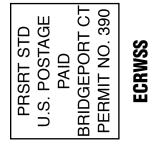


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21 N 20th Street Kenilworth, NJ 908-709-1414



**ORTH, NJ 07033 CUSTOMER POSTA** KENIL

**KENILWORTH CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING** 

The Kenilworth Christmas Tree was lit on Sunday, December 4th during the annual tree lighting ceremony. There was caroling and hot chocolate, and the

Kenilworth Fire Department and Rescue Squad gave Santa a ride to Borough Hall on a fire truck to officially light the tree.











(Additional photos are on pages 6 and 7.)

Photos from this and other events can be found online at rennamedia.com and on the Kenilworth Business Life page on facebook.com. Feel free to "Like," "Tag," and "Share."



Joe Renna at 908-447-1295 - email: JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com





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# **STOPPING BY TO SAY HELLO**

children were playing during outside recess. This

Kenilworth Police Officer Brett Bryon stopped small act of kindness brought such happiness to by St. Theresa School in Kenilworth as the the children. Thank you and stay safe to our men and women in blue!



Photo by St. Theresa School

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# **JANUARY IS A SOUPER TIME TO VISIT RAHWAY**

Looking for something to do to fight off those winter blues? Bundle up and take the train, rideshare, or drive to Rahway to experience all that the city has to offer. Rahway is home to a diverse small business community with unique retail shops and dining experiences. You can start your day in Rahway with a hot cup of coffee and some shopping, get the kids out of the house for lunch and some family game time at the arcade, and plan a date night with drinks and dinner at any one of our many delicious restaurants. No matter what cuisine you are craving, you will find it in Rahway! Watch a show at the Union County Performing Arts Center, view an exhibit at one of our art galleries, or listen to local musicians who can help you rock and sway your way through the winter months.

Looking to warm up this winter? Our annual Soup Stroll, presented by our Special Improvement District (SID), will return every Saturday in January (Jan 7, 14, 21, 28) from 1-4 p.m. Mayor Raymond Giacobbe and the Rahway City Council encourage everyone to attend this free event as a great way to get together with friends, get out of the house, and sample some delicious soups while strolling through the City.

Restaurants will be stirring up their finest soups for you to try, so be sure to follow @Rahwayishappening on Facebook and Instagram or visit RahwayisHappening.com/ soupstroll for participating eateries and more

Rahway is your winter destination in 2023! information. Snap a photo of you and your Soup boking for something to do to fight off those inter blues? Bundle up and take the train, deshare, or drive to Rahway to experience all at the city has to offer. Rahway is home to a verse small business community with unique

After you're done sampling soups, grab a

drink, watch the game, or sit down for a bite to eat at one of your favorite Rahway bars or restaurants. January is a Souper time to visit Rahway!

Visit Rahwayishappening.com for information on parking, lists of shops and restaurants and details about all of our upcoming events!







# **HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES AT NITSCHKE HOUSE**

Nearly 200 children and adults of all ages attended a December 4, 2022, Holiday Celebration and "Old-Fashioned Christmas" at the Oswald J. Nitschke House "living history" museum and cultural arts center, which offered opportunities to take photos with Santa (from Victorian times), tour the c. 1880 home authentically decorated for the holidays, visit the

Nearly 200 children and adults of all ages site's multicultural Christkindlmarkt and enjoy tended a December 4, 2022, Holiday favorite holiday tunes sung by the Christmas elebration and "Old-Fashioned Christmas" at Matters Holiday Carolers.

The festive event was presented by the Kenilworth Historical Society, and the carolers' performance was generously sponsored by the Kenilworth Education Association's F.A.S.T. Committee.



(above) Christmas 2022 arrived early for the Kenilworth Historical Society, when Richard Pinto, president of the Fraternal Order of Police (Lodge No. 74 Inc.), came to the Oswald J. Nitschke House on December 4 to present a generous \$500 donation check to benefit the operation and preservation of the c. 1880 site, which serves the general public as Kenilworth's "living history" museum and cultural arts center.





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#### WHAT WHERE AND WHEN IN OLD KENILWORTH WHO WAS KENILWORTH'S FIRST SANTA CLAUS?

reminisce about some resident who in days-goneby played Santa for Kenilworth children. Several stand out. But only one visited nearly every child's home.

Anna Ruscansky (1900-1996) played Santa from the 1940s into the 1990s. She donated time to many organizations and into her 90s was an annual favorite at the local schools in her completely handmade Santa costume.

Richard Neyon (1898-1974), a Kenilworth Lions Club member, did so in the 1950s and 1960s. The Lions arranged for a helicopter to land him on the Harding School grounds where thousands gathered to witness his descent, receive gifts, and join the parade that followed.

Charles David (1927-2011), police chief for many years, was a Santa during the 1950s to the 1980s. He did so for his children and grandchildren. When neighbors got wind of it, they asked him to visit their children. He obliged and did many for blocks around his N. 20th St. home. Salvatore Cirillo (1929-2010) was a long-time

With Christmas days away it's a good time to member of the Kenilworth Volunteer Fire Department. In the 1960s to the 1980s he attended in his Santa suit the children's Christmas parties held at the firehouse for firefighters' children.

> Nowadays, Craig Day of N. 20th St. portrays a Victorian Santa. He has been visited by countless numbers of children over the years at the historic Nitschke House on So. 21st St.

> So, who was the town's first Santa? It was Joseph Shallcross (1878-1951), founder of the old Shallcross Express trucking company. He portrayed Santa from the 1920s until a few years before his death. A jovial and full-bodied gentleman, he had a penchant for philanthropy. These attributes made him a natural for Santa Claus. He suited up and donned a Santa mask at his home on the outskirts of town and walked to neighborhoods all over the community. The town had many fewer homes back then. He brought joy and gifts for children. At times it was a fresh piece of fruit - oranges were popular - which were expensive during the Depression and scarce



The Galleries at Kean University present Sayaka Ganz RECLAIMED CREATIONS, an amazing art exhibition featuring sculptures of animals in motion, utilizing reclaimed plastic objects, rich in color and energy.

> On view January 18 - March 23, 2023 Open to the public

Liberty Hall Academic Center Gallery 1003 Morris Ave #2 | Union, New Jersey galleries@kean.edu | 908-737-5302 galleries.kean.edu

later during rationing for WWII. One of his grandchildren, Joseph Henshaw (b. 1940) reported that when Santa first visited him, he was frightened by the mask that was not particularly friendly looking.

Santa's nephew, Charles, was a pilot who kept a small airplane near their homes by Black Brook Park. One year his Uncle Santa wanted to make a sensational arrival by landing the plane on the Boulevard. His uncle planned to leap out of the plane once it hit ground and distribute gifts to anxiously awaiting children. But the plan was scrapped when the FAA found out about it and put the kibosh on the plane landing on the Boulevard. Sometimes Santa Shallcross was chauffeured up to the library in a big, black Packard. Out he would jump to masses of children lining the sidewalks and up on the library lawn eager to meet him and receive a gift of some sort.

In the late 1940s as his health began to fail. Santa Shallcross became wheelchair bound. No longer could he walk to children's homes or meet with crowds of them. Grandson Joseph Henshaw noted, "He would still put on the top of his Santa suit and entertain family and friends at Christmas if they came to the house for a visit. He couldn't help but to bring joy to others."

Research provided by Walter E. Boright, Ed. D., historian, and Historic Signs, Inc. with appreciation to Joseph Henshaw. Persons with inquiries about this or other aspects of Kenilworth history may contact Dr. Boright at drbori@aol.com or 908-256-5200.



(above, left) Joe Shallcross, perfectly fit to be Santa, 1940s. Source: family,, (above, right) Santa with grandson Joseph Henshaw, 1944. Source: family



(above) Santa wanted nephew Charles to land his plane on Boulevard, 1930s. Source: family

# **KENILWORTH 2022 CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING PHOTO ALBUM**









Photos from this and other events can be found online at rennamedia.com and on the Kenilworth Business Life page on facebook.com. Feel free to "Like," "Tag," and "Share."

### Kenilworth Life • Page 7 • January 2023 KENILWORTH 2022 CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING PHOTO ALBUM









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# **SANTA'S HELPERS**

Over the last four years, a small group of Santa's elves has helped fill Christmas stockings for Family Promise of Union County. The organization serves low income families and families experiencing homelessness.

Students and staff at the Academy for Performing Arts at the Magnet School in Scotch Plains participated this year also. Kaitlyn Landaverde, a Junior from Clark, organized the drive at the high school.

Patricia Novy of Clark, who started the project four years ago, shared the fact that the group filled 36 stockings the first year, 67 stockings last year and 91 Christmas Stockings for children ages 4 to 12 this year.

"The need is greater than ever," Novy said. "In speaking with Family Promise, the children often receive donated gifts, but stockings are not considered. Our little group of friends, family and former colleagues help fill that void."

We are inspired each year by this quote from a nine-year-old boy, "When you give something; someone else gets."



(above) Patricia Novy with Christmas stockings waiting for delivery to Family Promise of Union County.

## TEEN HELPS RAISE MONEY FOR FAMILIES FACING PEDIATRIC CANCER

Nick Swandrak, 18, of Cranford, NJ, teamed up with retired NFL Coach Tom Coughlin to raise money for local families facing pediatric cancer on October 21 at Cipriani 42nd Street, New York. In a speech to a crowd of nearly 500 professional athletes, celebrities and supporters at the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund's annual Champions for Children Gala, Swandrak shared his own journey of being diagnosed and treated for acute lymphoblastic leukemia and his subsequent relapse earlier this year. The Jay Fund, the nonprofit founded by the two-time Super Bowl winning coach of the New York Giants, marked its 17th year of providing financial, emotional and practical support for families tackling pediatric cancer in the New York/New Jersey Metropolitan area.

Swandrak knows all too well the challenges



(above) Nick Swandrak, a Cranford, NJ, teen who has been tackling pediatric cancer for more than four years, joined former NY Giants head coach Tom Coughlin and the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund to help raise funds for other NY/NJ children and their families facing childhood cancer.

families face when a child is diagnosed with cancer, and he is passionate about raising awareness and funds to support them. He has spent much of the last four years enduring grueling cancer treatments and being isolated from his friends due to his immunocompromised condition. His family, like all families who have a child with cancer, has faced expensive medical bills coupled with rising inflation and recordhigh food costs.

Swandrak and his family have been supported by the Jay Fund throughout his treatment.

"The Jay Fund covered our mortgage payments when our bills became overwhelming and has given me experiences that I will never, ever forget," Swandrak told the crowd of current and former New York Giants, business leaders and Jay Fund families and supporters.

Swandrak's emotional words captivated the audience, and his speech was one of the highlights of a night that raised \$1.25 million for the Jay Fund and the families it serves in the New York/New Jersey Metropolitan area.

"Nick is a remarkable young man and a current Jay Fund scholarship recipient," said Mary Jane Pulzello, Managing Director of the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund in NY/NJ. "He received a standing ovation from the audience, as many were deeply moved by this young man's courage and tenacity in fighting cancer for more than four years."

Swandrak thanked his medical team who continue to help him through this fight, as well as his friends and family who have lifted him up from day one. He saved his most heartfelt appreciation for his parents, stating their love and support have been everything to him.

"As of today, I've had 126 chemo shots, 28 spinal taps, and over 200 days sleeping on scratchy hospital sheets," Swandrak told the crowd. "Fighting cancer is tough. You're in bed, and sick a lot of the time. There are days that are a real struggle. But I'm looking forward to ringing that bell for the second time this December and being back in remission."







## 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. 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

There are a number of reasons why you developed Osteo-

arthritis 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 addic-

tive medications. Northeast Spine & Wellness Center

living with and can help. If you have any of the symptoms

· 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

· 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 danger-

· Loss of muscle strength - This can lead to balance

· 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

ous if you need to move quickly.

issues and the strong possibility of falling.

below, please call us today. Relief is a phone call away.

understands the symptoms you have been

by swelling.

discomfort to come

sound sleep.

of these Symptoms?

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. Picase contact Northeast Spine & Wellness Center today to schedule your RISK FREE consultation. Colt 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 whatwever. 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." - Quenton L.



GALLERY-ON-THE-BOULEVARD EXHIBIT

The Gallery-on-the-Boulevard, located in the Kenilworth Public Library, will present "Fluid Structures" an exhibit of mixed media art work by artist Richard Cutrona. It will contain paintings, drawings and collage. The show will open in January and remain through April 2023.

Cutrona's art education includes: BFA School of Visual Arts NY (photography), MFA Lesley University MA (Visual Arts), and Art Students League of New York.

He states: "My work questions the boundaries of human tribalism through a conflation of artistic conventions and motifs. By utilizing type-forms, architectural elements, facets of mechanical drawing, decorative patterns, and calligraphic manipulations, I am able to reference, or reject, cultural assignments as I work. In doing this I ask the viewer to question their own preconceived aesthetic bearings. I am heavily influenced by traditional Islamic calligraphy/design, Bauhaus architecture, and the graffiti art of the 1980s."

Cutrona has delivered artist lectures at universities across the United States, including the University of Alaska Anchorage, Eastern Connecticut State University, and Fitchburg State University. His work has been exhibited in many solo and group shows at universities and commercial art galleries throughout the United States and Europe. His projects include several Short Documentary films. He has also curated multiple exhibitions around the country.

All artwork is available for purchase by contacting the artist.

The exhibit is free and open to the public during regular library hours. For more information call 908-276-2451.

Any artists interested in exhibiting their work in 2023, may contact Barbara Wirkus at dmbbw33@gmail.com



## **KENILWORTH SENIOR CITIZEN CLUB BUS TRIP**

The Kenilworth Senior Citizen Club will be having a bus ride to Resorts Casino in Atlantic City, NJ, on Thursday, January 19, 2023. The bus will leave the Acme parking lot at 9:30 a.m. The cost is \$35 which includes \$15 back in slot play. For reservations please contact Lilliam Furze at 908-709-0515.



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# **JANUARY PROGRAMS AT KENILWORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Phone: 908-276-2451 • www.kenilworthlibrary.org/ • 548 Boulevard, Kenilworth, NJ 07033 Monday - Wednesday: 10 AM-5 PM; Thursday: 10AM–8PM; Friday: 10 AM-5 PM; Saturday: 10 AM-2 PM; Sunday: Closed

#### CHILDREN'S WEEKLY PROGRAMS: Lap Sit

January 10, 17, 24 and 31, 10:30 a.m. - 10:50 a.m. Interactive stories and songs for ages 0-2years old

**Toddler Time** 

January 11 and 18, 10:30 a.m. – 10:50 a.m. Interactive stories, songs and activities for ages 2-3 years old

Lego at The Library

January 12, 19, and 26, 3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Explore and build with our collection of Legos

### CHILDREN'S JANUARY SPECIAL EVENTS

Registration is required for all special events. Kenilworth residents may begin to register one week prior to each special event. Out of town residents may begin to register two days prior to each event, space permitting. To register for individual special events, call the library at 908-276-2451

#### Winter Craft

January 6, 3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Create a unique craft to take home and display

for ages: 4 - 9. Lunar New Year Craft

January 20, 3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Create a unique craft to take home and display

#### for ages: 4 - 9. **Read to a Dog**

Monday, January 23, 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Young, reluctant and struggling readers may register for a 15 minute session to read aloud to certified therapy dogs Magnolia and Bubble.

Good Tymes String Band

Wednesday, January 25, 10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. All ages are welcome to attend and enjoy foot tapping knee slapping music **ADULT PROGRAMS:** 

Paper Pals Tuesdays, January 3 and 17,

2:00 – 4:00 p.m. for our card making group. You don't need any paper crafting experience to join the fun. This

is a free program for adults.

**Yarnies** 

Thursday, January 5, 12, and 19 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Thursday, January 26 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.



(above) Therapy dogs Bubble and Magnolia will be at the Kenilworth Public Library to listen to children read on January 23.



# **READ TO A DOG**

Young, reluctant, or struggling readers are encouraged to register for this program and read aloud for 15 minutes with certified therapy dogs Bubble or Magnolia. Children will learn to associate reading with being with these furry, non-judgmental listeners and begin to view reading in a positive way. Over time, the child's reading ability and confidence can improve because they are practicing their skills. Registration is required. Readers may register for a 15-minute visit. Kenilworth residents may begin to register one week prior to this program. Out-of-town residents may begin to register 2 days prior to this program. To register call 908-276-2451 or visit 548 Boulevard.

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- Accredited by the Middle States Association Commission on Elementary Schools

**OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE** Thursday, January 26, 2023

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Sunday, January 29, 2023 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL (908) 276-9425 100 Alden Street, Cranford, NJ

www.smscranford.com

E-Mail: saint.michael@verizon.net



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