

The Metuchen Times



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Two Dollars

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What to Do in an Earthquake!
Meet Niko!



Metuchen Wins Spot in List of 50 Best Places to Live in the United States

Metuchen's on an award-winning roll.

After recently picking up the Great American Main Street award, the Borough of Metuchen has won another honor in achieving one of the 50 spots in the 2024 edition of Money.com's *Best Places to Live in the United States*.

The online magazine writes: *Metuchen, New Jersey, a New York City commuter town once drifting towards suburban monotony, has transformed itself in spectacular fashion into the modern version of a Norman Rockwell painting in less than a decade... Thanks to The Metuchen Downtown Alliance, a local nonprofit, the once-ailing city now bustles with life; reinvigorated by a diverse group of*

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The Metuchen Times

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Forum Theater Plans Move Forward



Governor Murphy and Mayor Busch in the Forum Theater

One of the jewels of Metuchen, the iconic Forum Theater, has recently moved closer to returning to life, according to Mayor Jonathan Busch and Governor Phil Murphy. With the expected help of a cultural arts tax incentive statute passed by both legislative houses and Governor Murphy, the prognosis is that the Forum will be up and running by 2026. When the revitalization is completed, the theater will be able to accommodate cultural, artistic, social and community events—not only film, concerts, plays, and dance performances, but other public events such as comedy shows, conventions, and lectures.

Recently, Governor Murphy and other local officials joined Mayor Busch for a tour of the 96-year-old landmark theater to discuss brighter days for its future. Murphy noted that the Borough's grant request to refurbish and revitalize the theater is "exactly the kind of thing" that he envisioned when signing the law that created the grant program. Established last year, this program is geared toward funding cultural, educational, and artistic facilities to create larger scale development in communities.

"This morning, I took Governor Phil Murphy, Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, Middlesex County Commissioner Director Ronald Rios, and DEVCO President Chris Paladino on a tour of the Forum, and we discussed its importance to our community and extraordinary history," said Mayor Busch. "We all recognize that its revitalization will provide an overwhelming boost to the Borough's flourishing arts scene. Investment opportunities like these are catalysts for broader economic development in communities throughout New Jersey because they help attract visitors and businesses to places like Metuchen."

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