



TOWNSHIP OF NORTH BERGEN
4233 KENNEDY BOULEVARD
NORTH BERGEN, NJ 07047
Phone: (201)392-2000

Purchase Order

**THIS NUMBER MUST APPEAR ON ALL INVOICES,
PACKING LISTS, CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.**

NO. 18-01558

ORDER DATE: 03/19/18

DELIVERY DATE:

REQUISITION #: R8-01559

VENDOR ACCT NUM:

VENDOR PHONE #: (201) 864-0600

VENDOR FAX #: (201) 392-9460

DELIVER TO

PUBLIC AFFAIRS-ROOM#100
TOWNSHIP OF NORTH BERGEN
4233 KENNEDY BLVD.
NORTH BERGEN NJ 07047

VENDOR

Vendor #: VISIO015

VISION MEDIA INC.
854 8TH STREET
SECAUCUS, NJ 07094

PAYMENT RECORD

CHECK NO.

52486

DATE PAID

4-11-18

NOTICE: TAX EXEMPT - TAX ID: 22-6002151

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	ACCOUNT NO	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL
5.50/EA	GRAPHIC DESIGN - J.CLAY CREATIVE DIR. REVISED & UPDATED SENIOR ACTIVITY ADS . INV# 5122 .	8-01-20-122-000-1060 SERVICE CONTRACT	140.0000	770.00
2.00/EA	HUDSON REPORTER ADS: JAN 7: 2 ADS @ \$398.40 PLUS 15% COMM \$458.16 .	8-01-20-122-000-1060 SERVICE CONTRACT	458.1600	916.32
3.00/EA	JAN 14: 3 ADS @ \$398.40 PLUS 15% COMM. \$458.16 .	8-01-20-122-000-1060 SERVICE CONTRACT	458.1600	1,374.48
2.00/EA	JAN 21: 2 ADS @ \$398.40 PLUS 15% COMM. = \$458.16 .	8-01-20-122-000-1060 SERVICE CONTRACT	458.1600	916.32
1.00/EA	HUDSON CTY VIEW (1/15 - 2/14) . . BRC ATTACHED	8-01-20-122-000-1060 SERVICE CONTRACT	1,725.0000	1,725.00
			TOTAL	5,702.12

CLAIMANT'S CERTIFICATION & DECLARATION

I do solemnly declare and certify under penalties; of the law that the within bill is correct in all its particulars; that the articles have been furnished or services rendered as stated therein; that no bonus has been given or received by any; person or persons within the knowledge of this claimant in connection with the above claim; that the amount therein stated is justly due and owing; and that the amount charged is a reasonable one.

X

VENDOR SIGN HERE

OFFICIAL POSITION

DATE

APPROVED FOR PURCHASE

SUZANNE TAYLOR, QPA

DATE

VENDOR MUST SIGN CERTIFICATION STATEMENT ON THIS
VOUCHER, MAIL VOUCHER & ITEMIZED BILLS TO:

TOWNSHIP OF NORTH BERGEN
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
4233 KENNEDY BLVD, RM 211
NORTH BERGEN, NJ 07047

OFFICER'S CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that there are sufficient funds available in the accounts of the Township to enable the commissioners to authorize the entering into this contract between the Township of North Bergen and the above vendor. By this certification, I have encumbered the above named accounts for the amount of the contract pending action by the Board of Commissioners.

SIGNATURE

DATE

Having knowledge of the facts in the course of regular procedures, I certify that the materials and supplies have been received or the services rendered; said certification is based on delivery slips acknowledged by a municipal official or employee or other reasonable procedures.

SIGNATURE

DATE

TOWNSHIP OF NORTH BERGEN

4233 KENNEDY BOULEVARD
NORTH BERGEN, NJ 07047
TEL (201)392-2000

REQUISITION

NO.

R8-01559

SHIP TO

PUBLIC AFFAIRS-ROOM#100
TOWNSHIP OF NORTH BERGEN
4233 KENNEDY BLVD.
NORTH BERGEN NJ 07047

VENDOR

VENDOR #: VISIO015

VISION MEDIA INC.
854 8TH STREET
SECAUCUS, NJ 07094

ORDER DATE: 03/19/18
DELIVERY DATE:
STATE CONTRACT:
F.O.B. TERMS:

QTY/UNIT	DESCRIPTION	ACCOUNT NO.	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL COST
5.50	INVOICE 5122 GRAPHYC DESING (J.CLAY, CREATIVE DIRECTOR) REVISED AND UPDATED SENIOR ACTIVITY ADS	8-01-20-122-000-1060 SERVICE CONTRACT	140.0000	770.00
2.00	PLACEMENT OF ADS IN THE HUDSON REPORTER INVOICE 5122 JANUARY 7: 2 ADS @ 398.40 PLUS 155 COMMISSION = 458.16	8-01-20-122-000-1060 SERVICE CONTRACT	458.1600	916.32
3.00	INVOICE 5122 JANUARY 14: 3 ADS @ 398.40 PLUS 15% COMMISSION = 458.16	8-01-20-122-000-1060 SERVICE CONTRACT	458.1600	1,374.48
2.00	INVOICE 5122 JANUARY 21: 2 ADS @ 398.40 PLUS 15% COMMISSION = 458.16	8-01-20-122-000-1060 SERVICE CONTRACT	458.1600	916.32
1.00	INVOICE 5122 HUDSON COUNTY VIEW 1-15 TO 2-14	8-01-20-122-000-1060 SERVICE CONTRACT	1,725.0000	1,725.00
			TOTAL	5,702.12

REQUESTING DEPARTMENT

DATE

Invoice

Bill To:

Township of North Bergen
4233 Kennedy Blvd.
North Bergen, NJ 07047

Date

02/15/18

Invoice No.

5122

Description	Quantity	Rate	Amount
Graphic Design (J. Clay, Creative Director)			
Revised and updated Senior activity ads	5.5	140.00	770.00
Placement of ads in the Hudson Reporter:			
January 7: 2 ads @\$398.40 15% Commission: \$458.16	2	458.16	916.32
January 14: 3 ads @\$398.40 15% Commission: \$458.16	3	458.16	1,374.48
January 21: 2 ads @\$398.40 15% Commission: \$458.15	2	458.16	916.32
Hudson County View (1-15 to 2-14)		1,725.00	1,725.00
			
Total			\$5,702.12

Color for your commute

WNY artist completes Weehawken tribute mural under Route 495 bridge

By Hannington Dia
Reporter Staff Writer

On a recent freezing afternoon, artist Raul Rubio of West New York was focused on finishing his latest mural, nestled under the Route 495 helix bridge to the Lincoln Tunnel in Weehawken. He just needed a few extra touches to capture the iconic New York City skyline.

"This is twilight," Rubio said, of the orange tinge covering the city's buildings on the mural. "When night comes, that's when all the tourists come and park in Weehawken to see the city light up."

For those taking jitney buses from Hudson County to the Port Authority bus terminal for work, or driving into Midtown, Rubio's now-finished work will definitely light up the commute.

More vibrant for the morning rush

The colorful piece features five "tributes" to Weehawken. They include a portrait of Alexander Hamilton, who died after a duel on the town's waterfront in 1804; images of children playing in a local playground, the town's Soldiers and Sailors monument on Boulevard East, the aforementioned New York skyline as seen from the Jersey side, and, of course, the Weehawken Water Tower.

The painting, which took Rubio three weeks to complete, was a brainchild of township officials and him.

"I talked to [Mayor Richard Turner] and the town's manager, Giovanni Ahmad," Rubio said. "We came up with a concept of how to bring the image of Weehawken to this mural."

The mural's location was strategic, part of Mayor Turner's ongoing plans to beautify the town. Before, the space was drab and lifeless, a spot begging for human hands to create images to remember.

"This is going to bring light to this path, because it's been neglected for a while," Rubio said of the sidewalk area by the mural. "Now when you pass by, you won't see a dark, eerie place. You'll see something nice and beautiful instead, that gives a sense of pride to the community, that says, 'We're part of Weehawken.'"

Discovering a true calling

A full-time graphic artist since 2003, Rubio owns a small studio in Hoboken and lives in West New York. In the coming months, he has murals scheduled for Newark, Hoboken, and Jersey City. But his reach is international. Rubio also has works in Spain, Paris, Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, and Israel, to name a few.

He realized he wanted to create art for a living when working as a waiter for Scully on Spring in Lower Manhattan in the early '90s.

The restaurant had a showcase for artists, with work for sale.

"I put up some paintings, and maybe after a day or two, three paintings sold," he said. "And I said, 'Hey, I have something. So let me keep on pursuing this.' From there, I kept on getting shows, and that was the time I realized I could do this as a living."

Art in Hudson

He sees the development in Hudson County as great for artists, especially given how municipalities have warmed up to murals and programs with graffiti artists.

Today, cities such as Philadelphia and San Marcos, TX have enacted beautiful

*"Just support
the arts." – Raul Rubio*

cation programs with artists to prevent graffiti vandalism (Rubio has worked with the Jersey City Mural Arts Program, and has another mural on Grand Street.)

"The art scene is picking up—everyone's jumping into the mural projects," he said. "Every county wants to do a mural project now. Graffiti's getting accepted now. It isn't being looked down on as vandalism anymore. It's an art form developing the streets."

see **MURAL** page 9



A new mural along the 495.

Mayor Nicholas J. Sacco

Announces for North Bergen Senior Citizens Only...

FREE MOVIE DAY!

Must present Mayor's Council on Aging Card

Friday, January 12th

Located at:

32nd Street and Kennedy Blvd. in North Bergen, Empire 12 Cinaplex

www.hudsonreporter.com

Vincent J. Picone, D.D.S.

1001-79th St., North Bergen, N.J.

(corner of 5th Avenue)

(201) 861-2400

"We Cater to Cowards"



- Evening hours and Saturdays
- Most dental ins. Plans accepted
- Bleaching Special \$149
- Emergency patients accepted

Check out our website: WWW.wecatertocowardsnj.com

FOR PICK UP LOCATIONS AND
TIMES PLEASE CALL COMMUNITY
SERVICE AT 201-392-2159.

Looking ahead

*Residents around the county
share their resolutions*



"Just to be the best me possible. There's always room for improvement."

- IZAYA BARRON, NORTH BERGEN, AN ASPIRING MUSICIAN



"I want to graduate on time, because the student loans are killing me."

- ADRIANNA CASTRO, WEEHAWKEN, who is attending school in Chicago

By Marilyn Baer, Hannington Dia,
Rory Pasquariello and Al Sullivan
Reporter staff

A new year sometimes provides new resolve and inspiration for change. While not all problems can be solved by positive thinking (sometimes it takes better health care, help from friends, or even a Gofundme.com fundraiser), it never hurts to try to focus on the more manageable areas of one's life.

Some local residents said they wanted to change bad habits in 2018, while oth-

ers wanted to work on their relationships. "To be happy," vowed Nellie Gomez of Union City. "I have so many commotions within my family."

Judging from people's comments on social media this season, she was not alone in wanting to improve familial relations. Maybe we all need a bit less judgment, more kindness, and an effort to reach out, even if it's a risk.

Here are some of the resolutions from your neighbors.

see **RESOLUTIONS** page 9

HELP WANTED

Write for us!

Always wanted to write for the newspaper?

The Hudson Reporter newspaper group seeks a talented full-time reporter with an interest in local politics, news, features, and the arts, to cover challenging Hudson County news beats. Entry level OK. You must have writing experience, be creative and a self-starter, efficient at time management, interested in both hard news and features.

Salary plus medical benefits.

Send letter of interest with salary requirements (a must), resumé, and any writing samples to: Caren Matzner, Editor, the Hudson Reporter,

cmatzner@hudsonreporter.com

and put "Reporter job" in the subject head.



LUNCHEON

Mayor Nicholas J. Sacco

invites North Bergen Seniors to a Bingo Luncheon!

Wednesday, January 10th, 11:00am-1:00pm

North Bergen Senior Nutrition Center
1441 45th Street in North Bergen

Bingo Cards: \$1 each



Suggested Lunch Donation:

\$1.75 per person

Lunch Includes:

Entree
Coffee/Tea
Milk
Dessert



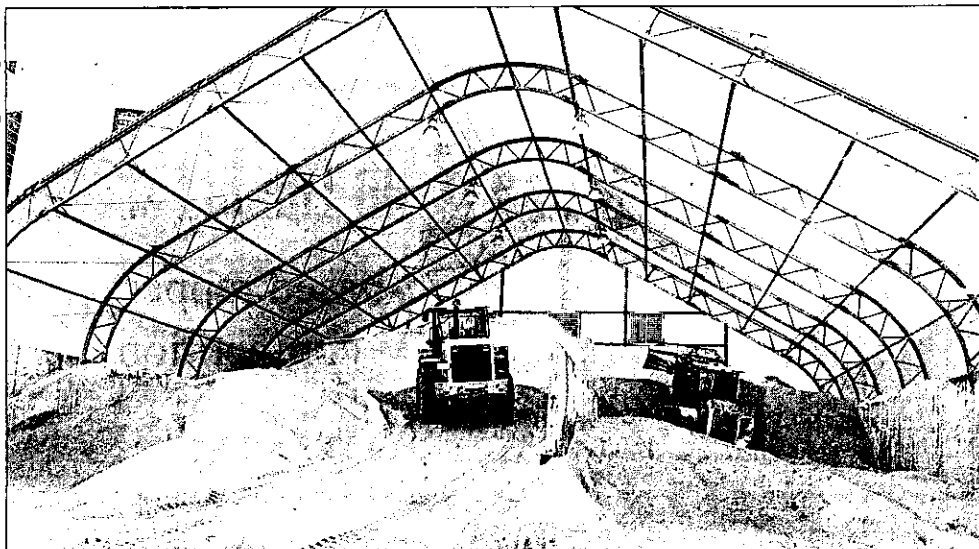
Reservations are not required for Bingo, just for the meal.

Please call 201-866-8791 by 11am the day before to reserve your meal.

For transportation please call 201-869-9595.

SECTION 1: PRINTED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF NORTH BERGEN, NEW JERSEY
 SECTION 2: PRINTED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF NORTH BERGEN, NEW JERSEY
 SECTION 3: PRINTED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF NORTH BERGEN, NEW JERSEY
 SECTION 4: PRINTED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF NORTH BERGEN, NEW JERSEY

BRIEFS



The North Bergen DPW recently replenished its salt coffers with 4,000 tons for future storms.

See brief for more information.

Photo by Art Schwartz



LUNCHEON

Mayor Nicholas J. Sacco

invites North Bergen Seniors to a Bingo Luncheon!

Wednesday, January 19th, 11:00am-1:00pm

North Bergen Senior Nutrition Center
 1441 45th Street in North Bergen

Bingo Cards: \$1 each

Suggested Lunch Donation:

\$1.75 per person

Lunch Includes:

Entree

Coffee/Tea

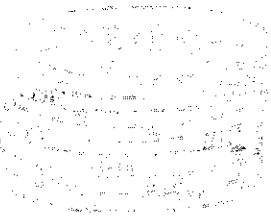
Milk

Dessert

Reservations are not required for Bingo, just for the meal.

Please call 201-866-8791 by 11am the day before to reserve your meal.

For transportation please call 201-869-9595.



North Bergen ready for winter season with 4,000 tons of salt

After utilizing a substantial portion of the township's salt supply to help clear the snow dumped during the recent "bomb cyclone," the North Bergen Department of Public Works has fully replenished its coffers, with more than 100 trucks in a single day delivering enough to fill the DPW barn with 4,000 tons of salt.

North Bergen's salt supply is used not only by the DPW, but by the school system, Parking Authority, Parks Department, Police Department, and other township entities. In addition the township provides salt as needed to Hudson County and Guttenberg.

DPW employees worked around the clock from Thursday to Monday during the storm and afterwards. In conjunction with municipal employees from other departments they not only spread salt and plowed streets extensively, but cleared crosswalks, shoveled sidewalks, emptied parking lots, dug out parking spaces, and much more.

North Bergen library's winter programs beginning Jan. 16

Registration is still open for The North Bergen Free Public Library's Children's and Adult Winter Program. Programs will begin on Tuesday, Jan. 16. Proof of age and residency are required. Registration is limited. For more information, contact the North Bergen Public Library at (201) 869-4715 or visit www.nbpl.org to view the program listings. The Main Library is located at 8411 Bergenline Ave., and the Kennedy Branch is at 2123 Kennedy Blvd.

Free Movie of the Month is 'Despicable Me 3' on Jan. 20

Everyone is invited to come enjoy the family movie "Despicable Me 3" at the North Bergen Free Public Library at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 20. Admission and refreshments are free.

The North Bergen Free Public Library is located at 8411 Bergenline Ave. Call 201-869-4715 for more details.

Meet the police in January

The North Bergen Police Department regularly hosts community meetings to get to know local residents.

This January they will host meetings at different locations throughout the township, where residents can meet the officers who patrol their neighborhoods, and share any local concerns.

The meetings are part of a program known as N.B. TAPS (North Bergen Township Alternative Policing Strategy), designed to enhance police-community relations in the township.

Residents get to meet and discuss issues face-to-face with the officers who serve their immediate community, and the officers get to learn about any matters of concern directly from the residents.

Where there's smoke

*North Hudson Regional Fire
& Rescue promotes five*



PROMOTIONS: Firefighters received promotions in a ceremony held by the North Hudson Regional Fire & Rescue (NHRFR): Battalion Chief Mark Lorenz, Captain Alan Williams, and firefighters James Lisa, Erik Wilson, and Richard Gora received commendations along with their promotions.

Five firefighters were promoted in a ceremony held by North Hudson Regional Fire & Rescue (NHRFR) on Monday, Dec. 18, 2017. The special ceremony in the firehouse was attended by firefighters, friends, family, and numerous local and regional officials, including Mayor Nicholas Sacco, who congratulated the honorees and thanked them for their service.

Battalion Chief Mark Lorenz, a 25-year firefighter, Captain Alan Williams (15 years), and firefighters James Lisa (15 years), Erik Wilson (12 years), and Richard Gora (19 years) each received a commendation, along with a promotion. Lorenz was promoted to deputy chief. Captain Williams was promoted to battalion chief, and the others were promoted to captain.

"North Hudson Regional Fire and Rescue is dedicated to saving lives and responding to catastrophic fires in our communities, and for the department to continue offering a high level of service, we must maintain an adequate supervisory staff of experienced fire

officers," said Weehawken Mayor Richard Turner, who also serves as chairman of the management board for NHRFR. "Today we are proud to promote these five outstanding individuals and I thank them for their continuing service."

NHRFR is one of the largest regionalized fire departments in the United States, covering the North Hudson towns of Guttenberg, North Bergen, Union City, Weehawken and West New York.

As a nationally recognized fire protection unit, NHRFR takes pride in maintaining one of the best response times in the nation.

"Deputy Chief Lorenz, Battalion Chief Williams, and Captains Lisa, Wilson and Gora are some of the most dedicated and professional officers I have had the privilege of working with in my career," said NHRFR Chief Frank Montagne. "They are each very deserving of their promotions and I'm sure they will continue to do excellent work for NHRFR in these new capacities."

The North Bergen Reporter welcomes entries of community interest for its weekly Calendar listings. To be considered for publication, entries must be received one week prior to publication date. No information will be accepted over the phone.

Ongoing

Narconon- Drug overdoses have become the leading cause of accidental death in the United States with heroin and other opiates being the largest contributor. If your loved one is struggling with drug abuse of any kind, now is the time to get them the help they need. Learn more about the signs of heroin addiction. If you believe one of your loved ones is abusing drugs, learn

how you can make a difference by visiting <http://www.narconon-newlifetreat.org/drug-rehab/>. **ADDITION SCREENINGS-**Narconon can help you take steps to overcome addiction in your family. Call today for free screenings or referrals. 1-800-431-1754

Narconon-Top excuses for substance abusers who fail to seek treatment include: not ready to quit using, too scared to kick, their habit is not that bad. All result in continued abuse and all boil down to one real excuse — they want to use drugs. If you are suspicious one of your loved ones is abusing drugs or alcohol call us today for free information on the signs of drug abuse. **Narconon** can help you take

steps to overcome addiction in your family. **Call today at 1-800-DRUG FREE** or by visiting <http://www.narcononnewlifetreat.org> for free screenings, referrals, or your free copy of signs of addiction.

North Bergen Public Library — To get the latest information about library news, programs, special events, or volunteer work visit WWW.NBPL.ORG or call: (201) 869-4715.

Pet adoptions — every Sunday 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. — PetSmart, 400 Mill Creek Mall, Secaucus — for more info. call Charlene (201) 200-1008 or Kathleen (201) 895-3874.

HELP WANTED

Write for us!

Always wanted to write for the newspaper?

The Hudson Reporter newspaper group seeks a talented full-time reporter with an interest in local politics, news, features, and the arts, to cover challenging Hudson County news beats. Entry level OK. You must have writing experience, be creative and a self-starter, efficient at time management, interested in both hard news and features. Salary plus medical benefits.

Send letter of interest with salary requirements (a must), resumé, and any writing samples to: Kate Rounds, Editor, the Hudson Reporter,

krounds@hudsonreporter.com

and put "Reporter job" in the subject head.

Mayor Nicholas J. Sacco

invites North Bergen Seniors to enjoy a day at

EMPIRE CITY CASINO

& Yonkers Race Track

Saturday, January 27th
8:30am-5:30pm

Receive \$10 coin voucher and \$10 food voucher
Lite snacks will be served on the return trip home



North Bergen seniors only, proof of residence is required.
Seating is limited.

For reservations or more information please call Linda Cecchini
at 201-869-9595 or 201-869-5001

Dancing with the stars?

Local anti-Trump advocate gets bit part in Spielberg film

By Al Sullivan
Reporter staff writer

Perhaps fate played a hand in helping Tracey Everett, a local dance instructor with a history of working on Broadway, get a bit part as a dancer in the new Steven Spielberg film, "The Post."

The film is an American historical drama and political thriller about journalism, directed and produced by Spielberg from a screenplay written by Liz Hannah and Josh Singer. The film stars Meryl Streep, Tom Hanks, Sarah Paulson, Bob Odenkirk, and others.

Although seemingly a retelling of the classic investigative film "All the President's Men" and the investigation of Watergate in the 1970s, "The Post" apparently has a broader scope, depicting journalists from *The Washington Post* and *The New York Times* who published the Pentagon Papers back then, a trove of leaked documents showing the inside secrets of three administrations related to the Vietnam War.

Critics, both positive and negative, referred to the film's parallels between President Richard Nixon and President Donald Trump.

One film critic called "The Post" "an unlikely pairing" between Washington Post publisher Kathleen Graham (played by Streep) and editor Ben Bradlee (played by Hanks).

Filming started in May

Filming in New York City started in May 2017, and is scheduled for a limited release just before Christmas.

The film has already received advance rave reviews for the performances by Streep, Hanks, and Odenkirk, and has been nominated as best film of 2017 in Golden Globe Awards, with other nominations for Streep and Hanks as well as best screenplay and best original score.



Steven Spielberg pictured near the Bayonne Bridge.

see SPIELBERG page 9

UP TO THE MINUTE
www.hudsonreporter.com

VISIT US ONLINE



UNION BEER DISTRIBUTORS, A MAJOR BEVERAGE DISTRIBUTOR IN METRO NEW YORK, WILL BE RELOCATING TO SECAUCUS NJ SOON AND CURRENTLY HAS MULTIPLE VACANCIES FOR FULL-TIME COLA & COLD DRIVERS FOR LOCAL RETAIL DELIVERY POSITIONS.

All candidates hired with a valid CDL A or CDL B License between January 2018 and March 2018 will automatically receive sign on bonuses and monthly service bonuses for the first three months of employment.

All Driver positions include highly competitive pay, 100% company sponsored medical, dental & vision care, paid vacation and sick time off, a company sponsored retirement savings plan, life insurance coverage and other significant perks!

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www.sheehanfamilycompanies.com

Interested? Apply in person at our brand new, state of the art facility located at:

46 Meadowlands Parkway, Secaucus, NJ 07094

Or apply online at **UNIONBEERDRIVERS.COM**

Union Beer Distributors is a division of The Sheehan Family Companies, a fourth generation family owned business that was founded in 1999



Mayor Nicholas J. Sacco

invites North Bergen Seniors to

Cavalino's BAR & RESTAURANT

6800 Park Ave, Guttenberg, NJ 07093

Wednesday, January 17th

1:00pm-3:00pm, \$16.00pp

(Price includes soda, tax and tip. SEATING IS LIMITED)

Appetizer:

Choice of soup (split pea or chicken)
or salad

Choice of Entrée:

Chicken Marsala
Broiled or Grilled Salmon
Grilled Steak

(All entrées served with vegetable and potato)

Dessert:

Choice of ice cream or cheesecake



For additional information, reservations or transportation regarding this event please call the Office of Community Service at 392-2157

Sponsored by the Office of Community Service

BRIEFS

Man arrested in Union City for allegedly sexually assaulting 10-year-old

The Union City Police Department arrested a 31-year-old man on Jan. 13 for alleged sexual assault of a 10-year-old girl the day before, according to the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office.

According to an HCPO press release, the man allegedly assaulted the girl on the steps of her apartment building.

The alleged victim was able to escape and alert an adult, who then contacted the UCPD. That same day, UCPD detectives contacted the County Prosecutor's Special Victims Unit regarding the alleged attack.

An initial investigation led to the suspect at a nearby shelter. Officials transported the man to a Hudson County Prosecutor facility to Jersey City. However, he escaped the facility soon after. Officers recaptured him within 24 hours.

The man, who — according to the Prosecutor's Office press release is Luis Bescome of East Elmhurst, N.Y. — is charged with sexual assault, a second degree crime; endangering the welfare of a child, a third-degree crime; escape, a third degree crime; possession of controlled dangerous substance; defiant trespassing, and obstructing the administration of law or other governmental function.

Hudson County Prosecutor Esther Suarez credited the Union City Police Department for their assistance in catching the suspect. She also credited the NJ State Police, the Maywood Police Department K-9 Unit, the Jersey City Police Department and the Hudson County Sheriff's Office for assisting.

County's homeless hotline AGAIN doesn't pick up when we call — days after homeless man freezes to death in portable potty

Eight days after construction workers in Union City found a homeless man's body in a local port-o-potty, the county's homeless hotline is again not working. Two reporters called the number for two hours on Wednesday, a cold, snowy day, and listened to the phone ring more than eight times with each call. Others who tried got a busy signal.

This is the third time in two years that the Hudson Reporter — in the course of routine reporting on the homeless situation — tried the 24-hour emergency line and got no answer.

Each time, county officials gave apologetic responses and promises to fix the line — which homeless people are supposed to call in winter if they need shelter and the three local shelters are backed up. The county runs an overflow shelter in Kearny.

The hotline is 800-624-0287.

Stories by *The Reporter* (hudsonreporter.com) back to 2016 showed problems with the line, with various county officials saying it was another department's responsibility.

On Jan. 9, local workers discovered a homeless man's body in a port-o-potty at a construction site near a church in Union City, according to Police Chief Richard Molinari. The construction site is the location for the Sts. Joseph and Michael Church, severely damaged in a fire last March.

A company is currently performing repairs to the church, located at 1314 Central Ave.

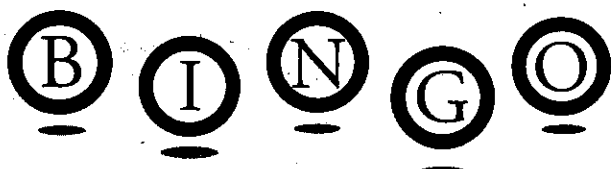
According to Molinari, the man was Hispanic and in his late 20s. The chief believes that he used the port-o-potty to escape the freezing temperatures.

"The weather was certainly a factor in causing his death," Molinari said. "If someone's going to seek refuge in a port-o-john, that does not protect you from the low temperatures."

Township seeks to lease land from state for new parking lot

At their Jan. 10 meeting, the North Bergen Board of Commissioners adopted an ordinance to rent state-owned property located between Tonnelle and Liberty avenues, and between Union Turnpike and 40th Street.

see BRIEFS page 4



LUNCHEON

Mayor Nicholas J. Sacco

invites North Bergen Seniors to a Bingo Luncheon!

Wednesday, January 24th, 11:00am-1:00pm

North Bergen Senior Nutrition Center
1441 45th Street in North Bergen

Bingo Cards: \$1 each

Suggested Lunch Donation:

\$1.75 per person

Lunch Includes:

Entree
Coffee/Tea
Milk
Dessert

Reservations are not required for Bingo, just for the meal.

Please call 201-866-8791 by 11am the day before to reserve your meal.

For transportation please call 201-869-9595.



calendar

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Ongoing

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<http://www.narconon-newlifetreat.org/drug-rehab/>
ADDICTION SCREENINGS-Narconon can help you take steps to overcome addiction in your family. Call today for free screenings or referrals. 1-800-431-1754

Narconon-Top excuses for substance abusers who fail to seek treatment include: not ready to quit using, too scared to kick, their habit is not that bad. All result in continued abuse and all boil down to one real excuse — they want to use drugs. If you are suspicious one of your loved ones is abusing drugs or alcohol call us today for free information on the signs of drug abuse. **Narconon** can help you take steps to overcome addiction in your family. **Call today at 1-800-DRUG FREE** or by visiting <http://www.narcononnewlifetreat.org> for free screenings, referrals, or your free copy of signs of addiction.

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Gov. Murphy sets new course for Democratic Party

Seen as positive leader, looks at transit operations, vows to end 'us vs. them' politics

By Al Sullivan
Reporter staff writer

A few days before Phil Murphy took the oath of office as the 56th governor of New Jersey on Tuesday, he took a tour of Hudson County via public transportation. Starting in Hoboken, he boarded the mis-named Hudson Bergen Light Rail (since the line does not yet go to Bergen) for a seven-stop ride to Jersey Avenue in Jersey City.

Along the way, he talked to passengers about their concerns in an attempt to get a snapshot of the issues daily riders face when using NJ Transit. But in many ways the ride gave him a fictional view, since it took place on a weekend without the hustle and time pressure of the rush hour commute.

He probably didn't have to stand at the Bergenline Avenue station to hear NJ Transit workers tell passengers that the station was closed and they would have to wait for shuttle buses that would never arrive. He didn't have to throw away the already purchased and validated ticket they needed for the



Gov. Phil Murphy

train, but could not be used on public buses that were touted as an alternative. Murphy reportedly met with Jersey City Mayor Steven Fulop at the

Brownstone Diner before heading north to Union City and North Bergen, again using public transportation. But you can rest assured he didn't have to deal with unenthusiastic transit workers who don't answer questions, or to wait an hour for a bus only to have two finally come at the same time. He wasn't taking a train during cold weather when the line may be shut down because of "signal problems," and have to ponder the lack of capacity in the rail tunnels to and from Manhattan.

But Murphy's trip did highlight his commitment to make the system better and force NJ Transit to become more accountable. He even took a stance against NJ Transit's planned holiday vote in Hoboken that would turn the Union Dry Dock there into a repair facility for ferries, a project NJ Transit apparently hoped to squeak through under the former governor before Murphy took office.

The NJ Transit Board suddenly removed the item from the agenda the day before their meeting on Monday, Martin Luther King Day, which many Hoboken residents and officials attended to protest. Murphy was sworn in the next day.

His call for the resignation of many of the top officials at NJ Transit suggests that he intends to rebuild the beleaguered agency.

In a Tweet about the trip, Mayor Fulop said the city got three easy transportation wins.

"One, getting the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to have a more reliable and frequent PATH service," Fulop said in a tweet. "Two, Jersey City will rebuild the [planned] Marion PATH Station via public/private partnership. We just need the green light. Three, to extend the light rail across route 440 to BayFront."

The state has approved the next step, to extend the light rail from its current terminus at West Side Avenue

to Route 440, which would open up a new Gold Coast in Jersey City along the Hackensack River waterfront.

A new day

Murphy and his wife spent more than a week on the road, criss-crossing the state. They made numerous stops in Hudson County, including a brief tour of the Boys and Girls Club of Hudson County to commemorate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. They also came to help swear in county officials, including newly-elected Hudson County Clerk, Jr. Maldonado.

"Governor Murphy for many of us is the light at the end of the tunnel," Maldonado said. "Eight long years of dubious political and electoral decisions brings us to a point where we're excited about a governor who is progressive in his agenda, diverse in his cabinet, and charismatic in his personality," Maldonado said in describing Murphy. "Hello a new day."

West New York Mayor Felix Roque said he received a call from Murphy.

"We have become friends," Roque said. "We're extremely proud of him and believe he will bring greatness to the state. He is a man who is color-blind. He does not see people as white or black or Hispanic, he sees them as people. He will fight for immigrant rights and he will be good for our state."

A friendly visit to the boys and girls club

Murphy's wife helped kids at the Boys and Girls Club in Jersey City, greeting them and even sharing a lesson on CPR.

A small woman wearing a t-shirt for the Murphy

see **MURPHY** page 7

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HIS-210	History of Western Civ I
HUM-101	Cultures and Values
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