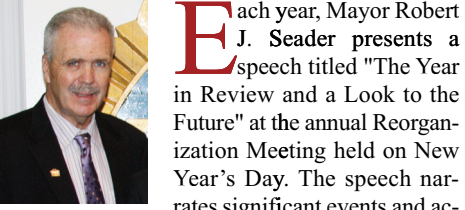


# The Dunellen Report



## January 1, 2018 Reorganization Meeting

### Reorganization Day Speech by Mayor Robert J. Seader



Each year, Mayor Robert J. Seader presents a speech titled "The Year in Review and a Look to the Future" at the annual Reorganization Meeting held on New Year's Day. The speech narrates significant events and accomplishments by the Borough Council, individual departments, and residents in Dunellen. Achievements are noted, difficulties analyzed, challenges explained, and future plans elucidated. The speech is always the high point of the day which marks the transition from one Council to the next, from one set of leaders and advisors passing the baton of excellent municipal government on to the next runners in Dunellen's race toward good government. For the full text of this speech, go to the Mayor and Council page on the Borough's web site: [http://www.dunellen-nj.gov/government/mayor\\_and\\_council/government/mayor\\_and\\_councilmembers/documents.php#revize\\_document\\_center\\_rz334](http://www.dunellen-nj.gov/government/mayor_and_council/government/mayor_and_councilmembers/documents.php#revize_document_center_rz334)

### Mike Luthman Honored



Mike Luthman and family

Mike Luthman was honored for his many years of service to the Borough. Dressed in Santa Claus costume, for thirty-years Mike distributed candy and cookies to all Dunellen children as part of the "Santa Around Town" on Christmas Eve. Mayor Seader expressed his sincere gratitude to Mike and the Fire Department and told a story of how one year when it was raining very hard the Fire Department constructed a shelter to shield Mike from the rain and enabled the event to continue. Mike was presented with a plaque for his outstanding service to the residents of Dunellen.

### New Planning Board Member



Kevin Bachorik and his wife, Miriam

Kevin Bachorik was sworn in as the newest member of the Dunellen Planning Board at the Dunellen Borough Council's Annual Reorganization Meeting held on January 1, 2018. Kevin served with distinction for many years as a councilman and he will now bring the same high level of insight and thoughtfulness to the worlds of zoning and municipal planning.

### Citizen of the Year for 2017



David Heleniak, Heidi Heleniak, Mayor Robert J. Seader

Heidi Heleniak was awarded the honor of being named Dunellen's Citizen of the Year for 2017 at the annual Reorganization Meeting held on January 1, 2018. Heidi owns Heidi's Cottage on North Avenue; runs the "Dunellen 411" web site, an online resource for local news and upcoming events which keeps Dunellen residents informed of important happenings in their community; is a member of the Dunellen Downtown Management Organization, the Dunellen Arts and Culture Commission; is a member of the Dunellen Historical Society; and is active in the fight against Ovarian Cancer.

Dave and Heidi's mother, Petra Heleniak, who passed away last year, was posthumously honored with the Dunellen Lifetime Achievement Award. Petra was born in then East Germany, was smuggled as a young child to West Germany, and emigrated to the United States, settled in Dunellen, and was a successful businesswoman who was also active in the Girl Scouts. It was said about Petra that she always had a smile for all she met and despite her long battle with ovarian cancer she continued to cherish the gifts of each new day.

### Theo and Patrick Myers



Steve Lucash, Patrick Myers, Theo Myers, Mayor Robert J. Seader

Theo and Patrick Myers were recognized by Mayor Seader and the Dunellen Borough Council at the annual Reorganization Meeting held January 1, 2018, for an act that embodied the virtues installed in them through their membership in the Boy Scouts. They found a wallet on the street containing over \$600 and they brought this wallet to the Dunellen Police Department for return to its owner. They were presented with plaques with an engraving of the Dunellen Key to the City. Mayor Seader noted that their father is a volunteer fire man and their mother helps with the Haunted Trail each year. Stephen Lucash, their Boy Scout leader, was also recognized.

## Update on Revaluation

On November 18, 2015, the New Jersey Division of Taxation notified the Borough of Dunellen of the commencement of an investigation by the Division of Taxation ("Division") to determine if a property revaluation should be ordered for the Borough of Dunellen pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:1-26. The notification specifically stated that

Based on an analysis of current data, the Division has reason to believe that the property within Dunellen has been assessed at a rate lower than is consistent with the purposes of securing uniform taxable valuation of property in accordance with the mandates of the New Jersey Constitution and applicable law, and that the current assessment in Dunellen is not in substantial compliance with the law and that the interests of the public may be promoted by a revaluation of such property.

The Division found that Dunellen has not conducted a revaluation or reassessment in 33 years and its 2015 True Value of property is over four times greater than its current Assessed Value. As a result, Dunellen has a Director's Ratio of only 24.61% and a Coefficient Deviation greater than 15%, which are indicators of a lack of Constitutional compliance and a need for a revaluation.

The Division conducted its investigation and by letter dated April 4, 2016, ordered Dunellen to conduct a Municipal-wide Revaluation to be completed on or before November 2017 for the 2018 tax year. This was later extended to be completed on or before November 1, 2018 for the 2019 tax year.

The Borough Council began immediately to implement the revaluation. In June 2016, the Borough Council awarded a contract to our engineers, CME Associates, to create and draw a new tax map. Our old map was drawn in 1959 and there have been numerous alterations due to subdivisions. There was much back and forth with the Division of Taxation in Trenton as progressive sets of the revised map were sent for review and approval. This map was finally accepted by the Council and ratified by Trenton in December 2016. It can be found on the Borough's web site: [http://www.dunellen-nj.gov/about\\_dunellen/maps/docs/Tax\\_Map\\_\\_April\\_2017.pdf](http://www.dunellen-nj.gov/about_dunellen/maps/docs/Tax_Map__April_2017.pdf)

The next step was to hire a revaluation company to do the work. We created and published a Request for Proposals (RFP) and interviewed four companies. All the companies were qualified and had excellent reputations. Based upon a complex

evaluation that scored each company in five categories: qualifications, experience, reputation, cost and support, all of our evaluators selected the same company and the Council awarded a contract to Appraisal Systems, Inc. (ASI).

After meeting with Appraisal Systems, the revaluation time-table was determined. ASI sent letters to all Dunellen property owners introducing themselves, briefly explaining the revaluation process, and inviting everyone to attend the three public presentations that were held in January and February, 2018. The presentations were held in both the Dunellen High School Auditorium and the Columbia Park Senior Center, and approximately 350 residents in total had an opportunity to see a PowerPoint on what revaluation means, how it will be conducted in Dunellen, what to expect when an inspector comes to your house, and the mechanism for reviewing the new assessment with AIS.

The web site for Appraisal Systems, Inc.: <http://www.asinj.com>

The PowerPoint shown at the public presentations: <http://www.asinj.com/revaluation/powerpoint.htm>

Dunellen Borough web site on Revaluation: [http://www.dunellen-nj.gov/municipal\\_news/revaluation/index.php#Wpv\\_ZflvTfg](http://www.dunellen-nj.gov/municipal_news/revaluation/index.php#Wpv_ZflvTfg)

[www.dunellen-nj.gov](http://www.dunellen-nj.gov) go to NEWS on the top Navigation bar; drop down and hit "Revaluation"

The Borough's page also contains a copy of the letter sent to each property owner; a copy of a Revaluation brochure sent to each property owner that explains the meaning of revaluation and its process; and a link to a spreadsheet showing the anticipated schedule of the inspectors.

All inspectors have ID's and the Dunellen Police have been notified of their identities and their vehicles. They will be coming door-to-door and if no one is home, they will leave post cards noting their return visit date/time and a phone number you can call to make a specific appointment. The inspections will continue throughout the Spring and possibly early Summer. Property owners will be notified of their new assessment about mid-November 2018 and one-on-one meetings with interested property owners who wish to question their new assessment will be held in later November and December.

Please contact the Borough Clerk's Office with any questions: 732-968-3033.

### Upcoming Events In Dunellen

- At the American Legion Post 119:**
  - Breakfast with the Easter Bunny**
    - Sunday, March 25 • 9 am - 1 pm
  - Boy Scout Clothing Drive**
    - Saturday & Sunday, April 28 & 29 • 10 am - 3 pm
  - Spring Market and Craft Show**
    - Saturday & Sunday, May 19 & 20 • 9 am - 4 pm
- Dunellen Recreation's Easter Egg Hunt:**
  - Sunday, March 25 • 1 pm at Columbia Park
  - Rain date: Saturday, March 31 at 3 pm
  - Ages 3 - 8 years old
  - Child must be able to participate independently
  - Dunellen Residents Only
  - Bring a basket

### What's Inside The Dunellen Report?

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# TIME to DOWNSIZE or UPSIZE?



If you are planning a change, take the first step – call to find out what you house may be worth.

See what homes are selling for in your neighborhood without any hassle or pressure – call today!



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call 732-529-0308

or email [bseif@eabrealty.com](mailto:bseif@eabrealty.com)

**Boniakowski REAL ESTATE**



Barbara Seif, Realtor  
Awarded the NJ Realtors® Circle of Excellence Sales Award 25 times – 1990-1993, 1995-2007, 2009-2010, 2012-2017



**dunellen arts & culture commission**



**summer arts program**

FOR CHILDREN AGES 6-12

New!  
Themed  
Weeks!

**Crafting • Painting • Drawing • Sculpting**

The arts program will be held in conjunction with the Dunellen Recreation Department's Summer Camp Program, June 25-July 27

Monday-Friday 3-5pm  
Only \$100 per week

For more information, visit our Facebook!  
[www.facebook.com/events/336595813511471](http://www.facebook.com/events/336595813511471)



Program open to non-Dunellen residents

## 2018 Summer Camp Registration

### “Beat the Heat “

- Summer Camp runs: June 25<sup>th</sup> to August 10<sup>th</sup> (off 7/3 & 7/4) 33 Days!
- Location Columbia Park Senior Center
- Activities: Trips to Patriots Games, trips to Arcade, Science Days-including rocket launch, fossil-dig, arts & crafts, trip to Water Park, Jenkinson’s Aquarium/Boardwalk, Friday Movie day at Dunellen Theater, camp sports, camp competition vs another camp, water games, and ice cream.
- Campers will need to bring lunch and snacks daily (except for trip days and movie days)

**Camp Cost:**

A. Full Camp 33 days 9am to 3 pm 6 hour per day	\$800.00	(\$24.24 per day)
B. Full Camp 33 days 8 am to 3pm or 9am to 4pm 7 hours	\$950.00	(\$ 4.11 per hour)
C. Full Camp 33 days 8 am to 4 pm 8 pm hours per day	\$1,100.00	(\$ 4.17 per hour)
D. One week of Camp 6 hours	\$175.00	
E. One week of Camp 7 hours	\$200.00	
F. One week of camp 8 hour	\$225.00	
G. One day each week of camp for 6 hours day	\$250.00	

• **Registration Deadline June 1<sup>st</sup> (We will take first 30 campers)**

Please print and drop off registration off in the Recreation mailbox or mail to:

Dunellen Recreation Department  
355 North Ave  
Dunellen NJ.08812  
732-968-3033 X8 [amiller@dunellenborough.com](mailto:amiller@dunellenborough.com)

**Dunellen Arts Camp** will return for year number “TWO” look for flyer soon...  
Weeks of July 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> @ Senior Center 3pm to 5pm  
Students will enjoy crafting, drawing, painting, and sculpting. Materials will be supplied.

(Please Print Clearly)

Camp Selection A B C D E F G (SELECT ONE)

Childs Name: \_\_\_\_\_ AGE: \_\_\_\_\_ D.O.B \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Any Medical Problems or Allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

• If you choose a certain week of camp, or early drop off, late pick up please put in notes:  
Notes: (example B 8am-3pm, or D week of June 25<sup>th</sup>, G every Friday.

## Dunellen Government Directory

[www.dunellen-nj.gov](http://www.dunellen-nj.gov)

All Council meetings are in the Municipal Council Chambers, on the first and third Monday of the month, located at 355 North Avenue, Dunellen, and begin at 7:00 PM, unless otherwise noted.

### Elected Officials

**Mayor Robert J. Seader**  
rseader@dunellen-nj.gov  
Term expires: December 31, 2019

**Council President Kenneth Baudendistel**  
kbaudendistel@dunellen-nj.gov  
Police and Public Safety  
Term expires: December 31, 2018

**Kenneth Bayer**  
kbayer@dunellen-nj.gov  
Public Works  
Term expires: December 31, 2020

**Jason Cilento**  
jcilento@dunellen-nj.gov  
Recreation and Senior Citizens  
Term expires: December 31, 2019

**Jessica Dunne**  
jdunne@dunellen-nj.gov  
Term expires: December 31, 2020

**Jeremy Lowder**  
jlowder@dunellen-nj.gov  
Public Buildings & Grounds  
Term expires: December 31, 2018

**Joseph Petracca**  
jpetracca@dunellen-nj.gov  
Administration and Finance  
Term expires: December 31, 2019

### Municipal Clerk

The Municipal Clerk serves as liaison officer between the governing officials and the public.  
**William M. Robins, RMC**  
Hours: 9 am - 4:30 pm  
355 North Ave, Dunellen, NJ 08812  
732-968-3033 • 732-968-8605 (Fax)

### Registrar

Hours: M-F, 9 am - 3 pm, and by appointment.  
**William M. Robins, CMR, Dunellen Municipal Registrar**  
**Lauren Darr, CMR, Deputy Registrar**  
355 North Avenue, Dunellen, NJ 08812  
732-968-3033 • 732-968-8605 (Fax)

### Construction Office

**Scott Luthman, Construction Officer**  
Office: Pale green building on Prospect Avenue, off Skinner Plaza  
Hours: Mon 12-6, Tue 10-1, Wed 1-6, Thur 10-1  
732-968-3323 • 732-968-3872 (Fax)

### Municipal Attorney

**John E. Bruder**  
**Tax Collector**  
**Patricia Dougherty, Tax Collector**  
355 North Avenue, Dunellen, NJ 08812  
Hours: Monday to Friday, 9 am - 2 pm  
732-968-1226 • 732-968-3903 (Fax)

### Tax Assessor

**Richard Gianchiglia, Tax Assessor**  
Mailing Address: 355 North Ave, Dunellen, NJ 08812  
Office is in the pale green Construction Office building, located on Prospect Avenue  
Hours: Monday/Wednesday 3 pm - 6 pm, by appointment (assessment only)  
732-968-3323 • 732-968-3872 (Fax)

### Parks & Recreation

Provides recreational programs, events & sports to the residents of Dunellen by utilizing the Borough parks and schools to help enhance the lives of the community.  
**Acting Recreation Director: Alex Miller**  
recreation@dunellenborough.com  
732-752-2466  
Recreation Hotline/Cancellations, press 1  
Senior Updates, press 2

### Planning Board

Regular meetings are conducted on the fourth Monday of each month at 7 pm, unless otherwise noted. These meetings are held in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Building, 355 North Avenue, Dunellen, NJ, 08812.

- **Roger Dornbierer, Chairman**
- **Kevin Bachorik • Thomas D'Amico**
- **Barbara Seif • Randee Staats**
- **Adam Gordon**
- **Scott Luthman, Secretary**
- **Kenneth Bayer, Councilman**
- **Robert Seader, Mayor**

### Code Enforcement

Property Maintenance, Zoning Violations, and Illegal Housing  
**George Deene, Dunellen Code Enforcement Officer** • 908-672-2593

### Public Works

Hours: Monday to Saturday, 8 am - 2 pm  
Paint Drop Off: 2nd Saturday each month, 8 am-12 pm  
235 Hall St, Dunellen, NJ • 732-968-5455

## January 1, 2018 Reorganization Meeting

### Newly Elected Councilperson Jessica Dunne

Green Brook Flood Control Commission. You can contact Jessica at: [jdunne@dunellen-nj.gov](mailto:jdunne@dunellen-nj.gov)



*Jessica Dunne pictured with her husband Chris Washburn and her children Ivy Rose, Logan and Bryson*

The Dunellen Borough Council welcomed newly elected councilperson Jessica Dunne at its Reorganization Meeting held on January 1, 2018. Dr. Dunne works as the director of discovery research at JDRE. She is responsible for budget planning. Jessica is an avid and lifelong runner who in 2017 logged more than 450 miles on the Streets of Dunellen. In 2018, Jessica will be a member of the following committees: Public Buildings and Grounds, Fire, Recreation, and Social Media. Additionally, she will be a liaison to Board of Education, the Middlesex County Transportation Coordinating Committee, and the

### Re-Elected Councilman Kenneth Bayer

Recently re-elected councilman Kenneth Bayer received a warm welcome back at the annual Reorganization Meeting held on January 1, 2018. Ken was first elected to the Council in 2009 and has served on most committees. Ken has worked in the ceramic tile industry since he was 19 years old and in 1991 he established his own business and has served as the owner and President of Artisans Showcase of Tile, Inc. Prior to being elected to Council, Ken served on the Dunellen Planning Board where he still holds a seat. In 2018, Ken will serve on the following committees: Finance, Police, and Public Works. Ken will also serve as a liaison to the Dunellen Parking Authority, the Plainfield Area Regional Sewerage Authority, and the Dunellen Rescue Squad. Ken can be contacted at: [kbayer@dunellen-nj.gov](mailto:kbayer@dunellen-nj.gov)



*Ken Bayer and wife, Victoria*

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Email \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## ReThink Theatrical Presents Macbeth At the Arts Annex in Dunellen, NJ • Free Admission

April 12 & 13 at 8PM, April 14 at 2PM & 8PM, April 15 at 7PM,  
April 19 & 20 at 8PM, April 21 at only 2PM, and closing on April 22 at 7PM

ReThink Theatrical presents its fourth production, Macbeth on April 12 & 13 at 8PM, April 14 at 2PM & 8PM, April 15 at 7PM, April 19 & 20 at 8PM, April 21 at (only) 2PM, and closing on April 22 at 7PM. Show runtime should be about 2 hours, including intermission. This production will be held at the Arts Annex in Dunellen, NJ.

The bloodiest of all Shakespeare's tragedies, Macbeth is a story about power, hubris, guilt, pride, insanity, and free will. Directed by Genevieve Hoeler, this unique take on an old classic will use recycled objects, unique settings, and modern dance/movement to engage audience members in a way they'll never forget. This particular production of Macbeth will include modern dance elements, choreographed by Marissa Aucoin, MFA.

ReThink Theatrical provides free and accessible storytelling to local communities. With an educational and creative approach, ReThink produces professional quality theater for everyone.

ReThink was founded in 2015 as a way to produce theater with a budget of zero dollars. Since then, it has produced multiple shows without the

use of any money, thereby permitting tickets to be free. This model allows ReThink Theatrical to work in partnership with local communities to create professional quality theater for the public. Without the need for a budget, ReThink productions become innovative in their style and design. Ultimately, this company hopes that all people can enjoy and engage in these stories in order to reimagine the potential that theater has within their community. ReThink Theatrical will change the way you think about theater and live performance.

This production is rated PG-13 for some suggestive material and will require tickets for entry. Tickets can be reserved at [www.reThinkTheatrical.org](http://www.reThinkTheatrical.org). Performances are free to the public but ReThink Theatrical does ask that guests give a suggested donation of \$10, if possible, so that they can continue to create accessible theater for the community.

For more information, email Stephanie Bond at [sbond@ReThinkTheatrical.org](mailto:sbond@ReThinkTheatrical.org), or visit [www.ReThinkTheatrical.org](http://www.ReThinkTheatrical.org) or call (732) 598-2154.

## What Kind Of Eater Are You?

Submitted by Marcie Tyson, Contributor and Resident



While overweight individuals are often accused of "having no willpower", there is evidence that the mood-food connection plays an important role in overeating. Below are feelings or situations that can trigger eating that is unrelated to actual hunger, and suggestions on how to address them.

- **THE EMOTIONAL EATER** looks to food for comfort when confronted with stress, sadness, anger, etc. Establish a non-food "comfort zone" by identifying other sources of support and nourishment. Reach out to friends and family, try meditation, take a stress management course or seek counseling.
- **THE WEIGHT LOSS OVERACHIEVER** has an "all or nothing" attitude with little tolerance for the inevitable slip or relapse. Set realistic expectations by acknowledging that any behavior change takes time - the extra weight probably took years to gain and will take months to lose. Be patient with yourself.
- **THE SABOTAGEE** allows others to undermine his weight loss efforts, which can happen because of the saboteur's own emotional needs. Keep

your weight loss goal clear, and encourage others to look at their own feelings about your reaching a healthier weight (remember, change is difficult for everyone!). Develop a support system that will celebrate your goals and achievements.

- **THE DEFEATIST** doesn't really believe she has the ability to control her own eating. Consider eating as a "learned behavior": just as you learned to eat, you can re-learn more healthy eating habits as well.
- **THE AVOIDER** hides behind his weight, putting off activities until he loses (fill in the blank) pounds. Extra weight and food become comfortable crutches that prevent him from looking at the real issues that keep him stuck - loneliness, shyness, fear, etc. Again, food doesn't make the problem disappear. Recognizing food as a smokescreen allows you to address the real reasons you aren't where you want to be.

Being aware of your eating patterns is a good beginning. Next, identify the situations or environments that cause you to overeat. Join a support group or seek professional advice, especially if you find it too difficult to address the underlying issues on your own.

## Dunellen Municipal Alliance Seeking Members

The Dunellen Municipal Alliance meetings for 2018 begin at 7 p.m.  
Dates: March 27, May 22, July 24, September 25, November 27

The Dunellen Municipal Alliance is looking for members to join our growing committee.

The Dunellen Municipal Alliance is a community-based volunteer organization representing families, schools and businesses, along with faith based and nonprofit organizations in Dunellen. Working together, Alliance members implement and follow a strategic prevention plan intended to decrease misuse and abuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, especially as they relate to our youth. The Dunellen Borough Council passed a resolution in January 2016 to recognize the Alliance as an authorized agency of the Municipality.

Since the Alliance was created the members have been working hard to provide educational opportunities for youth, parents, and community members. Awareness campaigns like the Middlesex County "Be Smart about Medicine" Creative Expressions for students at Lincoln Middle School to Town Hall meetings addressing issues related to underage drinking. The Alliance has promoted responsible beverage service by providing TIPS Training for local liquor establishment owners and employees and has conducted the Sticker Shock Project with local youth to raise awareness about purchasing and selling alcohol to minors.

The members decided that it would be ben-

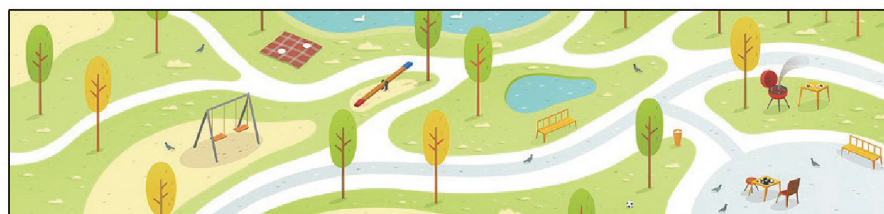
eficial to implement alternative activities for our teen population - programs and events led by teens in a safe, drug-free environment. The result - 1st Saturday Teen Nights, held at the Dunellen Community Center and library, introduced everything from live action video game night to holiday crafts. Funding and in-kind donations from local businesses and organizations enabled this to continue throughout the year.

The Alliance has worked with the Dunellen Police Department and Borough Council to revise the existing Private Property Ordinance and announced it to the community at a 2nd Town Hall in Spring 2017. In addition, free Narcan Training and a Bilingual Drug Trend workshop were offered to the community with much success.

Collaboration and community partnerships provide the basis for improving the health and wellness of our youth and the entire community. Your support will benefit our residents, especially our youth, by providing a safe and healthy environment in which to thrive and grow. Our next meeting will be May 22, 2018. We meet at 7 p.m. at the Community Bible Church, which is located at 201 Whittier Avenue. For more information please contact Diana Starace, Chair or Terri Albertson, Coordinator at [dunellenma@gmail.com](mailto:dunellenma@gmail.com)

## Dunellen Fire Company's Designer Handbag BINGO Fundraiser

Come out and join us for an evening of fun! 5:30 pm, games begin at 7:00 pm. Feel free to bring Dunellen Fire Company's Designer Handbag bingo fundraiser on April 13, 2018. Entry tickets \$35 in advance (\$40 at door) and includes 10 games of Bingo. Additional cards for each round can be purchased. Doors open 7:00 pm, food, BYOB. Door prizes, 50/50 Raffle as well as Grand Prize Designer Handbag Raffle. Pre-order your tickets now. For information or to order tickets email: [bingo@dunellenfd.com](mailto:bingo@dunellenfd.com) or contact Sue at 732-968-5653



Join us for the first annual  
**Dunellen Playground Clean Up Day**  
Sunday, April 29, 2018 at 1pm-4pm

Participants will meet at Columbia Park for the opening ceremony. After the clean up is finished, we will end the day with a BBQ and party.

Bring a friend! Bring the kids!  
Help us make our playgrounds beautiful!

Rain Date: May 6, 2018

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of adults participating: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of children participating and their ages: \_\_\_\_\_  
Where do you want to volunteer?  
 Columbia Park Playground  
 Morecraft Park Playground  
Which volunteer jobs are you interested in doing?  
 Grounds crew: Adding mulch, trimming bushes, planting trees  
 Cleaning crew: Powerwashing equipment, picking up debris  
 Repair crew: Fixing and replacing broken playground equipment  
 Kid crew: Fixing birdhouses, painting signs  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Do you want to be added to the Dunellen Recreation Mailing List?  Yes  No

## Partnering for Prevention Town Hall

The Dunellen Municipal Alliance and the Dunellen PTO will be sponsoring a Partnering for Prevention Town Hall meeting. This will be on May 9, 2018 in the Dunellen High School Auditorium from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

The program will include a special presentation, Hidden in Plain Sight, with DEA Agent, Timothy McMahon. This program will give parents ideas on what to look for in a child's room that indicates if a child is using or experimenting with drugs. This will give caregivers the information needed to keep children safe.

The Alliance will also kick off Parents Who

Host. "Parents Who Host Will Lose the Most" is an educational program for the community to remind us that we need to have safe homes for our children. This is a public awareness campaign to educate the community on the dangers of underage and binge drinking.

Child care will be made available at this event. The programs are for parents only. Light refreshments will be provided. For more information please contact Diana Starace, Chair of the Municipal Alliance or Terri Albertson, Coordinator of the Municipal Alliance at [dunellenma@gmail.com](mailto:dunellenma@gmail.com).

## Rotary Club To Host Pasta Festival



A Pasta Festival, sponsored by the Dunellen-Green Brook Rotary Club, will be held on April 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30, 2018, from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm, at Zupko's Café, located at 450 North Avenue, Dunellen.

All you can eat! The cost is \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children. Proceeds from this event will benefit the Dunellen and Green Brook High School Seniors Scholarship Awards. For more information, please call Jesse at 908-578-1166.

Classic American Cuisine  
in a Casual Atmosphere

Our focus is on quality "Americana"  
food and service in a light pub atmosphere.

Classic dining upstairs,  
Rathskeller downstairs.

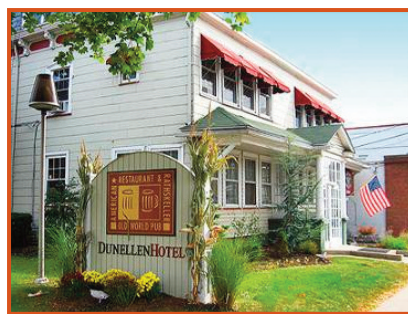
Rathskeller: "A restaurant that is patterned after  
the cellar of a German city hall and in  
which beer is sold."

732-968-2900

120 N. Washington Avenue, Dunellen, NJ  
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Mon-Sat 11:30am-1:00am  
Sunday 12:00pm-10:00pm

**RESTAURANT:**  
Mon-Sun 5:00pm-10:00pm

**KITCHEN HOURS:**  
Mon-Sat 11:30am-10pm  
Fri & Sat 11:30am-Midnight  
Sunday 12:00pm-9:00pm

LUNCH SPECIALS \$7.95 Monday to Friday



## Faber School Celebrates Read Across America



Students and staff at Faber School had a great week celebrating Read Across America.

Students and staff enjoyed having guest readers and themed days during the week of February 26-March 2. Some of the days included: pajama day, random acts of kindness and wear green for Green Eggs and Ham and a Seussville Family Reading Night!

In addition, Beth Willoughby, Media Specialist organized guest readers to come in each day. Some of the readers included: Superintendent, Gene Mosely, Don Musson, Instructional Assistant, Sandy Hoy, Curriculum Coordinator, Sparkee and Zach Keller from the Somerset Patriots, Dave Posluszny from D-Poz Plumbing, John Lore, Liz Kearsing, and Peer Leaders from Dunellen High School. These guest readers were lead around the school by 5th grade ambassadors who took joy in helping them and getting to know them.

On Monday, March 5 the students had some

exciting readers. They included: Mayor Robert J. Seader, Councilman Jason Cilento, Municipal Clerk William Robins, Board of Education Members John Osborn and Faith Thompson, Nancy Nargengast, Banking Center Manager at Provident Bank in Dunellen, Sandra Kennedy, First Vice President of Provident Bank in Dunellen and First Sergeant Beth Lapoint, president of the New Jersey Enlisted Association.

According to Ms. Willoughby, "this was a fun filled week where are students were able to celebrate the joy of reading and sharing books with friends and guests. The students look forward to having guest readers every year and hearing new or favorite stories." The family reading night included crafts and fun activities for children of all ages. The families that came had fun talking with each other and sharing in the fun of all of the activities.

## Band And Choir Dazzles With Winter Concert



Faber School Choir Members with our very own snowman.

Photo Credit: Elizabeth Willoughby

On January 17, 2018, Faber School's 4th and 5th grade Bands and Choir dazzled the audience with an impressive concert.

The night began with Mrs. Terri Anastasi leading the 4th grade and 5th grade bands in their winter concert. Some of the selections included: "Twinkling Stars" by Mozart, "Percussion Rap", "We're On A Mission To Rock!" by Steve Hommel, "Magna Carta March" by John Edmondson

and "Frosty the Snowman" by Nelson & Rollins. The students showcased their hard work and talent in the concert. According to Mrs. Anastasi: "the students worked hard and demonstrated how a band works together. Their hard work was showcased in their performances tonight."

After a brief intermission, Mr. Karl Geiger brought out the 4th and 5th grade Choir. The students were accompanied by Julia Kauffman. The students sang a variety of songs including: "Yo Vivo Cantando" by Jay Althouse, "I Hear America Singing" by Sally Albrecht and Jay Althouse, and "Frozen (Choral Highlights)" arranged by Mark Brymer. During the Frozen highlights our very own snowman came out to surprise the audience. According to Mr. Geiger, "The students enjoy coming to choir and sharing their musical talent with their families and friends. The students have worked hard to prepare for this concert."

At the end of the concert the audience and students were entertained by Faber Schools Staff Choir. The staff sang "Winter Wonderland" arranged by James Rooker. The audience and the choir members were delighted to see their teachers singing this song and enjoyed the treat.

## Local Author Visits Third Grade

Third graders had a special treat on January 9, 2018. Local author and former teacher, Linda Barth came to speak to them about her book *Inventing In New Jersey*.

This visit was to complement their invention convention that the third graders successfully presented earlier in the year. Mrs. Barth spoke about her career as an author and teacher. She then went on to share with the students what inventions came from New Jersey. Some of the inventions she discussed included M&M's, Graham Crackers, bubble wrap and solar panels. She also discussed the Inventors Hall of Fame in New Jersey. Mrs. Barth also mentioned her second book in the series and

how she has included children who were inventors. Media Specialist, Beth Willoughby stated "Mrs. Barth had an exciting and interesting program for our students. The third grade was fascinated and inspired. It was great that they learned that even children can have patents and inventions. The students are excited to read this book and see if they can create an invention to help society."

Ms. Barth grew up in New Jersey and taught in Bridgewater. She has used her New Jersey ties to create a book that will inspire both children and adults to create the next best invention. She has other books include *Hidden New Jersey*.

Dunellen School District on the web: [www.dunellenschools.org](http://www.dunellenschools.org)

## Faber 4th Grade Class Receives Call From New Jersey's First Lady



Ms Harris with her class after the exciting phone call from Mrs. Murphy, First Lady of New Jersey

Photo Credit: Elizabeth Willoughby

Faber School was honored with a personal phone call from New Jersey's First Lady, Mrs. Tammy Murphy.

The First Lady of NJ called to speak to Ms. Taylor Harris's 4th grade class in response to an "opinion writing project" where students defended their position regarding cell phone texting while crossing a street. The student letters, expressing their opinions and concerns on this pedestrian safety issue, had been forwarded to the Governor's Office.

Some examples of the arguments from students who wanted to have the law included: "people keep getting hurt when they are texting and walking so crossing the street while texting is very dangerous," "so many people take so much time

to do something on their phone and someone could be speeding and hit them because they are in the middle of the road texting," "there will be more people kept alive and less would be 'smartphone zombies'" and "I saw a girl who is about 16 or 17 years old who was crossing the street but had her phone on and almost got hit by a car."

The arguments from the students who opposed the law included: "people still text while driving and some people go over the speed limit and if people are not going to listen to that law people are not going to listen to texting while crossing," "people are smart enough to put their phones down and their heads up," "we should be able to put our phones down for 30 to 40 seconds," "people do many crazy things," "people are educated enough not to look at their phone while crossing the street," and "it is our choice if we want to cross the street safely or not."

The surprise congratulatory phone call was broadcast to all students in Ms. Harris's class and was received with great enthusiasm by both the teacher and her students.

Faber School Principal, JR Lubisco, said of the experience "It was truly a thrill for us here at Faber School, that our Governor's office would take the time to respond to our students' letters with a personal phone call from our state's First Lady. I'm sure this is something these students will remember for a long time."

## 4th Grade Students Work To Persuade Companies



Alyvia Fernandes and Elmer Vargas Estrada with their letters

Photo Credit: Gina Viola

Students in Gina Viola's class put their persuasive writing skills to work by writing to companies to try and convince them to make changes.

The students have been working on persuasive writing and with the teachers help put their skills to attempting to make changes or helping others. Some of the places they wrote included: Nintendo, New England Patriots, New York Giants, San Francisco 49ers, American Girl Doll, Hasboro--My Little Pony, New York Yankees, New Jersey Devils, The Pittsburgh Steelers, Apple, Inc., Re-logic Game Company, BYU Cougars (college football team), and Hershey's. The students sent in their letters and have been waiting to hear from the companies.

Last week, two students, Alyvia Fernandes and Elmer Vargas were lucky to hear back from the companies. The class and their teacher were excited that there was a response.

Alyvia wrote to the New England Patriots to try and get a jersey for her teacher, Ms. Viola. She wrote: "The reason why I am writing to you is to tell you that my teacher Miss Viola is your most gigantic fan in the universe. I think that you should

send her a Woman's large Edelman Jersey. The reasons that I think you should give my teacher an Edelman jersey is that The New England Patriots is her favorite team, the price is so much money, and Miss Viola deserves it because she is just a really magnificent, and outrageous teacher." She included other reasons including the high cost of the jerseys, how her teacher knows every players name on the New England Patriots and that her teacher would really like a jersey. The New England Patriots responded with a letter, New England Patriots flags, pencils, and team photographs.

Elmer wrote to Nintendo about the high price of Pokemon cards and asking them to lower the price so children can afford it. In his letter he wrote: "I have three outstanding reasons why I think Pokemon cards should be a lowered price. First, something so small should not be so much. Second, they are not the same prices in every country. Thirdly, stores are re-selling the cards for higher prices. Another thing if you lower the prices you will think you're lose money. Actually you are getting more money because more people will want to buy them." Nintendo wrote him back explaining why items are priced the way they are, he also received Pokemon stickers and a break down of all of their characters, how they were created, a breakdown of all of their gaming systems and how they are made.

Ms Viola stated: "I am thrilled that my students are learning the ability they have to write and discuss their opinions, and why they want something changed. They are realizing the importance of expressing their opinion to try and persuade people and companies to make changes. I am so proud of their hard work and dedication to this writing assignment. We are anxiously waiting to see if more students hear from other companies and hope the companies do reach out to the students who wrote them."

**Dunellen Report Information:** The Dunellen Report is published quarterly in January, April, July and October. If you are going to submit dates for events and / or articles, send them to us by the 1st of the preceding month. All material will be edited for content and suitability. You may submit by email at: [dunellenreport@dunellenborough.com](mailto:dunellenreport@dunellenborough.com), or by mail: The Dunellen Report, ATTN Councilman Cilento, 355 North Ave, Dunellen, NJ 08812

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