

# 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](http://www.springfieldpatriot.com)

**JANUARY 2015 • Issue #47**

[www.springfield-nj.us](http://www.springfield-nj.us)

## NEXT CHAMBER MEETING

**THURSDAY**  
JANUARY 22, 2015

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  
are served.

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## DAVID BARNETT IS SWORN IN AS SPRINGFIELD'S MAYOR AT THE ANNUAL JANUARY 1 RE-ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING



(l to r) Bruce Bergen, Vice Chairman of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, Molly and Grace Barnett and Mayor David Barnett

At the Township of Springfield Re-organization meeting on January 1, David Barnett was elected mayor and sworn into office by Bruce Bergen, Vice Chairman of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders. Committeeman Ziad Shehady was sworn in for his third term on the committee by State Senator Tom Kean, Jr. Committeewoman Margaret Bandrowski was elected as Deputy Mayor. Also in attendance were Assemblyman Jon Bramnick and Assemblywoman Nancy Munoz, and Congressman Leonard Lance, who addressed the audience. At the meeting all new appointments for the year were announced and those present were sworn in by Township Clerk Linda Donnelly.

## COMMITTEEMAN ZIAD ANDREW SHEHADY IS SWORN IN AS A MEMBER OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE HAVING WON HIS BID FOR RE-ELECTION IN NOVEMBER



(l to r) Senator Tom Kean, Jr., Committeeman Shehady and his father Ziad Shehady holding the bible.

**Auxiliary Police Academy to start in February!**  
Springfield Emergency Management is seeking  
volunteers. Be a positive force in your  
community, apply today! (See Page 14)

## SPRINGFIELD POLICE HIRE TWO NEW OFFICERS

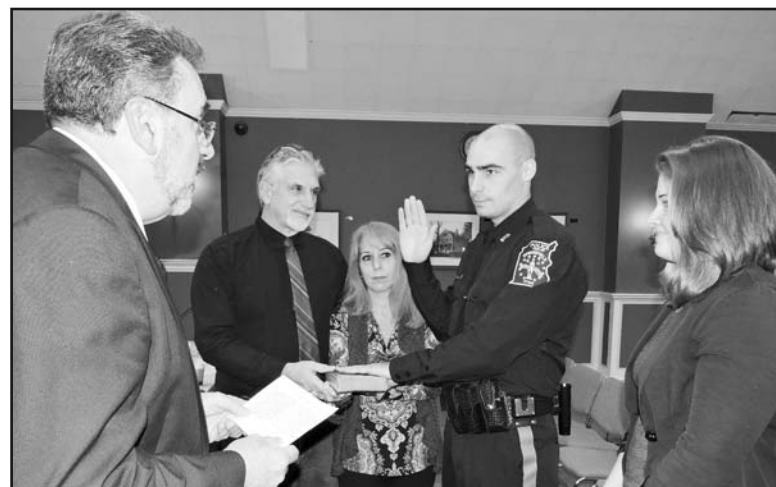


Mayor Richard Huber and  
Officer Matthew E. Dougherty

December saw the addition of two new Police Officers to the Springfield Police force. Officer Matthew Dougherty was sworn in on December 9th and Officer Gregory Weinstock on December 23rd. Both graduated from the John H. Stamler Police Academy on December 10th and were sworn in as Probationary Officers, replacing two officers who had recently left.

Chief Cook was able to secure Officer Weinstock's offer of employment in time to arrive at the graduation ceremony, congratulate him, and present him with his offer of employment!

These two officers bring the complement of the Springfield Police Department back to 44 officers.



(l to r) Mayor Richard Huber, Officer Weinstock's dad Scott, his mom Nancy, Officer Gregory Weinstock and his girlfriend Michelle.

## SPRINGFIELD HOPE NEEDS YOUR HELP!

In the past year Springfield HOPE (Helping Other People Endure) has given out over \$4,000 in assistance to over 30 families in need. Help ranges from repairing a toilet and fixing a hole in the roof, to finding a room for a night when a house burns down, providing books and toys, and helping put food on a table. But our resources are limited and we need continued support from the community. We are a 501c3 not for profit corporation and we pride ourselves on having an almost 100% rate of donated dollars being given out in assistance. No one takes a penny for themselves and our only expenses include a small fee for our accountant to file our tax returns, filing fees for tax returns, and printing costs for our Toys for Springfield KIDS campaign. You can donate knowing that your money will go to directly benefit a Springfield resident in need. Please send a check to Springfield HOPE, 201 Mountain Ave., Springfield, NJ 07081. [www.springfieldhope.com](http://www.springfieldhope.com)



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 Paoella  
Networking Vice President: Elliot Merkin  
Recording Secretary: Tracy Geyer

## SPRINGFIELD, NJ

MAYOR: David Barnett

DEPUTY MAYOR: Margaret Bandrowski

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Ziad Shehady  
Jerry Fernandez  
Richard Huber

## 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:

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info@springfieldpatriot.com

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## Message from the Mayor

Happy New Year Springfield!

I look forward to serving as your Mayor this year. I appreciate the vote of confidence by my fellow committee members. I'd also like to show my appreciation to Richard Huber, who did a great job as Mayor in 2014, and to congratulate Margaret Bandrowski for being chosen Deputy Mayor. Together with Committee-people Jerry Fernandez and Ziad Shehady, I look forward to working to build upon our successes of last year and toward the continued betterment of the township.

As we develop our priorities for 2015, first among them is boosting communication between the governing body and the community. We are also hard at work to attract a vibrant retail community while working with private landlords to make some significant improvements to their properties – all in an effort to build a thriving downtown district.

We have worked closely with neighboring towns and our Washington DC representatives to prevent flood issues from reoccurring and expect 2015 to be the year we obtain the funding to take the important next steps.

We know you expect us to be judicious and to allocate your tax dollars effectively to achieve the greatest benefits—and we intend to do that. As your leadership, we pledge to collaborate and cooperate to make the Springfield community the best it can be.

On behalf of the Springfield Township Committee, I urge you to attend town hall meetings and bring your input to help us make the best decisions for our community. The Township Committee meets in regular session at 7:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month in the Municipal Building. The Committee's regular Tuesday meetings are televised (you can find the link at the municipal website <http://springfield-nj.us/>).

Have ideas? I'm always interested in hearing from you. Email me at [david.barnett@springfield-nj.us](mailto:david.barnett@springfield-nj.us) so I can share your ideas with the Township Committee.

On behalf of my wife Lori and my family, I wish each and every one of you a prosperous and healthy year ahead.

Your Mayor

David Barnett

## THE BID AT WORK

FACEBOOK.COM/SPRINGFIELDNEWJERSEY  
WWW.SPRINGFIELDBID.COM

## What's Happening in Springfield in 2015!!!

- Mountain Avenue Streetscape – Spring 2015
- Wayfinding Signage – Early Summer 2015
- Business Directory – February 2015
- Weekly Contests - Win gift certificates from our local businesses!
- Spring in Your Step - (Deals from local businesses) March or April
- Fall into Step - (More Deals from local businesses) October
- Holiday Deals

## DOWNLOAD NOW!!

Springfield App is HERE! Don't miss out on the Loyalty Rewards Program!  
Look for Stickers in the windows of participating businesses!

## TOWNSHIP MEETING DATES

### TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting, Tuesday, January 13 and 27, 7:30 pm, Town Hall  
Regular Meeting, Tuesday, February 10 and 24, 7:30 pm, Town Hall

### 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 COMMITTEE

Contact the Recreation Department for future meeting schedule.

### ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

3rd Monday, 7:30 pm at the Annex

### LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

3rd Thursday, 7:30 pm at the Library



**Congressman Leonard Lance, serving the Seventh District representing Springfield, attended the Township's annual re-organizational meeting and addressed the audience. He thanked Richard Huber as mayor for 2014, wished David Barnett good luck as mayor in 2015 for Springfield, and congratulated Ziad Shehady for his re-election in November.**

## SOCIAL SECURITY OFFERS AN ONLINE RETIREMENT APPLICATION

Social Security offers an online retirement application that can be complete in as little as 15 minutes, from the comfort of home. There's no need to drive to a local Social Security office or wait for an appointment with a Social Security representative.

In most cases, once an application is submitted electronically, you're done. There are no forms to sign and usually no documentation is required. Social Security will process the application and contact the applicant if any further information is needed.

The Social Security Administration uses the most secure technology on the internet to keep all information private.

Questions concerning the applicant's individual situation are asked, and links to more information are provided. Also, there are examples to help you. You can print or save a copy of the information you enter.

### Please remember:

- You must be at least 61 years and 9 months old to apply for retirement benefits.
- You should apply for benefits no more than four months before the date you want your benefits to start.
- If you are already age 62, you may be able to start your benefits in the month you apply.
- If you are not getting Social Security and you are not ready to retire, you should still sign up for Medicare four months before your 65th birthday.
- Close to age 65, you can find out how to apply for just Medicare. You may need to sign up for Medicare close to your 65th birthday, even if you are still working.
- Some health insurance plans change automatically at age 65.
- If you are getting Social Security benefits when you turn 65, your Medicare Hospital Benefits will start automatically. Read "Retire Online It's So Easy!" at: <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/EN-05-10522.pdf> to find out what happens after you apply. The online forms are available to you seven days a week during the following hours (Eastern time): Monday-Friday: 5 a.m. until 1 a.m., Saturday: 5 a.m. until 11 p.m. Sunday: 8 a.m. until 10 p.m. , Holidays: 5 a.m. until 11 p.m.

For more information and to find copies of publications, visit the website at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov) or call toll-free, 1-800-772-1213 (for the deaf or hard of hearing, call our TTY number, 1-800-325-0778). SSA treats all calls confidentially. They will answer specific questions from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday. And they can provide information by automated phone service 24 hours a day.



## Police Chief's Column

*Chief John P. Cook*

### CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

I ask that all recipients of the Springfield Patriot Times, both township residents and business owners alike, take a few moments to read over these suggested tips on how to prevent your becoming a victim of a crime in this new year. Although there is no fool proof way to guarantee that a crime is not committed against you, these are a few simple tips to help protect you, your family, your property and personal identity information.

- Whether you leave your home for a day or for only an hour make sure to lock all doors and windows. Most house burglaries are commonly referred to as "break-ins" but burglars routinely walk around your home trying all doors and windows to see if one was inadvertently left unlocked so they do not have to break into your home. Remember that a closed window is not a locked window.
- Remember to always lock your car when parked in your driveway overnight and make sure the windows are closed. Cars in driveways become a frequent target of thieves who merely walk about residential areas late at night where they simply try door handles to find unlocked cars that they will then rummage through.
- Never leave valuables inside of your car overnight in your driveway as every year residents who have their cars burglarized, either by leaving it unlocked or by the thief, who will force entry into it, will report the theft of cellular phones, wallets, handbags, laptop computers or tablets, digital cameras and other valuables.
- Consider installing motion sensor lights around your home as an added deterrent.
- Be wary of persons at your door soliciting various

types of home repair work as some may do a good job but many are just looking to con you out of your money.

- You should not walk along the street or through parking lots, to or from your car, while using a smart phone as your attention is on the phone and not on the thief who will run up to snatch your phone, sometimes by physically assaulting you.
- Remember that whenever you receive a telephone call, an e-mail, or a letter that indicates you have won some type of monetary prize, lottery, or sweep-stake and you are required to pay some type of fee to collect your prize winnings...this is a scam to con you out of money. Legitimate prizes require no payment of any fees.
- Be wary of e-mails you may receive from a bank you have a debit or credit card account with or a store where you may have used the card where the e-mail is to alert you to possible fraud on your debit or credit card account. Instead of blindly contacting the number listed on the e-mail contact your bank or the store via the numbers on your debit or credit card. Fraudsters will create very realistic-looking e-mails to con you into calling them under the guise of being your bank or a store in order to extract your full account number and/or personal identity information.
- If you receive a telephone call from the IRS saying you need to pay some type of back tax immediately to avoid arrest...this is a scam. If the telephone caller says he or she is a law enforcement officer and you must immediately pay bail for a criminal charge signed against you or you will be arrested...this is a scam. If you receive a call indicating you failed to appear for jury duty and you need to pay a fine immediately or risk being arrested...this is a scam. No law enforcement or governmental agency will call threatening an arrest unless you make some type of payment where the requested payment demanded is to be made by either your debit or credit card account number or via your going to a store to purchase a pre paid MoneyPak card or by sending your payment via a Money Gram or Western Union wire transfer. If you receive any of these types of calls you should look up the telephone number for the supposed agency and contact the IRS or the police agency to verify if the call you received was legitimate. Remember that

when an actual reason exists where a warrant will be issued for your arrest, the only time you will be afforded an opportunity to pay your bail will be after you're arrested.

- If you receive a call from someone purporting to represent the electric company or the gas company where you are instructed to make a payment for an overdue bill or your service will be immediately shut off, you should get the information the caller gives you and look up the phone number yourself for the named utility company and contact them to verify if the call you received was legitimate.
- Regularly check your bank and credit card statements and immediately contact your financial institution when you discover any unauthorized charges.
- If you sell anything online or if you advertise any type of service or business online and you receive a check from a purported buyer or customer where the check is made out for more than the agreed upon price...AND...you are requested to wire the overpayment back to the remitter...this is most likely a scam where the check you initially received is counterfeit. Ask your bank to examine the check and if you go ahead and deposit it do not send off the supposed overpayment to the remitter until the deposited check has cleared.
- Be wary of telephone calls where you are told a relative, usually reported to be out of state or in a foreign country, on vacation has been involved in a motor vehicle accident or has been arrested and you are asked to wire money for bail or for hospital bills or to pay damages. Nowadays thieves will obtain names and other information for your relatives off of social media sites such as Facebook to use when calling you. If you receive such as call merely get all of the contact information from the caller and hang up. Immediately call your relative who is supposedly on vacation in order to verify that the call you received is a scam.

**These are just a few simple tips on how to prevent some of the more prevalent crimes and scams that some township residents unfortunately fall victim to every year. If you are in doubt of a suspicious call or person contact the police department so we may assist you.**



# Springfield Town Hall Bulletin Board

## IMPORTANT FLU INFORMATION FROM THE MADISON DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

The State of New Jersey is currently in the grip of one of the worst flu seasons in recent memory. With this in mind, we urge all residents to be aware and to take precautionary and preventative measures.

Flu viruses are thought to spread mainly from person to person through the coughing, sneezing, or talking of someone with the flu. Flu viruses also may spread when people touch something with flu virus on it and then touch their mouth, eyes, or nose.

People infected with flu may be able to infect others beginning 1 day before symptoms develop and up to 5-7 days after becoming sick. That means you may be able to spread the flu to someone else before you know you are sick as well as while you are sick. Young children, those who are severely ill, and those who have severely weakened immune systems may be able to infect others for longer than 5-7 days.

Everyday preventive actions are steps that people can take to help slow the spread of germs that cause respiratory illness, like flu:

1. Get a flu shot.
2. Wash your hands when applicable and possible.
3. Always cover your cough.
4. Stay home if you feel sick.
5. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
6. Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
7. If you or your child gets sick with a respiratory illness, like flu, limit contact with others as much as possible to help prevent spreading illness. Stay home (or keep your child home) for at least 24 hours after fever is gone except to seek medical care or for other necessities.
8. If an outbreak of flu or another illness occurs, follow public health advice. This may include information about how to increase distance between people and other measures.

*Please follow these public health recommendations, and if you need further resources on the flu, visit: [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov).*

**Dog & cat licenses for 2015 are available at the office of the Township Clerk from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The deadline for licensing your dog or cat is January 31, 2015; late fees will be applied after the 31st.**

**For further information please call Jasmine Mathis at 973-912-2285 or visit [springfield-nj.us/departments/registrar/](http://springfield-nj.us/departments/registrar/).**

## REPORTING STREETLIGHT PROBLEMS TO JCPL

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 streetlights that are not working properly. We will report the streetlight problem on your behalf if you provide the following complete information:

1. Pole number on an aluminum strip: for example - JC 1234 SF (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](mailto:streetlightproblems@Springfield-nj.us) or fax to : 973-912-2277, mail or drop off to: Town Hall, 100 Mountain Ave, Springfield, NJ 07061 ATT: Streetlight Problem.

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, Report Lighting Problem page at the following address: [https://www.firstenergycorp.com/content/customer/service\\_requests/report-lightingproblem.html](https://www.firstenergycorp.com/content/customer/service_requests/report-lightingproblem.html).

## AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT SNOW REMOVAL

Winter weather does not stop our work and our inspections. Snow and ice covered sidewalks and walkways can cause harm to Township inspectors and will delay inspections from being completed.

Please remember that our ordinance requires that all public sidewalks must be shoveled within twenty-four (24) hours of the cessation of a fall or formation of snow, ice, or hail. The Township will enforce this ordinance.

If you have a scheduled inspection by any of our departments, please make sure sidewalks, walkways, and steps are cleared of snow and ice.

Also please make sure your house number is visible. This is not only for the inspectors but for emergency personnel as well.

If you are having an inspection on a generator or outside AC unit, please have a path cleared to the unit, and the unit brushed off.

Together, we can protect our inspectors and can get your project completed in a timely fashion.

Should you have any questions, please contact Sam Mardini, director of Engineering at the Springfield Engineering Department at 973-912-2219 or by email at [sam.mardini@springfield-nj.us](mailto:sam.mardini@springfield-nj.us).

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

## COUNTY SCORES A NEW BASKETBALL COURT



The County of Union recently completed the installation of a full size basketball court, with two hoops at Meisel Field Park. The new basketball court is located behind the running track, adjunct to the concession/field house at Meisel Field.

The new basketball court is 40' x 60' and will boast a multi-colored court surface with perimeter black vinyl-coated fencing. Surrounding the new court will be areas of sod grass with flowering trees and improved surface drainage basins. A new asphalt pathway has been completed and connects Jonathan Dayton High School to the restroom and concessions building as well as pathways to the rest of the park.

As with all county parks, the court is open from dawn to dusk, every day. The new court was built in response to a request by the Township of Springfield to provide a full court with two hoops in a non-residential area of town. Freeholder Bruce Bergen said, "The Freeholders are pleased to be able to help fill this need by building a facility for both adults and children to play basketball." The total cost of the new court, including reconfiguring the parking area, new basketball court, drainage, pathways, sidewalks, and landscaping was close to \$160,000.00. The County also recently refurbished a two hoop court at Washington Avenue Park, another county park in Springfield.

The parking area was improved by adding two new ADA-accessible parking stalls with ADA pathways connecting the parking area, restroom and concessions building, basketball court, running track, and the entire length of fitness pathways inside Meisel Park.

Meisel Park is owned by the County of Union and is located on Meisel Avenue in the Township of Springfield. For a listing of county parks and their offerings, visit [www.ucnj.org](http://www.ucnj.org).

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to get started!**



Fire Chief's Column

*Chief Carlo Palumbo*

## GIVE YOUR HEATER SOME SPACE

Space heaters are a great way to warm up a cold room or provide supplemental heat to your home. But while convenient, they are also a leading cause of home fires during the winter months. If you're going to use a space heater, here are a few tips to make sure you stay extra warm – and safe. \*

### DO'S

- Use only equipment that is made for home heating. Use all types of heaters carefully and follow all directions for safe use.
- Use a space heater that has been tested to the latest safety standards and has been certified by a nationally recognized laboratory. These heaters have the most up-to-date safety features. Older space heaters may not meet newer safety standards.
- Place the heater on a level, hard, nonflammable surface, such as a ceramic tile floor.
- Make sure space heaters are at least three feet away from bedding, drapes, furniture, and other flammable materials.
- Place smoke alarms on every level of your home, outside of sleeping areas, and inside each bedroom.
- Utilize a carbon monoxide detector.

### DON'TS

- Never leave a space heater on when you go to sleep.
- Don't place a space heater close to any sleeping person, bedding, furniture, drapes or other flammable materials.
- Never use gasoline in a kerosene space heater, as even small amounts of gasoline mixed with kerosene can increase the risk of fire.
- Never use your oven, grill, or clothes dryer to heat your home. This could cause a fire or dangerous carbon monoxide gas, which produces deadly, odorless, colorless fumes.

## ***Martin Luther King Day Vigil For Peace & Understanding***

**Monday, January 19, 2015 at Noon  
The Kenneth Faigenbam Committee Chambers  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor - Municipal Building**

**Sponsored by The Springfield Interfaith Clergy  
and The Township Committee**

### **ALL ARE WELCOME**

Shared Words of Prayer & Reflection  
Shared Songs of Joy & Hope  
Greetings from The Martin Luther King, Jr., Center  
for Nonviolent Social Change  
Township of Springfield Proclamation

***Let the dream continue...***

## **MAYORS COUNCIL RAHWAY RIVER WATERSHED FLOOD CONTROL LOOKS TO 2015 FLOOD MITIGATION PROGRESS**



*(l to r) Union Mayor in 2015 Manuel Figueiredo; Union Mayor Clifton Peoples; Maplewood Mayor Vic DeLuca; Millburn Mayor Robert Tillotson; Springfield Mayor Rich Huber; front row: Cranford Deputy Mayor Lisa Adubato; Kenilworth Mayor Fred Pugliese.*

The Mayors Council Rahway River Watershed Flood Control looking towards progress on flood mitigation in 2015 agreed to sign an inter local agreement that will provide authorization to continue to work together to implement a regional plan to mitigate flooding along the Rahway River. During Irene the region was impacted by over \$100 million of damages. Since 2013, the communities of Kenilworth, Millburn, Rahway, Maplewood, Orange, Garwood, Union, Springfield, and Cranford have been working cooperatively with the US Army Corps of Engineers and the New Jersey State Department of Environmental Protection to develop a plan to bring flood mitigation to residents and businesses.

In 2014, the US Army Corps of Engineers agreed to focus its work on a plan that would modify the Orange Reservoir to provide more flood storage during a peak storm; make significant improvements to the river channel from Lenape and through Cranford; and develop new storage in Rahway. Ten different alternatives were narrowed down to one. This was achieved after a significant regional dialogue of whether or not a detention basin would be constructed in South Mountain Reservation.

The Mayors of the communities visited Washington DC in September with the assistance of Winning Strategies and received strong support from New Jersey's congressional delegation. Also, the US Army Corps of Engineers informed the Mayors that the project became eligible to be included in the President's next fiscal year budget.

The Mayors Council will be focusing much attention on the plan before the Governor and New Jersey State Legislature to advocate that now that a plan has consensus, more timely federal and state support is required to get it to construction prior to any next significant storm.



*The Springfield Recreation Department chaperoned a senior citizen bus trip to lunch at the Cheesecake Factory at the Mall at Short Hills on Thursday, January 8, 2015*



## TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE RECAP

The December Workshop Meeting, held on December 8th, was unique in that unfortunately not a single member of the public was in attendance! The Department heads present were Chief John Cook of the Police Department, Chief Carlo Palumbo of the Fire Department, Sam Mardini, Assistant Township Engineer, Wally Schultz, Deputy Coordinator of the Office of Emergency Management, Adam Lieb, Recreation Department Director, and Michael Quick, Chief Financial Officer. Missing was Ken Homlish of the Department of Public Works. The group was gathered at the request of Mayor Huber, who offered the Thanks of the Residents and the Township Committee for their work during the past year and all the progress we have made.

There was discussion among the Committee members and the department heads of various occurrences during the past month and the exchange of ideas on some general issues.

On December 9th the Regular meeting of the Township Committee was held, with a large attendance thanks to the swearing in of a probationary police officer; there were a number of officers who advanced to the next level within their current ranking. Congratulations to all. A proclamation was read honoring Gloria Simpson for her long and won-

derful service on both the First Aid Squad and the police force; Gloria was also honored by Howie Meyer, President of the NJ State First Aid Council.

A second proclamation was read reminding us all to drive sober and be safe in this holiday season. There were a number of routine resolutions passed, including approvals for ongoing work at the Teen Center portion of the Chisholm Recreation Center.

The final meeting of the year on December 23rd was a short one. Before routine business was conducted, Mayor Huber swore in his last new public safety officer, a probationary Police officer to replace an officer who resigned. Mayor Huber made some remarks about his year as mayor and had warm words of appreciation for the Township employees for their support and their devotion to the Township, and in turn, he was thanked for his huge heart and his commitment to working as a team for the good of all. Committeewoman Bandrowski spoke of the tragic murders of the NYC police officers and Chief Cook requested a moment of silence in their honor. Following a discussion of the county's withdrawal of funding for major maintenance of traffic controls on county roads, requiring the township to assume the costs (to be discussed further at a later meeting), the meeting was adjourned. *Happy New Year all!*

## BLUE RIBBONS HAVE BEEN PLACED AROUND THE TOWN HALL IN SUPPORT OF OUR LOCAL POLICE AND POLICE OFFICERS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY



On the afternoon of December 23, the day of the last Township Committee meeting of 2014, Township Clerk Linda Donnelly forwarded an email from the Township Clerk of Kenilworth inviting Springfield to join in placing blue ribbons in surrounding Townships in commemoration of the New York City

police officers slain on the previous weekend and in support of our local police forces. Mayor Huber, Committeewoman Bandrowski and Police Chief John Cook responded immediately and the ribbons were ordered. At the meeting, Ms. Bandrowski spoke briefly about the incident and was able to announce that Blue Ribbons would be in place shortly, and they were. Chief Cook also spoke. Coincidentally a new officer was sworn into the Springfield Police Department at the same meeting, completing the ranks. When you see the ribbons, hold a good thought for our men in uniform.

## SIGNATURE REALTY NJ

### SUCCESS AWARD

2014

**Michal Avraham** has demonstrated exceptional Realtor performance and was honored by **MICHELLE PAIS** and **GARY SINGER**, (Owners of **Signature Realty NJ**) as the **TOP 2014** associate. She is much admired by clients, customers, and two dozen "**Signature Special Agents**" for her dedication, quality service, and high level of success. She is available to assist you too!



**HONOREE:**  
*Michal Avraham*  
Sales Associate

Call (973) 921-1111 Office or (917) 776-1266 Cell

### HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

FROM THE SUCCESSFUL STAFF OF  
SIGNATURE REALTY'S "SPECIAL AGENTS"



Jesus Loves Me

**Holy Cross**  
Christian Nursery School  
639 MOUNTAIN AVENUE, SPRINGFIELD

Invites You To Join Us For Our

# OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>  
12PM—3PM

At Holy Cross, our goal is to encourage children and their families in a growing awareness of and relationship with Jesus Christ and to help them be the very best the Lord intends them to be socially, intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually. Our school meets state licensure requirements and the staff consists of personnel trained in early childhood education. The school is open to children of all faiths who are 2 ½ - 5 years of age.

Registration begins in January for:  
2 ½ Years to Pre-K Classes

**973-379-7160**  
[www.holycrossnj.org](http://www.holycrossnj.org)

## ANNUAL PUBLIC CHANUKAH MENORAH LIGHTING



The annual Public Chanukah Menorah Lighting Ceremony was held on Tuesday, December 16 at Veterans Memorial Park. Over 250 Springfielders were in attendance along with members of the Springfield's Police and Fire Departments & Township Committee. The event marked the celebration of Chanukah, the Festival of Lights, with a public menorah lighting sponsored by the Jewish Learning Center of Springfield in conjunction with Congregation Israel of Springfield, the Jewish War Veterans and B'nai B'rith International.

The event was arranged by the Chabad couple Rabbi Mendy & Aidella Blesofsky of the Jewish Learning Center of Springfield. They thanked all for coming and encouraged the guests to keep the miracle of Chanukah alive today by performing "Mitzvahs" or good deeds for others. Mayor Richard

Huber wished all a Happy Chanukah & Deputy Mayor David Barnett was honored to light the Shamash candle and Rabbi Marcus made the three blessings over the candle. Following the lighting, traditional latkes, donuts, chocolate coins and beverages were served, much to the delight of children of all ages. The youngest guests also had an opportunity to sing "The Dreidel Song" along with members from the Dayton Music Band performing favorite Chanukah songs. A special fire dance show was another crowd favorite.

The Rabbi thanked five local business owners who sponsored the event: Garry Singer from Signature Reality, Brad Denning from Dobbs Auto Body, The wonderful staff at Little Details, Jeff from Pinkavas Motor Company and Moty Shabat from Dynamic Media Productions.

*Congratulations to all students at Saint James the Apostle School who made the Honor Roll for the First Trimester:*

### First Honors:

Grade 8 – Daniel Malave

Grade 7 – Christina Tillinghast

Grade 5 – Yvonne Agyapong, Sophia Ilagan, Kennedy Kwinta, Grace Roethlin, Breah Simon

Grade 4 - John Chacon, Adam Cordeiro, Andrea Falar, Elizabeth Lopez, Katherine Pascuite, Lance Robes, Georgiana Tillinghast

### Second Honors:

Grade 8 – Robert Dubon, Kevin Duffy, Maura Duffy, Kendall Ellmer, Cassandra Garcia, Kayleigh Lewis, Hannah Makasare, James McElroy, Elisa Neri, Carl Sanciangco

Grade 7 – Deraje Agbaosi, John Anigbogu, Luke Bernstein, Rianna Cordeiro, Mikaela Criscuolo, Jocelyn Duallo, Kayla Flowers, Grace Fischer, Alexandra Gaston, Rachelle Montilus, Kyle Roethlin, Kenneth Taylor, Madison Wright

Grade 6 - Jason Chacon, Jacob Cordeiro, Patricia Falar, Samuel Ilagan, Gianna Melegh, Nicholas Musico, Roselyn Ortiz, Adelina Pinho

Grade 5 – Nicholas Battista, Natalyah Cadiche, Christopher Lopez, Jonathan Malave, Benedict Martinez, Goda Pocius, Steven Rotolo, Ethan Veloso

Grade 4 – Zakai Brown, Michael Cangiano, Josh Concejo, Alfred Duallo, Sierra Latonnell, Raina Mendoza, Naomi Murphy, Angelina Robledo, Maren Roy, Charlee Tarlac

### SPRINGFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD "PROJECT MEDICINE DROP" TAKE-BACK DAY IN THE SENIOR CITIZEN MEETING ROOM AT THE CHISHOLM COMMUNITY CENTER ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH, FROM 11 AM UNTIL 1 PM

On Thursday, February 12th, Chief John Cook of the Springfield Police Department will be, at the Senior Citizen Meeting Room at the Chisholm Community Center, to collect, by use of a mobile drop box, any unused, excess, outdated, or no longer needed medications that you may have which will then be disposed of in a manner safe to the environment.

This will be completely anonymous and no questions will be asked.

Project Medicine Drop is an important component of the New Jersey Attorney General's effort to stop the diversion and abuse of prescription drugs, including highly addictive opiate painkillers.

Through this initiative, the State Division of Consumer Affairs installs secure "prescription drug drop boxes" at police departments, sheriff's offices, and State Police barracks across New Jersey, allowing citizens to safely dispose of their unused, excess, or expired prescription medications.

Members of the public are invited to visit the Project Medicine Drop sites and drop off any unused prescription medications anonymously and with no questions asked. Most Project Medicine Drop sites make this service available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

By giving New Jerseyans a safe and secure method to dispose of unneeded medications, Project Medicine Drop helps prevent the abuse of these drugs. This initiative also protects New Jersey's environment by keeping these drugs out of landfills and out of the water supply. More information about Project Medicine Drop, including the full list of Project Medicine Drop locations, can be found at [www.NJConsumerAffairs.gov/meddrop](http://www.NJConsumerAffairs.gov/meddrop).

Only household medications will be accepted.

Pills, capsules, patches, and pet medications are acceptable.

Liquids are acceptable provided they are securely held in either a bottle or other type of container.

Mail, trash or syringes are not acceptable.

### JONATHAN DAYTON CLASS OF 1965 PLANS 50TH REUNION

Planning is underway for the 50th reunion of the Jonathan Dayton High School class of 1965 to be held on October 16, 2015 at the Grand Summit Hotel in Summit, NJ.

A few classmates have gotten together to plan the event. If you would like more information about the reunion, a new website has been created at [www.jdhsclassof1965.com](http://www.jdhsclassof1965.com). More information can be found on our Facebook page "Jonathan Dayton High School Class of '65 and then some" and also on [www.Classmates.com](http://www.Classmates.com).

If you are planning on going, please sign up on the webpage. For further information or questions, you can email Libby Hattersley Donner at [LibbyDonner@Hotmail.com](mailto:LibbyDonner@Hotmail.com).

Please tell any other classmates you may be in contact with to sign up too!!!!

Looking forward to seeing everyone after all these years.



Anyone seeking help or assistance from Springfield H.O.P.E. may call 973-467-3388



# TOYS FOR SPRINGFIELD KIDS CAMPAIGN 2014

The Springfield Fireman's Mutual Benevolent Association donated toys and a made a cash donation to Springfield HOPE during their Annual Toy's For Springfield Kids Campaign. Dr. Hecht told the Patriot that "The town's outpouring of support this year was really terrific! Our Toys for Springfield Kids program would not be possible without the tremendous support of the residents and businesses in Springfield! Their generosity makes this program possible and allows us to bring some cheer and happiness to those less fortunate in town during this very special time of the year. Springfield HOPE Trustee Chief of Police John Cook played "Secret Santa" and made some surprise deliveries of Toys this year as well. HOPE Trustee Pat Paoella commented "The Springfield Fire Department is a huge supporter of the Toys program as they allow the Firehouse and their training room to become "Toy Central" for the weeks leading up to the program's conclusion and delivery of the Toys."



Firefighter Federico, Springfield HOPE Trustees Scott Seidel and Dr. Gary Hecht and Springfield Fire Captain Corea.



Employees of KRA Insurance Agency in Springfield donated to the Toys For Springfield Kids campaign for the second year in a row.



Dr. Gary Hecht, HOPE Trustee, looks over the Toys in the Fire Department Training room.



Amy Roselle, Santa and Dr. Hecht pose just before meeting the children who come to get a photo with Santa and let him know what they want for Christmas.

Nine members of the Jonathan Dayton High School Volunteer Club pitched in and helped sort the Toys by category along with Dr. Hecht, Amy Roselle (Hecht's office manager) and Diane Cardinal-Seidel. Thousands of toys were categorized by age, boy, girl and type. Then the group filled "orders" from about 20 needy families for their children based on request, age and gender. Most donated toys. Chutes and Ladders took the tile by 1 over "Candyland", last year's winner!



Springfield Police Sergeant Joseph Cieri donates toys on behalf of Springfield PBA Local 76 to the "Toys for Springfield Kids Campaign" in December. Dr Hecht noted the "Frozen" toys were in big demand this year so this was a big help!

"Thanks to everyone who donated and made all of this possible!"



"Frozen" Toys donated by Springfield PBA Local 76

## SPRINGFIELD RECREATION DEPARTMENT

[www.springfield-nj.us/recreation](http://www.springfield-nj.us/recreation) • [www.facebook.com/springfieldnjrec](http://www.facebook.com/springfieldnjrec)

### Girls Softball 2015 Grades 1-9

Open to Springfield Residents Only

Registration can be completed online at <https://register.communitypass.net/springfield>

After January 26, 2015, a \$25 late fee payable to Girls Softball Parents Association will be assessed.

Instructional League for Grades 1&2 Lower League Grades 3,4,&5\* Upper League Grades 6-9\*\*

\*Possible Joint League with Mountainside Softball Association \*\*9th Graders not playing High School softball

**Registration Fees:** \$55 payable to Township of Springfield  
\$40 payable to Girls Softball Parents Association

### MEN'S OPEN PLAY 35+ BASKETBALL

This is a non-competitive program for players ages 35 and older.

Basketball will be held on most Wednesdays at Jonathan Dayton High School from 7:00-9:00 pm

and on most Sundays at Florence Gaudineer Middle School from 7:30-11:00 am.

You will be notified in advance of gym closures due to school events or holidays.

**Register in person or by mail to:** Springfield Recreation Department, Chisholm Community Center  
100 South Springfield Avenue, Springfield, NJ 07081 • (973) 912-2227 office (973) 912-8584 fax  
[recreation@springfield-nj.us](mailto:recreation@springfield-nj.us) [www.springfield-nj.us/departments/recreation](http://www.springfield-nj.us/departments/recreation)

### WINTER CONDITIONING PROGRAM

Athletes need to spend time conditioning and winter is the perfect time to start! This clinic will demonstrate how to safely gain strength for sports, prevent injury, stretch properly and have fun!

**Any athlete who desires more speed and wants to gain an advantage will benefit!**

The program is open to Springfield residents in grades 2nd-8th

The program meets on Wednesdays and Fridays from 4:30-5:15 pm at the Chisholm Community Center.

If weather is nice, we will meet outside. If not, we will meet inside the building.

Session #1 begins on November 5th and ends on December 12th

Session #2 begins on December 17th and ends on January 30th

**Cost is \$50 for each session. No refunds will be provided.**

Please make checks payable to Township of Springfield.

Minimum 6 participants are needed to run the program.

### BOYS LACROSSE-SPRING 2015

Does your child want to try a fun, high-energy sport? Come and have them join the Springfield Lacrosse team!

Put a check in the box that you are registering for and get ready to have fun! Practices will start March 1st.

Practice fields TBD. Practice times are tentative, subject to change.

- ☐ 2nd/3rd grade practices will be Wednesday 6:00-7:30 pm and Saturday 9:00-10:30 am
- ☐ 4th grade practices will be Wednesday 6:00-7:30 pm and Saturday 9:00-10:30 am
- ☐ 5th grade practices will be Tuesday 6:00-7:30 pm and Friday 6:00-7:30 pm
- ☐ 6th grade practices will be Tuesday 6:00-7:30 pm and Friday 6:00-7:30 pm
- ☐ 7th/8th grade practices will be Monday 6:00-7:30 pm and Friday 7:30-9:00 pm

• Fee: \$55 (check made payable to Township of Springfield)

• Fee: \$135 (check made payable to Springfield Lacrosse Association)

○ This fee includes membership to US Lacrosse – insurance for players and coaches and six free copies of Lacrosse Magazine

○ NEW THIS YEAR...The Springfield Lacrosse Association will be offering shooting shirts for an additional \$35 if you would like to purchase for your player.

Register at Chisholm Community Center, 100 South Springfield Avenue, Springfield, NJ 07081 or online at <http://register.communitypass.net/springfield>

Questions? Please email Danielle McLeer at [danielle.mcleer@springfield-nj.us](mailto:danielle.mcleer@springfield-nj.us)



*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://cityofsummit.org/trycan>.*



### LACROSSE EXPLODING IN SPRINGFIELD

The Lacrosse Club of Springfield is about to begin its 3rd year offering travel lacrosse to the children of Springfield. What started with a clinic of 18 kids in 2012 has grown to five boys teams as well as our first girls team (2nd-4th) projected this spring. When the 2nd season began last year, the program had grown over 100% and retained 95% of its players from the previous year.

Club President, Jeff Kaesshaefer shares his opinion about the success of the lacrosse program, " We have seen such tremendous growth in our program for a few reasons. We offer plenty of playing time for all players regardless of skill level, lacrosse is action packed which makes it fun to play and watch, and it mixes multiple skills such as eye-hand/ eye-foot coordination and endurance which attracts children at all age levels."

There are close to 200 boys high school lacrosse teams in New Jersey and Springfield shares its borders with two state lacrosse champions: Summit and Westfield. Parents can sign their children up at the Springfield Recreation Department. Contact Danielle McLeer, Recreation Program Coordinator for lacrosse signup information at [danielle.mcleer@springfield-nj.us](mailto:danielle.mcleer@springfield-nj.us). Lacrosse information is also available at [Springfieldlaxnj.com](http://Springfieldlaxnj.com).

### SPRINGFIELD COMMUNITY POOL MANAGER WANTED

Duties include: managing, scheduling, and coordinating payroll for assistant manager, lifeguards, and maintenance staff; regulating water chemistry and filter operations; supervising the front gate; overseeing grounds work; acting as liaison with Recreation Department summer camps, concession operator, swim team, and contracted pool users such as private camps and swim clubs; assisting with regular activities and special events; interacting with patrons and providing customer service; and other duties as assigned. Certified Pool Operator (CPO) license and previous experience required. If interested, please send a cover letter and resume to:

Adam Lieb, Director of Recreation  
Chisholm Community Center  
100 South Springfield Avenue  
Springfield, NJ 07081  
[adam.lieb@springfield-nj.us](mailto:adam.lieb@springfield-nj.us).

### SENIOR CITIZEN BUS SERVICE AVAILABLE

The Springfield Recreation Department offers free weekday morning bus transportation for senior citizens to locations within the township, such as the grocery store, doctors, gym, meetings, library, post office, and more. Residents can call (973) 912-2227 each day between 8:00-9:00 am to schedule an appointment for that morning. The bus service runs from 9:00 am-1:00 pm, Monday-Friday, with the exception of municipal holidays and days when the Senior Citizens Club has morning bus trips. The bus is equipped with a passenger lift for wheelchairs. Other riders should be able to board and depart the bus independently.



*Youth basketball clinic assistant  
leader Dan Wilkenfeld instructs a  
group of kindergartners during  
the first session of the Recreation  
Department's winter basketball  
clinic season on Sunday,  
January 11th, at Gaudineer  
Middle School*

## SPRINGFIELD CHILDREN REIMAGINE SHREK THE MUSICAL

Front & Center for Performing Arts, at The Woodland Theater (Former Women's Club of Maplewood), 60 Woodland Road, Maplewood, NJ 07040, is pleased to present a new look at the upside-down fairytale, Shrek the Musical. A twisted take on a twisted tale, a crew of 10 or more Springfield kids (with help from other local kids) brings this award-winning musical to life with a steampunk flair.

"Once upon a time, there was a little ogre named Shrek..." And thus begins the tale of an unlikely hero who finds himself on a life-changing journey alongside a wisecracking Donkey and a feisty princess who resists her rescue. Throw in a short tempered bad guy, a cookie with an attitude, and over a dozen other fairy tale misfits, and you've got the kind of mess that calls for a real hero. Luckily, there's one on hand...and his name is Shrek.

Irreverently fun for the whole family, Shrek proves that beauty is truly in the eye of the ogre. "This is such a perfect fit for our group – it's all about being yourself and being comfortable with who you are. That is exactly what we try to bring out in the children who come to work with us," says Director Renee Palermo.

SHOW DATES & TIMES January 23 at 7:30 pm, January 24 at 1:30 pm and 7:30 pm, January 25 at 1:30 pm. Tickets are \$25 each for general admission. Tickets can be purchased through Brown Paper Tickets at [fncshrekthemusical.brownpapertickets.com](http://fncshrekthemusical.brownpapertickets.com). About Front & Center for Performing Arts:

Front & Center offers individuals of all ages and skill levels the opportunity to grow and develop artistically and personally in a nurturing environment. We aim to provide a unique and comprehensive curriculum while maintaining the highest standards of excellence. Our distinctive atmosphere encourages students with professional aspirations, as well as those who seek recreational fulfillment through the arts. For more information, visit [www.front-center.com](http://www.front-center.com).

About Shrek the Musical:

Shrek the Musical is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019. Phone: 212-541-4684 Fax: 212-397-4684 [www.MTIShows.com](http://www.MTIShows.com). Music by Jeanine Tesori, Book and Lyrics by David Lindsay-

Abaire, Based on the DreamWorks Animation Motion Picture and the book by William Steig. 2 Acts, Book Musical, Rated G, Licensed Version (2013).

Based on the Oscar-winning DreamWorks animation film, Shrek The Musical is a TONY Award-winning fairy tale adventure featuring all new songs from Jeanine Tesori (Thoroughly Modern Millie, Caroline or Change) and a sidesplitting book by David Lindsay-Abaire. Shrek brings all the beloved characters you know from the film to life on stage, and proves there's more to the story than meets the ears.



SPRINGFIELD CAST MEMBERS POSE IN COSTUME  
DURING A DRESS REHEARSAL

*Jessica Greenstein as Tiger Lily, Alexa Klein as Jack in the Beanstalk,  
Dylan Sargis as Tweedle Dee, Celeste Palermo as Pinocchio,  
Natalie Neuhaus as Mad Hatter, Josh Silverstein as Lord Farquard,  
Maya Dvorchik as Little Bo Peep, Lily Pravda as Hansel,  
Dahlia Schraeder as Elf, Isa Lis as Spider,*

## COLD WEATHER TIPS TO STAY WARM AND SAFE DURING THIS CURRENT COLD SNAP

- Seal up openings around and under doors and windows.
- Close and latch your windows.
- Lower thermostats serving unused rooms.
- Close dampers in unused fireplaces.
- Move furniture and drapes away from heating registers, radiators, and baseboard element covers.
- Remove or cover window air conditioners to reduce drafts. Install insulated or lined drapes on your windows.
- Open your curtains and blinds that face the sun on sunny days to warm your home, and close them at night to keep the warm air inside.
- Keep your garage door closed, if the garage is attached to the house.
- Check for sufficient water levels in the sight glass for steam heating systems to ensure maximum efficiency.
- Clean or replace the furnace filter on hot air heating systems.

### FOR SAFETY'S SAKE

- Be cautious when using space heaters. Read and follow the manufacturer's instructions and heed warning labels. Be sure all members of the household understand how to operate space heaters safely.
- Don't try to use a gas oven or range to heat a room - the appliance will deplete oxygen from the air, causing asphyxiation or deadly carbon monoxide poisoning. Carbon monoxide (CO) -- an invisible, odorless, tasteless and non-irritating gas -- is the leading cause of accidental poisoning in the United States. Natural gas, oil, propane, coal or wood all produce CO.
- The first line of defense against CO poisoning is to make sure all your fuel-burning appliances operate and are maintained properly. These appliances include gas and oil furnaces, water heaters, gas ranges, space heaters, and gas clothes dryers. Improperly vented fireplaces and charcoal

grills can also give off CO.

- Invest in carbon monoxide detectors as back-up protection, not as a substitute for proper use and maintenance of the fuel-burning appliances. CO alarms can provide an early warning to consumers before CO builds up to a dangerous level. The US Consumer Product Safety Commission recommends placing a carbon monoxide alarm in every area of the house. If just one alarm is installed, it should be placed near the sleeping rooms of the house. If you already have one, remember to check the batteries regularly.
- Be safe around natural gas. If you smell a weak gas odor, check the pilot lights and burner valves on your gas appliances. Open doors and windows to let in fresh air. Call PSE&G immediately. If the odor is strong, get out of the building immediately and call PSE&G from a nearby phone. Do not use the phone in the building or any electrical equipment, including electric switches and thermostats, because they can make sparks and cause a fire. Do not use matches, or light a gas appliance. If you are outdoors and smell gas, call PSE&G immediately at 1-800-880-PSEG (7734).

### KEEP YOUR GAS METER AND APPLIANCE VENTS CLEAR OF SNOW AND ICE

You can help keep your natural gas supply flowing by keeping your meter free of snow and ice. If you are a natural gas customer whose gas meter is on the outside of your home or business, please take the following precautions:

- Clear snowdrifts away from the meter and piping.
- Do not pile snow on top of the gas meter or around its connecting piping when you are shoveling your premises.
- Brush snow from the meter and piping before a thick layer of ice builds up.
- Clear snow from dryer vents to prevent fumes from backing up into your house.

### IF YOUR METERS ARE SCHEDULED TO BE READ

While we always try to obtain an actual reading, occasionally it's necessary to estimate a reading to ensure the safety of our employees. Here are some ways that you can help us keep our employees safe and avoid estimated bills:

- Ensure walkways and entrance ways are cleared of snow and ice.
- Ensure a clear pathway to the meter.
- Secure pets while meters are being read.

A \$500.00 SCHOLARSHIP IS  
BEING AWARDED BY PARTICIPATING  
ROTARY CLUBS



Anyone seeking to further their education  
through Undergraduate, Graduate or Technical Studies  
are encouraged to apply online at

[www.alpineeducationfoundation.com](http://www.alpineeducationfoundation.com)



**REGULAR LIBRARY HOURS**  
**MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY**  
10:00 AM – 9:00 PM  
**TUESDAY, FRIDAY 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM**  
**SATURDAYS 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM**  
**SUNDAY 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM**

**THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY,  
JANUARY 19TH, MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY.**

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

## CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

**Storycraft Fridays January 16, 23, & 30 @ 4pm.**  
Ages 3 to 7 w/ a caregiver. Enjoy a story and a craft.

**Mother Goose Group @ 10:30 selected days** – Babies, toddlers and preschoolers w/ a caregiver. Stop by and drop in! Tues 1/13, Wed 1/21, Fri 1/23, Tues 1/27, Thurs 1/29.

**Wii Games – Wednesdays January 14, 21 & 28 from 4:00p-5:00p.** Ages 6 to 11. Drop in.

**P'Jama Storytime January Monday 1/26. New Time! 6:30 pm** Join Miss Debbie as she reads from her favorite books. Ideal for ages 3 to 7. Wear your jammies and bring your snuggly bear. Drop in.

**Lego Club meets alternate Tuesdays afterschool until 4:30 pm January 27.** Ages 6 and up. Kids aged 6 and under need to have their parent present in the room.

**Origami Club meets alternate Tuesdays afterschool until 4:30 pm (1/20).** Ages 8+

**Drop in Math Help – January Wednesdays @ 4pm.** Need some math help? Bring your homework and we're here to help.

### NEW! Playaway Views!

Your library now lends Playaway Views! Pre-loaded, self-playing handheld viewers are perfect for traveling or hanging out at home. Available in picturebook titles, learning languages as well as subjects that appeal to homework topics.

### TEENS:

**Teens Read! -- 4:45 Wednesdays, January 14** (Graceling by Kristin Cashore) & **January 28** (Code Name

# Springfield Free Public Library

66 Mountain Avenue, Springfield • 973-376-4930

Check Library website for regular MGG schedule: [www.sfplnj.org](http://www.sfplnj.org)

Verity by Elizabeth Wein. Munch on snacks, too!

**Teen Advisory Board (TAB)** – Earn volunteer hours and make your voices heard by joining TAB. From developing programs just for teens to helping the library select books you'd like to read, TAB is the perfect way to make the library all your own. **Mondays January 26 @ 6pm.**

**Hunger Games Trivia Thursday January 15 @ 7pm** for Grades 6 to 12. Put your Hunger Games knowledge to the test—May the odds be ever in your favor—and snacks, too!

**Ouch! Got homework but can't make it to the library?** Explore hundreds of quality eBooks from home with your Springfield library card through WorldBook eBooks! All WorldBook's quality non-fiction titles are available for your use on a PC, laptop, or tablet (sorry, not available on Kindle or Nook. Also available are hundreds of Classic titles in the public domain! Books are available immediately—you will never have to wait for a book!

## SPECIAL EVENTS

**Fridays, January 16th & 30th Chair Yoga** with Pamela Nixon. 1:00 pm.

**Now thru January 30th**  
**Art Exhibit – Joan Mazurkiewicz .**

**Sunday, January 25th, 2:00 pm** Concert of music played on the library's 1890's REGINA SUBLIMA MUSIC BOX.

**Every Wednesday, February 4th to April 15th**  
**FREE AARP Tax Assistance Program –**  
**BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**  
**9:00 AM – 3:30 PM**

## DISCUSSIONS AND WRITING

**Thursday, January 15th, 10:00 am Great Books Discussion** – “Book of Ecclesiastes”: from the Bible.

**Thursday, February 5th, 7:00 pm Real Good Book Discussion** – “The Black Count: Glory, Revolution,

Betrayal and the Real Count of Monte Cristo” by Tom Reiss.

**Thursday, February 12th, 10:15 am**  
**Memoir Writing Group.**

## FILMS

**Tuesday, January 20th, 1:00 pm Lunchtime Film – DID YOU MISS THESE – HITS FROM 2014:** Director Donald O. Russell's brilliant fictional crime drama about a reckless FBI agent (Bradley Cooper) who recruits a con man (Christian Bale) and his partner (Amy Adams) into a scheme to ensnare corrupt politicians and gangsters.

**Monday, February 2nd, 1:00 pm Lunchtime Film – DID YOU MISS THESE – HITS FROM 2014:** Mathew McConaughey's biographical drama centering on the story of Ron Woodroof, who was diagnosed HIV positive in 1986, and devoted his life to providing fellow HIV patients with non-FDA-approved drugs.

## HOBBIES AND INFORMATION

**Every 2nd & 4th Monday, 10:00 am**  
**Knits Wits Knitting Group**

**Every Monday at 7:00 pm**  
**Scrabble - Bring a friend or meet new opponents!**

**Every Thursday at 7:00 pm Chess club**

## INSTRUCTION

**Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday One- to-One Computer Training BY APPOINTMENT**  
10:30 am – 12:00 pm

**Every Monday from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm**  
**Drop-in Technical Help (Nooks, Kindles, Androids, iPads. iPhones and more), no appointment necessary.**

## WALTON SCHOOL'S HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE



*2nd Grader, Joey shopped with his mom at the Walton Holiday Boutique*



*Friends Asher and Dylan were all smiles at the Walton Holiday Boutique*



*Walton shopper, Matty, tested out the back scratcher for his Grandpa at the Holiday Boutique*



*Twins Sebastiano and Giovannina, Pre-K, shopped for their loved ones at the Walton Holiday Boutique*

# Joseph Cusano & Co.

CPA, PC

Certified  
Public  
Accountant

Joseph Cusano, CPA  
member of NJSCPA & AICPA

[joec@wcaccounting.net](mailto:joec@wcaccounting.net)

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100 Morris Avenue, Suite 200  
Springfield, NJ 07081  
(908) 789-3200 • Cell (973) 886-9901  
Fax: (908) 789-3326



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## REGISTER BURGLAR ALARM SYSTEMS BY JANUARY 15TH

The Springfield Police Department wants to remind all residents and businesses that utilize burglar alarm systems that all such alarms, by township ordinance, must be registered with the police department. The alarm registration process is an annual requirement and persons or businesses having alarms must re-register by January 15th of each year. One of the more frequent demands for police service involves the need for police personnel to respond to all activated alarms and as such the annual registration of alarms is vital so residents and businesses can be contacted when any problems are encountered with the alarm system such as repetitive false alarms or improper audible sirens or bells.

The false alarms still require police response as the reason for the alarm activation cannot be determined until police officers investigate the condition of the alarmed property. Accordingly, there is a monetary penalty for frequent false alarms as well as for the failure to initially register or annually re-register an alarm.

Residents and businesses should be aware that more than three (3) false alarms that occur with any 3-month calendar period will result in the issuance of a township ordinance summons. As it is understandable that there will be times a resident or business owner may inadvertently activate their alarm system, the alarm ordinance takes this into account and the alarm activation will not be deemed to be a false alarm if the resident or business employee immediately contacts police headquarters to report the accidental alarm activation so police response can be canceled.

The alarm ordinance specifically aims to standardize the types of alarm systems that are allowable so that alarm activations, especially repetitive false alarms, are not ongoing, disruptive to neighbors or an increasing demand for police services.

For alarm registration application forms, re-registration forms or information persons may go to the police department records unit located on the second floor of the township municipal building. The records unit can also be contacted directly at (973) 912-2239 and the necessary forms and information can be requested to be sent to you via email. The fee for registering your alarm is \$15.00 Alarm ordinance forms and information are also available on the township web-site of: [www.springfield-nj.us](http://www.springfield-nj.us). Please remember that when the ownership of a house changes a new owner who opts to retain and use an existing alarm system must register this alarm in their name.





## COORDINATOR'S COLUMN

Scott Seidel, Emergency Management Coordinator

We Need YOUR Help! Last month you received an insert in your Patriot Times regarding the Springfield Auxiliary Police. If you have an interest in serving your community and being an Auxiliary Officer, please take a moment to read that flyer or view it on line on the Township's website. under the Emergency Management section.

The 2015 Auxiliary Police Training Program is scheduled to be held at the the John H. Stamler Police Academy in conjunction the Union County Office of Emergency Management. This class, typically given once a year by the County, teaches our new volunteers the basic skills they will need to perform as an Auxiliary Police Officer. The class starts Saturday, February 7 and runs through Thursday, May 14, 2014. The course will begin with ORIENTATION on Saturday, February 7, 2014 from 7 AM to 1 PM. Classes will be held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30 PM to 10 PM and on Saturdays from 7 AM to 4 PM, except when the Police Academy will be closed to observe various holidays, as noted on the schedule.

To be eligible to apply you must be a resident of Springfield, a US Citizen and be at least 18 years old. If you have an interest in serving your community and fellow residents in this manner, please feel free to fill out the attached form or email me us with any questions you may have about the program. Coordinator@springfield-nj.us.

cont. on page 15



Lee Kaswimer, D.D.S., F.A.C.D.  
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## I'M READY TO HELP MY COMMUNITY

Take the First Step by Completing this Preliminary Application and Mailing it to:  
SPRINGFIELD OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
200 Mountain Avenue Springfield, NJ 07081  
(Please Print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

NJ Driver's License Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicants to the Auxiliary Police must be 18 years old and U.S. Citizens

### Previous Experience/Training:

Military \_\_\_\_\_ Amateur Radio License \_\_\_\_\_

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## WALTON SCHOOL'S HOLIDAY SING-ALONG



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*Michael and his mom sang holiday songs together at Walton*



*Christian and his mom at the Walton Holiday Sing-Along*



*Sofia sang holiday songs along with her family at Walton's Sing-Along*

### COORDINATOR'S COLUMN

CONT.

#### BEFORE WINTER STORMS AND EXTREME COLD

To prepare for a winter storm you should do the following:

- Before winter approaches, add the following supplies to your emergency kit:
- Rock salt or more environmentally safe products to melt ice on walkways. Visit the Environmental Protection Agency for a complete list of recommended products.
- Sand to improve traction.
- Snow shovels and other snow removal equipment.
- Sufficient heating fuel. You may become isolated in your home and regular fuel sources may be cut off. Store a good supply of dry, seasoned wood for your fireplace or wood-burning stove.
- Adequate clothing and blankets to keep you warm.
- Make a Family Communications Plan. Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so it is important to know how you will contact one another, how you will get back together and what you will do in case of an emergency.
- A NOAA Weather Radio broadcasts alerts and warnings directly from the NWS for all hazards. You may also sign up in advance to receive notifications from your local emergency services.
- Download FEMA's Be Smart. Know Your Alerts and Warnings for a summary of notifications at: [www.ready.gov/prepare](http://www.ready.gov/prepare). Free smart phone apps, such as those available from FEMA and the American Red Cross, provide information about finding shelters, providing first aid, and seeking assistance for recovery.
- Minimize travel. If travel is necessary, keep a disaster supplies kit in your vehicle.

Bring pets/companion animals inside during winter weather. Move other animals or livestock to sheltered areas with non-frozen drinking water

#### DURING WINTER STORMS AND EXTREME COLD

- Stay indoors during the storm.
- Walk carefully on snowy, icy walkways.
- Avoid overexertion when shoveling snow. Overexertion can bring on a heart attack—a major cause of death in the winter. Use caution, take breaks, push the snow instead of lifting it when possible, and lift lighter loads.
- Keep dry. Change wet clothing frequently to prevent a loss of body heat. Wet clothing loses all of its insulating value and transmits heat rapidly.
- Signs of Frostbite: Occurs when the skin and body tissue just beneath it freeze. Loss of feeling and white or pale appearance in extremities, such as fingers, toes, earlobes, face, and the tip of the nose.

**What to Do:** Cover exposed skin, but do not rub the affected area in an attempt to warm it up. Seek medical help immediately.

• Signs of Hypothermia: Dangerously low body temperature. Uncontrollable shivering, memory loss, disorientation, incoherence, slurred speech, drowsiness, and apparent exhaustion.

**What to Do:** If symptoms of hypothermia are detected take the person's temperature. If it is below 95°, seek medical attention immediately. Get the victim to a warm location. Remove wet clothing. Warm the center of the body first by wrapping the person in blankets or putting on dry clothing. Give warm, non-alcoholic beverages if the victim is conscious. Seek medical help immediately.

- The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommended that if you detect symptoms of frostbite, seek medical care. Because frostbite and hypothermia both result from exposure, first determine whether the victim also shows signs of hypothermia. Hypothermia is a more serious medical condition and requires emergency medical assistance.
- Drive only if it is absolutely necessary. If you must drive: travel in the day; don't travel alone; keep others informed of your schedule; stay on main roads and avoid back road shortcuts.
- Let someone know your destination, your route, and when you expect to arrive. If your car gets stuck along the way, help can be sent along your predetermined route.

• If the pipes freeze, remove any insulation or layers of newspapers and wrap pipes in rags. Completely open all faucets and pour hot water over the pipes, starting where they were most exposed to the cold (or where the cold was most likely to penetrate).

• Maintain ventilation when using kerosene heaters to avoid build-up of toxic fumes. Refuel kerosene heaters outside and keep them at least three feet from flammable objects.

• Conserve fuel, if necessary, by keeping your residence cooler than normal. Temporarily close off heat to some rooms.

• If you will be going away during cold weather, leave the heat on in your home, set to a temperature no lower than 55°F.

#### AFTER WINTER STORMS AND EXTREME COLD

If your home loses power or heat for more than a few hours or if you do not have adequate supplies to stay warm in your home overnight, you may want to go to a designated public shelter if you can get there safely. Text SHELTER + your ZIP code to 43362 (4FEMA) to find the nearest shelter in your area (e.g., SHELTER20472).

- Bring any personal items that you would need to spend the night (such as toiletries, medicines). Take precautions when traveling to the shelter. Dress warmly in layers, and wear boots, mittens, and a hat.
- Continue to protect yourself from frostbite and hypothermia by wearing warm, loose-fitting, lightweight clothing in several layers. Stay indoors, if possible.

#### LEARN FROM EVERY STORM

Restock your emergency supplies to be ready in case another storm hits.

- Assess how well your supplies and family plan worked. What could you have done better?
- Take a few minutes to improve your family plan and supplies before the next winter storm hits.
- Talk to your neighbors and colleagues about their experiences and share tips with each other.

Remember if you have a power outage call 888-544-4877 to report.

*Happy New Year!*

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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*



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