**FREE** JUNE 2015

## The Millstone Times

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## Community Partner Wawa, Sponsors Millstone Twp. Middle School 8th Grade Breakfast **Benefiting Local Food Bank**



Full Story **On** Page 11

Pictured left to right: Erik Henig, Garett Silverman, Rajiv Mehta, Kyle Sikkema

Additional Comments From Mrs. Marcella Heine, National Junior Honor Society Advisor and 8th grade teacher at Millstone Twp. Middle School:

"They have really demonstrated humanitarian qualities in so many different ways. After leaving the FoodBank, our first order of business was to establish a food drive at our school. The drive became known as a "Soup" Drive."

"They have also raised money for the Bankroft Neuro Center and for a local family who recently lost their house to a fire."



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## Millstone United Presbyterian Church Welcomes new Interim Minister

By Pam Tee

ith the retirement of their minister last year after close to nineteen years of serving the congregation, the United Presbyterian Church has been pursuing prospects for a permanent pastor to take his place to lead the congregation. In the meantime, the parishioners have welcomed a new interim minister to their church. Pastor George Betz, who presides in Doylestown Pennsylvania, is no stranger to New Jersey. Growing up in Caldwell, the Pastor went off to Moravian College in Bethlehem, PA to prepare for law school and play football. In his sophomore year at college, he changed course. As a result of rooming with a Moravian pre- theological student, and after connecting with the First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem, he heard Jesus' call to follow him. He then pursued a life in Pastoral Ministry.

He went on to the Princeton Seminary, and after graduating, went to Edinburgh Scotland to study the New Testament. When he came home, his call to commence with his parish ministry was so great that he began his ministry in a small church in South Jersey. With more than 35 years of ministry behind him, Pastor George Betz has served many churches in the capacity of Installed Pastor, Designated Pastor, and interim Pastor. He has worked as a consultant/trainer in the Knox Fellowship traveling around the country and working with churches and Presbyteries both here and in Pennsylvania equipping them in the practice of Evangelism.

One thing you can say about the new interim pastor, he definitely is a people person. He believes the root of any successful church is the interaction of its members. He describes himself as a relational theologian. He believes that the effectiveness of the entire churches' ministry is based on the quality of their relationships with God and with one another. As a passionate Evangelist, his ministry is guided by three loves: the love for Jesus, the love for people, and the love of bringing Jesus and people together.

During the time that the pastor will serve the congregation, he plans on getting to know each and every member in an effort to better serve and lead them. "It's all about relationships," Pastor Betz states. "How well we're connected to one another." He has already begun to meet church members and new friends through small group gatherings set up at different people's houses throughout the months of May and June. His focus will be on getting together, talking, listening, and connecting!

Pastor Betz sees the church as ever evolving with the times. A baby boomer that refuses to get old, the Pastor brings forth new ideas and more modern approaches that he hopes will rekindle member's relation-ship with God and with each other.

He is eager to get to know the people of the church, work with the Youth Ministry, the Senior Ministry, and learn of the hopes and aspirations that the parishioners have for their congregation in an effort to improve on

areas that might need some improving. Pastor Betz would also like to reach out to the larger Millstone Community. You don't need to be a church member or even a Christian to call upon him. He was recently asked by the Township to give a prayer during the Memorial Day Ceremonies and hopes to meet many more members of the community in the years to come.

With him, he brings a love and a passion for his faith and for the people he serves, and to the Millstone Presbyterian Church, he brings years of experience and guidance as the church continues to grow. He believes the Millstone Church has a bright and positive future and looks forward to being a part of it in every way. In his own words, "When God's people, God's priests, Jesus Disciples/Apostles are empowered and unleashed to be about their ministry in the world- all heaven breaks loose!" If you are interested in becoming a new member of the church, come and join in the "All in Inquirers Class" meeting on Sunday mornings, June 14th and June 21st, 9:00- 10:15 a.m. at the church. To register call Cindy Mayer at 732-446-5350.

You can reach Pastor George at 732-446-5350. If no answer, please leave a message. Come visit the church at: 211 Millstone Road, Perrineville, NJ.

If you are interested in signing your child up for Vacation Bible School, please contact Amy Weltner at the above number. You don't have to be a member to attend. Bible School will take place June 22-26, from 9-1p.m.

Come and join in the Cantata. Hear stories, songs, and verses based on love. Everyone is invited to the church on June 14<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m.

Lastly, church members are collecting used bicycles for the Organization "Second Life Bikes" in Asbury Park. Donated bikes are fixed up and sold. Children will be taught how to fix bikes and "earn" a bike by helping to fix it. Any condition bikes are accepted as well as spare parts, helmets, and gear. Please leave the bike under the pavilion on the side of the church. They will be collecting bikes until June 27<sup>th</sup>.



## TENDER SMILES

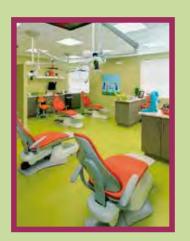


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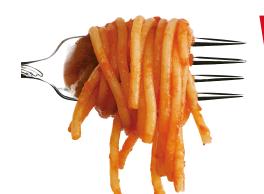
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## **Be Mindful Of Outdoor Fire Safety** County Fire Marshal Has Timely Reminder

#### -As the weather grows warmer you are spending time outside, Monmouth County officials caution residents and visitors to follow outdoor safety procedures.

"Regardless of the season, conditions often allow wildfires to start. Wildfires may occur during any month and at any time of day, damaging valuable forests and natural resources, and threatening improved property and human lives," said Freeholder John P. Curley.

New Jersey's danger of wildfires rises during the spring and autumn months. Because trees are bare during these months, sunlight is allowed to reach the ground and dry the leaf litter on the forest floor.

Winds during the spring and fall can be strong and dry, thus creating a deep, fluffy layer of hazardous forest fuels. Lastly, an ignition source can spark these fuels, creating a devastating wildfire.

"Wildfires can be prevented," said Monmouth County Fire Marshal Henry Stryker III. "Being careful with the use of fire can prevent ninety-nine percent of all wildfires in New Jersey."

The following tips can help you enjoy fire safely in the outdoors:

· Lanterns, Stoves, and Heaters: Cool all lanterns, stoves and heaters before refueling them. They should be refueled on the ground in a cleared area; if a ny fuel spills, move the appliance to a new area before lighting it. Store flammable liquid fuel containers in a safe place. Never light lanterns

and stoves inside a tent, trailer or camper. If you use a lantern or stove inside a tent or trailer, be sure to have adequate ventilation. Always read and follow instructions provided by the manufacturer.

- **Spark Arresters:** All types of equipment and vehicles are required to have spark arresters. Chain saws, portable generators, cross-country vehicles, and trail bikes, for example, require spark arresters if used in or near grass, brush or wooded areas. Check with your local dealer to ensure that the spark arrester is functioning properly.
- **Smoking:** When smoking outdoors, safe practices require proper disposal of smoking materials and matches. Grind out your cigarette, cigar or pipe tobacco in mineral soil and ensure that match heads are cold before disposing.
- Charcoal Briquettes: After using burning charcoal briquettes, "dunk 'em!" Soak the coals with lots of water; stir them and soak again. Be sure they are out - Cold! Carefully feel the coals with your bare hands to be
- **Campfires:** All campfires require a permit. Check with your local Forest Fire Warden or local fire official regarding specific rules and regulations. Also, check the weather conditions; don't burn on dry, windy days! Visit the New Jersey State Forest Fire Service fire restrictions page for the latest news on campfire restrictions.



"Build campfires away from trees, overhanging branches, stumps, logs, dense dry grass, and forest litter," advises Stryker. "Pile any extra fire wood away from the fire. Keep plenty of water handy and have a shovel for throwing dirt on the fire if it gets out of control."

Start with dry twigs and small sticks. Add larger sticks as the fire builds up. Put the largest pieces of wood on last, pointing them toward the center of the fire, and gradually push them into the flames.

Keep the campfire small. A good bed of coals or a small fire surrounded by rocks gives plenty of heat. Scrape away litter, duff, and any organic material for a radius of 10-feet in all directions. This will keep a small campfire from spreading.

"Never leave a campfire unattended!" Stryker stressed. "Even a small breeze could quickly cause the fire to spread."

Drown the fire with water. Make sure all embers, coals, and sticks are wet. Move rocks, there may be burning embers underneath.

Stir the remains, add more water, and stir again. Be sure all burned material has been extinguished and cooled. If you do not have water, use dirt. Mix enough soil or sand with the embers. Continue adding and stirring until all material is cooled. Feel all materials with your bare hand. Make sure that no roots are burning. Do not bury your coals - they can smolder and result in a fire.





Gunther Publishing Enterprises Inc., which produces three local publications, hosted an event on April thirtieth at the prestigious Bella Vista Country Club in Marlboro, NJ.

Cami Gunther, owner of GPE, Inc., wanted to take the opportunity to thank all of her advertising customers by hosting a special night to show her appreciation for their continued business.

Bella Vista Country Club, owned and operated by Anthony and Gary Beshara, provided the food and the atmosphere for the event, which included a cocktail hour, open bar and an unlimited amount of food throughout the night.

Singer and songwriter Matthew Williams entertained the crowd with a medley of songs throughout the evening. Perfect Party Rentals

provided a photo booth available for the guests where they could create a lasting memento of the occasion. It was a night where many professionals and business owners got to mingle amongst each other, make new friends and contacts, network their businesses, and meet the GPE Staff.



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### The Millstone Times

#### **SEND US YOUR PHOTOS**

By Pam Teel

### Are you a photo buff?

Do you like taking pictures everywhere you go? Perhaps you have a favorite one that you would like to share. We want your photo for our photo of the month section. You can send your photo to the following email address: crescent671@yahoo.com. You can send more than one photo at any time.

Please include your name and a brief description of the photo. If you have a story that goes along with it, please send it along.



KEEP THOSE PHOTO'S COMING!
WHO KNOWS, YOURS MIGHT MAKE THE NEXT ISSUE!

## The Millstone Times PHOTO OF THE MONTH

By Pam Teel

Shanda Cobb of Creamridge, NJ, grew up in Michigan, and after graduating college she moved to San Diego, California in 1997. She then moved to New Jersey in 2010 and got married in 2012. Although she doesn't miss the Michigan winters, she does miss her family back in West Michigan near Grand Rapids where lake effect snow is pretty common and where in the past few years the Great Lakes have almost completely frozen over. She likes the fact that living on the east coast makes it easier to go back to visit her family more often. Shanda took this picture of a quaint lake called Green Lake in Caledonia, Michigan, which is right across the street from her sister's house. The picture was taken at sunset on a beautiful summer's eve following dinner with the family at her home away from home. Shanda looks forward to visiting her old home state every chance that she can. "It's a beautiful state and has great mid-western hospitality," she stated.







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## ALLENTOWN GARDEN CLUB AND ALLENTOWN ART GUILD TO PARTNER ON 2015 HIDDEN GARDENS TOUR

**SATURDAY, JUNE 13** • 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

arden and art lovers are in for a special treat this June, when the Allentown Garden Club and Allentown Art Guild partner on the Hidden Gardens Tour. The tour, historically offered just every two years, offers rare glimpses into area residents' most exquisite private gardens. The 2015 Hidden Gardens Tour features a number of gardens in Allentown, NJ and surrounding areas and will also include art displays from Allentown Art Guild artists with artists at work in the gardens.

The tour date is Saturday, June 13, 2015, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, rain or shine and advance tickets are currently available for \$15 at Allentown Public Library, Main Street, Allentown, online at www.AllentownGardenClub.net or by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Allentown Garden Club, PO Box 74, Allentown, NJ 08501. Tickets will be available until 12:30 PM on the day of the Tour for \$20 at Keris Tree Farm, Route 524, Allentown, NJ.

Attendees will also have the unique opportunity to shop for plants at Pleasant Run Nursery This wholesale nursery has graciously opened its doors for this one day to allow tour ticket-holders to visit, view their display gardens and purchase plant material during the tour. Sales are cash or check only. The nursery is over 15 acres and features many rare and hard-to-find Woody Ornamentals, Perennials, Vines, Grasses and Tropicals.

The Hidden Gardens Tour is recommended for gardening lovers of all experience levels and varied gardening interests. In addition to the opportunity to tour the private gardens and see the artists at work, one lucky person will receive a painting by AAG artist Andree Lisette Herz.

For more information about the Hidden Gardens Tour, please contact Pat Brown at 609-259-0334.





## WHY EDUCATE KIDS?

ome say that teaching is a calling while skeptics say that people become teachers for summer's off and working 9 to 3 for huge amounts of money. Being in the field for nearly 25 years and speaking from experience, those skeptics need to take a hike, or better yet, put on the shoes of a teacher and take a 180 day walk. The teachers we have in Millstone Township defy those skeptic sentiments each and every day. In fact, they would be begging for a day to truly be from 9-3 and not have hours of take home work, weekend planning and grading, and even the time they spend considering individual needs of their students and consulting with other professionals on those tough cases and the best way to work with a student towards success. So for those that still want to harp on that 9-3 FALSE statement, I challenge any one of you to pick up the torch and stand in front of twenty 7-year olds making sure they learn how to read, have strong number sense, have a solid foundation in history and science and learn how to be part of a group as well as work independently, all the while managing their individual learning needs, counseling them as needed and communicating to their families.



But I know why they get the reputation of 9-3. Because they don't show it! They do their jobs seamlessly and as a matter of course. In other words, they make it look easy!

Nothing written above is to take away anything from the other hard working people in their professions, but for me, as a Superintendent of Schools, I know just what our teachers put into this profession and know what it means to them to make sure that the children they teach are successful. I also know the pain they feel when they have not been successful and how they beat themselves up far worse than anyone else can. They take pride in their work and the success of their students; they lose sleep over them and in many instances the students will be what encompasses their thoughts. In fact, many teachers leave their own children in the care of another, while they come to school to care for ours. They are gracious, giving, caring individuals who make it possible for us parents to do what we need to do for our families knowing that our children are in good hands and learning each day. Teachers make that possible and I know I owe them my thanks.

What is needed now is for our state and society to "flip the message" about our teachers and spend their energy praising and thanking our teachers for being the gatekeepers to ensuring that our children grow to be incredible global citizens ready and willing to handle the challenges ahead. My request

of you during this week of Teacher Appreciation and long beyond is to make it your business to thank a teacher, reach out and show them just how important they are to your children now, or were to you when you were a student. Write a letter, send an email or do whatever you feel will show them just how important they are or have been in your life.

I will conclude with my quick story about Mr. Long, my Junior year Language Arts Teacher. Mr. Long was a physically intimidating figure. If my memory serves me well, he was over 6 feet tall and probably in the 225+ weight range and a deep, deep voice. Let's just say that you did not misbehave in Mr. Long's class. Although I do remember his physical stature, what I remember far more is the expectations he held for his students and even more so, the expectations he held for himself. Mr. Long wore his college ring with pride and talked about his experience in his post grad work. He modeled learning for his class. His specialty was timely feedback. I just never understood how he did it (even to this day), but Mr. Long handed back every paper submitted...the very next day, fully vetted with red pen corrections and comments that made us better writers. No matter what, the 2-3 page essays handed in by who knows how many students, all came back the very next day. How impressive to not just talk about work ethic, but live it and model it. Lastly, I recall that Mr. Long needed to be out for a kidney issue (maybe a stone or the like). I remember this for a few reasons. First, he WAS NEVER OUT! In fact, I do recall that this may have been his first day of absence in years. Second, although I cannot remember the details, the situation was one that any "normal" person would have taken far more than a day to address, but Mr. Long was back the very next day commanding the class as if nothing ever happened. Mr. Long is not alone in the field of teachers that treat their "job" as a profession. We all have a teacher we remember with similar stories. Take this week to find that teacher and send them a note. And don't forget to do the same for a teacher in Millstone, or your child's school district, doing it for your child right now!

Congratulations to all of our teachers for being inspirations to children!

Scott Feder Superintendent of the Millstone Township Schools



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continued from cover

# Community Partner Wawa, Sponsors Millstone Twp. Middle School 8th Grade Breakfast Benefiting Local Food Bank

By Tori Sikkema

n Friday, June 5, 2015 a breakfast will be held honoring Millstone Twp. Middle School's 8th graders. The breakfast celebrates the graduating 8th grade class of 2015. Wawa, in Monroe is donating 200 Sizzli breakfast sandwiches and orange juice for the breakfast. Wawa is a tremendous community partner and looks to support local community schools and businesses.

"We are very happy to be a part of the community of Millstone Twp. and Monroe." "We look forward to serving this community both inside and outside of our store." "Community Connections is very important to Wawa and we are both honored and excited to be participating in this event," commented Carol Healy, General Manager, Wawa.

This breakfast also shines a spotlight on the National Junior Honor Society service project. The 21 member honor society is conducting a Food Drive for The FoodBank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties. Students and community are asked to donate food items now through June 19th.

The National Junior Honor Society strives for excellence in character, leadership, academics, and service. Mrs. Marcella Heine, National Junior Honor Society advisor, is so proud of these students that they approached her to ask if they could work at the FoodBank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties. The field trip was approved and



Pictured left to right: Rajiv Mehta, Kyle Sikkema, Garett Silverman, Erik Henig

they spent an entire day volunteering.

"Every single member worked so hard to sort through and stack over 4,000 pounds of food for people who need it. Not one of them slacked off or complained the entire day. They got right to work and smiled the whole time. Mrs. Michal Friedman and I were proud to be their "coaches" this year; especially during this particular project," beamed Mrs. Heine.

According to Dr. Christopher Huss, Principal, "I continue to be impressed by the work of this year's eighth grade class. They are a group of genuinely kind individuals who work together to help others, give back to their community, and set an example for all of us to follow. They truly epitomize the character that we strive to instill in every one of our students."

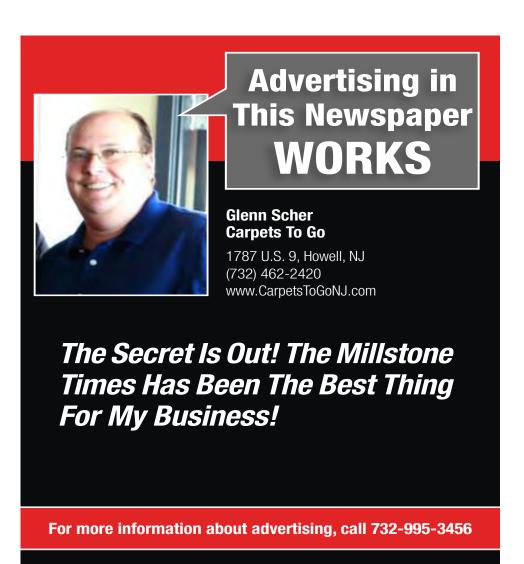
#### **About Donating**

Accepting food donations now through June 19th at the Millstone Twp. Middle School, 5 Dawson Court

#### Contact

To learn more about The FoodBank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties, please visit http://www.foodbankmoc.org







## STUDENT OF THE MONTH

By Pam Teel

Twelve-year-old Noah Meier is in the sixth grade. He attends the Middle School in Millstone Township. Noah loves hanging out with his friends at school. He and his friends have their own special way of greeting each other by calling each other funny names. Noah likes all the extra activities they have at school and he likes playing the trumpet in band. He also is learning to play the piano.

His favorite subject is math. He is in the Honors Math class. He was also chosen as the Student of the Month in April in his school. He loves to read mystery and adventure novels in his spare time. He is currently reading the book, *The Adventures of Ulysses*. Noah does well in all his classes. He works hard to keep his grades up.

His hobbies include playing the trumpet and playing computer games. He is also in Boy Scouts. He likes to go camping with his dad and brothers. He also likes archery, hiking, skiing and anything outdoors.

Noah lives with his parents and he has three brothers, Cole, Nick and River. Nick is his twin brother. Noah likes being a twin. He and his brother are very close. The only thing that he doesn't like about it is that sometimes they are treated like they are one. If one does something wrong, the other gets punished to. He likes coming from a big family.

He has lots of boy cousins his age. He loves to go to his grandparent's house and play down in their basement with his cousins.

He also loves going to his Nana and Pop-pop's farm. In the summer he works there selling fruits and vegetables and pumpkins in the fall.

Noah has two dogs, Ben and Lady, two cats, a parrot called Kiwi, nine chickens, two frogs and a fish tank.

His favorite holiday is Christmas because it is Jesus' birthday and he likes to get presents.

Right now his favorite sport is lacrosse. He is on a lacrosse team.

His favorite food to eat is a Wawa BLT. He also likes Chinese food, ice cream, sushi and chocolate strawberries.

He's not sure what he wants to be when he grows up but he does have a strong interest in computers.

If he could have one wish, he would wish that he would have the ability to heal people's problems.



#### **Attention Millstone, Creamridge and Allentown Parents**

If you know of a student, friend, child, who deserves a nod for their hard work in school, please email me at: <a href="mailto:crescent671@yahoo.com">crescent671@yahoo.com</a>.

Millstone, Allentown, Creamridge, we'd love to hear from you!

### Did You Know That ...

By Pam Teel

Did you know that the legend of the origin of "KILROY WAS HERE" is really not a legend but a true story?

t all started with a James J. Kilroy who was a shipyard inspector during War World II. In the beginning he used chalk and made a check mark after he inspected the rivets on new ships being built. Riveters were paid on piecework and got paid for every rivet they put in. When the next shift of riveters came in, they erased his check mark and counted again so they could make more money. After a while the inspector became curious about all the money being paid out to the riveters. He asked Kilroy to Investigate. Kilroy investigated and found out what was happening and began to add the term Kilrov was here after his checkmark in king-sized letters. Eventually the sketch of the chap with the long nose peering over the fence was added. (Perhaps as a warning by Kilroy to the other riveters that he was watching them or perhaps added by another soldier over time.) Ordinarily the rivets and chalk would have been painted over, but with the war on, the ships were leaving the Quincy Yard so fast, they didn't have time to paint them. As a result, Kilroys inspection logo was seen by GI's everywhere. To the troops in those ships, his name was a complete and utter mystery. All they knew for sure was that he had been there first. They actually thought it was graffiti. As a joke, they began placing graffiti wherever they (the U.S. forces) landed or went. Kilroy became the U.S. Super GI who got there first. The servicemen spread the logo all over Europe and the South Pacific and everywhere they went. It then became a challenge for the soldiers to place the logo in the most unlikely places like on top of Mount Everest, the Statue of Liberty, the underside of the Arch Triumph, and yes. it was even scrawled in the dust on the moon. The logo was also used by exiting GI's to let new GI's know that they had been there. The Kilroy logo is also engraved in stone in the National War Memorial in Washington D.C. back in a small alcove where few people can see it. It was popular from the 1940's to the 1960's and if you weren't the Armed Forces, you might remember seeing it written as graffiti on a wall or a bathroom stall. All persons in the military knew what it was. In 1946, the Transit Company of America held a contest offering a prize of a trolley car to the person who could prove himself to be the real Kilroy. There were forty men who came forward but James Kilroy brought along officials from the shipyard and some of the riveters to prove his authenticity. He received the trolley car and gave it as a gift to his nine children. He set it up in front of his house as a playhouse for them. James Kilroy resided in Halifax, Massachusetts and was on the Boston City Counsel after the War and also served as a State Representative. He died in 1962.

His contribution to the War effort, as well as all the other brave servicemen and woman who fought for America's freedom will never be forgotten!



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### SENIOR FOOT CARE

Foot issues can make the difference between a good and bad day. A limp or hobble can cause you to avoid physical activity or even leaving the house.

That's why it's crucial to take the right steps every day in monitoring and caring for your feet.

The National Institute on Aging states that the most common foot issues among senior citizens include disease, bad circulation, poorly trimmed toenails and wearing shoes that don't fit well. Not all foot issues are preventable, so be sure to alert your family doctor at the first sign of seriousness or major discomfort. He or she will be able to refer you to a podiatrist, a health care provider who specializes in all things feet.

#### **Good Foot Care**

Foot problems can be the first sign of a more serious medical issue. These can include arthritis, diabetes or circulatory issues that require immediate attention.

Even if you aren't feeling any discomfort in your feet, you may be able to spot potential issues such as cuts or ingrown toenails. Take a little bit of time each morning to give your feet a good assessment, especially if you're feeling any pain.

If you can't get close enough to see your feet, use a hand mirror or ask a willing family member to help you out.

#### The Right Fit

Your shoe size may change as you age, so always have your feet measured before buying shoes. The best time to measure your feet is at the end of the day when your feet are largest.

The National Institute on Aging recommends taking the following actions when shopping for your next pair of shoes:

• Walk in the shoes to make sure they feel right, making sure the heel

- of the shoe does not slide up and down when you walk. This can cause food discomfort as well as a tripping hazard.
- Avoid shoes with high heels or pointed toes. These can hurt your feet quickly, so stick with shoes that are shaped like your foot.
- Make sure the ball of your foot fits comfortably into the widest part of the shoe.
- Opt for thick soles to cushion your feet when walking on hard surfaces.





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## Parker at Monroe Open House Draws 130 Visitors

MONROE TOWNSHIP – On Saturday, April 24th, the public was invited to get an up-close and personal look at the brand new long-term living community, Parker at Monroe. Nearly 130 people stopped by to meet employees and learn more about Parker's philosophy and practice of persondirected care. Visitors toured the spacious skilled nursing and memory care residence and community center, and discovered more about Parker's services and amenities. They were treated to a complimentary gourmet lunch, tasted Chef Jason Jankow's homemade smoothies, and were given a Parker-branded insulated lunch bag as a gift for attending the Open House.

Many attendees opted to see the award-winning documentary, Glen Campbell: I'll Be Me, which is the story of the musical icon's final nationwide tour and recording session after being diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. It is the true human drama of how America's greatest country star would not give up his music or his family, against all odds. The film chronicles a story of love between Glen and his wife Kim, their unwavering care for each other, resilience, and the power of song.

Parker Registry member Diane DeMeo took the long drive from Long Beach Island to Monroe Township just for the Open House. In a thank you note to Parker, Ms. DeMeo wrote: "I just wanted to extend my thanks for the hospitality extended to everyone on Saturday. Your new home in Monroe is so very impressive. All the details seem to have been just so well thought out."

In a post-event survey, many attendees took the time to comment about the event:

"Very impressed with this facility – especially the outstanding layout concept."

"Beautiful building, wonderful workers and staff, great organization. Monroe is 50% seniors, so more facilities are needed."



Gail Wilson (center) and friends enjoy a delicious lunch at Parker at Monroe's Open House on Saturday, April 25, 2015

"Wonderful tour. Liked everything I saw. Very impressed with the staff and facility."

While giving a tour to event attendees, Parker at Monroe's administrator Doreen Illis described what it's like to live at the long-term living community. "Our small home residents are making new friends, enjoying delicious meals, and experiencing fun recreational activities together. Each small home includes a bright and open kitchen and dining area, private or semi-private bedroom suites with a large bathroom and shower, a living room, family room, and activity area for a variety of programs."

As an Eden Alternative® home, Parker at Monroe follows a person-directed philosophy of care where aging is not seen as decline but as a continuous stage of growth and development in life. Parker's homelike atmosphere facilitates interactions between our residents with children, animals and plants in a beautiful and supportive environment.

Eventually, Parker at Monroe will be home to 96 residents. The campus consists of three two-story buildings connected to a community center with a formal dining room, a café, a health and wellness center, enclosed gardens, roof-top terrace and a great room. Each building contains two small homes, one of each floor. Sixteen residents with similar needs live together in each small home. Parker at Monroe provides skilled nursing care, including memory care services for individuals with all stages of dementias, who may also have complex physical needs.

Parker at Stonegate assisted living residence is hosting an Open House and a screening of the documentary Glen Campbell: I'll Be Me on Saturday, May 9th. To register for the event, please call (732) 902-4200 or visit the Parker website, www.FrancisEParker.com.

Founded in 1907, Parker Home provides the ultimate in personalized, affordable high quality long-term care services in a home-like setting for over 100 years. Guided by the principles of the Eden Alternative\*, Parker embraces and nurtures aging as a natural stage of life to be celebrated with compassion and enthusiasm. Parker Home is accepting applications for admissions to their continuum of care services, including Parker at Monroe.

Parker at Monroe, located at 395 Schoolhouse Road in Monroe Township, will be home to 96 residents. The campus consists of three two-story buildings connected to a community center with a formal dining room, a café, a health and wellness center, enclosed gardens, roof-top terrace and a great room for activities and socializing. Each building contains two Small Homes, one on each floor, where sixteen residents with similar needs will live together. Every Small Home includes a living room, sunroom, a kitchen and dining area. Each comfortable private and semi-private bedroom suite has a fully-accessible bathroom with a large shower.

For more information, refer to www.FrancisEParker.com, 732.902.4200.

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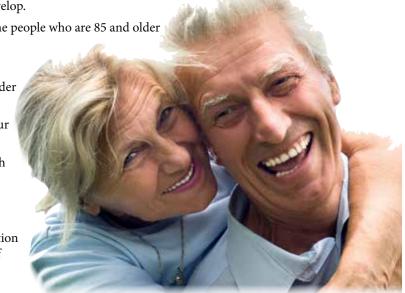
## **AS WE AGE**

By Susan Heckler

As life goes on and our clock continues to tick, we all notice changes. We may or may not learn from our experiences and have attitude epiphanies. Gray hairs and smile lines are not the only things we can expect.

- We all share in the physical changes, like it or not. Genetics and a healthy lifestyle do play a part to some degree.
- Brain: Memory loss and confusion used to be accepted as just part of growing older.
- 💥 Bones and Joints: The weight-bearing bones and the movable joints take much wear and tear as the body ages.
- 🔀 Eyes: About the age of 40, eyesight weakens, and at around 60, cataracts and macular degeneration may develop.
- Hearing: About one-third of Americans between the ages of 65 and 74 have hearing problems. About half the people who are 85 and older have hearing loss.
- Moreover Digestive and Metabolic: As we grow older, the prevalence of gastrointestinal problems increases.
- Wrogenital: Loss of bladder control is called urinary incontinence effects at least 1 in 10 people age 65 or older have this problem.
- Mental: Tooth decay is not just a problem for children. It can happen as long as you have natural teeth in your mouth. Gingival diseases are more common with age.
- Kin: Sunlight is a major cause of the skin changes we think of as aging. Your skin does change with age with increased dryness, thinning causing fat loss, years of smoking, all have an impact.
- Functional Abilities: Falls can come as a result of other changes in the body: Sight, hearing, muscle strength, coordination, and reflexes aren't what they once were a we age.
- Sensitivity Changes: You may notice your sense of touch is not as it used to be. Dietary deficiencies, circulation problems and the normal effects of ageing on your nervous system may all play a part in this. Your sense of taste and smell may diminish with aging nerve endings.

Speak to your physician to determine what changes you can make now to avoid or diminish the effects of aging.



## Home Health Trend Growing

While more of today's elderly choose to grow old at home where they can maintain a personal sense of independence, trends in home health care are changing rapidly.

An increasing number of older individuals now are receiving health services in the convenience and security of their own homes.

As the nation's population ages, the home health care industry is expected to increase by more than 40 percent in the next few years.

It is estimated that approximately one fourth of the nation's elderly population already suffer some form of disability or chronic health problem for which they require assistance. By the year 2020 the number of chronically ill and/or disabled elders in the U.S. is expected to double.

Although hospitals and long-term care facilities likely will continue to serve the chronically ill, new advances both in medical and information technologies currently contribute to facilitating communications between patients and their healthcare providers, helping to improve the individual's comfort, safety, and quality of life.

Seniors who otherwise might have to be hospitalized can benefit from the medical support offered by a variety of home health services. Considering that hospitals are discharging earlier, home health agencies are working hard to meet the needs of clients by providing services such as patient evaluation, assessment, treatment and education.

Allowing individuals to receive medical treatment and therapies in their own homes costs less than hospital or nursing-home care. At the same time, it is important to remember that home health care service providers need to offer adequate support for the patient.

If you have a parent or a loved one who might need help with some kind of care, take a look into in-home adult care services. You will undoubtedly find a business that thrives on being full-service and catering to the every need of the person who needs help.

Not only does in-home care provide an easy way to get simple tasks completed throughout the day, but it also gives a sense of companionship and friendship that might not otherwise be available.

Consulting with the senior to gauge their interest in adult home care services is the first step in deciding whether this kind of setup will work for the entire family.

Remember that it is the loved one who will have to be living in whatever conditions are chosen. The final decision will undoubtedly be a difficult one to make, but it could potentially be much easier if the person is given the option to stay at home and receive care in the place they're most comfortable with.





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### For the Musician

Can Dad carry a tune? Does he like to rock behind his tricked out drum set? Maybe a trip to the music store is in order on Father's Day weekend.

Many local businesses close on Sundays, so if you're planning to take Dad to pick out a new instrument, you may want to consider the Saturday prior to his special day.

Give him a budget and let him pick out that new acoustic guitar or snare drum. Even smaller gifts, such as a guitar strap, drumsticks or a banjo book of sheet music, can be great additions to Dad's musical collection.

#### Play Together

Whatever it is he chooses for his gift, the fun part of going to the music store is playing with the display instruments.

Don't just get Dad a gift card, but accompany him to the store and jam for a while. Most local music shops will allow you to sit behind the drums or pluck away at an acoustic guitar or bass. Playing music together is a great way of sharing your interests with friends and family members, while also doing something you enjoy.

#### Lessons

Maybe Dad isn't particularly music savvy but has always wanted to be. The gift of professional lessons can turn his interest into a skillset in no time.

Start with your downtown music stores to check their rates and lessons offered. You also can look around online for positive reviews of local private instructors or ask friends and family members if anyone they know would be interested in helping out.

#### **Concert Tickets**

The next best thing to playing music is watching talented artists play music. Surely Dad has a favorite band or two that will be making a stop in a nearby city during the fall.

June is a perfect time to surprise Dad with tickets so he can start planning his concert adventure now. Make sure to consider others in your family who would like to go. The more the merrier in a concert setting.







## THROW A PARTY

One of the best ways to celebrate the dads in your life is to do just that — celebrate.

hrowing a party for Dad can be easy and fun and will show that you are grateful for everything he does for the family.

Be sure to cover all the bases when planning your party, including picking out Dad's favorite food, drinks and activities.

Send an invitation to someone Dad hasn't seen in a while. Holidays are the perfect time to bring people back together after long periods of time. Plan plenty of time in advance, however, if you're trying to bring someone in from out of the state or across the country.

Summertime is the prime travel season, so finding affordable airline tickets can be a difficult task without the proper planning.

#### WEEKEND WARRIOR

In most parts of the country, the average temperature in June is about 75 degrees, according to the National Climatic Data Center. This is perfect weather for a game of flag football or a round of golf. If the father in your life is a weekend warrior — and which Dad isn't, really? — coordinating a fun outdoor activity can the be perfect way to celebrate his special day. From whiffle ball to badminton, a competitive sporting event helps create lasting memories and helps keep everyone in shape.

#### **INVOLVE MULTIPLE GENERATIONS**

One of the greatest family traditions of Father's Day can be getting multiple generations of dads together in the same place. Finding ways to bring together grandfathers, fathers, sons and even grandsons can be difficult throughout the year.

Everyone has their own engagements and family commitments, making schedules hard to coordinate.

Father's Day can offer the perfect opportunity to gather all of these special family members at the same place, be it at your home, a restaurant or an outdoor festival.



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## **Toy Safety**

Every pet needs time to play. It is good for their health and can help improve behavior and socialization skills.

But an online search or walk through the local pet store can be a bit overwhelming for anyone looking to buy that perfect toy. Some toys bounce, others squeak and many are designed for breed-specific pets.

The ideal toy for your nine-pound Calico cat is obviously going to differ from the one for your 150-pound Rottweiler. Here are some tips to remember on your hunt:

• Safety, Safety, Safety: You know your pet's tendencies better than anyone. If your dog has a penchant for destruction, then maybe a flimsy plastic toy isn't the best option. A sturdier, thick vinyl one may be ideal. Always remember to keep any eye on your pet with a new toy. Watch out for choking or bleeding to keep playtime safe.



Up: Keep your pet's toys on a

rotational basis. Switch out your toys every month or so to keep your pet engaged in playtime. This freshness will not only

ensure that toys last longer, but will also work toward mentally stimulating your

 Simple is Best: Sometimes all your pet needs is a little TLC and an old-fashioned game of fetch with a new ball. Making play time a part of your daily routine will help build the bond between you and your pet.



#### PET PAGES

The second second



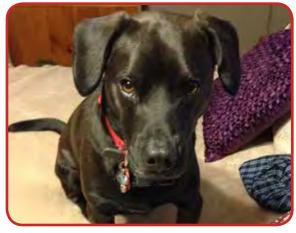
Tequila & Hooch ~ Brick



Max ~ Millstone



Luke ~ Millstone



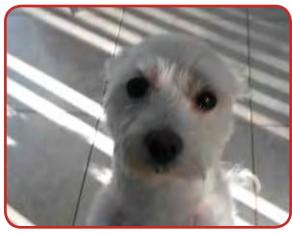
Quincy ~ Jackson



Mackie ~ New Egypt



Skittles ~ New Egypt



Winter ~ Millstone



Precious ~ New Egypt



Pepper ~ Millstone



Cookie ~ New Egypt



Yoda ~ East Windsor



Zeke ~ Jackson

#### PET PAGES



Cole ~ Millstone



Mango ~ Millstone



Chloe ~ Millstone



Tundra ~ Cream Ridge



Riley ~ Cream Ridge



Jessie ~ Cream Ridge



Cookie ~ Plumsted



Sasha ~ New Egypt



Rio ~ New Egypt



Butchie ~ New Egypt



Scout & Kambria ~ Millstone







### **Pets & Kids**

The relationship between a child and pet can be a very special bond.

From cuddling on the couch to running together in the backyard, children and animals are natural companions. But parents must always remember that it takes only one act of aggression from an over-excited dog or cat to potentially injure your child.

More than two million children are bitten by dogs each year in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Among children, the rate of dog bite-related injuries is highest for those ages 5 to 9 years old, and children are more likely than adults to receive medical attention for dog bites.

Highest risk

Among children and adults, the CDC says that having a dog in the household is associated with a higher incidence of dog bites, and as the number of dogs in the home increases, so does the incidence of dog bites.

Also, adults with two or more dogs in the household are five times more likely to be bitten than those living without dogs at home. Before bringing a dog into your household, the CDC recommends you take the following actions:

- Work with a local animal shelter, rescue organization or reputable breeder to find a pet that will fit well in your household.
- If a child seems frightened by dogs, wait before bringing a dog into your household.
- · Spend time with a dog before buying or adopting it.

Teaching your child

Once you find that perfect new addition to your family, it is important to teach your children how interact with it. Regardless of the dog's age or size, you should never leave it alone in a room with infants or young children.

The CDC urges you to teach children not to approach or run from an unfamiliar dog. If approached by one, your child should remain motionless and avoid direct eye contact. Also teach to them never to disturb a dog that is sleeping, eating or caring for purples.









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## The Green Leaf Pet Resort & Hotel Celebrates 3 Years

By Susan Heckler

If you were not at The Green Leaf Pet Resort & Hotel on May 16th, you missed a great time. In celebration of their 3rd anniversary, Shelly & Donna Leibowitz opened the facility to the public for a fun-filled day.

Thanks to Mother Nature being in a cooperative mood, the day was filled with sunshine and warmth. Over 1,000 families with their dogs came, strolled the 56 acres and enjoyed the day between 11am and 3pm. There were 35 vendors and exhibitors and fun for all. Just to name a few of the vendors and exhibitors participating: All Fur Paws Animal Hospital, S.A.V.E. Animal Rescue, Furrylicious, Critter Crusaders, Champion Pet Photos, Eric Boling - Certified Canine Chiropractor, Veronica's Doggie Delights, Wildlife Rehabilitation Specialists, and many more!

If you have ever been to The Green Leaf Pet Resort & Hotel, you know that the Leibowitz's do not do anything less than excellent in everything they plan. The day consisted of live music by Brian Kirk & The Jirks, open Bar-B-Q for all, fun contests, Police K9 demonstrations, open agility tryouts, open swimming in our indoor pool, the grand opening of our Nature Trails, facility tours, photos with The Trenton Thunder dogs Rookie & Derby, pet adoptions, face painting, balloon animals, and more! Longtime client Shelby was also honored. Shelby is a loving, 5 year old Visla owned by Jenn and Joseph Fichner of Cream Ridge. Human visitors and 'dognitaries' all had a blast.

Shelly has over 40 years of experience in the pet care industry and leads the industry with the level of care and service he provides. The facility is one of those 'you have to see it to believe it' places. To see many photos of the event or for more information, check out The Green Leaf Pet Resort on Facebook.



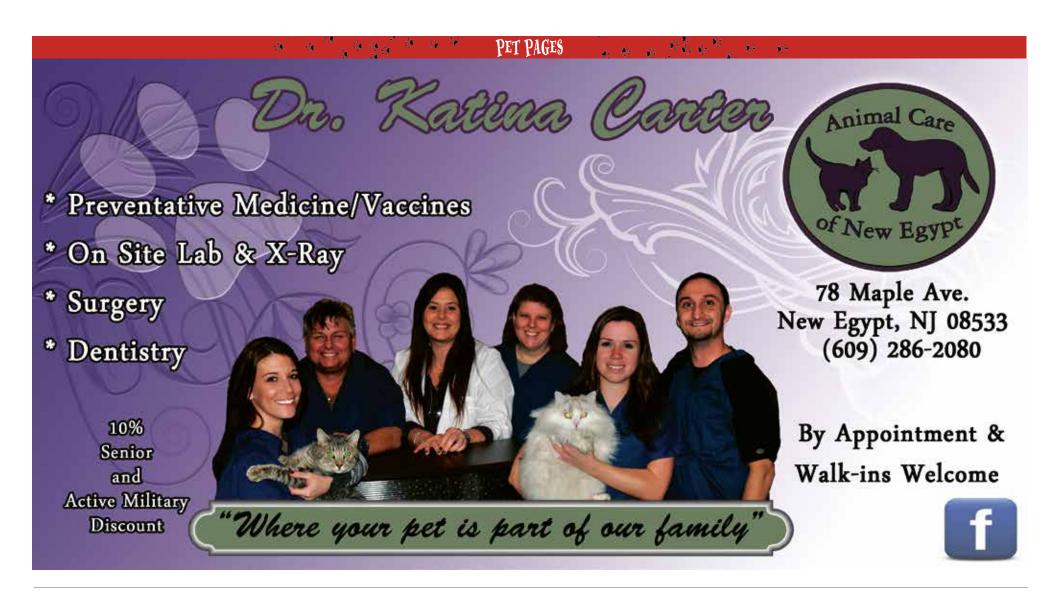






From left: Shelly Leibowitz, Donna Leibowitz with The Fichner Family & Shelby



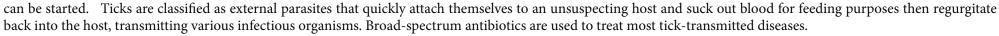


### **Ticks Bite!**

Pet Owner education on Tick born diseases.

By Gina M. Schneller

pring and summer are fun filled seasons with outdoor family activities that often include our dogs. Nothing ruins a good time like a nasty tick bite! What makes it worse, are the diseases that could possibly be transmitted with that very bite. It is important to not only speak with your vet about tick prevention but every pet owner should be educated on the types of tick borne diseases in your area so if symptoms arise in your pet they are recognized and treatment can be started. Ticks are classified as external parasites that quickly attach themselves to an unsuspecting host and suck



Lyme disease is probably the most known tick born disease and is caused by a bacterium called Borrelia burgdorferi. It is mostly transmitted by deer ticks however, has been reported in star ticks as well. Once the bacterium enters the bloodstream, it travels throughout the body and settles in the joints. It may take days, weeks or even months for a dog to show symptoms. They include lameness, fatigue and swollen painful joints. You may also notice decreased appetite, vomiting, depression or fever. If left untreated, Lyme disease in dogs can bring on seizures, kidney failure, blindness or heart problems. The most common antibiotic used to treat Lyme disease is Doxycycline taken for three or four weeks. Symptoms usually improve within days.

Ehrlichia is caused by brown dog ticks infected with the bacteria Ehrlichia spp. Unlike other tick diseases, Ehrlichia has three phases. The acute stage lasts one to four weeks, and symptoms include decreased appetite, weight loss, fever and trouble breathing. During the second stage, which can last up to four months, the dog exhibits no visible symptoms. The immune system tries to get rid of the disease. If unsuccessful the third stage begins and your dog might suffer from weakness, swollen limbs, lameness, anemia and vision problems.

Anaplasmosis is caused by the bacteria Anaplasma phagocytophilum. It is mostly carried by deer ticks and symptoms usually include fatigue, lameness, stiff joints, decreased appetite and fever. Some dogs also experience bloody stool, diarrhea, vomiting, breathing difficulties or seizures.

Rocky Mountain spotted fever is not as common as Lyme disease but is popping up more frequently. It is caused by the organism Rickettsia rickettsii. Unfortunately it is carried by various tick species. Symptoms generally appear in a few days and include fever, joint and muscle pain, stiffness, lethargy and skin lesions. In severe cases it is fatal causing shock, vascular collapse or hemorrhaging. Doxycycline and supportive care treat Rocky Mountain spotted fever. At this time however, blood work must be sent out to a lab for special blood tests and results are not as quick as that of other common tick borne diseases which can be tested at a local vet.

Tick borne diseases are dangerous and often the symptoms are overlooked by owners. Thankfully, local veterinarians have the ability to test within minutes for Lyme, Ehrlichia and Anaplasmaosis with a few drops of blood and a simple test kit. Yearly check up exams should include this test, in not, it can be requested by the owner. The IDEXX Laboratory has released collected data on confirmed canine vector borne diseases from 2007 to 2015 in the 08535 zip code. There have been 100,247 confirmed cases of Ehrlichia, 691,268 confirmed cases of Lyme disease and 211,713 confirmed cases of Anaplasma. Further information on this data can be found at www.dogsandtick. com or through the IDEXX Laboratory website.



## Break into the Equine Business

It's obvious that you love horses. But when is it time to translate your equestrian passion into a business venture? If you're serious about finding a career in a rapidly growing industry, the time may be now.

here are many specialty colleges and trade schools across the country that offer programing solely dedicated to equine studies.

Starting off in animal science or biology in community college is a great way to set a solid foundation for an equine career. If you're looking for less time training and more time helping in a stable or farming operation, many organizations are looking for workers, both part-time and full-time to help keep their daily activities running smoothly.

#### Business is Good

The following numbers were uncovered in a recent study by the American Horse Council:

- The equine industry directly provides 460,000 full-time equivalent jobs.
- Spending by suppliers and employees generates additional jobs for a total employment impact of 1.4 million jobs.
- Approximately 34 percent of horse owners have a household income of less than \$50,000, and 28 percent have an annual income of over \$100,000
- Forty-six percent of horse owners have an income of between \$25,000 and \$75,000.

#### How to Join the Industry

Concentrations in the equine industry span all facets and leadership levels. There is the management side with positions of authority over stables and farming operations. Medicine is a burgeoning part of the industry, as well, with many professionals coming out of veterinary schools or equine wellness programs.

Both management and medicine require administrative support, bookkeeping, inventory control and hands-on horse care positions.

There are hundreds of ways to break into the equine industry, and choosing the one that best fits your skill set may be a question for your college advisor or career coach.



#### JUNE 2015 ★ THE MONTH OF THE HORSE ★

June 5 Windy Hollow Hunt I Dressage Show

Sussex County Fairgrounds

37 Plains Road, Augusta, New Jersey

Contact (845) 988-5721

Sussex

June 5 - 7 Jersey Classic Horse Show

Horse Park of New Jersey

Route 524, Allentown, New Jersey

Contact (609) 259-0170

Monmouth

Sussex

June 6 Monmouth County Horse Show

**Hunter Horse Show** 

East Freehold Park, Freehold, New Jersey

Contact: (732) 741-3847 Monmouth

June 7 Windy Hollow Hunt II - Dressage Show

Sussex County Fairgrounds

37 Plains Road, Augusta, New Jersey

Contact: (845) 988-5721

June 11 Palermo Horse Show

Jumpers & Equitation

1555A Burnt Mills Road, Bedminster, New Jersey 07921

Contact: (908) 719-7500 Somerset

June 12 - 14 NJ Half Arabian Horse Show

Horse Park of New Jersey

Route 524, Allentown, New Jersey

Contact: (610) 914-7008 Monmouth

June 13 Monmouth County Horse Show

**Hunter Horse Show** 

East Freehold Park , Freehold, New Jersey

Contact: (732) 741-3847 Monmouth

June 17 West Milford Equestrian Center

**Hunter Horse Show** 

367 Union Valley Road, Newfoundland, New Jersey

Contact: (908) 832-7402 Passaic

June 18 - 21 Middlesex County Horse Show

Horse Park of New Jersey

626 Route 524, Allentown, New Jersey

Contact: (609) 448-3492 Monmouth

June 22 Horse Park of New Jersey Annual Meeting

Horse Park of New Jersey

626 Route 524, Allentown, New Jersey

Contact: (609) 259-0170 Monmouth

June 25 - 28 NJ Quarter Horse Association Horse Show

Gloucester County Dream Park

400 Route 130, South Logan Twp., New Jersey

Contact: (609) 296-6030

June 28 Fair Winds Farm - Open House

1 PM - 4 PM

74 Red Valley Rd, Cream Ridge, NJ 08514

Phone: (609) 259-2916 Monmouth

June 30 ESDCTA Cross-Country Schooling

Horse Park of New Jersey

626 Route 524, Allentown, New Jersey

Contact: (215) 489-1557 Monmouth

June 30 - July 2 NJ Region Pony Club YRAP (USEA AREA 2 CAMP)

Horse Park of New Jersey

626 Route 524, Allentown, New Jersey

Contact: (908) 510-7999 Monmouth

Gloucester



### 2nd Annual Paper Products Drive Benefiting Feed All Gods Children Lunch Program



onations are encouraged for the 2nd annual Paper Products Drive pioneered by 8th grader, Kyle Sikkema. The drive benefits Feed All God's Children Lunch Program in Freehold. Kyle is grateful that his school and several local businesses have offered to be donation sites.

Millstone Twp. is a rural community with three schools (Millstone Twp. Primary, Elementary, and Middle School) and a hand full of small businesses.

"Having the support of my school and local businesses help's make this paper drive successful and get's the word out around Millstone Twp. that there is a need in our community," commented Kyle.

To get involved Kyle asks that everyone drop off paper towels and toilet paper at one of the four donation locations between May 25 and June 19. Location sites will be checked weekly for donations.

The lunch program goes through paper towels and toilet paper by the case.

"Feed All God's Children serves 40,000 meals each year and the need is growing while donations have dropped off," according to Jim Benedict, who runs the lunch program in Freehold.

Jim emphasizes, "We provide nourishment of not only the physical needs of those who come to Feed All God's Children, but also their spiritual need for love, acceptance, respect, dignity, and friendship."

Feed All God's Children lunch program, a 501(c) non-profit organization for thirteen years, has provided hot meals and support to Freehold's needy. The program feeds 150-200 patrons daily. Sandwiches or hot nutritious meals are served Monday, Wednesday and Thursday each week from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm in St. Peter's Episcopal Church Parish Hall at 33 Throckmorton Street in Freehold, NJ.

## What's your favorite Monmouth County beach?

VOTE TODAY IN STATE'S TOP 10 BEACHES SURVEY

#### What is your favorite Monmouth County beach?

You can cast your ballot in the statewide best beaches survey and help prove that Monmouth County has the best beaches in the state.

"We would love to see several Monmouth County beaches appear on the 2015 New Jersey Top Ten Beaches list," Freeholder Thomas A. Arnone said. "Fans of Monmouth County and its beaches need to vote online by June 19 to have their vote count."

Twenty-three Monmouth County beaches are on the ballot and eligible for voting in 2014. The beaches are: Allenhurst, Asbury Park, Avon-by-the-Sea, Belmar, Bradley Beach, Cliffwood Beach, Deal, Elberon, Highlands, Keansburg, Loch Arbour, Long Branch, Manasquan, Middletown, Monmouth Beach, Ocean Grove, Port Monmouth, Sandy Hook, Sea Bright, Sea Girt, Seven Presidents Oceanfront Park, Spring Lake and Union Beach.

"This is a fun way to get started with the summer season," said Arnone, liaison to the County's Department of Public Information and Tourism. "The days are warmer and many of us are thinking about the beach season. Our businesses are gearing up for visitors and residents are getting ready to entertain family and friends with a day at the New Jersey shore."

In all, there are 66 shore communities represented in the survey, from the County's Bayshore to Cape May. There are four categories in which voters will help determine this year's Top 10 Beaches. You can only get to vote once in each category: Top 10 for day trips, ecotourism and family destination and Top 10 overall.

The winner will be announced the week before Independence Day. There are no prizes — just plaques and bragging rights.

In 2014, Belmar and Asbury Park were named to the state's Top Ten Beaches list. Asbury Park, Belmar and Manasquan made the top 10 beaches for day trips, Belmar ranked number nine in the top beaches for family vacations and Sandy Hook and Belmar were voted as two of the top beaches for ecotourism.



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- Healthier alternative for consumers who are concerned about their sodium intake

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Easy to Use – Simply pour the potassium-based crystals into the brine tank of your current softener. Even if your current softener contains a sodium-based solution, Sodium Free Salt will go to work right away, softening water the salt-free way and will also eliminate some native sodium in water.

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- ☐ Salt Tank Overflows
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- Water Softener Doesn't Handle Sprinkler System
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## The Ultimate Gift: Involvement

Having a child does not automatically make you a quality father. It is what you do with the special privilege that defines you as a dad.

Research shows that by simply being around, a father can better his child's chances of making a positive life.

In a study examining father involvement, researchers found that father-child contact was associated with better socio-emotional and academic functioning. This report, published in the Journal of Family Psychology, also found that children with more involved fathers experienced fewer behavioral problems and scored highest in reading achievement.

#### Powerful Statistics

This Father's Day is another opportunity to devote a few minutes to realizing how lucky you are to partake in the joy of fatherhood and just how important your role is.

#### Involve Yourself

The greatest action you can take as a father is about as simple as it gets: Stay involved.

Father involvement in schools is associated with the higher likelihood of a student getting mostly A's in class,



according to a report from the of U.S. Department of Education National Center for Education Statistics.

This doesn't mean you have to become a member of the school board or even the Parent-Teacher Association. You can involve yourself by attending parent-teacher meetings or other school functions, such as sporting events or plays.

Your presence can make a difference in your child's commitment to education. Why wouldn't you want to be part of something so powerful?

#### Fatherhood Pledge

President Barack Obama has encouraged fathers across the nation to sign a fatherhood pledge.

When you take the president's pledge, you'll receive updates, tips and tools from fatherhood organizations, prominent dads and other supporters of responsible fatherhood.

Completing the pledge requires about 20 seconds of free time and can help revive your commitment to your family. Take the pledge at www.fatherhood.gov/pledge.

## We're Ghosts Now...Spirits of a Different Kind

by Susan Heckler

For those of you who have followed my articles, you know that I have a peculiar interest in ghosts and spirits. Well, this article is about ghosts of a different spirit world.

We're Ghosts Now is a local band formed about three years ago by three brothers and their childhood friend. What started out as four guys jamming in their home in Freehold has led to music that is out of this world. Members Ben Resnick (Guitar, Vocals) and Max Resnick (Bass, Vocals) began their interest in music when they received a guitar and bass respectively for their Bar Mitzvah gifts from an uncle. Being close in age and sharing a bedroom, it was a natural progression to jam together. Younger brother Jake Resnick (Drums, Vocals) sat at my own son's drum set in my basement six years ago and realized a natural talent. Fellow Freehold Township High School student, Alex Iannone (Violin, Guitar, Vocals) joined them and the music began.

All four men have day jobs while their music careers progress. They spend their time in their home in Millstone Township, writing music and practicing what they consider to be Indie/

Alternative/Rock music. In a very short time, We're Ghosts Now has appeared all over the hot spots of New Jersey and some of the famous clubs in New York. They have been enjoyed in Asbury Park at The Stone Pony, Langosta Lounge, The Yacht Club, Asbury Lanes and The Saint. They have appeared at the famous The Bitter End in New York City and will appearing soon at:

June 4- Maxwell's Tavern in Hoboken June 5- Sherman Theatre in Stroudsburg, PA June 11- The Saint In Asbury Park June 13-The Yacht Club in Asbury Park

July 24- Baker Theatre Dover, NJ

Some of their favorite gigs are when they do basement parties and house shows, especially those connected to the New Brunswick underground music scene near Rutgers. It gives them a chance to try out new music and enjoy their following. If you are interested in having them appear, message them on social media. Right now, the band has 1,500 followers on Twitter and Facebook!

Their new self-titled CD is available on iTunes and will be out shortly in box format. So when your young child asks for music lessons or you are

considering purchasing an instrument as a gift for someone, think of our local Ghosts....this could be your child haunting the music scene!

If you have the opportunity to hear them play, tell them Susan from The Millstone Times says, "hi!"





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## SPECIAL KAYS COMPETITIVE DANCE TEAM

#### WINS TOP AWARDS AT REGIONAL COMPETITIONS

Special Kays—a non-profit, nationally recognized competitive dance team of the New Jersey Center of Dance (NJCOD) & Performing Arts—received numerous high-level awards at its regional competitions this season. Top award winnings were at Groove National Dance Competition Regionals (Millstone Twp.) on March 13-15, VIP Dance Regionals (East Brunswick) on March 27-29 and Turn It Up Dance Challenge Regionals (Toms River) on May 1-3. The dance team also performed several of its competitive numbers at the New Jersey Devils game at the Prudential Center (Newark) on March 29.

"Special Kays is excited to once again be starting its competition season so strong," said Linda Kay Griggs, director, Special Kays resident dance team for the New Jersey Center of Dance + Performing Arts. "It's so gratifying to see the choreographers' and dancers' hard work being recognized."







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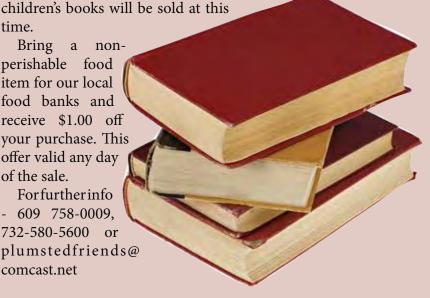
A large variety of books for all ages, plus jigsaw puzzles, CDs, and DVDs. Benefits The Friends of the Plumsted Township

Special "Kid's Time Only" Thursday June 25 12-6 PM. Adults must be accompanied by a child. Only

children's books will be sold at this time. Bring a nonperishable food item for our local food banks and receive \$1.00 off

offer valid any day of the sale. Forfurtherinfo - 609 758-0009, 732-580-5600 or

comcast.net



The Jewish Heritage **Museum Offers Extended Summer Hours** 

By Grace Toy



The Jewish Heritage Museum of Monmouth County is pleased to announce that it will be open to the public on the last Thursday evening of every month this summer. To be more available to those who cannot come to the Museum during daytime hours, the Museum will be open from 7:00pm - 9:30pm on May 28, June 25, July 30, and August 27. Please take advantage of this opportunity to visit the historic Levi Solomon Barn at the rear of the Mounts Corner Shopping Center in Freehold Township and enjoy a variety of exhibits including a portion of the permanent timeline exhibit on the history of Monmouth County's Jewish community, an interactive genealogy exhibit, the current exhibit on the community of Jersey Homesteads (renamed Roosevelt) and a new exhibit of photographs planned for mid-July.

For more information, call the Museum at 732-252-6990, or email info@ jhmomc.org. The Jewish Heritage Museum is located at 310 Mounts Corner Drive in Freehold. It is a 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt organization and handicapped accessible.

## Dad's Favorite Pastime: Eating

Research by the National Restaurant Association shows that more than 50 million Americans celebrate Father's Day by dining out.

**B**eing served and enjoying great food is a treat for any Dad. If you're the one picking up the check for the special meal, you may be in luck. Many restaurants will offer Father's Day specials to draw customers on a very competitive day in the food and beverage industry.

Start checking your local newspaper for restaurant advertisements early. Many owners will start taking out ads weeks ahead of time to make their prices even more attractive for the special day.

#### The Numbers

Dinnertime is the overwhelming preference for dads when it comes time to having their Father's Day meal, reports the NRA. Key findings in a recent survey found:

- Sixty-seven percent of diners will choose to go out during the evening.
- Twenty-four percent go out for lunch.
- Eleven percent head out for breakfast.
- Ten percent of fathers are lucky enough to go out for more than one restaurant meal.

#### Where to Go

Fathers are truly creatures of habit when deciding where they will enjoy their special meal. More than half of them will opt for their favorite restaurant if given the choice, according to the NRA.

Alternatively, only 13 percent choose a restaurant they haven't been to before. This should give you, the gift-giver, an idea of what Dad is hoping for if you plan on coordinating a surprise trip out to eat!

Popularity of Dining In

While many dads choose to hit the town for their meal of recognition, even more choose to dine in. Doing so can help save money — not only for Dad but for everyone coming together for the special day.

You can opt for a thick steak from your local meat shop or fresh fish from your favorite grocer. Ask Dad if there are certain sides or desserts he would like, and you can have just as special of a time at home.



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## WHAT DADS REALLY DO

Think of everything Dad does around the house. What value would you put on his efforts? It can be downright impossible to calculate.

The consumer insurance website Insure.com does this for us every year. It affixes a value to the typical fatherly chore by calculated wages using Labor Department pay-scale statistics.

Last year, the Father's Day Index put Dad's chore value at \$24,103, which is an increase from 2013's \$23,344 value. How are these numbers calculated? Home repairs, for example, are figured using wage information for maintenance and repair professionals. Removing spiders from the house correlates wage-wise to an exterminator's salary, and so on.

## More Childcare & Housework

One reason for the recent increase in Dad's worth around the home is the increasing need for him to pick up the slack on housework and childcare.

A Pew Research Center study released in 2013 found that fathers are devoting more hours than ever to child care and housework — nearly 20, in fact, compared to 6.5 hours in 1965.

Conversely, mothers are spending more weekly hours working than they were in 1965 and have become the primary breadwinners in four of 10 American families, according to Pew.



Insure.com asked a group of dedicated dads to rank their favorite chores around the house. Here's what they came up with:

Barbecuing/cooking: 22 5%

Helping with homework: 17%

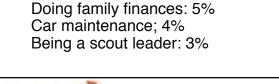
Driving: 14%

Mowing the lawn, landscaping, snow removal: 5%

Coaching a team: 9%
Assembly of toys, book

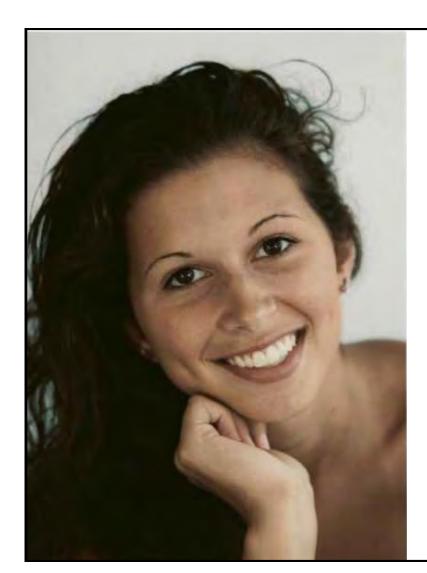
Assembly of toys, bookshelves, etc.: 9% Fixing broken things around the house: 6% Pest removal (spiders, gross bugs): 3%

Fixing plumbing: 2% Moving furniture: 2%









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## **Roosevelt in Roosevelt**

Bv Susan Heckler

The borough of Roosevelt was founded as New Jersey Homesteads, an experimental community during the Great Depression. It is located within Millstone Township and is the only complete town to be listed in both the State and National Historic Registers.

Just under two square miles, the farmland became an agricultural and industrial cooperative community for 1,000 unemployed Eastern European Jewish workers from the Garment Center in 1936. Planned as a socialist experiment, unfortunately, the garment workers had very little experience in farming so the plan was not very successful. The collectively owned and operated garment factories also did not fare well.

The planned community consisted of clusters of Bauhaus-style cottages on half-acre properties,

which were surrounded by open space owned publicly. While the homes were basic living quarters, they were a vast improvement from the Lower East Side over-crowded apartment buildings.

Little by little, Jersey Homesteads attracted artists and intellects. Most well-known was Lithuanian-born Ben Shahn, the artist who made the large fresco mural in the Roosevelt Public School building, which was commissioned from the Farmland Security Administration.

The town's public buildings are clustered together; the post office and grade school are near the deli and amphitheater. In that area you will also find a bust of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who the town was eventually renamed for. Artist Ben Shahn's son, Jonathan Shahn, sculpted a bust of the president, while landscape architect Marvin Feld designed the amphitheater and park where it is located.

Jonathan Shahn has been sculpting, drawing and making prints of the human form since the 1960s. He exhibited his Heads in Wood and Plaster at Grounds for Sculpture in Hamilton, New Jersey from April 18–September 22, 2013.

This is just one of the hidden jewels of our area for all to enjoy.



# Allentown Highschooler Makes Dean's List At Rutgers

Kelly Ann Baber, the daughter of Tom and Lisa Baber finished her first year at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, NJ. Lisa majored in Engineering and is pursuing a career as a Mechanical Engineer.

Lisa has been named to the Dean's List both Fall and Spring Semester 2015/2015 and graduated Allentown High School last June of 2014.

# MONMOUTH COUNTY RECOGNIZED FOR KEEPING COMMUNITY CLEAN

## Receives numerous awards from NJ Clean Communities

Monmouth County officials and programs were recognized by NJ Clean Communities at the "Jammin' at the Jersey Shore" Conference Awards Dinner on May 21 as part of a three-day event dedicated to educating youth and identifying outstanding leadership while promoting a statewide litter-abatement program.

Freeholder Deputy Director Serena DiMaso, liaison to the Monmouth County Reclamation Center, received the NJ Clean Communities Excellence in Education Award.

"Education about recycling and waste removal is essential to keep waste out of our water supply and to extend the life of the landfill," said DiMaso. "Raising awareness about responsible trash disposal among our youngest residents is critical to raising responsible adults."

"I commend Deputy Director DiMaso and the Reclamation Center staff for all of their hard work and dedication to keeping our County clean and our residents informed," said Freeholder Director Gary J. Rich, Sr. "Monmouth County is proud to partner with the City of Long Branch in showcasing our coastal environment and we are equally proud to be an advocate for NJ Clean Communities.

All of the awards were presented at McLoone's Pier House as part of the annual NJ Clean Communities Conference held in Long Branch May 20, 21 and 22.

On the opening day of the conference, Monmouth County's Clean Communities, Park System and Tourism offices and the City of Long Branch rolled out the welcome mat to more than 1,600 students from throughout New Jersey. The popular, single day event showcased the New Jersey Shore and how everyone can make a difference in creating cleaner communities.

Underlying the entire day was how the students could be more responsible in the disposal of trash and recyclables and can help to make their communities cleaner.

New Jersey Clean Communities is a comprehensive, statewide litter-abatement program that has served New Jersey residents and visitors for more than 25 years.

For information about the Monmouth County Clean Communities Program call 732-683-8686 ext. 7539 or go to www.visitmonmouth.com.









## Millstone Township School District Boasts Flat Taxes

By Susan Hecklei

For the fifth year in a row, The Millstone Township School District reports no tax increase on the average valued home. According to Superintendent Scott Feder, it is a direct result of a non-traditional budgeting philosophy and declining enrollment.

The school board concentrates their efforts to make decisions on what is best for the education of the students and the community as a whole. According to Superintendent Feder, "We start with one burning question – "What do we need in order to provide a world class education for our students?" I know "world class" is such a buzz term these days as we move into a global marketplace, but for us it has meaning. It means that we will work every day to meet our Strategic Planning vision to be that district that parents want to move their families into. We want bidding wars on homes and conversations in the real estate offices to funnel people to Millstone and be a part of the great opportunities they will have for their children. We make budgetary decisions with this in mind."

The State of NJ instituted a 2% cap on how much School Districts can raise the tax base from one year to the next four years ago. This resulted in school districts being forced to look deeper into their budgeting practices, and begin making tough decisions that they may not have had to make in the past. Superintendent Feder stated in his press release, "I am happy to report that even though the Board of Education could have chosen to adopt a budget that utilized what they call "banked cap dollars", they have not and again stayed below the 2% increase (albeit not by much). I believe one of our strengths is that we do not budget just one year at a time. We have long term outlooks and include important questions such as facilities maintenance, creating sustainable staffing models, potential revenue sources and mostly, how do make sure that we maintain a strong budgeting process, while in continuous education improvement." Some of the great things that they are doing and that are being funded for the next school year:

·Increased Gifted Education

·Middle School Elective Programming

 $\cdot 1{:}1\ computing\ program\ for\ all\ Middle\ School\ children\ (more\ coming\ on\ this)$ 

·Maintained awesome class size through the district

·Replacing a 1.2 million dollar roof (without going to referendum and adding to our long term debt)

·Monies to purchase a new K-5 math program during the 15-16 school year

·Additional remedial support in the Middle School

- •Extensive programming in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM)
- ·Additional district wide tech support
- $\cdot Blended \ Learning \ Math \ model \ for \ acceleration \ in \ mathematics$
- ·Extensive Professional Development for our staff
- ·Dyslexia Programming
- ·Increased Pre-school options

Feder thanks the PTO, PTSA and MTFEE for their tremendous and continued support. Millstone Township parents thank them all!

# Allentown Library Association Marks Its 50<sup>th</sup> Year of Service

By Pam Teel

his is the year to celebrate. The Allentown Library Association has reached a milestone. Fifty years ago, three former librarians who lived in the Allentown area put their heads together and reformed the Allentown Library. With the help of other townspeople, they began to collect books and borrow some books from the Monmouth County library for people to read. Starting out on one side of Grange Hall, they relocated over and over again in space donated by storeowners. After bouncing from one store to another, the library took the form of a bookmobile that came to town once a month to service the Allentown people. The book mobile was sponsored by the Monmouth County Library. Records indicate that Allentown had some sort of a small library dating as far back as 1874, which was most likely run out of people's businesses or individual homes.

The Allentown Public Library Association is a non-profit Corporation, which owns and operates a historic building to house a branch of the Monmouth County Library System. They have been a branch of the Monmouth County Library System since 1965.

In 1972, it was suggested that the Association buy the burned out Baptist church in Allentown. After restoring the building to its splendor, the Allentown Library began to grow. In honor of its 50<sup>th</sup> year, The Association plans to hold different events throughout the year. This past March, longtime resident and lifelong friend of the Allentown Library, Joan Ruddiman, gave a two-hour lecture on the history of the library and the people who started and kept the library going. Renee Schwartz, chair of the Monmouth County Library Commission, presented library Association President, Roxanne Robinson, with a citation from the commission recognizing the significant contributions the Library Association has made to the Allentown Library. Monmouth County Freeholder Lillian G. Burry spoke after presenting the proclamation from the Freeholders. Previously, Congressman, Chris Smith, presented the local boy scouts with a framed flag that was flown over the capital, which they presented to the library during the ceremony. In March, The U.S. Postal Service helped the library celebrate with a commemorative cancellation stamp featuring the image of the Allentown Public Library. The Library Association plans on holding more events throughout the year to celebrate the anniversary.

Along with volunteers and friends of the Library, the Library Association holds various fundraisers throughout the year in order to raise the money necessary to keep the library going. It costs about \$40,000 a year to keep up with the costs and upkeep of the building. They also rely on the generous donations from their community. Many of the events they host are geared for children. Some events include movie night, storytime, games at the library, and more. You can see the Allentown branch schedule of events by going to: http://www.monmouthcountylib.org/, then go to select library branch to see the monthly schedule.

The goal of the Association for this year is to hopefully pay off their \$40,000 mortgage. If you are an organization such as the Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts who would like to hold a fundraiser for the library, or if you would like to make a donation to the library, please contact Roxanne Robinson at: robinyehl54@verizon.net

The library is always looking for more volunteers and fresh faces to help out with upcoming events. They are also looking for people who are interested in joining the Library Association Board. If you have any interest in volunteering, please call: 609 259-7565. Any interest in learning more about the Library Association Board, please contact Roxanne Robinson.







## Which Mortgage Is Right For You?

Finding the right loan to meet your budget starts with sitting down with a mortgage professional to discuss your options.

Never settle for anything but the best, and be sure to discuss your intent for the property and how long you anticipate remaining in the home. Your loan officer will take into account your income and credit rating to secure the best interest rates, and they will offer a points buy-down option to reduce the loan balance.

Most importantly, he or she will explain the difference between an adjustable rate mortgage, or ARM, and the popular fixed term loan for 15, 20, 30 or 40 years. There are pros and cons on both sides of the fence, so careful evaluation of your unique set of circumstances will lead you to the right loan product to get you into your dream home.

#### ARM LOANS

The adjustable rate mortgage (ARM) is an attractive option for easy monthly payments and the chance to lock in a current low interest rate. The ARM loan product will be set to adjust on a two-, five- or seven-year term period, at which time the monthly payment may increase if the current interest rate conditions are unfavorable.

A higher interest rate may be due to nationally set standards or may be affected by the borrower's credit score taking a nosedive for reasons they were not able to control. Medical bills, emergencies and a host of unpleasant financial surprises can make the ARM loan risky business if the resident plans to hang onto the home and stay there for many years.

The ARM may be the ideal funding situation for borrowers who anticipate a short-term stay in the property or wish to rehab the home while they are living there and sell the property before the ARM adjusts. The ARM loan product is typically lower than a fixed rate, but the long-term goals of the resident and careful analysis of the borrower's budget must come into play.

#### **FIXED-RATE LOANS**

The fixed-rate loan is the most popular and dependable loan product for borrowers who wish to remain in the home for many years.

This type of mortgage may be set for a payoff according to the borrower's ability to handle the monthly mortgage. If you are able to make a higher payment, ask your loan officer for his or her best rate on a 15-year contract. However, if

you prefer to free up your monthly cash flow and can anticipate the loan balance to be paid off before retirement, the extended 30- to 40-year fixed rate ensures a steady monthly mortgage payment with no surprises down the road.

Fixed-rate mortgages are a bit more expensive than ARMs, but the peace of mind and stability they provide are well worth the extra interest. The down side to the ubiquitous fixed-rate mortgage is that the borrower will not be able to take advantage of better interest rates without a costly home refinance.

Refinancing a property requires sufficient equity and an official appraisal above the new loan amount to be compliant with lending institution regulations. Sold as the No. 1 loan product for savvy buyers, the fixed-rate mortgage helps keep your financial status in check for long-term planning and the security that the payment is guaranteed for the life of the loan.

Ask your loan professional to explain all your mortgage options and rest assured that your educated decision will be right for you.



Deciding between a fixed-rate and adjustable interest rate for your mortgage can be a balancing act. Your lender can explain the potential benefits to both types of loans.

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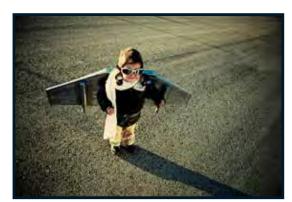








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## Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices New Jersey Properties Honors Top Agents And Teams for 2014 at Exclusive Event Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices New Jersey Properties recently hosted, "Celebrate Achievement"—an exclusive awards program at The Palace at Somerset Park, honoring the

company's 2014 Pinnacle Group-- the top 25 real estate agents and top 15 real estate teams companywide.

In addition to the night's honorees, attendees included the ownership and management teams as well as special guests from Doyle New York—the night's Platinum Partner and Sponsor, Home Capital Network, Associated Title Agency, Insurance Services of New Jersey, and HMS. Silver sponsors included HMS, Where to Live and Xpressdocs.

"The real estate professionals who have been named to the 2014 Pinnacle Group remind us that perseverance, hard work, and an unwavering commitment to excellence are the cornerstones of success," noted Chris Brown, Executive Vice President and General Sales Manager of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices New Jersey Properties. "They inspire their fellow colleagues to reach for higher heights, and they live our mission to be New Jersey's premier provider of comprehensive real estate services."

The three-hour awards program began with a cocktail reception which included a sumptuous buffet as well as musical entertainment from New York, New York Dueling Pianos, a red carpet runway and backdrop for celebrity-like photo opportunities, and three caricature artists who dazzled guests with hilarious portraits. The evening concluded with an hour-long awards presentation during which a countdown of top agents was presented. The Rampinelli Team, Maria Rampinelli team leader in the company's Caldwell Office was named top team of the year, and Jim Befarah in the Millstone Office was named top agent of the year.

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices New Jersey Properties proudly presents all top agents companywide:

#### Top 15 Teams

- 1. Rampinelli Team
- Orsini Team
- Deluccia Team
- 4. Lacerda Team
- Top 25 Real Estate Agents
- 1. James Befarah
- 2. David Castellano
- 3. Matthew Merritt
- Michele DiBenedetto
- Zdenka Tichy
- Janine Rose
- 7. Lynn Boyer

- 5. Shriber Team
- 6. Moretti Team
- The Spear Team
- Lodato Team
- 8. Roger Bediner
- 9. Brian Teitel
- 10. Deborah Jacobs
- 11. Philip Migliaccio
- 12. Marilyn Bailey
- 13. Margaret Cook
- 14. Catherine Frates

- 9. The Ferraro Team
- 10. Decicco Team
- 11. The Vani Team
- 12. The Kore Team
- 15. Denise Maran
- 16. Jennifer Kotler
- 17. Jeanne Bongo
- 18. Carolyn Perren
- 19. Hildy Roth
- 20. Lidia Gabinelli
- 21. Constance Radlof

- 13. The Hartnett Home Team
- 14. Team Williams
- 15. The Gill Home Team
- 22. Grace Tse
- 23. Robin Cittone
- 24. Cheryl McCauley
- 25. Dorothy Winhold



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## Set The Right Price For Your Home

Selling a home is a game of careful calculation to be sure you meet the fair market price and attract qualified buyers.

Many homes that are overpriced find themselves languishing on the market for an inordinate amount of time, causing stress and financial strain on the homeowner. And if the home is underpriced, you may be able to sell it quickly but end up costing yourself money.

Finding the right price point for your home is made easy by using industry tools to shape and guide your price range.

Always objective and never emotional, your price should meet competitive standards for your general neighborhood and city block. Overpriced homes have little chance of going into escrow, and underpriced real estate has the best chance for a quick sale.

#### COMPS

The comps, or comparatives, are a basic guideline of what other homes in your vicinity are selling for. The homes that are the most similar to your type of property will give you an idea of where your perfect price point is.

Factors such as a corner lot, in-ground swimming pool and interior upgrades will definitely affect the total sale price, so to begin, just stick with the square footage, number of bedrooms and bathrooms and size of the garage.

#### **UPGRADES**

When you are selling your home and wish to remodel it for a better showing condition, be sure to use caution with how much you intend to spend. Not all home improvements will recoup your rehabilitation investment, no matter how luxurious you believe the enhancements are.

The tried and true remodeling efforts that yield a high return are upgraded and modernized kitchens and bathrooms. Paint also is a green light, and new carpets add a fresh and attractive appearance.

However, investing in crown moldings, a swimming pool or a wet bar can be hit and miss and may not warrant the total cost of the rehab money flowing back to your pocket when closing the sale.

#### **APPRAISAL**

When a buyer makes an offer on your home, he or she is under the assumption that the property will appraise for your asking price. Most home buyers will finance the property with a loan, and very few can offer a cash deal.

When a bank funds the property mortgage, the amount of the loan may not exceed the appraised value of the home. If the buyer has entered into an agreement with an overpriced property, he or she may make up the overage with a deposit, but in most cases the home purchase deal is scrapped because the property price was set too high by mistake.

#### STAND BACK

The best advice to sell a home quickly and efficiently is to use the services of a real estate office. Your Realtor or agent has all the experience to set your price point to the where both buyer and seller are satisfied with the deal.

When your home is going to market, it's important to stand back and look at the real estate industry, trends and buyer behavior and release yourself from emotional attachment to the property. Emotions can cloud the scene and cause you to make poor

judgment calls on what your home is really worth.

So, take a deep breath and stand back while your real estate professional takes your home to market and seals the deal for a fair price.



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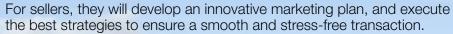


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## Get Noticed with Curb Appeal

First impressions count. When it's time to take your house to market, curb appeal can make or break the sale.

However, you don't need to break the bank to enhance your home, and by following a few simple guidelines you can transform your house from beaten down to best on the block with some do-it-yourself tips.

#### Front Door

The front door to the property is a real eye-catcher and needs to grab some attention. Remove tired and worn-out screens and give your front door a makeover with a vibrant coat of paint. To create a distinguished frame for your door, be sure to paint the trim in a darker color than the door.

#### **Porch**

Straight, clean lines are in order for the porch to add a sense of space and sharpen the effect of a freshly painted door.

Remove unused objects such as baskets, decorations, tired chairs and anything else that will detract from the living space.

#### Front Lawn

Keep it clean and keep it green. A front lawn that is well cared for speaks volumes about what's in store for the interior living space. Fresh sod and plenty of water will make your green grass thrive, and a splash of color adds a special touch.

### Adding Color To Your Lawn

Flowers can be expensive, and some species require abundant care. However, low-cost pansies make a dramatic addition to an outdoor space and are easily transplanted in a mature state.

To cut back on cost and make your garden pop, try lining the just the walkway with a colorful selection of flowers to draw the eye to the path, porch and front door.

If you have the time and money, lining the entire front of the home with flowers is a treat to look at. However, home sellers on a budget will do well to stick to the center pathway and porch areas.

## Evening Curb Appeal

Some buyers are prone to property drive-bys after hours, so you want to make your home stand out at night.

By adding a line of solar lights along the pathway, you can create a soft glow that outlines the yard and creates a symmetrical ambiance.

In addition, a low-voltage porch light in soft yellow or orange adds warmth and enough illumination to showcase your home at night.

#### Exterior Attitude

The exterior of your home should radiate an appealing color contrast to set your property apart from the rest. Sandblasting may not fit most sellers' budgets, but a fresh coat of paint will take you far.

Light colors, such as white, eggshell, yellow and similar hues, give the illusion that the property is larger. Similarly, darker exterior paint will create the illusion of a smaller home.

#### **Exterior Accents**

Once the house is painted, you are ready to accessorize with window treatments, garden statuary and colorful decor.

Window shutters provide a neat and tidy appearance, and you may find them at good prices and competitive rates. The shutters should be darker than the exterior paint to create color contrast and true curb appeal.

Use your creative powers to enhance a color scheme to suit your taste and best accentuate your lawn with colorful window treatments at bargain deals.

To save even more, try signing up for a home improvement class at your local garden center for ideas and installation information to do the job yourself and save money.

Add a few pieces of garden statuary or water fountains, and your front yard is transformed into a place that is sure to leave a pleasant impression with potential buyers.



Landscaping touches can grab potential buyers' attention. Curb appeal can make the difference between puling in buyers and having your home sit on the market.





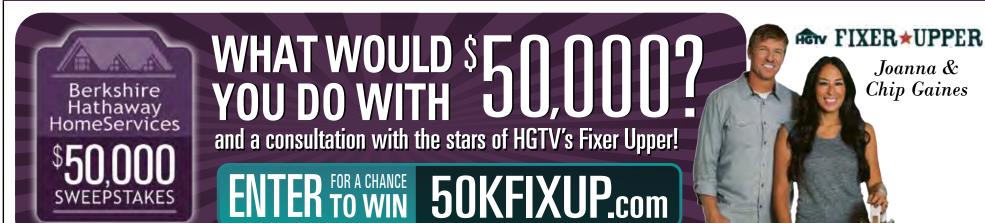
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The last thing you need is to be heading in the wrong direction wasting, time, money and your patience.

Smart home preparations begin with setting forth a strict budget and then generating the tenacity to stick to it. We all want to improve our home value and get the most from the real estate sale, but some home improvements may eat away your sales profit, and in some cases, kill the deal altogether.

#### POOLS ARE COMPLICATED

One of the great myths in home improvement is that you should add a swimming pool to increase your property value. This is false and has landed many a homeowner stuck with a hefty installation bill. Pools are complicated home additions and subject to the "beauty in the eye of the beholder" viewpoint.

Home buyers who want to have a pool often have a general idea in mind about the size, depth, yard location and a myriad of other factors involved with their property buying decision. Simply dropping a pool in your backyard is not a done deal to woo a pool person to your open house. It may be a step in the right direction, but don't get your hopes up too high that your home is going to sell for a figure that leaves you a tidy profit margin after the pool's installation.

Will you drop in a pebble pool or gunite? Rectangular or ovular? No one can predict the outcome, so it's a game of chance that you did the right thing if your goal is increasing property value.

#### **USE OF SPACE**

Some home buyers are adamant about not having a pool in the backyard for a variety of reasons. It is presumptive to think that everybody loves a swim, when precious lot space could be used for other recreation important to the new buyer.

Patio space for entertaining adds a lot of weight to a fantastic backyard living space. So, if you do decide to add a pool, be sure there is plenty of room to roam around it. In addition, home buyers with small children and pets may place a higher value on a property that does not have a pool. Safety and added space takes priority over a summer swim just a few months a year, and some prospective buyers may turn away explicitly because of the pool.

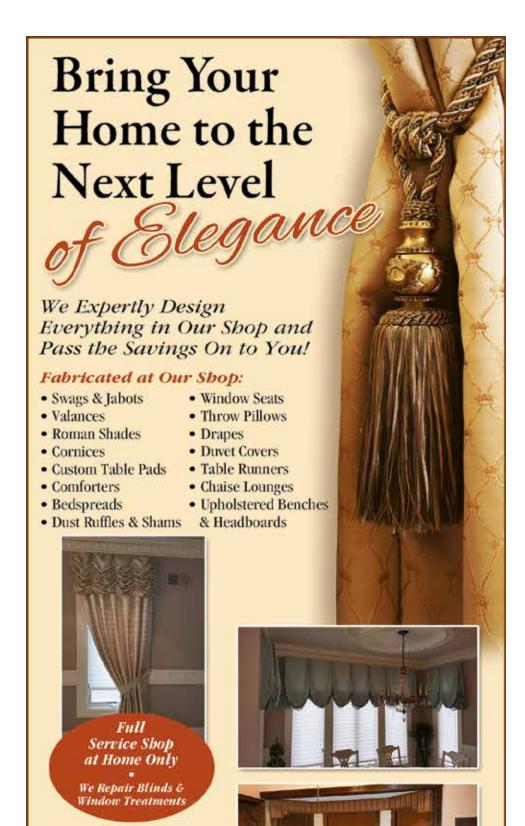
### **POST POOL SALE**

If your prospective buyer is open to the idea of a backyard pool, ask your real estate agent to make mention if your property has room for a pool. The new buyer may be able to add the pool construction onto their mortgage.

This option gives the new buyer the most freedom and flexibility to create the pool size and style to suit their budget and ensures that you have not sunk thousands of dollars into a feature that is a hit-and-miss renovation.

However, before your real estate agent speaks up to the client, be sure he or she has checked with city ordinances to ascertain whether your backyard can support a pool. Each city and county lays down the law with restrictions regarding the water's edge and the number of feet between the house and the property wall or fencing.

Real estate is one game where you may not misspeak when representing a property. Lawsuits are a way of life in this industry, so every fact must be double checked before making a claim to a client.





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## **Remodeling Projects**

Planning a home remodeling project can be a stressful experience. Why exacerbate that tension by relying on out-of-area distributors for your materials?

efore your project gets started, be sure to include local companies in your search for building materials, design pieces or custom furniture.

Local shop owners are always looking to add more business and projects and can be just as talented and stocked as major manufacturers. Instead of opting for the big box store for lumber, for example, you probably have a family-run operation in your neck of the woods that sells the same type of wood for comparable prices.

We've already discussed the financial impact that shopping locally can have on your community. In this case, it also can help you take more pride in your remodeling project knowing your lumber came from right down the road.

Carbon Footprint

Shopping focal businesses can help you greatly reduce your remodel's carbon footprint. By choosing nearby companies for materials, you're cutting down on the energy required for delivery.

If sustainable flooring has to be shipped from China, is that really contributing to the "going green" movement? Check close to home first to help lessen your remodel's impact on the environment.

Rapid Order Turnaround

No more waiting weeks for far-away manufacturers to ship your remodeling materials. Shopping locally means you can get your custom glass, doors, shower frames, mirrors or furniture in a guicker

Many local shops will cut the middleman out of the process to help expedite order turnarounds, meaning you'll receive your orders days to weeks faster.

## Truly Custom

Working one on one with a local design consultant means you can make something truly all your own. You can be proud to show off your new remodeling features knowing that no one else in the world has something quite like it.

Small companies can offer this individualized attention to complement their craftsmanship and skill.





## **PROSPERTOWN**

## Don't blink! You might pass right through it.

By Pam Teel

rospertown was once a thriving prosperous hamlet lying partly within the townships of Jackson, Plumstead and Millstone Township. Its boundaries are from Hawkins Road North to the intersection on Monmouth Road, including the Prospertown lake area and the area behind the lake to Hawkins Road. It also extended across Route 537 stretching up to Emley's Hill.

Going as far back as the late 1700's, Prospertown had several homes, a gristmill, a sawmill, a blacksmith shop, a bakery, an apple jack distillery, and a large hotel and tavern located on Route 537. Some of the old Prospertown homes that dotted Route 537 are still standing today; some lay abandoned and boarded up along the side of the road and others have been long time removed. The old hotel is still in existence and is now a private residence.

Prospertown, once part of the Lahaway Plantation, goes back in time to the Lenni Lenape Indians who lived in the area. The Lenni Lenape Indians lived, hunted, and were known to carry cranberries to early settlers in the Camden area. Wild cranberry bogs in Jackson, New Egypt, and vicinity, date back to 1684. There have been many Native American artifacts dug up in these areas that have been donated to local museums.

When surveyors in the olden days heard of the name, Lahaway Plantation, they expected to come to survey what they thought was a small village. When they came to make maps of the area, they found themselves walking through a tangle of marshes and cranberry bogs well into the Pine Barrens. As they wound their way through the woods and over the Lahaway creek, they did find one home deep in the woods set on a high dry islet. The home belonged to a man named J. Turner Brakeley.

J. Turner Brakeley was a Princeton College and Harvard Law school Graduate who in 1872 decided to forgo civilization and live his life as a hermit on plant species and natural resources on his piece of paradise. This he shared with many scientists who came from different institutes all over the area to study the plants and bug life at the plantation. Retreating into his own world, he was happy and content. He ventured out only when he needed to. He bought up more land around him to keep out any neighbors, curious onlookers, and to prevent any roads or highways going through his property. Eventually, he earned the



what was known then as the Lahaway Plantation. Brakeley knew every path in the whole region and was instrumental to the surveyors. Out of gratitude, they put his name on the map. J. Turner inherited a financial security from his father who was also a naturalist who loved the land just the way it was. He purchased the land specifically to hunt and fish on.

J. Turner loved all the different

reputation as the town hermit. Years previously, he did buy the Jerome Bonaparte Mansion in Bordentown. J. Turner died in 1915.

His father, Rev. John Henry Brakeley, who had founded the Bordentown College for Women, had married an heiress, and being a naturalist, was very often consulted by the authorities of the Smithsonian Institution. He first found Lahaway in 1855

and recognized its possibilities. He bought 201 acres at first. It was to be a mission, in a way. It was to be made a garden to teach the neighbors how scientific farming could be done. Peach orchards, cherries, apples were planted. The culture of alfalfa was subsequently introduced. Fields of fertilized corn grew where now it is only Pine Barrens. The wilderness began to blossom. A new era of prosperity seemed impending. The plan was build up into leveled cranberry bogs at a great cost. The iron fed berries were wonderful, fetching a cent per quart more than any other. Each season the picking gave employment and money to local people. Each owner of a piece of wild bog learned how to grow cranberries for himself but there was one matter was greatly overlooked. The land was in a frost belt. The frost came unexpectedly, whenever, and eventually killed the crops. Little by little the peach orchards died, the alfalfa grew to grass, and the strawberries yielded little. The great bodies of water grew wonderful pond lilies. But the land grew few salable things.

In the next issue we will get acquainted with the local schoolteacher of the Lahaway Plantation Schoolhouse.

A special thank you to fellow historian Glen Burns for providing books upon books of his own research about the Jackson, Prospertown, Creamridge, and New Egypt area. Thanks to you there will be many great stories to come.





# Deadly Powassan Virus Carried by Deer Ticks Spreading on the East Coast

anymore, whether through the woods or on your front lawn without some kind of protection from ticks, especially in the nymph stages when some are only as large as a poppy seed. Avoiding tick bites can prevent you from contracting a number of viruses they carry, including Lyme's disease, babesiosis, and now the potentially fatal Powassan virus, which is much worse than getting Lymes disease.

The virus is related to some mosquito borne viruses, including west Nile virus. It was named after Powassan Ontario, where it was first discovered in 1958. There have been two types of Powassan viruses found in the U.S. in recent years. One type is carried by the blacklegged tick or deer tick. This is the same tick that transmits Lyme disease, human anaplasmosis and babesiosis. Another type of POW virus is carried by a related tick species that usually feeds on woodchucks or other medium-sized mammals instead of humans. Ticks become infected with the bacteria by feeding on infected mice and other small animals. When an infected tick bites other animals, it can transmit the bacteria to these animals. According to recent statistics, up to 20% of ticks in the nymph stage and up to 50 % of adult female ticks carry lymes disease. 10% might be carrying the Powassan virus.

With this emerging tick borne illness, there's even more reason to routinely check yourself, your loved ones and your pets. The Powassan virus infects the central nervous system and can cause swelling of the brain (encephalitis) and meningitis. Signs and symptoms of the disease can include fever, headache, vomiting, weakness, confusion, loss of coordination, memory loss, and speech difficulties. Many people who get infected at first don't have any symptoms. The incubation time from tick bite to onset of illness could be one week to a month, but statistics show symptoms from the POW virus shows up much sooner than those ticks carrying lymes disease and the symptoms are much more severe. Approximately 10 percent of the virus encephalitis cases caused by POW virus are fatal.

The Powassan virus has been known in America since the 1950's but it rarely affected humans until the last few years. Scientist have detected a mutation in the virus where a different

54

strain has adapted to being able to be transmitted by deer ticks. Although it exists at low levels in nature, the virus can be fatal with no known cure. Of the survivors of this tick borne virus, half will experience neurological complications such as paralysis or cognitive problems.

Between 2000- 2011, it has been responsible for 49 deaths. In Minnesota alone from 2008-2013- there have been 22 known deaths due to the virus. Recently in the past year, there have been four more reported cases in Minnesota, 3 in NY State, one resulting in the death of a teenager, one in New Hampshire, and two in New Jersey; one resulting in the death of a Warren County woman. Two reported deaths in Maine. The virus has also been found in Connecticut, Massachusetts, as well as the Great Lakes Region.

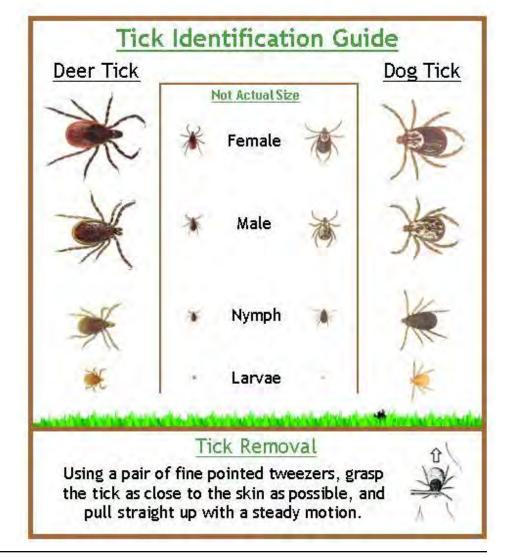
Normally, a tick has to be attached to a person for a certain length of time before it can cause any disease. If a tick isn't engorged with blood,

it's less likely that it has transmitted the disease to you. Best to keep the tick though and have it tested as a precaution. There are no vaccines or medications treat or prevent virus infection. POW Most often people with severe symptoms hospitalized. It is not commonly a part of the battery of testing done by doctors, but physicians are being encouraged tTicks thrive in cooler shady areas of a yard. It's a good idea to have your outside perimeter sprayed. Using a spray that contains permethrin on your shoes and clothing can keep ticks at bay. Wear long pants when working or walking outside, avoid wooded areas and check yourself after. The lighter the clothes, the better to see the tick on you. Use EPA approved repellent.

Ticks like warm moist areas such as your neck, ears and armpits. Wash tick bites with soap and water. Use tweezers to grasp its mouth and pull it out steadily. Don't use petroleum jelly, matches or nail polish remover, which can increase the risk of infection. It's important to check your pets as well.

Despite what people may think, ticks are not killed off by the cold weather. They merely become sluggish. The so-called tick season does flourish in the summer months. When the ticks are in their nymph stage they are very small to detect and can do just as much damage as an adult tick.

The POW virus seems to be on the rise and spreading. Because there is no requirement to report Powassan cases, the statistics of such incidents might even be higher. Now more than ever it's important to make it a part of your daily routine to frequently check yourself, your children, and your pets for your own well being.



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The west coast isn't the only part of the United States stepping up efforts in conservation. Even in normal years of rainfall, some states are finding it difficult to meet all their demands for water.

Our nation's population is only expected to increase by 2050 and beyond, boosting the demand for water. That's why an educated citizenry and substantial government funding is so critical to conserving and optimizing this natural resource.

Fortunately, there are many ways you and other Americans can make an impact on the amount of water available for use. Some ideas are simple, while others are more elaborate. You'll find tips and tricks in this section that can help make your home more water efficient. And the more efficient our homes become, the better shape our water's infrastructure will be in for future generations to enjoy.

### By the Numbers

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency reports some staggering statistics when it comes to water usage:

- Even though about 70 percent of the Earth's surface is covered by water, less than 1 percent is available for human use.
- Forty out of 50 state water managers expect water shortages under average conditions in some portion of their states over the next decade.
- Each American uses an average of 100 gallons of water a day at home.
- Installing water-efficient fixtures and appliances can reduce a household's use by 30 percent.
- The average household spends as much as \$500 per year on its water and sewer bill and can save about \$170 per year by installing water-efficient fixtures and appliances.





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#### You Will Save Money

While your air conditioner sat dormant throughout the winter months, it collected dust and debris and may have also lost some of its charge. During an A/C tune-up, the technician will clean your cooling system's coils and other critical internal components and make sure it is properly charged. This ensures you will benefit from your system's maximum energy efficiency and enjoy decreased utility costs.

#### **Some Other Ways It Saves You Money Include:**

Reduces air conditioning breakdowns – Every summer we get calls from area homeowners with air conditioning problems that could have been easily prevented with regular maintenance. During a tune-up, your technician will identify any small problems that could turn into larger, more costly repairs if not fixed.

Increases your system's lifespan – It is unlikely that you would continue to drive your vehicle without ever changing the oil or performing other regular maintenance. Yet many homeowners ignore their air conditioning unit and expect it to perform up to its full potential. Regular maintenance and tune-ups save you money by increasing the air conditioner's lifespan, allowing you to get the most out of your investment.

**Maintains Manufacturer's Warranty** – Maybe you have a pretty new air conditioner that is still under the manufacturer's warranty so you are not concerned about breakdowns. Did you know that many warranties require a licensed professional performs regular maintenance? Ignoring your annual A/C tuneups may be costing you money by voiding your system's warranty.

Enjoy saving money and avoid being stuck in a home with no air conditioning this summer CALL 609-529-2505 TO SCHEDULE TODAY

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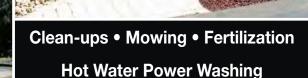
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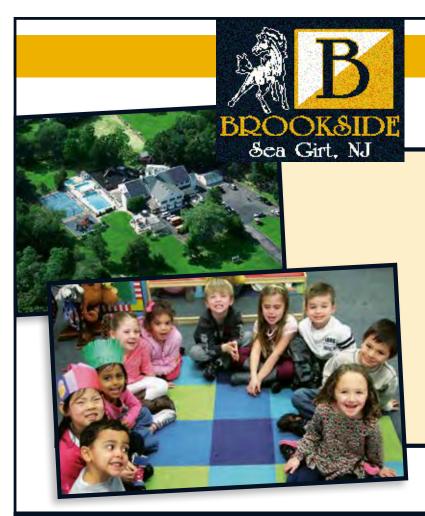
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hese thoughts are what small businesses in your area are up against — and it's time to flip the script. The truth is, your money does matter, no matter how small the amount. And it can actually be easier to make a

quick trip downtown for a purchase instead of walking through a big box store for the same item.

That's because choosing locally owned stores for your shopping needs generates almost four times as much economic benefit for the surrounding region compared to shopping at a chain, according to the Institute for Local Self-Reliance.

More specifically, the report states that local restaurants re-circulate 79 percent of their revenues locally, compared to 30 percent for chain eateries. This type of money being re-invested in your community should help convince you which way to shop the next time you're conflicted.

#### Social Investments

More money staying local means more funding for important organizations

such as charities and fundraiser events. Small business owners are more likely to make these types of social investments in the community, according to research by The American Small Business Coalition.

> From local art groups to youth sports teams, small business owners are quick to offer their sponsorship and money to help support community groups. This helps create customer buy-in for business owners, as well as a reputation for genuinely caring about their communities.



About half of all private sector workers are employed in small businesses, according to the Bureau of Labor. This means more local talent is retained and more money for taxes stays in the community, as well.

The next time you think your dollar doesn't count, remember that you're not only helping the

community as a whole, but also all of those individual workers who have jobs because of your support. From part-time help all the way up to the business owner, small businesses are counting on you.







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rom homework to mowing the lawn and everything in between, we depend on our fathers to handle many tasks around the house.

We also look to Dad for family leadership, finances and emotional support. On this special day in the middle of summer, we celebrate the differences made by our fathers, both young and old, new and veteran.

#### AN OFFICIAL HOLIDAY

It took nearly six decades, but Father's Day officially joined Mother's Day as a national holiday in 1972

A bill seeking to garner national recognition of the holiday was introduced in Congress in 1913 but didn't pass. After another failed effort in 1924, President Richard Nixon signed Father's Day into law in 1972. Decades later, the holiday has become one of the nation's most popular — and one of the most expensive. The National Retail Federation estimated that American consumers spent more than \$12.5.

expensive. The National Retail Federation estimated that American consumers spent more than \$12.5 billion on Father's Day in 2014.



#### ©FO TOLIA

#### WHAT DAD REALLY WANTS

The consumer insurance website Insure.com conducted a 2014 survey of Dads everywhere to find out what makes the perfect Father's Day gift. Here's what they found:

Dinner at your town's favorite restaurant: 31% Weekend getaway with the whole family: 27%

Electronics: 26%

Tickets to a show or sporting event: 26% A weekend getaway with the wife: 25%

Power tools: 21%

Breakfast in bed: 19% Gift card: 16%

Sports memorabilia: 15%

Alcohol: 13%

Weekend getaway with the guys: 13%

Car care equipment: 12%

Fitness equipment: 11%

Weekend getaway by themselves: 11%

Barbecue grill: 10% Cigars: 10% Books: 8% Room remodel: 5%



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