

# New Providence NEWS

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**ABR. SRES**

## ST. ANDREW'S ANNOUNCES NEW PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

*Submitted by Valaida Wynn*

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church and School, located at 419 South Street, New Providence, has announced the appointment of The Rev. Dr. Daniel Gunn as Priest-in-Charge. Father Daniel celebrated his first service at St. Andrew's on November 19, 2017.

Fr. Daniel comes to New Providence after serving as Assistant Rector of Christ Church, Bronxville, New York (2002-2006), Rector of St. Stephen's Pro-cathedral, Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania (2006-2013), and Interim Rector of St. Peter's Clarksboro, New Jersey and Christ Church Ridgewood, New Jersey (2014-2017). Prior to parish ministry, he spent two years as a hospital chaplain, and two years as a prison chaplain. He has also served as an adjunct professor of Philosophy, Ethics, World Religions, and Biblical Studies.

In 2013, he returned to Drew University to complete his doctoral studies in American Religious History. His dissertation was entitled, "Hugh Hefner's God: Religion in Playboy Magazine," wherein he examined the religious content of the magazine during the 1960s and 1970s. In addition to his doctorate, he holds the Master of Sacred Theology, Master of Arts, and the Master of Divinity degrees. His interests are exploring the intersection of religion, politics, and civil society.

Fr. Daniel has also spent much time working with individuals who live on the economic and social margins of society. He loves to travel and had visited five continents. In his spare time, he takes ballroom dance lessons, gardens (or works with house plants), cooks, reads, and enjoys going to the gym. His wife, Ileana, is an avid ballroom dance competitor. They live in Bridgewater with their cat, Mara.

St. Andrew's is a welcoming church with a big heart,



*(above) The Rev. Dr. Daniel Gunn, Priest-in-Charge.*

making God's love known to the world by building community through the ministries of Christian hospitality and Christian service, with a special focus on education, spiritual development, and care for all ages. We have weekly services on Sunday mornings at 8 a.m. (traditional language) and 10 a.m. (contemporary language, choir, Sunday School, and childcare). All are welcome here.

For more information, visit [www.standrewschurch.org](http://www.standrewschurch.org)

## DOCUMENTARY "THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD"

League of Women Voters of Berkeley Heights, New Providence, and Summit will co-sponsor the documentary film (1999) "The Underground Railroad" with the Summit College Club. The public is invited to the showing which will be held on Sunday, January 21, 2018, at the New Providence Memorial Library, 377 Elkwood Avenue, New Providence, at 2 p.m. A discussion will follow.

"The Underground Railroad" was produced for the History Channel. It is hosted by the actress Alfre Woodard who traces the journey to freedom taken by countless slaves and the important roles of William Garrison, Frederick Douglass,

Harriet Tubman and William Still among others.

The League of Women Voters is also sponsoring the Great Decisions Program for 2018. Great Decisions, produced by the Foreign Policy Institute, is America's largest discussion program on world affairs.

The program runs on Wednesdays from January 31, 2018 to March 28, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. There is no session on February 28, 2018.

For more information, contact Susan Ferris Rights at 908-568-1884 or visit: <https://www.edtechlearningforkids.com> or [www.lwv-bhnps.org](http://www.lwv-bhnps.org). (see page 6 for details)

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## MEET MARYANNE CHRISTIANO-MISTRETTA YOUR CONTACT FOR NEWSPAPER CONTENT



*Maryanne  
Christiano-Mistretta*

Hello Readers!

I'm ecstatic to introduce myself as the new editor for Renna Media. It's such an honor working with Joe and Tina Renna; they are awesome!

Joe has asked me to write a little bit about myself for our readership, which is probably a great idea since I'll often be out

and about in the community.

Residing in Union County with my husband, Dennis, and our beloved cat Nicholas, my interests, besides writing and editing, include animals, music, and living a healthy lifestyle.

Writing professionally since 1995, I'm an award-winning journalist. I received my award from The NJ Society of Professional Journalists for investigative journalism. I'm also an author, public speaker, and poet (recently selected to read at the All About Eve Arts Festival at the West End Theatre in Long Branch, New Jersey).

Having a great passion for music, I've developed a unique library program called "The Learn & Listen Series" which pays homage to legendary musicians.

The two-fold presentation begins as I host, sharing a musician's biography – which I wrote – followed by actual live music from local New Jersey and New York talent. Librarians can choose from a variety of singers such as Ella Fitzgerald, Nat King Cole, Sammy Davis Jr., John Lennon, Freddie Mercury, Johnny Cash, Janis Joplin, and David Bowie.

I'm blessed to be able to work with performers like indie recording artist Keith Beck; jazz sensation Stephen Fuller (front man for Amani);

singer/performance artist, Anna Oh; and three-time Grammy winning producer, Rob Fusari.

"Learn & Listen" also includes Jayne DiGregorio and Rich Timberlake, who work behind-the-scenes filming for an upcoming documentary.

In addition to the "Learn & Listen" series, I also lecture on "History of the Newspaper Industry," "Going, Going, Gone: What the Next Generation Won't Remember" (seniors love that one!), and there's also a healthy foodies series, which includes sampling.

Now, if you've read this far, you may be asking yourself – how can this woman work so much and still have time to edit 21 newspapers? As Joe Renna himself says – "It's not work, it's a lifestyle." I somehow get everything done ... and with a big smile on my face.

When you have a grand passion for what you do, it doesn't matter what day it is. It could be a Monday, or a Friday, and you're equally as happy. Sometimes I'm home all day working in my pajamas; other times I'm having a blast taking photos at a Winter Walk. Whether I sleep in or get up super early to attend a town meeting, it's all good. In this line of work, every day is different, and every day is exciting.

In just one month of working for Renna Media, I've attended many fun affairs and met incredible people. It brings a tear to my eye when a child cheers, "I'm gonna be in the newspaper!" after I take his or her photograph. That's what it's all about – the essence of presenting a good story to the community.

So, don't hesitate to send me your community news. We call on the arts, fundraisers, nonprofits, new businesses – anything positive that should be in your local newspaper.

Reach me at 908-858-4012, or email me at: [Editor@RennaMedia.com](mailto:Editor@RennaMedia.com)

I look forward to hearing from you!

*Maryanne Christiano-Mistretta*

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## MOMS HELPING MOMS FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER - JAN 27TH

Moms Helping Moms Foundation is hosting their Fourth Annual Snow Ball beginning at 7 p.m. on Saturday January 27th at the Shackamaxon Country Club in Scotch Plains, NJ. The event will include dinner, beer, wine, music, a silent auction and much more! Moms Helping Moms Foundation is the community-based not-for-profit organization that distributes diapers and clothing to babies living in low-wage families in the New Jersey area.

The Snow Ball is one of the largest fundraisers Moms Helping Moms Foundation does to continue to service local New Jersey families in need. Join them for a great evening of dinner and dancing all for a great cause.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor or purchasing tickets please go to [www.momshelpingmomsfoundation.org](http://www.momshelpingmomsfoundation.org) and click on "Events".

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(above l-r) Jackie McCormack, Jerusha Oleksiuk, Joanne Samuel Goldblum (National Diaper Bank Executive Director), Lorraine Dias Sotiriou, Bridget Cutler (Moms Helping Moms Founder)

## 2018 NJ Summer Camp Fairs Connecting Great Kids With Great Camps!

Sunday, January 21, 2018  
The Grand Summit Hotel, Summit

Saturday, January 27, 2018  
Menlo Park Mall, Edison

Sunday, January 28, 2018  
Livingston Mall, Livingston

For additional information about our other camp fairs at  
The Outlets at Bergen Town Center, Freehold Raceway  
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**[www.njcampfairs.com](http://www.njcampfairs.com)**

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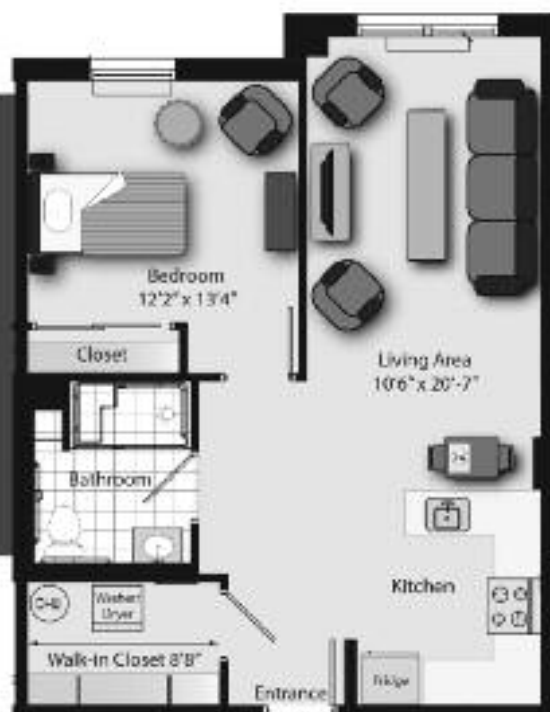


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## JUNIOR LEAGUE OF SUMMIT ANNOUNCES ANNUAL TRIVIA NIGHT FUNDRAISER

Join the Junior League of Summit on February 10, 2017 for its Annual Trivia Night at Chatham Fish & Game. Tickets will go on sale at noon on January 10th. Teams of up to 10 people may register for a table for an entrance fee of \$500. All competitors must be 21 or older.

"This is a really fun event and it's always amazing to see so much creativity and spirit from the participants. There is a lot of friendly competition, with each table trying top the next with their costumes, table décor, and of course coveted trivia points! The competition is fierce and fun. It is a wonderful opportunity to have a great night out with your friends and other community members, all for a great cause," stated Rachel Zucker, the event chairwoman.

The festivities will include lively competition among the teams in various trivia categories, as well as interactive bonus rounds and extra points for best team themes and table décor. The evening will feature Adam Zucker, host of CBS Sports' College Football Today, as the competition emcee.

As with previous years, all funds raised at Trivia Night benefit the JLS's Annual Fund, supporting its community grants, scholarships,

and projects such as GRACE, the League's current community outreach project. GRACE stands for Giving and Receiving Assistance for Our Community's Essentials, and its main focus is fighting food insecurity in Summit and our surrounding communities.

"The money raised by Trivia Night will provide an immediate impact on local families who are facing food insecurity. We are extremely proud of the growth and significance that GRACE has had to date and are excited about the momentum it has to make a lasting impact on our community," stated Liz Dutkewych, JLS President.

The Junior League of Summit is a nonprofit, charitable, and educational organization of women who are committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

For more information about the Junior League of Summit or to inquire about becoming a member, please visit the website at [www.jlsummit.org](http://www.jlsummit.org) or contact the office at 908-273-7349.



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**Great Decisions**  
January 31-March 28  
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**GREAT DECISIONS 2018**  
*The League of Women Voters of Berkeley Heights, New Providence & Summit is sponsoring the Great Decisions Program for 2018. Great Decisions, produced by the Foreign Policy Institute, is America's largest discussion program on world affairs.*

Program Dates:  
Wednesdays from January 31, 2018 to March 28, 2018 at 7:30PM. There is no session on February 28, 2018.

Meeting location:  
The DeCorso Community Center  
15 East 4th Street, New Providence.

The cost for the eight week session is \$95.00 (\$85 for League and SCC/AAUW members). People may attend and pay \$20.00 for individual sessions at the individual sessions. Students may attend individual sessions at \$10 per session.

**QUESTIONS?**  
Contact Rob Davis at 908.898.0565  
[rmerledaviss@yahoo.com](mailto:rmerledaviss@yahoo.com)

**PAYMENT AND MATERIALS**  
You may register to attend though the League website at [www.lwv-njnpjs.org](http://www.lwv-njnpjs.org) or send a check made payable to:  
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Materials/Registration: LWV-Member \$85.00;  
USD Non-Member \$95.00 USD  
This year's topics are as follows:  
1/31 The waning of Pax Americana?  
2/7 Russia's foreign policy  
2/21 China and America: the new geopolitical equation  
2/28 Media and foreign policy  
3/7 Turkey: a partner in crisis  
3/15 U.S. global engagement and the military  
3/21 South Africa's fragile democracy  
3/28 Global health: progress and challenges





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Free support groups are available for children, teens, and parents coping with loss due to death or illness on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Imagine located at 244 Sheffield Street in Mountainside, NJ.

Imagine is a free year-round peer grief support program for children age 3-18 and young adults 18-30 who have had a parent, brother, or sister die, or who are living with a family member with a life-altering physical illness. Concurrent support groups are available for parents and guardians in both programs. Imagine also provides educational workshops and on-site bereavement and crisis support for businesses, corporations, schools and community agencies.

Imagine supports children and families coping with loss and fosters resiliency and emotional well-being for all those who grieve. If you or someone you know could benefit please contact Imagine at 908-264-3100 or email [info@imagine-nj.org](mailto:info@imagine-nj.org).

The City of Summit announced, at its December 5, 2017 Common Council meeting, the consolidation of its municipal court as part of a shared services agreement with New Providence and Berkeley Heights. The shared municipal court will be housed at 360 Elkwood Avenue, New Providence.

"Reductions in state aid, a broken school funding formula and waste at the county level means it is imperative that local municipalities think creatively about shared services to help keep our communities affordable," stated Summit Common Council President Michael McTernan. "The consolidation of Summit's municipal court with New Providence and Berkeley Heights will save money and directly benefit taxpayers by reducing the number of court facilities and staff size, as well as required court security measures and administrative oversight. This is the latest in a series of shared services implemented by the Common Council over the last several years."

The transition took effect immediately in December 2017 and involved the temporary housing of shared court services in Summit during three to four months of renovation work

at the New Providence court facility to accommodate increased capacity. The city estimates that the consolidation of its municipal court through the shared services agreement will save the municipality more than \$100,000 annually once renovation costs of the New Providence court facility are repaid within three years.

McTernan stated, "Although the participating municipalities will share resources and a physical location, Summit residents will still be served by their own court with its own jurisdiction. While we recognize that residents using the court will need to drive a few minutes farther, the cost savings for all our taxpayers should compensate for any inconvenience."

The New Jersey Judiciary estimates that "about one in five New Jersey municipal courts is currently part of a joint or shared services arrangement" with 18 of the state's 21 counties having "at least one merged municipal court."

For more information on the City of Summit consolidation of its municipal courts and shared services agreement, please go to: [cityofsummit.org](http://cityofsummit.org).

### CDC THEATRE CONTINUES WINNING SEASON WITH CRIMES OF THE HEART

Rehearsals are underway for Beth Henley's "Crimes of the Heart" at CDC theatre in Cranford, New Jersey. Warm-hearted, irreverent, zany and brilliantly imaginative, the play teems with humanity and humor as it examines the plight of three young Mississippi sisters betrayed by their passions. "Crimes of the Heart" won Best Play from the NY Drama Critics Circle, was nominated for a Tony Award, and Beth Henley won the Pulitzer Prize in 1981. The 1986 film version was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Screenplay.

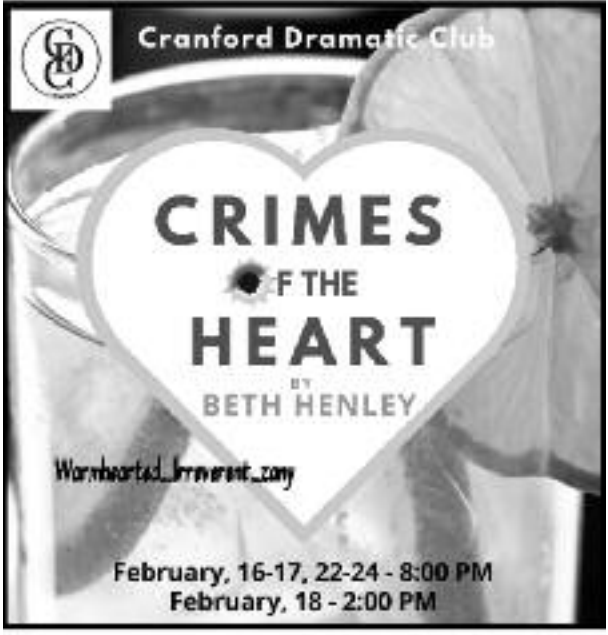
"The Pulitzer Prize is given to honor a distinguished play that deals in an original way with American life. It is no wonder Beth Henley was given this honor at the age of twenty-five for her very first professionally-produced play," stated Director Maurice Moran "The show is a

tender, yet humorous, story of three sisters who help each other cope with loss and fear, those "crimes of the heart," overcoming the problems they face through the love they have for one another. We have put together a very talented cast who will touch your heart and make you smile as they enact this beautiful tale of family love."

The cast is made up of Maeve Brady, Rebecca Dolan and Katherine Brown as the three Magrath sisters, Lenny, Meg and Babe, with Danielle Mastropiero as Chick, Joe Leo as Doc, and Zach Mazout as Barnette.

The production will run from February 16 through 24 and details and tickets can be found by visiting [cdctheatre.org](http://cdctheatre.org). CDC Theatre, New Jersey's oldest continuously producing community theatre, is located at 78 Winans Avenue in Cranford.

Coming in February to CDC Theatre in Cranford



**CRIMES OF THE HEART**  
BY BETH HENLEY

Warmhearted, irreverent, zany

February, 16-17, 22-24 - 8:00 PM  
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## FREE TAX RETURN HELP

New Providence NEWS • Page 9 • January 2018

New Providence, Berkeley Heights, and other area residents can obtain free assistance in preparing and filing their individual 2017 tax returns. There are no age or income limitations for participation in the program, but taxpayers with complex returns may be advised to seek paid assistance. 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.

Assistance will cover individual federal and NJ state income taxes, the NJ Homestead Property Tax Rebate, and the Property Tax Reimbursement Program (PTR – 1 & 2), as applicable. All returns will be filed electronically, resulting in refunds being received typically in about four weeks after filing. Any taxes due would not be payable until April 18, 2018. Taxpayers will be provided with vouchers to be submitted by that date with any payments due.

Tax counselors will be available on Mondays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., from

Monday, February 5, 2018, through Monday, April 16, 2018. Beginning January 24, 2018, 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 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, for an appointment, or they may sign up at the center. The Internal Revenue Service is again advising taxpayers to file their returns as early as possible to reduce the potential for identity theft.

Taxpayers must bring government-issued photo identification, social security cards of persons filing the return and of any dependents listed on the return, copies of their 2016 federal and state returns, and any 2017 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 2017 and of other expenses if the taxpayers wish to itemize deductions; and, if they wish to have any refund directly deposited to their checking account, a check showing their bank's routing number and their account number.

In the case of taxpayers filing joint returns, both taxpayers should be present to authorize the electronic filing.

## FREE BEREAVEMENT GROUP AT SAGE

Starting Tuesday, January 9, 2018, SAGE Eldercare will offer a free bereavement support group for people age 60 and older who have lost a spouse in the last year.

The support group will be led by Licensed Clinical Social Worker Kathy Larkin, SAGE's InfoCare Manager, and provides the opportunity to understand the grieving process, gain emotional support, and share coping strategies. The group will meet weekly for 10 consecutive weeks and run January 9 through March 13, 2018, from 2 to 3:30 pm at SAGE, 290 Broad Street, Summit.

"Grieving is part of the healing process after a loss, but it is not easy. Meeting with others who can relate can be very beneficial during this time," said Larkin.

Pre-registration is required. To register, or for more information, please call Kathy Larkin at: 908.598.5509.

## MULTI-CHAMBER NETWORKING EVENT

*Galloping Hill Caterers*

**Wednesday January 31st, 2018**  
**6:00-8:00pm**

1085 Galloping Hill Rd. (corner of Salem Road) Union, NJ

Broaden your business network and come mingle over: Spiral Pasta Salad, Assorted International Cheeses, Grilled Marinated Vegetables, Passed Hot Hors D'oeuvres. Roast Beef & Roast Ham Carving Stations. Chafing Dishes featuring Chicken Francaise, Seafood Fra Diavolo, Fusilli Primavera. Oven Roasted Rosemary Potatoes and Vegetables. Dessert, Coffee & Tea, and a Cash Bar.

**Come meet members of the following Chambers:**  
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Cranford Area Chamber of Commerce  
Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce  
Linden Chamber of Commerce  
Springfield Chamber of Commerce  
Suburban Chamber of Commerce  
Union Township Chamber of Commerce



**Sponsorship Tables** are available. Please contact your local Chamber for info.



This event is limited to 250 attendees, so please register early

Please register online by January 24, 2018. Click here: [www.gwaccnj.com/events/multichamber](http://www.gwaccnj.com/events/multichamber)  
**\$40 members / \$50 non-members / \$15 extra for walk-ins**



(above) Kathy Larkin, SAGE's InfoCare Manager.

## LIFE CLASS FOR SENIORS BEGIN IN JAN

The "Selected Topics in Biology" LIFE class for seniors, taught by Professor Bill Dunscombe of Union County College, will resume in January. Topics that may be explored this semester include "The Skin - Our Body's Armor" and "Valentine's Day - A Matter of the Heart."

These free classes will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Mondays January 8 through March 26 (except for the federal holidays January 15 and February 19). Classes will be held at the DeCorso Community Center, 15 East Fourth Street, New Providence. Please stop by to attend a class or two!

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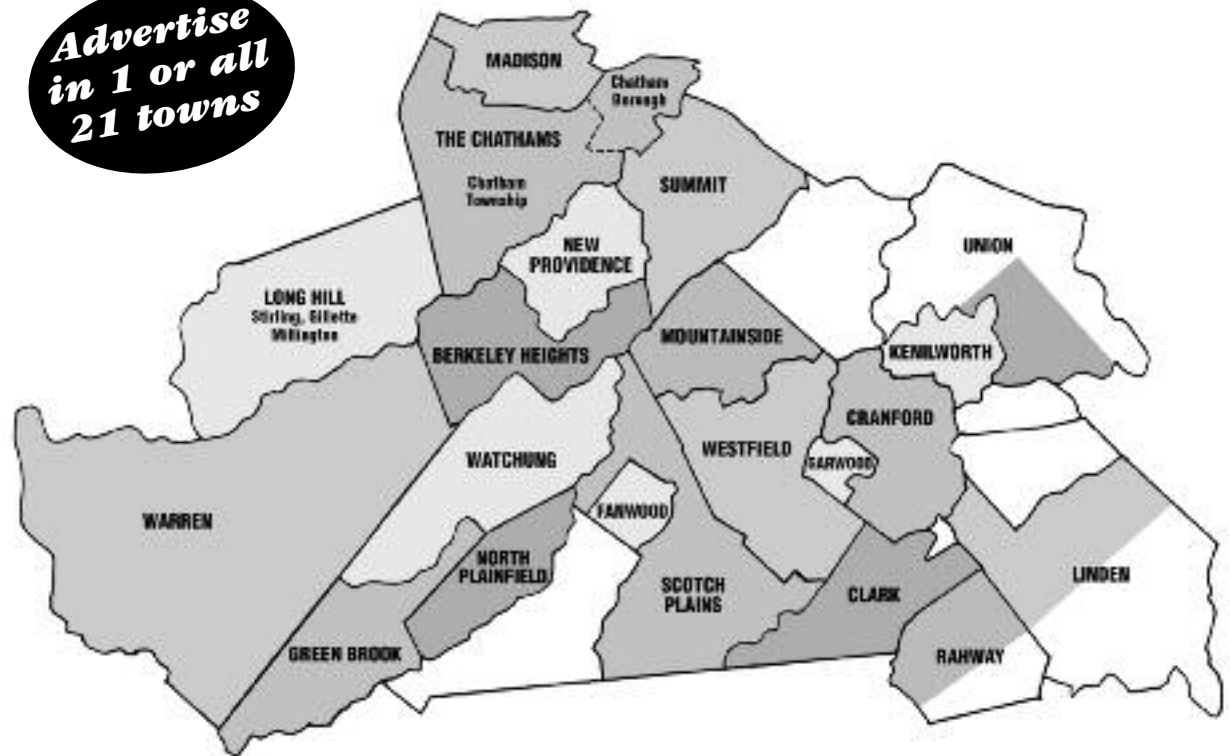
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