New Providence NEWS

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NEW DEALS FOR OLD WHEELS AT FAITH LUTHERAN

On Saturday, May 7, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, Faith Lutheran Church, 524 South Street in New Providence, will again be collecting second-hand bikes for use by adults and children in third world countries. The collection is being conducted on behalf of Pedals for Progress, an organization which annually recycles 6,000 bicycles for persons in developing countries. Anyone with a bicycle in repairable condition is urged to donate to this worthy cause. Bikes may be dropped off at the parking lot next to the church. On that day, members of Faith will repair and process the bikes for shipment by P4P.

Since 2002, Faith Lutheran has been collecting bikes for P4P. In 2021, five hundred sixty-four bikes were collected from persons and organizations in New Providence, Berkeley Heights, Mountainside, Westfield, Chatham, Warren, Scotch Plains and Fanwood. The collection by Faith occurs throughout the year. The range of towns was aided by articles published in Renna Media publications.

Every year affluent Americans buy 22 million new bicycles and discard millions of old ones, abandoning many more in basements, sheds and garages. Most of these end up in our already overburdened landfills.

P4P ships its reconditioned bikes to persons in need of countries in Latin America, Africa and Asia. The bikes provide reliable transportation to commute to work, transport produce to market, access health care and other services. Steady employment for adults is vital to the development and success of these economies.

P4P reports that the cost of shipping bikes has increased significantly in recent years and now presents a substantial financial burden to P4P. Last year, Faith contributed \$3,000 toward the shipment of the bikes. Persons donating bikes gave \$1,273 toward shipment. P4P is asking persons to donate \$15 toward the shipping costs, if they are financially comfortable doing so. Donation or not, Faith welcomes all bikes in repairable condition.

Since 2016, the chairperson of Faith's Pedal for Progress ministry has been Casey Walsh of



2021 Pedals for Progress volunteers. (above, l-r) Pedals for Progress organization; Alan and Gary, Faith; Bill Bradley of New Providence, Casey Walsh of Bridgewater, Sally Reier of Union, Diana Bjorge of Berkeley Heights, Ky Luu, formerly of Fanwood, now South Carolina, Linda Fuller of Berkeley Heights.



(above) Bikes collected and processed by Faith in 2021, fill the Pedals for Progress truck.

Bridgewater, a long-time member of the church.

The pastor of Faith is Rev. Jane McCready. Visit online at famfaith.org or call the church office at 908-464-5177. The address is 524 South Street, New Providence.



New Providence NEWS

Renna Media LLC, Publishers

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and Berkeley Heights has issued a statement on the war in Ukraine. The statement follows:

"We believe that God is grieved by the events unfolding in Ukraine. Human division wounds the heart of God, and no division is greater than war. Furthermore, the senseless acts of suffering, violence, and killing are an assault on the dignity of the people of Ukraine as the created children of God.

"We do not condemn the people of Russia, but we do condemn the actions of their political and military leaders. And whereas, we do not wish to become political, we support the efforts of the United States to fortify Ukrainian defenses and alleviate the suffering of their people.

"In the face of the evil we are witnessing, we are tempted to despair believing that we can do nothing. But people of faith have two weapons of peace we can wield: Prayer and Justice.

"We believe that fervent prayer changes the world. We call upon all people of goodwill to pray for peace. Pray for the people of Ukraine that they might endure this time of tribulation. Pray for the people of Russia that they will have fortitude to stand for truth and right. Pray that God will turn the hearts of the Russian leadership.

"We are also people of justice, and justice does not happen alone. God calls us to work for justice, and justice begets peace. To that

The Clergy Association of New Providence end, we call upon people of goodwill to give generously to support refugees and those who are suffering. Show support for your neighbors, especially as they differ from you. Where you are able, engage in acts of service to all humanity. Affirm love in all you do.

> "This statement comes with our sincere gratitude for all you do to make our communities part of God's reign of peace."

The statement has been signed by:

- The Clergy and Religious Leaders
- of Berkeley Heights and New Providence,
- The Rev'd Dr. Daniel C. Gunn
- St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
- Rev. Matthew Dooley Roman Catholic Church of the Little Flower • Fr. Andy Prachar
- Roman Catholic Church of the Little Flower • Dr. M. Ali Chaudry
- Islamic Society of Basking Ridge
- The Rev'd Andrew Calandriello
- St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
- The Rev'd George Betz
- Westminster Presbyterian Church Sunil Abrol
- Baha'i Group of New Providence
- The Rev'd Jane McCready Faith Lutheran Church
- The Rev'd Markus Vaga
- Faith Lutheran Church
- The Rev'd Victor FrancoNew Providence United Methodist Church

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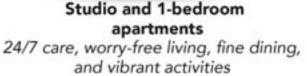


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RELAY FOR LIFE – MAY 21

American Cancer Society

The American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Berkeley Heights invites the communities of Berkeley Heights, Mountainside, New Providence and Summit to join the movement to honor and remember loved ones and fight back for lifesaving change on Saturday May 21st, 2022 (noon to midnight) at The Grove at Connell Park – 200 Connell Dr, Berkeley Heights, NJ). There is no cost to attend the event and this year's event theme is "Under the "C" Sea" and will be featuring music and entertainment by Thoro Entertainment along with games, food, and activities for all!

Community volunteers are the backbone of this movement which includes cancer survivors,

NEW PROVIDENCE MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

On Monday, May 30, 2022 New Providence will remember the brave men and women who gave the ultimate sacrifice while serving in this country's armed forces. The New Providence Memorial Day Parade will step off at 10 a.m. on Springfield Avenue. After the parade, American Legion Post #433, located next to the library and the DeCorso Community Center (15 East 4th Street), invites everyone for hot dogs and light refreshments. caregivers, local citizens, and participants who believe that the future can be free from cancer and own the power to make that change.

Funds raised help the American Cancer Society attack cancer in dozens of ways, each of them critical to achieving a world without cancer – from developing breakthrough therapies to building supportive communities, from providing empowering resources to deploying activists to raise awareness.

There are many ways to get involved!

Join the Relay For Life of Berkeley Heights! – Sign up to join an as a participant, cancer survivor, existing team or start a new team at RelayForLife.org/BerkeleyHeightsNJ

Get your business involved! – Being involved in Relay For Life events supports your community Relay For Life event and provides your employees and customers, an opportunity to participate in the fight against cancer. For information on sponsorship opportunities or how you can get your business involved, contact Vicky Allen, Senior Development Manager at vicky.allen@cancer.org / 732-825-6958.

Invite someone or attend our Survivor Brunch! - Are you a cancer survivor or know someone who is? We'd like to celebrate you at our Survivor Brunch taking place on the day of Relay -Saturday, 5/21 @ 11 a.m. at The Grove - Connell Corporate Park. For more details and to RSVP please contact Maureen Pergola (973) 727-1101 / maureenpergola1@gmail.com.

Donate! - If you can't participate in this year's event, you can still help save lives by making a event donation. Every dollar fuels the American Cancer Society's fight against cancer. Visit RelayForLife.org/BerkeleyHeightsNJ to make a donation today.

Dedicate a Luminaria Bag for a loved one! – Luminarias honor every life touched by cancer. For a \$10 donation, you can dedicate them to a loved one lost, someone currently battling, or anyone who's overcome it. Our Luminaria Ceremony begins after dusk and participants will see the Luminarias decorated with names and sometimes messages to the people they're dedicated to. To dedicate a Luminaria Bag go to: https://tinyurl.com/LuminariaBH2022.

Volunteer! – We are always looking for volunteers to join our Leadership Team, or just help out on the day of the event! Contact Vicky Allen for information on how you can volunteer; vicky.allen@cancer.org/ 732-825-6958.

Founded by Dr. Gordy Klatt in Tacoma, Washington, in 1985, the Relay For Life movement unites communities across the globe to celebrate people who have been touched by cancer, remember loved ones lost, and take action for lifesaving change.

To learn more about

Relay For Life of Berkeley Heights, visit RelayForLife.org/BerkeleyHeightsNJ





New Jersey Youth Chorus AUDITIONS

June 12 & June 18, 2022 New Providence, NJ

The New Jersey Youth Chorus is an auditioned choral program for students in grades 3-12.

Previous Performances include: White House • Carnagie Hall • SuperBowl The Today Show • NJPAC • Kennedy Center

Tours to: England & Wales • Austria • Italy Germany • Hungary • Ireland • Hawaii • Disney

Audition Application Closes June 5

For more information and to register, visit **NJYouthChorus.org**





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TRADING CARD PROGRAM

The New Providence Police Department's trading card program has returned for 2022. The program is designed to foster communication and trust between members of the Police Department and young New Providence residents.

Each sworn member of the New Providence Police Department (including Mayor Morgan) is issued a trading card with their name, position, and photograph on the front, with a brief biographical statement on the back. Children (grades Pre-K to 8th) are encouraged to collect all 30 trading cards by approaching police officers and asking for their card.

The trading card program will also help familiarize our younger residents with the names and faces of our officers, so that perhaps in a time

of need, it is easy for them to reach out to an officer for help. Children who have collected 30 trading cards will receive a Department "Goodie Bag" or gift card from one of our participating local businesses. In addition, they will be entered into a raffle for a prize drawing at our National Night Out event, August 2nd, 2022.

Trading cards will be available thru the end of July.

The trading card program is fully funded by the New Providence Lions Club (card print designs by MGL Printing Solutions on South Street).

For more information, please visit newprov.org or contact the New Providence Police Department at 908-665-1111.

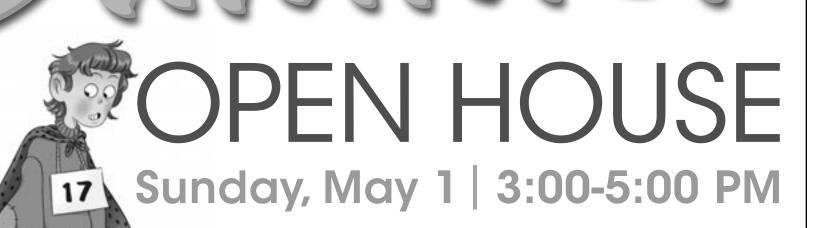
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VOLUNTEERS SHOW LOVE AND SUPPORT

NJ Sharing Network

National Volunteer Week, held in April, is an opportunity to thank all volunteers who dedicate their time and talent to help others. Locally, dozens of volunteers from throughout New Jersey recently crocheted and knitted over 900 shawls and blankets to express love and support for families of deceased organ and tissue donors. Their caring efforts are part of NJ Sharing Network's Wrapped in Love Program.

A team of volunteers came together at NJ Sharing Network's headquarters in New Providence to package the donations and add personalized messages of support before distributing to organ and tissue donor families.

Marilyn Esnes of Berkeley Heights is a NJ Sharing Network Wrapped in Love volunteer who understands the positive impact a handmade shawl or blanket can bring to donor families.

"As the caregiver of a lung transplant recipient, my husband, I understand the difficult decision a loved one must make to give the gift of life to others," said Esnes. "At the time I was sitting in the waiting room at the hospital for my husband's life-saving transplant, I kept thinking of my husband and praying for the medical staff but also for the donor family. While I was very worried and scared, I thought of the family who made that decision to donate organs and what they were going through. My heart ached for them and what they must have been going through. I was so appreciative of their generosity and love. When I learned of NJ Sharing Network's Wrapped in Love Program, I volunteered right away to help alleviate someone's pain."

Carolyn Welsh, Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of NJ Sharing Network, is inspired by the overwhelming expressions of support of NJ Sharing Network's volunteers.

"We applaud the compassionate efforts of our Wrapped in Love volunteers who selflessly offer their time and talent to support donor families," said Welsh. "Our volunteers continue to provide comfort to families after suffering the loss of a loved one when it is needed most."

For more information about NJ Sharing

Network's Wrapped in Love Program, please call 908-516-5687

or email lcolasurdo@njsharingnetwork.org.

Currently, there are over 100,000 Americans – nearly 4,000 of whom live in New Jersey – waiting for a life-saving transplant, according to United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS). One organ and tissue donor can save eight lives and enhance the lives of over 75 others.

New Jersey's caring spirit is providing hope for the future. According to NJ Sharing Network, last year, 233 generous individuals in New Jersey gave the gift of life, an all-time high for a single year. In addition, 42,112 eye and tissue donations healed and enhanced the quality of life for those in need.

Organ and tissue donor registrations in the Garden State continue to increase thanks to strong community education and outreach efforts and expanded ways to register. New Jersey donor registration jumped 8.3% in 2021, and the state ranks 5th in the nation on the Donate Life America National Registry. New Jerseyans can register in any of the following options: Online at www.NJSharingNetwork.org/Register; through the iPhone Health App; In person at your local Motor Vehicle Agency.

To learn more, get involved and register as an organ and tissue donor, visit NJSharingNetwork.org.

ABOUT NJ SHARING NETWORK

Currently celebrating its 35th anniversary, NJ Sharing Network is the federally designated nonprofit organization responsible for recovering donated organs and tissue and providing hope for those waiting for a life-saving transplant. With headquarters in New Providence, NJ, NJ Sharing Network has been recognized by NJBIZ as one of the state's "Best Places to Work" for four consecutive years.



(above) Adlinna Liang; Marilyn Esnes; Divya Tellakula; Grace Wamsteker; Janet Vigeland;
Arlene Kaplan; Lisa Colasurdo, Coordinator for NJ Sharing Network's Wrapped in Love
Program; Janet Crowe; Noreen Reilly; Dede Duffy; Nancy Michael; Cathy Rooney;
and Carol Kessler.

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HIGHLANDERS ICE HOCKEY TEAM WINS FIRST EVER STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Governor Livingston/New Providence claimed their first ever State Championship on Monday, March 7th, 2022 at the Prudential Center.

The Highlanders beat top-seeded Morris Knolls/Hills in the NJSIAA Public C final with a score of 2-0, thanks to a strong defensive performance.

The Berkeley Heights and New Providence communities came together to support their win as the Highlanders concluded their historic season with a record of 18-6-1.

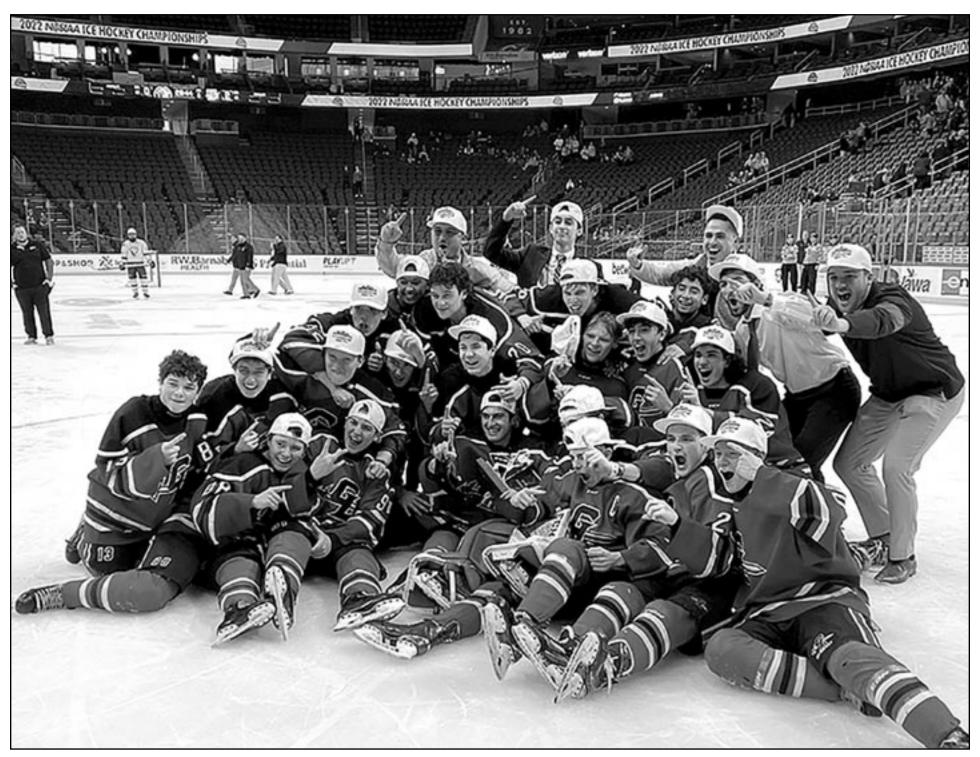


Photo by Berkeley Heights Public Schools





Attention Men & Women Over 40 Not Working Out Right Now HOW TO LOSE EVERY POUND GAINED DURING COVID IN 30 DAYS....GUARANTEED

Covid 19 brought an average weight gain of 29 pounds ...but not for these 4 local residents

"MY ACHES AND PAINS HAVE MOSTLY GONE AWAY, AND I DEFINITELY HAVE MORE ENERGY"



David: The pandemic negatively impacted how dedicated I was to working out and the type of food I ate. When I joined the challenge I increased my workout routine to at least 5 days per week. Now I feel great. My aches and pains have mostly gone away and I definitely have more energy during the work day.

"I STARTED TO FEEL IMPROVEMENT AS QUICKLY AS 1-2 WEEKS INTO JOINING"



Tom: Before joining GFP I never really maintained consistent strength training. At GFP it's easy to build momentum, and I started to feel improvement as quickly as 1-2 weeks into joining. The challenge showed me how rapidly progress can occur if you pair nutrition guidance with regular workouts. More importantly it helped me build lasting habits that have made me consistently healthier.

"GFP HAS GIVEN ME MY CONFIDENCE BACK. I FEEL GOOD IN MY BODY AGAIN"



Kristy: Before GFP I had never been to the gym before, but the trainers helped me learn how to work out effectively. I started working out six days a week, and I really saw results. Those results kept me motivated to continue coming back. GFP has given me my confidence back. I feel good in my body again.

"MY RESULTS INSPIRED ME TO KEEP GOING"



Cathy: My fitness routine had gone off track, and some of my old injuries had started to bother me. I missed working out regularly, but I was lacking direction and the right motivation to get restarted. The trainers helped me get back on track with both my fitness and nutrition. I soon started to see results, which inspired me to keep it going.

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31 IDEAS TO HELP KIDS EAT BETTER, RUN FASTER, GET STRONGER AND **BECOME THE BEST VERSION OF THEMSELVES**

Cut This Page Out and Put on Your Refrigerator

Eat Better

- Drink AT LEAST 4 Water bottles
- \Box Have a fruit or veggie with each meal
- \Box Have nuts instead of chips as a snack
- □ Have a source of protein in each meal
- □ Take a multivitamin
- Limit sweets to only one serving

Get stronger

- □ Perform 50 bodyweight squats
- □ Perform 50 pushups
- □ Perform a plank for 60 seconds 3 times
- □ Perform 25 vertical jumps
- Get at least 8 hours of sleep a night

Be Happier

- □ Get at least 30 minutes of exercise
- □ Do a morning routine that you enjoy
- □ Write 5 things that you are grateful for
- Adopt a Growth Mindset
- □ Listen to music whenever you can

- **Run Faster**
- Do 10 hill sprints
- □ Perform 15 Broad Jumps
- \Box Sprint for 50 yards
- □ Perform single leg jumps
- Perform High Knee Marches

Build Confidence

- □ Do something outside of your comfort zone
- **Read a book**
- □ Practice or spend time on your hobbies
- \Box Learn a new skill
- □ Work towards a new Goal

Be More Active

- □ Walk during TV show commercials
- □ Schedule exercise time
- □ Whenever you see a commercial
 - for a car company, perform 10 squats
- \Box Find a buddy, and exercise with them
- \Box Try a new method of exercise every week (i.e. biking, running, lifting weights, etc.)

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Registration for Our 10 Week Summer Program Now Open



Early Bird Registration Expires June 20 www.gritathletes.com

ATTENTION PARENTS OF KIDS Summer Athlete Performance Camp AGES 6-18 in Berkeley Heights

Discover how to get your children strong, fast, and confident this summer...so they can become the best athletes they can be.

- They want to get better at sports but struggle because of lack of speed, strength or stamina.
- They eat more junk food than healthy food and you need another voice to help them understand how important a healthy diet is during these developmental years.
- They need to improve their confidence and you want them to start to get better at recovering from their mistakes.
- They're doing pretty good right now but want to take their performance in their sport to a higher level.

This program is for your child if: Here's what parents can expect to happen:

- They will get stronger which means when they show up to their sport they'll be able to perform better than ever.
- They will run faster and jump higher so they can show up to their next season and people will start asking what the heck have they been doing.
- They'll become more coordinated and improve agility which means they'll pick up new skills their coaches teach them faster.
- Your children will start to eat better because we'll be educating them daily on what's good and what they should avoid...don't be surprised if they start asking you to buy more vegetables.
- Confidence will skyrocket. When kids get stronger, faster and more fit...their confidence will rise ...so will their self-esteem which means their performance in every aspect of life will get better.
- Their mindset will improve. We're going equip your child with very specific mindset skills that'll help them learn how to transform how they think about mistakes and failures.



BRAULIO LIRENZO IS GRAND MARSHALL OF CRANFORD PARADE

Cranford VFW Post #335 has announced that Marine Corp veteran Braulio Lirenzo has been chosen to be this year's Cranford Memorial Day Parade Grand Marshall.

Braulio Lirenzo, a first generation American, currently resides in New Providence with his wife, Jomara and their eleven-year-old daughter Natalia. He is employed as a program manager for the AMA Group of Madison, NJ.

Lirenzo is a veteran of the Iraq war. He served on the Iraq/Kuwait border at the height of the conflict in 2003. He was a Staff Sergeant and Security Chief for the 2nd Maintenance Battalion there. Currently an active Life Member of the VFW Post in Cranford, Lirenzo is the captain and "drill instructor" for the Cranford VFW's Color Guard which, thanks to his arduous tutelage, has established itself as one of the top color guards in the State of New Jersey.



(above) Marine Corp veteran Braulio Lirenzo, a resident of New Providence, has been chosen to be this year's Cranford Memorial Day Parade Grand Marshall.



LIONS' 25TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING FUNDRAISER

The New Providence Lions Club is proud to holes of golf, followed by a BBQ lunch and a announce that we have scheduled our 2022 Golf Fundraising event for Monday, June 6th at Shackamaxon Country Club; 100 Tillinghast Turn, Scotch Plains, NJ. This year's Tournament Sponsor is Lantern Hill - Erickson Living Communities in New Providence.

The Lions are proud to announce that Shackamaxon Country Club in nearby Scotch Plains will host our Event this year. Shackamaxon's private 18-Hole Championship Course was designed by Albert W. Tillinghast (named one of the great golf course architects by Golf Magazine) and he is world renowned for designing Baltusrol, Bethpage Black, Winged Foot, and Quaker Ridge. Shack's famous 18th Hole was voted one of the most challenging par-4's in the Metropolitan area by Met Golfer Magazine.

The Lions will once again pay tribute to Judge Frank A. Pizzi who established the Lions efforts supporting so many New Providence organizations thru your donations and contributions to this Annual Fundraiser.

This year's Event will return to our previous 'full day' experience starting with a Continental breakfast at 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m. Shotgun start for 18

social hour after golf including the Awards Ceremony.

Appropriate social distancing and adherence to the public health guidelines in effect at the time of our event will be observed by all golfers and supporting staff / volunteers.

Additional information, along with Golfer and Donor Sign-Up forms, can be found on our website: nplions.org

The New Providence Lions Club is a 501(c)3 organization, giving back to the community 100% of the proceeds raised. Organizations that benefit from our annual support include 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, Drive for Autism, and many more!

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!

To Donate: Mail check to NP Lions Club, PO Box 854, New Providence, NJ 07974

For more information/membership please email info@nplions.org or visit nplions.org.

MARINE BIOLOGY STUDENTS' FIELD TRIP

New Providence School District

took a very informative and fun field trip to the Adventure Aquarium in Camden on Friday, a STEM class hosted by the aquarium. March 25th.

including an aquarium scavenger hunt, running their own ethogram (observing fish behavior over

NPHS students in the Marine Biology elective the course of 5 minutes), an exploration of Marine Invertebrates to prep for a new unit, and

For more information on all of the electives Students participated in a variety of activities offered at New Providence High School, please review the Program of Studies available on the website at npsd.k12.nj.us/Page/33



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HOME FOR GOOD CELEBRATES 10,000TH ADOPTION

Home for Good Dog Rescue

At Home for Good Dog Rescue, we recently celebrated an incredible milestone - Saving 10,000 dogs from the brink of death in just 11 short years. Each rescued dog is unique and has its own special "tail" to tell. Meet Rexy and lean into his miraculous journey as he becomes our 10,000th adoption. This poor soul lived the entirety of his 7-year life confined to an outdoor wire pen with no human contact, love and affection, playtime, or snuggles. His human captors failed him miserably, and his forlorn eyes truly reflected a lifetime of cruelty, mistrust, and hopelessness.

Since his perilous rescue by Home for Good in 2021, we've seen his transformation from just 'existing' without proper nutrition, medical care, or being protected from the harshness of the

JANET LEICHT, DPM Podiatrist specializing in foot and ankle, bunions, hammertoes, diabetic foot care, heel pain, neuromas, surgery, orthotics and sports medicine. Mon: 1:00 PM - 6:00 PM Tue: 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM Wed: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Wed: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM 908-381-8160 janetleichtdpm.com

janetleichtdpm.com 369 Springfield Avenue Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922 outside elements, to knowing what it's like to be loved, sleep in a warm plush bed, enjoy tasty treats, and receive endless cuddles. Remarkably, Rexy has no remnants of the extreme cruelty that he endured, and from which he survived.

Home for Good Dog Rescue is 100% fosterbased and this is why. With the help of his canine foster siblings, he began to gain confidence and how to trust. Prior to his rescue, Rexy had never felt the gentle hand of a human. Through the patience and perseverance of his foster family, Rexy has developed into the devoted dog he is today. He is affectionate, playful, and eager to please.

For more information on how you can become a foster family for a deserving pup like Rexy, please visit

homeforgooddogrescue.org/foster **ABOUT:**

Home for Good Dog Rescue is a 100% fosterbased, non-profit 501(c)(3) dog rescue established in 2010 in Summit, New Jersey with offices in Berkeley Heights. We socialize, care for, and provide them life-saving medical care at our property in Aiken, South Carolina, transport them to our rescue in New Jersey, and nurture them in our network of foster families while they await adoption into loving homes – giving them a second chance at life.



(above) Rexy (center) is pictured with his new forever family.



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UNION COUNTY'S OWN COMEDIAN MIKE MARINO

Submitted by Michael D. Boll, New Jersey Veterans Network

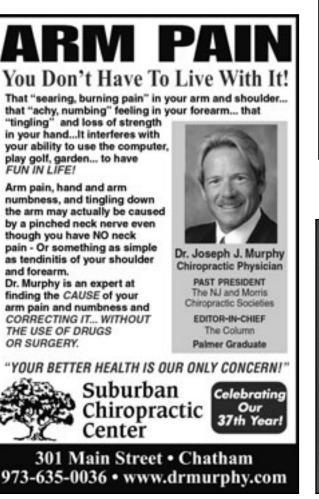
I recently had the honor and pleasure of meeting "New Jersey's Bad Boy of Comedy" Mike Marino. Mike grew up in Scotch Plains, and resides there now in his childhood home.

He is a comic who has performed all over the world and head-lined at some of the biggest stages, clubs, and theaters in the country. This talented comedian has been on the stage with some of the biggest names in the business. Mike has appeared in over 200 national television commercials, received many endorsements, and a Best Actor Clio Award Nomination. He has acted in many prime-time soaps and television shows including: As the World Turns, One Life to Live, Becker, Nikki, Frasier and Party of Five. His film credits include Crooks, Pizza with Bullets, hangin' in Hedo, Steven King's Lucky Quarter and Criticized.

Adding to his great success in film, theatre,



(above) Mike with the prestigious "Bob Hope" award (seen here in his right hand).



commercials and soaps, Mike Marino began touring the world performing and selling out at countless clubs, theatres and casinos. His standup material ranges from cutting edge observations of everyday life to his Italian family roots, which recently spun into a television pilot called "Re-Constructing Jersey". His comedic style has landed him guest appearances on "The Tonight Show" as a regular sketch player, "The Martin Short Show", "Canada's Comedy TV", "The Boomer Show", "Wild Pitch", and "Hand Held Comedy Radio". A clip of Mike's appearance on Byran Allen's "Comics Unleashed" earned him over 7 million views (and counting). This led to his current web series "Marino 2016" – an original comedy based on Mike's Road to the White House and wise guy attempt to become the first Italian American President of the United States.

Recently, Untied Brewing Company hosted a comedy show for the New Jersey Veterans Network in New Providence. Both Assemblyman Jon Bramnick, known as New Jersey's funniest lawyer, and Mike Marino performed at the show and it sold out immediately. After the show, I was able to meet Mike and he explained to me how he always supported our uniformed heroes and wanted to really get involved with our team.

A few days later, I met with Mike in his 'Mother's Basement' studio, in Scotch Plains, where he hosts his nationwide podcast show, and we began working on ideas to help the charity. Mike has always supported our uniformed heroes; he was a member of the USO comedy team and entertained the troops in places like



(above) Mike Marino at a recent NJ Veterans Network event.



Bosnia and Afghanistan. After his comedy tour, Mike was awarded the prestigious "Bob Hope" award. This award is only presented to performers who go beyond the call of duty. Mike has hosted and performed countless times for our brothers and sisters in blue. After the 9-11 tragedy, Mike felt he was obligated to do something for the first responders' families affected by that horrendous and devastating day. He joined up with both the Los Angeles Sheriffs and Police Department, and they do a comedy show every year that raises money for the 9-11 fallen families.

New Jersey Veterans Network is very lucky to have Mike on board and we can't wait to bring joy to these extremely difficult times.

For more information, and if you would like to follow Mike Marino, please check out his website mikemarino.net and podcast – "Live from My Mother's Basement".

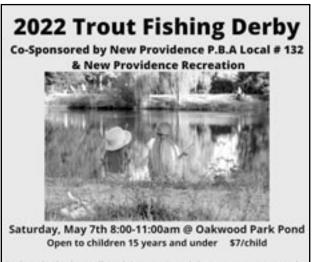
If you are interested in joining the New Jersey Veterans Network team please contact Michael Boll at mdbollio@optonline.net . For more information visit NJVN.org.

ABOUT NEW JERSEY VETERANS NETWORK

We are a group of veterans and volunteers dedicated to helping our veterans and their families live better lives. Our mission is to identify veterans and connect them with resources and programs designed to meet their unique set of needs. If you are interested in joining our team, would like us to speak at your event, or contribute to our mission, call 973-332-1556 or email mdbollio@optonline.net. To learn more visit njvn.org.



(above) "Live from my Mother's Basement" is now on all major podcast apps.



Registration begins April 1st @ 9am on our website: newprov.org/recreatio

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NEW PROVIDENCE LIBRARY'S MAY PROGRAMS

377 Elkwood Avenue, New Providence, NJ 07974 • Tel: 908-665-0311 • www.newprovidencelibrary.org • Social media @newprovlibrary Email: rsvp@newprovidencelibrary.org • npmlchildrens@gmail.com • NPMLTeens@gmail.com

TEEN SERIES: TRAINING FOR THE ZOMBIE APOCALYPSE (YOU KNOW, REAL LIFE SKILLS)

Each program will teach real life skills with a fun zombie twist. These programs will run April through November. Intended for teens, but adults may attend if there is room

Self Defense for the Zombie Apocalypse May 15

Learn techniques to protect yourself Doomsday Composting & Worm Farming May 21

Cultivate your soil to get your veggies to grow! Car Care & Maintenance

June 11

Keep your vehicle in great condition to outrun the zombies!

History of Zombies in Film & Video Games Sept 10

Glimpse the new "Don't Get Bit" Video Game by NJ Film School

First-Aid for the Zombie Apocalypse Oct 11

Learn First-Aid techniques to keep your lovedones safe

MRE Tasting & Zombie Party Nov 21

Vote on your favorite MRE meals & celebrate finishing your Zombie Training!

Knit/Crochet Night (Adults)

May 2 @ 7 PM - 8:30 PM Drop by the Conti Room with a crochet or knitting project, and chat with the group while you work. To sign up for email reminders, call the library or email

rsvp@newprovidencelibrary.org.

Fred Rossi, Author of "Jersey Stories" (Adults) May 3 @ 7 PM - 8 PM

Fred Rossi, author of "Jersey Stories: Stories You May Not Have Heard About People and Events in New Jersey History" will speak at the library with a book signing to follow. For those

interested in purchasing a signed copy of "Jersey Stories" after the lecture, one copy is \$20. To register, please email rsvp@newprovidencelibrary.org.

Pick Up May Teen Take Out boxes (Teens) May 9 @ 3:00 PM

If you signed up and received confirmation for the May box, check your email to see when yours is ready to be picked up in the library. Keep the goodies, just return the library book when you finish!



Batter Up - Let's Talk Baseball (All Ages) May 9 @ 7 PM- 9 PM

You're invited to discuss teams, players and issues of the sport with other baseball fans. Now in its eighth year, this group of mostly seniors welcomes all ages of baseball fans. The group even has some out of state members. To join the baseball group, email the library at

rsvp@newprovidencelibrary.org. Movie & Discussion (Adults)

May 10 @ 1 PM - 3 PM

The comedy drama "Go Back to China" will be screened in the Conti room. Everyone is

welcome to join an informal discussion of the movie afterward, moderated by library staff.

Book Group (Adults)

May 12 @ 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM The book group will discuss "The Guest List" by Lucy Foley, a stylish, atmospheric mystery that evokes Agatha Christie and raises questions about identity, integrity and truth.Copies of the book will be available to check out at the front desk one month before the discussion. To join

the book group, email

rsvp@newprovidencelibrary.org. Self Defense for the Zombie Apocalypse (Teens)

May 15 @ 2:00 PM Come to the library to learn some self defense moves that will help you both in real life and during the Zombie Apocalypse. Mario Sequiera from South Mountain Martial Arts will teach some basics in judo and jiu-jitsu, boxing,

kickboxing, and kendo. Email NPMLTeens@gmail.com to register.

Book Group (Adults)

May 17 @ 10:30 AM-11:30 AM The book group will discuss "The Catcher in the Rye" by J.D. Salinger. In this classic novel, Holden Caulfield, knowing he is to be expelled from school, decides to leave early and spends three days in New York City. Copies will be available to check out at the front desk one month before the discussion. To join the book group, email rsvp@newprovidencelibrary.org.

Character Counts! May 18 @ 8:00 PM

Why Courage, Creativity, & Collaboration Matter in College Admissions (HS Students & Parents) Learn how Social & Emotional Learning (SEL) distinguishes itself from academic factors and why even the most selective of colleges place an immense value on empathy, ethical behavior, and engagement with others. Email NPMLTeens@gmail.com to

register.

Meredith Rusu Disney & Pixar Author Reading (Kids & Families)

May 19 @ 3:30-4:00PM Come to the Conti room for a live author reading! Local author, Meredith Rusu will read her newest book, "Sox on a Mission," based on the Disney*Pixar movie, "Lightyear."

Knit/Crochet Night (Adults) May 19 @ 7 PM - 8:30 PM

Drop by the Conti Room with a crochet or knitting project, and chat with the group while you work. To sign up for email reminders, call the library or email

rsvp@newprovidencelibrary.org.

Doomsday Composting & Worm Farming May 21 @ 11:00AM-12:00PM

Learn how to cultivate worm-rich soil for the best plant growth. This month's Zombie Survival program will teach how to enhance your soil for the benefit of your vegetable gardens now that you're growing your own food source. Learn what materials to add and how to turn the soil over to encourage worms to bring their benefits to your garden. Email to register:

NPMLTeens@gmail.com. Sound Meditation (Adults) May 24 @ 7 PM - 8 PM

The Nepali sound healing tradition, played on hand-hammered singing bowls, guides the mind and body to a quiet space so that participants can tap into a place of nourishment, healing and deep listening. Space is limited and registration

is required. To register, please email rsvp@newprovidencelibrary.org.

Signup for June Teen Take Out boxes (Teens) May 31 @ 3:00PM

Teen Take Out is a monthly box of fun for NP teens in grades 6-12 with a current NPML

library card. Each month, we put together a box for you including fun treats like snacks, crafts, bookmarks, buttons, stickers and more. June boxes are the LAST TEEN TAKE OUT TILL FALL! https://forms.gle/zv8cxtbRZCysPSXF7

VIRTUAL STORYTIME PROGRAMS

Join us on our YouTube Channel for the following Virtual Storytime Programs:

IN-PERSON Storytime Returns! Storytimes will be held outside when weather permits. In case of rain, morning outdoor storytime will be inside the library's large Conti meeting room.

Preschool Storytime with Ms. Cathy - 4, 5, 6 yr olds

@ 10:30 - 11:00 AM

Outdoor Storytime for big kids! Featuring stories, interactive rhymes, and movement! Everything you love about storytime! Join us outside for some fresh air and fun!

Tuesday Evening Virtual Bedtime Stories with Miss Debbie - All Ages

@ 7:00 - 7:30 PM

Get the kids in pjs & tune in to YouTube for some bedtime stories with Miss Debbie! Email NPMLChildrens@gmail.com to receive the link via email.

Baby & Toddler Storytime with Ms. Cathy 0-3 yr olds

@ 10:30 - 11:00 AM

Outdoor Storytime for little ones! Bring your babies and toddlers for stories, rhymes and socialization. Bring a blanket to sit on outside.

GRANT HELPS LOCALS IN NEED

Community Service Association of New Providence (CSA)

In the continuing drive to provide financial assistance to those in need in New Providence, the Community Service Association ("CSA") applied for a grant from the Investors Bank Foundation. Investors Bank, a division of Citizens Bank, N.A., has frequently supported local charities through its Foundation. The Investors Charitable Foundation was specifically formed to aid worthy charities and, in this case, provided a for \$2,500 grant to the CSA. In requesting a grant, the CSA noted the ongoing financial needs of some members of our community. The CSA reviews each individual request for temporary financial assistance and determines the needs and merits of each. Often, an employment situation caused by the pandemic, or an injury or other circumstances may result in a rent shortfall. In some instances, families are just not able to put enough food on the table for a growing family. The CSA steps in and provides a bridge to fund the gap and help individuals or a family through their trials. The

CSA does not receive any government funding but is funded by direct contributions from NP residents and, as covid restrictions subside, through volunteer fundraising events.

WHO AND WHAT IS THE CSA?

The CSA is staffed by volunteers who give their time and energy to support our neighbors in need. A New Providence 501(c)(3) founded in 1954, the CSA provides temporary financial assistance to residents, helping prevent evictions, cover medical expenses, get school supplies, keep the power on and fill many other needs of neighbors in distress. If you want to join the CSA or want to contribute or are in need or know a resident of New Providence who is in need, please visit our website, csanewprovidence.org, or call us at 908-665-8254. You can also mail contributions directly to the CSA at New Providence Town Hall, Attn.: CSA, 360 Elkwood Ave., New Providence, NJ 07974. "No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted." Aesop.



(above) Robert J Sferrazza, AVP Branch Manager, New Providence Investors Bank; Patti Hatzlhoffer, Treasurer CSA; and Tom Montrone, President, CSA





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Marketing Toolbox

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