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Issue 8 • September 2021



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ROSELLE PARK NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2021

National Night Out, a national community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships, was held at Michael J. Mauri Park on E. Grant Ave. in Roselle Park on Tuesday, August 3rd from 6 to 9 p.m. The free community event featured giveaways, demos, games, exhibits, food, and music.

National Night Out culminates annually on the first Tuesday in August. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. For more information visit natw.org.





(above) DJ - Roselle Police Patrolman Vincent Picarelli

Photos from this and other events can be found online at rennamedia.com and on Roselle Park Monthly page on facebook.com. Feel free to "Like," "Tag," and "Share."





(above) Sheriff's Officer S. Green with K9 Xenon.

(above) Auxiliary Police Officer DelaCruz.

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DOSELLE ARK MONTHLY

REoselle Park Monthly is published by Renna Media. 5,600 newspapers are printed monthly and mailed to every business and resident in Roselle Park.

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SEND US YOUR NEWS

Did you or someone you know accomplish something amazing? We are interested in hearing about your latest achievement (accomplishment, honor, award, etc.). Do you have an event that you need help publicizing? Then send Cranford Monthly your news!

Call: 908-418-5586 Email: editor@rennamedia.com

Roselle Park Monthly is online at RennaMedia.com and NJLocalinfo.com









SEPTEMBER 11TH REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2021 • 7:00PM

Kelly-Kaulfers Memorial Park Laurel Avenue, Roselle Park, NJ 07204

Mayor Signorello & the Borough Council invites everyone to join the remembrance service

TAPS: The Roselle Park High School Marching Band

For more information, please call Casano Community Center: 908.245.0666



Thomas J. Fisher Age: 36 Place of Residence: Union, NJ Location on 9/11: Two WTC stion: Fiduciary Trust Interna Vice President for Operations



Robert A. Hepburn Age: 39 Place of Residence: Union, NJ Location on 9/11: One WTC, 93rd Floor Occupation: Marsh & McLennan, Office Service Manager



Robert M. Kaulfers Age: 49 Place of Residence: Kenilworth, NJ Location on 9/11: WTC Occupation: Port Authority of NY & NJ, Sergeant



ROSELLE PARK

John G. Ueltzhoeffer Age: 36 Place of Residence: Roselle Park, NJ Location on 9/11: WTC upation: Marsh & McLennan Cos. Inc Assistant Vice President/ Senior Technical Financial Analyst

SOLD! I represented the buyer



Sold in 50 Days on February 26th!





213 Charlotte Terr., Roselle Pk Sold \$440k...\$11k Over Ask on May 7th!

"I recently sold my home. What could have been an extremely stressful event,

went amazingly smooth! Tom was the consummate professional from beginning

to end. Every detail was handled with the utmost respect for me, like I was a

member of his family. I did not have to worry about ANYTHING." - Dianne N.

LIFE-LONG RESIDENT OF ROSELLE PARK!

SOLD! I represented the seller



461 Elinor Ave., Roselle Pk Sold \$360k...\$21k

SOLD! I represented the seller



206 Walnut St., Roselle Pk Sold \$16k Over Ask in Just 42 Days on June 25th!



Thomas Italiano Realtor - Sales Associate Cell: (908) 419-7696





259 W. Clay Ave., Roselle Pk Under Contract in 15 Days on July 3rd!

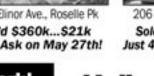




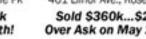
179 E. Grant Ave., Roselle Pk. Under Contract in 6 Days on July 22nd!

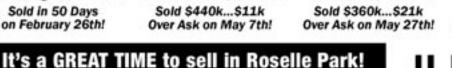


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CAR SHOW -SEPTEMBER 25TH

The Knights of Columbus 4th Annual Car, Truck & Motorcycle Show will be held on Saturday, September 25th, 2021 (rain date Oct. 2nd), from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Church of the Assumption, 113 Chiego Pl., Roselle Park. There will be food trucks, music.

Trophies will be awarded. \$15 Registration for all vehicles before Sept. 18th, \$20 at the door. To register, or for more information contact Frank 908-858-0699, rebi622@gmail.com.

ROSELLE PARK 3RD ANNUAL OKTOBERFEST SEPT. 18

The Borough of Roselle Park will be hosting its 3rd annual Oktoberfest on Saturday, September 18th from 3 - 8 p.m. at Michael J. Mauri Gazebo Park.

There will be plenty of fun and entertainment for Roselle Park residents of all ages, such as live music from Bernie's Orchestra, food trucks, and a beer garden. Free activities will also be available for younger children, such as Meltdown, Boulder Dash, and other games.

"I am proud to announce that Oktoberfest 2021 is coming back to Roselle Park. After the year we've had, it's important for residents to come together, celebrate, and have a great time with friends and family. I'm excited to see what this year's festival has in store and I look forward to spending it with the community I serve every day," said Mayor Joe Signorello.

Entry into Oktoberfest is free. For more information, please contact the Casano Community Center at (908)-245-0666.

BLOOD DONATIONS SAVE 471 LIVES

with the American Red Cross, recently held a Blood Drive on Monday, August 9th where 27 pints of blood were collected, saving an additional 81 lives. In 2021, the Borough of Roselle Park has saved a total of 471 lives through blood collection drives.

The United States has faced a severe blood shortage due to an increased number of trauma cases, organ transplants, and elective surgeries. For the American Red Cross, these blood drives and donations are crucial to providing doctors and patients across the country with the blood they so desperately need.

Through the efforts of the American Red Cross and the Casano Community Center, blood drives have proven to be very successful. A total of 157

The Borough of Roselle Park, in partnership pints donated and 471 lives saved is significant, and represents the continued success of Roselle Park's local efforts to combat the nation's blood shortage.

> "I am very proud to say that Roselle Park's blood drives have been a continued success," said Mayor Joe Signorello. "By donating blood, our residents are helping both the local community and the nation as a whole. Thank you to the American Red Cross and the Casano Community Center for hosting this drive. I look forward to what the future blood drives have in store."

> Mark your calendar for the Borough's next blood which will be held on Monday, December 13th from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, please contact the Casano Community Center at (908)-245-0666.





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ROSELLE PARK ART FESTIVAL – SEPT. 25TH

September is here again and with it comes the return of the Roselle Park Art Festival! The festival is back for its 6th annual celebration of the arts on Saturday, September 25th from 12-7p.m. on Chestnut Street in downtown Roselle Park.

The free festivities will include local, regional and professional artists, artisans and performers from Roselle Park and the New Jersey/New York





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area. The juried art walk is the center of the festival and will feature 60+ visual artists all along Chestnut Street whose works span an eclectic mix of media including paintings, prints, photographs and more and will also showcase handcrafted items from a variety of creative artisans.

The Galleries at Kean University will send representatives to jury the Art Walk and present awards. Street Muralists that have amazed onlookers the past few years will also be back so we can marvel at their works again as they spray paint canvases with creative and unique messages and expressions.

This year the festival welcomes Afro Dominicano, a Latin band from New York City that will be bringing the sounds of Afro Caribbean Soul to the stage! With a modern blend of Afro-beats, reggae, calypso, samba, funk and Dominican merengue tipico music, you'll be up on your feet, dancing the night away.

More live performances of music and dance will be a feast for your eyes and ears throughout the day both on stage in Michael Mauri Park, center stage on the street and on the library lawn

including Dancers Pointe, Hamsa Dance and Fitness, Drum and Dance Learning Center, Rink Havoc Roller Skaters and other amazing performers!

And you can't spend a day at the art festival without filling up on delicious festival favorites. Come and enjoy a diverse selection of food vendors including culinary creations by The Lab, local favorite Dee's Hot Dogs, Uncle Louie G's Italian Ices, Latin Flavor, Empanada Papa, The Coffee Stream and more!

You'll always find something to do at the Roselle Park Arts Festival with interactive arts and activities; accessible arts with adapted activities to serve individuals with motor, developmental or sensory challenges; hands-on fun for adults and kids; crafts and community chalk art.

Mark your calendars for September 25th because the festival is just around the corner and it's truly a wonderful outdoor event for the whole family and community to enjoy the arts!

For the event schedule, complete list of participants, sponsor and additional information on this event, please visit: rplovesart.org.

Music Afro Domincano Woods Band ScreenAge Band Alexis Morrast Christina Rodden Quaranteens **Emily Tribiano** Surprise TBA



Art Walk Featuring 60+ Fine Artists and Artisan Crafters Dance Fusion Dance Planet Dance **Rink Havoc Skate Crew** Hamsa Dance & Fitness The Drum & Dance Learning Center

Interactive Activities all day long: Crafts, Music, Drum Circle. Accessible Area for People with Special Needs: adapted activies, quiet space, wheelchair and equipment friendly.

Food trucks including: Dee's Hotdogs, The Lab, Latin Flavor, Uncle Louis G's, Empanada Papa, The Coffee Stream

Sponsored by:

The Borough of Roselle Park Union County HEART Grant * Roselle Park Loves Arts, Inc. Kean University Union County Parks Department

The O'Keefe Family The Casano Center **RP Veterans Memorial Library** Meridia, LLC First Children Services

*This arts program is made possible in part by a 2021 HEART (History, Education, Arts Reaching Thousands) Grantfrom the Union County Board of County Commissioners.

Saturday, September 25th Noon-7 PM **Chestnut Street, Roselle Park**

Roselle Park Monthly • Page 7 • September 2021





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ART "EMERGES" DURING RAHWAY'S ANNUAL CULTURE CRAWL FESTIVAL

Rahway has "emerged" from this past year stronger and more connected, with art and music popping up all summer long, including during its Annual Culture Crawl Arts and Music Festival! On September 25 from 1-6 p.m., (weather permitting) the streets of Rahway's downtown will come alive with art and music.

We were all saddened when in 2020 the Culture Crawl Festival was forced to cancel due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The brand and the artistry continued throughout all of 2020 through virtual events, curated outdoor art displays, live music and poetry just to name a few. This year, we are bringing back the Culture Crawl Festival in a way that is safe for our Artists and our Community. This typically rain or shine event will be weather dependent this year (canceled in the event of inclement weather.)

With the theme of "emerge", Culture Crawl will be featuring some new collaborators as well as those who have curated zones in past years. Nick Rosal from (pick your affiliation: Atelier Rosal Framing Shop; Housecat Nick; Rusty Monks; Jazz at Watt Hotel; Pop Up Bohemian Festival....) will be joining us again to curate the newly transformed Cherry Street with music, vendors and more! Representing the "Emerging" young artists of Rahway, Parisse Dawkins and Michael Elliott will entice you into the Arts District Park (corner of Central Ave and Irving St.) with immersive displays, "design your own" fashion pieces, music, dance and art, from Black and brown creatives culminating in a fashion show featuring original designs by Michael Elliott, as well as pieces from other Rahway boutiques.

Making it worth the walk, Kevin Simmons from AB Salute House will be hosting one of his notorious Deep House Music Dance Parties at The Gallery Space (Seminary Ave. and Irving St.) with curated vendors and artists.

Northfield Bank Parking lot (1515 Irving St) will be the location of a stage featuring dance of all genres and a myriad of local bands.

The Train Station Plaza will be a buzz of activity with the Vendor Village and the Main Stage of music with a full line up of entertainment.

The fun doesn't stop there! Establishments on Main St. and Irving St. as well as throughout the entire footprint will be popping out on the sidewalk.

Visit https://culturecrawl.org/ for more information. To find out more about Rahway visit https://rahwayishappening.com.



RELIEF FROM CHRONIC KNEE PAIN FDA Approved Treatment to Avoid Surgery

DON'T BLAME THE ARROW FOR MISSING THE TARGET

Just like tens of millions of other Americans, you were looking for relief from your chronic knee pain. You thought Viscosupplementation injections might be the answer, but the results were disappointing and painful. Don't assume the treatment wasn't right. That could very well be like blanning the arrow for its path to the target when the problem might be the archer. If you didn't get the pain relief you were hoping for, chances are your injection treatment was off target. Unlike blind injections or even ultrasound targeted treatments found elsewhere,

Northeast Spine & Wellness Center uses diagnostic fluoroscopy to make sure the area that needs treated is the exact area where the injection goes. This is the most advanced method of delivering this pain relieving treatment with 95% accuracy to give you the results you're looking for. The use of Fluoroscopy guided injections sets Northeast Spine & Wellness Center apart. The end result is you living pain free from your

chronic knee pain. You can avoid the lengthy and painful road of knee replacement surgery. You can avoid the endless trial and error assortment of potentially addictive prescription medications. This treatment, using fluoroscopy guided injections has seen a success rate of above 85% in those suffering from knee pain related to osteoarthritis, and that includes people with bone on bone involvement. You've suffered from chronic knee pain long enough. Call Northeast Spine & Wellness Center now for a RISK FREE consultation.

If Knee Surgery Sounds Scary, It Should

Have you have been told you are facing knee replacement surgery? Have you been told about all the downsides you could be facing? First and foremost, there are NO guarantees that knee replacement surgery will be the answer to your pain, but let's look further:

 Surgery is costly, regardless of the percentage of services covered by insurance.
 Surgery requires lost time from work and typically requires a regimen of rehabilitation and medications.

With surgery, there is always a risk for unwelcomed complications. And you could be back to where you started, or worse.

Medications will be required for relief from surgery and you have been down that road before. Addictions to these pain medications can cause

potential side effects, something you do not want to experience. • Rehabilitation can take years.

Consider This Alternative To Surgery

Northeast Spine & Wellness Center offers you a real opportunity and a painless way to say goodbye to your knee pain without any surgery. Here are just a few of the important benefits you should consider?

Diagnostic fluoroscopy accurately targets the pain, unlike blind injections.
 Guided fluoroscopic injections are virtually pain free, unlike blind injections.

· No lost time from work or family.

No expensive or time consuming rehabilitation.

No potentially addictive prescription medications.
 Recovery time is almost instant, not months or years.

Do you Suffer from any of these Symptoms?

There are a number of reasons why you developed Osteoarthritis pain. It can develop with age or because of heredity. It could be from repetitive stress from a job or some glory days in athletics. Of course your concern is with the symptoms you face daily and how to make them end, hopefully without surgery or the use of potentially addictive medications. Northeast Spine & Wellness Center understands the symptoms you have been

living with and can help. If you have any of the symptoms below, please call us today. Relief is a phone call away.

 Pain - Whether it's a sharp aching or maybe a burning sensation, the pain can range from irritating to debilitating.

 Swelling - This can cause tenderness and soreness to the entire knee area, making walking or going up and down stairs painful, getting in and out of bed or bathtubs difficult and dangerous just name a few activities affected by swelling.

 Stiffness - Getting up out of bed or after sitting for a period of time gets more and more difficult. This loss of mobility can be more than a hindrance. It can be dangerous if you need to move quickly.

 Loss of muscle strength - This can lead to balance issues and the strong possibility of falling.

Joint deformity - Not just unsightly, but painful as well.
 Creaking Joints - Can be painful and a sign of more

 Sleepless nights - Losing sleep over your suffering is not just irritating, but potentially dangerous because of so many other health concerns that can be affected by loss of sound sleep.



How Does This New Treatment Work? Relief begins almost as fast as it takes to pronounce the treatment. It's called Viscosupplementation Therapy. To begin with, it starts with Northeast

Spine & Wellness Center investing in the use of diagnostic fluoroscopy This enables them to target the exact location of your knee pain with pinpoint accuracy. What follows is a simple injection that causes little to no pain. especially when compared to what you may be living with daily. That explains what you will see on the surface of this revolutionary treatment. What's taking place below the surface is how and where the natural healing process takes place. The injection of a Hyaluronic acid called Hyalgan. This gel-like substance was approved by the FDA in 1996. Hyalgan is a natural substance that mimics the synovial fluid that is already produced by your body in your joints. Osteoarthritis sufferers in particular see a reduction in this much needed synovial fluid in their knee joints. Without that cushioning layer of protection, the cartilage in your knee can begin to wear away leading to the rubbing of bone on bone. Through Viscosupplementation Therapy, this natural substance immediately goes to work reducing the swelling and inflammation in the joint and adding a coating layer of protection. Think about Dorothy taking the oil can to The Tin Man. You'll begin to feel that same kind of relief and quite possibly feel like you're ready for a dance down the yellow brick road to recovery yourself. And with a success rate of over 85% in alleviating pain associated with osteoarthritis, it's easy to see why this treatment is so readily covered by Medicare and by most major insurance providers. Diagnostic fluoroscopy to target the pain, Viscosupplementation Therapy to relieve the pain. Simple, fast and no surgery!

Let Me Show You Targeted Relief From Your Knee Pain

Every day, I see patients suffering from knee pain due to arthritis, osteoarthritis, sports injuries or other conditions. Many have been told that they are in need of knee replacement surgery. Other patients say they have been prescribed various prescription medications to deal with the pain.

Something else I see almost every day, are patients that have tried viscosupplementation knee injections elsewhere and found it to be a painful and ineffective experience because the injections were not administered using fluoroscopic guidance. Instead of using the incredibly accurate diagnostic fluoros-

copy we use at Northeast Spine & Wellness Center these patients experienced a blind injection technique, which can be as inaccurate as playing pin the tail on the donkey.

Once I am able to explain to my patients about the pin point accuracy of using diagnostic fluoroscopy and the amazing results viscosupplementation can provide, they are thrilled to get started. They are even more thrilled when they feel the relief. Please contact Northeast Spine & Wellness Center today to schedule your RISK FREE consultation. Call 732-827-0800

Scot Paris MD, FACS

Here's what our patients have to say

"I'm dancing without pain. I can more with no problem whatwoever. I can go up and down steps with no pain." - Patricia G.

"Over 85% relief for the first time in 15 years, suffering with knee pain. My life is getting hack to normal." - Perry O.

"After only four visits, i have absolutely no pain! The staff is "top-notch." - Ownton L.



SOUNDS OF SEPTEMBER FREE MUSIC CONCERT



Townley Presbyterian Church together with the Salem Roadhouse Cafe proudly present Carrie Jackson & the Jazzin' All Stars, performing on Saturday, September 18, 2021.

The show starts at 6:30 p.m. and goes until 8:00 p.m. at the Townley Presbyterian Church, 829 Salem Road, Union, NJ 07083.

The concert is free. It's a wholesome show, so bring the entire family! Don't forget to bring your lawn chairs. Plenty of safe outdoor space. Free snacks will be available.

Donations of a non-perishable food item for a local food pantry will be accepted – please be generous.

Carrie Jackson is a metropolitan area based vocal stylist and rekindles thoughts of America's great jazz history. Carrie credits her mentors, the great ladies of jazz, Sarah "Sassy" Vaughan, Ella Fitzgerald, Nancy Wilson, Carmen McRae, Dinah Washington, Billie Holiday, and others as a primary musical influence for her style, which indelibly helped shape vocal jazz for every generation.

Carrie attributes her vocal style of singing from her mentors and made them a part of her, also bringing new horizons to this classical American art form called Jazz. The truth is that she has a bit of all of them and more that create her own unique style as she proudly carries the jazz banner.

Carrie is a vocalist and performer, a native of Newark, NJ, and honed her many talents in the jazz mecca of performing arts while performing throughout the USA and abroad. She spreads and shares her joy and well-honed expertise on the stage.

Ms. Jackson, with her multifaceted singing style, can harmonize swing and scat; swings classic jazz standards with sweet soul; wails the blues, cabaret, pop tunes, ballads, or Gospel, all complimented by her engaging stage presence and graceful moves. Carrie has a wide range with a strong command of the classic elements of jazz vocalizing. She is a gifted lyricist, has great timing and truly sings from her heart and is comfortable performing with a small ensemble, big band and or orchestra.





(above) Courtney Navarette is a recruiting assistant at CAU.





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FIND YOUR PASSION FOR HELPING OTHERS

New Jerseyans who support people with developmental disabilities know that they make a difference every day by helping the people they work with.

Staff at Community Access Unlimited (CAU) have supported members through a pandemiccomplicated year of day program closures and other state-mandated service suspensions that uprooted their routines, vaccine appointments, COVID-19 testing, and time isolated from their loved ones.

As the state continues reopening and recovery from the pandemic, they are breathing a sigh of relief and reflecting on the important work they do.

"It's absolutely amazing; I wouldn't go anywhere else," said Cynthia Burch, who has worked for CAU for 7 years. "The staff is outstanding, and as you work here longer, you and the members become kind of a family."

Founded in 1979, CAU is a Union Countybased nonprofit that serves people with disabilities and youth at risk throughout the state. CAU employees empower others to be as independent as possible by assisting them with housing, life skills, employment, personal finance, relationships, civic engagement and much more.

CAU staff are a growing team that helps members navigate the path to independence. With that in mind, CAU has several full- and part-time openings.

As a support leader, Burch is responsible for the medical needs of members, including transportation to doctor's appointments and handling medications. She said the most rewarding experience she has had at work so far was caring for a member who had COVID-19 and a concurrent infection and seeing the person bounce back to full health.

"The people at the main office made sure we had everything we needed, like masks and supplies," she said of working through the pandemic. "They delivered food; I mean they were amazing, so I'm even more supportive of Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07202.

New Jerseyans who support people with CAU now and how protective they were of evelopmental disabilities know that they make everybody, including the staff."

Another factor that made CAU work for Burch was choice of her shift. By working a night shift, she was able to keep a part-time job during the day when she first started.

"I try to tell (new employees) that they are doing rewarding work because they are helping members be a part of their community and giving them purpose," said Courtney Navarette, who started as a Direct Support Professional and now works as a Recruiting Assistant "You are working with them every day in their homes so you form a bond with them."

CAU offers different shifts, with afternoon and evening hours as well as weekend or overnight shifts. Positions are available in the following areas of Union County: Cranford, Scotch Plains, Fanwood, Plainfield, Elizabeth, Roselle, Summit, Linden and New Providence.

Many positions, including higher-level direct care, require a high school diploma or equivalent and experience in the field. A valid driver's license and access to a car while working also are required for most positions.

The agency offers excellent employee benefits including medical and dental insurance for qualifying staff, a recruitment incentive, tuition assistance and longevity/anniversary recognition. Community Access Unlimited continues to expand, and the agency has a number of full time and part time openings available. To learn more, contact the HR department at 908-354-3040 ext. 4203. For a full list of available positions, visit caunj.org / careers.

ABOUT COMMUNITY ACCESS UNLIMITED

Community Access Unlimited (CAU), supports people with special needs in achieving real lives in the community. CAU helps people with housing, life skills, employment, money management, socialization and civic activities. For more information about CAU and its services, contact us by phone at 908-354-3040, online at caunj.org or by mail at 80 West Grand Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07202.



COLLEGE DREAMS IN REACH THANKS TO ELKS SCHOLARSHIPS

announce the start of the 2022 Elks Most Ethiopian Sign Language interpreter and Valuable Student (MVS) scholarship contest. The MVS scholarship is available to high school seniors who are United States citizens. Applicants do not need to be related to a member of the Elks. The judging criteria is based on academics, leadership, service, and financial need.

The application is completed online and must be submitted by the November 15, 2021, deadline. The 500 national winners will be announced in April 2022. The ENF will award 20 top scholarships ranging from \$20,000 to \$50,000. The top 20 national finalists participate in the Leadership Weekend and interview for the top awards. The remaining 480 runners-up will receive \$4,000 scholarships.

This year, the Elks National Foundation is investing \$4.2 million in college scholarships. We've invested wisely. MVS scholars-all of whom demonstrate outstanding leadership skills and a commitment to service— are graduating from college at a rate of 90 percent, 30 percent higher than the national average.

Since 1931, the Elks National Foundation has awarded life-changing scholarships to thousands of students like Gellila Asmamaw of Pennsylvania, last year's top winner. Headed to

The Elks National Foundation is proud to Harvard to study medicine, Gellila is a certified volunteers as an instructor in her community.

> For Gellila, teaching others the language is about paying it forward and encouraging speakers to serve their communitiessomething she finds in common with the Elks. "To the Elks members who will be supporting me in my education, I would just like to say, thank you, first and foremost for not only supporting me, but believing in me and investing in me," Gellila said. "I hope to show you all the amazing things I plan to do."

> Applications for the 2022 contest are available on the Elks National Foundation's website. For complete Most Valuable Student scholarship contest details including the application, visit enf.elks.org/MVS.

HELPING ELKS BUILD STRONGER COMMUNITIES

With more than 700,000 members and nearly 1,850 Lodges nationwide, Elks are providing charitable services that help build stronger communities across the United States. The Elks National Foundation, the charitable arm of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, helps Elks build stronger communities through programs that support youth, serve veterans and meet needs in areas where Elks live and work. To learn more, visit elks.org/enf.







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CASA VOLUNTEERS FOR FOSTER YOUTH

up and train as advocates for Union County foster youth have taken their oath before a Union County Superior Court Judge and are now ready to be matched to their case as the newest volunteers with Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Union County.

The nonprofit, which began in Union County in 2005, recruits, trains, supports, and supervises volunteers to serve local child-victims removed from their homes due to abuse, neglect or abandonment, and living in foster care. It is the only nonprofit serving as extra eyes and ears for Union County judges hearing youth cases.

Superior Court Judge James Hely presided over the swearing-in ceremony via Zoom; once matched to their youth or sibling set, advocates will begin putting their 30-hours of training into practice. The newest CASA volunteers for Union County are Janet Colman of Warren, Komal Nankani of Summit, Karime Herrera and James Walker Jr. of Elizabeth, Mike Caporaso of Lebanon, Regina O'Connor of Fanwood, and Veronica Gardner of Union.

Volunteers need no special prior background or experience to serve as advocates; each undergoes a thorough training process and is supported by CASA staff. Successful advocates bring with them varied life experiences and professional backgrounds. No matter the age of the youth to whom they are assigned, advocates' commitment to being a consistent presence -

The latest class of community members to step many foster youth experience a revolving door of interests. professionals in addition to the separation from family members - and ensuring needs are identified and recommendations are made to the judge and stakeholders, the trajectory of a child's life can be changed for the better.

> Upon being court-ordered to a case, the CASA volunteer has access to the youth, foster parents, doctors, caseworkers, therapists, and teachers in order to identify and report to the judge any concerns and needs in order to protect best

The organization remains committed to serving every Union County youth in foster care; to do that, more community volunteers are needed to step up and train as an advocate for a local child-victim who could range from birth to age 21.

Contact Lucia, lfield@casaofunioncounty.org for details on upcoming information sessions, how to join a training class, and all the ways you can Change a Child's Story.



(above, l-r) Mike Caporaso of Lebanon; Janet Colman of Warren; Karime Herrara of Elizabeth; James Walker Jr. of Elizabeth; Regina O'Connor of Fanwood; Komal Nankani of Summit; and Veronica Gardner of Union.





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NEW NURSES GRADUATE THE TRINITAS SCHOOL OF NURSING

Sixty-nine students, including Katerina Schoner of Roselle Park, received their nursing diplomas from the Trinitas School of Nursing for what would have been the 166th Convocation Ceremony on June 3, 2021.

Fifty-eight women and 11 men became eligible to sit for the registered nurse licensing exam. The convocation ceremony was a hybrid event of in-person ceremony and taped speeches. The class gathered in person in two

groups to maintain social distancing. The successfully underwent accreditation by the students received their awards, pins, and nursing diplomas in person. No outside visitors were allowed. The event was recorded and edited by the UCC Media department, and the premiere of the complete version of the ceremony was conducted on June 11, 2021 at 6 p.m. A gift of the video was given by the school to each graduate.

"During the pandemic, the School of Nursing

Accreditation Commission for Accreditation in Nursing (ACEN)," said Dr. Roseminda Santee, Dean of the Trinitas School of Nursing, which is affiliated with Union County College. "The school was granted the full eight years continuing accreditation by ACEN in March 2021. Graduates participated actively in the accreditation process. I am very proud of these graduates."



Trinitas School of Nursing Class of 2021

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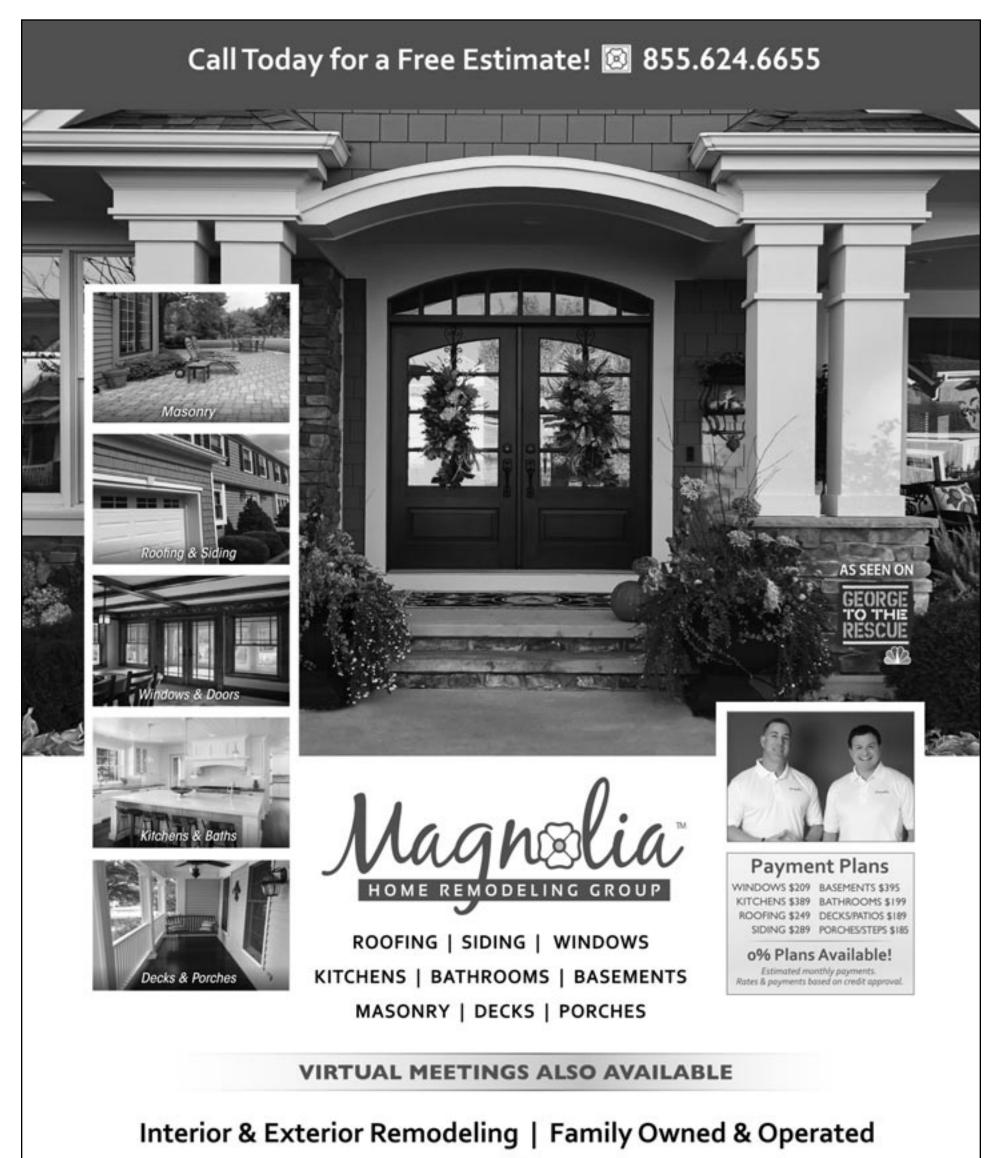
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