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## ELMORA YOUTH LEAGUE CELEBRATES 50TH SEASON

In one simple word, phenomenal. No one could have imagined back in 1974 when Elmora Youth league was inaugurated that we would still be here and thriving. For the past 50 seasons Elmora Youth League (EYL). Has taken pride in serving the surrounding communities which include Elizabeth, Roselle, Roselle Park, Hillside, Union, Linden, and Rahway.

Looking back, In 1974, a group of parents set out to provide recreation activities for the youth in the City of Elizabeth. Eugene Ahearn is credited as the league founder. First to join him in his venture to start the organization were Jim Dembeck and Tony Saluccio. By distributing flyers and holding the first meeting for Elmora Youth League in School 21, they recruited more parents to come out and volunteer. The first executive board was formed with Gen Ahearn as the League President and 13 other parents.

The very first games were played at Kiawameh Field in Union, NJ. A few games were also played in Cray Park in Union, NJ but that was short lived. At this point in time the KEAN family leased some of their property located on North Ave to the league, now known as the Phil Rizzuto Park today. This location became home to many memories for 12 years.

Fast forward the clock to 1998, the City of Elizabeth dedicated the fields on Westfield Ave in honor of one of our town's hometown heroes. He lost his life in the line of duty on April 2nd, 1992 while serving as a member of the NJ State Police. Trooper Thomas Hanratty spent many years growing up and playing baseball on the fields that bear his name.

The year that stands out for everyone in Elizabeth and around the world was 2019. This is the year that our 12 yr Boys team went on a tear and won every tournament level that granted them entry in the holy grail of little league baseball, the Little League World Series, in Williamsport, PA. Our boys were thrown into the spotlight and became Suto rockstars overnight. Thanks to their coaches, family, and fan base they stayed grounded. I remember game one like it was yesterday, EYL was representing the Mid-Atlantic region and they were going up against the winners from the NorthWest Region. Multiple buses were packed taking people from Elizabeth NJ to Williamsport PA. The chants in the stadium for "Let's Go Troopers" pierced your soul and injected a bolt of energy that kept everyone on the edge of their seat. When the game was over the Elizabeth boys were victorious. That's when I came to realize that we were in the middle of something that was bigger than all of us. The entire state of NJ rallied behind us and it showed as watch parties were popping up all over the state. These memories will last a lifetime and I can see them being topics of conversations around family dinner tables for years to come.

Now we can't forget about our marvelous softball program and their great accomplishments. In 2021 the Elmora Senior League team captured the NJ State Championship title for the first time in Elmora's history. This was a goal the girls set out to achieve and worked extremely hard to accomplish. They were undefeated in their fight for the State Title. This monumental moment served as inspiration for the younger girls that looked up to many of the players. So in 2022 the younger Junior League division team took on the mantra, "not us?". The girls learned by example and



(above) Thomas Hanratty 1979 in Baseball Uniform & Pictured in NJ State Trooper Uniform

worked extremely hard to also capture the NJ State title for the first time in this division. By winning the title, the girls were now onto the next round where they competed for the regional title in Connecticut. While they didn't win the regional title, they did solidify that softball in Elmora is here to stay.

Truth be told, Elmora Youth League, has been very successful since it became affiliated with the Little League organization in 1999. In the past 23 years, Elmora has now won titles in both Baseball and Softball 61 times. A replica of all these banners will be on display at the Hanratty Complex for all to see and enjoy. The league is planning a huge opening day celebration on March 25th 2023. All of the players will be wearing our 50th Season logo across their chest this year. We ask all our friends, families, past players, & Coaches to come out and enjoy the parade with us as we celebrate the past 50 Seasons and many more to come. For more information on Elmora's opening day celebrations please follow us on Facebook & Instagram @Elmorayouth.

(Photos on page 11)

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In a joint venture, the Rahway Elks #1075 and the Union Elks Lodge #1583 had a fundraiser for Rahway Lodge member, Brian Dudek's 6 year old daughter Camy in October and raised \$6,891. In March, the Rahway Elks Lodge presented her family with a check and celebrated the successful fundraiser and community participation.

In 2022 Camy was diagnosed with brain cancer and since has had several surgeries, many hospital stays and test after test after test and this

kid just continues to smile and keep her spunkiness! Her current treatment protocol calls for 730 additional days of oral chemotherapy and more tests. We continue to pray for Camy and her family.

Thank you to all that donated to this wonderful family. If you want to donate, you can send a donation check to Rahway Elks Lodge #1075 Rahway, NJ No. 1075, 122 W Milton Ave., Rahway, NJ 07065-3247. Put "Camy Fundraiser" in the memo.



(above) In March, Elks Lodge members presented the Dudek family with a check and celebrated the successful fundraiser.

Courtesy photo

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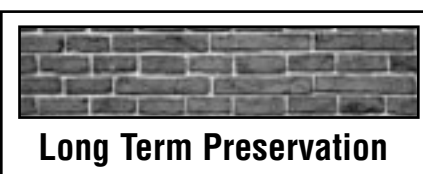
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# APRIL IS WORLD AUTISM MONTH

## Autism Speaks

Every April Autism Speaks celebrates World Autism Month, beginning with the United Nations-sanctioned World Autism Awareness Day on April 2. This year marks the 15th annual World Autism Awareness Day.

Throughout the month, we focus on sharing stories and providing opportunities to increase understanding and acceptance of people with autism, fostering worldwide support. This year, we are committed to creating a world where all people with autism can reach their full potential.



(above) Whether you have autism, love someone who does, or are looking to support a diverse, accepting and kind community – you’re invited to take the pledge to help create a world where all people with autism can reach their full potential. For more information visit: [autismspeaks.org/world-autism-awareness-day](https://autismspeaks.org/world-autism-awareness-day)

Supporters can participate in World Autism Month by:

Join our 2.8 million social followers and help foster understanding and acceptance by sharing the diverse stories of people on the spectrum or telling your own. Submit your story by visiting: [surveyMonkey.com/r/AutismSpeaksShareYourStory](https://surveyMonkey.com/r/AutismSpeaksShareYourStory)

Invite your colleagues, classroom and friends to join our Kindness Campaign and encourage acceptance, understanding and inclusion with daily acts of kindness at school, work or in your community. Together, we can create a world where all people with autism can reach their full potential.

Make a meaningful, lasting impact for people with autism with your gift. It’s one of the easiest and best ways to show your support.

Learn about all the ways you can fundraise on social media.

Joined by the international community, hundreds of thousands of landmarks, buildings, homes and communities around the world come together on April 2, World Autism Awareness Day, to Light It Up Blue in recognition of people with autism and those who love and support them.

Everyone is encouraged to participate. Whether you have autism, love someone who does, or are looking to support a diverse, accepting and kind community – you’re invited to take the pledge to help create a world where all people with autism can reach their full potential.

For more information visit: [autismspeaks.org/world-autism-awareness-day](https://autismspeaks.org/world-autism-awareness-day)

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# PALM CROSSES AREN'T JUST FOR CEMETERIES

## BOY SCOUT TROOP 23

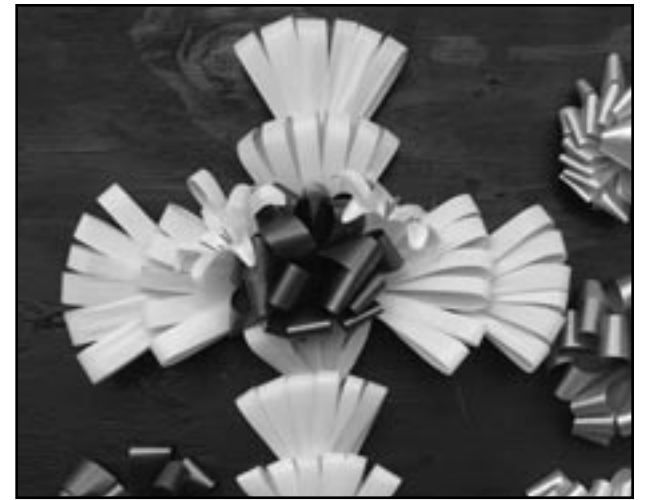
Though traditionally used to decorate graves in the Easter season, palm crosses are now also being used to proclaim the joy of Easter inside and outside of homes as well. Put one on your lawn, hang it on your front door, or place it on your mantel.

The Boy Scouts of Troop 23 will be selling Palm Crosses and Easter flowers outside of St. Genevieve's Church, 200 Monmouth Road, Elizabeth, on the two weekends before Easter. Sales will occur on Saturday April 1, from 5:15

p.m. to 6:30 p.m., and on Sunday, April 2, from 7:15 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Palm crosses can be blessed during any Mass on Palm Sunday weekend.

Cub Scout Pack 23 and Boy Scout Troop 23 have served the youth of St. Genevieve's Parish and the surrounding area for over 60 years.

For more details, please contact Dan Bernier, Scoutmaster, at (908) 451-1948 or webfootroop@gmail.com.



# SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ ANNOUNCES MARK ADAMY BAND

The Salem Roadhouse Café presents the Mark Adamy Band, Saturday, April 15, 2023. The doors open at 7:15 p.m., show starts at 8 p.m. Admission is \$20 and includes show, snacks, non-alcoholic beverages, and dessert. The venue is located in the basement of Townley Presbyterian Church, 829 Salem Rd, Union, NJ. The Roadhouse operates as a non-profit that raises funds for several carefully chosen local charities.

Mark Adamy is a multitalented keyboardist and vocalist who works with artists around the globe as a live performer and recording artist. This includes his own band: The Mark Adamy

Band, which is a group of accomplished musicians that has thrilled listeners with its original stylings fusing pop, rock, jazz, R&B, world, and spiritual music.

Mark has enjoyed popularity as a sought-after talent for special events, productions, and performances. Mark has won honors including Entertainer of the Year and Boston Music award nominations. He has shared the stage with greats like Chaka Khan, James Brown, The Four Tops, John-Lee Hooker, Pieces of a Dream, Howard Hewitt, Phil Driscoll, Phil Keaggy, Roger Humphries, and many others. Mark has played in many Broadway

productions as well as music directing off-Broadway productions in NYC.

Mark's concert credentials are extensive with acts such as the Coasters, the Cadillacs, Ink Spots, Jive Five, Silhouettes, Marvellettes, the Charelles, and guitarist Billy Davis. He has jammed with jazz artists such as Warren Hill, Makoto Ozone, Darren Lyons Group, and Lee Robinson at venues ranging from New York's Russian Tea Room and Knitting Factory to Boston's Symphony Hall

As always, the Salem Roadhouse Café is live, intimate, up front, and personal. All ages are welcome.

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## BOY SCOUT TROOP 23 CAMPING ADVENTURES

The William H. Pouch Scout Camp is a forested oasis surrounding a pond in the middle of Staten Island. When Boy Scout Troop 23 camped there on the last weekend of February, it was hard for them to tell that they were in one of the five boroughs of New York City.

The Scouts stayed in Beech Cabin, where they learned about and practiced knot tying and safe use of woods tools. They cooked eggs and bacon, pancakes, hot dogs and hamburgers, and chicken fajitas. A highlight of the weekend was the peach cobbler they baked in a Dutch Oven in the cabin's fireplace.

Boy Scout Troop 23, sponsored by St. Genevieve's Church of Elizabeth, welcomes any boys who are at least 11 years old or graduated from the fifth grade to join them on upcoming camping trips and hikes, a 4-day trip on Memorial Day weekend, and a week-long summer camp in July.

Contact Scoutmaster Dan Bernier at 908-451-1948 or webfoottroop@gmail.com for more details.



(above) Scouts of Troop 23, Elizabeth, spent a cold weekend in February in Beech Cabin in William H. Pouch Scout Camp on Staten Island.

Courtesy photo

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# STUDENTS EARN AWARDS FOR DRAMA

## Elizabeth Public Schools

Students from Elizabeth Public Schools recently competed in a competition sponsored by the Speech and Theatre Association of New Jersey. The event was held on the campus of Montclair State University. Students competed in various theatrical categories such as Shakespeare, Improvisation, Dramatic Monologue, and Comedic Monologue.

Three Elizabeth students earned a place of distinction in the Dramatic Monologue category. Deborah Pereyra, a senior at Jefferson Arts Academy, was a finalist, performing a monologue from the play, *Botanica*, by Dolores Prida. Lucas Luchsinger, a sophomore at The Academy of Performing Arts -UCVTS earned second place with his performance from Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman*. Brianna Martinez, a senior at Jefferson Arts Academy won first place and the New Jersey Governor's Award in Arts Education, with her performance of a monologue from August Wilson's *Fences*.



# YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS RECOGNIZED

## Elizabeth Public Schools

Two Elizabeth students have earned Honorable Mention in this year's Young Playwrights Competition through The Theater Project, a theater company based in Union County. Jonathan Tejada, a senior who attends Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy, and Lucas Toll Luchsinger, a sophomore who attends UCVTS - Academy of Performing Arts.

The goal of the competition is to encourage the next generation of theater practitioners and audience by honoring their work and bringing it to life. High school students get professional feedback on their work and winners see their plays performed in a staged reading. The Theater Project is committed to the concept that participation in the arts builds fundamental skills in reading, writing and critical thinking.

More information is available at [thetheaterproject.org](http://thetheaterproject.org).

**KEAN** GALLERIES KEAN UNIVERSITY

# Sayaka Ganz

## Reclaimed Creations

Produced by David J. Wagner, L.L.C., David J. Wagner, Ph.D., Curator/Tour Director

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(above) Jonathan Tejada



(above) Lucas Toll Luchsinger

## CUB SCOUTS VISIT SCIENCE CENTER

### BOY SCOUT TROOP 23

Cub Scout Pack 23, sponsored by St. Genevieve's Church in Elizabeth, visited Liberty Science Center on March 8 during its Community Evening program. After viewing exhibits throughout the Center, the Cub Scouts and their families watched a presentation called NASA: Exploring our Home Planet Earth in the Jennifer Chalsty Planetarium.

Cub Scout Pack 23 provides activities and training for boys and girls in Kindergarten through fifth grades. New members are welcome at any time, all year round. For more details, please contact Dan Bernier, Cubmaster, at (908) 451-1948 or webfootroop@gmail.com.



(above) The Cub Scouts of Pack 23 visited Liberty Science Center for its Community evening on March 8. Pictured are (left to right) Emmanuel Fajardo, Sebastian Velastegui, Joseph Cueva-Cruzado, Fernando Fajardo and Noah Sarga. Not pictured is Anthony Maiorana.

Courtesy photo

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pj@pjcotroneoband.com

# THE JUNIOR LEAGUE TO CELEBRATE 100TH ANNIVERSARY

The Junior League of Elizabeth-Plainfield (JLEP) will celebrate its 100th Anniversary on April 22, 2023 at Echo Lake Country Club. The JLEP is an organization of women whose mission is to advance women's leadership for meaningful community impact through volunteer action, collaboration, and training.

The Junior League of Plainfield was founded in 1923 with twenty-five charter members. In 1964, the Junior League of Elizabeth merged with the Cranford Junior Service League to become the Junior League of Elizabeth and Cranford. On April 1, 1976, the Junior League of Plainfield and the Junior League of Elizabeth and Cranford merged to form the Junior League of Elizabeth-Plainfield, N.J. Inc.

Currently, the League is made up of more than 100 active and sustainer members who work on projects throughout the year including backpack drives, Angel Tree, food pantry donations, and participation in local service events. President Marie Weitzman states, "We are excited to celebrate this momentous occasion and all the work members have done in the community."

In honor of the Centennial Celebration, the

JLEP is pleased to announce that in 2023 it will be awarding five \$5,000 scholarships (an increase from its traditional five \$2,000 scholarships) to college bound women who reside in Union County and demonstrate a commitment to volunteerism. The scholarships will be awarded in May 2023.

To find out more about the League's scholarship program or how to join as a member, please contact the League at 908-709-1177, via email at scholarship@jlepnj.org, or visit our website at jlepnj.org.

### ABOUT THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF ELIZABETH PLAINFIELD

The Junior League of Elizabeth Plainfield is a chapter of the Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. and is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable. Learn more at: www.jlepnj.org or contact Marie Weitzman, President 2022-2023, Junior League of Elizabeth Plainfield president@jlepnj.org.



(above) 2022 Scholarship winners.

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# EASTER EGG HUNT!

**Saturday, April 1st**

<p><b>Kenah Field</b> 1149 Fanny St. 9:30am</p> <p><b>Hanratty Field</b> 904-926 Westfield Ave. 2:00pm</p>	<p><b>Carteret Park</b> Elmora Avenue &amp; Vine St. 12:00pm</p> <p><b>Todd Bowles Field</b> 201-215 Front St. 3:00pm</p>
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**VISIT FROM EASTER BUNNY AT ALL LOCATIONS!**

CALL 908-620-4220 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

**SAFE EXCHANGE ZONE**  
in front of Police Headquarters

**THIS AREA IS UNDER SURVEILLANCE 24/7 AND IS DESIGNATED FOR A SAFE EXCHANGE FOR ONLINE, IN-PERSON PURCHASES**



# ELMORA BRANCH LIBRARY APRIL PROGRAMS

740 W Grand St, Elizabeth, NJ 07202 • Phone: (908) 353-4820 • [www.elizpl.org/](http://www.elizpl.org/)

Monday - Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 7:45 p.m. • Friday: 9:30 a.m. - 5:45 p.m. • Saturday: 9:30 a.m. - 4:45 p.m. • Sunday: Closed

Registration for all our programs will now be on our website. Please go to [elizpl.org](http://elizpl.org/) to check-out all our events, and to register.

## Sudoku Time Attack

Every Monday (All Day)

Are you up for a challenge? Every Monday, there will be a new sudoku puzzle to solve. Don't know how to play? The instructions will be posted next to the puzzle.

## Art Workshop

Saturday, April 1, 15, & 29 at 2:30pm

Learn to blend colors, sketch, and many more art skills! An excellent experience for children, teens, and adults! All levels of art skills are welcome!

## Zumba Gold

Monday, April 3, 10, 17, & 24 and

Thursday, April 6, 13, 20, & 27 at 8:30am  
CALL 908-353-4820 to reserve a spot but walk-ins are welcome!

## Crochet with Sol

Monday, April 3 & 10 and

Tuesday, April 4 & 11 at 12:00pm

Learn the tips and tricks with Ms. Sol! She will teach you everything you need to know to get started, from fundamental stitches to understanding gauge.

## Mahjong

Monday, April 3, 10, 17, & 24  
from 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Everyone who loves Mahjong is welcome to come & play at the library. Bring friends or come alone & find new partners. Remember to bring your own Mahjong tiles, and we'll provide the space for open play. A minimum of 4 players are required to play the game. Ages: 18 & up.

## Chess Club for Kids

Monday, April 3, 10, 17, & 24 at 4:00pm  
Join our Virtual Chess Club for Kids every Monday at 4pm. Beginners are welcome!

## Adult Scrabble

Wednesday, April 4 & 18 at 1:00pm

Word lovers! Exercise your B-R-A-I-N (7 points) by playing scrabble with other like-minded adults.

## Lil' Bookworms

Wednesday, April 5 at 5:30pm

Kids will share the love of reading, learn to talk about the books they're reading, and motivate kids to read. Ages: 5-8

## Drawing for Kids

Thursday, April 10 at 2:30pm

Join Ms. Martha for a cute storytime and learn to draw different animals!

## Stitch & Chat

Tuesday, April 11 at 10:00am

Come stitch your clothing back up at Elmora! Just bring the article of clothing you want to mend! Assistance will be available.

## Stitch & Chat

Wednesday, April 12 at 5:00pm

Come stitch your clothing back up at Elmora! Just bring the article of clothing you want to mend! Assistance will be available.

## Storytime & Origami

Wednesday, April 12 at 1:00pm

Join Ms. Martha for a cute storytime and learn to draw different animals!

## All Age Lego

Thursday, April 13 at 2:00pm

It's Lego Hour at Elmora on Saturday @2pm. Come build an enormous tower or make a race car; the imagination is limitless!

## Jelly Bean Bracelet

Thursday, April 13 at 3:00pm

Come make an edible bracelet out of jelly beans!

## Toddlers World

Friday, April 14 at 11:00am

An hour of fun songs to sing, music and playtime.

## Coloring for Kids

Friday, April 14 at 3:00pm

Relax & color at the Elmora Branch for an hour!

## ESL for Kids

Wednesday, April 19 at 5:30pm

Relax & color at the Elmora Branch

## Sign Language Storytime

Saturday, April 15 at 11:00am

A family storytime where everyone can learn sign language together. Stay for a quick activity to socialize after the program!

## Painting with Peeps

Thursday, April 20 at 5:00pm

A family storytime where everyone can learn sign language together. Stay for a quick activity to socialize after the program!

## Junior's Book Club

Wednesday, April 26 at 4:00pm

Tweens will share the love of reading, learn to talk about the books they're reading, and motivate kids to read. Grade: 4-6

## Coloring for Adults

Tuesday, April 25 at 11:00am

Drop in for some relaxing coloring fun! Come discover the calming effects as well as meeting some good company!

## Adult Spanish Book Club

Thursday, April 27 at 2:00pm

Join Martha for a monthly book discussion for adults in Spanish!

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<b>Florham Park Press</b> NJ Qty: 5,500 Zip: 07932	<b>Garwood Times</b> NJ Qty: 2,500 Zip: 07027	<b>Green Brook</b> NJ Gazette Qty: 3,000 Zip: 08812	<b>BUSINESS • LIFE</b> <b>KENILWORTH</b> NJ Qty: 3,500 Zip: 07033	<b>NJ LIFE in LINDEN</b> Qty: 17,900 Zip: 07036	<b>Long Hill LEADER</b> NJ Qty: 3,500 Zips: 07933, 07946, 07980
<b>MADISON MONTHLY</b> NJ Qty: 6,300 Zip: 07940	<b>MOUNTAINSIDE VIEW</b> NJ Qty: 2,900 Zip: 07092	<b>New Providence NEWS</b> NJ Qty: 5,100 Zip: 07974	<b>OUR TOWN</b> <i>Rahway, NJ</i> Qty: 13,000 Zip: 07065	<b>ROSELLE PARK MONTHLY</b> Qty: 5,600 Zip: 07204	<b>Scotch Plains NJ</b> WHAT'S HAPPENING MONTHLY Qty: 9,400 Zip: 07076
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### NEWSPAPER AD RATES

Units	Size	1 TOWN	3 TOWNS	6 TOWNS	9 TOWNS	12 TOWNS	15 TOWNS	18 TOWNS	21 TOWNS	24 TOWNS
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								

Back cover, front page banner and front box reserved on first-come, first-served basis. Current advertiser has right of first refusal.

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