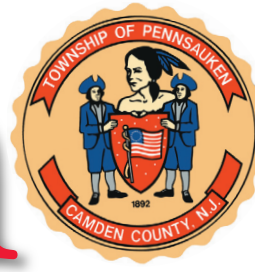


All Around Pennsauken



VOL. 25, NO. 11

A Publication for the Community of Pennsauken

November 2020

How To Vote In November 3 General Election



A secure vote-by-mail drop box has been installed outside of the Pennsauken Municipal Building, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd.

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

The general election, which determines the presidential, congressional, and municipal races, will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 3. But because of the coronavirus outbreak, it will be conducted primarily through vote-by-mail ballots. Casting your vote will be vastly different than last year. The information below can help residents navigate this unprecedented process.

Voting By Mail

Camden County officials mailed tens of thousands of vote-by-mail ballots. All active, registered voters were sent a vote-by-mail ballot.

When using a vote-by-mail ballot, residents are asked to please read the instructions closely before completing it. There

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Renovated Delaware Gardens Park Opens

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Pennsauken Mayor Tim Killion and Deputy Mayor Marco DiBattista were on hand for a ceremonial ribbon cutting at the newly renovated Delaware Gardens Park. The work done there constitutes an \$870,000 investment, made possible through a Green Acres Grant awarded to the Township in 2018.

"I'm really excited to be here at the grand opening of the new Delaware Gardens Park. This has been a long time in the making," said Mayor Killion. "I really appreciate all the hard work from Public Works, Parks and Recreation, and many others to get this done. And a big thank you to our deputy mayor, Marco DiBattista, for his leadership in overseeing this project."

"The state, through a Green Acres Grant,



Mayor Tim Killion and Deputy Mayor Marco DiBattista cut the ribbon to officially open Delaware Gardens Park after extensive renovations made possible through a Green Acres Grant.

gave Pennsauken the money to put together this great outdoor facility for our residents," added Deputy Mayor DiBattista.

"Myself, and the entire Township Committee, couldn't be more excited to show

continued on page 27

Pennsauken Part Of Taskforce Addressing Philly Noise Issue

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

It's an all-too frequent story that many Pennsauken residents share: loud music with thumping bass echoing at all hours of the night. Sometimes, it's so intense that it rattles the windows. The noise can wake you up or keep you from getting some much needed sleep. And when it's bad, it doesn't stop until the sun comes up, much to the dismay of Township residents, their families, and their pets. This issue has gone on for several years; and what's worse, much of this noise pollution is coming from across the river.

"We're all aware of the noise coming from Philadelphia that seems to be blasted into our homes late into the night. You

continued on page 27



"Boom Cars" in Philadelphia have oversized audio systems that generate some of the loud music that's disturbing Pennsauken residents late into the night. Photo credit: Facebook, "Inconsiderate Late Night Philly Music."

Look! inside

Professional Services Needed For Pennsauken
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Harvest At Community Garden
See Page 10

Manage Medical Conditions During COVID-19
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Pennsauken Historical Society Announces Re-Opening Of Tours By Appointment

The Pennsauken Historical Society is now accepting appointments for guided visits to its historic homes: Burrough-Dover House, off Haddonfield Rd.; and Griffith Morgan House, off River Rd.

Individuals and groups under 10, limited to single households, may contact our volunteer staff by e-mail or telephone message to arrange a visit subject to appropriate pandemic protective practices.

All visitors must wear appropriate masks and maintain social distancing of at least six feet from those outside their household during the visits. Hand sanitizer will also be available at our sites during visits. Depending on current conditions and availability of volunteer staff, visits will be limited to exterior tours with presentation of the history of the homes. However, there will be access to comfort facilities. Copies of the spring issue of Camden County Heritage magazine will also be available.

Expanded public access to our historic homes and additional historical programming will be offered only as overall pandemic conditions permit.



The Pennsauken Historical Society is now taking appointments for guided visits to the Griffith Morgan House and the Burrough-Dover House, seen here.

Pennsauken Historical Society wants all our friends, visitors and volunteer staff to remain safe and healthy to enjoy our history in the future.

To arrange visits by appointment, contact us by message through our Facebook pages for the Pennsauken Historical Society and Griffith Morgan House; by e-mail at pennsaukenhistoricalsociety@gmail.com; or by leaving a message at (856) 486-9561. History fans can also enjoy our Facebook group, Pennsauken History Forum.

Township Seeks Environmental Commission Board Member

The Township of Pennsauken has announced a Mayoral Appointment opportunity for Environmental Committee Board Member. Duties will include ensuring member companies are apprised of environmental legislative and regulatory development which could impact their operations, as well as, educate others on the importance of efforts to be responsible environmental stewards and minimize pollution.

Interested applicants can download

the employment application from the Township of Pennsauken website at www.twp.pennsauken.nj.us/content/on-line-forms-applications or may pick up a copy from the Human Resources Director at the Pennsauken Township Municipal Building.

Applications shall include a copy of a resume, and valid NJ Driver's License. All applications are due in a sealed envelope and delivered to the attention of Barbara Corbett, Human Resources Di-

rector, Township of Pennsauken, 5605 North Crescent Boulevard, Pennsauken, NJ 08110 no later than 4:00 p.m. on Monday, November 23, 2020.

Additional details on this appointment, as well as on other open Township positions, can be found at twp.pennsauken.nj.us/jobs-bids.

Annual "Back The Blue" Jeep Ride Thanks Officers



Dozens of Jeeps caravanned to local police stations, including the Pennsauken Township Police Department, to show their support during this year's "Back The Blue" Jeep Ride.



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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:
(856) 665-0774

Police Department: (856) 488-0080

Pennsauken Municipal Court:
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Pennsauken Animal Control:
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Camden County Animal Shelter:
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Pennsauken Sanitary Landfill:
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Merchantville-Pennsauken
Water Commission
(856) 663-0043

Pennsauken Sewerage Authority:
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South Jersey Sanitation
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Camden County Board of Social Services:
(856) 225-8800

Camden County Municipal Utility Authority
(CCMUA): (856) 541-3700

New Jersey American Water:
(800) 272-1325

MAYOR'S In Turbulent Times, Being Thankful For Living In Pennsauken

CORNER



By Tim Killion,
Mayor of
Pennsauken
Township

We've never needed a November more than right now in 2020. With all of the crazy things that have happened this year, we need to take stock of the things we are truly thankful for. For me, that thanks is centered on the life I have here in Pennsauken.

I'm thankful for growing up in a diverse community, learning that friendship and love don't have boundaries. As an adult with a family of my own, my block is a wonderful microcosm of our Township. My neighbors come from all walks of life and many different cultures. But in fact, we share so much in com-

mon. A genuine respect for each other. A desire to help our neighbors in need. A wish to make Pennsauken a better place for our children. The coronavirus has changed a lot of things, but our sense of community isn't one of them. That's COVID-19 resistant.

I'm thankful for the life lessons I've received from family and friends in this great town. For my loving and supporting parents. For my awesome siblings. For my wife and children. The Stay at Home Executive Order has been a special gift. I've been able to spend more time with Bridget, Aiden, and now Ashlyn; time I wouldn't have had before. I've been able to sit outside and say hello to neighbors walking down the street. We're all more connected and hopefully, more empathetic.

I'm thankful that I get to represent

the amazing residents of Pennsauken as a member of Township Committee and as mayor for this year. That I work with a great group of men and women to help make our town grow and thrive. That our entire municipal staff is dedicated to serving each and every one of you. It's a responsibility that we don't take lightly; and we truly appreciate the feedback – both good and bad – that we receive from you. Only by talking to and working with each other can we achieve the lofty goals we set for our town.

And when we can put the coronavirus outbreak behind us; when we won't have to worry about getting ourselves or our loved ones sick; and when we can get back to a real sense of normalcy, we'll all be thankful for the important lessons we've learned during this time and the positive moments we've shared with

those we care about.

On behalf of myself and the entire Pennsauken Township Committee, I wish

you, your families, and your friends a very Happy Thanksgiving. Be safe and enjoy that pumpkin pie, because I know I will!

Rafehs Welcome Baby Karina



Township Committee-woman Jessica Rafeh and her husband, Husan, are excited to announce the arrival of their daughter, Karina! Karina came into the world at 7 lbs. 14 oz. and 21.25 inches. Congratulations!

MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE ONE HOME AT A TIME!



Pennsauken – Pennbrook

Check Out This Fully Renovated Colonial In Beautiful Pennbrook. Home Features FOUR Bedrooms 2 Full and 2 Half Baths. Gorgeous Kitchen With Granite Countertops. There Is Also A Full Finished Basement With Wet Bar. This House Has Been Fully Renovated With All High End Finishes. Come Check It Out! \$289,900



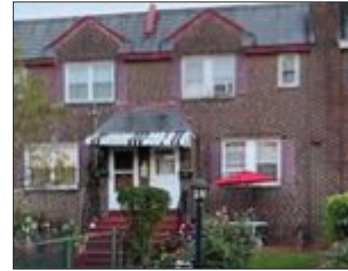
Pennsauken

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Pennsauken – Reduced Triplex

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Camden – First Time Buyer Alert

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Pennsauken – Attention Investors & Handy People
Outstanding opportunity on beautiful Maple Ave in Pennsauken, right on the Merchantville Border and close to the Cherry Hill Mall. This three bedroom and one full bath brick twin home features a formal living room, a spacious formal dining room, a large and very nice eat in kitchen with gas stove, dishwasher, refrigerator, and microwave! Laundry room with washer and dryer included. Upstairs features three good size bedrooms and a beautiful and updated full bath! Large front porch, basement and garage. Sold in its' as-is condition ... Buyer responsible for any repairs and the Township CO. ... And Investors welcome as not much left to finish making this home a showcase \$139,900



Magnolia – Magnolia Gardens.

This property has a bright airy contemporary floor plan. Large kitchen with wood cabinetry and center island and extra storage in a pantry next to the fridge. Stainless steel appliance package with gas self cleaning oven, dishwasher and over the oven microwave. Large living room lends a ton of space for entertaining and great movie nights. The large master bedroom has a private bath with his and her vanity and large walk-in closet. Oak Hardwood floors on first floor. Full open basement with plenty of room to grow. \$209,900



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WAGSWORLD A Lifetime's Worth Of Changes In Town, Including Me

By Bob Wagner,
AAP Columnist

I've spent my whole life right here in old Pennsauken. That's a lot of life in one small spot, well over 72 years. The changes in town have been gradual, just like the changes in me.

I can remember when we had a farm in town, with a cow and chickens and a tractor. My knees can remember being able to jump over fences without pain. All that has changed.

Back in the summer of '68, I was

home after a two-year absence. Not much had changed in town. A whole lot had changed in me.

I enlisted in the U.S. Army while in high school. I was going to be a helicopter pilot. Got called up for my class about five weeks after graduation from Pennsauken High School, and was in basic training in Louisiana in August.

After a brief run at flight school, where an accident prone kid with no driver's license was let loose on the world, the government decided I would be better suited elsewhere. They made me a cop.

I was on duty as an MP in Virginia on my 19th birthday. Fast forward to August 1968; I've been telling people what to do and not to do for a few years. During a stint in Vietnam, I transferred out of MP duty and got back to helicopters as a door gunner. Flew in and out of shootouts, survived a few crashes, and picked up a row of medals.

On the 24th of July 1968, I was in a monsoon, carrying an M60 machine gun and a M79 grenade launcher; and wore my 45 pistol and a well-used bowie knife. On August 4, 1968, I was in Weber's

Drive In with shorts, t-shirt, and a '61 VW. If I lived another seven months, I thought, I would be old enough to drink and vote.

Pennsauken hadn't changed much. Funk's farm was still along Rt. 130 N. Peach orchards were full of fruit off Union Ave. The pool was full of kids on River Rd. and the Mart was jumping on Haddonfield Rd. But in that short two years away from home, a skinny, pimply-faced kid came back a whole lot different than when he left.

As I look around now at our Penn-

sauken, I see a lot of change. But I still see what was and remember fondly things that were stamped in my brain as a kid. I still see the Walt Whitman Theatre when I turn up Westfield. I can smell the garlic and mussels from the Skylark; and taste the pretzels from the Mart. And I remember following Memorial Day parades on my bike, way back, when those parades weren't for me and my fellow vets.

If nothing else, it's been interesting, living this damn long!

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CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

Pennsauken Township Seeking Qualifications For Professional Services Contracts

The Township of Pennsauken solicits statements of qualification from applicants for appointment to various professional positions. Responses should address the general criteria and mandatory minimum criteria for the position

sought. All responses will be treated as confidential and reviewed only by the governing body, unless otherwise required by law.

Responses must be received in the Office of the Township Clerk, 5605 North Crescent Boulevard, Pennsauken, N.J. 08110, no later than noon, Friday, November 13, 2020.

Zoning And Planning Board Professional Services Contracts

The Zoning Board of Pennsauken and Planning Board of Pennsauken are soliciting statements of qualification from applicants for appointment to various professional positions. Responses should address the general criteria and mandatory minimum criteria for the position sought. All responses will be treated as confidential and reviewed only by the Board, unless otherwise required by law.

Responses must be received in the Office of the Planning and Zoning Offi-

cer, 5605 North Crescent Boulevard, Pennsauken, N.J. 08110, no later than noon, Friday, November 13, 2020.

Rent Stabilization Board Seeks Solicitor

The Township of Pennsauken solicits statements of qualification from applicants for appointment to the Rent Stabilization Board as its solicitor. Responses should address the general criteria and mandatory minimum criteria for the position sought. All responses will be treated as confidential and reviewed only by the governing body, unless otherwise required by law.

Responses must be received in the Office of the Township Clerk, 5605 North Crescent Boulevard, Pennsauken, N.J. 08110, no later than noon, Friday, November 13, 2020.

For more information on all of these professional services contract requests, visit www.twp.pennsauken.nj.us.

PENNSAUKEN NOVEMBER PUBLIC MEETINGS

October'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
Nov. 5 and 16, 6:00 p.m.

Zoning Board of Adjustment
Nov. 4 and 16, 7:00 p.m.

Planning Board
Nov. 10 and 24, 6:30 p.m.



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Providing Meaningful And Comforting Funeral Services During COVID-19

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Many businesses have had to adapt during the coronavirus outbreak, facilities like Falco, Caruso & Leonard Funeral Homes particularly so. Strict limits on public gatherings, social distancing and sanitation requirements, and alleviating the fears of an apprehensive community provide very significant challenges. But dedicated staff at the funeral homes has risen to the occasion in order to provide meaningful and comforting services for families.

"We've always considered ourselves to be a safe place, where people could come and deal with their mourning and deal with the grieving process. We just needed to make our funeral home a safer place," said Rick Caruso, owner of Falco, Caruso & Leonard Funeral Homes. "It's not just dealing with COVID-19;

that isn't going away. We have to help people feel safe. It's really been the driving force."

Falco, Caruso & Leonard Funeral Homes staff has doubled down on protective procedures. The funeral industry is heavily regulated, with many safeguards already in place. But with the coronavirus, there's even more emphasis that both their staff and the families they serve remain safe. That means installing a large sanitizing station with an extended sink for hand washing; the use of movable markers for social distancing; and changes to everything from transportation to body preparation.

"We've always used universal precautions, treating every decedent as if they have a communicable disease," explained Andrea Meyers, funeral director. "Not knowing the extent of the transmission

of this virus, we really ramped up the protective gear. We've also made sure to space out the scheduling of funerals, so we can really wipe and disinfect. We've found a good balance."

"We have a roped-off section for families to help limit physical contact during visitations and funeral services," added Angela McGraw, funeral director. "And

for those who are uncomfortable going out but still want to pay their respects, we have the ability to record the service and aspects of the visitation, if the family would like us to. We include the slideshow we create and provide a password-protected link for the family, as well as a DVD."

Comforting those saying goodbye to

a loved one has employed the use of physical contact, a comforting hand on the shoulder, a compassionate hug. With COVID-19, that part of the grieving process is missing, much to the frustration of all involved.

"One of the things we hear a lot from families is, 'We wish we could hug you.'

continued on page 18



Falco, Caruso & Leonard Funeral Homes installed a large sanitizing station with sinks and antibacterial soap for families at their Pennsauken facility. Pictured here, from left to right, are Andrea Meyers, Thomas P. Hickey, and Angela McGraw.



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Sunday 8:30 to 5:00





By Joe Scavuzzo, Director,
Department of Public Works

I cannot believe I'm writing the November issue of this article again! Although I prefer that the years slow down a bit, this year has been dragging us through the mud with COVID-19 and I'm forced to wish away this year. The "new normal" is still not normal; and we all seek out things that are consistent. Fortunately, we can rely on the changing of the seasons for this consistency.

As we enter the main part of autumn, one pastime exists that naturally provides social distancing: leaf clean up! This

Leaf Collection Season At The Department Of Public Works

article marks the beginning of our leaf collection operations at Public Works.

It is highly encouraged that you bag your leaves whenever possible. However, there are parts of town where the density of large, mature trees creates mountains of leaves. The main reason we encourage residents to bag leaves is to protect our storm water inlets along our streets from becoming clogged, preventing the flow of water from the street into the system. In addition to this, any cool fall breezes that come through will blow that leaf pile back onto your lawn or all over the street! The bagged leaves that are collected by the trash hauler on Wednesdays are taken to Smith Orchards in Mantua for recycling.

Each year, the Township compiles a tonnage report based off of the yard debris collected, similar to the white goods collected and our annual recycling collection; and receives credits towards our recycling grant.

You may not be aware of what happens to those mountains of leaves that the Department of Public Works collects. Pennsauken's Public Works operates and maintains one of the best functioning and best kept leaf composting sites in New Jersey. Each year, state and county DEP inspectors comment on how great the site looks in comparison to others they visit. After the compost matures, it is delivered to the Municipal Pool on River Rd., where residents can supplement their gardens at home with this nutritious soil. Although it is closed to the public, the Compost Facility is located on Park Ave., resting beside the Pennsauken Creek, before you cross the Burlington County line. Currently, you will view an open piece of land. Within the next month, you will begin to see the collected leaves being formed into rows, called "windrows." Once our facility is nearing its 10,000 cubic yard capacity, you'll notice the windrows are pointed in a specific direction. The windrow field is sloped downward to allow water to filter in a grassy area and collect at a basin. This prevents "ponding" or stagnant water,

which could breed mosquitoes and an unpleasant odor.

Between the normal Wednesday yard debris collection of bagged leaves and Public Work's curbside collection, Pennsauken remains compliant with our compost site's permitted capacity, while clearing out 2020's fallen leaves. A few of you may have your own composting methods at home for the reuse of food scraps and yard debris. Although our facility only handles leaves, the process is very much the same, just on a much larger scale.

With the recent overhaul of the 49th Street Park along River Rd., I encourage residents to check out the new connector path between the park and Tippin's Pond. The pond is surely one place in Pennsauken that tops the list for watching leaves change their colors. I recently came across an essay by E.B. White entitled, "Once More to the Lake." The author reminisces about his childhood visit to a lake with his father and narrates his current day visit with his own son. Although this lake was a vacation spot and Tippin's

Pond is more recreational, I too recalled my first childhood interaction with this Pennsauken landmark and my current involvement with the location through my work. One hundred years ago, when I attended St. Stephen School on Browning Rd., I had a friend that lived on the 400 block of Springfield Ave. Classmates would meet over there and play football and go exploring through the woods surrounding the pond. I can remember wondering if I was still in Pennsauken, as we made our way up to the Vennel Tavern building. Do you have a similar memory? If not, the recent renovations to this park may be your calling!

Haddonfield Road Improvements

Camden County will be investing nearly \$2 million dollars into improving Pennsauken's stretch of Haddonfield-Sorrel Horse Rd., extending from Wyndam Rd. to Maple Ave. Although any and all affected businesses and residents will be notified in advance, I wanted to convey

continued on page 18

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THANKSGIVING, THURSDAY, NOV. 26, IS A "TRASH HOLIDAY."

Trash and recycling pickup regularly scheduled for that day moves to Friday, Nov. 27.

Friday's trash and recycling pickup is moved to Saturday, Nov. 28.

Trash and recycling pickup prior to Thursday, Nov. 26, as well as yard waste and white goods collection, remains on a regular schedule for that week.



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Veterans Honored In Pennsauken This Month

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Despite the ongoing pandemic, Pennsauken is honoring those in our community that served our country in the armed forces as part of Veterans Day.

Veterans Day Service At VFW Post

Members of VFW Post 1270 and AMVETS Post 101 will be holding a Veterans Day service on Wednesday, Nov. 11, 11:00 a.m., at VFW Post 1270, located at 2324 Penn St. in Pennsauken. The ceremony will be outdoors, while observing all COVID-19 regulations. Masks will be required to enter the Post to use the restrooms; participants will be asked to maintain social distancing; hand sanitizer will be available; and VFW members will insure that the number of people who may enter the Post is limited to 25 percent of capacity. All members of the community are welcome to attend.

Veterans Day Special At Pennsauken Country Club

For the seventh consecutive year, all military personnel, whether active or retired status, can play golf as guests of the Pennsauken Country Club on Wednesday, Nov. 11. The Country Club is located at 3800 Haddonfield Rd. For more information, or to set up for a tee time that day, call the Country Club's Pro Shop at (856) 662-4961.

Information On Local Veterans Groups

Gross-Hollinshed VFW Post 1270 is located at 2324 Penn St. in Pennsauken.



Each year, members of VFW Post 1270 and AMVETS Post 101 hold a Veterans Day service at the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month. The outdoor, socially distant ceremony will be held this month at Post 1270, 2324 Penn St. in Pennsauken.

There are three qualifiers for membership in the VFW: U.S. Citizenship, honorable service in the armed forces, and having served in a "war, campaign, or expedition on foreign soil or in hostile waters." For more information, visit <http://vfw1270.org>.

American Legion Fredrick W. Griggs Post 68, based out of Merchantville, is one of the original posts in the American Legion Department of New Jersey. All veterans who served during qualifying conflicts are welcome to join. The Post now has an Auxiliary Unit; any women who are the spouse or the daughter of a veteran are welcome to join. The post has a very active Facebook page: www.facebook.com/fwgriggpost68americalegion.

AMVETS Post #101 in Delair is located at 519 June Rd. Membership is open to all who served honorably in the

military of the United States. They can be contacted by calling (856) 663-8950 or e-mailing amvets101@gmail.com.

Online Wall Of Honor

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.

ReStore Moves To Former Howard Hill Location

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Last month, Camden County Habitat for Humanity opened its new location at the site of the former Howard Hill Furniture, a 20,000 square foot free standing commercial property.

"The Pennsauken ReStore is RE-OPENING!!! It's been a ton of work, and it's not perfect yet, but we just can't wait to see you again so we're ReOpening October 13th," Camden County Habitat for Humanity posted via social media. "Stop by our NEW STORE right on Route 130 in the old Howard Hill Furniture store."

An announcement on the non-profit's website states that the pandemic put the organization's mission more into focus and helped spur the ReStore's move to Rt. 130.

"We want our ReStore operation to do more to provide solutions for hard



Camden County Habitat for Humanity's ReStore has moved to the former site of Howard Hill Furniture on Rt. 130 in Pennsauken.

working Camden County families. This move will help us raise our visibility within the community and it is a perfect facility to expand our operation and provide even more value to our donor and shopper community."

Camden County Habitat for Humanity also announced that they in the final stages of opening a second ReStore in the ShopRite Plaza in Lawnside, which is slated to open in November.

Part home improvement store, part

home goods store, part resale store, the Habitat ReStore in Pennsauken has a wide selection that features new and gently used home improvement items below retail prices, with purchases supporting the work of Habitat for Humanity.

The Pennsauken ReStore is located at 7937 S. Crescent Blvd. Hours of operation are Tuesday through Saturday, from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. For more information, visit www.habitatcamden.org/restore/shop.

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 Visit our Facebook and Instagram pages.

Each day one or more local businesses will be featured with photos of their products and services along with a little bit about themselves.

This leads up to **Small Business Saturday** on November 28th where you will be able to find deals and specials posted for some great gift ideas for all your family and friends.

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Celebrating A Bountiful Harvest At Pennsauken's Community Garden

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

The sixth season of Pennsauken's Community Garden was celebrated during a special get together last month. The town's gardeners enjoyed a pot luck meal and shared a bountiful harvest.

"It's just enjoyable," said longtime gardener Diane Johnson, who grew carrots, peppers, tomatoes, and more, using seeds purchased through Camden's Community Gardens. "It's the satisfaction of growing your own fruits and vegetables."

Joan Riley, another veteran member of the garden, bought a lot of her seedlings from Eclipse Brewery in Merchantville. She was not disappointed.

"They grew like crazy. My tomatoes went ballistic this year," said Riley. "The butterflies loved the flowers, so we got a lot of pollinators. It's been a good year."

Kristen Diaz and her family grew a variety of vegetables, but the pumpkins did the best, particularly since her father, Ken, hand pollinated them.

"We've grown about 20 pumpkins," explained Diaz. "We've made pumpkin bread, pumpkin soup and are planning on making even more yummy, fall pumpkin recipes."

This year was Dwan Bovell's first in the Community Garden; she took the opportunity to experiment, growing things like okra. And it's not just the flowers and vegetables that grew out behind the Pennsauken Free Public Library. It's the friendships too.

"I got invited by another gardener and I just love it," said Bovell. "It's the community of folks, we learn a lot from each other. It's good to be together with people who are likeminded in gardening."



Members of this year's Community Garden enjoyed their harvest and each other's company during a special get together last month.

SENIORCORNER Commit To Getting The Care You Need As You Age

(Family Features) Older adults in America are living longer lives and will outnumber people under the age of 18 by nearly 500,000 by 2034, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

However, living longer does not automatically mean living healthier or happier. In fact, nearly 61 percent of people in America aged 65 and older live with chronic conditions, according to the National Institutes of Health, and a report from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine found

nearly 1 in 4 older adults are considered to be socially isolated.

Research published in "Health Affairs" indicates that people who advocate for their own care feel more empowered. The age-friendly health systems approach can help older adults take control of their well-being and demand care that helps them maintain independence by making sure their doctors know their needs and preferences; also called "what matters."

Just as the name implies, age-friendly

care prioritizes what matters most to each individual older adult and helps meet goals such as daily walks around the neighborhood or cooking favorite meals. To get started, consider these four essential elements of age-friendly care from The John A. Hartford Foundation to discuss with your doctor:

What Matters. As people age, what matters most to them might change. It is important to share concerns, goals, wishes, needs and experiences with your health care providers. What matters also

includes end-of-life care goals and preferences.

Medication. Many older adults take multiple medications, which can cause side effects and, in turn, impact daily living. Honest conversations with doctors about medications, their interactions and side effects can ensure treatment plans are optimizing quality of life.

Mentation. Older adults are at higher risk for dementia, depression and delirium, and conversations with medical providers about changes in memory or

mood and annual screenings for dementia and depression can lower the risk.

Mobility. Staying active can help older adults maintain health and independence. Talking to health care providers about mobility concerns can identify personalized tips to improve strength, flexibility and balance.

Healthy aging is possible when the patient and care team are on the same page with the same plan in mind. For ideas on how to start these conversations, visit johnhartford.org/agefriendly.



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inSchool

Calming Techniques Learned At Carson



Students at Carson are using muscle relaxation, grounding, and breathing to calm themselves.

The students of Carson Elementary School have transitioned and settled into a new academic school year with harmony. Through classroom counseling sessions, students have been asked to share their feelings about school. As we

all share and listen, the children are learning to self regulate their emotions. Children are learning to use muscle relaxation, grounding, and breathing to calm themselves.

New Program: Fire And Emergency Medical Services

From the Pennidian Newsletter

The Fire and EMS Program is a new program of study at Pennsauken High School. The new program will allow students to investigate this profession in a variety of facets.

Students will start out being introduced into the world of Emergency Services and then advance in the program, gaining certifications in CPR and First Aid, Incident Management, and many other fire and EMS-related areas.

Educational and career opportunities will be discussed and pursued during this program. During their last year in the program, they will ride along with Fire and Emergency Medical Services on actual 9-1-1 calls.

Other skills and traits that students will learn and develop include, but are not limited to, leadership, responsibility, accountability, compassion and respect. Some parts of the program will gain the students college credits in this area of study.

Frank Friend is Pennsauken High School's new Fire and EMS Program instructor.



Food Service Update For District Families

Distribution for FULL REMOTE student meals will take place at Pennsauken Senior High School from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. each Monday and Thursday. Thursday's distribution will cover Friday and Monday's meals; and Monday's distribution will cover Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday's meals.

The USDA has extended free meal benefits to all students regardless of status (free, reduced, or paid) until December 31, 2020. This means that both breakfast and lunch in district will be provided free of charge until the end of December. You must still fill out a 2020-2021 meal application, so that we are able to correctly determine your status after the free benefit ends.

Students attending A/B split will be provided two meals to take home for consumption on the day they are remotely learning. All meals will be at no charge to students.

For questions, or more information, call the Food and Nutrition Office at (856) 662-8500, ext.5259.

Important Dates

Nov. 3	Closed for Election Day
Nov. 4	Marking Period 1 Closes
Nov. 5-6	Closed for NJEA Convention
Nov. 13	Marking Period 1 Report Cards Available Online
Nov. 19	Pennsauken Board of Education Meeting
Nov. 26-27	Closed for Thanksgiving Break



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Cheesesteak

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Reuben

Thin slices of corn beef, melted swiss cheese, sauerkraut, and russian dressing

Hawaiian

Grilled ham and mozzarella cheese topped off with pineapple and a drizzle of honey

Breakfast

Fresh scrambled eggs, shredded hashbrowns, melted cheese and your choice of bacon, sausage, bell peppers or porkroll

Caesar Salad

Romaine lettuce, cherry tomato, grated romano cheese and caesar dressing, on top of provolone cheese. (Grilled chicken additional charge)

Margherita

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By the Pennsauken Board of Education: Nick Perry, President; Diane Johnson, Vice President; Lisa Eckel; Michael Hurley; Maria James; Samer John Jarboub-Rafeh; Scott La Vine; Orlando Viera; and JoAnn Young

Each year, the Pennsauken Board of Education heads to Atlantic City for the largest professional development workshop event for school board members. Hosted by the New Jersey School

Board Members Learning Best Practices

Boards Association (NJSBA), we learn about the current state of New Jersey education and gain important tools to be a more effective leader in a rapidly changing environment.

Because of the COVID-19 health crisis, the NJSBA made the decision to not hold the in-person Workshop 2020 conference. In its stead, a three-day virtual conference was held, offering a wide variety of training, opportunities for professional development credit, highly engaging 3D virtual environments, special events, compelling speakers, and an interactive exhibit floor. Topic themes focused on "Educating the Whole Child;"

"2020 School Facilities;" "21st Century Learning;" "Technology and Cost Savings;" and "COVID-19 Leadership."

The Pennsauken Board of Education values continuing education and recognizes that in order to keep Pennsauken Public Schools moving in the right direction, skills of elected board members must be kept current, and strong. And while held virtually this year, our members still found these educational sessions extremely worthwhile. We look forward to taking what we have learned from these best practices and applying them to the benefit of the Pennsauken School District.

Franklin First Graders Speak With Cherry Hill Mayor

Oct. 1 was a very special day for Ms. Steck's first graders. Prepared with questions to ask, students excitedly held up hand-drawn welcome signs as Cherry Hill Mayor Susan Shin-Angulo joined their morning Google Meet virtual classroom. Mayor Shin-Angulo spoke to students about what it is like being a community leader, a subject they have been exploring in their social studies classes. The first graders learned that a mayor is in charge of trash and snow collection, keeping parks clean, and the po-

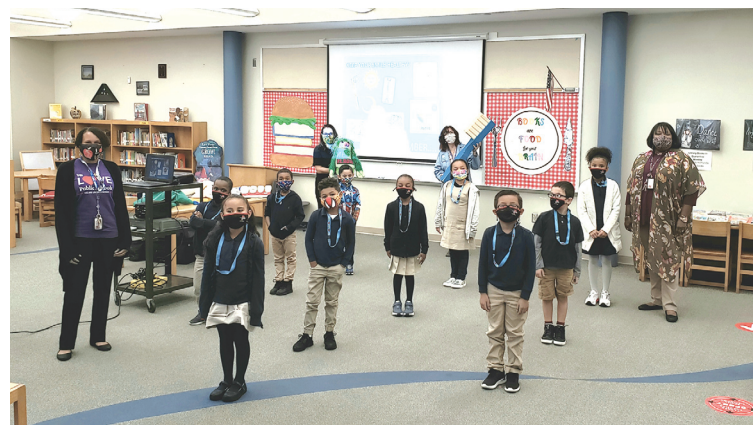
lice department, but not in charge of schools. Students took turns introducing themselves and asking important questions like "How does it feel to be able to boss everyone around?" and "Can you ask for anything you want in restaurants?" The mayor explained that running a town takes hard work, but the perks are pretty fun, too!

Ms. Steck's students had a great time meeting Mayor Susan Shin-Angulo and will never forget her visit.



Cherry Hill Mayor Susan Shin-Angulo.

"Project Brush" Promotes Proper Dental Health



The "Project Brush" assembly helped kindergartners and first graders learn about dental health.

October was National Children's Dental Health Month. To celebrate, kindergartners and first graders at Delair attended an assembly called, "Project Brush," given by Deborah Tracy, MAS, RDH from The Regional Oral Health Program that serves Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Ocean and Salem Counties in New Jersey.

Project Brush teaches the importance of good oral health. The students learned about cavities, plaque and proper teeth care. They also received a goodie bag complete with a toothbrush, tooth paste, brushing timer, and activity book.

Delair Elementary School will continue to promote dental health awareness by providing a monthly oral care tip to the students.



School District Offers Adult ESL Classes

Do you know an adult who would like to learn English as a second language or

is a non-native English speaker who would like to strengthen their skills? Pennsauken Public Schools are now offering Adult ESL classes.

Registration is now open at <http://bit.ly/PennsaukenESL>. Two learning options are available: in-person lessons one Thursday a month from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.; and virtually on Saturday mornings from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Preschool Teachers Making An Impact

Preschool teachers Brooke Barbara and Michelle Romvary are making an impact on preschool education. Both were selected, along with other teachers across the state, to be a part of the New Jersey Preschool Teaching and Learning Standards committee.

Barbara and Romvary will work on revising New Jersey's standards to reflect current developmentally appropriate practices in preschool.

We are proud to have staff that goes the extra mile to help develop the future!



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FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



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

With our community's continued exposure to COVID-19, the Pennsauken School District remains committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our staff, our students, and our school families.

We understand the level of concern

Working To Keep Our District, School Families Safe

regarding this virus. We encourage parents and students to continue following the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention promoted safeguards, such as:

- Staying home when you are sick;
- Washing hands often with soap for at least 20 seconds;
- Covering coughs and sneezes and properly disposing of tissues;
- Limiting close contact with people who are sick and not sharing food, drinks and utensils;
- Practicing social distancing (staying at

least 6 feet apart);

- Wearing a face covering while in school; and
- Continuing to monitor your health for symptoms.

As always, we appreciate our community's support and cooperation. You can assist us by remaining vigilant but sensible in your approach to dealing with this health concern. Should you have any questions about this situation, please feel free to contact my office at (856) 662-8505.

The Indians Get A Field House

By Athan Papaioannou, from the Pennindian Newsletter

With the completion of the brand new Rick Taylor Field House imminent, new PHS Athletic Director, Mr. Billy Snyder, gave us some much appreciated information on what's included on the inside, as well as its overall purpose.

Q: What is the Field House for?

Snyder: The Field House is a multi-purpose facility that will be used by Physical Education classes and Pennsauken Athletic teams. The Field House has a 45 yard long turf field with a two lane paved track going around its perimeter. Located in the Field House will be weight-lifting platforms that will be used by Strength and Conditioning classes, as well as our student-athletes. There are three drop-down batting cages that can be used by the baseball, softball, and golf teams. It is truly a state-of-the-art facility that no other high school in South Jersey

has, and will make most colleges jealous.

Q: Why a Field House?

Snyder: We built the facility to expand the opportunities for our students and student-athletes. This facility will be used year-round and will help all of our students by removing weather as an obstacle and giving them a first-class, multi-use training facility. There are other public facilities like this that people pay hundreds of thousands of dollars for private and small group sessions. Pennsauken built this so our families and student-athletes can have access to the same type of facility and opportunities as part of their experience at Pennsauken High School.

Q: When will it open?

Snyder: The facility will be available in November of 2020, but due to the current pandemic, there will be limits on indoor facility usage. We are waiting on guidance on when we will be able to ac-

tually get in and use it.

Q: Anything else students might want to know?

Snyder: Pennsauken needs to know that with these new facilities, there needs to come a new attitude. We now have championship facilities. We need to have a championship mindset. "To whom much is given, much is required." The Pennsauken student-athlete needs to know they are now a 24/7/365 student-athlete. There is no in season and out of season. We are always in season, working on the field, in the weight room (when it opens again), in the classroom, and in the community. The Pennsauken Athletics Department is committed to #BuildingChampions.

It's clear to see that things are changing for the better at Pennsauken High. Who knows what new things are up next for the Indians!

Fine's Virtual Hayride And Pumpkin Picking

"If we can't go to the patch, we will bring the patch to us." On Oct. 22 and 23, first grade students from Fine Elementary attended a virtual hayride and pumpkin picking. The students earned their admission ticket throughout the day; during science class, the field trip took place. Students "boarded the hayride" using the Epson boards in the classroom. After the hayride took the students through the virtual farm, a farmer discussed the process of growing pumpkins. In addition, she shared the va-

riety of pumpkins that are grown on that particular farm. When the farmer's presentation was complete, students lined up to visit "Fine's Pumpkin Patch." Mrs. Bowne's and Miss Hodges' classes were able to pick a pumpkin to bring home.

This event was an accumulation activity after the mini pumpkin unit was completed. Fine's first grade pumpkins had a fall ball!

After virtual hayride and tour of a farm, Fine students got to pick a pumpkin to take home.



Pre-K, Kindergarten Students Are Ready For School



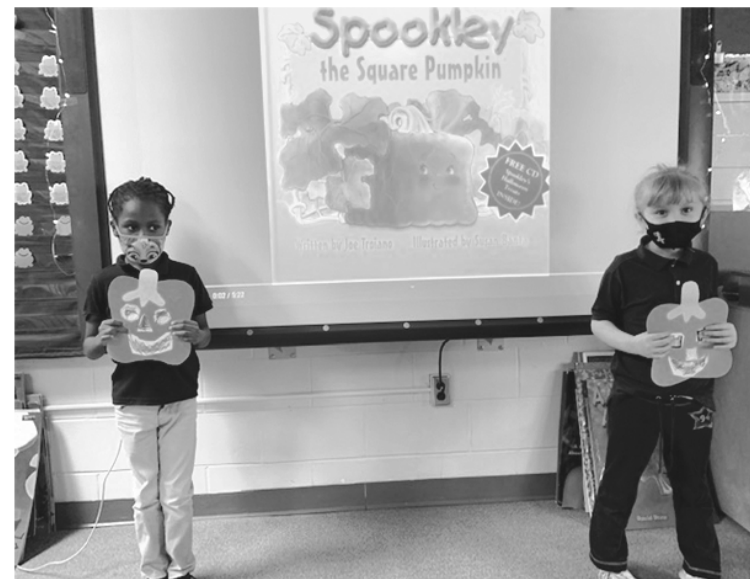
Pre-k and kindergarten students at Franklin are excited for a new school year!

At the start of the school year, Franklin's pre-k and kindergarten students, along with their parents, had an opportunity to meet their teachers.

The three kindergarten teachers met

their students and their families outside the kindergarten wing; and the two pre-k teachers met their students outside their doors. All the students seemed so excited to start their new educational journey.

Carson Students Celebrate Respect And Kindness



Students in Mrs. Ruane's class participated in language arts activities that focused on the theme of respect.

Carson School celebrated our Week of Respect by participating in several activities and Morning Meeting discussions, which focused on ways to show respect for ourselves and others. Students also enjoyed learning songs and viewing videos shared by Ms. Tashanique Jefferson, school counselor.

The students in Mrs. Maggie Ruane's class were able to further discuss the importance of respecting each other's differences and unique qualities after reading the book, "The Legend of

Spookley, the Square Pumpkin," by Joe Troiano. This endearing story is about a little square pumpkin teased for being different. Mrs. Ruane's students discussed the importance of respect and kindness toward everyone and the feelings we might have if we are not treated with kindness. Students made their own square-shaped pumpkins with unique faces and wrote sentences telling why their pumpkin was special. The students also shared reasons why they are special, too!

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PENNSAUKEN SCHOOL NEWS

For further information about the articles or events published in the Pennsauken School News section of "All Around Pennsauken" please contact:

Nicole Roberts, Editor nicole.roberts@pennsauken.net

Delair Elementary Celebrates Week Of Respect

The first full week of October means it was the Week of Respect for schools in New Jersey. At Delair Elementary School, we encouraged our students and staff to look at the week as an opportunity to connect. It helped our students

focus on respecting each other and its impact on our mental health and school community.

Several activities were developed throughout the week. On "Mindful Monday," we watched a video explaining

what respect is and how it is shown. On "Treat Yourself Well Tuesday," we took time out and listed ideas of how to pamper ourselves. "Journaling Wellness Wednesday" started off watching a video describing different ways we can be strong. Students then were asked to write about all the ways they see themselves as strong individuals. "Thoughtful Thursday" started by listening to and watching a video based on the book, "I am Human," about empathy. On "Finding and Showing Respect Friday," we explored ways in which respect for one another is expressed throughout our school day. And students from Ms. Ashworth's class showed respect by helping



Students from Ms. Ashworth's class at Delair showed respect by helping at home.

at home!

The goals of these activities were to help students focus and identify their

personal strengths, learn how we respect ourselves and one another, and understand how this impacts our daily lives.



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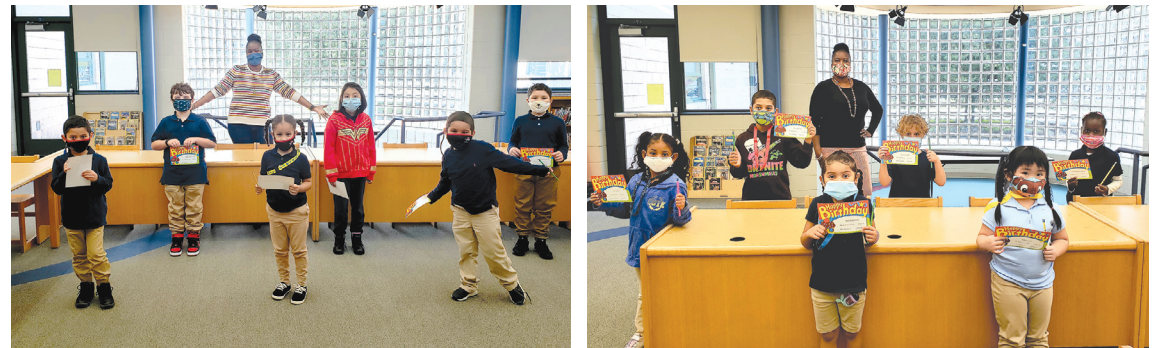
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Celebrating September Birthdays



Delair's A and B Day students who celebrated birthdays in September received a special pencil and certificate to recognize their special day!



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HEALTHYLIFESTYLES Manage Medical Conditions During COVID-19

(Family Features) Diabetes and heart disease are two pre-existing medical conditions that researchers believe contribute to elevated risk of severe complications from COVID-19. In fact, patients with two or more pre-existing conditions have 4.5 times greater risk of needing treatment at a hospital if they contract COVID-19, according to estimates by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

How Diabetes Affects Heart Health

If you have diabetes, your body either makes too much or not enough insulin, which results in too much glucose in your bloodstream. Over time, high blood glucose levels can increase damage to your organs, including your heart, brain and kidneys.

Diabetes is associated with a buildup of plaque that can clog arteries, so the longer you live with type 2 diabetes, the higher your cardiovascular risk. At least one-third of people with heart failure have diabetes, and heart disease is the leading cause of death and a major cause of heart attacks, heart failure, strokes and disability for people living with type 2



People with conditions like diabetes and heart disease are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. Photo courtesy of Getty Images.

diabetes.

Managing high blood pressure and high cholesterol, which are common in people with type 2 diabetes, along with keeping blood glucose levels in check, supports heart health and may also prevent or slow down progression of chronic kidney disease - another condition that heightens the risk of severe

COVID-19 complications.

COVID-19 Precautions

Considering that people with conditions like diabetes and heart disease are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19, it's especially important to keep health-related numbers in healthy ranges and manage these conditions, in

addition to taking precautions against contracting the virus. Consider these tips from the American Heart Association and American Diabetes Association:

- If you've delayed or postponed medical appointments due to COVID-19, it's vital to resume them, either in person or through virtual options.
- Continue to take medication as prescribed. If you've lost your medical insurance or can't afford it, talk to your doctor or pharmacist about available resources. Stopping your medication without talking to your health care provider could lead to serious illness or death.
- Know your numbers. If you have diabetes, check blood glucose levels frequently and make necessary adjustments to insulin and diet to keep levels under control. If you have high blood pressure, make sure to monitor that number regularly from home.
- Manage stress, which can also impact blood glucose and blood pressure levels. In addition to maintaining your social support network (even if it's through social distancing), exercise, adequate sleep and meditation can

help improve your mental health.

- If you or someone around you has symptoms of heart attack or stroke, remember to call 9-1-1 as the hospital is still the safest place to go in a medical emergency.
- If you have diabetes, talk with your doctor about ways to reduce your risk of heart attack, heart failure, stroke and COVID-19.

Visit KnowDiabetesbyHeart.org for resources like diabetes-friendly recipes, success stories and a list of questions to ask your doctor.

Pennsauken COVID-19 Numbers

Positive Cases
(As of 10/27/2020): 1,124

Deaths Due To Coronavirus
Complications: 26

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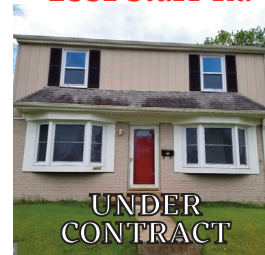
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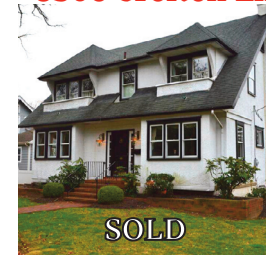
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Pennsauken Lions Still Giving Back To The Community



The Pennsauken Lions Club would like to thank the many individuals and organizations that supported the Lions during 2020 and helped to shape the lives of so many individuals and families. As we come to the traditional year-end Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday season, The Pennsauken Lions Club wishes everyone in the community to have a great Thanksgiving and a joyous and happy, holiday season.

While COVID-19 continues to affect our community in ways not imaginable just a year ago, the Pennsauken Lions Club continues to support our community by helping those most in need in our area. Thanks to a partnership created by the Pennsauken Lions Club, Lions Club District 16-L of Southern New Jersey,

and the Food Bank of South Jersey, the Club has helped extend our reach by helping more needy food insecure persons in our community and throughout South Jersey. Please consider helping a food insecure individual or family during this time by donating to this effort at: <https://donate.foodbanksj.org/lionsclub>.

The Lions Club, though presently limited on what it can and cannot do due to COVID-19, continues to support many of its traditional programs like: screening children for eye issues in the Pennsauken, Merchantville and parochial schools on a limited basis; and collecting used eye glasses, which are recycled to help individuals with vision problems.

When you become a Lion, you become part of a network of organizations, businesses, and community volunteers

committed to making a difference for the betterment of our community.

If you are interested in becoming a Lion, meetings are held on the first and third Mondays of each month at Macaro's Catering & Deli, 6225 Westfield Ave. Pennsauken, and begin at 6:00 p.m. Those that attend are required to wear a face mask and follow all distancing requirements.

If you need more information about the Lions Club, would like to become a member, or donate to our efforts, consider joining us for one of our in-person meetings or attend one virtually. Also, please follow us at [Facebook.com/pennsaukenlions](https://www.facebook.com/pennsaukenlions) or contact us via e-mail at PennsaukenLionsClub1@gmail.com.

Leaf Collection Season At The Department Of Public Works

continued from page 6

the start of the project and the likely timeline, according to the pre-construction meeting that was held. In the fall, you will likely see all of the concrete curb work and ADA handicap ramps that will go in, along with some driveway apron grading. Due to the time of year, the project will likely shut down during the winter and pick back up in the spring. For the road

surface, large portions of the concrete road will be replaced to ensure a far smoother ride. For readers familiar with Haddonfield-Berlin Rd. in Cherry Hill, by the I-295 exit, this similar approach has greatly improved the roadway. A bit of stormwater system work will help alleviate some flooding at Broad St. Once repairs are made, Asphalt paving will be installed approximately from Maple Ave.

until the intersection at New York Ave.

Any and all questions regarding the project should be directed to the Camden County Public Works Department.

If you have any questions regarding the Pennsauken's Department of Public Works, let us know by calling (856) 663-0178 or emailing PublicWorks@twp.pennsauken.nj.us.

The ICEMAN Goeth BY GAVIN ROSSNER



Providing Meaningful And Comforting Funeral Services During COVID-19

continued from page 5

That's tough for us not to do, but it's the reality right now," said Meyers.

"While we work in multiple places helping families, one of the worst things is that we can't do community events like our trunk or treat and the high school mock car crash," added Thomas P. Hickey, registered intern. "We miss getting out into the public."

In spite of the ongoing changes, Falco, Caruso & Leonard Funeral Homes continue to adjust and exceed expectations in challenging times.

"Every one of our employees has stepped up to the plate. What has been required it's just amazing," said Caruso. "I'm very proud with the way our team has responded."

For more information, visit CarusoCare.com.



Pennsauken Sewerage Authority

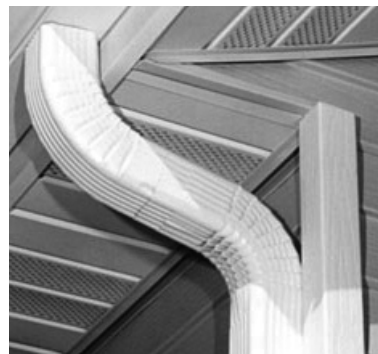
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Wishing all our Friends and Neighbors a Happy Thanksgiving!

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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.



GRAYMATTERS Thanksgiving Celebrated On A Daily Basis

By Judith Kristen,
AAP Columnist

Eleven down, one to go. What a decade this year has been.

I could easily get caught up in a landslide of things that went awry, but it's so much easier – and so much nicer – to count your blessings. And look at the money you've saved on Roloids while you're at it!

Thanksgiving is going to be a traditional/non-traditional one for me this year. But that doesn't surprise anyone who really knows me. I have plans to celebrate the holiday a week ahead of time... just because.

In truth, my Thanksgivings come on a daily basis, so when and where all that yummy turkey, stuffing, and pumpkin pie stuff takes place is a yet another lovely reason to celebrate life. It just takes longer than usual to cook the evening meal, that's all.

My thoughts of Thanksgiving are more a time to reflect with love and grat-

itude all of the good things that happened to me during the year; and to find joy and a few good laughs once again when I recall some of my lighter moments with friends.

I'm also very aware of the sacrifices a lot of us have made this year and the losses we have suffered. I was not immune either. But I believe when we face them head on, grace comes calling on us with a certain swiftness to help us fill those empty spaces. And the healing comes in many ways, in many disguises; we just need to be open to it... mindful.

And, humor never fails either... well, maybe a few times, but seriously, I'm never in the red when it comes to a good laugh.

I asked several of those darling friends of mine to send me something funny about Thanksgiving... here's three that I can print. Others were just a bit too dicey for AAP. They were really funny though. So, when you see me, ask.

Here we go:

"It wouldn't be Thanksgiving without

a little emotional scarring."

"For those of you who cannot fly out to be with family this year, please resist the urge to brag."

And, "Thanksgiving dinners take 18 hours to prepare. They are consumed in 12 minutes. Half times take 12 minutes. THIS is no coincidence."

Now, I must end my November column thanking all of the good souls who have been on life's road trip with me this year: my dear friends, Bobbie; Lisa and Ed; Evie; Sherry; Maryanne and Craig; Nancy and Tim; Melisa and Lourdes at Santander; Ray and Carol; Miss Betsy; and the lovely Jean Rowand.

To the patient neighbors who walk by my home with kids in tow, or out walking their dogs, who put up with the barking of my beloved hound, Sophie, who I try to console myself that she is merely saying hello to all of you, unless you happen to be the lawn guy, the mail carrier, UPS, or Amazon Prime.

Thank you to our devoted and brave police, firefighters, and emergency res-

cue; and thank you to our doctors and nurses and all essential workers. Our respect for you knows no bounds.

All hail our glorious eateries, and pizza parlors of Pennsauken. Thank you Troy's; my Rite Aid buddies; Pennsauken Animal Hospital; and my fellow columnists at AAP; my new found friend and owner of Penn Queen Diner, Kim; and another very special thanks to my favorite "Aunt" Charlotte, who keeps me in happy supply of peanut butter meltaways and chocolate covered pretzels, because as I see it, that's the way life should be... Or for certain, at least it's a

great start!

And, last but not least, I want to thank the wonderfully kind man who edits my column every month, Mr. Frank Sinatra, as well as love and gratitude to his beautiful family.

Thank you one and all for the beautiful difference you have made in my life.

And for those I have missed, I apologize that my fingers forgot to type you, but my heart still remembers.

Happy Thanksgiving, now and for always,

Your friend,

~Judy

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Ashley currently resides in Cherry Hill. She attended Merchantville Elementary School and Camden Catholic High School. Ashley graduated from Rider University with a Bachelor's Degree in Communications with Concentrations in TV & Radio Production and Marketing. She worked in Sports & Media Marketing with Greater Media Philadelphia's radio stations WMMR-FM 93.3, WPEN-FM 97.5 The Fanatic, and ESPN-AM 950.

Ashley decided in 2010 to pursue a career in the Funeral Industry and continue the family business. She received her Funeral Service Certificate from Mercer County College and her NJ Funeral Directors License in 2011. She is also a Certified Celebrant.

In the community, she is currently a parishioner at the Church of St. Peter in Merchantville and St. Stephen Church in Pennsauken, a sister of Delta Phi Epsilon Sorority, and a Big Sister Mentor. In her free time she enjoys swimming and watching the Philadelphia Flyers.

In 2015, Ashley married her husband, Robert. In 2016 they welcomed their first child, Robert Edward Condon IV and in 2018 they welcomed their second child Anastasia Rose Condon.

Ashley spends her time volunteering with the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, specifically with their NICU program, Grandma's Attic, which collects new, unused NICU clothing and blankets for the children in need.



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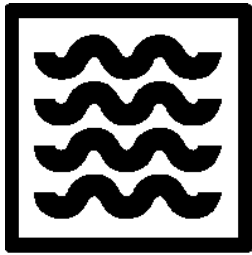
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Stanley McGraw IV
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Ashley Rose Caruso-Condon
Funeral Director
NJ License No. 4948

Andrea Peirce Meyers
Funeral Director
NJ License No. 4540

Angela M McGraw
Funeral Director
NJ License No. 5231



MPWC WATERLINES

HAPPY THANKSGIVING FROM THE MPWC!

The Commissioners and staff of the Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission would like to wish you a Happy Thanksgiving! Please note that we will be closed in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday on Thursday, Nov. 26, and Friday, Nov. 27.



Hydrant Flushing Continues Through November 5

The MPWC will continue to flush fire hydrants through Thursday, Nov. 5. For the most up-to-date information, which includes the areas to be flushed each evening, please "like" us on Facebook. We post an updated list each day!

In addition, if you have not already signed up to get notifications from the MPWC, please visit our

website at MPWC.com and click on the "Notify Me" button, so that you may receive notification of hydrant flushing, as well as any other service notifications should they arise in your area.

For specific questions regarding the flushing program, please contact the MPWC's Customer Support Center at (856) 663-0043.

An Important Message To Our Customers About Your Water Bill

Governor Murphy's moratorium on electricity, gas service, or water service shut offs for residential and commercial customers impacted by COVID-19 was extended through March 15, 2021; and the Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission remains committed to providing our customers with clean, safe and reliable water during these uncertain times.

If you are experiencing a financial hardship due to the COVID-19

pandemic, please contact us as soon as possible. The MPWC will work with you.

Our staff is standing by Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., to assist you with your repayment options by phone at (856) 663-0043. Be reminded that when visiting our lobby in person, face masks and social distancing are required, and the lobby closes at 3:00 p.m. each day for disinfecting.

A Reminder To Our Senior And Disabled Customers

With the end of the year quickly approaching, remember to submit your enrollment form for your 2021 discount! Please note that even if you are currently receiving a dis-

count, you must apply EACH year to continue receiving your discount.

Now is a good time to collect any information you may need for your application. Stop by our Adminis-

trative Headquarters on Westfield Ave. in Pennsauken to pick up an application. You may also print a copy of the enrollment form by visiting our website at MPWC.com.

Our Customer Support Representatives will be happy to assist you in completing your enrollment form. Your enrollment form requires your block and lot number, so please bring along a copy of your tax bill. Our lobby hours are Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. When visiting our lobby in person, face masks and social distancing are required.

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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.

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Keep Informed With Reverse 9-1-1

For members of the community directly affected by water main breaks, we provide messages via our Reverse 9-1-1 notification system. To stay informed of all water emergencies that may occur within our service area, visit MPWC.com/swift911 to sign up for Reverse 9-1-1!

The MPWC Offices Are OPEN!

MPWC has reopened our lobby at 6751 Westfield Ave. for in-person payments and questions. Lobby hours are 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Face coverings are required for visitors; and we ask that you please maintain social distance by following the markers on the floor.

PAY YOUR BILL ONLINE

The Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission Now Accepts Online Payments!
Log onto our website at www.mpwc.com and select the "Pay Your Bill" button right from our homepage.

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

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GOING GREEN Giving Thanks In These Trying Times

By Kathleen Harvey,
AAP Columnist

Most of us have had a rough year dealing with the ramifications of the COVID-19 pandemic. Some have lost loved ones or their jobs. We can't visit friends or family as we quarantine in place. All of the social clubs I belong to have suspended in-person meetings for the foreseeable future. We are all isolated.

Chatting with friends on social media, everyone seems to be saying they are so done with 2020. While that's true, Thanksgiving and the holiday season are fast approaching. It's looking like we won't be able to have the traditional huge family turkey dinner around the dinner table, extensions and mismatched chairs added to accommodate everyone. Media outlets have reported turkey sales have increased for small turkeys, while greatly decreasing for the large ones traditionally purchased.

Given all of that, you may ask what we have to be thankful for this year? Unlike 100 years ago, or even just a few decades ago, improvements in science, technology, and engineering have made our lives so much better. Compared to the challenges of our forefathers who founded this country, even the wealthy gentry, we are all living in luxury.

Agricultural advancements have changed the way food is grown, improving harvest yields, thus vastly reducing starvation around the globe.

Innovations in health care have enabled health care professionals to prevent disease through vaccinations, while rapidly detecting and treating crippling diseases like heart disease, diabetes, and cancer. Vaccinations currently available have enabled our country to virtually eradicate formerly deadly diseases like small pox and polio. Companies around the world are working tirelessly to develop vaccinations and treatments for COVID-19, the shortest time ever to deal with a disease affecting so many. Screenings for things like high blood pressure, breast cancer, and colon cancer are widely accessible, providing options for treatment to elongate life. New medicines are enabling us to improve our quality of life and live longer.

Rapid improvements in technology keep us connected. Smart phones, video chat apps, and Zoom meetings enable us to connect with folks, while staying safe distances to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Engineers work to make our lives easier and safer. Appliances like vacuum cleaners, microwaves, washers and driers, and convection ovens reduce the amount of time and effort needed to get through boring housework so we can have more time for fun. Automobile safety has rapidly improved. A nearby automobile museum showcases vintage and antique cars that have no roof, windshield, or even safety belts; all things we take for granted

now. Modern cars have technology to warn us when other cars and objects are too close, anti-lock braking systems to help us stop on slippery roads, even heaters to keep our butts warm in winter.

While we are griping about our less than perfect lives and the challenges resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic,

let's remember that we still have much to be thankful for this Thanksgiving. Our military and intelligence community are keeping us safe from terrorists and foreign threats. First responders, including police, fire, and health care workers, are working long hours to help us through some of our worst experiences. Thank

you for your service, and your contribution to our community and country.

Reach out to family and friends regularly, even if only remotely, and tell them you love them and are thankful for them being in your life.

Happy Thanksgiving!



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Pennsauken Holds Community Clean Up Of Tippin's Pond



A community clean up of Tippin's Pond was done in advance of the opening of the Delaware Gardens Green Acres renewal project.

Halloween Drive-In Helps Residents In Need



Residents treated to a showing of "Hocus Pocus" donated food to help support Pennsauken's Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry.

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How To Vote In November 3 General Election *continued from page 1*

are three ways to return these ballots:

Submit your ballot by mail – it must be postmarked on or before 8:00 p.m., Nov. 3, and be received by the County's Board of Elections on or before Nov. 10.

Use a secure ballot drop box – Pennsauken has a vote-by-mail drop box installed right next the Township's Municipal Building, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd. It is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, watched by a video camera, right through the close of polls on election day.

Deliver to the Board of Elections Office – voters can deliver their ballot in person to Camden County's Elections and Archive Center, 100 University Court, Blackwood, N.J., by 8:00 p.m. on Nov. 3.

Bring your ballot to your polling place – ballots can be submitted in person at a voter's specific polling place by 8:00 p.m. on Nov. 3.

Voting In Person

Registered voters can still vote in person on Nov. 3, by using provisional (paper) ballots. There will be a voting machine for use only by disabled voters who are unable to vote using a paper ballot.

Pennsauken's polling places are open on Tuesday, Nov. 3 from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Polling locations are similar to July's

primary election:

- Districts 1, 15 & 24 – Working in the Faith Outreach Ministries, 550 49th St.
- Districts 2 & 19 – MPWC, 6751 Westfield Ave.
- Districts 3, 13, 17, 18 & 23 – Pennsauken United Methodist Church, 3451 Pennsylvania Ave.
- Districts 4 & 16 – Martin Luther

Troop 118 Taking Orders For Live Christmas Wreaths

Back by popular demand, Boy Scout Troop 118 will be taking orders for live Christmas wreaths. The price is \$20 for a 22" wreath, simply decorated by the Scouts themselves with a red bow and pine cones. This is the Troop's fundraiser of 2020; proceeds go to help pay a "camper-ship" for a scout in need. For more details, or to place an order, e-mail nettiemarinelli@hotmail.com.

Looking For New Members

Troop 118 is currently taking applications for new Scouts for young people between grades 6-12. Scouting offers many benefits, including developing character, promoting positive values, learning important life lessons, and more. To learn how your child can participate in Scouting, e-mail Jim at trop3188@gmail.com.

- Christian School, 4106 Terrace Ave.
- District 5 – Pennsauken Municipal Court, 2400 Bethel Ave.
- District 6 – Pennsauken Senior Towers, 8001 Maple Ave.
- District 7 – Pennsauken Free Public Library, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd.
- Districts 8 & 10 – Homestead Youth Center, 4771 Willow Ave.
- Districts 9 & 14 – Saint Matthew's United Methodist Church, 1665 Derousse Ave.
- District 11 – Temple Lutheran Church, 5600 N. Rt. 130
- District 12 – Macaro's Catering, 6223 Westfield Ave.

- District 20 – Circle of Hope Church, 3800 Marlton Pike
- District 21 – Stonegate at St. Stephen's, 5101 Stonegate Dr.
- District 22 – Camden County Boat-house, 7050 N. Park Dr. (moved from Cooper River Plaza)

For more information, drop box and polling locations, and answers to frequently asked questions, visit Vote.NJ.gov. Individuals may also contact the Pennsauken Clerk's Office at (856) 665-1000 x124, the Camden County Board of Elections at (856) 401-8683, or New Jersey's Voter Information and Assistance Line at (877) NJ-VOTER (658-6837).

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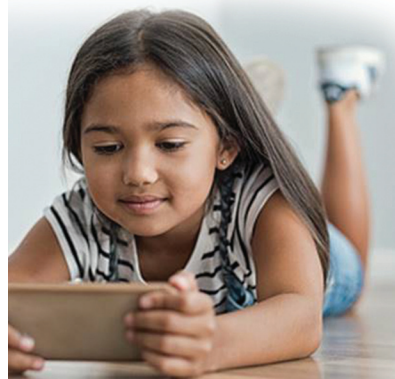


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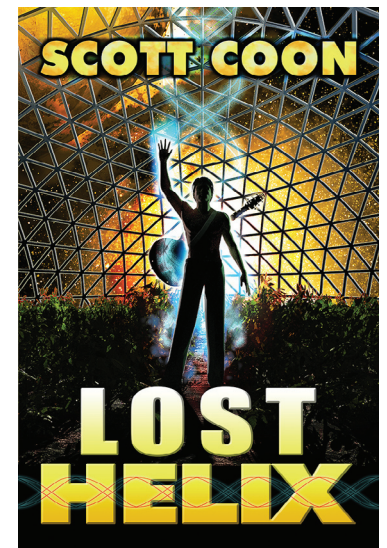
PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Pennsauken Native Releases Debut Novel

Award-winning short story writer and Pennsauken native Scott Coon has released his first novel, "Lost Helix."

Published by Dancing Lemur Press, LLC of North Carolina, "Lost Helix" is a science fiction adventure that follows DJ across the void in search of justice. As his days in high school, DJ sees only a life decided for him by Black Mountain, the company that owns the remote space station he calls home. While his friend, Paul, prepares for the dangerous trip across the void as a stowaway, DJ has no plans, only hopeless dreams of writing music. When DJ's dad goes missing, he finds a file full of evidence of a secret war of industrial sabotage, a file which his dad has encrypted using DJ's song, Lost Helix. To retrieve the file, the company sends Agent Coreman, a man DJ has known his whole life. Seeing himself as the protector of the ore that is building humanity's future, Coreman pursues DJ, absent remorse. With Paul's help, DJ evades Coreman by doing things he never thought he could. All the while, DJ searches for the mother he never knew, his lost helix.

Scott Coon was born in Los Angeles, where he now resides, but grew up in and around Philadelphia, including Pennsauken. He was first published in 2006 by Nth Degree Magazine, a short story titled, "Firewall," about a psychic computer hacker. Since then, his story, "Enduring Winter," was a finalist in the 2017 L. Ron Hubbard Writers of the Future Awards and was also the runner-up



"Lost Helix" is the debut novel of Pennsauken native Scott Coon.

in the New England Science Fiction & Fantasy Short Story Contest. And his story, "Anonymously Famous," received an honorable mention in the 2018 Writers of the Future Awards. More recently, his stories, "The Loneliest Advertisement Bot" and "The Workforce Drive," have been featured in Bewildering Stories. Links to his published short stories can be found at ScottCoonSciFi.com which also features helpful articles for writers.

Lost Helix will be available on Amazon.com, at Barnes & Noble, and everywhere books are sold.

**Pennsauken's Mucha Celebrates
Ninety-Ninth Birthday**

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Longtime Pennsauken resident Stephen Mucha turned 99 years young on Aug. 29. And while COVID-19 prevented a celebration on his actual birthday, family joined him at his home in Pennsbrook section of town, where he's lived for over 45 years, to mark the special occasion.

Stephen was born in 1921, the youngest of three brothers. A World War II veteran, he became an aerospace engineer, designing helicopters for Sikorsky Aircraft. Mucha has four children from his first marriage; and three stepchildren by his second marriage to his wife, Carol Copper Mucha. The couple has 14 grandchildren and one great grandchild on the way!

Stephen and Carol are stalwart mem-

bers of the Pennsauken Municipal Pool; and for many years, the duo gave musical performances from their favorite spot along the River Rd. side. He credits the energetic Carol as the key to his longevity; it also doesn't hurt that she's a retired nurse.

During his birthday party, Stephen enjoyed an outdoor performance from his favorite band and spent time with his loved ones.

Happy Birthday Stephen! Hope to get an invite for your 100th celebration!

Have someone in town celebrating a hallmark birthday? Share the good news by e-mailing aap@twp.pennsauken.nj.us.



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FOODADVENTURES Enjoying Go-To Delis And More Around Town

By Rachael Shugars, AAP Columnist and Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

For this month's article, we decided to highlight some of our favorite deli and sandwich shops. Depending on where in town you live, you have your go-to place to grab a hoagie or sandwich. And while adapting to the current business environment, many are offering new items to their tried and true menus.

Macaro's Deli, located at 6225 Westfield Ave., has been a cornerstone to Pennsauken for many years. They make some really great hot and cold deli sandwiches, along with a vast array of other dishes, like wraps and appetizers and soups. Their new menu item was a real treasure to try: flatbreads in a ton of different combinations. The margarita flatbread was great; and there are many more tasty combos to try, like BBQ chicken, and a breakfast version with eggs, pork roll, among others.

DiPascale's at Meadowbrook is another long time staple in town. Located at



Macaro's Deli on Westfield Ave. is now offering flatbread pizzas to their extensive menu.

3012 Union Ave., they're known for their gigantic hoagies and unique creations like "The Kitchen Sink," filled with premium turkey breast, prosciutto, sautéed broccoli rabe, roasted peppers, sharp provolone and fresh mozzarella. They're also trying some new things in their pre-packaged refrigerated section, like pepperoni pizza egg rolls and chipotle chicken, yellow rice, and asparagus, along with standards like boneless buffalo bites, chicken cutlets, meatballs, and more.

H&H Deli at 3495 Haddonfield Rd., Suite 2, has a solid menu filled with hoagies, wraps, hot and cold sandwiches, and more. Those looking for a little heat should try the Harry's Hero, with buffalo style chicken breast; hot pepper cheese; lettuce, tomato and onion; and blue cheese dressing on a torpedo roll. And the pickle sandwich party tray is a unique offering for any get together.

At 4919 Westfield Ave., Troy's Place has been feeding Pennsauken for over 25 years. There's a lot to choose when it comes to deli sandwiches and hoagies, from bologna to tuna fish and a lot in between. We went for one of their hot offerings and had the Cajun chicken cheese steak, with hot peppers, onions, and properly seasoned for a little kick.

For a change of pace, there's the Juice Bar at 22 S. Centre St. in Merchantville. And while they're focusing on freshly pressed juices offered in reusable containers – we recommend the "Beet It" and "Alka-lime" – the menu is filled with

paninis, quesadillas, tacos, and salads, with plenty of vegetarian and vegan friendly items. Their "cheesesteak" tacos are out of this world, using a plant-based meat substitute where you can't taste the difference.

No matter what part of town you live, give these folks a try and make sure you visit "All Around Pennsauken Food Adventures" on Facebook to share how much you enjoyed your visit and how much you enjoy food in general!

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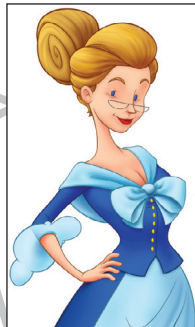
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EDITOR'S DESK Forget The Butter, Grab The Cheetos When Prepping Your Turkey

EDITOR'S
DESK



By Frank Sinatra,
AAP Editor

As I've said on numerous occasions, Thanksgiving is like the Super Bowl for eaters. And while the CDC is recommending smaller gatherings this year, there is no need to quarantine the turkey. You can walk that bad boy right into the house and treat it like the honored guest it is.

I'm huge fan of the traditionally prepared bird. I stuff my turkey with lemon and orange slices, baste the skin with butter and seasonings, and let it roast for a

few hours until golden brown. Many are familiar with the different ways of cooking turkey: grilling it vertically with a can of beer; spatchcocking the bird before popping it into the oven – make sure you spell that properly before Googling what that means; you can even try deep frying, although the fire department REALLY frowns on that. But social media and the internet offer several “unique” ways of preparing your turkey, some of which has me scratching my head.

You can encrust your turkey it in a full-size bag of Flamin' Hot Cheetos. Because smothering your bird in Cheetos obviously isn't enough. They have to

light your mouth on fire with every bite. Heidi at FoodieCrush.com suggests changing up your turkey by basting it in a buttery buffalo hot sauce. Next, folks will be recommending a gravy using blue cheese dressing as a base.

If you'd like to be well lubricated while eating your turkey, follow the lead of PD O'Hurley's in New York. They marinate their bird overnight in four flavors of vodka and inject even more vodka into it after cooking to retain the alcohol content. Whoa momma. I don't think you're driving home after eating this one.

One I would definitely give a shot is covering your turkey entirely in bacon.

The grease melts from these meaty strips from heaven and adds a unique flavor to the bird. After all, everything is better with bacon.

Then there's the “turducken,” made famous by former football coach and announcer John Madden. It's a deboned duck, stuffed in a deboned chicken, stuffed in a deboned turkey. Not only was it the official staple of the All-Madden team, now thousands of these crazy things are sold each year. Supposedly, Madden orders one for Thanksgiving and one for Christmas. By law, I think you are required to talk like John Madden when you eat it and mention Brett Farve at least once. “You see...”

When it comes to the Tofurky, I... I just can't. There are some people who love them. I can't wrap my meat-loving noggin around the concept.

And if you're really gunning for a meal that will choke your arteries, try stuffing your turkey with White Castle sliders, without the pickles. Yes, this is an actual thing. You can find the recipe at <https://www.whitecastle.com/crave-central/recipes/white-castle-turkey-stuffing>.

So whether you brine, baste, roast, or even spatchcock your turkey, enjoy both it and your Thanksgiving. May you create special moments at the dinner table with family and friends. Just don't hog all the Flamin' Hot Cheetos.



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FRIENDS of the LIBRARY

Supporting Diversity Through Lemonade 4 Change

By Arlene Miller, Friends of the Pennsauken Free Public Library

Good news! The Friends of the Pennsauken Free Public Library are happy to announce that we're nearly two-thirds of the way toward our Lemonade 4 Change goal of \$4,500. This fundraiser helps us purchase books to enhance and expand the diversity of the Library's collection through both physical and virtual lemonade stands. While physical stands are now closed, our virtual stand is still open at <https://bit.ly/35EoY1c> for anyone who

hasn't been able to donate yet; you can also send a check to Friends of the Pennsauken Library, 5605 Crescent Blvd., Pennsauken, NJ 08110, or bring it to the Library. All books purchased with Lemonade 4 Change funds will be specially tagged.

Finally, continuing our 2020 efforts to help everyone manage stress during these highly unusual times, the Friends are offering additional ZOOM classes with Michele Carlino on Friday mornings in November, beginning at 10:00 a.m. We're still finalizing exactly which

classes will be offered – possibly a workshop on breathing techniques for relaxation; meditation or mindfulness; or possibly hand and foot reflexology. Sorry to be so vague but... remember this is 2020 after all! You'll be able to get the final details on which classes are being offered by checking the Friends' Facebook page or by calling the Library's circulation desk for the link.

In the meantime, please stay safe and healthy – and thank you for all of your support.

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Pennsauken Part Of Taskforce Addressing Philly Noise Issue

continued from page 1

hear it. I hear it. We're all affected by it," said Pennsauken Mayor Tim Killion during a video posted to social media last month. "Our officers are active in a local taskforce consisting of several police departments along the Delaware River; they're working with Philadelphia Police to find the source of the noise and stop it."

Led by the Palmyra Police Department, the taskforce includes a variety of towns experiencing the same noise issues as Pennsauken, including Bellmawr, Brooklawn, Cinnaminson, Collingswood, Delran, Gloucester City, Merchantville, Riverside, Riverton, Maple Shade, and Westville. They're working with Captain John Walker of the 15th Police District in Philadelphia to develop a strategy on how to combat the noise disturbances. Lt. Gerald Henkel, traffic and patrol divisional commander with the Pennsauken Police Department, attended a meeting of the taskforce last month and shared what he learned with Township administration.

The Philadelphia Police Department has committed officers and an aviation unit to locating and removing the sources of the noise. And while "Boom

Cars" are one of the reasons residents hear loud music, they are not the only source of noise pollution. Boats and wave runners, drag racing, late night gatherings along the water, as well as ATVs and slingshots, can also generate music and thumping bass that wakes up the neighborhood.

Henkel also reported that additional steps are being taken to track where the noise is coming from. When police departments from the New Jersey side of the Delaware receive noise complaints that apply, supervisors will e-mail members of the Philadelphia Police Department who are currently working at that time. By providing approximate locations in Philadelphia where the noise could be coming from, their police can direct resources to a smaller area.

"Both Lt. Henkel and myself will be attending upcoming community meetings about this issue and will be sharing what we learn with our residents," said Killion. "It's equally important that residents share information with us about the noise issues they hear as they happen"

To report noise pollution while it's occurring, call the Pennsauken Police Department's non-emergency dispatch call center at (856) 663-1234.

Renovated Delaware Gardens Park Opens

continued from page 1

everybody our dedication to outside spaces."

Extensive work was done on both sides of the park. The softball field received a major upgrade, with new dugouts and new fencing. Across the street, a multi-use path was installed throughout the park. Fitness equipment and park benches are placed strategically along the path. In addition, the new path extends from Delaware Gardens Park along Bannard Ave., connecting to Tippin's Pond, where two decks were reconstructed.

"During the pandemic, people want to be outside, take a walk with their kids or come out and get some exercise.

There's an unofficial soccer field out here for people to play around and a great trail that will zigzag you through this whole space and take you all the way to Tippin's Pond, where we've done some work as well," explained DiBattista. "It's a great place to walk, run, bike, play, and just be safe."

Lighting and additional benches will be installed in the coming weeks; and several areas have been seeded with grass after the large amount of construction, but for all intents and purposes, Delaware Park has been reopened for the entire Pennsauken community.

"We're really excited for our residents to come out and use it," said Killion. "We think you're going to enjoy it."

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inBooks

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By Kristen Diaz

Being visually impaired, I haven't kept many print books from my childhood on my bookshelf; but one that I still cherish is "Elfwyn's Saga." It tells how Elfwyn, a young, blind girl living in the cold lands of the north, lived in tune with nature and was beloved by the fairy spirits. Because of her blindness, she escaped the evil power of the looking glass crystal given to her clan by an enemy. Through courage and determination, Elfwyn saved her clan and restored their valley to health and prosperity.

I loved that story because it was one of the few books I had read that contained a blind character. More than that, the blind character was a young girl—like me—and she was the heroine! Moreover, Elfwyn was not pitied or coddled by her family, but rather welcomed, loved, and respected by them, as all children should be. Finally, Elfwyn became the story's heroine through her care for her family and her willingness to stand up to evil, qualities that any reader can aspire to imitate. I loved that story because it was a mirror, reflecting to me the image of someone with limitations like mine who did not let those limitations stop her from living a fulfilling life. Instead, Elfwyn's "limitations" and her

Windows And Mirrors At The Library

moral strength enabled her to better the lives of others.

Books that highlight characters with different abilities, as well as characters from diverse backgrounds, can serve as windows as well as mirrors. For a sighted reader of "Elfwyn's Saga," the story could serve as a positive model for how to treat those with so-called disabilities. "Through Grandpa's Eyes," another of my favorite books as a child, tells the story of a young boy who spends a weekend with his blind grandfather and learns to experience the beauty of his surroundings through taste, smell, hearing, and touch, the way his grandfather does. It imparts a great appreciation of all that someone with a different perspective can teach us. It has been one of my favorite books to recommend for children.

A very unique book recently added to the Pennsauken Library collection pleasantly surprised me by including raised Braille dots, along with printed text for the words, and raised drawings that you can feel for the pictures. It's called "The Black Book of Colors," and provides a great way to learn how someone with visual impairment might experience words, images, and colors. A new window from which to try the view.

I am grateful to the Friends of the Pennsauken Library for organizing the Lemonade 4 Change fundraiser to purchase diverse books for the Library's various collections. Because of the funds

raised—and the dozens of volunteer hours put in by committed Pennsauken residents—many more children, youth, and adults will be able to see themselves positively and learn what life can be like for people different from themselves, one

of the best ways to build empathy within our beautifully diverse community.

The online fundraiser for Lemonade 4 Change continues at <https://bit.ly/35EoY1c>. Please consider financially supporting this initiative, submitting di-

verse book recommendations to askalibrarian@pennsaukenlibrary.org, and then, diving into the new diverse books purchased with the funds. Look in hopeful mirrors, and check out some world-widening windows!

November Virtual Library Events

www.facebook.com/pennsaukenlibrary www.instagram.com/pennsaukenlibrary

Programs For Children And Families

Due to copyright compliance requests from publishers, all storytimes are now only viewable live, on Facebook and Instagram.

- Preschool Storytime – Tuesdays, Nov. 3, 10, 17, & 24; 11:00 a.m. Join Miss Susan and Miss Sabrina every Tuesday morning on the Pennsauken Library's Facebook and Instagram for an at-home Preschool Storytime! Little ones of all ages are invited to read and stretch along with us. For toddlers, early elementary students.

- Wee Readers – Friday, Nov. 20; 11:00 a.m. A video will be posted once a month, with minor changes. We encourage weekly repetition of the video to help baby master the songs, movements, and stories, similar to the song and story repetition featured at the in-person program. A virtual program with short books, rhymes, songs, and movement, aimed at developing baby's motor, sensory and social skills! For infants, crawlers and walkers; ages 2 and under.

Adult Services

- 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.

- Trivia Night – Thursday, Nov. 12; 7:00 p.m. Our Virtual Trivia Night is back! Join us for a night of fun and trivia. Test your knowledge of history, pop culture, and more. For ages teen to adult. To be a contestant and to be eligible for a prize, pre-registration is required. To register: <https://tinyurl.com/PFPLTRIVIA2>. To join in the fun as a viewer, we'll be streaming the Trivia Night live on Facebook. For more information call, (856) 665-5959.

The Library's Community Room will be a polling location for District 7 on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 3., from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Voters can submit their vote-by-mail ballots or vote in person.

Patrons can still pick up and return library materials, as well as use our limited services by appointment from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. They can make appointments for computers and research, printing, faxing, scanning, or notary services by calling us at (856) 665-5959 ext. 3.

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inSports

Student-Athletes Get Back On The Field

By Billy Snyder, Athletic Director,
Pennsauken School District

Getting safely back on the field was the goal of the Pennsauken Athletic Department for the start of the school year. We are proud to report that 197 student-athletes were able to safely compete in seven different sports this fall. The opportunity to put on the jersey, play with their teammates, and represent their community has certainly been a highlight for all of these student-athletes. When they are on the field, running, training, playing and competing, they get to forget about all the stresses that have resulted from this pandemic and feel normal.

Jade Pope, a senior and two-time state champion in the 400 meter dash, has never run cross country until this fall; but because she missed her junior year of outdoor track and field, she felt it was important to get her legs going again.

"I knew I liked to run and compete,



PHS senior Jade Pope ran cross country for the first time this fall.

but because I was not able to run, I now know, I love running," said Pope. "Being part of the cross country team has really helped me. My coaches and teammates have been great."

Police Run To Support Special Olympics



Members of the Pennsauken Township Police Department laced on their running shoes to help raise over \$200,000 as part of a statewide effort to support Special Olympics.

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