
THE REGIONAL CENTER

BRIDGEWATER • RARITAN • SOMERVILLE

A PARTNERSHIP FOR A BETTER TOMORROW IN
SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

March 2019



NEW ADDITIONS TO BRIDGEWATER PROMENADE

Bob's Furniture has recently celebrated the grand opening of its newest New Jersey location at the Bridgewater Promenade across from TD Bank Ballpark. Bob's is located in the former Babies R Us location.



RAIN BARREL REBATES AVAILABLE TO REGIONAL CENTER HOMEOWNERS

Utilizing a grant from the New Jersey Water Supply Authority (NJWSA), the 2019 Raritan River Rain Barrel Rebate Program for homeowners in Bridgewater, Raritan, and Somerville is available for the 9th year.

Rebates are available in the amount of \$50 for 40 to 70-gallon rain barrels and \$100 for those that hold more than 70 gallons. Rebates are available for multiple rain barrels that meet all criteria.

Rain barrels provide homeowners with financial and ecological advantages by conserving water, easing stream erosion and reducing pollutants accumulated from impervious surfaces, particularly roofs.

For details visit
www.regionalcenterpartnership.org.

PLANNING BOARD RECEIVES AWARD

Somerset County Freeholder Brian Gallagher announced the Somerset County Planning Board (SCPB) has received an Economic Vitality Award from the Somerset County Business Partnership. The SCPB was honored for its expertise in planning endeavors that have helped make the county one of the most prosperous in the nation. Specifically, the SCPB was honored for its "Supporting Priority Investment" project — a multi-phase regional planning effort that has supported local smart growth, land preservation, economic revitalization, and resiliency in the county's communities. Visit www.co.somerset.nj.us.

ALTERNATIVES, INC. FUNDING CONTINUED

Raritan's Alternatives, Inc. has announced that the New Jersey Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services has renewed the contract for Alternative's Career Development Center for the next three years. The program provides services for people who are hearing impaired and seeking employment.

REGIONAL CENTER MAYORS JOIN "BUILD GATEWAY NOW COALITION"

Regional Center Mayors Hayes, McMullin, and Sullivan have joined other Raritan Valley Line Mayors Alliance members in support of the "Build Gateway Now Coalition." The organization advocates for building the Gateway Tunnel and establishing a 1-seat ride on the Raritan Valley Line into New York's Penn Station during peak, off-peak, and weekend hours.

SOMERVILLE PROPOSING EMERGENCY SERVICES COMPLEX

Somerville is investigating the potential for consolidation of emergency services on a 1.77 acre property on North Gaston Avenue. The property is owned by the Borough, having been purchased in February of 2018 for \$1.4 million.

The Borough is now determining the scope, budget, and schedule for the project that will house the police department and consolidate three fire houses.

FAR HILLS RACE MEETING & RWJUH SOMERSET PARTNER FOR COMMUNITY SUPPORT

The Far Hills Race Meeting Association and Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Somerset (RWJUHS) have announced a partnership to invest in community health programs.



Through this partnership, \$885,000 in grants has been awarded to five non-profits serving northern Somerset County. The funds will be distributed over the next three years. Additionally RWJUHS will support the selected organizations with professional training, community health education, support groups, and other health care services.

LIBRARY OFFERS PROGRAMS & SERVICES FOR BUSINESS

The Somerset County Library System of New Jersey (SCLSNJ) is continuing their dedication to support businesses and professionals by offering resources and programs that focus on the gig economy (short term jobs), millennials, social media marketing, and more. Library cardholders can reserve a new gig-focused business kit that will feature a range of materials including curated books, a topical magazine, and other timely resources. For more information about SCLSNJ's business services, visit SCLSNJ.org.



INTERNATIONAL PHARMA MOVING TO BRIDGEWATER

Amarin®, an Irish pharmaceutical company whose stock price has increased more than 500 percent in the last five months, is relocating to the Grande Commons, 440 US 22 in Bridgewater.

The company has grown dramatically since a clinical trial showed favorable results for Vascepa, a drug designed to improve cardiovascular health.

5K RACE TO WELLNESS

Saturday, March 30, 2019
Beginning 9:00 A.M.
Duke Island Park, Old York Road
Bridgewater
<https://runsignup.com/Race/NJ/Bridgewater/5KRacetoWellness>

EVENINGS WITH DAN

Informal sessions with Mayor Dan Hayes
Wednesday, March 20 at 7:30 P.M.
Wednesday, April 24 at 7:30 P.M.
Conference Room 102B
Municipal Building

RARITAN MAYOR OPTS TO NOT SEEK RE-ELECTION

Mayor Chuck McMullin has announced that he will not seek re-election in 2019. Elected in 2016, he reached his goals of ending the long-running lawsuit with the Courier News, improving property maintenance initiatives for businesses and residents, and implementing positive development projects.

UNITED WAY OF NORTHERN NJ RELOCATES TO SOMERVILLE

United Way of Northern New Jersey has relocated its Somerset County office to 55 North Gaston Avenue in Somerville.

The organization serves a five-county region including Somerset County.

United Way is dedicated to removing the barriers that keep 'Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE) individuals from reaching their potential.

NEW PLACES TO LIVE & EAT IN SOMERVILLE

Two new openings in Somerville will attract residents and diners to town. SOMA (south of Main), an upscale rental residence with 69 units opened on South Bridge Street and Just Subs opened its seventh Central Jersey location at 15 West Main Street.

COMMUNITY CALENDARS

REGIONAL CENTER MEETING DATES

The Regional Center Partnership meets in the 2nd floor Engineering Conference room at 20 Grove Street in Somerville.
Wednesday, March 20, 2019 @ 5:00 P.M.
Wednesday, May 15, 2019 @ 5:00 P.M.
Wednesday, July 17, 2019 @ 5:00 P.M.
Wednesday, September 18, 2019 @ 5:00 P.M.
Thursday, November 7, 2019 @ 5:00 P.M.

SOMERVILLE ST. PATRICK'S PARADE

Sunday, March 10, 2019
Beginning 1:30 P.M.
East Main Street to West Main Street
Somerville

COUNTY LIBRARY DIGITIZING HISTORY

The Somerset County Library System of New Jersey (SCLSNJ), utilizing a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, is currently progressing through an 18-month initiative to enhance the County's collective memory by digitizing selected possessions of residents. For information visit SCLSNJ.org.

A similar program involves the SCLSNJ partnering with Rolling Thunder, an advocacy organization for prisoners of war and individuals missing in action to preserve the memories of veterans and their families through an additional digitization project.

RARITAN PLANNING TOWN-WIDE YARD SALE

The Friends of the Raritan Library and the JFK P.T.O. are organizing a Town-Wide Yard Sale on Saturday, May 4 from 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. with a rain date of Saturday, May 18. Visit www.raritanboro.org.

ESPO'S CLOSING IS A LOCAL LOSS

Espo's Italian Restaurant, an iconic dining destination on 2nd Street in Raritan for nearly 50 years, closed its doors for good, coincident with the untimely passing of owner Bob Esposito.

BLEEDING CONTROL BASICS COURSE

Open to the public
Thursday, March 7 at 7:00 P.M.
Saturday, March 23 at 10 A.M.
Somerville Rescue Squad
21 Park Avenue
Register - sweinman@somervillenj.org

SOMERSET COUNTY SENIOR WELLNESS CENTER

876 East Main Street, Bridgewater
(908) 203-6101
Open Monday - Friday
9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

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