



# TAVI Town Specials

January 25, 2024



## Hometown Hero --

### AHS Alum Nominated for Congressional Gold Medal

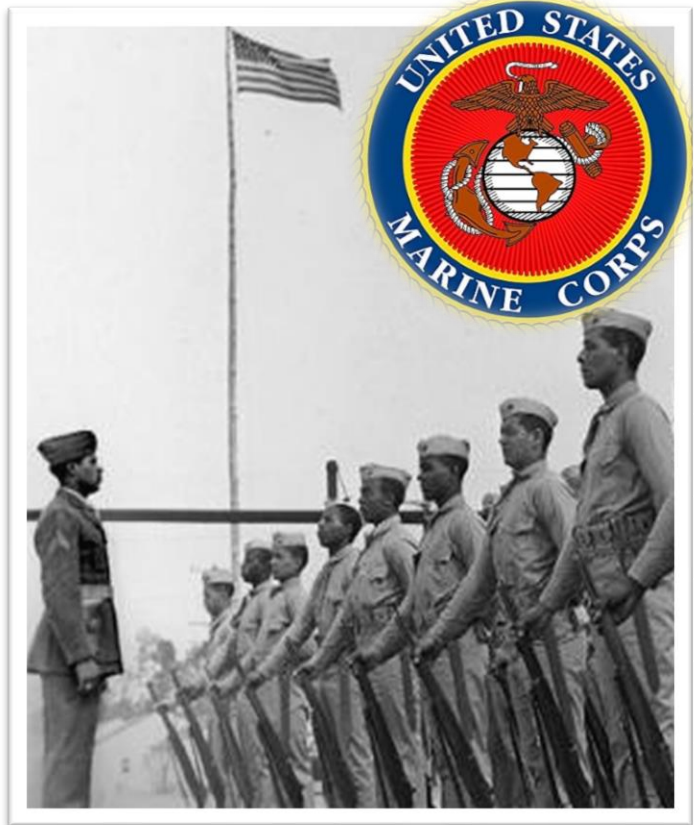
Jeff D. Johnson grew up in Allentown, graduated from Allentown High School in 1941, and like many young men of “The Greatest Generation,” went off to war. As an African American, however, Johnson faced additional challenges in his quest to serve. Undaunted, he became one of the first African American Marines, training at Montford Point in North Carolina, and fighting in key battles of the Pacific Theater like Okinawa, Guam and Iwo Jima.

Now Johnson’s service, like that of many other Montford Marines, is being recognized by the U.S. Congress. He has been nominated to receive a posthumous Congressional Gold Medal, the nation’s highest civilian award.

**TAVI is proud to present the story of Jeff Johnson and his fellow Montford Point Marines in a special Black History Month presentation, “A Few Good Men” on Saturday, February 24, 2024 beginning at 6 pm in Allentown Methodist Church, 23 Church Street, Allentown.**

Mr. Kelly Atkinson, president of the New Jersey chapter of the National Montford Marines Association will share this remarkable story. The program begins with a pasta dinner (\$5 suggested donation). Register at [www.allentownvinj.org](http://www.allentownvinj.org)

*“A Few Good Men” is part of TAVI’s “Allentown Arts” program showcasing the history and talent of our community. Allentown Arts is made possible in part by a grant from Monmouth Arts a partner of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, and the Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners.*



# THE OLD BURYING GROUND

*A Central Feature of Our Community and  
Final Resting Place for Many of the Town's Forebears*



*(This is the first in a series of articles about Allentown's Old Burial Ground.)* Allentown was founded in 1706 when Nathan Allen purchased a tract of land from his father-in-law. The town subsequently became Allen's Town and, more recently, Allentown. Because of its location approximately halfway between the Hudson and Delaware Rivers, Allen's Town was settled by a diverse group of immigrants. Many of the earliest settlers were Quakers, but, by the mid-1700s, two other faiths were firmly established. Presbyterians, mainly Scots and Scots-Irish, arrived in 1720, and, by 1730, English Episcopalians also had arrived. Both groups shared the early Meeting House and "Old Burying Ground" cemetery site located behind South Main Street along Lakeview Drive. The configuration of the Old Burying Ground follows that of European church yards. The bodies were laid to rest with their feet pointing east so that on Judgment Day they would face the Angel Gabriel. Inscriptions on the gravestones faced away from the bodies to ensure that visitors would not stand or walk directly over them. Traditionally, a small foot stone marked the actual foot of

each grave. In 1744, the Presbyterians purchased property on Saw Mill Road (now named High Street) and built a church there in 1756. Today's Presbyterian Church proudly stands on a bluff overlooking Conines Millpond.

Unfortunately, over the centuries, many of the head- and foot-stones have disappeared,



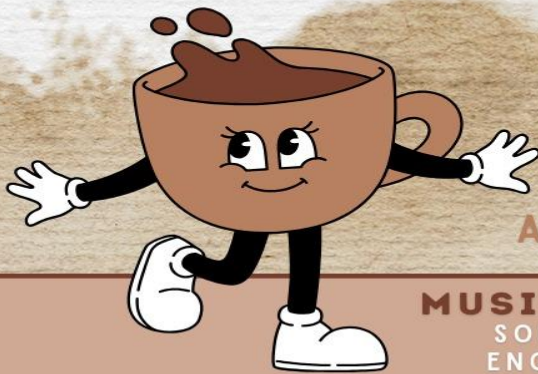
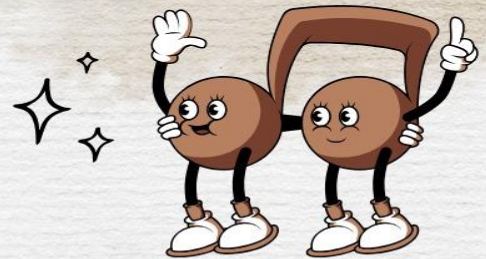
making a full accounting and identification of the individuals interred in the Old Burying Ground difficult, if not impossible. Within the past couple of years, however, Allentown Borough performed a ground-penetrating radar search of the cemetery to try to locate the perimeter of the grave sites. That search resulted in the discovery of a number of remains that are outside the confines of the current cemetery fence. **TAVI would**

**like to work with the Borough and others within our community to rectify this situation to allow as many of the individuals buried there as possible to enjoy the eternal peace they so rightfully deserve. Please stay tuned for further developments.**

CROSSROADS YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

# COFFEE HOUSE FOR A CAUSE

**JANUARY 26TH**  
**7:00 PM - 10:00 PM**  
**CROSSROADS YOUTH CENTER**  
**75 SOUTH MAIN ST, ALLENTOWN NJ**



**ENTRANCE FEE:**  
**\$15 PER PERSON**  
**OR BEST DONATION.**  
**\$40 MAX PER FAMILY.**  
**FREE DRINKS AND DESSERTS.**  
**ALL PROCEEDS GO TO CROSSROADS.**

## MUSICAL GUESTS:

SOMETHING ODD  
ENOCH SMITH JR.  
MADDIE AND SAGE HILL  
CAITLIN CASEY, COLLIN FRISCH, AND CALE CASEY  
...AND MORE!

## Millstone Moms Help Local Family

Greeting Cards are being sold by the MOMS Club of Millstone to support the Phillips family whose teen son, Timothy, is fighting leukemia. All funds raised will go directly to Timothy's family to help with medical costs and any day to day needs they have.

There are five different decorative boxes of greeting cards, each comes with at least 30 (Holiday Box has 50) beautiful and



individually wrapped cards with coordinating envelopes. Card boxes are \$30 plus tax. Place your order on the google form Order form at : <https://forms.gle/2DiGCr7X1TQYGaek7> and pay via Venmo, Zelle or credit card.

The fundraiser closes on Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>; For more information, message Eileen Glover at [m.me/eileen.glover](https://m.me/eileen.glover) ❤️

COME CHECK OUT  
OUR SECOND  
FACILITY!

# COWBOY Barn Dance

SATURDAY  
JANUARY 27TH

MAIN BARN | 5-9PM

43 HILL ROAD  
ALLENTOWN, NJ 08501

WEAR YOUR BEST WESTERN OUTFIT!  
(BARN WILL BE HEATED!)

FEATURING

DJ RAND  
FOOD TRUCK  
FAMILY FRIENDLY

ENTRY FEE: \$5  
BYOB, MIXERS PROVIDED  
FREE PARKING  
NO PETS PLEASE

For more information call: (609)757-2531 or visit:  
[www.Facebook.com/DunHollowStables](http://www.Facebook.com/DunHollowStables)



## 50-year volunteer, former Hope Fire Co. Chief, injured

Dave Floyd has served the community as a volunteer member and chief of Hope Fire Company for over fifty years. Unfortunately, he was seriously injured at work recently. Current Hope Fire Co. Chief Alex Nebbia is spearheading the effort to support Dave and his wife Debbie while he is out of

work recovering. A "Go Fund Me" page has been set up to help with medical bills and expenses.

Visit [https://www.gofundme.com/f/dave-and-debbie-floyd?utm\\_medium=copy\\_link\\_all&utm\\_source=customer&utm\\_campaign=p\\_cp%2Bshare-sheet&fbclid=IwAR0GxS0AlgP2x0Ns-R1s7PSSV\\_fgE7q-MrkKf6jjuYF416GcgtjTeEaHI-E](https://www.gofundme.com/f/dave-and-debbie-floyd?utm_medium=copy_link_all&utm_source=customer&utm_campaign=p_cp%2Bshare-sheet&fbclid=IwAR0GxS0AlgP2x0Ns-R1s7PSSV_fgE7q-MrkKf6jjuYF416GcgtjTeEaHI-E)



# BLACK HISTORY In and Around Allentown

Presented by **Dr. Joan Ruddiman**

**Learn about Black history in Monmouth County,  
Upper Freehold Township, and Allentown  
from 1665 through to the mid-19th century.**

**Thursday  
February 15  
at 6:30 pm**



**IN-PERSON PROGRAM**

**Registration recommended as space is limited.**



**Monmouth County Library - Allentown Branch**  
16S Main St. Allentown, NJ 08501 - 609-259-7565  
[www.MonmouthCountyLib.org](http://www.MonmouthCountyLib.org) - @MonCoLibrary



2024



24 S Main St.

WAXED AWAY IS TEAMING UP WITH ALL 4 THE DOGS RESCUE

# FOSTER A PUP AND RECEIVE \$10 OFF ANY 1 BODY WAXING SERVICE @ WAXED AWAY

Step 1. Apply to become a foster

<https://all4thedogsrescue.com/index.php/foster-home-application/>

Step 2. Get approved and pick up your foster

Step 3. Make your appointment at Waxed Away online

<https://waxedaway.glossgenius.com/>



**BRUNO'S BICYCLES**



*One Sweet Ride*

19 South Main Street  
Allentown, New Jersey  
(609) 208-0544



## Valentines Day is soon...

Place your order today for delicious chocolate covered strawberries!

We also have Valentines Day trays with assorted homemade truffles, chocolates & chocolate covered pretzels

# Teacher Wellness Weekend

PRESIDENT'S DAY WEEKEND  
FEB. 16TH - FEB. 19TH 2024

HOSTED BY  
ADRIANA HANSEN, MICHELLE GERDES  
& AMANDA ZIMMER



## Complimentary Classes

- Yoga
- Breathwork
- Sound Bath



## 20% Off Wellness Services

- Sound Therapy
- Reiki



609-521-8904

6 Church St. Allentown, NJ

[www.allentowntlc.com](http://www.allentowntlc.com)

**THE Pork Roll STORE**  
1251 Yardville Allentown Road  
Allentown, NJ 08501  
609-259-6335  
[www.porkrollconnection.com](http://www.porkrollconnection.com)

**CELEBRATING 100 YEARS!**

## Celebrating a Century of Pork Roll

Stop by for an "Open House" on Saturday, February 3, 2024, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. for free food, prizes, vendors and fun!

*Hope to see you* ❤️❤️



# The Allentown Village Initiative (TAVI)

2024 Financial Goal: \$5,000



Donate at:

[www.allentownvini.org](http://www.allentownvini.org)

## How Your Generous Donations Will Be Put to Work

- Expanded *Allentown Arts* programs, including more *TAVI TALKS* historical presentations, more concerts, and more arts and entertainment
- Daffodil Days Festival* events
- The initiation of *TAVI250 Semiquincentennial* programs, celebrating our nation's 250<sup>th</sup> birthday, including:
  - Signage for the *Allentown Historic Architecture Walking Tour*
  - Training and materiel for *Allentown's Big Dig* community-involved archaeological exploration
- Planned creation of the *Park at the Point* pocket pollinator garden where Yardville-Allentown Rd. meets Old York Rd.
- And much more...





# ALLENTOWN BOROUGH

EST. 1706

Do you want to be in the know about things happening in in Allentown? Sign up for our weekly newsletter at [Clerk@AllentownBoroNJ.com](mailto:Clerk@AllentownBoroNJ.com). Visit our website at [www.AllentownBoroNJ.com](http://www.AllentownBoroNJ.com). Like

us on Facebook at AllentownBoroughNJ. Follow us on Twitter at AllentownBoroNJ. Follow us on Instagram at AllentownBoroNJ.



## Ivy on Main

28 S. Main Street  
Allentown (609) 477-4587  
[www.ivyonmain.com](http://www.ivyonmain.com)

Make sure you order your Valentine's Day florals before it's too late! Add on a heart balloon to any Valentine's florals for only \$5.



### The Allentown Village Initiative (TAVI) - Community Engagement Policy

The Allentown Village Initiative (TAVI) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose focus is on history education and historic preservation, natural resource protection, economic development, and the arts and culture. While engaging in the many and varied activities that support these areas of interest, TAVI is careful not to engage in activities that could be considered to be political or religious (i.e., partisan) in nature. And while TAVI is supportive of certain social causes (e.g., providing a "helping hand" to those in our community who are struggling in some way), the same tenet applies. TAVI strongly encourages those in our community who either are considering or are sponsoring an activity that they think would be of interest to TAVI to reach out to us about our potential involvement; however, TAVI reserves the right to determine whether, in fact, those activities or projects are truly consistent with our philosophy, our goals, and our objectives. 11/2022

### The Allentown Village Initiative

