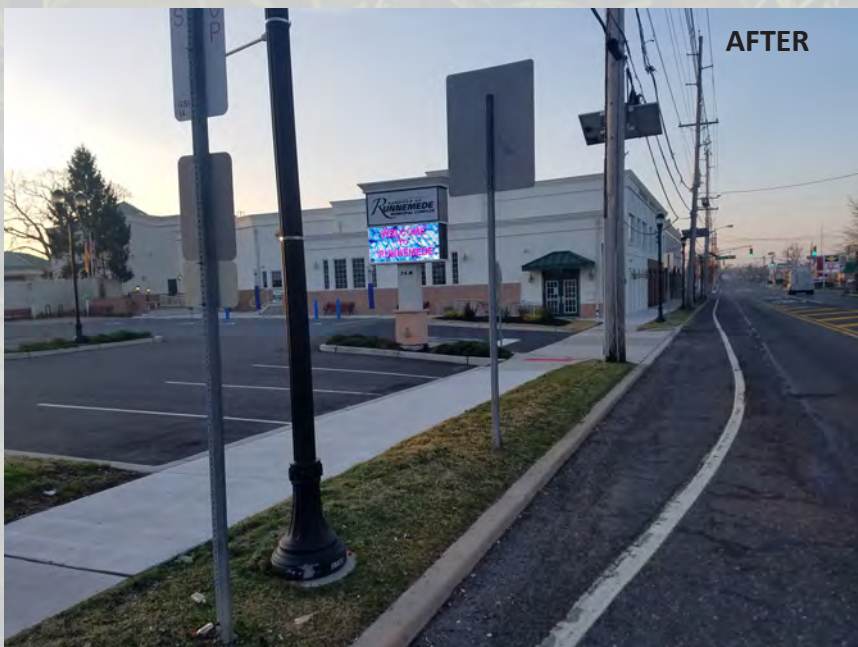


# **R** **BOROUGH OF** **RUNNEMEDE** *NEWSLETTER*

## A SECOND CHANCE FOR MAIN STREET

With the completion of the new public parking lot at the borough, we look forward to working with our residents, business owners, investors and community organizations to give our main street new life. Read more about the future of Runnemede and the people behind the movement on page 8.

**Mayor and Council set the pace: READY - SET - GROW**  
**Downtown on Main Street**



**AFTER**



**BEFORE**

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1.... Cover Story
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- 4.... Parks & Recreation
- 5.... Construction & Engineering
- 6.... Finance & Administration
- 7.... Public Events
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Cover Photo: Runnemede's Butterfly Garden



# PUBLIC SAFETY



**"As Public Safety Director I wear many hats. Under my direction are the Police Department, the Fire Department, the Office of Emergency Management, Municipal Alliance and the LEAD (Law Enforcement Against Drugs) Program. My emphasis during my tenure has been Community Outreach. I encourage all the departments under me to seek ways to be involved in the community. LEAD, Fire Prevention Week, National Night Out, Prescription Drug Drop Box and the Police Bike Patrol, are just some of the ways we are working to accomplish this."**

*Councilwoman Eleanor Kelly  
856-628-6862  
ekelly@runnemedenj.org*

## Emergency Shelter Information

When temperatures drop below freezing, and conditions pose a threat to individuals who are homeless or medically fragile, a network of agencies throughout New Jersey help people obtain shelter, food, and clothing. During times such as these, county or municipal government will often initiate a Code Blue Alert, which enables authorities to take homeless adults to shelter programs that have agreed to make additional beds available. Warming Centers are also opened during stated hours to provide residents with a place to escape the harsh winter conditions. There is a Warming Center here in Runnemede at the Municipal Building if a Code Blue is initialized. It will operate from 7:30pm to 7:30am any day of the week. Runnemede Borough Code Blue Assistance Hot Line 856-498-7931 or call the Runnemede Police Department. The same also applies to excessively hot weather where a Code Red will be initialized. The shelter will then operate from 7:30am to 7:30pm.

## NEW FIRE COMPANY APPARATUS

Your tax dollars at work! Meet the newest addition to the Fire Company, the 2019 Fire Engine. Here she is making a pit stop at Lambeau Field on her way to her new home. This engine is replacing the older 1992 engine, who's career has not yet ended. It has been entered into a shared services program with Bellmawr, Barrington, and Haddon Heights as a back up engine in times of need.



## BIG SURPRISE FOR JUNIOR POLICE ACADEMY

In addition to the L.E.A.D. program, our Borough offers a Junior Police Academy for one week in the month of August. The highlight this past year was the arrival of our State Trooper helicopter to educate participants on it's capabilities. If you would like to know more about the program, or to register your child for the Junior Police Academy, please contact Sergeant Burns at 856-939-3354.



## Updates from the Fire Company and EMS

- Firefighters were trained with sixteen newly purchased Emergency Escape Systems. These systems allow the firefighter to escape and descend from a window in an emergency. The system has rope and a device which lets the firefighter descend from the window above ground level at a rate that will not cause injury to the firefighter.
- Emergency Medical Services continues to be very busy. Please ensure your house numbers can be visible from the street. This assists the crew in locating your home.
- The Fire Company is always looking for dedicated and committed people to become members. Becoming a volunteer is a rewarding way to give back to the community and become part of a great tradition of service. Free training is provided.
- The Fire Company will be hosting many fund raising activities in the upcoming months. A mini-golf tournament, car show, and spring festival are a few of the big events. Please visit the Runnemede Fire Company Facebook page for more information.
- Fire Company Fund Drive will be out shortly. Help us help you!





# PUBLIC WORKS



"Fellow Residents, it is my pleasure to inform you that I am now Director of Public Works. I am honored to work with Harry our Superintendent and a group of talented public works employees. We look forward to serving our residents and growing with our community. Don't hesitate to call me if you have comments or concerns, 856-831-9856. Have a great spring!"

Councilman John Ranieri  
856-831-9856  
jranieri@runnemedenj.org

## Runnemedede's Own Transformer

Now that winter is over, the salt truck is no longer needed, so the new hook truck (pictured, top) has transformed again with the latest addition to its capabilities - the dump truck. Public Works can now perform 5+ different tasks



with the same vehicle, saving time and money. The Borough has also utilized tax payer dollars by purchasing the trail-blazer (pictured, bottom). This machine is designed to help groom and keep pathways, such as the bike path, clear of debris and over-growth.

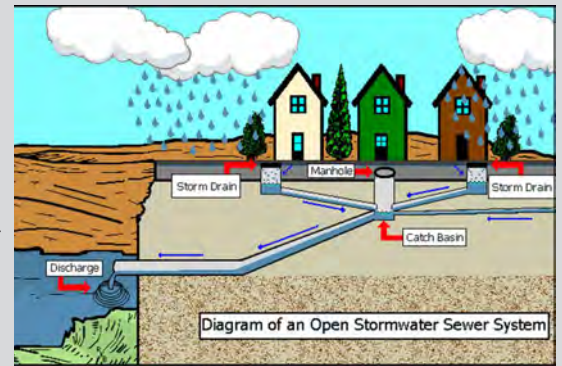
## Sewer Repair

Runnemedede Public Works is always at the ready for unexpected sewer line problems. They are prepared to handle sudden emergencies as seen in the photo below where a sewer line collapsed. If not addressed quickly, such damage could cause sewer back up into residents' homes. Public Works is on call for emergencies at 856-939-3354. Additionally, sewer repairs in Runnemedede are handled in-house by the Borough Public Works employees, not contracted to another company, saving tax payer dollars. These dedicated employees are keeping Runnemedede flushing and flowing properly.



## WHAT GOES AROUND COMES AROUND

Mayor and Council would like to bring to the attention of residents the potentially harmful impacts of storm water contamination. Any substance in your yard, from vehicle fluids to pesticides, will be washed into the storm water system with rain. This water is drained into lakes and ponds which endangers wildlife and contaminates the soil. Please be mindful and keep your yard free of contaminants. In addition, gutter down spouts and sump pumps must be aimed into the grass and not into the street. This will prevent any excessive strain on the drainage system & pumping station, saving energy.



## SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING

Aluminum & metal cans

#1 and #2 Plastic food & beverage containers

Phone books

Newsletters, magazines, brochures & inserts (no bags, do not tie & bundle)

Paperboard boxes (cereal, pasta & tissue)

Greeting cards, regular & junk mail

File folders, office paper

Loose metal jar lids & steel bottle caps

Paper towel rolls

Paperback books

Cartons

Corrugated cardboard & Paper bags (flattened)

Glass bottles & jars

NO

Plastic bags

Plastic microwave trays

Frozen food, ice cream or frozen juice containers

Plastics other than those listed

Stickers or address label sheet waste

Styrofoam or paper to-go containers

Organic material and food waste

**NO NEED TO REMOVE:**  
Paper clips, stamps, address labels, staples, metal fasteners, cellophane address windows, rubber bands, spiral bindings, plastic tabs

Please flatten all cardboard boxes. Empty and rinse all containers.

**Please follow these guidelines carefully.**

Questions? Please contact:  
Division of Environmental Affairs  
856-858-5241

camden county  
BOARD OF FREEHOLDERS  
Making It Better, Together.

AIM FOR MAXIMIZED RECYCLING



# PARKS & RECREATION



"As a resident of Runnemede for almost 30 years, it is my pleasure to serve as Director of Parks and Recreation. In the past I served on the board of the Runnemede Youth Athletic Association and Runnemede Girls Softball League and was an Alternate Planning Board Member. Currently when not tending to my Council duties, I am a youth sports official in Soccer, Basketball and Softball. I just love helping to make sure the kids in town have the opportunity to play in organized sports. Thank you for electing me to serve as a Runnemede Councilman."

Councilman Craig Laubenstein  
609-519-0894  
claubenstein@runnemedenj.org

## CONTINUING PROGRESS

More improvements are under way for the girls' softball field. The area behind the snack bar has been cleared to make way for a new batting cage and a new outfield fence. This project will help continue to bring this facility up to date.



AFTER



BEFORE

## Special Dedication at WWI Veterans Park

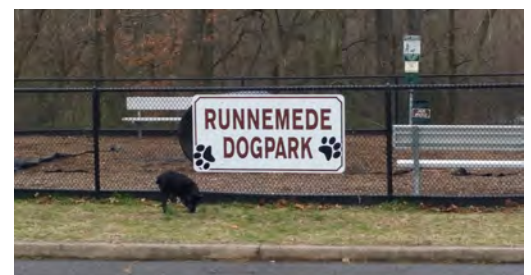
On November 11th, 2018, Mayor and Council gave Runnemede's departed WWI veterans the long overdue appreciation they deserve. This dedication was made possible by resident Robert DelSordo (pictured below, far right), who independently raised the money for the memorial plaque. Mr. DelSordo makes special effort to ensure all veterans are paid proper tribute. He recognized that many towns often overlook the "Great War" and sought to change that here in Runnemede. The memorial is located on the greens outside the Harry Williams Building, adjacent to the Library. Mayor and Council thank Mr. DelSordo for his dedication to the town and it's veterans.



## Did you know?

There are three parks that allow dog walking in Runnemede? You can safely walk your leashed dog at the following areas:

- The Dog Park (allows unleashed)
- The Bike Path
- Green Acres Park





# CONSTRUCTION & ENGINEERING



**"Progress is a daily occurrence in our Engineering Department. As you can see from what we have done this year, we are working to keep Runnemede one step ahead."**

*Councilman Mike Root  
856-465-5836  
mroot@runnemedenj.org*

## The Municipal Building is Open for Business!

This past fall, Mayor and Council, along with special guests Freeholders President Lou Cappelli and Camden County Assemblyman Bill Moen, held the ribbon cutting ceremony for the municipal building. Months of construction and years of planning finally came to fruition. The municipal building now features full ADA compliance along with new meeting rooms, new department entrances, and a new reception area.



Also a major part of this project was the addition of the front parking lot. This new lot is not only available for borough business, but also general public parking anytime of the day. Mayor and Council are working to address the concerns of residents, and hope that providing these parking spaces will create more ease of access to the Black Horse Pike business corridor.

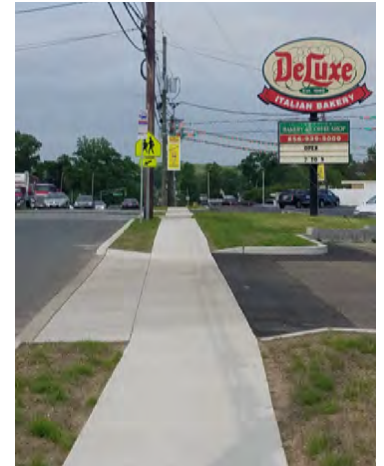
## The Drop Box

Residents are able to make payments after hours using the drop box located at the new entrance to the municipal building. Payments for taxes, sewer, licensing and court fees can be dropped off here.



## Adding New Sidewalks

The Borough has recently constructed two new sidewalks to sections of Davis Rd and Clements Bridge Rd. This will create a more safe environment for the community's children as they frequently walk these routes to school.



## COMPLETED REPAIRS TO CHARLES AVE

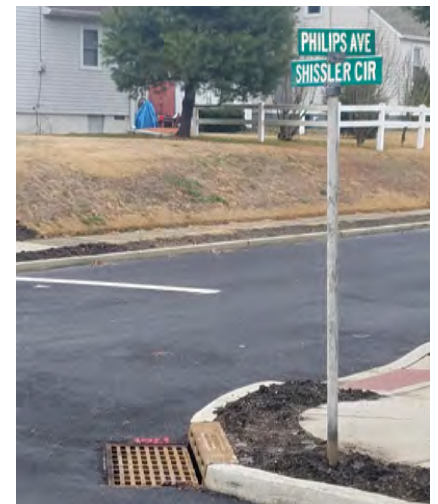
Every year, the Borough budgets the cost of full repairs for at least two streets in town. This sets aside funds for improvements to curbs, pavement, drainage, etc. This past year work was completed to a total of four streets, Philips Ave, Shissler Circle, Charles Ave, and South Reed. Long standing issues were addressed, such as the drainage problems on (below pictured street). This vital infrastructure budget part allows Runnemede to stay updated and safe.



*Before repairs began, rust can be seen seeping up from underground.*



*During repairs, construction crews seen working on new french drains.*



*Completed repaving of Shissler Circle and Philips Ave.*



# FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION



"As finance director, it gives me an opportunity to have a hand in each and every department. As you look through this newsletter, you will see progress in all departments. I'm excited about Runnemede's future and hope you are too. I want to thank all of our residents who have come out, shown up and participated in our community events, Council meetings and planning board meetings. I look forward to seeing you at the next one."

Councilman Bob Farrell  
856-979-8260  
rfarrell@runnemedenj.org

## Best of Luck to Patricia Egan Jones

Runnemede wants to thank Patricia Egan Jones for many years of leadership. Patty served as a Barrington Councilwoman and as a Camden County Freeholder before becoming Camden County Surrogate in 2001. In 2015, Patty proudly represented us as the 5th District Assemblywoman. You have been a role model and mentor to so many. Thank you and happy retirement!

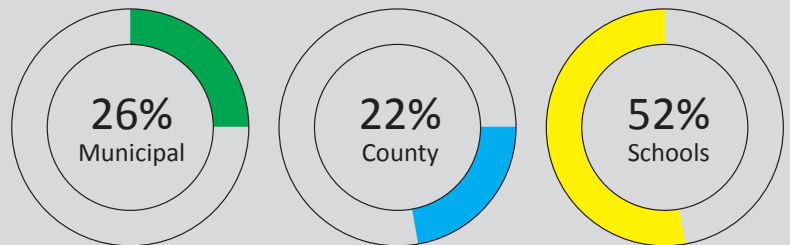


## WHERE DO MY TAX DOLLARS GO?

For every \$100 of your taxes...



Which means...



## Hello and Goodbye - Welcoming New Employees & Bidding Farewell



Welcome Rich Thomas, a class 2 Police Officer.



Welcome John Blake, a class 2 Police Officer.



The late Officer Kessler (above) is the longest serving Chief in the history of Runnemede Police, proudly serving 20 years from 1958 - 1978. Mayor and Council would like to thank him and his family for their years of dedication to the community. He will be missed.



(Left) Police Chief dedication wall at the municipal building.



(Bottom) Recently retired Captain Giegelman, served from 1983-2018.

# PUBLIC EVENTS



**"As Public Events Director I wear a hat or two. I bring all our events from Reorganization to our Christmas Party and Parade to Runnemedede. Our events are free and open to everyone. So mark your calendars, come out and enjoy it all because Runnemedede Rocks!"**

*Council President Patty Passio*  
856-466-5133  
ppassio@runnemedenj.org

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- **May 16th:** Police Department Blood Drive  
3pm - 8pm at the Harry Williams Building
- **May 11th-18th:** Youth Mayor and Council
- **May 27th:** Memorial Day Ceremony at Noon at the Harry Williams Building on the greens
- **June 1st:** Runnemedede Fire Co. Car Show  
Saturday Noon - 4pm: Fire Station, 26 E 2nd Ave  
Rain Date: July 8th  
*For information call: 856-939-4390*
- **June 2nd:** Runnemedede Fire Co. Spring Festival  
Sunday at 11am
- **July Fourth Celebrations:**  
9:00 am - Bicycle Parade *Rain or Shine*  
9:30 am - Baby Parade *Rain or Shine*  
1:00 pm - Main Parade  
Rain Date: July 6th at 1:00 PM  
*Main Parade Float Contest:*  
*1st place - \$100; 2nd - \$50; 3rd - \$25*  
*Antique Car Judging:*  
*1st-2nd-3rd Prize Trophies*
- **August 6th:** National Night Out: Tuesday,  
*A free fun night out for everyone!*  
The Green Fair will take place during this event.  
*Looking for vendors! Call Councilman John Ranieri: 856-831-9856 or Council President Patti Passio: 856-466-5133*
- **Sept. 28th:** Town Wide Yard Sale - Saturday  
8am-2pm *No Registration Fee*  
Rain Date Sun. Sept. 29th
- **Oct. 31st:** Borough Halloween Party -  
6pm to 8pm at the Field House  
Best Costume Contest
- **Nov. 24th:** Christmas Party, Parade & Tree Lighting  
Sunday - Beginning at 6:00 pm  
at the Harry Williams Building  
Crafts, Prizes and Gifts

*7pm begins the Fire Truck Parade bringing Santa along the Pike to the Community Center and then Santa lighting the Christmas Tree.*

*All activities are subject to change. Please continually view Runnemedede Borough Facebook page and web site [www.runnemedenj.org](http://www.runnemedenj.org) for updates or changes.*

## Youth Mayor and Council



*At our State Capitol in Trenton enjoying the nice weather!*



## Fourth of July



*Mayor, Council, and dignitaries at our locally famous parade.*



*The children do an excellent job decorating their bikes for the parade! Well done everyone!*

## National Night Out



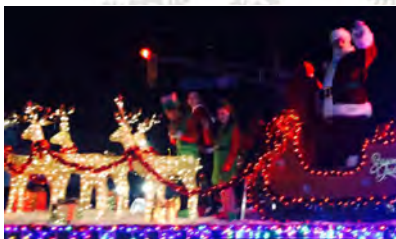
*Meet local merchants, sample products, and visit the green team.*

## HALLOWEEN PARTY



*A great turnout for the Borough Costume Party. See you this year!*

## HOLIDAY EVENTS



*Santa posing with some little helpers last year!*



*The photo booth will be back for more "phun"!*



# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

## Big Accomplishments at Runnemed VFW

First, Runnemed VFW is ranked number ONE in the NATION for poppy sales! These poppies are the little red flowers you receive when you donate to the VFW. Second, Runnemed would like to thank our commander Sammy Sampolski and all our members and veterans of Runnemed VFW Post #. We appreciate all the good work that you do and are proud to have you as a big part of our community. Last, a member of the VFW, Bill Moen, recently became a Camden County Assemblyman. He is pictured below (center) at one of many active duty service member appreciation ceremonies. Sammi Sampolski is also pictured below (left). Congratulations!



## A TRIBUTE FIT FOR A HERO

*The following in an excerpt from the Courier Post Online:* [Anna, a gentle German shepherd, was a favorite visitor at the Barrington Senior Center, recalled Sue Sanders. Sanders of Runnemed, who organized activities at the center, would always make it a point to pet Anna during her frequent stops. Anna was a certified therapy dog but also was trained in search and rescue. It was in that role that she and her owner-handler, Sarah Atlas, were deployed to New York with New Jersey Task Force One on Sept. 11, 2001. Within months of the assignment, Anna became ill and retired from service. In 2002, she had to be put down. Sanders, an amateur artist and quilter, seized an opportunity to honor Anna when she heard a New York fabric artist was gathering 9/11 tribute quilts. "Can I do a memorial quilt about a dog?" Sanders asked. The answer was yes, and Sanders created and shipped off a 3-by-6-foot quilt dedicated to Anna. The artwork became part of the 9/11 Memorial Museum's permanent collection when it opened in 2014. Now it's highlighted in a special exhibit at the museum in New York City called "Dogs of 9/11," which opened in late July and will run through fall 2019.]



## MAKING STRIDES TO REVITALIZE

The Black Horse Pike Business Corridor has long been a sensitive topic of discussion among residents and businesses. Most often, the conversations revolve around the desolate appearance of empty buildings and closed businesses. This seems to stand in contrast to the high traffic of vehicles and pedestrians. One might ask how such a highly traveled area can lack in the necessary building blocks for a successful local economy. Mayor and Council for years have been taking notice, and are actively working to help kick-start the business corridor community. There are new plans for a redevelopment and the future is looking bright.

Mayor and Council are forming a partnership with local artist Ken Leap to form the Runnemed Art Committee. Ken Leap, who recently opened The Painted Window stained-glass studio on the Black Horse Pike, has become increasingly active in the community. He has recognized the need for a revitalization and formed the group Reimagine Runnemed.

Ken Leap has a rich family history with Runnemed. His grandfather, Jack Leap, was a prominent public figure in town. He opened a grocery store on the corner of 2nd Ave and the Black Horse Pike in 1946. This location is now occupied by Mark Antony's Hair Cuts and the Polish-American Deli. Jack was highly involved with town affairs and started a number of other business and community groups. Following Jack's lead was Ken's father, Bill Leap. Bill also worked at the grocery store with his father Jack. Later, he ran his sign business in Runnemed for 26 years. He, too, held offices and maintained membership in a number of community groups and committees. Bill even wrote a book, *The History of Runnemed 1926-1976*.

Together, there is new enthusiasm in Runnemed. Mayor and Council have already been working on new redevelopment plans. Incentives like tax abatement programs and updated ordinances are just a couple of the tools being used to attract more businesses and investors to the area. Stay tuned for updates on this movement and read more about Ken's vision for Runnemed on page 11.





# THE PLANNING BOARD

## WELCOME NEW BUSINESSES



*Schmidt Family Auto Sales  
349 E. Clements Bridge Rd*



*The Mile Pub & Kitchen  
212 Black Horse Pike*



*All Geared Up  
201 W. Clements Bridge Rd*



*Dena's Auto  
602 N. Black Horse Pike*



*All Risk Property Damage Experts - 801 E. Clements Bridge Rd*

## Improving Residents' Quality of Life

The Borough of Runnemede has made changes to its ordinances so it will be easier for residents who wish to make home improvements. Residents can now accomplish the following projects without applying for a permit:

- Increase the size of detached garages/sheds
- Make changes to home siding
- Make changes to home roofing

Planning and Zoning is accepting feedback from residents regarding other ordinances they may feel are unfair or unregulated. Any residents who would like to give input are welcome to attend the planning board meetings, held the second Wednesday of every month.

## NEW COURT TIME

If you have been summoned to appear in the Borough Court room, the meeting time has now changed to 2pm.

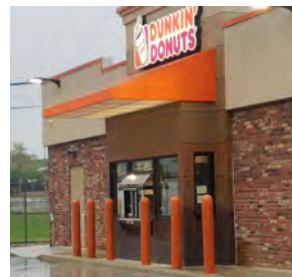
## Redevelopment of the Black Horse Pike

The meetings have been attended and the plans have been approved by both the county and the state. Now it is time for the Borough to roll up its sleeves and improve the Black Horse Pike business corridor. Borough employees have been working hard with engineers and planners to get the redevelopment program of main street approved. Stay tuned for more developments.

## The Master Plan

Every 7-10 years the borough is required to revise its master plan, which includes mapping the streets and updating ordinances. The Borough is working diligently to make all the necessary adjustments this year. This update will be designed to aid in the revitalization projects by making it easier for businesses and merchants to flourish.

## NEW DRIVE-THRU AT DUNKIN'



It may not be known to residents, but Runnemede ordinances did not permit drive-thru lanes at businesses in town for over 50 years. Recent changes to the ordinances have abolished this restriction. Dunkin' Donuts is now the first business in over five decades to have a drive-thru in Runnemede.

## CONGRATULATIONS KANDY KLEHAMER

Planning Board Chairman Kandy Klehamer was recognized last year by the Camden County Federation of Democratic Women as a "Woman of Honor". She received this award for outstanding leadership and commitment to the community. Kandy has selflessly dedicated her personal time for more than two decades. She has been and still remains an asset to our town. Mayor and Council appreciate all she has done and continues to do.





# SUSTAINABILITY

## THE GREEN FAIR 2018

The Green Fair was a success again this past year! This event is partnered with National Night Out to help bring green and sustainable programs to the people. The Green Team will be hosting the event again this year at National Night Out. One of the most popular games is "spin-the-wheel". Anyone willing to try their luck can spin the wheel for a chance to win prizes, like a t-shirt or a bottle of environmentally friendly pesticide. This pesticide is a green alternative to the common weed killer Round-Up. With only three simple ingredients, it has the same effectiveness and none of the harmful chemicals. The Green Team looks forward to another fun and informative night this year. Join them on August 6th at the Harry Williams Building.



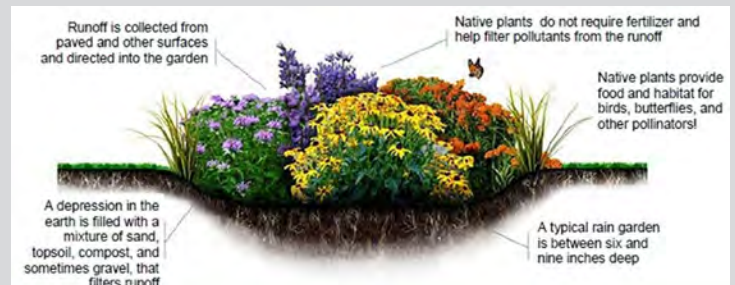
## SAVE THE BEES BY PLANTING THESE



	Home	Personal Care/ Beauty	Dietary/ Medicinal
<b>Lemon Juice</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clean glass &amp; mirrors</li> <li>Brighten your whites</li> <li>Disinfect your cutting board</li> <li>Brighten your toilet bowl</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove sun spots</li> <li>High-light your hair</li> <li>Reduce wrinkles</li> <li>Shrink your pores</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detox</li> <li>Improve digestion</li> <li>Sooth a sore throat</li> <li>Strengthen immunity</li> </ul>
<b>Coconut Oil</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Polish wood furniture</li> <li>Replace WD-40</li> <li>Remove shower scum</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hair serum</li> <li>Lip gloss</li> <li>Deodorant</li> <li>Prevent wrinkles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve thyroid function</li> <li>Reduce migraines</li> </ul>
<b>Apple Cider Vinegar</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Repel fleas</li> <li>Clean your microwave</li> <li>Deodorize laundry</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sooth Sunburns</li> <li>Wash your hair</li> <li>Treat acne</li> <li>Aftershave</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weight-loss/Detox</li> <li>Control high-blood pressure</li> <li>Cure yeast infections</li> <li>Prevent a cold</li> </ul>
<b>White Vinegar</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Polish Silver</li> <li>Clean windows</li> <li>Neutralize odors</li> <li>Unclog your drain</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cure an upset stomach</li> <li>Sooth a bee sting</li> <li>Condition your hair</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tenderize meat</li> <li>Boil better eggs</li> <li>Eliminate garlic odor</li> <li>Keep veggies fresh</li> </ul>
<b>Baking Soda</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Put out fires</li> <li>Scrub toilets and tubs</li> <li>Clean your oven or grill</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deodorant</li> <li>Toothpaste</li> <li>Relieve diaper rash</li> <li>Treat heartburn</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leavening agent</li> <li>Make fluffier omelets</li> <li>Crispier chicken</li> </ul>
<b>Castile Soap</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All-purpose cleaner</li> <li>Dish soap</li> <li>Mop floors with it</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Body wash</li> <li>Pet shampoo</li> <li>Toothpaste</li> <li>Prevent eczema</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Treat eczema and psoriasis</li> <li>Cure acne</li> </ul>
<b>Castor Oil</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discourage rodents</li> <li>Lubricate kitchen scissors</li> <li>Restore health of your plants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen eyelashes</li> <li>Relieve cracked heels</li> <li>Soften cuticles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Treat dry/itchy skin</li> <li>Laxative</li> <li>Induce labor</li> <li>Relieve menstrual cramping</li> </ul>

## From Flooding to Flowers Introducing the Rain Garden

The Borough is working in coordination with the Green Team for the installation of a rain garden. This garden will be planted on the field at Green Acres. The field is on an incline, which results in heavy ponding and saturation after heavy rain. Currently, this ponding lingers in the field and renders the area unusable. The garden will help soak up the water and keep the field dry. The Borough hopes that this will then make the field more user friendly and inviting. Not only do rain gardens help desaturate the soil, but they also provide a home for small birds, butterflies and other pollinating creatures. The native plants in the garden also help filter out pollutants from the water run-off. Rain gardens are low maintenance as the native plants do not require special care, unlike exotics plants you may find in home gardens. The plants and flowers are also perennials so they will grow back each year without the need for replanting.



Rain gardens can turn this...



...into this!





# THE ARTS IN RUNNEMEDE

## ARTISTS IN TRAINING

Pictured below is Councilman John Ranieri with Art Director Ken Leap participating in the first mural training for the Art Committee. Here, they are painting a section of a mural that will later be installed with other sections done by other groups to form a completed mural. This training will serve to prepare the Art Committee for their own mural endeavors soon to be seen around Runnemedede.



## Transforming Runnemedede's Landscape

The Runnemedede Art Committee is actively preparing a mural to be installed on one of the buildings on the Black Horse Pike. Keep up with the progress of this and other future projects by going to [reimaginerunnemedede.org](http://reimaginerunnemedede.org) for more information.



*Mural concept for 109 Black Horse Pike.*



*Painted neighborhood fence concept.*

## REIMAGINE RUNNEMEDE



Reimagine Runnemedede is a new committee, formed under the leadership of Ken Leap, of Leap Studio. It consists of 12 core members whose goal is to spark community participation in a public arts program. Consistent with the Borough's redevelopment project for the Black Horse Pike, we aim to make our town more economically and aesthetically vibrant through the addition of murals and wind sculptures, constructed and painted by the residents.

We have a support network that includes our Mayor and Councilmen, The Green Team, The Women's Club, Triton Regional High School, local businesses, and local photographers and artists.

Reimagine Runnemedede has applied for a grant to fund training in mural arts for willing volunteers. Through a collective, sustained effort, we can improve our business sector and our community spirit. By 2026 - our 100th Centennial year - we envision completion of a transformation that makes us all proud to say we live in Runnemedede!

To quote Ken, "It has been said that there is a threshold at which a community is where you want it to be, or has been left behind. Now's the time to act." Please consider volunteering for this project, and visit our website: [reimaginerunnemedede.org](http://reimaginerunnemedede.org) for further information.





# DID YOU KNOW?

## PROTECTING THE COMMUNITY'S YOUTH

As seen in recent news, the potential threat to our children's safety at school is very real. There has been much media coverage of school shootings, which causes great concern for parents and school administration. The Borough and the police department is now working with our schools by providing year-round security to protect our greatest asset, our children. They have committed one police officer to a full time watch rotation. Officer Brooks will be present on a daily basis at Bingham, Downing, and Volz schools.

If you see something, say something. Report any suspicious activity to the school faculty, administration, or police department.

### Freeholders' Awards

Every year, the Camden County Freeholders award a select few of Runnemede's notable residents with a congratulatory proclamation. This year, the recipient of the January Young Leader Award was Steve McPherson. Steve (pictured, top) was recognized for his outstanding achievement as he recently obtained the rank of Eagle Scout. It is fairly difficult to achieve this, which explains why only 4% of boys who join Scouting attain this rank. Qualifying Scouts need to earn 21 merit badges, 13 of which are required for Eagle; a minimum of 6 months as a Life Scout; and to have completed a leadership community service project.



Steve McPherson, right.

Another award recipient was Rachelle Omenson, a teacher at Triton High School and an involved member of the Runnemede Green Team. Rachelle (pictured, middle) was recognized for her dedicated and outstanding work as a member of the Green Team. She is also a founding member of the Runnemede Art Committee and Reimagine Runnemede. Read more about Rachelle on the back cover.



Rachelle Omenson, left.

Robert Delsordo (pictured, bottom) was presented Camden County's Community Involvement Award. Here are just a few of his commitments over the years: Legal council for the Library; Legal council for the Zoning and Planning Board; Municipal judge, prosecutor, and currently our public defender. Bob is also the treasurer for the Battleship NJ. Bob is a time-less advocate for veterans. He has established a veterans post at Camden County College, and just this past year, raised the funds and dedicated a memorial plaque to our World War I veterans here in Runnemede.



Robert Delsordo, left.



Officer Howard Brooks (pictured, left) and Principal Pili.



### RAISING DRUG AWARENESS WITH THE MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE

Pictured below are Councilman John Ranieri and Councilwoman Eleanor Kelly participating in a Municipal Alliance's awareness program, "What To Look For". This interactive program was set up in Triton's auditorium to resemble a typical teenager's bedroom. The challenge was to seek out clues and signs that the teenager was abusing drugs. The Municipal Alliance, headed by



Nancy Anderson, was formed to provide help for those in recovery or in need of rehabilitation from drugs or alcohol. To learn more about the Municipal Alliance, please contact Nancy Anderson.





## Now Accepting Animal Shelter Donations

The Runnemede Police Department not only helps take care of citizens, but also their four-legged friends. Officer Matt Woollen is spearheading the collection of donated items for local animal shelters. Please bring your donations to the Police Department.



## POLICE DEPARTMENT BLOOD DRIVE



The Runnemede Police Department is hosting an American Red Cross Blood Drive in honor Jaycee Park, a local teenager who was born with an incredibly rare condition called megacystis microcolon intestinal hypoperistalsis syndrome, or MMIHS. Jaycee's dream is to spread awareness or organ and blood donation, because without it, she wouldn't be with us. This event will be held on May 16th from 3pm-8pm at the Harry Williams Building. To make an appointment go online to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and use the sponsor code In honor of Jaycee.



## MAN'S BEST FRIEND

For over 30 years, Runnemede Police Department has utilized the canine unit from the Camden County Sheriff's Department to conduct searches for felons, missing children, stolen property, bomb threats, and narcotics search warrants. The plaque shown here is a tribute to Howard Brooks and his K-9 partners for their outstanding service over the years. Howard Brooks is now serving as one of our officers since 2011. The plaque commemorates Brook's three dogs by the following: "K-9 Laser... was a German Sheppard and served from 1995-1996. Laser was trained as a Patrol K-9 and a Narcotics K-9. K-9 Welbie... badge #14 was a mixed breed German Sheppard and served from



1996 until 2005. Welbie was trained as a Patrol K-9 and a Narcotics K-9. Welbie was known for locating large shipments of narcotics. K-9 Wolf... badge #23 was a long-haired German Sheppard and was born in Germany. Wolf was brought to the United States in 2005 and served until 2011. Wolf was trained as a Patrol K-9 and a Narcotics K-9."

## Police Officer's Participate in Fund-raiser

Last summer, the recovery program New Beginnings, held it's first annual fund-raiser softball tournament at the girl's softball field. The money raised from this fun event goes to support the program's efforts help those struggling to overcome alcohol addiction. Pictured below are two of Runnemede's officers, Police Chief Paul Daily and Sergeant Sampolski, participating in the event. It was a good time for all involved and for a worthy cause. They will be holding this event again this summer on August 17th. There will also be a basket auction. For more information contact Lisa Segrest at New Beginnings or go to [nbgroupp.org](http://nbgroupp.org). If you or someone you know needs help recovering from alcoholism, call the NJ Hopeline at 855-654-6735.





## MESSAGE FROM MAYOR NICK KAPPATOS

To the Residents of Runnemede,

Once again, I must first thank Council President Patty Passio and Councilman John Ranieri for all the work they do to put this newsletter together. Each newsletter is better than the one before, and the amount of information in this one is greater than any before. I hope all of you gain a better understanding of your local government and your community.

So far this year we received \$375,000 from the NJ DOT to finish re-paving Shissler Circle, North and South Rowand Ave., and Woodland Ave. The Public Works Department will be replacing its dump truck and the new Fire Engine is on its way to our Fire Co.

I am very proud to announce the promotions of both Sergeant Dan Murray and Sergeant Bill Sampolski to Captains. Both have shown their dedication to this community and to their department. The Police Department and town are lucky to have them.

Starting this summer, the Runnemede Board of Education will be renting the second floor of the Borough Municipal Building for their Administrative Offices. Council and I, as well as all the Borough employees want to welcome the BOE and we are very proud of our shared service agreements.

Last year we had our Redevelopment Zone approved by the State for area along the Black Horse Pike. This year we will be finalizing our redevelopment plan and updating many of our ordinances to reflect a business-friendly attitude.

I also want to thank all the residents of Runnemede who gave their time to help this year. Especially those who have shown their desire to make Runnemede a better place. Reimagine Runnemede, the Green Team, and the residents that have attended meetings, are adding to our success.

As always it is my honor to be the Mayor of Runnemede. Each year continues to show great progress and I look forward to this year being better than the last.

Please enjoy this newsletter, it is being sent to every household.

Thank-you,



Nick Kappatos

## SUPPORT OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES

### ALBANO + VIOLA LLC

735 N. Black Horse Pike  
939-2504

### AGA INSURANCE SERVICES

835 East Clements Bridge Road  
939-8600

### AG PETERS & SONS

1025 N. Black Horse Pike  
931-7476

### AMERICAN DISCOUNT FENCE

777 West Clements Bridge Road  
939-3022

### ANTIQUE & COIN UNLIMITED

15 N. Black Horse Pike  
939-0230

### BERNIES AUTO REPAIR

729 West Clements Bridge Road  
939-4873

### BELMAWR COLLISION

60 West Clements Bridge Road  
939-4000

### JONATHAN C BRAUNFELD DDS

24 South Black Horse Pike  
939-1302

### COLOUR PRINTING

521 D Irish Hill Rd  
939-5599

### ROBERT A DEL SORDO ESQ

322 West Clements Bridge Road  
939-2511

### GARDNER FUNERAL HOME

126 South Black Horse Pike  
939-2095

### JFK DEMOCRAT CLUB

121 East Clements Bridge Road

### KID RIP'S TAP & TAVERN

115 S. Black Horse Pike  
312-8811

### MT CALVARY CHURCH UNION CHURCH

111 E Clements Bridge Rd  
939-5193

### PHILY DINER

31 S Black Horse Pike  
939-4322

### RESTAURANT TECHNOLOGIES INC.

856-939-0051

### RBG ROTARY

Wednesdays 12 noon  
Runnemede VFW

### RUNNEMEDE DISCOUNT LIQUORS

508 N Black Horse Pike  
939-5100

### RUNNEMEDE HEATING

39 North Black Horse Pike  
939-4299

### RUNNEMEDE SENIORS CLUB

856-939-4009

### RUNSEN HOUSE SENIOR HOUSING

825 E Clements Bridge Rd  
939-6564

### SHINE DENTAL CARE

658 N Black Horse Pike  
939-3405

### SAINT TERESA REGIONAL SCHOOL

27 E Evesham Rd  
939-0333

### SIGN PROS

1215 Black Horse Pike  
939-1099

### STAHL & DELAURENTIS PC

10 E Clements Bridge Rd  
380-9200

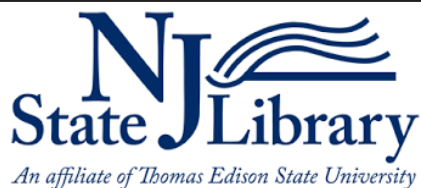
### TANOVER PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATES

238 E Clements Bridge Rd  
939-5040

### VFW POST 3324

600 N Black Horse Pike  
939-9822





Thanks to a grant from the Florence Taylor Tischler and Nathaniel Tischler Memorial Fund and the New Jersey State Library, an affiliate of Thomas Edison State University, the Runnemede Public Library is able to continue to offer the two children's e-book subscriptions to Scholastic Bookflix and the Scholastic Scienceflix for another year. Check out the library website, [www.RunnemedePublicLibrary.org](http://www.RunnemedePublicLibrary.org) and if you need help accessing these programs, stop in or call at 856-939-4688.

ON THE MOVE!



Rita's Italian Ice and Frozen Custard, formerly located on the Black Horse Pike across from the Philly Diner, is moving into a new location in JMD Plaza. Look for them to open soon at 113 W. Clements Bridge Rd. This location will allow for easier access and more parking for customers.

### Getting a Face Lift in Runnemede

One new incentive as part of the revitalization happening in Runnemede, existing businesses have the opportunity to obtain funds in return for repairing and refreshing their facades/storefronts. Seen below and to the right, some business owners have already taken advantage and did some updating.



## RUNNEMEDE SEARCH

I E C I L O P R O I N U J F M  
 T K N L E R R A B N I A R W A  
 I L Q I L K S N O V W F I O I  
 S Q Y R G Z E Q G Q I W D R N  
 M C R U V A D S W I N X S L S  
 Y A R T C O M M I T T E E D T  
 F Z S F Y Q V I Y X E O F W R  
 U H H P W Q L V E Q G C B A E  
 B W I B B U Z Z W R O O Z R E  
 F R E E H O L D E R S O A O T  
 K K C U R T K O O H E C H N P  
 U H S T O R M W A T E R S E Q  
 U P R E L S S E K F E I H C M  
 N D E W N R A I N G A R D E N  
 N I D L J E N I G N E E R I F

### WORD LIST

ARTCOMMITTEE  
 CHIEFKESSLER  
 FIREENGINE  
 MAINSTREET  
 RAINBARREL  
 RAINGARDEN  
 FREEHOLDERS  
 HOOKTRUCK  
 JUNIORPOLICE  
 REIMAGINE  
 STORMWATER  
 WORLDWARONE



Borough of Runnemede  
24 N. Black Horse Pike  
Runnemede, NJ 08078

Presorted Standard  
**US POSTAGE**  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 28  
Bellmawr, NJ



Rachelle Omenson is firstly an art teacher and secondly a Runnemede resident and member of the Green Team. On a daily basis she teaches hundreds of students ways to see the world differently. Ms. Omenson has introduced her classes to Reimagine Runnemede, which is the creative coalition that wants to inspire our residents and businesses to generate new ideas to revitalize Runnemede. Her energy has been spent utilizing the endless invention and creativity of teenagers to spark ideas like murals, coffee shops, used book stores, maker-spaces, galleries, and much more. She encourages us all to take a walk down Black Horse Pike or take a bike ride down the bike path and reimagine what a little bit of creative thinking can do.

## SCHOOL INFORMATION

### **Bingham Elementary School**

100 Orchard Avenue  
Runnemede, NJ 08078  
856-939-3192

### **Downing Elementary School**

100 E. 3rd Avenue  
Runnemede, NJ 08078  
856-939-4036

### **Volz Middle School**

505 W. Third Ave  
Runnemede, NJ 08078  
856-931-5353

### **Triton Regional High School**

250 Schubert Avenue  
Runnemede, NJ 08078  
856-939-4500

### **St. Teresa Regional School**

27 E. Evesham Rd  
Runnemede, NJ 08078  
856-939-0333

## COMMUNITY CHURCHES

### **Trinity Lutheran Church**

200 E. Clements Bridge Road  
Runnemede, NJ 08078  
856-939-4411  
[www.trinityrunnemede.org](http://www.trinityrunnemede.org)

### **Holy Child Parish**

#### **St. Maria Goretti Church St. Teresa of the Infant Jesus Church**

13 E. Evesham Road  
Runnemede, NJ 08078  
856-939-1681  
[www.holychildparish.net](http://www.holychildparish.net)

### **Mount Calvary Union Church**

111 E. Clements Bridge Road  
P.O. Box 41  
Runnemede, NJ 08078  
856-939-5193  
[mountcalvaryunionchurch.org](http://mountcalvaryunionchurch.org)

## CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

### **Runnemede Girl Scouts**

Joseph J. King Scout Center  
Sheppard Ave.  
Scout Master Geri Golinski  
856-939-5007

### **Runnemede Boy Scouts Troop 117**

Joseph J. King Scout Center  
Sheppard Ave.  
Scout Master Mike Foody  
856-939-5311

### **Runnemede Senior Citizens Club**

Meets the 3rd Saturday of each month at 1pm (except July and August) in the Harry Williams Building Senior Center  
President, Lee Mikulski  
856-939-4009

### **GFWC Runnemede Woman's Club**

Meets the 4th Tuesday of each month September - May at 7:30pm in the Harry Williams Building Senior Center  
President, Patti Adair  
609-685-7272, Like us on Facebook!

### **VFW Post 3324**

13 E 6th Ave  
Commander William (Sammy) Sampolski  
856-628-0236

### **JFK Democrat Club**

Meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7pm: 120 E. Clements Bridge Rd  
President, John Ranieri  
856-831-9856

### **Runnemede Bellmawr Glendora Rotary Club**

Meets every Wednesday, places and times vary; see our Facebook page for more info  
President, Tara Root  
856-986-0845

*Special Thanks to the Editors: Council President Patty Passio & Councilman John Ranieri and Graphic Designer: Ashley Latrella*