Berkeley Heights Mailed FREE COMMUNITY NEWS NJ

Published by Renna Media





EAGLE SCOUT JOSEPH ANTONUCCI JR Completes 300 hours of community service

Submitted by Shauna Williams

Boy Scout Troop 368 of Berkeley Heights is pleased to recognize that Eagle Scout Joseph Antonucci Jr has achieved 300 hours of community service.

Joseph has served the troop in many leadership positions culminating his scouting career as our very memorable Senior Patrol Leader. In addition to his service to Troop 368, he has a long history of volunteerism. The troop has awarded Joseph their bronze, silver, and golden service coins in recognition of his extensive personal service, but that recognition was limited to his first 100 hours. Joseph's continued participation included community clean-ups, troop eagle projects, food bank collections, parades, blood drives, local 5k runs, the annual Relay for Life, Gary Whyte's Annual FOP Fundraiser, and many more.

Joseph is a living example of the Scout Oath by "helping other people at all times." Joseph is a graduating Senior at Governor Livingston High School and a member of Mu Alpha Theta. When not scouting, Joseph is fencing on the GL Fencing team, programming and competing with the GL Robotics Team, and filming Friday Night Lights with the GL TV Club. His hobbies include working out, video editing, coding video games using the LibGDX Game engine, and developing neural network/machine learning algorithms using Python.

Joseph will be attending NJIT this September, majoring in Computer Science and minoring in Applied Mathematics.

Joseph stated that "Scouting has taught me to persevere, never give up and give of my service freely for the betterment of the community. I have learned to lead by example and teach-back skills to younger scouts." Joseph recognizes Troop 368 for providing adventure, leadership training, character building, and community service for middle and high school scouts from Berkeley Heights and Mountainside.

If you have a middle or high school student that would like to join Troop 368, we meet Tuesday nights at the Mountain Park School at 7:30 p.m. Come drop-in and visit us!



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(above) Mountainside resident, Eagle Scout Joseph Antonucci, was recognized by his troop, Boy Scout Troop 368 of Berkeley Heights, for completing 300 hours of community service.

POSTAL PATRON BERKELEY HEIGHTS, NJ 07922

COMMUNITY HOPE CONNECTS VETERANS WITH SERVICES

Call the Referral Hotline for Eligibility

Veterans and their families who are experiencing a housing crisis may be eligible for emergency assistance such as motel/hotel stays, security deposits, rent, rental arrears, groceries and utilities through Community Hope.

Community Hope's Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program is currently providing assistance remotely. Urgent community-based services such as critical supplies and veteran wellness-checks are provided in person.

The increase in support services to veterans and their illness, addiction, homelessness and poverty.

Veterans and their families who are experiencing a housing families during the COVID-19 pandemic is possible thanks is may be eligible for emergency assistance such as to funding from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

- To make a referral, please call the referral hotline at 1-855-483-8466
- or email SSVF@communityhope-nj.org,
- or email Gema Diaz at gdiaz@communityhope-nj.org. Community Hope is a nonprofit that helps individuals, including veterans, and their families, overcome mental

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Reserve space in the next issue. Call Tina today at 908-418-5586 or email info@rennamedia.com

RALPH MICHAEL DEL DUCA RETIRED POLICE CHIEF AND NAVY VETERAN

Ralph Michael Del Duca, 87, of Goode, Va., and formerly of Berkeley Heights, N.J., passed away Sunday, Aug. 30, 2020, at his home. He was the husband of Genevieve "Jaye" Del Duca for 67 years.

Born Nov. 1, 1932, in Berkeley Heights, he was the son of the late Anthony and Dora Del Duca. After his enlistment in the U.S. Navy (1952 to 1954), he served aboard the USS Northhampton.

He later earned an AA degree in criminal justice from Union College, N.J., and attended criminal justice programs at UVA, Trenton State University and Rutgers University in New Jersey. He also graduated from the FBI Academy at Quantico, Va., and was a member of the FBI National Academy.

Chief Del Duca was listed in the Who's Who in Police Enforcement in the International Police Chiefs Association. He was chief of the Berkeley Heights Police from Feb. 1, 1982 to April 4, 1992, with a total of 37 years of service in the Berkeley Heights Police Department. He was lifetime member in Local #144 PBA and Berkeley Heights Volunteer Fire Department.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by one daughter, Linda Schaufert of Lynchburg, Va.; one son, R. Scott Del Duca of John's Island, S.C.; two sisters, Nancy Light and Florence Leta; three grandsons, Bradford R. Scott Schaufert (Alexis), Jayson Brent Schaufert (Annelise) and Paul Raymond Schaufert; greatgranddaughters, Everleigh Grace Schaufert and Junia Elizabeth Schaufert. He was preceded in death by a sister, Josephine Groppi and a brother, Anthony Del Duca.

The Berkeley Heights Police Department announced on their Facebook page the passing of Retired Chief Del Duca stating in part "Chief Del Duca will be remembered by those who worked with him as a knowledgeable, forwardthinking police officer and boss who was always firm but fair. He was a loyal life member



(above) Retired Berkeley Heights police chief Ralph Del Duca passed away on August 30, 2020. Photo by Berkeley Heights Police Department

of P.B.A. Local #144. He consistently sought to improve the department through the introduction of current technology and modern theories of policing. His forward-thinking strategy and desire to professionalize the department are still felt today. Rest easy and rest in peace Chief, you will always be a member of our family."

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GOVERNOR LIVINGSTON MARCHING BAND GETS BACK TO BUSINESS

Submitted by Victoria Baum

If you are lucky enough to live near Governor Livingston High School, you were treated to the sounds of the pipes and drums (and other instruments) as student musicians came back together to begin outdoor rehearsals with the Governor Livingston Marching Band.

"We are thrilled to be back for the band in person. It was great to see the Governor



Livingston Campus alive in the month of August with band and athletics proceeding. While we cannot predict exactly how the school year will proceed, it is our hope that these culturally needed extra and co-curricular activities can continue," said Nicholas O'Sullivan, Highlander Band Director and GL Music Teacher.

The band has been rehearsing roughly four times a week (weather and holidays permitting) and is having a blast together. This year's Marching Band is composed of 54 students across all sections. As of now, they will be playing at home games only (for in-person performances), with the exact details of their schedule still being worked out.

Well-known for their success on the competition circuit, the Marching Band will have to switch gears a bit this year to continue competing. Due to the global pandemic, many competition circuits for marching bands across the United States have changed models from inperson competitions to "virtual" evaluations. The local circuit that the Highlanders compete in, 'Tournament of Bands', has done the same. Accordingly, Mr. O and his team will be recording the field show at Governor Livingston High School weekly and submitting it to the circuit for evaluation. On weekends in late September and throughout October, the band staff will meet with the judges virtually on Zoom to watch the performance together and get feedback to share with the students.

While it may not be a typical year for our band members (or any of our students), it is exciting to see students and staff embracing the challenges they face with creativity so that they can pursue the activities they love.

Photos by Berkeley Heights Public Schools



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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ANNOUNCES NEW ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND WEBSITE

Submitted by Marlene Sincaglia

The League of Women Voters of Berkeley Heights, New Providence and Summit (LWVBHNPS) wish to announce the League's restructuring to a Management Committee League. The Management Committee consists of Pat Dolan, Marlene Sincaglia and Patricia Dixon Black. Pat Dolan is heading up the Management Committee and is also Chairperson of Voter Services for Berkeley Heights, New Providence and Summit. Marlene Sincaglia is Chairperson of Programs, Patricia Dixon Black is the Treasurer and Beth Dorer is the Secretary and Chairs our School Visits program. Other Chairpersons are Susan Lederman Budget and Nominating Committee Chairperson, Susan Ferris Rights Chairperson Book Sales, Sharon Davis Chairperson of Phone Contact Services for Members.

We are very excited to announce our new website lwv-bhnps.org and our new email address LWVBHNPS@yahoo.com. We would very much appreciate you following us for information about our programs and activities at our new website and at Facebook -LWVBerkeley Heights (New Providence, Summit wouldn't fit as our name), YouTube -LWVBHNPS@yahoo.com and Twitter @LWVBHNPS.

The League invites you to join us in our services to these 3 communities and our various programs. Just check out our website to see what community services are of interest to you and send us an email at LWVBHNPS@yahoo.com. We will contact you right away.

You can also become a member by visiting our website and clicking Join US. Students, age 16 and over, are invited to join the League without having to pay dues.

TOM MALINOWSKI VS TOM KEAN, JR. 7TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT DEBATE Monday, October 5th 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Moderated by James Coyle

For more details and registration, email: **RebeccaLovelace@GatewayChamber.com**

Presented by the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce



BERKELEY HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

Submitted by Victoria Baum

Building upon the outstanding history of the Berkeley Heights Public School District's advocacy and support for all students to receive an outstanding education, our Special Services Department has been hard at work over the summer applying for acceptance into The New Jersey Inclusive Education Technical Assistance (NJIETA) Project. We are pleased to announce that Berkeley Heights Public Schools was accepted into two technical assistance programs: one at Governor Livingston High School focused on differentiated instruction and the other at Mary Kay McMillin ECC focused on reframing autism at the preschool level.

The NJIETA is a collaborative effort between the New Jersey Department of Education Office of Special Education (OSE), the Montclair State University Center for Autism and Early Childhood Mental Health (CAECMH), and the New Jersey Coalition for Inclusive Education (NJCIE). NJIETA is designed for the collaborators to partner with public, charter, and vocational schools to provide Technical Assistance and Systemic Change Facilitation to develop more inclusive educational opportunities. NJIETA will also work to develop a statewide vision for more inclusive schools through the Inclusion Leadership Development Group.

For the preschool technical assistance project,

Special Services will be coordinating with consultants from Montclair State University to enhance the supports and services provided to young children with autism at the early childhood level. This technical assistance package supports MKMECC's special education teachers, preschool teachers, and related services personnel in gaining a deeper understanding of students diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and how they can support their successful participation in general education classrooms.

Both technical assistance projects are expanding the skills and knowledge base that has been developed through all of the inclusive initiatives and strategic planning that has occurred in Berkeley Heights over the last several years. The Special Services Department is extremely excited and very grateful to be included in several technical assistance projects for the 2020-21 school year.

In addition, Mrs. Michele Gardner, Director of Special Services, has been invited to participate in the Inclusion Leadership Development Group. The Inclusion Leadership Development Group (ILDG) will meet 4-6 times per year in order to develop suggestions or guidance for New Jersey schools on inclusive efforts, identify obstacles or challenges to inclusive education in New Jersey and review information gathered from the NJIETA Systemic Change Facilitation sites and Technical Assistance sites.

More information can be found on the NJIETA's website: njieta.org.

Congratulations to Mrs. Gardner and our entire Special Services Department on being accepted into these programs and thank you for all you do for our students.





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WAGNER FARM ARBORETUM BRITE NITES 2020

If it's Fall, then it must be time for Warren's coolest pumpkin event! Returning for an 9th year, it's Wagner Farm Arboretum's spectacular Halloween-themed event "Brite Nites" which showcases an elaborate display of intricately and creatively hand-carved and lighted pumpkins. This year we are going contactless and bringing the displays to your vehicle by making the Pumpkin Path a drive-thru event. Instead of meandering through the Children's Garden path you will be driving by the breath-taking pumpkin sculptures, where the young and younger will be astounded by their complexity and originality. New this year will be a tribute to our first responders and medical heroes. The whole family is sure to be entertained while supporting a local organization, from the safety and comfort of your own car. With your help, we can continue to build out the vision of a world-class arboretum, right here in town.

About Wagner Farm Arboretum: Established in 2004 as a non-profit organization, the Arboretum seeks to enrich, educate and inspire the community by increasing environmental awareness and natural recreational opportunities.

Our programs include the Giving Project where volunteers sow, plant, grow, weed and harvest over 10,000 lbs of fresh produce, in the Giving Garden, the Coddington Plots and the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Farms, to donate to local food pantries. Our Growing to Give program is a staple at the area elementary schools. Last but not least is the one acre Community Garden where area gardeners can try their hand at growing their own produce.

Brite Nites 2020 Dates: October 14-18, 21-25, 28-31, and Nov 1. Entry times start around 6:30pm and end at 9:45pm.

Where: Wagner Farm Arboretum, 197 Mountain Ave., Warren, NJ 07059.

Contact: Eileen Alario at (908) 350-7383,

email BriteNites@wfafnj.org

Website: www.britenites.org Tickets: timed tickets sold online only, in 15-

minute intervals, no sales at the gate

Admission: Wed, Thurs, Sun - \$25 per car & Fri, Sat - \$30 per car

Due to the one-way flow of traffic, absolutely no cars without pre-purchased tickets will be allowed to queue up.



VOTING IN UNION COUNTY THIS NOVEMBER

The Union County Board of Elections Elections Division at 908-527-4996. continues to update voters on what to expect as Election Day, November 3, 2020, nears under Governor Phil Murphy's order for a primarily vote-by-mail election.

A video with step-by- step instructions for voters wishing to vote-by-mail can be accessed on the County Clerk's elections website, unioncountyvotes.com.

The video was produced to address the requirement by the New Jersey State Legislature and the Governor that the November 3 General Election be conducted primarily through vote-bymail and the fact that most voters are unfamiliar with the vote-by-mail process.

Vote-by-mail ballots will be mailed to all registered voters beginning on Tuesday, September 15. All ballots for registered voters will be in the mail by October 5. If voters do not receive their ballots by October 13, they are asked to contact the Union County Clerk Election Division by calling 908-527-4996.

A step by step graphic how-to brochure will be enclosed with every ballot to help voters with the process. Voters with questions or concerns are asked to call the office of the Union County Clerk

Ballots can be mailed via the US Postal Service.

Ballots can also be deposited in one of 22 ballot boxes placed around the county. These boxes are under surveillance and picked up by authorized Board of Election personnel on a regular basis. Locations of the boxes can be found by visiting unioncountyvotes.com or ucnj.org/ucboe.

Additionally, voters can drop off their ballots at:

- Union County Clerk's Office, 2 Broad Street, Room 113, Elizabeth
- Union County Clerk's Office, 300 North Avenue East, Westfield
- Union County Board of Elections, 271 North Broad Street, Elizabeth

Those wishing to register to vote can download application а voter registration from unioncountyvotes.com. Fill it out and mail it no later than October 13 in order to be eligible to vote in the General Election on November 3.

For more information about all County Clerk programs and services, visit online at ucnj.org/county-clerk or call 908-527-4787.

OCTOBER PROGRAMS AT BERKELEY HEIGHTS PUBLIC LIBRARY

CHILDREN'S STORY TIMES AND PROGRAMS:

Paper Bag Stories

New video story every week posted Tuesday -Friday on the library's Facebook page: facebook.com/BerkeleyHeightsLibrary/ **Craft in a Bag**

Ages 3 - 5

New craft for pickup every week Stories on the Lawn

Tuesdays in October (weather permitting) 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Outside at 110 Roosevelt Ave. For toddlers and pre-K children Ages 2 - 5.; bring blanket or chair

Scope Night

Monday, October 26 from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. (rain date: Thursday, October 27) View planets, stars and the moon through a giant telescope from Pearl Observatory Questions about children's programs? Call or email childrens@bhplnj.org

Check the library's events calendar at bhplnj.org for program changes and additions.

ADULT PROGRAMS:

Currently, the library is offering an online Book Group that meets via Zoom and discusses ebooks/e-audiobooks available from Hoopla. The selection for October (meeting date TBA) is The Bear by Andrew Krivak. Please call or email reference@bhplnj.org for more information or if you would like to join the discussion.

Please check our website bhplnj.org for curbside pickup hours and instructions. Of course, continue to use our online resources; e.g. we have expanded our digital magazine collection available through RBdigital magazines. Call or email reference@bhplnj.org for more information.

RESIDENTS CAN NOW BE ADDED TO THE TOWNSHIP'S 'NO KNOCK' LIST

Any person who owns or rents property within Berkeley Heights can now sign up for their residence to be included on the Township's new 'No Knock' list which is part of a recent revision to an existing solicitation ordinance. Signup is available online on the clerks' office page on the Township website. There is no charge for registering your residence, and your sign up is permanent. Once a residence is registered, it can only be removed by written request.

It is important to note that the revised ordinance continues to allow for organizations and/or groups to continue to "knock". Specifically, charitable, religious, political or other nonprofit groups or individuals, including schools, civic organizations and service clubs may continue to spread information, advocate for a cause, solicit signatures in support of a cause, solicit donations or charitable contributions or conduct sales of personal property for a charitable purpose. Residences cannot elect to be exempt from lawful door-to-door business.

The Berkeley Heights Township Council recently joined the growing number of New Jersey towns establishing a "No Knock list," amending its existing ordinance regarding licenses for peddlers, solicitors, and canvassers.

The "No Knock List" is a registry of residential addresses within the Township for which the owner or occupant has notified the Township Clerk via the signup list that he/she wishes to prohibit certain peddling, soliciting, or canvassing at his/her residence.





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I highly recommend doing an independent audit of your website!

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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

FAITH LUTHERAN SUPPLIES MORE THAN 20,000 SANDWICHES TO ST. JOHN'S SOUP **KITCHEN**

Submitted by Larry Holt

Since the upsurge in coronavirus cases in mid-March, each Thursday Faith Lutheran in New Providence has been contributing about 800 sandwiches to the soup kitchen of St. John's Roman Catholic Church in Newark. The sandwiches are made by members and friends of Thank you. - Joe Renna Faith. Included with each week's delivery are snacks, fruit and homemade baked goods.

In response to a special request from St. diapers, socks and washcloths.

This initiative has been organized and managed by Sally Reier, ministry associate of Faith, and Rev. Jane McCready, pastor of Faith. The latter makes the delivery each Thursday morning.

St. John's Soup Kitchen has been providing food for over forty years to those who have none in the Newark area. For thirty-seven years, on two Saturdays a month, a group from Faith has donated, prepared and served a comprehensive hot meal at St. John's. Few people know what it is like to go without food but every day men, women and children, who have fallen on hard times, come to the kitchen to eat.

Due to the economic problems caused by the coronavirus, the number of guests at St. John's has increased greatly. Kitchens and pantries in the area have been forced to close because of the risk the virus presents. St. John's has remained open and done everything possible to streamline its service and reduce the risk for its guests and volunteers. It is determined to continue its mission. Everyday people tell the administrators at St. John's how grateful they are and they do not know what they would do if the kitchen no longer provided them food.

If you wish to learn more about making sandwiches for St. John's, please call Faith's office at 908-464-5177 or email the office at family.faith@verizon.net. Faith is located at 524 South Street in New Providence. The web site is famfaith.org.



(above) Tony of St. John's Soup Kitchen and *Rev. Jane McCready, pastor of Faith, with* recent delivery of 800 sandwiches and other items.



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