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### CEDAR CROSSING DEAL CLOSES

Red Bank is now the owner of a former industrial property on the West Side that officials say is destined to house some 30 low- and moderate-income families—and won't cost the town a dime.



The borough closed Monday on its purchase of the so-called Cedar Crossing property. Included in the \$2.45 million price was 1.9 acres of land and a dilapidated house along the Conrail tracks at Catherine Street, River Street and Cedar Avenue. The price also included engineering and architectural plans drawn up by the seller, which had proposed building 36 units on the site.

The state Department of Community Affairs has already ponied up \$2.4 million, and Mayor Pasquale Menna said the agency will come through with the balance, as well. That \$50,000 would pay for title and legal fees.

"The amended application is with the DCA," he said. "It's money we will get." All the professionals owed funds have agreed to defer their invoices until the state money comes through, he said.

Some "minor environmental contamination" at the site was cleaned up by the seller, Cedar Crossings LLC, to the satisfaction of the state Department of Environmental Protection, Menna said Monday in announcing the closing of the deal.

Red Bank was the first town to apply for and obtain funds under the DCA's Municipal Acquisition and Construction Program.

Next: the Red Bank Housing Authority will kick into gear to oversee the construction, Menna said. he expects the agency to work with the federal Housing and Urban Development bureaucracy and others to pay for construction.

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**03.06 - Teddy Bear Tea at Navesink CC REGISTER NOW.** On April 6, The Friends of the Monmouth Museum present a special event for kids 3 to 8 years of age, hosted at Navesink Country Club in Middletown with activities including a Teddy Bear Parade (led by 'a famous bear'), gourmet treats, 'a lesson on manners, etiquette and polite conversation' plus gift baskets and more. Click for phone/email contact info.

**03.06 - Hidden Valor: Female Soldiers of the American Civil War** In commemoration of the Civil War Sesquicentennial, historian Glenn LeBoeuf visits the Monmouth County Library's Eastern Branch for a presentation on the unknown number of women who disguised their gender to follow their husbands and relatives into battle — 'the strange stories of concealment, service in battle and discovery of these patriots without petticoats.'

**03.06 - EYESIGHTS Photography Show at the Guild** The Guild of Creative Art hosts the 8th annual Open Juried Photography Exhibition for its members (with a concurrent display of 'Small Treasures' by associate members). Juror awards will be presented (by guest judge Andrew Darlow) at 4p during the reception, and the exhibit continues through March 30 during regular gallery hours.

**03.06 - Rockit! Live** The kids of the classic rock conservatory (a program offered by the Count Basie Theatre Performing Arts Academy and directed by Bruce Gallipani) bring their best stuff to the big stage, in the climactic showcase event of the winter session.

**03.06 - Teen Arts for Peace: A Juried Exhibition** In conjunction with the Preview Party for the John/Yoko GIVE PEACE A CHANCE exhibit, The Monmouth Museum presents a display of artworks created by young Monmouth County artists with the theme of PEACE, reflecting and honoring the lifetime work of John

"Local taxpayers won't be funding it," Menna told **redbankgreen**.

The purchase was a political football last year, with questions raised about the process used to appraise the site. Councilman John Curley also objected that the town was buying through a "middleman," and not dealing with the principal owners of the property.

The 30 units, which will include age-restricted units, would count toward the borough's obligation to provide 74 sub-market-priced homes under the state Council on Affordable Housing guidelines.

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**03.07 - Little Silver Planning Board**  
Time: 7:00 pm

**03.07 - Tinton Falls Board of Education Workshop**  
Time: 7:00 pm

**03.07 - Red Bank Planning Board**  
Time: 7:00 pm

**03.07 - Little Silver Borough Council**  
Time: 7:30 pm

**03.07 - Middletown Township Committee Workshop**  
Time: 8:00 pm

**03.08 - Red Bank Environmental Commission**  
Time: 7:00 pm

**03.08 - Rumson Borough Council**  
Time: 7:30 pm

**03.08 - Tinton Falls Shade Tree Commission**  
Time: 7:30 pm

**03.08 - Rumson—Fair Haven Regional Board of Education**  
Time: 7:30 pm

**03.09 - Red Bank Construction Board of Appeals**  
Time: 4:00 pm

**03.09 - Fair Haven Planning Board**  
Time: 7:00 pm

**03.09 - Tinton Falls Planning Board**  
Time: 7:30 pm

**03.10 - Middletown Landmarks Commission**  
Time: 7:30 pm

**03.10 - Middletown Sewerage Authority**  
Time: 7:30 pm

**03.10 - Red Bank Shade Tree Committee**  
Time: 7:30 pm

**03.12 - Shrewsbury Shade Tree Commission**  
Time: 9:00 am

**03.14 - Red Bank Borough Council**  
Time: 6:30 pm

**03.14 - Fair Haven Borough Council**  
Time: 7:00 pm

**03.14 - Tinton Falls Open Space Committee**  
Time: 7:30 pm

**03.14 - Tinton Falls Historic Commission**  
Time: 7:30 pm

**03.15 - Red Bank Green Team**  
Time: 6:30 pm

**03.15 - Sea Bright Borough Council**  
Time: 7:30 pm

**03.15 - Tinton Falls Borough Council**  
Time: 7:30 pm

**03.15 - Little Silver Board of Health**  
Time: 7:30 pm