COMMUNITY CALENDAR

East Trenton Center | 601 N. Clinton Ave.

Pilates Classes by Tribal Wellness
Mondays at 6:30 PM

Yoga Classes by Tribal Wellness
Thursdays at 8:30 PM

August Community Meeting
Saturday 8/12 at 10 AM

September Community Meeting
Saturday 9/16 at 10 AM

Benefits of Home Ownership
Workshop with Sherri Glass,
Broker Associate, Pinnacle Realtors & Associates

Home ownership is considered the gateway to building wealth in our society. Some benefits of home ownership include pride, stability, and flexibility. Owning a home is a form of savings and builds equity for generations to come, it also strengthens community ties. Learn more about the steps to homeownership by attending one of ETC’s homeownership workshops.

To find out when the next workshop will be held, contact Sherri Glass at 609-731-4331.
ETC Launches BOUNCE Summer Youth Employment Program

Twenty-three interns, ages 14-18, from our East Trenton neighborhood are getting ready to embark on their fourth week of our first BOUNCE Summer Youth Employment Program. Students have been arduously working at their designated sites in positions ranging from Social Media Specialists to Camp Aides to Agriculturists. In addition to their assigned job sites, all interns have been enjoying our Enrichment Fridays where they have visited places like Trenton City Hall and the New Jersey Statehouse to meet with Councilwoman Margaret Caldwell-Wilson and Assemblyman Reed Gusciora. Other Friday activities include college campus visits, financial literacy workshops, ice cream socials, career exploration and lots more!

TASK’s New Building Opening Opportunities for Partnership

TASK’s exciting $1.3 million “Building into the Future” facility expansion project, is slated to break ground in the fall. TASK is looking forward to using the new wing, with its updated technology and spacious, multipurpose rooms, to serve everyone who comes to TASK. ETC and TASK are exploring how we can partner to bring more programming to residents of East Trenton in this new facility.

Soccer & Youth Engagement in East Trenton’s Parks

This summer, PlaySoccer NonProfit International (PSNI) is providing free soccer sessions at George Page Park on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday mornings from 9-11 for ETC youth. PSNI offers an integrated educational curriculum that focuses on health, social, and soccer/football skills. While children learn to play the game, they also learn social skills like teamwork, fair play, health and good nutrition. Our program encourages children to put these new skills into practice on the playing field and in their daily lives at home and in the community. This past Spring, PSNI offered its After School Program at the Grant and Wilson School for more than fifty boys and girls in the 4th and 5th grades. It was very popular and will be repeated in Fall 2017.

Supporting Businesses in East Trenton

ETC is working to strengthen the North Clinton Avenue commercial corridor while also providing support for entrepreneurs from the neighborhood. Existing retail businesses on North Clinton Avenue, or owners of vacant storefronts, can apply for Storefront Improvement Grants to do repairs or rehabilitation of their retail space, with the goal of improving its look, feel, and street-level presence. More information and the application are at www.east-trenton.org/business. Additionally, ETC is partnering with UCEDC, a statewide nonprofit focused on business development, to provide training for entrepreneurs. The first session, Introduction to Entrepreneurship, will be held on September 19, 6-8 pm, at the East Trenton Center.
Rehabilitation Begins on Long Vacant Building

On May 16, 2017, East Trenton Collaborative in partnership with New Jersey Community Capital held a groundbreaking event to mark the start of construction at 615 N. Clinton Ave. ETC and NJCC have been working on revitalizing the intersection of North Clinton Ave and Olden Ave as the heart of the neighborhood and to tackle the issue of vacant properties in East Trenton. The building will be transformed into three apartments and one storefront for a local business, with an expected completion date of February 2018.

IAM Trenton Awards 14 Community Grants

ETC worked with The I Am Trenton Community Foundation (IAT) and Isles to launch the second round of the neighborhood grants program this spring. The applications were evaluated by IAT and the ETC grants committee for factors like community benefit and project impact. Fourteen grants were awarded totaling $27,570. A check presentation ceremony was held in Sonny Vereen Park, where two successful grantees will be operating youth and adult summer basketball leagues. Other funded projects include a summer music camp, youth mentoring, neighborhood beautification, cooking classes, career services, and video production.

A Better Way’s Forklift Certification Opens Employment Opportunities

The Forklift Certification is a one day course administered by A Better Way and is available at the East Trenton Center for residents free of charge. In the past month, A Better Way’s team has trained 15 residents to become forklift operators and have assisted them with obtaining jobs in the area that pay $13-22 per hour. If you’re interested in signing up for a class, please call Jan Stokes at a Better Way at 609-392-1224, and join the East Trenton residents (pictured left) who have recently graduated!
Urban Promise Trenton’s Camp Grace: Summer Progress & Fall Sign Ups

UrbanPromise Trenton is having a great summer at Camp Grace! 24 students are participating in full day camp: 8:30-4 from July 5 through July 24. So far students have gone to the 4-H Camp (thanks to HomeFront for providing transportation), enjoyed soccer with Play Soccer! and spent time with artists from Bucks A.I.R (Artists in Residence). Next up- Trenton Circus Squad!

Most afternoons, volunteers from various churches join the campers for all kinds of fun activities, including art, music, cooking and dance. Thanks to our friends from Woodside Church and St. Matthew’s Episcopal. The campers LOVE all the fun and attention.

We are thrilled to have ETC’s B.O.U.N.C.E. students serving as StreetLeaders at Camp Grace, alongside Site Director, Damary Caraballo, to facilitate our programming. The teens also enjoy enrichment opportunities with UPT’s StreetLeaders from our other two sites. We love these teens!

UPT will once again host an AfterSchool program in the school year, beginning September 11. Applications will be available on our website www.urbanpromisetrenton.org after 8/21. Parents are welcome to pick a hard copy application at ET. All applications must be completed and returned no later than 8/31 at 12 noon. Spots are limited, so please apply early to ensure your child can attend this FREE program.

Demolition on 104 Taylor St. to Make Way for New Recreation Opportunities

The City has notified the community that Wild Heart Industries, a contractor, will be demolishing the large buildings at 104 Taylor Street for the next 6 weeks starting 7/26. Because much of the property is located within a Flood Hazard Area, we expect the future development of the property will create new open spaces for the use of the community. Future recreational uses for the site will be discussed at upcoming community meetings. The City apologizes for any inconvenience. If you have additional questions or concerns, please contact: J.R. Capasso, Brownfields Coordinator, City of Trenton, 609-989-3501.

Bringing Back St. Joe’s Ave. Park

Did you know that the gated and locked lot on St. Joe’s Avenue used to be a park? Many residents have expressed an interest in seeing it return to use as a park. ETC and Isles’ Clean & Green team met with residents at the park in June to develop a plan for the space. The first phase of cleaning, restoring, and activating the park included a community clean up held on July 22, 2017. Clean & Green, ETC staff and volunteers from Urban Promise Trenton’s Street Leader program rid the space of several years of dumping and debris and began to prune overgrown shrubs. The next steps are to work with the City to get trees trimmed and for the Clean & Green crew to continue pruning, trimming, and mowing. After a second community clean-up, the Public Works Department will be invited to meet with stakeholders to discuss additional improvements and programming for the park. It is our hope that this space can become a place for neighborhood barbecues and family gatherings. Come check out the park and bring your ideas for how to improve it!