



SCUTTLEBUTT

Red Bank, New Jersey

FEBRUARY 2024



Charting the Course for Vibrant Red Bank

- James Gant, Borough Manager

As your Borough Manager, I am honored to serve this vibrant and dynamic community. I believe in transparency and open communication, which is why I wanted to take a moment to share my goals and vision for the future of Red Bank over 2024 and beyond.

Enhancing Customer Service:

One of my top priorities is to improve customer service across all borough services. I am committed to ensuring that every interaction with our residents is professional and efficient. Your feedback is invaluable, and I encourage you to reach out with any suggestions or concerns. Inevitably, you may find yourself needing assistance from our building department, zoning, municipal court, police or tax office. As a constituent and resident of Red Bank you should be assured that your experience will be helpful to you, and you leave with a sense that you were properly served.

Implementing Governing Body Policies:

As Borough Manager, it is crucial to align our operations with the policies set forth by the governing body. I am dedicated to implementing these policies effectively, ensuring that we uphold the values and standards set by our community leaders. Accordingly, NJ statute states, "The municipal manager shall be responsible to the council for carrying out all policies established by it and for the proper administration of all affairs of the municipality within the jurisdiction of the council."

Boosting Social Media Visibility:

In today's digital age, social media is a powerful tool for community engagement. My team and I are working on strategies to increase Red Bank's visibility on various social media platforms and our Borough website. We recognize that this is an area that we can improve upon and will do so in short order. Stay tuned for exciting updates, events, and important information shared through these channels. We hope to meet the needs of our residents by providing you with up-to-date information so that you can make informed decisions.

Addressing Human Resource Needs:

Our dedicated workforce is the backbone of Red Bank. I am actively working on addressing our human resource needs, ensuring that our team is equipped with the resources and support they require to deliver top-notch services to the community. I have always felt, and it has been a core belief of mine, that there is no better investment than an investment in human capital. I want to make sure our employees come to work and can share in the give and take that a healthy workplace is capable of – we owe that to them.

Improving Infrastructure, Facilities, and Parks:

Infrastructure is the foundation of a thriving community. I am focusing on comprehensive plans to address and improve our infrastructure, facilities, and parks. Together, we can create a town that we are all proud to call home. Over the past few weeks, I have met with our various engineers and professional services to get a 30,000-foot view of the town and start zeroing in on the projects in the pipeline, triaging our priorities. This year, and at the direction of our Elected Officials, you will see our budget reflects important and transformative projects like Marine Park, our DPW facility and the lead service line replacement projects. Undoubtedly, there is an emphasis on recreational opportunity, efficiency in operations and the health of our constituents. These are worthwhile projects!

I am excited about the future of Red Bank and am committed to working collaboratively with residents, local businesses, and community leaders and partners to achieve these goals. Your input is invaluable, so please feel free to share your thoughts and ideas as we embark on this journey together.

Thank you for your continued support.



PARKS & RECREATION

- Director Oscar Salinas



Parks and Recreation had a successful start to 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 the year 2024. It has become a tradition to play indoor soccer in Red Bank. This program is in high demand, and it keeps growing every year. Over 150 children are participating this winter season. We are also ready for the Spring Season with baseball, softball and track & field almost ready to go! We are still taking registrations for baseball and softball! Please contact us to sign up!

Valentine's Day Cards for Seniors and Patients



For a 4th year, the Recreation Department will be collecting **Valentine's Day** cards! Cards can be dropped off at our special mailbox at the entrance

of Borough Hall during regular business hours. *Last chance to leave your card is February 9th.*

The Red Bank Senior Center will help us in distributing them to our seniors and to our local hospital to distribute them amongst their patients on Valentine's Day.

Adult Basketball: Mondays and Tuesdays from 7PM – 9PM and will continue meeting until March at the Red Bank Middle School Gym. To find out more please visit our borough website, Parks and Recreation section under Recreation Programs.

Summer Camps: Red Bank Recreational summer camp will open for registration March 1st. Be sure to register early as these programs fill up 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).

Summer Jobs: The Parks and Recreation Department is now hiring for our summer camps programs.

Please visit the borough website under jobs to apply online www.redbanknj.org

PUBLIC LIBRARY

- Director E. Glykis

Feel the love at the Red Bank Public Library this month! Our "But Wait, There's More!" collection has gone live, and we hope that you will visit us with your library card to check out a needed item. Please visit our website for all information on what things we offer, how to use them, and for how long they may be borrowed.

Want to borrow an item from our collection but don't have a library card? Visit the library with photo ID and proof of your Red Bank address, and we will issue you a 100th anniversary library card, free of charge! All visitors, regardless of residence, can also visit the circulation desk and request a 100th anniversary calendar magnet for your home.

We also want to inform the community that the Monmouth County ACTS Social Workers are present within the library on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. Should you or someone you know have questions about emergency housing, SNAP, NJ Family Care, etc., please stop by the library between 10am-4pm on February 8th

and 22nd to speak with a social worker.

Need help filing your taxes? The Red Bank Public Library will be hosting AARP Tax Preparation. Specially trained AARP volunteers will provide free assistance beginning early in February to taxpayers filing their annual income tax returns. Appointments are required and more information can be found on our website.

Can't make it to the Library? Use the Library's 24/7 Library through our website to access eBooks, movies, TV shows, music, and learning opportunities at www.redbanklibrary.org



"What good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter to give it sweetness." - John Steinbeck



For the winter season, the DPU's main goal is to maintain our Borough streets to be passable and safe for all users as consistently and as quickly as possible, while recognizing the limitations that exist because of weather conditions and the availability of equipment, materials, and personnel resources. These limitations, and the constant change of climate conditions, will dictate that pavement surfaces will be snow-covered and/or slippery at times despite the DPU's efforts. Therefore, we encourage everyone to exercise additional caution throughout the entire winter season and especially during weather events. Please Drive Safe!

<https://www.redbanknj.org/208/Public-Utilities>



Employee Spotlight Linda Hewitt



As we bid farewell to Linda Hewitt, the Circulation Supervisor and Adult Programming and Outreach Coordinator, this month marks the culmination of her remarkable career at the Red Bank Public Library! Over her fifteen-year journey with the Red Bank Public Library, Linda has been the driving force behind an extensive array of community programs, ranging from engaging concerts to invigorating fitness classes and our critically acclaimed Let's Talk About Race Series.

Linda firmly believes that the library is the heart of every community, and her instrumental contributions have ensured that the Red Bank Public Library remains a dynamic and vibrant institution within our community. We express our sincere appreciation to Linda for her dedication, and we wish her a retirement filled with joy and fulfillment.



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What is R.E.D. Friday?

R.E.D. is an acronym that stands for Remember Everyone Deployed.

R.E.D. Friday was created to remind people of our heroes overseas and show that we are thinking of them. People across the country wear red every Friday to serve as a reminder and spread the message of how important it is that we keep our troops in our thoughts.



**CHRISTMAS TREES WILL BE COLLECTED
CURBSIDE BEGINNING JANUARY 1ST
THROUGH THE SECOND WEEK OF
FEBRUARY, WEATHER PERMITTING. ALL
DECORATIONS, ORNAMENTS, TINSEL AND
STRANDS MUST BE REMOVED FROM TREES.**

**ARTIFICIAL TREES WILL NOT BE
COLLECTED.**

"For people who had warm memories, winter is never cold to them." - Unknown

MOSQUITO MADNESS TIRE PICK-UP PROGRAM

Tires stored outside hold enough rainwater for mosquitoes to grow. One tire can produce more than 10,000 biting mosquitoes.

Help protect your family and friends from mosquitoes by taking part in the 2024 tire pick-up program.

Monmouth County Mosquito Control personnel will come to your property and pick up as many as 10 car tires without rims - you do not need to bring the tires to the curb!

Call 732-542-3630 to make arrangements TODAY!

You'll need to provide your name, address, number of tires and the location of the tires on your property.



Tires will be picked up between February 1 and March 31, 2024

If you have tires you want to keep, store them inside or securely cover

visitmonmouth.com/mosquito

732-542-3630

Help your community

Fight the Bite

Eliminate breeding sites

Mosquito Madness is a
program of the
Monmouth County Board
of County
Commissioners



BECOME A VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER !

Visit Our Website: RedBankFire.Org



2024 Pet Licenses

\$18.00 for unneutered dogs or cats
\$15.00 for neutered or spayed; proof
from the veterinarian is required.

All dog or cat licenses renewed
after February 28th may be charged
an additional \$5.00 late fee.

RABIES VACCINATION MUST BE VALID
THROUGH OCTOBER OF LICENSING YEAR.



Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

§ 231-22 Cat Licensing
§ 231-6 Dog Licensing

"So cold up north that the birds can't hardly fly. I'm going back south and let this winter pass on by." – Muddy Waters