

The Gazette

Carlstadt • East Rutherford • Hasbrouck Heights • Little Ferry • Lodi • Moonachie
Rutherford • South Hackensack • Teterboro • Wallington • Wood-Ridge

Published Monthly • US Mail Delivery • Available at select locations • Online in PDF format at: www.The-Gazette-Newspaper.com • RSS feed available.

VOL. 18, No. 6

June 2021

★★★★★



Pipe Sergeant Chris Kotwica of the Bergen County Firefighters Pipe Band. See page 18 for story and photos.

Forever in Our Hearts

With reverence, we remember our brothers and sisters with rich traditions.
The honor guard. The placement of tributes. The reading of names.
The tolling of the bell. The final dispatch call. The moment of silence. Taps.
The piper's "Amazing Grace." The Firefighter's Prayer solemnly stated.
We honor those who have died in the line of duty. We recognize our deceased
firefighters who have given years of faithful service. Thank you.

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Boulevard in Bloom

Beautiful flowering planters have adorned The Boulevard for over 14 years.

The Hasbrouck Heights Chamber of Commerce, in cooperation with the Hasbrouck Heights Garden Club, invited businesses and residents to sponsor a flowering planter by making a \$50 donation.

The planting was done by the Garden Club at the DPW on Saturday, May 15, 2021.

The DPW moved the flower pots to their Boulevard location. The DPW will water the plants during the season. After the summer, the DPW will collect the flower pots and store them for the winter.

Call Ray at 201-288-5464 or Ann at 201-288-3956 for more information. ###

Greetings from

Gus'

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St. John's Successful Plant Sale

Almost 300 flats of nursery grown plants, flowers and hanging plants were available at St. John's Parish Hall, Hasbrouck Heights, on Friday, May 7, 2021 by appointment only. Only pre-orders for the 42nd Annual St. John's Plant Sale were accepted. As in previous years, all plants were of the highest quality and hand picked at the nursery by experienced gardeners. ###





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James Hogan, Proprietor



Hogan Presents Five-Star Award to Wallington Student

Bergen County Clerk John S. Hogan recently presented the Five-Star Student Award to Jakub Zak, a sophomore at Ramapo College.

The Wallington resident was recognized for the work he has done to support the small business community during the pandemic while interning with New Jersey's Small Business Development Center at Ramapo College. While doing so, Jakub maintained a 3.88 GPA.

Jakub Zak received a certificate, along with a \$500 check, from the John S. Hogan Foundation.

Clerk Hogan is looking to award students for their exemplary achievements, whether it be helping their community through volunteer work, student entrepreneurs who have developed a creative business model or individuals who have overcome some form of adversity and have found a meaningful way to give back to their community.

Students should submit their stories with photos/videos showing why they merit the recognition. The award is quarterly. For more information call 201-336-7006. *Provided by John Hogan. ###*

Looking for VFW History

Petersilge Velock VFW Post 809, in Little Ferry, will be celebrating their 100th Anniversary in 2021. They are looking for photographs and other memorabilia to create a display of their history. Please contact the Post at 201-641-9759. ###

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Carlstadt Senior Friendship Club

Good News For the Club Members. As of May 5, 2021, the Boro of Carlstadt has given permission to hold Club meetings on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month. Members were sent letters asking them their intention whether they are interested to attend meetings.

Based on the response and capacity of the senior center, it was determined that no more than 50 members, including executive committee, will be attending meetings. Members are pre-assigned seats and required to wear a mask. Members are divided into two groups.

Upon entering the center, precautions are taken such as temperature check, mask and hand sanitization. There will be no more than 4 members at each table. Tables are spread out for maximum social distance possible. It is strictly up to a member to attend meetings.

Pre-packed pastries were served. The meeting was held after almost 14 months. About 30 members attended. Bingo was played with disposable Bingo cards.

Tentative future events are scheduled starting June 2021.

Meeting for the second group was May 19, 2021. *Provided by Yogi Shah. ###*

Live Streaming Media Ministry Seeks Volunteers

Mt. Ararat Baptist Church, in Rutherford, holds worship services on Sundays at 10 a.m. via Facebook Live.

They are looking for individuals who would like to be a part of their Media Ministry that provides live streaming of their worship service. If you are interested, please contact the Church at 201-460-1820 or officemtararatbaptistchurch@gmail.com

As the word goes forward "to serve this present age." ###

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Wills and Estate Planning 101

What happens if someone dies without a will? What is probate? Find out answers to questions such as these in this informational session with the Bergen County Surrogate's Court sponsored by the Carlstadt Library on Monday, June 7, 2021 at 7 p.m. on Zoom.

Questions are encouraged on topics such as wills, power of attorney, and advance medical directives. Please register at carlstadtlibrary.org or call 201-438-8866. A Zoom link will be emailed after registering. ###

Don't Get Scammed!

On Tuesday, June 29, 2021, at 7 p.m., The Hasbrouck Heights Free Public Library will present Q&A NJ Consumer Affairs with Melanie Hazim, Director of Outreach, of the Division of Consumer Affairs.

From the IRS phone scam to lottery and sweepstakes scams, to the so-called grandparent scam, it appears that impostor frauds and other criminal scams are more active than ever — and are preying on potential victims in New Jersey through phone calls, emails, and other means.

Please join us as a representative from the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs tells us how to avoid getting scammed. Call 201-288-0488. ###

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Memorial Flag Garden Honors Vets on May 22

The sanctuary is empty. The lights have not been turned on yet so the only light is coming from the sun shining through the beautiful stained glass windows.

As I wander around, thinking and praying for what life is like now during this time of pandemic and uncertainty my eyes are drawn once again to the Scarr Window.

In the soft colors and light I am reminded of those who have given so much, even their lives, to give me the gift of freedom. I am reminded of young men and women whose life journey was cut short so that I might have the privilege of sleeping and living and worshipping in safety and freedom. I am reminded of those whose lives were forever altered, in ways the average person will not ever understand, who came home from serving and resumed living lives that made this country strong.

The Scarr window, which proudly sits at the front of our sanctuary is one of several in The First Reformed Church in Hasbrouck Heights which remembers those who gave themselves to fight for freedom.

This was James B. Scarr's Church until he died on June 6th, 1918 while giving aid to three wounded soldiers. But I think his story doesn't end there, I think this stained glass window and the spirit of love of country is something that is part of the DNA of this Church.

Many from this Church have served in various branches of the military through the decades and today we currently have two members serving in the Army and another will join them shortly.

On Saturday, May 22, 2021, at 11 a.m., we will gather on the front lawn at First Reformed Church of Hasbrouck Heights to remember those who served and have passed into the nearer presence of God.

We will thank God for their service, for the legacy of freedom they have passed on to us and we will plant our first Memorial Flag Garden.

A flag will be planted for those who have served and have passed, whether while on active duty or since their return. The flags will remain on the lawn until mid-July.

The public is invited to come and walk through the Memorial Flag Garden, to look at the names and to remember with us, the gift of freedom we share because of the service represented by each flag.

It is our hope that in seeing these flags and the names of those listed we will all live with a little more gratitude for the safety, the freedom and the country we share. *Provided by Rev. Debbie Rundecker, Pastor. ###*

June Flower Rose

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Primary Election: VOTE June 8

Keep Wood-Ridge Beautiful June 6

Volunteers Needed

The "Keep Wood-Ridge Beautiful" Committee will hold its 21st annual downtown cleanup day on Sunday, June 6, 2021 between 12 and 4 p.m.

Volunteers are once again needed to help clean our shopping districts and raise awareness of the effects of litter in our community.

During our last "Keep Wood-Ridge Beautiful Day" over 200 volunteers participated!! Both adults and children are welcome.

The Bergen County Board of Health will provide cleaning utensils, gloves, brooms and bags. Volunteers will be contacted and assigned certain time periods prior to the event and will be asked to meet at the

Wood-Ridge Civic Center.

To sign up, call Borough Hall at 201-939-0202 (ext. 109) and leave your name, telephone number and how many adult or children's T-shirts should be ordered by size.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, this year's event will be held with all safety protocols in place and with limited group participation.

Shredding Event

Do you have stuff to shred? Bring it to the Civic Center that day from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. No hardcover books, magazines, newspapers, photographs or X-rays. For further information, contact Councilman Ezio Altamura 201-531-0259. ###

FOCAS Holds Flea Market July 24

The June FOCAS Flea Market scheduled for Saturday, June 19, 2021 has been rescheduled for July 24, 2021, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the American Legion, 100 Liberty Street, Little Ferry.

This market features specialty items that make unique gifts, a selection of household items, jewelry, collectibles, linens, games, toys, pet supplies, cds/videos, and more.

Flea Market merchandise donations of clean, gently used or new items are gratefully accepted. *(Not accepted are TVs, PC monitors, golf bags and clubs, exercise and sports equipment, clothes or magazines or any items that are broken or soiled.)*

They may be dropped off at the American Legion on Friday, July 23, 2021, from 3 to 6 p.m. **No donations will be accepted on Saturday.** All proceeds benefit homeless animals. For additional information, call the FOCAS Help Line at 201-943-4019, email info@focasnews.org, or visit www.focasnews.org ###

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AL Pig Roast July 17, 2021

The American Legion Squadron 310 is again hosting their very popular Art Jensen Jr. Annual Pig Roast fundraiser on Saturday, July 17, 2021, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., in their picnic grove at American Legion Post 310, 100 Liberty Street, Little Ferry, NJ.

Cost is \$25 pp in advance by July 13. \$30 pp at the door.

Admission includes "all you can eat" hamburgers, hot dogs, London Broil, BBQ chicken, two-100 lb. plus pigs, mussels, fresh corn on the cob, salads, draft beer and soda. Children under 12 eat for free. Music by "DJ Bill Reagan." All proceeds go the Veterans and children's programs. ###

Food Truck Festival May 30

On May 30, 2021, St. Francis DeSales Church will host a Food Truck Festival, from 12 to 6 p.m., at 125 Union Street, Lodi. Free admission.

Event features annual super 50/50, raffle of large prizes, music, beer garden and free mini games for kids.

Masks and social distancing rules will be in effect. For more information call 973-779-4330. ###

Don't Text and Drive

Snack Donations Wanted for NG

A member of Lodi Post 136, American Legion, Christopher Illescas (201-526-6758, e-mail: illescas.c.c@gmail.com) is also a member of the New Jersey National Guard who, along with about 60 other National Guard members, is on duty at the Meadowlands COVID19 Mega Immunization Site.

Chris, along with Post 136, is spearheading a drive to stock the National Guard break-room at the Mega-Site with snacks (*potato chips, pretzels, corn chips, popcorn, candy, and etc., all in individual servings*), water, soft drinks and juice.

If you wish to donate goods to this cause, please purchase the items and make arrangements with Chris for delivery of the items to the Mega-Site.

If you wish Post 136 to purchase and deliver the items on your behalf, please make a check payable to "American Legion Post 136" and send to 41 Union Street, PO Box 36, Lodi, NJ 07644. We will purchase and deliver the items on your Post's behalf. We will mark each box of goods with the name and address of the donating Post or person.

Thank you for considering this request. Francis Carrasco, Commander, Post 136, Vincent C. Martorano, Adjutant/Finance Officer, Post 136. ###



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Tools Of Hope

Once again, the Guild of Reformed Church Women of First Reformed Church, will celebrate Father's Day, Sunday, June 20, 2021, by offering Tools of Hope donations as testimony to all our Dads as well as any and all men folk in our lives.

Your gifts of pride and joy in honor of, or in memory of, these special "guys" will be many-pronged.

Each \$10 donation will enable Church World Service to assist men (and women) around the world with proper tools and training for many skills from planting seeds to feeding a family, repairing buildings to return families to their homes, providing animals for milking and breeding, to learning to dig wells to provide clean water for

many families.

Church World Service is a well known organization that works locally, nationally and internationally for the good of the common people. They often are the first to respond to natural disasters; they are also active in many famine-stricken areas, working hand-in-hand with local disaster units. For further information, check out churchworldservice.org.

Send contributions to First Reformed Church, PO Box 66, Hasbrouck Heights, NJ, 07604 by Monday, June 7, 2021. Make checks payable to Guild RCW. For more information, call 201-288-1122. ###

June Birthstone Pearl

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Baptist



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PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

(Never known to fail) Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the Sea, help me and show me, herein you are my mother, Oh, Holy Mary, Mother Queen of Heaven and Earth! I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. There are some that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother.

Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3x). Holy Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3x). Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal.

You who gave me the gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances in my life you are with me, I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in eternal glory. thank you for your mercy toward me and mine.

The person must say this prayer three consecutive days. After three days, the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted. L.M.G. ###

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

(Never known to fail) Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the Sea, help me and show me, herein you are my mother, Oh, Holy Mary, Mother Queen of Heaven and Earth! I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. There are some that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother.

Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3x). Holy Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3x). Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal.

You who gave me the gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances in my life you are with me, I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in eternal glory. thank you for your mercy toward me and mine.

The person must say this prayer three consecutive days. After three days, the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted. N.M. ###

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Filling You In

By Jeffrey E. Mason, DMD, FAGD.

What Causes a Toothache?

While decay often is cited as the primary cause of a toothache, it's important for you to have a complete oral examination to determine the cause.

Other dental causes of a toothache include: infection, gum disease, grinding teeth (*bruxism*), tooth trauma and an abnormal bite.

Tooth eruption may be the cause of tooth or jaw pain in babies and school-age children. TMJ, sinus or ear infections and tension in the facial muscles can cause discomfort that resembles a toothache, but often these health problems are accompanied by a headache.

Pain around the teeth and the jaws can be symptoms of heart disease such as angina. If your dentist suspects a medical illness could be the cause of your toothache, he or she may refer you to a physician.

Why does my tooth ache?

You may have a dental cavity or advanced gum disease. The first sign of decay may be the pain you feel when you eat something sweet, very cold or very hot. If the pulp, the inside of the tooth that has tissue and nerves, has become irritated, this can cause pain in your tooth.

What are the symptoms of a toothache? Because the symptoms of a toothache may resemble other medical condi-

tions or dental problems, it can be difficult to diagnose the cause without a complete evaluation by your dentist.

If you notice pus near the source of the pain, your tooth may have become abscessed, causing the surrounding bone to become infected. Or the pus could indicate gum disease, which usually is characterized by inflammation of the soft tissue and abnormal loss of bone surrounding the teeth.

Contact your dentist immediately if you have any of the following symptoms:

- Fever
- Difficulty breathing or swallowing
- Swelling around the tooth area
- Pain when you bite
- A foul-tasting discharge

How do I alleviate the pain if I cannot see my dentist right away? Anyone with a toothache should see a dentist at once for diagnosis and treatment because, if left untreated, your condition can worsen.

However, if you are unable to schedule an emergency appointment, a self-care treatment can temporarily alleviate pain and inflammation from a toothache:

- Rinse with warm salt water.
- Gently floss teeth to dislodge any food particles trapped between teeth.
- Take an over-the-counter pain reliever such as aspirin, ibuprofen or acetaminophen to relieve pain. If your child has a toothache, use acetaminophen.

Never put aspirin or any other painkiller against the gums near the aching tooth, as it may burn the gum tissue.

Apply an over-the-counter antiseptic containing benzocaine directly to the irritated tooth and gum to temporarily relieve pain.

If there has been some trauma to the tooth, a cold compress may be applied on the outside cheek to relieve pain or swelling.

If your tooth has been knocked out, forced out of position, loosened or fractured,

visit the dentist's office or a hospital emergency room immediately.

How can my dentist help?

Your dentist will conduct a complete oral examination to determine the location and cause of the toothache, looking for signs of swelling, redness and obvious tooth damage.

He or she may also take X-rays looking for evidence of tooth decay between teeth, a cracked or impacted tooth or a disorder of the underlying bone problems that the dentist may not be able to find through a routine exam.

Your dentist also may prescribe pain medication or antibiotics to speed the healing of your toothache.

If, by the time you see your dentist, your tooth has become infected, then treatment could require removal of the tooth or a root canal procedure, which involves removing the damaged nerve tissue from the middle of a tooth.

Is there a way to prevent a toothache? The key to preventing toothaches is establishing a regular oral hygiene routine and sticking to it.

For example, failure to brush and floss regularly after meals can significantly increase your risk of developing cavities.

After you eat, bacteria in your mouth feed on sugar and starch and produce acid that can "eat" a hole (*or cavity*) in your tooth's enamel.

If the cavity is not filled, it can cause considerable pain and potentially destroy the dentin, pulp and the tooth's nerve.

Here are a few tips to help reduce your risk for developing a toothache:

- Brush at least twice a day, preferably after every meal and snack.
- Floss once a day to prevent gum disease.
- Visit your dentist twice a year for oral examinations and a professional cleaning.

*Reference and Reviewed by
Academy of General Dentistry
: January 2012*

Dr. Jeffrey Mason is a cosmetic and general dentist at 232 Boulevard, Hasbrouck Heights, NJ. 201-288-4447, www.DrJeffreyMason.com

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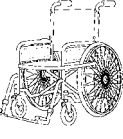
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Artful Thinking

By Artie Maglionico • Lodi Historian

Artful June

Well hello dear reader and welcome to the merry month of June. Speaking of "Merry" as of the 1st of this month there are now, get this, 208 days until Christmas 21. Christmas 2020 was, for me at least, a complete no show.

It was by far the loneliest, uneventful holiday I ever had the misfortune of living through. For that reason, I'm looking forward to hearing the songs of the carolers and the sounds of sleigh bells in the night. I pray that Christmas 21 will bring with it the peace, warmth and togetherness that we have come to know.

Here's a heartfelt howdy do for Mildred Peterson of Moonachie, NJ. Thank you Mildred for being a member of the "Artful Thinking Family." Continue to enjoy the column in good health.

Coming the 20th of this month, we'll be welcoming two happy events.

Summer and Father's Day will be arriving on the same train. Those of you who have been faithful readers of this column know that I have written much about my dear old dad, Vito. All of those paragraphs and the log jam of words cannot describe accurately enough the love and admiration that I had for my pop. He remains even now, some 31 years after his death, the greatest man I have ever known.

I was very possessive when it came to my dad. It used to upset me when I thought he was directing his attention towards another kid. He'd always reassure me that I was his buddy. He'd back it up by buying me a couple of Texas Wieners at Jimmy Brokes' hot dog stand in Saddle Brook.

Sure I ticked him off a few times a day and I swear he'd have pulled his hair out if nature hadn't beat him to it.

What he lacked in a full head of hair he made up for in heart. My dad never, and I mean never, let me down. I'm sure that on occasion I let him down, but he never showed it. I was always his buddy. Thank you dad... Happy Father's Day!

Have you noticed, lately, all the talk about UFO sightings? Have you ever actually

seen one? I'm somewhat of a skeptic when it comes to visitors from another planet.

True, there are those who would swear that yours truly comes from another planet and that I would return there ASAP. But I digress!

Hey, who knows, right folks? When it comes to UFOs and planet earth, there might very well be a "connection," which coincidentally enough happens to be the title of my cousin Richard Maglionico's latest book. Having been 10 months in the making, the book investigates a possible extraterrestrial link between Mars and ancient Egypt and how it has influenced modern technology.

This excursion over time and space is led by a fictitious star dweller named Advena who hails from the planet Estyfen.

"Advena is a fictional character," says Richard; however, the book itself is based on fact. In the end, the reader is left to determine which is true and which is conjecture."

"The Connection" explores the possible link between ancient aliens and the pyramids of Giza. The book gives us a behind the scenes look at crop circles and the role they play in deciphering alien messages. We are also introduced to deep space portals and astral projection.

"The connection between Mars and Egypt could possibly be unraveled when the Rover Perseverance lands on Mars," says Richard. "Much could be revealed."

Folks, I must admit that after having read "The Connection," a new doorway has opened up for me. A doorway that leads to a vast, unlimited universe. Still with that having been said, I wish someone could come up with a clear photo of one of these space crafts. Perhaps then they wouldn't be "unidentified." We could all focus again of the Loch Ness Monster.

For a copy of Richard's book, call 610-577-5551 or visit his soon to be available web site: www.extraterrestriallink.com

In the mean time keep your eye on the sky.

Happy Father's Day!

Real Estate Insight

By Mary Ellen Courtney



What a Realtor Does; the Nuts & Bolts...

What, you ask, is a typical day like for a real estate agent? Good question! Ask anybody who's not really in the industry and they'll probably respond with something along the lines of "well, they list and sell houses." And, of course, that would be the agent's ultimate objective towards making a living in this business.

But, for us realtors, a typical day requires tackling a multitude of small objectives in order to reach those bigger goals.

There are dozens of things that an agent does in an average day but, frankly, all of it – every task – is always focused on one primary goal: building the agent's brand and business.

Sure, agents handle things like assisting their clients in

buying and selling properties but they're also laying the groundwork for their own future in the industry.

This is necessary because every agent is a separate and independent business entity whose daily work endeavors are devoted to growing personal reputation and brand.

With that in mind, let's take a look at the main activities in an agent's typical day.

• **Market Research.** Knowing one's local market well is critical for a real estate agent and a typical day will involve regularly reviewing properties for sale.

In today's frantic market where a 'pool' of properties available to show potential home buyers is virtually non-existent, the ability to quickly recognizing price & value is key towards providing timely, pertinent advice. The best agent is always well informed and ready to deliver meaningful guidance when needed.

• **Online and Media Presence.** A good website and strong media accounts will act to display what makes the agent's qualifications special, providing a showcase for listings, testimonials, statistics, and even blog knowledge to potential clients. Savvy agents know what the digital world can offer them and how it can make one thrive in a very competitive field where every client matters.

• **Administrative Duties.** There is plenty of it for the real estate agent. Managing paperwork, responding to emails, texts and calls, completing real estate documents, creating promotional materials and listings, developing marketing plans, data entry, etc., etc. This isn't the most interesting part of the vocation but – like in any business – it's necessary to the core of things.

• **Lead Generation.** Marketing efforts will help with this but most successful agents will spend a part of their day generating leads through their sphere of influence, networking, contacting possible sellers and potential buyers, sending out emails and text messages – all to create business for tomorrow, for next week, for next month...

• **Working with Clients.** This might entail preparing a seller's property listing, taking photos and video, writing ads, and perhaps even staging the home to ensure that it looks its best.

Buyers' agents will determine their clients' needs, educate them on market conditions, the logistics of the buying process and, of course, show them properties.

• **Continuing Education.** Just like other professionals – doctors, attorneys, engineers – real estate agents have to continue their education on a regular basis. Licenses have to be renewed regularly and continuing education credits have to be earned periodically to ensure that the agent is always up to speed on technology, ethics, trends, regulations and the like – all necessary to the trade.

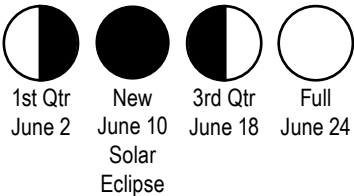
So, as you can see by this brief overview, a typical day for a real estate agent may be anything but typical. The truth is that every day has its own unique challenges and tasks.

There are a lot of responsibilities to juggle – which is, frankly, what makes a career in real estate so interesting and fresh for so many people.

Simply put, if you're thinking of a career change, real estate could be well worth considering. A typical day in this business could end up being more rewarding than even your best day in your current field.

If you'd like to know more, give me a call...

Mary Ellen Courtney is owner of Real Living Gateway Realtors, 201-288-0004. www.GatewayToHomes.com ###



Strawberry Moon

The June full moon appears on Thursday, June 24, 2021, at 2:40 p.m. It is called the "Full Strawberry Moon."

According to the Farmer's Almanac, this name was universal to every Algonquin tribe.

The name reflects the relatively short season for harvesting strawberries that comes each year during June. Other names include the "Full Hot Moon," or in Europe, the "Full Rose Moon."

The Native American Indians of the northern and eastern United States kept track of the seasons by giving a name to each recurring full moon. European settlers followed the custom. ###

Summer begins with the Summer Solstice, Sunday, June 20, 2021 11:31 p.m.



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Families Enjoy Open Cockpit Day

The Aviation Hall of Fame hosted an Open Cockpit Day on Saturday, April 10, 2021, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Visitors had the opportunity to sit in the cockpit of a very rare Lockheed Bushmaster plane, and a M*A*S*H Bell 47 helicopter made famous during the Korean War.

Visitors sat in the cabin of the world's only surviving restored cockpit of the Martin 202 airliner. They saw inside the HH52A, U.S. Coast Guard rescue helicopter. Also, on display were the Bell AH-1 Cobra helicopter, the OV-1A Mohawk observation/attack aircraft, and other aviation cockpits, including a General Aviation Trainer (GAT-1) and a Glider.

Also popular was an official Airport Rescue Firefighter Truck! For young astronauts, there is a working display of the International Space Station (ISS) along with uniforms and items used by the many Astronauts like Buzz Aldrin, Scott and Mark Kelly, to name just a few.

Open Cockpit Week-end June 19-20

Experience this event yourself. The next Open Cockpit week-end is June 19-20, 2021. Admission: \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors and children age 3 to 12.

The Museum is located at 400 Fred Wehran Drive, adjacent to the Teterboro Control Tower. Come see why our Museum has been named as "One of the 10 Best Museums in the State of NJ."

All of our visitors must adhere to all New Jersey COVID-19 Restrictions: Face Masks, Social Distancing. For more information on our COVID-19 Restrictions and Procedures, please visit our Web Site: www.NJAHOF.org All Veterans are welcomed and can honor us by signing our Wall of Honor. ###

For more information go to www.NJAHOF.org ###





2021 Law Enforcement Torch Run • Friday, June 11

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HHFD 2021 Installation

The Hasbrouck Heights Fire Department held its Installation Dinner for Chief David Gumbrecht and the Department Officers at The Graycliff on Saturday, May 1, 2021. (Note: The officers took their Oath of Office in January, 2021)

Master of Ceremonies was Fire Commissioner Ronald Kistner. First Assistant Chief

Timothy Moots led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There was a moment of silence for all departed Department members to include Richard Kubler and Laurence (Lonny) Donohue.

The Invocation was given by Fire Department Chaplain Pastor Eric Dammann. Fire Commissioner Kistner ac-

knowledgeed Borough Officials, Mutual Aid Chiefs, retirees, ex-chiefs, etc., and visiting dignitaries who were in attendance.

There was an introduction of Department Officers: Chief David Gumbrecht, First Assistant Chief Timothy Moots, Second Assistant Chief Patrick Hayes, Secretary – Edward Mucha, Treasurer – Michael Ratkowski, HHFD Captain – Michael Greco, HHFD Lieutenants – Cristian Fernandez, Miguel Gonzalez, Bernardo Valente, EMS Captain – John Riordan and EMS Lieutenant – Hipen Shah.

The traditional toast was given by Second Assistant Chief Pat Hayes.

Mayor Jack DeLorenzo, Commissioner Ronald Kistner, and Chief Gumbrecht spoke. ###



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Rain and a Very Steep Park Lane Claim Amazon Delivery Truck



On April 15, 2021, the Carlstadt Police Department and the Carlstadt Fire Department responded to an Amazon delivery step van that came down Park Lane, a steep cobblestone road in the rain, and slammed into a tree at 6th Street and Berry Avenue. Driver was injured. *Photo by Dennis Kronyak Sr. ###*



It Got a Bit Smokey

On April 20, 2021, the Carlstadt Fire Department responded to an oven fire. No damage or injuries were reported. The Department vented the home of smoke. *Photo by Dennis Kronyak Sr. ###*



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Published Monthly. Issued the first week of the month.
Distributed via U.S. Postal Service and available at select locations.
All issues are available online FREE in pdf format. RSS feed available.
Deadlines are: Editorial copy and completed ad material is due the 5th day of month preceding issue. Issued about the first week of the month. © 2021 All Rights Reserved. Published by The Iron Horse Advertising and Marketing Company, Inc. Reproduction of any photos requires permission. Photos are available @ <http://gazette-newspaper.smugmug.com/> "The Gazette" may represent "The Gazette Newspaper for Carlstadt, East Rutherford, Hasbrouck Heights, Little Ferry, Lodi, Moonachie, Rutherford, South Hackensack, Teterboro, Wallington and Wood-Ridge."
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Car Wash Benefits Project Graduation

On April 24, 2021 the Carlstadt Public School 8th Graders held a car wash at the Carlstadt Fire Department HQ parking lot to benefit their Project Graduation. The Lodi Fire Department supported their effort and had Engine 615 washed sparkling clean. *Photos by Dennis Kronyak Sr. ###*



Eagle Scouts Soar

An Eagle Scout Court of Honor was held Sunday, April 25, 2021 at Little Ferry VFW Post 809. The Eagle Scouts were Jack Gaige and Joseph Toscano from Troop 17 in Hasbrouck Heights. The boys had recently achieved the rank of Eagle. Jack in September 2020 and Joe in May of 2020.

Due to Covid restrictions they were finally able to have their ceremony.

• A bit of background on Jack's Eagle Scout project. The project consisted of cleaning and restriping the parking spaces at the local Elks Lodge in Hasbrouck Heights. Jack also spent weeks locating an old mailbox, which in turn was repainted with our country's colors and now used to retire old flags. Jack coordinated members of the troop and his family amounting to 82 service hours and collected over \$300 in cash donations along

with material donations from Lowe's, in order to complete the project. Joyce Powell, State Secretary of the Elks Lodge stated "We are so grateful for all of the time and effort the Scouts and family members invested for our organization. It is something we can showcase for years."

• A bit of background on Joe's Eagle Scout project. The project benefited the American Legion in Little Ferry, an organization close to home for Joe. His grandparents have been members for years. He saw an opportunity to make improvements to their outside grounds. The Legion was building a new pavilion and he wanted to add a Scouting touch. Members of the Troop invested over 135 service hours building new horseshoe pits, high-top tables and repainting their picnic tables. *Provided by Michael Gaige, Assistant Scout Master. ###*



Wayne Weil, President of the Community Chest of Rutherford, presents a check for \$800 to Cubmaster Monica Couillard and the Cub Scouts in Pack 168, Rutherford, NJ. ###

Community Chest Helps Cub Scouts

On April 24, 2021, the Community Chest of Rutherford presented a \$800 check to Monica Couillard, Cubmaster for Cub Scout Pack 168 in Rutherford.

Cub Scout Pack 168 is one of eight Rutherford organizations to receive annual support from The Chest.

During an outdoor movie night held in the parking lot of St. Mary's Church, Cubmaster Couillard and the Scouts took time out to receive the check from Community Chest Presi-

dent Wayne Weil.

The 75 year old Community Chest of Rutherford is the one-stop funding source to support eight Rutherford organizations that include: Rutherford Cub Scouts, Rutherford Boy Scouts, Rutherford Girl Scouts, Starfish of Rutherford, Rutherford Food Pantry, Meadowlands Museum, Rutherford Social Services and the William Carlos Williams Performing Arts Center.

The Community Chest is operated and managed by a

board of 13 unpaid volunteers, and every dollar contributed stays within Rutherford.

The Chest participates in Blue Foundry Bank's Community Assistance Program (CAP) and Amazon's Smile program.

For more information on the Community Chest of Rutherford contact: President, Wayne Weil at wayne@dartmouthgraphics.com or call 201-933-0481. *Photo and story provided by Billy Neumann. ###*



Girl Scout Leader Appreciation Day

Wood-Ridge Girl Scout Leaders received a special surprise. Lovely flowers thanking them for their continued service to our local Girl Scout Troops. With help from Shoprite, our Ambassador Girl Scout Troop 94037 packaged up and delivered 30 bouquets of flowers to our volunteers.

In the ever changing world,

keeping up with Girls' needs isn't always easy, because of our selfless volunteers. We've got this! Inspiration, role models, mentors, GS leaders are a sounding board for our girls and their innovative ideas. Our leaders stand by them no matter the outcome, Girl Scouting provides this and more all because of our incredible volunteers.

While April is officially National Volunteer Month, we are honored and grateful to have our Leaders representing the Girl Scout Movement every single day. Thank you to our amazing Girl Scout volunteers! *Provided by Sandy O'Byrne, Wood Ridge Girl Scout Service Unit Manager. ###*



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- Butterfly Gardening Workshop** The Carlstadt Library has partnered with the Carlstadt Community Garden and the Bergen County Audubon Society to present a hands-on Butterfly Gardening Workshop on Wednesday, June 9, 2021, at 7 p.m.
This program will be held at the Carlstadt Community Garden, located at the corner of 7th Street and Division Avenue, in Carlstadt. Those patrons interested in helping to plant will be able to do so, and everyone who attends will be presented with a milkweed plant to take home. This program is open to all and is free to the public.
Please register at carlstadtlibrary.org or call 201-438-8866.
- “Behind the Scenes”** A virtual movie discussion on Thursday, June 10 at 7 p.m. This month’s selection is “August Rush,” starring Kerri Russell, Freddie Highmore and Robin Williams. Patrons will watch the film prior to the program, and then join a lively discussion.
Available on Blu-ray and DVD or to stream on Hoopla, a free digital service available to Carlstadt Library card holders. Hoopla can be accessed via computer, smartphone, tablet or TV. For adults 18 & older. To register visit carlstadtlibrary.org or call 201-438-8866. A Zoom access code will be e-mailed.
- Virtual Crafts for Crafters** Join fellow craft lovers on Zoom on Wednesday June 16 at 7 p.m. Patrons will paint and decorate an unfinished wood summer sign to display or to present as a homemade gift. All materials will be provided by the Library prior to the craft. This program is for adults and teens ages 14 and up. Registration required. A Zoom access code will be e-mailed after registering.
- 7 Super Simple Summer Decluttering Ideas** The East Rutherford, Wood-Ridge and Carlstadt Libraries welcome Jamie Novak, organizer, humorist, and author of “Keep This, Toss That” on Thursday, June 17 at 7 p.m. In this virtual program, the secret to decluttering quickly, complete with a mini organizing session. Registration required. A Zoom access code will be e-mailed after registering.
- Virtual Book Club** on Wednesday, June 23 at 7 p.m. This month’s selection is “The Henna Artist” by Alka Joshi. Copies available at the Circulation Desk. This program will be held at the Village Green Park, located at the corner of 3rd and Broad Streets, in Carlstadt. To register for this program, please visit carlstadtlibrary.org or call 201-438-8866.
- Kids Crafts - Grab ‘n’ Go** New crafts available every Monday. All materials are provided. Call 201-438-8866 to reserve your child’s craft and make an appointment for pick-up.
- Music with Miss Nita** A series of virtual music-and-movement classes for children of all ages with Miss Nita via Facebook. The classes will be held at 10:30 a.m. on June 3, 10, 17, and 24. <https://www.facebook.com/carlstadtlibrary/>
- Virtual Storytime** Visit the Carlstadt Library Facebook page every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. to hear a story. Children of all ages and their caregivers are warmly invited. <https://www.facebook.com/carlstadtlibrary/>



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**Wood-Ridge
Memorial Library**

Wood-Ridge Memorial Library, 231 Hackensack Street, Wood-Ridge, NJ 07075. 201-438-2455. <https://woodridgememoriallibrary.org>

The Wood-Ridge Memorial Library is open to the public with modified opening hours and at 25% capacity. Browsing and computer time are limited to forty minutes, no advance reservation is required. The Book Drop is open for item returns and all materials will be quarantined for three days before being checked in. Porch pick-up is available upon request. Please see our website for updated information.

- **Music with Miss Nita** free music-and-movement classes on our Facebook page. Prerecorded sessions are posted every Wednesday at 10 a.m., and are available to view at any time.
- **Story Time with Mr. Paul** Who doesn't love being read to? Join Mr. Paul for story time, posted to the Library's Facebook and Youtube pages every Monday and Friday at 4 p.m.
- **Children's Summer Program Registration** Tails and Tales! The Wood-Ridge Memorial Library will host a summer reading club for children from birth through age 16. Participants are encouraged to read, or be read to, for 30 minutes per day and will earn prizes and win prizes. Reading logs will be handled online at the address below. The reading program will run from July 1– August 31. Registration opens June 15 at woodridgenj.readsquared.com or by calling the Library at 201-438-2455. ###

**Rutherford
Public Library**

Rutherford Public Library, 150 Park Avenue, Rutherford NJ. 201-939-8600. rutherfordlibrary.org, facebook.com/rutherfordpubliclibrary and twitter@Rutherford_pl.

The Rutherford Public Library is open with limited services. The hours are as follows: Monday and Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 to 7 p.m.; Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Face masks that cover the nose and mouth are required. We currently are allowing 50 patrons inside at a time, and each patron has a time limit of 1 hour inside. For more information on our safety guidelines, please visit our website at RutherfordLibrary.org or call 201-939-8600 before planning your visit.

- **Grab & Go** doorside pickup services for those who may not want to enter the building or cannot reach us during our open hours. Patrons are invited to order books from the BCCLS catalog (*by visiting www.bccls.org*) or fill out a Grab & Go form for either the adult or children's collection, and our team will choose items for you based on what you like!
- These forms are available on our website. If you don't have access to a computer, call the Library and have our team order items for you! You tell us what you want and when you'd like to pick your items up and we'll have them ready for you. Please note, if you order items from another Library, items may take longer than usual because we are observing a three-day quarantine on items.

This service is for Rutherford residents only. Out-of-town residents are encouraged to check in with their hometown Library to learn of their services,

- **ESL Classes on Zoom** All English language learners with an Internet connection are encouraged to join one or more of our ESL on Zoom offerings (*by visiting Zoom.us*). Brush Up Your English is held on Mondays at 3 p.m. and can be joined with Meeting ID: 842 1496 7774 and Password: 114997. This class is for students who are already familiar with English. We also offer a Tuesday and Thursday class at 3 p.m. for all levels, which can be joined with Meeting ID: 867 3172 2729 and Password: 392447. Another all levels class is held on Wednesdays at 2 p.m., and can be joined with Meeting ID: 836 7199 4483 and Password: 706776. These classes are for anyone who would like to learn English. All are welcome.
- **Music and Movement on Facebook Live** The Children's Department will present music and movement with two of our favorite musicians on Facebook Live. Miss Fran will join us Friday, June 4 and 11, at 11:15 a.m. Mr. Chris will join us Friday, June 25, at 11:15 a.m. There is no registration required.
- **More Virtual Programming** for children and adults. Check website to learn what's coming up. You can also call 201-939-8600 for more information.
- **Digital Access to The Wall Street Journal** for Rutherford cardholders. If interested, send an email to reference@rutherford.bccls.org and we will send you the information you need to access The Wall Street Journal online!
- **Looking for a Job?** Don't forget to check out the Rutherford Library's website for some helpful tools on the Jobseekers page. Located under the Adult Services heading on the main web page, there are direct links to job sites such as the Bergen County Job Center and announcements for federal and state civil service jobs. You will also find job search tools such as the Job & Career Accelerator database that can help you build a resume or prepare for interviews.

**Hasbrouck Heights
Free Public Library**

Hasbrouck Heights Free Public Library, 320 Boulevard, Hasbrouck Heights, NJ 07604. 201-288-0488, <http://hasbrouckheightslibrary.org>.

The Free Public Library of Hasbrouck Heights is open for in-person browsing and computer use by appointment. Masks must be worn and contactless temperature checks are required for all visitors. Due to the nature of our setup as part of Borough Hall, the public is asked to use the Madison Avenue entrance for the Library. Doorside pickup service is also offered.

The Hasbrouck Heights Library continues to offer virtual activities via Zoom for the whole family and for the life-long learner. Registration is required for all programs unless otherwise noted. Visit the Library's website for details and click on "Calendar."

- For the WHOLE FAMILY
- **Tails and Tales. Summer reading is here!** Begins on Monday, June 21 and runs through Sunday, August 29. All logging for kids, teens and adults will be done online at <http://hhlibrary.readsquared.com>. Visit the site for registration and details. Check back next issue for Tails and Tales themed contests, programs and crafts for adults this summer.
- **Bundle Up** is a specially curated book recommendation service available for all ages. Fill out a form according to your age-range, and we will give you your next favorite read! Each bundle will come with three options.
- **Our Movie Night (at Home)** promotion continues throughout the month. Borrow any 5 Hasbrouck Heights-owned DVDs from our Adult or Juvenile collection using doorside or in-person browsing and we'll provide a bag of microwave popcorn!

- For CHILDREN
- **Little Artists Grab & Go @ Doorside: Teacher Thank-You Craft** Friday, June 11 and Saturday, June 12. Let's say thank you to our teachers for working so hard this year with a complete craft-in-a-bag that you

can create and give to them. Available for pickup during the Library's doorside hours on Friday and Saturday. Best for Grades K-4.

- **Tails and Tales Summer Reading Kickoff:** Let's Draw Animals! Monday, June 21 at 3:30 p.m. Join award-winning cartoonist, Rick Stromoski and learn to draw a variety of furry, hoofed, and feathered friends in this fun and interactive program presented via Zoom.
- **Tales and Tales Pre-school Storytime LIVE** via Facebook Wednesday, June 23 at 11 a.m. Stories and songs featuring our furry and feathered friends of this summer's reading theme. Registration not required, just come and join in.

- For TEENS
- **Teen Craft-to-Go - Watermelon Squishy** Tuesday, June 29 from 2 to 4 p.m. / 5 to 7 p.m. June's Teen Craft is a watermelon squishy for you to squeeze the stress away! Supplies will be available for pickup during afternoon and evening doorside hours and a tutorial will be posted on YouTube.

- For ADULTS
- **Student Transition Webinar** presented by Caregivers of NJ Monday, June 7 at 7 p.m. This webinar will provide valuable information to better prepare individuals with disabilities and their families for the transition into adult life services. Topics will include the step-by-step transition process, Medicaid eligibility, support coordination, choosing the right support coordination agency, and much more!
- **Virtual Crafts-to-Share Club** Every 2nd and 4th Tuesday, June 8 and 22 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Drop in every other Tuesday to chat and work on a crafty project! Enjoy getting to know other crafters in your community while you knit, crochet, embroider or craft anything! Virtual drop-ins will be held on Zoom.

- **Adult Book Club** 4th Tuesday of each month, June 22 at 7 p.m. Join us for an evening of fun, literary discussion! June's book is "Before the Coffee Gets Cold" by Toshikazu Kawaguchi. Pick it up doorside or use the Hoopla app to enjoy the ebook or eAudiobook on your smartphone or tablet. ###



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About Father's Day

Sunday, June 20, 2021

Father's Day is celebrated worldwide to recognize the contribution that fathers and father figures make to the lives of their children. This day celebrates fatherhood and male parenting.

Although Father's Day is not a federal holiday, many people make a special effort for their fathers or father figures. Father's Day is a relatively modern holiday, so different families have different traditions. These can range from a simple phone call, greeting card, gifts, to large parties honoring all father figures in an extended family. Father figures can include fathers, step-fathers, fathers-in-law, grand-fathers, great-grandfathers and even other male relatives.

There are some sugges-

tions that the idea of Father's Day may originate in pagan sun worship. Some branches of paganism see the sun as the father of the universe. The June solstice occurs around the same time of year as Father's Day so some people see a link between the two.

Like most holidays that go way back, the origin is hard to trace but most people will agree that Sonora Dodd played a big part in starting the holiday.

Sonora Louise Smart Dodd first brought up the idea of a Father's Day in 1909 to honor her father, William Smart. When Sonora's mother died in childbirth with her sixth child, William was left to raise the newborn and five other children by himself on a farm in Washington State. As an adult, Sonora realized how strong and unselfish her dad had been rais-

ing his kids as a single parent.

Sonora wanted Father's Day to be celebrated on the first Sunday in June, because it was close to her dad's birthday. Instead, the first Father's Day celebration took place on June 19, 1910 in Spokane, Washington.

President Woodrow Wilson wished to make the holiday official, speaking at the 1916 celebration in Spokane, but its commercial nature caused Congress to not pass the bill. President Coolidge also made an attempt. It was not until Margaret Chase Smith, a senator from Maine, stated that it was unfair to honor mothers and not fathers in 1957. In 1966, President Lyndon Johnson made the third Sunday of June, Father's Day. It wasn't until 1972 that President Richard Nixon made Father's Day a national holiday - about 60 years after Mother's Day had been made a national holiday.

Source: timeanddate.com

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Historically Speaking

By James J. Halloran



HASBROUCK HEIGHTS FIRE DEPARTMENT

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PART 5

The 4th of July, in 1980, would be remembered for more than the local fireworks.

A 5-alarm fire erupted in a Carlstadt paint manufacturing complex. Barrels of chemicals were exploding. The Department was called, through the mutual aid system, to assist.

A total of nine people, including firefighters, were injured. No injuries were sustained by Department members.

The City of Passaic, on September 2, 1985, would be the scene of a horrific fire. This fire, set by two boys throwing matches into a dumpster, would destroy four city blocks.

This included 18 factories and warehouses and 22 homes which were all destroyed. The Hasbrouck Heights Fire Department was among the 39 fire departments called to assist.

Sadly, a Secaucus firefighter had a fatal heart attack. This fire destroyed about 20% of Passaic's economic base. Some 2,000 people lost their jobs.

July 1, 1988, was a day that would devastate the fire service. A fire was reported in a Ford dealership in Hackensack. The roof was of bow-truss

construction. After 35 minutes, the roof collapsed, killing three firefighters and trapping two others. Joe Taylor, now an Ex-Chief of the Hasbrouck Heights Fire Department, was then an EMT in the Hackensack Fire Department. He informed the chief in charge that the Hasbrouck Heights Department had just acquired equipment called a Slice Pack.

This equipment can cut through cinderblock, concrete and steel. Hasbrouck Heights responded with this gear. Because of the intensity of the fire, the two trapped firefighters could not be saved.

The impact of this tragedy was widespread. Laws would be written on dealing with bow-truss roofs and the analysis of the fire has become part of the syllabus for fire service training across the nation.

Ms. Teryl Meagher would make history in the Hasbrouck Heights Fire Department by becoming its first female firefighter. Teryl joined the Hasbrouck Heights Fire Department Ambulance Squad in 1991. She had been a member of another ambulance squad before moving to Hasbrouck Heights.

There occurred a vacancy for the rank of lieutenant of the ambulance squad. Teryl, feeling that her experience as an EMT made her well qualified to hold this position applied for it. She was informed that only firefighters could hold an office in the Department. Teryl then applied to, and was accepted, into Engine Company 2.

Teryl attended and passed the required training at the Bergen County Fire Academy. She would become the first female officer when she became the lieutenant of the HHFD Ambulance Squad in 1992.

At a fire scene, Teryl would always join a hose team and advance into the heat of the fire. She would be an asset to the Department until she and her husband moved out of New Jersey in 1999.

In Hasbrouck Heights, on July 4, 1994, a fire occurred on Springfield Avenue. One resident and one firefighter had to be transported to the hospital for treatment.

Shortly before 8 a.m., on April 21, 1995, the town of Lodi would be rocked by a massive explosion and fire at the NAPP Technologies facility.

Four employees were killed in the explosion and a fifth would later die from injuries. Because of toxins in the air, some 300 residents were evacuated. Many mutual aid Departments would respond. The Hasbrouck Heights Fire Department would assist Lodi for a number of days.

There was a fatal house



FF Teryl Meagher and Chief Frank Pistilli. Photo by Robert Knobloch. ###

fire on Hamilton Avenue, on February 19, 1997. A valiant effort was made to rescue a wheelchair-bound elderly woman that was on the second floor. Firefighters had to knock down a burning wall to reach her. She was removed from the building alive, but sadly died at the hospital. Her husband received 2nd and 3rd degree burns.

A fire occurred on March 15, 1997, at a Terrace Avenue dwelling. It was deemed as arson. The next day, the Department was called to a house fire on the 500 block of the Boulevard. The house had been undergoing renovations.

Lodi would need mutual aid at a large fire. On April 17, 1997, National Wholesale Liquidators store, located off NJ RT-17, erupted in flames. Two Heights firefighters were credited with saving a person at the scene.

A fire, determined to be arson, occurred on August 16, 1998. The house was located on

Central Avenue. Two firefighters were injured and required a trip to the emergency room.

In December 1999, the Department would be severely tested. On the 9th, there was an airplane crash in town, with the death of all four onboard. The next night, a fire occurred at the Hasbrouck Heights Borough Hall. (See December 2019 and February 2020 issues of *The Gazette Newspaper*). The Borough Hall was also the home of the Fire Department. The Department would start off the new century moving from location to location around town.

Available online at: www.the-gazette-newspaper.com:

Part One: The Gazette Newspaper, February 2021, Page 18.

Part Two: The Gazette Newspaper, March 2021, Page 23

Part Three: The Gazette Newspaper, April 2021, Page 17

Part Four: The Gazette Newspaper, May 2021, Page 17



Let's Go Traveling!

By Rick Ardis

June 2021

The National Parks have been called "America's Best Idea." In 2016 The National Parks Service celebrated 100-year anniversary, but its history is even longer. President Ulysses S. Grant proclaimed Yellowstone as the world's first national park on March 1, 1872. And although California's Yosemite had protections signed by President Abraham Lincoln in 1864, it did not gain status as a National Park until 1890.

The intervening years saw a greater push for preserving

the splendors of America. Much of the effort is credited to naturalist John Muir and President Theodore Roosevelt. During Roosevelt's term, five new National Parks were proclaimed along with millions of acres of national forests. In 1906, Congress passed the Antiquities Act allowing the president to establish National Monuments, with Devil's Tower as the first.

The National Park Service Organic Act was signed by President Woodrow Wilson, creating the agency responsible

for organization. The act gathered the 14 national parks and 21 national monuments into a federally run system with a goal of preserving them for future generations.

Today the National Parks Service is responsible for 423 units in approximately 20 categories and sub-categories. These categories include parks, monuments, historical sites, preserves, reserves, recreation areas, seashores, lakeshores, rivers and more. There are sites in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

To many people's surprise, the Great Smoky Mountains National Park straddling the North Carolina-Tennessee border is the most visited National Park. In 2020 there were over 12 million visits, roughly the same total visits as the next 3 parks on the list combined. Many units in the National Parks Service's other categories draw more visitors than the well-known National Parks. The most visited unit of the park service is the Blue Ridge Parkway, running through mountains of Virginia and

North Carolina. New Jersey's Gateway National Recreation Area and Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area also rank in the top ten most visited National Parks Service units. On the hand, many remote sites have limited accessibility. For example, Alaska's Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve has no roads or services and receives only about 10,000 annual visitors.

With good planning, travelers can visit numerous parks and other sites during one vacation. California has the most National Parks with nine. Alaska boasts 7 of 10 largest National Parks Service Units. Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve, in south central Alaska is larger than numerous countries! National Parks Service sites abound in Washington, DC with The National Mall, memorials, monuments, George Washington Parkway, and other historical sites.

Travelers can have a lifetime's worth of experiences visiting National Park Service sites. There are many ways to experience these fascinating places. Many are within driving distance for road-tripping

vacations. Others may be seen on motorcoach tours, or add-ons to an Alaska cruise. Coastal voyages or riverboat cruises on America's rivers may also take travelers to many parks' service sites.

Check out the National Parks Service website, www.nps.gov along with the Find Your Park site, <https://findyourpark.com>. These two sites can assist planning which NPS sites to visit and when, as many parks are seasonal. The websites will also provide information on lodges, camping, food services and other amenities. Annual passes are available for \$80.00. Seniors 62 & over may purchase a one year or lifetime pass at discounted rates. Active members of the military are eligible for free passes. Donations of support may be made to the National Parks Foundation at www.nationalparks.org.

Note: In an era of Covid, be sure to check www.nps.gov for capacity limitations and sites that may require reservations for timed entry.

Rick Ardis is the owner of Ardis Travel -- established in 1981. 201-939-9135 • www.ardistravel.com • rick@ardistravel.com ###

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Mutual Aid Chiefs attend this Memorial Service.

Wallington Fire Department Annual Memorial Service

Wallington Fire Department held its Annual Memorial Service and Inspection on Saturday, April 24, 2021, at the Union Boulevard Firehouse on Greg Barnas Plaza, at 4 p.m.

The program began with the presentation of Colors with BCFPB Piper Chris Kotwica and presentation of the monu-

ment flags.

US Congressman Bill Pascrell presented the Department with an American flag flown over Congress. Those Colors and a Memorial Flag by Chief Sinisi were then raised as the National Anthem was sung by East Rutherford FF Josh Novello. The invocation was

given by FD Chaplain Mark Tomko.

Welcoming remarks and introductions were given by Department President Robert Ventura, followed by the company roll call and presentations of vases/wreath.

The Department once again remembered all the mem-

bers who have answered their last alarm, especially those during the last year. The tolling of the bell and playing of Taps was followed by memorial reflections by Chaplain Tomko. Wallington Mayor Melissa Dabal and Fire Chief Sinisi made remarks.

Families and friends of

the departed received flags and flowers remembering their loved ones. The Department was dismissed.

Mutual Aid Chiefs inspected the apparatus following the service. For more information, contact Mark Tomko at 201-983-3249, MWTNNJ@VERIZON.NET ###



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"On behalf of the officers and members of the Carlstadt Volunteer Ambulance Corps, I would like to thank Bobby O and his Foundation for the generous donation.

Covid hit us hard and we didn't have our annual residential fund drive in 2020 due to the pandemic. This generous donation will help offset the cost of equipment that we need to continue to provide care to our residents. We greatly appreciate this generous donation." Photos by Dennis Kronyak Sr. ###



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