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# **GREEK FESTIVAL IS A UNION TOWNSHIP TRADITION**

Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, located at 721 Rahway Ave., Union, NJ, celebrated its 45th annual Greek Festival on September 8-11, 2022. The Annual Festival, which was established in 1985, draws a huge crowd. Patrons of the church bring along their families, and come from throughout Union County as well the tri-state area. An army of church volunteers make this cultural event happen.

Visitors stepped into Greece as they experienced family and friends gathering, and enjoyed a large menu of authentic, home cooked Greek staples, including appetizers, meals, desserts, and Greek beverages including beer, Ouzo, brandy, and coffee. All at reasonable prices. A DJ and band played Greek music. There were games for children, and vendors with Greek nick-nacks, and more.

Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church offers families Sunday worship services, Sunday School, Greek School, a library, toddler Mommy & Me classes in Greek, and more. For more information visit stdemetriosunion.org, call 08-964-7957, or visit and experience the beautiful church at 721 Rahway Ave., Union, NJ.











Photos from this and other events can be found online at rennamedia.com and on Spirit of Union page on facebook.com Feel free to "Like," "Tag," and "Share."



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# **ROTARY CLUB TOY DRIVE FOR CHILDREN'S SPECIALIZED HOSPITAL**



(above) The Rotary Club of Union and Hillmann Consulting of Union conducted a toy drive of books and rattles to benefit patients of Children's Specialized Hospital.

## FOUR CENTURIES IN A WEEKEND

The Caldwell Parsonage invites visitors to an open house on Saturday and Sunday, October 15 and 16, from 12 noon to 5 p.m. The event is part of Union County's annual Four Centuries in a Weekend. "Rev. James Caldwell," aka Doc Burkhardt, will greet guests on Sunday. Student docents will provide tours of the Parsonage and of the adjacent Tool Museum in the carriage house.

Hannah Caldwell's everyday attire will be on display. The dress is the creation of Gail Alterman, a historic costume consultant.

Children (of all ages) will be able to:

- create their own tricorn hats and colonial-style bonnets;
- make "church" dolls;
- play colonial and Native American games;
- collect Hannah Caldwell (pictured), James Caldwell, and Battle of Connecticut Farms trading cards;
- get Union County Passport booklets and have them stamped--the Parsonage is part of the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area and an official cancellation location.

Admission is free. Souvenirs and vintage books will be available for purchase.

For more information, please call 908-591-4377.



The Rotary Club of Union and Hillmann Consulting of Union combined their forces to conduct a toy drive for the littlest patients at Children's Specialized Hospital. During the month of August, Hillmann employees and Rotary members were asked to donate special "Indestructible" books, board books and rattles for patients at the hospital from birth to one year old. Members of the community as well as members of the Union teachers ADK Epsilon sorority also donated toys.

The drive was a success with over 62 Indestructible books, 22 other types of books and a multitude of rattles donated. Christina Dellibovi of Children's Specialized Hospital said the donations would be divided between inpatients and long term care residents. She said, "The items will be loved by children in our care." The Rotary

The Rotary Club of Union and Hillmann and Hillmann members were gratified to know their donations were going to help these littlest patients at patients.

The Rotary Club of Union meets at Suburban Golf Club, Morris Avenue usually on the first and third Thursdays of the month at noon. Rotary provides service to others, contributes to community, and world goodwill and charities, through fellowship of business, professional and community leaders. The motto is "Do good in the world. Service above self." We are residents or business owners in Union who are dedicated to helping our community as we continue to grow and thrive. Our activities include speakers who make us aware of needs in the town, state and world and involvement in charities and services. For information more visit: portal.clubrunner.ca/6622



# Trinitas Regional Medical Center Now Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield Tier 1

We're pleased to announce that our partnership with RWJBarnabas Health means that you—our valued patients—can now access Trinitas Regional Medical Center as a Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey OMNIA Tier 1 provider. This means lower out-of-pocket costs and greater opportunity to maximize your health plan benefits through Trinitas Regional Medical Center and RWJBarnabas Health.

Learn more at rwjbh.org/trmc



# **ELKS SCHOLARSHIP HELPS STUDENTS FOLLOW THEIR DREAMS**

The Elks National Foundation is proud to announce the start of the 2023 Elks Most Valuable Student (MVS) scholarship contest. The MVS scholarship is available to high school seniors who are United States citizens. Applicants do not need to be related to a member of the Elks. The judging criteria is based on academics, leadership, service, and financial need.

The application is completed online and must be submitted by the November 14, 2022, deadline. The 500 national winners will be announced in April 2023. The top 20 national finalists participate in the Leadership Weekend and interview for the top awards, ranging from \$20,000 to \$50,000. The remaining 480 runnersup receive \$4,000 scholarships.

This year, the Elks National Foundation is investing \$4 million in college scholarships.

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MVS scholars—all of whom demonstrate outstanding leadership skills and a commitment to service—are graduating from college at a rate of 90 percent, 30 percent higher than the national average.

Since 1931, the Elks National Foundation has awarded life-changing scholarships to thousands of students like Kaden Oquelí-White of Louisiana, a 2022 top winner. Kaden's \$50,000 scholarship will help him attend Columbia University to study astrophysics and pursue a career in academia.

Kaden might be focused on the sky, but he hopes to have an impact close to home. "My fervent resolve to contribute astronomically to humanity and increase STEM field awareness is as infinite as the cosmos themselves," says Kaden. "I yearn to know and inclusively share

the stars."

Applications for the 2023 contest are available on the Elks National Foundation's website. For complete Most Valuable Student scholarship contest details including the application, visit enf.elks.org/MVS.

#### **HELPING ELKS BUILD STRONGER COMMUNITIES**

With nearly 750,000 members and nearly 1,860 Lodges nationwide, Elks are providing charitable services that help build stronger communities across the United States. The Elks National Foundation, the charitable arm of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, helps Elks build stronger communities through programs that support youth, serve veterans, and meet needs in areas where Elks live and work. To learn more, visit elks.org/enf.



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# **YMCA SUPPORTS COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH**

The Gateway Family YMCA is encouraging community members to join, and continue, the conversation about mental health.

Mental health is how we think, feel and act. "At the Y, we recognize that we all have mental health, and mental health is an important part of our physical health and social-emotional wellbeing, as well as a core component of our identity," stated Krystal R. Canady, CEO, The Gateway Family YMCA.

"We can all play a role in supporting each other's mental health – at the Y and in our communities," said Melynda A. Mileski, EVP/COO, The Gateway Family YMCA. "The first step is to start talking in our communities about what mental health really is."

Help the Y get the conversation going about mental health by sharing these facts with friends and family:

FACT: We all have mental health, not just those who live with a mental illness. Everyone faces challenges in their life that can impact our mental health.

FACT: There are many things we can do each day to positively impact our mental health. A few examples include: moving, fueling and resting our bodies; being mindful of how we're feeling and what's going on around us; connecting with others; and asking for help when needed.

FACT: In addition to biological and environmental factors, mental health is influenced by health inequities that can be attributed to systemic racism, the social determinants of health and exposure to trauma. Ys and community organizations can support mental health by addressing barriers that prevent marginalized communities from having access to the support they need.

FACT: Mental health and physical health are interconnected, and both can impact your overall well-being. For example, research shows that exercise can alleviate long-term depression.

FACT: Positive mental health can be supported in community settings, like the Y, in addition to traditional clinical settings. The Y supports the mental health of individuals and communities in all of the work we do to help people reach their full potential—whether that's The Gateway Family YMCA supporting youth in our summer camps, helping people achieve their best physical health or providing newcomer immigrants access to housing and community services.

FACT: We all can support the mental health of our community through bringing empathy, compassion and kindness to our interactions with others. Something as simple as intentionally asking "how are you?" and encouraging honest answers can provide us an opportunity to normalize mental health and help others when they need it.

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Help is available for those struggling with their mental health. For a list of resources visit the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at suicidepreventionlifeline.org.

For immediate help 24-hours a day, call 800-273-8255 or text TALK to 741741.

The YMCA offers programs to assist with mindfulness, meditation and mental health. Join the conversation, and connect with your community. Learn more at tgfymca.org

The Gateway Family YMCA is a 501(c)(3)non-profit, health and community service organization of caring staff and volunteers dedicated to strengthening community through Youth Development, Healthy Living and Social Responsibility. The Gateway Family YMCA impacts the community by providing quality services for all. The Y doesn't just strengthen bodies – it strengthens people, families and communities.

For more information visit tgfymca.org or contact the Elizabeth Branch 908-355-9622, Five Points Branch 908-688-9622, Rahway Branch 732-388-0057 or the Wellness Center and WISE Center Branch at 908-349-9622.







# **5TH ANNUAL BENEFIT CONCERT FOR THE HOMELESS**

the Archdiocese of Newark will host its 5th Annual Benefit Concert for the Homeless at St. Philomena Church in Livingston. All proceeds from the event will help to fund the homeless programs and services of the agency that provides assistance to thousands of individuals and families in need.

On Sunday, October 9, Catholic Charities of family/kid friendly activities (face painting, magicians, balloon artists, etc.) along with a full concert by New Jersey's own "The Nerds" - a widely acclaimed rock and roll band. Food trucks will be available but folks are encouraged to tailgate as well.

Registered participants get a parking space with an adjoining space to set -up chairs, etc. The Drive-In Concert will offer a variety of Each car can carry up to 6 occupants and parking



spaces are priced at \$300, \$175 & \$125 based on their proximity to the stage.

For event details. please visit ccanconcert22.GiveSmart.com or call Peter Ruccione, Catholic Charities Director of Development, at 973-818-4060.

Last year Catholic Charities provided over 71,000 nights of Shelter, food, and clothing for over 1,171 people, individuals and families.

#### For more information on Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark, visit ccannj.org. **ABOUT CATHOLIC CHARITIES**

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark has been in operation since 1903 serving adults, children, families, seniors, veterans, and those suffering from HIV with compassionate care and services that provide help and hope. Our 84 programs serve close to 50,000 individuals in Bergen, Essex, Hudson and Union Counties annually. Our programs include counseling and support services for at-risk youth and their families; psychological and psychiatric help for those with mental illness; job training for those who are cognitively disabled; childhood education for preschoolers in Newark, Bloomfield and Elizabeth; emergency shelter for the homeless and for those who are HIV-positive; affordable housing for low-income families; immigration legal services; refugee resettlement; and adoption services.



# **NORTHERN NEW JERSEY'S MOST INTIMATE COFFEEHOUSE**

The Salem Roadhouse Café presents Zuko, Philips, Cohn & Starr, on Saturday, October 8, 2022. The doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Zuko, Philips, Cohn & Starr have carved themselves a unique niche within the realm of rock classic tunes. Focused mostly on vocals and light accompaniment with a pair of guitars and a djembe for rhythm, this group of very talented and familiar Roadhouse performers has taken classic rock tunes we all know and love and put a lighter spin on them. The usual trappings of rock with its requisite "wall of sound" is avoided, making the lyrics and tunes able to be heard clearly. Focused on rich harmonies, their sound is catching on like wildfire. Come and hear songs as you've never heard them before!

The Salem Roadhouse Café is live, intimate, upfront, and personal. All ages are welcome. Located in the Townley Presbyterian Church, 829 Salem Rd., Union, NJ. Doors open at 7:30 p.m., show starts at 8:00 p.m. Admission is \$20. Admission includes show, snacks, non-alcoholic beverages, and dessert.

Plan now for an evening of great music in Northern New Jersey's Most Intimate Coffeehouse<sup>TM</sup>.

#### ABOUT SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ

It's not "church music." It's music music.

Folks who've come to the Salem Roadhouse Café know that it's a clean, safe place for people who enjoy listening to live music — in a world otherwise filled with clubs and bars. The Roadhouse has always offered its stage to local



Visit our website for details and placement test chessinmillburn.com chessinmillburn@gmail.com and independent mainstream musicians. Jazz, rock, folk, and other groups have performed. What's the common thread? They're all great musicians playing the kind of music people like to hear. There's no message, just music.

The Roadhouse started in 2008 by members of Townley Presbyterian Church with a grant from the Presbytery of Elizabeth. Hey — that's why we're located where we are. The Roadhouse operates as a non-profit that raises funds for several carefully chosen local charities. That's its social mission.

But the many musicians who've played the Salem Roadhouse Café see it as a solid performance venue. They love it because of its special intimacy and great audiences. They say people here "really listen." Ask any of the musicians you meet here — they love to play the Roadhouse, and they want to come back often.

#### **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

The Salem Roadhouse Café has raised funds for many carefully chosen charities. They include: The Presbytery of Elizabeth E-port Center, Center For Hope Hospice, Community Food Bank, Monarch Housing, Angel Paws Animal Rescue, National MS Society, Haiti Disaster Relief, Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief, The Union County YWCA Domestic Violence Programs, Making It Possible To End Homelessness, Camp Johnsonburg, The Music Institute, and others. Thousands of dollars have been raised for these deserving charities.



SUPERCELL STORM CLOUD Photo by Marko Korosec, near Julesburg, Colorado

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Exhibition by National Geographic Society







# **SPOTLIGHT ON VETERANS DOING YOGA PROJECT**

#### Submitted by Laura Meola and Alyssa Duclos

The Veterans Yoga Project Video filming was a free event sponsored by the New Jersey Veterans Network for their web series, Local Legends. This web series is a talk show that showcases real stories from extraordinary people including gold medalists, army veterans, athletes and many more. With its strong veteran influence, Local Legends is produced, directed, hosted and filmed by veterans and their supporters. They provide a great deal of informational resources to help the community.

The Veterans Yoga Project event featured Maggie Stoddard, a yoga instructor trained to

work specifically with veterans. Her work with these heroes has greatly benefited their everyday lives. During filming, Maggie showed the participants three sets of poses. This included the warrior 2, peaceful warrior, and seated cat/cow. Aside from this filming, Maggie runs yoga events weekly for all veterans and their families who wish to participate. She had this to say about the program, "We lead a class with some breath work, stretching and mindfulness. Veterans Yoga Project promotes resilience and recovery."

America's Hot Dog pup, Shadow, also made an appearance to provide support for all who participated in the filming process.



(above) The Veterans Yoga Project Video was filmed at a free event by the New Jersey Veterans Network for their web series, Local Legends.

This production was directed and produced by Doc Schupp with Michael Boll as co-producer. Credit also goes to Shaun Crafton, director of cinematography, and camera-man Diddy.

If you know of an inspiring or helpful resource for veterans that would make a great Local Legends Video please call Doc Schupp at 551-293-3049. The Local Legends Videos can be viewed on the NJVN website at njvn.org/locallegends.

Thank you to all volunteers who helped put this event together: Doc Shupp and Michaell Boll who run the NJVN; Rochelle Park American Legion Post; all the cast and crew who participated in the Local Legends production; Alyssa Duclos, owner of Alyssa's Critter Sitters LLC, and official dog handler of Shadow, America's pup; and assistant dog handler Joe Astarita.

#### 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 mission is to identify veterans and connect them with resources and programs designed to meet their unique set of needs.

If you are a veteran or family member that is in need of assistance, or are interested in joining our team, would like us to speak at your event, or contribute to our mission, call 973-332-1556 or email mdbollio@optonline.net. To learn more visit njvn.org.





# **TEEN DRIVER SAFETY WEEK**

#### Street Smart NJ

National Teen Driver Safety Week is October 16-22, 2022 — is the perfect opportunity to talk with teens about safe driving habits. This year, the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is teaming up with Street Smart NJ to empower parents to discuss safe driving habits with their young drivers. Assure your teen driver knows the Rules for the Road before you hand over the keys. Ultimately, parents are in control.

#### FACTS ABOUT TEEN DRIVER FATALITIES

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for teens (15-18 years old) in the United States.

In 2019, there were 2,042 people killed in crashes involving a teen driver, of which 628 deaths were the teen driver.

Parents can be the biggest influencers on teens' choices behind the wheel if they take the time to talk with their teens about some of the biggest driving risks.



# **OCTOBER PROGRAMS UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY**

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If you'd like a forecast of this year's Supreme Court or are a Trekie; interested in writing or buying a home; and/or celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month, come to Union Public Library in person, and/or virtually. To register for all events, please go to: uplnj.org/events/list/. To keep fully informed of what's new at the library, sign up for our newsletter.

#### Drop-In Blood Pressure Monitoring (Vauxhall)

Monday, October 17 and 31 from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. A free community program by the YMCA.

What's the Verdict (Zoom)

Tuesday, October 11 at 7:00 p.m. In the 2022 term, the Court will review cases regarding whether universities can use race in admissions, congressional redistricting based on race, the power of state courts to review redistricting maps and election laws, free speech and freedom of religion claims for artists and designers, the power of the EPA over private property, and other important and divisive issues. Come and ask your questions. Presented by Ian Drake, Associate Professor, Political Science and Law at Montclair State University. Funded by a grant from the New Jersey Council for the Humanities.

#### Celebrate Hispanic-Heritage Month with Immigrant Stories (Vauxhall Branch)

Wednesday, October 12 at 6:30 p.m. Share and hear stories from immigrants who came to Union from Peru, Columbia, Puerto Rico, and Ecuador. Then let us know your story whether an immigrant or child/grandchild of an

#### immigrant. First Time Homebuyers Seminar (part 2) (Main Library)

Thursday, October 13 from 6-7:30 p.m. MLB Residential Lending LLC will present The Mortgage Process from A to Z. Join us for part 2 of a 3-part series designed to cover all aspects of home buying.

#### Beginners Flow Yoga (Zoom)

Thursday, October 13, 20, and 27 at 6:00 p.m.

This class will lead you through the foundations of yoga postures, body awareness and alignment, relaxation of the mind, and connection with the breath. You will learn how to improve muscle strength, promote flexibility,

#### and build your yoga program. The Importance of Storytelling in the Job Process (Zoom)

Thursday, October 13 at 7:00 p.m. Is storytelling part of your preparation when you prepare for a job interview? It should be. During this interactive online workshop, you'll

learn what "storytelling" is, and why it's important. What is your story and how do you create it? How do I pivot interview questions to it? Plus, you'll have the opportunity to analyze story samples AND spend time writing your own interview stories. Presented by Laura Sokol, Manager of Curriculum Facilitation for AlphaBEST Education.

#### Scoring Star Trek's Utopia (Zoom)

Tuesday, October 18 at 7:00 p.m. Over nearly 60 years, Star Trek has grown from canceled television series to a beloved international franchise. Join us to explore how Star Trek's iconic music both defines the franchise and shapes its many iterations over time. Presented by Paul Allen Sommerfeld, Ph.D. Music Reference Specialist,

#### Library of Congress.

#### Off the Shelf Book Club (Zoom)

Thursday, October 20 at 7:00 p.m. New members are always welcome. This month's title is 100 Years of the Best American Short Stories, edited by Lorrie Moore.

Drop-In Blood Pressure Monitoring (Main Library)

Monday, October 24 from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. A free community program by the YMCA.

#### Hilton Readers Book Discussion Group (In-person at Vauxhall Branch

Monday, October 24 at 6:30 p.m. Members discuss their favorite books and authors. new members welcome. This month: Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste NG.

#### Writing Workshop with Critically Acclaimed Author Pamela Erens (Zoom)

Tuesday, October 25 at 7:00 p.m. Critically acclaimed author, Pamela Erens, shares tips on writing and personal stories of her creative process. Her first novel, The Understory, was a fiction finalist for the William Saroyan International Prize and the Los Angeles Times Book Prize. Her second novel, The Virgins, was a finalist for the John Gardner Fiction Book Award. Her third novel, Eleven Hours was named a Best Book of 2016 by The New Yorker, NPR, and Kirkus. Erens's middle-grade novel, Matasha, was published in June 2021. We're fortunate to host her.

#### Poetry Readings and Open Mic (In-person at Kean or Zoom)

Wednesday, October 26 at 6:30 p.m. Join special guest poets for inspiration, and read your own at our open mic (one poem each). Participate online or at The Little Theater at Kean University in the Student Center (directions here). Please register to read by writing to abjette@kean.edu. This is always a very popular event.



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# TRINITAS EARNS NATIONAL AWARD FOR PROMOTING ORGAN DONATION

#### NJ Sharing Network

Trinitas Regional Medical Center has been honored with the 2022 Workplace Partnership for Life Platinum Award for its organ and tissue donation awareness program from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The Platinum Award is the highest accolade granted by HRSA to hospitals who promote organ and tissue donation among their community and hospital. Trinitas coordinates its outreach efforts with NJ Sharing Network, the nonprofit organization responsible for the recovery and placement of donated organs and tissue in the Garden State.

The recognition is part of HRSA's Workplace Partnership for Life initiative, launched in August 2014, which connects organ and tissue donation organizations with hospitals to create ongoing awareness and registry campaigns to educate team members, patients, visitors and community members.

"We are proud to be recognized by HRSA for our ongoing partnership with NJ Sharing Network to save and enhance lives through organ donation and transplantation," said Gary S. Horan, FACHE, President/CEO of Trinitas. "There are nearly 4,000 New Jersey residents currently waiting for a life-saving transplant. We must continue to raise awareness of this critical issue and remind our community that registering as an organ and tissue donor can help bring the gift of life to others."

Throughout the past year, Trinitas conducted



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multiple awareness and registry activities to Sharing (UNOS), there are over 100,000 encourage new donor registrations. Activities included both in-person and online campaigns to reach internal and external audiences, such as Proclamation Day with Mayor J. Christian Bollwage of Elizabeth and the annual donor memorial service including a flag display in honor of the donors in the Trinitas lobby. Donor Registration Day made it possible for 50 people to become registered organ donors.

"Trinitas and our hospital partners are vital to our life-saving mission," said Alyssa D'Addio, Vice President of Hospital and Community Services, NJ Sharing Network. "We have been fortunate to work with Trinitas' dedicated team members. They are great advocates and have shown passion and energy in educating others about the power of donation and transplantation."

According to United Network for Organ for five consecutive years.

Americans waiting for a life-saving transplant. One organ and tissue donor can save eight lives and enhance the lives of over 75 others. To learn more, get involved and register as an organ and tissue donor, visit NJSharingNetwork.org.

#### **ABOUT NJ SHARING NETWORK**

Currently celebrating its 35th anniversary, NJ Sharing Network is the federally designated nonprofit organization responsible for recovering donated organs and tissue in the Garden State. Last year, 233 generous individuals in New Jersey gave the gift of life, an all-time high for a single year. In addition, 42,112 eye and tissue donations enhanced the quality of life for those in need. With headquarters in New Providence, NJ, the organization has been recognized by NJBIZ as one of the state's "Best Places to Work"



(above) Staff members of Trinitas Regional Medical Center and heart transplant recipient Craig Clark gather around Gary S. Horan, FACHE, President/CEO of Trinitas and Ireabdaly Segovia-Conrad, Hospital Services Manager, NJ Sharing Network, to celebrate their efforts in earning the 2022 Workplace Partnership for Life Platinum Award.

Courtesy photo



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## **FLINTLOCKS READY FOR ACTION**

#### Submitted by Dr. Michael Hart

The Flintlocks, BSA, Inc. are a group of retired scouters who dedicate their time and talents to helping the Boy Scout Camps in northern New Jersey. They annually donate approximately 5,000 hours of skilled labor to the scouts. The group includes many tradesmen, but also volunteers of every background. Most are retired, but some still work full time, and occasionally people volunteer to help for a day here and there. It is a very friendly group with a good sense of humor. When one member reached age 100, they designated a parking spot reserved for all Flintlocks over 100 years old.

The Flintlocks meet every Thursday at Camp Winnebago, Rockaway, NJ, all year round. They are organized as a 501c3 non profit corporation. All of the members are registered with the BSA. They provide a variety of skilled services to the Council. They have built cabins, picnic tables, painted the dining hall, built the archery range, built all the structures at the waterfront, financed, built and equipped the STEM Lab at Allamuchy Scout Reservation, repaired damage to camp structures, etc. In addition to building structures and doing repairs and maintenance, they also volunteer at many Council activities throughout the year. More than half of the Flintlocks have been awarded the Silver Beaver or have received other Council and National Awards. They typically provide approximately 5,000 hours of volunteer skilled labor every year. Previous years

were interrupted by COVID shutdowns, and the camps were not operational some summers, but now the Flintlocks are all vaccinated and have been back to work. The Council most recently opened the summer Scout camps again, and the Flintlocks have brought them up to code to receive campers.

The Officers and Trustees elected for the coming year are as follows: John Koneski,

President; George Van Dyke, Vice President; Michael Hart, Secretary; Russ Jenkins, Treasurer; Bob Pysher, Chair of the Trustees; Ted Marquardt, Trustee; Bob Germinder, Trustee; and Frank Wallace, Trustee.

Visit the Facebook Page "Flintlocks". Guests are always welcome. For more information contact Secretary Dr. Michael Hart at drmhart@yahoo.com.



(above) Flintlocks pictured during their Annual meeting.











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## **ST. JOSEPH SOCIAL SERVICE CENTER FUNDRAISING DINNER**

St. Joseph's serves the materially poor and homeless community of greater Elizabeth. The economic fallout from the pandemic has created an unanticipated increase in the demand for basic human needs such as food and medications.

Now, more than ever, we could use the support and participation of the community at our Annual Fundraising Dinner, which will be held on October 20, at 6 p.m., at the Westwood in Garwood, NJ.

#### HERE'S HOW TO SUPPORT OUR FUNDRAISER:

Online: To purchase Dinner Tickets, Sponsorships, or to Donate online, please go to sjeliz.org/special-events.html

Mail: To purchase Raffle tickets, Dinner Tickets, Sponsorships, or to Donate by mail, please click to download the order form from sjeliz.org/special-events.html

In Person: To purchase Grand Raffle Tickets in person, here are the locations:

- St. Joseph Social Service Center
- 118 Division Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07201 Emy Cruz, 908-354-5456 x3
- St. Helen's Parish Center
- 1600 Rahway Avenue, Westfield, NJ 07090 Marilyn Ryan, 908-232-1214 x113

We hope you'll support us with ticket purchases, sponsorships, and donations and join us at our dinner on October 20.

# **ST. JOSEPH CENTER URGENT NEEDS**

Need Bags!

New Jersey has the strictest ban on plastics in the country, and it is now in effect for the entire state of New Jersey, including for food distribution at St. Joseph Social Service Center. We are in need of reusable bags for our clients. If you can donate new or used but clean reusable shopping bags, please drop them, 118 Division Street, Elizabeth, NJ, during normal operating

New Shopping Bag Rules in NJ... and We hours. If you have questions, please contact our Food Program Director, Corey Wu-Jung at cwujung@sjeliz.org or 908-354-5456 x412.

> One of our urgent ongoing needs is for tuna or chicken in single serve pouches. Donations are gratefully accepted!

> We are in need of a car or minivan. If you have a spare vehicle in good working condition, please consider donating it to St. Joseph's. Please contact Emy Cruz at 908-354-5456 x403.

> > Joe Renna at 908-447-1295

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