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RT Dems would like to congratulate High School and College graduates on their well-deserved success.

Planning Board: After a lengthy presentation by developer Woodmont Properties, and comments from the public, the Board approved the preliminary site plan for the Woodmont US Bronze warehouse project located on Rte. 202 and Voorhees Corner Rd. 1000 feet from J.P. Case Middle School and 600 feet from Concord Ridge. Woodmont Industrial Partners proposed a 353,830 square foot warehouse (the size of at least 6 football fields) that will sit on a 28.76 acre plot, consisting of 36 loading doors, 23 knock-out loading doors for a future tenant, 197 parking spaces with handicapped parking and EV spaces. Engineer Karl Pehnke testified before the board on behalf of the study and said that he anticipates about 49 vehicles arriving during the morning peak hours between 7:45-8:45 and about 62 vehicles leaving the sit in the evening peak hours. He states that “the level of traffic that we are adding to those intersections would not be considered to be significant by the department of transportation to the point that they would be concerned”, and that “we find the traffic added by this project will not materially change the current experiences at those intersections.” **Thank you, John Mackay, for your input.**

<https://www.tapinto.net/towns/flemington-slash-raritan/sections/business-and-finance/articles/raritan-township-approves-warehouse-proposal-for-route-202>

Flemington Raritan School District: At the May 2 School Board meeting, 41 members of the public, including **Mitchelle Drulis, Khush Pall, and Kent Davis** spoke out against the staff cuts to school personnel. Despite public opposition, FRSD voted

8-1 (Member Jeff Cain voted against the \$80M budget) to eliminate 33 positions including librarians, special education teachers, and teaching assistants.

Hunterdon Central Regional School District: At the April 29 School Board meeting, the Board unanimously approved a \$78M budget 2 School Board meeting, 41 members

A message from LD 16 Assemblywoman Michelle Drulis:

It's almost Summer which means school is almost out for our K-12, and our College students are back. Speaking of school, I am happy to share that the Governor signed A4161 (Frieman/Drulis/Katz/Zwicker/Gopal) that established Stabilized School Budget Aid Grants to restore state school aid reductions. Hunterdon Central was one of the effected schools, and I am happy we were able to get a portion of the aid restored.

The legislature is going full throttle in June. Budget hearings are over, and your LD 16 legislative team has already submitted our budget priorities. Over the next few weeks final details of the state budget will be worked on and we will vote on the final budget before the deadline of midnight on June 30th. Once the budget is passed, I will share more information.

This month, in addition to my three regular committees, I was asked to sub in on the Assembly Tourism, Gaming and Arts Committee, where we voted a bill out of committee that requires the division of travel and tourism to maintain a website of historic sites, districts and roadside markers. We have so many historic places right here in Raritan, such as Gearys Ridge for example, that I joined on as a co-sponsor to the bill. We are counting down to the 250th Anniversary of the United States and I encourage everyone to visit REVNJ.org to check out upcoming events and great places to visit this summer.

Continuing with the goodness of summer, who doesn't love Jersey Fresh produce!?!?! If you are thinking about Jersey blueberries, early harvest isn't until June 10th so instead try some strawberries which are being harvested this week. Check out the NJ Dept of Agriculture's Jersey Fresh website at <https://findjerseyfresh.com/JerseyFresh/availability> to see what is available.

Exciting news!! The Freedom To Read Act (A3446) is up in the Assembly Education Committee on Thursday, June 6th at 10am where public comment will be taken on this important legislation.

I am the prime sponsor in the Assembly. Senator Zwicker is the prime sponsor in the Senate.

Don't forget Tuesday is Primary Election Day! VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!

IMPORTANT ELECTION/VOTING INFORMATION: Voter registration deadline for the General Election October 15. The Primary Election is June 4, Early voting until June 2, hours are Monday-Saturday, 10am-8pm and Sunday, 10am-6pm.

• **If you have not done so, get your VOTE BY MAIL ballot in so that your vote counts.**

Club Election information: Our Club will be conducting elections for the 2024-2025 RTDC Executive Board on Thursday, June 20 at 6PM at Lois Zarish's home. Presently serving Board members intend to run for re-election for their respective offices: President Kent Davis, Vice President Raina Filipiak, Treasurer Michael Drulis, Communication Secretary Lois Zarish, Recording Secretary John Mackay. This does not preclude any member from running. If you are interested or would like to learn more, contact Kent Davis at 908-797-3439 or any one of the other officers. To vote or run in this election you must be a dues-paying member in good standing. Voting is in-person only.

Attention Raritan Township County Committee Members: Our Club will be conducting elections for the Municipal Chair and Municipal Vice Chair for Raritan Township for the 2024-2026 term. The election will take place at June 20 at Lois Zarish's home (same time as event mentioned above). Lois Zarish currently serves as the Municipal Chair and Michael Drulis serves as the Vice Chair. If you are interested in running, please reach out to Alan Harwick at alan@harwicklaw.com. Only County Committee members elected at the June 4, Primary are eligible to vote. Voting is in-person only-no proxy or write in voting will be accepted.

Upcoming Events & Fundraisers: We're looking for hosts and co-hosts for the **Dine in for Change Fundraisers**, the series of dinners that Club members host in their homes, April - October, that help to raise funds for our Club and candidates. The price is \$35 per person for any of the dinners listed on the schedule. As host, you provide the venue, theme, and food for the event. All events are BYOB, the host is not responsible for beverages. If you are interested or if you have questions. Contact Lois Zarish: jlzarish@sprintmail.com 908-625-8919

Please remember our ongoing donation request to create Birthday Bags to donate to the Flemington Food Pantry

Items can be brought to monthly meetings, or dropped off to Raina (to arrange delivery, or if you have questions, please call or text Raina Filipiak at 207.408.8851). Items in need: birthday cake candles, paper plates (for 8-10 people), cups, napkins, birthday banners, streamers, balloons, table coverings, hats, gifts such as board

games, dolls, soccer and footballs, action figures, art & craft kits, science kits, dinosaurs, Legos, and smaller gifts such as jump rope, play dough, puzzles, stickers, glow-sticks, age-appropriate books, etc...all items should be new.

Hunterdon County Community Day is Saturday June 8 11AM to 4PM at the County Fairgrounds. HCDC will once again have a tent to support our Party & our Candidates. Volunteers are always needed and appreciated to help at the tent. See below for more information. Sign up here to volunteer:

<https://docs.google.com/.../1FAIpQLSczn8yqTRjY5U.../viewform>



Please consider reaching out to Governor Murphy to urge him to VETO the new proposed OPRA Bill, as it grossly discourages residents from submitting OPRA requests. The new Bill includes provisions that shift the legal fees to the requestor if the request is denied, reducing the incentive for the agency to comply. The Bill would also allow governments to sue requestors they believe are “seeking to substantially interrupt the performance of government function” and it would also allow a judge to limit the number or scope of requests the requestor could file if the government prevails. At a time when we need more transparency, not less from our BOEs, local and county-wide representatives, this bill could be devastating to residents limiting their ability to fact-check. Text Gov. Murphy today, (732)605-5455, or call (609)292-6000 or email

<https://www.nj.gov/governor/contact/>

Paid for by Raritan Township Democratic Club, 5 Fairfax Court, Flemington, NJ 08822