

THE Patriot Times™



SPRINGFIELD'S ONLY HOMETOWN PAPER

Township of
Springfield, New Jersey
County of Union

Published by the Township of Springfield in cooperation with the Springfield Patriot Chamber of Commerce

www.springfieldpatriot.com

DECEMBER 2013 • Issue #34

www.springfield-nj.us

NEXT CHAMBER MEETING

THURSDAY
DECEMBER 19, 2013

8:30 am - 9:30 am
Emergency
Management Office
Top Floor of the Fire House
In the Joseph Pepe III
Memorial Training Room
200 Mountain Ave.

Members and non-
members are invited to
Chamber meetings.
Free coffee and donuts
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MAYOR AMLEN SWEARS IN NEW SPRINGFIELD POLICE OFFICER

Officer Robert Quinlan was sworn in as the newest member of the Police Department at the Township Committee meeting on November 26. Officer Quinlan will fill a vacancy opened up by a retirement a few months prior.

According to Police Chief Cook, Officer Quinlan comes to Springfield with four years of service with the United States Marine Corps and with more than three years of municipal law enforcement experience.



(l to r) Officer Quinlan's sister Kimberly, mother Nancy, father Robert, Officer Quinlan, Police Chief John Cook and Mayor David Amlen

20 FOOD BASKETS DELIVERED TO NEEDY FAMILIES IN SPRINGFIELD



Members of the Rotary Club of Springfield and the Trustees of Springfield HOPE delivered twenty food baskets to needy families in Springfield. Each basket contained a turkey and enough food to prepare a Thanksgiving Turkey dinner.

The Turkey was donated by STEW LEONARD'S WINES of Springfield. The food in the basket was donated by individual members of the Springfield Rotary Club and Springfield HOPE. The baskets were assembled by the staff at SEABRA'S supermarket of Springfield.

The Rotary club is an international Service organization that has been in Springfield for over 65 years. There are currently 17 members. "Service above self" is their motto. Other than this Thanksgiving project, the rotary club supports numerous community events, scholarships for graduating High School seniors, and organizes its annual "Taste of the Towns" event in the Springfield.

Springfield HOPE was founded in 2007 and stands for Helping Other People Endure. The mission of Springfield HOPE is to help Springfield residents when they are in need. In recent years this has included victims of several natural disasters that have rocked our town. If you or a neighbor find yourself in a position requiring our help, please call the Springfield HOPE Helpline at 973.467.3388.

Springfield HOPE in conjunction with the Springfield FIRE DEPARTMENT will be doing their annual toy distribution in late December know as "Toys for Springfield Kids". For details, please call Dr. Hecht's office at 973.564.5885 as the holidays draw closer, the HOPE line at 973-467-3388 or visit our website www.springfieldhope.com

INVESTORS BANK INVESTS IN TOWNSHIP

Investors Bank of Springfield recently donated \$1500 to the Township of Springfield to purchase two decorative benches for the front of Town Hall. The benches are intended to allow residents and visitors a place to rest while visiting Town Hall and the Annex as well as reading the Veterans Memorial monument. A plaque is mounted on each of the benches that reads: For the Enjoyment of the Residents of Springfield, Donated by Investors Bank.



(l to r) Mayor David Amlen, Roberto Camacho, Assistant Vice President and Branch Manager and Anthony Cancro, Township Administrator.
The Township is grateful to Investors Bank for its donation and continued commitment to Springfield.

**The Township's will hold the
Reorganization Meeting on
Wednesday, January 1st, at 2 p.m.,
in the Municipal Building.**



The Patriot Times is published by the Township of Springfield in cooperation with the Springfield Patriot Chamber of Commerce.

Over seven thousand newspapers are printed monthly and distributed free to every postal patron in Springfield.

Although great care has been taken to ensure the information contained within is accurate, Springfield Patriot Chamber of Commerce assumes no liability for errors or omissions.

SPRINGFIELD PATRIOT Chamber of Commerce

Springfield Patriot Chamber of Commerce
1 Cornell Parkway, Springfield, NJ 07081
973-912-2300

Co-Chairman: Scott Seidel and Patrick Paoletta
Networking Vice President: Elliot Merkin
Recording Secretary: Tracy Geyer

SPRINGFIELD, NJ

MAYOR: David Amlen

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Ziad Shehady Richard Huber
David Barnett Margaret Bandrowski

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

All Emergencies	
(Police, Fire, Ambulance).....	9-1-1
Police (Nonemergency)	973-376-0400
Fire (Non-emergency).....	973-912-2265
Board of Education.....	973-376-1025
Construction Office	973-912-2220
Court	973-912-2213
Emergency Management	
Department	973-376-1058
Engineering Department	973-912-2219
Finance Department	973-912-2279
Fire Prevention Office	973- 376-1740
Health Department	973-593-3079
Library	973-376-4930
Office of the Mayor	973--912-2285
Public Works Department	973-912-8483/2225
Recreation Department.....	973-912-2227
Recycling information	973-912-2222
Tax Assessor	973-912-2207
Tax Collector	973-912-2204/05
Township Administrator.	973-912-2202
Township Clerk.....	973-912-2201
Vital Statistics/Registrar	973-912-2285
Zoning Office	973-232-4449

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ADVERTISING & PRESS RELEASES

Inquires concerning advertising and submissions of press releases can be made to The Springfield Patriot Chamber of Commerce via email or fax to:

SCOTT SEIDEL, Editor

JOHN COTTAGE, Sr., Assistant Editor

PATRICK PAOLELLA, Director of Advertising

info@springfieldpatriot.com

Phone 973-912-2300 • Fax 973-376-0425



Message from the Mayor

This is both the last column for 2013 and my last column as the mayor of Springfield. Although this is my goodbye as your mayor, it is not my goodbye when it comes to my commitment to this town. I plan to stay involved in issues close to my heart, including the business improvement district (BID). I am quite proud of the progress achieved this year working in concert with the BID. The unique private-public partnership has allowed the BID and the township to enter into an agreement with a significant property owner expressly for the purpose of redevelopment in our downtown. This is the first time in Springfield's history that a property owner has put their own money into a new corporation whose sole purpose is to further the development of our downtown. All I ask is

that residents are patient as these types of projects (when done well) never move quickly.

I am also quite proud of the manner in which the township committee and its chair, the mayor (me), was able to conduct productive and civil meetings throughout the year. Both the informal workshop meetings and the more formal legislative meetings showed that the majority of the committee were able to work well together even in the face of differences of opinion and voting record. I only hope that as the new committee and new mayor take control next year, the unnecessary outbursts and immature behavior exhibited by members of the committee and the public do not continue. We have seen this behavior both in Washington and Trenton and do not have any need for it in Springfield. This un-cooperative, grandstanding, and rude behavior accomplishes nothing except to showcase immaturity, bad judgment, and ill manners. It is worth remembering that one always gets more flies with honey than with vinegar.

I also enjoyed the opportunity to act as the wedding official for many marriages this year (seventeen through November 30th with more scheduled in December), including Springfield's first official same sex marriage. I also consider one of the greatest gifts any committee and mayor can provide to their residents is a government and township that avoids the spotlight unnecessarily. Contrast this year with many years past, and I think most residents will agree that staying under the radar contributes to a better quality of life.

Thanks for reading my columns this year. I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to provide The Patriot Times readers with a political party free, yet somewhat (sometimes more than not) opinionated point of view about issues behind the scenes in our town. You can always feel free to contact any township committee member through their [first name.last name]@springfield-nj.us email addresses or by phone or regular mail at town hall. It has been a privilege to serve this town both as a committeeman, and especially as your mayor. I wish you and yours a healthy and happy holiday season.

David Amlen, Mayor 2013

HELPING NEW RESIDENTS AND BUSINESS NAVIGATE SPRINGFIELD BETTER

At the request of the Springfield Improvement Team, new residents and business will have a reference guide to Springfield. This "Welcome to Springfield Guide" is intended to help them get familiar with the operations of the Township government. Funding for the mailing and production of this Guide was provided by Investors Bank of Springfield.

The Guide is available on the Township website

at <http://www.springfield-nj.us>. Look for the image on the home page on the upper right side, click on it.



TOWNSHIP MEETING DATES

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Monday, December 2nd, 7:30 p.m., workshop, Fire Department
Tuesday, December 3rd, 7:30 p.m., regular meeting, Municipal Building
Tuesday, December 17th, 7:30 p.m., regular meeting, Municipal Building
(December dates are not the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays due to Christmas Eve being Tuesday, December 24th.)

PLANNING BOARD 1st Wednesday, 7:30

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT 4th Wednesday, 7:30

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW 3rd Wednesday, 7 p.m.

BOARD OF HEALTH

2nd Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

RENT LEVELING BOARD last Thursday of month, 7 p.m.
All of the above meet in Municipal Building.

RECREATION COMMITTEE

3rd Tuesday, 7 p.m. – Sarah Bailey Civic Center

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

3rd Monday, 7:30 p.m. – Annex

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

3rd Thursday, 7:30 in Library

THE BID AT WORK

Facebook.com/Springfieldnewjersey
www.springfieldbid.com

**The Board Members of the
Springfield
Business Improvement District
wish all of our
friends and neighbors a
very happy holiday season
and a healthy, happy New Year!**

Redevelopment Update

The BID and the Township of Springfield have been working with property owners in the Downtown to develop a plan to revitalize this area. The Redevelopment Attorney hired by the BID has put together a plan for redeveloping a portion of Morris Avenue as the first phase of this process. The Township and one of the property owners on Morris Avenue have entered into a conditional agreement to begin the redevelopment process. This is the start to a "new" Morris Avenue that will include a multi-use project. The BID and the Town are also meeting with another property owner who is planning to develop residential units in the Church Mall area. This will be phase two of the redevelopment in the Township. There are many

"i's" still to dot, and "t's" to cross, but this is progress and we are optimistic that we may have two projects ready to go by the end of 2014. We will keep you updated as things move along. The BID with our Town and County leadership are committed to work to make the necessary changes to give pride in the Downtown back to the community!

Together North Jersey Grant

This grant project will be done in conjunction with the Township's ongoing redevelopment plan process and will result in recommendations that address mitigation of the auto-oriented nature of the area, bus route and stop locations, increasing the footprint of the downtown, environmental issues (such as the presence of flood prone areas), and integration of the arts. The NJ TRANSIT Bus Planning Unit is involved with this project due to the significant presence of busses in the Study Area and NJDOT will be involved due to the presence of State roads. The objective is to create a Vision Plan that the Township can use in its preparation of a Redevelopment Plan for the Study Area (currently underway) and that addresses concerns regarding walkability, bikeability, bus routes, and flooding.

The group held an "Open House" on Tuesday, November 12 at the Sara Bailey Center. Over 75 residents and interested parties attended and participated in the activities designed to solicit pertinent information that will help the team with their final report. Thank you to those citizens that attended this event. The information received was invaluable.

Holiday Savings from the BID!!

Back by popular demand! See the insert in the November Springfield Patriot for over 30 coupons! The BID is providing great deals from Springfield businesses to help you with your holiday shopping list. Support your local businesses!!

Springfield App

****Make sure you download the Springfield App! It is free and a great way to keep up with what is going on in town!**



SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY



The Springfield Patriot Chamber of Commerce and Springfield Business Improvement District teamed together to hand out promotional materials obtained by Township Committeeman Ziad Shehady for Small Business Saturday on November 30. Mike Scalera, Ziad Shehady and Scott Seidel visited several retail stores in town to hand out the materials. Bags, signs, pens, balloons and floor mats were supplied by American Express.



(l to r) Chamber Co-Chair, Scott Seidel, Mack Camera & Video owner Mel Kevoe, Committeeman Ziad Shehady, BID Chairman Mike Scalera and Rotary President Joseph Cappa



Michael Scalera Ins Agcy Inc
Mike Scalera CLU ChFC LUTCF, Principal Officer
401 Morris Ave
Springfield, NJ 07081
Bus: 973-564-7717 Fax: 973-564-7719

**Fa, la, la, la, la,
la, la, la, la.**

'Tis the season to be jolly.

Wishing you a safe and joyous holiday. **Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®**

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Springfield Town Hall Bulletin Board

WINTER BULK GARBAGE PICKUP IS HERE DECEMBER 11-12 . . .

It's that time of year again...so start getting your old things you no longer want ready for bulk garbage pickup on Wednesday, December 11 and Thursday, December 12.

If your garbage is picked up on Thursday, your bulk pickup will be December 11, Wednesday. If your garbage pickup is Friday, your bulk pickup will be December 12, Thursday.

All material should be out at curb side the evening before pickup.

Bulk waste is comprised of a collection of large and/or non-routine waste items collected on a quarterly basis. Bulk waste constitutes larger household waste including household furniture, appliances, light brush not to exceed six feet in length, bundled and tied and not to exceed 60 pounds, broken crockery, carpeting, not to exceed six feet in length, rolled and tied, not to exceed 60 pounds, hot water heaters, and barbecue grills.

Specifically excluded are construction material and debris such as sheet rock, lumber, pipe and panelling, concrete and large rocks, stones or logs greater than six inches in diameter, stumps and tree roots, recyclables, electronic items* (computers, televisions, etc.), video games, propane tanks and all other hazardous waste. Refrigerators and freezers must have the doors removed. Freon no longer has to be removed by the homeowner from air conditioners, freezers, and all other cooling devices. Plan now for December 11 and 12.

**Please note: All electronic items such as computers, printers, televisions, etc. are to be recycled on the first Saturday of every month at the Springfield Pool between the hours of 7:00 am – 11:00 am. For more information please refer to the Township Website: <http://springfield-nj.us/departments/departments-of-public-works.html> you can also write Public Works at: DPW@springfield-nj.us*

HELP US REPORT STREET LIGHT PROBLEMS TO JCPL – LET THERE BE LIGHT! . . .

The Township is actively looking for JCP&L street lights that are not working, on during the day or flickering and not on constantly. We can use your help in identifying street lights that are not working properly. We will report the street light on your behalf if you provide the following complete information:

1. Pole Number: for example - JC 1234 SF or BT 1234 (on the pole, approximately 6 ft. up the pole, usually facing the street)
2. Street or closest house number – for example – 100 Mountain Ave

3. Closest Street – for example – Wabeno Ave
4. Nearest landmark - for example – Patriot Park
5. Describe problem: Light is not on at night; OR light stays on during the day, OR light is flickering/dim

Please complete this information and e-mail it to: streetlightproblems@Springfield-nj.us or fax to 973.912.2277, mail or drop off to: Town Hall, 100 Mountain Ave, Springfield, NJ 07061 ATT: Street Light Problem Survey

Your name and contact information would be helpful in case we have to contact you.

If you would like to submit the information to JCP&L directly, go to the JCP&L website at the following address:

https://www.firstenergycorp.com/outages_help/Multiple_Streetlight_Problems.html

COMMUNITY POOL UPGRADES 2013-2014 . . .

Contractor is continuing work on Phase 1 of the pool improvement project including: tile; sand-blasting; coping expansion; joints; and painting of the pool areas. The project will be completed in March.

Phase 2 of the pool improvement project will begin in December including removal and replacement of the filtration system for the main pool and wading pool. This project will be completed by April 1.

Additional upgrades will include new slip resistant flooring in the bathrooms and shower rooms; updated toilets and sinks; and caulking work throughout the cement decking around the pool and fencing improvements

HOLIDAY RECYCLING PICKUP CHANGES. . .

Recycling pickup on Wednesday, December 25, 2013 will be collected
Recycling pickup for January 1, 2014 will be collected on January 4, 2014.

Be a part of the Food Safety Training Program.

Date	Cost	Time	Location
January 27, 2014 Monday	\$40 per establishment, no limit on registrants	9 am – 12 pm	Site TBA will either be Sarah Bailey Senior & Civic Center or Chisholm Community Center Springfield, NJ 07081
January 27, 2014 Monday	\$40 per establishment, no limit on registrants	6 pm – 9 pm	Site TBA will either be Sarah Bailey Senior & Civic Center or Chisholm Community Center Springfield, NJ 07081
March 31, 2014 Monday	\$40 per establishment, no limit on registrants	9 am – 12 pm	Madison Civic Center 28 Walnut Street Madison, NJ
March 31, 2014 Monday	\$40 per establishment, no limit on registrants	6 pm – 9 pm	Madison Civic Center 28 Walnut Street Madison, NJ
September 29, 2014 Monday	\$40 per establishment, no limit on registrants	9 am – 12 pm	Site TBA will either be Sarah Bailey Senior & Civic Center or Chisholm Community Center
September 29, 2014 Monday	\$40 per establishment, no limit on registrants	6 pm – 9 pm	Site TBA will either be Sarah Bailey Senior & Civic Center or Chisholm Community Center
December 8, 2014 Monday	\$40 per establishment, no limit on registrants	9 am – 12 pm	Madison Civic Center 28 Walnut Street Madison, NJ
December 8, 2014 Monday	\$40 per establishment, no limit on registrants	6 pm – 9 pm	Madison Civic Center 28 Walnut Street Madison, NJ

Covered Topics

- Basic Food Safety
- Role of the Health Department
- Public Health Regulations
- Food Safety Management
- Receiving and storage
- Safe food handling and preparation
- Food handler hygiene
- Sanitary facilities
- Food related issues arising from emergencies
- Pest Management

The Madison Health Department is offering food training and handling classes. Click on the brochure to learn more. For more information, please contact: Tamica Trotman, REHS at 973-593-3079 Ext. 5 or by e-mail at: trotmant@rosenet.org

November 2013 Township Committee Recap

Due to our regularly scheduled meeting coinciding with Veteran's Day, the workshop meeting was moved to Tuesday, November 12th and consolidated in order to segue into our regular legislative meeting, which immediately followed. We discussed the monthly reports from our administrator, police and fire chiefs, emergency management, public works, recreation, and engineering. We discussed having our deputy fire chief participate in a pilot program through Union County as one of the mutual aid coordinators. Our local flood mitigation committee presented a report and we discussed the progress to date of the Mayor's Watershed Committee, specifically the proposed South Mountain detention basin. There was no news to report on this project as the Army Corps of Engineers funding was tied to the shutdown of the federal government the prior month. As this was an abbreviated meeting, there was limited discussion in contrast to most of our previous workshop meetings.

The first legislative meeting of November was held on Tuesday, the 12th. We approved a resolution establishing the provisions for awarding contracts for 2014 (this is a formality done in the last two months of each year for the one year positions available the following year including township attorney, board attorneys, auditors, planners, and engineers). We also approved resolutions for the annual Baltusrol deer hunt, stream de-silting behind Marion and Warner Avenues (work is already completed), cost of living raises for certain township personnel, and updates to the municipal building heating and air conditioning systems. Additionally, we approved payroll and vendor bills for the previous two week period, approved the minutes of a prior township committee meeting, approved tax appeal refunds and overpayments, and other day to day necessities in order to allow the township employees to keep the township of Springfield running smoothly.

The second legislative meeting of September was held on Tuesday, November 26th. We introduced an ordinance disbanding the Springfield Improvement Team (SIT) and effectively rescinding the ordinance which originally established the SIT in 2012. This was done under direction and guidance of the members of this group due to the vagueness and rigidity of the original ordinance. The membership of the SIT will continue to help the township (as they had prior to the original ordinance) including both the Memorial Day and Veteran's Day parades and for that the township is grateful. We approved resolutions accepting grant money from the state of New Jersey for both Clean Communities and Drive Sober. Additionally, we approved resolutions to hire a new payroll service (which will save the township money in comparison to our prior payroll services), approving of change orders for the work on our municipal pool, and codifying an agreement with a major property owner establishing a separate legal entity to pursue the development of the downtown. We also approved payroll and vendor bills for the previous two week period, hired a new police officer (replacing one who retired earlier this year), approved the minutes of a prior township committee meeting, approved tax appeal refunds and overpayments, and other day to day necessities in order to allow the township employees to keep the township of Springfield running smoothly as always.

The easiest ways to contact us are either at our regularly scheduled meetings: every second and fourth Tuesday each month at the Main Court Room in Town Hall, and also every Monday before the second Tuesday (not necessarily the second Monday) each month at the Office of Emergency Management Meeting Room in the Fire House; via each of our township email addresses: David.Amlen@springfield-nj.us, Richard.Huber@springfield-nj.us, David.Barnett@springfield-nj.us, Margaret.Bandrowski@springfield-nj.us, and Ziad.Shehady@springfield-nj.us, or via regular mail at 100 Mountain Avenue, Springfield, NJ 07081.



***Congratulations to the ICYSL u10 boys team, The Warriors.
They went undefeated in their division this Fall.***



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SPRINGFIELD H.O.P.E. • SPRINGFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT • **TOYS FOR SPRINGFIELD KIDS**

Springfield H.O.P.E. and the Springfield Fire Department have joined forces this year for a another Toys for Springfield Kids campaign. Please donate a NEW UNWRAPPED TOY in one our collection boxes located at Hecht Chiropractic, The Springfield Fire Department, in the schools and throughout town in our boxes with the Toys for Springfield Kids label on them. Additional locations will be listed on our website, www.springfieldhope.com. Financial donations are also appreciated. Please make checks payable to Springfield H.O.P.E and drop off or mail to Hecht Family Chiropractic Care, LLC, 201 Mountain Avenue, Springfield, NJ 07081 Toys are needed for children up to the age of 15. Older kids will receive a gift card, and distribution will be to the town's needy. The drive will run until December 20, 2013.

For information, please e-mail
Dr. Gary Hecht of Springfield Hope
at toys@springfieldhope.com

Springfield Town Hall Bulletin Board

LEAVE THE LEAVES ALONE...

Michael Kirby Smith For The New York Times

They have been burned, blown into piles, raked into bags and generally scorned by homeowners everywhere. Fall leaves — so pretty on the trees, such a nuisance when they hit the ground — have long been a thing to be discarded. But now some suburban towns are asking residents to do something radical: Leave the leaves alone.

Officials are encouraging the practice for its cost savings: Westchester spends \$3.5 million a year on private contractors who haul away leaves in tractor-trailers and bring them to commercial composting sites in places like Orange County, N.Y., and Connecticut. At the same time, environmental groups and horticulturalists are praising the practice's sustainability, devising slogans like "Leave Leaves Alone" and "Love 'Em and Leave 'Em."

Karen Engelmann, a novelist in Dobbs Ferry, used to rake up the leaves on her half-acre property, which is laced with old oak trees. She once had 120 bags of leaves lined up at her curb to be taken away by the village. "I wondered, 'Where do these go?'" she recalled. "I thought it was odd that there wasn't an alternative, that there wasn't someone saying you might want to think about how the planet functions."

It turned out that her landscaper, Tim Downey, had started experimenting with the new technique. On an unseasonably warm afternoon last week, he navigated his mulching mower over a thick pile of leaves, producing a fine layer of confetti. Mr. Downey said the mulched leaves improve the soil's water retention and provide critical nutrients, reducing the need for fertilizer in the spring.

"It's utterly insane to be driving tractor-trailers 90 miles away," said Mr. Downey, owner of Aesthetic Landscape Care in Hastings-on-Hudson. "My feeling is that if I'm taking away your leaves, I'm stealing from your property."

Indeed, commercial firms use fall leaves as a raw material to produce mulch and compost for sale to nurseries. But towns and counties pay to get rid of them. In Westchester, for instance, the county pays a private hauler about \$40 for every ton of leaves that it takes away. Municipalities that provide leaf pickup service pay the county \$15 a ton. So some county residents ultimately foot the bill through both municipal and county taxes.

County officials say mulching leaves in place not only improves soil quality, but also has other environmental and safety benefits for communities. Piles of leaves left at the curb can clog storm drains; the nitrogen and phosphorous leaching from decomposing leaves heaped by the street can also more easily enter the drains and harm local rivers. Additionally, leaf piles constrict already narrow streets and can conceal children.

Westchester County appears to be in the vanguard on leaf mulching, but there are nascent steps in New Jersey and Connecticut to reduce leaf collections. For the first time this fall, the city of Englewood, N.J., which estimates that between overtime, equipment maintenance and fees, it spends \$200,000 a year on leaf removal, is pushing the idea in emails and a newsletter. "Leaves clog storm drains, they're slippery and they can catch on fire when cars park on top of them," said Kevin Lake, a member of the city's Environmental Commission.

Public service announcements and mulching workshops in Westchester have nudged homeowners to buy mulching attachments for their mowers and impelled landscapers to offer the service. But it is not always an easy sell.

For those who do it themselves, the mulching attachments can be cumbersome. And then there is the aesthetic factor. "People want everything removed from their lawn, and landscapers just want to keep their customers happy," said Marianne Petronella, director of resource management for Westchester County's Environmental Facilities Department. "I know some residents would never do mulching in place. They want to keep up with the Joneses."

Stephen J. Edwards, the director of public works in Westport, Conn., agreed. "Unfortunately, people are just very conscious of the appearance of the lawn, and they want to see it spotless all the time," he said, adding that the town spent \$85,000 to take residents' leaves away. Still, he said, Westport encourages leaf

composting, especially for some of the one- to two-acre properties in the northern part of town. "Residents can blow the leaves into big piles and Mother Nature does the work," he said.

Two years ago, Ms. Petronella enlisted a landscaper who mulches leaves and tried it on her own property in Scarsdale, which she described as a "postage stamp." There was leafy residue for a few days after the mowers came through, but it quickly disappeared. "My land is just as attractive as any of my neighbors' and I didn't turn on my sprinklers once the past two summers, not once," Ms. Petronella said.

The holdouts are not convinced. In Hastings-on-Hudson, Chloe Sikirica, a 50-year-old artist, was blowing leaves off her yard. With twin boys, she worries about the leaf confetti. "If you shred them and leave them, then the kids will track the mulch into the house," she said.

Her one nod to sustainable yard care: leaving leaves around her trees and hedges to provide a natural mulch.

In northern Westchester, Fiona Mitchell of Bedford is a mulching convert. A member of the board of her local library, Ms. Mitchell got the idea a few years ago when the library was facing budget cuts. "I said, 'Hang on, we're spending all this money on leaves,'" she remembered.

Bedford estimates that 10 workers and 10 vehicles are needed over six weeks to pick up leaf bags and suck up piles of leaves from curbs; unlike other towns, it composts them on site, so it does not pay for hauling.

Now Ms. Mitchell does her own leaves, switching the blades on her mower come fall. She said the leaves provide so much benefit to her soil that this fall she "borrowed" some from her neighbor to mulch. And she has become something of a proselytizer for the practice among her neighbors and those in other towns.

"I'm afraid I'm becoming a bit of a mulching police," she said. "My friends call out, 'I'm mulching, I'm mulching,' when I walk by their houses."



Attention: Seniors and People with Disabilities

If your home still has damage from
Superstorm Sandy, help is available!

The **Home Repair and Advocacy Program**
can help you:

- Replace interior wall boards
- Remediate mold
- Restore heating and cooling systems
- Fix electrical
- Patch roofs
- Cut or remove trees
- Dispose of debris
- Refurbish major home appliances



Eligible households can receive up to **\$5,000** in assistance.

Home Repair Coordinators will be assigned to individuals who apply.

Call **1-877-222-3737** to apply or visit your local **Area Agency on Aging**.

This program is sponsored by the NJ Department of Human Services
with \$8.2 million in federal Social Services Block Grant funds.



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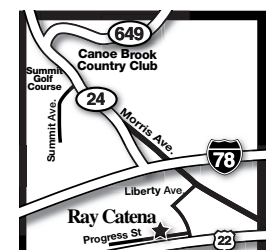
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fied buyers. Not all buyers will qualify. See dealer for details. ††Up to \$900 applies to 2010-2011 CPO C-Class; up to \$1200 applies to 2010-2011 E-Class; \$2400 applies to
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REGULAR LIBRARY HOURS
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY
 10:00 AM – 9:00 PM
TUESDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY
 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
SUNDAY 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED ON DECEMBER 25 IN OBSERVANCE OF CHRISTMAS DAY AND JANUARY 1 IN OBSERVANCE OF NEW YEAR'S DAY. ON DECEMBER 24 (CHRISTMAS EVE) AND DECEMBER 31 (NEW YEAR'S EVE) THE LIBRARY WILL BE OPEN FROM 10:00AM TO 2:00PM.

Our programs are free and open to the public, no matter what town or county you live in!

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Mother Goose Group with Miss Debbie for babies, toddlers, and preschoolers with caregiver. 10:30 am on **Tuesday December 17; Wednesday December 4 and 11; Thursday December 26** (with Miss Nina); **Friday December 6 and 20; & Saturday December 14.**

Storycraft: A story and fun craft for ages 3 to 7 with caregiver. **Friday December 6 and 13 @ 4pm.**

Happy Birthday Walt Disney! December 5 @ 10:30 and 3:30 we'll be showing Mickey Mouse Clubhouse Choo-Choo Express. All ages. 45 mins NR.

MATH Homework Help for grades 1 and up. A drop-in service for quick questions. Bring your homework and textbook. **Wednesdays December 4, 11, 18 @ 4 to 5 pm.**

Let's Play Chess! A drop-in program for ages 6 to 11. Students should be able to play independently. **Thursdays December 5, 12, 19 @ 4-5 pm.**

Let's Play Chess for Big Kids! A drop-in program for ages 9 to 15. Ethan and Evan are back to moderate this challenging game! **Wednesday December 4, 11, 18, evenings @ 7 to 8 pm.**

Monday Afternoons at the Library for grades 1 to 5 @ 3:30 to 5:00 pm. Dec 2 Create Holiday Origami, and preview holiday books;

Dec 9 Read a Holiday story and do Book Page Bingo;

Dec 16 Watch a Holiday movie with popcorn;

Dec 23 Decorate cookies-YUM!

January 6 Meet new Graphic books and do a Perler Bead Craft.

Bubblemania, Jr! Sunday Dec 8 @ 2:00 pm For Bubble-maniacs ages 1 to 5 & their families. Brilliant Bubbling from the Big Apple for Bambinos! Welcome back, Christina as she creates musical bubble magic and comedy fun with BUBBLE SCULPTURES and SOAP BUBBLE TRICKS and plenty of LAUGHS.

After school Holiday Crafts for Grades K to 6 @ 3:30: Wed Dec 4 Hanukkah craft, Wed Dec 11 Christmas craft, Wed Dec 18 Kwanza craft

It's Showtime! Friday Dec 27 @ 11am. Welcome back Miss Renee (from Front & Center Performing

Arts in Springfield) for some interactive exercises of dance, acting and vocal techniques that keep musical theater vibrant. Then be part of the audience for a fun musical theatre presentation! All ages.

Springfield Free Public Library

66 Mountain Avenue, Springfield • 973-376-4930

Check Library website for regular MGG schedule: www.sfplnj.org

Movie: Monsters, Inc Friday Dec 20 @ 2:00 G 92 mins.

Movie: Monsters University Saturday Dec 21 @ 10:30 G 104 mins.

Movie: Despicable Me 2 Saturday Dec 21 @ 2:30 PG 98 mins.

Movie: The Polar Express Monday Dec 23 7pm G 100 mins.

Movie: Winnie the Pooh: A Very Merry Pooh Year Tuesday Dec 24 10:30 am G 65 mins.

Movie: Peter Pan (Universal Pictures) Thursday Dec 26 @ 2:30 PG 113 mins. Young love and a deadly pirate captain make this a very grown-up movie!

Movie: Smurfs 2 Friday Dec 27 @ 2:30 PG 105 mins

Movie: Adventures in Zambezia Saturday Dec 28 @ 10:30 PG 105 mins.

Movie: (The quintessential) Mary Poppins Saturday Dec 28 @ 2pm G 140 mins.

Movie: Disney's Planes Monday Dec 30 @ 2:30 PG 92 mins.

Movie: Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs Tues Dec 31 @ 10:30

Muscle Man Mike's Anti-Bullying Show: "Words Hurt, Too." Monday Dec 30 @ 11am for ages 3 to 10 and their families. You can put a stop to bullying! Maybe you are being bullied. Maybe you are the bully. Or maybe you're a witness, just watching... Muscle Man Mike of Fit4Kids uses songs and MAGIC to shine a spotlight on this widespread problem while teaching all-important strategies and solutions. Learn how YOU can make a difference!

Electronic Fun for Kids & Smart Adults! Are you ready? We now have 82 Interactive Capstone Books for kids! Go to www.MyCapstoneLibrary.com logon: sfpl p/w: library You'll find Early Readers, Graphic Books, Fables and Folktales and Community Helpers. Look for the Capstone link on www.sfplnj.org. Click on the blue World Book Web link. Enter your library card # to explore Early World of Learning for pre-schoolers to grade 3, and Craft Corner for Kids and Adults. After Dec 5 look for World Book Encyclopedia at your fingertips with some very amazing features-- it's available in 30 languages!

SPECIAL EVENTS

Friday, December 20th, 12:30 PM
Chair Yoga With Pamela Nixon.

Wednesday, January 15, 7:00 PM

The Benchmark Project – A Program Concerning Our Constitution, Government And The Judiciary. The Aim Is To Foster A Better Understanding Of Civics And, In Particular, Our Courts.

DISCUSSIONS AND WRITING.

Thursday, December 19th, 10:15am Great Books Discussion – Moliere: The Misanthrope.

Thursday, December 26th, 10:00 AM
Memoir Writing Group With Zella Geltman

Thursday, January 2nd, 7:00 PM Really Good Book Discussion – Geisha: A Life By Mineko Iwasaki And Rande Brown

FILMS

Monday, December 23rd, 1:00 PM Lunchtime Film
- Vincent Minelli Retrospective: One Of The Most Subtle And Sophisticated Musical Comedies Of The 1940s And 1950s. One Of The Fred Astaire's Big Hits. 1953.

Monday, January 6th, 1:00 Pm Lunchtime Film – **The First Film In The New "Science Fiction Classics" Series.** (Title To Be Announced At A Later Date).

HOBBIES AND INFORMATION

Every Monday At 7:00 PM Scrabble - Bring A Friend Or Meet New Opponents!

Monday, December 23rd, 10:00 AM Knits Wits Knitting Group

Every Thursday At 7:00 PM Chess Club

INSTRUCTION

Every Tuesday And Thursday
One-To-One Computer Training By Appointment
 10:30 Am – 12:00 PM

Monday, October 28rd, 10:00 AM
Knits Wits Knitting Group

Every Thursday At 7:00 PM Chess Club



Lisa Lou the Magician is a Math Magician from SuperScientificCircus.com. She taught the kids, Pre-K through 2nd, addition, subtraction, multiplication, skip counting and time all through magic.



Dylan Sargis with Lisa the Magician

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Chatham Borough

Firehouse 1 - Firehouse Plaza

9 am - 10 am

Saturday, January 18, 2014

Sarah Bailey Civic Center

30 Church Mall Road, Springfield

8:30 am - 12 pm



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Police Chief's Column

Chief John P. Cook

A SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON

With the holidays nearing, readers of the Springfield Patriot Times, both residents and business owners alike are preparing for the holiday season and tending to their holiday shopping. Unfortunately thieves are also busily shopping during the month of December and looking to see what they can steal from you.

As many persons will favor paying for Christmas or Hanukah gifts by using cash instead of credit or debit cards, shoppers should be careful when receiving money from banks or via accessing an ATM machine. Money received should be immediately put out of sight before exiting the bank branch or ATM machine location.

Women should hold onto a pocketbook when in stores, such as supermarkets, and not leave the handbag unattended in a cart while walking up and down an aisle. If at all possible store coupons should be kept in a separate billfold type wallet and this can be left open in the upper part of a cart while a wallet containing currency, credit cards or checks can be safely kept on your person and not in the cart. Thieves will look for an unattended cart with a handbag or wallet in it and will watch the intended victim and snatch the wallet when the person is busy looking at or removing items from a shelf.

Handbags should NEVER be worn with the strap across the chest as some thieves will drive up to a victim walking in a parking lot where the driver will feign asking for directions. This is done to draw the victim closer so the thief can grab onto the handbag strap and rapidly speed away. If this is done while holding onto a handbag, the bag is gone but if the bag is worn with the strap across your chest, the victim will most likely be dragged by the speeding car before the handbag strap eventually gives way and breaks.

As handbag thefts or purse snatches increase during the holiday shopping time, your bag should not contain anything that cannot be replaced. Identification and other documents can be replaced such as checks or credit cards but forms of identification such as your Social Security card should be left at home since thieves who obtain this can easily use your identity information to commit various types of Identity Theft related frauds.

Readers of my column in the Springfield Patriot Times should remember that the theft of smart phones has greatly increased throughout the country

and many thieves will merely walk up and grab a phone from your hand and may even assault you to get the phone. As more persons are afoot in store parking lots during the holiday season people should be careful when walking through parking lots and wait until entering their car to make a call.

Shoppers should park their cars in the main well lit sections of a parking lot and should make sure to close all windows and lock all car doors. Any shopping bags from other stores should be placed in the trunk or in the rear of an SUV or van where it is not readily visible to thieves who will walk amongst cars in the lot looking for packages in order to break into the vehicle to steal the visible packages. Do not leave packages inside of your car overnight in your driveway and instead bring them into your home to store.

Remember to always retrieve your credit or debit card from the cashier after making any purchase as during the rush of holiday shopping it may be inadvertently left behind at the register or deliberately retained by a dishonest employee, especially when businesses hire many temporary holiday employees. If you later discover that your credit or debit card was not returned, do not waste time attempting to contact the store to see if your card was located or can be tracked down and instead immediately contact the issuing bank for your credit or debit card to report it as lost so any unauthorized use can be quickly prevented.

Businesses should increase the amount of times that monies are removed from a cash register drawer and make additional bank drops if necessary so no large amounts of money are left in the business overnight or in the cash register drawers. The bank drop should be done by multiple employees together and the times should be staggered on a daily basis so as to prevent thieves from watching a business to set up a theft.

Residents who go away for the holidays should remember to cancel their mail delivery and any newspaper delivery and should do everything possible to make their house look as if it is occupied. Interior lights on timers and external lights that are motion activated can greatly reduce the appearance that no one is home. In addition, a neighbor or family member can be asked to park a car in your driveway if your driveway is empty and to keep an eye on your home while you are away.

During the holiday season the Springfield Police will have officers in both marked and unmarked vehicles patrolling residential areas and the shopping areas in town in order to make the holidays safe for residents, merchants and shoppers alike while doing their best to deter thieves and the thieves' holiday shopping schemes. On behalf of the men and women of the Springfield Police Department, I would like to wish all township resident and merchant recipients of the Springfield Patriot Times a happy and safe holiday season.

BE SMART, BE SAFE!!!

Wearing a helmet is the single most important safety measure to follow when bicycling, skateboarding, or roller blading, especially for children and young adults. Each year, many cyclists and skaters are injured or killed in crashes – many of which do not even involve other motor vehicles.

Head injuries are the most common reported injury, and are the most common cause of death resulting from these accidents. Roughly 75% of bicycle related fatalities amongst children could be prevented if helmets were worn.

They are also the most preventable, since the use of a proper-fitting helmet offers excellent protection against head injuries. The risk of brain injury from a fall can be reduced by as much as 90% by simply wearing a helmet.

In NJ, it is against the law for anyone under the age of 17 to bike, skate or skateboard without wearing a proper helmet. If a violation is observed by a police officer, the child will be warned of the offense, and the parent or guardian of the child may be issued a citation which can result in fines of up to \$100. Any fines collected under this statute are deposited directly into a fund which is utilized to promote bicycle and skating safety programs and education by the State of NJ.

In a continuing effort to keep our children safe, Springfield police officers will be more aggressively enforcing the helmet laws.

Please speak to your children not only about the importance of wearing a helmet for safety reasons, but also that there are laws requiring them to do so.

Chief John P. Cook



SAINT JAMES THE APOSTLE WINS VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Saint James the Apostle School's JV Volleyball team took first place in the CYO League Championship on November 24. The final game was held at the Archdiocese Youth Center in Kearney. The team had a season record of 9 – 1.

The Varsity team competed in the Upper Varsity Division and finished second in the Championship. Their regular season record was 7 – 1 and they beat the first place season team to make it to the finals.

**Township of Springfield
Recreation Department presents
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HOLIDAY SPECTACULAR**

Tuesday December 10, 2013

Starting at 4:30 P.M.

Town Hall Lawn – North Trivitt Avenue



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Special visit and pictures with **SANTA CLAUS**
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The Springfield Recreation Department would like to thank everyone for their participation and donations to this event especially:

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FirstAid Squad, FMBA Local #57, Emergency Management, Rotary Club,
DelightfulCake Creations, JMK BMW, McLynn's, Autoland,
Springfield Business Improvement District, Chamber of Commerce

Questions: 973-912-2227 / recreation@springfield-nj.us

Springfield H.O.P.E. will be collecting new unwrapped toys & Barnes & Noble gift cards.

In the case of inclement weather please call: 973-912-2228 after 12 p.m. on December 10.

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**MRS. MIRIAM GERSHWIN SPEAKS TO FIFTH
GRADERS ABOUT HER LIFE GROWING
UP IN GERMANY**

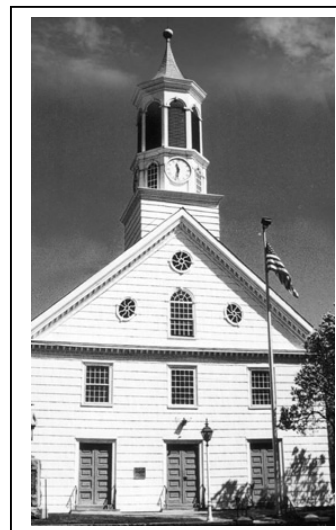


Rita Huber and Miriam Gershwin

On November 20, Mrs. Miriam Gershwin of Springfield visited Lafayette School in Bound Brook to speak to 130 fifth graders about her life growing up in Germany and how that life dramatically changed in 1938 when severe restrictions were first imposed on the Jewish population. In March of 1936, the family moved to Lithuania, leaving her father behind. As the War progressed, Miriam and her family were forced to re-locate several more times, enduring ever increasing restrictions,

moving eventually into a wire-fenced ghetto. Assigned as a maid to the commander, Miriam and her fellow captives were assigned to forced labor and saw various groups of prisoners sent away "temporarily", never to be seen again. Among them were her mother and brother, both killed. Finally, in 1944, after four years in a concentration camp, Miriam was evacuated, eventually reunited with her husband and father (who were both held at Dachau, each not knowing the other was also there) and then liberated by the Russians. After much wandering through Eastern Europe, the family found their way to America and to Springfield where she and her husband raised their family. Miriam has two children, two grand-children, and twin great-grandchildren.

The children showed great interest in Mrs. Gershwin's account of her life, asked many penetrating questions and were generous with their frequent applause and appreciation, presenting her with a bouquet of flowers at the conclusion. The visit was arranged by Rita Huber, a Springfield resident who teaches at the school.



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***Dec. 15th - Hot Lunch and Christmas concert by the
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Dec. 20th - Parents' Night Out and Santa's Workshop
\$5 per pre-registered child under 13,
6-9 pm- Parish House
Includes pizza, crafts and supervised fun.

Dec. 24th - Christmas Eve Service
4:00 pm Family Service with Children's Pageant
11:00 pm Candlelight Service with Communion

Dec. 29th - 10:15 am Service of Lessons and Carols



Fire Chief's Column

Chief James Sanford

Heating System Safety

As we find ourselves coming into another heating season, the Springfield Fire Department wants all Springfield Patriot Times readers to think about the proper servicing of our heating systems. While there are many ways to heat your home, there is one common element to virtually all heating systems – a chimney, flue or vent system. The chimney is an area of your home that goes unnoticed until there is a problem.

The first question many homeowners have is "How often should chimney be inspected and swept?" There is no exact answer because there are different factors that need to be considered, such as what the chimney is used for and its frequency of use. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 211 says, "Chimneys, fireplaces, and vents shall be inspected at least once a year for soundness, freedom from deposits, and correct clearances. Cleaning, maintenance, and repairs shall be done if necessary."

Homeowners commonly think that if they don't have a wood burning fireplace, that the chimney doesn't need sweeping or inspection. In reality, oil and gas fired appliances, especially high efficiency models, can leave high levels of condensation and acidic moisture in the flue, which can produce corrosive deposits and deterioration of the clay liner and brick work. Flues should be inspected to ensure that the flue gases, including carbon monoxide, are vented properly up the chimney and are not coming back into the house. Flue cracks can allow a cozy wood burning fireplace to become a chimney fire without warning. How would you know if you have a chimney fire? As the fire burns, it draws air up the chimney and sounds like a jet engine. If that happens, get out and call the fire department immediately.

How does a homeowner avoid being scammed by people claiming to be chimney sweeps? Scam artists use high pressure, aggressive sales tactics. These questionable contractors usually prey upon senior citizens and people living alone because they would rather deal with a lone decision maker who may be frightened by a potentially dangerous situation that "must be corrected immediately". They may also offer "special prices" that cannot be passed up because of huge savings.

If faced with a costly repair estimate, don't take one person's word for it. No reputable contractor should object to your getting a second opinion and obtaining several estimates. Before you let someone do any work, ask for a business card and references. Chimney contractors are required to have a home improvement license through NJ Division of Consumer Affairs. A building permit will be required if the proposed work exceeds a minor repair. The key to a safe chimney is to be informed. Please contact the Fire Department with any questions.

These safety tips can help make sure that you are cooking safely. For other fire safety topics, please visit the Springfield Patriot at www.springfieldpatriot.com/ and look under monthly archive to reference other fire safety topics. Or follow us at www.Facebook.com/SpringfieldFireDepartment.

Help us improve our volunteer recruitment efforts with this no obligation, public survey.

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You can follow us on Facebook to learn more.

<https://www.facebook.com/SpringfieldFireDepartment>



RECORD BOOK FOUND WITH MINUTES FROM APRIL 14, 1794

Recently, Margaret Bandrowski, Springfield Township Committee Member, and Dale Spindel, Springfield Public Library Director viewed a crucial artifact of the town's history. This was the Record Book of Springfield Township, which contains minutes from April 14, 1794, the inaugural gathering of the Springfield Township Committee, through November of 1909. Allegedly, it survived the town hall fire of 1901 due to the town clerk keeping it at his home. These circumstances result in it being one of the few surviving primary sources of pre-twentieth century Springfield. Besides reporting issues in town, such as the installation of electricity in 1901, the book's entries are also a wonderful visual record of the different styles of penmanship over the course of 115 years.

Thanks to a grant obtained by the Springfield Public Library's former director, Susan Permahos, the record book has spent the last year and a half in Philadelphia while two high quality facsimiles of it were made. Ms. Spindel will eventually present one of these facsimiles to the Springfield Township Committee to be kept at town hall. Meanwhile, the other copy shall be kept at the Springfield Public Library for scholars and residents of Springfield alike to have more access to the record book and its contents.

★ ★ ★ ★ LOCAL ELECTION RESULTS ★ ★ ★ ★

Deputy Mayor Richard Huber, Democrat, was reelected to the Township Committee last month. Jerry Fernandez, Republican Candidate, was elected as well and returns after being off the Township Committee for one year.

Mayor David Amlen, Democrat, and Dianne Stampoulos, Republican, were not elected. The totals were as follows:

Fernandez – 2287 Stampoulos – 2144 Huber – 2179 Amlen – 2085

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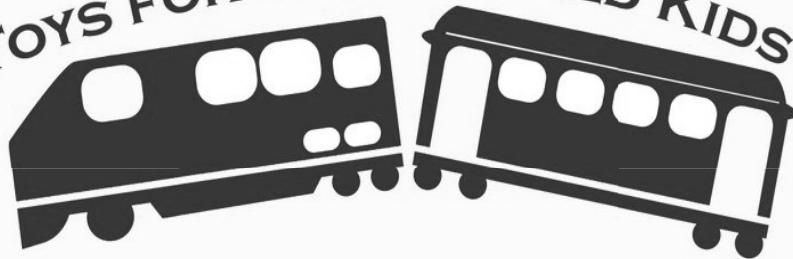
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SMITHSONIAN EXHIBIT INVITES VISITORS TO ROOT, ROOT, ROOT FOR THE HOMETOWN TEAM

**Hometown Teams will tour New Jersey from
January 29-November 16, 2014; Tour
Kicks-off Super Bowl Week at Yogi Berra
Museum in Little Falls, N.J.**

The New Jersey Council for the Humanities (NJCH), in partnership with the Smithsonian Institution Museum on Main Street Program and six host locations in New Jersey, welcomes the newest Smithsonian traveling exhibition, Hometown Teams: How Sports Shape America, to the Garden State in 2014.

What does it mean to be on a team? Why are we such fans? How can—and often do—sports impact our lives? Hometown Teams reveals how sports shape our culture, exploring the enduring connection between towns and the teams that play there. Shedding light on stories that unfold on the neighborhood fields and courts, celebrating the underdogs and legends, exploring fierce team rivalries, and cheering on both admirable victories and gut-wrenching defeats, Hometown Teams captures small town spirit all the way up to the big leagues.

New Jersey is one of five states chosen to premiere the exhibit and will be the first location in the country to premiere the exhibition, opening January 29 at the Yogi Berra Museum and Learning Center in Little Falls. The full exhibition schedule is as follows:

**January 29-March 16 Yogi Berra Museum
and Learning Center, Little Falls/Montclair, NJ**

**March 22-May 4 Atlantic City Free Public
Library/Museum, Atlantic City, NJ**

**May 10-June 22 Howell Living History Farm,
Mercer County Parks Titusville, NJ**

**June 28-August 10 Municipality of Bridgeton
/Bridgeton Public Library, Bridgeton, NJ**

**August 16-September 28 Hudson County
Community College, Union City, NJ**

**October 4-November 16 Morris Museum,
Morristown, NJ**

About the New Jersey Council for the Humanities (NJCH)

The New Jersey Council for the Humanities (NJCH) is an independent, nonprofit state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities whose mission is to develop, support and promote projects that explore and interpret the human experience, foster cross-cultural understanding and engage people in dialogue about matters of individual choice and public responsibility. NJCH is supported by federal, and private funds.

Care about Springfield? Join the Springfield CERT Team

To find out more about CERT and how you can help Springfield, contact the Springfield Office of Emergency Management. Supply your name, address, phone and number, and email address.
Springfield Office of Emergency Management
200 Mountain Ave., Springfield, NJ 07081
Phone: 973-467-3388 oemcoordinator@springfield-nj.us



REVOULTIONARY TAPSNAP PHOTOTAINMENT SYSTEM ARRIVES IN UNION COUNTY!

TapSnap has arrived in Central New Jersey. Local residents Nancy and Silvio Di Fiore are bringing the excitement of TapSnap phototainment to events in Union County and surrounding areas. It's an interactive photo Kiosk with advanced state-of-the-art technology and social media functionality built right in. "TapSnap is a completely new kind of entertainment for events and parties," said Nancy. It creates this dynamic by allowing event guests to take their photos with a simple tap of a fingertip on a 42-inch multi-touch screen. Then, they can draw, add personal messages to their pictures, decorate them with digital props, use a green screen to change the photo background and instantly connect to social media where guests can share pictures and videos via e-mail, Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. You can create prints instantly. "This is a perfect time for TapSnap. "Social media creates an insatiable demand for unique photos to share, and TapSnap allows event organizers to feed that demand while giving guests an unforgettable entertainment experience," said Silvio. Ideal for all your events including Mitzvahs, Weddings, Proms, Corporate events and more! This extraordinary system is now available to residents, corporations and event planners in New Jersey. TapSnap's calendar is filling up quickly so be the first to introduce this great new concept at your next party or event! Call toll free at 1-877-729-2715 Ext.1070 or Direct at 973-224-7904.

ABUNDANT LIFE WORSHIP CENTER DOING POSITIVE THINGS IN THE COMMUNITY

We are the Abundant Life Worship Center (ALWC) a non denominational church located on Fadem Road in Springfield. We as a registered not for profit have done feeding and outreach for years targeting the impoverished areas of the surrounding communities. Realizing the great need we recently applied for a 2nd 501c3 under the name Samaritan Outreach Services (SOS). Our websites are as follows:

www.alwcspringfield.org

www.sos-nj.org

We will be making "shoebox" gift boxes for the homeless population that we feed on a weekly basis in the month of December for Christmas.

We are doing positive things in the community & it is our sincere desire to be a blessing to those in need. If we can assist you in any way please feel free to contact me. Thank You!

In His Love,
Minister Gina Stoppiello
www.alwcspringfield.org

HOLIDAY LIGHTING SAFETY REMINDER FROM FIRSTENERGY

The holiday season is the most popular time for home decoration. FirstEnergy's (NYSE: FE) utilities hope you will enjoy this festive season with family and friends while also remembering a few tips to ensure your holiday lighting displays remain safe throughout the season.

Outdoor Lighting Safety

Check all lights for frayed wires or areas where insulation has pulled away from plugs or sockets. Discard and replace any damaged light strings.

Take extra care using a ladder to install lights – avoid contact with overhead wires and make sure the ladder is placed on solid, level ground that isn't slippery.

Ensure that tacks or nails used to hold light strings do not pierce any insulation on wires or light sockets.

Use only extension cords that are approved for outdoor use. These cords must meet rigorous safety standards that indoor cords may not meet.

Outdoor lights, inflatables and other decorations should be plugged into outlets protected by ground fault interrupters.

Place outdoor lights on a timer or turn them off before you go to bed.

Indoor Lighting Safety

Inspect all light strings and cords for any damage, including frayed wires or insulation that has pulled away from light sockets or plugs. Also check for chewing or scratching damage if you have pets in the house. Discard and replace any damaged light strings.

Live trees should be kept well-watered.

No more than three strings of standard indoor lights should be connected to any extension cord.

Make sure cords are placed where they won't be stepped on, kinked or pose a tripping hazard.

Lights should not be permitted to touch drapes, furniture or carpeting.

Lights should be turned off overnight and when no one is home.

Additional holiday safety information is available at <https://www.firstenergycorp.com/help/safety/safe-holiday-decorating.html>. For more details about keeping safe around electricity, local groups can request a presentation through the FirstEnergy Speakers Bureau. For more information, contact speakersbureau@firstenergycorp.com.

FirstEnergy is a diversified energy company dedicated to safety, reliability and operational excellence. Its 10 electric distribution companies form one of the nation's largest investor-owned electric systems, serving customers in Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, West Virginia, Maryland and New York. Its generation subsidiaries currently control more than 18,000 megawatts of capacity from a diversified mix of scrubbed coal, non-emitting nuclear, natural gas, hydro, pumped-storage hydro and other renewables. Follow FirstEnergy on Twitter @FirstEnergyCorp.



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I would like to express my complete satisfaction with regard to buying my two vehicles from Autoland in Springfield, NJ. From the minute I stepped into the showroom to the time I drove out with the vehicles, the staff had been courteous, informative and non-aggressive in their approach. The salesmen took the time to go over every detail with regard to the purchase. Being a business owner in Union and personally servicing the public for 15 years, I noticed the complete professionalism of the staff at Autoland and I would recommend this dealership to anyone looking to purchase a vehicle with complete confidence. Thank you to the staff at Autoland!

- Michael and Carmen Ranieri
Residents of Springfield, NJ



My name is Richie and I have to tell you I am a big fan of trucks! Having the pleasure of owning a trucking company, hauling cars enables me to not only test drive my favorite vehicles, but to buy them too! I have visited Autoland twice in the past two years and purchased two cars from them. I had a smooth deal not once, but twice! When I purchased my '12 Toyota Rock Edition Tundra from Autoland, I was probably a salesman's worst nightmare - I wanted it all and within days it was all there! Autoland even came to my house and hand delivered special mats, rain guards, and all the rest of the goodies I wanted. I could not have been served any better!

- Richie, Springfield NJ

www.1800AUTOLAND.com



Mark Montenero
President



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