

FAMILIAR FACES



Joon Chung and Allan Napolitano began new three-year council terms in Harrington Park.

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TRENTON

NEW LAWS PENDING

Flurry of activity at statehouse as lawmakers send bills to Christie

BY JOHN SNYDER
OF PASCACK PRESS

Outgoing Gov. Chris Christie on Jan. 8 signed a bill that requires New Jersey employers accommodate women who seek to breastfeed or express breast milk during the workday.

Breastfeeding is a protected act under the state Law Against Discrimination, according to the legislation, S2709.

Employers must allow breaks during the day for women to express milk or breastfeed—and a private room in which to do it, the law says.

That space shall not be a toilet stall and should be located near the work area.

Employers do not have to pay women while they are breastfeeding or expressing milk unless the workers already receive compensation on breaks, the law says.

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NORTHVALE

ENRICHING EFFORTS

Volunteers share STEM with young learners

BY HILLARY VIDERS
SPECIAL TO NORTHERN VALLEY PRESS

Some say that creativity is intelligence having fun. At the Northvale Public Library, kids can have both.

With funding from the Friends of the Northvale Library and a group of brilliant volunteers – Mike Kim, Jeffrey Yoo, Chris Png and Jennifer England – the Northvale Public Library offers innovative and enjoyable STEM programs (which stands for science, technology, engineering and mathematics) to children in first grade and up, as well as adults. Some children even come with their younger siblings who love to watch the class and are fascinated with the state-of-the-art gadgets.

Mike Kim, a 25-year-old Northvale resident and graduate of Northern Valley Regional High School at Old Tappan, began volunteering at the Northvale Public Library in 2015 with a simple goal: to combine his love of video games with his desire to provide service to his community.

Kim began bringing in his own equipment to the Northvale library and hosting small tournaments with children and young adults one Saturday morning each month in Wii-U Smash Bros. Donations were collected and all proceeds went to the Friends of the Northvale Public Library.

Kim said he is a proponent of the courses taught at the library, which offer both intellectual and social benefits.



Chris Png teaches Snap Circuit to youngsters at the Northvale Library, where volunteers are helping enrich programming.

“It is important for people to have some familiarity with a wide range of disciplines and a sense of community obtained by coming to the library and interacting with people that they may not usually interact with.”

In June of 2017, when the library received a generous donation from the Friends to

fund a new STEM program initiative, Mike and his friend Jeffrey Yoo, a computer programming major, were the first two volunteers to teach robotics and computer programming.

Twenty-five-year-old Northvale resident Yoo is currently a senior attending the New Jersey Institute of Tech-

nology.

“I started out as a civil engineer, until I decided that I liked the logic involved with programming much more than civil engineering,” he said. “It’s fun to talk to kids about why things are happening, and understanding how changes affect the result.”

Since Kim and Yoo began teaching, the library has added

PHOTO BY HILLARY VIDERS

COURT OF HONOR

It was a tremendous day for Closter’s Boy Scout Troop 63 as six young men attained the rank of Eagle Scout.

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Rock in time...

Police in snow shoes? These Palisades Interstate Park scenes date back 70 years.

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