

CAMDEN CITY NEWS

City Hall, 520 Market St., Camden, NJ 08101

POWER 99FM'S "PEACE ON THE STREETS" COMES TO CAMDEN

On Thursday, July 26, Power 99FM radio station, along with the City of Camden and the Camden City Board of Education, hosted the "Peace on the Streets" event at Robert Johnson Park to provide information about how communities can stop violence and promote peace in and around the greater Philadelphia region.

"The safety and well being of all our residents is, and will remain, my utmost top priority," Mayor Dana L. Redd. "We all share a common desire of finding public safety solutions that will keep our innocent children and families safe from senseless acts of vio-

lence in our neighborhoods. We need our residents, businesses, and public officials to stand united as we seek to improve the quality of life in our beloved City."

As part of the "Peace on the Street" event, attendees were treated to special performances by Bei Maejor and Camden's own hometown stars Ju-Taun and Young Poppa, the Dance Sensations dance troop, and an appearance from Lupe Fiasco.

Also in attendance were Council President Frank Moran; Council Vice-President Curtis Jenkins; Councilpersons Dana Bur-



Camden's own Yung Poppa performs at the "Peace on the Streets" event at Robert Johnson Park.

ley, Deborah Person-Polk, and Brian Coleman; Board of Education members Brian Turner, Felisha Reyes-Morton, and Sean Brown; Police Chief John S. Thomson; Brother Waseem Muhammad; and many others.

"Peace is not just a word, it is an action to live by,"

NORTH CAMDEN COMMUNITY CENTER GYM REOPENS

After getting a much needed facelift, thanks to federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding and Community Development Block Grants, the North Camden Community Center Gym is now ready for action.

Mayor Dana L. Redd, along with Council President Frank Moran and Councilman Dr. Luis Lopez, officially reopened the gym during the Camden Clean Campaign North Camden clean-up day on July 11.

Since the gym was plagued with many issues such as a leaky roof, broken down air conditioner unit, and insuffi-

cient lighting, it constantly had to be closed to the public for days at a time.

Mayor Redd and City Council worked hard to ensure the facility was renovated to ensure Camden residents, particularly the youth, were able to utilize the gym on a constant and frequent basis.

The hours of operation for the facility are as follows: Day recreation program from will run from 8:30am until 3:00pm.

There will be open basketball time from 4:00pm until 6:00pm for youth under 14; and 6:00pm until 8:00pm for

older youth and young adults Monday through Friday.

And the gym can also be used for other functions as long as you arrange for a permit with the City Department of Human Services.



A view of the resurfaced basketball court floor and new roof at the North Camden Community Center Gym.



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DID YOU KNOW:

- The New Jersey Division of Taxation started to mail out Senior Freeze checks to 163,000 senior and disabled homeowners throughout the state. If you did not send in your application, there is still time. The deadline to file your Senior Freeze application is October 19. Camden residents who need assistance filling out applications can call the Mayor's Office at 856-757-7200 to make an appointment with a trained staff member.
- Camden PAL track team has 13 Camden All American youths ranked in the top ten in the country for track and field. The athletes were designated All Americans at the USATF National Junior Olympics and the AAU Junior Olympics. USATF All Americans include: Davion Harper, Jahsair Acrey, Damir Kee and Tesean Bullock placed 5th in the 4x100 9-10 age group; Zeyonna Davis, Simone Hopkins, Aniyah Harmon, and Tierra Hooker placed 7th in the 4x400 9-10 age group; Kwan Wilson, Jermaine Owens, Keyon Franklin and Antwoine Hardy placed 7th in the 4x400 15-16 age group; and AAU All American Amia Green placed 6th in the shot put.

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NEW MEDICAL SCHOOL OPENS IN DOWNTOWN CAMDEN

More than 300 business, community leaders and elected officials celebrated the grand opening of Cooper Medical School of Rowan University's (CMSRU) state-of-the-art educational building on the corner of Broadway and Benson Street in downtown Camden.

The first new medical school in New Jersey in more than 35 years, CMSRU is only the third MD-granting school in the state, and the only one based in South Jersey.

CMSRU will begin training future doctors when its charter class arrives this August.

The Medical School's charter class consists of 50 students, 74% of whom are New Jersey residents. Class size will eventually grow to 100 students, with 400 students in total. They will be trained by more than 450 clinical faculty from Cooper University Hospital, and the medical school's own team of esteemed biomedical faculty.

CMSRU's six-story, 200,000 square-foot building cost \$139 million, and brought hundreds of jobs to the region.

Developed specifically for the CMSRU curriculum, it is filled with spaces and technologies to support faculty and students in their educational process, including a spectacular, 250-seat auditorium where today's event was held. Other highlights include a 140-seat multipurpose room, 25 Active Learning Rooms, a Learning Commons



Mayor Redd speaking during the opening of the new Cooper Medical School of Rowan University.

and satellite medical library, a Clinical Simulation Center, and state-of-the-art laboratory and research space.

WATER CONSERVATION CAN SAVE YOU AND THE CITY MONEY

These days, everyone is looking for ways to cut costs. Many are unaware of how easy it is to save money by simply committing to water conservation in ones home.

Water conservation is often portrayed as necessary for the greater good of the environment. However, the benefits to the individual who commits to water conservation are substantial. By simply replacing older, inefficient bathroom fixtures with WaterSense® labeled

fixtures, a single household can save 7,000 gallons of water and 200 kWh of energy annually. This translates to \$80 of savings in utility bills per year and it takes only two years for the fixtures to pay for themselves.

Conservation can be as easy as implementing simple lifestyle changes such as always washing full loads for both laundry and dishes and avoiding using running water to thaw meat or other frozen foods. Conserving water outdoors is important as

well. Watering the lawn and plants only when needed and doing so early or late in the day to reduce evaporation can also help an individual save.

If all residents of Camden commit to water conservation, the financial benefits multiply. Saving water reduces pumping and treatment costs for the CCMUA, which helps keep rates down. Camden neighborhoods also benefit from water conservation. Saving water reduces the potential for flood-

ing of raw sewage during rain storms because less of the sewer system's limited capacity is used.

In the interest of saving water for future generations, the City is currently pursuing adopting a water conservation ordinance which would restrict residents to lawn watering only two days per week, in the early morning or evening, and no longer than 30 minutes for a single area. Irrigation systems would also be subject to time constraints.



Mayor Redd and representatives from Saint Joseph's Carpenter Society, Wells Fargo Regional Foundation and Cooper's Ferry Partnership standing in front of the newly constructed homes in East Camden.

SJCS RECEIVES GRANT FOR NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING IN E. CAMDEN

In July, the Wells Fargo Regional Foundation announced a \$100,000 Neighborhood Planning Grant to Saint Joseph's Carpenter Society (SJCS), in conjunction with Cooper's Ferry Partnership (CFP) and the Regional Plan Association (RPA), to develop a resident-driven plan for the East Camden neighborhood. The grant was announced on the site of one of the newly constructed homes in Carpenter's Square, a 42 unit development by SJCS.

The neighborhood plan, "My

East Camden – Many Voices, One Vision," will bring many different community members together, from non-profits, to businesses and residents, to create a vision for a shared future.

SJCS will work with its partners to plan critical recommendations based on community input. The research gathered will result in the completion of a neighborhood plan that combines existing conditions and workshop results into a vision of the future

neighborhood while addressing children and families, economic development, affordable housing and housing counseling and neighborhood building. CFP will provide an essential role of identifying, engaging, drawing out and sustaining participation of East Camden residents and stakeholders utilizing strategic planning techniques through coordination with neighborhood groups and individuals. Working with RPA, SJCS and CFP will provide the framework for a realistic and implementable neighborhood vision.