# Berkeley Heights Berkeley Heights COMMUNITY NEWS NJ

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# **FAITH LUTHERAN COLLECTS 170 BIKES FOR CHARITY**

Submitted by Larry Holt

Within a month, Faith Lutheran in New Providence, led by members Casey Walsh of Bridgewater, Cliff Auchter of Berkeley Heights and Ralph Adamson of Warren collected 170 used bikes from New Providence, Berkeley Heights, other Union County towns and Succasunna. The collection was conducted on behalf of Pedals for Progress, an organization which annually recycles bikes for persons in developing countries.

The effort culminated on Saturday, June 20, when twelve members, in the parking lot of Faith, repaired and processed the 170 bikes for shipment.

During the past thirty years, Pedals for Progress has collected 172,000 bicycles and shipped this material wealth to persons of the developing countries of Latin America, Asia and Africa. In these countries, the bikes are reconditioned by partner agencies and distributed at low cost to poor working adults. The bikes provide the adults with reliable transportation for commuting to work, transporting produce to market as well as accessing health care and other services. Steady employment for adults is vital to the development and success of struggling communities.

The 170 bicycles will be shipped to Thailand. Faith has contributed \$1,700 toward the shipment.

Since 2002, Faith Lutheran has been collecting bikes for Pedals for Progress. Casey Walsh has chaired this ministry since 2016. The pastor of Faith is Rev. Jane McCready. Faith is located at 524 South Street. Visit online at famfaith.org or reach by phone at 908-464-5177.



(above) Alana Lamberti of Faith repairs a bike for shipment.



(above) Repaired and processed bikes are ready for placement on the P4P truck.



(above) Bikes filled the P4P truck to capacity.

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# Berkeley Heights

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Berkeley Heights News



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# **LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS CELEBRATES 100 YRS**

Submitted by Marlene Sincaglia

This year, 2020, is the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th amendment to the Constitution which gave women the right to vote. It is also the 100th anniversary of the founding of the League of Women Voters. The League of Women Voters of Berkeley Heights, New Providence and Summit has planned virtual activities in August to celebrate those events.

We will be hosting a premiere of our video which is a companion to our book Songs of the Suffragists, Lyrics of American Feminism from 1850-2020. Songs of the Suffragists provides well researched commentary regarding the songs and women's movement at the time.

On August 26, Women Equity Day, we will be co-hosting a program with NJ Women Vote, Building on our Past to Pave our Future. It will be a virtual panel featuring a dynamic line-up of women in NJ state government. The event will take place from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

At 5 p.m. at the DuCret School for the Arts in Plainfield, there will be a live reading of the play "Winter Wheat" written by Catherine Bush. It's 1920 and the world is changing, and no one feels the effect of it more than the Burn family of Niota, Tennessee. Harry, a state congressman, is dealing with the controversy surrounding the ratification of the 19th Amendment that would give women the right to vote. And Jack and Harry's mother, Febb, has taken a young girl named Ruth Abbott under her wing, determined to teach her a thing or two about life. Then the perfect political storm hits the state of Tennessee. This play is based on real events.

At 7:30 that evening we will be hosting a program from the National League of Women Voters project 360.

For more information (and how to register) for these programs, please visit lwv-bhnps.org.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization whose goals are to empower voters and defend democracy.

# **BERKELEY HEIGHTS PUBLIC LIBRARY PROGRAMS**

Summer Reading Club "Imagine Your Story" for all ages continues through Friday, August 14.

Don't forget to log in your reading and complete missions at: bhplnj.readsquared.com/ or the on the READsquared app. Please email childrens@bhplnj.org or circulation@bhplnj.org if you have any questions.

### **CHILDREN'S STORY TIMES**

Check back on the Children's page at berkeleyheightskids.blogspot.com and Facebook page for updates Questions about children's programs? Email childrens@bhplnj.org

#### **Snack Time Stories**

Tuesdays & Thursdays in August at 10:30 a.m. stories read by BHPL staff and teen volunteers for ages 2 – 5. Videos will be posted on the library's Facebook page: BerkeleyHeightsLibrary

Coming Soon! Moon Gazing

with John Miller of Pearl Observatory **Girls Who Code**mini-session for 5th-8th graders

# **ADULT PROGRAMS:**

Currently, the library is offering an online Book Group that meets via Zoom and reads ebooks available from Hoopla.

Please email reference@bhplnj.org for more information.

Check the library's calendar at bhplnj.org/eventcalendar/ for program changes and additions. Please check our website bhplnj.org for information on curbside pickup and our planned reopening and of course continue to use our online resources!

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# **HIGH SCHOOL FENCING TEAM HONORS SENIORS**

#### Submitted by Michael Wang

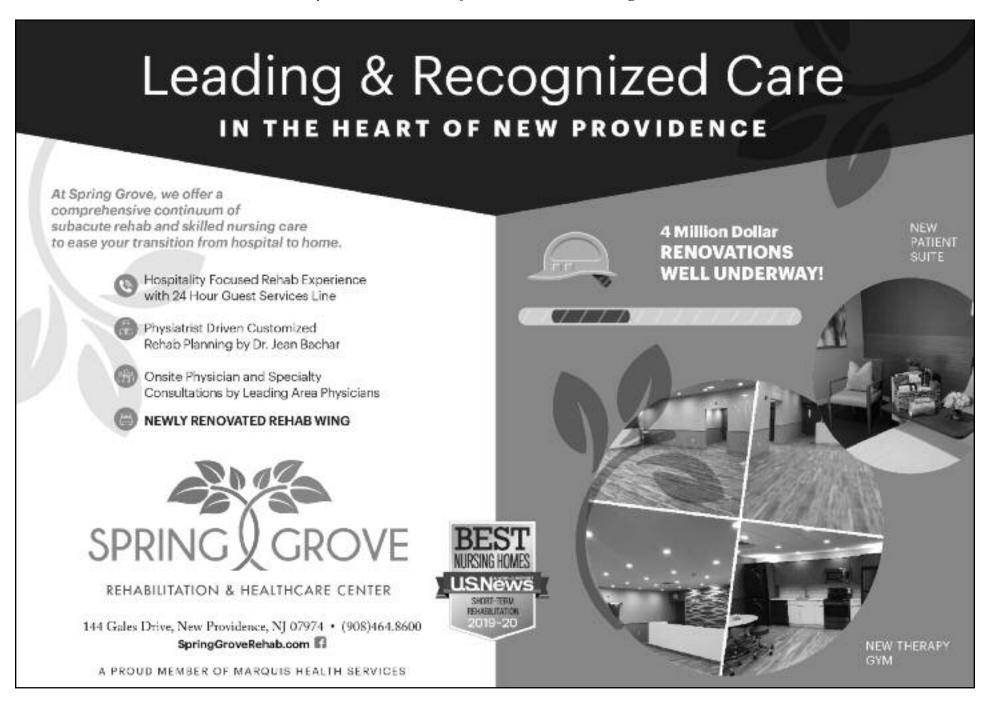
Berkeley Heights honored its seven graduating seniors on the Governor Livingston High School fencing team at the end of the season. The seniors played their hearts out with a rousing victory over the Pingry School.

The "Super Six" senior girls (Gia, Jacqui, Madison, Heather, Sarah, and Lily) had led their team to multiple state squad championships over their 4 years and the boys captain, Justin Lewis,

had built up his team from humble beginnings to take 11th out of 52 in a statewide tournament this year. With pizza, balloons, and cake, the seniors were given a fitting send-off from the team.



(above, l-r) Coach Albert Benzimra, Coach Ellen Hewett, Jacqui Barbieri, Gia LaSalle, Madison Fong, Justin Lewis, Heather Januzzi, Lily Walsh, Sarah Comerford, Coach Michael Wang, and Coach Don Satchell.



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# ST. JOSEPH'S EXPRESSES THANKS FOR COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Submitted by Bernadette Murphy Dear friends,

We are more grateful than ever for your support of St. Joseph's and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Your assistance since the pandemic began has been incredible. People have stepped up to help in so many ways.

Your generous contributions of food and funds have had a tremendous impact. With your help, we have distributed over 5,000 bags of food to families since the end of March. We have also shared thousands of sandwiches, toiletries, and



(above) Food distribution line at St. Joseph Social Service Center

personal protective equipment.

We would like to extend a special thank you to the many people in Westfield, Cranford, Mountainside, Berkeley Heights, New Providence, Roselle Park, Union, Elizabeth, Warren, and Edison, among other towns, for your overwhelming response to our appeal for emergency food bags. So many people have contributed that we can't possibly list them all.

We hope you will stay with us as the economic fallout from the pandemic is just beginning, and together we can help our community survive and thrive. If you would like to donate food or funds, please visit our website at sjeliz.org for details.

With heartfelt thanks and appreciation,

The Team at St. Joseph Social Service Center



(above) Food being distributed at St. Joseph Social Service Center.

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# WHARTON INSTITUTE LAUNCHES "WEDNESDAY WEBINARS AT WHARTON"

#### Submitted by Alice Hamlet

Wharton Institute for the Performing Arts (WIPA) announced that world-renowned Broadway stars and music industry veterans Capathia Jenkins, Marissa McGowan, Michael Mendez, Pam Sousa, Michael Keller, and Doug LaBrecque will join the line-up of Performing Arts School faculty to participate in "Wednesday Webinars at Wharton," a series of weekly one-hour virtual workshops exploring what it means to have a career in the professional musical theatre world, including the sharing of personal experiences, behind-thescene stories, tips, training, and more. Proceeds from the nine-week webinar series will benefit the Wharton Institute for the Performing Arts Scholarship Fund.

"Especially in these challenging times, Wharton Arts sees it as its duty to expand its footprint by bringing our offerings online," said Peter H. Gistelinck, Executive Director of the Wharton Institute for the Performing Arts. "Our 'Wednesday Webinars at Wharton' provide unique opportunities for students of all ages across the country to learn directly from some of the best artists in the musical theater industry," said Helen H. Cha-Pyo, Artistic Director of the Wharton Institute for the Performing Arts.

The first event took place on Wednesday, July 1 and featured an intimate conversation with American actress and singer Capathia Jenkins, best known for her work as a Broadway performer with roles in shows such as Caroline, or Change, Newsies, and Martin Short's Fame Becomes Me. Stage favorites Marissa McGowan (Kiss Me Kate) and Michael Mendez (Chaplin, Grease) appeared together on July 15.

Broadway dancer and choreographer Pam Sousa (A Chorus Line), a player in the original Bob Fosse production of Pippin, will follow on August 5, Broadway music contractor and drummer Michael Keller (music contractor for the legendary Marvin Hamlisch) on August 12, and Broadway veteran Doug LaBrecque

(Phantom of the Opera) will appear on August 19.

Each weekly webinar will be hosted on Zoom on Wednesday afternoons, July 1- August 26, from 4-5 p.m. EST. Tickets are available at WhartonArts.org/wednesday-webinars for \$20 (\$10 for Wharton Arts students). For more information, call 908-790-0700 or email info@whartonarts.org.

The Wharton Institute for the Performing Arts' mission is to provide the highest quality performing arts education to a wide range of students in a supportive and inclusive environment, where striving for personal excellence inspires and connects those we teach to the communities we serve.

Wharton is New Jersey's largest independent non-profit community performing arts education center serving over 1,500 students through a range of classes and ensembles including the 15 ensembles of the New Jersey Youth Symphony, which serve 500 students in grades 3 - 12 by audition. Beginning with Out of the Box Music and Pathways classes for young children, Wharton offers private lessons, group classes, and ensembles for all ages and all abilities at the Performing Arts School. With the belief in the positive and unifying influence of music and the performing arts and that arts education should be accessible to all people regardless of their ability to pay, Wharton teaches all instruments and voice and has a robust musical theater program. Based in Paterson, New Jersey, the Paterson Music Project is an El Sistema-inspired program of the Wharton Institute for the Performing Arts that uses music as a vehicle for social change by empowering and inspiring children through the community experience of ensemble learning and playing.

Wharton Institute for the Performing Arts is located in Berkeley Heights, New Providence and Paterson, NJ and reaches students from 10 counties. All of Wharton's extraordinary faculty members and conductors hold degrees in their teaching specialty and have been vetted and trained to enable our students to achieve their personal best.



(above) Wharton Institute for the Performing Arts presents "Wednesday Webinars at Wharton", a weekly virtual workshop series.

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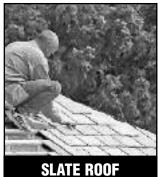




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# **NJ VETERAN COMMUNITY FIGHTS BACK DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

Submitted by Jesus MiroQuesada and Angie Abbot, NJVN

A group of veterans and veterans' organizations are making a huge difference during New Jersey's Covid-19 pandemic. The New Jersey Veterans Networks' "Operation: Helping Heroes" project has two objectives including providing meals and groceries to veterans, and protective equipment to first responders. Food and PPE have been delivered to first responders, hospital workers, and activated National Guardsmen throughout the state.

They have distributed almost 3,000 hot meals and groceries to veterans, National Guardsmen and essential frontline workers at 61 different drop-off locations. The NJVN also provided personal protective equipment and helped distribute over 10,000 gallons of hand sanitizer to hospitals, EMS squads and police departments, and provided over 2,000 protective masks. This all happened during a crucial time when things like food, masks and hand sanitizer were very much needed, but hard to find.

The New Jersey Veteran Network has truly lived up to its name and partnered with a rich network of almost a dozen other organizations in order to fulfill their mission. Non-profits like the Samaritan Outreach Services, Operation Jersey Cares, the CSM Robert Gallagher Charitable



(above) NJVN President Michael Boll dropping off masks and gloves to a care facility.



(above) NJVN Outreach Director Doc Schupp and sidekick Shadow dropping off hot meals to National Guardsmen.

Foundation, and Milltown VFW 2319, worked tirelessly to contribute to the Helping Heroes effort by either supporting heroes and first responders working through the crisis, or helping veterans whose health and finances were affected by the pandemic.

Doc Schupp who created the Helping Heroes program had this to say "We were only able to reach and help as many people as we did because we are working with some of the best and most passionate organizations and people in the state. People like James Ludolph, would drive for hours dropping off food to sick and quarantined vets only to ask me what the next mission to help was, or 2319 VFW Commander Bob Kolesare, who would personally go out to help fill veterans' pantries."

NJVN Outreach Director, Frank "Doc" Schupp organized the hot meal and groceries portion of the program in collaboration with VFW 2319, Operation: Jersey Cares and Samaritan Outreach Services. Food was donated by restaurants including Jim Dandy of East Rutherford, Marinelli's and 55 Main both of Flemington, Amici's of Linden, Burnett BBQ of Union, and Applebee's of Garfield. Donations were delivered to National Guard units, hospital workers and veteran shelters such as Operation Valor in Newark and Vet Haven North.

Home deliveries of food as well as social service assistance, in coordination with Catholic Charities and PACO agency, were also provided to assist veterans who were quarantined at home due the COVID-19 crisis.

The protective equipment distribution was managed by NJVN President Michael Boll in collaboration with Ashland Chemical who sponsored the hand sanitizer, and Backpacks for Life - a veterans' organization who has created a full-scale operation to create masks to give to first responders and hospital staff. Protective

equipment was given to hospitals including Holy Name of Teaneck, the East Orange and Lyons VA Hospitals, Jersey City and New Bridge Medical Centers, and police departments including New Providence and Florham Park.

Both the food distribution and PPE could not have been made possible without the volunteers who took the time to pick up and distribute the goods. Great people like James Ludolph, Robert Bouthille, Dana Black, Juan Peris, Jamel Dobbins and Michael Salermo (with the team Mascots Shadow and Mush) and many others made this project happen! Many good people came together and were able to make a positive impact on the community during a difficult time. All of this was done by strong partnerships, unpaid volunteers, and sponsored through donations.

Perhaps, VFW 2319s Commander Bob Kolesare said it best, "VFW 2319 really enjoyed taking care of our vets. We hope that we were able to brighten their days just a little bit during this crisis."

#### **ABOUT NEW JERSEY VETERANS NETWORK**

We are a group of veterans and volunteers dedicated to helping our veterans and their families live better lives. Our team is raising awareness of our veterans needs by organizing public speaking engagements, meeting with business and political leaders across the state and sponsoring fundraising events. Our mission is to identify veterans and connect them with resources and programs designed to meet their unique set of needs. To ensure that EVERY single one of our veterans, who have sacrificed so much for this great country, receives the resources that they require and deserve. If you are interested in joining our team, would like us to speak at your event, or contributing to our mission, call 973-332-1556 or email mdbollio@optonline.net. To learn more visit njvn.org.



(above) NJVN President Michael Boll, Outreach Director Frank "Doc" Schupp and Reverend Richard Starling dropping off food and snacks for the Senior Veterans of Menlo Park.

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- Identify your child's cognitive strengths and weaknesses in seven key areas including memory, attention, processing speed, visual and auditory processing, and more.
- Understand the reasons why you may be seeing persistent challenges in reading, following directions, or other academic issues.
- Focus your efforts on appropriate interventions rather than waste efforts on solutions that probably won't work.

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Manager - Decision Analytics needed to be responsible for estimation, planning, and execution of Axtria's projects. Provide business and technical guidance to the team during project implementation and execution. Serve as a liaison between business and technical aspects of the project. All the above duties will be performed using SQL, R, SAS, and Tableau, OR using Applied Econometrics I & II, Health Economics I & II, and Labor Economics I & II. Not all positions require all skills. Work location for all positions will include Berkeley Heights, NJ and also at various unanticipated locations throughout the U.S. as assigned which may require relocation. Multiple positions available. Applicants must specifically identify all postsecondary education and all mentioned skills and tools in which applicant has education, training or experience.

Applicants should identify clearly which position they are applying for in their cover letter.

MAIL RESUMES TO AXTRIA, INC. ATTN: HUMAN RESOURCES 300 CONNELL DR., 5TH FLOOR BERKELEY HEIGHTS, NJ 07922



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Manager - Business Intelligence needed to manage project execution, track project milestones, and submit deliverables ensuring adherence to SDLC and quality standards. Also ensure that client requirements are incorporated into Axtria's ongoing Data Warehouse solutions development and innovation efforts. Responsible for managing project personnel including: overview of solutions design, development, and guiding the team on goal setting and performance feedback. All the above duties will be performed using VB.NET, C#, and JAVA, and C++, OR using Alteryx, Tableau, Salesforce and R. Not all positions require all skills. Work location for all positions will include Berkeley Heights, NJ and also at various unanticipated locations throughout the U.S. as assigned which may require relocation. Multiple positions available. Applicants must specifically identify all post- secondary education and all mentioned skills and tools in which applicant has education, training or experience.

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# SUMMIT OLD GUARD AUGUST ZOOM EVENTS

The Summit Old Guard's weekly Tuesday meetings have continued through the use of ZOOM, and have attracted more than 100 viewers each week. Our August meetings will prove to be informative and enlightening. There is little limitation to our dynamic presentations as the viewers have, as before the virus, chances to ask questions of the presenter at the end of the meeting. To gain access to the programs send an email to info@summitoldguard.org and check our web site summitoldguard.org for more information.

#### **AUGUST 4TH**

Kavneet Singh, the national resource of the American Sikh Council, will discuss the Sikh heritage He will cover an overview of the Sikh religion from its founding about 550 years ago and include information on the founders, their teachings, the Sikh identity, and the contributions of Sikhs to interfaith dialogue and harmony.

# **AUGUST 11TH**

Don MacGowan, volunteer program coordinator for 'The Seeing Eye', will discuss 'The Seeing Eye's' highly regarded breeding program, describing why certain breeds are selected, how dogs are screened and selected for breeding, the science behind the process, and what puppies experience early on to prepare them for their roles.

### **AUGUST 18TH**

James Miller, Ph.D. a professor of earth system science at Rutgers University. He will provide an update on where we are now on the science and impact of climate change both locally and globally. The talk will put climate change into the larger context of our current social, economic, and political discourse.

#### **AUGUST 25TH**

Nolan Asch, an Old Guard member, will describe Eleanor Roosevelt's important contributions to our society. He will discuss how she spent most of her life fighting for the underprivileged as a true pioneer in the fight for civil rights. He will also relate how she blazed an effective and trail for women's rights and continued her work through the UN.

For more information, contact James Hewitt, Chairman, Membership Committee, (908) 233-5507, info@SummitOldGuard.org. You can also visit summitoldguard.org.





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# CAR DONATION PROGRAM GIVES WHEELS TO REAL PEOPLE

What does it mean to have your own car? For longtime Community Access Unlimited (CAU) member Brian Shapiro, it means both stability and freedom. Before he had a car, Brian had to get a ride from a friend or take an Uber to his job driving a cab in Bloomfield.

"It's a lot easier," Brian said, thanks to the Volvo he received as a donation through Community Access Unlimited this fall. "I go to work and take my son places."

CAU started the vehicle donation program as a way to aid youth and individuals with disabilities who wished to complete their drivers test and gain the independence that comes with owning a vehicle. Now Brian can easily travel to the job he has had for nearly 20 years. Many have already benefited from the donation of reliable cars to get them where they need to go- from work and school to social functions.

"I've known about it for a while and it finally worked out," Brian said.

Unlike other car donation programs, CAU does not sell or scrap donated cars, receiving only a percentage of their value. By donating a vehicle to CAU, 100% of your donation will go to a person with transportation needs.

Those interested in donating a car should contact Mercedes Pagan, fundraising and event director, at 908-354-3040 x4376 or mpagan@caunj.org.

Vehicles that may qualify for donation include those that are new, gently used, or vehicles needing minor body or mechanical work. The owner of the car must have the title at the time of

What does it mean to have your own car? For agrime Community Access Unlimited (CAU) letter which can serve as a charitable donation, which is tax deductible.

Learn more about donating to or volunteering with CAU at caunj.org/support-us.

#### ABOUT COMMUNITY ACCESS UNLIMITED

Community Access Unlimited (CAU), celebrating its 40th year in 2019, supports people with special needs in achieving real lives in the community. CAU gives a voice to adults and youth who traditionally have little power in society, assisting its members with housing, life skills, employment, money management, socialization and civic activities. CAU also supports opportunities for advocacy through training in assertiveness, decision-making and civil rights. Currently serving more than 5,000 individuals and families, CAU continues to grow each year. For more information about CAU and its services, contact us by phone at 908-354-3040, info@caunj.org or by mail at 80 West Grand Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07202.



(above) Brian Shapiro shows off his Volvo Cross Country.









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# **FULL COLOR PRINTING**

We print flyers and menues, full color, two sided, on coated stock for only \$35 per thousand.

## **DIRECT MAIL**

Insert your flyer into the newspapers and get it mailed to every home and business for \$60 per thousand and as low as \$30 per thousand for higher quantities.

# **ONLINE MARKETING**

Online ads and press releases designed and placed to drive traffic to your website and get your phone ringing.

# **SOCIAL MEDIA**

We can design and/or manage your social media campaign from passive to aggressive plans customized to work within your budget.

# **WEBSITE AND SEO SERVICES**

Start with an audit/analysis of your website giving you a report and recommendations for \$250.

It is highly recommended to have a marketing plan and budget before spending.

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Visit RennaMedia.com for online publications. Photo albums, video and advertising opportunities.

# **Howdy Partners!** Online Marketing is like the Wild West

Too many carpetbaggers are exploiting business owners, making empty promises that don't materialize.

Too many businesses are stuck in contracts with no return on investments, no way to check if the work is getting done, and needing to invest more to make things right.

The following is a guide to Renna Media services and costs that you can compare to your present provider.

I highly recommend doing an independent audit of your website!

Contact Walter Watson at walter@www-online-enterprises.com

He does a great job analysing and making recommendations.

It is only \$250 and can save you time, money and headaches.

Thank you. - Joe Renna

#### Check out Joe Renna's Hyper Local Network on YouTube. Call 908-447-1295

if you want your business featured online and in print. See sample show below.



# **BOB MARKEY -**

During the past 20 years, over 2000 of Rahway's street trees have died or were removed and never replaced. Resident Bob Markey is producing a three-episode video which provides viewers with a sobering look into this serious crisis affecting Rahway's trees. The video also provides a toolbox to fix the tree problems and to rebuild Rahway's urban forest. There is a plan to accomplish it, but the effort

Markey states, "This crisis didn't happen

The Arbor Day Foundation certified Rahway as a Tree City USA Community in 1997 with two primary requirements: Form a Tree Board and Enact a Tree Ordinance.

help in the effort to rebuild, restock and restore Rahway's urban forest.

# **SAVE THE TREES OF RAHWAY**

needs help and support.

overnight, nor is it the fault of any individual, city department or elected official. Over the years mistakes and oversights have been made."

The video is to raise awareness and solicit

Folks can help by sending an email to Help@SaveTheTreesofRahway.org, and by subscribing to Save The Trees of Rahway YouTube Channel, and by following the group on Facebook.

# Full Service Online Marketing





## **Online Marketing Items**

• Website ads and Social Media Posts, Classified ads .....\$20 per item - Special bulk price.....Block of 20 items \$100 Including: Press releases / Classified Ads Web Page / Calendar Event / Monthly Banner ads

Extra Boost:

- Blast your online ad or press release to a targeted market: .....\$100
- National Press Release Distribution to 300 to 500 news outlets......Budget choice from \$300 to \$500.

#### Website / SEO services

- Website Audit/Analysis and recommendation plan: .....\$250 • Website creation/update:.....\$2,400 (Cost for average website: 12 pages, contact form, SEO friendly, responsive design)
- Website Hosting: ......\$300 per year Includes website hosting, software updates, monthly website content updates
- SEO Services:.....average cost \$1,000 \$2,000 per month Custom tailored solutions: Google Ranking, Local SEO, Social Marketing

# Video advertising

#### Production:

- Product placement \$250
- 30-second commercial \$500
- 3-minute spot \$1,000
- 30-minute show \$1,500
- 3-hour shoot \$2,000

# Do not commit to a service unless you have a solid marketing plan and budget.

Your plan should work on paper before you spend dime one. Don't waste money just trying something. There is no magic bullet.

Call Joe for a free consultation.

Call Joe Renna 908-447-1295 Email: JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com

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