



NEWS & COMMUNITY RESOURCES

AUGUST 12, 2026

Joint Effort Discussion Focuses on Shared Future

Town Topics - Matthew Hersh

August 12, 2026

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State and local leaders joined Gov. Mikie Sherrill last week to grapple with the complex relationships that need to exist between state and local governments to pursue equity without treating communities as separate silos.

Held August 5 at the Arts Council of Princeton as part of the annual nine-day Joint Effort Princeton Witherspoon-Jackson Community Safe Streets Summer Program, the Jim Floyd Memorial Community Discussion was titled “Visions for the Future of New Jersey and What Can Mercer County Do.” The conversation, which included Sherrill, Mercer County Executive Dan Benson, Princeton Mayor Mark Freda, state Sen. Andrew Zwicker, Mercer County Commissioner Sam Frisby, former Trenton Mayor Douglas Palmer, African American Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey CEO John Harmon, and Mercer County Commissioner candidate Nakia White-Barr, ranged from affordable housing and economic opportunity to racial disparities, Trenton’s finances, and the mundane business of sharing government services.

Communities may face very different challenges, but their futures are interconnected, panelists concluded. “Here’s my vision: In short, driving costs down, lifting every community up, and building a more transparent, accountable government that helps us do both,” Sherrill said.

DOL awards \$6 million in digital literacy grants to help close skills gap

BINJE - Admin

August 12, 2026

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The N.J. Department of Labor and Workforce Development this week announced the recipients of \$6 million in funding through its Digital Literacy Training Grant, aimed at closing the digital skills gap among Work First New Jersey recipients. WFNJ provides essential support to eligible New Jersey residents and their families, including cash assistance, childcare, job readiness programs and short-term housing.

- The FY26 awardees:
- Atlantic Cape Community College;
 - Inspire U;
 - Long Beach Island Community Center;
 - Mercer Med Tech;
 - New Jersey Institute of Technology;
 - Workforce Development Board of Northwest New Jersey.

Launched in 2025, the grant funds community-based organizations across New Jersey to provide WFNJ participants with digital skills training, industry-recognized certifications and credentials, and connections to employment opportunities.

Unlocking Opportunities: 2nd Annual Filming in the Garden State (FIGS), Showcasing New Jersey's Film Industry Potential

Insider NJ.com

August 10, 2026

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Assemblywoman Tennille R. McCoy proudly joins the African American Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey (AACCNJ) to present the 2nd Annual Filming in the Garden State (FIGS) reception. This signature event will take place on August 13th from 3 PM to 6 PM during the 24th Annual Run & Shoot Filmworks Martha's Vineyard African American Film Festival.

Building on the success of its inaugural event in 2025, FIGS highlights the innovative partnerships, forward-thinking policies, and workforce development initiatives that are transforming New Jersey into a premier hub for entertainment. Guests will discover the exciting opportunities fueling New Jersey's creative economy while connecting with the visionaries shaping the future of film.

This year, FIGS will honor renowned personalities from the entertainment industry, including Naturi Naughton, AJ Calloway and Chris Charles Scott, for their significant contributions to film and culture. The event is proudly sponsored by the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA), Netflix, Kean University and AACCCJ all committed to fostering growth in the state's film and digital media sectors.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES



NJEDA
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Garden State C-PACE Program Webinar for Municipalities

Thursday, October 1, 2026

Zoom webinar

Session time: 10:00 A.M.

Scan here to register [www.njeda.gov/webinars](#)



AC LIBRARY LUNCH & LEARN

12:00pm-1:00pm
William K. Cheatham Building (Main Library)
1 North Tennessee Ave.

Come hungry! Join us for a free lunch while you learn helpful tips at sessions focusing on nutrition and other health topics. Grab your plate and settle in for practical insights you can apply right away. Whether you're looking to broaden your knowledge, explore new concepts, or simply enjoy a great meal and an inspiring break in your day, this is the perfect opportunity to feed your appetite and your mind.

July 13th Healthy Eating	Aug. 3rd NeuroNutrition	Sept. 14th Celebrating Health
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Registration Required
Click the link, scan the QR code, or navigate to:
<https://urlme.us/DPW7X>

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