

New Providence NEWS

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Issue 100 • January 2024

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ANNUAL FAMILY-FRIENDLY HOLIDAY FESTIVAL

Santa made his annual visit to New Providence during the holiday festival. Held downtown on Friday, November 24, the family-friendly event featured merchants opening their doors to visitors, Santa lighting the Christmas tree, then a parade thru the downtown led by the New Providence High School Marching Band. The grand finale was a fireworks display.



(above) The New Providence Presbyterian Church was a bright spot on the corner of Springfield Avenue. Volunteers distributed free homemade cookies & hot chocolate, a petting zoo sprawled on their front lawn, and the church was opened to visitors and featured a performance by a hand bell choir.

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(above, left) Downtown merchants were opened to welcome parade goers, including Colonial Appliance
(above, right) whose elf made balloon creations for children.

Photos from this and other events can be found online at rennamedia.com and on the New Providence News page on [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/newprovidencenews). Feel free to "Like," "Tag," and "Share."

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New Providence NEWS

Renna Media LLC, Publishers
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17TH ANNUAL INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The New Providence - Berkeley Heights Interfaith Council hosted their 17th annual Thanksgiving Service at Faith Lutheran Church in New Providence. The Interfaith Thanksgiving

Service is a community tradition held the Monday before Thanksgiving bringing together different faiths and community in prayer and in thanks.



Photo by Alex Kogan

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DR. MURPHY LOOKING FORWARD TO 40 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

Dr. Joseph J. Murphy started his business, The Suburban Chiropractic Center, on January 7, 1985. Part of his plan was to not only to serve the community professionally, but in service also. As he celebrates his 39th year in business, he also reflects on his community involvement and how rewarding it has been. He looks forward to continuing to volunteer and stay involved in the community as he reaches this 40th year.

Dr. Murphy has a record of supporting the local first responders, police, fire, and emergency squad. He also focused on supporting student programs including being an advisor to the Kiwanis Club's Chatham High School Key Club. Dr. Murphy has been a member of the Chatham/Madison Kiwanis Club for over 35 years, offering his services to all their events including being as guest speaker. He especially enjoys the Summer Hot Dog & Ice Cream social for the Chatham Library children. He can be found volunteering at Chatham schools during their Teacher's Wellness Day events and is a supporter of the Chatham Education Foundation and Sports Foundation. For 23 years Dr. Murphy has served on the Board of Trustees of ECLC in Chatham, a school for special needs students, including a stint as Board President.

Involvement in Chatham Town Committees and Commissions included the Chatham Historic

Preservation Commission and currently the Mayor's Wellness Committee of the Chathams.

He was a consistent participant in over 23 Fishawack events and is a sponsor of Bottle Hill Day in Madison. He is a member of the Madison Elks BPOE 1465 and Chatham Chamber of Commerce, where he has served as President.

Dr. Murphy assists his wife, Maria, in her fair-trade business, Lei-Lei, supporting women from impoverished countries like Nepal and Honduras. Lei-Lei sponsors two students through Hearts for Honduras as well.

The Suburban Chiropractic Center, located at 301 Main Street in Chatham, New Jersey offers the community a natural alternative to the traditional allopathic medical facilities in the Chatham area. Dr. Murphy says, "I owe our success to the loyal patients, who referred their friends and family, and our efforts to provide the highest level of service possible."

Dr. Joseph J. Murphy, Director of the Center explains, "We are elated to be celebrating 39 years and are blessed to be entering our 40th year of service to this fine community." He continues, "We have tried to give back to the community in every way and it shows through the happiness and health of our patients and their continued support."

His office manager Mrs. Lynn Egan, who is celebrating her 29th year in the practice, adds, "It gives me a great sense of satisfaction that the community has rewarded us for our dedication by their continued praise and support." Massage Therapist and CA, Janis Piccirillo, CMT has also been a long-time member of the team with 25 years of service; and Dorothy McCorry, CA is the newest member joining in 2022.

You can find out more about the Suburban Chiropractic Center by visiting their website at drmurphy.com.



(above) Dr. Joseph Murphy has been a member of Kiwanis Club for over 35 years.

ARM PAIN

You Don't Have To Live With It!

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Arm pain, hand and arm numbness, and tingling down the arm may actually be caused by a pinched neck nerve even though you have NO neck pain - Or something as simple as tendinitis of your shoulder and forearm.

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New Providence *Recent Sales*

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ADDRESS	BEDS	BATHS	GARAGE	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	DAYS ON MARKET
103 Primrose Dr	5	3.0	1	\$1,299,000	\$1,299,000	18
5 Green Way	3	3.1	2	\$1,199,000	\$1,295,000	9
83 Pittsford Way	3	3.0	1	\$699,000	\$899,000	12
29 Pittsford Way	3	3.0	2	\$779,000	\$825,000	6
15 Hillside Ter	3	2.0	2	\$729,000	\$803,000	6

Happy *New Year*

As we near the close of another year, we want to thank our clients and supporters who make our job so fulfilling. Your trust in our team when buying and selling a home is everything.

Wishing you a beautiful holiday season and a new year brimming with love, prosperity, and the comforts of home. We look forward to serving you in 2024.

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Source: GSMLS, select properties sold 11/8/2023-12/8/2023. If your property is currently listed with another Realtor, this is not intended as a solicitation of that listing. Information deemed reliable, but not guaranteed. Each office independently owned and operated. Equal housing opportunity. Some homes may be sold and listed by other brokers.



COME SING WITH US AT OUR OPEN HOUSE AT SHRINE OF ST JOSEPH

Hickory Tree chorus

Put some music in your life in 2024! Join the Hickory Tree Chorus for an Open House at Shrine of St Joseph, 1050 Long Hill Road, Stirling, NJ, which will include a meet-and-greet, movement warm-ups and, of course, some wonderful singing. Dates are January 10 and 17, 2024, from 6:45 to 9:30 p.m. The chorus sings a

variety of music, including old-fashioned love songs, Broadway, Disney, Beatles, and more in a fun, supportive community. Come sing with us and share the joy of music together! Stay for the friendship and fun!

Hickory Tree is an award-winning women's chorus singing four-part a cappella harmony in the barbershop style. We are passionate about

music, performance, fun & friendship. We believe every voice counts and encourage women singers of all ages, colors, ethnicities, and orientations to visit us and share our joy of music.

Please contact the Chorus for the Open House by email at info@hickorytreechorus.org.

Find more information at hickorytreechorus.org.



(above) The Hickory Tree Chorus invites the public to sing with them at an Open House, on January 10 and 17, from 6:45 to 9:30 p.m.

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28TH ANNUAL JERSEY CARES COAT DRIVE

The New Providence PBA Local 32 is collecting coats for New Jersey Cares from now until January 5, 2024. If you are looking to donate any new or gently used coats, please bring them to the New Providence Police Department lobby and place them in the bins.

For the past 27 years, The Jersey Cares Coat Drive has mobilized the collection and distribution of thousands of "gently used" winter coats to men, women, children, and infants in need. Last year, Jersey Cares collected more than 20,000 coats throughout the state of New Jersey. Companies, churches, police stations, schools and other organizations collect coats throughout the drive and deliver them to a central location, where volunteers then organize the donated coats and package them for pick-up. Our approved nonprofit partners then pick-up and distribute the coats to people in need.

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42ND ANNUAL SCOUTING FOR FOOD DRIVE

Mayor Al Morgan

Thank you to our Boy Scouts, Community Service Association of New Providence (CSA), Faith Lutheran Church, NPHS and to all the volunteers and generous contributors who helped, supported, donated, and made feeding our local families in need possible at this year's 42nd annual "Scouting for Food" food drive. This is New Providence's Pioneer Spirit at its finest. Thank you!



Courtesy photos

SEASON OPENS JAN 14 WITH JAY DANIELS

The New Providence Friends of the Library open their 2024 season on January 14th with a performance by an uplifting pianist and vocalist, Jay Daniels. He will offer a retrospective of one of the most momentous years in history – 1964. From the beginnings of the British Invasion with the Beatles and the Rolling Stones to the explosion of Motown, this was truly a groundbreaking year for music. Jay will also highlight two popular albums from that year, "It Might as Well Be Swing" featuring Frank Sinatra & Count Basie and one that heralded the arrival of the Bossa Nova, "Getz-Gilberto" with Stan Getz and João Gilberto. Join us on Sunday, January 14th from 3-4 p.m.



(above) Jay Daniels

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January 14 & 21, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.

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Wharton Community Players kick off their second season with the classical farce, *Much Ado About Nothing*. Join us to see who ends up with whom!

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New Providence, NJ

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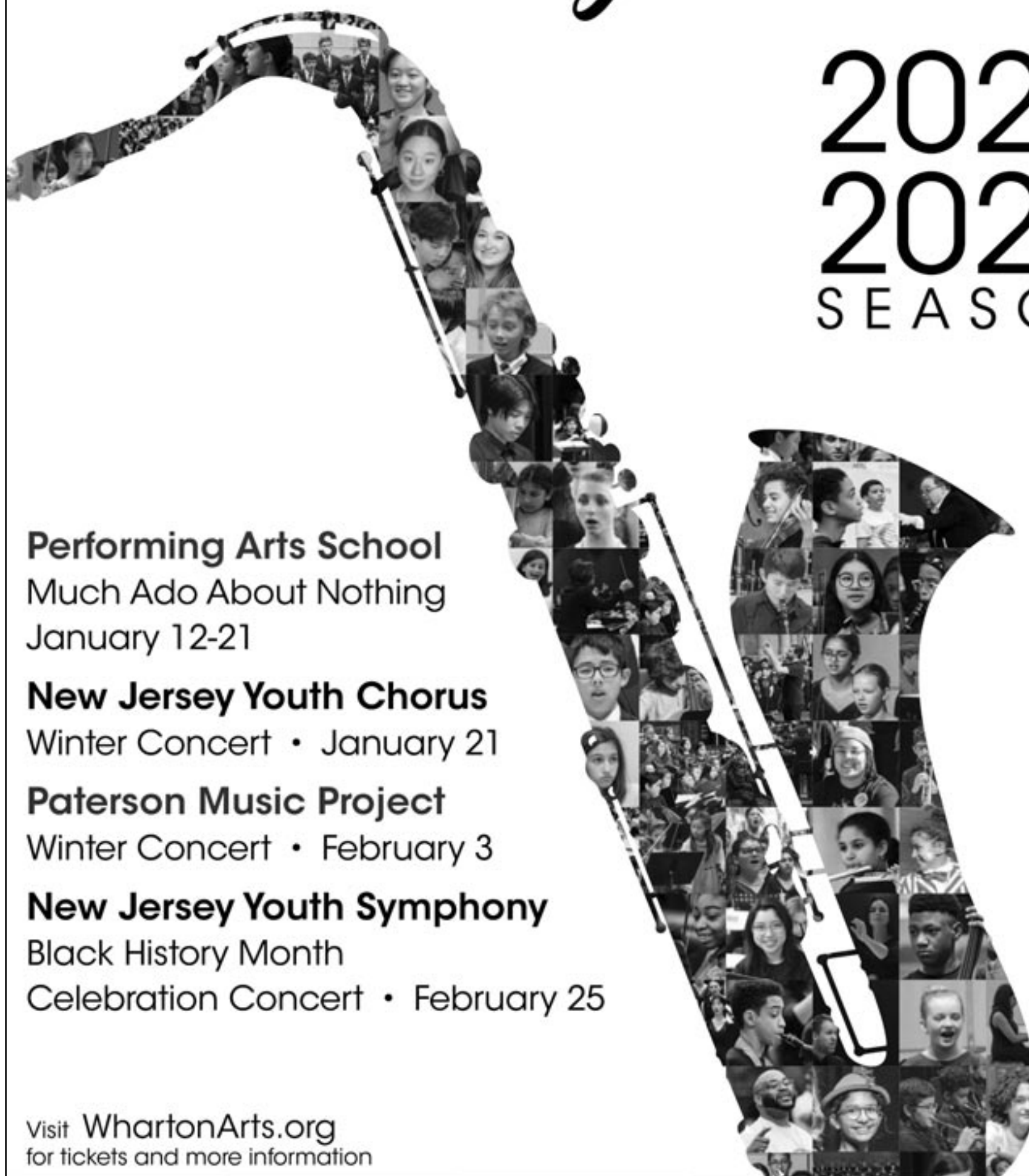
Performing Arts School
Much Ado About Nothing
January 12-21

New Jersey Youth Chorus
Winter Concert • January 21

Paterson Music Project
Winter Concert • February 3

New Jersey Youth Symphony
Black History Month
Celebration Concert • February 25

Visit WhartonArts.org
for tickets and more information



FOSTER YOUTH JOIN FOREVER FAMILIES AT ADOPTION DAY

CASA of Passaic and Union Counties

On a recent fall morning, five youth ranging from three to 10 years old entered the courtrooms of Superior Court Judges Gavin Handwerker, Paul Nieves and Chanel Hudson as foster youth and, shortly after, emerged as official members of their new families.

Adoption Day is eagerly anticipated by many at Union County's Family Court, as ample smiles fill the courthouse – a juxtaposition to the daily navigation of complex issues fraught with loss or discord. This year, county dignitaries presented families with proclamations and certificates, and festivities included performances by 30 high school students from Elizabeth's Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy A Cappella Choir; a former foster youth sharing her personal journey and adoption story; a roaming balloon artist; sheriff's officers dressed as superheroes and a Batmobile outside for visiting; furry greetings from Kenilworth's David Brearley Middle High School mascot bear; personalized cupcakes; and ice cream, face painting, and friendship-bracelet making stations.

CASA of Passaic and Union Counties presented family fun-themed gift baskets made possible in part from donations by David Brearley Bears That Care program and the Union County Bar Association. Baskets were given to all those finalizing on Adoption Day, as well as several families who adopted earlier in the year.

Cynthia Evans of Scotch Plains was among the CASA volunteers to attend the ceremonies for their assigned children. "The day was a long time

coming for these sisters, and it was amazing," she said. "I've been their advocate since 2020. Between their adoptive families and all involved, embraces and cheers were aplenty. My time as their CASA volunteer was both rewarding and challenging. I'm thankful I could help ensure their needs were met and services were provided while in care."

Adoption Day is a national movement to raise awareness of children in foster care. Since its inception 23 years ago, nearly 60,000 children have found permanency. More than 437,000

youth in the United States are currently in the child welfare system awaiting a permanent home, and the average wait is four years. For more than 23,000 youth, that doesn't happen, and they age out of the system, facing life on their own.

For details on CASA of Passaic and Union Counties, becoming an advocate for foster children or other opportunities to support the organization's work, log on to www.casapassaicunion.org.



(above, right) Event included a balloon artist; cupcakes; ice cream, face painting, and bracelets.



(left) Each family received a basket made possible by CASA of Passaic and Union Counties & the David Brearley Middle High School Bears That Care Program.



(above) Sheriff's officers dressed as superheroes, and maned a Batmobile outside the courthouse.

Courtesy photo







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Email to register for programs: rsvp@newprovidencelibrary.org • npmlchildrens@gmail.com • NPMLTeens@gmail.com

Movie Matinee: "Barbie" (Adults)

January 2 @ 1 PM

Margot Robbie plays Barbie and Ryan Gosling plays Ken in this PG-13 fantasy adventure comedy.

Board Games at the Brewery (Adults)

January 4 @ 7:30 PM -9:30 PM

Buy yourself a beer and play a board game Ages 21+. Meet at Untied Brewing at 140 Spring Street in New Providence.

Creative Writing Group (Adults & Teens)

January 4,11,18,25 @ 10:30 AM

Connect with your creative peers in the community with Creative Writing, a one hour opportunity to hone your writing skills. To sign up for weekly email reminders/ cancellation notices, send an email to register.

Math Club (Kids & Teens)

January 5, 12, 19, 26 @ 3:50-4:45PM

Join the NP Math Club and hone your problem-solving skills while meeting with other math enthusiasts. Run by NP Teens, open to students in 2-12th grades. Email to register.

SAT Math Help Club (Teens)

January 6, 13, 20, 27 @ 3-4:30PM

Tutoring sessions for students who are looking for help with the math portion of the SAT. Please bring a laptop/tablet and notebook. Run by a NP Teen. Email to register.

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

January 8 @ 6:30 PM - 9 PM

Baseball enthusiasts are invited to discuss teams, players and issues of the sport with other baseball fans. Join the group in person, or over zoom. To receive the zoom link, please email the library at rsvp@newprovidencelibrary.org.

Baseball's Oddballs, Outcasts and Outliers (Adults)

January 8 @ 7 PM - 8 PM

Did Hall of Fame pitcher Rube Waddell really have a fascination with fire engines? Why did the House of David barnstorming team never shave or cut their hair? Did Dock Ellis really throw a no-hitter while under the influence of LSD? And why did Turk Wendell brush his teeth in the dugout between innings? This virtual lecture by Jason Love will answer these questions and much more. Email to register.

NP Chess Club (Kids, Teens & Adults)

January 8, 22, 29 @ 4:30-6:30PM

Instructional Lectures & Strategy from 4:30-5:30 in the Conti Room, followed by play from 5:30-7:30. Register at least 1 day in advance at npchessclub.org

Books & Bagels (Adults)

January 9 @ 10:30 AM - 12 PM

Finally, a book group with no assigned reading! Join us for a free bagel from NP Bagel Cafe & tell us about what you've been reading and which books you've enjoyed recently. To sign up for email reminders, call the library or email.

Snap Circuit Jr. Club (Kids)

January 10 @ 3:015 PM - 4:30 PM

Learn about electronics, science, and engineering with mini experiments.

Book Group (Adults)

January 11 @ 7:30 PM

The book group will discuss Hester by Laurie Lico Albanese, a fictional origin story to The Scarlet Letter that gives a female perspective to the classic novel.

Let's Craft: Cupcake Decorating (Adults)

January 12 @ 11 AM - 12 PM

Love the fancy cupcakes you see at a bakery? Come learn how to decorate buttercream cupcakes at home. All supplies are provided, To register, email or call (908) 665-0311 x4.

CRAFTERDAY (Children)

January 13, 27 @ 10 AM - 3 PM

Come by the Coddington Room and use the materials and instructions that have been left out on the tables. Take home what you create.

While supplies last!

Screening of "Selma"

Followed by a Discussion (Adults)

January 13 @ 1:30 PM

"Selma" is a PG-13 docudrama depicting the marches from Selma, Ala., to Montgomery to secure voting rights for black Americans during the U.S. Civil Rights Movement. A discussion moderated by the SCC will follow.

Jay Daniels Piano/Vocal Concert (All Ages)

January 14 @ 3 PM

Pianist and vocalist Jay Daniels brings a fresh interpretation of classic songs by Frank Sinatra, Nat King Cole, Patsy Cline, and others.

Book Group (Adults)

January 16 @ 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

The morning book group will discuss "Funny Farm: My Unexpected Life with 600 Rescue Animals" a memoir by Laurie Zaleski.

Movie Matinee: "Oppenheimer" (Adults)

January 16 @ 1 PM - 4 PM

During World War II, Lt. Gen. Leslie Groves Jr. appoints physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer to work on the top-secret Manhattan Project.

Teens Teaching: An Introduction to the Science of Slime (Children & Teens)

January 17 @ 3:45 PM - 4:45 PM

January's topic is the science of slime! For students in grades 3-8. Email to register.

Knit/Crochet Night (Adults & Teens)

January 18 @ 7 PM - 8:30 PM

Drop by the Conti Room with a crochet, knitting or any type of needlework project, and chat with this friendly group as you work.

No registration required.

Family Movie: "Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory (1971)" (Kids/Families)

January 21 @ 2 PM

Join us in the Conti Room for the original movie adaptation of Roald Dahl's classic book.

Cookbook Club (Adults)

January 23 @ 1 PM - 2 PM

This month's themes are tailgating recipes and food on a stick. Email to register.

Good Tyme String Band (Kids & All Ages)

January 24 @ 10:30 AM

Join this string band for some toe tapping fun. All music lovers welcomed!

Lego Club (Kids)

January 24 @ 3:15 PM - 4:30 PM

Build a creation to fit the monthly theme or just make your own creation.

Sign up for February Teen Take Out Boxes (Teen)

January 25 @ 3:00 PM

Use our Google form to sign up for the December box which will be ready for pick up on February 22.

<https://forms.gle/zv8cxtbRZCysPSXF7>

Knitting Workshop (3th grade - teen)

January 25 @ 3:15 PM - 4:30 PM

Learn to knit from seasoned knitters. Bring your own needles and yarn. Space is limited and registration is required. Email:

NPMLChildrens@gmail.com

New Year: New Career (Adults)

January 25 @ 7 PM - 8 PM

Attend our career series on January 25, February 1, and February 15 at 7 PM. The first workshop, Getting Started, will cover self-reflection & research, skills inventory & gaps, and decoding job postings.

Yoga & Mindfulness Class (Adults & Teens)

January 27 @ 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Beginners are welcome. Please bring a mat and any other props you need to be comfortable to the Conti Room. Email

RSVP@newprovidencelibrary.org to register for this free class.

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS:

Storytime and Play at the Library in the Coddington Room:

[Storytime will take a 3 week winter break from December 26th - January 12th. The first storytime of 2024 will be on January 16th at 10:30 AM. Otherwise, regular storytimes are as follows.]

Tuesday Signs, Songs & Stories with Miss Cathy

@ 10:30 AM (preschool - K)

Featuring stories, interactive rhymes and movement with sign language!

Tuesday Open Play

@ 1 PM - 8:15 PM (closed from 4-5 pm)

Anytime Stories with Miss Debbie

@ 7:00 PM (all ages)

Tune in anytime to watch and hear stories from the Library's YouTube channel. New stories posted every Tuesday.

<https://www.youtube.com/c/newprovlibrary>.

Questions? Email NPMLChildrens@gmail.com

Wednesday Mother Goose Group with Miss Debbie

@ 10:30 AM (18 months - 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

@ 10:30 AM (0 - 3 yr olds)

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

Friday Open Play

@ 10:00 AM - 4:15 PM

THE JANUARY SPEAKERS PROGRAM FOR THE SUMMIT AREA OLD GUARD

The Summit Area Old Guard was founded in 1930 and meets most Tuesdays at the New Providence Presbyterian Church located at 1307 Springfield Ave. Our motto is "Come for the Programs. Stay for the Friends."

January speakers include Kathleen Bassiacos, Melanie Hazim, Joe Kane, Iveth Gonzales, and Charles Clarkson. Please join us. Our programs are free to the public, and we welcome you!

On January 2nd, Kathleen Bassiacos, a nurse at Unicity Healthcare, with over three decades of experience in oncology, geriatrics, assisted living and at-home care, will discuss how she focuses on her patients' health by managing emergencies mixed with adaptability. Her presentation will include not only nursing, but also treating the myths surrounding aging and nutrition.

On January 9th, Melanie Hazim, Director of

Outreach at the NJ Division of Consumer Affairs, will discuss her responsibilities for educating and promoting awareness of scams targeting New Jersey residents, and implementing the Division's mission and goal to protect New Jersey's residents from becoming victims of these frauds.

On January 16th, Joe Kane, a prevention specialist with The Council on Compulsive Gambling of NJ, will help us understand compulsive gambling and the need to support those suffering from this addiction. The Council focuses on educating the public, training professionals, referring gamblers and their families to treatment, and advocating for increased treatment services.

On January 23rd, Iveth Gonzales, a team leader with the New Jersey Sharing Network, will discuss organ donation, its benefits and how the acquisition and distribution system is

organized. Iveth will also speak from her experience after her father was diagnosed with pulmonary fibrosis and why registering as an organ donor, you may change of even save someone's life.

On January 30th, our speaker will be Charles Clarkson, an attorney, and a project director for the Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) under the auspices of Jewish Family Services of Middlesex County. Medicare is for seniors, it expends many billions of dollars, and it must deal with the hazards of fraud. Charles will explain how to detect and how to report Medicare fraud and related healthcare scams.

Past speakers and much more can be viewed at SummitOldGuard.org but we encourage people to drop in on our meetings which take place at the church at 10:00 AM most Tuesdays. "Come for the Speakers. Stay for the Friends." We look forward to meeting you.



(above, l-r) Ms. Bassiacos, Ms. Hazim, Joe Kane, Ms Gonzales, Charles Clarkson



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(above) The Senior Center of the Chathams hosted Holiday Parties on two days – November 30th and December 7th. Lunch was served, including deserts and mocktails.



(above) The performers for the November 30th party were Eleanor and Peter "Maestro" Jackson.

SENIOR CENTER WELCOMES AREA RESIDENTS

The Senior Center of the Chathams hosted holiday parties on two days this season – November 30th and December 7th. Lunch was served, including deserts and mocktails. The performers for the November 30th party were Eleanor and Peter "Maestro" Jackson. The entertainer for the December 7th party was Bob Marino.

The Senior Center of the Chathams is committed to offering its programs and services to a wide range of people and draws members from six counties and 70 towns, including Chatham, Madison, Berkeley Heights, Long Hill, New Providence, Florham Park, and Summit to name a few. All are welcome (55+) at the Senior Center of the Chathams. There is no membership fee to join. Many programs are offered free of charge, while others involve only a minimal fee thanks to individual donations, fundraising

events, and grants.

For 35 years, the mission of the non-profit Senior Center of the Chathams has been to protect the independence and dignity of a growing, aging population by providing a wide array of programs and services that educate, empower, and connect participants to one another. The Center enables older adults to age in place and to remain active, engaged, and contributing members of their communities while increasing their access to programs and services in the areas of wellness and fitness; enrichment; support and connection; and information and referral. All of this helps to improve their physical and emotional well-being.

The Center is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. For more information about the Senior Center of the Chathams, call 973-635-4565 or visit chathamseiorcenter.org.



(above) Madison residents Susan Mennella, Joanne Whitney, and Chris.



(above) Dancing in your seats or on the dance floor



(above) New Providence resident Bette Schmitt



(above) Sue Nixon of Long Hill & Tersa Conte of Florham Park enjoy playing picket ball together at the Center.



(above) Berkeley Heights residents Ken & Josephine.



(above) Chatham residents Elenor & Peggy

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MUSIC OF THE WINTER SEASON – JAN. 7

Faith Lutheran Church

Do you, like many people, get the post-Christmas blues? Need something to raise your spirits? Faith Lutheran continues their series of free music concerts on Sunday, January 7 at 4:00 p.m. featuring music written about the winter season, music of the Epiphany season, and more.

Shea Velloso, Minister of Music at Faith Lutheran Church and an accomplished organist, will be performing works by Leroy Anderson, Henri Mulet, Antonio Vivaldi and others.

The organ at Faith Lutheran Church was designed by Glück Pipe Organs and built by Organ Supply Industries in 2011. It was designed in the American Classic style, which allows it to play music from any period in history with equal ability. Significant changes and improvements have been made to the organ in the last four years, transforming it into one of the outstanding instruments in the vicinity.

Join us for free this festive event! Faith Lutheran Church is located at 524 South Street, New Providence, NJ.



(above) The pipe organ and choir loft at Faith Lutheran Church

SPIRITUAL? CURIOUS? SEEKING?

Do you consider yourself Spiritual? Are you Curious about what people are talking about when they speak of having faith or being spiritual? Are you Seeking peace of mind, of heart of soul?

Come and see for yourself. Come and explore the Christian faith. Come and discuss with other seekers what is on your mind, what you cannot talk about except with other seekers. Come to an Alpha gathering.

Alpha is for everybody that wants to discuss seeking answers to life's big questions. Why are we here? Is this all there is to life? Where are we going? How do I attain peace of mind, heart, and soul? Whether you are young or old, have faith or are atheist or agnostic, Alpha provides a safe environment for exploring our big questions about life.

We begin by sharing a meal together and getting to know each other. We watch a video

together then break into small groups for uninhibited discussion about what is on our minds.

There is no cost to participate. The series runs for 12 weeks on Monday nights beginning at 7:30 p.m. and ending at 9:00 p.m. It will begin February 5th, 2024, and end May 6th, 2024. Three of the sessions are live in person and the remainder are on Zoom. You will need a desire for frank discussion, a willingness to participate and a commitment to attend. You will also need a computer or smartphone capable of Zoom sessions.

The live in person sessions will be held at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, 1571 S. Martine Ave., Scotch Plains, NJ 07076. If you have any questions, please call (908) 889-2100. To register go onto IHMParish.net/alpha.



Meet new people & explore faith together.

Alpha is a place to connect with other people who are open to exploring life, faith, and meaning. Each session includes a time to connect with others (often over a free meal), hear a short talk on an element of the Christian faith, and then a chance for each person to share their own questions with the group. We'd love to hear your perspective!

Alpha Winter/Spring 2024
Season begins LIVE
Monday February 5th
7:00 pm @
The Nazareth Center

(Followed by weekly sessions hosted on Zoom)



Scan the QR Code with your phone or smart device to access our sign up page at www.ihmparish.net/alpha

If you have questions about Alpha, please contact the Nazareth Center Office at 908-889-2100 or send an email to office@ihmparish.net



FAITH Lutheran Church
524 South Street, New Providence, NJ
famfaith.org • 908-464-5177 • The Rev. Jane McCready, Pastor

Sunday Mornings
Services with Eucharist at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School, Youth & Adult Forums at 8:45 a.m.

Midweek Advent Services with Eucharist
December 6, 13 and 20 at 12 noon
Organ Recitals After Services on December 6 and 20

Christmas Eve
Sunday, December 24
Family Service with Eucharist at 4:00 p.m.
Candlelight Eucharist with Special Music at 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Day
Monday, December 25
Nativity of Our Lord Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.
Service of Lessons, Carols and Eucharist
Sunday, December 31 at 10:00 a.m.

Livestream available
Visit our website at www.famfaith.org
Facebook at Faith Lutheran, New Providence
YouTube at FLCNJAV

We practice an open Communion table - All are welcome!



New Providence Presbyterian Church
Christmas Eve
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4:00 PM - Children's Service
8:00 PM - Traditional Service
10:00 PM - Contemporary Service

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Florham Park Press NJ Qty: 5,500 Zip: 07932	Garwood NJ Times Qty: 2,500 Zip: 07027	Green Brook NJ Gazette Qty: 3,000 Zip: 08812	BUSINESS • LIFE KENILWORTH NJ Qty: 3,500 Zip: 07033	NJ LIFE in LINDEN Qty: 17,900 Zip: 07036	Long Hill LEADER NJ Qty: 3,500 Zips: 07933, 07946, 07980
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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
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NJ LIVER TRANSPLANT RECIPIENT HEADED TO 2024 ROSE PARADE® IN CALIFORNIA

NJ Sharing Network

NJ Sharing Network, the federally designated non-profit organization responsible for the recovery of donated organs and tissue for transplant in the Garden State, recently honored liver transplant recipient Missy Rodriguez of Short Hills, NJ, as she gets set to participate in the 2024 Rose Parade® in Pasadena, CA, on New Year's Day. Rodriguez was selected by the Sharing Network Foundation to ride on OneLegacy's Donate Life Rose Parade® float, which is recognized as the world's most visible campaign to inspire organ and tissue donation.

At the age of ten, Missy Rodriguez received a successful life-saving liver transplant. Today, Rodriguez is approaching the fortieth anniversary of her transplant – a milestone that will make her one of the longest liver transplant survivors in history. She thrives in her professional, social, and athletic pursuits.

Rodriguez went to great lengths to keep her medical history a secret for most of her life. However, in 2015, Rodriguez had a dramatic change of heart after she underwent emergency surgery. She decided it was "her turn to give rather than receive." Since then, Rodriguez has turned her passion into purpose as an advocate for organ donation. She serves as a mentor, priding herself as a resource for pre- and post-transplant patients.

Rodriguez is a certified volunteer for NJ Sharing Network and principal for Missy's Miracle Scholarship Fund. This Sharing Network Foundation program supports initiatives that raise awareness for organ and tissue donation and provides scholarships for high school students touched by the Foundation's life-saving mission. To date, she has raised over \$120,000.

Rodriguez is a well-recognized community volunteer and advocate for donation and transplantation. She has been featured in dozens of television and print news media spotlights and acknowledged for her charitable efforts by local neighborhood businesses, alliances, and religious institutions. Her efforts have also been publicly recognized by the Township of Millburn, NJ, with an official Proclamation. Rodriguez also participates in the Sharing Network Foundation's 5K Celebration of Life and has won gold medals in tennis at the Transplant Games of America as a member of Team Liberty.

Rodriguez resides in Short Hills, NJ, with her husband, Brett, and their three sons, Jesse, Reece, and Mack.

ABOUT ONELEGACY'S DONATE LIFE ROSE PARADE® FLOAT

For over 20 years, OneLegacy's Donate Life Rose Parade® float has inspired people worldwide to save and heal lives with the powerful message of organ and tissue donation. The 2024 float, Woven Together: The Dance of Life, will showcase the culture of the Hopi, native to the American Southwest. Transplant recipients (including Missy Rodriguez) will ride on the float and living donors will walk alongside it. Memorial floragraphs honoring organ and tissue

donor heroes will also be displayed on the float. The floragraphs replicate photographs and are made entirely of flowers, seeds, and organic materials.

ABOUT NJ SHARING NETWORK

NJ Sharing Network is the federally designated non-profit organization responsible for the recovery of donated organs and tissue for transplant in the Garden State. NJ Sharing Network provides hope for nearly 4,000 New Jersey residents currently waiting for a life-saving transplant, and it is part of the national recovery system for the over 100,000 people on the national waiting list. The generosity of New Jerseyans is providing hope for the future. In 2022, the number of organ donors and organs transplanted in a single year reached all-time highs. This marked the fourth consecutive year NJ Sharing Network has reported new records in the number of organs transplanted, underscoring the clear trend of increased support for organ donation. With headquarters in New Providence, NJ, the organization has been recognized by NJBIZ as one of the state's "Best Places to Work" for six consecutive years. To learn more, get involved, and join the National Donate Life Registry as an organ and tissue donor, visit NJSharingNetwork.org.

ABOUT THE SHARING NETWORK FOUNDATION

The Sharing Network Foundation supports the work of NJ Sharing Network, the federally designated non-profit organization responsible for the recovery of donated organs and tissue for transplant in the Garden State. The Foundation is committed to increasing the number of lives saved through clinical advancement, family support, public awareness and education about the life-saving benefits of organ and tissue donation and transplantation. For more information or to make a contribution, visit SharingNetworkFoundation.org.



(above) Missy Rodriguez is joined by her husband Brett and two of their sons, Reece and Mack, during a 'sendoff event' at NJ Sharing Network as Missy prepares to participate in the 2024 Rose Parade® in Pasadena, CA, on New Year's Day. Rodriguez was selected by the Sharing Network Foundation to ride on OneLegacy's Donate Life Rose Parade® float, which is recognized as the world's most visible campaign to inspire organ and tissue donation.

Photo Courtesy of NJ Sharing Network

BARBARA CHRISTENSEN



Barbara was born on October 14, 1933 to John and Helana (Ward) Coats in Reliance, SD. She graduated from Yankton High School and Yankton College, graduating with a Liberal Arts Degree. On June 10, 1954 she was united in marriage to John "Jack" Christensen in Yankton, SD. They taught in Canton, SD for two years before John became employed with Northwestern Bell in Fargo, ND. Barb helped with local theater programs while they were there until they moved to New Jersey where John was hired by AT&T. While there, Barb helped produce many off-Broadway shows in the area. Many actors and actresses stayed with them while shows were going on at the Summit Overlook Theater. Barb also became a Real Estate Broker for REMAX while they were in New Jersey. After they retired, they moved back to South Dakota where they helped with many different local activities. In her spare time, she loved to paint, write, and read books.

Grateful for having shared her life are her 2 sons, Jeff (Michelle Crawford) Christensen of Wakonda and James "Jamie" Christensen of Raleigh, NC; Grandchildren John, Jason, Julia, and Aiden; Step-grandson Cole Crawford and Step-great-grandson Oaklynd; Foster daughter, Jetta "Wendy" Bollinger and her children Ryan and Rachael of California; sister Kay Davidson. She is preceded in death by her parents; her husband John; and her brother Tom Coats.

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