Berkeley Heights Mailed FREE COMMUNITY NEWS NJ

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ANNUAL SENIOR VALENTINE PARTY RETURNS

After a 3-year hiatus caused by the pandemic, the Church of the Little Flower hosed their annual Senior Citizens' Valentine's Day Party on Sunday, February 12th. The event was held at the church lower level which was part of the extensive renovation which expanded the space. All seniors residing in Berkeley Heights were invited.

Sponsored by the Little Flower Community Outreach Ministry, seniors were treated to lunch, and a full agenda of entertainment including music, live musicians, a sing along led by local singer Liz Vahne, and a performance by the Marie Moore School of Irish Dancing.

Mostly, they were treated to each other's company. The room was filled with excited conversations and smiles.

Larry Rasmussen, chairman of the Outreach Ministry, thanked the members and volunteers for the contribution of their time and expertise in planning, decorating, and working at the party, as well as preparing and donating the food. Significant leftovers were delivered on Monday to St. Joseph's Social Service Center in Elizabeth to help feed the needy.



Keeping with Catholic traditions, prior to lunch being served, Rev. JC Merino said a prayer in part "I'm so glad to see your smiling faces! This is going to be a good afternoon, in the spirit of community and love, we are celebrating love. We acknowledge God as the source of all love. We ask Him to guide all of us in our daily journey. Help us grow in love for each other, and help each one of us stay healthy and to be together in this community of faith and friendship."

For more information about the Church of the Little Flower, visit littleflowerbh.org, or call 908-464-1585.

(More photos on pages 14 & 15)



(above, seated, l-r) Rev. JC Merino (Fr. JC) & Rev. Matthew Dooley (Fr. Matt)



(above) Emil & Marilyn were one of many couples in attendance.

(above) Marcy France & Grace Hodshon have been parishioners for about 50 years.

Photos from this and other events can be found online at rennamedia.com and on Berkeley Heights Community News page on facebook.com Feel free to "Like," "Tag," and "Share."



OSTAL PATRON BERKELEY HEIGHTS, NJ 07922

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Berkeley Heights

Renna Media LLC, Publishers

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SEND US YOUR NEWS

Do you have a community service that you need help publicizing? Did you or someone you know accomplish something amazing? We are interested in hearing about your latest achievement (honor, award, etc.), send us your news! **Email: editor@rennamedia.com**

ADVERTISING Joe Renna: 908-447-1295 joerenna@rennamedia.com



Find us on online: rennamedia.com facebook.com/ Berkeley Heights News

SUMMIT REPAIR CAFÉ – MARCH 25

2023 marks Summit Repair Cafe's fifth year of hosting repair events. Each event has diverted an average of 480 pounds of beloved but broken items from entering the landfill.

On March 25 your beloved but broken items have the opportunity to be repaired at Summit's Repair Cafe from 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at Christ Church, 561 Springfield Avenue. The last items accepted for repair will be at 2:30 p.m.

Repair services available at this event will include sewing/textiles, lamps, computers, clocks, woodworking, knife sharpening and bicycles. To allow all patrons to have the opportunity for repair, repairs are limited to 2 total items per person.

Replacement parts for lamps and clocks will be available for an at-cost fee. Please only bring items that you can carry into our event unaided. No appointment is necessary!

Summit Repair Cafe events are co-sponsored by the Summit Area Green Faith Circle and Repair Cafe Garden State. Visit repaircafegs.org for the full schedule of all upcoming Repair Cafe events in New Jersey.

Repair volunteers are needed for March 25 in Summit and future events. If you would like to help, please contact us via email: summit@repaircafegs.org.



Photo by SMS Productions/Craig Michell

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	Thu:	8 am - 7 pm
	Fri:	9 am - 3 pm
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WE WILL MAXIMIZE YOUR INSURANCE!

If you have insurance where a co-pay is not required, your exam, x rays & cleaning will be at no cost to you. Cash, Check or Credit Cards only, or your insurance may cover. If your insurance requires a co-pay, you must pay a small out of pocket cost.

SAGE PREPS FOR CHAMPIONS WEEK DURING MARCH FOR MEALS

City officials and members of community organizations are invited to join SAGE Eldercare during Community Champions Week (March 20-24) as it participates in the 20th annual March for Meals – a month-long, nationwide coming together of local community organizations, businesses, government officials and caring individuals to ensure that homebound and vulnerable older adults are not forgotten.



Mayor, Nora Radest, Police Chiefs from Summit, New Providence, Berkeley Heights, Springfield and Mountainside and local government officials and volunteers.

Established in 1966, SAGE's Meals on Wheels is the oldest continuously run home delivery meal program in New Jersey. In 2022, approximately 100 volunteers delivered more than 28,875 meals to 250 people in Union County (Berkeley Heights, Mountainside, New Providence, Springfield, and Summit), Essex County (Millburn and Short Hills), and Morris County (Chatham and Madison). The average age of the clients SAGE delivers meals to is 83. Of those, 65% say they rarely have visitors other than their 'Meals on Wheels' volunteer.

"The services that we provide older adults in our area are critical; it's not just a warm meal, but also a friendly visit, sometimes the only human contact a person gets the whole day," said Terry Kaniuk, Volunteer Manager for Meals on Wheels. "Together, we can keep older adults living independently, healthier at home and feeling more connected to their community as they age."

For more information about participating in March for Meals, contact Terry Kaniuk at: 908-598-5514 or email: tkaniuk@sageeldercare.org. ABOUT SAGE

Since 1954, SAGE Eldercare has been helping make the communities it serves amazing places to age. The organization provides a wide array of

Past participants have included Summit information, support, and services designed to help individuals lead the most independent and active lives possible. From helping with errands and providing Meals on Wheels, to exercise classes, community programs, care planning, an adult day health care center, and home health care, SAGE's expertise helps older adults remain independent in their own homes. SAGE is committed to being the leading provider of programs and services to meet the changing needs of older adults, their families, and caregivers throughout Morris, Union, Essex, and Somerset Counties. For more information, please call 908-273-5550 or visit sageeldercare.org. **ABOUT MEALS ON WHEELS AMERICA**

> Meals on Wheels America is the oldest and largest national organization supporting the more than 5,000 community-based senior nutrition programs across the country that are dedicated to addressing senior hunger and isolation. This network exists in virtually every community in America and, along with more than two million volunteers, delivers the nutritious meals, friendly visits and safety checks that enable America's seniors to live nourished lives with independence and dignity. By providing funding, leadership, research, education and advocacy support, Meals on Wheels America empowers its local member programs to strengthen their communities, one senior at a time. For more information, or to find a Meals on Wheels provider near you, visit mealsonwheelsamerica.org.





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ROXANNE MIDDLEBROOK - WHY I RIDE

Berkeley Heights Volunteer Rescue Squad HOW DID YOU FIND TIME TO RIDE? (BHVRS) "Why I Ride" series features BHVRS members and why they chose to become an EMT and volunteer. This submission shines a spotlight on member Roxanne Middlebrook, NREMT. WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO JOIN THE BHVRS?

I have been a longtime resident of Berkeley Heights and as a family, we have been on the receiving end of a great deal of support and kindness from the community at different points in time. It was always my desire to be able to give back and pay forward the kindness and generosity of spirit relayed to us in Berkeley Heights. The rescue squad has allowed me to begin doing this.

I was very hesitant to apply as my schedule is

quite demanding and often inflexible. I was received with open arms and much encouragement. Every effort is made to accommodate my availability and the squad is as grateful for a two-hour shift of my time as they are for a full 12.

WHAT DO YOU WANT THE COMMUNITY TO **KNOW ABOUT THE BHVRS?**

Being an all volunteer organization, it is no small task to keep the rigs staffed, training ongoing, budget in order, and quality assurance continually assessed — yet each of these tasks are fulfilled on a daily basis. I have long admired first responders with the BHVRS being no exception. I never realized the amount of effort, planning and organization necessary to maintain such a vital town entity.

WHAT ADVICE DO YOU HAVE FOR OTHER **PEOPLE WHO ARE THINKING OF JOINING?**

I am proud to be a member and I would encourage anyone to join regardless of your level of experience. You will bring comfort and care to your friends and neighbors in what are arguably some of the worst moments of their lives. You will get back in spades what you give of yourself and your time.

YOU CAN JOIN US!

The BHVRS is staffed entirely by volunteers. Our dedicated members are all ages and come from all walks of life and professional backgrounds. We never charge for any of our services and are funded nearly entirely by donations.

We are always looking for volunteers! To learn more about how you can help, please visit our website or email: membership@bhvrs.org.



(above) Roxanne Middlebrook, NREMT

Courtesy photo



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Dedicated to saving our "OLDEST RESIDENTS" our OLD trees. Please Google: Trees Save Lives (New York times) and Better with age. Both describe the importance of Preserving our Old Trees.

Did you know?

- 1) In 2020 we recorded the "Highest Carbon Rate And Global Temperatures in human history".
- 2) That science said: "The only way to curb this phenomena GLOBALLY is to save our OLD trees."
- 3) Each full grown tree releases 15 to 20 liters of oxygen each day, while absorbing Carbon Monoxide.

4) All the Carbon these OLD trees have consumed

is released back into our atmosphere when they die.

- 5) Three trees properly placed can save 35% in cooling costs.
 - Should this not be a requirement for new construction?

Despite these Facts: DOZENS of these OLD trees are needlessly damaged and destroyed in our local neighborhoods, during construction each year. Many more trees are put into Decline through IMPROPER PRUNING.

These stressed trees are the first to die in drought situations as we saw this past year. PLEASE also (google) read **Rooting out Problems**. It explains "Simple Procedures" for saving trees during construction. Have your whole family read this article which will help them recognize when a tree is being harmed.

Help save our local trees at defendourtrees.com



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POLICE OFFICER PROMOTIONS

February. William Ives was promoted to the rank of Captain, Frank Mea Jr. was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant and Brian Nigro was promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

Berkeley Heights PBA Local 144 noted on their Facebook page "PBA

The Berkeley Heights Police Department promoted three officers in 144 is proud to announce the 3 promotions, all past Presidents of 144. Captain Bill Ives, Lt. Frank Mea, and DSgt. Brian Nigro packed the house with family, friends, and Local 144 members, past and present. We celebrate their success, and look forward to their leadership."

Follow Berkeley Heights PBA Local 144 on Facebook





NJ 2-1-1 Partnership

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT NJ 211?

The 211 system is found throughout the United States and is devoted to connecting people in need to the resources that can help. While each 211 operates independently, all of the more than 200 organizations provide a network of local support that people can call on with confidence when they need help and simply don't know where to turn. In New Jersey, our motto has been: Need Help? Start Here.

NJ 211 provides live assistance 24 hours a day, every day of the year. Our services are free, confidential and multilingual.

There are several ways to reach us: By phone (simply dial 2-1-1); via text (send your zip code to 898-211); email (info@nj211.org); or chat on-line: nj211.org/contact-us.

Whichever method you choose, you will be communicating with a community resource specialist who has been educated about federal, state and local systems created to help people who are struggling.NJ 211 also serves as the State Homeless Hotline and New Jersey's Utility Assistance Hotline.





Wharton CAFÉ Choir

For Ages 55+ FREE 8-Week Course • Two Convenient Locations **Performance:** May 9, 2023

Summit Area YMCA

67 Maple Street, Summit Mondays 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Start Date: March 20

Berkeley Heights YMCA

59 Locust Avenue, Berkeley Heights Tuesdays 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Start Date: March 21

Make a joyful noise! Wharton Arts announces the return of its CAFÉ (Creative Aging for Everyone) Choir. In partnership with the Summit Area YMCA, Wharton Arts faculty will work with participants for eight weeks, during which the choir will learn several songs with piano accompaniment in preparation for a final concert at Burgdorff Hall in New Providence. Join us and discover camaraderie, learn new skills or refine old ones, and simply have fun! **No experience necessary** and free to join.



Questions? Call (908) 790-0700



Made possible by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. Enroll at WhartonArts.org.

Performing Arts School Wharton ARTS Helen H. Cha-Pyo, Artistic Director







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Summer Camps

Join the NJYS Orchestral Camp this summer for a fun and rewarding experience in either the Summer Winds/Brass/Percussion Session or Summer String Session. Each day, both sessions will join forces to create the NJYS Summer Festival Orchestra and perform a final concert on **Saturday, July 8**.

NJYS Orchestral Camp: String Session or Winds/Brass/Percussion Session

June 25 - July 8

Registration Deadline: May 1

Strings Director: Nevena Bojovic Winds/Brass/Percussion Director: Allan Daleus Early Bird Discount Ends April 1



NJYS Chamber Music Camp Entering Grades 10-12 June 25 - July 7 Registration Deadline: May 1

Director: James Keene

Registration Deadline: May 1 Eligibility requirements available at **NJYS.org**



Register Online at NJYS.org

New Jersey Youth Symphony Wharton ARTS

Helen H. Cha-Pyo, Artistic Director & Principal Conductor

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(above) Marc Bailey



(above) Marc Bailey at his Eagle Scout Court of Honor ceremony held in January 2023.

LILIANA HAS ARRIVED

Liliana Saoirse Petruzzelli was born on January 10, 2023. Liliana was welcomed by parents Kevin Petruzzelli and Desiree Ortiz, and big brother Aedan.







MARC BAILEY ATTAINS EAGLE SCOUT RANK

Boy Scout Troop 177

Troop 177 achieved the rank of Eagle Scout on September 13, 2022. His Eagle Scout Court of Honor ceremony was held in January. Marc is the son of Vance and Martha Bailey.

Marc Has been a scout for 10 years, including his time as a Cub Scout in pack 177. During his years in scouting, Marc has earned 31 merit badges. He served actively in leadership positions as the Ouartermaster and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader for the troop. He also was active in community service at the rescue center and the Thanksgiving food drives.

For his eagle scout project, Marc added musical instruments and some obstacles to the Community Presbyterian Church's playground

to give the daycare students more activities to Marc Bailey of Mountainside Boy Scout play on and engage their minds. During the project, Marc recruited, worked with, and managed a team of volunteers, with a total of 75 man hours. Marc also raised over \$2,500 to complete the project.

> Eagle Scout is the highest achievement or rank attainable in the Scouts BSA program of the Boy Scouts of America. Since its inception in 1911, only four percent of Scouts have earned this rank after a lengthy review process. The Eagle Scout rank has been earned by over 2.5 million youth.

> Marc is in the Class of 2023 at Governor Livingston High School and plans to graduate this spring. Afterwards he plans to go to attend college and major in Aerospace Engineering.

CONTINENTAL MATH LEAGUE A GREAT SUCCESS

Berkeley Heights Public Schools

At Hughes and Mountain Park Schools, a new club is being offered to students in grades 3-5: the Continental Math League. Over 120 students are participating between the two schools. Students meet twice a month at each school and



(above) Students meet twice a month for activities/challenges that activate their problem solving and critical thinking skills. Photo by Berkeley Heights Public Schools

participate in different activities/challenges that activate their problem solving and critical thinking skills. For example, at a meeting in the fall, the students created different logic puzzles using pictures to represent numbers. In another example, the students were challenged to create a tower using only construction paper. There are also 'competition' days where students compete with other schools around the nation virtually.

The program is led by Math Specialist Joseph Reel who splits his time between Thomas P. Hughes and Mountain Park Schools. He told us, "I am so thrilled with the turnout and the feedback that we have gotten from the Continental Math League. Aside from the problem solving/critical thinking skills that the students are being exposed to, I think the biggest benefit of the program has been the opportunity to teach perseverance when faced with a difficult word problem. I look forward to continuing this club each year!"

Mr. Reel has been with the BHPS for 13 years. Prior to his current role as Math Interventionist at Hughes and Mountain Park Schools he was a special education teacher at William Woodruff School.



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CHURCH OF THE LITTLE FLOWER SENIOR VALENTINE PARTY PHOTO ALBUM

















(above) Peggy shared that she appreciates the Eucharistic Ministers who visit her at home to administer Communion.

(above) Student musicians from the Governor Livingston High School Honor Society

Photos from this and other events can be found online at rennamedia.com and on Berkeley Heights Community News page on facebook.com Feel free to "Like," "Tag," and "Share."





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AND FITCH

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CHURCH OF THE LITTLE FLOWER SENIOR VALENTINE PARTY PHOTO ALBUM



Photos from this and other events can be found online at rennamedia.com and on Berkeley Heights Community News page on facebook.com Feel free to "Like," "Tag," and "Share."



MARCH SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR SENIORS

Berkeley Heights Recreation

MONDAYS: BINGO

10:00-11:00 Highlander Room Chair Stretch 11:15-12:00 Multipurpose Room Art Class: Acrylics 11:30-1:00 Art Room Mahjong 12:00-3:00 Multipurpose Room TUESDAYS:

IUEJUAIJ.

Art Class: Watercolors 1:00-2:30 Art Room Wednesdays:

Exercise 10:00-11:00 Multipurpose Room Chair Stretch 11:15-12:00 Multipurpose Room

THURSDAY:

Open Circuit 10:00-11:00 Fitness Center

FRIDAY: Exercise 10:00-11:00 Multipurpose Room

SPECIAL TRIPS: St. Patrick's Day Show and Lunch

Friday, March 17 (\$65) at the Brownstone 10:15-4:45 *Must contact Shirley (908) 322-8391 Atlantic City Trip Monday, March 20: 8:15~7:00 *Must contact Shirley (908) 322-8391

CASINO TRIP FOR SENIORS

The Berkeley Heights Seniors are sponsoring a trip to Resorts Casino in Atlantic City on Monday, March 20. We will leave from the Berkeley Heights Town Hall on Park Avenue at 8:30 a.m. and return at approximately 7:15 p.m. The cost is \$35.00 which includes bus transportation and a \$20.00 voucher for slot play. For further information or reservations, call Ramona at 908-647-3295.

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MARCH PROGRAMS AT THE BERKELEY HEIGHTS PUBLIC LIBRARY

29 Park Avenue, 2nd Floor • 908-608-8603 • bhplnj.org Monday - Thursday: 9 AM - 9 PM; Friday, Saturday: 9 AM - 5 PM; Sunday: 2 - 5 PM

CHILDREN'S STORY TIMES AND PROGRAMS:

Shake, Rattle & Read for ages 3 – 5 Wednesdays, March 1 - 29 at 9:30 am Fun with Friends Story Time for ages 0- 24 months Thursdays, March 2 - 30 at 9:30 am Bridge Building Challenge for grades K-8

Saturday, March 4 from 2 - 3 pm Build a paper roll bridge and test its strength Good Tyme String Band

Tuesday, March 14 at 10:30 am Fun banjo sing-along for all ages

Sing & Sign Story Time with Danielle Neri Sunday, March 19 from 3 - 3:30 pm

Story read aloud and signed in ASL

for ages 2-5

Yoga Story Time with Pam Nixon *Tuesday, March 21 at 10:30 am*

for ages 3 - 5

Teen Book Club:

Tuesday, March 28 at 6:30 pm. March's selection is The Girls I've Been by Tess Sharpe. See the library's website at https://bhplnj.org/teens/bhpl-teen-book-club/ for more information.

ADULT PROGRAMS: Book Group

Friday, 3/3 at 10:30 am and Tuesday, 3/14 at 7:15 pm. March's book group selection is Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston Please stop by in person, call the library or email reference@bhplnj.org if you would like

to join the book club. Technology Assistance Weekend

Stay tuned - return dates in 2023 will be announced on the library's website & Facebook page





QUILTING CLUB MEETS AT RP LIBRARY

The Quilting Club meets on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month at the Roselle Park Memorial Library from 1 - 3 p.m.

No registration or membership is required.

Participants are from Roselle Park and surrounding towns. Newcomers are always welcomed. You don't need any crafting experience to enjoy the company of other crafters and creative exploration.

Feel free to bring a project to work on, and / or a finished item to show others.



(above) Diane Fleming of Westfield & Nancy Bassman of Scotch Plains



(above) Dianna Roede of Roselle Park

Sharing the Quilts XXXIX Saturday – March 25, 2023 – 9am to 5pm (Doors close at 4:30pm) Willow Grove Presbyterian Church 1961 Raritan Road, Scotch Plains, NJ

Show is child friendly with a scavenger hunt and prizes for youngsters

- * Karen Gloeggler: Speaker and Local Quilter Author of <u>Jane Austin Quilts</u> Lecture at 11:00 am in the sanctuary
- * Diane Fleming: Featured Quilter
- * In memory of Peg Foy, Coverlet Expert and Miniature Quilter Display
- * Linda Blauvelt: Artist in Residence Oil Paintings
- · "In Our Town" Challenge Quilts
- Traditional, Art, and Modern Quilts in a variety of themes, patterns, techniques, sizes and skill levels
- * Vendor's Table
- Live Demonstrations
- Basket and Quilt Drawing
 Viewer's Choice Awards
- Story Boards
 *Tea Room
- *Admission: \$8.00 per adult; \$3.00 for children under 12* More information at harvestquilters.com or harvestquiltersnj@gmail.com or Harvest Quilters on Facebook

Celebrating quilts as art and functional design with an emphasis on education and bringing traditional needle -arts to all generations SPONSORED BY HARVEST QUILTERS OF CENTRAL NEW JERSEY "Quilts Are the Homespun Art of Women's History"

(above, l-r) Anita DeSimone of Colonia



QUILTING

CLUB

2nd & 4th Thursdays 1:00-3:00pm

404 Chestnut St., Roselle Park, NJ 07204

Kris Adams of Fanwood, (908)-245-2456

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 Fri: Surgery Day

Wed: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Sat: 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM 908-381-8160 janetleichtdpm.com

369 Springfield Avenue Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922



That "searing, burning pain" in your thigh and calf... that "aching, numbing" feeling in your hip and buttocks...

that "tingling" in your foot and toes and loss of balance.. It interferes with your ability to walk, to ride a bicycle, play golf, garden... to have FUN IN LIFE!

Leg pain, thigh ache and numbness, and tingling in the foot may actually be caused by a pinched back nerve even though you have NO back pain - it could even be Sciatica. Dr. Murphy is an expert at finding the CAUSE of your leg pain and numbness and CORRECTING IT WITHOUT THE USE OF DRUGS OR SURGERY.



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4 Treetop Ct	6	4.2	3	\$1,525,000	\$1,580,000	9
36 Cambridge Dr	5	3.1	2	\$1,029,000	\$985,000	37
135 North Rd	4	3.1	2	\$965,000	\$965,000	29
58 Bristol Ct	5	3.0	2	\$948,800	\$935,000	103
58 Holly Glen Ln	4	3.0	2	\$899,900	\$915,000	22
1105 Mountain Ave	4	2.1	2	\$770,000	\$750,000	44
141 Murray Hill Blvd	4	2.1	2	\$725,000	\$722,000	0
28 Rutgers Ave	4	2.1	2	\$699,900	\$720,000	21
47 Briarwood Dr E	4	2.0	1	\$735,000	\$718,888	61
12 Hampton Dr	3	2.1	2	\$689,000	\$705,000	15
31 Roosevelt Ave	4	2.0	1	\$649,000	\$690,000	14
12 Elm Pl	3	3.0	0	\$675,000	\$667,000	22
31 Brook St	4	2.0	1	\$649,000	\$610,000	160
59 River Bend Rd	3	1.2	1	\$624,900	\$580,000	38

Source: GSMLS, select properties sold 11/18/2022-2/16/2023



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