

# Little Silver NEWSLETTER



Mayor  
Robert C. Neff Jr.  
Council Members

Stephanie Brannagan  
Kevin Brennan  
Donald S. Galante

Michael Holzapfel  
Christian Smith  
Corinne Thygeson

Administrator / Clerk  
Kevin Burke

April 2022

## Message From Mayor Neff

Spring is always a mix of the fun and the serious in Little Silver, and it's no different this year: from our Easter Egg Hunt to the budget, from affordable housing to party planning, we're busy.

\*\*\*\*\*

First, we bid farewell to former Fire Chief Jim Jiminaro. Chief Jiminaro passed away in March; you may have seen the raised ladders and lowered flag in front of the Fire House, as the LSFd remembered their friend and colleague.

Chief Jiminaro was also president of the fire company five times and served the community in many other ways. I remember him as always willing to open the Fire House to a civic or Scout group, and as a mentor to the new members of the department, always with a smile and a kind word.

The Chief leaves behind his daughters, Kathleen and Christina, and three grandchildren. The Borough extends its condolences to the family, and its thanks to Chief Jiminaro for his life of community service. He will be missed.

\*\*\*\*\*

Looking back, March saw the commencement of our official spring cleanup, kicked off by the Environmental Commission's annual Environmental Day, which allowed us to clear out our attics, garages, and basements – and hopefully to learn a bit about caring for our environment.

It was again a huge success, and very busy, and we thank our Commission and those who helped direct traffic at the Woman's Club.

Around town, our public works department has been on a crusade, filling potholes, trimming hedges, removing dead trees and branches, and generally sprucing up after a long winter. Likewise, our volunteer students in the recreation program have been conducting litter sweeps.

As a reminder, leaf collection has ended. When doing your own outdoor spring cleaning, please do not mix leaves with brush and limbs when putting them to the curb.

\*\*\*\*\*

In the affordable housing arena, March saw

the introduction and passage of ordinances approving the borough's purchase of a residential property on Birch Avenue, with the idea of using it to help satisfy its obligation to allow for the construction of housing for low- and moderate-income residents.

The preliminary plan is to speak to various groups who would handle the construction of such a home, and to explore the possibility of the construction of a residence for a family or perhaps a small number of individual residents, including veterans or the developmentally disabled – and in any case, something that would fit in with the neighborhood.

The initial public hearing was well attended, and residents asked smart questions about this very complex obligation – one shared by every municipality in New Jersey, per a number of Supreme Court decisions.

The purchase would augment the borough's court-approved plan creating certain overlay zones allowing for the possibility of higher density housing, and for the construction, with a subsidy from the town, of accessory apartments in some zones that would be restricted to qualifying low- and moderate-income residents.

We will further report as the Birch Avenue initiative unfolds.

\*\*\*\*\*

Also in the 'serious' category, the governing body has introduced its budget for the year, with a public hearing later this month.

Overall spending inside the spending CAP stayed relatively flat, with a total spending increase of approximately \$260,000, some of which was due to mandatory statutory expenses and an average increase in costs in some areas of 3%. The budget also addresses a larger portion of capital needs for the borough than in years past; \$600,000 over last year's amount.

Still, the municipal purposes increase is only 2.62%, or \$207,475.12, and is \$599,201 under the two-percent tax levy cap.

So, with the overall increase in property valuation, the municipal tax rate will decrease this year from 0.441 in 2021 to 0.421 in 2022, meaning that a house valued at \$760,000 will

Continued on next page...



## Borough Calendar

**Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>**

10:00 am – 1:00 pm Post Office  
Museum Open

**Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 am: Municipal Court Virtual  
7:00 pm: Planning Board Meeting

**Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 am- 12 pm: Easter Egg Hunt

**Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 pm: Mayor & Council  
Meeting

**Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>**

8:00 pm: Rec Meeting

**Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup>**

Boro Offices and Recycling  
Yard Closed

**Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 pm: Board of Health Mtg

**Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup>**

9:00 am: Municipal Court Virtual

**Monday, April 25<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 pm: Mayor & Council  
Meeting  
8:00 pm: Shade Tree Commission  
Meeting

**Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 pm: Environmental  
Commission Meeting

...continued from previous page.

see a tax decrease of \$152.35, assuming the value remained the same. If its value increased at the average rate, the owner of an average-proceed home in Little Silver would pay about \$82 more this year in municipal purposes taxes.

Please remember that your municipal tax rate is just about a quarter of your yearly tax bill; because the school and county (making up more than two thirds your tax bill) have not yet passed their budgets, the overall tax rate is not yet known.

Again this year, savings in the budget were attributable to smart departmental spending, shared services on equipment and certain borough operations, and dollar-for-dollar reimbursement of our COVID-related expenses (through Monmouth County and the CARES Act).

\*\*\*\*\*

And in a last 'serious' item, please lock your cars. Please – even if you're just running into a store for a couple minutes. Our police department is constantly putting out that message.

The reason is twofold: 1) for your own safety and protection; and 2) to avoid getting a reputation as a town where cars are easily stolen, thus becoming a target.

Car theft has been in the news recently as a serious problem around the state. The thieves are smart and tech-savvy, and can tell if a fob is left in a car, making theft a simple, quick matter.

Recently, a thief entered a home in Shrewsbury, apparently looking for keys or a fob, and in Little Silver, a thief entered a stand-alone garage, apparently doing the same thing. If you see an attempted theft, please promptly call 911, and again, please lock your car – or did I say that already?

\*\*\*\*\*

Returning to the fun stuff, March saw the kick-off meeting of our 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration Committee. Thanks to Councilwoman Stephanie Brannagan for leading this effort.

The official date will be June 24, 2023, with a rain date of June 25, 2023. Those who would like to help can email [littleSilver100@gmail.com](mailto:littleSilver100@gmail.com), or can attend the next meeting, scheduled for May 11 at 7 p.m. (location to be announced).

This will be an all-inclusive effort, with every facet of our town represented and encouraged to participate as we celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Little Silver's incorporation as a separate town way back in 1923.

\*\*\*\*\*

And lastly, two 'you- know-its-Spring-when' events.

First, the Parker Homestead is reopening on a regular basis to the public, and will host a grand reopening on April 24 from 1 to 4 p.m., with renowned Monmouth County historian Randall Gabrielan speaking from 2-3.

To make sure the Homestead is looking sharp for the big day, it will host its annual clean up on April 9 from 9 a.m. to noon. Come see the famous house dating to 1665, and lend a hand to the dedicated volunteers who care for this important historical treasure.

And please don't forget our Easter Egg Hunt! It will take place on April 9, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Gazebo on Markham Place. Thanks to our recreation department and the Little Silver PBA for making arrangements to have a cotton-tailed visitor stop by to greet the children!

\*\*\*\*\*

On behalf of the Governing Body, have a wonderful spring, walking our trails, stopping by our parks, visiting the shore, and enjoying all our area has to offer. If you have questions or comments, please call borough hall at (732) 842-2400, or contact me at home at (732) 576-8595, or by email at [bobneff80@gmail.com](mailto:bobneff80@gmail.com).

**Robert C. Neff Jr.**  
**Mayor, Borough of Little Silver**

# Recreation News

## 2022 Spring Youth Running Program



May 10 – June 16<sup>th</sup>  
 (Grades 1 – 8)



Instructed by Gone Running, LLC &  
 USATF Coaches, Erin O'Neill,  
 Joe Compagni and "Big Bob" Andrews

### Participants will learn:

- Proper running form
- Dynamic flexible
- Stretching
- Race start techniques
- Racing strategies
- Plyometrics
- Nutrition

### Session info:

Sickles Park  
 Tuesday or Thursday  
 4:00 – 5:00 PM  
 1 x week - \$105

### Participants will receive:

Running t-shirt  
 Award  
 Competition event:  
 Sunday, June 5, 2022  
 Manalapan H.S.  
 11:00 AM

*Program starts Tuesday, May 10th and ends on Thursday, June 16<sup>th</sup>.  
 There will be a competition event in Manalapan in June.  
 Date to be determined.*

**Register with the Little Silver Recreation Department at [www.littlesilver.org](http://www.littlesilver.org).**

## Cardio, Core, & More

Cardio, Core & More offers fitness for adults with exercises designed to increase muscular strength, flexibility and resistance training, all done in a safe fun-filled environment accompanied by music.

Hand-held weights, elastic tubing with handles and six inch inflatable balls are used for resistance and are provided to participants at each class.

All exercises can be modified and performed in a chair.

Please contact [cmthygeson@gmail.com](mailto:cmthygeson@gmail.com). for more information and schedule. Virtual sessions available.

**Summer Rec registration will begin June 1<sup>st</sup> on the Community Pass website.**



## Easter Egg Hunt

The Easter Egg Hunt is on for April 9<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of April 10<sup>th</sup> from 9 am – 12 pm. Times will be staggered again to keep the event fun and safe for everyone. Please visit

<http://www.littlesilver.org/ls/recreation/> for more information and required sign up.

The Easter Bunny will be available for photos.

## BRUSH COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Brush only: January through October

**BRUSH may be put to the curb at any time during this time period.**

- Reminder:**
- \*No grass clippings are to be placed to curb for pickup.
  - \*Do not mix brush and leaves
  - \*Do not place within 10 feet of a storm drain



Collection of **BRUSH ONLY** runs  
January 1 through October 31.

## Parker Homestead-1665



**Spring Archeology:** Come join us for a spring clean-up!

Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> 9 am- 12 pm

**Weekend in Old Monmouth:** Come join us for a weekend in Old Monmouth!

**Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>**

10 am- 5 pm

**Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>**

11 am- 5 pm

**Local Historian:** Prominent local historian **Randall Gabrielan** talks about his book *Lost Monmouth County*.

Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>

2 pm- 3 pm

Parker Homestead Barn

House will be open from 1 pm- 4 pm

Residents may check out the following museum passes with a Little Silver library card in good standing:

- **American Museum of Natural History**
- **The Frick Collection**
- **Museum of the American Revolution**
- **New-York Historical Society**



Call the library at 732-747-9649 for details on how you can reserve passes.

## Library News for April

**Watercolor Painting with Carol Bruno**

**Wednesday, April 20 from 1:00-3:00 pm OR**

**Thursday, April 21 from 10:30 am-13:30 pm**

Watercolor artist Carol Bruno is back! Join us for an introductory class in painting tulips. No experience is necessary and all materials will be supplied. Class space is limited and prior registration is a must. Call the library at 732-747-9649 to sign up.

**Storytime with Miss Danya**

**Indoor Baby/Toddler Storytime! Ages 1 -3 1/2 years (w/ parent/caregiver)**

**Tuesdays, April 5, 12, 19, 26. from 10:30-11:00 am OR 11:30-12:00 pm**

Join Ms. Danya for stories, songs, and fingerplays!

**Family Fun Storytime- All ages welcome! (w/ parent/caregiver)**

**Tuesdays, April 5, 12, 19 and 26 from 3:30-4:00 pm.**

Join Ms. Danya for spring themed stories and stay to make a special craft.

April 5- Make Your Own Hot-Air Balloon

April 12- Decorate a Colorful Egg

April 19- Fingerpaint a Cherry Blossom Tree

April 26- Create Coffee Filter Butterflies

**In- person Storytime Guidelines:**

- Due to limited space, *registration for Storytime is mandatory each week*, starting the Thursday prior to Tuesday storytime, by calling the library between at 732-747-9649. Drop-ins will not be admitted unless there is available space.
- Please call if you are unable to attend.
- Please choose only 1 session per week.
- Thank you for social distancing.

**Virtual Storytimes**

Your favorite children's librarian's share songs, fingerplays, stories, and crafts on Little Silver's YouTube channel: <http://bit.ly/Littlesilver>

**Take 'N Make Crafts-**Get creative with our seasonally themed kits, now available in the children's room. One per child, please!

**Family Event: Celebrate DIA this month! Diversity in Action... with All Around This World!**

**Saturday, April 23 from 10:00-10:30 am (via Zoom)**

**Advance registration begins April 9**

Enjoy a unique, interactive music concert that incorporates global melodies, rhythm and movement for the whole family to enjoy presented by Jay Sand of All Around This World. "Travel" the globe with singing and dancing with music from around the world. The Zoom link will be emailed to registered participants the day before the event.

Can't make it? Watch on-demand on the Monmouth County Library's Kids page.

## Environmental Commission

### Little Silver Borough Hall

480 Prospect Avenue  
Little Silver, NJ 07739  
732-842-2400

[www.littlesilver.org](http://www.littlesilver.org)

#### Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/BoroLittleSilver/](http://www.facebook.com/BoroLittleSilver/)

#### Business Hours

Monday – Friday  
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

#### Borough Directory

**Emergency: 9-1-1**  
**Borough Hall**  
**732-842-2400**

Police Department  
(non-emergency)  
732-747-5900

Tax Collector  
732-219-0812

Tax Assessor  
732-842-7039

Zoning Officer  
732-842-0261

Municipal Court  
732-842-3881

Board of Health  
732-493-9520

Public Library  
732-747-9649

Fire Department  
(non-emergency)  
732-741-0934

Car exhaust can be a breathing hazard throughout the year. New Jersey has had laws to prevent idling cars for 10 years. As we approach the warmer months and we begin to cool our cars rather than heat them, it's important to know the idling laws in the state of New Jersey. These laws went into effect in September of 2012. Gasoline and diesel fueled cars may not idle any longer than 3 minutes. There are exceptions if you are stuck in traffic, waiting for inspection or being repaired, are an emergency vehicle, a bus picking up passengers, and/or using the car as a power source.

Please especially remember this when parking in front of our schools, since the exhaust is unhealthy for our children.

If you have questions about this look it up: for gasoline engines N.J.A.C. 7:27-15 and for diesel engines N.J.A.C.

On May 4th, the statewide plastic bag ban will go into effect. Little Silver was ahead of the state (effective October 1, 2019) on this, and we have been providing residents and businesses with reusable bags for the last two years. Currently we have stuff sac (so you always have it with you) nylon bags to assist you with compliance. These bags will be available in a basket in the vestibule of Borough Hall. If you need one, please take ONE so there are enough to go around. And thanks for keeping plastic bags out of our waterways and off our properties.

As you begin to get your gardens and trees ready for spring, remember to place mulch around the base of a tree and not mound it up the trunk. These "mulch volcanoes" will invite diseases and pests into your trees, ultimately destroying them. A note to remember is.... the mulch should never touch the tree.

## Traffic & Safety Tip

Every day about 8 people in the United States are killed in crashes that are reported to involve a distracted driver. Distracted driving is driving while doing another activity that takes your attention away from driving. Distracted driving can increase the chance of a motor vehicle crash.

#### What drivers can do:

- Do not multitask while driving. Whether it's adjusting your mirrors, picking the music, eating a sandwich, making a phone call, or reading an email—do it before or after your trip, not during.
- Consider trying an app to reduce distractions while driving.

#### What passengers can do:

- Speak up if you are a passenger in a car with a distracted driver. Ask the driver to focus on driving.
- Reduce distractions for the driver by assisting with navigation or other tasks.

#### What parents can do:

- **Talk to your teen or young adult** about the rules and responsibilities involved in driving. Share stories and statistics related to teen/young adult drivers and distracted driving.
  - Remind them driving is a skill that requires the driver's full attention.
  - Emphasize that texts and phone calls can wait until arriving at a destination.

## Did you know...?

In 2019, the Zoning Department received 292 applications, in 2020 it received 364, and in 2021 it received 381. In just two years, there was over a 30% increase in zoning applications, most likely due to more people working from/staying home with the pandemic and altering their homes and yards to suit their needs.