

Little Silver NEWSLETTER



Mayor
Robert C. Neff Jr.

Council Members

Stephanie Brannagan
Kevin Brennan
Doug Christensen

Donald S. Galante
Michael Holzapfel
Christian Smith

Administrator / Clerk
Kevin J. Burke, Jr.

April 2023

Message From Mayor Neff

We're close enough to the Big Party that we'll mention the borough's 100th birthday twice in this message, along with a March and April wrap-up including important budget, planning, and spring cleaning news.

First, Little Silver officially turned 100 on March 19, with a celebratory toast, visits by county and state officials, and a packed open house at the Parker Homestead, portions of which pre-date the birth of Little Silver by almost 300 years.

Back in 1923, we were in the midst of prohibition, Calvin Coolidge was sworn in as president, Edward Edwards governed the state, and the Little Silver Borough Council met for the first time. The topics of concern: whether to have a police chief (no, for the time being); how much to put aside in the budget for groceries for the poor (\$21.00 per month); and how much to pay the clerk (\$300 a year).

We've come a long way, baby, but our sense of community is stronger than ever. Here's to another 100 years, and a great party on June 24.

Looking back, March saw the return of the Fire Department's St. Patrick's Day party (a huge success), our annual Easter Egg Hunt (4,000 eggs, 1,000 more than last year!), and the great Environmental Day, giving us a chance to clean out our attics and learn a bit about caring for our planet. Thanks to the LSF and all our volunteer services, the Environmental Commission, and the police department's PBA and Recreation Committee for putting those community events together.

Around town, our public works department has been filling potholes, trimming hedges, removing dead trees and branches, and generally sprucing up after a long winter. Give Superintendent Jimmy Gannon's hard-working team a shout out when you see them.

And if you'd like to help them out? Please, please pick up after your dog, especially on public property. Our public works folks, not to mention our kids and others, shouldn't have to dance around your pup's piles. Thanks in advance.

In borough business, it's been a very difficult year financially, with multiple annual expenditures skyrocketing: liability insurance is up, health benefits have increased 28 percent, pension contributions are up six percent largely as a result of state inefficiencies; the cost of trash and recycling pickup has increased 87 percent, utilities have gone up 15 percent, and supply chain and tree removal costs have driven an 11 percent increase in public works costs.

Nevertheless, the Borough Council has introduced a budget that holds overall spending inside the spending CAP relatively flat, with a total spending increase of

approximately \$79,000, most of which was due to mandatory expenses. The increase in this area would have been far greater if the State had not provided CAP relief to local governments to deal with the unprecedented increases in garbage and recycling, health benefits, pensions, and fuel costs. The increase to the budget for these outside-the-cap items amounts to about \$415,000. The budget also addresses ongoing capital needs for the borough.

The municipal purposes levy increase is 4.98%, or \$404,997.87, and is in compliance with the two-percent tax levy cap. Despite having to deal with more than \$759,000 in cost increases in areas the Borough has very little control over, we were able to leverage prior budgetary cost savings, efficiencies, and attrition to offset almost half the increase to reduce the impact to our residents as much as possible.

So, with the overall projected increase in property valuation, the municipal local purposes tax rate will again decrease this year from 0.422 in 2022 to approximately 0.405 in 2023, meaning that the average property valued at \$790,000 will see a tax decrease of \$134.30, assuming the value remained unchanged. If its value increases at the average rate the Borough is projected to increase for 2023, the owner of an average-priced property valued at \$790,000 in Little Silver would pay about \$164 more this year in municipal local purposes taxes.

Please remember that your municipal local purposes tax rate is just about 22.4% of your yearly tax bill, and the municipal open space tax rate is just over 0.5% for a municipal total of about 23%. The Little Silver Board of Education, Red Bank Regional Board of Education, and Monmouth County account for the remainder of your tax bill. As of this date, none of these taxing entities have passed their budgets, so the overall tax rate is not yet known.

A public hearing on the municipal budget only is scheduled for April 24, 2023. Thanks to our CFO, Craig Marshall, administrator Kevin Burke, and the Borough Council's outstanding budget committee for helping us navigate these difficult fiscal times.

In the world of planning, a Dunkin' Donuts – without a drive-through – has been proposed for the now-closed Santander Bank adjacent to the Dance Plus business location and the large train station parking lot, across Sycamore Avenue from Builders' General.

The current brick building would remain, and parking would be in the same location behind the building. Full plans are available in the planning office in Borough Hall, and a public hearing on the proposal is scheduled for April 13, 2023 at 7 pm.



Borough Calendar

Saturday, April 1st

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

Thursday, April 6th

9:00 am: Municipal Court

Friday, April 7th

Boro Office and Recycling Yard
closed for Good Friday

Monday, April 10th

7:00 pm: Mayor & Council Meeting

Tuesday, April 11th

8:00 pm: Recreation Meeting

Thursday, April 13th

7:00 pm: Planning Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 18th

7:00 pm: Board of Health Meeting

Thursday, April 20th

9:00 am: Municipal Court

Monday, April 24th

7:00 pm: Mayor & Council Meeting

Tuesday, April 25th

8:00 pm: Shade Tree Commission
Meeting

Wednesday, April 26th

7:00 pm: Environmental Commission
Meeting

SAVE THE DATE

May 6th & 7th
Town-wide Garage Sale

June 24th
Little Silver's 100th
Anniversary Celebration!

...continued from previous page.

We also understand that the holder of the liquor license plans to file a different, scaled-back proposal for a restaurant with a bar at the former shoe store adjacent to the large train station parking lot on Oceanport Avenue.

A much larger proposal was withdrawn several years ago when the applicant was unable to come to an agreement with NJ Transit on the use of the train station parking lot. This time, according to principal Matt Kelly, the proposal is not likely to need such an agreement, because it would fit within the current small building on the property and accommodate about sixty seats.

The emphasis would be on dining, as opposed to the bar. No outdoor dining or music would be proposed.

No formal application has been filed; when that occurs, a public hearing will be held before the Planning and Zoning Board.

Next, at the risk of being redundant, here is a repeat of last April's newsletter, which remains relevant: please lock your cars. Please – even if you're just running into a store for a couple minutes. The entire area continues to put out that message.

The reason is twofold: 1) to prevent the theft of your vehicle; and 2) to avoid a reputation as a town where cars are easily stolen, thus becoming a target.

Our police chief, Paul Halpin, reports that attempted thefts have decreased lately, so perhaps the message is out. However, car theft remains in the news 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. Please lock up.

Lastly, a couple springtime reminders:

First, the Parker Homestead has reopened after renovation of the second floor of this historic property, and will host regular tours, hold events for students from grade school to grad school, and resume its lecture series by distinguished professors and historians.

Check this newsletter and the Homestead's facebook page and website for times and details.

And please visit our wifi-equipped local Library, which has become a community gathering place, study location for students, the host of educational, artistic and informative presentations, and so much more. Say hi to Anita and her team, get a library card, and find out what you've been missing. The patio's awful nice on a sunny spring day.

And I said I'd mention it twice, so I will: please calendar June 24 and come join us on the fields behind Borough Hall to celebrate the 100th birthday party of our special little town.

On behalf of the Governing Body, we hope you enjoy the spring; walk our trails, stop by our parks, visit the shore, and enjoy all our area has to offer. If you have questions or comments, please call Borough Hall with any questions at (732) 842-2400, or reach out to me directly at bobneff80@gmail.com, or my home phone, (732) 576-8595.

Robert C. Neff Jr.

Mayor, Borough of Little Silver

100
years

Little Silver is Turning 100!

Don't miss your chance to be a Little Silver 100th Anniversary sponsor!

Little Silver is turning 100 and will be celebrating on Saturday, June 24, 2023. There are a variety of sponsorship opportunities available to participate and support our town, including the \$300 Warrior Family sponsorship, providing a yard sign and your name on t-shirt and website. To purchase a sponsorship, go to www.littlesilver100.com

Don't miss your chance to buy Little Silver Anniversary merchandise!

As Little Silver gets ready to celebrate its 100th Anniversary, the town is offering commemorative t-shirts, cups, blankets and more. To buy the celebratory merchandise, go to www.littlesilver100.com. Items will be available for pick-up the week of the event at various locations in Little Silver, just in time to wear and use for the event.

If you would like to be on the planning committee, the next meeting will on **April 27th at 7 pm in LS Woman's Club**. For questions, email LittleSilver100@gmail.com



Little Silver Golden Residents



Have you lived in Little Silver for 50+ years? Then you are a Little Silver Golden Resident! To participate in Little Silver's June 24th 100th celebration parade with the Antique Motor Club, or to nominate a Golden Resident neighbor, email info@littlesilver100.com



**Parker Homestead-1665
"Hello Girls" of WWI Presentation**

Sunday, April 23rd
2:00 pm

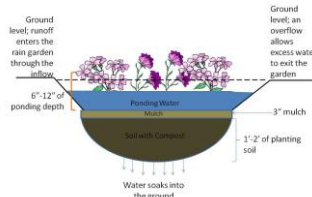
Parker House Education Center
Parker Homestead open 1- 4 pm

Join Monmouth University Specialist Professor of Public History and former US Army Fort Monmouth Command Historian Melissa Ziobro for a talk on how the US Army Signal Corps employed women as telephone switchboard operators during WWI. The "Hello Girls" worked long hours to ensure battlefield communications.

Environmental Commission

We're So Excited! The Little Silver Environmental Commission received a grant from The Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions to build our first wash rain garden next to the parking lot at Challenger Field. The grant is small and requires volunteer effort to get it done. **We're looking for helpers** the first week of May to assist with making this happen. **AND you might get some ideas for putting one at YOUR house!**

If you can help (dates to be determined by volunteers' availability), email Bonnie Akey at BonW@aol.com

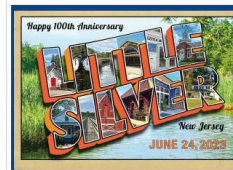


STRIKE UP THE BAND!

JOIN THE RBR ALUMNI BAND



Who: RBR alumni band members
When: Saturday, June 24th, 3 pm
What: March in the Little Silver Centennial parade
How: Call or Email Don Chamberlain



- All ages and levels of play welcome
- No longer have an instrument? We will help you find one
- Twirlers, majorettes and color guard welcome too

732 915 2378

RBRalumni@gmail.com

BRUSH COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Brush only: January- October

Brush may be put to the curb at any time during this 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 1st through October 31st

Traffic & Safety Tip

Drive Responsibly! April, which is National Distracted Driving Awareness Month, is a good time to regroup and take responsibility for the choices we make when we're on the road. Follow these safety tips for a safe ride every time:

- Need to send or read a text? Pull over and park your car in a safe location; only then is it safe to send or read a text.
- Designate your passenger as your "designated texter". Allow them access to your phone to respond to calls or messages.
- Do not scroll through apps, including social media, while driving. Cell phone use can be habit-forming. Struggling to not text and drive? Put the cell phone in the trunk, glove box, or back seat of the vehicle until you arrive at your destination.

BOROUGH-WIDE GARAGE SALE MAY 6TH AND 7TH

The Borough will be holding its second town-wide **Garage Sale Weekend May 6th and 7th, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.** Residents will not be required to obtain a permit for the event but will need to call Borough Hall at 732-842-2400 to register their address. *All condominium, townhome, and estate residents must first contact their management/ associations for prior approval.* The Borough will publicly advertise the event in the Two River Times, on Facebook, Constant Contact, Borough electronic sign, and the Borough website. Maps of all registered addresses will be available at Borough Hall, the Library and on the Borough website two days prior to the event. **Registration will be from April 1st through April 30th.** Registrations received after the 30th will not be included on the map. Please remember: bulk items that are not sold can be put to the curb for bulk collection on your assigned bulk collection day (2nd trash pick-up of every week). Only three items per bulk pick-up. Electronics cannot be placed to the curb for regular or bulk pick-up, but instead must be taken to the Monmouth County Recycling Center on Asbury Avenue in Tinton Falls, 732-683-8686, along with any appliances or construction material.

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

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



Call the library for details.

Library News

For library questions/program sign up, call 732-747-9649

Adult Program: Beginning Mah Jongg Classes

Every Monday, starting April 3 from 1:00-3:00 pm: Have you ever wanted to learn how to play Mah Jongg? Join us every Monday afternoon to learn how from Mary Tokanos. No prior registration or knowledge is necessary.

Movie Matinee

Wednesday, April 12 at 1:00 pm: Tom Hanks plays a grumpy widower who's given up on life following the loss of his wife and wants to end it all. When a young family moves in nearby, he meets his match in quick-witted Marisol, leading to a friendship that will turn his world around. Rated PG-13.

Watercolor Classes with Carol Bruno

Wednesday, April 19 from 1:00- 3:00 pm OR

Thursday, April 20 from 10:30 am- 12:30 pm: Little Silver watercolorist, Carol Bruno, returns to teach us how to paint hydrangeas using a plastic wrap technique. Call the library to sign up for either class. Registration is required.

HOME with Lisa Walsh- How to Pull a Room Together

Wednesday, April 26 at 1:00 pm: Lisa Walsh of Well Works Studio will show us the basics of how to make any space in your home come to life and serve your well-being. Lisa will draw on her many years' experience in interior design to teach us the principles of space planning, paint color, and finishing touches so you can pull a room together with ease and confidence.

In the Display Case: A taste of Ukrainian Folk Art featuring Ukrainian Easter eggs, ceramics, wood carvings and embroidery from the collection of Luba and Walter Kasian.

Tween Crafternoon (Grades 5+): Succulent Planter

Thursday, April 20 at 3:00 pm:

Stop in after school to decorate a terracotta pot and then plant a succulent to take home. Call the library at 732-747-9649 to register as supplies are limited.

Children's Programs:

Registration required for all events; call between 10 am and 5:30 pm. Story time reservations can be made the Thursday before. Please choose one session per week and call if you are unable to attend.

Baby Storytime: Ages 6-24 months (w/ caregiver)

Tuesdays, April 4, 11, 18, & 25 from 9:30- 9:50 am

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

Toddler Tales: Ages 18 months-3.5 years (w/ caregiver)

Tuesdays, April 4, 11, 18, & 25 from 10:15-10:35 am OR 11:00-11:20 am

Join Ms. Danya for stories, rhymes, fingerplays, and bubbles!

Indoor Family Story/Craft Time: ages 4+ (w/ caregiver)

Tuesday, April 4 at 3:30 pm: Spring Chicks Plushie Project (registration required starting March 28)

Tuesday, April 11 at 3:30 pm: LEGO® Party! (free-build)

Tuesday, April 18 at 3:30 pm: Signs of Spring craft – Join local illustrator, David Udovic, in making a unique spring masterpiece! (registration required starting April 4)

Take' N Make Crafts:

Seasonally themed kits, available in the children's room.

Recreation News

For more information, contact Carlye at claido@littlesilver.org or 732-842-2400

Little Silver Borough Hall

480 Prospect Avenue
Little Silver, NJ 07739
www.littlesilver.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/BoroLittleSilver/

Constant Contact:

Text LITTLESILVER to 22828

Business Hours

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

Borough Directory

Emergency: 9-1-1

Borough Hall
732-842-2400

Board of Health
732-493-9520

Municipal Court
732-842-3881

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

Public Library
732-747-9649

Tax Collector
732-219-0812

Tax Assessor
732-842-7039

Zoning Officer
732-842-0261

Adult Sports Available!

Adult Soccer

Thursdays
9pm – 10pm at Point Road School

Adult Volleyball

Thursdays
8pm – 10pm at Markham Place School

Adult Basketball

Mondays & Wednesdays
8pm – 10pm at Point Road School
No registration required.

Exercise classes

Available to LS residents at The Woman's Club:

Pilates with Paula: Tuesdays at 9 am

Pilates Plus with Paula: Fridays at 9 am
One time drop in - \$10
5 pack of classes - \$40/ 10 pack of classes - \$70
Registration form available at the class

Cardio, Core, & More: Contact cmthygeson@gmail.com for info & schedule. Virtual sessions available.



Tennis

All tennis courts reservations now made at littlesilver.playbypoint.com
PlayByPoint is a free app

Walking Club

Mondays 10 am, Borough Hall
bfleischer@verizon.net or 732-842-4644

2023
SPRING PROGRAM
LITTLE SILVER

GONE RUNNING
April 10th - June 7th
4:30 - 5:30 PM
Sickles Park
www.gone-running.com
Mondays and Wednesdays

Cost:
\$115 1x week
\$170 2x week
Competition Event:
6:10 @ Manalapan H.S. at 11:30 AM

"Fitness is Fun! It's our motto. The philosophy behind all of our running programs is to increase the fun and enjoyment of physical fitness while building skill and confidence. When children learn to love running, it often becomes a life-long activity that continues well into adulthood."

Blood Drive

May 13, 2023
9 am- 12 pm
Woman's Club
Book an appt today at <https://tinyurl.com/givebloods>



Organized by Jamie Fleming and Lydia Jain



Summer Rec
Registration will begin June 1st.

RIDGE ROAD RUN 5K
3 schools * 1 mission
suicide prevention

Red Bank Catholic High School | Red Bank Regional High School | Rumson-Fair Haven Regional High School

MAY 7, 2023
Family and Business Sponsorships Available
Registration Open
www.RunSignUp.com/RidgeRoadRun

Snapology at LS Recreation

Preschool STEM Club (ages 3-5)
Learn about science, art, math, and engineering through building hands-on projects with LEGO bricks, K'Nex, and other educational building tools.
Wednesdays, **April 19- May 24**
11 am- 12 pm
LS Woman's Club
111 Church Street
\$125 per child
Register through LS Rec:
<https://bit.ly/3FEfNPH> or littlesilver.org under Recreation



"Another Woman's Treasure"

Little Silver Woman's Club
May 6th and 7th

Rummage sale of new and gently used handbags, scarves, and costume jewelry. All proceeds will go to the Emmanuel Cancer Foundation.

Did you know...?

After three years of fundraising and planning, a 1600 square foot addition at the library was dedicated in October 2003, creating a children's area, technology center for computers, and a comfortable reading area for adults.