

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

www.springfieldpatriot.com

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www.springfield-nj.us

NEXT CHAMBER **MEETING**

THURSDAY December 23, 2021

8:30 am - 9:30 am

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATED INFO ON THE MEETING

Members and nonmembers are invited to Chamber meetings. Free coffee and donuts

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HUNDREDS OF SPRINGFIELDERS CELEBRATE CHANUKAH



On Sunday, November 28, hundreds of Springfielders celebrated Chanukah, the Festival of Lights, at the 9th annual public menorah lighting at Veterans Memorial Park. (continued on page 6)

SPRINGFIELD CELEBRATES TREE LIGHTING



The Township Committee welcomes the crowd. (I to r) Township Committeeman Richard Huber, Township Committeeman Christopher Capodice, Mayor Chris Weber, Deputy Mayor Alex Keiser, Township Committeewoman Erica DuBois and Director of Recreation Adam Lieb.



The Springfield community came together to light the Christmas Tree outside Town Hall and the First Aid Squad on Wednesday night, December 1, 2021, following the cancelation of last year's event due to the COVID-19 pandemic. (continued on page 4)

CHILDREN'S SPECIALIZED



Mark Montenero, Foundation Member and Autoland of Springfield President, Major League Baseball All-Star and Toms River native Todd Frazier, and his wife, Jackie and Ed McKenna, Senior Partner at McKenna, Dupont, Stone and Washburne and former mayor of Red Bank.

Mark Montenero, Children's Specialized Hospital Foundation Trustee and and President of Autoland in Springfield noted last month "We celebrated the opening of our newest outpatient center in Union, NJ, located on Morris Ave on the Springfield-Union border, and announced the launch of a \$45 million capital campaign that aims to expand access to specialized care to more children in New Jersey who are living with special healthcare needs."

(continued on page 4)

GOLDFISH SWIM SCHOOL OPENS

(continued on page 10)



(l to r) Christina Hernandez, Beren Delgado, Taylor Goodridge, Mara Stahlhut, Tiffany Schroeder, Jeffrey Posner, Shane Posner, Larisa Posner, Deputy Mayor Alex Keiser, Gene Jannott , Springfield Patriot Chamber of Commerce and BID Co-Chairman Mike Scalera and "Bubbles"

CHAMBER HOLDS FIRST NETWORKING **EVENT IN 2 YEARS**

(continued on page 15)





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

SPRINGFIELD PATRIOT Chamber of Commerce

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

Chairman: Scott Seidel Chamber Co-Chairman: Mike Scalera Networking Vice President: Elliot Merkin Recording Secretary: Tracy Geyer

SPRINGFIELD, NJ

MAYOR: Chris Weber **DEPUTY MAYOR:** Alex Keiser **COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Erica DuBois, Richard Huber Christopher Capodice

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

All Emergencies	
(Police, Fire, Ambulance)	9-1-1
Police (Nonemergency)	
Fire (Non-emergrncy)	
Board of Education	973-376-1025
Construction Office	973-912-2220
Court	
Emergency Management	
Department	973-376-1058
Engineering Department	
Finance Department	
Fire Prevention Office	
Health Department	973-593-3079
Library	
Office of the Mayor	973-912-2285
Public Works Department	
Recreation Department	
Recycling information	973-912-2222
Tax Assessor	
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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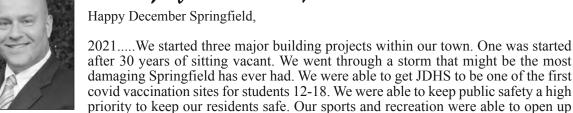
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Message from the Mayor



again and families were able to reunite with friends and neighbors. We welcomed many new businesses into our town. It was such an incredible year.

Our Department heads are as follows: John Bussiculo - Administration, Linda Donnelly - Clerk, Robert Boettcher - DPW, Diane Sherry - Finance, Mike Disco - Engineering, Adam Lieb - Recreation, Lauren Cacioppo - Tax, Carlo Palumbo - Fire, John Cook - Police, Scott Seidel - OEM, Jerry Eger - Building, Ed Galante - Assessor, Mary Jo Banchansky - Court. On behalf of the Township Committee, I ask all of you mentioned above to please extend a huge thank you to all of our valued employees that work in your department. None of this is possible without the work force that keeps Springfield moving forward. To our department heads please know that Springfield thanks you for going above and beyond for the residents and making the impossible happen at times.

My fellow Township Committee members - Rich, Erica, Chris and Alex. I am not sure how to express the gratitude I have for being trusted to be the Mayor of Springfield for 2021. I have tried my hardest to represent you all in the highest manner and make sure every voice was heard, every question was answered and every person was treated as the most important in the town. We work well together. For me the key to working well together is that when we might not agree with each other, we work to come up with a solution for the good of the residents. That is how it should always be done.

To all of the residents in our town. Thank you for your support, your input, and especially all the volunteering. How do you even show enough thanks to the Volunteers? Whether it is being part of our First Aid Squad, our Auxiliary Police, a Coach for a sport, or on one of our Township Boards and Teams, your

love and dedication for Springfield is why we succeed.

And finally, my wife Vanggie and my kids CJ, Ashley and Joshua. Thank you for understanding the missed family time and helping me be the best person I can be.

Please continue to be there for your neighbors and let us all do our part. The world needs a lot of love to keep spinning forward.

Peace and love to you all. Looking forward to a great 2022!

Chris Weber, Mayor

FEMA REGISTRATION DEADLINE EXTENDED TO JAN. 5

FEMA Registration Deadline Extended to Jan. 5; FEMA Centers in Essex and Union Counties to Remain Open

TRENTON, N.J.- New Jersey residents will have more time to register for assistance and visit FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers. The deadline for New Jersey homeowners and renters to apply for FEMA individual assistance for damage and losses from the remnants of Hurricane Ida has been extended to Jan. 5, 2022

The FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers in Essex and Union counties will remain open until further notice. It was previously announced that the centers would permanently close Dec. 4.

The extension provides more time for survivors living in counties designated for individual assistance including Bergen, Essex, Gloucester, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Union and Warren.

Federal disaster assistance for individuals and families can include money for rental assistance, essential home repairs, personal property losses, and other serious disaster-related needs not covered by insurance.

The DRCs are located at:

Essex County: Kmart (Co-located with a Vaccina-

tion Center) 235 Prospect Ave. #9413, West Orange

Union County: O'Donnell Dempsey Senior Community Center, 618 Salem Ave., Elizabeth 07208.

Hours at both centers are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday.

Register for FEMA Assistance

Survivors can also apply for disaster assistance in the following ways:

- The most convenient is by going online to DisasterAssistance.gov.
- If it is not possible to apply online, call 800-621-3362 (TTY: 800-462-7585) or apply via the FEMA app. The toll-free telephone lines are operating from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. ET, seven days a week.
- If you use a relay service, such as video relay service (VRS), captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA the number for that service. Multilingual operators are available.
 - Visit a DRC nearest you.

For the latest information visit fema.gov/disaster /4614. Follow the FEMA Region 2 Twitter account at twitter.com/FEMAregion2.

FEMA's mission is helping people before, during, and after disasters.

TOWNSHIP MEETING DATES

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

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Re-Organizational Meeting Tuesday, January 4 at 7 pm Tuesday, December 28, January 1
PLANNING BOARD

nesday, 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 Comm LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

3rd Thursday, 7:00 pm at the Library



HAPPY Over 50 Coupons Throughout Springfield For details & full list of Springfield coupons, go to: gospringfieldnj.com/holideals To get HoliDEALS on your phone, download the FREE Springfield BID App All Holiday Savings Will Be Valid From November 21, 2021 to January 31, 2022

WASHCLUB DRY CLEANING & LAUNDRY

901 Mountain Avenue - 973-232-5237

Service, service & more service...that's what WashClub is all about. You can schedule free pick-up and delivery by calling or on their website (or drop off if you prefer)...and take full advantage of their wonderful services including wash & fold, dry cleaning, tailoring, handbag/purse cleaning & leather/suede

cleaning and care. In addition to expert care for your garments, WashClub is passionate about on-time to meet your busy schedule and expectations. www.washclublaundry.com



5 S. Springfield Ave - 973-347-2706

Whether you've got a special occasion coming up or want a new look for the new year, Artist Hair Bar is a salon that guarantees exceptional services at jaw-dropping rates. Our highly qualified staff are fully equipped to provide you with professional services and exceeding all your beauty expectations. There's no where you can go to get a better Blow Out, Cut or Color.



CHEN'S 22

901 Mountain Ave - 973-258-1922

We serve delicious Chinese, Japanese, and Thai Food. Our intimate restaurant features dine in, takeout, and delivery options (\$20 minimum). We have a BYOB policy, with a liquor store right next door. Some customer favorites include Chicken



and Broccoli (White Meat), Generals Tso's Chicken, Wonton Soup, Hot and Sour Soup, Fried Rice, Lo Mein, Sushi Deluxe, and Chicken Pad Thai. www.chens22.com

VIVA Z CLUB

244 Morris Ave - 973-378-8482

Get your dance on and the weight off at Viva Z Club. Our fun and friendly boutique fitness studio is dedicated to providing you with an amazing dance and fitness experience. In person, on-line and streaming classes available. www.vivazclub.com







Then Get Everything Springfield!

Download the Springfield BID App Events & Alerts, Deals & More





If you already downloaded the app and it is not working, please uninstall and reinstall again from the app store (we just redesigned the app).

Martin Luther King Day Vigil For Peace & Understanding

Monday, January 17, 2022 at Noon Town Hall

100 Mountain Avenue, 2nd Fl.

Sponsored by The Springfield Interfaith Clergy and The Township Committee

ALL ARE WELCOME

Shared Words of Prayer & Reflection



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FREE LEGAL HELP AVAILABLE FOR NEW JERSEY IDA SURVIVORS

A free legal service is available for people facing legal issues due to the remnants of Hurricane Ida.

Residents in Bergen, Essex, Gloucester, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Union and Warren counties affected by the disaster who are unable to afford a lawyer can request free legal assistance from the Legal Services of New Jersey's (LSNJ) statewide hotline at www.lsnjlawhotline.org. The online application can be submitted any time.

Residents can also call the LSNJ hotline at 888-576-5529 (888-LSNJ-LAW). Hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

This service is a partnership between the New Jersey State Bar Association, the American Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division and FEMA.

Types of free legal assistance available include:

- Help securing FEMA and other government benefits available to disaster survivors
- Assistance with life, medical and property insurance claims
- Replacement of wills and other important legal documents lost or destroyed in the disaster
 - Counseling on creditor-debtor problems
- Counseling on landlord-tenant problems

For the latest information visit fema.gov/disaster/4614. Follow the FEMA Region 2 Twitter account at twitter.com/FEMAregion2.

CHILDREN'S SPECIALIZED HOSPITAL

(contined from front page)

The fundraising campaign is led by a team of New Jersey superstars including Toms River resident and Major League Baseball All-Star Todd Frazier and his wife, Jackie. Chairing the campaign are two long-standing members of the CSH Foundation Board of Trustees Mark Montenero, President of Autoland Toyota, Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge and Ram Trucks in Springfield, and Ed McKenna, Senior Partner at McKenna, Dupont, Stone and Washburne and former mayor of Red Bank.

"I care deeply about the children and families in my hometown, throughout New Jersey, and well beyond," said Todd Frazier. "This initiative and momentous campaign has the power to change so many lives—and deliver so many smiles—across our amazing state. It's an honor to fight for each and every family that is in need of specialized care and support to get through some of the hardest times in their lives."

This campaign will play a vital role in the expansion of CSH's services where children currently do not have access to the specialized care they need. Dollars raised will also support research studies at CSH that are crucial to the future of children's health in the fields of autism, brain injury, chronic health conditions, cognition and mobility. To date, \$31 million has been committed to the Transforming Lives 2.0 campaign effort.

"This was an important day not only for CSH, but children's healthcare across the state of New Jersey," said Matthew B. McDonald III, MD, President and CEO, Children's Specialized Hospital. "The generosity of the Kenneth Esdale Estate will impact the lives of thousands of children—today and in the future. All

donors to this campaign are directly supporting our expansion into new communities so that more children will have access to the life-changing care provided within our walls."

In addition to CSH Foundation supporters and early campaign donors, the leadership of CSH, CSH Foundation and RWJBarnabas Health, New Jersey Senator Joseph P. Cryan, and Union Township Mayor Michele Delisfort attended the celebration and spoke to the impact of expanding CSH's services into Union Township and more communities throughout New Jersey

"This is the largest undertaking in the Foundation's history, but we are confident that through the generosity and compassion of our donors, we will reach our \$45 million goal," said Philip Salerno III, President and Chief Development Officer, Children's Specialized Hospital Foundation. "We are rising to the challenge because when the expansion is completed, more children living with special health-care needs will receive the life-changing care they require to reach their full potential—and doing what's best for children is at the core of everything we do."

In an exclusive interview with the Patriot Times, Montenero commented: "I have been a CSH Board member for 9-years and it is such a Privilege to give back! I'm so very blessed to Co-Chair this 45-million-dollar Campaign alongside Ed McKenna as well as Jackie and Todd Frasier where 100% of the Proceeds will go directly to the Children's Hospitals—We could really use everyone's help!"

To Donate: https://events.childrens-specialized.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.event&eventID=599

TREE LIGHTING

(contined from front page)

Upwards of 1,000 children and adults packed the municipal complex grounds for a live concert featuring local talent including Taye McQueen, singer, actress, and Jonathan Dayton High School Class of 2011 graduate; students of Front & Center for Performing Arts of Springfield; and members of the Jonathan Dayton High School Jazz Lab Ensemble. After the performances, Mayor Chris Weber -- standing with Deputy Mayor Alex Keiser, Committeemen Richard Huber and Chris Capodice, and Committeewoman Erica DuBois -- offered greetings and led the countdown to the tree lighting. The crowd was then treated to a surprise appearance by Santa Claus, who descended from the Town Hall cupola on the Springfield Fire Department's truck ladder. Santa posed for hundreds of photos and distributed candy canes to a long line of attendees. During the 2-hour event on the clear brisk evening, the Grinch and a Toy Soldier roamed the grounds interacting with children and posing for photos. Attendees also flocked to the walk-in inflatable snow globe photo booth. Giveaways were provided by the Springfield Business Improvement District (B.Î.D.), as well as the Springfield F.M.B.A. Local #57 who hosted lawn games for the children present. Throughout the night, Springfield H.O.P.E. collected gift cards that will be donated to resident families in need. And Springfield Unity Project (S.U.P.) collected non-perishable food items for needy community members. Boy Scouts Troop #73 was on hand to take pre-orders for grave blankets and wreaths, and several scouts led the crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance. Financial sponsorship for the event was provided by Allstate Shamir Montanez-Johnson. According to Adam Lieb, Director of Recreation, whose department coordinated the event with other township departments and first responders, "This tree lighting was one of my favorites because Springfield finally celebrated together after being apart a long year ago. Plus, we welcomed three terrific hometown musical performers. I'm very thankful that the weather was pleasant and the crowd was large and energetic."

(more photos on page 8)



ANYONE SEEKING HELP FROM SPRINGFIELD H.O.P.E.

(HELPING OTHER PEOPLE ENDURE)

CALL 973-467-3388

Springfield HOPE is funded solely by your donations. We are a 501(c)3 not for profit corporation and 99% of your donated dollar will go to help someone in need in Springfield. The all volunteer Trustee Board administers the program by donating their time and office staff to keep HOPE going. Only filing fees and a small fee for our accountant are paid by HOPE. Please allow us to keep helping your neighbors and donate now.

Checks can be mailed and made payable to Springfield HOPE, c/o Dr. Gary Hecht, 201 Mountain Avenue, Springfield, NJ 07081.



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Office/Parish House: 37 Church Mall Phone: (973) 379-4320 www.SpringfieldPresbyterian.org

In-Person and Live-streamed Family Worship Services Every Sunday 10:15 a.m.

Recordings on YouTube:
Springfield Presbyterian Church NJ

Friday, Dec. 24th - Christmas Eve Service
4:00pm - Service of Lessons and Carols
with Candlelight

Sunday, Dec. 26th - 10:15am Worship Service Sermon: "He Became the Light of All People" Madelynne Lindsey, Interim Pastor

VACCINE CLINIC HELD DECEMBER 7TH



On Tuesday, December 7th, the Township, the Springfield Board of Education, and the County of Union held a vaccine clinic at Dayton High School. Although intended as an "appointment only" location, mostly for Springfield students, faculty & staff, the State of New Jersey advertised the clinic, on social media and via text message, as open to walk-ins without notice to or approval of the County or town.

A similar situation occurred in Berkeley Heights the previous night which gave Springfield Emergency Management and Police enough notice to make sure things went smoothly when larger than expected crowds showed up. Though only 90 people had appointments, walk-ups were accommodated until there were only enough resources for those with appointments after whichhundreds of walk-ins had to be turned away. Ultimately, nearly 300 people received Pfizer first & second dose and booster vacinations, including 88 children 5-11 years old and over 200 adults. In addition, 15 flu vaccinations were administered.

2022 DOG AND CAT LICENSE RENEWALS:

Please have rabies certificate good thru 11/1/22. \$10- for spayed and neutered pets (proof from vet required) \$15.- for unaltered pets Remit by 1/31/22 to avoid late fees.

Remember:

SHOP AND DINE LOCALLY!

It is more important now than ever to support our local businesses!

KRA INSURANCE DONATED \$450 IN GIFT CARDS TO SPRINGFIELD HOPE'S GIFT CARD DRIVE



Dr. Gary Hecht and Michele Williams of KRA Insurance

ALARM REGISTRATION

An annual \$15.00 registration fee is required for all active residential and commercial electronic burglar alarm systems within the Township of Springfield.

If you are not registered and/or have not paid your annual registration fee, please complete the online Alarm Registration application and submit payment. 2022 registration renewals should be submitted no later than January 15, 2022. Failure to register your alarm will result in a \$15.00 late fee and possible summons being issued by the Police Department.

If there are any changes or updates to your registration information, emergency contact information or email address after your alarm is registered, please notify the Springfield Police Department Records Bureau at: police.records@springfield-nj.us. If you have any questions, please contact the Springfield Police Department Records Bureau at (973) 912-2239 Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:00 pm.

CELEBRATE CHANUKAH

(contined from front page)

The community-wide event was led by Rabbi Mendy & Aidella Blesofsky, directors of Chabad of Springfield, who thanked all in attendance, including members of the Township Committee, Township clerk, Springfield's police, auxiliary police, Emergency management, CERT, fire departments and the DPW.

Before blessing and lighting the menorah, the Rabbi encouraged guests to keep the miracle of Chanukah alive today by performing "mitzvot" or good deeds for others.

Following the lighting, latkes, donuts, chocolate coins and beverages were served, much to the delightof children who had an opportunity to sing "The Dreidel Song" with their peers. Parents and children enjoyed a magic show and live music while watching the candles burning low.

Many attendees thanked and commended Chabad for organizing the event.

(more photos on page 8)

A Reminder from the Springfield Police Department:

All residential and commercial burglar alarm registrations are due no later than January 15, 2022. Registrations can be submitted online at http://alarms.springfield-nj.us.

If you are unable to register online, registration forms are available on the Township website under the Police Department tab, and at the Police Records Office, located on the first floor of the Municipal Building. If you have any questions, please contact Police Records at (973) 912-2239

Wishing everyone a very happy, healthy and safe holiday season!

Sincerely, Colleen Strobel

Administrative Assistant – Special Services Unit Springfield Police Department 100 Mountain Avenue Springfield, New Jersey 07081 colleen.strobel@springfield-nj.us (973) 912-2229 Fax (973) 564-6259

SPRINGFIELD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

66 Mountain Avenue 973-376-4930

Please check our website for updates www.sfplnj.org

LIBRARY CARD EXPIRATION DATES HAVE BEEN EXTENDED THROUGH APRIL 30

If you are concerned about your library card expiring while the library remains closed, please note that all library cards that were set to expire during the next several months have had their expiration dates extended through April 30, 2022

Except for materials that were checked out prior to the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the due dates on all library materials have also been extended through April 30, 2022.

Please contact Dale Spindel, Library Director, at dspindel@sfplnj.org if you have any questions.

From the Desk of Library Director Dale Spindel

Nothing has been sadder for me during these past three months than the fact that the library remains closed, even as the school year moves on and the end of 2021 approaches. Speaking for the staff, I want to say that we all miss you, our patrons, and can't wait for the library to be completely remediated so that we can once again open our doors to you. We also know that the temporary closing of our library has been not only an inconvenience, but also an ongoing frustration, and for that we are sorry.

We are thankful that only a very small number of our books were directly affected either by direct contact with flood water or by subsequent mold growth. Unfortunately, mold is present virtually throughout the library on the lower portion of the sheetrocked walls. The situation is complicated for us by the fact that prior to the removal of the damaged sheetrock, all of the library's books will first need to be removed from the shelves and then all of the shelving units will also need to be taken apart and taken down. The remediation process will need to be done in stages and the logistics of getting each of these stages properly scheduled is truly daunting. I am in regular contact with Township Administrator John Bussiculo, Township Engineer Michael Disko, Township Public Works Department Head Robert Boettcher and Township Committee member Chris Capodice, who serves as Mayor Chris Weber's representative to the Library Board, in order to track their progress in bringing on board the outside contractors that are needed to get the work done.

I know that many of you continue to have at home items from the library that were checked out prior to the flood, and the best way to help us right now is to continue to hold on to them. However, if you are holding on to items that belong to other libraries or if you are dealing with extenuating circumstances such as an upcoming move out of the area, please reach out to me at dspindel@sfplnj.org and I will work with you to arrange a time and date when you can return your materials directly into the hands of a member of our staff.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and library staff, I want to wish everyone a very happy and healthy holiday season. We all look forward to welcoming you safely back inside our wonderful library when all of the necessary work has been completed.

Dale Spindel Library Director Join Children's Librarian Ms. Brie for Mother Goose Group Tuesdays and Thursday mornings, beginning Tuesday, December 7th at the Chisholm Center at 10:30 AM! Mother Goose Group will take place in the second floor fitness center.

Mother Goose Group is our regular happening for babies, toddlers and preschoolers along with their caregivers. This popular event includes listening to storybooks, singing and dancing. Mother Goose Group is a free drop-in program and runs for about 20 minutes.

Please remember that due to a recent increase in COVID-19 cases in NJ and a new strain of the virus, masks are required for everyone over the age of 2, regardless of vaccination status. All members of the public who are not yet fully vaccinated are required to wear a mask that covers the mouth and nose during this program. For questions, please email Ms. Brie at bmintz@sfplnj.org.



Advertise in our next issue of The Patriot Times Call 973-912-2300



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Now is the time to protect you and your family from Flu for Flu season.

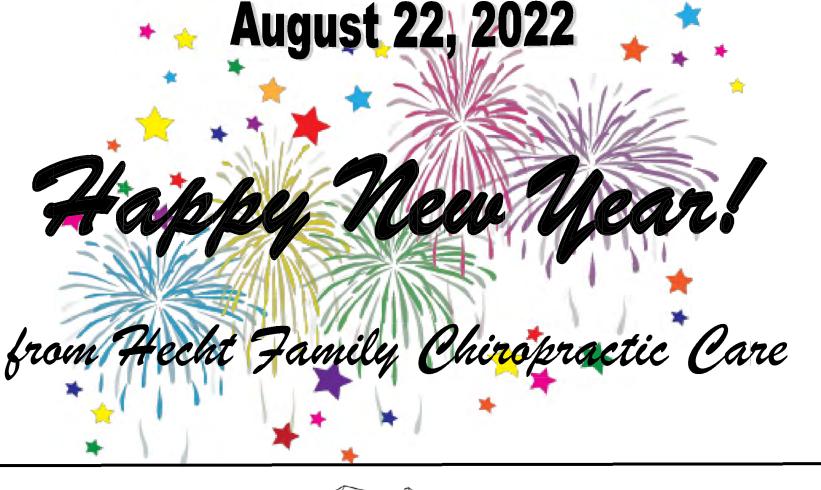
Flu vaccination prevents millions of illnesses and flu-related doctor's visits each year.

NURSING DIVISION
AT 973-680-4058

Need something to look forward to in 2022?



Celebrate the birth of George Jetson on



201 Mountain Ave



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TREE LIGHTING









































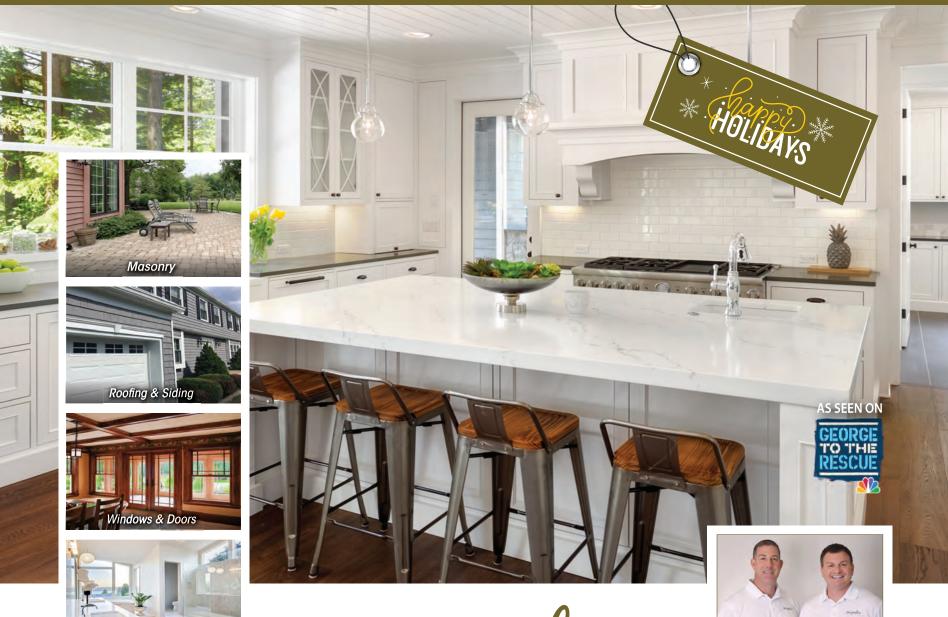
CHANUKAH CELEBRATION





Photos by Frank Applegate

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HALO ROASTERS

By Faith Brancato



Halo Roasters is a popular cafe at 228 Mountain Avenue in Springfield, owned by Springfield residents Lori and Harry Eckhardt. In addition to offering healthy options on their menu, the Eckhardts have incorporated practices in the cafe that are healthy for our environment.

Their take-out boxes and straws are paper, their cups are compostable and their utensils are made from a plant-based material which decomposes. For Lori and Harry, these earth-friendly items are more expensive to purchase than styrofoam and plastic but the couple are committed to reducing waste and using recyclable materials. If someone prefers not to use paper straws, Halo Roasters has reusable straws for sale. Also for sale are reusable coffee cups and fabric tote bags which eliminate the need for plastic bags.

Their commitment to use compostable materials and to eliminate single-use plastic items comes from their belief that we all need to be mindful of our impact on our planet. According to Lori, "it is important that we all do the right thing".

GOLDFISH SWIM SCHOOL

(continued from front page)



(l to r) Elliot Merkin, Chamber of Commerce VP, "Bubbles", Springfield Patriot Chamber of Commerce and BID Co-Chairman Mike Scalera, and Gene Jannotti from Swim School

On Friday December 3rd the Springfield Patriot Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting for another new business in Springfield, the Goldfish Swim Club

Goldfish Swim School, located at 275 Route 22 in Springfield, is the premier learn-to-swim facility for kids ages 4 months to 12 years. We use our holistic philosophy, The Science of SwimPlay®, to build life skills both in and out of the water using play-based learning in a fun and safe environment.

Why Goldfish?

Confidence-building curriculum

Max 4:1 student-to-teacher ratio

Flexible class times and free make-up lessons

Shiver-free, 90-degree pool

Discover Goldfish and give your kids the courage to dive in today! To learn more call them at (973) 310-6463

THE SPRINGFIELD PATRIOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RETURNS TO IN-PERSON MEETINGS



(L to R) Springfield Police Chief John Cook, Chamber and BID Co Chairs Scott Seidel and Mike Scalera, and Chamber VP Elliot Merkin.

On Wednesday, November 24th, the Springfield Patriot Chamber of Commerce held it's first in person meeting since COVID forced them to a zoom" meeting format in early 2020. 15 to 20 people attended and everyone enjoyed the real breakfast, far superior to a "virtual" one, and enjoyed seeing the other members and talking in person. Chamber of Commerce Officers and Police Chief John Cook pose for a photo after the meeting.





BLOOD DRIVE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2021 2:00-8:00 PM

CHISHOLM COMMUNITY CENTER

100 South Springfield Avenue Springfield, NJ 07081

To schedule an appointment. visit: nybc.org/njdrive
Sponsor code: **70915**

All donors will receive a pair of festive socks as a thank you! (while supplies last)

All donors will be automatically entered into the sweepstakes.

Appointments are preferred, however walk-ins will be welcomed if space permits. Please remember to eat, drink, and bring your donor ID card or ID with name and photo. Masks are required for all donors regardless of vaccination status. For full list of COVID-19 safety protocols, please visit <u>nybc.org/coronavirus</u>







Police Chief's Column

for readers of the Patriot Times

Chief John P. Cook

Since winter is almost upon us, I thought this would be a good opportunity to remind residents and business owners of some of Springfield's ordinances and state laws our police officers enforce relating to winter weather.

- Parking on the street and in municipal lots is prohibited when the roadways and lots are snow-covered. Parked vehicles make it difficult for our plow crews to clear snow from the roads. If snow is forecast, please make arrangements to park your vehicles elsewhere.
- Snow must be cleared from fire lanes within 12 hours of daylight after the snow has fallen. Every second counts when we respond to emergency calls, and if the passage of emergency vehicles is obstructed by snow, someone's life could potentially be put at risk. Fire hydrants must also be kept clear from piled snow.
- Snow and ice must be cleared from sidewalks within 24 hours after the snow has fallen. Shoveled paths must be at least 24 inches wide, and icy sidewalks must be treated with sand or salt. Traveling in winter weather is more dangerous for everyone, particularly pedestrians. If sidewalks are impassable, pedestrians often resort to walking on plowed roads which puts them at risk for vehicles sliding into them. Please make sure your sidewalks are cleared properly.

- Once plowing of our roads has begun, it is prohibited for anyone to shovel, blow, or plow snow back onto a public street from private property. It is also prohibited for private plows to plow snow from a driveway across the width of the street to be piled along the opposite curb. Snow that remains as a result of this often turns into hazardous solid ice and is more difficult to be treated.
- All snow and ice must be removed from your vehicle before driving. This applies to ALL vehicles, no matter how small or large. Clearing a small portion of your windshield is not sufficient to safely operate a vehicle. The penalties are even steeper if snow or ice flies off of your vehicle and causes damage to other vehicles, or even worse, if someone is injured.
- "Warming up" and idling your vehicle for more than 3 minutes is against state law in NJ. While there are some exceptions, this applies to most passenger vehicles. In addition, township ordinance prohibits vehicles from idling more than 2 minutes on all municipal and school properties. Keep in mind that unattended running vehicles are easy targets for thieves, and it only takes seconds for someone to drive away with your car.

Also, please remember that driving in winter weather requires more concentration, and less speed. Motorists should travel much slower and be much more cautious than during normal driving conditions. Following distances should be increased, and distractions should be avoided.

On behalf of the entire Springfield Police Department, I wish all readers of the Springfield Patriot Times along with everyone in our community a safe, happy, and healthy holiday season, and a Happy New Year.



COORDINATOR'S CORNER

Scott Seidel,

Emergency Management Coordinator oemcoordinator@springfield-nj.us

FEMA PROVIDES FOR BASIC NEEDS FOR A HOME TO BE HABITABLE

New Jersey survivors whose homes suffered damage from flooding caused by the remnants of Hurricane Ida and are uninsured or underinsured, may be eligible for help from FEMA to restore their homes to a safe, sanitary and functional condition.

FEMA Aid May Be Available

- FEMA assistance is not the same as insurance nor can it make the survivor whole. Federal assistance from FEMA only provides the basic needs for a home to be habitable—including toilets, a roof, critical utilities, windows and doors. Examples of ineligible items may include non-essential cabinets and fences.
- Home damage must be disaster-caused. A home inspection is required in order to calculate and verify the
- loss. Home repair assistance will be provided based on type of residence and the applicant's responses during the inspection to determine level of damage sustained.
- Safe, sanitary and functional homes meet the following conditions:
- The exterior is structurally sound, including the doors, roof and windows.
- The electricity, gas, heat, plumbing, and sewer and septic systems function properly.
 The interior's habitable areas are structurally sound,
- including ceiling and floors.
- The home is capable of operating for its intended purpose.
- There is safe access to and from the home.
- FEMA calculations to verify loss vary because every applicant's situation is different. Expenses for repairs that exceed the conditions to make a home safe, sanitary and functional are ineligible.

Examples

• Appliances: FEMA may assist in the replacement or repair of disaster-damaged refrigerators and stoves. Non-essential items like dishwashers and home entertainment equipment will not be considered.

- Ceiling and Roof Damage: FEMA may provide financial assistance to repair disaster-caused leaks in a roof that damage ceilings and threaten electrical components like overhead lights. The cost to fix minor stains from roof leaks is not reimbursable.
- Floors: FEMA may provide financial assistance to repair subfloors in occupied parts of the home that were damaged due to the disaster.
- Windows: FEMA may provide financial assistance to repair disaster-related broken windows, but not blinds and drapes.

Determining Livability

- FEMA uses multiple methods to verify habitability, including remote and on-site inspections. The most common type of verification is an on-site inspection.
- FEMA provides specific guidelines that inspectors must follow during the on-site inspection to assess home's habitability. FEMA inspectors record the damage viewed, along with information provided by the applicant, but they do not determine the applicant's eligibility for disaster assistance.
- A FEMA inspector will visit the home to assess disaster damage to the applicant's residence and personal property—such as furniture, appliances, vehicles and essential equipment for daily household needs.
- The FEMA inspector also may photograph damage to help document disaster-caused losses that render the applicant's residence uninhabitable, unsafe or inaccessible. But FEMA inspectors will not physically inspect areas that are unsafe for them to access. Due to COVID, FEMA inspectors do not enter the home. They conduct exterior inspections only.
- For homeowners, habitability is based on all recorded disaster-caused damage.
- For renters, the habitability determination is based on the disaster-caused damage that has not yet been repaired at the time of the inspection. Renters are not responsible for repairs to the damaged dwelling, so if repairs have been made or are being made, the inspector will note the condition at the time of the inspection.

For the latest information visit fema.gov/ disaster / 4614. Follow the FEMA Region 2 Twitter account at twitter.com/FEMAregion2.



- PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT-

ALCOHOL AWARENESS ALCOHOL AFFECTS THE BODY

Drinking too much on a single occasion or over time can take a serious toll on your health.

BRAIN

Alcohol interferes with the brain's communication pathways. Change mood and behavior, and make it harder to think clearly and move with coordination.

HEART

CARDIOMYOPATHY:

stretching and drooping of heart muscle ARRHYTHMIA: irregular heart beat STROKE - HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE

LIVER

INFLAMMATION: STEATOSIS OR FATTY LIVER ALCOHOLIC HEPATITIS-FIBROSIS-CIRRHOSIS

CANCER

The more alcohol a person drinksparticularly the more alcohol a person drinks regularly over time the higher his or her riskof developing an alcohol associated cancer.

Which are the following:
HEAD AND NECK CANCER
ESOPHAGEAL CANCER
LIVER CANCER - BREAST CANCER
COLORECTAL CANCER

PANCREAS

Produce toxic substances that can eventually lead to pancreatitis, dangerous inflammation and swelling of the blood vessels and prevent proper digestion

IMMUNE SYSTEM

Drinking too much can weaken your immune system, making your body a much easier target for disease.

SPRINGFIELD RECREATION DEPARTMENT

SRD Springfield Recreation Department

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

SENIOR CITIZEN ACTIVITIES DECEMBER 2021/JANUARY 2022 CALL (973) 912-2227 FOR MORE INFORMATION

Monday, December 13 - Pickleball @ 10:00 am, Bingo @ 12:30 pm Tuesday, December 14 - Exercise class with Liz @ 11:00 am, Mahjong @ 12:00 pm

Thursday, December 16 - Club holiday luncheon @ 11:00 am (\$10 by 12/10)

Friday, December 17 - Pickleball @ 10:00 am, Rummikub @ 11:00 am, Poker @ 12:00 pm, Dominos @ 1:00 pm

Monday, December 20 - Pickleball @ 10:00 am, Bingo @ 12:30 pm Tuesday, December 21 - Computer training with Linda @ 10:00 am, Exercise class with Liz @ 11:00 am, Mahjong @ 12:00 pm

Wednesday, December 22 - Bingo @ 12:30 pm Tuesday, December 28 - Exercise class with Liz @ 11:00 am, Mahjong @ 12:00 pm

Wednesday, December 29 - Bus trip to Outback Steakhouse @ 11:30 am (RSVP)

Thursday, December 30 - Board games and snacks @ 11:00 am Monday, January 3 - Pickleball @ 10:00 am, Bingo @ 12:30 pm Tuesday, January 4 - Exercise class with Liz @ 11:00 am, Mahjong @ 12:00 pm

Wednesday, January 5 - Bingo @ 12:30 pm

Friday, January 7 - Pickleball @ 10:00 am, Rummikub @ 11:00 am, Poker @ 12:00 pm, Dominos @ 1:00 pm

Monday, January 10 - Pickleball @ 10:00 am, Bingo @ 12:30 pm Tuesday, January 11 - Computer training with Linda @ 10:00 am,

Exercise class with Liz @ 11:00 am, Mahjong @ 12:00 pm Wednesday, January 12 - Bingo @ 12:30 pm

Friday, January 14 - Pickleball @ 10:00 am, Rummikub @ 11:00 am, Poker @ 12:00 pm, Dominos @ 1:00 pm

TRYCAN

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

2021-2022 MEN'S 35+ BASKETBALL

WHO: Men age 35+ who reside in Springfield (and non-residents who previously enrolled)

WHAT: Non-competitive pick-up games

WHERE/WHEN: Jonathan Dayton High School (east gym), Wednesdays @ 7:00-9:00 pm

Florence Gaudineer Middle School (girl's gym), Sundays @ 8:00-10:00 am

COST: \$25 (resident new player), \$12.50

(2019-2020 resident player), \$37.50 (2019-2020 non-resident player)

REGISTER: Online only at https://register.communitypass.net/springfield Visa, Mastercard, and Discover accepted (\$0 processing fee).

INCLUDED: Apparel Item, balls

NOT INCLUDED: Personal protective equipment (e.g. masks)

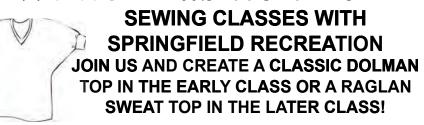
COVID-19: Masks must be worn inside school buildings when not actively playing basketball.

REFUNDS: No refunds after registration is completed.

QUESTIONS: (973) 912-2227 or recreation@springfield-nj.us

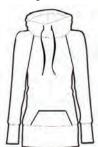


Winter Fashion 2022



JAN 12-MAR 2ND (WEDNESDAYS)

BEGINNER
AGES 7-9
4:00 - 5:00PM OR AGES 10+
FEE: \$220
5:15 - 6:15PM
FEE: \$220



OUR STUDENT DESIGNERS WILL EXPLORE AND RECREATE A CLASSIC SILHOUETTE!

SIGN UP AT FASHIONFIRSTWORKSHOPS.COM RENEE@FASHIONFIRSTWORKSHOPS.COM OR 908-578-8561



December 27 - 30 9 AM - 12 PM REGISTRATION FEE

throughout the day learning new skills and taking part in fun challenges. NJ Department of Health guidelines will be followed. For more information on how the program will operate please visit USsportsInstitute.com.

CAMP HIGHLIGHTS:

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

AGES 5 - 11 ALL ABILITY LEVELS

USsportsInstitute.com for full camp and class descriptions



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



USsportsInstitute.com (866) 345 BALL

SPRINGFIELD RECREATION DEPARTM

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



Robotics with mBot Robot



Grades 3 - 5

Thursdays 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm

Dates: - 1/27, 2/3, 2/10, 2/17, 2/24 and 3/3

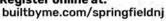
If your child is excited about robots and coding this is the perfect class for them. Young engineers will discover the basics of coding and robotics as they learn how to program the mBot robot to complete a variety of tasks, building and expanding their coding skills along the way. This fun and interactive program will have them track and probably chase their mBots through mazes and other activities.

\$190/student

Limited space, 8 students max

Chisholm Community Center 100 South Springfield Avenue, Springfield

Register online at:





We help children grow into creators.

SENIOR CITIZENS ENJOY FALL BUS TRIPS





Springfield's senior citizens embarked on several exciting bus trips this fall, including Delicious Orchards in Colts Neck, NJ, on Tuesday, November 16; and Wind Creek Casino in Bethlehem, PA, on Friday, November 19. Attendees are pictured with chaperones Donald Wilkenfeld, Recreation Bus Driver, and Ilene Wilkenfeld, Recreation Program Coordinator. For information on future bus trips, contact Ilene at (973) 912-2227.

Sweet Samantha 7 Weeks of Cake/Cupcake/ Cookie Decorating! Winter 2022





AGES 7-14 Join Samantha for 7 weeks Decorating Fun! We will be working with a variety of buttercreams, fondants and toppings to create either 2-3 cupcakes/cookies per session or a mini cake - Themes will include: Pie Cupcakes, Butterfly Cookies, Winter Seal Cake, Winter cupcakes/mini cookies, Bull Dog Cupcakes, Heart Decorated Cookies & Pirate Cupcakes!

All Children will be spaced 3 Ft or more and will only be working with their own materials. Masks will be worn during class

All supplies included. Class will take place at the Chisholm Community Center 100 South Springfield Ave, Springfield NJ 07081 **\$210** per 7 Week Session — Thursdays 5:15-6:15pm Class will begin the week of Jan 6 and will run consecutive Contact Samantha to register samilynn9@aol.com Please include the name/age of your child Venmo payment is best and can be sent to @sweet-samantha

Sweet Samantha 7 Weeks of "RELAX & PAINT" Winter 2022





AGES 7-14 Join Samantha for 7 weeks Painting Fun! We will be creating step by step a variety of awesome acrylic painted creations! We will be working on 4 X 6" canvas boards for each class and every child will have their own mini easel to work on. Children will learn techniques about texture, color & more! We will be listening to relaxing music while creating beautiful art inspired by the photos below... No prior art experience needed!

All Children will be spaced 3 Ft or more and will only be working with their own materials. Masks will be worn during class.

All supplies included. Class will take place at the Chisholm Community Center 100 South Springfield Ave, Springfield NJ 07081 \$210 per 7 Week Session – TUESDAYS 4:30-5:30 pm Class will begin the week of Jan 4 and will run consecutive Contact Samantha to register samilynn9@aol.com Please include the name/age of your child Venmo payment is best and can be sent to @sweet-samantha

www.sweet-samantha.com

SAMANTHA IS A 2 X FOOD NETWORK COMPETITOR ON "CAKE WARS" & "SWEET GENIUS!" HER CAKES HAVE BEEN IN MANY MAGAZINES, ARTICLES AND PRINT! SHE LOVES TO SHARE HER TALENTS OF BAKING AND DECORATING BY TEACHING CLASSES, SPECIAL EVENTS, PARTIES AND PRIVATE LESSIONS! In addition to being "Sweet Samantha" she is also a trained Art Therapist and Artist and is excited to RELAX AND PAINT!

GIRL'S SOFTBAL SPRING 2022 - GRADES Pre-K - 9

To register. visit BOTH websites for TWO required payments:



- Questions? -**EMAIL RECREATION@SPRINGFIELD-NJ.US** OR CALL (973) 912-2227

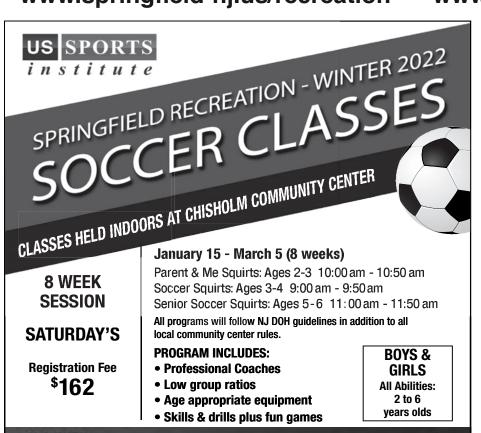
SPRINGFIELD RECREATION DEPARTMENT

SRD Springfield Recreation Department

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

USsportsInstitute.com

(866) 345 BALL



REGISTRATION

Online or by phone



HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS LACROSSE SELLING LUMINARIES TO REACH FUNDRAISING GOAL



The First Dayton Girls Team EVER (Spring 2021)

Go Dayton LAX girls go! Fundraising and more fundraising is the norm for our Jonathan Dayton High School girls who play lacrosse! The goal of \$18,000 was set back in June 2021 and our girls are \$5,000 away! With a deadline fast approaching, they have kicked off their Luminary Fundraiser to try to raise the rest of the funds needed to play lacrosse in Spring 2022. Why is lacrosse always fundraising? Girls lacrosse is the newest sport at Dayton and, according to a recently modified policy, they have to wait five years to receive partial district funding. The Dayton girls and their parents are hopeful the policy will be revised and modified again in the near future. To help support the Dayton Girls Lacrosse Team, please consider participating in our "Light up Springfield for LAX" fundraiser. Luminaries can be purchased at springfieldlaxnj.com and are delivered directly to your home by December 31, 2021.

22 Springfield girls plan to take the lacrosse field in March 2022 to represent Dayton for their 2nd year EVER of having a girls lacrosse team! History has been made in Springfield! The Lacrosse Club of Springfield offers lacrosse to Springfield children starting at the Pre-K level up to 8th grade. If you are interested in having your child play lacrosse, please visit springfieldlaxnj.com. Registration starts on Sunday, December 26, 2021.





HOLIDAY SAFETY

The winter holiday season is traditionally a festive and eventful time of year. Celebrations, family gatherings and visits from house guests traditionally increase in number during the season.

Unfortunately, statistics show that incidents of home fires and electrical accidents typically increase during winter months. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), 30 percent of home fire and 38 percent of home fire deaths occur during the months of December, January, and February.

There are steps that can be taken to reduce the risks of death and injury from a home fire this holiday season. It is critical that families keep fire safety in mind while enjoying this festive, exciting and extremely busy time of year.

Take steps to protect your family and home from holiday season fires.

Seasonal Fire Safety - There's no place like home for the holidays and no better place to implement good fire safety practices.

Smoke Alarm Safety Tips - Smoke alarms save lives. Follow this simple guidance to ensure that your home is adequately protected by working, properly installed smoke alarms.

Space Heater Safety - As the temperature drops during the winter holiday season, many families turn to space heater to help warm their homes. Many are unaware, however, that the risk of fire from space heaters is much greater than from central heating equipment.

Holiday Cooking Safety - The kitchen is the heart of the home. It's where families gather to cook favorite recipes, share warm meals, and reconnect with each other, especially during the holidays. Unfortunately, it's also where two of every five reported home fires start.

Holiday Decorating Safety - While decorative lights and other electrical decorations add to the splendor of the season, they can increase the risks of fire and electrical injuries if not used safely.

Extension Cord Safety - While extension cords are a convenient way to supply power right where you need it for your holiday decorations, they can also create hazards if not used safely.

Counterfeit Electrical Products - Unlike fake handbags, watches, or designer apparel, counterfeit electrical products pose significant safety hazards.

Be proactive and take steps to protect your family and home from holiday season fires

- Make you check list and check it twice
- Stockings hung at least three feet from heat sources
- Purchase holiday lights that bear the of a nationally recognized testing laboratory
- Keep your tree Hydrated
- Do not overload electrical outlets
- Do not string more than three strands of incandescent lights
- Always turn off decorations before leaving your home

FIRST NETWORKING EVENT IN 2 YEARS

(continued from front page)

Their first Business Networking Event since 2019 was held and Sponsored by the Springfield Patriot Chamber of Commerce on the evening of December 7, 2021 at Sofia's Restaurant. The guest speaker was Springfield Town Administrator John Bussiculo who updated attendees on town development. Sixteen people attended.





WE NEED YOU... Sign Up Now!

SPRINGFIELD AUXILIARY POLICE SERVE THE COMMUNITY



For more information and an application visit Springfield Emergency Management under Departments tab at

www. Springfield-nj.us or call 973-467-3388

Wishing Everyone A Very Healthy Happy Holiday Season....

- The Patriot Times -



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 Monday - Friday from 9:00 am-3:00 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.



INTERESTED IN SCRAPBOOKING AT CHISHOLM?

The Recreation Department hosts a scrapbooking meet-up at Chisholm Community Center one Saturday per month. If you are interested in learning more about the art and hobby of scrapbooking, or want to bring your own supplies to the meet-up and have company to scrapbook with, contact the Recreation Department at (973) 912-2227 or recreation@spring-field-nj.us for more information.

Advertise in our next issue of The Patriot Times Call 973-912-2300

PROUD MEMBER & SUPPORTER OF THE SPRINGFIELD PATRIOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE





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