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## From the Desk of Freeholder Director Shanel Y. Robinson

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### PATRIOTS DONATE 500 TURKEY DINNERS

The Somerset Patriots, along with Flemington Car & Truck Country made a donation of 500 individual turkeys with all the trimmings to local families through the Food Bank Network of Somerset County. The



### THE 2020 GENERAL ELECTION IS COMPLETE

A record number of Somerset County voters - almost 190,000! -- turned out to vote in the 2020 General Election with almost all being cast with vote by mail ballots for the first time ever. Every County department stepped up to help the Board of Elections with this unprecedented effort. After the count was completed on November



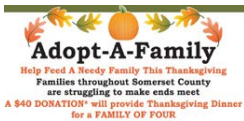
### SHERIFF COLLECTING TOYS FOR TOTS

Somerset County Sheriff Darrin J. Russo and the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation are sponsoring a 2020 Toys for Tots collection drive for children in need to receive Christmas gifts. A collection box has been placed inside the entrance of the County Administration Building, located at 20 Grove St., Somerville,

donation is expected to serve between 2,000 and 2,500 people this holiday season. Freeholders Shanel Robinson, Brian Levine, and Melonie Marano helped facilitate the donation, and were on hand for the presentation. [You can donate to your local Food Bank!](#)

20, Somerset County Steve Peter certified the results on November 23. [See the results of your local, state, and federal races online.](#)

NJ 08876. Toys can be dropped off through **Friday, Dec. 11**, between **8:30 a.m.** and **4 p.m.**, Monday through Friday. [Learn More.](#)



### [Donations Sought for "Adopt a Family"](#)

There's still time to help families in need enjoy a great holiday dinner.



### [Rental Relief Funding Still Available for Those Impacted by COVID](#)

**If you are having difficulty making your rental payments due to job loss or other issues related to COVID-19, Somerset County has funding available that can help.**



### [Send us Your Photos](#)

Young or old, amateur or professional - we'd love to see your photos. There are five themes to choose from this year: Community, Historic Sites, Natural Environment, Recreation and a "Creativity during COVID-19" grab bag. Deadline is Nov. 30. (Photo by Julia Gehringer of Basking Ridge.)



### [Somerset County Artists Are Recognized Statewide](#)

The Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission is pleased to announce the names of fourteen local artists who advanced to the 2020 New Jersey Senior Citizens Art Show after being recognized at the Somerset County Senior Art Show in October. Due to the pandemic, both art exhibitions were held virtually,

### [County Office of Emergency Management Supports 'Register Ready'](#)

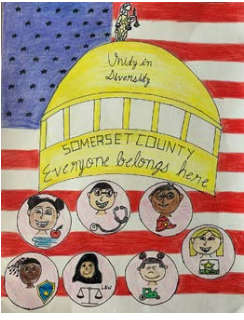
Somerset County's Office of Emergency Management supports the New Jersey "Register Ready" system – a special needs registry for vulnerable residents to use as a safety resource during a disaster or other emergency.



Experts agree the best way of managing a crisis is to be proactive and have a plan. Residents with disabilities and others who have special needs can better prepare for an emergency by signing up for Register Ready. Through this safety resource, emergency response teams have access to each registrant's specific health and safety needs as well as their location.

### [County's Diversity Festival Contest Winners Announced](#)

The Somerset County Diversity Festival committee is excited to announce the names of the 2020 Diversity Festival Poster Contest winners. All county students in grades four to 12 were eligible



to enter the month-long online contest – as part of a new Diversity Festival initiative. The contest was held virtually. Six winners were chosen out of 50 submissions.



**[The next 'First Saturday of the Month' Drop Off will be held Dec. 5.](#)**



**[COVID Testing Scheduled at RVCC](#)**



**[“Grab & Go” Curbside Lunch Program](#)**

County-operated Senior Wellness Centers closed, eligible participants age 60 or older can order and pick up boxed lunches and frozen meals.



**[Virtual Senior Wellness Center Programs Available for November](#)**



**[Freeholder Meetings Livestreamed](#)**

Catch the Board of Freeholders' [twice-monthly work sessions and regular meetings](#) as they happen by visiting the [livestreaming page](#) on the county website. You can also access archived meetings.



**[Somerset County Library System](#)**

There's lots to see and do now that the Somerset County Library System is open. <https://sclsnj.org/>



**[SOMERSET COUNTY PARK COMMISSION](#)**

Somerset County parks are open for residents during the COVID, with social distancing, of course. Enjoy the beautiful weather during this first weekend of fall with expected temperatures in the 80s!

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## **SOMERSET COUNTY MISSION STATEMENT:**

The County of Somerset is committed to excellence and innovation in public service, promoting the well-being of all residents and communities by providing effective, efficient and responsive leadership.