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STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN WORLD-WIDE PROJECT

Berkeley Heights Public Schools

The Hour of Code is a world-wide project done annually during the beginning of December. Students around the world, including here at Mary Kay McMillin and William Woodruff Schools, are introduced to the basics of computer coding

through fun activities. Students start learning coding skills with tiny Ozobot robots that are programmed using color lines. This hands-on, fun coding lets our students learn about coding as they solve problems, use creativity, and develop critical thinking skills.



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Berkeley Heights COMMUNITY NEWS NJ

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EVENING OFFICE HOURS WITH CONSTRUCTION OFFICIAL

Township of Berkeley Heights

Reminder to all residents that our Township Construction Official (and Berkeley Heights native!) Joe Popolo is available to meet with residents every Wednesday evening, from 4:30-6 pm. The Building (Construction) Department is located in Town Hall at 29 Park Avenue, 1st floor. Go through the main entrance and turn right; offices are on the right.

Residents are welcome to come talk to Joe about their specific construction projects, get permit information or inquire about any other needs they may have from his department. Joe is a 19-year employee of the Township, working in our town as an inspector in addition to his current role as Construction Official, and was also born and bred in Berkeley Heights. He loves this town, and his commitment to it shows in his diligence on the job. Please come by and meet him!

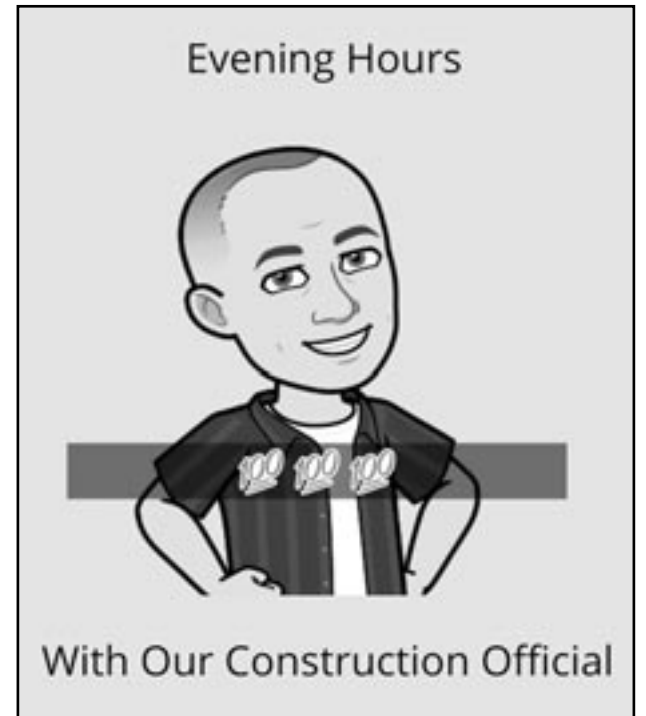
About the Construction Official & the Building Department

The Construction Official's job is to implement local building/construction codes that are in line with the state Uniform Construction Code (UCC) by granting or denying development permit applications in accordance with its provisions. The Construction Official is responsible for enforcement of all construction codes and issuance of construction permits, and provides

oversight to the Building Department, which includes full- and part-time employees, as well as fire, plumbing, electrical, building and mechanical inspectors.

For on-line information for the Building Department, as well as information on the permit process, links to important/helpful forms, and fee schedules, visit

berkeleyheights.gov/156/Building.



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SCREEN AGERS



GROWING UP IN THE DIGITAL AGE

An award-winning film that probes into the vulnerable corners of family life and depicts messy struggles over social media, video games, and academics. The film offers solutions on how we can help our kids navigate the digital world.

Contact Dave Chango with any questions Dchango@npsdnj.org

This event is generously sponsored by
 The Kimberly Anne Wilson Foundation

Wednesday, February 5, 2025
 6:30 PM - *Pizza
 7:00-8:30 PM – Movie Screening & Expert Panel Discussion

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HOME SECURITY SURVEY

The Berkeley Heights Police will conduct a home security inspection for all township residents and make appropriate recommendations to improve the safety and security of your home for you and your family. Please call (908) 771-2085 or email wfettes@bhpolice.org to make arrangements.

SENIOR DAY TRIP

The Berkeley Heights Seniors are sponsoring a trip to Resorts Casino in Atlantic City on Monday, February 17. The bus leaves the parking lot at Town Hall, 29 Park Avenue, at 8:30 a.m. and returns at approximately 7:15 p.m. The cost is \$40, which includes bus transportation, and a \$20 voucher for slot play. For more information or reservations, call Ramona at 908-647-3295.

CALLING ALL VETERANS!

VFW Post 6259 is looking for new members to join our ranks and to continue your service. Not a veteran of a foreign war? Come join us anyway for camaraderie and help us start an auxiliary group at the Post. Call Steve Mondragon at 908-403-1902 for more information, or visit: vfwberkeleyheights.com



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FEBRUARY SPEAKERS PROGRAM FOR THE SUMMIT AREA OLD GUARD

The Summit Area Old Guard is a social, educational, and recreational organization that serves men of retirement age. We meet Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m., at the New Providence Presbyterian Church located at 1307 Springfield Ave – we encourage visitation, and all are welcome. Our motto is “Come for the Programs. Stay for the Friends.” The organization was founded in 1930. Learn more about us at summitoldguard.org.

In February, we will have four speakers:

**ERICK A. FORD, VICE PRESIDENT
STEVENS & LEE PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

On Feb. 4th, our speaker will be Erick A. Ford, Vice President of Stevens & Lee Public Affairs. Erick is a recognized leader in policy and business. In 2024, he was recognized by ROI-NJ as one of New Jersey’s leading energy and utilities influencers, highlighting his significant impact on the state’s energy landscape. He will discuss the state of the energy markets in NJ.

**DR. D.J. PERON -
THE SURREALIST ART MOVEMENT**

On Feb. 11th, Dr. D.J. Peron will discuss the Surrealist art movement. DJ will show how Dadaism emerged during World War I as a rebellious movement against world war one and the societal ‘establishment,’ and how surrealism came into being. These two movements have been of extreme importance in the evolution of art from post-war modern art up to the present day. The presentation will be like a stroll in a museum with many art representations shown.

SUMMIT MAYOR ELIZABETH FAGAN

On Feb. 18th, Mayor Elizabeth Fagan, will discuss Summit’s current and future trends. Mayor Fagan has been an active resident of Summit for more than 20 years. She will discuss recent and future projects for the City. Some of her updates will be about the coming old firehouse land project and street closings for

restaurant dining. Also, state regulations, specifically the Mount Laurel decision, regarding affordable housing is a topic that affects all municipalities in New Jersey and a current issue for Summit. Bring your questions for the Mayor.

MARYKATE VAUGHN - DOCTOR OF AUDIOLOGY

Finally, on Feb. 25th, we will learn about hearing loss and hearing aids. Marykate Vaughn, AuD, CCC-A, is a doctor of audiology affiliated with Summit Health. She will speak about the various ways to evaluate hearing in children and adults. She will discuss the large variety of hearing aid devices on the market with their pros and cons. She will also discuss the common reasons why people end up not using their hearing aids and the remediating solutions. Dr. Vaughn has over 30 years of experience in audiology. This topic should elicit a few questions from the Old Guard members!

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(above) Erick A. Ford, Dr. D.J. Peron, Mayor Elizabeth Fagan, Marykate Vaughn



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GRIEF FACILITATORS WELCOMED; VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

The staff at Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss are so pleased to welcome 10 new facilitators to their wonderful team of volunteers! The new facilitators completed three full days of training where they learned about Dr. Alan Wolfelt's Companioning Model practiced at Imagine, and role-played situations in which they used their new facilitation skills assisted by members of the Imagine staff.

One of the participants in the training shared a bit about her experience saying: "I was amazed by the way a group of strangers could feel so safe in a non-judgmental environment to share their most vulnerable feelings and stories." Another spoke about the Imagine staff who facilitated the training sharing: "All three facilitators were more than generous of heart and spirit."

Each of the new volunteers is now facilitating a grief support group on one of Imagine's Nights of Support in Mountainside or Newark. The staff at Imagine are so grateful to welcome this new team of volunteers! One of the largest hurdles the staff at Imagine faces in meeting the demand for their services is finding compassionate individuals like those above, who can dedicate their time and talents to volunteer.

If you would like to explore the possibility of joining Imagine's incredible team of volunteers, please visit their website at imagineinj.org to complete their interest form, or contact Imagine's Communications and Volunteer

Engagement Manager, Val Stierhoff at val@imagineinj.org. Additional trainings are planned for youth facilitators in January, and for adults in February and May 2025.

Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss is a 501c3 that offers grief and loss education and

training to the community and free year-round grief support groups who are coping with a loss due to death. For more information, please contact Imagine at 908-264-3100 or info@imagineinj.org or visit our website at imagineinj.org.



(above, l-r) Participants in Imagine's recent facilitator training. Back Row: Indira Jagoo, Imagine's Newark Clinical Program Director; Cynthia White; Zeinab Fattahi; Virginia Farnum; Arlette Rodriguez; Tikeisha Johnson; Rena Jordan, Imagine's Chief Development Officer; Sonia Nunez, Imagine's Bilingual Program Manager; Ruth Lushen; Front Row: Abigail Priece, Imagine's Clinical Program Supervisor; Tracy Maitin; Tèanna Johnson and Caroline Hislip

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LA SEMAINE DU FRANÇAIS

Berkeley Heights Public Schools

The BHPS French Department celebrated National French Week held in November. Students across the district participated in activities to celebrate the diversity of the French speaking world.

In addition to a community wide showing of the film Ratatouille, students in French classes also participated in a National Media Contest, creating videos in the target language showcasing the theme "Le français, langue globale." Select videos will be published nationally and students can win cash prizes.

CMS French students competed in a Croissant Baking Competition, a bake sale, bulletin board decorating, and CMS French Club led the charge in a Holiday Card Campaign for our military, sending 168 cards to stationed service members

overseas!

Students at GLHS also celebrated with the Third Annual Chocolate Mousse Off Cooking Competition and a National Trivia Contest. Lizzie Kavanaugh, French 3 honors, won best mousse, and Ancheng Bi, French 4 honors, will compete against French students around the country in the final round of the Trivia Contest.

Finally, to cap off the celebrations, the GLHS French Club and Madame Combe hosted Madame Cesario's 8th grade CMS French students for a Catacombs themed escape room in the Governor Livingston IMC. This interactive activity challenged French 1 students to test their French skills to try to escape the tunnels of the Paris Catacombs. Students ended the quest with a celebratory limonade and a Q&A session led by the high school students.



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(above) During National French Week, students had un moment amusant.

Photo by BHPS



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Township of Berkeley Heights

The Township's monthly electronics, and #6 foam recycling drop off, is available first & third Saturday of every month (Saturday, February 1 & Saturday, February 15), at the Department of Public Works yard off of Berkeley Avenue, near the Municipal Complex. Coming from Plainfield Avenue, go past the Municipal Complex and take your first right onto Berkeley Avenue. Coming down Park from Mountain Ave, Berkeley Ave is on your left just before the Municipal Complex. Time runs from 9 a.m.-12 noon. In addition,

residents can drop off their thin-film plastic during this event the first Saturday of every month. Reminder that we are now accepting electronics for recycling from our residents as a service twice a month because of the heavy volume - the first and third Saturday of every month.

Please bring proof of residency and please arrive with sufficient time as it ends promptly at noon. You do not need to get out of your car; DPW workers will take the items out of your car for you.

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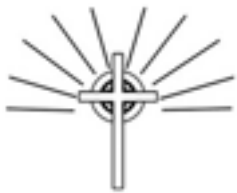
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Celebrating 100 Years of God's Grace 1925-2025

We are thrilled to announce that Redeemer Lutheran Church will be celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2025 !

This is an incredible milestone that marks a century of Redeemer's faithfulness, fellowship, and service to our community.

Throughout the year, we'll be hosting a series of exciting events to honor this momentous occasion. These events will culminate in a

Grand Anniversary Celebration:

Sunday, September 28, 2025

2:00 PM Worship Service in the sanctuary Fellowship Reception to follow in Luther Hall, featuring food and beverages.

Whether you've been with us for years or are new to our church family, we invite you to join us in giving thanks for all that God has done, and will continue to do, through Redeemer Lutheran Church.

Stay tuned for more details about upcoming anniversary events!

Let's honor the past, rejoice in the present, and look forward to a bright future together.

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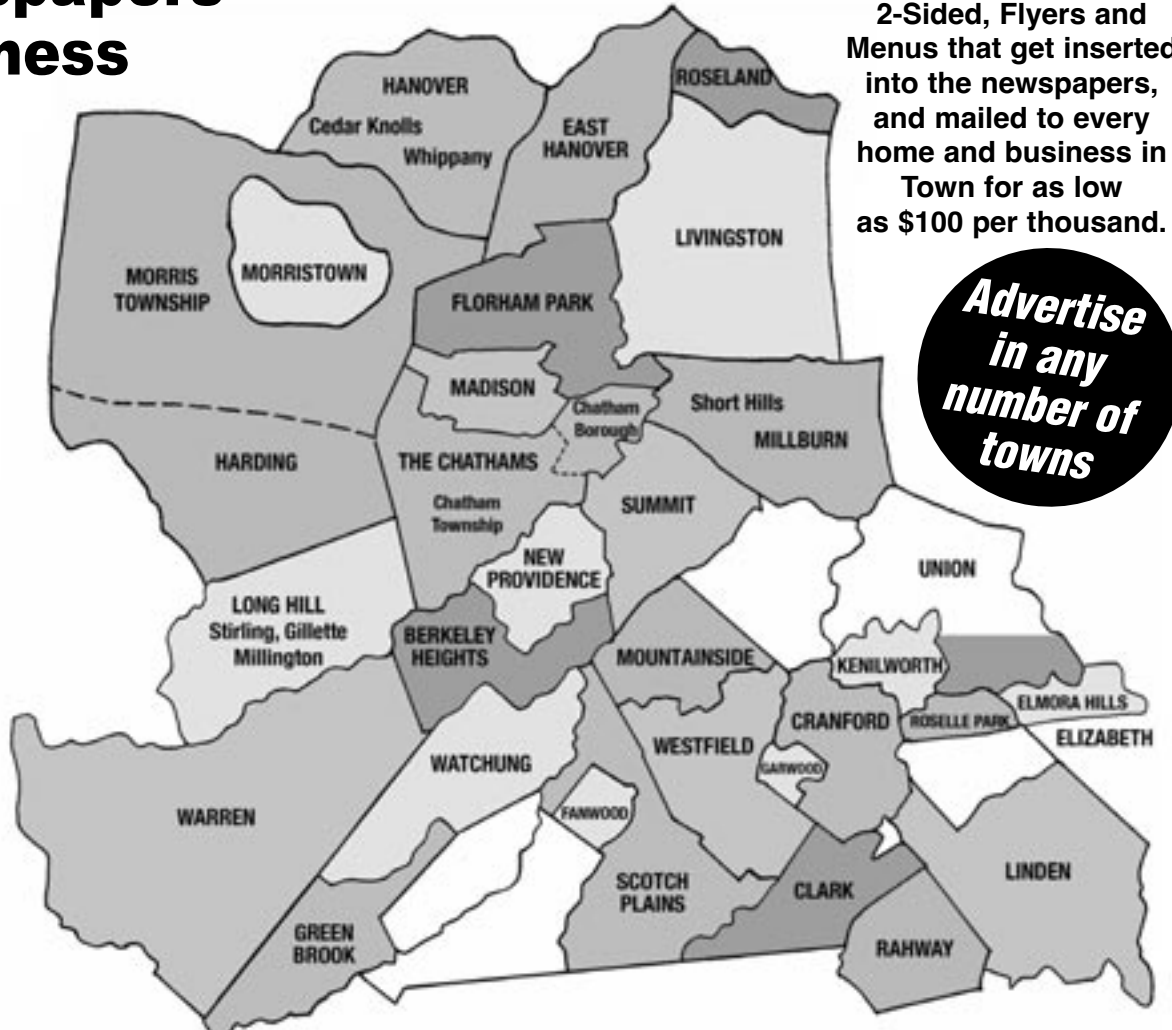
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4 Units 3.25"x8" or 6.5"x4"	240	560	900	1000	1300	1600	1700	1800	1900	2000	2100
6 Units 6.5"x6.25" or 10"x4"	320	760	1200	1400	1600	1800	2000	2200	2400	2600	2800
9 HALF PAGE 6.5"x9" or 10"x7"	360	860	1300	1600	1900	2200	2400	2600	2800	3000	3200
12 Units 6.5"x14"	400	960	1400	1800	2100	2400	2700	3000	3300	3600	3900
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BERKELEY HEIGHTS PUBLIC LIBRARY FEBRUARY PROGRAMS

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Monday - Thursday: 9 AM - 9 PM; Friday, Saturday: 9 AM - 5 PM; Sunday: 2 - 5 PM

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Lego Play:

Friday, February 7 at 3:30pm

Good Time String Band: Tuesday, February 11 at 10:30am - A fiddle and banjo sing-along.

National Hippo Day Party!

Saturday, February 15:

Storytime-10am, Crafts-10:30am-12:30pm

Family Fun Friday:

Friday, February 21 at 3:30pm

Make a note holder

Family Movie Matinee Sing:

Sunday, February 23 at 2pm

Ramadan Lantern Craft:

Friday, February 28 at 3:30pm

WEEKLY DROP-IN PROGRAMS

Baby Storytime:

Mondays, February 3, 10 & 24 at 10am

Crafternoon: for ages 4-7

with caregiver:

Mondays, February 3, 10 & 24 at 3:30pm

Toddler Explorations:

Tuesdays, February 4, 11, 18 & 25

at 10am -

Early literacy experiences for toddlers with caregiver.

Toddler Storytime:

Wednesdays, February 5, 12, 19 & 26

at 10am

Baby Playtime:

Wednesdays, February 5, 12, 19, 26

at 1:30pm

Block Party:

Thursdays, February 6, 13, 20, 27

at 10am

Build and play with blocks.

Play Pals:

Fridays, February 7, 14, 21, 28

at 10am

Saturday Hangouts

at 10am: February 8

(craft) & February 22 (games)

TWEENS & TEENS PROGRAMS (FOR AGES 10 AND UP)

Teen Art: Basquiat,

Thursday February 6 at 6:30pm

Switch It Up:

Friday, February 14 at 3:30pm

Play video games on the big screen.

Make a Candy Flower Bouquet:

Thursday, February 20 at 6:30pm

Teen Book Club:

Tuesday, February 25 at 6:30pm

Picture Us in the Light

Tea & Teens:

Thursday, February 27 at 6:30pm

ADULT PROGRAMS

Tinker Tuesday Crafts

February 4, at 7pm

Chocolate Roses, February 14: Rosette Wreath

Coffee & Conversation Group:

Wednesdays, February 12 & 26 at 1pm

Pins & Needles Crafting Group:

Sunday, February 9 at 2:30 pm

Watch & Make How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days:

Saturday, February 8 at 1:30pm

Get Weird with Art:

Wednesday, February 19 at 7pm

Friday Movie Matinee She Came to Me:

Friday, February 28 at 1pm

Armchair Traveler New Orleans:

Tuesday, February 25 at 7pm

BOOK GROUPS

Morning Book Group:

Friday, February 7 at 10:30am

If Beale Street Could Talk

Evening Book Group:

Tuesday, February 11 at 7pm

Love & Whiskey

Mayor's Book Club:

Thursday, February 13 at 7pm

You Are Awesome

Books Speak Volumes:

Thursday, February 20 at 7 pm

Zen & the art of Motorcycle Maintenance

Joy of Cookbooking Desserts:

Monday, February 10 at 6:30pm

VIRTUAL AUTHOR TALKS

register at library.org/bhplnj/:

How We Create Pandemics with Smithsonian

Curator Sabrina Sholts

Tuesday, February 4 at 2pm:

Dystopian Tropes from an Indigenous

Perspective with Waubgeshig Rice

Tuesday, February 11 at 7pm:

I Am Nobody's Slave with Pulitzer Prize

Finalist Lee Hawkins

Tuesday, February 18 at 2pm:



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