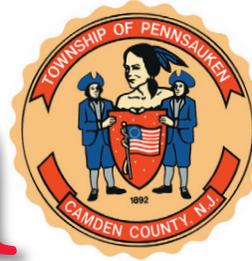


All Around Pennsauken



HAPPY
MOTHER'S
DAY!

VOL. 26, NO. 5

A Publication for the Community of Pennsauken

May 2021

Drive-Up Fireworks Display Held On June 12

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Pennsauken Township and its Parks and Recreation Department are holding a drive-up fireworks display on Saturday, June 12, at the town's Community Recreation Complex on Westfield Ave.

"In the coming weeks and months, we'll be celebrating the start of summer, as well as the significant holidays of Juneteenth, and Independence Day," said Township Committeeman Tim Killion. "To recognize all of these important dates, as well as to try to bring some normalcy back to our community, we've put together something we can all enjoy in a responsible way."

On June 12, cars will be allowed into the
continued on page 23

Radar Speed Signs Installed On Cove Road

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Travelers on Cove Rd. will now drive a little safer, thanks to the installation of two radar speed signs.

"Last year, we had residents from this area who were very concerned about the speeding going up and down Cove Rd.," explained Township Committeeman Tim Killion. "Fortunately, we have a great relationship with the county; we worked with them so we could purchase these signs."

The solar powered signs are located at the ends of the stretch of Cove Rd. that runs between Park Ave. and Rt. 130. One
continued on page 27

Pennsauken Township Holds COVID-19 Vaccination Event

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

To help local residents – particularly seniors without access to technology – sign up and receive the COVID-19 vaccine, Pennsauken Township teamed up with healthcare partner CAMcare to hold a vaccination event in Pennsauken. Held on April 10, nurses administered the Johnson & Johnson vaccine to several hundred people throughout the day.

"Pennsauken's municipal government was really excited to join forces with CAMcare to take care of our residents," said Mayor Marco DiBattista. "During this pandemic, we were determined to offer this to our town."

There were two vaccination sessions: one at Fire Station #3 on Lexington Ave. from 9:00 a.m. to noon; the second at Fire Station #5 on Union Ave. from 1:30 to 5:00 p.m. Scores of community members – whether by appointment or as a walk-in – took an extremely important step to protect themselves against the coronavirus.



Pennsauken and CAMcare teamed up to help local residents receive their COVID-19 vaccination here in town.

This vaccination event would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of key personnel that worked since January to open the vaccination centers: Committeewoman Nicole Roberts, Director Shakir Ali, Director Duke Martz,

Captain Ed Paul of the Pennsauken Fire Department, and OEM Coordinator/Deputy Fire Chief/Patrolman Bill Hertline.

As of this paper's print deadline, over 3 million New Jerseyans are fully vaccinated; and eligibility was expanded to
continued on page 23

Township, Veterans To Hold Virtual Memorial Day Event



During Memorial Day weekend, members of Pennsauken Township Committee will join first responders and local veterans for a "virtual" wreath laying ceremony at Liberty Park.

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Pennsauken Township officials and first responders will be joining members of local veterans' groups for a virtual Memorial Day Ceremony on Sunday May 30, at 11:45 a.m. Held at Pennsauken's Liberty Park, representatives from Township Committee and members from AMVETS Post 101 and VFW Post 1270 will come together for a socially distant wreath laying ceremony.

"It's Township Committee's honor to recognize veterans, particularly those from our community, who laid down their lives
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Look! inside

Police Make Improvements To Camera System
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Dealing With Door-to-Door Salespeople
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Mini Clean-Up Events Help Beautify Outdoor Spaces

The Pennsauken Environmental Commission and the Township's Parks and Recreation Department have scheduled several mini clean-up events to help beautify the town's outdoor spaces.

There are monthly mini clean-ups scheduled for August through October. Each clean-up will have a maximum of 15

people. Participants (individuals or a team of family members) will be provided with trash bags, a bucket, gloves, and a trash picker. As volunteers will be working outdoors, please wear appropriate clothing and footwear.

The following are the scheduled clean-ups:

- Aug. 29, 10:00 a.m. Pennsauken Creek, 3800 Haddonfield Rd.
- Sept. 11, 10:00 a.m., "The Pit," 4339 Burwood Ave.
- Oct. 2, 10:00 a.m., Tippin's Pond, 421 Cove Rd.

Registration is required by at least two

days prior to event. Once there are enough people, volunteers will be put on a waiting list and called if there is an opening.

All volunteers must wear face masks the whole time and practice social distancing. If you feel ill within 24 hours of the cleanup; come in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or is waiting results from a test; and/or you yourself are waiting on COVID-19 test results or have tested positive for the virus, please let the organizers know and stay home. There will be plenty more clean-ups to attend when you feel better.



Girl Scout Troop #5 and the community helped pick up litter at Tippin's Pond in April.

To register, please contact Stephanie Laurick at slauricknature@gmail.com or Duke Martz at emartz@twp.pennsauken.nj.us. Please include your full name, number of people (family) attending, the date/

location of the clean-up of interest, and a good phone number and/or email address to contact in case there is a volunteer cancellation, or the event is canceled or moved to another date.



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Construction: x130, 131, or 132

Code Enforcement: x134, 136, 169 or 171

Economic Development: x108

Housing/Resale/Rental: x145

Mayor's Office: x152 or 155

Parks and Recreation: x151

Planning and Zoning: x128

Senior Services: x125

Tax Assessor: x112 or 116

Tax Collector: x118, 119 or 121

Pennsauken Country Club:
(856) 662-4961

Pennsauken Free Public Library:
(856) 665-5959

Pennsauken Public Works: (856) 663-0178

Public Safety/Emergency Dispatch: 9-1-1

Non-Emergency Dispatch: (856) 663-1234

EMS: (856) 665-2323

Fire Administration: (856) 663-1208

Fire Prevention and Inspection Bureau:
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Police Department: (856) 488-0080

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Water Commission**
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MAYOR'S **Great Opportunities For Our Kids To Enjoy The Outdoors**

COVER



By Marco DiBattista, Mayor of Pennsauken Township

Like many of you, I'm extremely excited that the warmer weather has started to arrive. In the midst of this pandemic, there's nothing better than when you can get outdoors and enjoy some sunshine and a gentle breeze.

This is a great time of year for our kids. They can put down their devices — with a little prompting — and get outside and play. We have over 20 parks and playgrounds throughout Pennsauken. We've got plenty of places to help your kids get some of their boundless energy out.

Our skate park at Pennsauken's

Community Recreation Complex is a great place for our town's skateboarders to carve out some tricks. At last month's Township Committee meeting, we passed a resolution to enter a contract with American Ramp Company to come up with a design to renovate this popular park. We can't wait to share more about this as the project develops.

In addition to our great parks and playgrounds, our children can take advantage of a variety of youth sports activities that are available right here in town. Last month, I had an opportunity to throw out the first pitch at one of the Merchantville-Pennsauken Little League games. It's great that this organization offers opportunities to kids from both of our communities to come together and play baseball and softball. For more information, visit their website:

MPLittleLeague.org.

It's soccer season too. A game that's close to my heart, I played soccer a lot when I was younger; and now I coach my daughter's team. The Pennsauken Youth Soccer Club organizes both intramural and travel teams so that kids of all abilities can enjoy this great game. You can get more details online at PennsaukenSoccer.com or on their Facebook page.

Our Township has had a long-standing relationship with Pennsauken Youth Athletic Activities, who has offered young people a variety of sports to participate in. They are currently registering for football and cheerleading. You can find out more about this on page 30 of this issue. You can also visit PYAA.net.

Township Committee is fortunate enough to work with these groups to

help our kids enjoy outdoor activities and learn the important life lessons that only organized youth sports can provide. We are also totally committed to enhancing green spaces in Pennsauken. We've made some significant strides in the last few years, with work done to Delaware Gardens Park, Tippin's Pond, and the brand new Pickleball Court on River Rd. And there's much more to come.

So, get outside with your kids. Get on your bikes and take a ride to the playground. Become a volunteer on your child's sports team. Most importantly, just spend time with your kids outside, whether you're grilling hot dogs or watching them make chalk drawings on the sidewalk. You'll be glad you did.

Wishing you health and safety for you and your families.

Summer Music Camp Held In June

A summer music camp will be held June 21-25 in Pennsauken. Run by Promised Land Music, these expressive music classes feature fun music activities and games that teach note reading and encourage articulation. Instrument focus is piano, flute, clarinet, sax, guitar. Open to children 6-14 (broken into two sessions by age group), attendees will enjoy artistic fun that builds both creativity and skill building.

The cost is \$30 per child, with discounts for two or more family members. Rhythm instruments and other materials will be provided.

For additional details, questions, or to register, email muslife23@gmail.com or call (609) 206-9031.

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Carolyn Fitzgerald
(856) 220-5234

Carolyn is a longtime resident of the Chadwyck section of Pennsauken. Carolyn specializes in listing and selling homes in the area and often getting her sellers over asking price. Carolyn has been a full time Realtor for 17 years. She prides herself in working hard for her customers. Call Carolyn all your Real Estate needs.



Pennsauken – Meadowbrook Split Level

Check Out This Beautiful Remodeled 4 Bedroom Split Level Located in The Meadowbrook Section Of Town. Home Features An Upgraded Kitchen With Beautiful Granite Countertops, Remodeled Baths, And Family Room With A Cozy Fireplace. There Is Nothing To Do Here But Move In And Enjoy. Asking \$254,900.



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WAGSWORLD Getting Much Older Than Anyone Wants To Admit

By Bob Wagner,
AAP Columnist

I'm having one of those senior moments. The type where you realize you have not only become your parents, but have gone a step further.

My granddaughter, the first of the girly girls, has been chosen by her college

to do a summer internship doing research in a special cancer study. The professor running the program is world renowned; the project is just what my granddaughter wants to work on after graduation; and this puts her in a great position to be at the front of the line. After a flash of huge pride, I am suddenly face-to-face with fright. A whole

summer away, in the heart of a city with a tough reputation, sharing an apartment with other students (read - guys).

But she's only a baby! She still loses her glasses twice a week. Can she even cook? Her mom and dad are worried sick, and proud at the same time. I want to arm up, load the truck, and spend the summer in the city, providing transportation and security. Only the bride says no. "Calm down, you doddering, old fool," she states, while packing supplies for summer snacks. "She's a grown woman now, not your first little grand," the bride continues. "Where were you at 21 years old? You were in school and working a full-time job. You were out of the Army, a combat veteran, engaged, and getting ready to raise a family. You also had a cute tushy!" She threw that in to make me smile.

Of course, the bride is right. But that part of letting go is incredibly hard. I've watched my own kids grow and prosper, and somehow, they all made it through. But grandbabies! This is another matter entirely. And I don't like feeling this old, either.

So, the debate continues, without anyone feeling comfortable, but everyone

feeling hopeful.

In the continuing clean out of the old family estate, we continue to find stuff that kick starts the memories of our own growing up. Besides the usual family pictures and knickknacks, today I found five books of green stamps. A while back, that would have had us all scrambling for the catalog. I have no idea what five books would generate, but mix in a book of post cards from the 1941 class trip to Washington D.C., three books of ration stamps from 1945, and a box of military ribbons, and I think I could have picked up a guitar. I will have to post a picture on Facebook and see what others think.

From way back in the early 50's, at Sunday dinner at Grandmom's, the kids sat on a red vinyl chest that lived in the dining room, up against the wall. When not in use as a seat for the kids table, it held the Electrolux vacuum cleaner and all the attachments. Every one of the 12 grandkids used it for seating, at one time or another. And every one of them claimed it as their own, when mom was ready to let it go. Now, some 70 years later, I have hauled it downstairs, to the

door. All who clamored for it have shut up. I think I will post it for pick up if anyone wants a real grandmom memory. A donation to the Pennsauken Library would make Mom smile.

And, lastly, Mom is still in good health, but struggles with memory. She is well entertained at a memory care facility, with weekly visits now, and more to come as COVID-19 eases. She sends all her best to you, as do the bride and I.



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PENNSAUKEN MAY PUBLIC MEETINGS

May's public meetings are being held remotely via Zoom.

Details on how the public can participate can be found on twp.pennsauken.nj.us.

Township Committee
May 6 and 20, 6:00 p.m.

Zoning Board of Adjustment
May 5 and 19, 7:00 p.m.

Planning Board
May 4 and 25, 6:30 p.m.

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Street Smart NJ Program Promotes Pedestrian Safety

During the month of May, the Pennsauken Township Police Department is partnering with the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety and the Cross County Connection to promote "Street Smart NJ," a pedestrian safety campaign.

From 2015 through 2019, 876 pedestrians were killed on the state's roads. That translates into one death every 2.4 days. Street Smart NJ emphasizes educating drivers and pedestrians through mass media, as well as targeted enforcement. Police officers focus on engaging and educating, rather than simply issuing citations.

Both drivers and pedestrians alike

should be aware of the simple steps they can take to make the roads safer for everyone.

Driver Safety Tips

- Stop for pedestrians in marked crosswalks and at intersections
- Slow down and obey the posted speed limit
- Stop and look for pedestrians and bicyclists before turning
- Do not pass vehicles stopped for people crossing in crosswalks and at intersections
- Do not block or park in crosswalks
- Take extra care around buses

- Allow three feet when passing bicyclists
- Eliminate all distractions
- Driver sober

Pedestrian Safety Tips

- Cross at corners and intersections. Use marked crosswalks where available

- Before crossing look left, right, then left again
- Use the pedestrian buttons and begin crossing the street on the walk signal
- Be visible at night and in inclement weather
- Watch out for vehicles turning right on red
- Use sidewalks or walk facing traffic

- where there are no sidewalks
- When stepping off a bus, allow it to proceed before crossing to ensure a clear sight line
- Walk sober
- Eliminate all distractions

For more information about Street Smart NJ, visit <https://beststreetsmartnj.org>.

Pennsauken Police Make Improvements To Camera System

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

The Pennsauken Township Police Department is actively taking steps to enhance public safety through ongoing improvements to its surveillance camera system.

"Since last year, our department has been building upon our camera system in key areas throughout town," explained Pennsauken Township Police Chief John Nettleton. "These cameras provide our officers with vital information before arriving to a location. This use of technology helps our officers perform at a higher level and more importantly, keeps them safer."

"Both Mayor DiBattista and I, as well as the entire Township Committee, be-

lieve it's extremely important that our officers have the tools they need to better serve and protect our community and residents," added Deputy Mayor Jessica Rafeh, who serves as the town's director of public safety. "Whether they are responding to a traffic accident, or looking to apprehend a suspect, this camera system really benefits our police."

Using grant funding in 2020, Pennsauken Police began combining existing, independent camera systems onto one platform. This move enables the Township's officers to monitor surveillance cameras directly from their vehicles. Businesses and residents that wish to participate can also share their camera

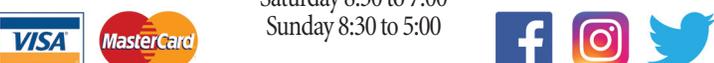
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Pennsauken
PUBLIC WORKS
DEPARTMENT

By Joe Scavuzzo, Director,
Department of Public Works

National Public Works Week 2021: "Stronger Together"

This year, the week of May 16 is designated "National Public Works Week." Each year, the American Public Works

Association chooses a theme for this week. This year's theme, "stronger together," challenges our members and

their citizens to think about the role public works plays in creating a great place to live. "By working together, the impact citizens and public works professionals can have on their communities is magnified and results in the ability to accomplish goals once thought unattainable."

There are countless examples around Pennsauken that support this sentiment, yet it is easy to take these for granted when the to-do list gets heavy. Sitting on the porch on a crisp, spring evening over a cup of coffee, I reflect on these examples and they begin to rapidly populate in my mind.

The first that comes to mind is the dedication of the Township's softball organization that cares for the fields at Bethel Ave. With my experience limited to six years, this is a group that communicates with our Parks and Recreation Department, who coordinates with the Department of Public Works staff. I have always seen a harmonious balance of responsibilities between the volunteer organization and Township, with the result being well-kept infields. I can recall my days playing PYAA baseball in the 1990's and the responsibility to clean up the water/Gatorade bottles, collecting the bases, and raking the infield after each practice and game. With the return of an expanded little league program, the consistent use and care of these infields will keep weed growth down, improving the appearance of our fields. How's that for a positive impact!

Taking personal ownership of and caring for a piece of Pennsauken, while exercising a talent, is another way that this strength is highlighted. For the past few years, "Kathy," a resident in the Centennial Walk section, has cared for the plantings and weeding at the Piersanti Dr. entrance sign. Her passion for gardening has made an impact on her neighborhood.

The MPWC asks for a similar request during the year: adopting a fire hydrant. They have received countless commitments from residents to ensure the removal of snow and tall grass from these neighborhood safety devices so that firefighters can find and access them swiftly.

I could easily fill an entire newspaper with efforts like these that are often overlooked and sometimes unseen. Did you ever experience a windy trash day and return home from work to see a clean neighborhood? We all remember that newspaper/junk mail found in our bushes, but the thought may not occur to us that somebody took the initiative to spend a few minutes making the neighborhood cleaner. If we all do our part, a little bit goes a long way.

In our fast-paced society of text messages and emails, we all feel rushed to complete our work and move on. It's all too easy to forget the simple gesture of a "thank you." On behalf of Superintendent Feriozzi and myself, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to "the guys...our guys." From the mechanics to our crew chiefs, to our boots on the ground, we are a department that is depended on for support from various agencies and other Township departments, constantly being pulled in multiple directions. These guys make it happen; and those that depend on Pennsauken's Department of Public Works are appreciative. I hear it all the time.

While I firmly believe in the quality of our services, there is always that chance that we drop the ball on a task. At those times, a simple phone call to our office – (856) 663-0178 – will address any issue. With you, our fellow Pennsauken neighbors' help, we constantly seek to improve our methods and ultimately, our service to Pennsauken.

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Monday's trash and recycling collection will occur on Tuesday, June 1. Tuesday's collection will occur on Wednesday, June 2. Wednesday's yard waste and white goods collection will be on Thursday, June 3. Thursday's trash and recycling will be picked up on Friday, June 4. Friday's collection will occur on Saturday, June 5.

Camden County is hosting a household hazardous waste collection event on Saturday, May 8, 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., in Atco, N.J. at the Parking Area at Atco and Raritan avenues.

A second collection event will occur on Saturday, May 22, 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., at the Pennsauken Sanitary Landfill, 9600 N. River Rd.

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Knock Knock! Who's There? A Door-To-Door Salesperson

Warmer weather isn't the only thing that's back in town. Door-to-door solicitors have returned too. In fact, you've probably already had several knocks on your door from eager salespeople looking to sell you anything from energy choices to windows and siding. And while you know these folk have a knack for showing up at an inopportune time, you may not realize that the Township has specific rules in place to help make sure residents aren't being taken advantage of by less reputable salespeople.

Anyone who wishes to solicit door-to-door within Pennsauken is required to register with the Township and obtain an ID from the Clerk's Office. They must have this ID on them at all times while going door-to-door. Saying "my supervisor has it" doesn't count. The badge they have from their company or from another community doesn't work either.



Each salesperson must also have a background/fingerprint or name check prior to soliciting. Not until they are cleared are they able to obtain the permit. Solicitors are also told at the time of application that they are not permitted to begin their work until they are fully authorized and have received their ID. Shockingly, some salespeople ignore this

rule. When, not if, you get a knock on your door from anyone soliciting anything...

- Speak to them behind your screen door and ask for their Pennsauken ID
- Make a mental note of the name and description of the person, as well as the company they work for
- If they do not or cannot present the ID, inform them that they're violating Township ordinance and turn them away
- Call the Pennsauken Police Department's non-emergency dispatch number immediately: (856) 663-1234; be sure to provide information about the person and what direction they were headed
- Also, please call the Clerk's Office and leave your name and address, as well as the salesperson's name, business and what they were selling, if possible

In addition to these tips, be sure to not provide any personal information to any unsolicited sales pitches that find your way to your front door. And if you just don't feel comfortable, don't answer any

Last Call For Best Mom, Dad Or Guardian Contest

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

The deadline is fast approaching for Township children to put a spotlight on the special people in their lives.

An annual contest, children in grades three, four, and five living in Pennsauken may submit a letter saying why they believe their mom, dad, or guardian is the "best." In addition, children participating in remote learning can nominate a loved one as the "best teacher at home."

The contests are sponsored by the Pennsauken Youth Action Committee and the deadline for entries has been extended to Wednesday, May 5.

The first-, second- and third-place winners will receive recognition and prizes at the Township Committee's meeting on Thursday, May 20, held virtually at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom conferencing software.

Judging

Letters will be judged by a panel on originality, content and ability to express feelings and ideas. Entrants are encouraged to be creative in their submissions. There is no "wrong" way to highlight the special person in their lives.

How to Enter

All entries for all contests may be dropped off to the Pennsauken Municipal Building, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd., Pennsauken 08110, Attn. Elwood Martz; please include "Best Mom, Dad or Guardian Contest" on the envelope. Letters may also be e-mailed to emartz@twp.pennsauken.nj.us. Please also include a contact name, as well as the best phone number and email address to be reached.

For advertising rates and information call 662-5100 or email allaroundpenn@aol.com

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SENIORCORNER

Camden County Offers Free Programs For Seniors

By Sonny DiSabato,
Senior Citizen Coordinator

Hello fellow seniors.

The Camden County Board of Commissioners are offering a variety of health and wellness programs that are free of charge to residents. In order to participate, you must be Camden County senior citizen aged 55 or older.

Online Meditation Classes

Held via Zoom, these mediation

classes are designed for those individuals who feel overwhelmed with the anxiety and stress of every-day life, or those who battle with stress-related disorders. Come as you are, have a sturdy, armless straight back chair all, in the safety and comfort of your own home.

Classes are one hour long, limited to 30 people, and are on a first come, first served basis.

- Gloucester Township: May 5 and 19, 11:00 a.m. to noon; register at (856)

435-5734 and/or recdept@glotwp.com
• Cherry Hill: May 5 and 19, 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.; register at (856) 488-7868 and/or recreation@chtownship.com

When registering, participants will be given the Zoom contact information, as well as the ID code to join the class. Please join 10-15 minutes early to sign in.

Virtual Dance Classes

Camden County's spring senior dance class is run via Zoom video chat. The virtual class will teach a structured therapeutic dance for individuals. It is fun and geared to help improve and/or maintain strength and flexibility.

Upcoming classes are held May 5, 10, 12, 19, 24, and 26; as well as June 2, 6, 9, 16, 21, 23, and 30. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86102173267> and the meeting ID is 861 0217 3267.

Registration is required and is first

come, first served. Contact (856) 858-2986 or email tom.castellano@camden-county.com.

Virtual Boxing Lessons

The virtual class will teach fundamental boxing techniques, sequences, and basic movements. Boxing gloves or hand weights work just fine for the class and no extra equipment is required to participate.

Pennsauken Police Make Improvements To Camera System continued from page 5

systems with police. In addition, Merchantville Borough has joined the Township's camera system; moving forward, this will allow police from both communities to access video feeds throughout the network.

This year, Pennsauken Police is adding more infrastructure to its system that will allow a minimum of 10 new cameras. Working with the Township's municipal government, video surveillance will be installed at several facilities, such as the Pennsauken Municipal Pool,

The virtual boxing program are held Thursday mornings from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. Classes are May 6, 13, 20, and 27, as well as June 3 and 10. The meeting ID is 833 4695 8009 and the password is 1615.

Registration is required. To do so, contact (856) 858-2986 or email tom.castellano@camden-county.com.

Wishing you good health and happiness. Hoping we get back to normal as soon as possible.

the Pennsauken Country Club, the Community Recreation Complex, Tipping's Pond, and the Derosue Ave. boat ramp. The purchase and installation of additional cameras is also planned for 2022, as grant funding allows.

"If improvements in technology allow us to be better officers, then we need to take advantage of it," adds Nettleton. "This project is a great partnership with the Township, our local businesses, and our residents; it's a benefit both to us and the community."



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Delayed By COVID, PHS Musical Goes Online

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Pennsauken High School's performance of "The Hunchback of Notre Dame," originally slated for April 2020 before the statewide shutdown, is getting its second act this month. Members of Pennsauken Stages are determined that this show will go on.

"We were working on the set until noon of March 13, 2020," said Kate Guenther, theatre and vocal music teacher at Pennsauken High School. "Emotionally, we need to finish this show. We have a smaller cast, but we're doing what we had planned last year."

Pennsauken's performance of "Hunchback," the musical based on the famous Victor Hugo novel and Disney animated film, will be recorded in advance, and then streamed online via ShowTix4U.com. The cast will be fully masked and socially distant, with staging elements agreed upon by both the students and their families.



"We've changed everything around to make sure the cast stays safe," explained Guenther.

As planned from last year, this rendition of "Hunchback" is looking to break a language barrier. In the book, Quasimodo is deaf due to the loud ringing of the bells. PHS Senior Christian Burkhart, who has aspirations to become an interpreter when he's older, is incorporating American Sign Language into his role,

something first done by Fifth Avenue Theatre in Seattle.

"Christian has worked very hard on this. All the kids have done an amazing job," said Guenther. "The pandemic has been so hard on them. I'm extremely grateful to the Pennsauken School District for allowing us to do this performance. These wonderful students are finally getting their chance to share their amazing talent with our community."

Video performances of "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" will be May 14 and 15 at 7:00 p.m.; and May 16 at 2:00 p.m. To access the performance, visit <http://Bit.ly/PHSHunchback>.

Phifer's Team Jersey Sports Day



Phifer Middle School enjoyed celebrating team jersey sports day! Two of Phifer's favorites wore their home team football jerseys. Go EAGLES!



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Third Grade Reflex Math Champions At Delair



Congratulations to Math Reflex Champions Zyhela Robinson, Gael Gallegos, Sofia Roman, and Benjamin Ramos! These Delair third graders are mastering their multiplication facts. We look forward to more champions to come!

Ms. Vesper's Class Makes Irish Potatoes



Students in Ms. Vesper's class at Franklin made Irish potatoes in March.

Fantastically Franklin had a very busy March with educational learning experiences! We celebrated Read Across America with guest readers and shared our cultures and traditions with each other. Students made Irish potatoes and learned all about Irish Culture. We read "Strega Nona" and learned about pasta and the Italian culture. Guest readers also shared their reading experiences with us!

Fine Faculty And Staff Celebrate Women

At nearly all American districts across the country, schools celebrated Women's History Month in various ways. Some schools displayed visual images, some created projects, while many announced a women's history fact each day. This year at George B. Fine School, Mr. Honeyman asked all of the teachers to choose one woman from history – past or present – that they would like to celebrate. Dates were put into a hat for teachers to draw. Whichever number the educator pulled out, they had to write a 30-second paragraph about their person.

On their particular morning, the educator of the day would present their person to the entire school via the loudspeaker. The women highlighted each day spanned from the famous to the obscure, but they all were spectacular in their own right. Names like Mae Jamison, Oprah Winfrey, Misty Copeland, Helen Keller, and Claudette Colvin were proudly discussed by our Fine educators.

This was special for students to hear the voices of their teachers and staff as they pointed out the special qualities of these historic women.

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FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Entering May At Pennsauken Public Schools



By Dr. Ronnie Tarchichi, MEd², M.S., M.B.S., M.A.², Ed.D., Ph.D., Superintendent, Pennsauken Public Schools

We are entering the last two months of the 2020-21 school year and there are a few items that I would like to share with the Pennsauken Community.

First, I would like to thank you for assisting the school district this year with the required social distancing, the CDC guidelines, the A/B schedule, and the remote learning schedule. The Board of Education and I truly appreciate how accommodating the parents and students have been during this difficult time in the world. I would also like to thank all our staff members, including administrators, teachers, secretaries, teacher assistants, maintenance and custodial staff, bus drivers and transportation staff, and food service staff, for the countless hours this school year. It was the goal of Pennsauken Public Schools to completely educate our children while keeping both them and the greater community safe

with our efforts. This year, we made sure everything was open, including all sports/athletics, extracurricular activities, and all programs, that not only educate our students, but create a sense of normalcy in their lives during an uncertain time.

Naturally, as things were different for students, some had a difficult time academically completing the year to the best of their ability. We are sensitive to this and would like to help our students catch up this summer. Pennsauken Public Schools will launch a summer remediation for students that need to make up classes or grade levels. Currently, your child's principal is assessing whether your child will benefit from remediation; and if so, you will receive communication from the administration and/or guidance department. For the summer remediation, all students in grades 1-8 will be in person on an A/B schedule and students in high school grades will be remote. It is important to take advantage of this opportunity if you are reached out to by your child's school. It

will help to catch them up academically, which will assist them for the rest of their education.

We will also be resuming with our summer trades camp for our middle school students interested in Career and Technical Education (CTE) options in Pennsauken High School. Our CTE options for students include Automotive, Carpentry, Cosmetology, Culinary Arts, Electrical Construction, Welding, Criminal Justice, Air Force JROTC, HVACR, EMT & Fire Safety, and Health Occupations.

Many parents and staff have asked about the upcoming 2021-22 school year beginning in September. I can tell you that I have been in discussion with many infectious disease physicians, internists, emergency medicine physicians, nurses, and medical professionals. The truth is more data is needed to determine if the antibodies from the virus can protect us from the variants, and if the vaccines can also protect you from the variants. Most medical professionals simply do not know but are positively optimistic the

data points in that direction. However, Pennsauken Public Schools will make sure that our students and parents are safe! We will be offering remote learning to any student and parent that requests it for the 2021-22 school year. Furthermore, in order to offer the most effective and safe "in-person" learning model for our students, we will be conducting a virtual town hall information session on May 6, at 7:00 p.m., where there will be medical professionals on the panel. We will discuss the current infection rate of COVID-19 and the projection for September 2021. We would like all of our parents to have the most valid and current information before they make a decision on whether they would like their children to learn "in person" or remotely for the upcoming school year. Depending upon the infection rates of COVID-19, Pennsauken Public Schools could be on a five-day, "in-person" learning model or a A/B split "in-person" learning model. All decisions will be made based upon current medical and scien-

tific data with the safety of our students, parents, and community in mind. More town hall information will be available at Pennsauken.net. I hope all of our parents and community members can join us.

I would like to leave you with some great news. Lisa Sassano, a teacher at the Intermediate School, was recognized for her hard work and impact by one of her former students, Shana Davis. Ms. Davis recently published a book of poems and affirmations she dedicated to Mrs. Sassano, whom she credits for fostering her love of poetry. This shows that a light always shines through the dark, and we will find that light together.

Pennsauken Public Schools looks forward to this summer and next school year. I promise that we will offer our students the most effective and safe education, especially during times of uncertainty. I am proud of the work done this year by our staff, parents, and students, and I pray that we see a positive light of healing for our district, state, country, and world soon.

Hard At Work In Delair's Garden



Delair students were pulling weeds and preparing the beds for springtime planting.

Students at Delair School took advantage of the beautiful weather and began to get our garden ready!

Children from Mrs. Anderson's kindergarten and Mrs. Dougherty's third grade classes went out to pull weeds and

prepare the beds for planting. A big shoutout goes to Mrs. Harris and Mrs. Francis (Pawlowski) for spearheading these efforts and getting us in the mood for gardening!

We cannot wait to see what blooms!

Mrs. Shaner's Saint Patrick's Day Gold Hunt

Mrs. Shaner's Preschool class had a St. Patrick's Day Gold Hunt. Students practiced name recognition and counting by finding the pot of gold with their name and counting how many pieces they found!



Fine Third Graders Dig Into Owl Pellets

In late March, Fine third grade students delved into life cycles and inherited traits of animals within their science curriculum. Teacher and textbook learning are important, but the learning really starts to sink in when students can put their hands on something.

Students in Ms. Landis' class were observed having a lot of fun dissecting owl pellets in order to see the contents of their diet. All students were anxiously curious to reveal the mouse or bird bones that may be hiding in the pellets.

This activity really helps students develop an understanding of animals and their life cycles beyond written word on the page or whiteboard. Students were seen comparing the contents and formulating several questions around why



Third graders at Fine dissected owl pellets as part of their study of life cycles.

some pellets were different than others.

Learning that is fun is the best kind!

Franklin Loves To Read



Mr. Cox created a beautiful bulletin board to celebrate reading at Franklin. During Read Across America, we dressed as famous Americans, in our favorite color, as characters from our favorite book, and players from our favorite teams!

Motivational Art Display At Delair



Art teacher Megan Moreau has painted pillars in Delair School as crayons with motivational character traits.

Our dynamic and delightful Delair art teacher, Mrs. Megan Moreau, is dazzling our hallways with her amazing art skills!

As a part of our ongoing social-emotional learning journey, Ms. Moreau has painted pillars in our building as crayons with motivational character traits on each of them! They grace our main entry way and inspire students to carry on the traits of honesty, responsibility, fairness, respect and caring.

Kudos to Ms. Moreau for this innovative idea!



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- Must pass CDL Permit Written Test P/S Endorsement
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REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICANTS

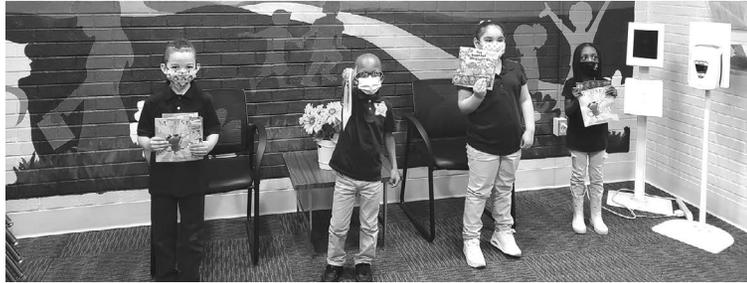
WITH CURRENT CDL CLASS B & REQUIRED P/S Endorsements:

- Must Pass Drug Test
- Background Check



For More Information call 856-662-8502

Carson School Spring BINGO



Students at Carson enjoyed participating in a Spring BINGO game. Ms. Cinalli created our Spring BINGO boards and called our games, infusing storytelling while calling out the spring pictures and words. Our winners received a book and fun stickers!

Carson Welcomes A Special Visitor!

Students were treated to a surprise visitor who hopped to each classroom bringing spring joy! Each student received a fun egg and they enjoyed welcoming their special guest!

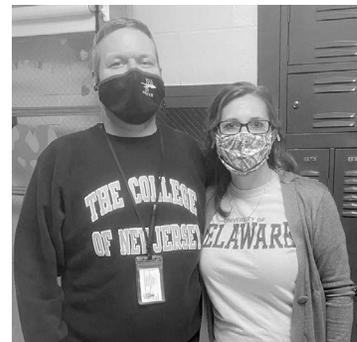


Spring Egg Hunt Fun At Baldwin School



Students at Baldwin enjoyed a spring egg hunt! Children grabbed their bags and buckets and had a blast finding the hidden eggs filled with toys on a beautiful sunny day!

College Shirt Day At Phifer



In March, Phifer Middle School celebrated college shirt day during its Spirit Week activities! It was a great time of the year to represent your college, especially during the NCAA tournaments!

Carson Kindergarten Students Enjoy A Sight Word Egg Hunt



Ms. Rosenman's class had a great time reviewing sight words with a socially distanced egg hunt! Students found eggs around the room with sight words written on them. They were excited to go on a hunt and show off their knowledge of sight words!

take care of your mind

MAY 20TH
6PM-7PM

❤️
👉

PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT

PARENTS HELPING PARENTS

ADDING SELF-CARE STRATEGIES TO OUR TOOLBOX WHILE CONNECTING WITH EACHOTHER IN THE PROCESS

Juan C. Escobedo is no different than many of you. Husband, father and counselor are just some titles he holds but in today's unprecedented times, he is also motivational speaker, handy man, teacher, student, artist, friend and connoisseur of all things delicious. Working in the field of mental/behavioral health for the last 24 years and having experience in corrections, working with children, adolescents and adults in both mental health and addictions, he provides fun and innovative ways to regain control of the self and nurture intrinsic motivation to better meet the demands of today's world.

Zoom Link <https://zoom.us/j/93175602163?pwd=eDM1cHc0a3B2UGVCCnJlSYWczUC9UZz09>

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Fifty State Managers Program Awards Scholarship To PHS Senior

By Frank Sinatra,
AAP Editor

Carmen Figueroa, a senior at Pennsauken High and cadet corp group commander for the school's Air Force



Figueroa

Junior ROTC, has received \$10,000 and a new laptop through a scholarship program that is investing in future leaders.

Created by the National Veterans Business Development Council (NVBDC), the 50 State Managers program shows appreciation for those currently enrolled

in an ROTC program by awarding scholarships across the country. Carmen's essay impressed ALLY Construction Services, LLC, a veteran-owned business that manages the New Jersey State Manager Program.

"Carmen's essay stood out to us be-

cause of how passionately she speaks about her uncle and others who have served in the military," said Jessica Wisniewski, project coordinator and corporate ambassador, ALLY Construction Services, LLC. "Regarding her uncle, she says in her essay that she views 'him as a hero, not just because he is family, because I admire the hardships he endured and how he turned those hardships into personal revolution.' We also really loved that she has volunteered to make a difference in her community."

"As a young man growing up in Pennsauken, when I entered and exited the military, I saw very little opportunity for veterans or soon-to-be servicemembers," explained John J. Piekarski, president, ALLY Construction Services, LLC who served in the U.S. Navy. "With the advancement of my career, I have always been grateful for my military experience with a goal of giving back to fellow veterans. Today, as the owner of a successful commercial construction services firm, my team and I have earned a platinum medallion award for the federal government's HireVets platform, support numerous veteran initiatives,

and are certified through the Veteran-Owned Small Business (VOSB) and National Veteran Business Development Council. As a member of the NVBDC, I have witnessed the great work this organization performs for the veteran community on a professional level. When the NVBDC launched the 50 State Manager Program, I was excited to find not only another way to give back to fellow veterans, but also to help the future leaders of our great country."

"I would like to thank the NVBDC organization and the 50 State Scholarship program for the generous award. The organization has invested in me as a future military leader and I'm extremely grateful," said Figueroa, who plans to study Criminal Justice at Rutgers University, Camden. "The NVBDC is assisting me in following my dreams, and I humbly ask and encourage the State of New Jersey and my entire community to support the NVBDC and future recipients."

For more information about Carmen the 50 State Managers scholarship program, or to make a donation, visit <https://nvbdc.org/new-jersey-sm>.

GRAND OPENING!



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First Presbyterian Church Starts Community Garden

The First Presbyterian Church of Merchantville, 10 W. Maple Ave., is starting a community garden to grow produce for its food pantry.

Volunteers are needed to help with the garden. Interested parties can contact Gary Peze at (609) 509-0183 or garypeze@aol.com.

Local Food Pantries Helping Those In Need

The following is a list of Pennsauken-based food pantries that regularly assist local families in need:

- Circle of Hope (food delivered to an individual's home); every Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to noon; (856) 320-8230
- Gates of Praise, 6345 Wisteria Ave.; every second and fourth Friday, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.; (856) 473-5417
- Martin Luther Chapel, 4100 Terrace Ave.; every second Wednesday, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.; (856) 665-0116
- Mary Queen of All Saints, 4824 Camden Ave.; every Saturday, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. (856) 662-2721
- Pennsauken High School, 800 Hylton Rd.; every first Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to noon; (856) 662-8500
- Saint Matthew's Methodist Church, 1665 Derousse Ave.; every third Tues-

- day, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; (856) 662-3610
- Serenity Christian Worship Center, 3555 Haddonfield Rd. – Suite B; every third Friday, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., and every second Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to noon; (856) 330-4915
- Temple Lutheran Church, 5600 N. Rt. 130; every fourth Saturday, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.; (856) 663-7783
- World Harvest Christian Center, 7201 Westfield Ave.; every other Saturday, 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; (856) 389-9191

Volunteers, as well as food and financial donations, are greatly appreciated by these organizations; to do so, please reach out using the contact information provided in this article.

Para obtener esta lista en español, visite www.twp.pennsauken.nj.us/content/local-food-pantries.

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HEALTHYLIFESTYLES Eight Ways To Reach A Healthy Blood Pressure

(Family Features) To take care of your heart, it's important to know and track your blood pressure. Millions of Americans have high blood pressure, also called hypertension, but many don't realize it or aren't keeping it at a healthy level.

For most adults, healthy blood pressure is 120/80 millimeters of mercury or less. Blood pressure consistently above 130/80 millimeters of mercury increases your risk for heart disease, kidney disease, eye damage, dementia, and stroke. Your doctor might recommend lowering your blood pressure if it's between 120/80 and 130/80 and you have other risk factors for heart or blood vessel disease.

High blood pressure is often "silent," meaning it doesn't usually cause symptoms but can damage your body, especially your heart over time. Having poor heart health also increases the risk of severe illness from COVID-19. While you can't control everything that increases your risk for high blood pressure—it runs in families, often increases with age, and



Photo by Getty Images

varies by race and ethnicity – there are things you can do. Consider these tips from experts with the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute's (NHLBI) The Heart Truth program:

1. Know Your Numbers. Everyone ages 3 and older should get their blood pressure checked by a health care provider at least once a year. Expert advice: 30 minutes before your test, don't exercise, drink caffeine or smoke cigarettes. Right before, go to the bathroom.

During the test, rest your arm on a table at the level of your heart and put your feet flat on the floor. Relax and don't talk.

2. Eat Healthy. Follow a heart-healthy eating plan, such as NHLBI's Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension (DASH). For example, use herbs for flavor instead of salt and add one fruit or vegetable to every meal.

3. Move More. Get at least 2 1/2 hours of physical activity each week to help lower and control blood pressure. To ensure you're reducing your sitting throughout the day and getting active, try breaking your activity up. Do 10 minutes of exercise, three times a day or one 30-minute session on five separate days each week. Any amount of physical activity is better than none and all activity counts.

4. Aim for a Healthy Weight. If you're overweight, losing just 3-5 percent of your weight can improve blood pressure. If you weigh 200 pounds, that's a loss of 6-10 pounds. To lose weight, ask a friend or family member for help or to join a

weight loss program with you. Social support can help keep you motivated.

5. Manage Stress. Stress can increase your blood pressure and make your body store more fat. Reduce stress with meditation, relaxing activities or support from a counselor or online group.

6. Have a Healthy Pregnancy. High blood pressure during pregnancy can harm the mother and baby. It also increases a woman's risk of having high blood pressure later in life. Talk to your health care provider about high blood pressure. Ask if your blood pressure is normal and track it during and after pregnancy. If you're planning to become pregnant, start monitoring it now.

7. Stop Smoking. The chemicals in tobacco smoke can harm your heart and blood vessels. Seek out resources, such as smoke free hotlines and text message programs, that offer free support and information.

8. Work with Your Doctor. Get help setting your target blood pressure. Write

down your numbers every time you get your blood pressure checked. Ask if you should monitor your blood pressure from home. Take all prescribed medications as directed and keep up your healthy lifestyle. If seeing a doctor worries you, ask to have your blood pressure taken more than once during a visit to get an accurate reading.

To find more information about high blood pressure as well as resources for tracking your numbers, visit nhlbi.nih.gov/hypertension.

Mother's Day Flower Sale May 5-9

Merchantville Masonic Lodge #119, 6926 Park Ave., Pennsauken, will hold its annual Mother's Day flower sale from May 5-9 in the Lodge parking lot.

Hours are from 9:00 a.m. until dusk, rain or shine. For more information, call R.W. Ray Taylor, Sr., P.G.C. at (856) 663-1719.



Pennsauken Sewerage Authority

1250 John Tipton Blvd., Pennsauken, NJ 08110

Phone: (856) 663-5542 • Fax: (856) 663-5718 • 24 Hour Emergency: (856) 662-0686

Think Twice About What You're Flushing

Baby wipes, disinfectant wipes, paper towels, and even "flushable" wipes, can't go down the toilet

Please do not flush baby wipes, "flushable" wipes, disinfectant wipes or paper towels down the toilet.

The Pennsauken Sewerage Authority is asking residents to think twice about what they are flushing down their toilets.

Paper towels, tissues, napkins, disinfectant wipes, and supposedly "flushable" wipes should not be flushed down the toilet.

We are seeing an increase in volume, which is to be expected given the number of people staying in their homes as

part of efforts to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

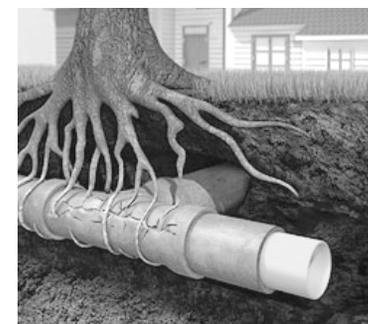
The Pennsauken Sewerage Authority remains available 24 hours a day to assist residents during the State of Emergency. We have enacted a "No Public Contact" policy for the protection of our neighbors and our employees but we will respond to all requests for assistance and will advise the homeowner of our findings by telephone. If you require assistance call (856) 662-0686.

Tree Roots Can Block Sewer Lines

With spring also comes renewed and vigorous growth of tree roots that can block sewer lines. We take every possible effort to keep our main lines free of roots through our maintenance program. The lateral line from your house to our main line, however, is the homeowner's responsibility.

If you have had a problem in the past, you are probably aware of the signs to

look for (slow drainage or a periodic back up). If you experience these problems, consider calling a plumber to check for tree roots. The plumber can remove the roots from your line. And, if you suspect the problem is in the main line, please call the Pennsauken Sewerage Authority at (856) 662-0686, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



REMINDER:

CHECK TO SEE IF YOUR NEXT PAYMENT IS DUE THIS MONTH.

HOURS OF OPERATION: Monday to Thursday – 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday – 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

In light of COVID-19, the Pennsauken Sewerage Authority office has closed its offices and drive-thru as of Friday, November 20, 2020 and will reopen at a date not yet determined. We will be continuing to monitor the situation closely.

To make payments you can leave a check or money order in our drop box (do not leave cash), or mail to PO Box 518, Pennsauken, NJ 08110. You can also make a payment using your online banking, lastly you can go to our website, psewer.com and click on the pay online button and follow the instructions, you will need your account id and pin.

If there is a sewer emergency you are to call the emergency telephone number (856-662-0686) and someone will respond to the call. If you need to contact us for information, you can email customerservice@psewer.com and we will respond in a timely fashion.

If you are having a financial hardship and will be unable to pay your bill on time, or in full, please contact us at (856) 663-5542 to make payment arrangements. A simple 5-minute call could save you the inconvenience of being without water as well as the shut off fee which is currently \$75. Please do not send post dated checks to PSA without prior arrangements.



GRAY MATTERS Thankful For The Shot... And So Much More

By Judith Kristen,
AAP Columnist

Well, this month is about the deeeeeep breath of relief I took when I got my second COVID shot at the Mega Center in Moorestown.

I was so happy after my first vaccine that I actually danced my way out of the building. This second time, I bet I gave a few dozen "elbow bumps" of joy to my fellow one- and two-shot people, the medics, local police, and military service members.

I was happy because it's always good

to feel safe. But added on to that, I knew by getting vaccinated, keeping to the safe-distancing standard, along with lots of handwashing, and wearing my mask faithfully, I was also protecting others: my family, my friends, and a whole lotta' people I don't even know.

Lordy, it's a wonder I have any fingerprints left after all the sanitizers and hand-washes, but it's worth it - for me, for you, and for everyone we come into contact with.

Again, my deepest, most heart-felt thanks to the front-line workers everywhere. Thanks to the scientists who de-

veloped the vaccines and worked to get them properly approved; thanks to our doctors, nurses, lab workers; all of the dedicated hospital staff; our emergency workers and police officers; staff at the food banks and the good souls who donate to them; neighbors caring for each other...The list is long and beautiful. God Bless you all.

And as I sit here re-reading my column, I'm having another thought. One of these days, many moons from now, I

suppose, I'm gonna' find out when Dr. Fauci is visiting nearby; I'm going to walk right up to him, and say a huge thank you, because his guidance made me feel safe before I even got those two shots. And then, I'll give the good doctor a great big hug.

But I'll spare him my "happy dance." Maybe.

Peace and love and wellness.

Your friend,

~ Judy

Road Work Begun On John Tipton Boulevard

Last month, Pennsauken Township's Engineering Department announced that a project was underway to repave a section of John Tipton Blvd.

The scope of the work runs the stretch of John Tipton Blvd. between the Food Bank of South Jersey and River Rd. Initially, concrete work will focus on ADA ramps, as well as curbs and gutters. Two-way traffic will be maintained on John Tipton Blvd. during this initial phase of construction. The road will be closed during milling and paving, and a detour will be put in place, which should only last two to three days.

The anticipated duration of this construction project is approximately two months.

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Stan has been with the funeral home since 2002. He graduated from Mercer County College in 2003 and received his Associate's Degrees in Business Administration and Funeral Service. Stan married his wife Julie in 2005. In 2008 they welcomed their son, Stanley V, into the family, and in 2014 welcomed their twins, Wesley and Madeline. They are members at Grace Church in Merchantville, where Stan has served for 4 years on the Vestry and volunteers with the food pantry. Stan's wife Julie is also the secretary at Grace Church. He has been both a coach and assistant coach of youth baseball in Delran since 2012 at both the recreational and district levels.



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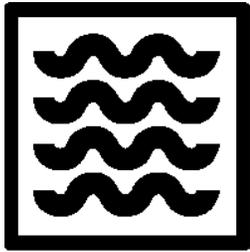
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MPWC WATERLINES

Consumer Confidence Report

We are pleased to report that during the past year, the water delivered to your home or business complied with or exceeded all state and federal drinking water requirements.

Our annual Consumer Confidence Report has been completed. This edition covers all testing completed from January through December 2020. We are proud to inform you that our compliance with all state and federal drinking

water laws remains exemplary. As always, we are committed to delivering the best quality drinking water. We remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of source water protection, water conservation, and community education, while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users.

The MPWC no longer mails individual copies of the Consumer Confidence Report to customers, as it is available

electronically on our website. To view it, follow the link on your water bill or visit www.gemgrp.com/ereports/MPWC2020CCR.pdf.

Printed copies will be available in our office on or before July 1, 2021, and when then the lobby re-opens to the public. If you have any questions, please contact our Customer Support Center during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Online Payments Should Be Made Via the Link on the MPWC Website!

Attention Customers: When paying your bill online, be reminded that the MPWC can only verify payments in real time if you pay through the link on our website. Please visit www.mpwc.com and click on the yellow button that reads, "Access Online Bill Pay." Payments will be posted to your account on the next business day. If you are in danger of service termination, you may make an online payment and then contact our office, where a Customer Support Representative can log on and verify that your

payment is pending.

When customers use a web browser to search for how to pay MPWC bills online, they are often directed to third party sights. Those payments can take up to 10 business days to reach our office.

THE QUICKEST AND SAFEST WAY TO PAY YOUR BILLS IS DIRECTLY WITH THE MPWC EITHER IN PERSON OR VIA OUR SECURED PAYMENT SITE.

Please note that if you choose to pay through your bank's online "Bill Pay"

option, processing will take some extra time. Your bank will actually cut a paper check and mail it to us via the USPS. Be sure to schedule your payment well in advance of your due date to avoid penalties and possible service termination.

As always, the MPWC is happy to answer any of your questions. Contact our Customer Support Center at 856-663-0043 during regular business hours, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. For after hour emergencies, please dial 856-663-0044.

A Reminder To Our Senior And Disabled Customers

NEW for 2021: Because our lobby is currently closed to the public, we have mailed senior/disabled application forms to everyone currently receiving a discount. When you receive your form, complete it to the best of your ability and return it to us via U.S. Mail or by leaving it in our drop box on the side of the building. If you have questions or need assistance with completing your form, contact our Customer Support Center between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Remember: if you are currently receiving a discount, you must apply EACH year to continue receiving your discount.

If you are applying for the first time, please contact our office to request a form and to discuss the eligibility requirements.

You may also print a copy of the enrollment form by visiting our website at www.mpwc.com.

Meetings of the Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission are currently being held via phone conference. For more information, visit our website, MPWC.com

WATER EMERGENCY?
Call 663-0044 anytime, 24 hours a day, seven days a week

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Mr. Frank Warwick, Asst. Secretary/Treasurer

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If you're moving out...

Please call our office at (856) 663-0043 to schedule a final reading to be done prior to your moving date or settlement. We need your forwarding address or your title company's contact information to know where to send the final bill.

High water bill?

The toilet's flapper may be the culprit to cause an "invisible leak".



A toilet is made to fill up as soon as the water in the tank dips low. If the flapper doesn't keep the water in the tank, water is flowing through the meter to increase your bill.

CHECK YOUR TOILET

In the GARDEN Enjoy The Sunshine And Plant Those Beautiful Flowers

By Victoria Rose, AAP Columnist

Hello again! I am so excited for this time of the year! The weather is warmer, and the sun is shining!

I love to see all the wonderful perennials waking up from their long slumber. For those that don't know, perennials are plants that come back year after year. How wonderful is that? Plant them once and they just keep growing. Plus, they are low maintenance. Sign me up! Some favorites we have on our property are hosta, black-eyed susans, salvia, primroses, coneflowers, asters, day lilies, and iris, to name a few. Perennials may only bloom for a few weeks or a month or two, depending on the season. When you purchase them, be sure to check the tag for their bloom time and whether to plant in full sun or shade.

To add more color to your property all summer long, you can plant annuals. Annuals are plants that live until it gets colder, and frost comes generally by the end of September. You must purchase and plant annuals every year. I follow my mom's golden rule; Never plant annuals until Mother's Day. She is right;

once I planted a week before and frost came one last time. I lost several annuals I had just planted. Lesson learned. Some of my favorites we plant are marigolds, sun impatiens, begonias and geraniums. I have planted other annuals but have found these to be the hardiest flowers that bloom all summer long. Marigolds and geraniums will require you to remove the dead flowers from the plant – often called “dead heading” – to create more blooms. Marigolds come in orange, yellow, white, maroon, and gold tones. Geraniums come in shades of pink, purple, red, and white. Begonias leaves can be green or red and flowers can be white, pink or red. Sun impatiens are very pretty, can tolerate full sun all the time and grow into large, beautiful plants. Their flowers come in several colors of pink, purple, white, salmon, red, and orange. Don't confuse these with regular impatiens; those come in the same colors, but do not like to be in the full sun all the time. Impatiens prefer the shade. That would explain why one has sun in its name.

If you wish to start an herb garden,

you can start this month with some basil, sage, oregano, thyme, and rosemary. You can put them in a planter and have fresh herbs growing right outside your door!

Last but not least, for your vegetable garden, you can plant some of those fresh Jersey tomatoes! Some eggplant and bell pepper plants will also grow

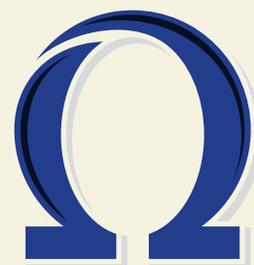
well. Cucumbers, pumpkins, and zucchini can be grown on your fence since they are climbing vines. Most importantly, be sure to water all your plants every day, unless it rains, or the soil already looks wet.

Now you understand my excitement over this month! Get out there and start

planting. If this is your first time, give it a try and start small. Seeing your plants grow is wonderful therapy and offers a sense of achievement. You can do it! I just know you can!

Thank you for taking the time to read my column. Until next time, be kind, be beautiful, and be happy!

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CLERKS CORNER

Polling Places In Pennsauken For Primary Election

By Pam Forman,
Acting Township Clerk

The 2021 New Jersey Primary Election will take place on Tuesday, June 8. Polls are open from 6:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

The voter registration deadline for the Primary Election is May 18. For those interested in voting by mail, ballots started to be mailed out to eligible residents late last month. In addition to using the U.S. Mail, voters can also place their com-

peted ballots in the drop box located in the Township's municipal complex, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd. The deadline to apply for a mail-in ballot is June 1. For details on how to register to vote and request a mail-in ballot, visit CamdenCounty.com/service/voting-and-elections.

Below is a list of polling locations for the upcoming election. Should residents have any questions, please feel free to contact the Clerk's Office at (856) 665-1000 x122 or x124.

Polling Location	Street Address	District #s
Temple Lutheran Church	5600 N. Rt. 130	1, 11, & 24
Working in the Faith Outreach Ministries	550 49th St.	2 & 15
Faith Independent Bible Church	7651 Rogers Ave.	3 & 23
Martin Luther Christian School	4106 Terrace Ave.	4 & 16
Pennsauken Municipal Court	2400 Bethel Ave.	5
Pennsauken Senior Towers	8001 Maple Ave.	6
Pennsauken Free Public Library	5605 N. Crescent Blvd.	7
Homestead Youth Center	4771 Willow Ave.	8 & 10
Saint Matthew's United Methodist Church	1665 Derosse Ave.	9 & 14
Macaro's Catering	6223 Westfield Ave.	12
Pennsauken United Methodist Church	3451 Pennsylvania Ave.	13, 17 & 18
MPWC	6751 Westfield Ave.	19
Circle of Hope Church	3800 Marlton Pike	20
Stonegate at St. Stephen's	5101 Stonegate Dr.	21
Cooper River Plaza	2400 McClellan Dr.	22

EDITOR'S My Mom Has A Kid Who Gave Her Gray Hair

DESK



By Frank Sinatra,
AAP Editor

I am the reason
my mother has gray
hair.

I'm sure my sib-

lings helped, particularly my brother. But I'm well aware of who I am. I'll own this one.

I will, however, argue that the pure, unadulterated joy of having me as a son – think rainbows, puppy dogs, and uni-

corns – more than makes up for the arguing, door slamming, and the occasional spackle job to the drywall that occurred during my “angry young man” phase. Apologies to Mr. Joel. At least, I did not wind up in the back of a squad car or have to make my one phone call. Even my idiocy has limits.

I think moms take what their children do – both the good and particularly the bad – truly to heart. When you kick a door open to surprise your brother like they do in an action film

and inadvertently knock a bracket off of his braces, they feel it, just as much as your sibling does. Sorry about that bro. They also give you opportunities to find your wings. Like art classes and trumpet lessons, although she may have second-guessed that last one after my impromptu concert with another local kid who was playing saxophone down the street. It didn't hurt that my brother had his trombone handy to help. I can only imagine the phone calls she got from the neighbors.

Moms are pretty awesome. You're not going to agree all the time and they will give you that “mom look,” regardless of how old you are. But we're better people because of them. Heck, if it weren't for them, we wouldn't even be people!

So to all the moms, the stepmoms, the grandmoms, foster moms, and every other mom in between, I wish you a very Happy Mother's Day. As for my mom, I love you very much. And look – I even wrote you a 324-word article as a present! Let's see the other Sinatra kids top that!

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Lifeguard Training Offered Through Municipal Pool

The Pennsauken Municipal Pool is offering lifeguard training for those interested in receiving their certification. This is a mixed course of both online independent course work and in-person water skills instruction held at the pool, located at 6100 River Rd. Both must be completed in order to be able to pass the training.

- Online: May 17-28
- In-Person: June 1-10

Participants must be 15 years of age before the training is completed and be able to swim (front crawl/freestyle and/or breaststroke). Individuals who successfully complete this course can apply for a lifeguarding position at the pool, although open spots are limited.

The Township anticipates that the pool will open this summer, but is still awaiting guidance from the county and the state.

The cost of the lifeguard training is \$90. For more information about registering for this class, visit “Pennsauken Municipal Pool” on Facebook or email william.finnegan87@gmail.com.

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Pennsauken Township Holds COVID-19 Vaccination Event

continued from page 1

those age 16 and up as of April 19.

“Hundreds of sites across our state [are] working to get shots into arms,” wrote New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy via a social media post. “We urge you to roll up your sleeve and get vaccinated.”

The Camden County Board of Commissioners are encouraging any adult who has not yet scheduled their vaccine appointment at the Camden County Vaccination Center in Blackwood to do so as soon as possible. Appointments are

available at camdencountyvaccine.com or by calling (856) 549-0530 or (800) 999-9045.

At <https://covid19.nj.gov/finder>, individuals can search for available vaccine appointments at locations across New Jersey. Visitors to the site can browse a list of sites or search by county. Checking the “Show locations with recently available appointments only” box will highlight only those sites with currently open vaccination spots. To book an appointment, please follow the instructions listed

for each site.

Pennsauken’s COVID-19 Numbers

As of this paper’s print deadline, there have been 4,413 confirmed cases of the coronavirus since March of last year; and 74 residents have passed away due to COVID-19-related complications.

“Whether you’re still waiting to get your first shot, or you’ve already been partially or fully vaccinated, please continue to do the simple things to keep you, your families, and your neighbors safe,” said Mayor DiBattista. “Wear a mask. Maintain social distancing. Wash your hands regularly. If we want to see more of our businesses open up to full capacity and activities to return, please continue to be responsible.”

For Pennsauken-specific updates on COVID-19, follow the Township’s social media channels on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter; visit the municipality’s website at twp.pennsauken.nj.us; or tune

Drive-Up Fireworks Display Held On June 12

continued from page 1

complex at 8:00 p.m. The Township anticipates that parking spots will be filled quickly. Once at capacity, residents will have to park in and around the area to view the fireworks off site. The fireworks display will occur in between 8:30 and 9:00 p.m. As this is a drive-up event, no

walk-ups are allowed. Attendees must remain in or on their cars; sitting in truck cabs/on a tailgate is allowed. Sitting or laying on the grass/parking lot is not permitted. Mask wearing and social distancing protocols remain in effect.

For updates, please visit the Township’s website at twp.pennsauken.nj.us.

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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS Pennsauken's Zantek Turns 100 Years Old

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Dolores Zantek celebrated 100 years

on the planet last month at IvyStone Senior Living in Pennsauken. Gathered



Dolores Zantek, seen here with her daughter, Dorothy, and Pennsauken Mayor Marco DiBattista, turned 100 years old on April 17.

outside with family and fellow residents, Mayor Marco DiBattista presented Dolores with a proclamation marking the momentous occasion.

"On behalf of Pennsauken Township Committee, as well as all of Pennsauken, we wish you a happy birthday," said Mayor DiBattista. "We're happy you're here with us."

Dolores let out a "Whoopie!" when

asked about how it felt to become a centenarian.

"I'm lucky to be here at that age," said Zantek.

Dolores was born on April 17, 1921 and lived in Moorestown and Philadelphia when she was younger. She grew up with her husband, John, whom she misses terribly. A homemaker most of her life, Mrs. Zantek is glad that her two

children and four grandchildren keep her company, particularly when she can't quite put her finger on specific details.

"My daughter knows more than I do. Old age is setting in," jokes Dolores.

As for living a long life, she recommends appreciating the little things.

"Enjoy life the best way you can. We weren't rich, but we were happy."

Sage advice indeed.

Michele Foster Lucas Shares Artistic Talents

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

For over 30 years, Michele Foster Lucas has been expressing herself on canvas. The longtime Pennsauken resident's work has spanned several genres: folk, abstract, figure, and the like. But in truth, her pursuits are a journey into herself, where the rest of the world disappears, and she finds contentment.

"Art is my place to hide, for lack of a better word," explains Foster Lucas. "It's part of exploration. It doesn't always show through what I want to do, but it makes me feel good. It's like a good cup of coffee. Just the thought of making art excites me."

Michele, who is self-taught and prays over her work and clients, giving glory to God, enjoys using mixed media in her work. Oils, acrylics, pastels, and ink are used separately or mixed up together. She also incorporates botanicals, sand,

and even found objects.

"I use a little bit of everything."

Her work has been displayed in the Remeo Art Gallery and Gallerie 500 in Washington D.C. and Michele was a featured artist at the Essence of African Fashion Show and the October Gallery in Philadelphia. Foster Lucas currently has an exhibit at the Athenaeum of Philadelphia which runs through May 28.

"After all these years, I've gotten to the point where I'm a 'regular artist,' and people respect my work. It feels good," says Michele. "It's just my hope that what I do makes people happy."



The work of Pennsauken resident Michele Foster Lucas is currently on exhibit at the Athenaeum of Philadelphia through May 28.

The work of Michele Foster Lucas can be found on both Facebook and Instagram. Private showings are available by emailing prayap@aol.com.

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FOODADVENTURES

Coffee, Art And Culture A Ready Pour At The Station

By Rachael Shugars, AAP Columnist

Coffee. Art. Culture. When I visited the website for The Station, that's the first thing that jumped out at me. What did it really mean and how deep were those roots for what coffee, art, and culture really are?

I've visited 10 E Chestnut Ave in Merchantville many, many times. Its position along the walking trail that stretches through Merchantville and Pennsauken has made it extremely accessible. You can't miss this place, as it still dons the exact architecture of the original purpose for the building, the Merchantville Railroad Station!

As you enter the door, you make your way left up to the counter and kitchen area. Their menus consist of lots of sandwiches and fresh baked goods. Their array of beverages, both hot and cold, can be enjoyed with a meal or by themselves. I have found my favorite items on the menu and it's my first suggestion to anyone who has never been. I absolutely love the gryere and onion grilled cheese sandwich with a side of carrots and turmeric hot chocolate. In warmer weather I'll switch my hot chocolate with

one of their many iced drink options. Another food-friendly fact for this place is that they have a whole vegan and gluten-free menu. This place has something for everyone.

Once you have placed your order, you head outside and wait at the window to receive your food. Before heading out, I suggest checking out the quaint collection of purchasable goods and art that are available right up by the counter and hung along the walls of the café. All of the art and artwork are done by local artists which adds to the small-town charm of this place. There is a whole seating area inside, which currently houses a small art gallery rather than the normal café seating due to COVID-19 restrictions. If you're set on enjoying your meal on the property, you'll have to check out their garden area outside; it's fenced in and the perfect place to enjoy the impending nice weather, people watch, or listen to live music when The Station hosts a performance.

Believe it or not, there is even a music and arts learning center housed in the upstairs of this place! The Eiland Arts

Center offers classes on music and the arts. The 3,000 square foot space is also available for rent upon request. Check out this little gem ASAP.

The Station is open Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; and Saturday, 7:30

a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Visit merchantvillestation.com to view their menu and get more information about classes that might interest you. You can also call (856) 488 - 0973.

I'd love to hear what you think of this place. Be sure to check out my Facebook

page, "AAP Food Adventures," and leave me a comment on what you loved or what you'd love to see more of. You can also email me at foodadventure-spennsauken@gmail.com.

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Collectible Sneaker Store Opens On Westfield

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

For sneakerheads, a pair of Nikes or Adidas is much more than something you put on your feet. It's an emerging investment to buy, sell, and trade. According to analysis by Cowen Equity Research, the sneaker resale market could potentially reach \$30 billion by 2030. And two cousins are ready to score big with their newest business venture.

Chris and Felix Castillo have opened Scores, a store on Westfield Ave. that focuses on the collectible sneaker market, something the two have been locked into for over a decade.

"Buying, selling, and trading sneakers

has been a passion for years now," said Felix, who started as high school freshman and Chris was in middle school. "It's crazy how the sneaker game has evolved in the last two years. The hype is super crazy."

"We finally have the opportunity to put our products in a brick-and-mortar store," added Chris. "We're glad to be in the space and offer limited edition items."

The Castillos are offering shoes you won't find in a regular store. These are limited edition sneakers that are difficult to grab when they're first released.

"These sneakers you will not find at



Pennsauken Mayor Marco DiBattista helped cousins Chris and Felix Castillo officially open Scores, a collectible sneaker store on Westfield Ave.

the mall," explained Chris. "These are for people who are into limited edition."

"They're super hard to get. When you get a pair, you're like a kid in a candy store," said Felix.

Pennsauken Florist Moves To New Location

The Cherry Hill Flower Barn has moved to a new location in town: 7905 Browning Rd., Suite 212, in Cooper Center. Run by Pennsauken native Rick Cuneo, shop hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday; and 9:00 a.m. to noon on Saturday.

In addition to sneakers, the cousins also offer graded sports and Pokémon cards.

"We've got some of the hottest cards too," added Chris. "There's not too many card shops in the area."

Pennsauken Mayor Marco DiBattista was on hand for Scores' ribbon cutting last month, where the Castillos were surrounded by family and friends.

"As the Mayor of Pennsauken, representing the rest of Township Committee and all of our town, we're honored to come out here and cut this ribbon," said Mayor DiBattista. "I think this business is going to be incredible. We wish you guys nothing but the best of the best of luck."

Scores is located 4616 Westfield Ave., Unit C. Hours of operation are Monday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. For more info, call (856) 426-5761.



Township Developing List Of Building Properties For Rent

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

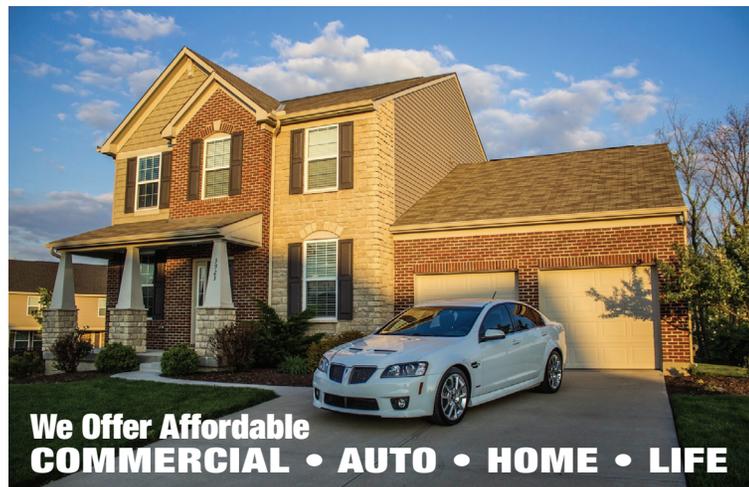
As part of an initiative of Pennsauken's municipal government and its economic development department, property owners can submit business listings in town that are available for rent.

"We realize that it can be difficult right now to connect property owners who have open buildings with people looking to move their businesses into just the right space," explained Pennsauken Deputy Mayor Jessica Rafeh. "Working with our economic development department, we're hoping to make it a little easier."

Business properties for rent can be submitted via the Pennsauken Township website. Listings will be shared via Google Document for a month, after which it will be removed, unless the property is resubmitted by the property owner.

The deadline for the first list is Friday May 7, at 11:00 p.m.

To submit a listing, visit www.twp.pennsauken.nj.us/content/properties-available-rent. For more details, email edev@twp.pennsauken.nj.us.



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Radar Speed Signs Installed On Cove Road Township, Veterans To Hold Virtual Memorial Day Event continued from page 1

continued from page 1

is placed at the Centre St. intersection, the other right by Walnut Ave. Studies show that the installation of radar speed signs positively impacts safe driving. When alerted by a radar sign, drivers exceeding the speed limit will slow down 80 percent



Last month, two radar speed signs were installed along Cove Rd. to help reduce vehicle speeds. Seen here are Township Committeeman Tim Killion, Mayor Marco DiBattista, and members of the town's Public Works Department.

of the time. Average speeds are reduced by anywhere from 10 to 20 percent, and overall compliance with the posted speed limit increases from 30 to 60 percent.

"On behalf of myself and Township Committee, we're just really happy to be able to have the county work with us, so that we can provide something that offers better safety for our residents," said Pennsauken Mayor Marco DiBattista.

"I'd like to thank the county, for all the work they did partnering with us; the residents of this community who shared their concerns; and the township staff, who each and every day, are focused on the betterment of Pennsauken," added Killion.

in service to their country," said Pennsauken Mayor Marco DiBattista. "Soon after the wreath laying ceremony, we'll be sharing photos and video of the event with our residents."

Event highlights will be shared on the Township's social media channels on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter; on Pennsauken's website, twp.pennsauken.nj.us; and on Pennsauken Television, Channel 19 on Xfinity and Channel 21 on Fios.

Flag Placements Held This Month

As part of their observance of Memorial Day, American Legion FW Grigg Post 68 places American flags on the

grave sites of veterans in Pennsauken's cemeteries. Community members and service groups are invited to participate in this simple, yet powerful gesture that honors the men and women who paid the ultimate price for freedom.

FW Grigg Post 68 will hold two flag placements this month:

- Saturday, May 8, 9:00 a.m.; Bethel Memorial Park, Cove Rd. and Westfield Ave.
- Saturday, May 15, 9:00 a.m.; Sunset Memorial Park, 1605 Union Ave.

For more information, visit "FW Grigg Post 68 American Legion" on Facebook.

Online Wall Of Honor Recognizes Veterans

Located on Pennsauken Township's website, Pennsauken's online Wall of Honor recognizes Township residents, past or present, living or deceased, that proudly served in our nation's armed forces.

This is not a complete list and will be periodically updated. If individuals know of a past or present resident, living or dead, who has served in the military that is currently not included on the Wall of Honor, they can submit the name via an easy-to-use online form.

To view the list or to submit a name, visit www.twp.pennsauken.nj.us/content/pennsauken-wall-honor.

Monster Carp Caught At Tippin's Pond



Mr. Beltran, a Pennsauken-area resident, caught a 29-inch-long carp out of Tippin's Pond! Beltran has never seen a fish that big come out of the pond... and neither have we! Immediately after this picture was taken, the fish was safely placed back in the water, where it swam away.

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inBooks

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Programs For Children And Families

- Preschool Storytime – Tuesdays, May 4, 11, 18 & 25; 11:00 a.m. Join Miss Susan and Miss Sabrina for virtual, interactive story time fun, live via Zoom! Online registration is required at <https://tinyurl.com/pfplstory21>. For children ages 3+ and their caregivers.
- What's New in Youth Services – Friday, May 7; 10:00 a.m. Ms. Susan and Ms. Sabrina provide a quick virtual tour of the Youth Services Department, live on Facebook, including a discussion of new materials, upcoming programs, and a Q&A.
- Animal Crossing "Isle of PL" Grand

May Virtual Library Events www.facebook.com/pennsaukenlibrary www.instagram.com/pennsaukenlibrary

Opening – Mondays, May 3 & 17; 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. The "Isle of PL" welcomes Animal Crossing New Horizons players of all ages! Our island will be open on the first and third Mondays of the month. To visit, add the PFPL's Nintendo Friend Code, SW-3902-1262-4235; then once playing, visit your airport, and select "visit through online play" to find us. Note: A Nintendo Online subscription is required for online play. For questions, contact youthservices@pennsaukenlibrary.org or (856) 665-5959 ext. 6.

- hipPOP fitness – Thursday, May 20; 7:00 p.m. For teens and young adults (adults also welcome). Join certified instructor Amanda DeSouza for this virtual exercise class! hipPOP fitness® is a triple threat: dance, strength and yoga all in one class! Register in advance at <https://tinyurl.com/pfplhipfit2>. Questions? Please call 856-665-5959 ext. 6 or email youthservices@pennsaukenlibrary.org.

Adult Services

- Hosting a Meeting in Zoom 101: Part 2 – Wednesday, May 5; 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Once you have completed our

"Hosting a Meeting Zoom 101: Part 1", our instructor will guide you through Part 2 and take you beyond the basics. This session will review more advanced Zoom Meeting features as well as touch on the Zoom Client software. We will discuss scheduling and hosting your Meetings with an emphasis on best practices. To register: <https://tinyurl.com/pfplzoom101>.

- Home Downsizing Program: 25 Categories Guaranteed to Disappoint When Selling Your Stuff – Tuesday, May 11; 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. In this session, Professional Appraiser Mike Ivankovich will explain why many of the things you own may be worth much less than you thought. But don't despair! He'll also reveal those categories of items that are probably worth more than you expected. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/pfplmike2>.
- Ask-A-Librarian Live Online – Tuesday's at 7:00 p.m.; Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.; Saturdays at 11:00 a.m. Have a question? Connect one-on-one with a librarian online. To participate, you must register ahead of time for a session with a librarian. – Register for Tuesdays:

<https://tinyurl.com/AALLOTues>
 – Register for Thursday:
<https://tinyurl.com/AALLOThurs>
 – Register for Saturdays:
<https://tinyurl.com/AALLOSat>

Can't chat online? No problem. Call the Library anytime at (856) 665-5959 and leave a message. A member of the Library staff will return your phone call. Please dial ext. 4 for Reference or ext. 5 for Youth Services.

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856-665-5959

www.pennsaukenlibrary.org

Monday: 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday - Friday: 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Saturday: 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Sunday: CLOSED

The Pennsauken Free Public Library will be closed on Saturday, May 29, through Monday, May 31, for Memorial Day weekend.

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inSports

Diaz Earning Five Varsity Letters At PHS

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

In a normal school year, Pennsauken High School junior Marlena Diaz would normally play soccer, bowling, and softball for the Indians. But as we're all aware, this isn't a normal year. COVID-19 has afforded her a unique opportunity. Come the end of the school year, Diaz will letter in five sports.

"I usually don't have much to do other than sports," explained Diaz. "And since there were four seasons this year because of COVID, I was able to have more time. I thought, how about I try a different sport?"

Marlena wound up trying two: basketball and volleyball, making both var-

sity teams.

"My coaches were super," said Diaz. "They were willing to work with me."

In addition to playing two more sports, Marlena was able to keep up her grades.

"I think being super busy helps me with my education. If I don't have a lot of time, I will make sure that I get it done. The less time I have the better I do."

"Marlena is the model high school scholastic student-athlete," says Billy Snyder, PHS athletic director. "She understands that academics are first. She has a 3.8 GPA. She is a great teammate who is coachable, and willing to try new things. Marlena is amazing. She just kept

asking me if she could try new sports and before we knew it, she had five varsity sports. I am so proud of her. She is exactly what I mean when I say we are #BuildingChampions at Pennsauken High School."



Marlena Diaz catches up on schoolwork as she waits her turn during a bowling match. The PHS junior with a 3.8 GPA is set to earn five varsity letters.

Mayor DiBattista Throws Out First Pitch



Pennsauken Mayor Marco DiBattista throws out the first pitch at the opening game for the Merchantville-Pennsauken Little League.

PYAA SPORTS

PYAA Football And Cheer Registration

Registration for PYAA football and cheerleading are held every Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., at "The Pit" turf field, 4250 Burwood Ave. Registration prices are as follows:

- Football: \$175
- Cheerleading: \$125

There will be a mandatory \$50 deposit for equipment, due at the time of distribution. This fee will be given back when equipment is turned in at the end of the year.

Volunteers Needed

Pennsauken Youth Athletic Activities (PYAA) is accepting volunteers for the 2021 season. Meetings will be held every first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. for Pennsauken residents at the PYAA Fieldhouse, 3501 Elm Ave. Come support the youth of Pennsauken, develop lasting relationships, and have fun!

Interested parties who have questions can email admin@pyaa.net. For more information about the organization and its programs, visit PYAA.net.

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LEGAL NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

T-Mobile proposes to collocate antennas (tip heights 116') on the water tank at 6950 Marion Ave, Pennsauken, NJ (20210235).

Interested parties may contact Scott Horn (856-809-1202) (1012 Industrial Dr., West Berlin, NJ 08091) with comments regarding potential effects on historic properties.

PUBLIC NOTICE

AT&T proposes to erect a new 38.5' wood utility pole and install a top-mounted antenna at 41' near 4498 Cooper Ave, Pennsauken, PA (20210380).

Interested parties may contact Scott Horn (856-809-1202) (1012 Industrial Dr., West Berlin, NJ 08091) with comments regarding potential effects on historic properties.

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