

PESU NEWSLETTER

June 2026

PESUONLINE.COM

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF PESU

As we continue to fight against the proposed premium hikes with the State Health Benefits Program (SHBP), we urge our members to closely follow bills, including NJ S4516 and continue to actively engage in the fight for affordable healthcare!

In Solidarity,
Lisa Maddox-Douglas,
PESU President



CONGRATULATIONS!!

PESU welcomes Deneen McNiel, SNAP office shop steward, as our newest member of the PESU executive board.



Interested in union business, benefits, or concerns?

Email pesuprez@pesuonline.com



CELEBRATING PESU's 30th ANNIVERSARY!!

The Public Employees Supervisors' Union (PESU) was established in September 1996 under the leadership of President Nicholas Nicoletta until his retirement in 2011. Nick, along with the membership, separated from the Teamsters Union to form PESU. Currently, our union is comprised of various supervisory titles, which perform clerical, supervisory, and administrative duties within the Essex County Division of Family Assistance and Benefits formerly known as the Essex County Division of Welfare located in Essex County, NJ.

We are grateful for the **30** years of collective labor amongst our members and look forward to **30** more!

Respectfully and in Solidarity

Lisa Maddox Douglas

PESU's 3rd President



DID YOU KNOW??



Alturrik Kenney
Surrogate



Devero McDougal, Esq., CPA (inactive)
Deputy Surrogate

We kicked off our "Did You Know" series on May 6th via zoom and look forward to your suggestions for additional topics to support your fellow PESU members.

Our presentation was conducted by the Essex County Surrogates Office which is led by the Honorable Alturrik Kenney.

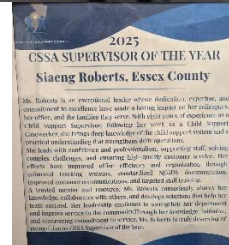
The session was extremely helpful, and we look forward to a more in-depth conversation regarding Wills, Trusts and Estates.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE DFAB OFFICE OF CHILD SUPPORT!!

Essex County was awarded the County Social Service Agency of the year

Lakeisha Jones recipient of the Sue Gray Improvement Scholarship Award

Siaeng Roberts, Recipient of the CSSA Supervisor of the year



PESU WISHES TO CONGRATULATE OUR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS AND OUR OWN SCHOLARS IN THE WORKPLACE!

EZE BROOKS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Ade McCoy child of Roslyn Patterson

BOOKS FOR BROOKS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Chidinma Chikezie child of Sylvia Prince

**Tanya Robinson, Family Service Supervisor, completed her
Master's Degree in Social Work from Seton Hall University**

**Keisha Clark, Family Service Supervisor, completed her
Doctorate's in Developmental Psychology from Liberty University**



LEADERSHIP CORNER

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A **BOSS** AND A **LEADER**

BOSS	LEADER
Issues commands	Gives direction and vision
Uses authority	Uses Influence and inspiration
Focuses on results only	Focuses on people + results
Says "Go"	Says "Lets Go"
Blames others when things go wrong	Takes responsibility
Uses people	Develops people
Wants to be respected out of fear	Earns respect through actions
Controls	Guides
Talks	Listens
Focuses on short-term	Thinks long term
In simple terms: A boss manages work A leader guides people "Here's why this project matters" "How can I support you to finish it?"	
Key Point A boss has a position A leader has influence	

Name: _____ Date: _____

DIRECTIONS:
Find and circle the
vocabulary words
in the grid. Look
for them in all
directions including
backwards and
diagonally.



AMERICA 250
ANNIVERSARY
COLONIES
CONCORD
CONGRESS
CONSTITUTION
DECLARATION
FEDERALISM
FRANKLIN
FREEDOM
HANCOCK
INDEPENDENCE
JEFFERSON
LEXINGTON
LIBERTY

Y	N	N	A	R	Y	T	L	J	U	R	T	P	Z	P	U	K	P	W	N	F
I	N	D	E	P	E	N	D	E	N	C	E	C	X	L	S	C	Q	A	O	R
Q	L	R	V	L	E	X	I	N	G	T	O	N	V	J	E	O	U	S	S	A
A	L	E	J	A	P	M	L	A	I	V	G	Y	D	F	M	C	W	H	R	N
S	E	V	M	F	R	E	E	D	O	M	N	R	M	X	I	N	Y	I	E	K
H	B	O	C	O	N	G	R	E	S	S	O	N	S	R	Q	A	R	N	F	L
V	Y	L	R	J	Q	S	F	S	R	C	I	O	I	L	U	H	A	G	F	I
I	T	U	D	C	G	L	X	Q	N	S	T	I	L	M	I	D	S	T	E	N
U	R	T	Q	M	D	P	T	O	F	O	A	T	A	S	N	B	R	O	J	F
C	E	I	L	E	G	E	C	S	R	V	T	A	R	E	C	W	E	N	N	N
O	B	O	Y	J	W	E	E	E	E	E	N	R	E	C	E	R	V	R	Y	V
N	I	N	J	P	B	I	P	A	F	R	E	A	D	P	N	Z	I	N	T	O
S	L	C	Z	V	N	U	G	G	Y	E	S	L	E	I	T	E	N	E	S	Y
T	F	T	J	O	B	L	A	O	V	I	E	C	F	G	E	B	N	2	T	Z
I	C	S	L	L	F	V	R	P	G	G	R	E	T	G	N	C	A	S	G	U
T	A	O	I	S	H	K	N	J	A	N	P	D	R	Q	N	C	C	G	S	D
U	C	C	D	W	T	D	U	F	I	T	E	O	V	W	I	J	T	Y	M	C
T	P	P	R	O	Y	L	G	V	Q	Y	R	G	P	R	A	F	O	M	J	K
I	A	X	W	N	E	E	T	R	I	H	T	I	E	E	L	U	I	N	S	D
O	I	N	Y	V	C	Q	M	R	J	S	Z	M	O	Y	H	A	Z	N	N	D
N	N	O	I	T	A	C	I	F	I	T	A	R	W	T	L	Y	A	E	B	A

LIBERTY BELL
PATRIOT
RATIFICATION
REPRESENTATION

REPUBLIC
REVOLUTION
SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL
SOVEREIGNTY

THIRTEEN
TYRANNY
WASHINGTON
YORKTOWN

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE

PRIDE MONTH

New Jersey's got Pride — and lots of it! Join in the celebration this summer with local events, festivals and parades hosted by welcoming towns and LGBTQ+ organizations up and down the state. It's time to grab your rainbow flag and get these Pride events in New Jersey on your calendar!

<https://visitnj.org/lgbtq-pride>



JUNETEENTH

Juneteenth is celebrated on June 19th — the name is a portmanteau of the words “June” and “Nineteenth.” While Juneteenth has been celebrated throughout the country by many since the initial celebration in 1865, the day was officially recognized as a US Federal Holiday under President Biden in 2021. Known by many names, including Jubilee Day, Emancipation Day, or Juneteenth Independence Day, the holiday recognizes the time when enslaved Black people in Texas were notified of their freedom, more than two years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation in January 1863.

<https://www.national-juneteenth.org/>



2026 FIFA WORLD CUP

Starting June 13th through July 5th

Get ready for the ultimate showdown on the global stage — FIFA World Cup 2026™! The largest FIFA World Cup™ in history is set to be an unmissable spectacle, not just for the Northeast or the nation, but the entire world. With 48 teams battling for glory across three countries, including the USA, this event will captivate hearts and minds everywhere.

<https://visitnj.org/world-cup>

<https://njtworldcup.com>



JULY

NEW JERSEY CELEBRATES AMERICA'S 250th ANNIVERSARY

As our country's Semi quincentennial festivities roll out, we're proud to highlight our state's outsized role in America's revolutionary history. Get ready for celebrations of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness — done the Jersey way.

<https://america250.org>

<https://visitnj.org/nj250>



NEW JERSEY
REVOLUTIONARY
IN 1776 AND EVER SINCE

NATIONAL ICE CREAM MONTH

President Ronald Reagan designated July as National Ice Cream Month, along with the third Sunday of the month, as National Ice Cream Day.

<https://intrepidmuseum.org/2025-07-15/celebrate-national-ice-cream-month-scoop-history-taste-joy>



NEW JERSEY PUNK ROCK FLEA MARKET

July 25, 2026, NJ Expo Center

(formerly the Trenton Punk Rock Flea Market) and its family of events have established themselves as some of the most dynamic, delicious and family fun-filled events of its kind on the Beast Coast. As the country's largest DIY Convention and Marketplace, the NJPRFM welcomes 100's of artists and DIY Sellers from more than 30 states at each of our events along with the region's most delectable Food Trucks, amazing Celebrity Guests, On-Site Tattooing, Classic Pop Up Arcades, Pop Up Art Galleries, Live Music, DJ's and more fun than you can shake a faux hawk at!

<https://www.punkmarket.com>



The New Meadowlands Market

July 25, 2026, Metlife Stadium

The Meadowlands Flea market resumes its regular Saturday operations at Metlife Stadium, Route 3, East Rutherford, NJ.



AUGUST

Highland's 31st Annual Clam Fest

July 31, August 1 – 2, 2026

This beloved Jersey Shore tradition promises something for everyone, with a mouthwatering array of food trucks, festival favorites including the Lions Club's legendary funnel cakes and a lively Beer, Wine, and Sangria Garden at the corner of Waterwitch and Bay Avenues. Admission and parking are free, and the event goes on rain or shine.

<https://www.highlandsnj.com>



The New Jersey State Fair & Sussex County Farm & Horse Show

July 31st – August 8th, 2026

37 Plains Road, Augusta, NJ

Adults: \$12, Children: \$4, Seniors: \$8

Live shows and music, Carnival Rides, Rodeo, Demolition Derby, Monster Trucks, Tractor Pulls, East Coast Wrestling, Exhibits, Agricultural Exhibits, 4-H, Horseshows, Vendors

<https://sussexcountyfairgrounds.org/html/fair-info.cfm>



Where Farm Meets Fun!

AFRICAN RESTAURANT WEEK

August 13 – 23, 2026

The 4th annual edition of the New Jersey African Restaurant Week (ARW) would take place from August 13 – 23 – expect special offerings by restaurants, giveaways and much more.

The “week” ends with a food and music festival on August 22 & 23 – food tastings, local artists, market place, chef contest, kid zone and more.

For more information please email

connect@africanrestaurantweek.com or call 646-643-6261

<https://africanrestaurantweek.com/newjersey>



SEPTEMBER

MEADOWLANDS TATTOO ARTS FESTIVAL

September 4th 6th

Tattoo Festival featuring live tattooing from the world's best artists from across the globe. Death defying entertainment, live human suspension, TV stars from Inkmaster and Black Ink and more. Come down and get tattoos!

info@villainarts.com

<https://villainarts.com/>



VILLAIN ARTS 3RD ANNUAL

MEADOWLANDS

SEPTEMBER 4TH - 6TH 2026

MEADOWLANDS EXPO CENTER

NOVEMBER

Wicked Gluten Free Expo

November 7th & 8th, Meadowland's Expo Center, Secaucus, NJ

Be ready to buy! 100+ booths of GF brands, bakeries, & eateries, plus celiac nonprofits and other related businesses. They'll be sampling AND selling everything from cookies, cake mixes, waffles, brownies and breads to pasta, pizza crusts, pierogi and more. Samples, Food Trucks, Presentations & demos, Kids play area and crafts, Photo area

<https://wickedglutenfree.com/>



The HORROR RAD MALL MARKET!

November 14th, 10-4

Iron Peak Sports & Events

137 Mountain View Rd, Hillsborough Township, NJ 08844

Focusing on Horror, Jewelry, Pop Toys, Pop Culture, Vintage, Toys, Collectibles and artists and much more! Also Disney Pin Trading and Card Trading!

Come back to the way the mall used to be! Shop amazing vendors!

<http://www.newjerseyhorrorcon.com/>



BEAT THE HEAT

Mountain Creek Water Park & Bike Park



The Outdoor Mountain Creek Waterpark opens June 19th and has a great collection of water attractions. From the Li'l Dipper's kiddie pool, Sprayground, and the Lost Island for the little guys, to the High Tide Wave Pool to Bombs Away, Zero G, and the Canyon Cliff Jumps for the more adventurous, you're going to find something fun to do!

The Mountain Creek Bike Park offers mountain biking lessons and equipment rentals. The bike trails range from beginner to double black diamond (very difficult) to Stigmata's "Pro Line" (yeah, you could die) rated trails.

Both attractions sit on the grounds of the former **Action Park**

<https://mountaincreek.com/>

The Fun Plex East Hanover & Mount Laurel

Splash Plex - outdoor waterpark and indoor entertainment center featuring indoor rides, Boardwalk Arcade, and other attractions.

<https://thefunplex.com/>

Montclair Films

Held between The Clairidge and The Bellevue theaters in Montclair, this showcase displays a wide range of films throughout the year.

Movie Nights Under the Stars include:

Best In Show, Sunday July 26 at Essex County Anderson Park; and

Zootopia 2, Saturday August 29th at Brookdale Park Archery Field.

<https://www.montclairfilm.org/>

The Morristown Game Vault

22 South Street, Morristown, NJ

This retro arcade features pinball, standup arcade games and consols for open 7 days a week. No quarters needed! Admission starts at \$14 for 30 minutes up to \$30 for a 5-hour pass and they host parties and events.

<https://www.morristowngamevault.com/>

Diggerland USA

100 Pinedge Drive, West Berlin, NJ 08091, (856) 768-1110

Drive, ride and operate real machinery at the ONLY construction theme & water park in the U.S.

Date-Specific Tickets As Low As \$46.99 (Reg. \$53.99/\$50.99 At The Gate)

Check the calendar for hours and days

<https://diggerlandusa.com/>

Mexican Street Corn

Elote (pronounced elle-o-tay) is the favorite grilled corn-on-the-cob Mexican street food. Off the cob, it is called esquites, and is enjoyed as a vibrant side dish or as a street food snack served in a to-go cup. The dryer the corn, the better and faster the corn will toast.

Serves 4

Prep time 15 minutes

Cook time 15 minutes

Ingredients

2 cans (11 oz. each) *Del Monte® Summer Crisp®* [Mexican Style](#) or [Golden Sweet Corn](#)

1/2 cup finely crumbled cotija or feta cheese

1/4 cup plus 1 Tbsp. chopped cilantro, divided

2 Tbsp. *each* mayonnaise, sour cream

1 large lime (1 tsp. zest and 1 to 2 Tbsp. juice)

1/4 tsp. kosher salt

1 Tbsp. vegetable oil

1 1/2 tsp. chili powder

Directions

1. Drain corn and pat very dry with paper towels; set aside. Reserve 1 Tbsp. cheese for topping; set aside. In a large heat proof bowl, combine remaining cheese, 1/4 cup cilantro, mayonnaise, sour cream, lime zest, lime juice and salt; set aside.
2. Heat oil in a large non-stick or cast-iron skillet over medium-high heat until shimmering. Add dry corn; cook 5 minutes without stirring. Stir; cook 5 to 6 minutes, stirring occasionally, until toasted. Add chili powder; cook 30 seconds, stirring constantly.
3. Toss hot corn with sauce in bowl. Garnish with reserved 1 Tbsp. cheese and remaining 1 Tbsp. cilantro.

VARIATIONS: Prepare as recipe directs, except:

- For **Spicy Mexican Street Corn**, add 1 to 3 tsp. finely diced, seeded jalapeño pepper to cheese sauce in Step 1.
- For **Vegan Mexican Street Corn**, omit cheese, mayonnaise and sour cream, combining only the cilantro, lime juice, lime zest and salt in the bowl in Step 1. (Or, for a vegetarian non-creamy style street corn, sprinkle with the cheese but leave out the mayo and sour cream.)
- For **8 Servings**, double all ingredients and prepare on a sheet pan using the broiler. Preheat broiler with oven rack in the top position. Combine cheese sauce as directed in Step 1. Add oil and dry corn to a large, rimmed baking sheet; toss to coat and spread out evenly. Broil for 5 minutes; stir. Broil 3 to 4 minutes until toasted; stir in chili powder and broil 1 more minute. Toss hot corn with sauce in bowl. Garnish with 2 Tbsp. cheese and cilantro.