

♦ OUR VIEW ♦

A time for friends and family

THE ISSUE Thanksgiving is a time to celebrate with family and friends.

OUR VIEW Hurricane Sandy has given the holiday even more meaning.

Thanksgiving is a time for family and friends to gather and enjoy a good meal together. Hurricane Sandy may have given the holiday a greater significance for some residents than in past years.

After waiting several days for electricity and heat to be restored to their homes, some residents across the region may now have a better appreciation for what's truly important in their lives. Fancy cars and big screen TVs are certainly nice to have. But nothing compared to happiness we felt when the electricity turned back on and heat started to come back into our homes.

Many residents in the tri-state region had to wait more than a week for this, while others didn't have a house to go home to.

We'd like to encourage everyone to consider helping others who aren't doing as well right now. There are many local organizations promoting their supply drives and benefits in the listings in the newspaper. Other options are the Center for Food Action (cfanj.org), Community

SPEAK OUT

“What are you grateful for this Thanksgiving? Email your thoughts to suburbanite@northjersey.com.

Blood Services (communitybloodservices.org), the state's fund for hurricane victims (SandyNJReliefFund.org) and this newspaper's parent company's effort (northjersey.com/sandyfund). The United Way of Bergen County is also offering cash support to victims of the hurricane. To donate, visit bergenunitedway.org. The Federal Emergency Management Agency, in addition to providing assistance to those devastated by the storm, is also soliciting volunteer help as well as cash and product donations. To learn more about how you can help, visit fema.gov/hurricane-sandy-donate-and-volunteer.

We hope all of our readers have a wonderful Thanksgiving with their loved ones.

