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CALL FOR DETAILS

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

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.

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

Adoption Day is eagerly anticipated by many at Union County's Family Court, as ample smiles fill the courthouse – a juxtaposition to

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.

cupcakes; and ice cream, face painting, and friendship-bracelet making

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



(above) Festivities included a balloon artist; personalized cupcakes; and ice cream, face painting, and friendship-bracelet making stations.

(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.

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.

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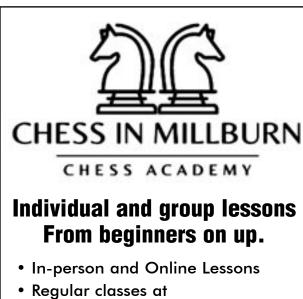
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Do you have a community service that you need help publicizing? Did you or someone you know accomplish something amazing? We are interested in hearing about your latest achievement (honor, award, etc.), send us your news! Email: editor@rennamedia.com

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



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HISTORICAL SOCIETY BUS TRIPS

For information and reservations, please call 908-709-0434. As space is limited, reservations and payment should be made by April 4 to ensure availability. Gift certificates for the trip are also available for purchase.

Proceeds from the bus trip will benefit the Kenilworth Historical Society's historic Oswald J. Nitschke House (c. 1880) by helping defray operating expenses, including the cost of an elevator that makes the restored "living history" museum and cultural arts center fully accessible to everyone.

The Kenilworth Historical Society (kenilworthhistoricalsociety.org) is an independent, volunteer-based, non-profit, taxexempt, 501 (c) (3) organization dedicated to the research, preservation and interpretation of the Oswald J. Nitschke House, local history. **JACKSON OUTLETS AND**

DELICIOUS ORCHARDS HOUSE - APRIL 20

The Kenilworth Historical Society will host a bus trip to two popular N.J. shopping destinations -- Jackson Premium Outlets and Delicious Orchards -- on Saturday, April 20.

The trip will depart Kenilworth (St. Theresa's School parking lot) at 9:30 a.m. and return to Kenilworth at approximately 7:30 p.m. Cost of \$55 includes comfortable motor coach transportation, approximately 5 hours at Jackson Premium Outlets followed by a visit to Delicious Orchards country food market. Jackson Premium Outlets features 70 outlet stores from some of the world's leading restaurants/eateries.

designers and name brands, including American Eagle, Banana Republic, Bath & Body Works, Brooks Brothers, Carter's, Chico's, Coach,

Crate & Barrel, GAP, Kate Spade New York, Levi's, Nike, Polo Ralph Lauren, Tommy Hilfiger, Under Armour -- and more, plus a number of eateries. Coupons for additional store discounts will be provided. Delicious Orchards, a 60,000 square-foot retail market specializing in top-quality fresh fruits and vegetables, also offers a wide array of baked goods from an onsite scratch bakery, fine meats, cheeses, coffees and teas, and deli, prepared foods, organic and grocery sections. There will be a 50/50 raffle and complimentary door prizes on the bus.

WIND CREEK CASINO - MAR 16

The Kenilworth Historical Society will host a bus trip to Wind Creek Bethlehem Casino in Bethlehem, Pa., on Saturday, March 16.

The trip will depart Kenilworth (St. Theresa's School parking lot) at 8:30 a.m. and return to Kenilworth at approximately 5:30 p.m. Cost of \$56 includes comfortable motor coach transportation, an approximate 6-hour visit to the casino and \$25 in free slot play. There will be a 50/50 raffle and complimentary door prizes on the bus. The casino offers more than 3,000 state-of-the-art slot machines ranging in denominations from 1 cent to \$100, more than 150 table games – and more. The Wind Creek Bethlehem site additionally houses a wide range of distinctive outlet stores and popular

'SOUP'S ON' FEATURE LOCAL RESTAURANTS/EATERIES

soup-tasting event on Thurs., March 21, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., at the Kenilworth Senior Center (526 Boulevard). This ever-popular event, "Soup's On," will give participants the opportunity to taste a variety of favorite soups from local restaurants/eateries and others. Assorted breads and desserts will also be served. A 50/50 raffle will be held during the event.

Admission is \$12. Parking and entrance to the Senior Center are located at the rear of the building. Advance reservations (by March 14) are

The Kenilworth Historical Society will host a requested, as seating is limited. For information/reservations, please call 908-709-0434 or visit Love You More floral boutique (13 North 20th Street, Kenilworth), where tickets for the event are being sold.

> Proceeds from "Soup's On" will benefit the Kenilworth Historical Society's Oswald J. Nitschke House (c. 1880) "living history" museum and cultural arts center by helping defray building and operating expenses, including the cost of an elevator that makes all levels of the site fully accessible.

Meeting every Thursday night starting at 8:00 pm KENILWORTH COMMUNITY CENTER AND RECREATION BUILDING 575 Boulevard in Kenilworth, NJ at corner of 24th Street Visitors are always welcome, beginner to master. Membership is not required to play. KENILWORTH CHESS CLUB

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"MEET THE MAYOR" NETWORKING EVENT



(above) Union Township Mayor Manuel Figueiredo

The Greater Union Township Chamber of Commerce's annual "Meet the Mayor" networking event is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 29, 2024, 5:30-7:30 p.m., at ConnectOne Bank, 2455 Morris Avenue, Union.

The program will feature a time for chamber business owners to meet Union Township Mayor Manuel Figueiredo, who will share his vision for the Township in the coming year, and update attendees on current projects and programs affecting the economic vitality of the community. In addition, various township officials and department heads will be in attendance to address issues and concerns from local businesses and organizations.

Admission for the event is \$10 for members and \$15 for guests. Preregistration is required and can be done at unionchamber.com or by calling 908-688-2777, or by emailing:

executive director @union chamber.com.

The Greater Union Township Chamber of Commerce is a professional association dedicated to promoting member businesses located in Union and the surrounding area. It encompasses the chambers of Union, Roselle Park, Kenilworth, and Hillside.

Please join Troop 83 in thanking our Veterans & First Responders at our 7th Annual Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

Sunday, March 3, 2024 anytime between 8:00am - 12 noon

Kenilworth VFW Hall 33 S.21st Street, Kenilworth



Tickets are \$ 8.00 per person Veterans, First Responders & children under 5 eat FREE

Buy tickets at: http://njtroop83.square.site or email: troop83 mom@gmail.com

INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN TOPIC OF MEETING

Retired Policemen and Firemen's Association, Local 3

New Jersey State Police Detective Daniel Rafanan gave a 45-minute presentation on Internet Crimes Against Children, at the Retired Policemen and Firemen's Association, Local 3 meeting recently held at the Kenilworth VFW.

Detective Rafanan covered many of the issues with the Internet that lead to texting, bullying, depression, and suicide in our teens today. Detective Rafanan also covered sextortion which is an increasingly common online crime in which people are enticed into sending sexually explicit photos. Once the photos are sent, the receiver of the images threatens to share them online or with family or friends unless the victim sends money.

Detective Rafanan also explained what parents can do including, Establish rules and expectations for online behavior early on; Review your child's social media account periodically, look at comments and photos; Explain consequences for inappropriate online behavior; Review your child's friends accounts as well; and Talk about what their friends are posting.

The Internet Crimes Against Children Unit is responsible for conducting investigations of offenders that utilize computers and computer technology for the purpose of exploiting children. The unit conducts proactive and reactive investigations into endangerment of children.

This was a powerful and educational presentation that all parents and teenagers should see and hear. If anyone would like more information on this program, you can email Retired Chief Grady at rprflocal3@gmail.com for contact information.



STUDENTS TAKE PART IN GROUNDBREAKING

Kenilworth Public Schools

A groundbreaking ceremony at David Brearley Middle-High School on Dec. 14, 2023, included school district leaders. Board of members Education and construction contractors.

But the true guests of honor were barely taller than the shovels they used to scoop the soil. Five fourth graders - one from each homeroom participated in the groundbreaking as their classmates watched from the bleachers.

All wore hardhats and waved blue and yellow flags – the same colors of their future school.

The current fourth-grade class at Harding Elementary will enter David Brearley Middle-High School as the school's first sixth-grade class in September 2025. The groundbreaking signaled the start of the work on the two-story addition that will expand the middle school to accommodate grades 6-8, and create a high school science wing. The project is part of a \$31.4 million bond referendum that Kenilworth voters approved last year.

The building addition will give the middle school its own main entrance, a structural

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separation between the middle school and high school, and space for more middle school classrooms.

"We know that students thrive when they feel a sense of belonging. We have long been determined to give our middle school students a true home of their own where they can focus on their academic and social experiences," Kenilworth Public Schools Superintendent Kyle Arlington said during the ceremony.

Shifting the sixth grade to Brearley also will benefit Harding by freeing up space and providing more schedule flexibility.

"The projects and allocation of resources were intentionally planned and aligned to support our district goals and the evolving needs of our students," said Board of Education President Dr. Michelle Panichi.

Work is already underway on other bond referendum projects, including athletic field upgrades and efficient HVAC units for every classroom. Renovations are also planned for the Harding and Brearley auditoriums. Parts of the Harding auditorium have not been updated since the school was built a century ago.

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SUBER BOWL SPECIALS 2024

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Cheeseburger Sliders 12ct Chicken Wings 30ct Penne Vodka - Small 1/2 Tray 2 Liter Soda Choice \$84.99 Feeds 6-8 People

Chicken Fingers 25ct Assorted Sandwiches 15ct Baked Ziti – Small 1/2 Tray 2 Liter Soda Choice \$84.99

Feeds 6-8 People

Philly Cheesesteak Sliders 12ct Penne Vodka – Small 1/2 Tray Sloppy Joes 18ct 2 Liter Soda Choice \$89.99 Feeds 6-8 People

We are open Super Bowl Sunday February 11th from 12PM-4PM See our menu online @cozycornerdeli.net 558 Rahway Ave Union NJ 908-688-8884 Visa & Mastercard Accepted





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IMAGINE VOLUNTEER FEBRUARY TRAINING

A recent participant in Imagine's last volunteer facilitator training shared this about her experience: "The training was truly amazing and inspiring. I am so honored to have had the opportunity to participate in it." Another shared: "The Imagine Staff are amazing. I so appreciate all the knowledge they shared and the encouragement they gave to me and the other participants."

Participants in Imagine's training programs often describe the experience as "life-changing". In addition to story sharing and the opportunity to support one another, training participants gain knowledge and skills regarding Alan Wolfelt's Companioning Model for grief support that's practiced at Imagine. Participants often walk away with a new understanding of themselves, and a new capacity for supporting the people in their lives. They bring this understanding to their role as facilitators in Imagine's peer support group program where children, youth, young adults and adults come together to share their grief experiences and receive and give support.

Imagine's volunteer facilitators come from all walks of life and no special background is required other than a willingness to listen, a heart inclined to serve, and the ability to be with children and adults in grief without trying to fix, solve or give advice. No prior experience is necessary. Volunteers must be 18 years or older. Bilingual (Spanish speaking) volunteers are needed as well. Volunteers serve as companions and loving listeners for those who are grieving and help create a space where participants can share tears and embrace the joys of life.

If you'd like to join us for Imagine's next facilitator training, it will be held Saturday, Feb. 17th through Monday, February 19th from 9 am-5 pm each day at Imagine's Newark Center at 570 Broad Street in Newark, and we ask that our new volunteers attend the entire training. Our new Newark center is located downtown in the Chase building with parking available directly behind the building. It's also close to public transportation. We're hoping those completing the training will be able to facilitate groups held every other week at our Newark center. We have

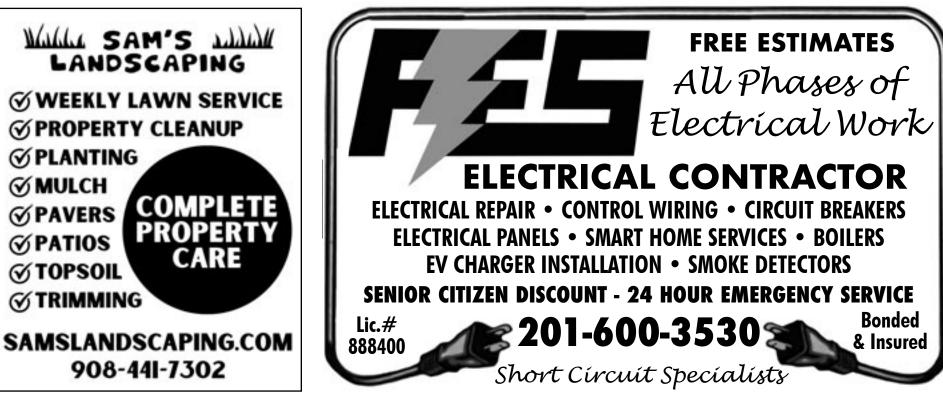
Imagine a world where no child grieves alone



so many children and families currently in need of support that we're planning to launch a new Night of Support in Newark. We're also looking for a few new facilitators for our Mountainside location.

If you're interested in making a difference in the lives of grieving families and would like to participate in this transformative training experience, please visit Imagine's website at imagineni.org or scan the bar code below to let us know of your interest. Please reach out to Imagine's Program Supervisor, Abigail Priece, LPC at abigail@imaginenj.org with any questions.

Imagine is a 501c3 nonprofit that offers free year-round grief support groups for children ages 3-18 and young adults 19-30 who are coping with a loss due to death. Concurrently, support groups are available for the parents and guardians of the children in the groups and offered in English and Spanish. Imagine also offers grief and loss education and training to the community. For more information please contact Imagine at 908-264-3100 or info@imaginenj.org.



DISCOVERING KENILWORTH'S "MODEL HOMES," PART 2

created New Orange in 1894 from over 30 farms it bought in Union and Cranford. Most of New Orange was known as Kenilworth in 1904. The Association divided the farms into thousands of building lots and wanted to sell homes it had built and also lots by themselves, to make a profit on its investment in buying the vast land area.

It marketed the properties in large ads in NY newspapers. One such ad was titled, "A NEW CITY, New Orange." It read in part, "If you are looking for a first-class investment where property is sure to double in a few years ..., [then buy a home] in New Orange."

A contract was awarded in 1897 to master builder William Hopkins of Brooklyn, to erect 140 homes. He built the first in July 1897. Many were built Downtown, the area west of N. 14th Street, primarily north of Monroe Ave.

The homes were referred to as "De Hirsch

The New Orange Industrial Association Houses" as the impetus for their erection was to shelter the many Jewish families to be brought to New Orange - the predecessor of Kenilworth by the De Hirsch Fund. The De Hirsch Fund sought factory jobs here for Jewish people who it brought to the United States from eastern Europe - mainly Russia - to escape religious persecution.

By 1899 Hopkins was far behind schedule having completed only 40 units. At this pace the Association knew its business venture could be doomed. In desperation, another builder was sought to build the remaining 100 houses – but it had to be done in just 100 days. That summer James Arthur of Philadelphia was contracted to build those 100 houses in 100 days. Arthur, who built more than a thousand homes in the Philadelphia area, was up to the challenge.

Arthur recruited tradespeople to form "work gangs." Many lived in tents and vacated farm



(above) 7-room model, \$1,600 (N. 9th St.)



(above) 6-room model, \$1,300 (N. 8th St.)

Sources: Historic Signs Inc., photos taken 2015





(above) Duplex model, \$2,200 (N. 10th St.)

buildings. Some remained in the community once the work was done. Some rose to prominence such as William Hoiles and John Hiller, Jr., eventually Kenilworth's second and third mayors. Joseph Gow, was later school board president. Jack and John Shallcross became prominent local businessmen. Hiller branched out built dozens of homes on his own. He served as a postmaster. Gow later constructed homes as well.

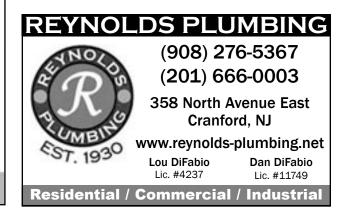
The 100 homes were completed by November, well within the 100 days. At the same time, Arthur amazingly built other homes, stores, a factory, a huge rooming house, and two hotels. Realtor John T. Kanane, another new arriver, handled sales, rentals, and construction progress. He later served as postmaster, school board president, and as a county undersheriff.

The contract specified three "model" home styles. Prices varied based on the number of rooms. The 32, six- 6-room, 1 bath homes cost \$1,300 each. The 34, seven-room, 1 bath homes, cost \$1,600. Each was built on a 25 ft. by 100 ft. lot. The 34 duplexes (17 individual buildings) with 1 bath for each side, cost \$2,200 for both sides. The duplex was built on two lots measuring 50 ft. by 100 ft. That totaled 100 housing units. The workers had no power equipment so building 100 homes in 100 days was even more remarkable. Numbers of these homes are still standing Downtown such as those pictured with this article.

More to come in the next edition of this newspaper. Watch for Kenilworth's first "neighborhood" development started in 1906. Where was it? Most dwellings still exist.

Research provided by Walter E. Boright, Ed. D., historian, and Historic Signs, Inc.

Persons with inquiries about this or other Kenilworth history topics may contact Dr. Boright at drbori@aol.com or 908-256-5200.



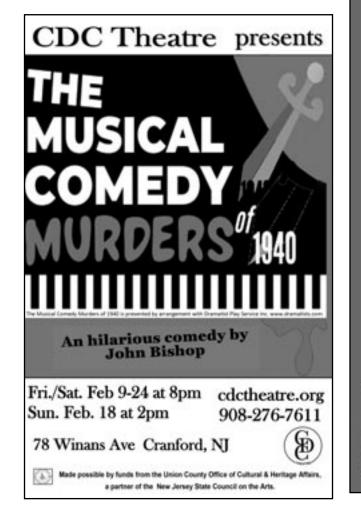
HILARIOUS WHODUNIT COMING TO CDC THEATRE IN CRANFORD

The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940, an Agatha-Christie-meets-Clue parody, is full of twists, turns, red herrings and slapstick for audiences of all ages! John Bishop's 1987 comedy is a send-up of all the cliches and stereotypes from both musical theater and murder mysteries thrown together and shaken up for laughs.

The creative team responsible for a recent Broadway flop assemble for a backer's audition of their new show at the Westchester estate of a wealthy and eccentric theatre financier. However, the shadow of the team's last show hangs over the group-- Manhattan Holiday was ravaged by the "Stage Door Slasher," a mysterious killer who stabbed chorus girls. As the composer, lyricist, actors and director prepare their performance, and a blizzard cuts off any possible retreat, bodies start to drop in plain sight. It doesn't take long for everyone to figure out that one of them is The Stage Door Slasher and accusing fingers point in all directions. The bumbling police inspector, who snowshoes in to investigate, is hoping to flush out the killer from this group of suspects--but the killer has other plans. More than that, the threat of Nazi saboteurs lurks among them!

Will the Slasher be unmasked? Maybe, but not before the audience has been treated to a rollicking good time full of the author's biting, satiric and irreverent wit.

Performances are at CDC Theatre, 78 Winans Ave. in Cranford with shows on Fridays and Saturdays, February 9-24 at 8pm and on Sunday, February 18 at 2pm. For the best ticket selection and price, visit cdctheatre.org.



OLD GUARD FEBRUARY SPEAKERS

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."

February speakers include Scott Hough, Ed Oatman or Amy Wagner, Dr. Yaron Moshel, and Amy Behr-Shields. Please join us. Our programs are free to the public, and we welcome you!

Our speaker on **Tuesday, February 6th** will be Scott Hough, Superintendent of Schools, Summit, NJ. Scott will give us an overview of the school system and describe the impact covid had and how he dealt with it (he was appointed to his position in June 2020!). Scott will also discuss critical issues facing all school administrators, such as bullying, security and student safety. Roughly one half of Summit's annual budget goes to support the public schools, and the appeal of Summit as a great place to live is supported by its excellent schools.

Our speaker on **Tuesday, February 13th** will be either the manager or deputy manager of Union County, NJ. Union County has a diverse population equivalent in size to that of Wyoming and a budget of a half billion dollars. Most people are quite familiar with their own city or town, but usually know much less about their county. Ed Oatman, manager, or Amy Wagner, deputy manager, will hopefully change that for you. County operations include areas such as law enforcement/courts, parks & recreation, public

The Summit Area Old Guard was founded in works -roads and infrastructure, health care, 930 and meets most Tuesdays at the New economic development, and a lot more.

On **Tuesday, February 20th**, Dr. Yaron Moshel, co-director of the Gerald J. Glasser Brain Tumor Center at Atlantic Health System's Overlook Medical Center, will be our speaker. He is one of a select few surgeons who specialize in removing deep-seated brain tumors using technology that includes computer-guided navigation, awake intraoperative brain mapping, endoscopy, and microsurgery. Dr. Moshel will explain how the convergence of precision medicine, advanced robotics, and specialized imaging are fostering new breakthroughs in the treatment of brain and spine tumors.

Finally, on **Tuesday, February 27th**, we ask the question, 'with so much information accessible online, is a public library still relevant'? Amy Behr-Shields, the Director of the Summit Free Library, will explain how the library is needed to curate reliable sources of information, and to manage the complexities of digital and non-digital media, while serving as a community center and a welcoming environment. You will also be surprised to learn how many varied programs and services the library offers.

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 a.m. most Tuesdays. "Come for the Speakers. Stay for the Friends."

We look forward to meeting you.



7:00 PM LIVE @ The Nazareth Center. Immaculate Heart of Mary Church. 1571 South Martine Ave. Scotch Plains. Please register before 1/29/24. More details available at www.ihmparish.net/alpha

KENILWORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY FEBRUARY PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

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

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Weekly programs: Bingo For Children

Mondays at 6:30pm – 7:00pm February 5, 12 & 26 Bingo games for children ages 3 & up

Lap Sit Tuesdays at 10:30am – 10:50am February 6, 20 & 27 Interactive stories and songs

for ages 0 – 2 years old

PJ Story Time

Tuesdays at 6:30pm – 7:00pm February 6, 13, 20 & 27 Children are welcome to attend this story time program dressed in their pajamas and bring along a favorite stuffed animal

for ages 3 & up.

Toddler Time Wednesdays at 10:30am – 10:50am February 7 & 21 Interactive stories and songs

for ages 2 – 3 years old. Lego At The Library

Thursdays at 3:30pm – 4:00pm

February 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 Build your own unique creations with Lego bricks for age 4 – 12 Fun Friday Crafts Friday at 3:30pm – 4:00pm February 2 & 16 Ages: 4 – 9

Registration is required for each individual craft one week prior to each craft.



(above, l-r) Boogie Woogie Babies - Feb 13



(above) Good Tyme String Band - Feb 28

FEBRUARY SPECIAL EVENTS

Registration is required for all special events.

Kenilworth residents may register one week prior to each event. Out of town residents may register two days prior to each event, space permitting. To register call the library at 908-276-2451 or visit 548 Boulevard.

Tween Craft

Monday, February 12, 3:30pm – 4:30pm Ages: 10 - 14

Boogie Woogie Babies

Tuesday, February 13, 10:30am – 11:00am Interactive musical program will be presented by Tiffany Taylor for ages: 0- 4

Yoga Story Time Wednesday, February 14,

10:30am - 11:00am

Join us for stories and yoga poses for the youngest listeners and their caregiver. This program will be presented by Heather Valente for ages: 2 - 5. This program has been funded by The Friends of The Kenilworth Public

Library.

Read To A Dog

Tuesday, February 27, 4:00pm – 5:00pm Ages: For early beginning readers and those who are learning to read Young, reluctant, or struggling readers are encouraged to register for this program and read aloud for 15 minutes with certified therapy dogs Bubble or Magnolia. Children will learn to associate reading with being with these furry, non-judgmental listeners and begin to view reading in a positive way. Over time, the child's reading ability and confidence can improve because they are practicing their skills. Registration is required. Readers may register

> for a 15-minute visit. **Good Tyme String Band** Wednesday, February 28,

10:30am – 11:00am All ages are welcome to attend and enjoy foot tapping knee slapping banjo music



(above, l-r) Read To A Dog - Feb 27, Yoga Story Time - Feb 14

ADULT PROGRAMS

Paper Pals

Tuesdays, February 6 and 20 at 2-4 pm and Monday, February 12 at 6:00pm – 7:45 pm Our card making group "Paper Pals." You don't need any paper crafting experience to join the fun.

"Yarnies"

Thurs., February 1, 8, 15 & 22 at 2-4 pm Thurs., February 29 at 6:00 pm – 7:45 pm. You don't need any crafting experience to enjoy these creative explorations. Feel free to bring a project to work on. Watch demonstrations of knitting, crocheting and weaving.

"Spin - A - Yarn"

Tuesday, February 27 at 5:00 pm – 7:45 pm. Bring your spinning wheel or drop spindle and create beautiful yarns! If you don't have a

wheel, you are still welcome to join us to learn about spinning.

All of these programs are free for adults.



IOT ANY SIZE Party! Book Your Playoff and Championship Game Parties! • 3-6 Foot Sub Sandwiches • 3-6 Foot Sub Sandwiches • 3-6 Foot Sub Sandwiches • Sloppy Joe Platters • Sloppy Joe Platters • Wrap Platters • Salads • Wings • Chicken Fingers Plan Ahead - Call Today 908-272-0370

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NEW JERSEY VETERANS NETWORK - HELP US SAVE VETS!

Michael D. Boll, Director NJVN

Everyday 22 veterans take their own lives, unfortunately this number hasn't changed over the years. Several groups and organizations have worked tirelessly to combat this horrible epidemic. The New Jersey Veterans Network (NJVN) is one of those groups that strives to help veterans daily to live a better way of life.

NJVN is a mobile outreach team, that aggressively seeks out veterans in need and provides them life changing and saving resources. The NJVN is a 501c3 created in 2017 and has focused its mission by always putting our veterans first. Since the NJVN started thousands of veterans and National Guardsmen have been fed, clothed, and provided with various personal items. Also, we were able to get 30 veterans newer refurbished vehicles through the Recycled Rides program. However, the NJVN most important mission is that we save lives, just in the past first years alone our team has saved over a dozen lives.

Being a network, the NJVN works with other military, veteran, and first responder groups that share the same mission. We would never have succeeded without having the support and commitment from our partners and sponsors. This is vital for the NJVN to be able to help veterans in need throughout New Jersey.

Most recently, the NJVN has stepped up recreational events and programs such as camping, hiking, movie nights, BBQs, and field trips. We are fortunate to have amazing partners and volunteers that will help transport our veterans to and from the hospitals and shelters. These events allow our veterans to feel like they are part of a unit again and are not forgotten or abandoned.

What makes the NJVN unique is its willingness to try different things and think outside the box. By asking the veterans what they



want most, and how we can help them, has really made our program a huge success.

Our next initiative will be the launch of our veteran peer support/ mentoring program the "Uniformed Heroes Project". This initiative is a collaboration between the military-veteran-first responders groups and organizations. Also, it is backed by legislators and numerous charitable organizations. The NJVN is currently looking for volunteers and groups willing to help us provide our veterans with the best help possible. If you are interested in filing the team, or would like to volunteer, please send us an email at NJVNM1775@gmail.com or call directly (973)332-1556.

ABOUT NEW JERSEY VETERANS NETWORK

We are a group of veterans and volunteers dedicated to helping our veterans and their families live better lives. Our mission is to identify veterans and connect them with resources and programs designed to meet their unique set of needs. Help us save Vets! We are always looking for volunteers, with various skills, to join the team. If you are a veteran or family member that's in need of assistance; or are interested in volunteering, would like us to speak at your event, or contribute to our mission, call 973-332-1556 or email njvn1775@gmail.com To learn more about the team please check out our website njvn.org (accomplishments). Help us save Vets!

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