

Borough of Wood-Ridge
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Congratulations WR Athletes!



The Wood-Ridge Mayor and Council presented awards to student athletes, teams and coaches for their achievements this past season at the Council Meeting held April 19. Award recipients included Wood-Ridge High School Wrestler Bradley Mika, who took 3rd Place in Districts; the Recreation Wrestlers; the Wood-Ridge Senior Competition Cheer Team, who took 1st Place at Cedar Grove, Impact Cheer, Wayne Valley and Nationals; North West Bergen Passaic Travel Basketball teammates, who finished 11-4 and in 2nd Place this season; and the Wood-Ridge High School Varsity Competition Cheerleaders, who finished 1st Place in every competition they competed in, won the Liberty Division and the overall Conference Championship, and won the Group 1 All Music State Title and Small Team All Music Title at the State Cheerleading Competition in Trenton, New Jersey. Congratulations to all participants from the Mayor and Council!



LEND A HAND AGAINST LITTER THIS KEEP WOOD-RIDGE BEAUTIFUL DAY



Council President Ezio Altamura invites residents and organizations to come together on **Sunday, June 3** from 1 – 4 p.m. for this year's "Keep Wood-Ridge Beautiful Day." Each year, Council President Altamura and the KWRB Committee lead teams of volunteers throughout the Borough for hands-on de-littering, flower planting, and greening of public spaces. With a t-shirt contest, refreshments and many opportunities for service planned, this KWRB Day promises to be the best one yet, said Altamura. Interested volunteers should contact Borough Hall at (201) 939-0202.

SIGN UP FOR WOOD-RIDGE'S ALERT SYSTEM:
WWW.NIXLE.COM



WOOD-RIDGE NEWSLETTER

2018 EDITION #1



FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Welcome to the latest edition of the *Wood-Ridge Newsletter*. In this edition, we announce a slate of events that will bring our residents together culminating with our inaugural Wood-Ridge Town Day, an all-day outdoor festival on Valley Boulevard featuring food, games, rides and live music. While out for Town Day, or during our annual Memorial Day Parade, or when pitching in this Keep Wood-Ridge Beautiful Day, there are plenty of opportunities to take in the ongoing improvements throughout our Borough that show Wood-Ridge is on the road to progress.

Repared streets, a parking lot collaboration with the Board of Education at Wood-Ridge High School, and renovations to our parks and public buildings noted in previous editions are just a few of the ways this Mayor and Council have invested in the infrastructure of Wood-Ridge, all the while operating with a lean budget and efficient administration which has led Standard & Poor's to bestow a coveted "AA" financial rating on Wood-Ridge once again. With a financially stable future predicted and even more improvements on the horizon, it is truly an exciting time to be a Wood-Ridge resident.

Very truly yours,

Paul A. Sarlo
Mayor

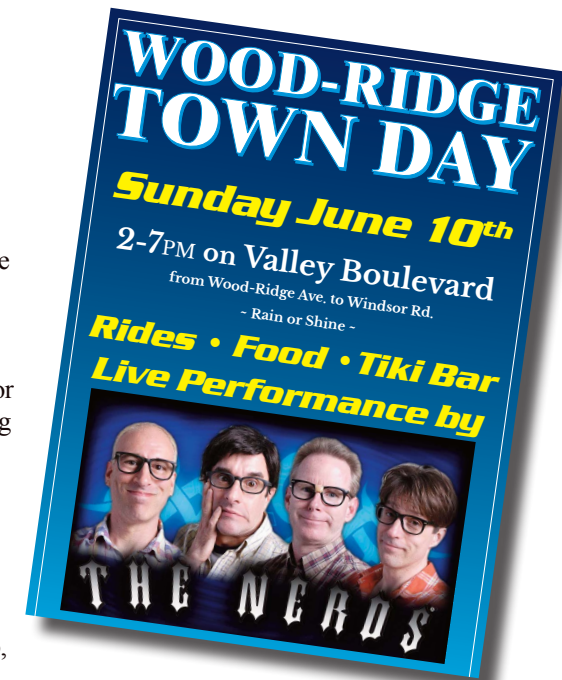
WOOD-RIDGE ANNOUNCES DAY OF FAMILY FUN

Mayor Paul Sarlo and the Borough Council are pleased to announce the first Wood-Ridge Town Day for **Sunday, June 10** from 2 – 7 p.m.

"We have seen the success of street festivals that bring together residents in the communities surrounding Wood-Ridge, and now, it's our turn to get in on the fun," said Mayor Sarlo. "We are looking forward to this great opportunity to celebrate Wood-Ridge."

The outdoor street festival will take place on Valley Boulevard, between Wood-Ridge Avenue and Windsor Road. Valley Boulevard will be closed to traffic during the event, which will feature free rides and amusements for children, food stands, a tiki bar and live music by New Jersey's own "The Nerds."

"Music, food, and an all day celebration in our Borough, what could be a better way to kick off the summer," said Councilman Dominick Azzolini, who along with Councilman Philip Romero, is chairing the event.



BOROUGH-BOE COLLABORATION TO BRING EXPANDED PARKING LOTS TO WOOD-RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

This summer will see a redesign of the parking lots at Wood-Ridge High School, said Councilman Ed Marino, who serves as Liaison to the Board of Education. According to Councilman Marino, the improvements were made possible through a concerted effort by the Board of Education working with the Wood-Ridge Mayor and Council.

"We are proud to announce this shared service collaboration between the Borough and the School Board, which is being undertaken in recognition of the fact that

our Recreation programs use the high school parking lots and gymnasium for various sports and programs throughout the year," Marino said.

The improvements will include a revamp of the existing two parking lots at WRHS, which will increase the total number of parking spaces by 36 spaces, from 53 to 89 spaces. Lighting will also be installed, as well as new landscaping, and walkways in front of the high school. Work is scheduled to begin in late June, and to be completed for the beginning of school in September.

Front Banner: Flowering cherry trees in full bloom on the western slope of 14th Street Field.

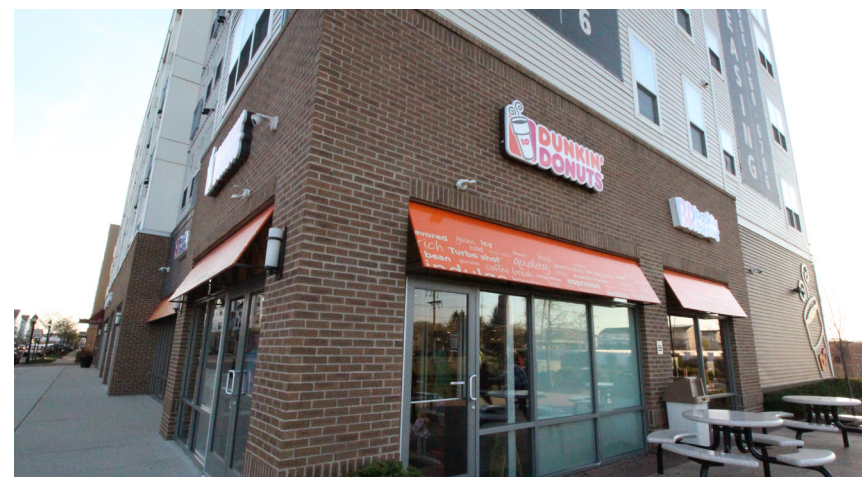
ROAD TO PROGRESS TO INCLUDE MORE WOOD-RIDGE ROADS

The road to progress continues in 2018 with the Borough's repaving of several streets. Work will begin in June on Marlboro Road, Windsor Road, Innes Road, and Sussex Road, from Tenth Street to Burma Road. 10th Street will also receive an upgrade, from Highland Avenue to Lincoln Avenue. All of the roads will receive new curbs, sidewalks, and tree plantings, said Councilman Philip Romero, who serves as Liaison to the Department of Public Works. Councilman Romero added that the Borough has secured a \$212,000 grant from the New Jersey Department of Transportation to fund the roadway improvements.

BOROUGH TO ROLL OUT NEW SENIOR BUS & STREET SWEEPER THIS SUMMER

The Borough of Wood-Ridge has purchased a brand-new bus for providing transportation services to its senior residents, said Councilman Joseph DiMarco, who serves as Liaison to Community Development. "The old bus, a 2001 Blue Bird, served our community well for a long time, but it reached the end of its useful life and it was time for a replacement," DiMarco said. "We are glad to have purchased a new Ford bus to continue this important service for our seniors, which helps those who don't drive get to grocery stores, shops, and other locations." The new bus will have an expanded seating capacity from its predecessor. It is scheduled to arrive in June. The Borough will be also adding a new street sweeper, an Elgin Whirlwind, to its fleet this summer, replacing an outdated 2002 Johnston model after a long history of keeping the Borough's streets clean. "By replacing our street sweeper this year, we are investing in a vehicle which will continue to keep our roads clean and attractive for all residents," said Councilman DiMarco. "As we continue to see new restaurants and shops open throughout Wood-Ridge, we are glad to keep up the tradition of providing top-notch municipal services in our Borough."

S&P RENEWS WOOD-RIDGE'S "AA" RATING



Above: Wesmont Station's retail spaces are now open, and include a Market Fresh city-style grocery store, Wesmont Wines, and a Dunkin' Donuts / Baskin-Robbins.

Standard and Poor's Global Ratings has assigned its "AA" long-term rating to Wood-Ridge for 2018, noting strong budgetary performance, very strong liquidity and very strong budgetary flexibility as among the reasons for the Borough's financial success. "We attribute S&P's rating to strong management in Borough Hall - a strict approach to budgeting, internal controls, and the hard work of our Borough Administrator and Finance Committee," said Councilman Ed Marino, who chairs the Finance Committee. "In reaffirming the AA rating, S&P is forecasting a solid economic future for the Borough for years to come." Marino explained that S&P's report also noted a consistent ability to maintain balanced operations and standard financial policies in the Wood-Ridge Administration from year to year. The Borough Administration was commended in the report for its policies, procedures, and responsible use of fiscal resources. Additionally, the Borough of Wood-Ridge was highlighted as a prosperous local economy benefitting from two New Jersey Transit train stations, numerous bus stops, and easy access to northern New Jersey's and New York's broad, diverse employment bases. The Wesmont Station redevelopment was also noted for continuing to bring new revenues into the Borough.



Above: The Borough of Wood-Ridge's new Elgin Whirlwind Street Sweeper and Ford Senior Bus are on the way.

REMINDER: SIGN UP FOR NIXLE TEXT & E-MAIL ALERTS

Service Offers Important Borough Information at Residents' Fingertips

The Borough of Wood-Ridge encourages all residents to sign up for the Nixle alert system, a safe, efficient, informative way for residents to stay up-to-date on emergency and community notifications. While nearly 5,000 residents have signed up for phone calls through Nixle, only about 1,700 of the Borough's near 9,000 residents have signed up for e-mail and text message alerts. "The e-mails and text messages are really the optimal way to use the Nixle system," said Councilwoman

Catherine Cassidy. "We want our residents to get the most out of Nixle, and to be informed about topics ranging from changing garbage collections due to inclement weather, to road closures for construction, to police and fire alerts." Cassidy explained further that phone calls from Nixle are only made for emergencies. Enrollment for Nixle, a free service, is presently open at https://nixle.com/city/nj/wood_ridge/ or by texting 888777 from your cell phone.

DETAILS OF MEMORIAL DAY PARADE ANNOUNCED

The Borough invites residents to show their respect and support to the military service men and women who have protected us all at the Annual Wood-Ridge Memorial Day Parade on **Monday, May 28**. Services will begin at the Senior Center's Veteran's Walk of Freedom starting at 10:00 a.m. with the parade following at 11:30 a.m. from the same location. The parade will start from the corner of Hackensack Street and Highland Avenue, and head South on Hackensack Street. The parade will travel to Union Avenue, and proceed west to Valley Boulevard, turning north onto Valley Boulevard. The conclusion of the parade will take place at the Borough's beautifully-maintained grounds of Veteran's Park, where festivities will include free refreshments (hot dogs and ice cream), strolling musicians and military vehicle rides. Free flags and novelties will be distributed to all who are present by the curbside along the parade route.



Blue Mass to Honor Wood-Ridge Police & Firefighters

The Church of the Assumption of Our Blessed Lady invites all the men and women in law enforcement to attend a special mass on **Sunday, May 20** at 9:30 a.m. Members of the Wood-Ridge Fire Department, and the families of police officers and firefighters, are also invited. Pews will be reserved for all officers and firefighters who attend, who are asked to come in uniform. For more information, contact Police Department Liaison & Council President Ezio Altamura at ealtamura@njwoodridge.org.



Knights Out: Knights of Columbus Saint Anthony Council #11585 celebrated its annual Corned Beef Dinner fundraiser on Saint Patrick's Day this year. The service organization raises money throughout the year for scholarships for graduating high school seniors, to support people living with disabilities, and for other individuals in need. Pictured with the Knights are Mayor Paul Sarlo and Councilman Philip Romero.