

**NEXT
CHAMBER
MEETING**

THURSDAY
FEBRUARY 25, 2021

8:30 am - 9:30 am

**CHECK OUR
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INFO ON THE
ZOOM MEETING**

Members and non-members are invited to Chamber meetings. Free coffee and donuts are served.

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DEBRA LOSCHIAVO RETIRES FROM THE SPRINGFIELD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY AFTER 25 YEARS OF SERVICE



Debra LoSchiavo recently retired from the Springfield Free Public Library after more than 25 years of service as a part-time library assistant. At its December 17 meeting, the Library Board of Trustees passed a resolution honoring Mrs. LoSchiavo on reaching this milestone. In the photograph, Mrs. LoSchiavo (right) is pictured receiving a framed copy of the resolution from Library Board President Tricia Golden.

ARBOR TERRACE PROVIDES VALENTINE'S SNACKS TO SENIOR CITIZENS



On Wednesday, February 10, senior citizens who gathered at the Chisholm Community Center for bingo were treated to Valentine's Day snacks courtesy of Arbor Terrace -- a private community in Mountainside on the Springfield border. Arbor Terrace offers assisted living, dementia/memory care, and a neighborhood devoted to socialization among residents with Alzhemimer's disease and dementia. Joan Aranzullo, Senior Care Counselor at Arbor Terrace, made her second visit to Chisholm this year to generously donate the bags and talk about the living options that her community has to offer. Arbor Terrace can be reached at (908) 505-6115 with any questions. Interested senior citizens may also view the website at <http://www.arbormountainside.com>. Members of the board of the Springfield Senior Citizens Club pose with the bags (l-r): Fran Wickham, vice president; Vi Bowman, secretary; Sandy Tasch, Treasurer; and Margaret Bandrowski, president.

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING'S BIRTHDAY



Almost 50 people "zoomed" in to the Township's Observance of Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday at 3 pm on January 15, 2021. The program started with playing the song "Imagine" by John Lennon. Rabbi Renee Edelman of Temple Sha'arey Shalom was the moderator. Also participating were Rev. David Knecht (Holy Cross Lutheran), Rev. Rhonda Myers (First Presbyterian Church), Cantor Josh Roseman from Temple Sha'arey Shalom. Committeeman Capodice, Committeewoman DuBois and Committeeman Huber were present. Also participating in the program were Father Joe Barbone, Reverend Milton Hobbs, and Deputy Mayor Alexander Keiser.

Dr. King was the chief spokesperson for nonviolent activism during the Civil Rights Movement, which protested racial discrimination in both federal and state laws. The call for a federal holiday to honor Dr. King began shortly after his assassination in 1968. It was President Ronald Reagan who signed the holiday into law in 1983, and it was first observed three years later.

(additional photo on page 6)

PLAYGROUND CONSTRUCTION AT TRIVETT AND IRWIN PARKS



Due to the favorable ground conditions this winter, the Springfield Recreation Department got an early start on planned playground upgrade projects at Trivett Park off Colonial Terrace, and at Irwin Park at the corner of Irwin Street and

(continued on page 6)



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

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1 Cornell Parkway, Springfield, NJ 07081
973-912-2300

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Chamber Co-Chairman: Mike Scalera
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Erica DuBois, Richard Huber
Christopher Capodice

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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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Message from the Mayor

Happy February Springfield!

We start this month celebrating Black History Month. I am very proud to say that Springfield is a wonderfully diverse community. It is in fact one of the reasons Vanggie and I moved here to raise our family. I love that my house is filled with friends of different races and cultures. The world has made many strides in making equality happen. We all still have more work to do. I can say with absolute certainty that the Township of Springfield, from its governing body to its township programs and everything in between, will make sure everyone is treated equally and respectfully. Anything less than that will never be accepted.

As you all have noticed the cold and the snow has finally arrived. I am positive you will find our township responses to the inclement weather are one of the best in the state. We have made equipment investments that have paid off big dividends in our ability to effectively serve the residents in the manner which they deserve.

In closing, I would like to dedicate this months “Message from the Mayor” to our friend David Mitchell who has passed away. He was a gentle giant who was one of Springfield’s best treasures. You are missed by so many, but you are now in a place where you can continue to give us a guiding hand and a gentle wind to keep the ship straight.

Peace and love to all!

Chris Weber, Mayor

HECHT FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC CARE

Tips for Winter 2021

- Wear a scarf on cold days to keep your neck warm.
- Bend at the knees when shoveling snow.
- Make sure to exercise daily.
- Get adjusted regularly!



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TOWNSHIP MEETING DATES

Please check on the Township's website springfield-nj.us for the most current information.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting Tuesday, February 23 and March 9 and 23 at 7 pm

PLANNING BOARD

1st Wednesday, 7:00 pm at the Municipal Building

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

3rd Tuesday, 6:30 pm at the Municipal Building

BOARD OF HEALTH

2nd Wednesday, 6:30 pm at the Firehouse

RENT LEVELING BOARD

Last Thursday of month, 7:00 pm at the Municipal Building

RECREATION COUNCIL

Contact Recreation Department For Next Meeting Date and Time

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

3rd Monday, 7:00 pm at the Chisholm Community Center

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

3rd Thursday, 7:00 pm at the Library

What's Happening in Springfield Business Spotlights

Business Improvement District

www.springfieldbid.com
Search "Springfield BID NJ" on facebook

Featured businesses for this month

Springfield Business Improvement District

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For more than 20 years our school has been a leader in dance education...earning a reputation for inspiring young people to be the best dancers they can be. It's one of the primary reasons for our success. We believe a teacher's influence on the future of a student extends far beyond the obvious physical benefits. The faculty at Turning Pointe Dance Center is committed to motivate and challenge every student, whether at the recreational or intensive level. Visit our website at www.TurningPointeDanceCenter.com



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COORDINATOR'S CORNER

Scott Seidel, Emergency Management Coordinator
oemcoordinator@springfield-nj.us

I know it's difficult to schedule a vaccine at this time. Hopefully in the weeks and months ahead that will change as supplies increase and the State and Federal Government set up more centers. There has been a lot of discussion about vaccines and I thought it would help to list some advice from the CDC website:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines>

Key Things to Know About COVID-19 Vaccines

Because COVID-19 is a new disease with new vaccines, information is rapidly emerging about how vaccines can help us stop the pandemic. CDC will update this page with more information about what we know—and what we don't know—as it becomes available. Learn more facts about COVID-19 vaccines.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/vaccine-benefits.html>

Currently, two vaccines are authorized and recommended to prevent COVID-19:

- Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine
- Moderna COVID-19 vaccine

Learn more about the different COVID-19 vaccines.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines.html>

More Information for Healthcare Professionals

- Healthcare Professionals - Help stop the pandemic by getting vaccinated

What we know

Studies show that COVID-19 vaccines are effective at keeping you from getting COVID-19. Experts also think that getting a COVID-19 vaccine may help keep you from getting seriously ill even if you do get COVID-19.

COVID-19 vaccination is an important tool to help us get back to normal. Learn more about the benefits of getting vaccinated.

COVID-19 vaccines teach our immune systems how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19. It typically takes a few weeks after vaccination for the body to build protection (immunity) against the virus that causes COVID-19. That means it is possible a person could still get COVID-19 just after vaccination. This is because the vaccine has not had enough time to provide protection.

There are steps you can take to protect yourself until you can get vaccinated. Even after you get vaccinated it's important to continue using all the tools available to help stop this pandemic as we learn more about how COVID-19 vaccines work in real-world conditions. Even after vaccination, take steps to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.

What we do not know

Protect Yourself and others from COVID-19

- Wearing a mask over your nose and mouth
- Staying at least 6 feet away from others
- Avoiding crowds
- Avoiding poorly ventilated spaces
- Washing your hands often

Although COVID-19 vaccines are effective at keeping you from getting sick, scientists are still learning how well vaccines prevent you from spreading the virus that causes COVID-19 to others, even if you do not get sick.

If you are vaccinated against COVID-19, you may still be exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19. After exposure, people can be infected with or "carry" the virus that causes COVID-19 but not feel sick or have any symptoms. Experts call this "asymptomatic infection."

For this reason, even after vaccination, we need to continue using all the tools available to help stop this pandemic as we learn more about how COVID-19 vaccines work in real-world conditions.

COVID-19 vaccines are safe

Millions of people in the United States have received COVID-19 vaccines, and these vaccines have undergone the most intensive safety monitoring in U.S. history. This monitoring includes using both established and new safety monitoring systems to make sure that COVID-19 vaccines are safe. These vaccines cannot give you COVID-19. Learn more facts about COVID-19 vaccines.

CDC has developed a new tool, v-safe, to help us quickly find any safety issues with COVID-19 vaccines. V-safe is a smartphone-based, after-vaccination health checker for people who receive COVID-19 vaccines. Learn how the federal government is working to ensure the safety of COVID-19 vaccines.

You may have side effects after vaccination, but these are normal

After COVID-19 vaccination, you may have some side effects. These are normal signs that your body is building protection. The side effects from COVID-19 vaccination, such as chills or tiredness, may affect your ability to do daily activities, and they should go away in a few days. Learn more about what to expect after getting vaccinated.

In the coming months, vaccines will become widely available

How Do I Get a Vaccine?

CDC makes recommendations for who should get the vaccine first, then each state makes its own plan.

Choose your state or territory below to find your health department:

Select State / Territory

Although the vaccine supply is currently limited, the federal government is working toward making vaccines widely available for everyone at no cost. Learn more about how COVID-19 vaccines get to you and who should get vaccinated first when supplies are limited.

The federal government is providing the vaccine free of charge to people living in the United States. However, your vaccination provider may bill your insurance company, Medicaid, or Medicare for an administration fee. Vaccination providers can be reimbursed for this by the patient's public or private insurance company or, for uninsured patients, by the Health Resources and Services Administration's Provider Relief Fund. No one can be denied a vaccine if they are unable to pay the vaccine administration fee.

In the coming months, doctors' offices, retail pharmacies, hospitals, and clinics will offer COVID-19 vaccine. Your doctor's office or local pharmacy may have contacted you with information about their vaccination plans. Use this tool to find more information on how to get vaccinated in your area:

COVID-19 vaccines and herd immunity

What we know

Herd immunity means that enough people in a community are protected from getting a disease because they've already had the disease or because they've been vaccinated. Herd immunity makes it hard for the disease to spread from person to person, and it even protects those who cannot be vaccinated, like newborns or people who are allergic to the vaccine. The percentage of people who need to have protection to achieve herd immunity varies by disease.

What we do not know

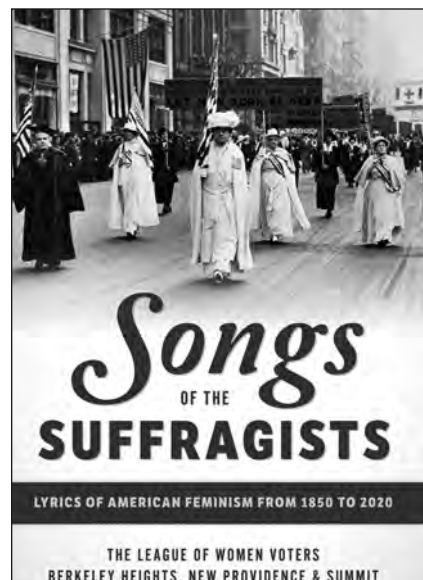
Experts do not yet know what percentage of people would need to get vaccinated to achieve herd immunity to COVID-19. CDC and other experts are studying herd immunity and will provide more information as it is available.

COVID-19 vaccines and new variants of the virus

CDC is continuing to investigate the effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines. Scientists also are working to learn about new variants of the virus. More studies are needed to understand how new variants may affect the effectiveness of existing COVID-19 vaccines.

Our knowledge of the characteristics of new variants is rapidly growing. CDC will share updates as soon as they are available. For more information, please visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/transmission/variant.html>

----- Courtesy of the CDC



SPRINGFIELD LIBRARY AND LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS TO PRESENT "SONGS OF THE SUFFRAGISTS" ON MARCH 8

In honor of International Women's Day on March 8, the Springfield Free Public Library and the New Providence, Berkeley Height and Summit chapter of the League of Women Voters will offer a virtual program, "Songs of the Suffragists" via zoom at 7:00 pm. Focusing on the cultural battle for hearts and minds, Laura Engelhardt and Susan Ferris, co-directors of the Songs of the Suffragists Project, will present their short documentary, followed by discussion and an opportunity for Q&A. Attendance at this program is free and open to all members of the general public. Access to the presentation can be gained on the evening of the program by going to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86476654726?pwd=S0lBTXlEUHlZamlqNGEvK3htZGFLUT09Sound> only access to the program can be gained by dialing 1 646 876 9923 and then enter Meeting ID 864 7665 4726 and Passcode 028598 when prompted.

Susan Ferris is the Past-President of the League of Women Voters of Berkeley Heights, New Providence and Summit and continues to moderate candidate forums throughout the state of New Jersey. Her interest in the rights of Women and Women's History is traced to her education in Quaker schools and her upbringing as a Quaker, a group well-known for their beliefs in the equality of all people. She is retired from 31 years as a Technology Educator in both public and private schools and currently owns a graphic design business where her energy is used to develop children's parties and wall décor.

Laura Engelhardt is the co-author of the Songs of the Suffragists and a graduate of Stanford Law School and Hamilton College. In 2017, she founded Neutrality Now, LLC, a provider of mediation and arbitration services. She is the author of two novels and an active supporter of voting rights. During election season, Laura moderates local debates for the League of Women Voters and provides information to voters through Election Protection's voter hotline. Visit www.springfieldpubliclibrary.com for more information.



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PATRIOT PROFILES

Organizations and People that make a Difference in Springfield

By John Cottage Sr.

MEET SPRINGFIELD POLICE CHIEF JOHN COOK



For over thirty-two years John Cook has been in service to the people of Springfield as a member of the Springfield Police Department, achieving the rank of the Department's Chief in August of 2011.

Chief Cook began his career with the Springfield Police in January of 1989 as a police recruit and became a Field Training Officer within three years of being on the job.

Throughout his career, Chief Cook attended numerous courses which enhanced his patrol, investigative, and command skills and abilities.

He received numerous certifications and became the head of department's firearms training, being a certified firearms and sub-gun instructor.

In 1993, John was assigned to the newly formed Union County Emergency Response Team which then branched into the Union County SWAT team of which he became a co-leader of an entry team element. He remains active with the UCERT/SWAT teams today as the liaison of the Union County Police Chiefs' Association.

In January of 2001, Chief Cook was assigned to the Detective Bureau where he handled general and narcotics investigations. During this time he also became a certified Drug Recognition Expert, after intensive training. He had received numerous awards and letters of recognition from other state and federal agencies for his work on investigations that led to crimes being solved in other jurisdictions and states, most notable, uncovering a child pornography ring that was international and led to the FBI making numerous arrests.

In May of 2006, John came back to Patrol when he was promoted to Patrol Sergeant where he supervised and worked alongside his personnel.

In the early months of 2010 all high ranking officers in the police department retired leaving sergeants as the highest ranking officers within the department. In December of 2010, Cook, who had been promoted to Captain, was named the Officer in Charge of the Springfield Police Department.

After a rigorous selection process to fill the Chief position, in August of 2011 the Public Safety Director recommended that Captain Cook be named as the new Chief of Police to

lead the department and the Township Committee unanimously voted in favor of this.

Since becoming the Officer in Charge in December of 2010 and continuing on through the present, John has been committed to bringing a new sense of pride and commitment to the Police Department and to the community it serves, as can be seen in the Department's Mission Statement written by Chief Cook, and the Department has become more involved than ever before with the youth and schools of our community.

In April of 2018, in addition to his duties of running the police department, Chief Cook had stepped into the role of Acting Business Administrator for the Township. He had held this position until February of 2019 when a new full-time administrator was found.

While in this temporary position, Chief Cook used this opportunity to increase the operating efficiencies of certain departments, namely the Tax Office and Records Department, by relocating and streamlining their particular methods of operations.

John's dedication to Springfield, to its people, and to its history has also brought him to become a Trustee of Springfield HOPE and to be the Vice President of the Springfield Historical Society. He was also asked to be the Chairman of the 225th Anniversary of Springfield Committee in 2019.

In an exclusive interview with the Patriot Times, Cook said "We have such a rich history in Springfield that most are not aware of and I find it amazing how our young people soak it in and ask questions when the Historical Society holds the tours for our school children. Our Town, OUR Springfield, played such a pivotal role in the Revolutionary War that, had the Battle of Springfield in June of 1780 not been successful in causing the British forces to retreat, there was the great likelihood that General Washington would have been captured and ultimately that would have led to a much different outcome to the War. I take special pride in those who had fought for the Colonies in that I have ancestors who had fought in the Revolutionary War as well."

As far as the operation of our Police Department, Chief Cook believes in leading by example with a *do as I do* and not a *do as I say* type of leadership and expects this of his supervisors in their leadership roles. "I do not request of my officers to do anything that I myself have not done, or still do, while serving Springfield as a member of our Department."

"As police officers, we are in a position to be able to get involved and make a positive difference in peoples' lives simply because we wear and uniform with a shield on our chests as we can approach people to just simply engage in conversation and discuss concerns they may have about their particular neighborhood or a problem they may see somewhere in Town. This is the way I took my commitment to this career choice from the start and now can instill this to the entire department."

"We are fortunate to serve in such a great community that is very diverse with its people, its businesses, and its ability to grow in a positive direction and we work along with other organizations that are also making positive contributions to not only our community but also on a much larger scale.

"I completely understand the expression, *if you love what you do, you will never work a day in your life*, as I have never looked at my career with Springfield as a job. It has always been a calling which I have been blessed to be a part of."

"I take great pride in being in service to the people of Springfield whether they call Springfield their home, or where they work, or are just passing through."



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Police Chief's Column

Chief John P. Cook

The Police Department continues to receive reports of scams and other crimes involving fraudulent activity on an almost daily basis. While these schemes may unfold in different ways, the end result is always the same – the perpetrators defraud the victims of their money. Many of the suspects involved in these scams operate from foreign countries, and prosecution is all but impossible. Luckily, many financial institutions will rectify fraudulent transactions, but full resolution of these situations can turn in to major hassles for victims. Thieves may attempt to use their victim's breached personal information to open unauthorized accounts or make fraudulent purchases for a long time after the initial fraud is detected. So, the best way to deal with these types of frauds is to be able to recognize and identify the scam before you become a victim. Here are some warning flags to look out for:

- If you receive an email or phone call indicating you won a prize, but must pay some type of "fee" before you can collect a prize, it is a scam. If you did not personally enter a sweepstakes or lottery, hang up the phone immediately or delete the email. Do not reply, and do not provide any personal information. Any legitimate prize will not require a pre-payment of any sort.

- If you are selling an item or offering a service online, and someone wants to give you a check made out for more than you are asking, it is a scam. These perpetrators will ask you to wire or transfer the difference from your bank account before the check is discovered to be counterfeit.

- If you receive an email from a bank or credit card company requesting you to click on an included link to access your account, it is probably a scam. If the link directs you to enter personal information in addition to your account information, it is definitely a scam. Some of these emails look very convincing, and can fool almost anyone. If you are not sure, but want to check your account anyway, don't click the included link, but rather manually type the bank's web address or call the phone number listed on your card or statement.

- If you receive a call from someone who claims to be a representative of your bank or credit card company, and they ask for your personal information to "verify" your identity, it is a scam. These perpetrators will try to get you to divulge your confidential information, such as your social security number, to commit frauds against you. Any legitimate caller will already know who you are and will not ask you to provide confidential information to prove your identity.

- If you receive a call or email from someone claiming to be a foreign law enforcement official, who asks you to pay bail for one of your relatives who was jailed abroad, it is a scam. Fraudsters will browse Facebook accounts looking for people who are posting photos while on vacation in foreign countries, and track down their relatives who they will try to scam.

- If you receive a call from someone who claims to be a police officer or federal agent and tells you there is a warrant for your arrest that you can pay over the phone, it is a scam. If there really is a warrant issued for your arrest, police will come to your home or business to arrest you, but will never call ahead and agree to accept bail payment over the phone in lieu of arrest.

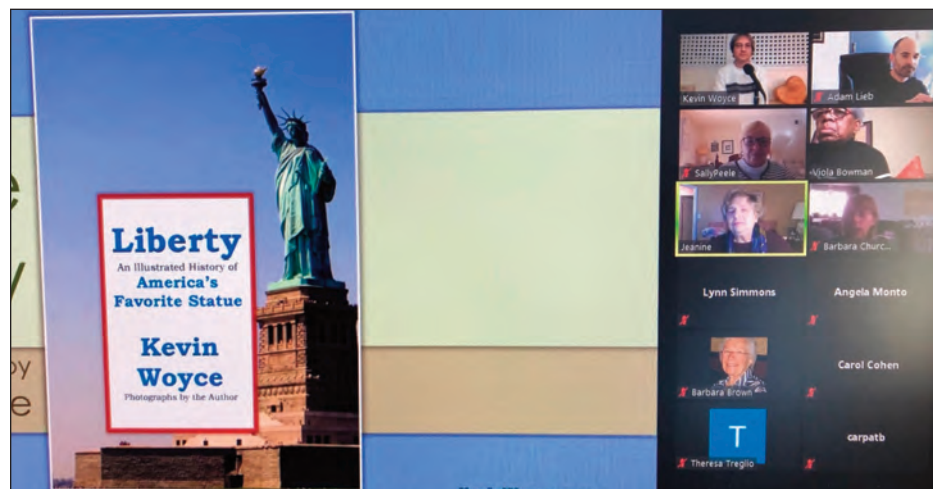
- If you receive a call from someone who claims to be a representative of a utility company, and threatens to disconnect a utility unless you make a payment over the phone, it is a scam. Sometimes these callers will request payment to be made with a pre-paid debit card or bank transfer. If in doubt, always contact your utility directly to verify your account status.

- If you receive a call from someone claiming your social security number has been compromised, suspended because of suspicious activity, or it's been used in a crime, and you must make some kind of a large payment to rectify the problem, it is a scam. The social security agency will never call and threaten your benefits or tell you to wire money, send cash, or put money on gift cards. Never give any part of your Social Security number to anyone who contacts you. If in doubt, hang up and contact the SSA directly at 1-800-772-1213.

- Phony IRS scams also increase during this time of year. You may receive phone calls or emails that appear to be authentic indicating you owe taxes or have other problems with the IRS. Do not click on any links in these emails, and do not provide the callers with any information. Remember, the IRS will not contact you by telephone or email to request personal or financial information, or threaten arrest if immediate payment is not made. Any official correspondence will be made via the US Postal Service.

Very few instances exist in which you may have to provide confidential personal information over the phone, text message, or email. You should take every precaution to safeguard your social security number, bank account numbers, credit/debit card numbers, and other personal identifying information. If you feel you may have fallen victim to one of these scams, contact the Police Department for assistance and for more information.

RECREATION HOSTS NEW MONTHLY ZOOM FOR SENIOR CITIZENS



Last month, the Springfield Recreation Department began what will be a new monthly offering: a unique Zoom presentation exclusively for Springfield senior citizens and members of the Springfield Senior Citizens Club who prefer to stay at home rather than venture out to the Chisholm Community Center during the COVID-19 crisis. The live lecture, concert, or performance will be provided free to senior citizens who RSVP in advance, although space is limited. The first presentation was a lecture by historian Kevin Woyce on "The Statue of Liberty," on Thursday, January 28. The next scheduled presentations include a private concert by local musicians Dave & Tom on Thursday, February 25, at 1:00 pm, and a pandemic-themed comedy show featuring humorist Joyce Saltman on Tuesday, March 16, at 1:00 pm. Senior citizens who need help using Zoom or who wish to RSVP for one of the upcoming presentations should email recreation@springfield-nj.us or call (973) 912-2227.

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING'S BIRTHDAY



PLAYGROUND CONSTRUCTION

(continued from front page)

Adams Terrace. The project was co-financed by the County of Union's Kids Recreation Trust Fund Grant and the Township of Springfield. At Trivett, the three separate playground areas were demolished, and a new and larger playground area was constructed adjacent to the existing walkway for a more accessible and user-friendly experience. Modern, interactive, and sensory-friendly equipment includes: luge slide, leaf climber, bug/shape/drum panel, bean step, shaded elevation roofs, orb rocker, and arch swingset with five swings. A new park gate and drainage improvements are still to come. At Irwin Park, the playground borders were expanded, the accessible ramp entrance was relocated, and fresh woodcarpet was filled in -- in preparation for new equipment within the next several years.



HAMMER
DENTAL ASSOCIATES

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SPRINGFIELD RECREATION DEPARTMENT

www.springfield-nj.us/recreation • www.facebook.com/springfieldnjrec

GIRLS SOFTBALL - SPRING 2021



Who: Recreation girls softball leagues for Spring 2021 are open to students in Springfield schools in grades K-9. The following programs are offered: grade K clinic, grades 1-2 instructional league, grades 3-5 lower league, and grades 6-9 upper league (9th graders who do not play in high school).

Fees: Two separate registration fees: \$90 (grades K-9) payable to Township of Springfield AND \$70 (grades 1-9) payable to Springfield Girls Softball, Inc.

Registration: Online with a credit card at BOTH <https://register.communitypass.netspringfield.com> and <https://www.springfieldgirlssoftball.com>. Separate registration fees are required on BOTH websites.

Deadline: Friday, February 26, 2021. After the deadline, registrations will only be accepted if space is available on a team.

Refunds: No refunds after the child's registration has been completed. In the event of a season interruption or cancellation, every effort will be made to return unspent funds, but this is not guaranteed.

Includes: Uniform to keep (shirt, pants); loaned equipment (helmet, catcher's gear, bats, balls); league fee; hand sanitizer and wipes available; team thermometers.

Does Not Include: Personal protective equipment (e.g. masks); glove; cleats; end-of-season picnic (separate registration required); Storm spring, summer, and fall travel team registration fees; optional workout/clinic fees.

COVID-19: We are following preventive measures and requirements outlined in our Program Preparation Plan, NJ Department of Health, and USA Softball NJ District 2.

Storm Travel Teams: Registration in spring recreation softball leagues and minimum attendance required for tryouts for spring, summer, and fall teams.

Questions?: Daniel Hesse, Program Coordinator, Springfield Recreation Department, daniel.hesse@springfield-nj.us or (973) 912-2227 Jen Cataldo, President, Springfield Girls Softball Inc., jencataldo@verizon.net



FREE SENIOR CITIZEN BUS SERVICE

Call the Springfield Recreation Department at (973) 912-2227 at least one day prior to your transportation request. This service is unavailable on municipal holidays and days of certain senior citizen bus trips.

Bus runs on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9:00 am-2:00 pm. The bus is equipped with a passenger lift for wheelchairs. Other riders should be able to board and depart the bus independently or with their aide.

SPRINGFIELD NJ BASEBALL LEAGUE

SPRINGFIELD, NJ 07081
SPRING 2021 REGISTRATION*

PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE at www.springfieldnjbaseballleague.com

SPRINGFIELD BASEBALL will continue to play with neighboring towns at the Minor and Major League levels. Minor and Major games typically take place during the week, allowing for Spring Travel to be played on the weekend. MORE DETAILS WILL BE PROVIDED ON OUR WEBSITE AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE.

DIVISIONS:	GRADES:
A & AA LEAGUES (Clinics)	Pre-K (age 4 as of 5/1/2021) & Kindergarten
AAA LEAGUE	1st & 2nd Grade
MINOR LEAGUE	3rd & 4th Grade
MAJOR LEAGUE	5th & 6th Grade
PONY LEAGUE	7th & 8th Grade

PLEASE NOTE:

- If public health circumstances allow, pre-season evaluations may be scheduled for players 1st-6th grade to help ensure competitive and balanced teams are created.
- The SNJBL Board of Directors will have the flexibility to move players to appropriate divisions to address player welfare and competitive balance.
- If the recreation season cannot be played due to public health circumstances involving COVID-19, registration fees would be refunded.

REGISTRATION FEES AND DEADLINES:

REGISTRATION COMPLETED AND PAYMENT RECEIVED BY:	ALL LEAGUES
FEBRUARY 28, 2021	\$150
AFTER FEBRUARY 28, 2021	\$175 (Requires board approval and subject to available roster positions)



Springfield Recreation 2021

All programs adhere to COVID-19 State and CDC guidelines. Visit our website for more program information.

SOCCER SQUIRTS

CLASSES HELD OUTDOORS AT DENHAM PARK

8 Week Session SATURDAYS APRIL 17 - JUNE 12

Registration Fee **\$162**

Soccer Squirts: (Ages 3-4) 9 am - 9:50 am
Parent & Me Squirts: (Ages 2-3) 10:00 am - 10:50 am
Senior Soccer Squirts: (Ages 5-6) 11:00 am - 11:50 am

PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- Professional Coaches
- Low group ratios
- Age appropriate equipment
- Skills & drills plus fun games

BOYS & GIRLS
ALL ABILITIES:
2 TO 6 YEARS OLDS

MULTI SPORTS CAMP:
Ages 5 - 11

MARCH 29 - APRIL 2
9 AM - 12 PM

Registration Fee **\$175**

This program gives children the opportunity to play 8 exciting sports in an action packed week. Participants will learn many skills in sports such as Soccer, Lacrosse, Flag Football and much more. A great way to spend spring vacation!

PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- Professional Coaches
- Low group ratios
- Age appropriate equipment
- Skills & drills plus fun games

AGES 5 - 11
ALL ABILITY LEVELS

INDOOR SOCCER

CLASSES HELD AT CHISHOLM COMMUNITY CENTER

5 Week Session SATURDAYS MARCH 6 - APRIL 3

Registration Fee **\$90**

Soccer Squirts: (Ages 3-4) 9 am - 9:45 am
Senior Soccer Squirts: (Ages 5-6) 10:00 am - 10:45 am
Foundation Soccer: (Ages 7-8) 11:00 am - 11:45 am

PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- Professional Coaches
- Low group ratios
- Age appropriate equipment
- Skills & drills plus fun games

BOYS & GIRLS
ALL ABILITIES:
3 TO 8 YEARS OLDS

5 Week Session SATURDAYS APRIL 18 - JUNE 13

Registration Fee **\$162**

T-ball Squirts: (Ages 3-4) 9 am - 9:50 am
Parent & Me T-ball: (Ages 2-3) 10:00 am - 10:50 am
Multi Sports Squirts: (Ages 3-4) 11:00 am - 11:50 am

PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- Professional Coaches
- Low group ratios
- Age appropriate equipment
- Skills & drills plus fun games

AGES 2 - 4
ALL ABILITY LEVELS

SPORTS SQUIRTS CLASSES

CLASSES HELD OUTDOORS AT DENHAM PARK

5 Week Session SATURDAYS APRIL 18 - JUNE 13

Registration Fee **\$162**

T-ball Squirts: (Ages 3-4) 9 am - 9:50 am
Parent & Me T-ball: (Ages 2-3) 10:00 am - 10:50 am
Multi Sports Squirts: (Ages 3-4) 11:00 am - 11:50 am

PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- Professional Coaches
- Low group ratios
- Age appropriate equipment
- Skills & drills plus fun games

AGES 2 - 4
ALL ABILITY LEVELS

LIMITED SPACE

REGISTRATION Online or by phone, Register soon as these classes typically sell out!

USsportsInstitute.com
(866) 345 BALL

SPRINGFIELD RECREATION DEPARTMENT

www.springfield-nj.us/recreation • www.facebook.com/springfieldnjrec



SENIOR CITIZEN ACTIVITIES FEBRUARY 2021

CALL (973) 912-2227 FOR MORE INFORMATION

Tuesday, February 16 - Exercise class with Liz @ 11:00 am (RSVP)
 Wednesday, February 17 - Bingo @ 12:30 pm (RSVP)
 Thursday, February 18 - Exercise class with Liz @ 11:00 am (RSVP)
 Friday, February 19 - Rummikub @ 11:00 am,
 Pickleball @ 11:00 am-1:00 pm
 Monday, February 22 - Bingo @ 12:30 pm (RSVP)
 Wednesday, February 24 - Bingo @ 12:30 pm (RSVP)
 Thursday, February 25 - Exercise class with Liz @ 11:00 am (RSVP),
 Zoom concert by Dave & Tom @ 1:00 pm (RSVP)
 Friday, February 26 - Rummikub @ 11:00 am,
 Pickleball @ 11:00 am-1:00 pm

WEEKDAYS:

Computer Lab and Fitness Room @ 9:00 am-3:00 pm

CALLING ON ALL BOYS AND GIRLS!

SPRINGFIELD LACROSSE IS LOOKING FOR YOU!

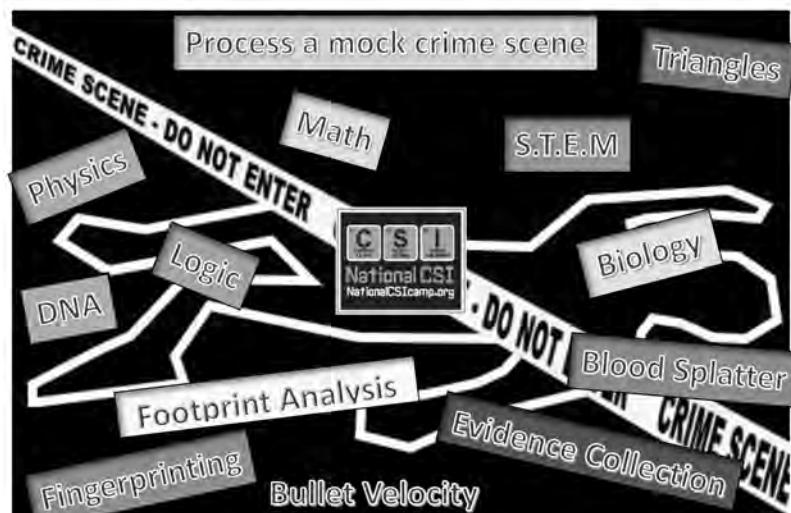
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SPRING 2021 LACROSSE LEAGUES FOR
BOYS (GRADES 1-8) AND GIRLS (GRADES 3-8)

Registration Open at

www.springfieldlaxnj.com

7+ Hour S.T.E.M. Crime Scene Class for Students



2021 VIRTUAL CLASSES

S.T.E.M. principles relating to Forensics and solving Crime Scenes are explored. The presentation, labs and exercises will cover the following topics: Make a magnifying glass, take and identify and collect fingerprints, create and examine blood splatter patterns, identify an unknown power, chromatography, time-of-death exercises, cast footprints, and missing persons...Current or former law enforcement Detectives will be teaching this class.

For more information please scan the QR code or visit our website.

Who: Grades 6-12 How: via Zoom Cost: \$92
 Dates: March 29th- April 2nd (10:00-11:30 am)
 Hosted By: Springfield Recreation Department
 Register Today: www.nationalCSIncamp.org



Check out all the SWAG you get when you sign up for this class!

SPRINGFIELD RECREATION DEPARTMENT
& LACROSSE CLUB
OF SPRINGFIELD

LACROSSE CLINICS PRE K-1ST SPRING '21



SUNDAYS
10:00 - 11:00 am
Chisholm Park

DETAILS AND ONLINE
REGISTRATION AT
<https://register.community.net/springfield>

TRYCAN

KIDS HELPING KIDS

The Springfield Recreation Department is a member of TryCAN, a multi-community collaboration that provides a variety of recreational programs for youth with special needs. For more information on program offerings or to register, please visit <http://summitcommunityprograms.com/156>.

SPRINGFIELD SENIOR
CITIZENS ENJOYED A
LUNCH BUS TRIP TO EPPES
ESSEN AND GROCERY
SHOPPING AT THE RT. 10
FARMERS MARKET
IN JANUARY

The trip was chaperoned by Recreation Department staff. To join future bus trips (with COVID-19 modifications), email recreation@springfield-nj.us or call (973) 912-2227.





SPRINGFIELD RECREATION DEPARTMENT

www.springfield-nj.us/recreation • www.facebook.com/springfieldnjrec

SUMMER 2021 INFORMATION AND APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR NEW EMPLOYEES

Positions Available (Pending Pool/Camp Opening Status)

- ◆ Pool Lifeguard ◆ Pool Camp Group Leader
- ◆ Pool Maintenance ◆ Pool Camp Counselor
- ◆ Pool Front Desk ◆ Chisholm Playground Camp Group Leader
- ◆ Pool COVID-19 Ambassador ◆ Substitute Counselor
- ◆ Chisholm Playground Camp Counselor (grounds/deck assistant)



- All new staff members must be at least 15 years old by Saturday, May 15th.
- Lifeguards must have a current lifeguard certification by the start of the pool season.
- Pool season is Saturday, May 29th, to Monday, September 6th.
- Summer pool hours are weekdays 12:00-8:00 pm and weekends 11:00 am-8:00 pm. Hours vary for pre-summer weekends, holidays, special events, swim lessons, and Swim Team.
- Pool Camp is weekdays 8:30 am-4:30 pm, from Monday, June 28th- Friday, August 20th. Two extended weeks are August 23rd-September 3rd. There is no camp on Monday, July 5th.
- Chisholm Playground Camp is weekdays 8:30 am-12:30 pm, from Monday, June 28th- Friday, August 20th. There is no camp on Monday, July 5th.
- Staff is paid hourly only for the hours they work.
- Camp staff members (other than substitutes) must be available to work the entire initial 8 week session. Do not schedule vacations or other extended leaves during camp.
- Attendance at pre-summer staff orientation and position-specific trainings are mandatory.
- First Aid/CPR/AED certification may be required of certain staff members.
- Working papers are required for all staff members under 18 years old.
- Criminal background checks are required for staff members 18 years old or older.
- The information above is subject to change.

APPLY ONLINE AT:

<http://springfield-nj.us/departments/recreation/employment>

You may be contacted for an in-person interview in Spring 2021.

The online application deadline is Friday, February 26, 2021.

RECREATION PROGRAM COORDINATORS MOVE ON



The Springfield Recreation Department recently said farewell to two longtime staff members: Daniel Hesse, program coordinator for youth and adults, and Ricci Rajoppi, program coordinator for senior citizens. Ricci served in her current role for the past year, and had previously worked as the director of Chisholm Playground Camp for two summers as well as a counselor for many summers prior. Daniel began as an assistant in the department three years ago, before being promoted to his current position. Ricci and Daniel were highly visible and well liked within the sports, pool, camping, teen, and senior citizen communities. During the past year, they worked hard to restart recreation programs in the township during the COVID-19 pandemic. We wish them good luck in their future professional endeavors!

RECREATION TO HOST COACH CLINIC



New youth sports coaches are invited to attend a S.A.F.E.T.Y. Coach Clinic, sponsored by the Youth Sports Research Council (YSRC) at Rutgers University -- a requirement for volunteering in Springfield's youth sports programs. The clinic will be held on Thursday, March 11, 2021, from 6:00-9:00 pm, and costs \$35 per resident.

It will be held either at the Chisholm Community Center or virtually, so attendees should at least be prepared to log in from an off-site computer. The clinic provides partial civil immunity to volunteer coaches under the state's Little League Law, and covers topics such as minimizing risk to young athletes, fundamental coaching concepts, legal and psychological aspects of coaching, conditioning techniques, and a first aid overview. For more information and to RSVP, please contact Brendan O'Reilly, Assistant Director of Recreation, at brendan.oreilly@springfield-nj.us or (973) 912-2227.

DAR ACCEPTING MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

Springfield's Daughters of the American Revolution, Church and Cannon Chapter is currently accepting applications for membership. Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) is a nonprofit, non-political, women's service organization founded in 1890. Since that time, DAR has welcomed more than 1 million members. The mission of the DAR is to promote historic preservation, education, and patriotism.

Membership is open to any woman aged 18 and older who can prove lineal, bloodline descent from an ancestor who aided in achieving American independence. Any woman with ancestors who have been in this country since the mid-1700s, has a high probability of having at least one patriot ancestor.

If you are interested in joining DAR, please fill out the Membership Interest Form at www.dar.org and you will be contacted.



Springfield Recreation 2021

All programs adhere to COVID-19 State and CDC guidelines. Visit our website for more program information.

TENNIS

ALL CLASSES HELD AT IRWIN PARK TENNIS COURTS



SPRING CLASSES

THURSDAYS 4/22 • 6/10

Tennis Squirts: 4:00-4:50 pm (Ages 3 -5)

Foundation Tennis: 5:00-5:50 pm (Ages 5 -8)

Foundation Tennis: 6:00-6:50 pm (Ages 8 -10)

DevelopmentTennis: 7:00-7:50 pm (Ages 11-14)

SUNDAYS 4/18 • 6/13

Foundation Tennis: 9:00-9:50 am (Ages 5 -8)

Foundation Tennis: 10:00-10:50 am (Ages 8 -10)

Foundation Tennis: 11: 00-11:50 am (Ages 11 -14)

Squirts Tennis: 12:00-12:50 pm (Ages 3 -5)

SUMMER CAMPS MONDAY TO FRIDAY

Aug 30th- Sep 3rd: 9:00 am-12:00 pm (Ages 5 -14)

SUMMER CLASSES

THURSDAYS 7/1 • 8/19

Tennis Squirts: 4:00-4:50 pm (Ages 3 - 5)

FoundationTennis: 5:00-5:50 pm (Ages 5 - 8)

Foundation Tennis: 6:00-6:50 pm (Ages 8 -10)

Foundation Tennis: 7:00-7:50 pm (Ages 11-14)

PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- Professional Coaches
- Dri-Fit T-Shirt for every player
- Age appropriate equipment
- Skills & drills plus fun games

AGES 3 - 14
ALL ABILITY
LEVELS

Registration Fee
\$162

LIMITED SPACE

REGISTRATION Online or by phone, Register soon as these classes typically sell out!

USsportsInstitute.com
(866) 345 BALL

thank you

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Fire Chief's Column

Chief Carlo Palumbo

WINTER STORMS AND EXTREME COLD

Most of the United States is at risk for winter storms. Severe storms can cause dangerous or life-threatening conditions. The dangers include blinding wind-driven snow, extreme cold, ice road conditions, avalanches, and downed trees and power lines. It's important to prepare before the winter storm season.

Before

- Stay informed of winter weather.
- Keep a sufficient supply of heating fuel. Consider storing a back-up fuel, such as a good supply of dry, seasoned wood for your fireplace or wood stove.
- Winterize your home. Insulate walls and attics, caulk and weather-strip doors and windows, and install storm windows or cover windows with plastic.
- Insulate pipes with insulation or newspaper and plastic and allow faucets to drip a little during cold weather to avoid freezing.
- Learn how to shut off water valves in case a pipe bursts.
- Winterize your car. Keep a shovel, a windshield scraper, and a small broom in your vehicle.
- Add rock salt, sand, and shovels to your emergency supplies kit, as well as extra socks, hats, mittens, and blankets.

During

- Conserve fuel.
- Stay safe and dry indoors.
- If you are outside, cover your mouth, keep dry, and avoid overexertion. Dress for the weather, wear layers, mittens, and a hat.
- Watch for signs of frostbite, including loss of feeling and white or pale extremities. If you detect any symptoms, seek immediate medical attention.
- Watch for signs of hypothermia, including uncontrollable shivering, memory loss, disorientation, incoherence, slurred speech, drowsiness, and apparent exhaustion. Get the victim to a warm location; remove any wet clothing; put the person in dry clothing and wrap their entire body in a blanket; warm the center of the body first; give warm, non-alcoholic or non-caffeinated beverages; and seek medical attention.
- Drive only if absolutely necessary. If you become trapped while you have a cell phone, call 9-1-1, explain your situation, and tell them to try to track your location by the phone signal. If you must drive, travel during the day; don't travel alone; keep others informed of your schedule; and stay on main roads.
- If a blizzard traps you in your car, pull off the highway and stay in your vehicle. Tie a brightly colored cloth to the antenna and turn on the inside light at night for rescuers to see. Run the engine and heater about 10 minutes each hour to keep warm. When the engine is running, open a downwind window slightly and periodically clear snow from the exhaust pipe. In extreme cold, use any available means to insulate and maintain body heat. Make sure at least one person is awake at all times to watch for rescuers.

After

- Check on neighbors or anyone who may need assistance.
- Use common sense when going outdoors. Dress warmly and always wear a hat. Stretch before shoveling heavy snow. Take frequent breaks. Use caution when walking on snowy walkways.
- Supervise children at all times. Children should be told to play only in safe, supervised areas outdoors—never in the street or snow banks on the side of the road.

VETERANS CORNER.....By Gerry Gebauer

President Biden has appointed a new Secretary of Veterans Affairs. Denis McDonough has been appointed as VA Secretary. Only the second non-veteran to head that department. From all that I have read the appointment of a non-veteran is not sitting well with veteran organizations. Mr. McDonough seems to have much experience in government having served in President Obama's administration. He was President Obama's chief of staff. Having visited Lyons Hospital many of times I can say that service has improved a great deal. I hope this improving trend continues under our VA Secretary. I have also gone to East Orange Medical Center and can say the service was good but the parking was impossible. If our new VA Secretary can solve that I will be impressed and thankful.



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Springfield Free Public Library 66 Mountain Avenue 973-376-4930

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

The Board of Trustees of the Springfield Free Public Library will hold its regular monthly meeting virtually via zoom at 7:00 PM on Thursday, February 18. The link to attend this meeting is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89683481352?pwd=VXdidjZlc0NjMzBySy92ekFVVDFmUT09>. This meeting can also be accessed by telephone by dialing 1 646 876 9923 and then entering meeting ID 896 8348 1352 and then entering 735545 when prompted for the passcode.

SPRINGFIELD AND SPOTSWOOD LIBRARIES TO PARTNER IN PRESENTING A SERIES OF VIRTUAL WRITING CLASSES DURING FEBRUARY AND MARCH

In a first time partnership, the Springfield Free Public Library and the Spotswood Public Library will jointly offer a series of four virtual writing classes to be led by instructors from the Writers Circle, an organization that offers creative writing workshops for both children and adults. The first two workshops, scheduled for 7:00 PM on Monday, February 22 and Monday, March 1 will be centered around a theme of sparking personal creativity. The third and fourth workshops, scheduled for 7:00 PM on Wednesday, March 10 and Wednesday, March 17 will present the art of journaling; this is something which may be of particular interest to people who are looking to record their thoughts and memories of living through the COVID-19 pandemic. Each session will have a different focus and participants can sign up for one workshop or all four. All sessions will be taught by published authors.

These programs are free and open to Springfield and Spotswood residents ages 18 and older. Registration is required and can be done by sending an email to dspindel@sfplnj.org or clquillen@spotswoodlibrary.org. Class size is limited to twenty students and, should space become available, a waiting list will be kept in order to accommodate a limited number of residents from other communities.

More information about the Writers Circle can be found at www.writerscircleworkshops.com. For more information about the Springfield and Spotswood libraries, visit www.sfplnj.org and www.spotswoodlibrary.org.

VIRTUAL CHAIR YOGA CONTINUES

Chair Yoga has always been one of our most popular adult programs at the Springfield Public Library. Sponsored for many years by the Friends of the Springfield Free Public Library, it has continued to be available via Zoom, and is still taught by our popular yoga instructor, Tamara Tsoutsouris. Admission is free and all are welcome. The 45-minute session begins at 12:30 pm and will take place on Friday: February 26th. Please email Adult Services Supervising Librarian Susan Tegge (stegge@sfplnj.org) who will provide you with the link and password that the instructor will use. Emails will be answered up to 23 hours prior to the Friday 12:30 pm sessions.

REMOTE ASSIST

The Springfield Free Public Library is pleased to announce the availability of Remote Assist, emote Assist, a new technology that will enable librarians to provide direct assistance to patrons using the library's public computers while still allowing the librarians to continue to work from their own desks. The ability to provide socially distanced computer assistance offers peace of mind to both library patrons and staff members. While our librarians are happy to provide assistance with such tasks as filling out job applications and other online forms, online shopping and online banking, please keep in mind that it is outside the scope of the librarian's job to assume the entire responsibility for handling these tasks.

Limited indoor access to the library's public internet computers is available by appointment only to Springfield residents for a period of up to 60 minutes per day. Please note that library's restrooms are currently closed to the public and that printing and photocopying services are also not available.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call 973 376-4930, ext. 221 during the library's current schedule of operation: Mondays & Thursdays, 12:00-7:30 pm; Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays, 10:00 am-5:00 pm; and Saturdays 10:00 am - 1:00 pm.

CENTENARY UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCES DEAN'S LIST

Centenary University President Bruce Murphy, Ed.D., has announced Elisheva Pliner of Springfield made the Dean's List for the Fall 2020 semester. To achieve this honor, full-time students must achieve a semester grade point average of 3.8 or above and complete a minimum of 12 semester credits. Founded in 1867 by the Newark Conference of the United Methodist Church, Centenary University's academic program integrates a solid liberal arts foundation with a strong career orientation.

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