

# Hainesport Community Chronicle

A Bimonthly Newsletter Supporting Hainesport's Commitment to Community

Elizabeth Gallagher, Editor

## Business Buzz

*Editor's note: "Business Buzz" is an evolving column designed to acquaint our community with **the business of and in** Hainesport Township. The hope is that our readers will discover helpful information about township projects and programs and private businesses, both new and well-established.*

### J-Suites: The Beauty Collective Experience

Jennifer Koutsouris, Technical and Administrative Assistant

Attention beauty professionals who are looking for a beauty collective approach to growing your client base and clients looking for a unique salon experience: J-Suites has arrived in Hainesport. J-Suites, founded by Sue Jacquette, is a gallery salon that hosts private luxury suites for individually-owned beauty and wellness businesses. Located in the Crossroads Shopping Center, near ShopRite, Lowe's, and Wawa, J-Suites provides many amenities that business owners would not necessarily obtain if they were operating on their own. Every salon suite has its own business hours, and each suite may be furnished to accommodate its specific business owner's needs. Suites are still available, so interested beauty professionals should visit the J-Suites website for contact and other helpful information: <https://www.j-suites.com/>

Clients, too, can benefit from the beauty collective model, due to the opportunity to receive a personalized one-on-one salon stylist or skin care specialist experience that clients would not necessarily receive in a larger multi-stylist salon. Several businesses offer these personalized experiences, including **Bold and Confident** (hair styling, lash extensions, and make-up artistry), **DH Hair Designs** (cut, color, and style), **Hair by Stephanie** (cut, color, and style and facial waxing), **Twisted Scissors** (cut, color, style, and facial waxing), **The Wax Attic** (face and body waxing), and **Witch City Wax** (face and body waxing). If you are ready for a one-stop, personalized beauty experience, be sure to visit J-Suites at 1520 Route 38, Hainesport, New Jersey!

# **Spotlight on Memorial Day 2023: Uniting to Remember and Honor All Who Serve**

**Elizabeth Gallagher**

Against a backdrop of stunning wreaths designed by Christine Lestician, of Vintage Oceans Florist, and a stately bagpipe prelude performed by Derek Midgley, Hainesport residents gathered, on May 29, 2023, to remember those who sacrificed their lives in military service. Following a warm welcome and introduction by Mayor Gerry Claus, Reverend Dr. Joan Mitchell, of Christian Faith Assembly, led the audience in an inspiring invocation, and Genevieve McMullen performed a moving rendition of the National Anthem. Keynote speaker, Commander Ryan Peters, reminded the audience that active and veteran members of the military share the same role—committing their lives to defending their country to the point of sacrifice—and the same motivation—defending American values rooted in freedom. As a demonstration of honor, respect, and remembrance to those who defend America and its values, community members representing Hainesport’s government, education, religion, and commerce sectors participated in the celebration’s highlight, the placement of seventeen wreaths. Deputy Mayor Ken Montgomery introduced the various wreath presenters and, following placement of the last wreath, attendees silently reflected as Jonathan Soltesz, Jr. played “Taps.” The celebration then concluded as solemnly as it commenced, in words of grateful prayer and a bagpipe postlude.

## **Hawks Highlights**

**Alex Fisher, Assistant Principal, Hainesport Township School**

It’s almost that time—The 2023-2024 school year is just around the corner, and Hainesport Township School has undergone several changes since the end of the 2022-2023 school year. The students will without a doubt think the “coolest” change is the new AC system currently being installed in the gymnasium. The Middle School Science room is undergoing complete renovations to its science lab, which will allow for more in depth experiments, labs, and collaboration with elementary grades! Personnel changes have also been happening within the school, as we wish Mrs. Maria Azpiri and Mrs. Lori Pietrafitta a happy retirement and thank them for their years of service and dedication to the students and community of Hainesport. While we are sad to see Mrs. Azpiri and Mrs. Pietrafitta leave, we are equally as excited to welcome our new K-4 Principal and Director of Special Services, Julia Wolfrom, to the Hainesport Township School team! Mrs. Wolfrom comes to Hainesport with over 20 years of educational experience, including the last 16 years within Pemberton Township Schools.

## **Profiles of Success at RVRHS**

## Vicki Bersch

**Jadon Kendrick (RVRHS '23)**, a member of the National Honor Society and varsity track team, competed in the high school nationals as a sprinter at the University of Pennsylvania in the spring. Jason also enjoyed success outside the classroom and off the track, spending the last two years of his high school career as an entrepreneur. Jadon and his friend, Jaden Dublin, co-founded a company, Zero Harm, to create a casual clothing brand, spreading the message of taking your own route in life. In the interest of giving back to the community and inspiring other young entrepreneurs, Jadon and Jaden sponsored an annual basketball tournament to raise money to award scholarships to RV graduates who are interested in entrepreneurship. Jadon will attend St. Francis University in Pennsylvania on an academic scholarship and will run on the track team. He will major in marketing, hoping to expand his clothing business in the future. Nice job Jadon, and best of luck in your next phase of life!

Jadon, like students before and after him, benefit from the many role models that serve the RVRHS community, including the guidance professionals who selflessly support students throughout their high school journey. **Donna Aromando**, an RVRHS guidance counselor, has worked as an educator and coach for over forty years. A career advocate for education and volunteerism, Ms. Aromando has spearheaded opportunities and organizations for students and community members by writing and proposing three grants per year since 2015, while also serving as a liaison between local schools and groups. A mentor to so many, Ms. Aromando has empowered students to thrive in school and overcome obstacles by providing wellness, weight room, and community outreach programs. Ms. Aromando, Burlington County Times 2001 Person of the Year, Burlington County Times 2009 Civic Engagement Award recipient, and 2019 Colin Powell Service Award recipient, was recently honored by Shawnee High School, which inducted her into its Academic Hall of Fame.

## Casey's Corner

**Donna Casey, Recreation Director**

“To say it was a beautiful day would not begin to explain it. It was that day when the end of summer intersects perfectly with the start of fall.” (Anne Patchett, author). As we welcome August days that hold the promise of fall, we savor the last of summer's events and look forward to autumn's activities.

The **Concerts in the Park** series continues into late August, with **The Old Man's Garage Band** (rescheduled) on **Wednesday, August 2nd**, **Rave On** on **Sunday, August 6th**, **The Trump Boys** on **Sunday, August 20th**, and **The Kootz Band** (rescheduled) on **Monday, August 28th**.

Have no fear—while the concert series concludes in August, our movie series is just getting started! Family-friendly entertainment continues in August and September with **Movies in the Park**, starting **at dusk** each evening of the series. The series kicks off with the “Who you gonna call?” favorite, ***Ghostbusters Afterlife*** on **Friday, August 25th**, ***The Rise of Grue*** follows

on **Friday, September 8th**, and *Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile* hits the screen on **Friday, September 29th**. During the film series, refreshments will be available for purchase at the concession stand. Be sure to stop by the stand on August 25th and say hello to the Hainesport Fire Company Ladies' Auxiliary members.

If you're ready for a unique combination of fun and fitness, consider participating in the psychedelic experience known as **Xglosion**. Get ready for **basketball on the tennis courts, on August 12th, from 8:00 - 11:00 PM!**

Don't forget that the coming of fall also marks the return of **Preschool Story Time**. Please join us for our first session of the season at **9:00 AM, on September 15th, in the Kenneth Street Community Center**.

And now, for all of you who have been patiently awaiting news of our annual dinner dance, have we got news for you: the **Dinner Dance**, scheduled on Autumn's Eve, **September 22nd**, not only provides the opportunity to usher in Fall 2023 but, more importantly, to **preview Hainesport's upcoming centennial season!** As many residents know, our township's 100th anniversary falls on March 12, 2024. However, one day is insufficient to celebrate this grand milestone in our township's history. Consequently, expect events of all kinds before, during, and after the official anniversary date. Consider the **Dinner Dance** to be a preview of our centennial season events. The special theme of the dance celebrates Hainesport's historical relationship with the Rancocas: "Cruise Back in Time on the Rancocas Aboard the Steamship Barclay." Guests are encouraged to dress consistent with the dance's theme. In fact, **prizes will be awarded for the best theme-related attire**. Dance fans and history buffs alike, please join us at **Hainesport's Firehouse on Friday, September 22nd, from 5:00 to 9:00 PM for Hainesport's annual Dinner Dance**. The \$30 per person ticket charge includes dinner, dancing to live music, and games. Tickets may be purchased, no later than September 8th, by contacting Donna Casey at [dcasey@hainesporttownship.com](mailto:dcasey@hainesporttownship.com).

Other 100th Anniversary events include the **March 3, 2024 Fashion Show** that will feature fashions from 1924 through 2024! Fundraising events, like the fashion show, help the township provide a variety of 100th Anniversary events at no charge to the community. Consequently, if you are interested in helping with our fashion show planning and preparation or are willing to donate new items for our fashion show baskets, please contact Donna Casey at [dcasey@hainesporttownship.com](mailto:dcasey@hainesporttownship.com).

As we anticipate future events, we can't forget past successes, such as **Community/Wellness Day** and our **Cans of Hope** campaign. We are very grateful for the time and talent donated by our local health professionals, entertainers, and vendors who made **Community/Wellness Day** a huge success. Much like the generosity demonstrated by our **Community/Wellness Day** participants and volunteers, our **Cans of Hope** volunteers tirelessly collected essential supplies for the animal shelter and food pantry. Here's a big "shout-out" to all those who worked on the campaign over the past six months. We couldn't have done it without you!

