

# BOROUGH OF FLEMINGTON

## APRIL 2024 NEWSLETTER

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Welcome Spring and to the first newsletter of the year. The most exciting news is several of the projects that have been in works for several years, are finally coming to fruition in 2024.

Rest assured, future newsletters will continue to update you on the progress of all the redevelopment projects along with introducing new businesses around the Borough. This particular issue will however serve to introduce you to the current council along with all the professionals who support you as well as the entire Flemington Borough.

Additionally, there were a couple great events that are highlighted in this edition as well as a couple reminders about recycling and trash collection.

After conducting a couple trials on publishing and the logistics of distributing the newsletters is still a work in progress. Now, newsletters will be available on the Historic Flemington website. We will continue to ask business owners to host copies of the newsletters in their respective restaurants/stores.

Keep in mind, to sustain this newsletter, it takes people like you to contribute. If your organization or group, including scouts, seniors, churches, non profits have events or news you want to share, we would like to hear from you.

### The Borough Council

Mayor: Marcia Karrow  
President: Jeremy Long  
Vice President: Liz Rossetti  
Council: Susan Englehardt  
Council: Adrienne Fusaro  
Council: Trent Levitt  
Council: Tony Parker

### CONTACT INFORMATION

#### Address

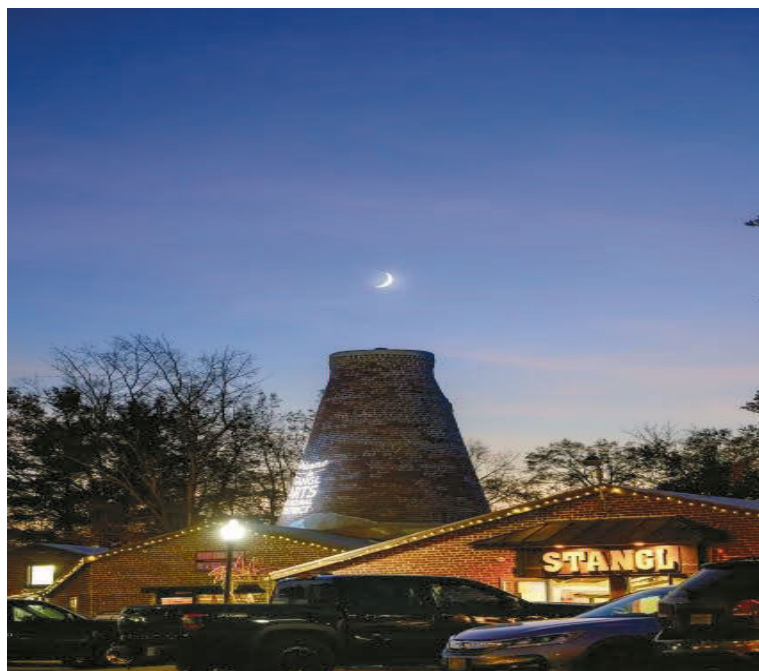
38 Park Avenue  
Flemington, NJ 08822

#### Office Hours

Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

#### Phone

(908) 782-8840



## Mayor Marcia Karrow

Marcia's family has resided in Flemington Borough since 1922 where her grandfather, Ben, established a tailor shop. Her father, Sol, began what became Karrow Men's Wear during the Lindbergh Kidnapping Trial when the NY City elite corps of reporters including Walter Winchell stormed the County Seat and needed additional business suits when the trial lasted longer than expected. Her father served on Borough Council as President and Mayor for 20 years and her mother, Adele, served on the Flemington-Raritan School Board for 8 years. Both of her parents were members of many not-for-profit service organizations in Hunterdon.

Born in a family dedicated to community and public service, Marcia served as a Raritan Township Committeewoman and Mayor, has served on countless local and county boards and committees, as the first woman member of the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders (now County Board of Commissioners), a Member of the NJ State General Assembly and as a NJ State Senator. She holds a Masters Degree from the University of Michigan and an MBA from Baruch College (City University of New York). Mayor Karrow also holds a Registered Municipal Clerk license.

Marcia serves as the Chair of the Board of Directors for the Hunterdon 300th (the Hunterdon Tri-centennial Committee), a historical not-for-profit dedicated toward the education of Hunterdon County history, as a Trustee for the Hunterdon County Historical Society, and on the Boy Scouts of America Washington Crossing Council as the Executive Vice President for Governance and By-Laws. She is the proud third generation resident of her home in Flemington.

## Councilman President Jeremy Long

Greetings! I began my role as a member of the Flemington Borough Council in January 2020 and am currently in the second year of my second term. In that time I have seen and learned quite a bit. One thing you should know about me is that I am always willing to learn and adapt. I think it is fair to say that since January of 2020, I have learned quite a bit and am eager to learn more.

I am always available to talk and depending on what is going on in town, I make myself available around town for meet ups and conversations. In previous years, I have served as the Class III member of the Planning Board, been police commissioner, served as liaison to the Flemington Community Partnership (FCP), worked on finance, redevelopment, the Citizens' Working Group on Police and Community Relations, and even the 2020 Census.

This year, I am really looking to working with emergency services, the Flemington Fire Department, and our Office of Emergency Management. I am also eager to continue working on the redevelopment committees for Liberty Village and Cardinal (see Guitar Boy). So much progress is being made to revitalize and strengthen our town through projects like these. Additionally, I am looking forward to, once again, working on finances and also with personnel. As council president, I am extremely excited to work with the rest of the governing body to bring more prosperity and energy to our town. Most importantly, I am looking forward to fostering a stronger sense of community pride to Flemington.

# AROUND THE BOROUGH

## Our Borough Professionals

**David Guilliani** serves as the Borough Code Enforcement/Property Maintenance Officer since 2022. Dave also serves as our Deputy OEM Coordinator for over 15 years.

**Patrick Renaldi** serves as the Borough Acting Zoning Officer since August 2023. Pat holds the Rutgers zoning certification, as well as numerous other state certifications. Pat has worked over 20 years for several municipalities in Middlesex, Somerset, and Monmouth Counties.

**Kenneth McCormick** was appointed as the Borough's Fire Marshal in June of 2017. Ken also serves as the Borough's Right to Know officer and Fire Subcode Official / Inspector. Ken is certified as a Fire Official and Fire Investigator by the State of New Jersey and licensed as a Fire Subcode Official by the State of New Jersey. Ken has served in the emergency services since 1980 and holds numerous certifications in all aspects of the emergency services.

**John Tillotson** has been our Construction Official since June 2023. He has been working in Code Enforcement at various levels since 2017. Prior to this, he was a General Contractor for 35 years.

**Jerry Rotella** began his law enforcement career in 1996 as a Class One Special Police officer for Flemington. In 1998 he graduated Morris County Police Academy and was assigned to Hunterdon County Prosecutor's Office Narcotics Task Force for his first year as a full-time police officer. Since 2016, Jerry has proudly served the Flemington Borough community as the Chief of Police.

**Robin Lapidus** has been the Executive Director of the Flemington Community Partnership and Flemington Improvement District since April 2019. She is originally from Maplewood, NJ. She received a Master's Degree in Education from Harvard University and directed the Harvard Square Business Association, and Central Square Business Association in Cambridge Massachusetts, and then the Provincetown Business Guild in Cape Cod before returning to New Jersey. The place she has always called home.



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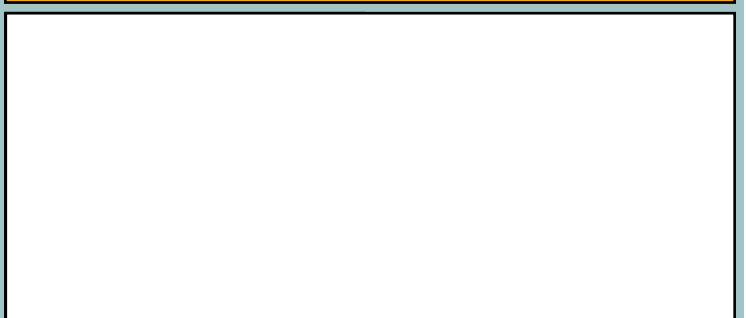


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# Our Borough

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## Members of Our

### Borough Police Department

<u>Name</u>	<u>Years</u>
Chief Jerry Rotella	25
Lt. Willam Soriano	21
*Lt. Michael Mariaschin	20
*Sgt. Louis Hribik	20
*Sgt. Bradley Bullman	16
*Sgt. Brian McNally	13
*Cpl. Dustin Kydd	18
Ptl. Robert Godown	18
Ptl. Frank Emanuele	10
Ptl. Cory Garrabrant	10
Ptl. Gregory Zytko	6
Ptl. Donald Ala	6
Ptl. Michael Cristadoro	4
Ptl. Gissel Aquino	2
Ptl. Nick Saleeba	2
Ptl. Christian Mata	9 mo
SPO III Craig Santoro	4
*K9 Elza	6 mo
K9 Kita	4

\*K9 Elza, is the new German Shepard in K9 Unit

\* Promotion effective May 1st

## Our Borough Professionals (cont'd)

The Borough professionals help to keep the borough operational so it's only fitting that we formally introduce you to the Borough family.

**Municipal Clerk and Registrar Carla Conner** joined Flemington in June 2023. She served as the Clerk and Registrar of Clinton Township for many years and is a seasoned professional. Carla's role as Clerk makes her the head of local elections, in charge of all public records requests, the secretary to the Council and to the Borough corporation, and in charge of the office.

**Maureen McIvor**, serves as the Boroughs Technical Assistant to the Construction Manager since June 2023. Maureen holds state certification. Maureen worked for more than a decade in this role in Phillipsburg. She also serves as our Deputy Registrar.

**Rebecca Newman**, our Municipal Tax Collector has been with the Borough a number of years; she also serves as our Utility Clerk as well as works with Accounts Payable for the Borough.

**Ana Palma**, serves as the part-time Clerk's Assistant who collects payments from residents as well as filters and answers questions from residents. Ana is fluent in Spanish which is so helpful with our large Spanish-speaking population in the Borough.

**Bill Hance**, serves as the Boroughs Chief Financial Officer. Bill has fiscal oversight on the municipal budget, grants, accounts payable/receivable, escrow funds, and everything to do with the Borough's finances and financial health.

**Ed Kerwin**, our Tax Assessor who some of you may have met when reviewing renovations at your home or if you have questions about your property taxes.

**Mike Campion**, Director of Public Works, has served the Borough since 2003. Mike oversees water, sewers, roads, trash/recycling, and buildings and grounds throughout the Borough.

**Chris Corsini**, Borough Attorney handles a wide variety of legal issues on behalf of Flemington including, helping to manage the legal needs of the Borough's infrastructure, assist with facilitating the Borough's many redevelopment projects, helping administer the Borough's active public calendar, interfacing with local business concerns, and/or negotiating with other governing bodies.

## As a Reminder:

### DISTRICT 3 (FLEMINGTON LIBRARY) CHANGES LOCATION TO VOTE!

Residents who vote at District 3 (Flemington Library) will be now voting at the Flemington Presbyterian Church. Postcards will be sent out prior to the Primary with more detailed information.

### Feral/Stray Cats within Flemington Borough

Recently there has been concerns about feral/stray cats within Flemington Borough which in turn has started controversy about whose ultimately responsible for stray cats. According to Flemington Boroughs ordinance No. 2012-02, Chapter 6 (which follows the law of the State of New Jersey), outlines all animal rules and regulations. Within Chapter 6-1, **the term "owner/keeper"** is defined as:

***"Shall mean any person who shall possess, maintain, house or harbor any pet or otherwise have custody of any pet, whether or not the owner of such pet."***

In other words, if a property owner or renter comes in contact with feral and/or/stray cats and provides any kind of shelter, medical aid, or food, (per State law and Borough Ordinance), the resident or renter is therefore considered the "owner/keeper" of such cat.

Consequently, the Borough of Flemington will not be held liable for the removal of a "harbored" feral/stray cat, instead such responsibility rests on the person who has been maintaining, feeding, sheltering, or caring for the stray cat.

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## Councilwoman Liz Rosetti

The desire to help improve Flemington inspired me to serve on the council. Flemington is such a special place overflowing with potential that it is hard not to want to see it flourish and thrive. I feel a deep sense of community, pride, and aspiration within our small borough.

The junction of residential properties mingling with business districts, the convergence of historic features, and a movement to progression is something that is hard to put into words. I have had the opportunity to work amongst wonderful people of varying backgrounds and skill sets, where we all cooperate and lend our various knowledge and talents to propel Flemington along. We are so lucky to have dedicated borough employees, elected officials, and volunteers, all eager to contribute to a common purpose.

While the duties of serving the council in and of themselves are often routine, technical, and tedious, there is a bigger picture to hold onto. There are so many moving parts: whether it involves communication with code enforcement to address dangerous conditions around town, getting the word out about the importance of snow removal, or working with the Shade Tree Commission while they formulate a plan to inventory hazardous trees, or to inform people of the Adopt-a-Tree program; or sharing visions of an upgraded and rehabilitated park, and trying to find creative ways to fund improvement projects; or just taking time to educate yourself on issues before voting on important decisions that will impact Flemington for years to come.

All these seemingly small undertakings on their own that each of us is tasked with all culminate in forming this far-reaching venture. I have developed an admiration and appreciation for everyone who plays a part in bettering our community throughout this experience. I am excited for Flemington's future!

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## Councilman Trent Levitt

Hi, I'm Trent Levitt, I'm 25 years old and I'm your newest member of the Flemington Borough Council. As a Hunterdon Central graduate, I've been proud to call Hunterdon County my home for 18 years and have lived in the Borough with my mom and brother for the past 8 years.

If you don't recognize me, there's a decent chance you'd recognize my van driving up and down Main Street. I've owned and operated a small interior painting company for 5 years, giving me firsthand experience with the challenges and rewards of running a small business.

Before my time on council, I served on the Planning Board and Environmental Commission for three years where I gained valuable insight into the workings of our local government and developed a strong understanding of the issues facing our community; especially regarding redevelopment.

For my first year on council I've been assigned to Animal Control, Fireworks, Schools, and the Historic Preservation Commission. I continue to serve as a member of the Environmental Commission. I also volunteer for Flemington DIY and the Flemington Borough Community Garden.

In my free time I enjoy photography, hanging out with friends, going to concerts, playing video games, and watching YouTube videos related to town planning and politics. A fun fact about me is that I've been to all of the contiguous United States. One of these days I'll make it to Hawaii and Alaska.

I'm very excited to be serving all of you on council and making Flemington the best town it can be.

# AROUND THE BOROUGH

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## Councilwoman Adrienne Fusaro

My husband and I bought our forever home in the Historic District in late 2013. At the time, we saw nothing but potential for what Flemington could be. In the interim, we've seen a renaissance of new businesses and resident activities in the borough. As the development of our Borough accelerates, I know my background in operationalizing regulations and driving organizational excellence can be leveraged to ensure that safety is enhanced, economic opportunities expand, and Flemington becomes a place you come to, not drive through. '

For 2024 I will be serving on the following: Planning Board, Public Works, Library Liaison, and Parking. These assignments align with what many of you discussed with me during my campaign last year. They allow me to remain focused on how we walk to our neighbors, schools, and Borough businesses. They ensure that you have a voice who understands that weak infrastructure can harm the home you've built your life in. In the heart of our Borough, we have a community center – the Flemington Library. As I write this, I've learned the Friends of Flemington Library is actively interested in finding out what programs we would like to see to better engage us all.

## Councilman Tony Parker

I have extensive experience in strategic planning, program development and implementation, business development, contract administration, and training in the government and private sectors

Currently working as a consultant to small businesses and startups, overseeing business planning and new business development and developing and implementing strategic plans and protocols for transportation services technology, healthcare, and managed service organizations.

I have worked with the Department of State, United States Marine Corps, Department of Army, Health and Human Services, Center for Disease Control, U.S. Postal Service, Veteran's Administration, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Transportation, Corps of Engineers, General Services Administration, and Department of Energy.

Although my focus over the past 15 years has been in the Federal Sector, my career spans several industries, including financial, managed services, food service, healthcare, IT, and advertising. This includes managing large domestic and international operations for Fortune 300 and 500 Companies.

I am honored to be appointed Police Commissioner as well as the following committees: redevelopment (Liberty Village, Cardinal), DPW, FCP, Arts Committee, newsletter, and personnel.

I consider myself very fortunate to share my life with my best friend and husband, Scott. Our family includes our dog, Brie, cat, Bleu, and bird, Nica and some very special friends and neighbors.



# AROUND THE BOROUGH

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## Flemington Community Partnership (FCP)

The Flemington Community Partnership (FCP) also known as the Flemington Improvement District is excited about the events planned for this Spring season. Monthly events on Main Street and Stangl offer our residents and visitors an opportunity to spend time with us, meet friends, and get to know local business owners. We invite you to join us for the following events:

### **April Events:**

4/18 - April Stangl Sip & Stroll Kick-Off, 5 pm to 9 pm

4/20 - John Gorka - Stangl Factory, 8 pm to 10:30 pm

End of April - Alkemy Coffee Co. Opening Weekend! -

Stangl Factory, Coffee, Aura Photos, and Tarot Card Readings!

### **May Events:**

5/1 - 5/5 - Cinco De Mayo Events throughout the Borough!

5/11 - Flemington Pottery Spring Sale – 9 am to 4 pm

5/12 - Mother's Day Events in our Restaurants and Businesses

5/16 - May Stangl Sip & Stroll, from 5 pm to 9 pm

5/18 - Xtreme Queen - Stangl Factory, 8 pm to 10:30 pm

5/24 to 5/27 - Flemington Summer Book Fest by Act 2 Books -10 am to 6 pm

5/25 - Saturday Sidewalk Sales on Main Street & beyond! 10 am - 4 pm

5/26 & 5/27 - Flemington Fine Artisans Show, Stangl Factory, 10 am to 4 pm

5/27 - Memorial Day Parade, 10 am to 1 pm

5/31 - Nerds Concert at Lone Eagle, 7 pm – 10 pm

### **June Events:**

6/1 - Flemington Car Show on Main Street Kick-off, 5:30 pm - 8 pm

6/1 - Stangl Karma Festival, 10 am - 6 pm, New! Free Yoga, Workshops, and Dance Party!

6/1 – Historic House Tours of Historic Flemington, 11 am - 5 pm

6/9 - WithinSpirit Psychic Fair– Tent on Stangl– 11 am - 4 pm

6/15 - Stangl Moon Market by Within Spirit, 3 pm - 8 pm

6/15 - Flemington Car Show on Main Street, 5:30 pm - 8 pm

6/16 - Father's Day Events in our Restaurants and Businesses

6/19 - Juneteenth Event - More info to follow.

6/20 - June Stangl Sip & Stroll - Solstice & Pride Celebration, 5 pm - 9 pm

6/22 - Saturday Sidewalk Sales – Main Street & beyond! 10 am - 4 pm

6/22 - United Way Summer Fiesta on Fulper, Time TBD

6/29 - Flemington Car Show on Main Street, 5:30 pm - 8 pm

For more info [www.loveflemington.com](http://www.loveflemington.com)

**Both the FCP along with the Borough Council welcome the following new businesses**

### **Main Street Area:**

The Men's Salon of Flemington (relocating to North Main)

La Pulperia Mini Market

### **Stangl Area:**

Vape Shop on Stangl

Green Home and Garden

Alchemy Coffee Shop (April)

Please contact us at [Communications@FlemingtonCP.com](mailto:Communications@FlemingtonCP.com) We look forward to bringing you more information about our programs and events with each newsletter.





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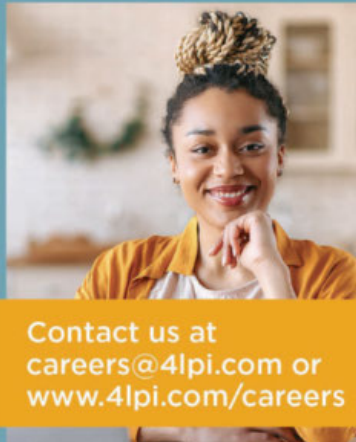
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# AROUND THE BOROUGH

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It is with great pleasure that we announce the Flemington Historic Preservation Commission is hosting another "House Tours of Historic Flemington" after an extremely successful tour last year that had over 500 attendees. This year's tour will be held on Saturday, June 1, 2024 from 11AM to 5PM. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 the day of the event.

The private homes and public buildings selected for our tour will provide visitors a view into the eclectic architecture of our charming borough, including the largest representation of Victorian architecture outside of Cape May as well as Early 20th Century and stunning examples of Greek Revival, Gothic, Colonial and 2<sup>nd</sup> Empire, for which Flemington is well known. Over 65% of Flemington's buildings are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This year's tour includes the historic Courthouse where the Lindbergh "Trial of the Century" took place in 1935 along with the Barristers Office used for the lawyers during the trial and the historic jail and cellblock where Bruno Hauptmann was detained during the trial.

Engage our docents at each property to learn about how these iconic sites have contributed to the historic fabric of the borough and the surrounding County of Hunterdon. Visit our downtown's array of boutiques and eateries as well as our brewery and distillery to make your stay with us more memorable. Free parking can be found in lots throughout the borough as well as along the streets of any of our neighborhoods. There is also a free looping trolley passing each of our showcased properties.

As a vibrant community in the midst of exciting changes, we ask that you excuse any issues you may encounter with the revitalization of our Main Street. Several upcoming projects promise to bring even greater opportunities for dining, entertainment and recreation!

Pick up your ticket/guide booklet and you also have the option to buy day of event tickets at the Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce at 119 Main Street.

It's a fun community event so plan to spend a few hours enjoying everything that Historic Flemington has to offer! Support Flemington! Spread the word! If interested, plan to spend the day and stay for the extremely popular Flemington Car Show on Main Street starting at 5:30PM., For more information, including questions on alternative payment methods, email us at: [dschoeb@historicflemington.com](mailto:dschoeb@historicflemington.com) or visit our website: <https://www.flemingtonhpc.com/>



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Borough of Flemington, Flemington, NJ 06-5397

# BOROUGH OF FLEMINGTON

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## **The Flemington Borough Council along with the NAACP of Hunterdon County, Love Flemington, and the Hunterdon County Anti-Racism Coalition Collaborate for a Memorable Black History Month Celebration at Stangl Factory**

In a spirited celebration of Black History Month, the NAACP of Hunterdon County and community partners hosted a remarkable event at the historic Stangl Factory on Saturday, February 24. The free event drew nearly 200 attendees. The evening's program featured an inspiring video message from **US Senator Cory Booker**, who emphasized the importance of honoring and preserving African-American history.

**Iby Ikotidem** began the program with an interactive community conversation on "What does Black History Month mean to you?" followed by a presentation from **Princess Gamble**, University Deputy Director of Advancement National Museum of African-American History and Culture in Washington, DC recalling how the over 100-year-old dream of a museum became a reality.

A review of "If These Stones Could Talk: African Americans of Central Jersey: A History of Harmony and Hostility" by authors **Beverly Mills and Elaine Buck**. Act 2 Books had copies of the book on hand as well as other literature on the African-American experience.

Attendees also were treated to a diverse array of performances, including soulful melodies from songbird **Mari Green**, and a delightful piano performance of Scott Joplin's "Ragtime" by **Cainen Batliwala**.

An art exhibit featuring submissions from Hunterdon Central Regional High School among other artists rounded out the evening, providing attendees with a deeper appreciation for the rich tapestry of African-American culture and history.

The event also showcased the support of the community, with attendees such as **Kushant Pall, Janice Kovach, and Dan Connor**. Guests indulged in delicious cultural fare provided by The Kombucha Bar, Island Vybz, and Viva Mexico as well as beverages and snacks from ShopRite.

Overall, the celebration was a resounding success, leaving attendees inspired and uplifted as they reflected on the contributions of African-Americans throughout history.

The event proves the point from Ernst Gaines, "we have much more in common that we have difference. I would say that about people all over the world. They don't know how much in common that they have."

