

Port News

2024 - 2nd Edition

CITY COUNCIL

Monica “Niki” Giberson

Mayor

mayor@portrepublicnj.org

Roger Giberson

Council President

roger@portrepublicnj.org

Steven Allegeyer

Councilmember

steve@portrepublicnj.org

Doris Bugdon

Councilmember

doris@portrepublicnj.org

Gene Hawn

Councilmember

gene@portrepublicnj.org

Donna Riegel

Councilmember

donnar@portrepublicnj.org

Jeffrey Ropiecki

Councilmember

jeff@portrepublicnj.org

Mike Turner

Councilmember

mike@portrepublicnj.org

Visit our website!

PortRepublicNJ.org

FROM THE DESK OF THE MAYOR...

Dear Port Republic Residents,



Happy Spring!! It is very important to us to make sure that everyone is up to date as to all the happenings in Port Republic so if you have not registered your phone number and/or email please go to PortRepublicNJ.org, then Community Resources then Community Notification Portal and fill out your information.

On April 16th there was a Special City Election to raise money for the Port Republic School to balance their budget. Unofficially, the referendum passed by a large majority. Official results should be received no later that May 1st.

Our bridge is open again. We are grateful to the County for fixing the sink hole on Old New York Road by replacing the collapsed drainage pipe in a short amount of time. Mill Street will be repaved around May 1st. Our tennis and basketball court will be going out to bid again with some modifications. Work on that will begin in the near future.

The City is going back out to bid on the gravel pit to generate needed income.

Earth Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 27th, 10am-3pm. The Green Team will have events and displays set up. There will be crafters, stations for trying new arts projects, a nature walk, cemetery tour, music, a bouncy slide and mini farm tractors for kids. Food will be provided by Port Community Church.

Port Community Day will be on Saturday, June 15th, rain date is June 21st. The Parade will start at 5:00 pm. There will be food trucks organized by the Fire Company, music by Poor Mouth Henry, games and fireworks.

Mayor Niki



MUNICIPAL OFFICES

City Clerk’s Office

Kimberly Campellone, RMC
Brandy M. Blevin, RMC
8:30 am—4:00 pm
Monday—Friday
609-652-1501
kim@portrepublicnj.org
brandy@portrepublicnj.org

Construction Office

Kevin Cain
4:00 pm—6:00 pm
Monday & Wednesday
609-652-8759
kevin@portrepublicnj.org

Tax Assessor

Bill Johnson
5:00 pm—7:00 pm
3rd Wednesday monthly
609-652-1501
bill@portrepublicnj.org

Tax Collector

Renee DeSalvo
5:00 pm—7:00 pm
1st & 3rd Thursday monthly
renee@portrepublicnj.org

Public Works Department

Dave Eisenhard, Supervisor
Kyle Ayers
Joe Mason

Transfer Station Hours:

Wednesdays
12:00 pm—8:00 pm

Saturdays
8:00 am—4:30 pm

This & That

Volunteers Needed

27th Annual Jersey Genesis Triathlon

Saturday, June 8th, 2024

All Proceeds go to maintaining and

improving the park.

Call 609-652-6154 or

email jerseygenesistri@aol.com

and let us know if we can count on you!

Port Republic Community Yard is BACK!

Saturday, June 1st

Participation is FREE!

This is a great time to clean out your attic, closets and garage. Email Gretchen Halfpenny if you would like to participate and be included on the yard sale map.

ghalfpenny@comcast.net

Registration deadline is Thursday, May

23rd

WE'RE ON FACEBOOK

In an effort to keep the residents of Port Republic up to date with the latest news and information available to us, we have started an official Facebook Page! Like our page “City of Port Republic”

UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

City Council Meeting Schedule

2nd Tuesday of each month
6:00 pm—Workshop
6:30 pm—Meeting

2024 Dates

May 14th
June 11th
July 9th
August 13th
September 10th
October 8th
November 12th
December 10th

Planning Board / Zoning Board

Meetings are scheduled as needed

Vicki Cantell,
Secretary
609-652-9403

Agendas and Minutes for Meetings can be found on our website:

PortRepublicNJ.org

Celebrate Kim

Our City Clerk Kim Campellone will be retiring from Port Republic on May 31, 2024, after 22 years of loyal service to our community. To honor and celebrate Kim we will be having a town picnic on Saturday, June 1st, at 5pm at the picnic pavilion at the Harry Bowen Memorial Field. Everyone is invited to come. All meat and paper goods will be provided. We are asking that each family bring either a side dish or dessert to share. If you are planning on attending, please email Nikig3@gmail.com with “Celebrate Kim” in the subject line and the number of people coming in the text.



2024 BEACH TAGS

Beach Tags will be available for sale beginning on Wednesday, May 1st



Senior Tags:

\$5.00/each

(ages 65+ ... one tag per ID & must be present)

Seasonal Tags:

\$10.00/each (prior to May 25th)

\$30.00/each (May 26th and after)

Weekly - \$10.00

(valid from 12 pm Saturday until the following Sunday)

Daily - \$7.00

(valid from 10 am to 6 pm)

Beach Tags are not required for children under the age of 12



Senior Freeze

Property Tax Reimbursement

2023

Eligibility Requirements:*

- You were age 65 or older on December 31, 2022, or you were receiving Social Security disability payments on December 31, 2022, and also on December 31, 2023;

and

- You owned and lived in your home or leased a site in a mobile home park for a manufactured or mobile home that you owned since December 31, 2019, or earlier;

and

- You paid all 2022 property taxes by June 1, 2023, and all 2023 property taxes by June 1, 2024;

and

- Your annual income was \$150,000* or less in 2022 and \$163,050* or less in 2023. With some exceptions, all income must be taken into account, including Social Security, pension, etc.

- * Eligibility rules, income limits, and benefits may be changed by the State Budget that will take effect on July 1, 2024.

For Additional Information:

- Visit: nj.gov/taxation, select *I am Looking for Property Tax Relief*, and then *Senior Freeze Program*;
- Call the *Senior Freeze Hotline*: 1 (800) 882-6597.

PORT REPUBLIC

earth day celebration

Saturday, April 27th, 2024 10-3pm @ Harry Bowen Memorial Field Park - Rain or Shine

EVENT SCHEDULE:

**10:30 NATURE WALK - CHILDREN ENCOURAGED TO JOIN!
WITH STEVE WHITFORD AND JACK CONNOR**

Meet at the pavilion by the creek to identify native & invasive plants with local nature enthusiasts.

**11:30 - SEED BOMB MAKING FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY
HOSTED BY SHAWN BUSCH**

Join us for a free nature craft where you will create native plant seeded clusters.

**1:30 - GUIDED CEMETERY TOUR
LED BY JANET LONGO AND JIM SCHROEDER**

Venture on a guided walk through the Smith Meeting House Cemetery and learn about its ties to the Revolutionary War and the early settlers of Port Republic.

SHOP AND LEARN FROM OVER 20 LOCAL ARTISANS, VENDORS, AND EDUCATORS!












ENJOY KID'S ACTIVITIES, A BOUNCE SLIDE AND MORE!

Galloway Township Senior Services
 621 W. White Horse Pike
 Egg Harbor City, NJ 08215
 Phone: (609) 568-5073 Fax: (609) 568-532

Nutrition Site : (609) 241-0246
 Every Monday, Wednesday & Friday

May

S M T W T F S

		1 Atlantic County Nutrition Site 9am-12pm	2 	3 Atlantic County Nutrition Site 9am-12pm	4
5	6 Atlantic County Nutrition Site 9am-12pm	7 	8 Atlantic County Nutrition Site 9am-12pm	9 	10 Atlantic County Nutrition Site 9am-12pm
11	12	13 Atlantic County Nutrition Site 9am-12pm	14 	15 Atlantic County Nutrition Site 9am-12pm	16 
17 Atlantic County Nutrition Site 9am-12pm	18	19	20 Atlantic County Nutrition Site 9am-12pm	21 	22 Atlantic County Nutrition Site 9am-12pm
23 	24 Atlantic County Nutrition Site 9am-12pm	25	26	27 Atlantic County Nutrition Site 9am-12pm	28 
29 Atlantic County Nutrition Site 9am-12pm	30 				

**All Activities are subject to change

May

Please sign in on the sign in sheet or call to make a reservation (609) 568-5073
FOR ALL ACTIVITIES



The Wise program -Thursday 5/2 - 10:30am -12pm

Come join us for the wellness initiative for senior education program. Snacks provided. Hosted by Lisa.



Bingo and Nachos -Tuesday 5/7 - 10:30am -12pm

Come and enjoy games of bingo and nachos in honor of Cinco De Mayo. Hosted by Diane from Royal suites.



The Wise program -Thursday 5/9 - 10:30am -12pm

Come join us for the wellness initiative for senior education program. Snacks provided. Hosted by Lisa.



Bingo and snacks -Tuesday 5/14 - 10:30am -12pm

Come and enjoy games of bingo and snacks. Hosted by Kaitlin from Preferred Care.



The Wise program -Thursday 5/16 - 10:30am -12pm

Come join us for the wellness initiative for senior education program. Snacks provided. Hosted by Lisa.



Craft day -Tuesday 5/21 - 10:30am -12pm

Come join us painting bird houses and snacks. Hosted by Galloway senior center.



The Wise program -Thursday 5/23 - 10:30am -12pm

Come join us for the wellness initiative for senior education program. Snacks provided. Hosted by Lisa.



Summer kickoff party -Tuesday 5/28 - 10:30-12pm

Come and enjoy games, food, sun and fun with us as we kickoff summer 2024. Hosted by Galloway senior center.



The Wise program -Thursday 5/30 - 10:30am -12pm

Come join us for the wellness initiative for senior education program. Snacks provided. Hosted by Lisa.

AARP
Meeting on
5/19 at
12:30pm

Crochet & knit
7th,14th,21st,28
1-3pm

**JITNEY NOW AVAILABLE
EVERY THURSDAY**

Must call every Monday to reserve a spot
Contact Alexa at (609) 568-5073

SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY

PORT REPUBLIC VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY ROAST BEEF DINNER

May 18th

3:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Port Republic Firehouse, 116 Blakes Lane



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Port Republic Fire Department is looking for new members age 16 and up, who are interested in serving their community. Applications can be found online at <http://portrepublicnj.org/pdfs/gen/fireapplication.pdf> or picked up at the Firehouse, 116 Blakes Lane, on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month between the hours of 7:00 pm and 9:00 pm.



PORT COMMUNITY CHURCH HAPPENINGS

118 Main Street (Church) ; 66 Pomona Ave (Homebase), Port Republic, NJ 08241
www.portcommunitychurch.com ♦ 609-412-7352 ♦ office@portcommunitychurch.com
YOU DON'T HAVE TO ATTEND PCC TO COME— ALL ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!



PORT REPUBLIC EARTH DAY Saturday, April 27 | 11AM-2PM

Port Community Church will be serving lunch during the Port Republic Earth Day Event. Hamburgers, Vegan Burgers, or Hot Dogs! Also includes chips, cookies, & bottled water! Come on over to the lower level of the church! All food is by donation only. Enjoy! We look forward to seeing you.

Free events for the Children in our community!

Check this out!

Lots of good fun and learning!

You can scan or go to the church website to register for each event!

Invite a friend!

PORT COMMUNITY CHURCH of Port Republic, NJ | www.portcommunitychurch.com

SPRING FLING

SATURDAY, MAY 4 10:00AM - 1:00PM

KIDZ ONE - SPRING FLING

PREK3* - GRADE 5
[SIGN UP BY APRIL28TH]
LIMITED SPACE FOR THIS ONE

*must be potty trained

**REGISTER BY
SCANNING OR ON THE
CHURCH WEBSITE**

God's Creation

We will be getting outside and enjoying all that God has created! Every 20 minutes the children will rotate through six different stations! There will be cloud gazing, crafts, snacks, sand castle building, games, sea exploration, plants, animal acting, and exploring how each one of us is uniquely created by God!

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
MONDAY - FRIDAY
JULY 29 - AUGUST 2
6:00 PM-8:00 PM
PREK3 - GRADE 5
JR VBS
SATURDAY, AUGUST 3
10:00 AM-3:00 PM
FOR GRADE 5-7
FAMILY SUNDAY WORSHIP
SUNDAY, AUGUST 4
10:00 AM

BREAKER ROCK BEACH

**GOD'S ROCK-SOLID TRUTH IN A
WORLD OF SHIFTING SANDS**
ROMANS 12:2

- What Some Say
- Looking at What God Says
- Crafts
- Outreach
- Games & Recreation
- Fun Snacks

GO TO THE CHURCH WEBSITE TO REGISTER OR SCAN

VBS 2024 REGISTRATION

**Everyone is Welcome!
Invite Your Friends!**



Port Republic Baseball Field

Port Republic City Hall

143 Main St. Port Republic

NJ 08241

Email:

Mike@portrepublicnj.org

Kim@portrepublicnj.org

Brandy@portrepublicnj.org

The Port Republic Multipurpose baseball field is quickly becoming a go-to location for many area teams both for practice and games. With all the extra use the upkeep cost has grown, to help absorb some of the cost and take advantage of the opportunity to show your support for our community we are providing advertisement space on the outfield fence for our local business and advertisers.

Please show your support by purchasing one of our options for Banners, and/or donations.

Each banner is 4x4 and made of all-weather mesh vinyl with reinforced grommets, Banners will be installed in "spring" and remain up until end of baseball season "fall". Banners will be stored by us for use the following year.

Gold Sponsor (1 year) \$300.00

Platinum Sponsor (2 year)\$500.00

Please make checks payable to: City of Port Republic



BANNER REQUEST FORM

Company name _____

Phone Number _____

Email _____

Contact Name _____

"Catching a fly ball is a pleasure, but knowing what to do with it after you catch it is a Business"

All banner files should be sent in vector PDF or Adobe illustrator format, if you do not have it in electronic format please submit a business card for reference. Simple bold graphics and letters work best.

From the Mayor's Kitchen

(and the Port Republic Community Cookbook)

Fruit Pizza

½ c. butter

¾ c. sugar

1 egg

½ tsp. baking soda

1 tsp. cream of tartar

1 8 oz. pkg. cream cheese

¼ c. honey or agave nectar

2 T. orange/pineapple juice

1 c. Cool Whip

Strawberries, kiwis, blueberries, or any other fruit you like for topping

1 ¾ c. flour

Preheat oven to 350. In a bowl, beat butter, sugar and egg until fluffy. Add baking soda, cream of tartar and flour. Mix until well combined. It should be the consistency of a soft cookie dough. Press dough onto a round 12"-14" pizza pan or 9x 13 baking dish making slightly raised edges. Bake for 15 minutes. Allow it to cool. In a separate mixing bowl, combine softened cream cheese, juice, honey and Cool Whip. Mix until well combined and spread on cooled cookie crust. Arrange fruit as desired on the cream cheese mixture. Serve in wedges as a pizza.



Keeping Wellness On Your Radar

May is Mental Health Month

By: Beth Wade, Public Relations Specialist, Mental Health Association in Atlantic County

Mental Health Awareness Month is an opportunity to remind the community about local resources and the importance of wellness, especially considering the stressors of modern life. That includes constant connection of social media, troubling national news, and loneliness, all of which can have a significant impact on mental health.

Whether a person is seeking to improve their daily wellness or searching for help for a mental health disorder, there are many providers and agencies serving Atlantic County.

"Mental health disorders are common and treatable," said Vicki Phillips, Executive Director of the Mental Health Association in Atlantic County. "The more we repeat that, we can raise awareness and improve the lives of community members."

About 1 in 4 people will experience a mental health disorder, with depression and anxiety being the most common. Grieving a death, experiencing a traumatic event, or coping with global and national crisis are some factors that can affect an individual's mental health. Genetics and head trauma also can contribute.

Some common symptoms associated with mental health disorders such as loss of sleep, feeling tired for no reason, feeling low, feeling anxious, angry outbursts, eating too much/too little, feeling numb, feeling hopeless, isolating, or hearing voices shouldn't be brushed aside in the hopes that they go away. Increased substance use, smoking, drinking alcohol, or using drugs should raise a flag.

Mental health and physical health are closely connected. For example, headaches, fatigue, and digestive problems can accompany depression, and anxiety can create an upset stomach.

People who are concerned about their health or the health of a loved one can take an online screening for depression, anxiety, PTSD, and other common disorders. Results can be shared with a doctor. In general, a change in mood or behavior that lasts 2 weeks or more should prompt a person to talk to their family physician.

"There's a wide variety of treatment options ranging from talk therapy to medication to peer support," Phillips said. "For people who find the right treatment or combinations of treatments, the results can be truly amazing and life changing."

If you need resources, the Mental Health Association in Atlantic County provides linkages. Their services include: one-to-one support, support groups both in-person or online, wellness programming (meditation, relaxation, women's group, Boomer's group, staying active, and dozens more), informative workshops, and advocacy. The agency serves individuals living with a mental health disorder as well as family members concerned about a loved one. No cost or insurance requirement. Call 609-652-3800 or www.mhaac.info.

For a May Mental Health Toolkit, visit mhanational.org/may.

→ **WHERE TO START** ←

four ways to improve your mental health

1

take action

Try advocating for causes that are important to you - this can be therapeutic in its own way!

2

Find support

Whether it's friends, family, community spaces, or therapy, building a support system can help.

3

Set boundaries

Create a healthier relationship with technology by limiting your screen time.

4

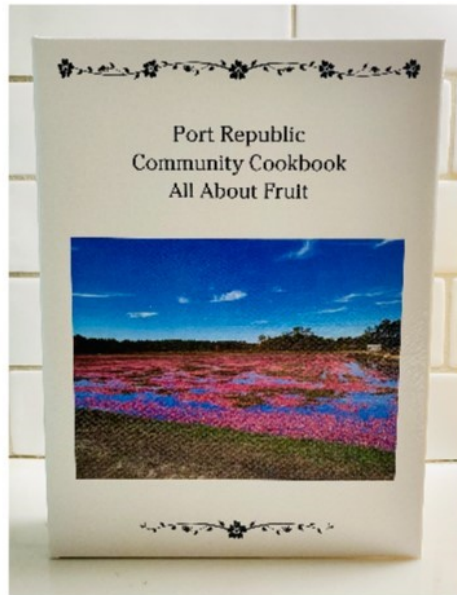
Develop skills

Invest some time figuring out the best coping skills to help you healthily manage your feelings.



Explore free Mental Health Month resources and learn more: mhanational.org/may

Port Republic Community Cookbook All About Fruit



**Now Available at City Hall
\$15.00 each**



Jersey Genesis Triathlon

Port Republic, N.J.

June 8, 2024

Small races are GOOD;

Small Town Races are BETTER;

GOOD SMALL TOWN RACES are the

BEST



<http://jerseygenestriathlon.com/>

ODDS & ENDS

Life-Long Learning

Another new initiative is Life-Long Learning Series. So far, the city has offered classes in maple tree syrup tapping, CPR Certification, and Yoga. All our Life-Long Learning classes are free.

If you have a skill, hobby or a passion for something and would like to share it with others for the Life-Long Learners Series please contact City Hall at 609 652-1501 and we will schedule a time.

Mayors Wellness Campaign

In partnership with the League of Municipalities, Mayors across New Jersey are leading campaigns to create innovative wellness initiatives for residents of all ages. I am committed to making Port Republic a healthier place to live, work and play. This is how the Mayor's Walking Club was formed. The first Saturday of each month at 2pm, those interested can meet me at City Hall for different walks around Port Republic. Of course, you do not have to wait to do this once a month, but hopefully residents will be inspired to get outside and enjoy the beautiful outdoor life in Port Republic. I am looking for a team of our community members to be on a committee to plan ways to improve the all-around health of our residents. If you are interested in serving, please contact City Hall at 609 652-1501 and let us know.

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE

The Primary Election will be on Tuesday, June 4, 2024

Polls are open from 6:00 am—8:00 pm

Ward I - City Hall, 143 Main Street
Ward II - Firehouse, 116 Blakes Lane



As Part of the Mayors Lifelong Learners Program you are invited to join

****Free Financial Lunch and Learn****

DID YOU KNOW?

- 60% of Americans are living paycheck to paycheck. CNBC.COM Dec. 2023
- Of the 61% of Americans with credit card debt, 23% go further into debt each month and 14% report having missed at least one payment in 2023. YAHOO FINANCE Oct 2023
- 60% of Americans have saved less than \$50,000 for retirement. YAHOO.COM Dec. 2023

Please join us for a COMPLIMENTARY financial workshop to learn about:

1. The 3 different savings accounts you need
2. Retirement savings strategies
3. The power of compound interest
4. How life insurance really works
5. Saving for your children's future
6. Accelerated debt payoff
7. The high cost of waiting to save...and more!

Join us for this complimentary presentation where you can get all your questions answered.

Lunch will be served.

Location: City Hall-143 Main Street, Port Republic

Date: Saturday, May 18, 2024

Time: 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm

To register for Lunch and Learn please call City Hall at 609 652-1501

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

PHYSICAL HEALTH AIDS

2024

(Some Dates may be subject to change)

- 4/27 Earth Day
- 5/11 Mayor's Walking Club (2pm City Hall)
- 5/18 Port Firehouse Dinner
- 5/18 Free Financial Lunch and Learn **
- 6/8 Jersey Genesis
- 6/15 Port Community Day
- 6/29 Makers Space **
- 7/6 Mayor's Walking Club
- 7/20 Fishing**
- 8/3 Mayor's Walking Club
- 8/17 Pollinator Garden Tour
- 9/15 Duct Boat Regatta
- 9/21 Town Clean Up
- 9/28 Port Community Cookbook Make and Taste**
- 10/5 Mayor's Walking Club
- 10/19 Port Firehouse Dinner
- 10/20 Pumpkin Carving**
- 10/26 Port Fall Fest and Movie Night
- 11/2 Mayor's Walking Club
- 11/16 Holiday Table Decorating**
- 12/7 Mayor's Walking Club
- 12/5 Port Tree Lighting
- 12/14 Holiday Door Decorating**

** = Mayors Life Long Learners class

The Heritage Society meets the 4th Wednesday of each month at 6:30 at City Hall

The Green Team meets the 1st Monday of each month at 6:00 at City Hall



Keep in mind that I have stored a number of physical health aids for those in need of them (you don't have to be a senior to borrow these).

If anyone has any health aids that are no longer needed or wanted, I will gladly accept your donations. Please call me at 609-652-1352 to make arrangements. Do not just drop off equipment.

Senior Chair

Doris Bugdon

609-652-1352

WATER CONTAMINATION

Any resident who has had their water tested and the testing came back with contamination requiring you to have a POET System installed, please notify City Hall. We are mapping the contamination.

Thank you!



GET ROBO CALLS

How do I receive Robo calls from the City?

It is important that the city has a way to communicate with our citizens. If you do not receive these calls you can go to the website: www.portrepublicnj.org, then go to community resources, then click on Community Notification Portal and fill in requested information.