

# North Caldwell Community News 1st Quarter 2024

As we head into spring, we look forward to presenting updates, upgrades and upcoming community events to the residents of North Caldwell. Some exciting changes in 2024 include the revitalization of the athletic courts, enforcing our public safety needs and increasing the efficiency of government operations which result in making our citizens daily lives better. We hope your new year is off to a wonderful start and you enjoy the spring season!

Community Pool Membership and Improvements: Improvements on the community pool are wrapping up as the structure has been reinforced and beautified. We will be extending the weekend hours of operation and welcoming a new on-site pool manager to ensure operations run smoothly. Take advantage of these improvements and save money with our **Early Bird special and get a family membership for only \$395 before May 1!** Register through CivicRec at https://secure.rec1.com/NJ/north-caldwell-nj/catalog.

**Gould Complex Athletic Courts:** Bids will be received in early April for the improvement of the tennis courts. The plans to rebuild four (4) tennis courts, four (4) pickleball courts, one all-purpose court and a lacrosse wall are estimated to be constructed over the summer. The weather and temperature requirements dictate the time of year for construction, however, we hope to complete the project in time for play to resume in early fall. Until then, please enjoy free membership for the courts for 2024; registration is still required through CivicRec.

**2024 Municipal Budget:** The Mayor and Council are close to finalizing the budget for 2024 after working closely with our Borough CFO and our many department heads. North Caldwell is in need of numerous capital improvements and we all know the cost of everyday life continues to increase. We are working hard to be financially responsible and keep any increases in the tax base to a minimum.

Federal Funding for Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs): We extend a special thank you to Representative Mikie Sherrill (NJ-11) for pressing for Community Project Funding (CPF) including \$963,000 for Crime Prevention and Citizen Assistance through the Essex County ALPR Program to assist 17 municipal police departments in western Essex County in the implementation of ALPR cameras to help combat auto thefts. "I am proud to have led efforts in the House to cut through bureaucratic red tape and secure funding for Community Projects that will have a tangible impact on our district and state by bringing federal resources back to address our most pressing concerns. Public safety, and specifically combatting auto thefts, is one of the top issues I hear about from local leaders and constituents. With this Community Project funding, all 17 Essex County municipal police departments located in NJ-11 will be able to implement Automatic License Plate Reader cameras to address the rise in auto thefts and associated home invasions. I want to thank North Caldwell Mayor Josh Raymond and the North Caldwell Police Department for bringing Essex County towns together and submitting this regional project and for their ongoing work to keep our communities safe," said Rep. Sherrill.

**Traffic Light Installation at Gould and Mountain Avenues:** A joint venture among the Borough of North Caldwell, the County of Essex and the North Caldwell Board of Education, a traffic light will be installed at the intersection of Gould Avenue and Mountain Avenue in the coming months. The light will provide much-needed safety for Gould School students, pedestrian traffic and motorists.

**Voting District Revision:** In an effort to minimize voter wait time at the polls and better balance the voter population among voting districts, the County of Essex has added a fifth voting district in North Caldwell. Please look for your district assignment on your sample ballots that will be mailed to your home in advance of the June 4, 2024 Primary Election. Some residents will not see a change in their district assignment. The polling place remains the same for all five districts: Notre Dame Church, 359 Central Avenue, lower level. If you have any questions, please reach out to the Borough Clerk at 973-228-6411.

**2024 Primary Election**: The Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, June 4, 2024. Voting in person is offered from 6am to 8pm at Notre Dame Church. You may also take advantage of Early Voting offered at designated locations within Essex County. You may also cast your vote by mail.

- For a **vote-by-mail application**, please visit the Essex County Clerk's website and form at https://www.essexclerk.com/\_Content/pdf/forms/vote-mail-ballot-essex-english.pdf
- To **register to vote**, change your address or change your party affiliation, please complete the form at https://www.essexclerk.com/\_Content/pdf/forms/Voter-Register-Eng-09-08.pdf.
- For all **voting information**, please visit vote.nj.gov
- Download the **Essex Votes mobile app** for Android or Apple to access voter registration information, obtain information on becoming a poll worker, locate polling locations, get guidance on voting by mail and receive updated election results.

**Water Meter Replacement**: The water meter replacement project is 95% complete. We thank you for complying with the conversion. Remote readings are live for all households that converted meters. Meter reading cards are no longer being mailed. Households with old meters are billed based on estimated readings. It is imperative that you contact the Water Department at 973-228-6410, x-103 to make an appointment for the meter conversion as quarterly penalties will be imposed for noncompliance.

**Cell Tower Construction:** The Borough has lease agreements with T-Mobile for the construction of two cell towers. In response to resident inquiries, a public meeting was held on March 6, 2024 during which cell service experts provided information and comments and questions were presented by the public. As a result of the meeting, the Borough Council, staff and professionals are considering if there are other alternatives to the current plans.

**Walker's Park Improvements**: Keep any eye on Walker's Park for the installation of trails, footbridges and other amenities that will allow for expanded use of the property while maintaining its natural beauty and recreational open space. A very generous donation was made by the Gould School students and families for the restoration of Walker's Park. The Borough is appreciative of the civic engagement and community leadership of our young residents and their teachers and school administrators.

**NJMVC Mobile Unit Coming Soon:** The Borough is working to secure a date for the Mobile MVC unit to visit North Caldwell. Limited services will be available. Watch the website for updates. Further notification will be sent through the Borough's emergency notification system. Please visit the website to sign up for notifications.

**Hydrant Flushing Notice**: As part of the Borough's routine maintenance of its water distribution system, the North Caldwell Water Department will inspect fire hydrants and flush water mains on Mondays through Thursdays between 7:00pm and 11:00pm from approximately April 15, 2024 through May 2, 2024. The flushing of water mains involves the systematic opening of fire hydrants and allowing them to flow for several minutes. Residents may experience a slight discoloration of their water following flushing. If this occurs, it is suggested that residents run their water until it clears. The discoloration is temporary and presents no ill health effect, but may stain laundry. Residents are therefore advised to be sure water is clear before washing clothes. Please direct any questions or concerns to (973) 228-6410, x-132.

**Earth Day/Weekend Events**: Please consider joining the Earth Day weekend events planned for April 19 through 21. Neighborhood clean-ups are encouraged on Friday and Saturday, April 19 and 20. On Sunday, April 21 from 12-2pm join the Community Gathering, Clean-Up and Tree Seedling Distribution events at the Borough Hall complex. Take part in the creation of the North Caldwell Rock Garden, Ceremonial Tree Planting and some ice cream and t-shirt giveaways. This event is open to the public; no registration is required.

**Camp Wyanokie** - Many of our residents are unaware of our Borough's part ownership of a beautiful 150 acre preserve at the edge of Norvin Green State Forest in West Milford. The camp surrounds a 5-acre scenic lake. There is a pavilion with picnic tables and various campsites with lean-tos and cooking fireplaces. Residents are free to enjoy this property beginning April 1<sup>st</sup> of each year through the last weekend in November. For those wishing to enjoy overnight camping, you can reserve a camp site at <a href="https://www.campspot.com/book/campwyanokie">https://www.campspot.com/book/campwyanokie</a>.

**Family Day at Camp Wyanokie** - All North Caldwell residents are invited to attend Family Day at Camp Wyanokie held on the third Saturday in June. Activities include horseback riding, a petting zoo, fishing, hiking, a DJ, and a BBQ lunch. Visit <a href="https://campwyanokie.com/">https://campwyanokie.com/</a> for more information about the camp and to register for this event scheduled for June 15, 2024.

#### **REMINDERS:**

**Tree Removal Ordinance**: Before removing any trees from your property, please note that a tree removal permit is required. Please call the Building Department, 973-228-6410 ext. 106 for more information.

**Emergency Alert Notifications**: We encourage all residents to register with the North Caldwell Emergency Alert Notification system. You will receive information such as road closure or water main breaks, as well as other public safety announcements. You can register for these notifications at <a href="https://www.northcaldwell.org/home/news/sign-north-caldwells-emergencynotifications">https://www.northcaldwell.org/home/news/sign-north-caldwells-emergencynotifications</a>.

**Online Payments**: As a reminder, you can pay your property tax, sewer and water bills online through the Borough website <a href="https://www.northcaldwell.org/home/pages/online-payment">https://www.northcaldwell.org/home/pages/online-payment</a>.

**PSE&G Streetlight Outages:** If you notice that a street light is out in your neighborhood, please report the outage by clicking on the map at: <a href="https://psegnj.streetlightoutages.com/public/default.html">https://psegnj.streetlightoutages.com/public/default.html</a>.

**Drainage Reporting Form**: If you are experiencing an issue with water drainage, we want to know about it. You can submit your concern to the Borough at <a href="https://form.jotform.com/221602966403048">https://form.jotform.com/221602966403048</a>.

**Civic Rec:** For any resident looking to participate in North Caldwell sponsored programs, please ensure you and your family are registered through the Civic Rec Registration site: <a href="https://secure.rec1.com/NJ/north-caldwell-nj/catalog">https://secure.rec1.com/NJ/north-caldwell-nj/catalog</a>.

**Mayor's Office Hours**: Mayor Raymond is available for open office hours on the first Wednesday of each month from 6:00pm to 8:00pm and additionally by appointment. Please check the Borough website calendar for dates.

## **Upcoming Mayor and Council Meetings:**

April 16, 2024 at 6:30pm – Combined Conference and Regular Meeting

May 14, 2024 at 6:30pm - Conference Meeting

May 28, 2024 at 6:30pm – Regular Meeting

Meeting dates, agendas and minutes are posted at <a href="https://www.northcaldwell.org/mayor-council">https://www.northcaldwell.org/mayor-council</a>. Meeting agendas are posted at least 48 hours before each meeting at <a href="https://www.northcaldwell.org/mayor-council">https://www.northcaldwell.org/mayor-council</a>.

## **Upcoming 2024 Borough Events:**

Baseball/Softball Opening Day Parade and Festivities: Saturday, April 20, 2024

Earth Day Weekend Events: April 19-20 – Neighborhood Clean-ups

April 21 12-2pm Community Clean-Up and Tree Seedling Distribution

2024 Seniors Luncheon Meetings: Wednesdays, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, May 1<sup>st</sup>, June 5<sup>th</sup> at 1PM

46th Annual Volunteer Fire Department Pancake Breakfast: Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8AM - 12PM

Camp Wyanokie Family Day: Saturday, June 15, 2024







# **2024 COMMUNITY POOL REGISTRATION**



## **EARLY BIRD SPECIAL**

**FAMILY MEMBERSHIP \$395** 

**ENDS APRIL 30<sup>TH</sup>** 



### **EXPANDED WEEKEND HOURS**

POOL RENOVATIONS • UPGRADED SNACK BAR • THEME DAYS • SPECIAL EVENTS

REGISTER VIA CIVIC REC WWW.NORTHCALDWELL.ORG

## Mayor Joshua H. Raymond and the North Caldwell Borough Council

Council President Anthony Floria-Callori
Councilman Matthew Atlas
Councilman Robert Kessler
Councilman Arthur Rees
Councilman Kenneth Tilton
Councilman Stephen Weinstein