



Board of Chosen Freeholders

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MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Freeholders Join Veterans Group In Making Proper Retirement of U.S. Flags Available At County Libraries

Kevin Cahalan and Sam Hall, as members of the Marine Corps League “Hunterdon Bulldogs” Detachment 927, have turned old mailboxes into collection drop boxes for residents to respectfully retire their unserviceable U.S. Flags. The Hunterdon County Freeholder Board, at the July 5th meeting, approved locating the collection boxes at two County library locations.

“By turning old mailboxes into collection drop-boxes, Hunterdon County residents now have a respectful way to retire their worn flags,” Kevin Cahalan, an Officer of the “Hunterdon Bulldogs”, a U.S. Marine Vietnam Veteran and co-creator of the drop boxes, said.

Worn Flags deposited in the boxes will be collected and be properly disposed at a flag burning ceremony developed by the American Legion and authorized by the National Flag Conference in 1923 and by law enacted by Congress in 1942. Traditionally, the ceremony takes place on June 14th, Flag Day.

Freeholder Director John E. Lanza stated, “The U.S. Flag Retirement Ceremony represents dignity and proper respect for the flag and it is fitting that Hunterdon County, a Purple Heart Community, embraces and supports the respectful disposal of unserviceable flags.”

“The U.S. Flag represents the pride of our nation, those who have served, freedom, and our heroic battle to be an independent nation. Respectfully retiring those U.S. Flags that are worn, frayed or tattered with splendor and reverence expresses our pride in the historic U.S. flag,” Cahalan added.

Hunterdon County residents will be able to find the deposit boxes at the main County Library, at the Route 12 Complex in Raritan Township and coming soon, an additional deposit box will be available at the North County Library, 65 Halstead Street in Clinton. Residents who would like more information or need assistance finding the refurbished mailbox, please contact email: veterans@co.hunterdon.nj.us.