

New Providence NEWS

Published by Renna Media, LLC. On-line at RennaMedia.com

Issue 89 • February 2023

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FEEDING LOCAL FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS



The weekly Our Lady of Peace Sandwich Drive, organized and run weekly by Michael Savage of New Providence, had some extra help on Martin Luther King Day from the New Providence Diversity Committee, New Providence Mayor Al Morgan, New Providence Councilwoman Nadine Geoffroy and Councilman Alex Kogan, many volunteers, and young student helpers in honor of the National Day of Service. 732 sandwiches were made with donated sandwich supplies. An additional 797 sandwiches were donated from local friends and neighbors and the Newark Academy. Together over 1500 sandwiches were donated to New Providence CSA and LINC as well as food pantries in Newark and Paterson.

This on-going weekly mission is held every Monday beginning at 1 p.m. in the kitchen at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church, located at 111 South Street, New Providence. Anyone can come help assemble the sandwiches and/or donate sandwich supplies, fresh fruit, and individually packaged snacks. You can also donate pre-made and individually wrapped sandwiches between 1-2 p.m. every Monday at the OLP kitchen or at the rectory Sunday through Monday.

The Sandwich Drive began over 148 weeks ago during the first week of the COVID pandemic to help feed local and neighboring community residents in need, making over 168,000 sandwiches and counting.

For more information, if you would like to help, volunteer, donate, or contribute, please contact Mike Savage at (908) 400-6885 or via email at savagetunes1@comcast.net.

For more information about the New Providence Diversity Committee, please contact Chairman Sunil Abrol at (908) 251-2059 or Councilwoman Nadine Geoffroy at (201) 401-1092.



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New Providence NEWS

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202 Walnut Ave., Cranford, NJ 07016

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Spring Grove Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center has been named one of the nation's "Best Nursing Homes 2022-23" by U.S. News & World Report. The 106-bed center, located at 144 Gales Drive in New Providence, provides post-hospital care, short-term rehab and long-term residential care.

"This honor is a testament to the excellent work being done by Spring Grove's care team members and the facility's ongoing effort to provide high-quality clinical services in a modern environment," said Ugochi Opara, regional director of market development for Marquis Health Consulting Services, which supports Spring Grove. "The U.S. News Best Nursing Homes program provides one of our industry's most sought-after distinctions, one that consumers and business partners alike recognize for its credibility."

Spring Grove received its U.S. News high-performance rating for long-term care; this is the third consecutive year the facility has been recognized in at least one program category. Spring Grove recently completed a multi-million-dollar renovation, consisting of a full rebuild to accommodate the delivery of innovative care supported by advanced technology in a warm, homelike setting.

Additionally, Spring Grove's five-star CMS rating for quality measures speaks to the facility's commitment to its residents and community. In addition to its clinical offerings, Spring Grove is committed to serving as a healthcare resource. To



that end, the facility has established a library of physician-curated content, addressing many topics of interest; it can be found at springgroverehab.com.

This marks the 13th year U.S. News & World Report has released its Best Nursing Homes ratings. The highly respected program evaluates more than 15,000 nursing homes across the country based on care, safety, health inspections and staffing.

Brick, N.J.-based Marquis Health Consulting Services provides administrative and consulting services to skilled nursing facilities and senior housing communities along the Eastern Seaboard. The organization's operational guidance enables its client facilities to overachieve their quality and customer service goals by embracing a progressive, multi-specialty approach to healthcare.



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MAYOR AL MORGAN SWORN IN FOR 5TH TERM

Mayor Al Morgan sworn in by Senator Jon Bramnick for his 5th term as Mayor of New Providence at the annual New Providence Borough Council Re-Organizational Meeting held on January 4, 2023.



(above) Mayor Al Morgan with his family after being sworn in for his 5th term as Mayor of New Providence. Standing: Son Brian Morgan, Daughter-in-law Jessica Morgan, Grandson Ryan Morgan, First Lady Christine Morgan, Son-in-law Andre Aklian. Seated: Grandson Jameson Morgan, Mayor Al Morgan, Grandson Benjamin Morgan, Daughter Katie (Morgan) Aklian. Not pictured: Daughter Bri (and son-in-law Alex Mruk), Grandson Stanley Mruk, and Kate Hearn.



(above, l-r) The 2023 New Providence Borough Council: Council President Matthew Cumiskey, Councilman Peter DeSarno, Councilwoman Lisa McKnight, Mayor Al Morgan, Councilwoman Nadine Geoffroy, Councilwoman Diane Bilicska, and Councilman Alex Kogan.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS MOVING ON

The Berkeley Heights, New Providence & Summit chapter of the League of Women Voters of New Jersey is folding effective February 15th. The current Management Team members are no longer going to be running the chapter. The membership was contacted to see if anyone else would step up. Unfortunately, no one did. Current members have been transferred to the Plainfield League, which is serving as a Union County

League as well.

We would like to thank the residents of Berkeley Heights, New Providence & Summit for their participation in our programs over the years as well as to those Candidates who participated in our Forums. If anyone needs to contact the League to run programs/forums, please email rntrinity@aol.com, or the State League at contact@lwvnj.org.

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SAGE WORKSHOP RENEWS LIFE FOR 20-YEAR-OLD FATHER'S DAY GIFT

Ed Midgley of Berkeley Heights received a bench as a Father's Day gift from his children. After years of outdoor weathering and exposure to the temperatures, it had fallen apart in a distant corner of his garden. While spring cleaning this year, Ed decided to have it refurbished at SAGE Workshop in Summit and it is now a focal point of curbside appeal for his home. "Coming into



(above) Ed Midgley of Berkeley Heights with bench after repairs.

the workshop in the basement" said Ed, "is like coming into Santa's Workshop with every workstation abuzz with elves working on gifts for the holiday."

Simon Rosenstein, workshop volunteer, chose mahogany flooring to restore the bench. He measured, cut the wood planks to fit the originals, and painted the wrought iron back to its original glamour. "Repairing this bench for Ed was an honor," said Simon.

Since 1961, the SAGE Eldercare Workshop has offered the public fine-quality furniture repair. The volunteers will consider repairing any piece of furniture that can be carried into the workshop. The Workshop has a reputation throughout Union County and beyond for its fine reweaving of caned and rushed chairs. Our artisans are all highly trained volunteers. Proceeds from the Workshop benefit SAGE programming. Prices are reasonable and depend upon the condition of the chair or furniture item and the materials required in the restoration process.

The Workshop started out over fifty years ago as a place for older men who no longer had access to a home workshop. Dozens of women have worked in the historically male enclave. Most volunteers are former professionals including investment bankers, college professors, physicians, and scientists. Over the years, they have taught each other caning, rushing and a

myriad of other techniques needed to fix the aging furniture brought to them for restoration.

The Workshop is in the basement of the SAGE building located at 290 Broad Street, Summit and is easily accessible. Shop hours are Mondays through Fridays, 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. For more information about the service, or to schedule an appointment to bring in furniture, call 908-598-5531.

ABOUT SAGE ELDERCARE

SAGE Eldercare supports the independence, wellbeing and quality of life of older adults, their families and caregivers, through the provision of client-centered health, social and support services. Founded in 1954, SAGE is both the oldest and one of the few nonprofit eldercare agencies in the United States that offers a broad and comprehensive array of services under one roof that assist elderly, often frail, adults to remain independent in their own homes. SAGE Eldercare programs include: HomeCare; Meals-on-Wheels; Spend-A-Day Adult Day Health Center; InfoCare free information and referral service; Fall Prevention Initiative; Chore Service; Shopping Service; Bill Paying Service; PREP caregiver support group; and SHIP(State Health Insurance Assistance Program). SAGE Eldercare serves over 5,000 older people and their families annually in Union, Essex Morris and Somerset counties. For more information, call 908.273.5550 or visit sageeldercare.org.



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NEWARK PASTOR PREACHES AT FAITH LUTHERAN

On Sunday, January 8, 2023, Rev. Moacir Weirich, pastor of St. Stephan's Grace Community Church, a Lutheran church in the Ironbound section of Newark, preached and assisted with the liturgy at the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. services of Faith Lutheran in New Providence.

St. Stephan's is an historic church at the heart of the Ironbound section on Ferry and Wilson Streets. The church has been a hub for the Ironbound's immigrant community, since the church was built by German Lutherans in 1874.

Led by Pastor Weirich, St. Stephan's is a center of worship, advocacy and hope for the new and continuing persons of the community. The church members speak English, Spanish and Portuguese. Worship is conducted in each language.

Pastor Weirich led the Educational Forum for Faith's members. He discussed the membership and programs of his congregation as well as the issues the members and others in the community encounter.

While the problems are complex and uncertain, Pastor Weirich continues to be impressed with how well St. Stephan's members and their friends respond to difficult circumstances. He attributes this motivation to the work of the Holy Spirit. While the members of the audience agreed with Pastor Weirich, they observed that his determined leadership was influential.

Faith Lutheran has enjoyed a partnership with St. Stephan's for many years. Members of Faith tutor children of the first through high school grades, as well as give lessons in English to their parents. Each summer, Faith conducts a backpack collection, which results in Faith donating prior to school more than fifty backpacks, filled with

school supplies, to needy children of the Ironbound community. From its Christmas Sharing Tree, Faith provides gifts for the children of St. Stephan's. The Knit, Purl and Pray group of Faith has made Magic Reading Blankets, scarf sets and slippers for the children.

In the spring, Faith has invited St. Stephan's confirmands to join the Faith confirmands at a retreat.

The pastor of Faith is Rev. Jane McCready. One may visit Faith at 524 South Street, New Providence or its web site, famfaith.org. The phone number is 908-464-5177.



(above) Rev. Jane McCready of Faith Lutheran Church, Rev. Moacir Weirich of St. Stephan's Grace Community Church

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YEAR IN REVIEW AND 2023 PREVIEW

The Friends of the New Providence Library would like to thank the community of New Providence for a wonderful 2022, and give you a preview of 2023 activities!

If you've been to our Library recently, you know that it is a busy place, filled with people of all ages with varied interests. Patrons of the Library come for many different reasons: to take in an art exhibit, attend a musical program, use a computer, work on a craft, research a homework project, attend a book club or of course, or browse for their next great read. No matter what brings you to the Library, the Friends have played a part in your top-notch Library experience.

Here are some highlights of 2022 activities and programs that were sponsored by the Friends. We were as excited as everyone else to emerge from COVID restrictions and return to in-person

activities. Beginning in the spring the Friends put up new art displays on the walls of the Conti Family Community Room, the Reading Area, and the glass cabinet. These included: the Friends curators show, the Art of the Mask, Julie Harris, Sumi-e group of NJ, and a local artist's Portrait Show.

We held five live concerts from April through December: the Light Opera of NJ, Abe Ovadia jazz guitar, the Hickory Tree Chorus Women's Acapella group, Banjo Rascals, and the Cover Girls for a holiday concert.

We renewed museum passes for Imagine That, Newark Museum, the Museum of Early Trades and Crafts, and the Morris Museum. In December, we were gifted a brand new pass to the Philadelphia Please Touch Museum, donated by Berkshire Hathaway Realtors, Karen Canniffe and Denise Torsiello, who wanted to give back to their community through their Realtors Community Care pledge.

After three years, the Craft Fair returned in October to a happy crowd who got a head start on their holiday shopping. The Friends curators renovated the children's area dollhouse and moved in a new "family of homeowners" celebrated with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony with Mayor Al Morgan and the family of the original dollhouse creators. The Friends sponsored various programs for adults, kids, and teens (bubble party, Fit 4 Kids, computer coding classes, animal shows, crafts, etc.). Also back in person were movie and documentary screenings and speakers (Where the Crawdads Sing, Navajo Code Talkers, Downton Abbey, Encanto, Holiday movie shorts for kids, and many more). The Friends provided "goodies" for Books & Bagels and The Little Book of Hygge book clubs.

A significant donation was made to the library from the Friends for the track lighting in the Reading Area and towards the Conti Family Community Room's updated Audio/Visual system. We greatly increased and improved our social media presence to highlight our events and programs to reach a wider audience, and also provided cute book and library memes just for

fun.

What's new for 2023? We are excited to have four new Board members: Kathryn Biber, Joel Francisco, Joanne Brenckle, and Kathy Martin. Some possibilities: a sure-to-be fun (and spooky) Murder Mystery interactive theater event, a special documentary screening and discussion, another round of Brick pavers, and of course, new art displays, a new series of concerts (the NP High School Jazz Choir, Andy & Judy Folk duo, Catmoondaddy soft rock and classics of the past decades, the Concord Singers, Light Opera, and more) and a Silent Auction, a Wine Pull and other Fundraising events.

If you have ideas, we'd love to hear from you! Please contact the library at 908-665-0311, visit our website at newprovidencelibrary.org or email us at FriendsOftheNPLibrary@gmail.com to learn more about our activities, and to find out how to become a member of the Friends.

Andrew Carnegie once said, "A library outranks any other thing a community can do to benefit its people." We agree!

The 2022 Officers of the Friends of the Library organization were Sangeeta Prasad Benbow, President; Beth Spiegel, Asst. President, Membership Chair and Art Curator; Alex Klapwald, Treasurer; Marissa Klapwald, Fundraising; Donna Zane, Social Media; Louise Wheeler, Lead Art Curator; Lynn Celler and Denise Moser, Art Curators; Helene Langezaal, At-Large Board member; and Craft Fair Chair Karen Golubieski.

The Friends of the New Providence Memorial Library is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization whose mission is to raise awareness and funds, as well as advocate for, the New Providence Memorial Library. The Friends organize free music concerts, support the library's Museum Pass program, purchase movie licenses, and fund special events and programming for all ages. The Friends curate the art spaces in the library, and we encourage area artists and crafters to inquire about exhibiting their work at npmlcurator@gmail.com or to fill out our online application form.



(above) Books & Bagels...no required reading, but sharing of book ideas.

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JR LEAGUE AWARD NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

The Junior League of Summit (JLS) is now accepting nominations for its Jean Hudson Gano Award program for 2023. This award recognizes special volunteer achievement by either an individual or a nonprofit organization. It is given in memory of and in tribute to Jean Hudson Gano, a JLS member who died of breast cancer in May of 1997. Jean's exemplary and extraordinary commitment to voluntarism, community service, and particularly to issues regarding women and children, was an inspiration to all those who were touched by her efforts.

Nominees from the communities of Berkeley Heights, Chatham, New Providence, and Summit are eligible for the award. Individual nominees should be of high school age or above whose dedication and excellence in leadership has served their community through their volunteer efforts, either within the preceding year or as a long-term, on-going commitment. Organizations nominated should be those that benefit women and/or children within the past year and must supply verification of 501c3 status.

The award recipient will be honored at a future event, and the recipient's name will be displayed on a plaque at the JLS Thrift Shop. Recipients will receive a \$500 monetary award made possible by a generous gift given by Jean's father, Mr. William Hudson.

For more information, and to access the application, please visit www.jlsummit.org. Applications are due by February 28, 2023.

Junior League of Summit, Inc. is an organization of women whose mission is to advance women's leadership for meaningful community impact through volunteer action, collaboration, and training. For more information about the Junior League of Summit or to inquire about becoming a member, please visit the website at www.jlsummit.org or contact the office at 908-273-7349.

Those interested in donating to the League, please visit jlsummit.org/?nd=donate_summary.

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The nation's oldest and largest patriotic youth organization, C.A.R. offers membership to girls and boys from birth to age 22 who can prove lineal descent from a man or woman who supported the cause of American independence.

Local C.A.R. groups, known as societies, are sponsored by chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) or Sons of the American Revolution. Here in central New Jersey, Elizabeth Snyder-Continental Chapter DAR in Green Brook sponsors the Pis-Cat-A-Qua Society C.A.R. Members may participate in state and national activities that focus on patriotism, service, and education about our American heritage.

Harriett Lothrop, a 19th century children's author from Concord, Mass., presented the idea for a children's organization to the DAR in 1895. Organized "for the training of young people in true patriotism and love of country," C.A.R. has promoted this vision to hundreds of thousands of members over the years. These boys and girls are the leaders of yesterday, today and tomorrow.

New members are welcome. Contact Elizabeth Snyder-Continental Chapter DAR at ESCchapterDAR@gmail.com, or learn more online at NSCAR.org.



ANCHOR PROPERTY TAX RELIEF

The State of New Jersey has extended the deadline for filing your ANCHOR benefit application to February 28, 2023. The Affordable New Jersey Communities for Homeowners and Renters (ANCHOR) program will provide up to \$1,500 to homeowners with 2019 gross incomes up to \$150,000, and up to \$1,000 for those with gross incomes of between \$150,000 and

\$250,000 in that year. ANCHOR is also an important program for the tenants, who can receive \$450 if their gross income was \$150,000 or less in 2019.

To apply, visit the Division of Taxation's website: nj.gov/treasury/taxation/anchor. The state has also established an ANCHOR hotline at 1-888-238-1233.

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CARING CONTACT CRISIS LINE COUNSELOR TRAINING AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Have you ever been told you are a good listener? Do you have a yearning to really make a difference? Caring Contact, a Westfield, NJ based crisis hotline, will be offering its 102nd volunteer crisis counselor training beginning March 14th through June 13th. The training will run once a week on Tuesdays from 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. and will be a combination of in-person training and via Zoom.

Participants receive 52 hours of comprehensive training by nationally certified instructors in active listening and Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training. Volunteers develop the ability to listen actively, assess the needs of someone in crisis and provide empathy and support.

"This training and volunteer opportunity is ideal for people of varying backgrounds - retirees, empty-nesters, stay-at-home parents, and full-time professionals" said Mary Claire Givelber, Caring Contact's executive director. "Many of our listeners were looking for something meaningful to do after they retire or their children leave home. Full-time professionals also participate finding the flexible volunteer hours work well with their work obligations."

Following training new volunteer crisis counselors are supported by seasoned listeners during 24 hours of internship before they take calls on their own. Even once a volunteer is a certified listener, Caring Contact provides a range of support and training opportunities to allow them to keep honing their skills.

Anyone interested in registering for the training should visit <https://caringcontact.org/listener-training/> or call the Caring Contact administrative offices for more information at 908-301-1899.

Caring Contact is an award-winning, volunteer-staffed crisis hotline and listening community, providing active listening support and best-in-class training to the Central and Northern New Jersey community. More than 100 trained volunteers answered over 13,000 calls last year from people in crisis, having suicidal thoughts or simply needing someone to talk to.

If you need someone to listen, call us at 908-232-2880. If you, or someone you know, are in crisis call 988, the new access code to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. To learn more, visit caringcontact.org. You are Not Alone.

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1 Unit (Business card)	3.25" x 2"	\$60	\$150	\$250	\$350	\$400	\$450	\$500	\$550	\$600
2 Units	6.5" x 2" or 3.25" x 4"	\$100	\$250	\$400	\$500	\$600	\$700	\$800	\$900	\$1000
4 Units	3.25" x 8" or 6.5" x 4"	\$180	\$450	\$700	\$900	\$1100	\$1300	\$1500	\$1700	\$1900
6 Units	6.5" x 6.25" or 10" x 4"	\$240	\$600	\$900	\$1200	\$1400	\$1600	\$1800	\$2000	\$2200
9 HALF PAGE	6.5" x 9" or 10" x 7"	\$320	\$800	\$1000	\$1300	\$1600	\$1900	\$2200	\$2400	\$2700
12 Units	10" x 8"	\$360	\$900	\$1200	\$1500	\$1800	\$2100	\$2400	\$2700	\$3000
18 FULL PAGE	10" x 14"	\$400	\$1000	\$1400	\$1800	\$2200	\$2500	\$2800	\$3000	\$3400
2-PAGE SPREAD	21" x 14"	\$700								
BACK PAGE	10" x 14"	\$500								
FRONT PAGE BANNER	8.25" x 2"	\$320								
FRONT PAGE BOX	1.5" x 4.5"	\$240								

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NP Chess Club (Kids, Teens & Adults)

February 6, 13, 20, 27

Learn to play chess from the NP Chess Club! Weekly play every Monday night from 5:30-7:30 in the Coddington Room. Instructional Lectures & Strategy February 6 and February 27 from 4:30-5:30 in the Conti Room. Open to kids, teens and adults. Children 10 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Register at least 1 day in advance online at npchessclub.org.

Knit/Crochet Night (Adults & Teens)

February 6 at 7 p.m.

Drop by with a crochet or knitting project, and chat with this friendly group as you work. No registration required. Call to sign up for an email reminder, or send email.

Drop-In Play Tuesdays (Kids)

February 7, 14, 21, 28
at 11:15 a.m. - 8:15 p.m.

Bring the kids to drop in and play. Toys including the newly refurbished dollhouse, the train table and the puppet theater!

Books & Bagels (Adults)

February 7 at 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Bagels & a book group with no assigned reading! Come and tell us about what you've been reading and which books you've enjoyed.

Everything SAT & ACT (Teens)

February 7 at 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Learn all you need to know about your testing options for college applications. Rob Pollak from Pollak Tutors will present this session with a follow-up mock SAT on February 11.

Email NPMLTeens@gmail.com to register.

The Art of the Appeal Webinar (Teens & Adults)

February 8 at 7 p.m.

This MCPT workshop provides detailed guidance for families on how to appeal for more financial aid and how to improve the likelihood of a successful appeal. Email NPMLTeens@gmail.com to register.

Book Group (Adults)

February 9 at 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

The book group will discuss "The Tender Bar," the memoir by J.R. Moehringer.

SAT Practice Exam (Teens)

February 11 at 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Live, in-person mock SAT practice exam. Register via email with student's first and last name and current grade and school.

Batter Up - Let's Talk Baseball (All Ages)

February 13 at 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Baseball enthusiasts are invited to discuss teams, players and issues of the sport with other baseball fans. This group of mostly seniors welcomes all ages to join the discussion.

Monthly Movie (Adults)

February 14 at 1 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

"The Good House" (Rated R). Sigourney Weaver plays Hildy, a wry New England realtor and descendant of the Salem witches who loves her wine and her secrets.

Knit/Crochet Night (Adults & Teens)

February 16 at 7 p.m.

Drop by with a crochet or knitting project, and chat with this friendly group as you work. No registration required.

Andy & Judy Folk Duo Concert (All Ages)

February 19 at 3 p.m.

Andy & Judy Folk Guitar is a talented duo that performs regularly at coffeehouses, festivals, libraries, and stages where they have been featured artists, openers and headliners.

Book Group (Adults)

February 21 at 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

The morning book group meets to discuss "Beautiful Country" by Qian Julie Wang. Copies will be available to check out at the front desk one month beforehand.

Harlem Renaissance Art Talk

February 23 at 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

This talk will introduce you to the pantheon of inspired artists who produced astonishing and ground-breaking works.

Teen Book Talk (Teens)

February 28 at 5 p.m.

Come to the library for an informal book chat about whatever you're reading, have read, or want to read! Teens in grades 6-12 are invited to come together to talk books and get some ideas for future reads.

Cookbook Club (Adults)

February 28 at 1 p.m.

This month's theme is one pot meals. Bring a cookbook or a recipe that you like to share with the group, or even cook and bring the dish itself if you're feeling inspired!

Read to A Dog (1st - 4th graders)

February 28 at 6:45 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Are you a new or developing reader? Practice your skills by reading to a therapy dog. To register for your 15 minute slot, please email NPMLChildrens@gmail.com Register early!

KIDS FOR STORYTIME AT THE LIBRARY:

Tuesday Storytime with Miss Cathy
at 10:30 a.m. (preschool - K)

Featuring stories, interactive rhymes and movement!

Tuesday Evening Bedtime Stories with Miss Debbie

at 7:00 p.m. (all ages)

Subscribe to the Library's YouTube channel for this program. Questions? Email NPMLChildrens@gmail.com

Wednesday Mother Goose Group with Miss Debbie

at 10:30 a.m. (babies-preschool)

An active storytime with songs, fingerplays, dancing and fun for babies to preschool- But older kids are always welcome!

Thursday Storytime with Miss Anita

at 10:30 a.m. (0 - 3 yr olds)

Bring your babies and toddlers for stories, rhymes and socialization.

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