

NEXT CHAMBER MEETING

THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 26, 2013

8:30 am - 9:30 am
Emergency

Management Office

Top Floor of the Fire House
In the Joseph Pepe II
Memorial Training Room
200 Mountain Ave.

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

BECOME A MEMBER

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SPRINGFIELD'S FREE SUMMER CONCERT A HUGE HIT!!!

On Monday night, August 12, 2013, residents packed the Jonathan Dayton High School Auditorium for the Springfield Patriot Chamber of Commerce Annual Free Summer Concert. It was standing room only (that's my empty seat in the photo!) for a 2-1/2 hour music filled evening. The show opened with Nicole Vanessa Ortiz of American Idol season five fame singing the National Anthem and receiving a standing ovation. They were followed by a duet with her father, international recording artist Michael D'Amore.

Then Jay Siegel's Tokens took the stage and performed one of the biggest hits of all time 'The Lion Sleeps Tonight' along with many others hits for almost an hour. Wrapping up the show were 2002 Vocal Group Hall of Fame inductees Jay and the Americans performing all of their big hits. The crowd appeared to love every minute of the show. Our thanks to our primary sponsor, investors Bank, represented that evening by Senior Director Vince Manahan as well as our additional sponsors, Mack Camera & Video Service, Javerbaum & Wurgaft, Cardinal Land Properties, Hecht Family Chiropractic, McManimon, Scotland & Bauman, Hammer Dental Associates, Springfield B'Nai Brith, All State Insurance & DRG. International. Special thanks to the Springfield Board of Education and the Jonathan Dayton High School for allowing us to once again, "take over the venue" for our program and providing support services.



Nicole Vanessa Ortiz and her father, Michael D'Amore perform a duet.



Jay and The Americans



Jay Siegel's Tokens



Nicole Vanessa Ortiz



(l to r) Walgreens employees, Maciel Ramirez, Zinda Moderno, Springfield Emergency Management Deputy Coordinator Wally Schultz, Springfield Patriot Chamber of Commerce Co-Chairman Scott Seidel, Walgreens employees, Anne Crochunis, James Farej, Jon Mytschenko, Springfield Patriot Chamber of Commerce Co-Chairman Pat Paoletta, Walgreens employees, Dave Gubin, Lisa Dinunzio, Mitchell Winick, Springfield Mayor David Amlen, Walgreens employee, Sean Seymour, Springfield Business Improvement Chairman Mike Scalera, Walgreens employees, Shantia Young and Carlos Suero

WALGREEN'S GRAND OPENING AND RIBBON CUTTING

The Mayor, Chamber of Commerce, Business Improvement District Officers and others were present this week for Walgreens Grand Opening at their new store located at 125 Morris Ave. in Springfield. After the Ribbon cutting the guests were given a tour of the new store which includes some new design features. At the Pharmacy they offer a window where you don't need to wait in line to pick up a prescription if you are paying by credit card. They also have a separate room to be used for blood pressure screenings, testing, consultations and flushots. The Pharmacy is set up so that technicians are in the "back room" filling the prescriptions and the Pharmacist is in the front at the counter to be able to personally interact with the customer. Walgreens will also be a new distribution point for the Springfield Patriot Times as well! The Grand Opening Celebration will take place Saturday, September 14th, with refreshments, giveaways, contests, prizes and free health testing. Special Sales will be held the 8th through the 14th of September as well, please see their ad on Page 9.



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 Amlen

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Ziad Shehady Richard Huber
David Barnett Margaret Bandrowski

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

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

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ADVERTISING & PRESS RELEASES

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

SCOTT SEIDEL, Editor

JOHN COTTAGE, Sr., Assistant Editor

PATRICK PAOLELLA, Director of Advertising

info@springfieldpatriot.com

Phone 973-912-2300 • Fax 973-376-0425



Message from the Mayor

Welcome back to all the residents fortunate enough to take time off this summer. For the rest of us, the summer season went by too quickly. We are back to our normal operations at town hall, and also entering that strange time of the year known both as election season and “silly season”. I would like to remind everyone that as your mayor, I represent the entire township. Although I have a party affiliation, when it comes to Springfield, I represent Springfield.

During this year, I have been able to work closely with the county government ensuring necessary improvements to roads and bridges (county owned property), upgrades to our recreation facilities (including two new full basketball courts at

Meisel field and Washington Street park), and also grant money for our business improvement district. I have also worked closely with our state government, both the governor’s office and our 21st legislative district representatives ensuring continued state aid (our state aid for the board of education was actually increased this year!) and grant money for various programs in many departments. Working closely with members of both political parties is good for Springfield, as the benefits only help us all.

I want to thank the public for the trust you put into us every day as members of the township committee. This allows us to make policies that reflect both the history and the changes affecting Springfield. I want to thank the employees of Springfield, the department heads, clerks, our CFO, and our township administrator for implementing these policies and bringing to our attention any issues arising from these policies.

Thanks for reading and as always feel free to contact me or any other township committee member through our [first name.last name]@springfield-nj.us email addresses or by phone or regular mail at town hall.

David Amlen, Mayor 2013

LESS EXPENSIVE ELECTRIC FOR RESIDENTS SECOND TOWN HALL MEETING SEPTEMBER 10

The Township Committee voted to authorize the purchase of less expensive electricity through an auction process under a state law called Energy Aggregation. The Township hired Jersey Energy Group (JEG) to act as an energy aggregator to establish an energy aggregation program to purchase electricity for residential and non-residential customers in Springfield. The bulk or aggregated price for the customer base in Springfield “will increase the likelihood of lower electricity rates” according to the state law.

JEG will do an extensive education campaign for Springfield electric customers over the next 60 days. The auction will occur once the education process is completed, and if the auction rates are lower than customers are currently paying for Jersey Central Power & Light electricity, the Township will authorize a contract for a set period of time. Those customers that already have a third party electric provider will not be affected by the energy aggregation program. JEG will work with Princeton Public Affairs Group to ensure a thorough and comprehensive outreach program to inform and educate Springfield’s electric customers.

A second town hall meeting will occur on September 10 at 6:30 PM at Town Hall located at 100 Mountain Ave.

Same Name... Same Great Activities.....New Place

Springfield Senior organization this fall will have its new place at the Chisholm Center. Join in the fun, come and enjoy a day of activities, trips and socializing with friends.

Watch out for the date...further information call..1-973-912-2227

The last date to register to vote for the general election in November is Tuesday, October 15th.

The Township Clerk’s Office will be open until 8 p.m. for registrations.

The Special Election for US Senator will be on Wednesday, October 16th. Polls will be open from 6 a.m. until 8 p.m.

TOWNSHIP MEETING DATES

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Monday, September 9, 7:30 p.m. at FD – Workshop Meeting
Tuesday, Sept. 10 & 24, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall – Regular Meeting
Tuesday, Sept. 24, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall – Regular Meeting

Monday, October 7, 7:30 p.m. at FD – Workshop Meeting
Tuesday, October 8, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall – Regular Meeting
Tuesday, October 22, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall – Regular Meeting

Kenneth Faigenbaum Meeting Room - Township Hall
All Township Committee meetings are open to the public and we encourage residents to attend.

PLANNING BOARD - 1st Wednesday, 7:30

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT - 4th Wednesday, 7:30

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW - 3rd Wednesday, 7 p.m.

BOARD OF HEALTH - 2nd Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

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

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

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
3rd Monday, 7:30 p.m. – Annex

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
3rd Thursday, 7:30 in Library

THE BID AT WORK

Facebook.com/Springfieldnewjersey www.springfieldbid.com

Have you friended us on Facebook yet? What are you waiting for? We will be running weekly contests that you can enter to win gift certificates for local restaurants and businesses!

Don't miss out, like us at Facebook.com/Springfieldnewjersey.

MARKETING

"Savor Springfield" and "Jazz Concerts

...were a great success. Unfortunately we were rained out for two of our scheduled jazz concerts and the first one was held on the hottest night of the summer! Despite the weather people came to enjoy a night out in Springfield.

We are looking forward to planning concerts for summer 2014. Springfield will be hopping!



FACEBOOK

We are at almost 1000 fans with terrific activity (likes and comments and shares) on the page. Over the last two months we have given away weekly prizes from Mack Camera, Capelli E Mani, Picante, Miss Chris' Optique, Kris' Barbershop, Delightful Cake Kreation and Scotty's.

Don't miss out on our weekly contests to win gift certificates to Springfield businesses! Friend us today!

We are averaging a weekly total reach of almost 2000 people through these posts. A "promoted post" for the Savor Springfield reached over 13,000 people in July.

FALL FLING EVENT

Coming in October! Great deals for local businesses and restaurants....

Springfield App Launching in October

Springfield Businesses received a letter explaining the App and how they can benefit from its use. We asked businesses to review their listing and let us know if there are any corrections. We expect the app to become a central source for residents, putting Springfield news in the palm of their hands.

We hope to make the App the resource for anything happening in Springfield.

Township Works with BID to Receive \$90,000 in Local Demonstration Project Grant Monies

In June 2009, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) joined with the U.S. Department of Transportation, and the Environmental Protection Agency to create an Interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities. In the context of the federal partnership, HUD created the Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program in an effort to support metropolitan and multijurisdictional planning efforts that integrate housing, land use, economic and workforce development, transportation, infrastructure plans and to empower jurisdictions to consider the interdependent challenges of economic growth and revitalization, access to opportunity, public health, and environmental impact simultaneously.

The Township of Springfield working with the Springfield Business Improvement District proposed to the State, as the local demonstration project, the development of a comprehensive strategic transportation plan to underpin and enhance the revitalization process of the local retail and commercial districts. Springfield was notified last month that they were selected to receive this grant and implementation of this project has begun.

This Local Demonstration Project will consist of a visioning exercise to adopt "walkable downtown" ideas to land in Springfield, which generally includes the redevelopment area as well as commercially used or zoned lands along Morris Avenue, Springfield Avenue and Main Street. The LDP project will be done in conjunction with the Township's ongoing redevelopment plan process and will result in recommendations that address mitigation of the auto-oriented nature of the area, bus route and stop locations, increasing the footprint of the downtown, environmental issues (such as the presence of flood prone areas), and integration of the arts. The Plan will build upon the market analysis and retail assessment previously commissioned by the Springfield Business Improvement District and completed by the JGSC Group. The NJ TRANSIT Bus Planning Unit is involved with this project due to the significant presence of busses in the Study Area and NJDOT will be involved due to the presence of State roads. The objective is to create a Vision Plan that the Township can use in its preparation of a Redevelopment Plan for the Study Area (currently underway) and that addresses concerns regarding walkability, bikeability, bus routes, and flooding.

BID REVIEWING MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT FEES

A BID committee reviewed the Municipal Parking Lot fees. The committee compared the existing fees to surrounding towns charges. The committee recommended keeping the fees as they presently are, \$.50 per hour at lots 2 & 3 and \$1.00 at lot 1. They suggested keeping free parking after 6:00 pm, during the Thanksgiving/Christmas holidays and on Sundays. The committee also recommended that the Township Committee review the fees charged to businesses for employee parking. They felt that it is important that employees not park on the street, but park in the parking lots in the rear of stores.

INFLUENZA IMMUNIZATIONS for SPRINGFIELD RESIDENTS

Seasonal influenza (FLU) immunizations will be administered to Springfield residents aged 18 and older on Monday, September 23 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. and Tuesday, September 24, 2013, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Sarah Bailey Center, 30 Church Mall, Springfield. An additional "seniors only" immunization clinic will be at the Sarah Bailey Center on Thursday, September 19 from noon to 1:00 p.m. after the Senior meeting that morning. No appointments are necessary for any of the clinics. The immunizations are free to seniors with a Medicare Part B card; there will be a \$10.00 charge for all others. All are reminded to wear short sleeves if possible when they come for their flu shot. The immunizations are provided by

the Springfield Township Board of Health and the Madison Health Department.

Seasonal flu vaccine is recommended by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for everyone over the age of 6 months. The CDC states: "Vaccination is especially important for people at higher risk of severe influenza and their close contacts, including healthcare personnel and close contacts of children younger than 6 months. Everyone should get the 2013-2014 seasonal influenza vaccine." Most people are ill with flu for only a few days, but some get much sicker and may need to be hospitalized. Influenza causes an average of 36,000 deaths each year in the U.S., mostly among the elderly. The 2013-14 flu vaccine

offers protection against A/California(H1N1), A/H3N2/Victoria and B/Massachusetts, the expected strains of seasonal flu. It takes up to two weeks for protection to develop after the shot and protection may last for up to one year. Since most influenza occurs from November through May, now is the best time to get a flu shot to insure full protection for the whole season. However, vaccinations may be given any time during the flu season. Protect yourself, your family and those in your community by getting your flu vaccine at this year's clinic.

Any questions may be directed to the Madison Health Department at 973-593-3079 ext.9.

TURF ATHLETIC FIELD CEREMONY TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 12

The new turf field sports complex, which also includes five new tennis courts, football and softball fields, concession stand and bleacher, will have its Grand Opening Ceremony On Thursday, September 12 At 6:30 pm. Jonathan Dayton High School Athletic Field opening ceremony has been scheduled to coincide with the first evening home football game of the Bulldogs.

The turf field complex is a joint Springfield Board of Education and Township of Springfield initiative.

The public is welcome and encouraged to attend the opening ceremony. Take pride in Springfield!

2013 FLU SHOTS for SPRINGFIELD RESIDENTS

Age 18 and older
(\$10.00, no charge with Medicare B card)

Sarah Bailey Center, 30 Church Mall
Thursday, September 19, noon – 1:00 p.m.
(Senior Meeting)

Monday, September 23, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, September 24, 11:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.

**Adult residents, no appointments
necessary, bring Medicare card,
wear short sleeves.**

**Protect yourself, your family and
your community by getting
your flu vaccine!**

**Questions? Call the Madison Health
Department at 973-593-3079 ext.9**

OVERLOOK MEDICAL CENTER

Presents

**Health Screenings at
The Springfield Free Public Library
66 Mountain Ave.
On the "Healthy Avenues Van"
11:00am to 12:30pm**

Thursday, September 26 – HEARING
*Hearing screening: Have your hearing tested for
potential problems with hearing loss.*

Thursday, October 24 – CHOLESTEROL
*Total cholesterol, HDL, and the TC/HDL ratio are
measured; using a simple fingerstick
Education and counseling are offered based on
the results. Fasting is not required. FEE \$10*

**To register for your screenings,
please call 1-800-247-9580**



This is an important Public Service Announcement from the Township of Springfield Office of Emergency Management regarding Disaster Preparedness

There are things you can do to **prepare for the unexpected** and **reduce the stress you may feel** should an emergency arise. Following these 3 steps will help you prepare for the possible impact of a storm:

STEP ONE: "GET A KIT" of Emergency Supplies

Such items for your home are:

Three days' supply of canned, ready-to-eat **FOOD**

Three days' supply of **WATER** (a total of **three gallons per family member**)

Battery-operated RADIO and extra batteries - **FLASHLIGHT(S)** and extra batteries

At Least One week's prescription MEDICATIONS - FIRST AID KIT

SPARE CELL PHONE CHARGER (Home & Car) - Non-electric CAN OPENER and UTENSILS

SPECIAL NEEDS items for **INFANTS, ELDERLY or DISABLE**

Store important **DOCUMENTS** in a waterproof, safe location

STEP TWO: "MAKE A PLAN" for Yourself, Family or Business

People in flood-prone areas should move valuables to the highest level in homes or businesses.

Keep your vehicle's gas level at a minimum of half-a-tank. Move vehicles to higher ground if you are in a flood-prone area.

IF THERE IS A NEED TO EVACUATE, IT SHOULD BE DONE **PRIOR TO THE STORM** BECOMING TOO INTENSE.

STEP THREE: "STAY INFORMED" of Possible Weather Changes

Staying informed by listening for emergency warnings or instructions is critical.

Keep track of **Current Weather Forecasts and Alerts** with: Local radio, TV stations or listen on-line

NJ Office of Emergency Management Weather Links <http://www.ready.nj.gov/weather/index.html>

Sign up for Union County Fist Alert www.ucfirstalert.org

Sign up for the Township's Notification system at:

<http://springfield-nj.us/community-public-notifications-form.html>

REMEMBER, get a kit... make a plan.... and stay informed. Thank you.

SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS ACCEPTED INTO LEAGUE OF INNOVATIVE SCHOOLS, JOINS NATIONAL NETWORK OF PIONEERING SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Springfield Public Schools selected by Digital Promise to demonstrate, evaluate, and scale up innovations

Springfield Public Schools is one of eight new members accepted into the League of Innovative Schools, a national coalition of education agencies committed to transforming teaching and learning in order to improve student achievement. The League is convened by Digital Promise, a national, independent nonprofit organization based in Washington, D.C., and authorized by Congress to advance breakthrough technologies for the improvement of education. Both a professional learning network and a hotbed for innovative educational practices, the League brings together educators, researchers, and entrepreneurs to demonstrate, evaluate, and replicate promising ideas. Michael A. Davino, Superintendent of Springfield Public Schools, is pleased to accept this prestigious honor on behalf of the Springfield Schools' Board of Education, staff and community.

Springfield Public Schools was selected among a competitive and national pool of applicants, evaluated for their educational vision, potential to impact student success, and dedication to moving education forward. Upon joining the League, members commit to sharing lessons learned, participating in national and regional forums, and partnering with research institutions, technology developers, and one another to deliver better results for students.

"The strength of the League of Innovative Schools is the aggregate experiences of its members," said Karen Cator, President and Chief Executive Officer of Digital Promise. "By sharing their leadership, challenges, and breakthroughs, these eight exemplar districts will help educators across the country tackle the difficult work of improving the opportunity to learn for the nation's students."

The eight members of the League of Innovative Schools fall 2013 cohort are: Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, North Carolina; Elizabeth Forward School District, Pennsylvania; Enlarged City School District of Middletown, New York; Kent School District, Washington; Riverside Unified School District, California; San Jose Unified School District, California; Springfield Public Schools, New Jersey; and West Warwick Public Schools, Rhode Island.

With those additions, the League now includes 40 public school districts and education agencies in 24 states, representing nearly 3 million students.

"We believe these educators represent the tip of the spear for innovation in education," said Sara Schapiro, Director of the Digital Promise League of Innovative Schools. "We are excited to welcome these new members into the fold at our national conference at Utica Community Schools, Michigan, Oct. 23-25."

For more information on the Digital Promise League of Innovative Schools, including an updated map and guidelines for the next round of applications, visit: <http://bit.ly/dpleague>.

What do all of these homes have in common ??



25 Midvale Drive



61 Highlands Avenue



254 Northview Terrace



185 Bryant Avenue



179 Newbrook Lane



42 Evergreen Avenue



52 Shunpike Road



Michelle S. Pais
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27 Fieldstone Drive



29 Cypress Terrace



49 Fieldstone Drive



14 Sycamore Terrace



124 Briar Hills Circle



42 Laurel Drive



15 Smithfield Drive



57 Redwood Road



54 Fieldstone Drive



88 Twin Oaks Oval



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Springfield Patriot

Chamber of Commerce

Fall Festival & Car Show




Craft/Street Vendors • Farmers' Market

Music Festival - Multiple Bands • Obstacle Course

Inflatable Slide • Petting Zoo • Stilt Walker • Pony Rides

Martial Arts Presentation • Best Buy Wii stations for the public

G-WIZ Entertainment

Sunday, October 20th

11 AM to 5 PM

Mountain Avenue in front of Municipal Building

Rain Date, October 27th

CAR SHOW • CASH PRIZES

1st Prize \$300

2nd Prize \$150 • 3rd Prize \$50

31 Categories with Trophies



For registration and questions: festival@springfieldpatriot.com

JAZZ sponsored by





TRAFFIC CALMING SPEED TABLES INSTALLED ON LAUREL DRIVE

For the past 3 budget years, the Township Committee has increased funding in the Municipal Capital Improvement budget for road paving, curbing and sidewalk improvements. Based on requests from residents, the Township Committee last year set aside funding in the 2012 budget for installing speed tables as traffic calming devices for streets with high volume traffic and high traffic speeds. Funding for 2012 was earmarked for installing three speed tables on Tooker Avenue, which were installed at locations determined by the Police and Engineering departments. The installation of these three tables has proven to slow traffic on Tooker Avenue.

The 2013 Municipal Capital Improvement budget included additional funding for two speed tables on Laurel Drive. After a survey of all the residents on Laurel Drive, residents were 2 to 1 in favor of installing the speed calming devices. Installations of two speed tables were completed on August 23, 2013.

Funding for additional speed calming devices will be in the 2014 budget.

LEARN TO READ, WRITE AND SPEAK ENGLISH



Barbara Eisner (left) of Springfield tutors Galina and Emil Tsoy of Springfield as they learn English.

It's not a problem for her if they speak Spanish, Hebrew, Russian or any language for that matter; Barbara Eisner of Springfield loves to spend time with them. They chat, read together, and even do cross-word puzzles.

No – Eisner isn't fluent in a multitude of languages. She's a volunteer ESL (English as a second language) tutor for Literacy Volunteers of Union County. For the past eight years the retired pharmacist has met weekly with adult students learning to read, write and speak English.

"I love the interaction with my students," said Eisner. "I've formed a bond with each of them!"

Eisner currently meets weekly with a Russian speaking couple - Emil and Galina Tsoy of Springfield. They came to the United States one year ago from Kazakhstan.

"It's been over 60 years since they studied some English at school," said Eisner of Emil, 72 and Galina, 67. "How brave of them to learn a new language at this point in their lives!"

Their weekly sessions at the library include work on vocabulary, grammar, word usage, reading and conversation. Amid all the lessons shine lots of smiles and laughter.

"I have family who were immigrants so I think I have a good understanding of the immigrant experience," said Eisner. "I think that's helped me as an ESL tutor."

"She helps us so much," said Galina Tsoy of Eisner. "She is very kind."

Born in Newark and raised in Perth Amboy, Eisner's interest in science led her to study pharmacy at Temple University. The mother of two and grandmother of two worked as a pharmacist for Middlesex County in their long-term care facility for 25 years. When she retired in 1999, she still continued to work one day a week for six years.

It was in 2005 that Eisner saw an article about the Literacy Volunteers training program. "I had the time at that point and was looking for a one-on-one volunteer opportunity," she said. "You can really make a difference and it's not just sitting on a committee and talking."

Literacy Volunteers trains, supervises and supports more than 200 volunteers who work one-on-one and in groups throughout the county with adults in the Basic Skills, ESL, GED Test Prep and Citizenship Programs.

Eisner's first two students were working towards becoming citizens. Eisner helped them prepare for the citizenship test. "They had proficiency in English – it was all about preparing them for the test."

It's when Eisner worked with her next student, Eti that she was struck by the tremendous power of learning to read and write. "Eti spoke Hebrew. In working with her and helping her learn English, I saw her confidence soar."

Eisner encouraged Eti to write for "Connections," the organization's student art and literary magazine. With a lot of encouragement from Eisner she even read her piece in front of more than 100 people at the Literacy Volunteers' Magazine Roll-Out event.

"She found her voice. She was truly empowered. I could see that this program really changed her life!" exclaimed Eisner.

Eisner describes all her students as educated and eager students. "They are a pleasure to work with," she said.

"People do volunteer work for many reasons," said Eisner. "To stick with it, you've got to be getting something out of it yourself. I find this tremendously rewarding."

An avid bridge player, Eisner loves activities that are mentally challenging. She plays twice a week and recently became a "Life Master" in bridge. She and her husband Jerry also enjoy travel, theatre and concerts. "We have a nice life. It's good to give back."

Literacy Volunteers of Union County is currently accepting registrations for its upcoming Tutor Training Class which begins September 23. The 15-hour volunteer training will be held on Sept. 23, 25, 30, Oct. 2, 7, and 9, 6:30-9 p.m., at the Springfield Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave. in Springfield. Registration is limited and pre-registration is required. Call for information 908/486-1777.

Please have your submissions and news articles in by the end of the 3rd week of the month for the following month's Patriot!!!
Please send them to info@springfieldpatriot.com

SPRINGFIELD PATRIOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Brad Denning
973-376-3535

Fax 973-376-8087

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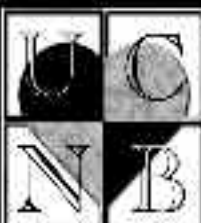
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MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY
10:00 AM – 9:00 PM
TUESDAY & FRIDAY 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
SATURDAY 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
SUNDAY (OCTOBER) 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED ON SUNDAYS IN SEPTEMBER. THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 14 IN OBSERVANCE OF COLUMBUS DAY.

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

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Mother Goose Group with Miss Debbie for babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers with caregiver. Wednesdays: September 11, 18, 25; and Friday: September 13 @ 10:30 a.m.

Storytime Yoga Friday September 20 @ 10:30 am

SPECIAL EVENTS

Fridays, September 20th and 27th,
Chair yoga with Pamela Nixon.
October 4th and 11th, 12:30 pm

Thursday, September 26th, 11:00am-12:30 pm
Hearing screening by Overlook Medical Center
Healthy Avenue Van. No fee.

DISCUSSIONS and WRITING

Thursdays, September 26th and October 10th,
10:00 am - Memoir Writing Group with Zella Geltman

Thursday, September 19th, 10:15am
Great Books Discussion - Schopenhauer:
Indestructibility of Our Inner Nature.

Thursday, October 3rd, 7:00 pm
Really Good Book Discussion – “The Hare with Amber Eyes” by Edmund de Waal.

FILMS

Monday, September 16th, 1:00 pm
Lunchtime Film - Books into Films:
John Grisham Novels:

Edge-of-your-seat suspense story of new Orleans jury trial about a gun manufacturer's liability in fatal shooting, 2003.

Wednesday, September 25th, 7:00 pm Documentary: “American Dream” - Chronicles the six-month strike at Hormel in Austin, Minnesota.

Monday, September 30th, 1:00 pm
Lunchtime film - Even More Recent Hits Series:
Frank Langella is retired cat burglar whose children get him a humanoid robot programmed to improve his physical and mental health.

Wednesday, October 9th, 7:00 pm
Documentary: “Theremin” - directed by Steven M. Martin about the life of Leon Theremin and his invention, the theremin, a pioneering electronic musical instrument.

Thursday, October 10th, 1:00 and 7:00 pm
International Film (to be announced).

Springfield Free Public Library

66 Mountain Avenue, Springfield • 973-376-4930

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

Tuesday, October 15th, 1:00 pm

Lunchtime film - Even More Recent Hits Series:
Adaptation of the Leo Tolstoy's famous novel about the passion between adulterers and the bond between the mother and her children. 2012.

HOBBIES AND INFORMATION

Every Monday at 7:00 pm

Scrabble - Bring a friend or meet new opponents!

Monday, September 23rd 10:00 am
Knits Wits Knitting Group

Every Thursday at 7:00 pm
Chess club

INSTRUCTION

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

SPRINGFIELD STUDENT RECOGNIZED WITH TOP HONORS AT FBLA NATIONAL CONFERENCE

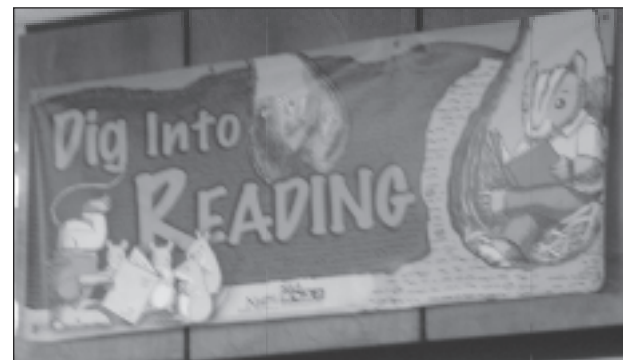
Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta Lambda (FBLA-PBL), the largest and oldest student business organization, held their National Leadership Conference (NLC) at the Hilton Anaheim, June 27-30. Conference participants from around the country and the world were in attendance for the NLC and the FBLA-PBL Institute for Leaders.

Elana Neher from Springfield and a student at Union County Vocational Technical Schools, Academy for Information Technology, received national recognition at the FBLA Awards of Excellence on June 30th. Neher competed in the Microsoft Word Expert 2010 event and brought home a second place award. In the spring, Neher took a qualifying exam and was the only student in New Jersey to qualify for this event. Neher was part of a group of eleven students from UCVTS FBLA Chapter that competed at the NLC. "Elana scored a perfect 1000 in her Certiport Word Certification Test as a freshman, and represented our district and our state at the national level." said Janet Kneisel, UCVTS FBLA Chapter Advisor.



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DIG INTO READING, THE SUMMER READING PROGRAM AT SPRINGFIELD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY HAS ENDED WITH TWO VERY HAPPY PRIZE WINNERS!

Middle school students in grades 6,7 and 8 were encouraged to read – for every 250 pages read, they could enter a ticket to be randomly selected with a chance to win a Kindle. High school students who chose to participate had an opportunity to win a Kindle Fire! In all, 54,750 pages were read—that equals 219 books from only 37 participants. We're hoping that next year even more students will be excited enough to try to win a fabulous prize!



*Mrs. Mankiewicz, Young Adult Librarian,
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SPRINGFIELD EDUCATION FOUNDATION PRESENTS THE 3RD ANNUAL SPRINT FOR SPRINGFIELD SCHOOLS 5K RUN/WALK

The Springfield Education Foundation (SEF) announced Sunday, September 29th as the date of the third annual Sprint for Springfield Schools 5K Run/Walk. After the tremendous success of the first two years which has generated over \$25,000 for SEF, the 2013 event looks to be the largest one yet.

Similar to previous years, the Sprint for Springfield Schools 5K Run/Walk, a USA Track & Field Grand Prix event, will commence at 9:00 AM from the front parking lot of Jonathan Dayton High School. The cost of the event is \$25 in advance, \$30 day of event (\$23/\$28 to USATF members). There will also be a Fun Run for children under the age of nine which will also be held at Jonathan Dayton High School, located at 139 Mountain Avenue in Springfield. The cost of the Fun Run is \$10.

"As we plan for the 3rd annual Sprint for Springfield Schools 5K Run/Walk, we are so humbled that this event has become a great kick-off to the school year and that it benefits the community on so many levels," said Steve Wolcott, Springfield Education Foundation Race Coordinator. "All the funds from this event go directly back to the schools to provide some of the extra enhancements in the classrooms as well as provide scholarships to graduating seniors."

Last year's event generated over \$12,000 and the money was put directly back into the classrooms. Some of the projects that teachers will allocate the grant funds include art projects where students can draw upon the memory of sensory experiences as a source and ascertain if movement can be expressed, communicated or emoted in a material that is static; kindergarten students will incorporate experimentation and social interactions to develop mathematical skills; while another project aims to teach students real life skills like balancing and living within a budget, developing spread sheets and creating business reports. Registration is available now via the Springfield Education Foundation website, www.springfieldeducationfoundation.com or via Foundation's Facebook page. If you would like to be on the organizing committee or volunteer for the day of the race, please contact Steve Wolcott at stevewolcott@yahoo.com.

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NEXT BULK WASTE DISPOSAL SEPTEMBER 18-19

The next Township bulk pick up by Regional Industries is September 18-19. If your garbage is picked up in 2013 is Thursday, your bulk pickup will be September 18. If you garbage pickup is Friday, your bulk pickup will be September 19. All material should be out at curbside the evening before pick up. No appointment is necessary.

Bulk waste is comprised of a collection of large and/or non-routine waste items collected on a quarterly basis. Bulk waste constitutes larger household waste including household furniture, appliances, light brush not to exceed six feet in length, bundled and tied and not to exceed 60 pounds, broken crockery, carpeting, not to exceed six feet in length, rolled and tied, not to exceed 60 pounds, hot water heaters, and barbecue grills. Specifically excluded are construction material and debris such as sheet rock, lumber, pipe and paneling, concrete and large rocks, stones or logs greater than six inches in diameter, stumps and tree roots, recyclables, electrical items (computers, televisions, etc.), video games, propane tanks and all other hazardous waste. Refrigerators and freezers must have the doors removed. Freon no longer has to be removed by the homeowner from air conditioners, freezers, and all other cooling devices.

The next pick is scheduled for December 11-12. Any questions can be e mailed to: DPW at DPW@Springfield-nj.us or by calling 973.912.8483.

UPDATE ON HILLSIDE AVE CULVERT REPLACEMENT PROJECT

The Township PD, Engineering department met yesterday, August 22 with the County Engineer, the County Consulting Engineer overseeing the project and a BOE representative to discuss the status of the Hillside Ave culvert replacement project.

Due to a water main conflicting with the new culvert, the water main had to be relocated by the water company. The additional work delayed the project approximately 3 weeks, from September 8 to October 18 completion date. During the work by the Water Company contractor, the County contractor had to leave the site as there is no room for both contractors to work at the same time. Regular construction has re-started. The County has agreed to an expedite construction schedule that will shave 10 days off the October 18 date to Oct. 8.

We will keep you updated over the next few weeks.

SPRINGFIELD POLICE NAB GOLF COURSE BANDITS

On June 30, 2013 a series of thefts of credit cards took place inside the locker room of the Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield. Credit cards were found to have been stolen from the lockers of 3 separate members.

Springfield Police Detective James Mirabile initiated a follow-up investigation and found that some of the stolen credit cards were used at stores in the Township of Union where a total of \$8,000.00 in gift cards were purchased by



Oscar Cabrera dressed as a golfer in his booking room photo at Springfield Police Headquarters

the unknown thieves and another \$8,000.00 was attempted at the Target Store in the Vauxhall section of the Township of Union. The latter attempt was aborted when the credit card used by the suspects had been flagged for suspicious activity and the suspects fled the store. Surveillance video verified the same suspects who broke into lockers at the golf club were the same individuals who fled from the store.

Working in conjunction with the golf club security personnel, surveillance video was obtained showing two suspects and a white SUV with NY license plates that they were using. It was also found that the thefts were very sophisticated as the suspects were dressed in golfing attire that included wearing golf caps, golf shoes and a golf glove on one hand. Based upon the police investigation, both suspects were identified by Detective Mirabile but their whereabouts were unknown but believed to be some where in the area of New York City.

According to Chief of Police John Cook..."based upon their attire as to be able to blend in with

players at the club it was obvious to my detectives that these suspects may have committed similar crimes in the past and/or would commit additional crimes at other golf courses. The New Jersey Golf Association was contacted so that the information on these suspects and the vehicle could be shared with golf courses through out New Jersey as well as police departments statewide."

During the early part of July, detectives were able to link the same two suspects to identical golf course thefts at numerous other locations in New Jersey, New York State, Massachusetts and Greenwich, Connecticut. It was further found that identical crimes had taken place earlier in the year at numerous golf courses in Florida and South Carolina.

On Saturday July 20, 2013, the suspects struck at the Canoe Brook Country Club in Short Hills NJ but were recognized by employees based upon the alert issued by Springfield Police. One suspect was apprehended by the Millburn Police Department but the second was able to flee the area in the same vehicle that had been observed in Springfield. The individual arrested was turned over to Springfield Police and was identified as Oscar Cabrera, age 33 with a last known address in Miami, Florida.

On August 1, 2013, the whereabouts of the second suspect was believed to be in Queens, New York and Detective Mirabile along with Detective Anthony Voorhees responded to NY and, with the aid of the NYPD Fugitive Unit, were able to arrest the second suspect. He is Luis Paz, age 34, who also has a last known address of Miami, Florida.

Cabrera was remanded to the Union County Jail in Elizabeth, NJ with bail set in the amount of \$200,000.00 no 10%. On 8/20, Paz was extradited to NJ and is now also in the Union County Jail with the same bail.

Both subjects were charged with multiple counts of Theft by Deception, Credit Card Theft, Credit Card Fraud, Burglary and Criminal Trespass and a tentative court date had been set for 08-09-13 in Union County Superior Court.

Federal law enforcement agencies have been contacted as these suspects appear to be part of an organized theft and fraud crew specifically targeting golf courses located along the eastern seaboard.

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THE SPRINGFIELD ROTARY CLUB IS PROUD TO CELEBRATE 65 YEARS OF SERVICE

The club was started in 1947 by Matty Mathewson who was the District Governor from Plainfield and Bo Adlerbert from the Hillside Club. After many meetings with members of the newly formed Springfield Rotary, the club was chartered on June 14, 1948, Flag Day. Charter night was held at Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield, New Jersey. The first president was Milt Keshen. There were 17 members of the original Springfield Rotary club who were inducted on that night. Most of these members lived or worked in town. Rotary is well known for its Four Avenues of service: First is Community Service. Springfield over the years has donated funds to the First Aid Squad when it was established in 1949, followed by a used clothing drive, sponsored a Halloween window contest and much more.

In the 1950's, Springfield Rotary awarded student loans which evolved as student scholarships totaling thousands of dollars. The Rotary supplied bullet proof vests to the Police Department and specialized equipment for the Fire Department. The Rotary is proud of its ongoing support in the way of donations to Children's Specialized Hospital, St. Barnabas Medical Center and Overlook Hospital to name a few.

Other fundraising projects have included: concerts, a circus in town, car parking at the US open, dinner dances, flea markets in the 1960's and again in the 1980's which ran for twenty years, Taste of Springfield and 50/50 drawing currently in progress. A second avenue of service is: International Service. Rotary has always been successful on the International scene as well. In past years, we have supported a child from Peru, South America, have been involved with young adult group study exchange and high school exchanges. Rotary has supported the eradication of Polio World Wide, and currently is working on a clean water project and literacy program. The third and fourth avenue of service are: Vocational and Club. Vocational service is the original concept of classification of each member according to career. Currently, there is no limit on members joining. Prospective members are invited by current members to join regardless of their vocation. The Club is the core of the the Rotary system and "fellowship" is the mainstay. Working together as a group is the heart of Rotary in general. The focus of the club remains the same "Service Above Self". It provides community, vocational, club, international and youth service. We are always looking for new members and volunteers, if you would like make a difference and be part of our Rotary story please contact us at rotary.org or Mel Kevoe, membership chair @ 973-467-2291 ext. 121.



Police Chief's Column

Chief John P. Cook

As the school year has now begun I would like all of the readers of the Springfield Patriot Times to remember to drive with extra caution when approaching and entering a school zone, when entering onto any school property or when approaching a school bus actively involved in either receiving or discharging children. In order to ensure the safety of our township's school children the police department personnel will be placing an added emphasis on monitoring the operation of motor vehicles on all the roadways where local schools are located in order to enforce those parts of the State of NJ motor vehicle code that pertain to driving through school zones and approaching stopped school busses.

All motorists must bring their vehicle to a complete stop when approaching a school bus which is either receiving or discharging children. The bus will display the noticeable red flashing lights that will be illuminated to warn motorists to stop their vehicles and to not continue to pass the stopped school bus. This regulation applies to vehicles on either side of a roadway without a center divider that a bus is stopped on whether it be an overtaking vehicle (one that is on the same side of the road as the stopped bus) or for an approaching vehicle (one that is traveling on the opposite side of the street but approaching the bus). It is paramount that all traffic on both sides of a roadway comes to a complete stop as many of the children, especially when being discharged, will require to then cross the roadway.

Pursuant to the NJ motor vehicle code, the speed limit in any school zone is twenty-five (25) miles per hour during the times of the day when schools are opening and closing, specifically when children are either going to or leaving school. In addition, the school zone speed limit restriction is in effect during any recess period when the presence of children is clearly visible from the roadway. This speed restriction is of vital importance as the schools within the township are located on heavily trafficked main thoroughfares.

I would also like all recipients of the Springfield Patriot Times to take note of and to adhere to the flashing school zone speed limit signs which are used as an added warning to motorists when they are approaching school zones at the start and end of each school day. In addition to regular police officers that may be seen handling various traffic related duties at schools a full complement of civilian school crossing guards work at the specific heavy traffic intersections that are near our schools in order to assist children in walking safely both to and from school each day.

As the safety of our children is of vital importance, motorists are further reminded to use caution in the area of all of our schools even after the regular school day has ended due to children many times leaving school later due to extracurricular activities or participating in or attending school sporting events. This is even more important once the time change has it becoming darker much earlier in the day.

I urge all readers of my column in the Springfield Patriot Times to just simply realize that there is no appointment that is so urgent that it can justify risking the lives of our children by not using extreme caution while driving through school zones or when you approach a school bus that is stopped to either take on or discharge children.

PASSENGER SAFETY

Car crashes are the number one killer of children ages 1-12 in the United States. Car safety should be taken very seriously, especially for young children. Finding the right car seat is key for protecting your child. Car seats should be based on the child's age and size. Your child should be kept in a rear facing car seat for as long as possible until 3 years of age. Once they meet the manufacturers' height or weight requirement, your child can then move on to a front facing car seat and then eventually a booster seat. To maximize safety, keep your child in the car seat for as long as possible, as long as your child fits within the manufacturer's height and

weight requirement. Until at least 12 years of age, your child should sit in the back seat for better safety. New Jersey law requires all passengers to wear seatbelts, regardless of age and where they're sitting in a car.

The use of cell phones while driving is prohibited. In the state of New Jersey it is ILLEGAL to talk or text on a handheld device while driving a vehicle. Cell phone usage is a huge distraction and the results could be fatal. According to www.distraction.gov, for drivers aged 15-19 involved in fatal car crashes, 21% of the distracted drivers were distracted by the use of cell phones. To ensure the safety of yourself and your passengers, avoid using a handheld device while driving.

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NATIONAL NIGHT OUT WAS HELD ON TUESDAY AUGUST 6TH AT MEISEL AVE PARK

An annual event, this was well attended by hundreds of people. The Township and County showcased many different types of vehicles and specialized emergency equipment. Springfield PBA 76 handed out information on their different programs. There were rides and games for children and free food as well. At 8 pm a movie was shown on a giant outdoor screen.



AUGUST 2013 TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE RECAP

Prior to our workshop meeting, the township committee met with the governmental subcommittee of the board of education at the Dayton IMC (high school library) at 6:00PM. This is a joint meeting held once per year as part of the governor's checklist for which the township earns points toward keeping our state aid (used to help offset increases in property taxes). We discussed the upcoming turf field ribbon cutting ceremony on September 12, 2013 starting at 6:30PM. We also discussed the county's plans to add a full basketball court at Meisel field. The workshop meeting was held at the firehouse starting at 7:30PM. We discussed the monthly reports from our administrator, police and fire chiefs, emergency management, public works, recreation, and engineering. Public works indicated that garbage tonnage is down and recycling tonnage is up this year (a more detailed report will be available later this year). This is a good trend for two reasons: first it is more environmentally sound moving forward, and second it saves the township and its resident's money through state and county grants paid to the township. We talked about the energy aggregation program for Springfield residents. This is an exciting program designed to save residents money on their electric bills (average projected savings of over \$100 per year). There will be an additional meeting about this on September 12, 2013 during the day at town hall. There was a heated discussion between members of the township committee concerning the ad hoc committee formed earlier this year to answer questions stemming from residents requests about an article in the Local Source, specifically land issues related to the funding of the turf field. There should be a final report sometime in mid to late September.

The first legislative meeting of August was held on Tuesday, the 20th. We introduced an ordinance to approve the energy aggregation program as discussed at our workshop meeting. We finally settled our legal dispute (going back to last year) with the county regarding fees collected by our red light camera program (complicated issues involving how certain portions of fines collected are split between the township and the county). We accepted grant monies from both the county and the state for various programs including our senior bus and "Drive Sober Or Get Pulled Over". We also approved another bond anticipation note at an extremely low rate of interest (kudos to our township CFO, Michael Quick). We approved resolutions authorizing repairs at town hall, the acceptance of grant monies, police and fire officer promotions (mandated by the current contract in effect), and continuation of the contract for upgrades and mandated fire code changes to the Chisholm Senior Center. Additionally, we approved payroll and vendor bills for the previous two week period, approved tax appeal refunds and overpayments and other day to day necessities in order to allow the township employees to keep the township of Springfield running smoothly. A lot gets done, even during the summer! The easiest ways to contact us are either at our regularly scheduled meetings: every second and fourth Tuesday each month at the Main Court Room in Town Hall, and also every Monday before the second Tuesday (not necessarily the second Monday) each month at the Office of Emergency Management Meeting Room in the Fire House; via each of our township email addresses: David.Amlen@springfield-nj.us, Richard.Huber@springfield-nj.us, David.Barnett@springfield-nj.us, Margaret.Bandrowski@springfield-nj.us, and Ziad.Shehady@springfield-nj.us, or via regular mail at 100 Mountain Avenue, Springfield, NJ 07081.



Fire Chief's Column

Chief James Sanford

Stand By Your Pan

How often has the doorbell rung or a child interrupted you while you were cooking, causing you to forget about the chicken you left sizzling on the stove - until smoke filled the house?

If this sounds familiar, please read on, because you're running the risk of having a dangerous fire. Cooking is the leading cause of home fires, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Latest statistics from NFPA say that one out of every three home fires started in the kitchen and more than 150,000 fires a year are related to cooking.

Leaving cooking unattended is why most of these fires occur. Often when we're called to a cooking-related fire, the residents tell us they only left the kitchen for a few minutes. Sadly, that's all it takes to go from routine to disaster.

The bottom line is that there's really no safe period of time for the cook to step away from a hot stove. A few key points to remember:

Never leave cooking food on the stovetop unattended, and keep a close eye on food cooking inside the oven.

Keep cooking areas clean and clear of combustibles (e.g. potholders, towels, rags, drapes and food packaging).

Keep children away from cooking areas by enforcing a "kid-free zone" of three feet around the stove. Keep pets from underfoot so you do not trip while cooking.

Never use a wet oven mitt, as it presents a scald danger if the moisture in the mitt is heated.

Always keep a potholder, oven mitt and lid handy. If a small fire starts in a pan on the stove, put on an oven mitt and smother the flames by carefully sliding the lid over the pan. Turn off the burner. Don't remove the lid until it is completely cool. Never pour water on a grease fire and never discharge a fire extinguisher onto a pan fire, as it can spray or shoot burning grease around the kitchen, actually spreading the fire.

If there is an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed to prevent flames from burning you and your clothing.

If there is a microwave fire, keep the door closed and unplug the microwave. Call the fire department and make sure to have the oven serviced before you use it again. Food cooked in a microwave can be dangerously hot. Remove the lids or other coverings from microwaved food carefully to prevent steam burns.

These safety tips can help make sure that you are cooking safely. For other fire safety topics, please visit the Springfield Patriot at www.springfield-patriot.com/ and look under monthly archive to reference other fire safety topics. Or follow us at [www.Facebook.com/SpringfieldFireDepartment](https://www.facebook.com/SpringfieldFireDepartment).

THIRD ANNUAL LAW RIDE HONORS MEMORY OF 8 & 14 YEAR OLD GIRLS ... *We Will Never Forget*

*** Patriot Exclusive, by Chief John P. Cook, Springfield Police ***



(left) Chief John Cook and Mike Perrella, Director of Blue Knights Chapter 8 of NJ who took possession of a BMW motorcycle that the Springfield Police Department donated to their organization.

(right) NJSP helicopter lands at Autoland during registration of riders for the Law Ride.

It was a Saturday afternoon on this date when Rosemary was with her great uncle Manuel and his two grandchildren as they walked to a corner store just two blocks from where she lived. As they were in a crosswalk crossing the street, the four were struck by a speeding vehicle of which the operator was under the influence of alcohol. Rosie and her uncle both died of their injuries while the other two children survived with minor scratches. Rosemary died at 5:10 Sunday morning.

The operator was charged, tried, found guilty by a jury, and sentenced to seven years in prison for having caused the deaths of Rosemary and Manuel. He was released in 1997, in time for Christmas, after serving only four years.



On August 18th the third annual Law Ride, held by the Blue Knights NJ Chapter VIII, took place. One of the two registration and starting points of the event was Springfield's Autoland on Rt 22 East. Mark Montenero, President of Autoland, is proud to have the company be a sponsor of this event for the past three years. The Law Ride consists of not only Blue Knight members but also of bikers from all walks of life and varying motorcycle clubs from the tri-state area. There were several hundred riders who participated in this year's ride. All riders, from both starting points, met up at one central location and then completed the ride as one group, culminating in Hoboken.

The Blue Knights is a non-profit fraternal organization consisting of active and retired law enforcement men and women who enjoy riding motorcycles. Their passions go far beyond riding as can be seen in the many charities that the Blue Knights support such as the Make-a-Wish Foundation, Toys for Tots, D.A.R.E., Concerns of Police Survivors, etc. The organization has grown to international status with chapters in at least 28 countries.

The Law Ride came to be in 2011 when the Blue Knights Chapter VIII members were discussing events and charities that would allow them to be involved with communities. Two members have sisters that were tragically killed by drunk drivers so it became clear what the Law Ride would represent.

The mothers of these two young ladies who were the victims of drunk drivers, had become representatives for M.A.D.D., Mothers Against Drunk Driving, in the hopes of bringing more awareness of the dangers of driving while impaired, so it was decided that the Law Ride would raise not only funds to support M.A.D.D.'s mission but would also help to raise awareness of the fight against drunk driving.

The Law Ride is not only to remember loved ones lost to drunk driving but also to honor the memory of law enforcement men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice of giving their lives to protect and serve their communities.

M.A.D.D. was incorporated in 1980 and has had its objectives change slightly throughout the years as issues involving drunk driving have changed, but has always had the main purpose of its current Mission Statement which is "...to stop drunk driving, support the victims of this violent crime and prevent underage drinking".

Unfortunately, there are numerous victims of drunk driving, not only those who are killed or seriously injured but also the families left behind to live without their loved ones who were lost to this very preventable crime.

I would like to tell all of you who are taking the time to read this article, a little about the two young women who are remembered, not only by those who rode in memoriam to them, but also by their families who love and miss them each and every day.

If the stories of these beautiful lives lost changes the mindset of just one person who makes the decision not to drive while impaired then these young lives were not lost in vain.

On April 20, 1991, **Rosemary Esteves** was eight years old and in the third grade. She was a Girl Scout in a Brownie troop from Elizabeth. She liked to write poems about cats and bugs in her beautiful handwriting that made her mother so proud. Rosemary was the middle child, having a brother Carlos and a sister Amanda. She was known as "Rosie" to her parents.

In the summer of 2000, **Vania Martins** was 14 years old and looking forward to starting the ninth grade. She was a Girl Scout and had just earned the Girl Scout's Silver Award.

Vania was on a family trip with her parents and her brother Pedro, visiting their grandparents in Europe. On August 29th, two days before they were to return home, Vania was struck by a vehicle operated by a young and impaired driver. She was thrown over 250 feet.

Vania was in a coma for ten days before she died. Her parents and brother then brought her body back to New Jersey.

Vania and Rosemary did not know each other, as Vania was only four years old when Rosie died. The two were both in the Girl Scouts, Vania having joined the year that Rosie was killed. It was because of this common bond that the Esteves and Martins families met and became friends. Little did the families know that nine years after Rosemary was killed, the Martins' would lose Vania to the same preventable tragedy.

Now that you know a little about Rosemary and Vania, I hope that their stories will be remembered by you as well. As I stated earlier, if just one of you thinks twice before driving impaired, and does the right thing because you thought of them, then these young lives were not lost in vain.

I personally have had to make death notifications to surviving family members several times in my career due to the driving of someone under the influence, and it is something that I do not wish on anyone.

Driving under the influence is not just about alcohol. Drugs, whether prescribed or illegal, can also cause a driver to be impaired, be a danger to themselves and others, and be subjected to the same charges if caught.

Please be the one to step up and make a difference in supporting the mission of M.A.D.D. by simply refusing to drive while impaired and to intervene when you see someone about to do so. You will never know how many lives you will have saved but, believe me, you will have done so.



ROSEMARY ESTEVES

9.9.82 - 4.21.91

VANIA MARTINS

5.25.86 - 8.29.00



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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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President



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