Your help is needed to fund important Library programs and improvements.

So many of our popular fundraisers were unable to take place this year. Please consider making a donation to help us offset this loss.

There are many ways you can financially help the Rutherford Public Library. By making a tax-deductible contribution to the Friends or the Foundation – you support our fundraising efforts on behalf of the Library, which in turn benefits the whole community.

By Check: Mail this form and your tax-deductible contribution, made payable to the The Friends of the Library of Rutherford or the Rutherford Pubic Library Foundation to 150 Park Avenue, Rutherford, NJ 07070

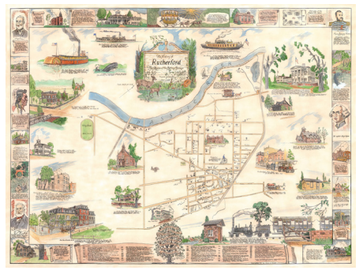
PayPal: paypal.me/FOLRutherford

Venmo: Rutherford Library Foundation

Ask about the of Friends of the Library REUSABLE GROCERY TOTES ($5), available at the front desk!

Corporate Matching Gifts Programs: Will your employer match your donation? A Corporate Match greatly increases your contribution value.

Purchase a print of the Jim Hands Map of Rutherford History



$200 Full Color - 47" x 36" unframed

Makes a great gift or for any lover of Rutherford History.
SUPPLY IS LIMITED! Please contact the Library for more details.

BCB Bank sponsors the Pay It Forward program to help non -profits earn donations based on the number of supporters who signed up for the program. BCB will make monthly contributions to The Friends. There is no cost to the account holder.

The Amazon SMILE program will donate a portion of your purchase to The Friends if you designate us as your charity of choice.

amazon smile

I'd like to make a tax-deductible contribution, made payable to the The Friends of the Library of Rutherford or the Rutherford Pubic Library Foundation in the amount of: (please select one):

____ $10 ____ $25 ____$50 _____ $100 _____ other amount

Name _____

Phone_____

Address _____

E-mail (Please Print): _____

_____ My Employer will provide a Corporate Matching Gift (Enclose a form if possible.)

Please use the enclosed return envelope and include this paper when mailing your check. Thank you!

The Friends of the Library of Rutherford

150 Park Avenue, Rutherford NJ
201-939-8600
www.rutherfordlibrary.org

Rutherford Public Library Foundation

News From The

Rutherford Public Library

Fall 2022

From the Desk of
Gretchen Corsillo
Director of The Rutherford Public Library

2022 has been an exciting year at Rutherford Public Library. Although the year began with yet another wave of the pandemic, we were able to return to our regular hours in March and have not looked back. This year marked a significant return to many of our favorite in-person programs, alongside the launch of new ones. We are pleased to see so many familiar faces in the library and thrilled to welcome those who have visited us for the first time. Did you know that 673 Rutherford residents registered for new library cards during the first three quarters of this year? If you are one of them, welcome!

Library usage continues to increase as we adjust to the new normal. Through September 30, patrons have borrowed 95,995 physical items and downloaded 44,227 digital materials and articles this year. This marks increases of 18% and 27%, respectively, compared to the same time last year. During the same period, we've seen a whopping 9,821 people of all ages attend our programs as well. It's safe to say our library is well loved by the community.

This year, we've continued to expand our reach outside our four walls. You may have seen our team at town wide events such as Rutherford Day, National Night Out, and the Pride Festival. The Rutherford Public Library Foundation also held its beloved gala this May at Il Villaggio for the first time since 2019. It's been great to connect with our users in new ways and answer questions about what we do. If you see us at any outreach events in the new year, be sure to stop by and say hello.

One of the most exciting things that has come about in 2022 is the creation of our brand new 2023-28 Strategic Plan. It has been a pleasure to speak with community members this year about what they do and don't like about our library, and we can't wait to unveil the final plan to the public. I truly believe there is something for everyone in it, and we are excited for the opportunity to serve you better. Here's to a successful year and an even brighter future.

Did You Know You Can...

Free with your RPL card!

The Rutherford Public Library and the Friends of the Library of Rutherford are pleased to offer the Museum Pass Program to Rutherford residents. This exciting program allows residents who have a valid Rutherford library card to visit local museums in New Jersey and New York for free or at a discounted rate.

Visit **www.rutherfordlibrary.org** for the full calendar of events held for children and adults at the library regularly!

REMINDER:

UNATTENDED CHILD POLICY

All children under age 9 must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver **over age 13** at all times while visiting the library.

Unaccompanied minors (ages 9+) must know how to contact a parent or caregiver in case of emergency.

Who Are “The Friends” and “The Friends of the Library of Rutherford?”

The Friends of the Library is a 501c3 organization that has provided key funding for the library for over 50 years.

The Friends have funded all the special Children’s Programs and supplies, as well as funding events for all ages. As the library gradually opened for in-person activities, we were able to resume our popular Movie Nights, showing recent movies at no charge. We look forward to holding our Literary Character Costume Contest, the Edible Book Contest and the Pet Photo Contest in 2023, all of which are favorites in the community.

We had our used book sales in April and October, which raised needed funds.

We again fully funded the Summer Reading Program. As museum restrictions have been relaxed, we have helped to fund the Museum Pass Program, providing access to many area museums for Rutherford residents. We are happy to announce that the Garden State Ballet will return on December 17, 2022, with Scenes from the Nutcracker. The community is invited to join us for this free program.

Looking ahead, we are excited to announce **Library Mini-Golf on March 3 and 4**, where an 18-hole mini-golf course will be set up in the library! Friday, March 3rd will be an adults-only night: $25 per person including drinks and snacks. Saturday, March 4th will be an all-ages family day: $3 per person or $10 per family.
Tickets will be on sale soon and all proceeds will go to support library programs. Look for more information coming in the new year.

We value your support! Another way to help us is by naming Friends of the Library as your charity of choice on Amazon Smile.
at https://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-6069115

To purchase Mini-Golf tickets or for more information about the Friends, visit www.RutherfordLibrary.org/Friends or follow Friends of the Library of Rutherford on Facebook.

As we update our mailing list, we hope to collect email addresses. Please email rutherfordplf@gmail.com if you wish to be included in future e-communications.

Rutherford Public Library Foundation

Save the Date!

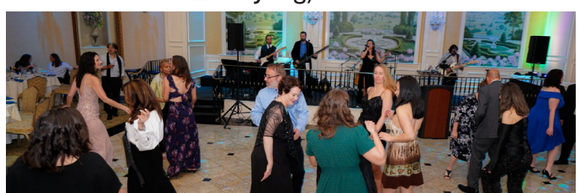
The 2023 Library Gala - Saturday, March 25th Il Villaggio - *On Sale Now!*

The Rutherford Public Library Foundation is a 501c3 organization that focuses on capital improvement projects for the Library.

The Foundation is excited to announce that the 2023 Library Gala Honoree is Ms. Patricia Wester! Pat has dedicated many years to our Library and its Boards and has made a tremendous impact on the community. This Gala helps the Foundation raise funds to pay for capital projects to the library so that the building itself can remain as efficient and modern as the staff who run it.

The Library's 2015 renovation was done with funds raised by the Foundation, and the Foundation continues to complement funding received from the borough for library operations. The digital sign at the entrance installed earlier this year was paid for by the Foundation. Foundation Board members are eager to learn about the Strategic Planning Committee's findings which will help determine some of the Library's most important projects to fund in the future.

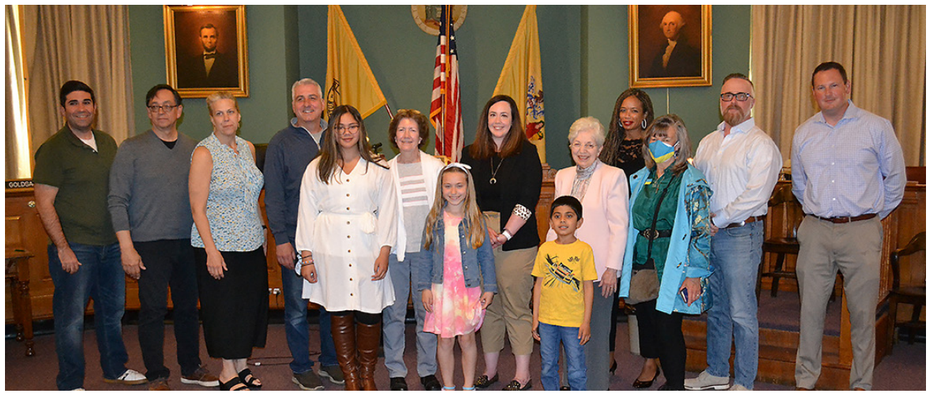
To purchase Gala tickets or for more information about the Foundation, visit www.RutherfordLibrary.org/Foundation.



Candids from the 2022 Gala which honored Mayor Frank Nunziato (right)

Summer Reading

Rutherford children had a blast during “Oceans of Possibilities,” this year’s Summer Reading Club. For the first time since 2019, nearly all Summer Reading events were held in person. Highlights included sea-themed crafts, an aquarium show, STEM classes, fitness fun, Book Bingo, and much more. As always, support for this summer-long initiative was generously provided by the Friends of the Library in the amount of $4,500. 2022’s program was incredibly successful, with 929 club members logging 18,160 books.



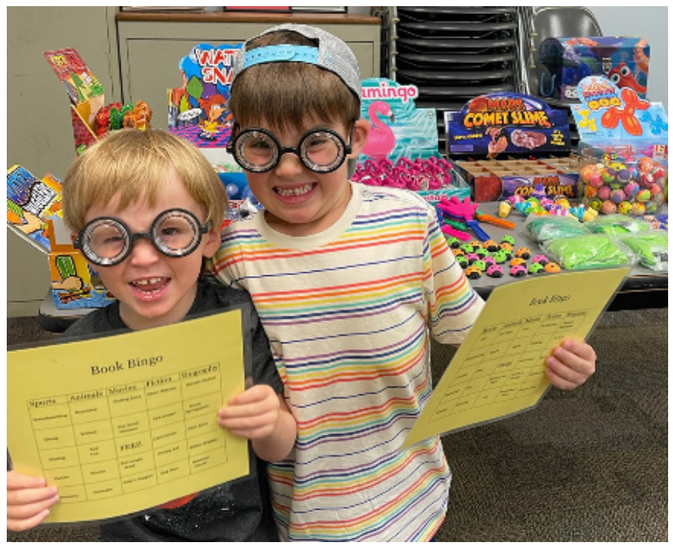
The winners of this year's Summer Reading Design Contest were recognized by the Friends of the Library, alongside Library Director Gretchen Corsillo and Children's Librarian Jane Tarantino, at the May 9 Mayor & Council meeting.

Strategic Plan

RPL formed its Strategic Plan Committee in mid 2021, and the group has been hard at work since. This year began with a comprehensive data gathering phase of surveys and focus groups to gain a better understanding of what the Rutherford community needs from its library. Thank you to everyone who participated in these important activities, as they directly influenced the final plan.

The completed plan spans five years, 2023 through 2028. It reflects the need for increased services to teens, the expansion of library programs, enhanced communication about RPL’s services, and more. Also included are a streamlining of the library’s mission, vision, and core values. The committee looks forward to the publication of the Strategic Plan this December. Stay tuned!

Reading is fun with a friend. Meet Ziva, a therapy dog from our popular PAWS to Read program.



Children pose with their prizes from this summer's successful series of Book Bingo events.