

# Bloomfield BUZZ

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July-December 2015

## Council approves 7th new apartment complex

Combined developments bringing 100s of new downtown business patrons

Another residential development containing luxury rental units was approved by the Bloomfield Planning Board in June. Ground will be broken in late summer on a 140-unit project at 110 Washington Street. Construction will take two years.

The project adds to two recently completed residential complexes plus four others in varying stages of construction.

Altogether the seven properties are bringing an approximate 1,250 new housing units to Bloomfield.

Community Development Director Glenn Domenick said most of the new residents are young professionals from Hoboken, Jersey City and other Garden State towns on the fringe of New York, where rents "are going so high that people are looking a few train stops out for a drop in the rent," he said.

The new residents are expected to bring new prosperity to Bloomfield businesses since the apartments are in or near Bloomfield center. The renters also bring a "sizable tax benefit" to the Township. That "probably won't be felt until next April, in the 2016 tax cycle," said Domenick, "and it will be felt for years as the succeeding projects continue to open."

Mayor Michael Venezia commented, "I've heard it expressed that the influx of new residents will create a tax burden due to the increase in numbers of school-age children. But that fear is unfounded. For all of the projects, impact studies were conducted and manageable numbers of children are expected!"

Few parents of young children are expected to settle in the down town."

Here are the seven new apartment complexes and their current construction status:

• **110 Washington Street.** Ground-breaking in late summer. 140 units, one or two bedrooms in a single building. Two-year expected construction time. Site of a former abandoned warehouse, opposite the train station.

• **Hartz Mountain Redevelopment.** Demolition under way; construction will start in late summer. 300-plus residential units and 30,000 square feet of retail in nine buildings on 18 acres. Located at Bloomfield Avenue and Watsessing Avenue. Former factory of pet food giant Hartz Mountain.

• **Liberty and Broad.** Demolition is under way. A new five-story structure will include 140 apartments and 15,000 square feet of retail space. Construction should be complete by next spring

• **Avalon Bloomfield Station, 300 Glenwood Avenue.** Wrapping up construction. 225 units and 60,000 square feet of retail. Four 4-story buildings across from the train station. Apartments contain up to three bedrooms.

• **Oakes Pond, 225 Belleville Avenue.** Wrapping up construction. 330 rental units on the site of several former factories.

• **Parkway Lofts, 5 Lawrence Street.** Finished. 75 units on the border of East Orange.

• **Park Avenue.** Finished. 50 units and 1,500 square feet of retail all leased.



## Community fun aplenty Coming Up!

From July to December, there's tons of fun in store from the Bloomfield Recreation Department. Check pages 4 and 5 for details on the following:

### Summer Activities

- Kids' sports and special interest clinics, still available (June 29-Aug. 14)
- A firecracker Fourth at Foley Field, July 4
- Four melodic Mondays on the Town Green (through July)
- Free summer concert series, each one in a different park (July and August)
- Recreation golf outing, Aug. 5

### September - December

- 2015 fall registration starts Sept. 9
- Bloomfield 9/11 Memorial Service
- Movie Night & Family Camp-Out, Sept. 18
- Family Drive-in movie, Sept. 25
- Spooktacular Halloween Celebration, Oct. 17
- Veterans' Day Parade, Nov. 11
- Annual Tree Lighting, Dec. 1
- Radio City Holiday Spectacular bus trip, Dec. 6
- Holiday House Decorating Contest, photo submission deadline, Dec. 11
- Children's Holiday Program, Dec. 12

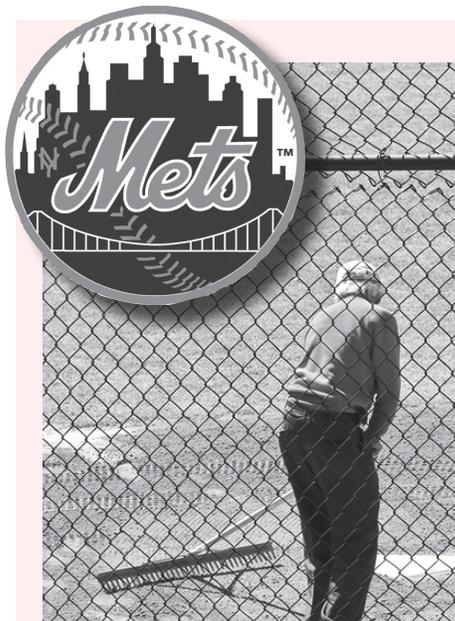
## Get timely Twp news from E-BUZZ!

By now you've noticed, print editions of The Bloomfield BUZZ have reduced to just two per year: January and July.

If you'd like the latest Township news delivered straight to your e-mail inbox, sign up for E-BUZZ. It's fast, easy and free! Just go to [tinyurl.com/buzz456](http://tinyurl.com/buzz456), provide your name and e-mail address and you'll get 10 monthly electronic newsletters to bridge the gaps between printed editions.

Don't worry. Print editions won't stop, because plenty of people don't have e-mail. That's why six-month DPW schedules and other advance information is provided in print editions.

Still, for timely municipal updates, you can't beat Bloomfield E-BUZZ. And rest assured, your e-mail address will never be sold or shared with third parties.



## Parks employees train with Mets organization

Bloomfield Public Works & Parks employees Kenny Twesten and Chris Dinkin were among 50 people from three states who attended a New York Mets Field Maintenance Clinic at Citi Field in Queens, NY on June 10.

Attendees were chosen based on their daily field work load and responsibilities. Twesten and Dinkin, who are part of the grounds department supervised by Steve Siciliano, got hands-on professional training right on the Mets playing field — experience that will serve Bloomfield Township in years to come.

Subjects covered in the clinic were infield and pitcher's mound maintenance, grass-cutting and care of field equipment. For each topic covered, a different representative of the Mets' grounds crew provided instruction. The clinic was filmed and shown during the Mets' game that night.

"The Mets organization treated us very well," said Dinkin, "and we picked up some useful tips to improve our ball field operation in Bloomfield."

Mayor Michael Venezia said participation in the clinic shows that the Township "continues to look for ways to improve upon our already top-notch skills. We strive to provide safe and well-maintained fields for our residents and visitors alike. Chris and Kenny gained valuable knowledge that will enhance our athletic fields and their ability to maintain them."

## Grow Something! in Bloomfield's newest community garden

The list of Bloomfield community gardens has expanded with the newest at Pulaski Park (end of Howard Street). Rent a 4x8-foot plot for \$50 for the season and enjoy the taste of home grown. Assistance is available to novice gardeners. Some pre-planted beds are available with room for your own creativity.

Keep in mind: renting a bed in 2015 will put you at the top of the list for 2016.

Volunteers can help maintain the garden and participate in related community activities, such as garden parties planned throughout the summer and fall.

The Pulaski Park garden is a pilot project of the Open Space Trust Fund Committee in collaboration with the Department of Public Works & Parks and the Recreation Department. A garden committee is forming to promote Bloomfield's network of gardens and gardeners.

Details at [www.facebook.com/OpenSpaceTrustFund](http://www.facebook.com/OpenSpaceTrustFund) or call (973) 748-6462.

## Bloomfield seniors (age 60+):

If you'd like to be contacted about upcoming senior events, call Bloomfield Human Services at (973) 680-4017 to be added to the senior contact list. The department's last event, the senior extravaganza, was held in collaboration with NTNN, Bloomfield College nursing students, and Bloomfield Recreation. It was a blast!

## Avoid public health nuisances

Here are some summertime tips for avoiding potential public health nuisances, from the Bloomfield Health Department.

- Keep tight-fitting lids on all garbage receptacles.
- Cut lawns regularly to keep grass and weeds from becoming too high.
- Eliminate stagnant water and ponding, both of which attract rodents and mosquitoes. Fill in ground depressions and drain the water to the sewer or street.
- Discourage rodents from taking up residence by removing branch cuttings, grass clippings and other yard waste placed on the ground. Pile boards or lumber at least 12 inches above the ground.
- Eliminate ground feeding. Do not allow food for your pets to become a source of food for rodents.

## Buildings & Inspections adds office hours

The Buildings and Inspection office announces new office hours to meet public demand. As of Monday, June 15, the office located at Town Hall, room 105, is open from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. (Previous hours were 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.)

The change provides an extra hour of general services to the public, which "may not seem like a lot of extra time," said Glenn Domenick, department director, "but when you consider the volume of visitors we welcome, every extra hour helps."

## It's garage sale season!

If you are considering a garage sale, you'll need a \$10 permit from the Bloomfield Department of Inspections. For a hard copy of the application form, go to the Department of Inspections, Municipal Building, room 105. For an online copy, go to the Township website, click "Public Services," then "Download Forms," and scroll to "Building/Inspection Forms." Any questions, call (973) 680-4053.

## Building permit procedures go digital

There's a quicker way to request a building permit or inspection, to track outstanding permits, or to conduct a simple search for property information.

Bloomfield now offers "Citizen Portal," a new software application that lets you use your smart phone, tablet or laptop computer to accomplish common tasks. No more visits to the building department or waits for the mail. Instead, field inspectors will update records off-site, giving you instant access through a shared pipeline. Just set up an account and get started.

Currently, the system allows simple requests, such as a permit for electrical work or a new boiler. Complicated structural permits will be added later.

Citizen Portal is also a digital home for property information. Account holders can look up a property location, lot number, general description, permits issued or pending, site maps and geographics.

Spatial Data Logic, the company that provides software for the Township website, also provides Citizen Portal.

**Coffee with a Cop**

Bloomfield's Community Policing Unit has developed a way for individual residents to request a one-on-one private meeting with local officers to discuss issues ranging from the unsightly house next door, to suspicious neighborhood activity or questions about police operations. No need to worry about airing your concerns in front of others.

You'll likely meet with Sgt. Naomi Zepeda and/or Officer Robert Kish, both from Community Policing.

Some residents have already held informal, friendly meetings in places like the Nevada Diner and ZiZia Pizzeria. To set up your own Coffee with a Cop session, call Kish at (973) 259-3153 or e-mail him at rkish@bloomfieldnjpd.com.

**Schedule an on-site home security visit**

Want to learn about the security strengths and weaknesses of your home — doors, windows, grounds, protection for valuables?

Bloomfield's Community Policing Unit now offers on-site home visits as a free service to residents. Each visit is supplemented by a home crime prevention survey that suggests actions to improve the home's security and decrease the likelihood of targeting by burglars.

To arrange a home visit

and obtain a copy of the security survey, contact Sgt. Naomi Zepeda at (973) 680-4627 or e-mail her at nzepeda@bloomfieldnjpd.com.

**Enroll your child in Junior Police Academy**

What does it take to become a police officer? Your child can get the answer by attending the first annual Bloomfield Junior Police Academy, from July 20 to 31.



Students in grades six to eight will attend sessions on weekdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Classroom instruction will include information about the juvenile justice system, fingerprinting, K9 operations, bomb detection, gang and drug awareness, internet safety, arson, fire safety and first aid. Physical fitness, drill and

ceremony components will be included.

To learn more, contact Officer Robert Kish at (973) 259-3153 or e-mail him at rkish@bloomfieldnjpd.com.

**Help improve life in your neighborhood**

Neighborhood Watch has taken hold in Bloomfield with more than 20 groups now meeting regularly to reduce crime and improve life in specific neighborhoods. More groups are being encouraged.

Bloomfield officers attend meetings and assist with initial recruitment. Groups then determine their own meeting schedules and agendas. Benefits include:



- Direct contact with Bloomfield Police to voice concerns.
  - Knowledge about keeping your home safe.
  - Awareness of how to properly respond to suspicious activity.
  - Greater access to criminal activity information.
  - Possible lower insurance and increased property values due to crime reduction.
- To learn more, contact Sgt. Naomi Zepeda at (973) 680-4627 or nzepeda@bloomfieldnjpd.com.

**Township Clerk's Office**

**General election deadlines announced**

The statewide general election will take place Tuesday, Nov. 3, from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Related voter deadlines are as follows:

- Last day for new registrations and address transfer, Oct. 13. (Go to the Municipal Clerk's Office, room 214, 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.)
- Last day to apply for a vote-by-mail ballot, Oct. 27. (Go to the Municipal Clerk's Office, room 214, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

Any questions, call (973) 680-4015 or e-mail twpclerk@bloomfieldtwpnj.com.

**2015 Township Council Meetings**  
*All meetings at 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted.*

- July 13 – regular meeting
- July 20 – conference meeting
- Aug. 10 – regular meeting
- Aug. 17 – conference meeting
- Sept. 8 (Tuesday) – regular meeting, Oakeside, 240 Belleville Avenue
- Sept. 21 – conference meeting
- Oct. 5 – regular meeting, Franklin School, 85 Curtis Street
- Oct. 19 – conference meeting
- Nov. 2 – regular meeting
- Nov. 16 – conference meeting
- Dec. 1 (Tuesday) – regular meeting
- Dec. 14 – conference meeting, 6 p.m.
- Dec. 14 – regular meeting, 7:30 p.m.

**Regular meetings** are held in Council Chambers, 2nd floor of the Municipal Building, unless otherwise noted.

**Conference meetings** are held in room 205 of the Law Enforcement Building.



**St. Thomas the Apostle School**

*The Catholic School of Bloomfield*  
50 Byrd Avenue, Bloomfield  
www.StThomasTheApostleNJ.com

**2015-2016 Registration Underway** (Grades PK3-8)

- Full-Day or Half-Day Pre-K, 3&4
- Full-Day Kindergarten
- BeforeCare & AfterCare Programs
- World Language, Art, Music
- Extracurricular Activities

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**973-338-8505**

## 2015 Summer of Fun

### Enjoy melodic Mondays on the Town Green

The Bloomfield Civic Band will perform four outdoor concerts on the Town Green on Monday nights this summer. Bring the family and a blanket or lawn chairs for themed concerts under the boughs.

- June 29 - "Civic Band Favorites"
- July 6 - "American Salute"
- July 13 - "Best of the Season"
- July 20 - "Movie Magic"

### Summer concert series goes on the road

For more than a decade, Bloomfield Recreation has presented its Free Summer Concert Series at Brookside Park. This year, each concert will be presented at a different municipal park. The final event on National Night Out will be a joint venture with the Bloomfield Police Department and Township officials. Local youth leagues will sell concessions at Vassar Field and Wrights Field.

#### ■ "The Nostalgix" - Tuesday, July 14

*Classic 50s and 60s DooWop*  
7 p.m., Brookside Park

#### ■ "The Wayne Brown Band" - Tuesday, July 21

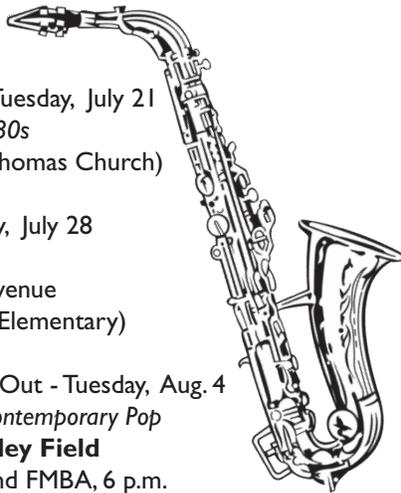
*Classic Rock of the 60s, 70s and 80s*  
7 p.m., Vassar Field (behind St. Thomas Church)

#### ■ "Enzo & The Bakers" - Tuesday, July 28

*Soul, Blues and Classic Hits*  
7 p.m., Wright's Field, Weaver Avenue  
(Additional parking at Fairview Elementary)

#### ■ Concert and National Night Out - Tuesday, Aug. 4

"Time Machine" - *Classic and Contemporary Pop*  
• Gates open at 5:30 p.m. at **Foley Field**  
• Softball game between PBA and FMBA, 6 p.m.  
• Live music, 7:30 p.m.  
• Free hot dogs, pizza, drinks, amusements, give-aways



### Celebrate Independence Day

A fun-filled Independence Day celebration and the area's best fireworks are on tap for Saturday, July 4th at Foley Field. Enjoy food vendors, kids' rides and games, awards, music and fireworks. Bloomfield Recreation and Investors Bank will host the events. Gates open at 5:30 p.m., with opening ceremonies at 7:30 p.m. Rain date: Sunday, July 5.



## Summer youth clinics still available

Your kids have more than 28 options for building athletic skills and more options for exploring special interests — all at affordable prices. (See sample listings below.) More than 450 kids have already signed up for week-long clinics scheduled over the seven-week session — June 29 to Aug. 14. **Registration continues all summer**, right up to the first day of any particular class. To register or for a listing of all clinics, dates, fees and locations, go to [www.bloomfieldrecreation.org](http://www.bloomfieldrecreation.org). MasterCard and Visa are accepted.

■ **Sports Clinics:** Soccer • Football • Baseball • Tennis • Basketball • Street Hockey • Fishing • Golf • Skateboarding • Kickball • Cheerleading • Bowling • And More!

■ **Special Interest Clinics:** Magic • Cooking • Brain Games • Chess • Art • Hip Hop Dance • Summer Book Club • LEGO Robotics (emphasizing STEM learning) • And More!

## Hooray for Bloomfield's boosters!

Summer is a blast in Bloomfield because of local businesses that sponsor popular Recreation Department events. Listed below are the folks who bring you the summertime concerts, holiday celebrations, family camp-out and drive-in movie.

**Headline  
Platinum Sponsor**  
**INVESTORS BANK**

**Gold Sponsors**  
Brookdale Shoprite  
PNC Bank  
Schumacher Chevrolet  
The Town Pub  
XCEL Federal Credit Union

**Silver Sponsors**  
Bloomfield Municipal Alliance  
Clara Maass Medical Center  
ECRB Towing & Recovery  
Hot Bagels Abroad

Jack's Super Foodtown  
MJG Promotions & Silk-screening  
The Provident Bank  
[Signpostnj.com](http://Signpostnj.com)

**Bronze Sponsors**  
All Guard Fence Company  
Bloomfield Center Alliance  
Bloomfield FMBA Local #19  
Bloomfield PBA Local #32  
Fairview Insurance Agency  
IVYREHAB Physical Therapy  
McManimon, Scotland & Baumann, LLC  
Resolute Sewer & Drain Cleaning

## Sign up for Recreation golf outing

The 2015 Hank Barlow Memorial Golf Outing will take place Wednesday, Aug. 5 at Farmstead Golf & Country Club in Lafayette, NJ. The \$100 registration fee includes greens fee, cart, gifts, awards, and a BBQ buffet luncheon. The shotgun start will be at 8 a.m. Pre-register at the Civic Center or e-mail [Recreation@bloomfieldtwpnj.com](mailto:Recreation@bloomfieldtwpnj.com). All proceeds support Bloomfield Recreation special needs programming.

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT Fall Special Events

■ **Bloomfield's 9/11 Memorial Service** on the Town Green will start at 6 p.m. on *Friday, Sept. 11*. Join Township officials, friends, family and neighbors as we remember those who were lost that day.

■ **Movie Night and Family Camp-Out**, *Friday, Sept. 18* - Residents are invited to Pulaski Park for a free, family-friendly movie and overnight camp-out. (Rain date Saturday, Sept. 19.) Each camping group must include a responsible adult (18 or older). The Bloomfield Fire Department and FMBA local #19 will supervise a campfire, so bring your s'mores supplies. Hot Bagels Abroad will provide juice and bagels the following morning. Pre-registration begins Tuesday, Sept. 1. Call or come to the Civic Center. You must have a registered campsite to camp overnight.

■ **Drive-In Movie**, *Friday, Sept. 25* - Watch a family-friendly movie from the comfort of your car on a 50-foot screen set up at the Liberty Street parking lot at Bloomfield College. Start time, after dusk.

■ **Spooktacular!** *Saturday, Oct. 17* - Celebrate Halloween with the Recreation Department at the Town Green/Civic Center. Expect trick-or-treating, a pumpkin patch, costume contest and a magic show. The haunted house could be resurrected on Oct. 30 and 31. Bloomfield FMBA, Bloomfield PBA and Brookside Garden Center will sponsor the celebration.

■ **Veterans' Day Parade**, *Wednesday, Nov. 11* - Join the Mayor, Township Council and distinguished guests in a tribute to our war veterans. Bloomfield High School Marching Band will lead the procession from Town Hall to the Veterans Monument on Liberty Street at 10:30 a.m.

■ **Annual Tree Lighting**, *Tuesday, Dec. 1* - Come to Town Hall at 6:30 p.m. for the annual tree lighting ceremony. Scouting groups and the Bloomfield High School and Middle School concert choirs will sing carols. (Psst! Santa may stop by!)

■ **Radio City Holiday Spectacular**, *Sunday, Dec. 6* - Early reservations are recommended for the annual trip to Radio City Music Hall. The charter bus will leave at 2 p.m. from the Civic Center. Tickets are \$90 (subject to change).

■ **Holiday House Decorating Contest**, deadline *Friday,*

*Dec. 11* - Show your holiday spirit and enter your digital photo in a house-decorating contest open to all Bloomfield households. Send a JPEG to [mschaffer@bloomfieldtwpnj.com](mailto:mschaffer@bloomfieldtwpnj.com) or go in person to the Bloomfield Civic Center. The winner (to be announced by Dec. 22) will receive a free family dinner at Angelo's Restaurant and Pizzeria.

■ **Children's Holiday Program**, *Saturday, Dec. 12* - Refreshments, arts and crafts, face painting and pictures with Santa are in store during the 1-4 p.m. program at the Civic Center. Bring your own camera.

**Parent Drop & Shop** - Got kids in kindergarten through grade 6? Bloomfield Recreation will watch them at the Civic Center while you tend to your holiday shopping. For \$15 per night, your kids will get pizza, soda, games, arts and crafts. Space is limited. In-person pre-registration is required during regular business hours. Dates and times will be announced.

## Fall Recreation Programs

Pre-registration is required for all fall programs and will begin on Wednesday, Sept. 9 at the Civic Center, continuing through fall. Sign up in person Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or Wednesdays from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Register online at [www.bloomfieldrecreation.org](http://www.bloomfieldrecreation.org). Dates and times for all programs are listed on the website. All classes are at the Civic Center, 84 Broad Street.

### Adult Classes

**Fitness** (18 and older) - Cross-fitness, Pilates, Yoga, Zumba  
**Spartan Group X** training class (age 18 and older)

### Children's Classes

**Art** - Grades 1-6

**Baton**

- Pre-K and older
- Competition Groups A & B (determined by experience)

**Bowling** - Pre-K to high school

**Hip-Hop Dance** - Ages 6-12

**Intro to Sports** - Pre-K and kindergarten

**Junior Fitness** - Grades 1-3

### Karate

- Beginners, ages 5-8
- Returning students ages 5-8, and beginners age 9 and up
- Returning students, any belt colors

**Little Fitness** - Pre-K and kindergarten

**Pee Wee Football** - Grades 1-4

**Intro to Rock** - Age 7 and older

**Sports Advance** - Grades 1-3

**Tennis** - programming options to be announced

**Tumble Tots** - Ages 18-36 months

**Gymbly Tots** - Age 4 (continuation of Tumble Tots)

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## Commingled Curbside Recycling

Shaded Dates: Mixed Paper Only  
 Unshaded Dates: Commingled

Report missed recycling pickups at (973) 227-7020

### AUGUST

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### OCTOBER

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### What to Include in Commingled Recycling Cans, Bottles and Plastics

Commingled recycling includes all plastics stamped numbers 1 through 7. Please rinse all.

Plastic bags, bubble wrap, shrink wrap, Tetra Pak materials and juice boxes, aluminum pots and pans, and Styrofoam (such as cups, egg cartons and packing materials).

Details at [www.bloomfieldtwpnj.com](http://www.bloomfieldtwpnj.com).

### JULY

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### JANUARY 2016

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### Holiday Recycling Delays (Black-Out Days)

- July 3 - No biodegradable bag pickup.
- July 4 - No trash, bulk pickup
- Sept. 7 - Labor Day
- Nov. 26 - Thanksgiving Day
- Dec. 25 - Christmas Day
- Jan. 1 - New Year's Day

## Scheduled Recycling Services

◆ **Household Hazardous Waste Day**, Saturday, Oct. 4, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the fleet maintenance garage, 125 Fairview Avenue, Cedar Grove (next to the old hospital center). Bring your driver's license as proof of county residency. For details, call (973) 857-2350.

◆ **Paper Shredding Day**, Saturday, Oct. 10, 9 a.m. – noon. Residents only, at the Board of Education parking lot, 155 Broad Street.

◆ **North End Electronic Recycling Day**, Saturday, Oct. 24, 9 a.m. to noon at Brookdale Christian Church, 1350 Broad Street. Discard computers, printers, monitors, wires, cables, keyboards, telephones, TVs, VCRs, DVD players, stereos, small appliances.

◆ **Fall Leaf Collection** will extend from Oct. 12 to Dec. 31. On your recycling day, place leaves in biodegradable bags at curbside.

◆ **Leaf Collection Stops** from Jan. 1 through March 31 when other pressing projects are handled.

◆ **Christmas Trees** will be picked up on your recycling day.

◆ **Saturday Recycling Hours**. The Public Works Yard is open for recycling every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. No trash or bulk drop off occurs during that time. Bring only paper, commingled items and electronics to 230 Grove Street.

### Metal pickup: What you should know

Metals and appliances (not electronics) are picked up every Tuesday. Call the Department of Public Works, (973) 680-4127, no later than 3:30 p.m. Monday for a scheduled Tuesday pickup.

• Accepted metal items include bed frames, metal curtain rods, metal hangers and loose metal pieces. Metal swing sets must be disassembled.

• Accepted appliances

include refrigerators, stoves, microwaves and air conditioners. Remove any appliance doors and place items door side up for pickup.

• Metal paint cans are considered bulk waste. They are picked up on your second weekly garbage day. (Latex paint only, completely dried out.)

If you're unsure whether an item is metal, call DPW.

## Non-Recycling DPW Services

■ **Pothole Repair** - Call (973) 680-4127 to give the pothole location.

■ **Streetlight Out** - Call (973) 680-4009. Provide the pole number.

## Cruise Nights return

Cruise Nights are cost-free family-friendly shows of vintage and contemporary cars. They take place along Broad Street every Wednesday from 6 to 9 p.m., through the end of August.

Center merchants and restaurateurs offer Cruise Night specials and extended hours, and this year, kids can enjoy games, car coloring books and car tattoos. The Bloomfield Police Mobile Command Center will be on hand most nights, and the Fire Department's newest truck could show up.

Don't miss the parade of cars on July 1, Aug. 5 and Aug. 26.

Get Cruise Night rain delays/cancellations by texting "Cruise2015" to 84483. For BCA information, visit [www.BloomfieldCenter.com](http://www.BloomfieldCenter.com), or the BCA Facebook page.

## Kick off fall at Harvest Fest

Bloomfield's biggest celebration of the year returns Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 26 and 27. The 23rd annual Harvest Fest includes a mile-long outdoor marketplace with more than 100 craft and retail vendors, plus two stages for nonstop entertainment, children's rides, games, activities and food.

Learn about civic and community groups at street-side booths. Catch the Bloomfield High School marching Band as it parades the area at noon on Saturday.

The festival is managed by the Bloomfield Center Alliance. Hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, rain or shine. All events are free and take place on Broad Street between Belleville Avenue and Bloomfield Avenue. This year the fun will extend down Glenwood Avenue. Details at (973) 429-8050 or [www.BloomfieldCenter.com](http://www.BloomfieldCenter.com).

## Come to EcoFest

Greener Bloomfield will hold its third EcoFest in conjunction with Harvest Fest on Sept. 26 and 27. Eco-minded groups willing to present ideas on green living are still being sought. Among those expected to be involved will be a food co-op, a beekeeper, an ink cartridge recycler, and a yoga expert. The musical group Folk Project will be on hand to entertain. To sign up for a table, go to [www.Facebook.com/Greener-Bloomfield](http://www.Facebook.com/Greener-Bloomfield).

## Congrats to Green Team!

The voice of local environmental protection, Greener Bloomfield, has been recertified at the bronze level by Sustainable Jersey. The certification is a prestigious designation for municipal governments in our state. Applicants score points

toward certification by documenting steps to achieve clean air, fresh water, proper garbage disposal, sufficient open space and more.

## Ditch drugs the eco way

Greener Bloomfield has started a prescription drug drop-off program at North Center Drugs, 386 Broad Street. Bring your unused prescription drugs to the pharmacy for environmentally safe disposal.

## Join the sustainability movement

Help your town continue its sustainable pursuits by joining Greener Bloomfield. Meetings are held the first Thursday of every month, at 7:30 p.m., at the Civic Center, 84 Broad Street. (Summer meetings may vary.)

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## Food Handlers: This course is for you!



The Bloomfield Health Department will offer three sessions of the food handler's training course from July through November. The three-hour course on fundamental food safety practices is required of all food handlers working in Bloomfield.

Those who pass earn a certificate valid for two years.

Training takes place in the Law Enforcement Building, 1 Municipal Plaza, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Remaining 2015 dates are July 23, Sept. 24 and Nov. 19. Registration is required. The fee is \$20 per person. For information or to sign up, call (973) 680-4024.



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## Brodi gets a happy home

### Kudos to North Jersey Humane Society

When the North Jersey Humane Society took over the Bloomfield Animal Shelter last fall, several dogs had already been long-term residents. Brodi, a brindle pit bull mix (pictured), had been there for more than three years.

When he arrived at the shelter, Brodi was a playful, friendly dog. But as months turned to years, cage time gave him kennel stress, and finally one day he snapped at a potential adopter. He was labeled “unadoptable” and couldn’t be shown any more.

When current Executive Director Vince Ascolese and team took over the shelter they immediately began working with the long-timers. Volunteers walked and socialized the dogs and over time they became easier to handle.

Animal Control Officer Angie McGowan was thrilled when a family met and fell in love with Brodi. “It was rare for him to take to strangers,” she said, “but when he saw these people, it was like they were meant for each other.”

McGowan did a home check and in April delivered Brodi to his new home with Stephanie Parra and family of Harrison.

Parra says Brodi sleeps on the family’s beds, meets other people with no problem, and goes everywhere with the family, including the dog park.

As Shelter Services Director Kristi Heller says, “There is a dog for every person, and a person for every dog.”



## Bloomfield Public Library

973-566-6200 • [www.bplnj.org](http://www.bplnj.org)

M, T, W: 10am-8pm • Th, F: 10am-5pm • Sat: closed until after Labor Day

Events are subject to change without notice and more programs are added all the time. Check website for info.

### Continuing Programs

- Monday and Thursday movies - 12:15 p.m.
- Book Club – one Monday per month at 6:45 p.m. Call for topic and date.
- Financial Book Club and Workshops – Tuesdays at 6 p.m. Beginners welcome.
- Knitting Club – Fridays at 11:30 a.m.
- Games – play chess, checkers and more, any time.
- Computer Classes – one-on-one tutoring in computer basics, e-mail and online searching. A current Bloomfield Public Library card and advance registration are required. (Break for summer; fall schedule to be announced.)

### Children’s Programs

[www.bplnj.org/children](http://www.bplnj.org/children), 973-566-6200, x212

Weekly storytimes for babies, toddlers and preschoolers are scheduled year-round. Call or sign up in person. Get details on the library website or pick up a flyer.

### Summer Reading Program

All children up to those entering 6th grade are invited to participate in the library’s annual summer reading program, through Aug. 7. Participants read books, fill out a reading log and earn prizes. They also enjoy story times, crafts, movies, games and special events.

### Bloomfield Historical Society

The Museum (located above the Children’s Library) is open Wednesdays from 2 to 4:30 p.m., and Saturdays (not in summer) from 10 a.m. to noon. More at (973) 743-8844.

### Passports

The Essex County Clerk’s Outreach program comes to the library the fourth Wednesday of every month from 2 to 7:15 p.m. Applicants must bring all required documents and fees. For details, call the County Clerk’s Office at (973) 621-2921, or visit [www.essexclerk.com](http://www.essexclerk.com).

### Want to Learn English?

Literacy Volunteers of America is located in the Bloomfield Public Library. If you need help learning English, or would like to volunteer to be a tutor, call (973) 566-6200, x217 or x225.

### Holiday Closures

- Independence Day (observed) - July 3
- Labor Day - Sept. 7
- Columbus Day - Oct. 12
- Veteran’s Day - Nov. 11
- Thanksgiving - Nov. 25 (3 p.m. close) to Nov. 27
- Christmas - Dec. 24 (3 p.m. close) to Dec. 25
- New Year’s Eve - Dec. 31 (3 p.m. close)

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## 'Bloomfield's Most Talented' returns

Bloomfield is brimming with talent—actors, sax players, magicians, yo-yo experts. Yes, even singers and dancers are welcome to compete in the third annual Bloomfield's Most Talented Competition on Saturday, Oct. 3.



The competition will be a week-long run-off, ending with a public show for the final competition. All Township residents, from first grade to senior citizen, are eligible. There is no entry fee. Group performers are welcome but must include at least one Bloomfield resident.

Initial auditions are set for Sept. 26 and 27 during Harvest Fest. Contestants of all ages can sign up at the Bloomfield Cultural Commission booth outside the public library to perform an instant audition. Hours will be 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. each day.

Those who make the cut will advance to a second level of competition at Bloomfield Middle School on Monday and Wednesday, Sept. 28 and 30.

Finalists will compete in the public talent show on Oct. 3 also at Bloomfield Middle School. Winners will receive first-, second- or third-place trophies. Last year, there were 16 finalists.

Organizers said the 2015 competition could be divided into age categories depending on the number of contestants.

The talent show is a program of the Bloomfield Cultural Commission. For more information, call (973) 303-8884 or e-mail Mshelldavidson@aol.com.

## Bloomfield Restaurant Week coming Aug. 1-9

Get your appetite ready! The fourth annual Bloomfield Restaurant Week is coming Saturday, Aug. 1 through Sunday, Aug. 9.

More than 20 Bloomfield restaurants will offer prix fixe menus for lunch, dinner or both, all at \$30 or less, excluding drinks, taxes and tips.

For more information, go to [www.bloomfieldrestaurant-week.com](http://www.bloomfieldrestaurant-week.com).

**Try Drop & Dine** - New this year is a special "Drop & Dine" service for parents. From Wednesday, Aug. 5 through Friday, Aug. 7, the Bloomfield Recreation Department will host up to 15 children between 6 and 9 p.m. The fee is \$15 per child per night (including dinner) for kids in kindergarten through sixth grade. Call Recreation for details at (973) 743-9074.

## Kinder days on review

The administration of Mayor John Kinder (1972-1987) will be featured in a presentation of the Historical Society of Bloomfield on Tuesday, Oct. 27 at 7:30 p.m. The free event will take place at the Bloomfield Civic Center, 84 Broad Street.

Former Bloomfield Councilman Joseph Wojak will discuss the programs and policies, successes and disappointments of Kinder's tenure. Refreshments will be served.

For information, visit [www.hsob.org](http://www.hsob.org), e-mail [info@hsob.org](mailto:info@hsob.org), or call (973) 743-8844.

## Garden State Concert Band touts 4 concerts

The Bloomfield-based band, will perform here and in three nearby communities in coming months. For more information,

Turn to **Garden State**, p 10

(973) 338-5900



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### New bike racks popping up around town

Bright red bike racks are popping up at Bloomfield schools, parks and other public places. You'll see them at Pulaski and Brookside parks and at Fairview and Watsessing schools, with more to come.

The new installations are a partnership between the Recreation Department, Public Works and the Health Department. A physically active community is a healthier community, and bike racks increase public access to cycling.

If you would like to request an installation at a public location, or if you'd like a rack installed at your business, contact the Health Department at (973) 683-4183 or e-mail [mhodes@bloomfieldtwpnj.com](mailto:mhodes@bloomfieldtwpnj.com).

The bike rack project is funded by a grant from the Partners for Health Foundation, which partners to strengthen health and wellness in the Montclair area.

### Get File of Life

Get a free wallet insert and refrigerator magnet to inform emergency personnel about your vital information in time of need. It lists your medications, conditions, physicians and more. Call the Public Health Nursing Office at (973) 680-4058.



### Disposal guidelines you may not know

Chapter 658, Environmental Quality Assurance Code

#### Residents

- No solid waste receptacles or bulky waste can be placed at the curb, sidewalk or right of way prior to 5 p.m. the day before collection.
- Receptacles must be removed from the curb within 24 hours after collection.

#### Business Owners

- When a spill occurs during pickup of solid waste or litter, clean-up is the business owner's responsibility and must be accomplished within two hours of collection.
  - Trash receptacles at commercial properties must be removed from the curb within two hours after collection.
  - Businesses owners or occupants must broom-clean sidewalks and street curbs in front of their properties three times a day: within 30 minutes of opening, between noon and 1 p.m., and within 30 minutes of closing.
- Any questions, call the Environmental Office, at (973) 680-4024.

## Upcoming Nursing Programs

(973) 680-4058 • [www.bloomfieldtwpnj.com/health/public-health-nursing](http://www.bloomfieldtwpnj.com/health/public-health-nursing)

*Unless specifically noted, all screenings are conducted at the Public Health Nursing Office, #1 Municipal Plaza, lower level. Appointments are required unless otherwise indicated.*

- ◆ **Flu Shots** – Will start in September or October. Get updates at [www.bloomfieldtwpnj.com/health](http://www.bloomfieldtwpnj.com/health), [Twitter@BloomfieldHDNJ](https://twitter.com/BloomfieldHDNJ), [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com) (must sign up), E-Buzz (sign up at [tinyurl.com/buzz456](http://tinyurl.com/buzz456)).
- ◆ **Hypertension** – 1st and 3rd Thursday, 9:30-10:30. Free.
- ◆ **Hypertension** – 3rd Friday, 11:30-12:30, Civic Center. Free.
- ◆ **Osteoporosis Screening** – For men and women. \$10-\$12. Nov. 6, 9-11 a.m.
- ◆ **Pap Smear, Mammography** – For women over 40, uninsured or underinsured. No Medicare. Oct. 8.
- ◆ **Breast Exam** – For women over 21, uninsured or underinsured. Oct. 8.
- ◆ **Urinalysis** – Sept. 21, 10-11 a.m. \$10.
- ◆ **Blood Screening** – Sept. 22, 8-10 a.m. Fasting required. Call to pre-register and pre-pay. PSA for men also available. Blood screening \$35. PSA \$35. Screening and PSA \$50.
- ◆ **Stroke Screening** – Sept. 10 and Dec. 8, from 9-11 a.m. \$25 for age 55 and older; all others \$30.
- ◆ **Lipid Panel Profile** – Cholesterol, LDL, HDL, triglycerides. Nov. 13, from 10-11 a.m. \$20.
- ◆ **Cardiac Screening** – Oct. 6, from 9-11 a.m. \$25 for age 55 and older; all others \$30.
- ◆ **Diabetes Screening** – Dec. 11, from 10-11 a.m. \$10. No fasting.
- ◆ **Tuberculin Skin Test** – Call for an appointment, \$20.
- ◆ **Adult Vaccine Program** – Build protection against vaccine-preventable diseases. Weekdays, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Age 19 and older. Call for costs and eligibility.
- ◆ **Well Child Program** – Includes vaccines, lead screening, autism screening, growth and development assessment, post-partum depression screening. For age 2 months to 18 years. Occurs most Wednesdays. Call for details and eligibility.

### Garden State

Continued from page 9

call (973) 338-8140.

• **July 4, 7 p.m.**, Independence Day Concert at Veterans Field in Kearny (Bergen Avenue and Belgrove Drive). Free entrance for concert, games, rides and magic show. Fireworks follow the concert.

• **Aug. 19, 7 p.m.**, big band music from the 30s 40s 50s, including works by Benny Goodman, Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey and more. Vocalist Van Martin will sing Sinatra tunes. At Grace

Lord Park in Boonton (West Main Street and Essex Avenue). Rain site: Daress Theater on Main Street. Free.

• **Dec 6, 3:30 p.m.**, "A Christmas Concert" at Saint John the Apostle Church in Linden/Clark (Valley Road and Penbrook Terrace). Free.

• **Dec. 12, 7 p.m.**, "A Christmas Concert" at Saint Thomas the Apostle Church, Byrd Avenue, Bloomfield. Free. Reception follows.

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# Human Services

## ■ Benefits Screening

- If you're facing tough times, contact Human Services to find out whether you qualify for food stamps, local food pantries, utility assistance programs, prescription assistance, rent or mortgage assistance. Benefits screenings are conducted by Township social services workers at Town Hall, or by county social workers on the Mobile County Welfare Van, stationed once a month in front of town hall. Homebound seniors and disabled residents can be screened at home.

## ■ Holiday Assistance

- If you cannot afford holiday food or presents for your family this year, call Human Services. The office works with community partners to bring holiday cheer to low-income residents. Assistance is limited. Wait until October, then call (973) 680-4017 to learn more.

■ **Help for understanding ACA (Obama Care)** insurance options is now available through Human Services. An on-site certified application counselor is taking appointments.

■ **Homelessness Prevention Funding** - Essex County residents who owe rent, security or utility bills can call Human Services for possible help. Applicants must be income-qualified, and must be able to prove ability to pay bills moving forward. To apply, call (973) 680-4017. Limited funding will be available starting July 1.

■ **Got Medicare or Other Insurance Questions?** If you need help understanding Medicare, Medigap, Medicare Advantage Plans, Medicare Part D or Long-Term Care insurance, you've got a resource at Town Hall. Human Services now has a State Health Insurance Assistance Program counselor who can provide free, objective and

confidential help.

The counselor does not provide legal advice, and doesn't sell, recommend or endorse any insurance products, agents, or insurance companies. Instead, the counselor will inform you so you can make your own decisions.

■ **How to apply for food stamps** - The Mobile County Welfare Van, stationed once a month in front of town hall, is available for residents who need to apply for food stamps. To make an appointment, call Human Services at (973) 680-4017.

## Meet Carol and Linda of NTNN

Carol is a Bloomfield senior citizen who tapped into the Friendly Visitor program of the Neighbor to Neighbor Network, a group of volunteers who help elderly neighbors in need.

Linda is the NTNN volunteer who was matched to Carol to help her with grocery shopping, errands, and companionship. "I love helping her," said Linda. "It's good for her and makes me feel wonderful."

Friendly Visitors lend about an hour of their time once a week, helping isolated seniors reconnect in the community.

"It's a great program," said Carol. "I like to read poems and listen to music and Linda and I have formed a friendship based on those common interests. It's what the program is all about."

To volunteer or to refer an elderly neighbor, call (973) 680-4017.



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Administration, 4006 (R-209)  
Animal Control, 415-5755  
Animal Shelter, 748-0194  
Assessor (Tax), 4021 (R-108)  
Board of Education, 8500  
Building Dept, 4054 (R-105)  
Clerk's Office, 4015 (R-214)  
Community Dev, 4188 (R-200)  
Court/Violations, 4078  
Dial-A-Ride, 973-566-7194  
Emergency Squad, 4141  
Engineering, 4009 (R-203)  
Finance, 4038 (R-108)  
Fire Dept, 4153  
Health Dept, 4024 (R-109)  
Human Svcs, 4017 (R-213)  
Info Systems, 4670 (R-203)  
Law Dept, 4066  
Library, 566-6200  
Mayor & Council, 4077 (R-209)  
Nursing, 4058 (basement)  
Office of Emerg Mgmt, 4177  
Parking Authority, 8960  
Personnel, 4039 (R-108)  
Police Dept, 4141  
Public Works, 4127, x400  
Recreation, 743-9074  
Tax Dept, 4049 (R-106)  
Water Dept, 4051 (R-106)  
WBMA TV, 4122  
Zoning, 4012 (R-203)

### Your Elected Officials:

Mayor Michael Venezia

Council Members

- 1st Ward, Elias N. Chalet
  - 2nd Ward, Nicholas Joanow
  - 3rd Ward, Carlos Bernard
- Council Members At Large:
- Wartyna "Nina" Davis
  - Joseph Lopez
  - Carlos Pomares

## Bloomfield BUZZ

is edited and designed by  
Robin Patric.

908-823-9001  
rpatric@comcast.net

# Bloomfield BUZZ

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## Bloomfield Restaurant Week Aug. 1-9

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