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Issue 30 • March 2018



(above) Troop 63 Eagle Scouts Nick Caburis, Kevin Montrone, Justin Lee, Jeremy Demarco and Patrick Lamana. Photo by Stan Lee



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POSTAL PAT New Provin

TROOP 63 HONORS FIVE NEW EAGLE SCOUTS

Troop 63 welcomes new members. The troop meets

New Providence NEWS • Page 2 • March 2018

New Providence NEWS

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*As seen in the February issue of New Providence News for helping a local student go from a 26 to a perfect 36 on the ACT

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SUMMIT PLAYHOUSE PRESENTS "BOEING BOEING"

hilarious hit comedy "Boeing Boeing" with performances on March 2-3, 9-10, 16-17 at 8:00 p.m.; and March 4 and 11 at 2:00 p.m.

A riotous farce that recently enjoyed hit Although great care has been taken to ensure revivals in London and New York, Boeing Boeing is now set to arrive in Summit-fasten your seat belts!

It's the 1960s, and swinging bachelor Bernard couldn't be happier: A flat in Paris and three gorgeous stewardesses all engaged to him without knowing about each other. But Bernard's perfect life gets bumpy when his friend Robert comes to stay, and a new and speedier Boeing jet throws off all of his careful planning. Soon all three stewardesses are in town simultaneously, timid Robert is forgetting which lies to tell to whom, and catastrophe looms.

The cast of "Boeing Boeing" includes Michael Smith-Gallo (Bernard), Dale Monroe (Robert), Elaine D'Addezio (Gloria), Alicia Harbin (Gabriella), Julie Anne Nolan (Gretchen), and Joanne Sternberg (Berthe). The production is directed by Jeanne Johnston and produced by Ann Lowe, Joann Scanlon and Pam Heller.



The Summit Playhouse will present the England Ave., Summit, New Jersey. Tickets are available at Brown Paper Tickets brownpapertickets.com/event/3081776 or for more information call 908-273-2192 or email summitplayhouseinfo@gmail.com.



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New Providence NEWS• Page 4 • March 2018



UNION COUNTY CLERK JOANNE RAJOPPI TO BE PRESENTED WITH "WOMEN IN AMERICAN HISTORY" AWARD

March is Women's History month and the Crane's Ford Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) chapter will be presenting Joanne Rajoppi, Union County Clerk, with the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution "Women in American History" award on Saturday, March 10, 2018, at noon at the Cranford Community Center, 220 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ.

The "Women in American History" award, sponsored by the NSDAR, is designed to recognize worthy women, and celebrate their contribution to history, culture, and society.

Joanne Rajoppi is the first woman County clerk in the 154-year history of Union County. She is the former Mayor of Springfield, former Union County Freeholder and first woman chairman of the Freeholder Board, and former NJ Assistant Secretary of State during the Byrne Administration. She has been an advocate for women running for public office, writing her first book, "Women in Office: Getting There and Staying There" in 1993.

As an author, her first book published in 2013 chronicled the military service of her greatgrandfather during the American Civil War titled "New Brunswick and the Civil War: The Brunswick Boys in the Great Rebellion" letters he wrote to his family. She followed the story with the Hamilton women after the war writing her most recent book: "Northern Women in the Aftermath of the Civil War: The Wives and Daughters of the Brunswick Boys." This book was published in 2017. Ms. Rajoppi will be presenting a power-point program on her most recent book and copies of the book will be available for purchase.

The public is invited to join us for the presentation with a reception to follow. The Crane's Ford chapter will also be celebrating its 74th Anniversary, chartered on March 8, 1944.

The NSDAR is a volunteer women's service organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, historic preservation, service to veterans and meaningful community service. Membership is open to any woman 18 years or older who can prove lineal descent from an ancestor who aided in achieving American Independence. For more information or DAR application please contact our chapter Registrar, Patricia Campanelli at patushkat@aol.com.

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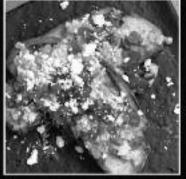
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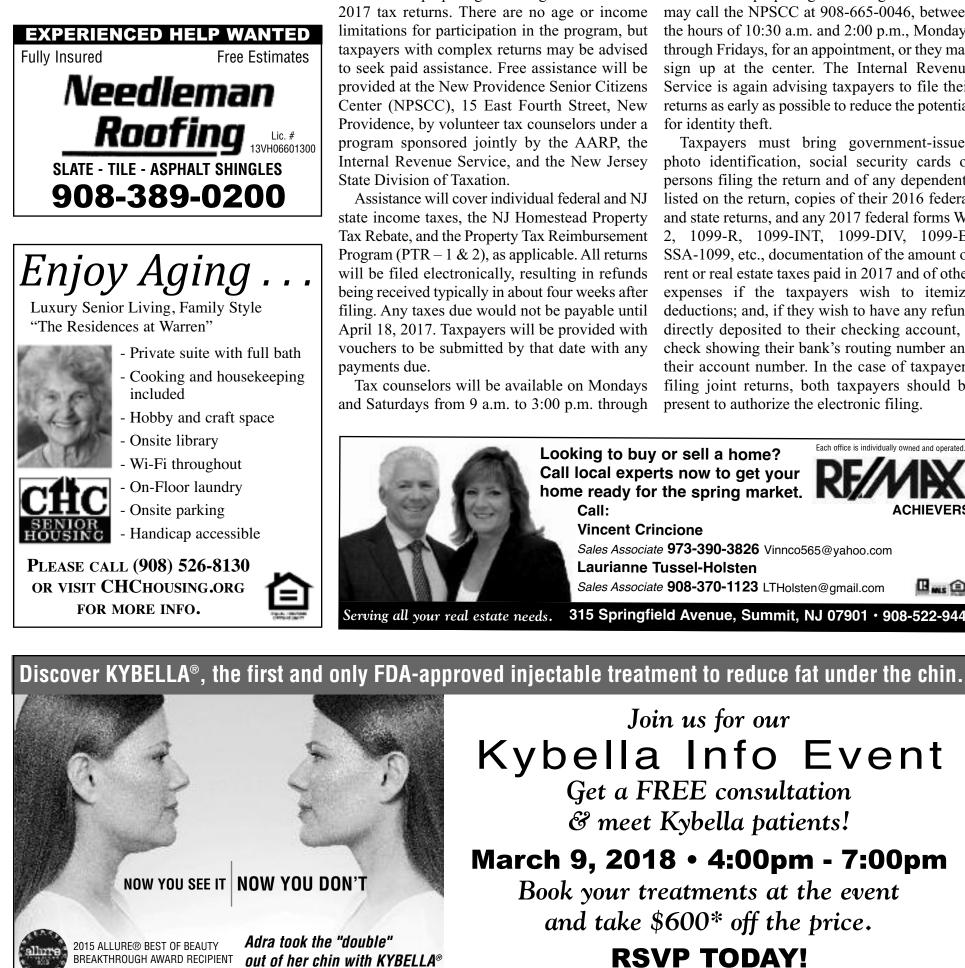
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FREE TAX RETURN HELP

New Providence 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, 2017. 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 3:00 p.m. through Monday, April 16, 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 2:00 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.



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NEW PROVIDENCE MEMORIAL LIBRARY - MARCH 2018 EVENTS

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A full calendar of events including regular meetings of morning and evening book clubs, the Knitting Club, the Baseball Club, movies, and kids' events is available at newprovidencelibrary.org. Like us on Facebook at facebook.com/NewProvLibrary for updates. All events are free and open to the public. We can be reached at 908-665-0311.

The Knitting Club meets twice this month

on Mondays, March 5 and 19 at 7 p.m. Bring a project you are working on or get instruction on a knitting or crocheting project you would like to start.

Come and celebrate Women's History Month by listening to "A Women's History of Union County"

on Tuesday, March 6 at 7 p.m. John Prescott, History Programs Coordinator of the Union County Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs, will be talking about prominent figures as well as forgotten history.

The Baseball Club holds its regular monthly meeting

on Monday, March 12, at 7 p.m. Anybody with an interest in baseball is welcome to come and talk about your favorite team, players or just listen.

The Thursday Morning Book Group meets

on March 15 at 10 a.m. to discuss "The Nightingale" by Kristin Hannah. All are welcome. Copies of the book are available at the front desk.

Local author Marion Goldstein will speak about her latest book, "Embracing the Sign:

A Journey of Faith, Science and Experience" on March 15, at 7 p.m.

The book is a memoir that ties together stories about ordinary people who had extraordinary experiences following the death of a loved one.

Books will be available for purchase and Marion will be signing her book.

We are fortunate to have another local author event on Sunday, March 18 at 2p.m.

when Linda Raedisch and Natalie Zaman will present "Surreal Places, Imaginary Spaces: A Literary Tea." Linda's most recent publication is "The Princess in the

Mound: A Visitor's Guide to Alvenholm Castle," described as "an engaging fictional creation, full of details about the furnishings as well as descriptions of past or present events that hearken back to the property's pagan roots." Among Natalie's recent books is Magical Destinations of the Northeast. Join these two creative authors as they read excerpts, share nearby magical destinations that offer free public access and invite the audience to share their own personal ghost stories along with some Princess Cake and White Witch herbal tea. Books will be available for purchase and Linda and

Natalie will be signing their books.

Finally, come out and celebrate the annual launch of "The Goldfinch"

on Sunday, March 25 at 2 p.m.

with the local author group, Women Who Write. "The Goldfinch" is their annual publication and includes carefully chosen members' work. Local poets and short story authors will read from their works and the public is invited to join in during the open mike portion at the end of the program. This is always a festive and interesting event and a great way to support local authors. Come out to participate or just listen.

As always, there is a full schedule of movies available.

This month, featured movies are "The Promise," "American Made," "I Daniel Blake," "Maudie," "Il Divo," and "Paris." See the library calendar on our website for full dates, times, and descriptions.

For the younger set, there are baby lap sits on Wednesdays.

Bigger kids, i.e. 4, 5, 6 have a special story time

on Tuesdays at 2 p.m. and Wednesdays and Thursdays at 10 a.m. Every Thursday at 2 p.m. there's a drop-in craft, too. And don't forget about our

after-school clubs: Snap Circuits Jr. meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 3:30 p.m.

LEGO

meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 3:30 p.m. in the Coddington Room.

MELVIN JONES FELLOWSHIP AWARD PRESENTED BY LIONS CLUB



(above, l-r) This year's recipients are Mr. Tom Montrone and Mr. Brian Geoffroy.



Submitted by Linda Kale

New Providence Lions Club recently awarded "Melvin Jones Fellowship Award." This award is the highest form of recognition and embodies outstanding humanitarian ideas consistent with the nature and purpose of Lionism. A Recipient of this award becomes model of exemplary service to his club and the community which it serves.

The Melvin Jones Award is a nation-wide award. Melvin Jones a 38-year-old Chicago businessman, asked a simple and world changing question, "What if people put their talents to work improving their communities?" One hundred years later Lions Club International is the world's largest service club organization with 1.35 million members in more info@nplions.org or call 908-665-8254

than 46,000 clubs.

The New Providence Lions Club is in its 48th Mr. Tom Montrone and Mr. Brian Geoffroy the year of service to the community of New Providence, New Jersey.

> The New Providence Lions Club donates back to the community every dollar it collects. Being a Lion empowers you to help others in a way that no one person could alone. The Lions are dedicated to helping others. Lions make a difference!

> Organizations that have benefited from your annual support are: NP Recreation Dept., Fire Dept., Community Service Assoc., EMS Rescue Squad, Senior Citizens Center, PBA, NPHS Scholarships, NP Historical Society, Health Fair, NP Public Library.

> For more information please email







NEW PROVIDENCE LIONS HOST ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

New Providence Lions will be hosting their 49th annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 24, 2018, at 9 a.m., at Oakwood Park, New Providence. The hunt is for pre-school, kindergarten, first, and second graders. The hunt will take place rain or shine!

Please help the Lions feed the hungry! Bring a can or box on non-perishable food a local food pantry.

New Providence EMS and Fire Departments, along with their trucks, will be on hand.

There will be hundreds of colored eggs to be found. The children who find the gold and silver eggs will receive chocolate bunnies.

New Providence Lions Club President John Everitt said, "The Easter Egg Hunt has been a long-standing tradition for the New Providence Lions Club. This year will be our 49th egg hunt and we're all looking forward to having a good time with the children and their families."

The Easter Bunny will arrive at 9:15 a.m. to start the hunt. So, bring your baskets and join us at the Easter Egg Hunt!

The New Providence Lions Club donates back to the community every dollar it collects. Being a Lion empowers you to help others in a way that no one person could alone. The Lions are dedicated to helping others. For more information please email info@nplions.org.

Lions make a difference!







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IRS WARNS PUBLIC ABOUT SCAMS TARGETING TAXPAYERS

The IRS is urging the public to be aware of suspicious individuals claiming to be from the IRS.

Thousands of people have lost millions of dollars and their personal information to tax scams. Scammers use the regular mail, telephone, or email to set up individuals, businesses, payroll, and tax professionals.

The IRS doesn't initiate contact with taxpayers by email, text messages, or social media channels to request personal or financial information. Recognize the telltale signs of a scam.

SCAMS TARGETING TAXPAYERS IRS-IMPERSONATION TELEPHONE SCAMS

A sophisticated phone scam targeting taxpayers, including recent immigrants, has been making the rounds throughout the country. Callers claim to be IRS employees, using fake names and bogus IRS identification badge numbers. They may know a lot about their targets, and they usually alter the caller ID to make it look like the IRS is calling.

Victims are told they owe money to the IRS and it must be paid promptly through a gift card or wire transfer. Victims may be threatened with arrest, deportation or suspension of a business or driver's license. In many cases, the caller becomes hostile and insulting. Victims may be told they have a refund due to try to trick them into sharing private information. If the phone isn't answered, the scammers often leave an "urgent" callback request.

Some thieves have used video relay services (VRS) to try to scam deaf and hard of hearing individuals. Taxpayers are urged not trust calls just because they are made through VRS, as interpreters don't screen calls for validity.

Limited English Proficiency victims are often approached in their native language, threatened with deportation, police arrest and license revocation, among other things. IRS urges all taxpayers caution before paying unexpected tax bills. Note that the IRS doesn't:

- Call to demand immediate payment using a specific payment method such as a prepaid debit card, gift card or wire transfer. Generally, the IRS will first mail you a bill if you owe any taxes.
- Threaten to bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups to have you arrested for not paying.
- Demand payment without giving you the opportunity to question or appeal the amount they say you owe.
- Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.

SCAMS TARGETING TAX PROFESSIONALS

Increasingly, tax professionals are being targeted by identity thieves. These criminals – many of them sophisticated, organized syndicates - are redoubling their efforts to gather personal data to file fraudulent federal and state income tax returns.

SURGE IN EMAIL, PHISHING AND MALWARE SCHEMES

Phishing (as in "fishing for information") is a scam where fraudsters send e-mail messages to trick unsuspecting victims into revealing personal and financial information that can be used to steal the victims' identity.

The IRS has issued several alerts about the fraudulent use of the IRS name or logo by scammers trying to gain access to consumers' financial information to steal their identity and assets.

Scam emails are designed to trick taxpayers into thinking these are official communications from the IRS or others in the tax industry, including tax software companies. These phishing schemes may seek information related to refunds, filing status, confirming personal information, ordering transcripts, and verifying PIN information. Be alert to bogus emails that appear to come from your tax professional, requesting information for an IRS form. IRS doesn't require Life Insurance and Annuity updates from taxpayers or a tax professional.

Variations can be seen via text messages. The IRS is aware of email phishing scams that include links to bogus web sites intended to mirror the official IRS web site. These emails contain the direction "you are to update your IRS e-file immediately." These emails are not from the IRS.

The sites may ask for information used to file false tax returns or they may carry malware, which can infect computers and allow criminals to access your files or track your keystrokes to gain information.

For more details, visit www.irs.gov; YouTube IRS Videos on Tax Scams.



THE REV. JANE MCCREADY JOINS IMAGINE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Rev. Jane McCready is Pastor at Faith Lutheran Church, 524 South Street, New Providence, where she has been a member since 1996. She has a B.A. from Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana and received her Master of Divinity from The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. Prior to attending Seminary, Jane worked in New York City for the 55th Street Dance Theater Foundation at City Center Theater and as a Legal Assistant for 16 years.

Jane was introduced to Imagine in 2013 when she attended an Imagine Annual Breakfast. When her brother died suddenly when she was 11 there were no grief support organizations that existed which could have helped her. She felt instantly connected to the mission of Imagine and it has been an important part of her ministry. Faith Lutheran has hosted a number of education and support programs led by Imagine, and is

Rev. Jane McCready is Pastor at Faith recognized as a Good Mourning site. Through her ministry Jane has referred families to Imagine and members of her congregation serve as volunteers.

Jane currently serves as Chair of the Family Promise Union County Community Board; Chair of the New Providence-Berkeley Heights Interfaith Clergy Group; Chair, First Contact and Coordinator of the New Providence-Berkeley Heights Community Emergency Group.

Jane and her husband Gary lived in Westfield for 20 years where they raised their family, and currently reside in New Providence. She has been an active community volunteer and has been recognized for her leadership. In addition to spending time with her husband and three children, she enjoys traveling, New York City, the theater, museums, music and sports.

Imagine is a free year-round peer grief support center located at 244 Sheffield Street,



Mountainside, New Jersey, and serving all of Union County and beyond. Imagine serves children, young adults and parents/guardians who have had a parent, sibling, or child die. Support groups for caregivers of a person living with a life-altering physical illness are also available. If you are interested in learning more about Imagine please visit our website at imaginenj.org or call 908-264-3100.



(above) The Rev. Jane McCready.





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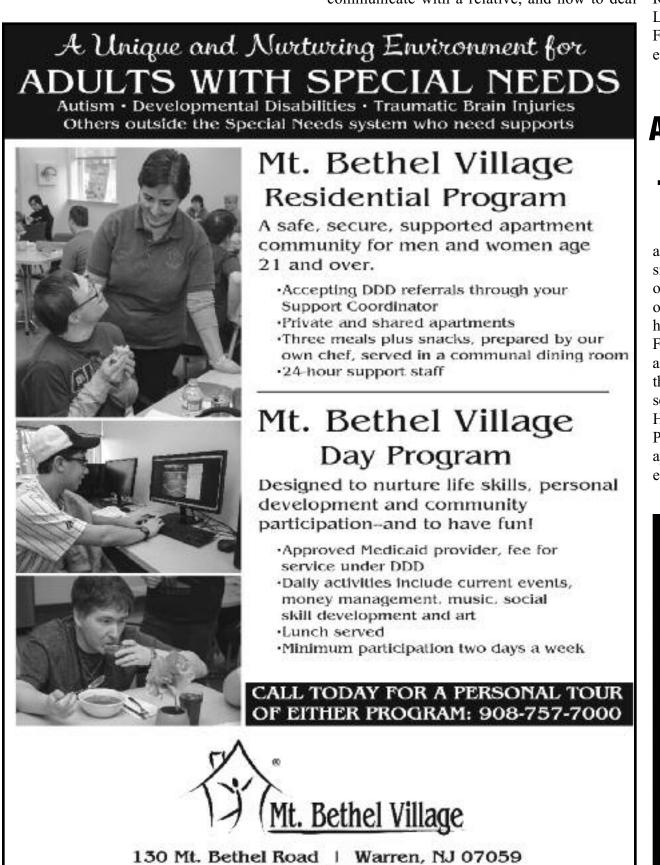
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NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS (NAMI) MARCH 2018 EVENTS

Are you feeling stressed and alone in trying to cope with the effects of a loved one's mental health illness? Join our peer led group monthly meetings and gain insight from others facing similar challenges. NAMI hold their Union County Family Support Group Meetings the third Tuesday of every month. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, March 20, 7:30 to 9 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church of Cranford, 11 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey. For more information, call 908-233-1628 or email namiunioncounty@yahoo.com.

Free Course on Mental Illness. The NAMI Family-to-Family Education Program begins on Thursday evening, March 22. Presented by the Union County Chapter of NAMI, the course meets 7 to 9:30 p.m. on Thursday evenings, over a consecutive 12-week period. Course ends on May 31. It is free-of-charge, with all necessary materials furnished at no cost. The course is offered specifically to the parents, siblings, spouses, teen-age and adult children, and significant others of individuals with severe and persistent mental illness. In a confidential setting, loved ones will learn how to understand and support their ill relative while maintaining their own well-being. The program is not appropriate for individuals who, themselves, suffer from one of the major mental disorders. The course is taught by NAMI members who have completed intensive training.

Curriculum topics include schizophrenia, bipolar disorder (manic depression), clinical depression, panic disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, and others, the clinical treatment of these illnesses, and how caregivers can learn to cope more effectively. Attendees will learn about the biology of the brain, new research, medications, skills needed to successfully communicate with a relative, and how to deal



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with critical periods. Other topics include advocacy, fighting stigma and problem solving.

Classes will meet at St. Agnes Church, 332 Madison Hill Road, Clark, New Jersey. Registration is required prior to the beginning of the course. Call Pat at 732-382-0762 or email patroman2@aol.com. Please include in the subject line: F2F class. A F2F teacher will contact you with the details. Refreshments will be served.

Understanding New Perspectives on Mental Health Diagnoses. The Union County NAMI invites the public to hear a presentation by Anne Director Lopez, of Community Education/Outreach with the Mental Health Association of New Jersey. Her goal and mission is to empower families and individuals living with a mental health diagnosis or substance abuse through education and support. The presentation will be held Tuesday, March 27, at 7:30 p.m. at RWJ Rahway Fitness and Wellness Center, 2120 Lamberts Mill Road, Scotch Plains, New Jersey. For more information, call 908-233-1628 or email namiunioncounty@yahoo.com.

FREE SMARTPHONE ASSISTANCE FOR OLDER ADULTS FROM SAGE TEENAGE VOLUNTEERS

SAGE Eldercare is offering a new program to assist older adults (60+) learn how to use their smartphones. Because the devices can be overwhelming to master, this program allows older adults to ask the pros (teenagers) all the how-to questions they have including: how to FaceTime, download an app, use text messaging and more. The tutoring session will take place in the senior's home and is free of charge. Tutoring sessions are available in these locations: Berkeley Heights, Chatham, Mountainside, New Providence, and Summit. To schedule an appointment, please call 908-598-5548 or email education@sageeldercare.org.



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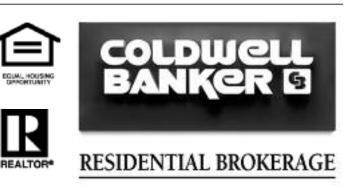
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