

Holland Happenings



Spring 2024

in Hunterdon County

Established 1874



61 CHURCH ROAD MILFORD, NJ 08848 • 908-995-4847

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

This year marks Holland Township's 150th anniversary. With a huge outpouring of support from our residents and local businesses we plan to provide a year long celebration of our beloved township. We have grown over the years maintaining our agricultural roots and strong belief in community. Along with our beautiful open space we have grown to include commercial, residential, and recreational opportunities. Our town is an example of healthy growth strong municipal services, and an excellent school system. Our rich history includes Lenape village sites along the Delaware and Musconetcong river's. I hope to see everyone at our scheduled events, and I am eager to see everyone this fall at community day.

Daniel T. Bush
Mayor, Township of Holland



HOLLAND TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

Members of the Holland Township Volunteer Fire Company continue to enhance their training on all levels of emergency response. Fire Suppression, Motor Vehicle Extrication, Swift Water Rescue, are just some of the examples the fire Company responds to when called. We are completely volunteer and are always looking for new members to join our commitment to protecting our community.

We continue with our fund-raising efforts with two mailings for our annual donations from our residents, rentals of our Whispering Pines Hall (908) 328-5469, two yearly yard sales (May 4, 2024 rain date May 5), pool fills using hydrant water (908) 328-1181, our Annual Summerfest scheduled for July 13, 2024, and our year-round clothing bin located at the library on rt. 614. Follow us on Facebook and our website at hollandtwpfire.org for more information.

Thank you for all your support throughout the year!

Anthony Roselle - President

Thomas Dougherty- Chief

HOLLAND TOWNSHIP SCHOOL

The Spring is a super busy time of year at Holland Township School. The students are busily engaging in content, celebrations and fun. The school year is flying by and we are excited about all the special events occurring this Spring.

- **March-** Read Across America Celebration, Drama Club performance at Phantoms Hockey, Preschool Information sessions, grade level field trips, Spring sports, Human Board Game assembly, Del Val Arts Festival and Spring Recess
- **April-** Autism Awareness Activities, Tournament of Champions, 4th grade Immigration Simulation, Drama Club performance of "Finding Nemo", PTO Book Fair and HTEA Literacy Nights
- **May-** NJSLA testing, Music in the Park competitions, grade level field trips, and the Spring Music concert
- **June-** Field days and Graduation

The students, faculty and parent community are looking forward to sharing the remainder of the school year together.

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HOLLAND TOWNSHIP DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

BEWARE OF PHONE SCAMS: A MESSAGE FROM CHIEF OF POLICE

Over the past few months, we have received numerous reports of residents falling victim to various types of phone scams. These scams can take many forms, including calls from individuals posing as government officials, law enforcement officers, or representatives from well-known companies. These scammers often use intimidation tactics or offer enticing promises to trick individuals into providing personal information or sending money.

All residents must be vigilant and aware of the signs of a phone scam. Here are some tips to help you protect yourself:

Verify Caller Identity: Always verify the identity of the caller before providing any personal information or financial details. Government agencies and legitimate organizations will never ask for sensitive information over the phone.

Be Skeptical of Unsolicited Calls: If you receive a call from an unknown number or a number you do not recognize, exercise caution. Do not trust unsolicited calls, especially if they demand immediate action or threaten consequences.

Do Not Provide Personal Information: Avoid sharing personal information such as Social Security numbers, bank account details, or passwords over the phone, especially if you did not initiate the call.

Hang Up and Verify: If you suspect that a call may be a scam, hang up immediately. You can then independently verify the caller's identity by contacting the organization or agency directly using a trusted phone number.

Report Suspicious Activity: If you receive a suspicious call, report it to the Holland Township Police Department. By reporting these incidents, you can help us track patterns and protect others in the community.

Remember, scammers are constantly evolving their tactics, so it is essential to stay informed and remain cautious. Educate yourself and your loved ones about common phone scams and how to recognize them.

At the Holland Township Police Department, we are committed to ensuring the safety and security of our community. We are here to assist you and address any concerns you may have regarding phone scams or any other security-related issues.

The Board of Health

A serious issue that the Board of Health handles is faulty septic systems and granting the necessary waivers where applicable to place these systems back into compliance. New homeowners who have come from an area where there is town-wide sewer service might now have their first encounter with a septic system. Some steps to keep a septic system functioning properly are as follows:

Have the tank pumped out and inspected at least once every three years or more often if necessary based upon the number of people in the household or amount of wastewater generated. Regarding the drain field, vehicles such as cars, trucks or other heavy vehicles should not be driven over it, and trees and shrubs as well as hard surface construction such as concrete patios should not be placed over the drain field.

Efficient water use can improve the operation of the septic system. Leaky faucets and toilets add unnecessarily to the system. At replacement time install a high efficiency toilet and add aerators to faucets. When doing laundry, select the proper load size to minimize water usage and at replacement time select a high efficiency washing machine. Do not flush bathroom items such as Q-tips, feminine hygiene products or dental floss, and in the kitchen do not put grease, oil or household chemicals down the drain.

Septic system repair and replacement are quite expensive, and following simple guidelines can help prevent same.

Linda Haughey
REALTOR®

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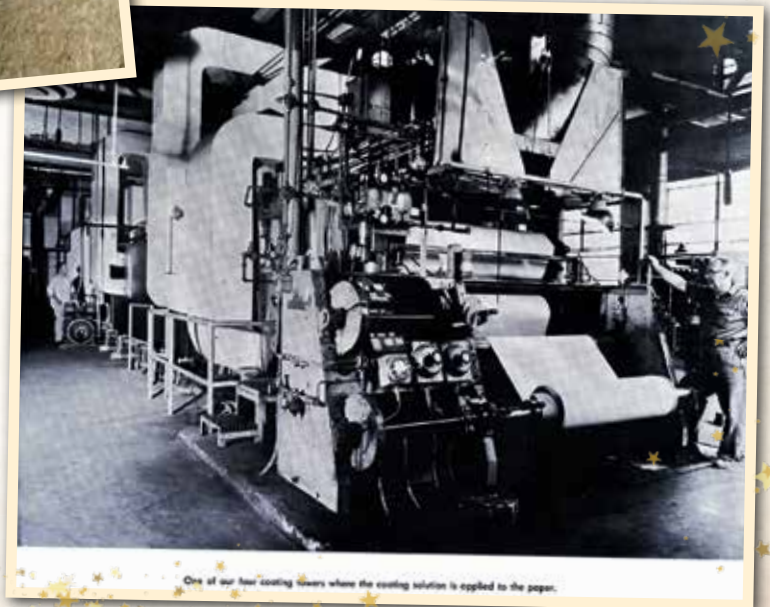
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Holland Township's 150th Anniversary

Hopefully you have heard about the special activities that are taking place this year to celebrate the occasion. From pickleball, vintage baseball games, and fireworks, to community swim days, there is a little something for everyone. We are creating videos of historic Holland for display on three TV screens in the Riegel Ridge Community Center that we are hoping to have in place by the time you are reading this. There are 50's videos of bowling, softball, and baseball and a 60's video of football, cheerleaders, and twirlers. When you have a chance, stop by, sit a while, and see if you recognize anyone. Watch the pinsetters hustling in the bowling alley. The videos will also include photos of works of local artists, farming, local history, and Riegel Paper. As they say, "A picture is worth a thousand words". With that being said, here are some photos of what you may see on the videos. Hope to see you at "The Ridge" enjoying "A Drive Through Time".



CELEBRATING 150 YEARS



THE TOWNSHIP OF HOLLAND'S SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Schedule of Events

Feb 12 | **ACTIVE ADULT PICKLEBALL CLINIC SERIES**
This free beginner series is for active older adults ages 65+ from 10:30am-12:00pm in the RRCC Gymnasium. 2/12, 2/19, 2/26 & 3/4; limited to first 8 registrants.

May 18 | **VINTAGE BASEBALL GAME**
Join us for a day of vintage baseball featuring the Neshanock Base Ball Club of Flemington, the Atlantic Base Ball Club and the Talbot Fairplays beginning at 10:30am at Case Field followed by a youth DVAA game and a fireworks display.

Aug 17 | **COMMUNITY POOL DAY**
Bring your family to Holland Township Community Pool Day - featuring inflatables and a DJ!
*Holland Township residents - FREE

Sept 7 | **HOLLAND TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY DAY**
Performance by The Nerds, beer garden, inflatables, fireworks, community booths and kids events starting at 3pm.

Oct 5 | **HOLLAND TOWNSHIP 5K RIVER RUN**
Our 5K River Run event will be held on October 5th at Holland Township Station 2 Firehouse.

Oct 26 | **VICTORIAN HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION**
Featuring pumpkin painting and decorating, make and take Halloween decorations and Not So Scary Story Time at the Holland Township Free Public Library.

HISTORIC PERSPECTIVE VIDEOS OF HOLLAND TOWNSHIP WILL BE AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT 2024 AT THE RIEGEL RIDGE COMMUNITY CENTER.

908-995-9260 • WWW.RIEGELRIDGECC.ORG • OPERATIONS@RIEGLRIDGECC.ORG

**Holland Township
Community Day
Celebrating 150 Years**

ENTERTAINMENT BY
THE NERDS
PURE ENERGY

kids events
community booths

INFLATABLES
Fireworks!
BEER GARDEN

September 7, 2024 | 3:00PM

910 Milford Warren Glen Road
Milford NJ 08848
www.riegelridgecc.org
908-995-9260



Agriculture Advisory Committee

The NJ State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) recently announced:

New “Next Gen” Farmer Program

New Jersey has invested more to preserve its agricultural land base than any state in the nation, resulting in more than one out of every three acres of farmland being enrolled in the state’s Farmland Preservation Program. The potential for return on this investment can be fully realized only if there are enough qualified and dedicated farmers to cultivate and care for the State’s farmland.

According to American Farmland Trust (AFT), more than 40 percent of America’s agricultural land is owned by people aged 65 and older and will be in transition within the next 15 years, putting both family farmers and the land they steward at risk. AFT estimates that 371 million acres of farmland and ranchland could be in transition due to the age of farmland owners. Meanwhile, many would-be farmers can’t afford to enter the field.

New Jersey is addressing the issue as the State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) is establishing a “Next Generation Farmers” program to support new and beginning farmers in accessing land, securing the technical training, and establishing new, viable farming enterprises.

“We will be hiring two new staff members to research, design, develop, and implement a comprehensive system to identify, train, equip and support the next generation of New Jersey farmers in coordination with existing programs where possible, “ SADC Executive Director Susan Payne said.

New Jersey’s agricultural operations are comprised almost entirely of family farms with those relations being the primary pathway for young farmers to gain access to land. Farmers generally were either raised in a farm family or married into one – and farmland was passed down from one generation to the next. In New Jersey and across the nation, children of farm families have

increasingly chosen to leave the farm and pursue other vocations, creating a void in what historically has been the seamless transition of farm operations to the next generation.

Many people who want to become farmers, both younger ones beginning, and others starting second careers, don’t have access to the land needed to start a new farming business. While would-be farms are typically located in rural areas, an increasing number of people are interested in producing food in suburban and urban environments to reach underserved populations.

“We want to identify changes in state and federal policy, rules, and legislation to achieve the goals of a next-generation farmer program in collaboration with existing stakeholders,” Payne said. “These include American Farmland Trust, New Jersey-based land trusts, Rutgers University Cooperative Extension, New Jersey Farm Bureau, urban agriculture gardens and initiatives, the Northeast Organic Farmers Association of New Jersey, the New Jersey Department of Labor, and county and local partners in the development and implementation of the program. We want to reach a diverse range of potential participants, including women-owned business interests, and underserved communities.”

There may also be opportunities for veterans to seek careers in agriculture.

“The SADC wants to collaborate with Joint Base Maguire-Dix-Lakehurst to allow U.S. veterans to pursue agriculture as their next career and create an effective mentoring program between retiring and new and prospective farmers,” New Jersey Department of Agriculture Assistant Secretary Joe Atchison III said.



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DIRECTORY HOLLAND TOWNSHIP

HOLLAND TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING

61 CHURCH ROAD, MILFORD, N.J. 08848

HOURS: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday

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TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

Municipal Clerk/Registrar

Melissa S. Tigar, 995-4847 x 210
clerk@hollandtownship.org

Chief Financial Officer

Kristi Gano, 995-4947
cfo@hollandtownship.org

Construction Dept. – NJ Bureau Code Enforcement

Asbury Office, 713-0722

Dog Licensing Official

Virginia Colucci, 995-8810
doglicensing@hollandtownship.org

Dog Warden

Animal Control Solutions
908-722-1271

Land Use Administrator:

Maria Elena Jennette Kozak, 995-0057
(Planning Board/Board of Adjustment/Zoning/COAH)
Planningboard@hollandtownship.org
Monday – Friday 8:00am – 2:30pm

Parks & Recreation Director

Jessica Neglia, 995-9260
director@riegelridgecc.org

Police Chief

Sean Gutsick, 995-4670
sgutsick@hollandtwp.org

Police Administrative Coordinator

Halle Whitmore, 995-4670
hwhitmore@hollandtwp.org

Public Works Superintendent

Corey Colaluca, 995-4435
dpw@hollandtownship.org

Tax Assessor

Erica Brandmier, 995-4830
taxassessor@hollandtownship.org
Hours: Tuesday 5:30pm to 8:30pm

Tax & Sewer Rent Collector

Ann Marie Silvia, 995-2047

Deputy Tax & Sewer Rent Collector

Dimitri VanBuskirk
taxcollector@hollandtownship.org
Hours: Monday & Thursday 8:00am to 2:00pm

OTHER IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Holland Township School	995-2401	www.hollandschool.org
Delaware Valley High School	996-2131	www.dvrhs.org
Holland Township Volunteer Fire Co.	995-2220	www.hollandtwpfire.org
Milford Holland Rescue Squad	995-2472	
Riegel Ridge Community Center	995-9260	www.riegelridgecc.org
Holland Free Library	995-4767	www.hollandlibrary.org
Township Recycling Center & Dumpster	995-9188	

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www.Elizabethtowngas.com	www.Verizon.Com
Aqua of New Jersey	
877-987-2782	
www.Aquaamerica.com	

2024 TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mayor Dan Bush

d.bush@hollandtownship.org - (c) 908-399-4213
Term as Mayor ends 12/31/2024

Term on Township Committee ends 12/31/2024

Deputy Mayor Scott Wilhelm

s.wilhelm@hollandtownship.org - (c) 908-619-1344
Term as Deputy Mayor ends 12/31/2024

Term on Township Committee ends 12/31/2025

Committeeman Robert Thurgarland

r.thurgarland@hollandtownship.org - (c) 908-500-6938
Term on Township Committee ends 12/31/2025

Committeewoman Lisa Pezzano

l.pezzano@hollandtownship.org - (c) 908-881-6701
Term on Township Committee Ends 12/31/2026

Committeeman Duane Young

d.young@hollandtownship.org - (c) 908-246-6600
Term on Township Committee Ends 12/31/2026

2024 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

January 1, 2024	.....New Year's Day 2024 (Monday)
January 15	.....Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Monday)
February 19	.....Presidents Day (Monday)
March 29	.....Good Friday (Friday)
May 27	.....Memorial Day (Monday)
July 4	.....Independence Day (Thursday)
September 2	.....Labor Day (Monday)
November 11	.....Veterans Day (Monday)
November 28	.....Thanksgiving Day (Thursday)
December 24	.....Christmas Eve (Tuesday)
December 25	.....Christmas Day (Wednesday)
.....	.....(One (1) 2024 Floating Holiday)

2024 TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE DATES

ALL MEETINGS BEGIN AT 7:00 PM

January 2 (Re-org.) and Jan 16	July 2 and 16
February 6 and 20	August 6 and 20
March 5 and 19	September 3 and 17
April 2 and 16	October 1 and 15
May 7 and 21	November 6 (Wed) and 19
June 5 (Wed) and 18	December 3 and 17

Honoring Holland Veterans

If you wish to honor a Holland Township Veteran by purchasing an engraved brick to be added to the existing Veterans Memorial at the Municipal Building, please contact Municipal Clerk Melissa S. Tigar at clerk@hollandtownship.org

Each purchased brick will be engraved with the Veterans name, rank and branch of service, time served and service arena.

Thank you

HOLLAND TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

March 11, 2024

The Holland Township Parks and Recreation Committee will be meeting monthly throughout 2024 to develop activities for the enjoyment of our residents. Unfortunately inclement weather prevented us from holding our January and February meetings. We are eagerly anticipating our March 12 meeting so we can kick off our events for 2024!

We have not been able to formulate many specific plans for this year as yet. In the past the Parks and Recreation Committee has sponsored an annual **Easter Egg Hunt**, a **Fall Festival** and a **Winter Celebration including our House Decorating Contest**. We have already begun preparing for the Egg hunt which we are certain the children will enjoy.

Previous year's events have included bus trips and movie nights. These and other events are being considered for 2024. Additionally, we expect to coordinate with the community's plans for the Sesquicentennial Celebration that is sponsoring several fun events throughout the year. It should be a fun series with educational value as well.

The Committee has need of individuals to assist with these and the other activities we support throughout the year. Many hands make light work and these events can be expanded with more volunteers to help. The time commitment for any given activity is fairly small and this is a wonderful opportunity to meet your neighbors and make new friends! Please consider volunteering some time to help make our community even better!!

If you would like more information or wish to lend a hand please contact the Parks & Rec. Secretary, Maria Elena Kozak at (908) 995-4847 ext. 215, or by email at: events@hollandtownship.org.

We hope to see more of our families, neighbors and friends at these events. Welcome Spring!!!

Joe Somers

We're Hiring JOIN OUR TEAM

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For more information contact Jessica Neglia, Parks & Recreation Director at 908-995-9260 or director@riegelridgecc.org

RIEDEL RIDGE SUMMER CAMP Riegel Ridge Community Center 910 Milford Warren Glen Road Milford NJ 08848

HOLLAND TOWNSHIP SENIORS

Who is missing? YOU ARE!

Please join our group. Dues are only \$15/year, open to age 55 or older. This is a good way to meet other seniors in our area! We will be holding a picnic at Riegel Ridge on June 13 at 12 o'clock. All are welcome, details at our May 23 meeting.

Meetings are the 4th Thursday of every month. We have a short business meeting, followed by entertainment, and Bingo. We also sponsor local trips, such as to the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse.

Try our "exercise for seniors" group, which meets at The Ridge, every Monday and Thursday at 11:30 AM.

For more information, please call Bob Steinberg at (908) 894-2593, or email at vsambob@gmail.com

Thank you!

Bob Steinberg, President



HOLLAND TOWNSHIP WOMAN'S CLUB

Joan Stachnik, President Inquiries: 908-995-7898 or joanstachnik@msn.com

The Holland Township Woman's Club is a 'service' club, meeting on the third Thursday of the month, at 3:00 p.m. in the Holland Township Municipal Building on Church Road. New members are always welcomed and we look forward to meeting you.



Riegel Ridge Summer Camp

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Registration starts March 6 • 9:30 AM

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- June 17—August 9
- 9:00 AM—4:00 PM

BEFORE CARE

- 7:00 AM—9:00 AM
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AFTER CARE

- 4:00 PM—6:00 PM
- \$45 per week

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to
8/9/24**



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(cost for Campfest included)



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Riegel Ridge Community Pool

Holland Twp COMMUNITY Pool Day

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**Aug 17
12-7 PM
SATURDAY**

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www.springmillsvetnj.com

HOLLAND TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

HERE IS WHAT WE DID IN 2023

Water and Waterways

- We developed Stormwater Goals to be in conformance with the new Tier A designation from the State of New Jersey. We also created a new Webpage to inform and promote understanding of best practices.
- Our Musconetcong River (MWA) liaison brought awareness of the “Wild and Scenic” designation and acquired a speaker to explain the importance of the river and its history. New signs were acquired to acknowledge the section in Holland Township as “Wild and Scenic Musconetcong.”
- We brought to the township through MWA, “Flow Together,” a workshop which sought advice on clean water priorities that could be included in a new watershed management plan. We received data on the quality of the water in the Musconetcong and the nature of pollutants such as septic tanks, animal waste and runoff.
- We acquired a grant through the Delaware River expansion of the “Wild and Scenic” designation for interpretive signs along the O’sakame Preserve Trail.



Wildlife and Plants

- We presented two programs regarding the wildlife in our area.
- In “Coexisting with Coyotes” we learned about the myths and history of the coyote in NJ and how it compared to other predator species.
- In “Creating a Backyard Habitat for Backyard Pollinators and Birds” we were taught how to attract beneficial wildlife like birds and bees to our properties.



Trails

- We had a speaker discuss the portion of the Highlands Trail that runs through the township and its relationship to the longer, four-state Highlands Trail system.
- We offered a program by a naturalist from the Hunterdon County Parks system who conducted a walk around the Holland Trail at Riegel Ridge.
- O’sakame Preserve Trail - We acquired a grant to develop interpretive signs along the trail. We also had a map created and acquired two new benches.
- We continue to monitor and provide access to brochures of Common Birds and Common Trees at the trailheads and online of Holland Trail and O’sakame Trail, and we maintain the kiosks at the two trails.



Trees

- An Arbor Day seedling give-away was conducted during which we distributed 200 native trees with the help of a Boy Scout troop #187. An article was written about the event for Holland Happenings.
- We offered “Walk and Talk about Trees,” during which we pointed out the different species of trees around the Holland Trail and considered the threat of invasive species.
- Additional trees along the Holland Trail were marked and designated with a QR code. The same was done at the O’sakame Trail. This is an ongoing project where plaques are placed on trees with the name and a QR Code. The QR Code brings people to the Holland Township Website for a video and fuller description of the tree.
- We held a dedication and tree planting in honor of Mr. Henry Gore with this family in attendance. Mr. Gore was a past recipient of the Environmental Achievement Award of New Jersey Association of Environmental Commissions.



Community Education and Outreach

- We were proud to present a successful Speaker Program for the second year.
- We offered five programs in 2023 that were attended by 15-40 people of a variety of ages and interests.
- We provided six articles for Holland Happenings in Spring and Fall of 2023:
- Through our website, we collected and developed a mailing list for our programs which is being utilized to inform and encourage attendance. Attendees are offered the opportunity to provide topics for future programming.



Holland Township Environmental Commission Schedule of Events 2024		
When	Event	Location
Sat. April 13, 2024 9 -12pm	Free Tree Seedlings	Recycling Center
Sat. April 27, 2024 - 10am	Arbor Day Planting	O'sakame Preserve
Wed. April 24, 2024 - 7pm	Trees! What, How, When and Where to Plant Them Neil Hendrickson & John Anderson HC Shade Tree Commission	Riegel Ridge - Library Room
Wed. June 19, 2024 - 2pm	Walking the O'sakame Debra Reed Hunterdon County Parks Naturalist	O'sakame Preserve Trail
Wed. July 17, 2024 - 7pm	Birds of Holland Township David Harrison Local Birding Expert	Riegel Ridge - Library Room
Wed. Sept. 25, 2024 - 7pm	What is the State of Recycling in NJ? by Rebecca Lunger Hunterdon County Recycling Coordinator	Riegel Ridge - Library Room

Holland Library

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Thank you for all the love you give our little library with a heart! And a big THANKS to the Hunterdon County Library for affording us this convenient book pickup method.

The Holland Library Board of Trustees

Tuesday - Thursday: 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Friday: 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Saturday: 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Please send any comments or concerns to
thehollandlibrary@gmail.com

Our website is <http://www.hollandlibrary.org/>





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JUNE 21-23, 2024

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THANK YOU TO THE BUSINESSES

Holland Township would like to thank the businesses that appear in this newsletter and to recognize them each as supporters and cornerstones of our community. For it is with their contributions

that this newsletter has been produced at no charge to our residents. The Township would like to further request that citizens, in response, patronize these businesses first when given a choice as these businesses are saving each citizen tax dollars.



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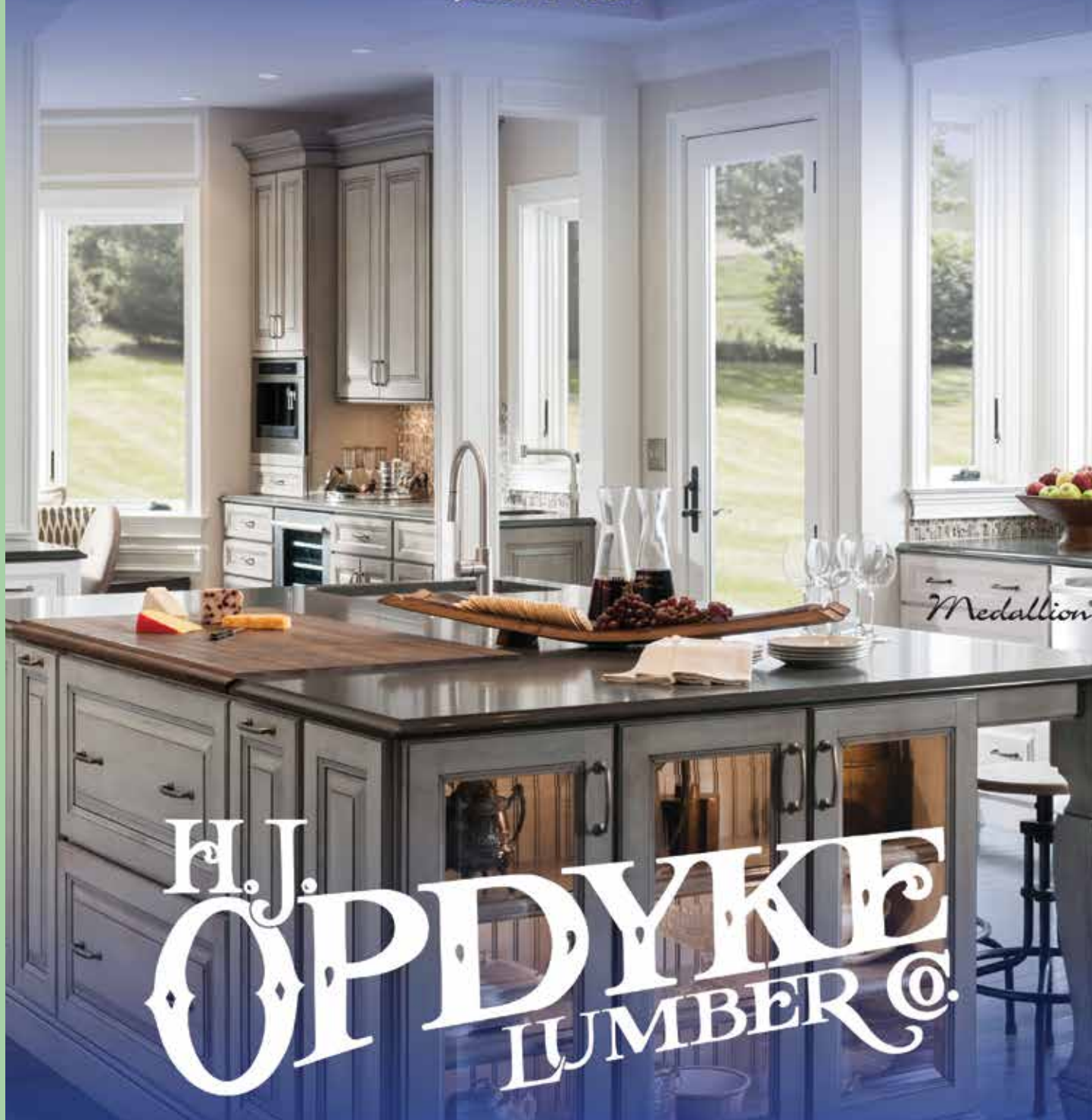
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