleted you have nothing left to give.

When you make time for yourself, you'll find you're more aware of the people and world around you.

- Laura Reinertsen, Borough Clerk



PARKS & RECREATION



Parks and Recreation had a successful start of the new year with all our winter activities! Starting with Basketball on Saturdays, children were anxious to put their skills to work on the court after all the training they received from our

trainers from Fusion Basketball in the fall. Our Indoor Soccer Program also had an excellent start on the first Sunday of 2023. It has become a tradition to play indoor soccer in Red Bank. This program is in high demand and it keeps growing. We had over 150 children participating and breaking a sweat this winter. We are also ready for the Spring season with our sports; Baseball, Softball and Track and Field are all almost ready to go!

Valentine's Day Cards for Seniors and Patients For a 3rd year, the Recreation Dept. will be collecting Valentine's day cards! Cards can be drop off at our special mailbox at the entrance of Boro Hall during regular business hours. Last chance to leave your card is February 10th. The Red Bank Senior Center will help us in distributing them to our Seniors. This year we will also try to send some of them to patients at Riverview Hospital.

Adult Basketball on Mondays and Tuesdays from 7PM –

9PM. To find out more please visit our borough website, in the Parks and Recreation Section.

Summer Camps Red Bank Recreational Summer Camp will open for registration, March 1st. Be sure to register early as this program fills up fairly quickly. Our camps consist of trips to the beach, pool, State parks and onsite activities such as sports, playground time, special guests, theme days and more. Our camp is divided into two groups: The Little Rascals (ages 4-6) and the Rascals (ages 6-13).

More information will be posted soon!

- Director Oscar Salinas

National Wear Red Day

The First Friday in February



The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute and many groups around the country observe National Wear Red Day® each year on the first Friday in February to raise awareness about heart disease as the leading cause of death among Americans, especially women.

Borough Staff, raising awareness and funds for National Wear Red Day

JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Relax, you didn't miss a thing. No submissions were received. No big surprise there, most departments were still rolling over 2022 and working our way into 2023.

PS - HAPPY NEW YEAR!

ANIMAL LICENSING 2023

Licensing begins in January. All dog or cat licenses renewed after February 28th of the licensing year will be charged an additional \$5.00 late fee. Rabies must be valid through October of 2023.

FOOD LICENSES 2023

Retail Food Establishment Licenses are due for renewal on January 1 of each year. Applications can be found on the Borough website www.redbanknj.org, late fees are incurred after April 1st.

"All you need is love. But a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt." - Charles M. Schulz

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL

FINANCE & PERSONNEL



The Shade Tree Committee has updated the Borough's tree inventory and it is now available on the Borough's website. The STC is also in the process of applying for the Borough's 16th year of Tree City USA designation. I am very proud of the team. Little known fact: Trees help absorb sounds of traffic in urban areas by 40% and neighborhoods with trees are 7 to 9 degrees cooler than those without. More on the benefit of trees to come next month.



The Finance Committee met in January and discussed 2023 Department goals, the status of the 2023 Budget prep, and the creation of processes to track and record sidewalk cafe and Broadwalk fee revenues as well as future Cannabis Tax Revenue. Once all documents are received from the CFO, the Finance Committee will meet and review the CFO's proposed budget.

- Councilmember Angela Mirandi

PARKS & RECREATION

COUNCIL TAKES HARD-HAT TOUR OF SENIOR CENTER

Community center, closed for 3+ years, approaches reopening.

On February 1st, members of the Red Bank governing body - sporting hard hats - took a tour of the senior center to see the progress of its repairs.

Councilmembers Ballard, Jackson, Mirandi, Sturdivant, and Zipprich, Police Chief/Interim Business Administrator McConnell and Mayor Portman were led on a tour by Dominick Zappala. Zappala is construction manager with DMR Architects who is handling the work. Also in attendance were center director Jackie Reynolds - who beamed at the construction's progress - and multiple Red Bank residents, including community matriarch Dorothy Davis and center advocate Tiffany Harris.

In February 2019, the senior center's fire suppression system was damaged due to a deep freeze. The center has been closed since September of that year to meet required safety and fire codes. The center's prolonged closing triggered Red



(L-R): Police Chief/Interim B.A. Darren McConnell, Councilwoman Jacqueline Sturdivant, Terrance Walton, and consulting director Gary Watson.

Bank residents to rally in January 2021 for the center's repair with the well-known "S.O.S." (Save Our Senior Center) campaign. Harris was a leader in that effort.

The center is projected to re-open in late Q1/early Q2. All-too-common supply chain issues, due to the COVID pandemic, have delayed materials to the center, such as the window replacements. The upgrades and repairs to the center have been extensive and include a new roof, siding, windows, and HVAC system.

The council has introduced a resolution adding the center's rear space to the Recreation and Open Space Inventory (ROSI). The borough engineer and T&M Associates provided a plan for this land-use process.

That plan was approved by a vote of the Parks & Recreation Committee in January.

With the center's re-opening on the horizon, Red Bank seniors will once again have a place to eat, greet, and meet with one another. Red Bank offers a huge round of thanks to all who made the center's re-opening a possibility.

- Councilmember John Jackson



(L-R): Councilman Ed Zipprich, Dorothy Davis, Wilhelmina Vaughn of the senior center staff and Tiffany Harris, a leading advocate of the "Save Our Senior Center" campaign.

"Love is a lot like a toothache. It doesn't show up on x-rays, but you know it's there." - George Burns

Woman's Club of Red Bank is on the Move!

By Vice President Jill Merriman

Have you seen the changes at the Woman's Club of Red Bank? We're in "momentum mode" and are making noticeable improvements every day inside our historic house and in the structure of what we offer to our members and the community. Transformation is the theme for the current leadership team at the Club, as the ladies are "Women in Motion" with an enthusiastic momentum to revitalize the Club to bring it to the 21st Century. This motivating revitalization is being achieved by adding many events monthly to engage and bring awareness to the Club's impactful presence as a community partner, offering so much to its members and the community. Prior to the pandemic shutdown, the Club had gone through a quiet period and lacked enough members who had initiative, time and vision to make improvements. With new members who are donating their time and positive energy, things are shaping up at the Club.

Did you know that our Club dates back to 1896 when a group of energetic, enthusiastic women came together and started a literary club, paying weekly dues and focusing on different literary geniuses each year? The group's enthusiasm for learning increased their desire to voice their opinions. By the turn of the century, they were holding debates on subjects that were unthinkable for women—politics. As the years went by, the club grew and took on community projects, forming new committees for the different causes. The women tirelessly helped the Monmouth County area during World War I by preparing and serving food, holding concerts and musicals for the soldiers at Camp Vail, held fundraising events and donated all the funds to Camp Dix and the Red Cross. These projects became a full-time endeavor for these fierce women. They did what they had to do to serve the community and make a difference in their lives.

In 1921, also the Woman's Club 25th anniversary, they



purchased our current location at 164 Broad Street to be used as its headquarters, community meetings and events. The house is the historic Reckless estate, the home of one of Red Bank's leading citizens, New Jersey Senator Anthony Reckless. Over the last 100 years, club members were determined to preserve the Reckless estate and keep the club alive by moving forward with educational initiatives to propel the club forward in its mission of supporting literacy, financial, music and wellness.

Today, we're passionate in keeping the founders' memory alive and all those that followed in their footsteps with perseverance in maintaining the historical significance of our club in our community. Their hard work has paved the road for our current club endeavors. Our mission is to support literacy through community service engagement, preserve our historic clubhouse for future generations to enjoy and provide a strong network for personal and professional development. We are tenacious in continuing to grow the footprint of this historic treasure in Red Bank and keep the legacy of these pioneer women alive.

We hope that you join us at one of our events. Please check out our website: <https://womansclubofredbank.org/> and follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/WomansClubRedBankNJ> to see all that is happening!

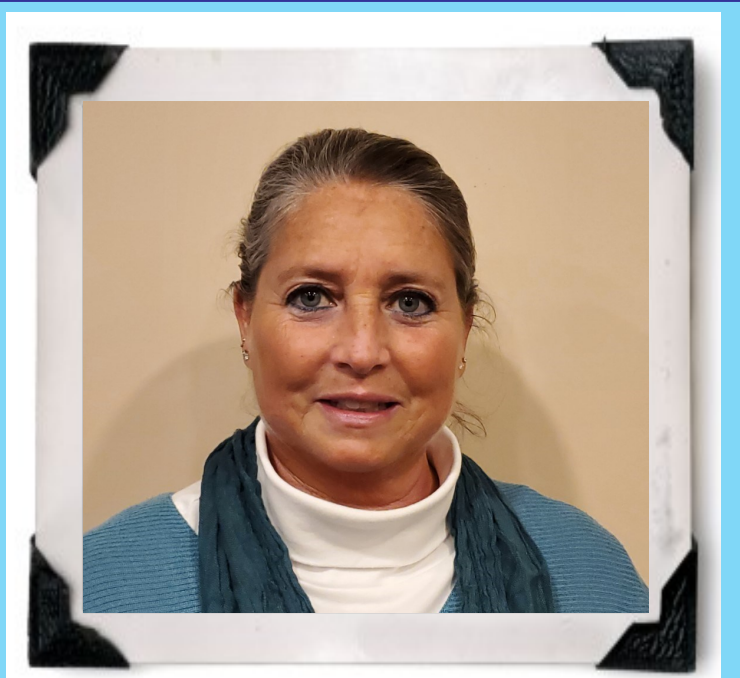
Employee Spotlight

Dina Anastasio - Qualified Purchasing Agent and Administrative Assistant to the CMFO

With the Borough since October of 2015, Dina quickly made herself invaluable.

She has served as Senior Secretary to the Planning/Zoning and Rent Leveling Boards, Special Events Committee and Historical Preservation Commission. In her current position she is a trusted steward in the Borough Finance Office.

If you are lucky enough to spot this renaissance woman, be sure to say hello!



"The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched – they must be felt with the heart." - Helen Keller