# New Providence NEWS

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Issue 101 • February 2024

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#### **COMMUNITY EVENT SUPPORTS NEIGHBORS IN NEED** The Community Service Association of New Providence (CSA) gether with the New Providence Lions Club will host its 9th Annual five and under are free. They can

together with the New Providence Lions Club, will host its 9th Annual Pasta Dinner & Basket Raffle on Sunday, March 3, 2024, as it celebrates its 70th Anniversary supporting New Providence residents. This popular and fun, family-friendly event will take place at the DeCorso Community Center, 15 East Fourth Street, New Providence, NJ. A feast of pasta, salad, and dessert will be served from 3 - 7 p.m. and dozens of baskets will be raffled off, along with a 50/50.

The Community Service Association of New Providence ("CSA") helps New Providence families, young and single parents, seniors, and any other residents who find themselves in financial distress. This may involve putting food on the table for their children, covering unexpected expenses or helping with rent or utility bills. The CSA, a registered 501(c) 3 nonprofit founded in 1954, is not a government entity and relies solely on the kindness and generosity of neighbors.

"The pasta dinner fundraiser is our biggest fundraiser of the year. It is an exciting and popular event that brings the community together, for all ages," said CSA President Gene Castagna. "The impact the CSA has for residents in our community is immeasurable, especially when we can help pay basic bills due to an unforeseen hardship. We give them hope and comfort – and that's everything. We invite the entire neighborhood to come together for a delicious meal, great prizes, and a great cause," he continued.

Event tickets are \$15 per person and children five and under are free. They can be prepurchased online:

Givebutter.com/2024CSAPastaDinner or at the door. Raffle tickets will be sold at the event including high-value "Shamrock" tickets for higher-value baskets.

Residents in need of the CSA's help, or anyone wishing to get involved in supporting or volunteering, can call (908) 665-8254 or email csanewprovidence@gmail.com. All requests for assistance are kept anonymous.

Visit csanewprovidence.org and like the CSA New Providence Facebook page.





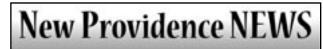


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### SEND US YOUR NEWS

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

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### 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.



(above) New Jersey State Police Detective Daniel Rafanan Courtesy photo

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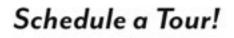
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## **HEART ASSOCIATION AWARDS CERTIFICATION TO SPRING GROVE**

Building on its commitment to comprehensive morbidities, as well as reducing readmissions." care and services, Spring Grove Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center in New Providence recently earned the American Heart Association's (AHA's) new Skilled Nursing Facility Heart Failure Center Certification. The 106-bed skilled nursing facility, located at 144 Gales Drive, provides post-hospital care, short-term rehab and long-term residential care.

The world's leading nonprofit focused on heart and brain health, the AHA has invested more than \$4.8 billion in research since its founding. Evaluation criteria for its new skilled nursing certification – earned by less than 2% of skilled nursing facilities nationwide, to date was designed by heart failure experts. Certification requirements include program management, personnel education, clinical management, care coordination and performance improvement, as well as patient and caregiver education and support.

"This advanced certification provides heart patients with the assurance that Spring Grove is recognized by the AHA for delivering the most effective heart failure treatment strategies based on a standardized method of current evidencebased guidelines," said Kani Burgos, regional director of market development at Marquis Health Consulting Services, which supports Spring Grove. "These specific care strategies and services are aimed at improving outcomes for those with chronic heart failure and its co-

Spring Grove's reputation for progressive skilled nursing care is well established. The center was named one of the nation's "Best Nursing Homes 2022-23" for long-term care by U.S. News & World Report; marking the third consecutive year Spring Grove has been recognized in at least one program category. It maintains a five-star rating for quality measures from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). More information on Spring

Grove can be accessed on the facility's website, springgroverehab.com.

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



(above) Spring Grove Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center's interdisciplinary care team





### Bi-Monthly Sales at a Glance

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ADDRESS	BEDS	BATHS	GARAGE	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	DAYS ON MARKET
8 Pine Ct	5	4.1	2	\$1,349,000	\$1,350,000	10
5 Green Way	3	3.1	2	\$1,199,000	\$1,295,000	9
136 Pittsford Way	3	2.1	1	\$850,000	\$930,000	25
83 Pittsford Way	3	3.0	1	\$699,000	\$899,000	12
29 Pittsford Way	3	3.0	2	\$779,000	\$825,000	6
55 West Fourth St	3	1,1	1	\$650,000	\$721,000	16

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Source: GSMLS, select properties sold 11/23/2023-1/23/2024. If your property is currently listed with another Reaftor, this is not intended as a solidation 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.



## TRICKY TRAY & FASHION SHOW – SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 2024

The "Roaring 24"s" are here....

Join the New Providence High School PTSA as we step into the "Roaring 24's", at its annual Tricky Tray & Fashion Show on Saturday, March 23, 2024.

This student-centered fundraiser finances



various PTSA-sponsored events and activities throughout the year and supports the entire NPHS community - students, teachers, staff, and parents - through scholarships, grants, teacher and student appreciation events, and even improving facilities such as the courtyard and so much more. The night begins with Baskets & Bites from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. in the NPHS Cafeteria.

The event committee is actively building baskets full of Spiffy and Swell gifts with the help of generous local businesses and families. Imagine going home with one (or more!) of these fabulous gift baskets: a Solo Stove, Apple Watch, Nespresso machine, lottery tickets, Air Pods, spa packages, gift certificates to Broadway.com and local restaurants, and much, much more! Be sure to come to pick a box on our Raffle Boards! The Senior Parking Spot Board is open to current Juniors, \$20 for a chance to win a FULL YEAR Parking Spot for the next school year. Parents of graduating seniors should see our Graduation Board - Enter for a chance to win a reserved parking spot and extra graduation tickets for 2024 Graduation (really comes in handy if it rains!!). Don't miss our GRAND PRIZE GOLDEN TICKET board where you can win \$1,000 in gift cards to local NP businesses, generously donated by Joe Eberle of Weichert Realtors. No evening is complete without the traditional 50/50 for one lucky winner. Make a wish and take a chance on any of these wonderful baskets and prizes.

Our main event, the Fashion Show, will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium. Nearly 100 students from the Class of 2024 will model stunning dresses and tuxedos (tuxedos provided by NP's own Adam's Fine Clothing). Our Seniors are sure to transport you to a sockdollager affair - cutting up the rug with ruckus reminiscent of Speakeasies and Flappers! You will be treated as well, to berry performances from members of our talented student body. Numerous students are also involved behind the scenes - our students will direct the tech, lighting, and sound in the auditorium, manage the backstage, serve as runners in the cafeteria and auditorium, and greet you at the stage door as ushers. The evening culminates with the lucky winners picking up their beautiful baskets.

All ages are welcome and encouraged. Grab some friends, bring the whole family, and make this a new yearly tradition. It will be the "Bee's Knees" for one and all!

Tickets are on sale now! Visit nphsptsa.org to purchase. Admission to both the Tricky Tray and Fashion Show is \$20 for adults and \$10 for children, students, and seniors. Basket tickets are \$20 for a sheet of 25 tickets, and for a limited time, buy five sheets, get one free. Admission and Raffle tickets are always available at the door. Credit Cards accepted the night of, but don't forget to bring your Cabbage (cash or check) for the Raffle Boards.



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## FEBRUARY EVENTS AT NEW PROVIDENCE MEMORIAL LIBRARY

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#### Creative Writing Group (Adults & Teens)

February 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 @ 10:30 AM Please note, this is not a class. To sign up for weekly email reminders/ cancellation notices,

send an email to

#### RSVP@newprovidencelibrary.org. Teen Volunteer Training Sign-ups (8th-12th graders)

February 1-11

Email by February 11. Training dates are 2/12 & 2/26 5:30-7PM and 2/15 & 2/22 4:30-6PM. Check our Teen Volunteer page for info. www.newprovidencelibrary.org/services/teenservices/volunteering

### Teen Winter Reading Challenge (Teens)

February 1- March 15 Students in grades 6-12, participate in our first Teen Winter Reading Challenge for a chance to win the grand prize!

Math Club (Kids & Teens)

February 2, 9, 23 @ 3:50-4:45PM Join the NP Math Club and hone your problemsolving skills. Children 10 and under must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Email NPMLTeens@gmail.com to register.

SAT Math Help Club (Teens) February 3, 10, 17, 24 @ 3-4:30PM Tutoring sessions for students who are looking for help with the math portion of the SAT. Email NPMLTeens@gmail.com to register. The Story of Molly Bannaky (All Ages 9+)

February 4 at 3 PM Monica Scott will tell the story of her 10th great grandmother, Molly Bannaky. Knit Night (Adults)

February 5, 15 @ 7:00-8:30PM Drop by the Conti Room with a crochet, knitting or any type of needlework project, and chat with the group as you work. To sign up for email reminders, email

RSVP@newprovidencelibrary.org. **NP Chess Club (Kids, Teens & Adults)**  *February 5, 12, 26 @ 4:30-6:30PM* Instructional Lectures & Strategy from 4:30-5:30 in the Conti Room, followed by play from 5:30-7:30. Open to kids, teens, and adults. Registers at least 1 day in advance at npchessclub.org

Movie Matinee: "Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny" (Adults) February 6 @ 1 PM - 3:30 PM Valentine's Day Craft (Children)

*February* 6 @ 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Come by the Coddington Room and use the materials and instructions to create a Valentine for someone special.

Snap Circuit Jr. Club (Kids) February 7 @ 3:15 PM - 4:30 PM Learn about electronics, science, and engineering with mini experiments on your

#### circuit board. Book Group (Adults)

February 8 @ 7:30 PM The book group will discuss South to America: a Journey Below the Mason-Dixon to Understand the Soul of a Nation by Imani Perry.

Virtual Conversation with Rom-Com Author Tessa Bailey (Adults) February 8 @ 8 PM

Author Tessa Bailey talks about her sports romance duology with her book Fangirl Down.

### Let's Craft: DIY Gift Bags and Boxes (Adults)

*February* **9** @ **11:00** AM - **12:00** PM Get creative with paper and learn how to make gift bags and boxes with a few easy folds. To register, email or call (908) 665-0311 x4.

#### WinterFest Craft Day (All ages)

February 10 @ 11 AM - 4:00 PM Come by the Conti Room for winter crafts. Cover Girls Concert (All Ages)

February 11 @ 3 PM A special Valentine's Day show, featuring timeless love songs from across the years from The Cover Girls.

Batter Up - Let's Talk Baseball (All Ages) February 12 @ 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Baseball enthusiasts are invited to discuss teams, players and issues of the sport with other

baseball fans. **Books & Bagels (Adults)**  *February* 13 @ 10:30 AM 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.

New Year, New Career (Adults) February 15 @ 7 PM – 8 PM Career series on Jan 25, February 1 and February 15 at 7 PM. The Feb 15 workshop, Master the Interview, covers interview types & prep, performance, negotiation & closing. Yoga & Mindfulness Class (Adults & Teens) February 17 @ 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Beginners are welcome. Email to register. Read to a Dog (K - 4th Graders) February 17 @10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Practice your skills by reading to a therapy dog. Email to register.

Family Movie: "Clifford the Big Red Dog" (2021) (Kids/Families) February 18 @ 2 PM Book Group (Adults) Feb 20 @ 10:30 AM

The book group will discuss No Name in the Street by James Baldwin. Movie Matinee: "Jerry and Marge Go Large" (Adults) February 20 @ 1 PM - 2:30 PM Exploring Identity, Love, and Being Black in America: A Virtual Talk with Author Jason Mott February 20 @ 4 PM

Virtual interview with bestselling author Jason Mott about his recent novel Hell of a Book. **Good Tyme String Band (Kids & All Ages)** February 22 @ 10:30 AM

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

Knitting Workshop (3th grade - teen) February 22 @ 3:15 PM - 4:30 PM Learn to knit from seasoned knitters. Space is limited and registration is required. CRAFTERDAY (Children) February 24 @ 10 AM - 3 PM Come by the Coddington Room and use the materials and instructions that have been left out on the tables. While supplies last! Penguin Pointers! (Kids/Families)

February 24 @ 12:00 (second show @ 12:30) A real African penguin from Jenkinson's Aquarium at Point Pleasant Beach will waddle around for our delight. Email to RSVP.

One-Woman Play: Women Breaking Loose (All Ages 12+)

February 25 @ 3 PM - 4 PM Theatrical version of A Pair of Silk Stockings, by Kate Chopin; and Representing T. A. Buck,

by Edna Ferber. **Silent Book Club (Adults)** *February 26 @* 7:00 PM

A great way to set aside time to read – bring a book and join us in the reading area. To register, email RSVP@newprovidencelibrary.org.

**Cookbook Club (Adults)** February 27 @ 1:00 PM

This month's themes are semi-homemade & weeknight recipes. To register, email RSVP@newprovidencelibrary.org.

Read to a Dog (K - 4th Graders) February 27 @ 6:35 PM - 8:05 PM Practice your skills by reading to a therapy dog.

Email to register your 15 minute slot. Virtual Conversation with Kim Scott, Author of Radical Candor (Adults)

February 28 @ 2 PM - 3 PM Kim Scott is the author of two books, Radical Respect: How to Work Together Better and Radical Candor: Be a Kick-ass Boss Without Losing your Humanity.

Lego Club (Kids)

*February* 28 @ 3:15 PM - 4:30 PM Build a creation to fit the monthly theme or just make your own creation.

### WEEKLY STORYTIME AND PLAY

Signs, Songs & Stories with Miss Cathy Tuesday @ 10:30 AM (preschool - K) Featuring stories, interactive rhymes and movement with sign language!

### Open Play

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

### Anytime Stories with Miss Debbie

@ 7:00 PM (all ages) New stories posted every Tuesday. www.youtube.com/c/newprovlibrary. Questions? Email NPMLChildrens@gmail.com

### Mother Goose Group with Miss Debbie

Wednesday @ 10:30 AM

(18 months - preschool) An active storytime with songs, fingerplays, dancing and fun for babies to preschool!

Storytime with Miss Anita

Thursday @ 10:30 AM (0 - 3 yr olds) Bring your babies and toddlers for stories, rhymes and socialization.

**Open Play** 

Friday @ 10:00 AM - 4:15 PM

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### **NEW PROVIDENCE SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER**

The Center's hours are Monday-Friday from 9:30 a.m. —2:30 p.m. Please call (908) 665-0046 or visit newprov.org/seniors for more information.

### **AARP TAX RETURN ASSISTANCE**

This month the DeCorso Center is pleased to offer a special lecture, George Washington, New Jersey, and the Revolutionary War, on AARP Foundation Tax-Aide assistance in Wednesday, February 21 at 11:00 a.m. Celebrate Presidents' Day at the center by learning how George Washington and the state of New Jersey were central to The Revolutionary War. This lecture presented by Joel Farkas looks at George Washington's military career, a history of the Revolutionary War, and the military battles and winter encampments in New Jersey.

The New Providence Senior Citizens Club holds weekly meetings on Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. with special presentations, performances, or "special" bingo. For program details and a full calendar please visit newprov.org/seniors.

New Providence area residents can obtain free preparing and filing their 2023 tax returns. AARP Foundation Tax Aide counselors will be available at the DeCorso Center for appointments from 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and Fridays from February 9 through April 12 (with the exception of Wednesday, 3/13 when there will be no appointments). Trained AARP Foundation Tax-Aide volunteers will provide in-person tax assistance free of charge, with a focus on taxpayers who are over 50 and have low to moderate income. Taxpayers with complex returns may be advised to seek paid assistance. Taxpayers may call the DeCorso Center to schedule an appointment, or they may sign up in person at the Center.



(above) New Providence Senior Citizens enjoyed painting a beautiful winter scene during a recently offered art class.

Courtesy photos



(above) The New Providence Middle School Art Club students joined the New Providence Senior Citizens to help decorate the DeCorso Community Center for the holiday season.







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### **NJ INTERGENERATIONAL ORCHESTRA WINTER FREE CONCERT - FEB 25**

(NJIO) will present its 2024 Winter Concert on Sunday, February 25th at 3 pm at Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church, 716 Watchung Avenue, Plainfield, NJ. The concert is free and open to the public. Donations are gratefully accepted.

The concert will feature performances by three of NJIO's ensembles: Symphony Orchestra, Intermezzo Orchestra, and Prelude The Symphony Orchestra, Ensemble. conducted by Artistic Director Warren Cohen, will play Beethoven's Leonore Overture no. 1 and Mendelssohn's Symphony no. 5, composed when he was only 21 years old. Also known as the Reformation Symphony, it contains musical references to both the Dresden "Amen" and Martin Luther's chorale "Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott" (A Mighty Fortress is our God).

NJIO's Intermezzo Orchestra, conducted by Oliver Hagen, will perform excerpts from Beethoven's Symphony no. 5 and Symphony no.

### THE COVER GIRLS – **FEB. 11TH**

#### The New Providence Friends of the Library

The Cover Girls will share their special Valentine's Day show, featuring love songs across the years, at the New Providence memorial Library. They bring an innovative and refreshing classic sound through their tight harmonies that speak to the soul. At any age, you'll be humming, or even singing along to these timeless classic love songs. Join us on Sunday, February 11th from 3 - 4 p.m.

New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra 2. The Prelude Ensemble, NJIO's entry-level group, is conducted by Elizabeth Maliszewski. Prelude will be performing La Rejouissance from Handel's Royal Fireworks Music and an arrangement of Beethoven's Greatest Hits!

In addition to playing in this beautiful performance space, this concert will be livestreamed and recorded.

**Concert Details:** Sunday, February 25th, 2024, at 3 pm (doors open at 2:40 pm) **Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church** 716 Watchung Avenue Plainfield, NJ 07060 Admission is free; donations are gratefully accepted.

NJIO is committed to ensuring that its programs and concerts are accessible. For more information regarding the concert or to inquire about patron services, please contact NJIO at info@njio.org or visit NJIO's website at njio.org New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra, now

in its 30th season, has been nationally recognized as a leader in intergenerational excellence through its unique approach to teaching musical performance and as a model for intergenerational orchestras across the country. Depending on space availability, NJIO welcomes new members of all ages and varying skill levels each concert period to one of its several orchestras - no auditions needed!

This concert is made possible by funds from: the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts; The Lillian Schenck Foundation; The Henry S. and Agnes M. Truzack Foundation; a collective contribution made by the Citizens Philanthropic Foundation and the Investors Foundation; Standish Foundation; and many other generous supporters.

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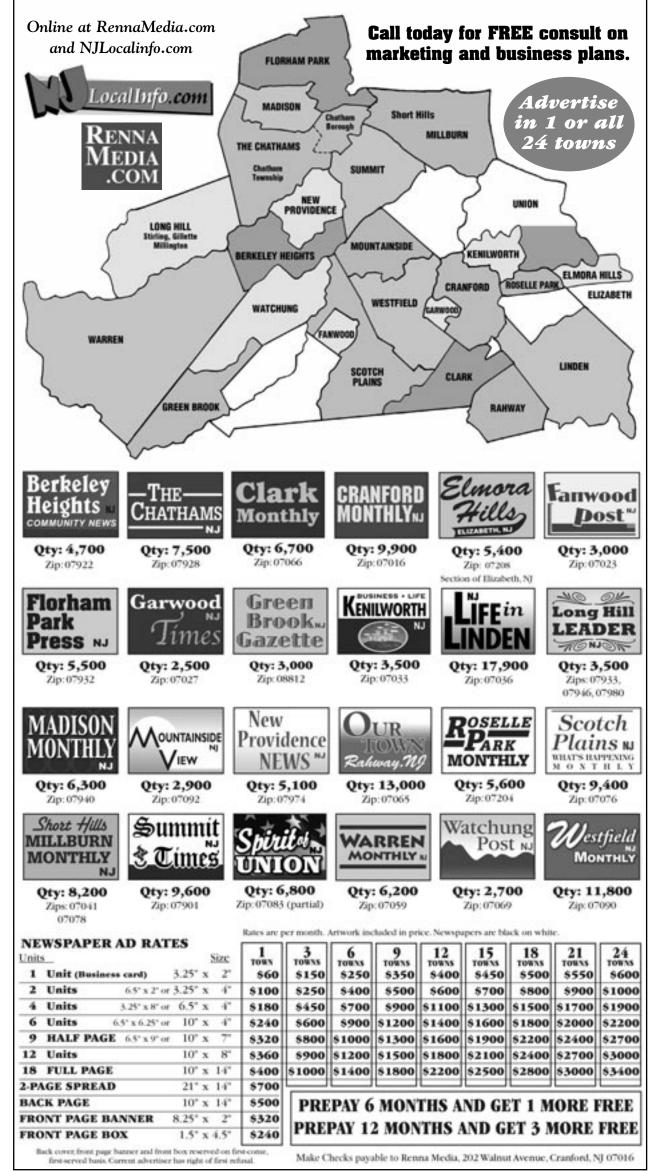
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