



PESU NEWSLETTER

MAY

2024

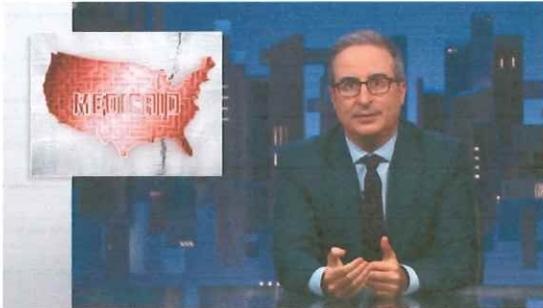
What's the Buzz?



The PESU contract negotiations committee has diligently reviewed the active contract, laying the groundwork for negotiations this spring. In addition, our representatives have engaged in productive discussions with Mr. Ramos and the county council, exploring potential updates to the contract. We look forward to meeting again to discuss contract terms in the coming weeks.

The Sandwich Generation: The sandwich generation describes people in the workforce who care for older family members and young children at home. Outside work, they're sandwiched between generations of family members who need caregiving. This can stress employees' ability to adjust their work/life balance between responsibilities. The Essex County Employee Assistance Program (**EAP**) may be able to assist with recommendations for FMLA, Intermittent leave, and available programs for assistance.

Medicaid represents \$1 out of every \$6 spent on healthcare in the US. Last year, it covered nearly 90 million people.



"The Great Unwinding" of pandemic eligibility rules, Managed Care Organizations (MCOs), & haphazard work requirement regulations make Medicaid challenging for clients and workers alike. Comedian John Oliver from HBO's Last Week Tonight spotlights multiple issues with Medicaid across the US.

Available on YouTube and HBO/Max
Warnings before you watch:
Language, laughs, & talking produce

Historic Unionization Vote at Volkswagen

In a momentous victory in Chattanooga, Tennessee, 83.5% of workers turned out to unionize under the United Autoworkers (UAW) banner by a margin of 73%.



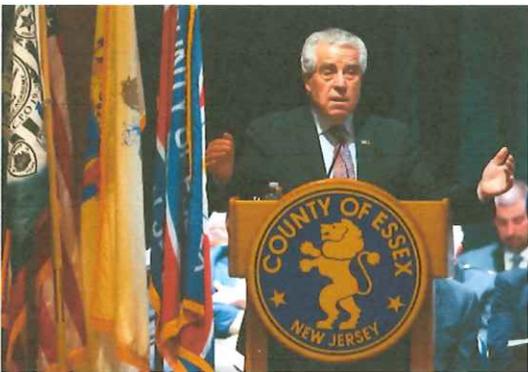
This victory comes after multiple attempts to unionize at the same plant over the past decade. The newly unionized plant has over 3600 workers. The next step for the newly formed union is to negotiate a contract with management. Meanwhile, the UAW is looking forward to capitalizing on the momentum of this win in an upcoming 5-day vote starting May 13th at two Tuscaloosa, Alabama, Mercedes-Benz plants.

Donald Payne, Jr., a Newark councilman, council president, Essex County Freeholder, and six-term congressman from Newark, NJ, died at age 65.



He is survived by his wife, Beatrice, and their triplets: Donald III, Jack, and Yvonne.

Essex County Sheriff Armando B. Fontoura announces he won't seek re-election.



Sheriff Fontoura is the longest-tenured Sheriff in Essex County. Amir Jones and Gary Nash are contending for Sheriff of Essex County in a June 4th Democratic primary.

Community Calendar

Essex County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day

99 W. Bradford Ave, Cedar Grove, NJ
May 4th, 8 AM – 4 PM

Essex County Computer & Electronics Recycling Day

99 W. Bradford Ave, Cedar Grove, NJ
May 18th, 9 AM – 3 PM

Essex County Fishing Derbies

Tuesday, May 21, Irvington Park

Wednesday, May 22, Monte Irvin Park

Thursday, May 23, Grover Cleveland Park

Tuesday, May 28, Weequahic Park

Wednesday, May 29, Verona Park

Thursday, May 30, South Mountain Recreation Complex

Weekday Derbies

Registration: 5 PM – 6 PM

Derby: 6 PM – 7 PM

Awards: 7:15 PM – 7:30 PM

Saturday, June 1, Branch Brook Park

Registration: 8AM – 9AM

Derby: 9 AM – 10 AM

Awards: 10AM – 10:30AM

NJ State Fair

1 MetLife Stadium Dr., East Rutherford, NJ 07073

June 20th through July 7th,

Food, Rides, Games, Shows,

Fireworks on July 3rd & 4th

[State Fair Meadowlands – June 20 – July 7, 2024 \(njfair.com\)](http://njfair.com)

Butterfly Tent Safari

Essex County Environmental Center, Garibaldi Hall

July 13th through 27th

Essex County Parks Photography Contest

Deadline September 11th