

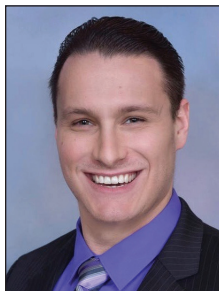
The Dunellen



Report

Message by the Mayor

By: Mayor Jason F. Cilento



Mayor Cilento

I would like to begin my first Message as the Mayor by wishing you and your families a Happy and Healthy New Year! We are so blessed to live and do business in Dunellen and I am honored to be able to serve you as Dunellen's 22nd Mayor. I would like to recognize former Mayor Robert J. Seader and his service to Dunellen over the last 22 years. He certainly is owed a big "thank you" for leading our borough through difficult times and his push for redevelopment in Dunellen will remain a strong influence as we move forward. I would also like to welcome Trina Rios and Daniel Cole Sigmon to the Dunellen Borough Council.

As we look towards the future of Dunellen, I am excited to work with all of you to accomplish the many tasks that are set before us. There are many goals we must accomplish as a Borough: road and sewer improvements, the revitalization of our downtown, supporting our school district as they seek to make district wide enhancements, investigating further areas of shared services and keeping taxes as low as possible while maintaining quality of services.

I firmly believe in communication and transparency with residents and business owners and that is exactly the reason I will be making use of more media such as our borough's website, social media and the Next Stop! Dunellen e-newsletter, as well as traditional forms in print such as About Our Town's Community News and Dunellen's quarterly newspaper, The Dunellen Report. Through these outlets, I will continue to update residents of what is going on at Borough Hall and what capital projects, events, and redevelopment projects the Mayor and Borough Council are working on.

HERE ARE SOME PROJECTS GOING ON IN 2020:

- Dunellen Stations development in the old Art Color complex
- Grove Street road improvement and Gertrude Terrace sewer rehabilitation
- South Madison Avenue road improvement
- Lincoln Avenue road improvement
- Completion of Columbia Park, including a turf field and repaired running track and new playground equipment

AS MAYOR, SOME OF MY GOALS FOR 2020 ARE:

- Continuation of the revitalization of downtown Dunellen;
- Creation of a Mayor's Traffic & Pedestrian Safety Task Force;
- Encouraging citizen engagement by promoting opportunities to serve on committees, commissions and boards;
- Creating a social media presence for the Borough of Dunellen;
- Involving residents in conversations about borough issues through a Mayor's quarterly roundtable;
- Ensuring that the CY 2020 budget is presented using an infographic to better explain our budget to the public;
- Investigating regional partnerships and shared services in the areas of municipal services, sustainable initiatives and economic development;
- Supporting Arts initiatives that improve the quality of life in Dunellen and assist in economic development of our downtown;
- Continuing to work with the Raritan Valley Rail Coalition and the Raritan Valley Mayor's Alliance to advocate for a direct peak hour train into NYC and the funding of the Gateway Tunnel;
- Continuing to seek grants for road improvements throughout Dunellen, as well as downtown beautification projects; and
- Ensuring the borough keeps its municipal tax rate as low as possible while maintaining quality of services

Beyond 2020, the Borough of Dunellen will be working on amending the FEMA Flood Map through municipal and Middlesex County culvert projects and working with the Green Brook Flood Control Commission and the US Army Corps of Engineers on addressing flooding caused by the Green Brook.

I recognize the responsibility that has been bestowed upon me by our community. I am honored to have the opportunity to serve the community that helped raise me and my family. Dunellen is a place where neighbors, friends and families come together to accomplish great things, ventures that uniquely define us as a community. We care about making this borough a great place to live, work, create and raise a family, and that is what makes our square mile the "miracle mile!"

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter. I look forward to working with you!

Respectfully,
Jason F. Cilento, Mayor
jcilento@dunellen-nj.gov

Robert J. Seader's Veteran's Day Speech



A solemn ceremony commemorating Veterans Day was held in Washington Memorial Park on November 11th, at 11:00 AM. Members of the color guard were from the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5479 and the American Legion Post 119, both in Dunellen. Bill Uhler from American Legion Post 119 delivered opening and closing remarks and introduced the speakers. The Invocation was delivered by Father Alphonsus Kariuki, St. John's Roman Catholic Church. Speeches were made by VFW Post 5479 Commander Mike Horgos and American Legion Post 119 Commander Keith Jarvis. Former Dunellen Mayor Robert J. Seader delivered remarks. The Benediction was delivered by Chaplain Tad Fryzel. Our National Anthem and God Bless America was sung by Nick Christian. Dunellen thanks all veterans for their service to our country.

"Today is Veteran's Day. We stand among the monuments built to remember those who fell in the wars that have defined our nation. The people assembled here today are filled with the spirit that makes our nation great: sacrifice, purpose beyond the individual self, a dedication to shared ideals of peace, prosperity, fairness and liberty.

Today is Veterans Day, and I would like to talk to you about the force that ties us all together as a community, that connects us to each other and makes America the great nation that it is, a beacon of light to the world.

That force goes by many names. Some call it patriotism. Others call it loyalty to a belief in freedom and justice for all. But regardless of how it is described, I think that this force is the embodiment of our Nation's soul and can be summed up in one word: Service.

Service is the bind that ties us all together. Ordinary men and women perform services in our community, and extraordinary men and women perform different acts of service in civilian uniform here at home, or in military uniform throughout the world.

But whatever kind of service is performed, each person's goal is to make the lives of our families, friends, neighbors, and fellow countrymen better and safer, and to ensure that every American has the opportunity to be the best that he or she can be.

As I look out upon the crowd that is gathered here today in Washington Memorial Park, I am struck by the appropriateness of this setting with my subject. I am sure that every one of you is a member of a Church group, a service club, or a volunteer organization that helps others. Most of you probably volunteer for two or even three organizations. You feel in your bones, to the core of your being, that service is a path to personal fulfillment. This park is dedicated

to those men and women who have died in service to our country, to the ultimate service that a citizen can render. This park exists to honor our Veterans, and you all honor Veterans simply by being here today.

In your personal volunteerism you stand as witnesses to those soldiers, sailors, and airmen who have lived, and died, for the glory of our nation. Their lives may have been ended during the struggles to uphold the great causes of American independence and freedom for all, but by your individual and collective actions these Veterans' efforts live on, not only in memory, but in your own profound, life changing actions.

I know most you by sight and many of you by name. I understand the value you all place in forgoing personal comfort for the good of enhancing the well-being of others. On Veteran's Day we acknowledge the service of specific citizens, those who served in our armed forces. Everyone here is joined in a communal salutation to our men and women in uniform, past and certainly present.

It happens that one such group is the Dunellen American Legion Post 119. Like the Veterans of Foreign Wars and other groups comprised of those who have served in uniform, the members of the Dunellen American Legion Post 119 are exemplars of volunteerism. Since the founding of Post 119 on September 29, 1919, the men of the Legion and the women of its Auxiliary have symbolized both the importance of recognizing past values important to our nation, but present principles of service and sacrifice reflected in their countless good works in our community.

Thus, it is my pleasure to honor the Dunellen American Legion Post 119 with this plaque on their 100-year anniversary and to extol the members of the Legion as models of what makes America great."



Dunellen Report Information: The Dunellen Report is published quarterly in January, April, July, and October. If you plan on submitting events and articles, send them to us by the first of the preceding month. All material will be edited for content and suitability. You may submit content by email at: dunellenreport@dunellenborough.com, or by mail: The Dunellen Report, ATTN Mayor Cilento, 355 North Avenue, Dunellen NJ, 08812.

What's Inside The Dunellen Report?

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Court Regina Coeli #940 Holds Annual Communion Breakfast



Deacon Glenn Speaks

Dunellen, NJ November 3, 2019: Court Regina Coeli #940 hosted their annual Communion Breakfast on November 3, 2019.

The event was enjoyed by 37 members and guests. It began with mass at St. John the Evangelist, Dunellen and was followed by a breakfast at the Dunellen Hotel. The guests included State Regent, Audrey Spenard, members of the court and their families and Deacon Glenn Robitaille.

Deacon Glenn spoke about his faith life, how he became a deacon and the importance of Catholic Daughters. He discussed the

service as a deacon and how important all of us are to ministering and serving the church. Deacon Glenn mentioned how the Holy Spirit touches us in different ways so we can use our talents to help the church and our community. The court learned how deacons are assigned to churches, that they report to and serve the bishop and their priorities. He closed by saying the Catholic Daughters are an important part of the church and helping God through our community work.

Court Regina Coeli #940 is part of and connected to the national organization The Catholic Daughters of the Americas, headquartered in New York City. Formed over 115 years ago the Catholic Daughters is one of the oldest and largest organizations of Catholic women in the Americas. Its membership holds over 63,000 dues-paying members in 1250 courts (local chapters) in 45 states across the country, and in Puerto Rico, Mexico, Guam, the Virgin Islands,

Kenya, and Peru.

Catholic Daughters enjoy each other's company at meetings and work hard for their parishes and communities. Deeply spiritual, they share faith, love of God and a distinctly feminine spirituality alluded to by Pope John Paul II when he spoke of the necessity of "feminine genius" in today's world.

Catholic Daughters donate to charities, administer scholarship programs and strive "to be helping hands where there is pain,

poverty, sorrow or sickness." The CDA motto is "Unity and Charity." Blessed Mother Mary is their patroness. For more information about the national organization, visit www.catholicdaughters.org; email Martha Hamboussi at Cdofanat1@aol.com; or call 212-877-3041.

Pictured in the photo Deacon Glenn Robitaille, at the Dunellen Hotel, speaking to the Court members and guests.

AC Vintage, Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting



Left to right: Heidi Heleniak (DDMO), Marian Cruz (owner), Anthony Cruz (owner), Jason Cilento (Mayor), Stacy Narvesen (DDMO and Councilwoman)



Dunellen Government Directory

www.dunellen-nj.gov

All council meetings are held in the Municipal Council Chambers, on the first and third Monday of the month, located at 355 North Avenue, Dunellen. Meeting commence at 7:00 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

Elected Officials

Jason Cilento, Mayor
jcilento@dunellen-nj.gov
 Kenneth Bayer, Councilmember
kbayer@dunellen-nj.gov
 April Burke, Councilmember
aburke@dunellen-nj.gov
 Jessica Dunne, Councilmember
jdunne@dunellen-nj.gov
 Stacy Narvesen, Councilmember
snarvesen@dunellen-nj.gov
 Trina Rios, Councilmember
trios@dunellen-nj.gov
 Daniel Cole Sigmon, Councilmember
dsigmon@dunellen-nj.gov

Boro Administrator/ Municipal Clerk

William M. Robins, RMC
 732-968-3033 (Phone)
 732-968-8605 (Fax)
 Hours: 9:00am-4:30pm

Registrar

William M. Robins, CMR
 Lauren Darr, Deputy Registrar
 Hours: M-F, 9:00am-3:00pm
 and by appointment

Construction Office

Scott Luthman
 Office: 101 Prospect Avenue,
 off Skinner Plaza
 Hours: M & W 5:00pm-6:00pm
 732-968-3323 (Phone)
 732-968-3872 (Fax)

Municipal Attorney

John E. Brudner

Tax Collector

Patricia Dougherty
pdougherty@dunellenborough.com
 Hours: M-F 9:00am-2:00pm
 732-968-1226 (Phone)
 732-968-3903 (Fax)

Tax Assessor

Dawn Gultschall
 Office: 101 Prospect Avenue
 Hours: M 5:00pm-7:00pm
 and by appointment.
 732-968-3323 (Phone)
 732-968-3872 (Fax)

Parks & Recreation

Alex Miller
recreation@dunellenborough.com
 732-752-2466

Planning Board

Regular meetings are on the fourth Monday of each month at 7:00pm, in the Municipal Building

Board Members:

Roger Dornbierer (Chairman)
 Kevin Bachorik
 Thomas D'Amico
 Theresa Ratner
 Barbara Seif
 Adam Gordon
 Michael Mullin (Secretary)
 Kenneth Bayer
 Jason Cilento

Code Enforcement

Property Maintenance, Zoning
 Violations, and Illegal Housing
 George Deene
 908-672-2593

Public Works

Hours: M-S 8:00am-2:00pm
 Paint Drop Off: 2nd Saturday
 each month (8:00am-12:00pm)
 235 Hall St. Dunellen
 732-968-5455

MCIA – Division of Recycling

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 concerns regarding bi-weekly
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Librarian Wins Ruth Toor Award



Photo Credit: Gary Lubisco, Jr.

Pictured in the Photo: Hilda Wiesburg, Leslie Blatt and Elizabeth Willoughby at the Award Ceremony in the Hilton in East Brunswick

Dunellen, NJ December 15, 2019: On December 10, Faber School Librarian, Elizabeth Willoughby won the Ruth Toor Outstanding Media Specialist Award for the State of New Jersey. This award was presented by the New Jersey Association of School Librarians (NJASL)

Willoughby has been working at Faber School for the past 6 years. During that time, she has become an asset to the school. She works with all students and teachers. She has worked with Girl Scouts to help improve the Media Center. She has added a book club to the school and continues to revise and improve her curriculum. She is currently looking for ways to add STEAM-based activities to the library. She serves on committees for the Borough of Dunellen including the Municipal Alliance and Library Trustees and volunteers to help other groups in town. In addition, she maintains the public

profile for the school, runs the yearbook and the chess club. When asked how she felt about winning her comment was: "I was surprised to have won because there are so many excellent Media Specialists in the state. I have learned so much from them, my administration and my co-workers and am still learning ways to improve my media center and my teaching."

Ms. Willoughby is honored to have won this award and continues to be active in NJASL, Union Middlesex Association of School Librarians (UMASL), the township of Dunellen and the school. She is looking forward to the future of Dunellen and her role as the school librarian. According to the principal, Gary Lubisco, Jr. "This is quite an honor for Beth and the school. We are so happy for her and congratulate her on this accomplishment."

Washington Memorial Park, Dunellen Tree Lighting Ceremony

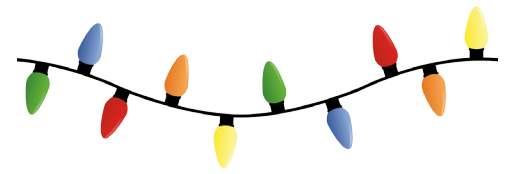


Left to right: Nancy, Sherri, Paul, Joe, Mike and Bill

Each year, the Dunellen-Green Brook Rotary Club provides hot chocolate with marshmallows, and donuts, at the Annual Dunellen Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony held in Washington Memorial Park. This year, about 150 people listened to seasonal carols and watched Kelly Seader, daughter of Dunellen Mayor Robert J. Seader, flip the switch to light up a magnificent tree that will remain in the Gazebo until mid-January. Santa Claus paid a visit, and there was a fine turn out by our Fire Department and Rescue Squad. It was a chilly but spirited night for all.

Rotary International, consisting of 1,200,000 members in 170 countries, raises

funds to help people internationally (such as the eradication of polio and the providing of clean drinking water) and locally. Our club supports the fire company, rescue squad, public library, boy scouts, little league and other groups, and provides thousands of dollars in scholarships to local high school students. For more information, go to our website: www.dunellengreenbrookrotary.org, or call Paul Spera at 732-921-5865.



Students Win "Walk this Way" Contest

Dunellen, NJ December 19, 2019: Fourth 4th grade students at John P. Faber School were selected as winners in the Pedestrian Safety Contest sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital.

The winners were: Ashley Boudreau, Patrick Martin, Aaron James and Gabriela Zumbado. The students created original artwork or an essay to show how to be safe while walking. The awards were presented in front of their classes. The students were thrilled that they won.

The contest was created to help remind students of how to walk safely and encourage the community to walk safely. According to Gary Lubisco Jr, Principal, "Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital and Safe Kids are an excellent resource for helping our students learn about safe walking. They

have sponsored contests, helped with National Walk to School Day, held assemblies for our students and also helped with Bike to School Day. We are thrilled that they have helped to encourage our students to be safe, not only in school, but when they are walking or riding their bikes. We are proud of the work our students have shown in this contest."

This yearly contest helps students in elementary school review and explain pedestrian safety. The students explained in their entries various ways we stay safe while walking.

Pictured in Photo: Back Row, Amanda Bolcar, Guidance Counselor, Amanda Blount, 4th Grade Teacher, Brendan Tennant, Vice Principal, Gary Lubisco, Jr. Principal. Front Row: Ashley Boudreau, Patrick Martin, Aaron James, Gabriela Zumbado, Laurie Mann, Fourth Grade Teacher



Photo Credit: Elizabeth Willoughby

2020 HAVE A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR DUNELLEN!

TOP 10 THINGS TO DO WHEN SELLING YOUR HOME:

#1. Call Me (I'll handle the other 9)

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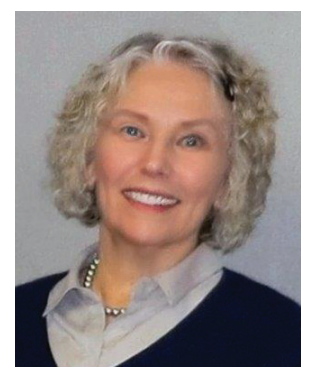


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New Police Officers:
Joseph Green and Michael Lowder



Pictured L-R: Police Chief Daniel Smith, Joseph Green, Lt. Christopher Beenders, and former Dunellen Mayor Robert J. Seader.



Pictured L-R: Police Chief Daniel Smith, Michael Lowder, Lt. Christopher Beenders, and former Dunellen Mayor Robert J. Seader.

“DREAMS” – A Parent Support Group



DREAMS, caption, left to right: Loretta, Bill and Maureen

DREAMS (Dunellen Resources to Educate, Advocate, and Mediate for Special Education) holds support group meetings for Parents of children with special needs in conjunction with Dunellen schools' Special Services Department.

Please join us at the February 6th meeting from 7 – 9 pm in the media Center at John P. Faber Elementary School.

This support group is pulled together by parents of special needs children who recognize the unique challenges of raising a child with disabilities and developmental disorders, DREAMS welcomes all parents, grandparents and professionals who wish to join in this vital voyage of discovery and commitment to our local special needs children.

DREAMS's goal is to provide support

and networking opportunities to the Families of all special needs children, helping parents and other family members to have a better understanding of our children's disabilities and developmental disorders, teach strategies for their education and for handling a wide range of topics such as dealing with professionals, the State, the child's behavior and medical issues, and pretty much any topic that you bring up that is of concern to you and your child.

Our 2020 schedule of meetings: February 6, April 2, and June 4. Administrators and members of the Special Education Department attend our meetings and are available for questions.

For more information, call Bill at 732-713-6068.

Dunellen Senior Club Fact Sheet and Application

1. The Dunellen Senior Club was founded on December 2, 1960.
2. It presently has 30 active members.
3. Membership dues is just \$10 per year.
4. The Senior Club maintains a small treasury as seed money to fund present and future activities.
5. Members meet every Friday at 10:30 am at the Senior Center on Orange Street in Columbia Park.
6. Present activities include Bingo and games, First Friday Pizza Party, celebrating birthdays, a monthly fundraiser, monthly videos, senior topics speakers, luncheon outings and trips, providing student book scholarships and community projects, and participation with other Senior Centers.
7. We are seeking to increase our memberships, services, and activities.
8. We are also seeking to increase our utilization of the Senior Citizen Building to include more weekdays, afternoon and evening hours to service more of our senior citizens.

I am interested in joining the Dunellen Senior Citizen Club.

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Birth Month and Day: _____ Year (optional): _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Email: _____

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