

# NJAC COUNTY BIZ

An Educational and Informative Newsletter for Counties and Businesses

New Jersey Association of Counties

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## JerseyNet Sets Example for Nationwide Public Safety Network

by Rob Wright, Business Development Director for Mutualink

As the federal government continues to make progress on the implementation of FirstNet – a single, national interoperable platform for public safety communications – all eyes are on New Jersey’s JerseyNet and its first-in-the-nation public safety deployable networks. As a FirstNet “Early Builder” project, JerseyNet is giving federal authorities and first responders everywhere a glimpse of how safety and security can be significantly improved when a high-speed wireless broadband network is dedicated exclusively to public safety.

New Jersey’s FirstNet application has proved innovative and effective. The Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness (OHSP) has implemented deployable networks for the public safety community utilizing System on Wheels (SOWs) and Cells on Wheels (COWs). As a result, JerseyNet facilitates secure and reliable multimedia communications in both densely populated and rural locations for emergency response situations, as well as planned large-scale public gatherings.

PMC Associates, the prime contractor for JerseyNet, partnered with Oceus Networks, Fujitsu, Mutualink and others to make this public safety LTE deployment a success. The network performed well in a real-world test last summer in Atlantic City, where more than 100,000 fans crowded the beach and boardwalk for popular concerts.

Here’s a brief overview of how JerseyNet enhanced situational awareness and improved first responder communications during the large-scale events:

- The Atlantic City Police Department and the OHSP deployed secure and portable technology equipped with Mutualink’s technology, enabling real-time video and voice communications to be shared among first responders.
- The JerseyNet broadband network provided uninterrupted connectivity, without reliance on commercial broadband providers. This was especially important during the concerts, with tens of thousands of cell phone users competing for the limited resources of cell phone networks.
- The police department’s Mobile Communications

The logo for Public Safety, featuring the words "PUBLIC" and "SAFETY" stacked vertically in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The letters are slightly shadowed, giving it a 3D appearance.

### INSIDE THIS EDITION:

- Pg. 1* JerseyNet Sets Example
- Pg. 2* Get to Know Your County Official
- Pg. 3* ACE Presents Merit of Excellence
- Pg. 4* A Salute to Public Service
- Pg. 5* Partners in Building Community
- Pg. 6* Unemployment: Spring Forward
- Pg. 8* Welcome to our New Members
- Pg. 10* Diabetes, The New Healthcare Killer
- Pg. 13* Nationwide Economics
- Pg. 14* Technology Solutions Services Contract
- Pg. 15* Benefits of Unified Communications
- Pg. 17* Federal Grants
- Pg. 18* Criminal Justice Reform Fund
- Pg. 19* NACo News Update
- Pg. 20* From the Executive Director
- Pg. 21* What’s Happening in Your County

*continued on page 3*

## Get to know your County Official.....

### How many years have you served as Union County Freeholder?

I've served as a Union County Freeholder for 11 years, beginning in 2004.

### What was the first public position you held?

My first public position was as a Trustee of the Cranford Public Library. I served during the expansion of the library and the construction of the adjacent Cranford Community Center.

### Why did you choose to run for Freeholder?

My interest in county social services, parks, and cultural activities made running for Freeholder a natural choice. I was honored to be chosen as a Democratic candidate for Freeholder, and to be elected and then re-elected.

### What has been the most difficult decision you have had to make while serving as Freeholder?

The most difficult decision I have made with my colleagues was the decision to sell Runnells Specialized Hospital, a county facility, to a private operator. This was a decision that none of us wanted to make. But it had to be done because the facility was operating for years at a high deficit.

### What would our readers be most surprised to learn about you?

Most people might be surprised that I was a serious student of karate for several years. A knee injury forced me to switch to walking and dancing for exercise. It's important to find a way to keep fit.

### Who is your role model?

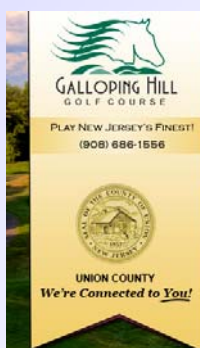
My role model is Eleanor Roosevelt. She embodied the spirit of public service. Throughout her life, she actively defended her principles and took a stand for civil rights, and for the rights of women and children. After leaving Washington, she became a delegate to the United Nations and helped to write the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

### What do you love about Union County

Union County has been my home for most of my life. I've benefited from its outstanding public schools, parks, and libraries, as well as the diversity of its many cultural events, both now and during my childhood. I love being able to see nieces and nephews to the Trailside Nature and Science Center and to the Deserted Village in the Watchung Reservation, part of the county parks system. I can come home and enjoy a meal at one of any number of great restaurants in my hometown of Cranford or in nearby Kenilworth, Westfield, or a dozen other towns. These are only a few of the reasons why I love Union County.



**Bette Jane Kowalski**  
Freeholder  
Union County



## Nationwide Public Safety Network *(continued)*

Unit (MCU) and several trailer-mounted surveillance cameras streamed video over JerseyNet, allowing unobstructed sharing of data between the field resources and the police command.

- Data was shared within the command structure and across the network with other supporting agencies, including the New Jersey State Police and emergency medical service providers, who were able to view the information and video on fixed workstations and portable smart devices using Mutualink.

By all accounts, JerseyNet performed flawlessly during the concerts, with police officials reporting “Zero Loss of Data” during the busy events. Prior to the availability of JerseyNet, first responders were hampered by the loss of data and connectivity resulting from the overuse of commercial LTE frequencies, which compromised the utility of command vehicles and surveillance cameras.

With another tourist season upon us, law enforcement and the public can take comfort in knowing that the most advanced safety and security technologies are being used right here in New Jersey. JerseyNet’s successes, as well as lessons learned, will serve as a model for the rest of the nation as a single interoperability platform edges closer to reality.

To learn more about Mutualink, please visit exhibit booth 708 to speak with Rob Wright, Business Development Director, or email [rwright@mutualink.net](mailto:rwright@mutualink.net), via telephone at (201) 289-5066, or at [www.mutualink.net](http://www.mutualink.net).



## Atlantic City Electric Presents Merit of Excellence Award Posthumously to Kevin Tuno

*by Frank Tedesco, Media Relations Manager for Atlantic City Electric*



*(l to r): Tom Reilly, senior public affairs manager, Atlantic City Electric; Debbie Tuno, wife of the late Kevin Tuno; Charlie Wimberg, Atlantic City Electric region vice president; and Susan Coan, Atlantic City Electric region vice president. Reilly presented Atlantic City Electric's Tenth Annual Merit of Excellence Award for Commitment to Public Safety to Debbie Tuno in recognition of her late husband Kevin's dedication to emergency management and public safety.*

Representatives of Atlantic City Electric presented the company's Tenth Annual Merit of Excellence Award for Commitment to Public Safety to Kevin Tuno, who recently passed away. The posthumous presentation was made to Tuno's wife, Debbie, on May 4 during the annual New Jersey Emergency Preparedness Conference at the Tropicana Casino & Resort.

“We are honored to recognize Kevin for his many years of service and dedication to emergency management and public safety,” said Vince Maione, Atlantic City Electric region president. “He was a respected leader and many relied on his expertise regarding issues pertaining to public safety. Kevin will be remembered for his dedication to his profession and the lasting impact he had on others.”

The Merit of Excellence Award for Commitment to Public Safety was created to honor those who commit their time and talents to the residents and visitors of our region and to recognize individuals or organizations that have made a significant contribution to emergency preparedness and safety in southern New Jersey.

*continued on page 4*



## Merit of Excellence Award Posthumously to Kevin Tuno *(continued)*

Tuno, described as a leader and mentor to many, committed more than 30 years of his career to emergency management and preparedness. Most recently Tuno served as Burlington County's emergency management coordinator. He was a former fire chief as well as an adjunct professor educating students at Burlington County College.

Atlantic City Electric supports the New Jersey Emergency Preparedness Conference through its Emergency Services Partnership Program, which provides resources for safety initiatives, education, recruitment and retention activities, and scholarship opportunities for police, fire and emergency management officials.

For more information about Atlantic City Electric, visit [www.atlanticcityelectric.com](http://www.atlanticcityelectric.com). Follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/atlanticcityelectric](https://www.facebook.com/atlanticcityelectric) and on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/aceleconnect](https://www.twitter.com/aceleconnect). Our mobile app is available at [www.atlanticcityelectric.com/mobileapp](http://www.atlanticcityelectric.com/mobileapp).



## A Salute to Public Service

*by Jennifer Dowd, Marketing Director for Kronos Incorporated*

We recently celebrated teachers, public safety, and public servants during Public Service Recognition Week, May 1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>. I can't think of a group of individuals more deserving of a "pat on the back" than our local government employees. It's important to give thanks not just for the roles they perform that we deem as important, but for the little things they do that make a big impact on our lives. Sometimes we forget how lucky we are.

For example...

Ever wonder who picked up that dead squirrel you saw on the road on your way to work? Thank a highway department employee for that!

Does the person at City Hall remember your dog's name every year when you go in to renew their license? Thank them for making it a personal experience!

Did a fire fighter help you set up your car seat as a new parent? Thank them for helping you keep your child safe! Wasn't that light display in the town center beautiful? Thank your public works department for making your holidays a little brighter!

Remember that time the school called because your child got sick? Who cleaned that up? That's right, thank your school custodian for that!

It's easy to take for granted the people that make our life run easier, especially when the media generally only picks up on the negative events. Truth is, there are so many people who are truly passionate about their role in serving the public. It's those people that we want to salute. It's those people I consider the heroes! Thank you New Jersey Association of Counties from your admirers at Kronos!

To learn more about Kronos, please contact Wesley Witherington, Kronos Sales Executive State of New Jersey, Public Sector and Education, at [wesley.witherington@kronos.com](mailto:wesley.witherington@kronos.com) or via telephone at (973) 331-5465. Also, please visit us at the NJAC Conference Exhibit Booth #513.



## DIGroupArchitecture—Partners in Building Community

by Emily Hammer, LEED AP, Chief Marketing Officer for DIGroupArchitecture, LLC

DIGroupArchitecture of New Brunswick, located in the heart of Middlesex County, offers a breadth of design talent and experience for community based-projects statewide. Also known as DIG, the firm was formed by a merger of several of New Jersey's leading firms in public architecture in 2006. They are now celebrating their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the growth it has experienced in its market sectors in the past decade.

Those past ten years have been a culmination of several decades of experience coming together. DIG's President, Jeffrey Venezia, AIA, has practiced in New Brunswick for nearly 40 years and leads the 28 person firm through a variety of different project types. "The common theme," says Venezia "is our process. Our goal is to help our clients make strategic decisions about their facilities. We utilize an approach where we listen to our clients during a conversation that lasts from the initial RFP through closing out the project. This level of communication fosters an atmosphere of collaboration and consensus-building, across every different type of project."

And DIG's expertise touches several different types of projects. Their four major sectors operate within a studio structure with both leadership and design talented dedicated to each. These studios include Academic, Healthcare, Senior Living and Government. According to the firm's Chief Marketing Officer, Emily Hammer "DIG provides a truly unique view of the needs of an entire community by virtue of its project experience. We at DIG help our public clients to educate their communities, keep them safe, provide them with critical healthcare needs, and look after their long term needs as seniors. It's a full circle of community involvement."



This brand of community has led to their involvement in some of the State's foremost projects. Some are very large – such as Phillipsburg High School, slated to open this summer to serve nearly 2,000 in five Warren County municipalities; and Trenton High School, currently in design to become a Mercer County hub for 1,700 students and the greater community in 2018.

Other projects, while smaller in size, are no less impactful – Dina's Dwellings, a partnership between Bergen County United Way and the First Reformed Church of New Brunswick, opens its doors this month to provide transitional housing to ten women survivors of domestic abuse, in unique apartment units created within a circa 1800 church building.

Still others keep pace with the ever-changing need throughout all communities for efficient healthcare as the State's hospital systems continue to shift and change in response to the Affordable Care Act. In the past ten years, DIG has completed over three dozen community based clinical offices, many of them based in Middlesex, Union, Monmouth and Ocean Counties.

Closely related is the creation of quality environments to meet the needs of the aging population, from independent living to continuing care retirement communities. "This could be the most interesting part of our practice," says firm principal Vincent Myers, AIA, LEED AP. "We've seen an incredible uptick in the numbers of seniors seeking out the quality of life they've enjoyed in their respective areas, and we've also seen a shift towards communities dovetailing some of their affordable housing goals into this kind of development. Planning really comes full circle when you think about the responsibilities of local governments from the beginning of resident's life all the way to their elder years."

A partnership with DIG is always a client-centric one; their brand of thinking about space needs combines with their design creativity for facilities solutions with long term benefits. Come learn more about DIG at the NJAC Annual Conference from May 18<sup>th</sup> through 20<sup>th</sup> we will be at Booth 701.

**DIGroupArchitecture**  
ARCHITECTURE FOR CHANGE

# Unemployment: Spring Forward with Hope

by Barbara Rosenberg, PhD of the New Jersey Psychological Association



According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, as of February, 2016, in the state of New Jersey, the rate of unemployment declined significantly to 4.3%. However, unemployment still continues to be a reality of life and the possibility of experiencing job loss at least once in a lifetime is a growing likelihood. Though not uncommon, the challenges of being unemployed can be as stressful as a long brutal winter with days that feel bleak, painful, and isolating. Cut off from familiar work routines and co-workers, one may experience a sense of loss in personal identity. Moreover, the absence of dependable income often creates feelings of worry and anxiety and the longer unemployment goes on, maintaining

hope becomes difficult. To spring ahead, here are some suggestions:

**1. Set up a purposeful daily routine both work-related and non-work-related.** Keep busy in a meaningful way, even setting weekdays like work days. Remember that trying to get a job is a job in itself requiring daily goal setting such as resume updating or reviewing new job openings. You might even create a home work area that resembles the way things looked in your office. If possible, consider taking courses to upgrade your skills and/or engage in some volunteer work you can feel good about. Schedule also non work-related goals such as going to the gym or catching up on things you always wanted to do. In essence, take control of how you spend your time no matter how uncertain the job picture appears.

**2. Rebuild a positive identity by replacing negative thoughts with hopeful attitudes about the future.** Be mindful of self-talk that creates self-doubt, fear, and panic such as “Maybe I’ll never again get the kind of job I once had” or “I must not really be as good as I thought at the work I once did.” Combat this negativity by rereading your resume that lists your accomplishments and capabilities. Or, make a list of all your strengths and talents. Focus on the belief that you are intelligent and able to solve problems and that, in time, you will be hired.

**3. Socially connect.** Reach out to former co-workers and friends. Meet them for lunch or coffee and keep them abreast of how your job search is progressing. Maintaining social work connections enables you to network that very often can be an excellent way of landing a new job. Or you can also call a caring friend, a go-to build-up person, who can be very helpful in reinforcing your positive outlook and your hopefulness about the future. You also might consider a support group for others who have been laid off-or start your own. Very often if you have been part of a layoff, there are others who are in the same position. Meeting periodically for mutual support and sharing information can be very helpful. Asking for help may be difficult, but the outcome can be self-empowering.

**4. Stop worrying about the loss of money.** According to Robert Leahy, PhD, author of *Keeping Your Head after Losing your Job*, what good will worrying about it do? Although money is a reality for many people who lose their jobs, do not jump to dire conclusions like I will run out of money, I will lose my house or my wife will leave me, etc. In the meantime, you can budget and economize. Also, focus on what you can do for free: show love, appreciate what you do have, pray, meditate, do yoga, or exercise. Losing your job does not mean losing your life.

**5. Don’t personalize rejection.** If you get turned down by jobs you apply for, do not take it personally. With so many others also unemployed, usually there are numerous people applying for the same job. However, in order to compete more effectively for any job opening, try to improve your interviewing skills. In a recent Sunday NY Times business column “Corner Office,” journalist Adam Bryant asked a CEO of a major healthcare

*continued on page 7*

## Unemployment: Spring Forward with Hope *(continued)*

corporation what questions she asks when interviewing job candidates. She answered, "I'll ask about the different kinds of environments they've worked in, the kinds of decisions they've made, and just what's important to them" and "Why would joining our team help you achieve something that's really important to you professionally and maybe even also personally?" The CEO goes on to say, "I don't want somebody who just sees this as a job. I want it to be really important in their life somehow."

**6. Try to be flexible.** Eventually almost everyone gets a job, especially if they put effort into it. However, you may need to be flexible about pay and location in addition to acquiring new skills. If after a period of time you are unable to regain employment, you may even consider temporary employment or even a new kind of job. Career changes can allow for new opportunities in personal development as well as for jobs that may be more relevant in today's ever changing job world. If unsure, check out the online Occupational Outlook Handbook published by the United States Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics that includes information about the nature of work, working conditions, training and education, earnings, and job outlook for hundreds of different occupations in the United States. Losing your old job was only the beginning, not the end!

*Dr. Barbara Rosenberg is a psychologist in clinical practice in Summit, NJ. She has been treating children, adolescents, adults, couples, and families for 30 years. Dr. Rosenberg served on the board of the Essex-Union County Association of Psychologists (EUCAP) where she was the Program Committee Chair, for several years, developing and organizing educational programs for psychologists. Dr. Rosenberg also writes a column called "Ask Dr. Barb" for the magazine At Home NJ. Her columns answer questions about family and couple relationships, life transitions, child rearing, work stressors, as well as personal challenges impacting on decision-making and behavioral change. Her articles and columns appear on her website [www.barbararosenberg.com](http://www.barbararosenberg.com), as well as on the magazine website [AtHomeNJ.com](http://AtHomeNJ.com).*

**The New Jersey Psychological Association (NJPA) is recognized as one of the strongest state psychological associations in the country. NJPA is an indispensable network of resources for the public and media, a staunch advocate for psychologists in the state, and an influential presence helping shape mental health policies in New Jersey. Visit us at [www.PsychologyNJ.org](http://www.PsychologyNJ.org) to locate a psychologist or to find the most current news, articles, and events that may be of interest to you. Follow us on Twitter [@njpsychassn](https://twitter.com/njpsychassn), connect with us on [Linked In](#), and subscribe to our [quarterly newsletter](#)! For more information, contact Executive Director, Keira Boertzel-Smith, JD or Communications Manager, Christine Gurriere at (973) 243-9800.**



**NEW JERSEY**  
PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

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Learn about the benefits of being a part of NJAC and how you can join  
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## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS



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To learn more and discuss further please contact Richard Rehmann, President at [rrehm@arh-us.com](mailto:rrehm@arh-us.com) or call (609) 561-0582.

**Integrity Health** is a health benefits management company managing a unique design of health benefit programs for public and private sector employers. Although it is not an insurance company, Integrity Health offers plan sponsors and their employees a customized and complete administrative program for healthcare coupled with insurance protection from a rated carrier. Integrity Health provides plan sponsors with what they need—a turnkey program of service providers offering state-of-the-art TPA, disease management and network services.

For more information please contact Joe Whalen, V.P. Marketing and Sales at [Joe.Whalen@integrityhealth.com](mailto:Joe.Whalen@integrityhealth.com).

**Miovision** was founded in 2005 by three friends and classmates from the University of Waterloo Systems Design Engineering program. The company empowers transportation professionals through data, and infrastructure to improve the driving experience for everyone.

To learn more about miovision please contact Andrew Fonseca at [afonseca@miovision.com](mailto:afonseca@miovision.com).

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To learn more about the services provided please contact Kevin Hamilton, President at (866) 977-0901.





## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS



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For further information please contact David Singer, Director of Marketing via email [david.singer@pkatech.com](mailto:david.singer@pkatech.com).



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For more information please contact Jane Sharp, Director, CPM via email at [cpmsaa@andromeda.rutgers.edu](mailto:cpmsaa@andromeda.rutgers.edu).



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To learn more about SolarCity please contact Sarah Trainor, Commercial Market Associate Manager at [strainor@solarcity.com](mailto:strainor@solarcity.com), Craig Meister, Project Development Manager at [cmeister@solarcity.com](mailto:cmeister@solarcity.com) or Nick Walsh, Project Development Manager at [nwalsh@solarcity.com](mailto:nwalsh@solarcity.com).

***Do you have educational or informational articles you would like published in the NJAC COUNTY BIZ?***

**Contact Loren Wizman, Director of Business Development, at (609) 394-3467 or [loren@njac.org](mailto:loren@njac.org).**

# Diabetes, the New Healthcare Killer

by Mark Roberts, Manager of National Accounts for Careington International & Careington Benefit Solutions

One of the most difficult health care management issues today is controlling the rise in cases of diabetes. Chronic disease management costs and care have increased substantially with the disease over the past decade. The medical community has declared diabetes to be an epidemic within current society, and it appears to be getting worse each year.

However, in a sign that Americans may finally be turning the corner in the fight against diabetes -- and possibly obesity -- federal health statistics released this month show that the number of new cases of diabetes has dropped for the first time in decades. The decline wasn't sudden or dramatic. But, the number of new diabetes cases went from 1.7 million in 2009 to 1.4 million in 2014, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

That reduction may or may not be a permanent trend as diabetes seems to be an ever increasing medical issue in America. The problem is that not all demographic segments of the population are seeing significant positive results. The key may lie in better diagnosis and treatment options, plus an increased awareness of the disease in the general population.

The CDC report offers some encouraging indications that some Americans may finally be adopting healthier lifestyles. For example, fewer whites are now being diagnosed with diabetes -- typically type 2 diabetes (by far the most common form of the disease). But, blacks and Hispanics haven't seen significant declines in diagnoses even though a downward trend is starting to emerge, the CDC report showed. Educated Americans also have seen improvements in diabetes diagnoses, while the less educated have only seen a flattening in the number of new cases, the report found.

Today, diabetes takes more lives than AIDS and breast cancer combined -- claiming the life of 1 American every 3 minutes. It is a leading cause of blindness, kidney failure, amputations, heart failure and stroke. Living with diabetes places an enormous emotional, physical and financial burden on the entire family. Annually, diabetes costs the American public more than \$245 billion, according to the Diabetes Research Institute Foundation.

Just what is diabetes? To answer that, you first need to understand the role of insulin in your body. When you eat, your body turns food into sugars, or glucose. At that point, your pancreas is supposed to release insulin. Insulin serves as a "key" to open your cells, to allow the glucose to enter -- and allow you to use the glucose for energy.

But with diabetes, this system does not work. Several major things can go wrong -- causing the onset of diabetes. Type 1 and type 2 diabetes are the most common forms of the disease, but there are also other kinds, such as gestational diabetes, which occurs during pregnancy, as well as other forms.

According to the American Diabetes Association, the following symptoms of diabetes are typical. However, some people with type 2 diabetes have symptoms so mild that they go unnoticed. Common symptoms of diabetes include the following:

- Urinating often
- Feeling very thirsty
- Feeling very hungry - even though you are eating
- Extreme fatigue
- Blurry vision
- Cuts/bruises that are slow to heal
- Weight loss - even though you are eating more (type 1)
- Tingling, pain, or numbness in the hands/feet (type 2)

*continued on page 11*

## Diabetes, the New Healthcare Killer *(continued)*

Early detection and treatment of diabetes can decrease the risk of developing the complications of diabetes.

Metformin is the standby drug for millions of people with type 2 diabetes, but a new study finds that adding it to insulin therapy won't boost blood sugar control for overweight teens with type 1 diabetes, according to HealthDay News.

In type 1 diabetes, which comprises about 5 percent of diabetes cases, the body is unable to produce the insulin it needs. Supplemental insulin is a must for people with the disease.

The new study was led by Kellee Miller of the Jaeb Center for Health Research in Tampa. As her team explained, young people with type 1 diabetes are at even higher metabolic risk if they become overweight or obese, especially in adolescence.

That's because both obesity and puberty may cause the patient to require higher levels of supplemental insulin, complicating blood sugar control, the researchers said. However, prior studies of how Metformin might affect blood sugar control in teens with type 1 diabetes have been inconclusive, Miller's team noted. Managing diabetes is a challenge every day. There are so many variables to keep in mind -- food, exercise, stress, general health, etc. -- that keeping blood sugar levels in the desired range is a constant balancing act.

Men and women whose underlying biological clock does not match the sleep hours imposed by modern work schedules have metabolic risk factors that may predispose them to a higher risk for type 2 diabetes and heart disease, according to a new study published online in November, 2015, in the *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism*. The work is the first to link so-called "social jet lag" with increased metabolic risk in middle-aged adults. Social jet lag refers to the disconnect between a person's natural circadian rhythm and the restrictions placed on it by social and work obligations. So, even your work habits can affect the possibility of contracting diabetes.

According to eDocAmerica, recent statistics also indicate that people with type 2 diabetes mellitus have nearly twice the risk of developing Alzheimer's disease as people without diabetes. While the exact reason for this is still being investigated, several interesting findings connecting the two diseases have emerged.

The American Diabetes Association reports that in 2012, 29.1 million Americans, or 9.3% of the population had diabetes. Of these, 90% to 95% have Type 2 diabetes. While both Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes are characterized by high blood sugar, the mechanism for the development of each type is very different. Type 1 diabetes is considered to be an autoimmune disease in which the cells within the pancreas that produce insulin are destroyed, resulting in a deficiency of insulin.

The NJ Department of Health reported in 2012 that 22% of adults over 65 in the state have diabetes. In New Jersey, adult diabetes prevalence estimates are highest for black residents. Also, lower education and household income levels are associated with higher diabetes prevalence. Diabetes complications are much more common among black adults when compared to other racial/ethnic groups in New Jersey. This includes diabetes hospitalizations, diabetes related end-stage renal disease, diabetes related lower extremity amputations, and diabetes deaths. Unfortunately, only about 42% of adults with diabetes have attended a diabetes self-management class.

Without insulin to move sugar from the bloodstream into the body's cells, blood sugar rises. Type 2 diabetes, on the other hand, is considered a disease of "lifestyle". Poor diet, inactivity, and obesity are major reasons for its development. In type 2 diabetes elevated blood sugar levels are initially due to the body's inability to use insulin effectively. This is known as "insulin resistance" and is associated with higher than normal insulin levels.

*continued on page 12*



## Diabetes, the New Healthcare Killer *(continued)*

In addition to significantly increasing one's risk of heart attack and stroke, Type 2 diabetes mellitus is associated with a number of other medical complications including:

- Blindness from diabetic retinopathy
- Reduced blood flow in the feet and legs requiring amputations
- Kidney failure
- Nerve damage and ulcerations of the feet

If these problems weren't enough, add in the recent findings that Type 2 diabetes may also contribute to the development of Alzheimer's disease. Diabetes is a disease that still is being researched on a daily basis, and new issues are discovered on a regular basis as to the cause and treatment of it.

The State of New Jersey is putting resources to work. The NJ Department of Health and Senior Services (NJ DOH) is funding programs designed to help prevent diabetes and help people to live with the disease, according to the NJ Spotlight. As of 2012, emphasis is given to programs that link health-care systems to community partners that work directly with patients with over \$600,000 per fiscal year being spent on diabetes initiatives.

The highest percentage of adults diagnosed with diabetes were reported in Cape May, Cumberland and Ocean Counties, all at 11 percent, and Atlantic, Camden, Essex, Gloucester and Salem Counties at 10 percent, according to 2012 county health rankings. Counties with the lowest percentage (7 percent) of adults diagnosed with diabetes were Hunterdon, Morris and Somerset. Ten years ago, in 2006, the total cost of treating people with diabetes in New Jersey was estimated at around \$5.8 billion. That amount has only increased since that time.

There are varying degrees of health care issues with the disease, and management of it is serious. If you or someone you know has diabetes or may be symptomatic, see your doctor for a medical protocol. Get an appointment with an endocrinologist who can prescribe a regimen and treatment options in addition to any medications or lifestyle changes that can help fight the disease. Your family physician or medical professional should be able to give you a referral for specialized diagnosis, especially for Type 1 diabetes.

Don't ignore its affects on your life—it can be deadly if left untreated. The MyCountyCares program, available to all residents and employers in all New Jersey Counties, has a diabetes management product available as part of a very affordable healthcare savings membership program. More information is available online at [www.mycountycares.com](http://www.mycountycares.com).

Residents of New Jersey counties statewide can access affordable vision care through membership in the MyCountyCares program. More information is available at [www.mycountycares.com](http://www.mycountycares.com) for membership. Don't neglect your eyes, which are the window to your soul. Your life and health depend on having good eyesight. Do you have a vision for your vision?

For additional information please contact Mark Roberts at [MarkR@Careington.com](mailto:MarkR@Careington.com) or call (800) 441-0380. Careington will also be attending the NJAC Celebration of County Government and exhibiting; therefore, please come visit us at exhibit booth number 306 to learn more about our services.



# Nationwide Economics

## Weekly Economic Review & Outlook for May 9, 2016

*by Michael Groom, Financial Markets Economist of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company and Ben Ayers, Staff Economist of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company*

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### Weekly Review

Job growth took a step back in April, with a weaker-than-expected gain of 160,000. Additionally, the unemployment rate remained stuck at 5.0 percent while the labor force shrunk for the first time since September (although this tends to be volatile, and it had surged over the past six months). More positively, average hourly earnings were up by a solid 0.3 percent in April pushing up 12-month wage inflation to 2.5 percent.

Combined with the anemic pace of GDP growth in the first quarter, the slowdown in employment growth appears to feed the narrative that the U.S. economy is softening - an interpretation that is not supported by a deeper dive into the data.

Even with the weaker figure for April, payroll employment has grown by nearly 200,000 per month in 2016, which is only modestly slower than the pace through the first four months of 2015. Furthermore, recent research suggests that the unseasonably warm weather in February and March may have disrupted the typical seasonal uptick in job growth that occurs in April—depressing the reported gain. It is likely that later revisions may raise April's growth back to trend.

Similarly, we do not read too much into the monthly volatility in the labor force readings and instead focus on the longer trend, which has seen the size of the labor force expand steadily over the past six months.

The reduction in the labor force in April can likely be chalked up to noise from the survey data rather than a shift in the trajectory of labor market conditions. Future months' data will provide a clearer picture.

In other economic news, the ISM business surveys were mixed in April. The manufacturing index slid back to 50.8, still, if barely, showing expansion as the sector continues to struggle with weak foreign growth, the strong dollar, and still-low oil prices.

On the other hand, the ISM nonmanufacturing index rose to 55.7 in April - a level implying solid gains in the sector.

While manufacturing is extremely visible, services are the larger part of the economy - and increasingly so.

Light vehicle sales rose in line with expectations in April, up to an annualized pace of 17.4 million units - erasing the surprising drop in sales during March. Sales of light trucks led the way, comprising nearly 60 percent of total sales for the first time since 2005.

### Weekly Outlook

This week will be fairly light with regard to economic releases, as are most weeks following the monthly employment report. April data will be released for retail sales and the producer price index. We will also get the initial reading on consumer sentiment for May.

*continued on page 14*

## Nationwide Economics *(continued)*

Consumers were cautious in the first quarter, as relatively strong income growth was mostly saved rather than spent. Additionally, falling gasoline prices reduce nominal retail sales as less is spent at the fuel stations.

For April, we expect retail sales to rise by 0.5 percent with retail sales excluding autos climbing by 0.3 percent. The previously announced rise in light vehicle sales to 17.4 million units (annualized rate) plus higher gasoline prices should combine to boost the monthly growth rate.

While consumer sentiment has spent the last five months on a modestly declining path, it remains in line with its long-term median, suggesting neither an overwhelmingly negative nor positive sentiment among consumers. Still-solid labor markets (now with slightly fast wage growth) plus gains in equity markets in the past month should help to boost sentiment. We project a tick up in consumer sentiment to 89.5. There has been a substantial differential in the behavior of the current conditions component of the index and the expectations component—perhaps reflecting unease with the presidential election this fall.

For further information please contact Emanuel Mahand, Program Director Of New Jersey, at [MAHANDE@nationwide.com](mailto:MAHANDE@nationwide.com), or Bina Kumar, Managing Director - East Region, at [kumarb1@nationwide.com](mailto:kumarb1@nationwide.com).



## New U.S. Communities Contract for Technology Solutions Services

by Kelly Boggs, Marketing Specialist for NACo

U.S. Communities Government Purchasing Alliance recently launched a new contract for technology services and solutions with four companies: Unicom Government, Inc., Carahsoft, DLT Solutions, and Insight Public Sector. The multi-year contract was awarded through a competitive solicitation process conducted by lead public agency Fairfax County, Virginia and will join a group of over 35 additional suppliers offering goods and services through U.S. Communities.

The supplier partners will provide services and solutions as detailed below:

### **Technology Services, Solutions, and Related Products with UNICOM Government:**

Utilizing an extensive staff of certified engineers and product managers, UNICOM Government has designed and delivered a full range of IT infrastructure solutions including server virtualization, unified communications, document management, physical security, and asset management.

### **Google Products, Services, and Solutions with Carahsoft:**

Carahsoft Technology Corp. is an IT solutions provider delivering best-of-breed hardware, software, and support solutions to state and local government agencies since 2004. Solutions offered includes Google Apps for Work (including Gmail, Google Calendar, Google Drive, etc.) and Chromebooks for Education (a simple solution for fast and easy-to-manage computing).

### **Amazon Web Services with DLT Solutions:**

DLT provides expert knowledge and advice on AWS solutions, managed services and support, and fast and cost-effective means to procure reliable, cloud-ready AWS solutions. Offerings will assist with high performance computing, networking, storage and content delivery, database needs, disaster recovery, and more.



## Contract for Technology Solutions Services *(continued)*

### Technology Products, Equipment, Services, and Solutions with Insight Public Sector:

Insight simplifies IT procurement by providing technologies, implementation skills and management expertise. Insight can help with hardware and software from the world's leading manufacturers, access to dependable, cost-effective solutions for IT procurement, planning, building, and operating software, hardware and network infrastructures, and comprehensive lifecycle and IT management services. Partners available through the Insight Public Sector contract include: Apple, HP, Veritas, Cisco, Dell, Hewlett Packard, Panasonic, Microsoft, Symantec, and more.

U.S. Communities is the leading national government purchasing cooperative, providing solutions and savings to members by aggregating the purchasing power of public agencies nationwide. U.S. Communities provides city users with access to a wide variety of competitively solicited contracts with national suppliers that have committed to providing their lowest overall public agency pricing.



For more information, please visit [www.uscommunities.org/technology-contract/](http://www.uscommunities.org/technology-contract/).

## 7 Ways Unified Communications Benefit State and Local Government

*by Lisa Valladares, Marketing Manager for Eastern DataComm*

Many government agencies at the state and local level still rely upon legacy phone systems or Centrex-type services leased from carriers. These older systems are difficult to manage, expensive to maintain, and lack many of the features of a modern communications platform. Designed when most workers sat at desks throughout the day, they are incapable of supporting today's remote and mobile workers.

**Legacy phone systems aren't just frustrating for government employees — they make it difficult for agencies to meet the expectations of their constituents.** As consumers we have grown accustomed to seamless communication via a variety of channels, including phone, email, text and online chat. We are used to having ready access to accurate, up-to-date information. We demand this level of service from businesses, and expect nothing less from government agencies.

**An IP-based unified communications (UC) platform can help state and local governments enhance both their operations and the services they deliver.** UC brings together voice, video and collaboration tools in a single interface, eliminating communications silos and enabling seamless transition from one channel to another. "Presence" lets users know whether someone is available and their preferred means of communication, eliminating phone tag. UC solutions can also be integrated with other applications and data to streamline workflows and provide one-click access to powerful communications tools.

### Here are seven ways that UC can benefit state and local governments:

1. *UC makes it easier for constituents to reach the right person to answer their questions and solve their problems. UC supports personalized call handling and routing, as well as auto-attendant and contact center capabilities.*

*continued on page 16*

## Communications Benefit State and Local Government *(continued)*

2. *IP communications creates a common platform across multiple sites and agencies. (ex: Borough Hall and the police department, DPW, town library and/or the fire department.) By enabling real-time collaboration, it helps boost productivity, speed response times and facilitate decision-making.*
3. *Many government agencies are using telework programs to reduce costs, provide for continuity of operations, and give employees greater flexibility. A UC system can be extended to teleworkers so they remain connected and have access to the tools they need when working remotely.*
4. *Many municipal administrators and other key personnel are frequently out of the office. The mobile device integration enabled by a modern UC platform gives them secure access to the communications environment – anytime, anywhere. With mobility, administrators can make and receive phone calls just as if they are at their desks.*
5. *Because IP communications leverages the data network for voice calls, it is more cost-efficient and easier to manage than legacy platforms. Web-based administration tools simplify moves, adds and changes across multiple locations. Teams can access comprehensive features and functionality without draining vital resources. With a short amount of training, most anyone can easily access this information and make these changes – saving costs with a limited IT team that many municipalities have.*
6. *Whether on-premises or in the cloud, today's UC platforms have a fault-tolerant and redundant architecture that helps ensure continuous availability for disaster recovery.*
7. *An IP communications system can also be integrated with physical security systems. UC becomes the communications platform for emergency notification systems. With the LENS solution, a municipality can notify everyone inside and outside the building as well as other sites that an emergency event has commenced. The UC platform enables the solution to call the local police, 911 and key administrators simultaneously as well.*

The [ShoreTel Unified Communications platform](#) is a proven solution that connects people and information while reducing total cost of ownership. It is highly secure and reliable, with failover capabilities that are essential to government agencies for both day-to-day operations and during emergency situations. You can ensure high quality services with enterprise-class availability to meet the demands of your employees and constituents.

At Eastern DataComm, we are proud of our history serving the communications needs of state and local governments.

**Let us show you how we can enhance the quality of your communications infrastructure to help you increase efficiency and better serve your constituents. We will be exhibiting at the NJAC Celebration of County Government May 18<sup>th</sup> through 20<sup>th</sup>. Please visit booth 715.**



### CONGRATULATIONS

New Jersey Conference of Mayors recently named **Salem County Freeholder Director Julie Acton** as Freeholder of the Year.

The Ocean County Vocational-Technical Schools and county Tourism Director **Dana Lancellotti** was honored by the Monmouth-Ocean Development Council.

## Federal Grants

### Juvenile Justice Emergency Planning Demonstration Program

**Deadline:** May 31, 2016

**Available:** \$50,000 to \$150,000 over a period of 2 years

**Number of Awards:** 4-7

<http://www.grants.gov>



### Smart Reentry: Focus on Evidence-Based Strategies for Successful Reentry from Incarceration to Community

**Deadline:** June 19, 2016

**Available:** Maximum of \$1,000,000

**Number of Awards:** Up to 5

<https://www.bja.gov/Funding/SmartReentry16.pdf>



### Assisted Outpatient Treatment Grant Program for Individuals with Serious Mental Illness

**Deadline:** June 16, 2016

**Available:** Maximum of \$1,000,000 per year for up to 4 years

**Number of Awards:** Up to 15

<http://www.samhsa.gov>



## 66<sup>th</sup> NJAC Annual Celebration of County Government

May 18 - May 20, 2016  
Caesar's in Atlantic City

**On-Site Registration is Available**

Visit [www.njac.org](http://www.njac.org).



# Freeholders Pass Resolution Supporting The Creation Of The County Government Criminal Justice Reform Fund

by Patrick Alexander, Public Information Officer for Passaic County

## ***Passaic County Freeholders Urge Governor Christie To Support New Cost Saving Legislation For Criminal Justice Reform***

The Board of Chosen Freeholders passed a resolution to urge Governor Christie to support Assembly Bill A3491 (Wimberly-D-LD35) which establishes the County Criminal Government Justice Reform Administration Fund. This bill would help offset the costs associated with implementing and administering Criminal Justice Reform by increasing certain criminal and civil court fees and assessments, and dedicating those funds to county governments who struggle with the finances of the court system.

“New Jersey has one of the busiest court systems in the country.” Said Freeholder Director TJ Best. “In order to resolve these cases quicker we need more judges, which costs more money. This legislation would help offset any additional burden on taxpayers.”

The bill provides that the annual revenue realized from these increases would be deposited in the newly created “County Government Criminal Justice Reform Administration Fund,” a separate, non-lapsing, dedicated account. Moneys in the fund would be used for the costs associated with implementing and administering criminal justice reform.

A report in 2014 by the Office of Legislative Services concluded that the long-term cost savings from all the counties would total \$45 million if this program was enacted. The report arrived at this figure by calculating the savings from reducing the prison population and cutting courthouse operating expenses.

While Assembly Bill A3491 has not come to a vote to date, Passaic County Freeholders have joined with the New Jersey Association of Counties (NJAC) in support of this initiative. NJAC is also lobbying county governments to get more active in urging the NJ Legislature and the Governor’s Office to support legislation that provides county governments with important cost savings and increased efficiencies as governments begin to implement Criminal Justice Reform.

“This is a win-win program,” said Freeholder Lepore, who is also the Chair of the Law and Public Safety Committee. “It saves taxpayer dollars, reduces the prison population, and creates a more efficient court system.”

“The expanded fees will be directed to the residents that are utilizing the resources of the court system. It is a fair way to address the increased costs without putting the entire burden on taxpayers,” added Freeholder Lepore.

The legislation allows for a waiver of fine. The bill would allow a person to apply for a waiver of the newly created criminal justice reform fees or assessments by reason of poverty.



**TJ Best**  
Freeholder Director  
Passaic County



**Pat Lepore**  
Freeholder  
Passaic County



## DOJ Plans to Start Over on State and Local Government Website Rule

by Mike Belarmino, Associate Legislative Director for NACo

On April 28, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) announced its withdrawal of the notice of proposed rulemaking on the accessibility of state and local government websites. The rule sought to revise the Americans with Disabilities Act's (ADA) Title II regulations to require that all state and local government websites adhere to enhanced accessibility requirements, like coding websites to allow for the use of screen readers. The agency began working on the rule in 2010 and was expected to issue the proposed rule this year. Instead, in conjunction with the withdrawal notice, DOJ issued a Supplemental Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking signaling the agency's intent to essentially restart the drafting process.

Through the SANPRM, DOJ is seeking public comment on various issues to help shape and further efforts to draft the website accessibility rule. The SANPRM includes over 100 questions separated into broad topical categories, including the timeframe for compliance, alternative requirements for small public entities, methods of compliance with web accessibility requirements and compliance costs. Counties should be particularly interested in providing feedback to some of the questions in the SANPRM, but it will not be necessary to answer all of them. NACo urges counties to submit comments, data and any feedback to the questions. Instructions on how to submit comments are included in the SANPRM; **comments are due on or before August 8, 2016.**

In 2014, NACo met with officials at the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to provide the county perspective on the initial advance notice of the proposed rule. In general, NACo agreed with the need to ensure all citizens are able to access information provided on local government websites. However, NACo expressed concerns over the ability of counties, especially smaller counties, to meet new website requirements given that resources and capacity vary widely from county to county.

Currently, only federal government websites are required to be accessible. Even though many state and local websites have incorporated accessibility into their design, there are still some local governments that have not.

Website accessibility generally deals with how individuals with varying disabilities interact with information found on webpages. Those individuals must utilize assistive technology to enable them to navigate websites or access information contained on those sites. For example, a blind person would need to rely on a screen reader to convert the visual information on a county's webpage into audio.

In turn, the pages on a county website would need to be developed in a way that incorporates features allowing the use of those screen readers. Also, online forms, a common feature on many county websites, would need to be addressed as well, since they are often among the website features that are challenging for individuals with disabilities to interact with.

NACo staff are currently reviewing the SANPRM and will report developments as they occur.

For more information please contact Mike Belarmino at [mbelarmino@naco.org](mailto:mbelarmino@naco.org) or at 202-942-4254 or Jacob Terrell at [jterrell@naco.org](mailto:jterrell@naco.org) or at 202-942-4236.





**John G. Donnadio, Esq.**

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The New Jersey Association of Counties (NJAC) is pleased to announce that it's hosting the 66<sup>th</sup> annual celebration of county government from May 18<sup>th</sup> through May 20<sup>th</sup> at Caesar's in Atlantic City.

*"As county governments continue to play a greater role in the everyday lives of New Jersey residents as innovators in delivering essential services in a cost effective manner, we expect to host an outstanding convention with well over 500 community and business leaders from across the State in attendance for an action-packed agenda," said NJAC President and Hunterdon County Freeholder John King.*

This highly-anticipated event features: Lieutenant Governor Kim Guadagno and Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield President & CEO Robert A. Marino as guest speakers; a one-of-a-kind County Vocational Technical Cook-Off Challenge and the first annual County College Acapella Sing-Off; over two-dozen professional development workshops approved for continuing education credits for finance officers, engineers, planners, purchasing officials, road supervisors, clerks, and attorneys; and, an engaging Reporters Roundtable discussion on hot topics facing the Garden State with veteran journalists Michael Aron, Nick Acocella, John Mooney, and Kate Zernike. Please visit NJAC's website at [www.njac.org](http://www.njac.org) for additional details.

During the convention, NJAC will also present the prestigious "Maurice Fitzgibbons Freeholder of the Year Award," and county service awards to outstanding county professionals for their commitment and dedication to NJAC and county government. NJAC is also pleased to announce that Investors Bank (\$21,000.00) and PSEG (\$12,000.00) will award the NJAC Foundation scholarship monies for county vocational-technical school students who plan to continue their education at a county college or State college or university. Additionally, county administrators, finance officers, improvement authorities, public information officers, and jail wardens will hold regular business meetings during the convention. And, special thanks to our county purchasing officials, who will provide an informative and educational seminar on conducting business with county government, and to Uncle Peter Houck, who will present a comprehensive overview of the county budget process.

*"In addition to the terrific line up of programs and events, NJAC's annual celebration of county government will provide county decision makers with the unique opportunity to share valuable resources and ideas as we embark on a defining period in the history of our great State," commented King.*

NJAC is committed to advocating for legislation, regulations, and policy directives that empower county governments to operate more effectively and efficiently. As a non-partisan organization that represents the only true regional form of government in the State with a unified and proactive voice, NJAC is dedicated to advancing innovative programs and initiatives that enhance the level of service provided and save valuable taxpayer dollars.

### More dates to keep in mind for 2016:



June 24	<b>Board of Directors' Meeting</b>
July 28	<b>NJAC Night of Baseball</b> at Arm & Hammer Ball Park, Trenton
September 23	<b>Board of Directors' Meeting</b>
October	<b>NJ County Administrators Certificate Program</b> - Rutgers Center for Government Services w/NJAC
December 9	<b>Year End Summit</b>



«MAY 2016»

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
15	16 Give the Kids Hope Golf Outing 9:30 a.m.. Green Brook Country Club North Caldwell	17 Free Rabies Clinic 6 p.m. - 7 p.m. Dogs Only Martinsville Firehouse Martinsville	18 NJAC Annual Conference Caesar's in Atlantic City 05/18 - 05/20 Register on-site at the NJAC Conference Registration Desk on the 2nd Floor of Caesar's!	19	20	21 Frankie Avalon 8 - 10 p.m. bergenPAC Englewood
22  11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Cumberland Mall Vineland	23 Jazz Showcase Glenn Crytzer & the Savoy Seven 8 p.m. Morris Museum Morristown	24	25 Spring Concert Mercer County Symphonic Band 7:30 p.m. Mercer County Community College West Windsor	26 Free Eye Screening 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Center City Mall Paterson Passaic County	27 Hispanic Youth Showcase 7 p.m. NJPAC Newark Essex County	28 SID/Wildwood Boardwalk Craft Show 5/28-5/29 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Boardwalk Wildwood
29 Fine Artisans Show 5/29-5/30 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Stangl Factory Flemington Hunterdon County	30 	31				

«JUNE 2016»

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1 Live Music 6:30 p.m. Raritan Bay Waterfront Park South Amboy Middlesex County	2 Gala Dinner & Golf Outing 11:00 a.m. Deerwood Club Westampton Burlington County	3 Luke Bryant 7 p.m. Boardwalk Hall Atlantic City Atlantic County	4  12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Elmer Salem County
5 The Fantasticks 2 p.m. Broadway Theatre Pitman Gloucester County	6 Toys Through Time: History of American Fun 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Liberty Hall Museum Union Union County	7 Hoboken's Movies Under the Stars Featuring "Creed" 9 p.m. Pier A Park Hoboken Hudson County	8	9 Colin Mochrie & Brad Sherwood 8 p.m. Count Basie Theatre Red Bank Monmouth County	10 David Cassidy 8 p.m. Newton Theatre Newton Sussex County	11  9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Eastern Regional High School Voorhees Camden County
12 Action Sports World Tour 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. 6/11 - 6/12 Six Flags Great Adventure Jackson Ocean County	13	14				