



Red Bank Regional High School juniors and seniors participate in the Alliance for Success Program. PROVIDED BY LUNCH BREAK

Lunch Break

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Fifteen months since closing its dining room to guests, Lunch Break reopened its doors last Thursday, July 15 to anyone looking for a free hot meal.

As 2020 saw crises after crises, the nonprofit began adapting and expanding its services to meet community needs.

Lunch Break saw a 111% increase in pantry pick-ups and a 21% rise in hot breakfasts and lunches served, Ellen McCarthy, spokeswoman for the nonprofit, said.

Lunch Break also saw an increase in other services.

Its COVID emergency fund paid over \$800,000 directly to vendors to help people with utilities, car payments and rent. And classes offered through its Life Skills Center saw an influx of participants – sometimes for surprising reasons.

Mary Ann LaSardo, the operations manager of Lunch Break's Life Skills Center, said the two biggest obstacles to participating in their English as a Second Language classes was daycare and transportation. When classes went virtual, those obstacles no longer existed.

"We did so much virtually in the very dark days of the pandemic," LaSardo said. "We actually gained coaches and we actually gained participants."

In total, the Life Skills Program offered 100 to 215 virtual coaching sessions each month in 2020, according to a press release.

Marcel Quinones, program manager for the newly created Alliance for Suc-

cess, also saw an influx of participants. His pilot program geared toward high school juniors and seniors had put a cap of 20 students, but those 20 students invited three more.

Quinones describes Alliance for Success, which was conceived in October, as a two-year program that mentors and tutors students in the "movable middle" who have not fallen off, but are not completely set on a path to success.

In addition to an expansion of participants due to the pandemic, Lunch Break itself is expanding.

With hopes of raising \$12 million, the non-profit hopes to develop the vacant lot next door and bring its Life Skills Center, currently located in Shrewsbury, closer.

"I like to call (the Lunch Break location) the mothership," LaSardo said. "When they do this huge expansion, we'll be returning to the Lunch Break family."

Breakfast at Lunch Break is currently served only as grab and go from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Monday to Friday and 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday.

Dine-in lunch is offered from 11 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. Monday to Friday and grab and go lunches are served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Dine-in Friday community dinners are served from 6 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. and grab and go dinners are offered from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Tyrone Burr, Lunch Break's chief, said he hopes people will return so they can get "the rest of the community back."

Olivia Liu is a reporter covering transportation, Red Bank and western Monmouth County. She can be reached at oliu@gannett.com.

Fires

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state Department of Homeland Security with identifying and apprehending Dunne before anyone was injured or property damaged.

"Whenever crimes like this occur, there is an urgent need to catch those who are responsible," said township Police Chief Ted Wittke. "We are happy that we were able to work with our local, county, state and federal law en-

forcement partners to bring this case to a quick conclusion."

The charges of possessing a destructive device are third-degree crimes, each carrying prison terms up to five years upon convictions.

Dunne's detention hearing is expected to be held sometime in the coming week.

Kathleen Hopkins, a reporter in New Jersey since 1985, covers crime, court cases, legal issues, unsolved mysteries and just about every major murder trial to hit Monmouth and Ocean counties. Contact her at khopkins@app.com.

Berkeley Township lifts boil water advisory. Here's what to do now

Olivia Liu
Asbury Park Press
USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

BERKELEY — The Municipal Utilities Authority of Berkeley lifted its boil water advisory Saturday after new water tests determined the water is safe to drink.

Berkeley residents had been advised to boil tap water on Monday after E. coli bacteria was discovered in the town's water supply.

The Municipal Utilities Authority advises residents to flush out water lines by running faucets for three to five minutes; emptying and cleaning auto-

matic ice makers and water chillers; and draining and refilling hot water heaters if the temperature is set below 113 degrees Fahrenheit.

The Municipal Utilities Authority also recommends running service connections with a water softener or cartridge filter through a regeneration cycle or other cleaning methods recommended by the manufacturer.

For tall buildings, it recommends draining and refilling the water reservoirs.

Olivia Liu is a reporter covering transportation, Red Bank and western Monmouth County. She can be reached at oliu@gannett.com.

Manchester police search for missing 69-year-old

Olivia Liu
Asbury Park Press
USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

MANCHESTER — Township police are asking for the public's help finding a 69-year-old man missing from his home since Saturday evening.

Peter Tymko was last seen about 5 p.m. Saturday driving from his Hancock Drive home in a bronze Honda CRV with Florida license plate CVAG09, according to a police statement.

Tymko is unfamiliar with the area



Tymko

and suffers from a past brain injury. He was wearing a black shirt and tan shorts. According to the police, Tymko has family in Pennsylvania and may be driving to them.

Anyone with information is asked to contact police at 732-657-6111.

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Spray Beach lifeguard Elyse Donahue starts her leg of the Paddleboard Medley during the tournament for the Long Beach Township Patrol Cup. The tournament was held at the 68th street beach in the Brant Beach section of Long Beach Township. PHOTOS BY PETER ACKERMAN/ASBURY PARK PRESS

Lifeguards

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compete in various challenges for the cup. The races include rowing, a mile beach run, paddleboard race, a line pull and swim race.

The tournament was held at the 68th street beach in the Brant Beach section of Long Beach Township.

Victories in the Line Pull and Mile Beach Run competitions helped Spray Beach lifeguards claim the annual cup.

With 12 miles of ocean beaches, Long Beach Township employs nearly 200 lifeguards, according to the beach patrol's website.

Amanda Oglesby is an Ocean County native who covers Brick, Barnegat and Lacey townships as well as the environment. She has worked for the



Spray Beach lifeguard Teddy Janiec wins the men's Mile Beach Run at the tournament for the Long Beach Township Patrol Cup. Victories in the Line Pull and Mile Beach Run competitions helped Spray Beach lifeguards claim the annual cup.

Press for more than a decade. Reach her at @OglesbyAPP, aoglesby@gannett.com or 732-557-5701.

Book

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the introduction. "This is a time of vigilance when who we are is being seriously tested. Hard conversations about who we are and who we want to become can perhaps serve as a small guiding map for some of our fellow citizens. ... This is a time for serious consideration of who we want to be and what kind of country we will leave our children. Will we let slip through our hands the best of us or will we turn united to face the fire? Within this book you won't find the answers to those questions, but you will find a couple of seekers doing their best to get us to ask better questions."

Obama, the 44th President of the United States, bestowed Springsteen the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2016.

"The conversations Bruce and I had

in 2020 feel as urgent today as they did back then," Obama writes. "They represent our ongoing effort to figure out how it is that we got here, and how we can tell a more unifying story that starts to close the gap between America's ideals and its reality."

"Renegades," in an oversized format, features rare and exclusive photographs from Obama and Springsteen's personal collections and never-before-seen archival material, including Springsteen's handwritten lyrics and Obama's annotated speeches.

The list price is \$50 and the digital version is \$17.99. The book also will be published in Spanish, German, Portuguese, French, Italian and Dutch.

Subscribe to app.com for the latest on Bruce Springsteen and the Jersey music scene.

Chris Jordan, a Jersey Shore native, covers entertainment and features for the USA Today Network New Jersey. Contact him at @chrisfjordan; cfordan@app.com.

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