

KENILWORTH BUSINESS + LIFE

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WHAT, WHERE, AND WHEN IN OLD KENILWORTH

THE GREAT FLOOD OF 1968 AND WATER CONTAMINATION

Days before Memorial Day 1968, heavy rains, later determined to be a "500-year storm," deluged Kenilworth and surrounding communities resulting in unprecedented flooding in the region and drinking water contamination. The May 29 and 30 flooding forced many Memorial Day ceremonies to be cancelled.

About a foot-and-a-half of water covered the west end of the Boulevard. The creek through the Woods Edge and Kensington Homes developments overflowed causing flood water to enter many homes along its path. The creeks passing under lower So. Michigan Ave. likewise spilled over their courses and homes in that part of the borough were flood damaged.

Former Pembroke Dr. resident Keith Schafer, son of the late Wilbur and Shirley Schafer, was 11 at the time. He recalled (2022), "The rain was the heaviest I ever witnessed. As the water rose my mother called borough hall for help and in no time public works dumped a huge amount of sand near our house. My dad and I began filling sand bags for neighbors who quickly joined in and grabbed what they could to block their back doors which were on the ground level because the houses were split levels. Many suffered damaged. The water came up to our back door but did not get in as our lot was a bit higher than others. Everyone helped one another."

The flooding was only half of the story. Some residents reported brown water coming from water faucets. Something was amiss. The water company indicated that its testing procedures showed no cause for alarm. Residents began reporting severe gastrointestinal issues. As a precaution the local board of health issued an alert for residents to boil all water for 15 minutes. Susan Thomas Miller, then 23, formerly of Coolidge Dr. remembered (2022) "Cars with loudspeakers went up and down streets warning everyone to boil all water for 15 minutes." But things were about to change for the worse when cases of infectious hepatitis were reported.

Dr. Edmund Johnkins, board of health president, recognized that the hepatitis issue might be the result of contaminated drinking water. He alerted local and state officials. The NJ Dept. of Health joined in his concern and on short order a 5-town mass vaccination program of gamma globulin serum for all residents and workers in Kenilworth and in large parts of Garwood, Roselle Park, Cranford, and Westfield. These towns received drinking water from massive water company artesian wells west of Dorset Dr. thought to be contaminated. Helping to coordinate the clinics was the borough board of health nurse, Betty Thomas. It was she



(above, l-r) Dr. Edmund Johnkins, 1923-1999,
Saw the danger; took action;
Betty Thomas, RN, 1922-2012, Major coordinator

Family photos

along with Dr. Johnkins who helped pull together the 5-town undertaking. In Kenilworth the Harding School gym was the clinic site. Volunteers including active and retired nurses in town and Drs. Morse Shephard and Dr. Frederick Apfelbaum, scouts, and Jaycees, joined Dr. Johnkins and Mrs. Thomas to vaccinate thousands. Lines were long outside of the gym as people wended their way through makeshift clinic stations inside. In all, 11,932 shots were given out in Kenilworth during June 19-21 and about 90,000 total in the region.

An investigation by a Citizens Ad Hoc Committee found that the main sanitary sewer trunk line coming down from Springfield erupted during the storm causing sanitary effluent to mix with flood waters and drift south to the well field west of Dorset Dr. The committee suggested that large, open, vertical pipes used for measuring the depth of the well water became conduits for the polluted flood waters to pour into the drinking water in the wells below. The water company made the decision to permanently close those wells and discontinue their use.

Research provided by Walter E. Boright, Ed. D., historian, and Historic Signs, Inc.

Sources for this article are the Cranford Chronicle archive, the Ad Hoc Citizens Committee

Report, and personal knowledge. Persons with inquiries about this article or other aspects of

Kenilworth history may contact Dr. Boright at drbori@aol.com or 908-256-5200.

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BUSINESS + LIFE KENILWORTH

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Kenilworth Business Life

52 MARATHONS IN 52 DAYS TO RAISE AWARENESS OF CLEAN WATER

Scotch Plains native, James Leitner, on June 1st will begin running a marathon a day for 52 days to bring attention to clean water issues in the United States. His goal is to raise \$100,000 for his nonprofit, MissionCleanWater which will complete three clean water projects in New Jersey and two in Uganda. Each day he will complete a marathon in iconic towns that has helped him grow his nonprofit organization.

“Running long distance is the best way to symbolize what people face without clean water. If a five-year-old has to walk 3-5 every day to get water for their family as a normal chore, I can symbolize their journey for just 52 days.”

James founded MissionCleanWater in the summer of 2018 and to date has assisted 6 communities and 5 schools in Uganda to gain access to clean water, which approximately helped 15,000 people. Since 2021, MissionCleanWater has been developing a plan to assist New Jersey communities dealing with lead and chemical contamination in their drinking water. Some communities are less than a 15-minute drive to Scotch Plains!

“I have had clean water my entire life, as I am sure everyone reading this has as well. Imagine having no water in your home or your ability to

buy bottled water wasn't possible. Or if your house had water but drinking it meant consuming carcinogenic chemicals that can lead to neurological issues. We can change the world and the communities we live next to together.”

To learn more, donate, and run with James, you can visit:

missioncleanwater.org/projectstateline.



(above) James running his last mile of 900 miles in 2019, with Cranford youth.



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CAPITAL CAMPAIGN TO “BUILD DIGNITY FOR ALL”

St. Joseph Social Service Center

St. Joseph Social Service Center, one of the largest social service agencies in Union County, has launched a \$1,200,000 capital campaign. The purpose of the campaign is to improve and expand services for families and children in need in Elizabeth and to fulfill its vision to serve the homeless and poor with compassion and dignity.

Even before the pandemic, St. Joseph’s witnessed a rise in demand for services. This trend stretched the capacity of the agency’s facilities and created challenges for staff and volunteers. Spaces intended for one purpose needed to be used for multiple programs. Temporary storage units for food and clothing were placed on site. The increase in clients led to lines extending into the neighborhood, a particular concern during inclement weather. The parking lot and access streets became congested and overwhelmed with vehicles arriving to drop off and pick up food, clothing and supplies. And then the pandemic hit, leading to a spike in client demand, exacerbating all these problems.

“Dignity has been a core value of the agency since our founding in 1983,” noted Bernadette Murphy, Executive Director. “Our goal is to help people acquire the material items they need to live with dignity. We believe that it is vital for our clients to receive food, clothing, supplies and support services in an environment that fosters dignity, where the homeless and poor are truly welcomed as brothers and sisters. In order to achieve this goal and expand and improve the services we offer, we have developed a vision for a remodeled campus. Our vision is to construct a new building on our property where it will be possible to create a client choice food pantry with hours by appointment; to construct a second new

building for the donation and distribution of clothing and home goods; to reconfigure and pave our lot to make it easier to pick up and drop off items and to reduce traffic on the surrounding streets; and to renovate space in our former church building, parish hall and house on site to improve the ability of St. Joseph’s and The Elizabeth Coalition House the Homeless, our sister agency, to provide support services.”

“St. Joe’s has been open six days a week throughout the pandemic” stated Harold Kessler, President of the Board of Trustees. “We have never missed a day. Our staff and volunteers have placed the needs of the community in Elizabeth ahead of their own health and well-being. It’s been extraordinary.” Six days a week a dedicated team of volunteers, numbering in the thousands,

makes sandwiches for the hungry in their kitchens in Westfield, Cranford, Basking Ridge and dozens of other communities, bring food, clothing and home goods, serve meals at the soup kitchen and help with the operations of the agency. St. Joseph’s provides over 250,000 meals per year. In addition, the organization provides area residents with clothing, household items, prescription assistance, health screenings, mental health counseling, job training and case management.

To learn more about St. Joseph’s please visit sjeliz.org. Members of the community who would like to support the capital campaign are welcome to contact Executive Director Bernadette Murphy at 908-354-5456 or at BMurphy@sjeliz.org.

GALLERY ON THE BOULEVARD EXHIBIT

The Gallery-on-the-Boulevard is currently presenting “Floral Portraits” an exhibit by photographer Sara Parmigiani. The show will remain through July.

Ms. Parmigiani holds a BA in Fine Arts and an MA in Museum Studies. She is currently curator at Fleetwood Camera Museum and is employed by the Newark Museum of Art in the Collections Department. Her photographs have been featured in multiple exhibits throughout Union County and she received a First Place Award in the Floral Category, Ocean Grove Chamber of Commerce.

One of her favorite artists is Martin Johnson Heade who painted still life images of tropical flowers. She was inspired by his practice of isolating flowers against dark backgrounds and utilizes a similar technique. She believes “... each flower is a work of art in and of itself.”

All artwork is available for purchase by contacting the artist.

The exhibit is located in the Kenilworth Public Library. It is free and open to the public during regular library hours. For more information, call 908-276-2451.

ANSEL ADAMS



EARLY WORKS

Denali and Wonder Lake, Denali National Park, Alaska, 1947.
Photograph by Ansel Adams. © The Ansel Adams Publishing Rights Trust.

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LOOKING UP TO 8TH GRADE LEADERS

Younger children look up to the 8th grade class at St Theresa School in Kenilworth as their future leaders. It also helps that you're 6'5" with a huge smile for them. Mason Urmaza is in Mrs. DiQuinzio's PreK 3 class and is in awe of 8th grader, Brandon Lissade who stands tall at 6'5".



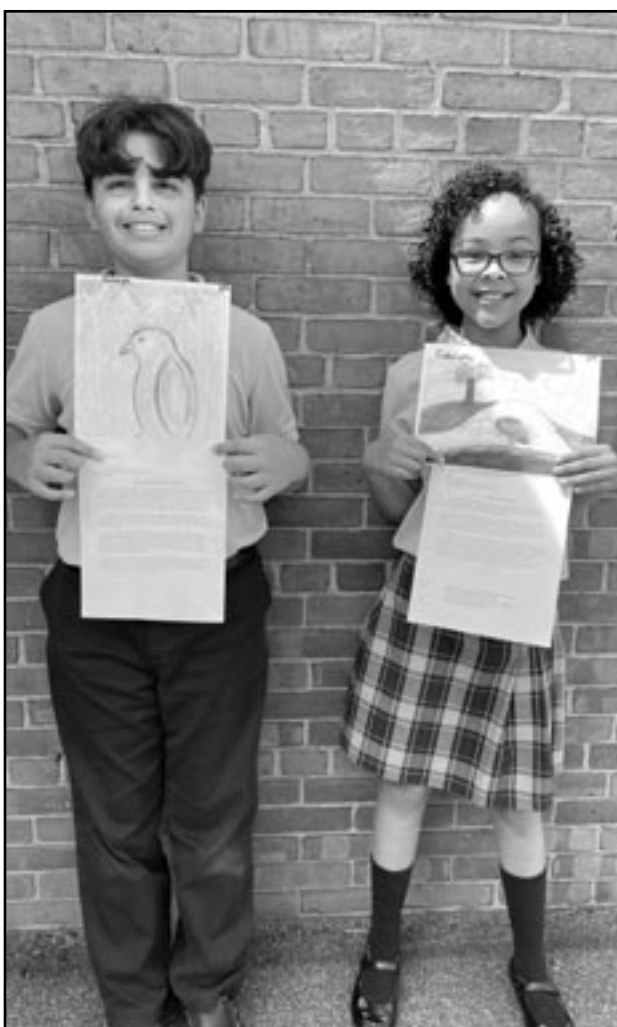
Courtesy photo

SPECIES ON THE EDGE ART & ESSAY CONTEST

The Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey recently held a contest for all 5th grade students. Over 500 students participated in the Art and Essay contest on endangered or threatened species of New Jersey.

Special congratulations to St. Theresa School in Kenilworth and their 5th grade students, Gabriella Mott and Joseph Napolitano.

Gabby won first place for her art and essay on The Blue Spotted Salamander. Second place winner was Joseph Napolitano for his art and essay on The Red shouldered Hawk.



(above) Joseph Napolitano and Gabriella Mott with their winning art.

Courtesy photo

NATIONAL POPPY DAY



(above) Kenilworth VFW Post 2230 member Gary Dietlmeier, selling poppies in front of Acme Supermarket in Kenilworth. In 1924, the distribution of poppies became a national program of The American Legion. The month of May is the American Legion [Family] Poppy Campaign. National Poppy Day is May 24, 2019. It honors our fallen soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice protecting our freedoms in all the wars.

BUS TRIP TO AC JUNE 21

The Kenilworth Senior Citizen Club hopes to meet Lady Luck on a trip to Resorts Casino In Atlantic City on Tuesday, June 21, 2022.

The bus will leave from the Acme parking lot at 9:30 a.m. The cost is \$35 and the casino will give you \$20 in slot play. To get in on the fun, make a reservation by contacting either Lillian Furze at 908-709-0515 or Emily Grimaldi at 908-272-6329.

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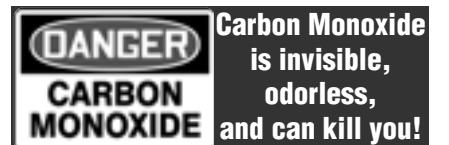
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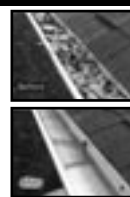
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Think twice if someone threatens to immediately shut off your power. Utilities United Against Scams (UUAS) recently launched an advocacy and awareness campaign focused on educating customers and exposing the tactics used by scammers.

“The pandemic has created financial hardship and escalated stress levels for many of our customers, and that is a perfect environment for scammers to thrive,” said Deb Affonsa, PSE&G’s vice president Customer Care and chief customer officer. “Bad actors create the impression of an urgent problem in the hopes that our customers will panic, preventing our customers from seeing all the clues that they are indeed being scammed. I would like to reinforce, PSE&G is not currently shutting off residential customers for nonpayment. PSE&G wants to help all our customers who are behind on their energy bills with affordable payment agreements to help our customers get back on track, together.”

WHAT TO LOOK OUT FOR:

You receive a call from what looks like PSE&G on your caller ID. The caller threatens to shut off your service and demands an immediate payment by cash, pre-paid card, or digital money transfer apps. The caller informs you that you require a new meter and demands a deposit before the installation can occur (PSE&G does not require a deposit for a new meter Installation). You’re given a phone number to call back that, when called, may sound similar to PSE&G’s automated call system. The caller alerts you that, because of your good bill-paying history, you’re eligible for a bill reduction or discount but you must provide information first. PSE&G never requires payment with a prepaid card and does not offer bill discounts. As another reminder, PSE&G does not accept payment via prepaid gift cards, digital money transfer apps or cryptocurrency such as Bitcoin.

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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 blaming 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. Additions 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.

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!

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 discomfort to come.
- **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.

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 fluoroscopy 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 move with no problem whatsoever. 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 back to normal."

- Perry O.

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

- Quenton L.

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FOURTEEN VOLUNTEERS SWORN IN AS ADVOCATES FOR LOCAL FOSTER YOUTH

CASA of Union County

The latest classes of community members to step up and train as advocates for Union County foster youth have officially taken their oath before Union County Superior Court Judge Lara DiFabrizio and become the newest volunteers with Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Union County.

Since 2005, the nonprofit has recruited, trained, supported and supervised nearly 600 community volunteers to advocate for more than 950 such youth, protecting best interests and ensuring needs are met in the courtroom, classroom and community. As caseworkers, foster placements and schools can change frequently, CASA volunteers often are the only consistent, caring adult in a youth's corner, helping ensure already experienced trauma is not exacerbated as youth await permanency in a safe and loving home.

Judge DiFabrizio presided over two swearing-in ceremonies via Zoom and, prior to asking each to repeat their oath "to protect, respect, and report," she shared appreciation and gratitude for the new advocates' desire to make a lasting positive impact on youth in the community. "I like to thank CASA volunteers who take on this very important role. You do this because you want to make a difference in a child's life and make the world a better place. The court is grateful and thankful. You have a special opportunity to seriously help a child and family live and succeed. You're part of the village now."

The 14 new CASA volunteers are Jackie

Parker and Lynda Sun Lee of Berkeley Heights; Loretta Masterson and Katherine (Katie) Rabiecki of Cranford; Dina Ghazi of Kearny; Ana Gutierrez of Basking Ridge; Janae Bunn of Linden; Julia Dranishnikov and Tamiah Chester of Scotch Plains; Philip Ross of Summit; Lila Monroe and Mark Papa of Roselle; and Robert Mallard and Roya Enayati Basu of Union. Next, each advocate will be matched to a youth or sibling set, and begin putting their 30-hour training into practice.

Anyone passionate about making a difference in a child's life can apply to volunteer; there is no prior experience or special background needed to serve as an advocate. Each undergoes a thorough training process and is supported by CASA staff throughout their work. Successful advocates have varied life experiences and these classes are no exception, as professional backgrounds include education, business, social work, law, and health management.

Upon being court-ordered to a case, CASA volunteers have access to the youth's foster parents, doctors, caseworkers, therapists, and teachers and, through regular child visits, identify and report to the judge any concerns and needs. CASA of Union County is the only nonprofit serving as extra eyes and ears for local judges hearing cases of youth from birth to age 21 in the child welfare system.

To learn more about CASA of Union County, secure a seat in an upcoming training class, and for other ways to Change a Child's Story, contact info@casaoofunioncounty.org.

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(above) The 14 new CASA volunteers and Judge Lara DiFabrizio

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Saturday: 10 AM-2 PM; Sunday: Closed

SUMMER READING CLUB

"Oceans Of Possibilities!" has been announced as the theme for the Kenilworth Public Library's 2022 summer reading program. Registration for the library's summer reading clubs for children and teens between the ages of 2 and 18 will begin on June 20.

The first 200 children to register will receive a free summer reading club bag that contains a calendar of events, program fliers and other items of interest to curious young minds.

Summer has lots going on for young readers who visit the Kenilworth Public Library between June 27 and Aug. 12.

In addition to being able to earn free paperback books based on the amount of time spent reading, children who are members of the various reading clubs may participate in the following activities:

Special Events

Monday, 11:00am - 12:00pm.

for ages 4 and up

Lap Sit

Tuesday, 10:30-10:50 a.m.

for newborns through age 2

Toddler Time

Wednesday, 10:30-10:50 a.m.

for 2 - 3 year olds

Science Workshops

Thursday, 11:00am - 12:00pm

for ages 4 - 12

Fun Friday Crafts

Friday, 11:00am - 12:00pm

for ages 4 - 9.

Visit the library beginning on June 20 to register for reading clubs and these weekly programs. Children must register for the summer reading club in person. Children must be registered in the summer reading club in order to register for all summer reading club events.

CHILDREN EVENTS:

Lap Sit for ages 0 - 24 months

Tuesdays at 10:30am - 10:50am

June 4, 14 & 28

Toddler Time for 2 year old children

Wednesdays at 10:30am - 10:50am

June 1, 8, 15 & 29

Story Time for children ages 3 & up

Thursdays at 3:30pm - 4:00pm

June 2, 9 & 16

Crafts for children ages 4 - 9

Fridays at 3:30pm - 4:00pm

June 3, 10, 17 & 24

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Registration is required for all special events. Kenilworth residents may begin to register one week prior to each event. Out of town residents may begin to register 2 days prior to each event.

STORY WALK

Thursday, June 2 at 3:30pm - 4:30pm

Ages 3 & up

Walk together and enjoy the benefits of a wonderful children's book and create a craft related to the story. In case of inclement weather, this program will be held inside the library. This program has been funded by The Friends of The Kenilworth Public Library.

BOOGIE WOOGIE BABIES

Tuesday, June 14 at 10:30am - 11:00am

Ages: 0 - 4

This Interactive musical program will be presented by Tiffany Taylor.

YOGA STORYTIME

Wednesday, June 15 at 10:30am - 11:00am

Ages: 2 - 5

Join us for stories and yoga poses for the youngest listeners and their caregiver.

DRAWING WITH DOUG BARON

Thursday, June 16 at 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Learn to draw ocean creatures and improve artistic skills. Ages: 8 - adult

PIRATES LOST AT SEA

Monday, June 27 at 11:00am - 12:00pm

Interactive story featuring unique science experiments. This program will be presented by Sciencetellers and funded by a Recycling Grant given to The Borough of Kenilworth.

Ages 4 - adult

GOOD Tymes STRING BAND

Wednesday, June 29 at 10:30am - 11:00am

Join us for foot tapping, knew slapping banjo music and songs. All Ages

LIFE IN THE OCEAN SCIENCE WORKSHOP

Thursday, June 29 at 11:00am - 12:00pm

Interactive science program will be presented by Mad Science of Northeast New Jersey. This program has been funded by The Ralph Errington Foundation.

Ages: 4 - 12

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JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION AND PROGRAM

On Sat., June 11, 2022, the Kenilworth Historical Society will present a colorful, enlightening program celebrating African-American culture and the significance of the Juneteenth holiday, which annually commemorates the emancipation of enslaved African-Americans. It will feature an inspiring interactive visit with renowned anti-slavery abolitionist and Underground Railroad “conductor” Harriet Tubman, as portrayed by acclaimed actress and historical interpreter Dr. Daisy Nelson Century.

The planned Juneteenth program and celebration will take place at the historic Oswald J. Nitschke House (49 South 21 Street, Kenilworth), starting at 1 p.m. Traditional Juneteenth refreshments will be served. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under the age of 12. Advance registration is requested, as seating is limited. The Nitschke

House has an elevator and is fully accessible. For information and reservations, please call 908-709-0434.

Participants in the program, which has universal value for all cultures and age groups, will have the opportunity to learn about Harriet Tubman, the Civil War and the Underground Railroad in addition to the historical significance of the Juneteenth holiday, which is observed on June 19. Tubman, who was born into slavery, escaped and subsequently made some 13 missions to rescue approximately 70 enslaved people using the network of antislavery activists/abolitionists and safe houses known as the Underground Railroad, hence fulfilling her role as a “conductor.”

The June 11 program at the Nitschke House is made possible in part by a 2022 HEART (History, Education, Arts Reaching Thousands) Grant from the Union County Board of County

Commissioners. The Kenilworth Education Association F.A.S.T. Committee is generously contributing food for the event.

Proceeds will benefit the Kenilworth Historical Society’s Oswald J. Nitschke House (c. 1880) “living history” museum and cultural arts center by helping defray operating and programming costs.

Dr. Daisy Nelson Century is a Philadelphia-based educator, actress, historical interpreter, motivational speaker, author and radio talk show host whose programs have inspired and delighted audiences throughout the United States.

She holds B.S., M.Ed. and Ed.D. degrees and has taught for more than 20 years in the Philadelphia School System as an award-winning science teacher. Her acting career has included lead roles in several independent movies, and an affinity for history led to her successful profession as a historical interpreter who travels throughout the United States effectively portraying such historical figures as Sojourner Truth, Harriet Tubman, Mary Fields, Phyllis Wheatley, Hatshepsut, Madame CJ Walker and Bessie Coleman. As an author, she has penned four books: Belle, Ms. Emmaline’s Little Book of Wit and Wisdom, Zach and His Lucky Zebra Socks and Deedle, Deedle Your House is on Fire!

The Kenilworth Historical Society (www.kenilworthhistoricalsociety.org) is an independent, non-profit, tax-exempt, 501(c) (3) organization dedicated to the research, preservation and interpretation of the Oswald J. Nitschke House, local history and culture.



(above) Dr. Daisy Nelson Century, acclaimed professional actress, historical interpreter, author, educator, motivational speaker and radio talk show host will highlight the significance of the Juneteenth holiday and portray renowned abolitionist Harriet Tubman during a Sat., June 11 celebration and program hosted by the Kenilworth Historical Society. All are welcome to attend. Advance registration is requested (908-709-0434), as seating is limited.

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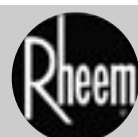
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The Rake & Hoe Garden Club of Westfield joined some students and staff members at the Jardine Academy of the Cerebral Palsy League in Cranford, NJ to make Mother's Day planters that the students could give to their families. Seventy-five colorful pots were planted with a variety of popular garden plants and decorated with the brightly colored bows that members of the Club had made.

The Jardine Academy is operated by the Cerebral Palsy League, and is approved by the New Jersey Department of Education. They provide a comprehensive educational program designed to meet the cognitive and physical

needs of children and young adults ages 3-21 with multiple disabilities.

The Rake and Hoe Garden Club is affiliated with the Garden Club of New Jersey and the National Garden Clubs, Inc. The club meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 12:00 p.m. at the Scotch Hills Country Club. Meetings feature speakers on horticulture, floral design, floral crafts, and environmental topics. Membership is open to residents of Westfield and surrounding towns. For more information, call Sharon Shiraga (908) 228-2865, or visit the club's website, rakeandhoegc.org or Facebook page.



(above, l-r) The Rake & Hoe Garden Club of Westfield members Adah Levine, Susan Feldman, Mary Lou Nolas, Mary Fran Annese, Irene Greenstein, Betty Clark, and Betty Gulino.

Courtesy photo

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