



With colder weather fast approaching and the higher cost of Home Fuel Oil, consumers maybe soon stocking up on firewood to heat their homes this winter. Photo by Kelly Zoppel

GLOUCESTER COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OPENS APPLICATIONS FOR NEW AFFORDABLE HOMEOWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES IN WOODBURY

Gloucester County Habitat for Humanity is now accepting applications for two new affordable homeownership opportunities located on Deptford Avenue in Woodbury. Applications for both homes will remain open through October 31, providing income-qualified families with an opportunity to achieve the dream of homeownership through Habitat's affordable housing program.

The homes, located at 331 Deptford Avenue and 335 Deptford Avenue, are currently under construction and are being developed as part of Gloucester County Habitat for Humanity's ongoing commitment to creating safe, stable, and affordable housing opportunities for local residents.

The home at 331 Deptford Avenue is a two-bedroom residence designed for households of two or three individuals. Eligible two-person households must earn a minimum annual income of \$49,100 and may earn up to \$78,550 annually. Eligible three-person households must earn a minimum annual income of \$55,250 and may earn up to \$88,350 annually.

The home at 335 Deptford Avenue is a three-bedroom residence designed for larger households. Eligible three-person households must earn between \$55,250 and \$88,350 annually. Four-person households must earn between \$61,350 and \$98,150, while five-person households must earn between \$66,300 and \$106,050. Six-person households are eligible with annual incomes ranging from \$71,200 to \$113,900.

"Homeownership remains one of the most powerful tools for building stability and creating opportunities for families," said Megan Varrell, Executive Director of Gloucester County Habitat for Humanity. "These homes will provide local families with an affordable pathway to homeownership while strengthening neighborhoods and helping residents remain in the communities they call home." Many working families may qualify for the program, including teachers, nurses, first responders, municipal employees, healthcare workers, tradespeople, construction professionals, and other members of the local workforce who are seeking an affordable housing option in Gloucester County.

Selected applicants will participate in Habitat's homeownership program, which includes homeowner education, financial preparation, and partnership opportunities designed to help families successfully achieve and maintain homeownership. Applications must be submitted by October 31st.

FORMER MANTUA POLICE OFFICER CONVICTED OF OFFICIAL MISCONDUCT

Camden, NJ – Shaun J. Butler, 46, of Mantua, a former police officer for the Mantua Township Police Department, was found guilty today of official misconduct and related computer crimes in front of the Honorable James Bucci, Gloucester County Prosecutor Andrew B. Johns announced. According to documents filed in this case and statements made in open court:

On Sept. 11, 2021, Butler, who was a lieutenant in the Internal Affairs department of the Mantua Township Police Department, was involved in an off-duty sexual encounter when the woman's husband found the pair in their home, leading to an altercation. Rather than calling 911, Butler used the Mantua dispatch number, failing to identify himself as an officer. He also refused to respond to questions from subordinate responding officers when asked about the events leading to the altercation.

In the days following the incident, Butler used his access to Mantua Township Police Department's restricted law enforcement databases to read the officers' reports, despite warnings the database should be used only for valid law enforcement purposes. He also described the contents of those reports over the phone to the woman involved and, over phone and messenger chats, he described how he could use his confidential access to police records to minimize the incident and prevent mutual embarrassment.

On Sept. 16, 2021, he logged into a draft report of a subordinate officer and added details to that draft report that were attributed to the subordinate officer. Following a 6-week jury trial, Butler was found guilty of one count of second-degree official misconduct, one count of third-degree computer crimes involving unauthorized access, and one count of third-degree computer crimes involving access and disclosure. His sentencing is scheduled for Dec. 4, 2026. The maximum term of incarceration is 10 years in state prison for the second-degree charge and 5 years in state prison for each of the third-degree charges.



PAULSBORO COUPLE CHARGED WITH MURDER IN BEATING DEATH OF 9-YEAR-OLD

Woodbury – A Paulsboro mother and stepfather are charged with murder and endangering the welfare of a child in the death of a 9-year-old girl, Gloucester County Prosecutor Andrew B. Johns announced.

According to documents filed in this case: India Miller, 27, and Sean D. Scott, 45, both of Paulsboro, called 911 at approximately 1:10 a.m. on Oct. 13, 2026, reporting a minor victim was not breathing. Scott reported the child was walking the dog and was possibly struck by a vehicle, while Miller told investigators she heard a loud sound, similar to tires screeching, before Scott went outside and found the victim by their shed. The victim was transported to a local hospital where medical staff observed facial trauma, bruising over the entire body, and additional injuries not consistent with a vehicle crash. A review of surveillance video from public buildings around the area found no vehicle traffic in the area during the timeframe reported.

The victim's 4-year-old sibling told police during an interview that their dad hit the victim in the eyes and the face.

Wet children's clothing with suspected blood was observed in the upstairs bathroom tub, and suspected blood was observed on the tile surrounding the tub, on a Swiffer Wet Jet, and on other cleaning supplies.

The child was pronounced deceased at 6:42 p.m. that evening. An autopsy performed by the Gloucester/Salem/Cumberland medical examiner found numerous injuries, some of which were in the healing phase, suggesting prolonged abuse. Both eyes displayed blunt force trauma, including the left eye being swollen shut, abrasions were observed in the inner thigh and intimate parts, a ruptured colon, indicative of blunt force trauma, was observed, and multiple ribs were broken, some of which were in various stages of healing. The cause of death was determined to be multiple blunt force injuries and the manner of death to be homicide.

Both India and Scott are charged with first-degree murder, first-degree accomplice to a murder, two counts of second-degree endangering the welfare of a child, fourth-degree making a fictitious report to police, and fourth-degree hindering prosecution. Both defendants are being held at Salem County Jail. The maximum term of incarceration is life in prison.

The State is represented by Chief Assistant Prosecutor Alec Gutierrez and Deputy Chief Assistant Prosecutor Elizabeth Tornese. Prosecutor Johns thanked the GCPO Major Crimes, Special Victims, High-Tech Crimes, and Crime Scene Investigation Units, the Paulsboro Police Department, and the Gloucester/Salem/Cumberland Medical Examiner, for their assistance in the investigation.

The charges contained in the complaint/indictment are merely accusations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

Senator John Burzichelli (D-Gloucester/Salem/Cumberland) and Senator Paul Moriarty (D-Atlantic/Camden/Gloucester) issued the following joint statement in response to the tragic death of a 9-year-old girl in Paulsboro, whose mother and stepfather have been charged with murder and endangering the welfare of a child: "New Jersey is one of only three states that have absolutely zero requirements for those who homeschool.

"Homeschooling works for thousands of families throughout our state. However, New Jersey is one of only 13 states that require no filing, registration, subject requirements, instructional hour requirements, or contact.

"The horrific details surrounding the death of this young girl are heartbreaking and deeply disturbing. No child should ever have to endure such unimaginable violence and suffering. Our thoughts are with her loved ones and the entire Paulsboro community as they mourn this devastating loss.

"According to the 9-year-old victim's grandmother, who spoke to local media, 'they homeschooled her because they didn't want anybody to see the bruises.'

"This comes just 17 months after it was discovered that a homeschooled 18-year-old female in Gloucester Township had been held captive for years, forced to live in a dog crate for approximately a year, let out only periodically, and made to use a bucket as a toilet. This victim survived and her mother and stepfather were charged with their crimes.

"We have a responsibility to examine the circumstances surrounding the abuse and determine what more could have been done to protect these children. In both cases, the victims were homeschooled, raising important questions about the safeguards in place for children educated outside of a traditional classroom. New Jersey's lack of requirements governing homeschooling leaves significant gaps in oversight that can allow signs of abuse or neglect to go unnoticed.

"Many parents who homeschool their children provide them with an enriching educational experience. However, we cannot ignore the need for basic oversight to protect children from harm. We owe it to this young girl, her family, and every child across New Jersey to learn from this tragedy and take meaningful steps to prevent such suffering in the future."

NJ HOMESCHOOL FAMILIES MOURN MAYA THOMAS AND CALL FOR ANSWERS ON HOW WARNING SIGNS WERE MISSED

Association urges media and lawmakers not to confuse a child hidden from the world with a child taught at home.

New Jersey Homeschool Freedom Association joins communities across South Jersey in grieving 9-year-old Maya Thomas of Paulsboro, who died on October 13. Her mother and stepfather have been charged with her murder. Prosecutors say she suffered prolonged abuse.

"Maya should be alive today," said Pamira Bezmen, Founding Chair. "Every parent in our community is heartbroken for her, for her younger sibling, and for the family members who loved her. We want full accountability for those responsible and full answers about how her suffering went unseen."

Reports indicate Maya was not enrolled in school. Some coverage has described her as homeschooled. The association urges care with that word. Under New Jersey law, the families of thousands of children who learn at home teach, read, play and grow in the open every day: in co-ops, libraries, sports leagues, churches, art centers, and their neighborhoods. Keeping a child out of sight to conceal injuries is not homeschooling. It is abuse, and it should be named as abuse.

"When a child is isolated to hide what's happening to her, the cause is the abuser, not how other families choose to educate," Bezmen said. "Homeschooling parents are some of the most present, watchful adults in their children's lives. We share every New Jerseyans goal of protecting children, and we refuse to let Maya's death become a reason to treat loving families as suspects."

Family members have said they raised concerns with authorities in the weeks before Maya's death. The association calls on state officials to examine what reports were made, how they were handled, and what should change, so that the next warning is acted on.

The association asks journalists covering this case to report the facts as they are confirmed, and to distinguish between educational choice and the alleged concealment of abuse. We ask lawmakers to focus on proven, targeted protections for at-risk children rather than broad measures that burden families who have done nothing wrong. Our thoughts and prayers remain with everyone who loved Maya.

NEW BUILDING COMING TO MONROE TWP.

Last week, the Mayor and Monroe Township Officials met with the Ownership of South State Company and Scotland Run Golf Club. Monroe Township is excited and honored to announce that at the conclusion of the meeting,

South State Company has agreed to move its Operations to Monroe Township and they will propose a State of the Art, 33k sq ft three story glass building, which will overlook Scotland Run Golf Course.

The proposed building will serve South State Company, amongst other business tenants, right here in Monroe Township, bringing our township a very substantial rateable, potential jobs and future revenue within our community, for years to come.

Also, during the same meeting, the new proposed Scotland Run Golf Club Member Clubhouse was revealed, which will also bring another new substantial rateable, potential jobs and revenue within our community for years to come.

(Rendering of future South State Company Headquarters, Monroe Township on left)

FROM THE EDITOR’S DESK



By Cindy Merckx

The nights are getting colder here in Gloucester County and the temperatures are already dipping to around 40 degrees. Many families are feeling the financial squeeze in their household budget, especially with the cost of food and gasoline. As we look ahead to the winter months and fast approaching holidays of Thanksgiving and Christmas, the cost of keeping our homes warm is adding another layer of financial stress. You may have noticed that some of our local farms and landscapers are selling firewood, split and ready for delivery. It's a sign that families are looking for alternatives. So this week, I researched a few websites to see what heating actually costs in hopes to get those on a fixed income an idea how to do it through the winter without breaking their bank. **Heating Oil** is the big shock for many households. As of mid-October, the average residential price in our state is **\$6.31 per gallon** for oil which is about **21% more than last winter**.

That's a significant burden for families that are already stretched thin. **Propane** isn't offering much relief and is up about 11.4% to an average of **\$3.58 per gallon**. **Firewood** is the local option. A full cord of seasoned hardwood is running roughly **\$250 to \$300**. A traditional open fireplace is inefficient because it sends most of its heat up the chimney however a modern wood stove or insert can deliver substantial savings. Many families understandably turn to space heaters as a stopgap. But here's the hidden cost with no savings. New Jersey's residential electricity rates are well above the national average. A standard 1,500-watt space heater, run for **8 hours a day**, will add about **\$100 per month** to

your electric bill. **Run it 16 hours a day, and that doubles.** So while a \$40 space heater might seem like a quick fix to avoid an oil delivery, it can quietly add nearly \$100 a month to your electric bill. Also, portable heaters are involved in an average of **1,600 fires per year**, resulting in about **70 deaths and 150 injuries annually** according to the National Fire Protection Association website. Space heaters and heating stoves caused 332 deaths in home heating equipment fires between 2019 and 2023. Mainly because they are placed too close to drapes, bedding, furniture, clothing or not plugged into a wall outlet. You should not plug them into an extension cord that may overheat and ignite. Another rule worth repeating from our local firefighters: never leave a space heater running unattended or while you sleep; look for the UL mark and a tip-over switch that shuts the unit off if knocked over; and never, ever use a gas oven or stovetop for heat—the carbon monoxide risk is deadly.

Most of the time, I wear a sweater, extra socks or add an extra blanket. If my hands get cold when I'm typing, I have a pair of gloves in my desk drawer. They are old tricks my grandparents used because they work and cost very little! If you're struggling to pay your heating bill, you are not alone, and help is available. The **Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LI-HEAP)** provides financial grants to very low-income residents to help pay heating bills and can assist with emergency fuel deliveries. The application period is open. Apply online or call **1-800-510-3102**. The bottom line is this winter is going to be expensive for a lot of New Jersey residents. I am hopeful that our local churches and County buildings will offer 'warming centers.' Stay warm, stay safe, and look out for your neighbors. If you know someone who's struggling, sometimes the most valuable thing we can offer is simply inviting them over to our home to enjoy some conversation and a hot bowl of soup or cup of coffee.



PUBLIC MEETINGS

Oct. 28th- Monroe Twp Council-7PM
Nov 3rd- ELECTION DAY
Nov 4th- Franklin Twp Zoning Board-7PM
Nov. 5th- Glassboro Council WS-6:30PM
Nov 5th- Monroe Seniors Comm-5:15PM
Nov. 9th- Monroe Twp Open Space Adv-7PM
Nov 10th- Janvier Fire Comm- 7:30PM
Nov. 10th- Monroe Council-6:30PM

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Student Spotlights



**DELSEA REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL:
2026 HOMECOMING KING/QUEEN
AND PEOPLE'S CHOICE WINNER**

**KING AND QUEEN:
MILO GEBHARD
AND
TATIYANA MATTHEWS
(LEFT)**

**PEOPLE'S CHOICE WINNER:
JAX FAMILIARE
(RIGHT)**



JEEPERS CREEPERS

One of the most popular Delsea community events is back!

Open to Kindergarten - 6th grade students from Franklin and Elk. Come trick or treat with students, staff, and local businesses.

23 OCT 2026

5-7pm
HS Athletics (gym) entrance

Limited space available on a first-come, first-served basis.
Doors open promptly at 5pm; early arrival is not permitted.

Local businesses interested in setting up a table, please email Mrs. Pilitowski at mpilitowski@delsearegional.us

Borough of Clayton Fall 2026 Leaf Collection Schedule

Week of November 2nd	East Side of Delsea Drive
Week of November 9th	West Side of Delsea Drive
Week of November 16th	East Side of Delsea Drive
Week of November 23rd	West Side of Delsea Drive
Week of November 30th	East Side of Delsea Drive
Week of December 7th	West Side of Delsea Drive
Week of December 14th	Entire Town
Week of December 21st	Final Pick-up of All Areas

New Jersey Storm Water Regulations require that leaves be placed at the curb no sooner than seven days prior to pick-up and no closer than 10 feet to storm drains. Leaves are not to be raked into the street or roadway. They are to be placed at the curb. No bagged leaves will be accepted.

JEFFERSON HEALTH CELEBRATES 10 YEARS OF HELPING YOUNG ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES BUILD CAREERS THROUGH PROJECT SEARCH



Cherry Hill, New Jersey (October 9, 2026)-- As October marks National Disability Employment Awareness Month, Jefferson Health is celebrating a decade of working with Project SEARCH, an international, work-transition initiative for young adults with autism and other developmental disabilities. Jefferson introduced Project SEARCH at Cherry Hill in 2016 and expanded to Stratford and Washington Township in 2021 and 2022, respectively.

Project SEARCH interns at Jefferson gain hands-on experience and develop job-readiness skills across several hospital departments, including Patient Transport, Food and Nutrition, Storeroom, Environmental Services, and Pharmacy, with some participants landing jobs at Jefferson Health at the completion of their internships. Recently, Jefferson Health welcomed 12 interns who are preparing for careers across Jefferson's South Jersey hospitals: Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital (left pic): Leanexie Gonzalez of Cherry Hill, George Sanchez of Camden, and Joshua Jackson of Willingboro.; Jefferson Stratford Hospital (top pic): Donald Moxham of Medford, Michael Boughman of Deptford, Gabby Ordille of Waterford Works, Emille Taylor of Burlington, and Grace Gagliardi of Haddonfield.; Jefferson Washington Township Hospital (bottom right pic): Cody Rogers of Swedesboro, Henry Stammerjohann of Mickleton, Dante Stockton of West Deptford, and Nicholas Thompson of Pennsauken.

For Jenny Breunig, Vice President of Operations at Jefferson Washington Township Hospital, the impact of Project SEARCH becomes clear at graduation every year. "Every graduation, parents thank us for the opportunity and share how their young adult has grown," she says.

"Our mission at Jefferson is to improve lives. Participating in Project SEARCH gives hardworking interns opportunities to discover career paths while helping us build stronger teams and better serve our community." Project SEARCH internships are made possible through a collaboration between Jefferson Health, Project SEARCH, and other key community partners, including Y.A.L.E. School, Y.A.L.E. Clinic, Gloucester County Special Services School District, Bankbridge Regional High School, New Jersey Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities, and Jewish Family and Children's Service of Southern New Jersey.

MELISSA MCMAHON APPOINTED ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL AT WALLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRESCHOOL



The Washington Township Public Schools and Board of Education approved the appointment of Melissa McMahon as Assistant Principal at Walls Elementary School preschool at the October 13, 2026, Board work session. McMahon was previously serving in an interim role at the school.

Bringing more than 17 years of early childhood education experience, McMahon holds a Master's degree in School Administration and dual degrees in Early Childhood Education from Rowan University, and is currently in the final year of her doctoral program (Ed.D.) at American College of Education.

McMahon's distinguished career spans 13 years of classroom teaching and key administrative leadership. Serving as Preschool Program Supervisor for Washington Township since 2022, she successfully oversaw operations across 10 locations serving more than 600 students. Her expertise includes strategic budgeting, teacher evaluations, state compliance, and leading family and community partnerships.

"We are thrilled to welcome Mrs. McMahon to Walls preschool as our new Assistant Principal," Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Tricia Holmes said. "Mrs. McMahon brings expertise, strategic vision, and a heartfelt commitment to our youngest learners. Her exceptional track record in curriculum, community engagement, and administrative excellence makes her the ideal leader to support our staff, inspire our students, and empower our families during these foundational years."

Added Director of Curriculum and Instruction Christina Cox: "I am thrilled to welcome Melissa McMahon as our new Assistant Principal. Having previously excelled as our Preschool Supervisor, Melissa brings a deep passion for early childhood development, strong instructional leadership, and a heart for fostering joyful learning environments. Her expertise in play-based learning, early literacy development, and positive behavioral support will continue to elevate our early childhood community." McMahon is thrilled to continue building on the start of the year at the district's newest building. "I am grateful for this opportunity and excited to lead at Walls preschool," McMahon said. "I look forward to making a lasting, positive impact on our students and families right from the start of their educational journey."

IF YOU DON'T USE IT,
YOU WILL LOSE IT

by Dr. Glenn Mollette

Risk is a part of your everyday life. A drive to the grocery store is risky. Sitting in your recliner too long is risky. Eating too much is risky. Eating too little is risky. Driving too fast is risky and driving too slowly can be risky in certain scenarios.

Moving to another town for employment has risks. Staying put in your same location could be risky. Changing careers is risky. Staying with the same career for the rest of your life might present a different set of risks.

If you put your money in the bank to gain interest there are risks. If you dig a hole and put your money in the hole then there is no risk but no gain.

The only way to have gain in life is with some risk. I am not talking about crazy stuff. I am not talking about wagering your paycheck in a card game at a casino. I am not talking about betting your life savings on a ballgame or a horse race. People who do stuff like that are crazy. The odds are greatly against winning and greatly in favor of losing.

Yet, there are many risks in life. You don't know for sure when you marry someone how it is going to work out. You take the risk. You go forward believing in faith. When you take a job you enter into the arena of risk. You hope the job will be good. You go to work every day in return for an honest day's pay. You trust it will become better and even pay more as you work hard and do your best.

When you buy a car there is risk. You are spending a lot of money in hopes that the car will function and meet your traveling needs. Hopefully you will be satisfied but there are occasions when you will not be happy with the performance of the car. We buy in faith that it will meet up to our expectations and what has been promised.

You have no guarantees when you buy stock that you are going to make money. You have to look at the past performance of the stock. You have to look at how much money is already invested into the stock. Sometimes people buy stock because they believe in the company. Costco, Tesla, General Motors or whatever may garner your support because of your interest in their products. Yet, with any stock you never know for sure how it will go.

In Matthew chapter 25 Jesus told the story about talents or bags of gold. Two servants took the risk of investing their master's money and doubled the money. The third servant dug a hole and hid the money entrusted to him in the ground. When the master later returned and asked for an accounting the third servant had to admit he had done nothing. His master called him lazy, wicked and worthless. The master took the man's talent from him and gave it to one of the other servants who had done something with his talents.

If you don't use it, you will lose it. Keep stepping out on faith. Make good decisions. Think about it, pray, analyze and contemplate but then move forward. Doing nothing results in nothing. You have not if you try not.

JONES ELECTED AS MEMBER OF
DEAN'S LEADERSHIP COUNCIL AT
RUTGERS SCHOOL-CAMDEN

Brian W. Jones, President and CEO of The First National Bank of Elmer has joined the Rutgers School of Business-Camden, Dean's Leadership Council.

The Dean's Leadership Council at Rutgers School of Business-Camden is an advisory board designed to assist in the development and progress of the school through the connection of leaders in the region. The board consists of corporate executives striving to provide this prestigious school with the guidance and support to ensure their continued growth.

Brian W. Jones, President and CEO of The First National Bank of Elmer states, "I am delighted to have joined the advisory board with the desire to encourage and assist in the development of Rutgers School of Business-Camden's higher education programs".



JUNE CROWELL

June Crowell, 95, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, October 6, 2026, at Inspira Medical Center. Born to the late Christine and Augustine "Whitey" Giovinnazzi, June was a lifelong resident of Buena Borough, and a proud graduate of Vineland High School. On May 24, 1951, June married the love of her life, Richard Crowell. Together they built a home filled with love, faith, laughter, and a strong sense of family. June cherished bringing people together and was happiest when surrounded by family and friends. Her weekly pinochle games became a beloved tradition, creating countless memories. A devoted member of Our Lady Of The Blessed Sacrament Parish, June lived her life guided by faith, kindness, and compassion. She was known for her warm heart, generous spirit, and unwavering dedication to her family. June took great joy in being a grandmother and was actively involved in the lives of her grandchildren. Her family was the center of her world, and she treasured every moment she shared with them. She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Richard Crowell; her parents Christine and Augustine "Whitey", and her brothers Richard and James. She is survived by her sons Robert; Richard C. (Dottie nee Seran); Randell (Christina nee Rockwell); along with grandchildren David, Edward (Victoria), Dominic, Lauren, and Christina (Joe); great-grandson Angelo; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins. A funeral mass was held on Tuesday, October 13th at the Church Of St. Michael, Minotola. Interment followed in Our Lady Of Victories Cemetery, Landisville. ARRANGEMENTS are under the supervision of Rone Funeral Service, Vineland.

JOHN F. 'JACK' ORMSBY

John F. "Jack" Ormsby, age 100, a lifelong resident of Williamstown, NJ, passed away on October 13th, 2026. Mr. Ormsby was a US Army Veteran of World War II. He worked as a machinist for Langston Company in Cherry Hill for many years before retiring. Jack enjoyed the simple things in life, was a hard-working man and in his spare time, enjoyed taking drives, watching sports and helping with the family business. He formerly coached baseball for the Monroe Twp. Little League. Beloved husband of the late Anna "Dolly" Ormsby (nee Yavorsky). Devoted father of Bruce Ormsby (the late Theresa) and is predeceased by his children Carol Dantine (David) and Jacqueline Bockman. Dear brother of the late Kenneth Ormsby and the late Lillie Cossaboon. Jack is also survived by 11 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. Relatives and friends are invited to his viewing on Saturday, October 24th from 12 – 1 PM, at the Farnelli Funeral Home, 504 N. Main Street, Williamstown, where a time of sharing will be held at 1 PM. Burial will follow in the Gloucester County Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Williamstown.

HOWARD JOSEPH 'BUTCH' ROUN, SR.

Howard "Butch" Joseph Roun, Sr., age 81, on Sunday, October 18, 2026. He was raised in Williamstown. Butch was the beloved husband of the late Catherine Grace "Cass" (née DiStefano) Roun, with whom he shared 39 years of marriage. Devoted father of the late Howard J. Roun, Jr., and his surviving wife, Amanda, and Denise A. Metcalf and her husband, Barry, Sr. Cherished grandfather of Barry Metcalf, Jr., and his wife, Katie, and Jessica Price and her husband, Martin, and the proud great-grandfather of Maxine and Cassidy Metcalf. Dear brother of Ruth Gallagher and the late Gene Roun and Betty Ann Bates. Son of the late David Edward and Ann Belle (née Baum) Roun and was also predeceased by his parents-in-law, Lois Jean (née Russell) Fowler and Samuel R. DiStefano.

Butch was a proud 1965 graduate of Williamstown High School. Following graduation, he honorably served four years in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War, working as an aircraft mechanic. During his service, he spent 13 months overseas and earned the National Defense Service Medal and the Air Force Good Conduct Medal. After completing his military service, Butch dedicated his working life to the open road as a self-employed long-haul truck driver.

Butch spent much of his life in South Jersey. He later resided in Clayton for 15 years. Following the passing of his beloved wife, Cass, he spent several years living with his mother-in-law in Vineland before moving to Franklinville, where he lived with his sister for seven years. Most recently, he made his home in Elk Township with his daughter, Denise, where he spent the last four months of his life surrounded by family. Butch was an active member of his community, having belonged to the Clayton Volunteer Fire Company and serving as a longtime member of the VFW in Franklinville. His military service and continued involvement with fellow veterans remained meaningful parts of his life.

Butch will be remembered for his dedication to his family, his years of service to his country, and his hardworking spirit. He leaves behind a legacy of love and treasured memories that will live on through the generations of family he leaves behind. Relatives and friends are invited to this viewing on Friday, October 23rd from 9 AM to 11 AM at the BARCLAY FUNERAL HOME, 208 Maple Street, Clayton. Funeral service and military honors to begin at 11 AM. Interment will be private at the convenience of the family.

JENNIE C. SAVOCA

Jennie C. Savoca (nee Campo), age 98, of Pitman passed away on October 12, 2026. She was raised in South Philadelphia and lived in Deptford for 45 years before moving to Pitman. Mrs. Savoca worked as a library technician for Update Services in Philadelphia, where she spent her days in law and accounting libraries. She was a member of the Church of the Incarnation in Mantua. She enjoyed reading, cooking, playing

the piano, collecting books and watching PBS TV. Everyone loved Jennie's smile, her concern for others, her generosity, her positive outlook, and her courtesy. Her love and guidance have sustained her children. Above all, family meant everything to Jennie especially spending time with grandchildren. She will be deeply missed. Loving daughter of the late Venerando Campo and the late Vincenzina Campo (Trerotola). Beloved wife of the late Louis Savoca. Devoted mother of Barbara Ann Savoca and Frank Savoca. Loving grandmother of Emily Savoca (Dan Kane) and Ryan Savoca. She was pre-deceased by her siblings Mary Cipparone, Frederick Campo, Salvatore Campo, Frank Campo & Dolores Rovner as well as her daughter in law LeeAnne Savoca (nee Schmude). Her Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Thursday, October 22nd, at 10 AM, at the Church of the Incarnation, 240 Main Street, Mantua, NJ. Private inurnment will take place in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Chews Landing.

LORETTA WILLIAMS

Loretta Williams, 83, of Newfield passed away peacefully on Friday morning Oct. 16th at Crest Haven Nursing Center. She was born to the late Elihu and Lillian (Shimp) Dell Aringa. Loretta worked at Wilmad Glass Factory for many years. She received a Certified Degree in Accounting and Medical Billing from Stratford Career Institute. Loretta loved music from the 50's and 60's and attending council meetings where she kept up to speed with what was happening in the community. She is survived by her brother Peter Dell Aringa (Marie), nieces Barbara and April, great niece Abigail. She was predeceased by her husband Edward Williams, brother Gerald Dell Aringa, sister Virginia Dell Aringa. A graveside service will be held on Tuesday October 20th at 2 pm at Rose Hill Cemetery, Helena St and Madison Ave, Newfield.

BROCK J. WINANS

Brock J. Winans, age 87, of Williamstown, went home to be with the Lord on October 13, 2026. Mr. Winans was born to Bernie Franklin Winans and Helen (nee Hollowell) Winans and resided in Topeka, KS for 40 years. He was a graduate of Scranton High School and later went on to earn his degree from Baker University in Kansas. He started his career at Overbrook Elementary School and met his wife while working as a Principal at Appanoose School. They married on August 5, 1966 and after their marriage, they both became teachers at Shawnee Heights Schools outside Topeka, KS. He worked as a devoted educator for over 33 years before retiring.

Brock was a faithful member of Cross Keys United Methodist Church in Williamstown. He was a history enthusiast and enjoyed playing bingo. Above all, he cherished spending time with his family. Brock was preceded in death by his parents Bernie and Helen Winans, his beloved wife Sharon S. Winans (nee Heidner), their children, twins, Jamey and Jon and Michelle Winans at their birth, his brothers Ben Winans and Carl Winans and brother-in-law Terry Heidner. Devoted father of Elizabeth A. "Beth" Israels. Loving grandfather and great-grandfather. Dear brother of Rev. Donald Winans (Lola), Rachel Winans, Raymond Winans and Madge Freeman (Rev. Mark Freeman). He is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews and great nieces and nephews. Relatives and friends are invited to attend his viewing on Thursday, October 22nd from 10 - 11 AM at the Farnelli Funeral Home, 504 N. Main Street, Williamstown, where a service will be held at 11 AM. Inurnment at Cross Keys Methodist Cemetery will take place privately at a later date.



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The First United Methodist Church, Landis Avenue in Vineland welcome everyone to attend several upcoming events. On October 25th there will be a Great Window Re-dedication Service at 10am in the Sanctuary All are welcome. On November 8th, Beck's Philadelphia Brigade Concert will be held at 3pm in the Sanctuary All are welcome. On December 5th the Children Song of New Jersey Christmas Concert will be held at 3pm in the Sanctuary. All are welcome. The Sub Sale at Giovanni's Deli continues until September 30th. Ticket are \$12 and can be obtained by contacting the Church Office at 856-691-0940.

Food Bank - The Food Bank at the Church is open every Wednesday from 830am to 1030am. ID is required. Clothes Closet - The Clothes Closet is open every Wednesday from 9am to 11am. Donations of clothing, pants, shirts, socks, coats, blankets, and household goods are needed. Further information on the Church programs can be obtained by contacting the Church Office at 856-691-0940.

CROSS KEYS UM CHURCH

Cross Keys UM Church now offers a blended Sunday Worship Service at 10:15AM with nursery provided and Sunday School for all ages at 9:30AM. Youth Groups gather 7PM on Wednesday evenings. Bible studies are every Wednesday morning and we have monthly small group gatherings. The Food Bank is held every third Saturday morning. 1644 N Main Street in the Cross Keys section of Williamstown 856-728-3344

BARCLAY FUNERAL HOME

BARCLAYFUNERALHOME.NET

WILLIAM C. BARCLAY, III
N.J. Lic. No. 4232
SENIOR DIRECTOR

856.881.3040
208 MAPLE STREET
CLAYTON, NJ 08312

Proudly Serving The Community Since 1934
Through Three Generations.



Our Towns

Email your events to ftsentinel@comcast.net - there is no cost - when available space permits

COUNTRY LINE DANCE PARTY

Kick up your heels every Thursday at the American Legion Post, 141 N. Main Street, Mullica Hill with Steve & Laura, aka the Dance Bullies!~ They will be spinning tunes and teaching the moves for a boot-stomping' night of country line dancing. Just \$10 gets you in the door and all ages and skill levels are welcome, so grab your boots and join in the fun!

CLAYTON HISTORIC PRESERVATION
GUEST SPEAKER

To celebrate America 250, the Clayton Historic Preservation, Inc will have a special FREE lecture at the Clayton Municipal Building, 125 N. Delsea Drive, Clayton, on Wednesday, October 28th at 6:30PM on the Battles in Burlington County leading up to Trenton/Princeton. Specifically, the actions at Petticoat Bridge and Iron Works Hill which involved 600 South Jersey militia from Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester & Salem counties. Adam E. Zielinski will be the guest speaker. He is a writer and historian from NJ and will discuss these battles that is the subject of his new book. The slideshow will be about an hour in length followed by questions afterwards. Copies will be available, along with original maps for purchase and original artifacts will be on display.

THANKSGIVING PIE SALE!

Sponsored by the Monroe Twp Woman's Club. Pies will be \$20! All orders and payment MUST BE SUBMITTED BY 11/6! Pies will be available for pick up on 11/24 from 5PM to 7PM at the Timberlake Clubhouse, 3526 South Shore Drive, Williamstown. For more info contact Elaine Hewitt at (609-634-2085. Payment can be made by Cash, Check or Venmo. Select your pie option: Pumpkin, Apple Crumb, Coconut Custard, Lemon Meringue, Cherry Crumb, Peach Crumb and Blueberry Crumb.

WAYFAIR STORE SET TO OPEN IN 2028

The popular furniture and housewares retailer, "Wayfair," is opening its first-ever South Jersey location. The store, known for its online presence of affordable and trendy products, will be located in the Market Place at Garden State Park shopping center at 2000 Marlton Pike/Route 70. The Cherry Hill location will also offer free design services that include space planning and virtual or in-person meetings with associates. The 86,000-square-foot Cherry Hill location is set to open in late 2028.

THANKSGIVING MEAL

For Harrison Township Senior Residents Only! Enjoy a 'free Thanksgiving eat-in dinner sponsored by the Harrison Twp Police Department, Harrison House and The Cake Boutique. The event will take place on Wednesday, November 18th between 12 noon and 1:30PM at the Ewan Fire Company, 312 Ewan Road, Mullica Hill. Residents aged 55+ can call (856)478-6839 ext. 1000 and speak with Karen from 9AM to 3PM to reserve their meal. A limited number of meals will be made so you MUST register prior to November 9th at 3PM. Take out or Eat in; Live Entertainment.

BLOOD DRIVE

The Monroe Township Woman's Club has made a new home at the Timber Lake Community Associations clubhouse, moving from our previous location at the Pfeifer Center. As gratitude we would like to assist them in spreading the word about a Blood Drive at the Timber Lake Community Association Clubhouse on October 24th. Some of our members will be at this event but it is being organized by them.

PUTTING FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP FIRST
PHIL VENTICINQUE & EUGENE J. CALDWELL II
FOR FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE



FIGHT for the Home We Love!

FIGHT to Preserve Our Hometown's
Future & Your Hard-Earned Tax Dollars

- ✓ **FIGHT OUT-OF-CONTROL OVERDEVELOPMENT & WAREHOUSES**
Defend against high-density housing and data center sprawl.
- ✓ **PROTECT RURAL CHARACTER & FARMLAND**
Protect Franklin Township's farms, forests, and natural landscapes.
- ✓ **DEMAND FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY & TRANSPARENCY**
Respect every taxpayer dollar.

VOTE FOR VENTICINQUE & CALDWELL
GENERAL ELECTION: NOVEMBER 3, 2026



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VOTE VENTICINQUE & CALDWELL
FOR TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE • GENERAL ELECTION: NOV 3

Paid for by Venticinque & Caldwell for Franklin Township Committee; 2156 Chew Ave, Franklinville, NJ.

2026 VOTER GUIDE

GENERAL ELECTION DAY
Tuesday, November 3, 2026

IN-PERSON EARLY VOTING
Saturday, Oct 24 – Sunday,
November 1, 2026
(Mon-Sat 10AM-8PM, Sun 10AM-6PM)

EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS:

- Gloucester County Complex
1200 N. Delsea Dr., Clayton
- Monroe Public Library
713 Marsha Ave., Williamstown
- Logan Municipal Building
125 Main Street, Bridgeport
- RCSJ Behavioral Science Center
1400 Tanyard Rd., Sewell
- Riverwinds Community Center
1000 Riverwinds Dr., Thorofare

Additional Voter & Polling Info:
<https://focusonfranklin.com/voter-info>

POLICE ACTIVITY LOG

SWEDESBORO WOMAN INJURED IN DEL MEM BRIDE TOLL BOOTH ACCIDENT

The Delaware River and Bay Authority (DRBA) police department is investigating a single motor vehicle accident that occurred in lane 6 of the Delaware Memorial Bridge Toll Plaza at approximately 3 p.m. on Monday, October 12th. Preliminary investigation indicates that the female driver who was operating a Honda Accord struck the concrete abutment in front of the toll plaza, causing the vehicle to overturn and catch fire. Emergency responders from Deepwater Fire, Minquadale Fire, Holloway Terrace Fire, and New Castle County Paramedics arrived on scene, extricated the driver from her burning vehicle and extinguished the fire. The victim, a resident of Swedesboro, Gloucester County was transported to Christiana Hospital for treatment. The accident closed more than half of the Toll Plaza lanes for multiple hours for accident removal of the vehicle and cleanup of the scene. The accident remains under investigation by the DRBA police department’s accident reconstruction team. The drivers name and condition were not released.

FORMER MANTUA POLICE OFFICER CONVICTED OF OFFICIAL MISCONDUCT

Camden - Shaun J. Butler, 46, of Mantua , a former police officer for the Mantua Township Police Department, was found guilty Thursday, Oct. 15th of official misconduct and related computer crimes in front of the Honorable James Bucci, Gloucester County Prosecutor Andrew B. Johns announced. According to documents filed in this case and statements made in open court: On Sept. 11, 2021, Butler, who was a lieutenant in the Internal Affairs department of the Mantua Township Police Department, was involved in an off-duty sexual encounter when the woman’s husband found the pair in their home, leading to an altercation. Rather than calling 911, Butler used the Mantua dispatch number, failing to identify himself as an officer. He also refused to respond to questions from subordinate responding officers when asked about the events leading to the altercation. In the days following the incident, Butler used his access to Mantua Township Police Departmentsrestricted law enforcement databases to read the officers’ reports, despite warnings the database should be used only for valid law enforcement purposes. He also described the contents of those reports over the phone to the woman involved and, over phone and messenger chats, he described how he could use his confidential access to police records to minimize the incident and prevent mutual embarrassment. On Sept. 16, 2021, he logged into a draft report of a subordinate officer and added details to that draft report that were attributed to the subordinate officer. Following a 6-week jury trial, Butler was found guilty of one count of second-degree official misconduct, one count of third-degree computer crimes involving unauthorized access, and one count of third-degree computer crimes involving access and disclosure. His sentencing is scheduled for Dec. 4, 2026. The maximum term of incarceration is 10 years in state prison for the second-degree charge and 5 years in state prison for each of the third-degree charges. Prosecutor Johns thanked the GCPO Professional Standards Unit and the Gloucester County Office of Emergency Management for their assistance in the investigation.

WASHINGTON TWP POLICE BRIEFING REPORT

Officers handled 55 calls for service overnight on the 11PM to 7AM shift, investigated 2 MV crashes, and conducted 13 MV vehicle stops. Here's a look at some of the incidents our officers responded to overnight:
STOLEN VEHICLE / FLEEING AT 120+ MPH: At approximately 2:04 AM, a Bryant Road resident called police reporting suspicious individuals dressed in all black running down the street and pulling on vehicle door handles, checking for unlocked cars. Officers arrived at 2:05AM and located a suspicious dark-colored Acura traveling onto Hurffville-Grenloch Road from Hurffville Road. As officers attempted to catch up, the vehicle accelerated at a high rate of speed, disregarding a red traffic signal at Hurffville-Grenloch and Egg Harbor Roads. As the Acura traveled through the Five Points intersection into Deptford Township, a Flock ALPR alert identified the vehicle as stolen out of Lower Merion Township, PA. The vehicle fled the area at an extremely high rate of speed. Deptford Police were notified, and they advised that the vehicle was last seen traveling on Route 55 at speeds exceeding 120 MPH.
ATTEMPTED VEHICLE THEFT – BRYANT ROAD: A resident reported that someone entered her vehicle and started the engine, triggering an alert to her phone. Fortunately, the vehicle's remote technology allowed her to quickly shut down the engine. The vehicle had been moved from the top of her driveway to the bottom.
VEHICLE BURGLARY – BRYANT ROAD: Officers investigated an unlocked vehicle that appeared to have been entered and rummaged through.
ATTEMPTED VEHICLE BURGLARIES – BRYANT ROAD: Another resident reported suspicious individuals attempting to enter two vehicles parked at his residence. Both vehicles were locked, preventing entry. Surveillance footage was obtained for our Detective Bureau for further investigation.
DWI ARREST – GANTTOWN ROAD: Officers arrested a Swedesboro man for driving while intoxicated following a motor vehicle stop. Breath testing revealed a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of 0.160%, twice New Jersey's standard legal limit.
NOISE COMPLAINTS: Officers responded to several overnight noise complaints, including loud music at the Village Pub, a loud generator at Lowe's, a disturbance in the Birches Development , and parties on Meadowview Road and in the Valley Green development.
UNWANTED PERSON: JEFFERSON HOSPITAL: Officers responded to Jefferson Hospital for a report of a female refusing to leave the property.
PUBLIC ASSIST: Officers encountered an individual experiencing homelessness at 5Points Wawa who requested assistance due to the cold overnight temperatures. Officers provided assistance and transported the individual to a shelter.
REMINDER: Before going to bed, **LOCK YOUR CAR DOORS!** **A HUGE THANK YOU** to the alert resident who initially reported the suspicious individuals on Bryant Road overnight!

WESTVILLE POLICE DEPT ARREST REPORT

On Sept 1st, Angleic Ortiz-Rivera from Camden was arrested for active warrants during a municipal court session. On Sept 4th, Anthony Lancello from West Deptford was arrested for Shoplifting, hindering his apprehension and active warrants during a shoplifting investigation; on Sept. 4th Edward Johnson from Woodbury was arrested for Driving Under the Influence during a motor vehicle stop. On Sept 5th, Jontay Talley from Camden was arrested for active warrants during a motor vehicle stop; on 9/5, Bryan Morrison from Sicklerville was arrested for active warrants during a motor vehicle stop; on Sept. 5th, Brian McCoy from National Park was arrested for active warrants after turning himself into Westville Police; on Sept 5th, Odalis Alonzo-Torres from Westville was arrested for active warrants during a motor vehicle stop; on Sept. 5th Timothy McCoy from National Park was arrested for Possession of a Controlled Dangerous Substance during a motor vehicle stop.; on Sept 5th, Timothy McCoy from National Park was arrested for active warrants during a motor vehicle stop.
On Sept 7th, Alvid Hand III from Westville was arrested for active warrants after turning himself into Westville Police; on Sept. 7th, a male from Westville was arrested for Simple Assault during a domestic violence investigation. On Sept. 8th, Matthew Gaffney of Westville was arrested for Hindering his own Apprehension, active warrants, possession of a controlled dangerous substance, possession of drug paraphernalia and failure to give DDS to Police during a motor vehicle crash investigation. On Sept. 12th, Dishon Dallan from Camden was arrested for active warrants during a motor vehicle stop. On Sept. 12th, Timothy McCoy from National Park was arrested for active warrants during an investigation. On Sept. 15th, a female from Blackwood was arrested for Simple Assault and Resisting arrest during a domestic violence investigation.
On Sept. 16th Jamie Bhupan from Camden was arrested for active warrants during a motor vehicle stop; on Sept. 17th, Deyana Coley-Seijo from Vineland was arrested for active warrants during a motor vehicle stop. On Sept. 20th, Jaynay Stratton from Bellmawr was arrested for Driving Under the Influence during a motor vehicle stop. On Sept. 24th, Erick Santos from Camden was arrested for active warrants during a motor vehicle stop; on Sept. 24th, David Casillas from Philadelphia, PA was arrested for active warrants during a motor vehicle stop. On Sept. 25th, Tavener Miller from Westville was arrested for Driving Under the Influence during a motor vehicle stop. On Sept27th, James Aresnault from Erial was arrested for being a Wanted Person out of Camden County Probation. On Sept. 30th, Talia Rivera from Camden was arrested for active warrant during a motor vehicle stop; on Sept. 30th, Charles Thomas from Deptford was arrested for Driving Under the Influence during a motor vehicle stop. Westville Police Department totals for the month of September include – 364 Motor Vehicle Stops; 4 DUI Arrests; 4 Assaults; 1 Motor Vehicle Theft; 2 Possession of CDS (Drug Arrests); 8 Burglary/Theft Reports; 1 Motor Vehicle Theft (Recovered); 99 Property Checks; 24 Arrests; 78 Foot Patrols; 7 Domestic Violence Incidents; 9 Parking Enforcement; 64 Community Policing; 6 Abandon Vehicles/Local Ordinances; 37 Radar CADS 1,978 Total Calls for Service and 70 reports received and typed by officers.

WASHINGTON TWP WEEKEND REPORT

It was a busy weekend (10/17,18) for the Washington Township Police Department WTPD. Our officers handled 335 CAD calls for service, investigated 14 MV accidents and two hit-and-run crashes, handled eight noise complaints, four Domestic Violence incidents, and a shoplifting complaint. Officers also conducted 59 MV stops and made eight arrests throughout the weekend. Here's a look at some of the incidents our officers handled:
DWI ARREST: A Swedesboro man was arrested for driving while intoxicated following a motor vehicle stop. The driver provided breath samples resulting in a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .160, twice the legal limit.
METHAMPHETAMINE / WANTED PERSON ARREST: A Bridgeton man was arrested following a pedestrian stop after officers discovered he was wanted through NCIC. The accused was also charged with possession of methamphetamine and subsequently lodged in the County Jail.
ASSIST NEW JERSEY STATE POLICE: Friday evening, Washington Township officers responded to the Atlantic City Expressway to assist the New Jersey State Police with a serious motor vehicle crash.
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ASSAULT ARREST: Officers responded to a residence after a resident reported being assaulted. The victim had a visible injury and complained of facial pain. The accused was arrested and lodged in the County Jail.
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ASSAULT ARREST: Officers investigated a domestic violence incident involving family members. The victim sustained a visible injury, and the accused was placed under arrest.
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ARREST – NEWTOWN COMMONS: Officers responded to a reported disturbance at a condominium where a female resident reported being assaulted by a male occupant. The accused was arrested and transported to Jefferson Hospital for medical clearance. At the hospital, he was disorderly, yelled profanities, and threw items. He was subsequently charged with simple assault, endangering the welfare of a child, disorderly conduct, and refusal to submit to fingerprinting. The accused was lodged in the County Jail.
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE – CRIMINAL MISCHIEF: A resident reported that a family member damaged the residence by punching holes in the walls and ripping a television from the wall. A temporary restraining order TRO was issued.
STOLEN LICENSE PLATE – WARRANT ARREST: Officers located a red Ford SUV displaying a stolen Pennsylvania license plate. A motor vehicle stop and subsequent investigation revealed the SUV had previously been stolen from Live! Casino and later recovered, but was still displaying stolen license plates. A passenger was arrested on multiple outstanding warrants and turned over to the New Jersey State Police. Arrested by Officer Bentsen.
WARRANT ARREST: A Turnersville man was arrested following a motor vehicle stop after officers discovered an outstanding warrant.
IDENTITY THEFT / FRAUD: A resident reported that someone had used his personal identification information without permission to rent an apartment. The incident remains under investigation.
WARRANT ARREST: A Blackwood man was arrested on an outstanding warrant following a motor vehicle stop.
SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE – PINTO DRIVE: At approximately 9:00 PM Sunday, police received a report of individuals in a silver Hyundai Elantra checking vehicle door handles in the Pinto Drive area, looking for unlocked cars. Officers responded and the vehicle fled toward Deptford Township.
VEHICLE BURGLARIES – BRYANT ROAD: Officers investigated reports of individuals attempting to enter parked vehicles along Bryant Road. No broken glass, pry marks, or other signs of forced entry were observed. Video surveillance recovered. The incidents appear to involve out of town suspects checking for unlocked cars.
STOLEN VEHICLE – FLEEING AT 120+ MPH: At approximately 2:00AM Sunday, an alert Bryant Road resident reported suspicious individuals dressed in black checking parked vehicles for unlocked doors. Officers Caserta and Gorski responded within one minute and located a suspicious dark-colored Acura. As officers attempted to catch up, the vehicle accelerated at a high rate of speed, disregarding a red traffic signal before entering Deptford Township. A License Plate Reader alert identified the Acura as stolen from Lower Merion Township, PA. Deptford Police were notified and subsequently reported the vehicle traveling onto Route 55, recklessly driving at speeds exceeding 120 MPH.
JEFFERSON HOSPITAL: Five calls for service (CADS): Unwanted Person refusing to leave, 911 hang-up, Assistance to GTPD with an Irate prisoner, Notification and a Follow Up. **A REMINDER TO ALL RESIDENTS: PLEASE LOCK YOUR VEHICLES.** All individuals charged with a crime are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



Last Saturday 10/17, Malaga Volunteer Fire Company held their Annual Chicken and Spaghetti Barbecue. Thank you to everyone who has supported our fire company with donations, services, baskets, and love! A shout out to Working Man Hand Made for creating a beautiful sculpture to honor our fallen firefighter, Robert Reider, who passed away in the line of duty this year.

HANDGUN RECOVERED FROM GRENLOCH LAKE

On Monday, October 12th Washington Township Police responded to Grenloch Lake after two individuals made an unexpected discovery while magnet fishing. Magnet fishing is an increasingly popular outdoor hobby, especially over the past several years. People use powerful magnets attached to ropes to retrieve metal objects from lakes, rivers, and other waterways. Instead of the usual scrap metal, they pulled up something far more concerning, a handgun! The individuals immediately contacted police who responded to investigate. The firearm was identified as a Walther PPS semiautomatic handgun, a model first introduced in 2007. The weapon showed signs of prolonged exposure to the Washington Twp. Police Department (WTPD) detectives are following up, including efforts to recover and verify the firearm’s serial number, trace its history, and determine whether it may be connected to a previous crime. They commend the individuals who made this unusual discovery for immediately contacting police. Anyone with additional information is asked to contact our Detective Bureau at 856-589-0330

HALLOWEEN BOOGIE WALK

Enter the BOOGie Walk on Saturday, October 24th from Noon to 2PM at Ellis Harris Park and stroll through our extensive Halloween display while receiving treats along the way! Halloween Bags will be given at the beginning or you may bring your own. At the end of the walk each child will be given a small pumpkin to carve or decorate at home. The FUN continues for kids with our inflatable bounce houses and corn maze. This is a FREE event. However, we are asking each family to bring a non-perishable FOOD ITEM to support our local food bank. Sponsored by Harrison Township Recreation & Harrison Township Police Dept.

FIRE ON BARGE

On Sunday afternoon, Oct. 18th, Several fire departments and resources from around Gloucester County were battling a fire on a barge at the Port of Paulsboro. In addition to the Fire Departments, other assisting agencies included Gloucester County Hazmat, County-wide Foam Task Forces, Marine Firefighting Boats from both sides of the Delaware River, US Coast Guard (USCG) with on-scene support from many other agencies. Fire Departments from around the County and from outside the county had to relocate to backfill areas that needed staffing. There was no threat to the public, and the fire was brought under control.

BLACKWOOD MAN CHARGED WITH POSSESSION OF CDS WITH INTENT TO DISTRIBUTE, WEAPONS OFFENSES

Woodbury–Frank W. Rusk,40, of Blackwood, was arrested and charged with multiple offenses including possession of controlled dangerous substances with intent to distribute, possession of a weapon, and possession of hollow point ammunition following the execution of a search warrant, Gloucester County Prosecutor Andrew B. Johns announced on Tuesday, Oct. 20th. According to documents filed in this case: On Oct. 16, 2026, law enforcement officers executed a search warrant on the motel room of Frank W. Rusk, which was obtained following an investigation by the Gloucester County High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Task Force. Officers found methamphetamine and other controlled dangerous substances, drug paraphernalia consistent with distribution of CDS, and a loaded handgun containing hollow point ammunition. Rusk was arrested at the motel and charged with two counts of third-degree possession of CDS with intent to distribute, two counts of third-degree possession of CDS, fourth-degree possession of hollow point ammunition, second-degree unlawful possession of a weapon, third-degree certain persons not the have weapons, and second-degree possession of a firearm during the commission of a CDS offense. He is being held at Salem County Jail. The maximum term of incarceration is 10 years in state prison for each of the second-degree charges, five years for each of the third-degree charges, and 18 months for the fourth-degree charge. The High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) program is a federal grant initiative that provides critical resources, technology, and advanced intelligence to help the Gloucester County Prosecutor's Office disrupt and dismantle major drug trafficking networks. Gloucester County operates as a designated county within the Liberty Mid-Atlantic HIDTA (LMA HIDTA), bridging multi-agency local, state, and federal law enforcement strategies to combat regional narcotics distribution, illegal weapons trafficking, and overdose spikes. Prosecutor Johns thanked the Gloucester County HIDTA Task Force,Gloucester County SWAT and the Winslow Township and Washington Township Police Department, for their assistance in the investigation. The charges contained in the complaint are merely accusations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

FATAL CAR ACCIDENT

A person is dead after a crash in South Jersey on Thursday night, October 15th, according to the Elk Township Police Department. The crash happened along Elk Road in Elk Township sometime around 7:41 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 15, police said. When officers got to the scene, they said they found a four-door Lexus sedan that had front-end damage as well as a pedestrian with severe injuries. The pedestrian was pronounced dead at the scene, according to police. Local fire companies were called out to assist police with the accident.

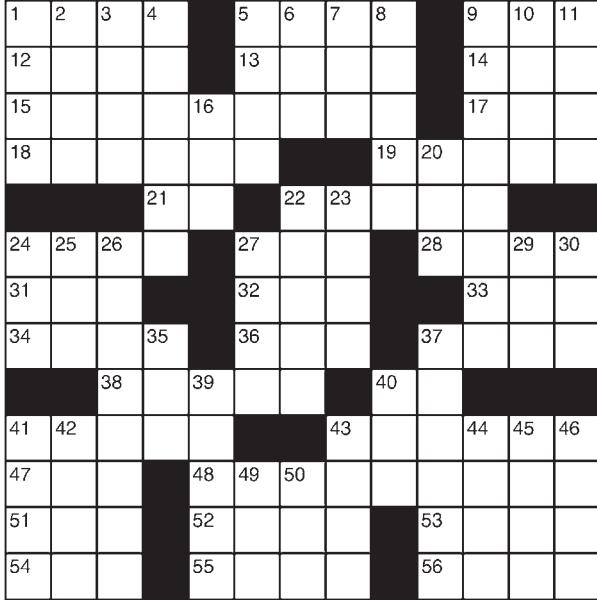
DRINKING WATER SUPPLY UPDATE

As a result of abundant rainfall over the summer and beginning of the fall, the Governor on Thursday, Oct. 1, lifted the statewide drought warning that had been in place since Dec. 5. 2025. All of the state’s drought regions have returned to normal conditions EXCEPT the Coastal South region, which is in DROUGHT WATCH status. The Coastal South region includes all of Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland counties, as well as portions of Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, Ocean and Salem counties. Key Facts: NJ experienced precipitation deficits in 25 of the last 30 months; Recent improvement: July, August, and September to date saw above-average rainfall; Last 90 days: most counties received ~5-10 inches above normal precipitation; Coastal South region requires continued monitoring due to slower recovery and porous geology requiring large volumes for aquifer recharge. NJ rainfall totals this week of 10/21 Between 0.07" and 0.98" inches of precipitation were observed. Conservation Tips for Autumn: Wash your car at a commercial car wash instead of at home, reducing water use by 65%; Plant native plants; Sweep patios, driveways, and sidewalks. Never hose paved surfaces; Fix leaks in your home, and in your irrigation system; Plants require less water in autumn, use a rain barrel or watering can instead of a hose; Install low-flow showerheads, faucets, and toilets; Limit showers to 5 minutes in length; Turn off water while brushing teeth; Run your washing machine and dishwasher only when full and raise lawnmower blades to at least three inches to promote deeper grass roots, which improves soil moisture retention

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Off-white
5 "Star Trek II" villain
9 Yoga pad
12 Lopsided win
13 — the Great (kid-lit detective)
14 Yucatan "Bravo!"
15 Lead singer of Matchbox Twenty
17 Present location?
18 Most devious
19 Den fixture
21 ICU worker
22 No-frills
24 Big cheese
27 Warm-up run
28 Kitten calls
31 — Jima
32 Noshed
33 Slangy denial
34 Arrears
36 Roast VIPs
37 Hereditary unit
- 38 Jazz legend
40 Concerning
41 Prefix with violet
43 Social blunders
47 Egg — yung
48 Workplace invitations
51 Sharing word
52 Sciences' partner
53 Coup d'—
54 Messy room
55 Diner dish
56 D.C. baseball team
- DOWN**
1 Blunders
2 "Neato!"
3 July birthstone
4 Says
5 Shoelace snarl
6 Deli choice
7 — premium
8 Tree houses
9 Frenzied gathering
- 10 Lotion additive
11 Libretto
16 QVC alternative
20 Energy
22 Foul up
23 Ice and Bronze
24 Auction action
25 Have bills
26 Pitiful tale
27 Magazine for docs
29 Pallid
30 That ship
35 Pitch
37 Lincoln Center's David — Hall
39 Indian prince
40 U.K. fliers
41 Sci-fi vehicles
42 LummoX
43 "Gee whiz!"
44 Greek salad cheese
45 Part of Q.E.D.
46 Swift jets
49 — pro nobis
50 "Dynamite" band



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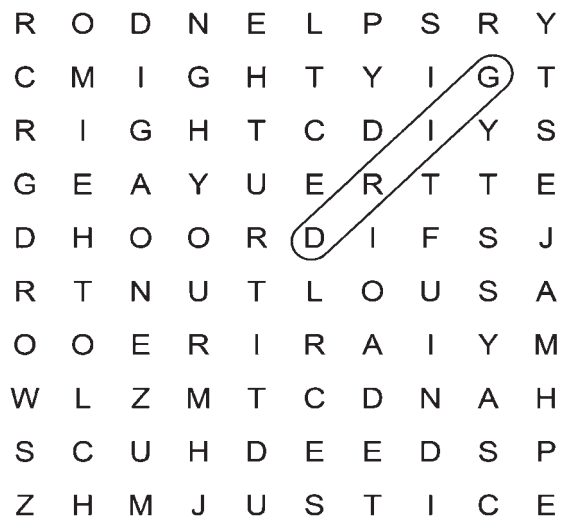
BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

Psalm 45:3-4

Gird your sword on your side, you mighty one: clothe yourself with splendor and majesty. In your majesty ride forth victoriously in the cause of truth, humility and justice; let your right hand achieve awesome deeds.

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

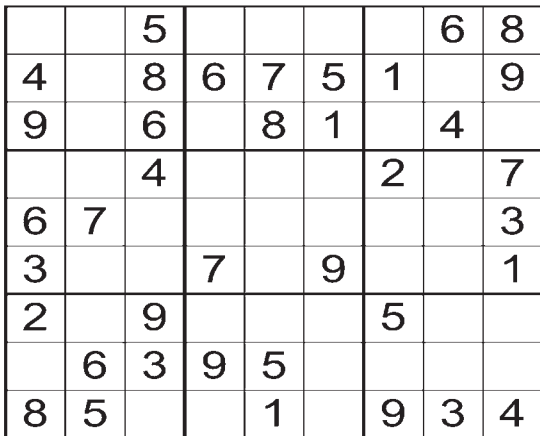


Find the **bolded/underlined** words in the diagram. They run in all directions — forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

WWW.SEARCHING-FOR-JESUS.COM

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Weekly SUDOKU



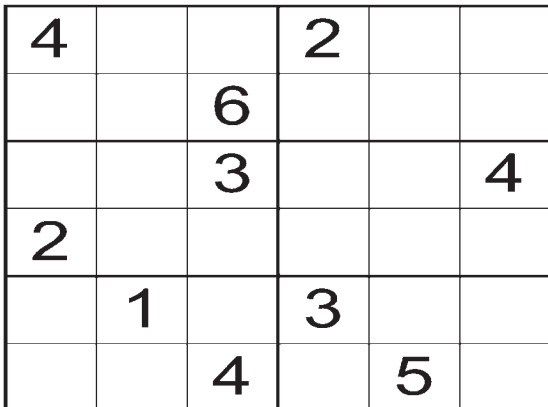
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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MINI SUDOKU



Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 6-box square contains all of the numbers from one to six.

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SPOOKY MAGIC MAZE ● HALLOWEEN WORDS

H N L J G E C Z X V T D R P N

L S J N H E C A Y W Z E V T T

R P I N O D L K E I O T G L E

C R B L Z I E X W R M N U U M

S R E L U P T S O M B U L C U

J N I T U O W A S N I A H C I

G E I D C F H B T E E H C O D

A P O L T E R G E I S T Y A E

X W U T B S P A Q P V S O N M

L B E W B O C S E K J E O H G

E C N A E S G N A F F D L P C

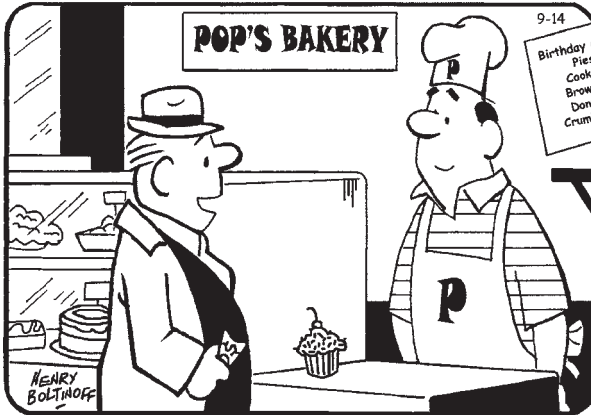
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: **Tangles of Silken Threads**

Chainsaw Goblin Medium Seance
Fangs Haunted Occult Specter
Fearful Levitation Poltergeist Zombie
Ghoulish Macabre Possessed

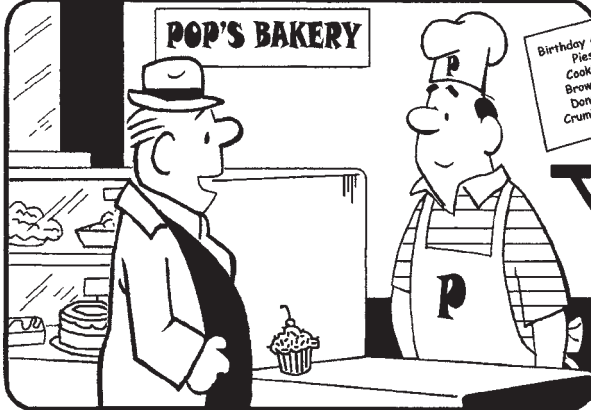
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Cupcake is moved. 2. Money is missing. 3. Sign is moved. 4. Man is taller. 5. Counter is wider. 6. Sleeve is shorter.

CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR

is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, **A** is used for the three L's, **X** for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

WQLSJ LR SJH QIS XW

JXAKLEB XE SX SJLEBR ZXVI

IHQRXE JQR XEUH QUUHGSHK,

LE RGLSH XW ZXVI UJQEBLEB

NXXKR. — U.R. AHTLR

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: E equals F

BE EKGQWN NBAHCL YBQA

SCLC NMQLBAH VQAMKVM

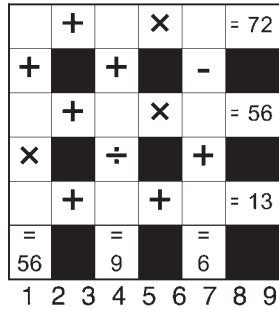
FCANCN, SJKM EFWBY GBHJM

NJC WNC? VCFBAC NQFWMBQA.

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GO FIGURE!

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.



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HDO

ANIMLE

♥NERGA

♥HCMU

RITHEM

♥RAF

RTFE

OLTDA

♥OMT

CRIFLO

♥RTNHO

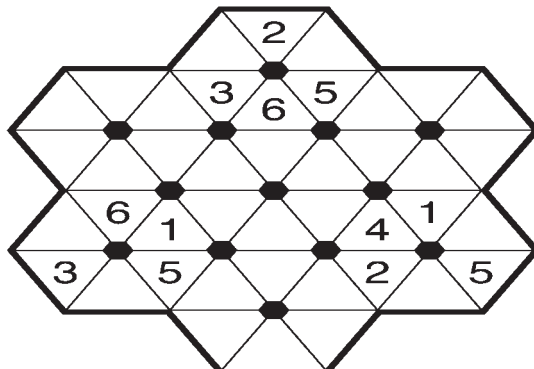
♥IETD

Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. HAGNEC becomes CHANGE). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked (♥) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥RATHE becomes HATER or EARTH or HEART). Fit each string's word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Easy ♦♦ Medium ♦♦♦ Difficult

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Some flashes of ARIES ire might erupt as you confront an unusually bewildering situation. But you should be able to keep your temper under control as you work through it.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) The marriage 'twixt the arts and practicality, which Taureans excel at, once again highlights your enjoyment of much of the week. However, you need to watch any sudden urge to splurge.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Even with all the plusses apparently outweighing the minuses, you still might want to defer an important decision to make sure that you have all the facts you need.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) One or two problems might threaten to derail otherwise smoothly running situations at work or at home. But a few well-placed words should help get things back on track quickly.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) This could be a good time for all you LEONas and LEOAs in the spotlight to open your generous Lion's hearts and share the glory with those who've helped you accomplish so much along the way.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Before investing time or money (or both) into a questionable matter, you might want to get advice from someone who has been there and knows these situations better than you do.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Be careful with how you handle a workplace matter that seems out of place in the schedule you've prepared. Before you act, one way or another, find out who set it up and why.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your entertainment aspect is strong this week. Besides providing a wonderful break from everyday obligations, sharing fun times brings you closer to those you care for.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Having a weekend fun fest? Your friend or relative who's down in the emotional dumps could perk up if you find a way to include them in your plans.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) If you're stuck in one of those "the Goat knows best" moods, you might want to ease up and try listening to what others have to say. You could learn something.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A new challenge is getting closer, so you should now be out there showing facts and figures to potential allies to help persuade them to rally to your support. Good luck!

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Getting a head start on holiday plans could help free up some time later for you to spend on other projects. Meanwhile, a colleague has some ideas that you might find worth discussing.

BORN THIS WEEK: You're always there for others, but sometimes you need to be reminded that you need to be there for yourself as well.

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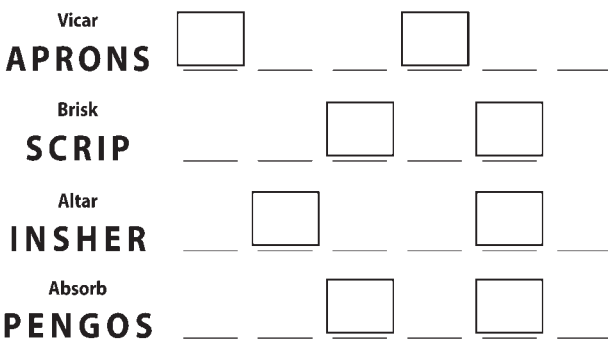
WITH CREDIT CARD INFORMATION



"We've got to stop seeing each other like this, Debra — I hate _____."

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!



TODAY'S WORD





Scan QR



- Tax Relief Programs
- Senior Programs
- Motor Vehicle Issues
- Veteran Benefits

- Housing Issues
- Unemployment
- Notary Request
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This is going to be a very busy weekend with a full slate of things to do for families and friends. Monroe Township Community Affairs has planned a fun event this weekend for trunk or treaters to help make Halloween special for hundreds of local families. Join us on Friday, October 23rd from 6PM to 7:30 PM at the Pfeiffer Community Center Parking Lot, 301 Blue Bell Road, Williamstown. All are welcome so let's fill the parking lot with spooky, silly and creative costumes and displays for another unforgettable Halloween holiday! One of the most popular Delsea community events is returning this year, and we can't wait to see your best costumes! Come trick-or-treat at JEEPERS CREEPERS with our students, staff, and amazing local businesses. This event is open to Kindergarten–6th-grade students from both Franklin and Elk Townships on Friday, October 23rd from 5 PM – 7 PM at the entrance of the HS Athletics (Gym). Space is limited on a first-come, first-served basis. Doors open promptly at 5 PM. We hope to see you there for a spooktacular time!

Dog lovers can join us on Saturday, October 24th at Richard DiLucia Dog Park, 700 N. Tuckahoe Rd, Williamstown (off of Braves Blvd) for the annual **HOWL-O-WEEN PUPPY PARADE**. Spectators are welcome to attend. Dress your pup in their spookiest, funniest or most creative costume and show it off! (Humans are welcome to dress up too!) Parade begins at 11 AM. Pups must check in by 10:45 AM. Prizes will be awarded for the best costumes! All breeds & sizes welcome. All dog breeds are welcome must be leashed. **FRANKLINVILLE VFW TRUNK OR TREAT** invites the whole family to VFW Post 2071, 2179 Delsea Dr., Franklinville on Saturday, October 24th at 4PM. Bring your costumes, bags, and buckets for Trunk or Treat!

Gloucester County's Final Celebration of America's 250th - The Gloucester County Clerk's Office is proud to announce its final countywide celebration commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution. Community members of all ages are invited to join the Gloucester County Clerk's Office for a day of family-friendly festivities at the Gloucester County Store located in the Deptford Mall. Festivities will begin on Saturday, October 24th at 10 AM and conclude at 5 PM. The Gloucester County Clerk's Office is honored to host this final celebration as we recognize the history, heritage, and contributions of our county while partaking in the conclusion of the nationwide commemoration of America's 250th anniversary. Brief History — Founded in 1686, Gloucester County is one of New Jersey's oldest counties and originally encompassed areas that now include present-day Atlantic and Camden Counties.

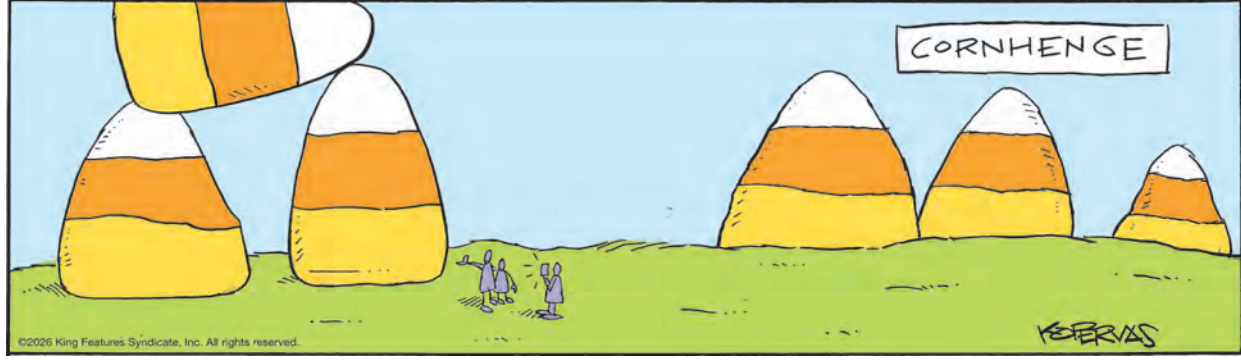
GLASSBORO CIVIL WAR HISTORY WEEKEND will take place on Saturday Oct 24th and Sunday Oct 25th, and the public is invited to join us at the amazing Civil War Ball that will be held at the Glassboro Marriott on Saturday night from 6pm till 9pm! Free refreshments and you can wear your own or dress up with Aunt Corrine and learn the reels and steps and it's ALL FREE! Bring the kids, learn about the history of the 12th NJ Volunteer Regiment- the United States Colored Regiment and talk to the Old Baldy Civil War Roundtable historians. Civil War Weekend takes place both days at 354 Oakwood Avenue Train Station, Glassboro.

MAD HATTERS TREE PARTY - Come out on Sunday, Oct. 25 from 1 pm to 3 p.m. Eldridge Trail — E. Pine St. and S. Princeton Ave, Wenonah. The Mad Hatter's Tree Party is a celebration of autumn and trees! It is a fun way for people to learn about the trees of our community and the critical role that trees play in a healthy environment. The Tree Party is a chance for families and people of all ages to share a whimsical adventure in a community forest. This event consists of a self-paced, 45 minute walk in Wenonah Woods. This is more than an ordinary hike, though. You can stop at several locations to learn about specific trees along the trail and their role in the overall forest. Musicians will add an instrumental accompaniment to your journey. At the end, you can share light refreshments in the Tea House with the Mad Hatter himself. This free event is great for family, and takes place rain or shine. The walk begins at Eldridge Trail, at the intersection of E. Pine St. and S. Princeton Ave. in Wenonah. Arrive at your convenience and travel at your own pace. No pre-registration is necessary. Also on Sunday is the **HARVEST FEST & TRUNK OR TREAT!** - Join us at Exley's Christmas Tree Farm, 1538 Monroeville Road, Monroeville on Sunday, October 25th at 1PM. Free admission includes trunk or treat kid's activities. Upgrade to a \$10 fun pass which includes a hay ride, corn maze and pumpkin (while supplies last). Food and refreshments are available for purchase from several local food trucks! **CLAYTON FRIGHT NIGHT** 2026 hopes you will bring the family out for a spooktacular evening of trick-or-treating, costumes, and Halloween fun that is presented by Clayton Athletics & Activities! The fun happens on Wednesday, October 28 from 6–8 PM at Clayton High School. Children ages 12 and under are welcome to trick-or-treat! Come dressed in your favorite costume and make your way through the festivities, including a Haunted Trail at the Performing Arts Center! Please help support our local Food Drive and bring canned goods to donate at the door. Enter: Doors adjacent to the Gymnasium Parking Lot Exit: Performing Arts Center Grab your costumes, bring a canned good, and join us for a frightfully fun night!

The Spats



Out on a Limb



PUBLIC NOTICE ELK TOWNSHIP TAX SALE NOTICE

COLLECTOR'S NOTICE OF LIEN SALE OF PROPERTY FOR NON-PAYMENT OF 2025 TAXES AND PRIOR ARREARS IS HEREBY GIVEN, that I, Susan E. DeFrancesco, Collector of Taxes of the Taxing District of Elk Township, Gloucester County, New Jersey, will sell at Public Auction liens against the real estate listed below on **Monday, October 26, 2026 at 10:00 AM at the Township Building, 680 Whig Lane Monroeville, NJ 08313**, pursuant to Tax Sale Law R.S. 54:5. The amounts named are for taxes, for the year 2025 and arrears plus interest and costs to October 26, 2026. Such sale shall be made in fee to such person as will purchase same, subject to redemption at the lowest rate of interest, but in no case in excess of eighteen (18%) per cent annum. THE NAMES SHOWN ARE AS THEY APPEAR IN THE TAX DUPLICATE AND DO NOT NECESSARILY MEAN THAT PARTIES ARE THE PRESENT OWNERS OF THE PROPERTY. REQUIRED NOTICE AND DISCLOSURE – Industrial properties may be subject to Spill Compensation and Control Act (NJSA 58:10-23-11 et seq.), the Water Pollution Control Act (NJSA 58:10A-1 et seq.) and the Industrial Recovery Act (NJSA 13-iK 6 et seq.) in addition, the municipality is precluded from issuing a certificate to any prospective purchaser who is or may be in any way connected to the prior owner or operator of the site. IN THE EVENT THE OWNER IS ON ACTIVE DUTY WITH THE MILITARY, THE COLLECTOR SHOULD BE NOTIFIED IMMEDIATELY. PURCHASES are required by law to pay the interest and costs charged against each parcel purchased before the conclusion of sale, or property will be resold. ALL PAYMENTS MUST BE MADE IN CASH OR CERTIFIED CHECK PRIOR TO SALE. The said lands and names of the assessed owner of said lands and the total amount due and owing on said land(s) are as follows:

Block	Lot	Qualifier	Owner Name	Amount	Property Location	Type
6	34		LIGHTFOOT, GARRY & JESSICA	\$1,432.63	105 MOODS RD	T
10	2		R & R GROUP DEVELOPMENT LLC	\$238.58	106 IREDELL LN	T
10	3		R & R GROUP DEVELOPMENT LLC	\$235.54	110 IREDELL LN	T
10	4		R & R GROUP DEVELOPMENT LLC	\$232.48	112 IREDELL LN	T
13	3		MERRYFIELD, ROBYN & REDDON, JOS A	\$1,644.53	142 LINCOLN RD	T
17	6.02		SIMONS, STEVEN T & MARY ANNE	\$879.94	1482 ELLIS MILL RD	T
21	3.01		BEDELL, BRIAN & STACI	\$9,843.68	104 MILLSTONE WAY	T
31	13		MARTIN, PAULA GANT	\$6,058.72	629 AURA RD	T
49	2	-C0008	KINSEY, TARA L	\$1,140.05	156 BURMA RD	T
51	7		MARCONI, ALICIA MARIE	\$3,308.02	WILLOW GROVE RD	T
62	7		AMCAN CONSULTING LLC	\$1,759.69	593 WHIG LN	T
76	1		WALKER, RONALD	\$337.24	448 UNION ST	T
81	5		LYLES, ETHEL EST OF	\$7,647.23	506 LEDDEN ST	T
85	1.01		WHITE, SANDRA D	\$1,466.48	CLEVELAND AVE	T
86	8		WALKER, SHIRLEY	\$201.86	JACKSON AVE	T
88	4		ROBLES, KENNETH & SAFIRA	\$3,157.60	139 STANGER AVE	T
88	10		ROBLES, KENNETH	\$239.39	STANGER AVE	T
94	2		THOMAS, JAMES W & ELIZABETH	\$2,419.50	523 CHRISTIAN ST	T
108	2.03		BAILEY, GEORGE JR	\$3,780.00	504 ARCH ST	T
118	5.02		SCHWARTZ, MATTHEW J	\$361.73	505 PINE ST	T
119	3		CHRISTMAS, SARAH EST % B SHEFFIELD	\$90.87	514 HARDING ST	T
132	5		BASS, ALVIN O & DIANE	\$547.08	SECOND AVE	T
133	3		SANDY DEVELOPMENT LLC	\$1,419.34	FOURTH ST	T
134	1.03		BATEMAN, DONALD LEWIS	\$455.69	BUCK RD	T
135	1		CARR, HAZEL & SILAS	\$1,503.19	329 BUCK RD	T
135	5		CARR, SILAS	\$544.25	510 FIFTH AVE	T
139	1.02		SANDY DEVELOPMENT LLC	\$684.54	510 THIRD AVE	T
141	3		BATEMAN, DONALD LEWIS	\$221.15	FIFTH AVE	T
144	3		PRINCE, MRS OLLIE @ HELEN FLETCHER	\$285.26	FIRST AVE	T
168	2		R & R DEVELOPMENT GROUP LLC	\$108.33	NINTH AVE	T
168	3.02		R & R GROUP DEVELOPMENT LLC	\$1,426.17	536 EIGHTH AVE	T
171	3		DONES, ADALBERTO & MARIA SANTIAGO	\$966.01	671 FAIRVIEW RD	T
214	25		CLARK, RICHARD R & SUSAN M	\$9,869.65	705 WEBSTER DR	T
217	49		FENNAL, AMY L & GARRY W	\$262.60	SPAULDING LN PRIVATE	T
217	50		CROUCH, EARSTENE EST OF	\$2,132.33	22 SPAULDING LN	T
Totals				\$66,901.35		

T - Property Taxes
Susan DeFrancesco, CTC
The Sentinel of Gloucester County October 15, 22, 2026
Fee \$180.00

THE SENTINEL - OCTOBER 22 - 28, 2026 - PAGE 7 CELEBRATING THE ADDITION OF WOODBURY'S BURIAL GROUND



The Black Heritage Trail project grew out of the state's efforts in 2021 to make Black history more visible across New Jersey. In 2022, the initiative became part of the New Jersey Historical Commission's African American History Program. The commission now lists 76 officially approved Black Heritage Trail sites across 16 counties, and historical markers have been or will be installed at those locations. Nominations for additional sites are still being accepted.

Woodbury's Red Bank Avenue Burial Ground for African Americans was established in 1832 near the intersection of North Broad Street and Red Bank Avenue. Those buried there include 11 Black Civil War veterans, among them Union Army Pvt. Isaac J. Hill of the 29th Connecticut Colored Regiment — one of only five Black soldiers who wrote and published a book about their unit's wartime experiences.

The event will conclude with tours of the Historical Society Museum, including its gallery displays on USCT soldiers and related Black history topics, led by Museum Manager Jordan Orensky.

LARA DOWNES AND RHIANNON GIDDENS IN MUSICAL CONVERSATION WITH SOUNDS LIKE AMERICA PERFORMANCE

Rowan University's Marie Rader Series "Life & Liberty" Season Continues with Exploration of America's History Through the Lens of its Music

Renowned pianist, NPR host and thought leader Lara Downes and Pulitzer Prize and Grammy Award-winning singer Rhiannon Giddens present a unique program of live music and conversation at Rowan University. The Marie Rader Series presents Sounds Like America, Friday, October 30 at 7:30 p.m. in Pfeleer Concert Hall. Ticket prices range from \$10-\$35 and are available at go.rowan.edu/america.

In a musical conversation developed for her NPR series America in Pursuit, renowned pianist and thought leader Lara Downes presents a unique program of live music and conversation with Pulitzer Prize and Grammy Award-winning singer, multi-instrumentalist, and cultural historian Rhiannon Giddens, reflecting on the roots and routes of American music, and the crossroads where traditions come together. Exploring our nation's story through its music, Downes and Giddens share iconic songs from Amazing Grace to Paul Simon's American Tune, tracing our history and celebrating our shared hopes and struggles. This program, which also includes multimedia work produced via Downes' national initiative, The Declaration Project, invites audiences to find common ground and shared purpose in imagining the possibilities of the American future. Closed Captioning will be available at this performance in addition to our standard accommodations.



LEGAL NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE BOROUGH OF CLAYTON PUBLIC NOTICE ACCESS TO LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to P.L. 2025, c. 72, the Borough of Clayton will publish all legal notices, ordinances and resolutions on its official website as follows:

- View full Notices here: <https://nj-clayton.civicplus.com/1225/Public-Notices-Bids>
- Statewide portal: <https://nj.gov/state/statewide-legal-notices-list.shtml> (Legal Notices Portal Under Construction pursuant to P.L. 2025 c. 72)

Christine Newcomb, Borough Clerk
Borough of Clayton
The Sentinel of Gloucester County October 8, 22, 2026
Fee \$30.00

PUBLIC NOTICE WEST DEPTFORD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY PUBLIC NOTICE ACCESS TO LEGAL NOTICES

WEST DEPTFORD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY ACCESS TO LEGAL NOTICES NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to P.L. 2025, c. 72, the West Deptford Free Public Library will publish all legal notices on its official website as follows: <https://westdeptford.lib.nj.us/legal-notices/> Statewide portal: <https://nj.gov/state/statewide-legal-notices-list.shtml>

The Sentinel of Gloucester County October 8, 22, 2026
Fee \$30.00

PUBLIC NOTICE BOROUGH OF GLASSBORO PUBLIC NOTICE ACCESS TO LEGAL NOTICES

TAKE NOTICE pursuant to P.L. 2025, c. 72, the complete text of each legal notice of the Borough of Glassboro including the Boards, Commissions and the like, may be obtained or viewed by the public on the Borough's official internet website as follows:

- View full Legal Notices here: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1iN2Pk9hg7bX9ALu6YFe3pcuZJq8n0QUi>
- TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that the New Jersey Secretary of State legal notices webpage of each public entity can be viewed as follows:
- Statewide portal: <https://nj.gov/state/statewide-legal-notices-list.shtml> (Legal Notices Portal Under Construction pursuant to P.L. 2025 c. 72)

Karen Cosgrove, Municipal Clerk
Borough of Glassboro
The Sentinel of Gloucester County October 8, 22, 2026
Fee \$30.00

PUBLIC NOTICE MANTUA TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS PUBLIC NOTICE ACCESS TO LEGAL NOTICES

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that, pursuant to P.L. 2025, c. 72, and effective March 1, 2026, the complete text of each legal notice of the Mantua Twp Board of Education, Gloucester County, may be obtained or viewed by the public on our official website, which is located at **Public Notices**.
Statewide portal: <https://nj.gov/state/statewide-legal-notices-list.shtml>

Michelle Damminger
Business Office Assistant
Mantua Township Public Schools
The Sentinel of Gloucester County October 8, 22, 2026
Fee \$30.00



LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS, FIRE DISTRICT 3 PUBLIC NOTICE ACCESS TO LEGAL NOTICES

TAKE NOTICE pursuant to P.L. 2025, c. 72, the complete text of each legal notice of the Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District 3 may be obtained or viewed by the public on the Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District 3's official internet website as follows: <https://www.bofdistrict3.com/notices.php>

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the New Jersey Secretary of State legal notices webpage of each public entity can be viewed as follows: Statewide portal: <https://nj.gov/state/statewide-legal-notices-list.shtml>

Charles Stratton, Jr. Chairman / Jeffrey Faubell, Secretary
The Sentinel of Gloucester County October 8, 22, 2026
Fee \$30.00

PUBLIC NOTICE ACCESS TO LEGAL NOTICES

The complete text of legal notices for the Margaret E. Heggan Free Public Library of the Township of Washington can be found at: <https://hegganlibrary.org/index.php/legal-notices/> and also <https://www.nj.gov/state/statewide-legal-notices-list.shtml>

Dina Meddings, Library Operations Manager, Margaret E. Heggan Free Public Library of Washington Township, 606 Delsea Drive, Sewell, NJ 08080
The Sentinel of Gloucester County October 8, 22, 2026
Fee \$30.00

PUBLIC NOTICE WENONAH FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY PUBLIC NOTICE ACCESS TO LEGAL NOTICES

TAKE NOTICE pursuant to P.L. 2025, c. 72, the complete text of each legal notice of the Wenonah Free Public Library, may be obtained or viewed by the public on the Library's official internet website as follows:

- View full Legal Notices here: <https://www.wenonahlibrary.com/legal-notice.html>

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the New Jersey Secretary of State legal notices webpage of each public entity can be viewed as follows:

- Statewide portal: <https://nj.gov/state/statewide-legal-notices-list.shtml>

Ann Zuber, Director
Wenonah Free Public Library
The Sentinel of Gloucester County October 8, 22, 2026
Fee \$30.00

PUBLIC NOTICE FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP LIBRARY PUBLIC NOTICE ACCESS TO LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to P.L. 2025, c. 72, the Franklin Township Library will publish all legal notices, ordinances and resolutions on its official website as follows:

- View full Notices here: <https://FTLNJ.org>
- Statewide portal: <https://nj.gov/state/statewide-legal-notices-list.shtml> (Legal Notices Portal Under Construction pursuant to P.L. 2025 c. 72)

The Sentinel of Gloucester County October 8, 22, 2026
Fee \$30.00

PUBLIC NOTICE FRANKLINVILLE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS PUBLIC NOTICE ACCESS TO LEGAL NOTICES

TAKE NOTICE pursuant to P.L. 2025, c. 72, the complete text of each legal notice of the Franklinville Board of Fire Commissioners may be obtained or viewed by the public on the Franklinville Board of Fire Commissioners' official internet website as follows:

- View full Legal Notices here: <https://www.franklinbofc1.com/notices.php>

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the New Jersey Secretary of State legal notices webpage of each public entity can be viewed as follows:

- Statewide portal: <https://nj.gov/state/statewide-legal-notices-list.shtml>

Craig Weidner, Chairman
Thomas Coulborn, Secretary
The Sentinel of Gloucester County October 8, 22, 2026
Fee \$30.00



Joe Peppitone, James Hogan, Zack Mullock, Jamie Raskin



Donald Norcross, Zack Mullock, Jamie Raskin



Zack Mullock, Jamie Raskin, Marie Blisten, Tina Dare

POLITICAL RALLY FOR ZACK MULLOCK

Zack Mullock, Democratic candidate running for Congress, and a packed house of supporters enjoyed a luncheon meet-and-greet event at The Lake House in Iona, Franklin Township on Friday, October 16th. Congressman Jamie Raskin from Maryland, and ranking members of the House Judiciary Committee, along with Congressman Donald Norcross, and ranking member of the House Armed Services Committee, were also in attendance to support Congressional candidate Mullock. Several local NJEA members attended, namely former State President Marie Blisten and current Secretary-Treasurer Tina Dare were also there to show their support along with Joe Peppitone who is running for a seat on neighboring Cumberland County’s Commissioner Board. Gloucester County Clerk and Franklin Township resident James Hogan also attended the event. Mullock spoke about affordability, the ever-rising cost of gas and groceries, the healthcare crisis, and the war in Iran. As Mayor of Cape May, he has successfully completed multiple capital improvement projects without the need to raise taxes due to diligent fiscal management. When elected, he plans to bring those skills to CD2 to bring down costs for all of his constituents. *Photos/captions by Laurel Nuschke*

NEW SOCIAL MEDIA RESEARCH CENTER AT RUTGERS

Rutgers University Selected Through Competitive Grant Process to Lead Innovative Research and Develop Evidence-Based Solutions on Social Media Use

TRENTON – Rutgers University was selected through a competitive grant process and will host the State’s dedicated Social Media Research Center to independently study social media’s impacts, addictive features, and emerging risks to children.

Earlier this year, the Governor signed three bills to better protect New Jersey children online, hold Big Tech accountable, and address the harmful and addictive effects of social media on young people. In addition to codifying the New Jersey Age-Appropriate Design Code — which limits the data companies can collect and retain from children, establishes safeguards around interactions between minors and adult users, requires platforms to set their default privacy settings for children to the highest level of privacy, and restricts certain platform features designed to keep young users constantly engaged — these measures also included a directive to establish a Social Media Research Center (Center) at one of New Jersey’s four-year public institutions of higher education. The legislation directs the Center to study the impacts of social media consumption and provide policymakers, families, educators, and communities with recommendations regarding addictive social media behaviors among children and minors.

The New Jersey Office of the Secretary of Higher Education (OSHE), in coordination with the New Jersey Department of Health, released a notice of grant opportunity for higher education institutions to submit applications to house the Center. Following a thorough review of the applications submitted, OSHE selected Rutgers University to host the Center.

Governor Sherrill stated at a press conference, “Research has linked social media to depression and anxiety, fatigue and trouble sleeping, poor body image and disordered eating. This new Center will be an invaluable tool to help us better understand how technology is affecting our children, and more importantly, turn research into real solutions to protect our kids, support our families, and address the ongoing youth mental health crisis.”

Over the past decade, a growing number of children and adolescent are reporting symptoms of anxiety, depression, self-harm, and suicidal ideation. Through the Center, Rutgers University will generate timely, relevant, and impactful research advancing awareness and solutions to the critical mental health issue facing communities throughout the Garden State. This includes investigating the potential efficacy of warning labels on social media platforms to discourage compulsive social media use.

“Public health policy must be grounded in the best available evidence,” said Dr. Raynard Washington, Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Health. “The Social Media Research Center at Rutgers University will help New Jersey better understand how social media affects the health and well-being of our young people, and will work with the new Office of Youth Online Mental Health Safety and Awareness at the Department of Health to guide evidence-based solutions that support children, families, and communities across the state.”

Supported by a \$500,000 grant from the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education, which was funded in the Fiscal Year 2027 budget, Rutgers University will take an interdisciplinary, multi-campus approach utilizing expertise and resources from their undergraduate, graduate, and professional schools, including Rutgers Health. The Center will focus on three pillars to meet the goals and address stakeholder needs through:

- Assessment: Understanding impacts of social media;
- Intervention: Mitigating addictive and harmful social media use; and
- Prevention: Promoting health and responsible social media use.

Alongside a team of established researchers and experts already identified, the Center will be directed by Dr. Jessica Hamilton, Associate Professor and Principal Investigator within the School of Arts and Sciences; Dr. Jeffrey Lane, Associate Professor within the School of Communication and Information; and Dr. Vivien Wen Li Anthony, Associate Professor with the School of Social Work.

“We are honored that the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education has selected Rutgers to host the Social Media Research Center. By bringing together researchers from across our campuses and schools, including Rutgers Health, the Center will turn the study of social media’s effects on young people into practical solutions for New Jersey families and communities,” said Rutgers President William F. Tate IV. “We are grateful to OSHE and the Department of Health for their confidence in our work and look forward to a partnership that serves the public good.” “We are grateful to Governor Sherrill for making youth online safety and mental health a priority in her administration. With State support, the New Jersey Social Media Research Center at Rutgers will conduct rigorous and innovative research that New Jersey children and families, schools, and policymakers can use,” said Dr. Jessica L. Hamilton, Director of the New Jersey Social Media Research Center and Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology at Rutgers University. “We hope to advance our understanding of social media’s effects on young people and help New Jersey lead the way in developing research-informed solutions to promote well-being.”

Today’s announcement builds on Governor Sherrill’s broader Kids’ Online Safety Agenda to protect children’s mental health and help parents navigate a rapidly changing digital environment. On her first day in office, Governor Sherrill created the Office of Youth Online Mental Health Safety and Awareness within the New Jersey Department of Health to coordinate efforts across state government to keep children safe online.

The State of New Jersey will also receive at least \$525 million, and could receive over \$752 million, under a landmark \$17.1 billion multistate settlement with Meta Platforms, Inc. Announced by Attorney General Jennifer Davenport in August, the settlement requires Meta to implement a sweeping set of safety features designed to protect children and teenagers on Instagram and Facebook, directly complementing the Governor’s agenda. Allowable uses for settlement funds include but are not limited to youth mental health programming, crisis intervention services, further investigations to improve online safety, and digital literacy efforts.

BUSINESS LEADERS DISCUSS PLANS FOR SOUTH JERSEY

More than 200 South Jersey business leaders gathered Friday, October 16, for the Southern New Jersey Development Council’s (SNJDC) 44th Annual Sound Off for South Jersey Legislative Conference, where former Governor Chris Christie discussed the state of politics in America and how it’s shaping New Jersey’s future.

The annual conference connected local, state, and national policymakers and South Jersey business leaders. The program offered insight into policymakers’ plans for South Jersey, including welcome remarks from Assembly Majority Leader Louis Greenwald (LD6), a legislative discussion panel featuring Senators John Burzichelli (LD3) and Michael Testa Jr. (LD1), and a congressional fireside chat with U.S. Congressmen Donald Norcross (CD1) and Herb Conaway (CD3).

SNJDC President Marlene Asselta opened by recognizing the elected officials present and the event’s sponsors before introducing Assembly Majority Leader Louis Greenwald. Majority Leader Greenwald’s remarks set the stage for a morning focused on the State policy landscape and its impact on Southern New Jersey, including the fiscal and affordability picture, energy costs and reliability, the budget outlook, and opportunities to continue delivering meaningful results for the region.

The event’s legislative discussion panel, moderated by Virtua Health’s Joe Bisicchia, offered insight from Senators John Burzichelli and Michael Testa into how they plan to address rising energy and power costs, the influx of data center projects, the cost of doing business in the region, and the beach erosion following the recent nor’easter, among other topics.

On the topic of South Jersey’s share of resources in comparison to North Jersey, Senator Burzichelli said, “That’s why relationships count. In dealing with our neighbors to the north, the idea is to negotiate and know what we need to do to get our piece of the pie to the extent that we’re entitled to, and maybe a little more on some occasions.”

Senator Michael Testa, whose district is home to the state’s largest data center, said that for a healthy conversation on the topic of data centers, “we must first educate people on what they are, how much energy they use, and how much pollution they cause”.

Shifting to a federal perspective, the legislative panel was followed by a fireside chat featuring U.S. Congressmen Donald Norcross and Herb Conaway, which was moderated by BINJE’s Tom Bergeron.

The congressmen discussed how federal policies and decisions made in Washington will directly impact South Jersey and its businesses. Congressman Norcross said, “We’re in a time of change.” The congressman continued, “But when you have focus, you can put aside party. Remarkable things can get done.” On the upcoming mid-term elections, Congressman Conaway said it will help “put out the fire and get back to normalcy.”

Additionally, Congressmen Norcross and Conaway weighed in on how the One Big Beautiful Bill will impact New Jerseyans who are reliant on Medicaid, SNAP benefits, and taxes.

The event concluded with a keynote address from Former Governor Chris Christie (55th Governor of New Jersey), where he discussed the state of politics in America. Following Christie’s address, South Jersey Industries’ Dominick DiRocco joined the governor for a moderated Q&A, inviting Sound Off attendees to join the conversation.

Key topics raised by attendees included Governor Christie’s likelihood of running for office again, the upcoming mid-term elections, and the needs of South Jersey that Washington and Trenton must address. Additionally, Governor Christie mentioned how, as a U.S. attorney for the state of New Jersey with an office in the city of Camden, he developed a passion for the city and formed key relationships with local leaders. These relationships greatly benefited South Jersey during his time in office as governor, during which he helped revitalize Camden.

On the topic of national politics, Governor Christie remarked, “Be ready for a tumultuous next two years.” In closing, the governor encouraged attendees to “speak up and get involved.”

SNJDC Chairman and President of Performance Marketing Glenn Davila concluded the program by recognizing SNJDC’s board members, event sponsors, policymakers, moderators, and attendees for another successful conference. Founded in 1951, the Southern New Jersey Development Council (SNJDC) is a non-profit economic development organization representing over 300 mid- to large-sized businesses across the southern eight counties. Celebrating 75 years of service to the region, SNJDC serves as a unified voice for both the public and private sectors, aiming to influence the trajectory of sustainable development and enhance economic opportunities in Southern New Jersey.

GROUNDBREAKING OF MAJOR BROADBAND EXPANSION PROJECT

On Tuesday, October 12th, several local officials participated at a ground breaking ceremony for a South Jersey Broadband project, which will be a major expansion of South Jersey’s internet infrastructure that is being supported by \$24.1 million in federal funding. The project will bring more than 180 miles of new fiber infrastructure to the neighboring Salem and Cumberland County region, increasing competition among internet providers and helping bring faster, more affordable service to residents and businesses. People in this area have had very little choice when it comes to internet service in the South Jersey area. This project plans to bring in more competition, better service, and more affordable options with better connections for local hospitals, schools, and law enforcement. "We extend our sincere gratitude to everyone who made this venture possible," said Salem County Commissioner Director Benjamin H. Laury. "We are especially grateful to Congressman Jeff Van Drew for his invaluable support and dedicated attention to this initiative. By expanding high-speed internet service to underserved areas throughout Salem and Cumberland counties, this project will connect local homes, businesses, schools, and public buildings. This initiative marks a major milestone toward building a stronger, more connected community and making both counties a better place to live."

DATA CENTER CONCERNS UNITE NJ LAWMAKERS AS CONGRESS WEIGHS RULES

Before the House last week broke for the campaign trail, the chamber voted overwhelmingly 417 to 3 to pass a bill that may lead to state-level regulation of artificial-intelligence data centers.

The legislation is a minor step from Congress to regulate an industry that has become widespread in American life — and one that poses grave security lists, according to many lawmakers of both parties, including Reps. Donald Norcross (D-1st) and Josh Gottheimer (D-5th).

Both men hold spots on military and national security-focused panels — Norcross on the House Armed Services Committee, Gottheimer on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

“Without revealing any classified information,” Norcross said in an interview with NJ Spotlight News, “there’s great cause for concern. There’s more than just the United States who are playing in this game. China, Russia. Non-state actors, who might be in our own systems.

“There’s not a day that goes by that somebody doesn’t ask me about AI. There’s truly fear out there,” Norcross said. People are worried about losing their jobs, or that their expensive college degrees could be fruitless due to AI technology, he said.

STRAIGHT FROM THE MAYOR

Dear Community Friends,

66 MILLION YEARS IN THE MAKING; THE PROPOSED DINOSAUR TRAIL: Gloucester County and the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) are developing multiple options for a 3-to-5-mile multi-use path, proposed from Glassboro, through Pitman, to the Edelman Fossil Park & Museum on Woodbury-Glassboro Road in Mantua Township, stated Mantua Township Mayor Robert Zimmerman in a letter to residents that was posted on the Township web and social media sites last week. "The Dinosaur Trail will serve as the spine for Gloucester County’s multi-use trail network. It will offer safe, active transportation for residents, provide direct walking and biking access to local destinations, help alleviate traffic congestion, and connect seamlessly to existing local and regional trails including the Circuit Trail systems across South Jersey and Greater Philadelphia." According to the Dinosaur Trail project team, additional public outreach will take place, when the project enters the Engineering phase. "We will continue to share information on the Township’s website and official social media platforms for this very important proposed project, as it becomes available." MANTUA TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT BOND REFERENDUM; SUBSEQUENT BUILDING PROJECT & TAX IMPLICATIONS: On October 5th, I had the opportunity to meet with Mantua Township School District Superintendent, Christine Trampe. Superintendent Trampe requested this meeting with the Township Administrator, Jennica Bileci and myself in an effort to provide updates on the \$39.1 million bond referendum (\$29.2 million local cost) from the December 9, 2025 special election. As I’m sure you may recall - this bond referendum was put to the voters, as the Board of Education requested funding for critical improvements across all three elementary schools in Mantua’s Elementary School District. In gist, we were informed that the bond referendum ballot question has officially passed by one vote (1,133 in-favor to 1,132 opposed). We were also informed that all related court proceedings have been finalized. The School District anticipates the project beginning in March 2027, and suggests that the overall duration of the project will take approximately 18 months for completion. Property tax implications will seemingly take effect during the next tax billing cycle - 3rd quarter of 2027. According to Mantua School District’s website from 2025, an average assessed house valued at \$311,293.00 in Mantua Township will pay \$28.00 per month x 12 months = \$336.00 Annually for this project. Whether you agree, or disagree, the resident voters of Mantua made this choice through the election process on December 9, 2025. We have incredible schools with both Mantua and Clearview, and many choose our great community for our public school systems. We need to invest in our schools and our community to keep Mantua great. For further information, it is suggested that you follow the School District’s updates at www.mantuaschools.com and/or contact Superintendent Trampe at (856) 468-2100 ex. 2112 or ctrampe@mantuaschools.com. This is solely a Mantua School District project, and is not within the jurisdiction of the Township Committee. On behalf of the entire Township Committee and I, we look forward to continuing our service with honesty, integrity and trustful leadership! Respectfully, Mayor Robert T. Zimmerman, MAS

AI CAN SUPPORT TEACHERS, BUT IT SHOULD NEVER REPLACE THEM

Artificial intelligence can be a powerful tool in education, but it should never replace a teacher. Assemblywoman Heather Simmons (D-Gloucester) brought that message to FOX 29’s Good Day Philadelphia last week, discussing her Educators Before AI Act (A5529) and the importance of protecting the human connection at the heart of public education.

“AI can help teachers, support learning and open up new possibilities in the classroom. But it cannot replace the human connection, professional judgment and inspiration educators bring to their students every day,” said Asw. Simmons. “AI should be a tool for our teachers, not their replacement.”

While replacing teachers with AI has not been an issue in New Jersey’s public schools, Simmons sees an opportunity for the Legislature to act proactively and establish a clear standard as the technology becomes more prevalent.

“We have an opportunity to get ahead of this issue and establish our values before we face these decisions in our schools,” Simmons said. “We can embrace innovation while making it clear that technology must support educators, not take their place. Our children deserve human beings who can recognize when they’re struggling, encourage them to succeed and build the relationships that make learning possible.”

The Educators Before AI Act would require public school employees and individuals providing services under contract with public school districts to be human beings. Beyond classroom teachers, the legislation covers school administrators, substitute teachers, teacher aides, school nurses, counselors, psychologists and other school personnel. Its protections would also extend to charter schools and renaissance school projects.

“Teaching is about so much more than delivering information. It’s about mentoring, encouraging, inspiring and helping children discover their potential,” Simmons said. “As AI becomes more common, we must ensure it strengthens education without sacrificing the people who make it meaningful. People must come before AI.”

Simmons is working with her Senate partner, Senator John Burzichelli, who is carrying the legislation in the Senate, to advance this important safeguard for New Jersey’s students and educators. Assembly Bill A5529 was introduced in the New Jersey General Assembly on September 17, 2026, and awaits further legislative action.



SIMMONS JOINS ROWAN BREAST CANCER WALK, UNDERScores IMPORTANCE OF EARLY DETECTION

Assemblywoman Heather Simmons (D-Gloucester) joined Rowan University students, faculty and breast cancer advocates earlier this month for the university’s inaugural Breast Cancer Walk on the main campus in Glassboro. The event was organized by the Rowan University Democrats and Rowan Breast Cancer Meal Care to raise awareness and support the fight against breast cancer.

“Early detection offers hope, research drives progress and awareness brings us closer to a future without breast cancer,” said Asw. Simmons. “Rowan students are helping advance that message in our community, and it reinforces why I’m working in Trenton to improve early recognition of inflammatory breast cancer.”

Simmons connected the walk’s focus on breast cancer awareness to her legislative work on Marnie’s Law (A3435-Simmons), which would require New Jersey professional nursing education programs to include specific training on inflammatory breast cancer (IBC). IBC is a rare and aggressive form of the disease that can be difficult to detect through routine mammography.

The bill recently advanced unanimously out of the Assembly Regulated Professions Committee.During the hearing, Marnie’s husband, Zack Robidas, testified about his wife’s life and her two-year battle with IBC, underscoring the importance of better education and earlier recognition.

“Marnie’s Law is about hope, the hope that another family won’t have to endure what Marnie and her loved ones went through,” Simmons said. “By preparing future nurses to recognize the signs of this aggressive disease, we have an opportunity to make a meaningful difference for patients and their families.”

Simmons thanked student organizer Gianna DiGiovanni, president of both the Rowan University Democrats and Rowan Breast Cancer Meal Care, as well as Dean of Students Kevin Koett, for the invitation to attend the Breast Cancer Walk. She also recognized student researcher Neche Obiadazie, whose research focuses on IBC, and breast cancer survivor and Rowan mother Lynn Johnson for their contributions and advocacy.

Simmons is sponsoring Marnie’s Law in the Assembly alongside Senate partner Senator John Burzichelli, who is carrying the legislation in the Senate.



LEGAL NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE BY SEALED-BID PUBLIC AUCTION OF VARIOUS MUNICIPAL OWNED BLOCKS/LOTS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES BY THE TOWNSHIP OF ELK, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13, et seq., Ordinance No. O-2-2026, the Elk Township Committee has authorized, via public auction by sealed bid, the sale of Township owned real property no longer needed for public purpose. A sealed-bid public auction for the sale of the properties identified below will be conducted on November 13, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. Bidders must submit their bid on the Bid Submission Agreement available from the Acting Township Clerk. The sealed bids will be opened at the Township of Elk Municipal Building located at the 680 Whig Lane Road, Monroeville, New Jersey 08343.

The properties to be sold and the minimum bid price are described as follows:

Block	Lot	Property Location	Bid Minimum	Approx. Lot Size
40	17	South of Elk Road	\$50,000.00	16.6 acres
50	6	739 Buck Road	\$10,000.00	0.82 acres
59	12	West of Union Street	\$40,000.00	10.5 acres
62	19	Stanger Avenue	\$75,000.00	4.13 acres
67	2	916 Whig Lane Road	\$45,100.00	3.02 acres
67	11	315 Union Street	\$27,600.00	3.20 acres
67	12	311 Union Street	\$75,700.00	10.82 acres
74	2 and 3	State Street	\$8,800.00	0.282 acres
74	4.01 and 4.02	Union Street	\$11,200.00	0.502 acres
80	3	Cleveland Avenue	\$35,300.00	0.57 acres
88	8	147 Stanger Avenue	\$35,000.00	0.70 acres
88	9	410 Christian Avenue	\$3,000.00	0.11 acres
112	1	Arthur Avenue	\$10,000.00	1.49 acres
115	3	306 Harrison Avenue	\$2,000.00	0.23 acres
115	5	312 Harrison Avenue	\$2,000.00	0.22 acres
124	3	Roosevelt Avenue	\$2,000.00	0.23 acres
124	13	Roosevelt Avenue	\$1,000.00	0.11 acres
131	1	Main Street	\$2,000.00	0.24 acres
131	3	503 Second Avenue	\$8,000.00	0.44 acres
131	6	Second Avenue	\$4,500.00	0.22 acres
140	2, 3, 6, 7 & 8	514 Fourth Avenue	\$54,000.00	1.03 acres
146	2	Douglass Street	\$7,500.00	0.33 acres
154	1	Dunbar Boulevard	\$29,400.00	0.47 acres
154	2	Dunbar Boulevard	\$45,400.00	1.88 acres
155	4	Fifth Avenue	\$2,000.00	0.13 acres
156	5	Marion Avenue	\$3,000.00	0.37 acres
157	3	Seventh Street	\$3,000.00	0.11 acres
162	1	Third Avenue	\$3,000.00	0.24 acres
177	1	Buck Road	\$60,000.00	2.57 acres
182	3	Third Avenue	\$2,000.00	0.28 acres
195	1	Twenty-Nineth Avenue	\$2,000.00	0.14 acres
195	3	Twenty-Eighth Avenue	\$4,000.00	0.57 acres
195	4	Twenty-Nineth Avenue	\$2,000.00	0.30 acres
217	3	325 Cedar Bridge Road	\$20,000.00	0.95 acres
217	4	319 Cedar Bridge Road	\$78,200.00	1.91 acres

The sale of the properties is being made subject to the terms, conditions, restrictions and limitations of a Contract for Sale between the successful bidder and the Township and the following terms and conditions:

1. The descriptions of the properties are intended as a general guide only and may not be accurate. No representations of any kind are made by the Township of Elk as to the condition of the properties; the premises are being sold strictly in their present condition “AS IS”.
2. The sale is made subject to all applicable laws, statutes, regulations and ordinances of the United States, State of New Jersey, County of Gloucester and the Township of Elk.
3. No employee, agent or officer of the Township of Elk has any authority to waive, modify or amend any conditions of the sale.
4. Bids for any and all of the properties must be made for a sum equal or greater to the minimum bid price.
5. The properties will be conveyed by a Quitclaim Deed and such conveyance shall be subject to all covenants, restrictions, reservations, easements, liens and encumbrances established of record or by prescription and without representation of any kind as to the quality or character of title of the properties to be conveyed.
6. All sales are subject to the Local Lands and Buildings Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1 et seq. and all rights reserved by the Township by such law.
7. Bidder shall deposit cash, check or money order in the amount of not less than 10% of the high bid price at the time of sale. In the event the successful bidder fails to deposit 10% of the bid price at the time of the sale, the Township will re-auction the properties at the same public sale. If the successful bidder fails to pay the deposit, the bidder shall be responsible for any difference between their bid and the final sale bid in the event such bid is lower than the bid of the original bidder.
8. The winning bidder shall abide by all zoning, subdivision, health and building regulations and codes and acknowledges that this sale will not be used as grounds to support any variance from or relaxation of the Township’s Zone Code.
9. The winning bidder acknowledges that failure to close title as agreed shall be cause to forfeit all funds deposited with the Township.
10. The winning bidder acknowledges that the purchase price shall not be used before any County Board of Taxation, Tax Court of New Jersey, or in any court of this State as grounds to support a challenge of the existing assessments with regard to the subject or other property.
11. The Township reserves the right to withdraw the offer of sale of each property.
12. All sales are subject to final approval by the Township Committee.
13. The Township does not warrant or certify title to the property and in no event shall the Township of Elk be liable for any damages to the purchaser-successful bidder if title is found unmarketable for any reason and the purchaser-successful bidder waives any and all right in damages or by way of liens against the Township. The sole remedy being the right to receive a refund prior to closing of the deposit paid in the event title is found unmarketable. It shall be the obligation of the successful purchaser to examine title to the premises prior to the closing. In the event of closing and a later determination is made that title is defective, the Township shall not be responsible for the same and shall not be required to refund money or correct any defect in title or be held liable for damages.
14. Acceptance of the offer of the highest bid shall constitute a binding agreement of sale, and the purchaser shall be deemed to agree to comply with the terms and conditions of the sale herein contained.
15. The successful bidder shall bear the burden of obtaining any and all approvals from the appropriate municipal, county or government agency, if applicable. The successful bidder shall also bear the burden of obtaining and paying for any and all necessary permits, connections, and/or arrangements to provide for cable, water, electric, sewer or solid waste disposal.
16. The Township reserves the right to accept the highest responsive bid if equal to or greater than the minimum bid price, or to reject all bids at the public sale and not to award to the highest bidder. The Township reserves the right to waive any and all defects and informalities in any proposal, and to accept or reject the highest responsible and responsive bid deemed to be in the best interest of the Township.
17. This sale is made subject to such state of facts as an accurate survey may disclose, existing tenancies, rights of persons in possession, easements, conditions, covenants and restrictions and any liens and encumbrances of title which the Township Committee may impose on any parcel at the time of the sale, including but not limited to restrictions on the use to be made of such real property, capital improvements or personal property and any conditions of sale as buildings or structures, or as to the type, size or other specializations of buildings or structures, and the time within such conditions shall be operative, or any other conditions of sale in like manner to the same extent as by any other purchaser.
18. In addition to the terms and conditions set forth herein, successful bidders agree that the Township shall impose the following conditions:
 - a. To deposit cash, check or money order in an amount not less than 10% of the high bid price at the time that the bid is submitted.
 - b. To submit with the 10% deposit an executed Bid Submission Agreement, which will be provided by the Acting Municipal Clerk.
 - c. To pay on or before the date of closing:
 - i. The balance of the purchase price via bank cashier’s check or cash.
 - ii. The prorated cost of preparation of all legal documents and advertising costs for each property purchased.
 - iii. The prorated real estate taxes, for the balance of the current tax quarter as of the date of closing.
 - iv. The realty transfer fees.
 - v. All County recording fees.
19. All sealed bids shall be submitted on an executed Bid Submission Agreement and delivered to the Clerk’s Office of the Township of Elk, 680 Whig Lane Road, Monroeville, New Jersey 08343 (856-881-6525). The sealed bid shall provide the block, lot, common address and bid amount, along with the ten percent (10%) deposit via cash, check or money order. The sealed bid shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the name and address of the bidder and clearly marked on the outside of the envelope: “Bid for Block __, Lot __, [address]”. The sealed bids shall be returned to the Elk Township Municipal Clerk no later than November 13, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. prevailing time. The bids will thereafter be opened and read on November 13, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. Late bids will not be accepted.

Timothy Pine, Acting Municipal Clerk
Township of Elk
680 Whig Lane Road
Monroeville, NJ 08343
(856) 881-6525
The Sentinel of Gloucester County October 22, 29, 2026
Fee \$342.00

NJ STATE PARKS EXPANDS TRAIL ACCESSIBILITY

Building on the Department of Environmental Protection’s commitment to making the outdoors more accessible to all, New Jersey State Parks today announced the deployment of five new all-terrain wheelchairs at state parks and historic sites across the state.

The wheelchairs are now available at Island Beach State Park in Ocean County, Liberty State Park in Hudson County, Waterloo Village Historic Site in Warren County, Round Valley Recreation Area in Hunterdon County and Parvin State Park in Salem County.

“Everyone deserves an opportunity to enjoy the beauty of our state parks, forests and historic sites,” said Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Ed Potosnak. “These specially designed all-terrain wheelchairs will open opportunities for those with mobility challenges to experience terrain that they otherwise would not have a chance to enjoy. The addition of these wheelchairs delivers on the Sherrill administration’s commitment to enhancing access to our state park system and open spaces, which in turn improves health outcomes and quality of life for New Jersey residents.”

The all-terrain wheelchairs are designed to navigate trails and other natural surfaces that can be difficult to access with standard wheelchairs, providing additional opportunities for people with mobility challenges to enjoy New Jersey’s state parks and forests. Watch a video to see the wheelchairs in action.

The chairs selected for use are manufactured by Extreme Motus. They are nonmotorized and must be pushed by a companion and cannot be operated independently by the person seated in the chair.

“The outdoors should be accessible to everyone, regardless of ability, and these all-terrain wheelchairs are just one part of a much broader effort to improve accessibility throughout New Jersey State Parks,” said John Cecil, Assistant Commissioner for State Parks, Forests & Historic Sites. “Our accessibility work to date includes installing accessible canoe and kayak launches, conducting trail accessibility assessments, installing beach mats and providing beach wheelchairs at swimming areas, as well as adding inclusive playgrounds.”

Wheelchair Accessibility

Funding for the five wheelchairs was made possible through a \$24,550 grant awarded by the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation through its 2025 Direct Effect Second Cycle Quality of Life Grants program.

“We thank the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation for their generous support which is allowing us to put these five all-terrain wheelchairs directly into the hands of park visitors who directly benefit from them,” said Rebecca Fitzgerald, Administrator for New Jersey State Parks. “These new all-terrain wheelchairs give visitors another option and help open the door to experiences that may otherwise be difficult to access.”

Advanced reservations for the wheelchairs are required. To make a reservation, contact the following state park offices:

- Island Beach State Park, Ocean County: 732-793-0506
- Liberty State Park, Hudson County: 201-915-3400, Option 4
- Parvin State Park, Salem County: 856-358-8616
- Round Valley Recreation Area, Hunterdon County: 908-236-6355
- Waterloo Village Historic Site, Warren County: 973-347-1835

New Jersey State Parks also offers a reservable motorized wheelchair, known as a Track Chair, at Wharton State Forest. Advanced reservations for the Track Chair are required. To reserve the Track Chair, call the Wharton State Forest Batsto Office at 609-561-0024. Only one reservation is accepted per day. Watch a video about the Track Chair at Wharton State Forest.

Other Accessibility Improvements - The addition of the new all-terrain wheelchairs builds on extensive work by New Jersey State Parks to improve accessibility across the state’s vast network of trails. Since 2025, New Jersey State Parks has completed accessibility assessments of more than 100 miles of trails through a grant from the Federal Highway Administration’s Recreational Trails Program. The assessments collect detailed information about trail conditions, including slope, cross slope, surface type, width, length and trailhead facilities. Using this information, New Jersey State Parks is identifying trails and trailheads that meet Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards and USDA Forest Service Trail Accessibility Guidelines, identifying potential improvements to increase accessibility and developing informative trail maps to help visitors determine whether individual trails meet their needs. Additional trail accessibility assessments are planned to occur in 2027. Updated accessibility trail maps are currently available for Allaire State Park, Cheesquake State Park and Monmouth Battlefield State Park in Monmouth County and the Forest Resource Education Center in Ocean County. The information also is available through the web application Trail Tracker, New Jersey State Parks’ interactive trail map of state parks, forests and historic sites. As assessments continue, additional updated trail maps and data will be added.

Recently, DEP unveiled improvements to the Sensory Awareness Trail at the Forest Resource Education Center in Jackson Township, Ocean County. The accessible, quarter-mile trail is designed to encourage visitors of all abilities to use multiple senses while exploring the forest and other habitats along the out-and-back trail. For visitors with visual impairments, an upgraded guide rope allows for navigation with wooden markers along the rope indicating interpretive exhibits. Across the trail, a ball on the rope signals an exhibit on the right, while a block signals one on the left. Benches are placed at regular intervals for rest stops, and an improved shortcut back to the beginning of the trail avoids a slope down to the Toms River.

CONGRESSMAN VAN DREW CALLS FOR INDEPENDENT AUDIT OF ACE METERS

Congressman Van Drew called on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to help secure an independent audit of Atlantic City Electric’s (ACE) digital smart meters after multiple South Jersey residents reported that their meters continued registering electricity usage even after they turned off their homes’ main breakers.

"Something is very wrong here, and I am not going to stop until we get to the bottom of it," said Congressman Van Drew. "People are telling us they shut off the electricity to their entire homes, and the meters are still running. Bills have doubled and tripled, a federal audit already uncovered transmission overbilling issues, and families are paying more than ever despite promises of a rate freeze. The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities has done nothing to give these families relief, so I am asking the federal government to help get an independent audit. While FERC does not directly regulate residential meters, we need an independent review by a party with no financial ties to ACE or its parent company. I am not backing down until we get answers."

Residents who have noticed their digital meters continuing to register electricity usage after shutting off their main breaker, or whose meters have failed to properly account for electricity generated by their solar panels, are asked to report their experiences to his office by completing this form.

ANNUAL WREATHS OF REMEMBRANCE

On December 5, 2026, the People for People Foundation of Gloucester County will host the 17th Annual Wreaths of Remembrance Ceremony at the Gloucester County Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Monroe Township. Collectively with the Gloucester County Department of Veterans Administration, Lora and Rich Gess and the Rotary Club of Glassboro along with hundreds of volunteers, 4100 wreaths will be placed on the graves while saying words of gratitude to honor the deceased veterans. Family members of the interred are asked to arrive by 9:00 am for a short reception and then a private laying of wreaths on their family member’s graves. Starting at 9:30 am, a formal memorial ceremony is held by local dignitaries and the laying of wreaths at the memorial sites of the different branches of the military. Volunteers will then lay wreaths on the balance of the graves. The event is open to the public. Due to the large numbers of participants all parking will be at the Williamstown Middle School parking lot which is one mile from the cemetery. Shuttle buses will transport everyone to the cemetery starting at 8:15 am. Handicap designated cars ONLY will be allowed to park at the cemetery. There will be handicap accessible buses running from the middle school as well. Please comply with all parking instructions. If you or your group would like to volunteer to lay wreaths please contact Janis at 856-579-7561 ext. 203



PHIL VENTICINQUE & EUGENE J. CALDWELL II

FOR FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

6th Community Meet and Greet

SUNDAY OCTOBER 25th

4:30pm - 6:00pm

NEWFIELD TERRACE COMMUNITY CENTER

126 New Jersey Ave, Newfield, NJ 08344

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Keeping the Love of Food with Type 2 Diabetes

Shrimp Scampi and Cauliflower Grits

Recipe courtesy of Kardea Brown on behalf of Abbott
Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 25 minutes
Servings: 4

- Grits:**
- 3 cups low-sodium chicken broth
 - 1 cup light cream
 - 1 cup stone-ground grits
 - 1 cup cauliflower rice
 - 2 tablespoons butter
 - 1/2 cup shredded Parmesan cheese
 - 1/4 teaspoon salt
 - 1/4 teaspoon black pepper

- Shrimp Scampi:**
- 2 tablespoons butter
 - 2 tablespoons olive oil
 - 4 cloves garlic, minced
 - 1/2 teaspoon red pepper flakes (optional)
 - 1 pound large shrimp, peeled and deveined
 - 1/2 cup low-sodium chicken broth
 - 2 tablespoons dry white wine
 - 1 lemon, juice only
 - 1 teaspoon lemon zest
 - salt, to taste
 - pepper, to taste
 - 2 tablespoons chopped parsley

To make grits: Bring broth and cream to gentle boil; whisk in grits. Cook 10-15 minutes. Stir in cauliflower rice and cook 5-7 minutes. Add butter, cheese, salt and pepper.

To make shrimp scampi: In pan, heat butter and oil; saute garlic and red pepper flakes, if desired, 30 seconds. Add shrimp, cook 1-2 minutes per side and remove.

Add broth, wine, lemon juice and lemon zest; simmer 2-3 minutes. Return shrimp; toss; season with salt and pepper, to taste; and stir in parsley. Serve shrimp over creamy grits.



Macaroni and Cheese with Chickpea Pasta

Recipe courtesy of Kardea Brown on behalf of Abbott
Prep time: 20 minutes
Bake time: 30 minutes
Servings: 4-6

- Pasta:**
- 8 ounces chickpea-based, gluten-free pasta

- Bechamel Sauce:**
- 2 tablespoons butter
 - 3 tablespoons almond flour
 - 1 cup half-and-half
 - 1/2 cup heavy cream
 - 1/2 cup low-sodium chicken or vegetable broth
 - 1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
 - 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
 - 1/4 teaspoon smoked paprika
 - salt, to taste
 - black pepper, to taste

- Cheese Blend:**
- 1 cup medium cheddar cheese, shredded
 - 1/2 cup Gruyere cheese, shredded
 - 1/4 cup Parmesan cheese, grated

- Topping:**
- 1/2 cup shredded cheddar and Gruyere cheese
 - 2 tablespoons almond flour (optional)
 - chopped parsley

Preheat oven to 375 F and grease baking dish.

To make pasta: Cook pasta al dente.

To make bechamel sauce: Melt butter and whisk in almond flour, 1-2 minutes. Slowly add half-and-half, heavy cream and broth. Stir until thickened. Season with mustard, garlic powder, smoked paprika and salt and pepper, to taste. Remove from heat.

To make cheese blend: Mix cheddar, gruyere and Parmesan. Stir half the cheese blend into bechamel sauce until smooth. Stir in pasta.

Layer pasta and cheese sauce in dish: half pasta, half cheese and repeat. Top with reserved cheese and almond flour, if desired.

Cover with foil and bake 15-20 minutes. Remove foil and bake 10-15 minutes uncovered until golden.

Rest 5 minutes, garnish with parsley and serve warm.

FEATURE IMPACT

Living with Type 2 diabetes often means making adjustments to your daily routine, especially when it comes to food. Whether you’re living with the condition or supporting someone who is, it can influence everything from meal planning to dinners out and everyday activities. Although adjusting to life with diabetes may take time, you don’t have to give up your favorite foods and flavors. In fact, it can be an opportunity to discover meals that support your health goals while still enjoying the foods you love.

That’s what professional chef and TV show host Kardea Brown did, alongside her husband Bryon Smith, who was recently diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes at age 38.

“When my husband was diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes, it didn’t mean the end of the foods we love,” Brown said. “It meant I had to get creative. I started reimagining my recipes, so they still carry that same soul, that same comfort, just with ingredients that love him back a little better.”

To remove the guesswork about how certain ingredients affect Smith’s glucose levels, the couple relies on Abbott’s FreeStyle Libre 3 Plus

sensor with Libre Assist*, a feature within the accompanying Libre app**. The technology provides real-time glucose insights and can help predict how certain foods may affect his glucose^ levels before a meal.

“I open the Libre Assist feature in the app, snap a photo and instantly see how that food might affect me before I even take the first bite,” Smith said. “It even suggests healthier swaps to help lower the impact.”

Small lifestyle changes can also make a difference in diabetes management. Brown recommends:

- Building balanced meals that prioritize non-starchy vegetables, lean proteins and healthy carbs for added fiber.
- Reading labels carefully to ensure you choose ingredients with little or no added sugars.
- Boosting fiber intake with ingredients like lentils, oats, beans and whole fruits.
- Cooking smarter at home by using simple methods like grilling, baking or sauteing with healthy fats, such as olive or canola oil.
- Planning and preparing for success by shopping with a list and planning meals in advance so you always have nutritious ingredients ready to cook.



Photo courtesy of Abbott (Bryon Smith and Kardea Brown, a paid partner)

To learn more about Libre Assist and to see if you qualify for a free† sensor, visit freestylelibre.us/LibreAssist.

Red Velvet Layer Cake with Almond Flour

Recipe courtesy of Kardea Brown on behalf of Abbott
Prep time: 25 minutes
Bake time: 20 minutes
Chill time: 30-60 minutes
Servings: 12

- Cake:**
- 2 cups almond flour
 - 1 cup whole-wheat pastry flour
 - 1 tablespoon unsweetened cocoa powder
 - 1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
 - 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
 - 1/2 teaspoon salt
 - 1 1/2 cups monk fruit-allulose blend
 - 3 large eggs
 - 1/2 cup plain unsweetened Greek yogurt
 - 1/3 cup avocado oil
 - 3/4 cup buttermilk
 - 1 tablespoon distilled vinegar
 - 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
 - red food coloring (optional)

- Whipped Cream:**
- 6 ounces cream cheese, softened
 - 1/3 cup powdered monk fruit
 - 1 1/2 cups cold heavy whipping cream

- Berry Drizzle:**
- 1/2 cup no-sugar-added wild berry jam
 - 1-2 tablespoons water
 - 1 teaspoon lemon juice (optional)

- Filling and Topping:**
- 2 cups mixed berries (strawberries, blueberries, raspberries)
- Preheat oven to 350 F and grease or line three 8-inch pans.

To make cake: In bowl, mix almond flour, pastry flour, cocoa powder, baking powder, baking soda, salt and monk fruit-allulose blend. In separate bowl, mix eggs, Greek yogurt, avocado oil, buttermilk, distilled vinegar, vanilla extract and red food coloring, if desired. Combine dry and wet ingredients until smooth. Divide evenly into pans and bake 18-22 minutes. Cool completely.

To make whipped cream: Whip cream cheese and monk sugar until smooth. Add cream gradually and whip to medium-stiff peaks. Chill.

To make berry drizzle: Warm berry jam with water and lemon juice, if desired, until pourable; cool slightly.

To assemble cake: Layer cake, whipped cream, jam and berries; repeat for three layers. Top with berries and drizzle.

Chill 30-60 minutes before slicing.



The views expressed in this article should not be used for medical diagnosis or treatment or as a substitute for professional medical advice. Individual symptoms, situations and circumstances may vary.

* Libre Assist is a feature within Libre app that uses generative artificial intelligence to provide information on how foods could impact your glucose levels. Generative artificial intelligence may not always be accurate, and it should not be used to make treatment decisions.

** The FreeStyle Libre systems apps are only compatible with certain mobile devices and operating systems. Please check the Support section of our website for more information about device compatibility before using the apps. Use of the FreeStyle Libre systems apps may require registration with LibreView.

^ Predicted glucose impact is based on user-provided food data and may differ from actual impact, which depends on sensor readings and factors like activity,

stress, medication and alcohol. For personalized advice, consult your healthcare provider.

†Offer available for people who qualify. Visit MyFreeStyle.us to see all Terms and Conditions. Certain exclusions apply. Medicare and Medicaid patients are not eligible. See MyFreeStyle.us for more information.

Important Safety Information: Product for prescription only, for Important Safety Information visit FreeStyleLibre.us.