

Mayor's Message



Many thanks to Rev. Dr. Kenneth L. Saunders, Sr. & Mrs. Shirley A. Saunders and the entire Piscataway Civil Rights Advisory Commission for leading the way on a fantastic Jackie Robinson Day in May!

Free events for all generations! That is part of what makes Piscataway a wonderful hometown for families. We're excited to continue our summer with a lot of fun for everyone!

The calendar started with a wonderful Jackie Robinson Day celebration with a game played by high school softball & baseball team alumni and a ceremony honoring Jackie Robinson, all to commemorate his momentous breaking of the color barrier in Major League baseball 75 years ago.

As we're going to print, I'm excited about our fantastic Street Fair with a first time "Kidszone" so underage "Kidpreneurs" can sell their crafts and get a head start in learning about business followed by Piscataway's own Middlesex County Commissioner Chanelle Scott

McCullum's "Walk for Your Health" at Riverside Park.

Now coming up is our Independence Day Fireworks Show on Monday, July 4th! The fun starts at 5 p.m. at the high school football field with food trucks, a DJ, rides and other activities and the fireworks start at 9 p.m.

Soon following is our Concert in the Park season with outstanding bands performing at the Columbus Park extension gazebo on four Thursday evenings in July and August.

Coming up on Saturday, July 16th is our Bike Rodeo at The YMCA at the Piscataway Community Center (YPCC) where kids can learn about bicycle and traffic safety. Also outside the YPCC the Piscataway Township Police Department is bringing back National Night Out on Tuesday, August 2nd.

Yet the YPCC is fun every day! Did you know that for a Piscataway family of up to two adults and up to four kids that membership is only \$65 per month? Please remember that the \$32 million facility was built with no residents' tax monies but with business revenues from the state-of-the-art logistics centers in our Township.

Make sure to check out our Township Recreation opportunities throughout the year – and our youth programs are free! In between sports our kids can enjoy the newly built playgrounds and other amenities at our 26 exceptional parks. Keep in mind that we're in the midst of creating Piscataway

Ecological Park which will be dozens of acres of open space to enjoy.

Want to keep up with everything happening in Piscataway? Sign-up for our weekly e-mail newsletter! The sign-in box is right on the front page of our Township website www.PiscatawayNJ.org.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate all of those in Piscataway High School's Class of 2022. The Township Council and I wish all of you the best of luck on your future endeavors.

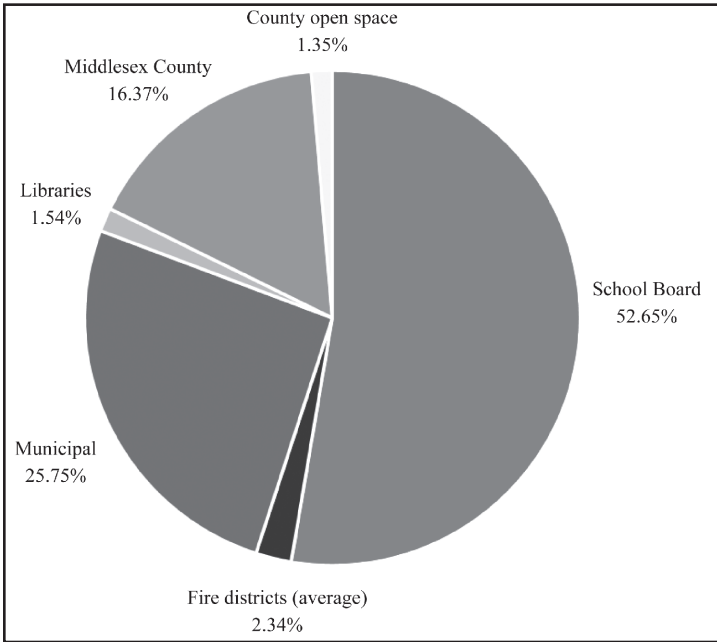
As always, please call my office at (732) 562-2301 if I may ever be of assistance to you.

National Night Out



Shown are Councilmember Kapil K. Shah (At-Large) with Township Police officials.

The Piscataway Township Police Department is bringing back National Night Out – now at its new location outside The YMCA at the Piscataway Community Center – on Tuesday, August 2nd tentatively from 5-9 p.m. Come meet your neighbors for a great evening of family fun!



Do you know where your local taxes go? Compared to 2017-2020, it's largely unchanged. As shown in this pie chart, you can see how in 2021 after being collected by the Township, nearly three-quarters of the funds are then sent to the County, four fire districts (each with their own tax rate), library system and School Board. It's important to know that the Township Council takes some of its revenue and provides additional funding to the library system for its programming and personnel on top of what is automatically dedicated to its needs.

Township Calendar

July

- 12 – Township Council at 7:30 p.m.
- 13 – Planning Board regular meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- 14 – Zoning Board at 7:30 p.m.
- 25 – EMS Advisory Council at 3:30 p.m.
- 27 – Planning Board site plan/subdivision meeting at 2:30 p.m.

August

- 9 – Township Council at 7:30 p.m.
- 10 – Planning Board regular meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- 11 – Zoning Board at 7:30 p.m.
- 24 – Planning Board site plan/subdivision meeting at 2:30 p.m.

September

- 8 – Zoning Board at 7:30 p.m.
- 13 – Township Council at 7:30 p.m.
- 14 – Planning Board regular meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- 22 – Zoning Board at 7:30 p.m.
- 28 – Planning Board site plan/subdivision meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Please check the Township website to see if meetings have been placed online or cancelled.

Follow us on:

Facebook: [piscataway.township](https://www.facebook.com/piscataway.township)

Twitter: @PWAYNJ



Free Paper Shredding

The Clean Communities & Recycling Programs of Piscataway Township continue to present the “Shred It & Forget It” free mobile community shredding program for Piscataway residents only. Homeowners bring their Piscataway Service Card; tenants bring their driver’s licenses. Paper only; no trash and no other recyclables.

Little League fields parking lot ~ 495 Sidney Road

- Saturday, June 25th
 - Saturday, September 17th
 - Saturday, October 22nd
 - Saturday, November 19th
- Each shredding event happens rain or shine, starts at 8 a.m. and ends at Noon or until the truck is full.

Your Elected Officials

Brian C. Wahler
Mayor
916 East Lincoln Avenue
(H) 732-699-9225

Gabrielle Cahill
(At Large)
1003 River Road
(H) 732-235-1920

Kapil K. Shah
(At Large)
423 Netherwood Avenue
(H) 732-463-3659

Linwood D. Rouse
(At Large)
149 Fisher Avenue
(H) 732-463-9349

Frank Uhrin
(Ward 1)
32 Desna Street
(H) 732-968-6088

Jim Bullard
(Ward 2)
23 Independence Court
(H) 732-463-3927

Steven D. Cahn
(Ward 3)
986 Sunset Road
(H) 732-748-1224

Michele Lombardi
(Ward 4)
76 Carlton Avenue
(H) 732-968-2460

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The Piscataway Cultural Arts Commission is pleased to present

Concert in the Park 2022 Season

**Thursday nights at 7 p.m.
July 7th & 21st, August 4th & 18th
Columbus Park extension gazebo**

Tequila Rose (July 7th)

For the very best of new and classic country tunes, Tequila Rose is Piscataway's favorite band. They will have you dancing and singing along so be sure to bring those country dancing boots!

Julian and Dominique (July 21st)

"Show of a 1000 Voices." Known for their diversified act, they have performed across the United States thrilling audiences with their act of classic pop hits and much more. Julian has performed at numerous venues impersonating some of the world's famous musicians including Pavarotti, Elvis, Sinatra, Willie Nelson, Luther Vandross and more. This show is unique and not to be missed!

Kolor Blynd Band (August 4th)

Piscataway's own! Kolor Blynd Band, an eclectic band playing R&B, Pop, Soul, Jazz, Broadway and more will play your favorite tunes from the '70s through the 2000s. Dance tunes from Earth, Wind & Fire, Maroon 5 and even The Jackson 5 will have you dancing too. Listen to tunes from Bruno Mars, Prince, Tina Turner, Cheryl Lynn and more. Join us for a rocking good time!

Verdict Reggae Soca Band (August 18th)

"The Verdict Is In" and back in Piscataway bringing you music with a Caribbean flavor. They have played venues as varied as the Stone Pony to the Super Bowl Manager's Meeting in Miami and even at Carnival in Trinidad so be sure to join us for music with the spirit of Carnival!

Can you sing The Star Spangled Banner?

We are looking for a few good voices to sing our national anthem at the Concert in the Park series. If you can sing it acapella, we invite you to audition for us. Date and time will be determined. For more information or to register for an audition, please call Commission Chair Kitty Juttner at (732) 563-4117.

Looking to Display Your Art?

Each month a different artist's work is displayed at The YMCA at the Piscataway Community Center (YPCC). Artwork may be any medium as long as it adheres to weight, fragility and family friendly guidelines. You will need about twenty pieces and we need to see some of your work in person or via a website in advance. For more information, please call Exhibit Coordinator Barbara Bridgers at (732) 752-2465 or Commission Chair Kitty Juttner at (732) 563-4117.

Senior Center

The wonderful Piscataway Senior Center staff is available at (732) 562-1133 on Mondays-Fridays, 7 a.m.-3 p.m., to help our older residents register for bus transportation for grocery shopping and medical appointments.

In-person classes are held daily at the Senior Center. Registration by phone is required.

Congregate meals through the Middlesex County Nutrition Program are available to Township seniors at the Senior Center at 11:30 a.m. Monday through Friday. Home delivered meals are available to residents at least 60 years old and not able to grocery shop or cook. Examples of meals are stuffed chicken with broccoli, chicken parmesan sub sandwiches, cheeseburgers, crab cakes, and turkey & gravy. Non-meat meals such as veggie burgers, tofu & vegetable stir-fry, and cheese omelets with salsa are also available. Please call Middlesex County Nutrition at (732) 793-9844 for either the congregate meals or the home delivered meals.



Township seniors enjoying bocce outside our Senior Center



Trees

By Senator Bob Smith

The warmer weather and longer days provide a greater opportunity for us to enjoy the outdoors.

With the pressures of daily life abounding for almost everyone, this is a good time to take a moment and enjoy some time outside. A change of scenery and an appreciation for nature can be as close as your backyard, one of our many parks here in town or one of our state parks or forests. With over 452,000 acres of state managed parks, forests, historic sites and recreational areas, you do not have to travel far for incredible outdoor opportunities. For more information: <https://www.nj.gov/dep/parksandforests> to plan your visit.

This past April 29th marked the 150th anniversary of Arbor Day. For history enthusiasts, the first Arbor Day was the legacy of J. Sterling Morton who was President Cleveland's Secretary of Agriculture during his second administration. He was a newspaper editor, politician and pioneer new to the prairie lands where there were hardly any trees. A practical farmer, Morton knew that trees made a difference as they shielded crops from the winds, held soil in place with their roots, provided shade and cleaned the air. Arbor Day today is celebrated nationwide and across the world. Planting seasons may differ, yet the benefits of planting trees remain steadfast for all of mankind.

Arbor Day has inspired my work in the New Jersey Legislature and has molded my choices for legislation over the years. Forests are critical to the environmental welfare of our State. They can play a major role in mitigating climate change by sequestering carbon

dioxide, providing habitats for wildlife, helping clean and protect drinking water sources, and stabilizing soils. Proper management of forests is also necessary for preventing wildfires which are becoming more frequent and intense.

At the first Senate Environment and Energy Committee hearing of this new legislative session, as Chair, I announced the formation of the Forest Stewardship Task Force. The purpose of the Task Force will be to study and identify ways in which the State can best manage its forests to fight climate change, prevent forest fires, improve ecosystems and protect soil and water quality among other things. The Task Force will take feedback from interested parties and then compile a report on consensus and non-consensus issues with respect to forest stewardship for submission to the Senate Environment and Energy Committee.

For decades, we have been debating what proper management of the State's forests should look like and what the State's policies for forest stewardship should be for public lands. We have assembled this Task Force to identify and debate the major issues and ultimately develop consensus solutions which could form the basis for future legislation.

This summer when it gets too hot, seek the shade of a tree, and when you do, look up and whisper a quick thank you. That tree is helping remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere to mitigate global climate change and keep Piscataway from turning into beachfront property due to global warming.

Metlar-Bodine House Museum

1281 River Road, Piscataway – 732-463-8363 • metlarbodine@gmail.com

Website: MetlarBodineHouseMuseum.org • Facebook: www.Facebook.com/MetlarBodineHouseMuseum

Exhibits

Since 1666, many cultures and ethnic groups have contributed to shaping Piscataway. All modes of transportation – the Raritan River, Minisink Trail (River Road), D&R Canal, trolleys, trains and Hadley Airport – have played a dynamic role in its formation and transformation. Take a tour and **“be transported!”**

The Metlar-Bodine House sits within the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area. It was here in Piscataway that our nation's July 4th celebration got its start! Visit the museum to discover the Why, When, How & Where.

Upcoming Programs & Events

“THAT Was Invented in New Jersey??”

Zoom program with historian & lecturer Glenn LeBoeuf

Tuesday, September 27th at 7 p.m.

Visit our website or call for more info

The museum's “annual” Benefit Auction returns in October.

Museum & Dutch Door Gift Shop Hours

Tours: Approximately one hour.

Admission: \$5; children four years old and younger, free.

Group tours: Must register in advance; limit eight per group.

Browse the Dutch Door Gift Shop with its generous assortment of gifts, souvenirs & collectibles for all ages. All purchases support the museum.

Thursdays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. • Monday, July 4th, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. • Saturday, August 13th, Noon-4 p.m. • Closed on federal holidays
Schedule subject to change; please visit our website's box calendar or call.

Covid response: The safety of visitors, museum volunteers and staff is of utmost concern. Although most mask requirements have been lifted, we still recommend, regardless of vaccination status, that masks be worn indoors during your visit due to space limitations.



YMCA at the Piscataway Community Center (YPCC)

Swim lessons

Swim lessons encourage students to develop the confidence and skills they need to be prepared in and around the aquatic environment. Our comprehensive six (6) stage program includes lessons on swimming skills, stroke technique and water safety in a friendly and encouraging environment.

Preschool Swim Basics - Ages 3-5
Levels 1-3

Tween/Teen Swim Strokes - Ages 10-15
Levels 1-6

School Age Swim Basics – Ages 6-12
Levels 1-3

School Age Swim Strokes – Ages 6-12
Levels 4-6



For information and registration for members and non-members that starts in mid-August, please visit the YPCC webpage accessible from this QR code.



Lifeguard training

Open to all, lifeguarding course will be held from August 26th-28th for \$75. Contact Michael Verra at Michael.Verra@ymcaofmewsa.org with any questions.

Basketball and Golf individual lessons

- Basketball – One hour lessons for members & non-members for \$60
- Golf – One hour lessons for members (\$75) & non-members (\$95)

Contact Program Director Dan Hontz at Daniel.Hontz@ymcaofmewsa.org to book or for more information.

Blood Drive

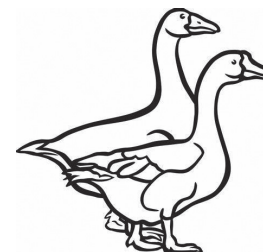
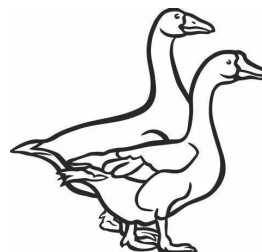
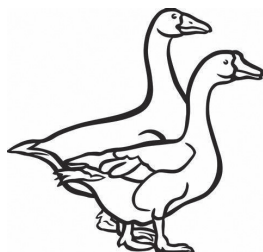
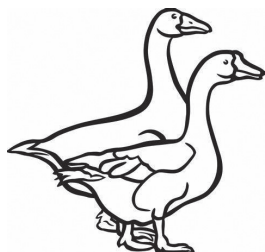
Tuesday, July 5th from Noon-6 p.m. Register on the New York Blood Center website.

Continue to check in for the newest and latest at www.ymcaofmewsa.org/locations/the-ymca-at-the-piscataway-community-center



Please do not feed the geese

Township ordinance prohibits feeding geese and other waterfowl for several reasons including that the birds can develop bad dietary issues & diseases and are a major contributor of phosphorus and nitrogen pollution in ponds and small lakes. Violators can be fined.



Department of Public Works – 505 Sidney Road – (732) 562-2390

Recycling/Mini-Dump Center's summertime days & hours

Tuesdays – 2 p.m.-8 p.m. (Gates close at 7:45 p.m.)

Thursdays – 2 p.m.-8 p.m. (Gates close at 7:45 p.m.)

Saturdays – 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (Gates close at 4:15 p.m.)

The Center is closed on Sundays, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays as well as certain holidays.

When you arrive, your Piscataway Service Card acts as your ID and must be presented at the gate as proof of residency.

Residents entering the Center must have their vehicles properly insured, inspected and registered. The largest vehicle allowed is a half-ton pick-up truck. No contractors, commercial vehicles, trucks with side boards, boxed U-Hauls or moving trucks are permitted.

Need to dispose of leaves? Grass? Other bagged brush or vegetation? Use your service card to electronically enter the number of bags that you wish to purchase. Grass may be disposed at the recycling yard for a charge of \$1 per 30 gallon bag with bags provided by the resident. A minimum of two \$1 purchases must be made each transaction. Only checks or credit/debit cards are accepted for any purchases made through the DPW office. Checks should be made out to "Township of Piscataway." Please note that grass coupon credits are valid only in the year that they are purchased.

Public Works will not pick up leaf bags until the Fall. Residents who leave leaf bags at the curb after receiving a notice to abate may be subject to a fine. However, residents may bring them to the Center during its summertime hours. Unbagged vegetation such as branches brought to the Center will not be debited from your service card but will be scanned for record purposes.

Need to get rid of lumber, household debris, carpeting, furniture or other such non-recyclable materials? A car-load of these materials needs one scan of your service card; a pick-up truck needs two scans of the service card to debit each permitted deposit of trash.

What to do with materials such as batteries, tires, motor oil, certain metal items (washers, dryers, dishwashers, hot water heaters, refrigerators, air conditioners), certain electronics (televisions, desktop or personal computers, computer monitors, portable computers, desktop printers, desktop fax machines) as well as any recyclables usually picked up curbside? You can bring these to the Center. As these items are recyclable, none of the services provided will be debited but your service card will be scanned for record purposes.

Some items may not be brought to the Center. No paint, used clothes, hazardous waste, kitchen garbage, contractor debris, dirt, rocks or stones are handled by the Township. The Center will also not accept other electronics such as cell phones, copiers, digital cameras, DVD players, e-book readers, keyboards, MP3 players, modems, mouses, personal digital assistants (PDAs), scanners, stereo and radio equipment, telephones, VCRs or any products that contain rechargeable batteries not included in this list. Please contact the Middlesex County Division of Solid Waste Management at (732) 745-4170 for information on how to dispose of such items.

Need a special curbside pickup? Until mid-October, residents may schedule two curbside trash pickups and one curbside branch pick up. Your service card will be debited accordingly. To schedule, please call the Public Works Department at (732) 562-2390 no later than Friday, September 9th as scheduling curbside pickups is done at least a month in advance.

Please keep in mind that for branches picked up curbside, the bundles must be tied with string and be no wider than one foot in diameter. Crews will not take any branches longer than five feet in length and no wider than four inches in diameter. Any bundles containing construction-type wood, metal or other foreign objects will not be taken. Please stack the bundles neatly at the curb, making the pile no longer than ten feet in length, five feet deep and four feet high.



BIKE RODEO

JULY 16, 2022 FROM 9AM-11AM

PISCATAWAY COMMUNITY CENTER 520 HOES LN, PISCATAWAY, NJ 08854

For more information, contact Mobile Family Success Center
(732) 646-4057 or mfscmiddlesex@ccdom.org

**FREE
EVENT!**

To register, use the QR
code or the link
listed below:



SCAN ME

Bring your bikes, scooters, skates & helmets

Bike Raffles, 10 Bike Games & Challenges & Much more!

Register: <https://bikerodeos2022.eventbrite.com>





Library Notes



www.piscatawaylibrary.org

Piscataway Library

Summer Reading is available for all ages. Check PiscatawayLibrary.org or stop in at either building to get started!

Full STEAM Ahead is an outstanding summer series for teens entering grades 7-12! Explore the intersection of science and art through exciting, hands-on programs that include video game design, robotics, painting, sewing and more! Full details and registration at PiscatawayLibrary.org/Teens. Grant funding has been provided by the Middlesex County Board of County Commissioners through a grant award from the Middlesex County Cultural and Arts Trust Fund.



Get started with computers by registering for **in-person technology classes**. Seating is limited; call (732) 463-1633, Ext. 6 to register or visit PiscatawayLibrary.org/Computer-Classes.

Learn to crochet! Join us at the Kennedy Library for Crochet-Along on most Friday mornings. All experience levels welcome. Check the calendar on PiscatawayLibrary.org for dates.

Introducing Kanopy – Use your library card to access Kanopy, a video streaming service for quality, thoughtful entertainment. Find movies, documentaries, foreign films, classic cinema, independent films and educational videos that inspire, enrich and entertain. Visit PiscatawayLibrary.org/EContent for details.

The Library is proud to offer **Brainfuse** as a resource for students and adult learners. Brainfuse provides free access to live tutors, flashcards, virtual study rooms, test prep, resume review and more. Visit PiscatawayLibrary.org/Brainfuse to get started today.

Questions? Contact Library@PiscatawayLibrary.org or (732) 463-1633, Ext. 4126. At this time, registration is required for most events. Please visit the calendar on PiscatawayLibrary.org for registration and a full schedule of events.

Recreation

All Township Recreation youth programs are free

Pop Warner – While registration ends on July 22nd, late registrations may be available for possible open slots. Those who register now will be placed on a wait list.

- All forms must be printed and mailed in. No online registrations will be taken.
- Pop Warner Football squads: Flag, 8U, 10U, 12U
- Pop Warner Cheerleading squads: 8U, 10U, 12U

Volleyball – Fall adult co-ed league. All players must either live or work in Piscataway and be at least 18 years of age. Teams must fill out a roster and submit it to the Recreation Department at Recreation@PiscatawayNJ.org.

Adult Pickleball instruction- More info to follow for adult lessons in the Fall. Please continue to check the Township Recreation webpages for updates.

Picnic reservations – Possumtown and Riverside parks pavilions are available through Sunday, September 15th for rental by Piscataway residents as well as Township-based businesses and non-profit community organizations. Proof of residency is required; complete the application and provide payment of \$225 for the pavilion rental and an optional \$150 alcohol permit. No cash payment is accepted; check or money order only and should be made payable to Piscataway Township. Reservations will be taken based on availability until August 5th.

Field permits – Please contact the Recreation Department to request an application for field or park permits.



#First4th



Enjoy Piscataway's Independence Day Fireworks Show on Monday, July 4th! The fun starts at 5 p.m. at the high school football field with food trucks, a DJ, rides and other activities and the fireworks start at 9 p.m.

[Rain date: Tuesday, July 5th. Call the cancellation hotline at (732) 562-2389 for info.]

Did you know that on July 4, 1778 that Piscataway was home to the first national Fourth of July celebration? Scan this QR code and watch a great video from the Metlar-Bodine House Museum entitled "Our Plan is Revolutionary" explaining our Township's role in this historic event.



As you celebrate Independence Day, please make sure to show your pride in Piscataway and use the hashtag #First4th in your social media posts.

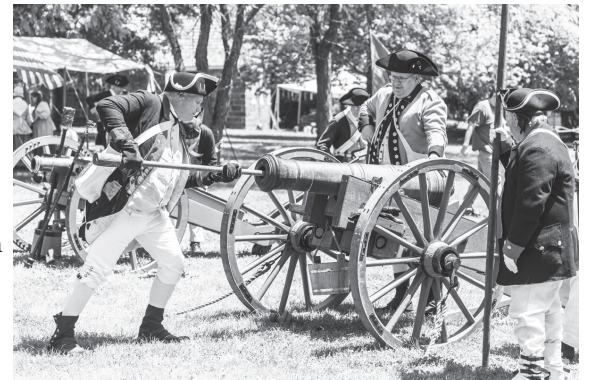
East Jersey Old Town Village

Middlesex County's East Jersey Old Town Village has family fun for everyone. Watch a "battle" between the American patriots and the British redcoats; visit the tavern and stand in the spot where George Washington was honored after the Revolution; "meet" the first president in our augmented reality tour; watch a colonial printing press in action; and take in all the action at a vintage baseball game, 1857 style.

Monday, July 4th from 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

A Revolutionary Celebration - Independence Day on the Raritan

Enjoy fife and drum music. Meet Baron Von Steuben and George Washington. Listen to patriotic music by Mark Heter and His Band and experience a reenactment of the July 4, 1778 fue de joie, a military celebration with cannon and musket.



Treasures of Middlesex County Cornelius Low House

Discover historically significant artifacts dating back more than 300 years. Items include muskets from the Middlesex Brigade, historic maps, 18th century documents, local ceramics, furniture from 18th and early 19th century craftspeople, and more.



Please check the Middlesex County website about these and other programs because events and schedules may change. Please text CULTURE to 56512 for up-to-date information.

Piscataway News

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455 Hoes Lane
Piscataway, New Jersey 08854

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Piscataway News is published to inform residents of events, activities and available services. Township organizations are invited to submit contributions for future issues to: Piscataway News, Mayor's Office, Municipal Building, 455 Hoes Lane, Piscataway, NJ 08854.