



MAYOR DIPAOLO'S MEETING REPORT Tuesday, February 15th, 2022

- The total reported positive cases of Covid-19 for January were 315. In comparison, for the month of February, there have been only 13 reported cases in the Borough which is good news and let's hope that Covid is on its way out the door. These are reported cases of individuals who have been tested at a medical facility. This does not include the positive cases that are testing at home and not reported to our health official. The most important thing I can advise you as your Mayor is if you are not feeling well, stay home so as to avoid the spread of Covid-19 in our community. Also please follow the recommended CDC guidelines, wear a mask, practice social distancing, wash your hands frequently and again, stay home if you are not feeling well.
- If you are worried that you may have Covid or want to be prepared in case you think you may have Covid, every home in the United States is eligible to order four free at home Covid-19 tests. Orders will usually ship in 7-12 days. Order your tests now so you have them when you need them. To order your at-home test, call 1-800-232-0233. Or visit [covidtests.gov](https://www.covidtests.gov).
- As many of you may realize, our Ambulance Corps is struggling right now. They are in need of volunteers. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the Borough Clerk's office for further information at 201-262-6086 option 9. Right now, they are running two shifts a week and we are grateful for their service. However, the council acknowledged that there was an issue but we have solved it by signing a contract with Holy Name EMS for 24-hour ambulance service within the Borough.
- Our Senior Bus service continues to be available for residents age 55 and older and residents with special needs. If you wish to book a ride, please call Stacy at 201-262-6086 x1212.

- Our Military Tribute Banner program is up and running for 2022. This is a program that honors residents who are veterans of all branches of the military as well as those on active duty or in the Reserves and National Guard. The Borough has made this program available to our residents who wish to honor their family members by contributing \$150 for the banners. The banners will be on display from Memorial Day through Veterans Day and are stored by the Department of Public Works during the winter months and will be rehung every year. We concluded our first year of the program with about 40 banners and look forward to displaying many more this year. Please visit the Borough website or contact Borough Administrator Rob Hermansen for more information and to sign up.
- The Bergen County Utilities Authority will be holding their first Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event of the year on Saturday, March 12th in Moonachie. The next local event will take place at Bergen Community College in Paramus on Sunday, April 3rd.
- As liaison to the seniors, I attend their monthly meetings where I update them on many things going on in town that they may not be aware of. This past week I decided to begin reminding them of different opportunities available to them. And this month's tip is a cost saver so I will share it here as well. The County of Bergen provides volunteers who perform simple household repairs for seniors 60+ and the disabled population. The program is called CHORE. They will repair leaky faucets or toilets, perform minor electrical work – replace existing outlets, replace light switches and plugs, do weatherization such as changing screens and storm windows, weather strip doors and windows, install air conditioners, smoke alarms and grab bars and perform various other jobs. Please call them at 201-489-7790 for more information or to schedule an appointment.
- The Emerson Board of Health, in conjunction with Northwest Bergen Regional Health Commission, is continuing their monthly Blood Pressure Clinics after a long hiatus due to Covid. Our Public Health Nurse is available at the Senior Center from 12 to 1 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month. All are welcome to take advantage of this free service.
- I also attend the Pascack Valley Mayors' meeting each month. There are two issues we are paying close attention to and finding to find a resolution for. They are the noise from the planes flying over the Pascack Valley as well as flooding through the Pascack Valley. There was a conference call last week that our Borough Administrator Rob Hermansen was on.

- In the event we do not get an early spring, we are still looking for Snow Buddies to help out our seniors. Please call 201-262-6086 Option 9 for more information.
- The Borough Hall project continues. We recently had a meeting to discuss some alterations to the plans. While we do still plan to have construction on this project begin this year, it is important to note the Borough will not permanently finance this project with a bond in 2022, but will continue to use temporary financing, in the form of bond anticipation notes.
- Thursday, February 24th is Knock Out Opioid Abuse Day. NJCares.gov is holding a learning seminar via Zoom. If you would like information, the link is posted on the Borough website.
- Borough Hall will be closed on Monday, February 21st for Presidents Day.
- The next meeting of the Mayor and Council will take place on Tuesday, March 1st. The time is yet to be determined so please check the Borough website for a definitive time as the date comes closer.