#### **MAILED FREE** Berkeley Heights **IN BERKELEY HEIGHTS**

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Issue 16 • January 2017

**BERKELEY HEIGHTS FUNDRAISER** FRIDAY, JANUARY 20TH Featuring music by THE NERDS AND DJ JUSTIN KLAUSNER

Basket Raffles, a 50/50 raffle, 4 hours Open Bar, Passed hors d'oeuvres and a full buffet dinner, free valet parking and a fun time for all. PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE AT

Proceeds will benefit the Berkeley Heights Education Foundation, providing substantial financial subbort to our schools and community.

BHEDFOUNDATION.ORG

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#### AN OPEN INVITE FROM NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORKING GROUP



(above) The Neighborhood Networking Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month, 7:30 am - 9 am, at Connell Business Center, 100 Connell Drive, Berkeley Heights, NJ.

The Neighborhood Networking Group (NNG) was founded in 2004. NNG started with six leading business owners, and has grown to 30 professionals with a mission to provide outstanding service to the community, and support each other in growing their businesses.

The group meets on the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month, 7:30 am – 9 am, at Connell Business Center, 100 Connell Drive, Berkeley Heights, NJ.

The meetings rotate the following schedule:

Member Spotlight - so members and their guests can really understand what the spotlighted member brings to the

Educational Presentation - so members can get new ideas and learn about best practices. These presentations are given by members and guest speakers.

Networking - during which members get to know each

other and learn of new business opportunities.

As the President of the Plus Factor, Terry Viney has this to say "I am so proud and grateful to be part of the NNG. It has been such a big help in my personal and business growth. I know all of our members feel this way."

Ines Cohron, President of Total Home Cleaning, put it this way, "NNG has helped me grow my business and through NNG I have met fellow professionals that have been of service to me and that I can recommend to others with confidence."

Patrick Cicala, Mortgage Banker at Capital One, "NNG is a key resource for my business and my clients."

NNG are now interviewing for new members. If you would like to be a guest at one of their meetings, or would like to set up an interview for membership, please call Terry Viney 973-218-0120.

#### **HOW YOU CAN HELP DURING SNOW STORMS**

Public Works Department

Remove vehicles and obstructions (garbage & recycling cans, basketball hoops, etc.) near curbs that may impede plowing - must provide room for snow to be deposited off plows.

Stay off the roads.

When clearing you driveway or sidewalk – Don't put snow into the road. This applies to contractors as well.

After a storm, shovel walks and uncover hydrants.

Help your neighbors – If you have an elderly or disabled neighbor, make sure they are OK and assist them with shoveling, or plowing if you can.

Be patient - we can't get all streets done first. Let us know if there is a problem call 908-947-5062 or 908-464-2700 x 2234.





Happy New Year! 908-665-1212

> 25 Passaic Street New Providence, NJ 07974

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#### To submit content email: editor@rennamedia.com

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

#### **MOMS HELPING MOMS 3RD ANNUAL SNOW BALL GALA FUNDRAISING EVENT**

Snowball Gala will take place on January 28th at Shackamaxon Country Club in Scotch Plains. There will be food, drinks, music, silent auction, raffle, and games, all to support a great cause.

Moms Helping Moms Foundation provides low income families with baby essentials like diapers, wipes, and clothing. Bridget Cutler, a New Providence resident and Mom was overwhelmed by all the gifts she received from family and friends when she had her first baby. She wanted to donate some of the gifts to families who weren't as fortunate. The issue was she couldn't find an organization to give to, so she founded Moms Helping Moms to fill the gap.

Moms Helping Moms Foundation partners with social workers and other local organizations

The Moms Helping Moms 3rd Annual in New Jersey. They recently partnered with several Nursery schools, preschools and gyms this past September to collect more than 8,400 diapers during National Diaper Awareness Week. 1 in 3 American families struggle with diaper needs, not having enough diapers for their baby. Annually, Diaper Need Awareness Week draws national attention to this consequence of poverty and Moms Helping Moms Foundation is part of the solution.

> Moms Helping Moms Foundation invites you to help them fight child poverty by attending this fun event. It's such a fun night - we hope you can all join us!! Get your tickets by going to www.momshelpingmomsfoundation.org click on "Events" to get your ticket!

> > Photo courtesy of Aspen Leaf Photography.



(above l-4) Moms Helping Moms Snow Ball Gala 2015- Board Members: Megan Schreiber Deaton, Jackie McCormack, Bridget Cutler and Jerusha Oleksiuk.

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#### ROTARY CLUB OF BERKELEY HEIGHTS HOSTS MAYOR'S ROUNDTABLE

Woodruff filmed The Mayor's Roundtable during the lunch meeting of the Rotary Club of Berkeley Heights. Dr. Don DeFabio hosts the show, which is posted on YouTube and Livestream. Recently Berkeley Heights Township, Union County, NJ.

During the meeting the Rotary Club was praised for all their good works and fundraising efforts. Mayor Woodruff spoke about exciting initiatives for 2017 and encouraged residents to attend meetings of the town Planning Board,

On Wednesday, December 14, Mayor Robert which generally meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the Public Meeting

Rotary Club president Linda Sausville presented two books to the Berkeley Heights aired shows can be found on the Facebook page Library on behalf of the Rotary Club which are now available for checkout. A Century of Service: The Story of Rotary International by David C. Forward; and The Rotary Foundation: Doing Good in the World. This book vividly documents the Foundation's history, the development of its programs, and the difference

that Rotarians have made around the world.

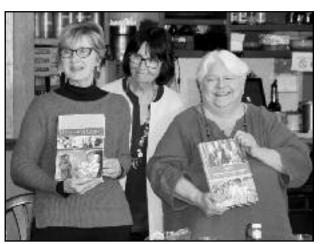
The Rotary Club of Berkeley Heights welcomes new members and visitors. They meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays each month (major holidays excepted), at the Chimney Rock Inn in Gillette from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. Lunch is \$20 Prix Fixe (cash or check; no credit cards). For more information visit www.bhrotary.com or call 908-447-6290.

Rotary is a civic organization—a global network of 1.2 million community leaders and volunteers with one aim: Helping our neighbors across the street and around the world.





(above) Dr. Don DeFabio and Mayor Robert Woodruff filming The Mayor's Roundtable during the December 14, 2016 meeting of the Berkeley Heights Rotary Club. Any business or community organization can request to host the show by contacting Dr. DeFabio at 908-771-0220.



(above) Rotary Club president Linda Sausville presented two books to the Berkeley Heights Library on behalf of the Rotary Club. Pictured with Linda are Stephanie Bakos, Library Director; and Laura Fuhro. Children's Librarian.





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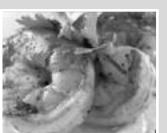
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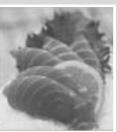
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Kids 7-10\$5.99	Kids 7-10\$6.99				
Kids 3-6\$3.99	Kids 3-6\$5.99				
2 & UnderFREE!	2 & UnderFREE!				

#### **FRIDAY - SATURDAY**

Lunch 11am - 3:30pm	Dinner 3:30pm · 10:30pm
Adult\$7.99	Adult\$11.59
Kids 7-10\$5.99	Kids 7-10\$6.99
Kids 3-6\$3.99	Kids 3-6\$5.99
2 & UnderFREE!	2 & UnderFREE!

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Kids 7-10	
Kids 3-6	
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in the top flight and finished 9-0-1. It was a huge accomplishment by a team built from 'Uniting' players from 5 different teams, many of whom met for the first time at pre-season summer camp.

BHYSC U13 Girls 'United' captured first place The girls became fast friends and a very in MNJYSA Flight 1. 'United' went undefeated competitive team. 'United' notched 30 goals and conceded only 5 goals during the season. This was their first season playing full sided 11 vs. 11 soccer and we are proud of their growth and accomplishments. Go United!



(above l-r) Top right: Mia Tomas, Margo D'Angelo, Rebecca Bury, Holliday Woodard, Grace Marquez, Vicky Lama, Jillian Sciacchitano, Caroline Freer, Gabrielle DeRose, Sophia Antonelli, Lauren Kiesewetter; Bottom: Landry Lorne, Katie O'Neill, Waverly Lorne, Cady Wang, Madison Santore. Coaches Not Pictured: Chris Santore, John Sciacchitano, Mike Kiesewetter

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# 2017

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Someone will celebrate a graduation
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#### **GOVERNOR LIVINGSTON'S PROJECT GRADUATION 2016**

Project Graduation 2016 was held at the JCC event, which was filled with fun, food, and of Central New Jersey in Scotch Plains on June 19th, the evening of Governor Livingston's graduation. 198 graduates attended the all-night

entertainment. The Project Graduation Committee of the

Governor Livingston High School PTO raises 75% of the cost for the event through fundraisers

**Business Contributors to Project Graduation 2016** 

and donations. The other 25% is funded through a minimal admission fee. Project Graduation would like to thank the following businesses for making the evening possible through their generous contributions.





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Anne Mary Fang, DDS

Dr. Frank J. Freer Genualdi Orthodontic Assoc. Gruenwald & Commandatore MDs Hall's Garden Center Paul Ippolito Berkeley Memorial Ryan Lake, DMD Libasé Salon & Spa Louise Loehwing for Younique Cosmetics Lord & Taylor Macy's Maria's Sewing Box Philip Memoli, DMD Mountainside Orthodontics Thomas Nicholson, Jr. DMD Dr. Wilma Olson Paladin Amusements Peak Medical, LLC **Quality Swiss Screw Machine** Company Renew Salon & Spa Richland Knowles Agency

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In addition, the committee would like to thank the following organizations for their support: Borough of Mountainside, the Municipal Alliances of Berkeley Heights and Mountainside, the Berkeley Heights Education Association (BHEA), the Berkeley Heights PAL, the Berkeley Heights Rotary Club, the Mountainside PAL, the Mountainside PBA Local 126, and the Mountainside VFW Post 10136.

Fundraising for Project Graduation 2017 will kick off in January.

If you are interested in making a donation, Graduation please email Project glprojectgraduation@gmail.com.



#### **SCHOOL DISTRICT WILL BE ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS IN DECEMBER AND JANUARY** FOR 2017-2018 PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

Berkeley Heights Township and have birth dates between October 2, 2012, and October 1, 2014. General education students will be selected for the school office of Mary Kay McMillin Early this program by lottery.

The lottery drawing will be held on Friday, January 27, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. at Mary Kay McMillin Early Childhood Center. Parents/guardians of applicants are welcome but not required to be present to be eligible for admission to the program. Students with special needs will also be included in the Preschool Program as determined by the District Child Study Team.

The Preschool program will consist of two (2) three-year old classes and two (2) four-year old classes. Classes will meet four days per week, Monday through Thursday, from 8:45 to 11:15

To be eligible, applicants must be residents of a.m. for the morning session or from 12:10 to 2:40 p.m. for the afternoon session.

> Applications may be obtained in person from Childhood Center, 651 Mountain Avenue in Berkeley Heights, or can be printed from the school website, www.bhpsnj.org/mcmillin. The application deadline is January 13, 2017. A birth certificate and proof of residency will be required along with a non-refundable deposit of \$200 only for those students admitted to the program. This deposit will be applied to the first month's tuition. A tuition fee of \$330 per month will be charged for participation in this program during the 2017-2018 school year.

For more information, please call Mary Kay McMillin Early Childhood Center at (908) 464-5583.



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#### FREE TAX RETURN HELP AT NEW PROVIDENCE SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER

New Providence, Berkeley Heights, and other area residents can obtain free assistance in preparing and filing their individual 2016 tax returns. There are no age or income limitations for participation in the program, but taxpayers with complex returns may be advised to seek paid assistance. Free assistance will be provided at the New Providence Senior Citizens Center (NPSCC), 15 East Fourth Street, New Providence, by volunteer tax counselors under a program sponsored jointly by the AARP, the Internal Revenue Service, and the New Jersey State Division of Taxation.

Assistance will cover individual federal and NJ

### SENIOR CITIZEN ATLANTIC CITY TRIP

The Berkeley Heights Seniors group invites the public to travel with them to the Resorts Casino in Atlantic City, on Monday, January 16th, the bus will leave promptly at 8:30 a.m. and return approximately 7:30 p.m. The bus leaves from Little Flower Church located on Roosevelt Ave, Berkeley Heights. The cost of the trip is \$30 with a coin return of \$25 and a \$10 food voucher. That Monday is also Martin Luther King Jr Day. Call Ramona to RSVP 908-528-0794.

## SENIORS INVITED TO PUT FUN IN YOUR LIFE!

The Senior Citizens of Berkeley Heights have announced a membership drive for the new year. The club meets on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at the Mt. Carmel Guild Hall at 56 River Road. We enjoy making new friends and spending time together at get-togethers and parties. We keep active with exercise, shopping, trips, and theater outings. We meet for Garden Club, Bingo, and pizza.

Join us at any business meeting on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. The township bus will pick you up at your home. Call the Recreation Department for more information or to schedule a pickup at 908-464-0550.

state income taxes, the NJ Homestead Property Tax Rebate, and the Property Tax Reimbursement Program (PTR -1 & 2), as applicable. All returns will be filed electronically, resulting in refunds being received typically in about four weeks after filing. Any taxes due would not be payable until April 18, 2017. Taxpayers will be provided with vouchers to be submitted by that date with any payments due.

Tax counselors will be available on Mondays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., from Monday, February 6, 2017, through Monday, April 17, 2017. Beginning January 25, 2017, taxpayers seeking assistance in preparing and filing their returns may call the NPSCC at 908-665-0046, between the hours of 10:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, for an appointment, or they may sign up at the center.

The Internal Revenue Service is again advising taxpayers to file their returns as early as possible to reduce the potential for identity theft.

Taxpayers must bring government-issued photo identification, social security cards of persons filing the return and of any dependents listed on the return, copies of their 2015 federal and state returns, and any 2016 federal forms W-2, 1099-R, 1099-INT, 1099-DIV, 1099-B, SSA-1099, etc., documentation of the amount of rent or real estate taxes paid in 2016 and of other expenses if the taxpayers wish to itemize deductions; and, if they wish to have any refund directly deposited to their bank account, a check showing their bank's routing number and their account number. In the case of taxpayers filing joint returns, both taxpayers should be present to authorize the electronic filing.

#### **READY TO HELP SAVE A LIFE**

The graduates of a recent suicide intervention training class held by caring and crisis hotline Caring Contact of Westfield proudly hold their certificates. The Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) class was held Dec. 3 and Dec. 4 at the RWJ Rahway Fitness and Wellness Center in Scotch Plains. ASIST is an internationally acclaimed interactive training program in suicide first-aid that provides participants with the tools to intervene in the case

of a suicide and create positive outcomes when dealing with someone who is feeling suicidal. The participants brought a variety of backgrounds, including social workers, teacher, realtor, retired therapist and college students and came from throughout Union County and as far away as Flemington and Jersey City.

For information about attending future ASIST training contact janet.sarkos@caringcontact.org.







With this ad. Expires 2/10/17.



#### FREE EIGHT-WEEK SEMINAR **TO ADDRESS LOSS OF ANY KIND**

The First Presbyterian Church of Cranford, 11 1341. No fee is charged. Springfield Ave., will hold their eight-week seminar - "Journey to Wholeness- Healing the Grieving Heart" on Sundays evenings from Jan. 8- Feb 26, 2017.

Patti Williams, R.N., and certified pastoral bereavement counselor, and Virginia Waters, PhD. Psychologist, will lead the sessions from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Thompson Youth Center of the church. Patti and Virginia have offered this seminar for 17 years now, and have helped over 2500 people experience healing, find a new purpose for their lives, and feel joy once again. This is an experience like no other. A new teenager group is available, facilitated by a teeneager.

The sessions include learning about the stages of grief and understanding the tasks of the grieving process, coping strategies, how to take care of yourself and why this is so important, the changes, challenges and choices that occur, creating cherishable memories, coping with holidays and anniversaries, and dealing with feelings of loneliness and being disconnected spiritually. A special candle light ceremony is held to remember those we have lost, which includes walking the labyrinth and a time of fellowship.

Both of the leaders and all of the facilitators have experienced loss within their lives and share from "the inside out". It does not matter if your loss is divorce, death or job loss; loss is loss- it must be grieved. It does not matter how long ago you experienced loss. Bring family members and friends. All faiths are welcome. To register for this life changing event, please call 908-709-

The seminar is dedicated to Patti's late husband, the Rev. Dr. Bruce D. Williams who had a vision for the seminar 17 yrs ago, wanting to help others deal with their pain and suffering during their time of loss.

"The bereavement group run by Patti Williams and Dr. Virginia Waters has significantly impacted my life in a positive way. I thought I would never survive the sudden death of my mother and it was by sheer chance I found this group. Not only has it provided me with invaluable resources on how to cope with grief and loss it also provided me with an outlet to be with other people who are grieving and have walked my path and understood my grief. That is an incredible gift that words cannot describe. When you're in so much emotional pain and turmoil you need to be with others who are experiencing the same and I've received nothing but compassion support and kindness from the other group members. As far as the group leaders Patti Williams and Dr. Virginia Waters they're phenomenal expertise guidance compassion and support are immeasurable and have literally changed and saved my life. Both of the group leaders have experienced grief and loss themselves that is why they are able to help us who are currently grieving sort through our difficult emotions and somehow find a way to press on. I will be eternally grateful to this group and I encourage anyone who has experienced grief or loss to attend. If my mom were here on earth I know she would also be immensely thanking the group leaders for helping her daughter." Seminar participant.



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Advanced Contemporary Intensive (Ages 11 & up): August 1-5, 4-8PM

Senior Reach Intensive (Ages 11-18): August 8-12, 5-8PM

Ballet Company Nutcracker Intensive: August 15-19, 5-8PM

To register and for more information visit washingtonrockdance.com or call 908-561-9699

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## COMMUNITY ACCESS UNLIMITED TO HOLD OPEN AUDITIONS FOR "ALADDIN JR." IN JANUARY



(above) The cast of last year's production, "Music Man, Jr."

The CAU Community Players will be holding open auditions for their 2017 production of "Aladdin Jr." Tuesday, Jan. 17, 6:30-8:00 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 19, 6:30-8:00 p.m., and Saturday, Jan. 21, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. All auditions will take place in the auditorium of Community Access Unlimited (CAU) at 80 West Grand Street, Elizabeth, 07202.

The CAU Community Players is a troupe of individuals with developmental disabilities and actors and actresses from the broader community. Formed in 2012, the troupe allows CAU members to engage in the pleasures of acting, singing and dancing with people from the wider community and to be judged for their talents rather than disabilities.

CAU is a statewide Elizabeth-based nonprofit providing support programs and services to adults with disabilities as well as youth served under the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to enable them to live independently in the community, providing supports in areas including housing, vocational skills and life-skills training, education, advocacy and recreation.

The CAU Community Players stages a three-day production each year that draws hundreds. This year the troupe will be staging "Aladdin Jr." Based on the Disney movie, which itself was based on the folk tale of the same name, "Aladdin Jr." is the story of a street urchin, a princess and a genie all overcoming their respective obstacles to escape the traps of their lives and achieve their fullest potential and happiness.

Each year the CAU Community Players select a play that is representative of the agency's message of inclusion, acceptance and believing in oneself, as well as everyone's worth regardless of disability.

Auditions will be held at 80 West Grant Street, Elizabeth, NJ and are open to all members of the public, including youths and adults, as well as all members of Community Access Unlimited. For more information and a downloadable audition packet, visit www.caunj.org and click on Recreation/CAU Community Players.

Audition schedule: Tuesday, Jan. 17 – 6:30-8:00 p.m.; Thursday, Jan. 19 – 6:30-8:00 p.m.; Saturday, Jan. 21 – 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

#### FREE WORKSHOP ON STARTING A NEW BUSINESS

UCEDC reviews steps to increase likelihood of success

Starting your own small business may be the fulfillment of a long-held dream, but it's also a very risky proposition: about half of all businesses fail within five years. That's why UCEDC, a non-profit, small business lender and entrepreneurial training organization, is offering a free workshop, "Starting a Business in NJ – the Steps you Need to Take" on Tuesday, January 10, 2017 at 6 pm at its Cranford headquarters.

Led by UCEDC Director of Training Erich Peter, the session will cover the mechanics of starting a business including the pros and cons of different legal business structures, required insurances; understanding your tax liabilities, and HR issues.

"You may have the greatest product or service to sell, but it won't matter if you don't prepare yourself for the many challenges you will inevitably face," warns Peter. "We'll review some of the more critical factors that contribute to a successful small business and give you a strong foundation to move ahead."

UCEDC is the entrepreneurial training arm of

Starting your own small business may be the lfillment of a long-held dream, but it's also a provides scores of free business literacy ry risky proposition: about half of all workshops throughout New Jersey.

Online registration for the free workshop is available on the UCEDC website: www.ucedc.com . For more information, contact Erich Peter at 908-527-1166 or epeter@ucedc.com.

**UCEDC** (Union County Economic Development Corp.), a nonprofit economic development corporation, is dedicated to promoting New Jersey's small businesses with resources tailored to every stage of business growth. Since our inception in 1977, we've provided over \$24 million in loans to start-up and established businesses through a variety of SBA programs and other funding sources. Our Procurement Technical Assistance Center helped local businesses win over \$2 billion in awarded government contracts. And thousands of entrepreneurs have attended our workshops and seminars, giving them a strong foundation for success.

# MAKE A DIFFERENCE BECOME A LITERACY VOLUNTEER: REGISTER NOW FOR WINTER TRAINING

Literacy New Jersey is dedicated to providing free, student-centered tutoring services to adults who struggle with reading, writing and speaking English. Registration is now open for its Winter 2017 Tutor Training classes.

Tuesday, January 24 - 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM; Thursday, January 26 - 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM; Tuesday, January 31 - 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM; Thursday, February 2 - 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM; Tuesday, February 7 - 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM

All sessions will take place at the Cranford Community Center, 224 Walnut Ave, Cranford, NJ, except for Thursday, February 2, which will take place at Summit High School, Kent Place Blvd, Summit.

After completing the five training sessions, volunteer tutors are matched with a small group of students from the growing waiting list of adults who need to improve their literacy skills. Tutors meet with their students in a public place, usually a Union County library, for 2 hours each week. New volunteers are asked to make a commitment of at least 50 hours.

LNJ provides ongoing supervision and support to tutors in the form of free Professional Development workshops on specific topics such as Health Literacy, Learning Disabilities, Financial Literacy, and ESL Conversation and Small Group Instruction.

To volunteer, you must be at least 18-years old, able to speak and read English and willing to tutor in Union County. You do not need to have any teaching experience and you do not need to speak a foreign language. The training will provide volunteers with techniques and strategies for working with adult learners, as well as sample instructional materials and activities.

There is a \$45 non-refundable registration fee to cover the cost of materials distributed to new volunteers. For more information, or to register, please call Literacy New Jersey at 908-486-1777 or email Nancy Lama at nlama@literacynj.org.

#### **WINTER NJ AUDUBON PROGRAMS** AT HAWK RISE SANCTUARY

Road in Linden, NJ and is open to the public daily from dawn until dusk. The city-owned natural resource and wetland complex has long been recognized by numerous Federal, State and non-governmental organizations as an important environmental feature in the Rahway River and Arthur Kill watersheds. Please note dogs are not allowed on the trails.

Under the stewardship of the New Jersey Audubon Society, a full suite of natural history programs for families and adults are offered, many are free.

In 2012 the City transformed their closed landfill and adjacent property into a wildlife and passive recreational setting –a place for the public to visit and walk trails through the Hawk Rise forest and to enjoy overlooks of the Rahway River. Designed to encourage hiking, bird watching and nature appreciation, Hawk Rise has nearly a mile and a half of elevated walkways and an observation deck to enjoy the panoramic view of the Rahway River. The trails are equipped with interpretive signage to provide visitors with habitat descriptions and information regarding the 123 species of birds and other wildlife that have been encountered in the area.

Hawk Rise also represents an opportunity to reach youths of all ages to infuse an appreciation and commitment to ecological restoration, enhancement and preservation. The City of Linden has worked with the Linden Public Schools to integrate the Sanctuary with the Science curriculum as well as to provide professional development for teachers who will

The Hawk Rise Sanctuary is located on Range be taking groups of students to Hawk Rise for ecological studies. The first two phases of the Sanctuary were constructed with Green Acres grant monies, and assistance from local corporations.

#### Winter NJ Audubon Programs at Linden Hawk Rise **Sanctuary**

Hawk Rise Sanctuary is located on Range Road, in Linden, NJ. Programs are free, however, registration is requested for all programs. Please call the Scherman Hoffman Wildlife Sanctuary (908) 396-6386 to register.

#### Owl Moon Winter Walk - Saturday, January 21, 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

As the sun goes down on a winter's eve join us at Hawk Rise for a winter walk at dusk. We'll see whooo we can find and look for footprints in the snow (hopefully!). End the hike with a reading of "Owl Moon" by Jane Yolen while drinking hot chocolate and looking at the moon with binoculars. This program is for children ages 5 and up with their families.

#### Hawk Rise Great Backyard Bird Count - Saturday, February 18, 10:30 a.m. to Noon

This is the weekend of the Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) an annual, national citizenscience event sponsored by Cornell University and the National Audubon Society. Learn how to identify common suburban birds and then take a hike to see who is staying at Hawk Rise. After we get some practice we will officially participate in the GBBC and log our data! This program is intended for birders of all ages and ability; loaner binoculars will be available. Dress warmly and be prepared to walk in snow or mud.

#### **UMPIRE CERTIFICATION CLASS TO BE HELD**

ASA/USA Softball NJ District 2 will hold its umpire certification class in Cranford beginning in mid-January 2017. The class costs \$75, and will run from 6-8 weeks, including both classroom and gym training. Once certified, you will be eligible to umpire any of the thousands of the games ASA/USA Softball NJ hosts throughout the state, including the 3,500 games hosted by District 2 in and around Union County.

Please contact District 2 Commissioner Keith Hoffman at khoffcran@aol.com, 908-463-3960 with interest.

ASA/USA Softball is the largest and oldest softball organization in the world, and is the official sponsoring organization for Team U.S.A., the women who will represent our country in Softball at the Tokyo Olympics in



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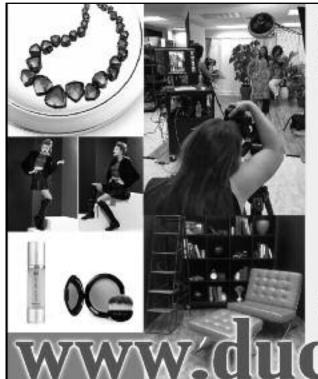
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