

New Providence NEWS

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PHIL SAPIENZA CELEBRATES 100TH MCBIRTHDAY

In a corner of the Springfield Avenue McDonald's in New Providence, one could see the tops of the mylar birthday balloons floating in the air above the booths. It was Phil Sapienza's 100th birthday celebration for his special group of McD's friends. You see, Phil has made it his choice to go to this particular McDonald's every day for the last 10 years. Sometimes just for a coffee, sometimes for a meal (and if you knew Phil – you would say it was a "happy meal"), but always to run into a friend and/or acquaintance he's made over the years. He is an active, totally with-it 100 year old man who is still completely independent. Phil's family gene pool is one worth having because he looks not a day past 60 yrs old.

Phil's close friend and neighbor, Pat Pallante, planned the McDonald's celebration. There were balloons, a sheetcake with custom candles, and Phil was even wearing "that-all-important-I-am-100-years-old button pin." Pat has known Phil since the late 60's. They have been friends and neighbors in Berkeley Heights ever since Pat moved into the neighborhood.

Several people were in attendance. Wayne Pigna, a resident of Gillette and friend of Phil's for many years; Ed Mueller, a resident of Warren Township; Ed DuCasse, a fellow resident of Berkeley Heights; and David Ingerman, a friend from the Summit area.

Phil knows many guys from the Warren American Legion and the Berkeley Heights VFW as well as other associations. Phil is a proud WWII

Vet having served time in Europe for three years. It was so nice to witness the respect and admiration these men had for each other, and Phil was just tickled pink that everyone showed up for his party.

As we were cleaning up, I asked Phil how he intended to get home. He simply answered, "I'm going to drive."



(above) Phil and Pat – close friends and neighbors for years.

SUBURBAN CHAMBER BERKELEY HEIGHTS BREAKFAST WITH THE MAYOR & TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
FRIDAY MARCH 18TH
 8:00 to 9:00 am
BERKELEY HEIGHTS TOWN HALL
 29 Park Avenue
 (plenty of free parking)
 An exciting agenda of opportunities & info is planned. Plenty of time to meet & network with other local businesses, civic and community leaders.
 A Well Spent Hour plus Breakfast is Free.
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 khadley@suburbanchambers.org

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(above, top, l-r) Wayne Pigna, Ed Mueller
 (bottom, l-r) Phil Sapienza, Pat Pallante and Ed DuCasse



(above) David Ingerman drops by to give his good wishes.

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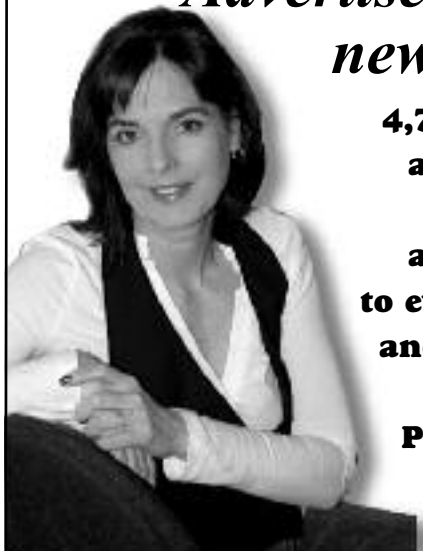
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NEW PROVIDENCE COMMUNITY SERVICE ASSOC. TO HOST PASTA DINNER ON APRIL 3

The Community Service Association of New Providence (CSA), together with the New Providence Lions Club, will host its 3rd Annual Pasta Dinner on Sunday, April 3, 2016. This fun, family-friendly event will take place at the DeCorso Community Center, 15 East Fourth Street, New Providence, NJ. Pasta, meatballs, and dessert will be served from 2pm-6pm. Tickets are \$12 per person; children five and under are free. Cash and checks will be accepted at the door. (No credit cards, please.)

There will be a big basket raffle featuring local vendors and more as well as a 50/50 drawing. The annual Pasta Dinner is the CSA's main fundraising event of the year.

The Community Service Association of New Providence is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that assists New Providence Boro residents with financial needs while respecting the dignity and

anonymity of the assisted individuals and families. This could mean helping a family with medical bills, paying utility bills or rent, clothing assistance, transportation, and more.

The CSA also organizes an annual Thanksgiving food drive with support from the Boy Scouts as well as a Christmas gift drive. The food and gifts are given to New Providence residents in need.

The CSA was established in 1954 and is believed by longtime members to be the first organization of its kind in the country. New Providence residents who would like to get involved are welcome to the CSA meetings on the second Wednesday of each month.

Residents in need of the CSA's help, or anyone wishing to get involved in supporting or volunteering, can call (908) 665-8254 or email csanewprovidence@gmail.com

chimney o' rock celebration

Friday, March 4 - Thursday, March 17

Our Homemade Irish Menu:
Corned Beef, Cabbage, Potatoes, Guinness Beef Pot Pie & Irish Soda Bread

band schedule

Sunday, March 6
"Dicey Riley" at Bridgewater
"Bloody Callan" at Gillette
Three Seatings Available:
3:30, 5:30 & 7:30 pm

Sunday, March 13
"Bloody Callan" at Bridgewater
"The Fair Trade" at Gillette
Three Seatings Available:
3:30, 5:30 & 7:30 pm

Thursday, March 10
"The Fair Trade" at Bridgewater
"The Snakes" at Gillette
Two Seatings Available:
5:45 & 7:15 pm

Tuesday, March 15
"Hooley Shooters" at Bridgewater
"Bloody Callan" at Gillette
Two Seatings Available:
5:45 & 7:15 pm



ST. PATRICK'S DAY 🍀 Thursday, March 17

"Lagans Love" at Bridgewater
"Hooley Shooters" at Gillette 12-3 pm
"Courtney Colletti" at Gillette 5-9 pm

Performance Times: 12-3 pm & 5-9 pm

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2 & Under.....FREE!	2 & Under.....FREE!

FRIDAY - SATURDAY

Lunch 11am - 3:30pm	Dinner 3:30pm - 10:30pm
Adult\$7.99	Adult\$11.59
Kids 7-10.....\$5.99	Kids 7-10.....\$6.99
Kids 3-6.....\$3.99	Kids 3-6.....\$5.99
2 & Under.....FREE!	2 & Under.....FREE!

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Kids 3-6\$5.99
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**MEET RITA JENSEN
OF WOMEN'S ENEWS**

The League of Women Voters of Berkeley Heights, New Providence and Summit invite you to meet
RITA H. JENSEN
Founder and Editor in Chief of Women's eNews (womensenews.org),
MARCH 15TH, 2016, 7:30PM
Women's eNews and its writers have received over 35 awards since the organization's launch in 2000, including "Best Internet Site" in 2005 from the National Federation of Press Women.
The New York Daily News named Ms Jensen one of the 100 most influential women in New York. She has received numerous awards including an alumni award from Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism. This innovator survived domestic violence, raised a family on her own, earned college degrees and now is a proud grandmother.
This event will be held
DECORSO CENTER
15 East 4th Street in New Providence
Please plan to come early, with a friend, to enjoy light refreshments!

FREE TAX RETURN HELP FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

New Providence, Berkeley Heights, and other area residents can obtain free assistance in preparing and filing their individual 2015 tax returns. Free assistance will be provided at the New Providence Senior Citizens Center (NPSCC), 15 East Fourth Street, New Providence, by volunteer tax counselors under a program sponsored jointly by the AARP, the Internal Revenue Service, and the New Jersey State Division of Taxation. Tax counselors will be available on Mondays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., from Saturday, February 6, 2016, through Monday, April 11, 2016. Beginning January 25, 2016, taxpayers seeking assistance in preparing and filing their returns may call the NPSCC at 908- 665-0046, between the hours of 10:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, for an appointment, or they may sign up at the center. The IRS is again advising taxpayers to file early to reduce the potential for identity theft.

Taxpayers must bring photo identification, social security cards of persons filing the return and of any dependents listed on the return; copies of their 2014 federal and state returns, and any 2015 federal forms W-2, 1099-R, 1099-INT, 1099-DIV, 1099-B, SSA-1099, etc.; documentation of the amount of rent or real estate taxes paid in 2015 and of other expenses if the taxpayers wish to itemize deductions; and, if they wish to have any refund directly deposited to their bank account, a check showing their bank's account number. In the case of taxpayers filing joint returns, both taxpayers should be present to authorize the electronic filing.

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NOTED CIVIC LEADER AND FORMER MAYOR, JANET WHITMAN NAMED PERSON OF THE YEAR

by Summit/New Providence Rotary

Noted civic leader, former mayor and Summit resident, Janet Whitman has been named "Person of the Year" by the Summit/New Providence Rotary. Known to area residents as Summit's first woman mayor, her influence has lasted so much longer than her years of leadership. The celebration will be held at the Grand Summit Hotel on Thursday, April 14, 2016, 6 to 8 PM.

Whitman's achievements brought a spirit of pride and accomplishment to the community. She was highly regarded by both parties for her ability to cooperate and collaborate while providing guidance and tolerance of all opinions. Her message to the community was always driven by

Summit's best interest.

"We are honored to have Mayor Whitman as our award recipient and delighted to provide this opportunity for area residents to share memories and extend personal wishes that evening," said Rotary president, Reagan Burkholder, who worked with Janet for eight years as city administrator and seven years on the Summit Public Art initiative..

The recognition event will support the Rotary's scholarship program which benefits high school seniors living in Summit and New Providence.

Additional information can be obtained by visiting snrotary.org

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Easter Sunday

7 AM - Sunrise Service (weather permitting)
 8 AM - Easter Breakfast
 9 AM - Traditional & Contemporary Services
 11 AM - Contemporary Service

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HOWARD AND SUE MEYER ACTIVE IN NJ STATE FIRST AID COUNCIL



(above) Charles Willer, a past president of the New Jersey State First Aid Council, helped install Sue Meyer of New Providence, left, as membership secretary and Barbara Platt of New Egypt as council secretary. The 87-year-old nonprofit New Jersey State First Aid Council, now "doing business as" the EMSCNJ, represents 20,000 EMS volunteers affiliated with nearly 300 rescue squads throughout the state.



(above, r-l) Newly installed EMS Council of New Jersey President Joe Walsh of Neptune accepts congratulations from Howard Meyer of New Providence, who served as the organization's president for the past three years. Meyer, who has been an active, riding member of the Berkeley Heights Volunteer Rescue Squad for more than 40 years, will continue in his role as director of legislative affairs for the EMSCNJ. The installation took place Jan. 30 in Neptune.

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Nearly 600 Union County kids need your voice

Meet foster youth Michael, age 8: Ever since I can remember, me and my siblings lived in our parents' car or motels. We ate lots of fast food but after a while we just wanted real food like a normal family. One day the police stopped my dad and said my little sister was really thin. They took her to the hospital and then came back for me and my siblings and put us in foster care. I'm really sad because we are in three different homes and don't see each other much. We now go to school but had never been to one before! There's so much to learn that other kids already know. We really miss mom but dad scares us. We saw mom again on weekend visits at grandma's and were excited because we thought we would get to live there. But one day, mom snatched us from the visit to bring us to dad, who the judge said she can't see. Mom and dad took us out of New Jersey and we drove through a bunch of states. We didn't have money and dad made us stand with him outside and told us to look sad while he begged for money. When the police found us we were so excited to come back to New Jersey. They arrested my mom and dad. Even though we're glad to be back, my brother and I have nightmares and miss our siblings who are in other foster homes. I feel terrible — I'm the oldest and should have protected them. Why can't we all just be together and have a regular life?


Michael is one of many children that CASA serves and hopes to serve, as its referral book continues to grow. CASA of Union County is seeking New Providence residents interested in being the voice for one of the nearly 600 Union County youth, ages 0-21, in foster care through no fault of their own. Trained CASAs are sworn in by a judge and court-empowered to speak to foster parents, teachers, doctors, lawyers, tutors, therapists and more. CASAs visit the youth regularly and incorporate all findings into a report for the judge. CASAs attend court hearings quarterly, working to ensure a youth's time in care is as short as possible and their best interests remain the top priority for all parties. Although

not required, there is an additional need for advocates who speak Spanish.

CASA's Spring training kicks off Thursday, April 14, 2016 and includes 10 sessions over several weeks, ending May 10, 2016 and soon followed by a swearing in at the courthouse. Training is 6 to 9 p.m. at the County Clerk's Building, 300 North Avenue East in Westfield, Second Floor, across from the Westfield Diner and a light dinner is provided.

Attend an information session in Westfield or Elizabeth. Evening sessions are 6 pm, Thursday, March 17; Tuesday, March 29; Monday, April 4; and Monday, April 11 at the County Clerk's Building in Westfield; Morning sessions are 10 a.m. Fridays, March 18, April 1 and April 8 at CASA, 1143-45 East Jersey Street, Second Floor, in Elizabeth.

New Providence residents are encouraged to contact Lisa at (908) 527-7048 or lporis@casaoofunioncounty.org with questions, to RSVP for an information session or for details on the April training.



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