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## **HONORING THOSE SERVING: 1ST LT JEZREEL MENDOZA**

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Courtesy photo (above) First Lieutenant Jezreel Mendoza and his parents

up but I've met a lot of great people and the army tells me where to go. Right now, I am happy where I'm at. When I was with the New Jersey National Guard I was with the Cavalry Unit and right now in the U.S. Army, active-duty army I am currently with a field artillery battalion.

What I miss about Kenilworth is just seeing my family, being in the suburbs and suburban life. I miss being able to ride my bike and see my friends and hang out. I love going to DiMario Park, playing basketball and stuff like that. The Boulevard, every time I am in Kenilworth just passing the Boulevard there is so many memories of being there. Just driving down that street brings back a lot of childhood memories."

After being discharged from the military Jezreel has considered the possibility of pursuing a master's degree in biology or entering the nursing field. As a matter of fact, one of his top preferences when entering the military was becoming a medical officer. Although he did not get that his second choice was to enter the field artillery which he is proud to be doing. He stated that, "The army is a super competitive branch and whenever you are picking your branches you are competing against everybody else in the country for that branch and there are only so many jobs available. I have no regrets and I love being an F.A. officer."



currently serving active duty with the U.S. Army Field Artillery. Growing up Jezreel always had a passion for the military. He stated that, "I originally enlisted in my junior year of high school around 2015 but didn't officially go to AIT training until I graduated in 2016. I went to basic training in Fort Benning, GA and after I finished at Benning I went to Fort Sam Houston where I trained as a combat medic. After I received that since I was in the NJ National Guard, I was assigned to the 102nd Cavalry Unit, Westfield, New Jersey. While I was in the NJ National Guard I was going to college, still living at home, every weekend I did my drills and annual drill in the summer. It was convenient for me since Westfield is right next to Kenilworth. I went to college to study for a degree in biology and I earned my B.A., I started in 2017 and finished in the Winter of 2021. At Rutgers, Newark I did ROTC and got my

Submitted by Michael T. Naya, Jr. Kenilworth resident First Lieutenant Jezreel

Mendoza, David Brearley Class of 2016 is

commission at Seton Hall in March 2022. Following my commission I went to Fort Sill, Oklahoma to be a field artillery officer. After I graduated, I came down to Kansas where I am currently stationed at Fort Riley. My current role is still a field artillery officer."

When asked about his time in the military he stated "I think that my time in the military has been a very positive experience, I met a lot of fantastic soldiers in my career, and I learned a lot about being a leader, managing myself, the soldiers I have to lead and guide, and overall, it helped me become a well-rounded person. If I had to suggest the military to anybody who is on the border of joining, I would say go for it. I think that the military in general has a lot to offer to any person and I was kind of that person when I first enlisted and I said, 'I know what I'm going to do, whatever happens, happens, I am glad I made that decision years ago."

When asked about what he misses about being stationed in New Jersey he commented, "I miss being stationed in New Jersey, it's where I grew







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## **DANCE PROGRAM IS A FAVORITE AMONG STUDENTS**

#### Kenilworth Public Schools

David Brearley Middle-High School took a big step by adding a dance program to its curriculum.

Now in its second year, the unique elective is quickly becoming a favorite among David Brearley's middle and high school students – with more than 200 participating in the classes.

The dance program teaches valuable 21stcentury skills, including communication, collaboration, critical thinking and creativity. It also helps students develop agility, coordination, balance, strength and flexibility.

Dance class also bridges academic subjects. For example, the program delves into dance history, anatomy and mindful practices such as yoga to strengthen social-emotional learning. Most importantly, the class provides an opportunity for students to artistically express themselves in a safe, supportive and nonjudgmental environment.

"I always tell my students that I don't expect them to walk away from this class on the track to become a professional dancer - although I will absolutely help them get there if that's their goal," said Rachel Stanislawczyk, David Brearley Middle-High School's dance educator. "I do expect them to walk away from this class with an appreciation for the art form and an understanding of the role that dance plays in our society."

Additionally, dance requires students to make human connections and have face-to-face communication, said Stanislawczyk. The dancers reinforce these valuable bonds by participating in numerous events throughout the year.

Recently, the dancers joined a virtual class and rehearsal with the American Repertory Ballet's Dance for Parkinson's program, founded by Stanislawczyk. Students learned an excerpt of choreography that dancers with Parkinson's disease performed at Princeton University's Concerts Healing with Music series on March 3, and were invited to dance alongside them at the show.

For Brearley's Celebration of Black Culture event, the dance students performed a traditional West African dance called the Sinte. They are now preparing for the school's dance concert and the Union County Teen Arts Festival, both held in the spring.

"I've been to the dance performances and the students' energy comes off the stage," Jeremy Davies, David Brearley Middle-High School principal, said at a recent Kenilworth Board of Education meeting where the program was recognized. "It's wonderful to experience. The dance program is only in its second year, and it has seen unbelievable success."

For more information about Kenilworth Public Schools, visit kenilworthschools.com.



(above) The new dance program at David Brearley Middle-High School is a popular choice among students. Besides learning different forms of dance, the students develop communication, collaboration and critical thinking skills.





Open to the Public





#### Kenilworth Life • Page 6 • April 2024 WHAT, WHERE, WHEN IN OLD KENILWORTH DISCOVERING KENILWORTH'S "MODEL HOMES," PART 4

Cranford Knolls was a development of 75 homes built in both Kenilworth and Cranford by H. B. Butts and Sons. H. B. (Harold) was the father. The sons were George and Harold, Jr. Construction began in 1941. Homes marketed at \$5,200 to \$6,000; some sold for less. The higher priced homes included an attached garage and other amenities. In 2023 one sold for \$450,000.

Cranford Knolls encompassed hundreds of building lots. The tract was bordered on the west by Elizabeth Ave. in Cranford, on the north by Bloomingdale Ave., on the east by Michigan Ave., and on the south by Colfax Ave. Less than 20 of the 75 homes were within Kenilworth's borders and included at the time primarily those erected on Fairfield and Ashwood avenues. Research suggests that the model home was in the Cranford portion. Dozens of lots in the southern Kenilworth portion of Cranford Knolls were not developed until the 1950s. These included many homes on Maplewood, Oakwood, and Ashwood avenues running off of Colfax Ave.

Of the original homes erected in 1941 on Fairfield and Ashwood avenues, many were moved beginning in 1949 due to the construction of the Garden State Parkway. The homes were larger style Cape Cods constructed on lots with 60- to 75-foot frontages.

Many of the relocated homes are easily recognizable today because their house fronts have two pairs of double hung windows. One pair of windows to the left of the front door; the other pair to the right of the door. Many of those were hauled to Cranford, Faitoute, and Quinton avenues. If you drive down those streets today you can identify the homes that were moved by their distinctive sets of two pairs of double hung windows on their fronts. The mayor and council made building lots available to those local residents who chose to remain in Kenilworth in their moved homes. It was during this period that Kenilworth actually grew to be bit larger in geographic size. This is due to the fact that Cranford deeded over to Kenilworth some Cranford land on a section of



(above) Garrick's house moved to 451 Colfax Ave., 1950.



(above) Fairfield and Ashwood Ave. homes, 1942. All moved by 1950. Photo: Chas. Vitale

Cranford Ave. which was sorely needed to help accommodate the Kenilworth homes being displaced by the Parkway.

Frank Garrick, Jr. was nine years old when the home of his parents, Frank and Grace Garrick, was moved in 1950. It went from 575 Fairfield Ave. to 451 Colfax Ave. Young Frank provided some details of the State "buy back" program. He stated in 2003, "In 1941 my mother and father bought the house for \$4,000. The State bought it for \$10,000 to make way for the Parkway. The State sold it back to my parents for \$1,000 – the same offer as made to others on the street whose houses had to be moved. With the \$9,000 remaining my parents moved the house, fixed what needed to be fixed, paid off the mortgage, and had money left over."

Next issue to feature Harding Manor homes. 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.



(above) Fairfield Ave. view, 2024. Photo: Historic signs







## **AFTERNOON TEA WITH A 'WEIRD N.J.' TWIST**

'Weird N.J.' Founders/Publishers Mark Moran and Mark Sceurman to Highlight Little-Known N.J. Legends, Folklore and More



(above) Mark Moran and Mark Sceurman, founders and publishers of Weird N.J. magazine, will discuss the unique, mysterious and peculiar side of New Jersey during an Afternoon Tea to be presented by the Kenilworth Historical Society on Sat., May 18, at the Kenilworth Veterans Center (Kennedy Room),



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Participants in the Kenilworth Historical Society's spring Afternoon Tea on Sat., May 18, will explore the unique, mysterious and peculiar side of New Jersey through an enlightening presentation by Mark Moran and Mark Sceurman, founders and publishers of the acclaimed Weird N.J. magazine.

The "Afternoon Tea With a 'Weird N.J.' Twist" will take place at the Kenilworth Veterans Center (Kennedy Room), 33 South 21 Street, starting at 12:30 p.m. In addition to the featured program highlighting little-known N.J. legends, folklore, ghost sightings and other fascinating stories, the event will include a gift auction, 50/50 raffle and door prizes. Assorted teas, tea sandwiches and desserts will be served. Admission is \$30. Advance reservations are required (by May 1 recommended), as seating is limited. For reservations/tickets, please call 908-709-0434 or visit Love You More floral boutique (13 North 20th Street, Kenilworth), where tickets are being sold.

During the Afternoon Tea, Moran and Sceurman will speak of people, places and happenings in New Jersey that are not found in most tourist maps or historical records, as the primary focus of their backroad travels and research is on local unwritten history and modern folklore considered to be strange, odd or unique.

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

Moran and Sceurman began their search of unwritten N.J. history and modern folklore more than 30 years ago in the course of compiling a homespun newsletter, called "Weird N.J.," that they distributed annually to their friends. The pamphlet, comprising odd news, bizarre facts, little-known historical anecdotes and anomalous encounters from across the Garden State, was based on the idea that "every town in the state had a least one good tale to tell." Soon thereafter, "Weird N.J." evolved into the popular self-published magazine Weird N.J.: Your Travel Guide to New Jersey's Local Legends and Best Kept Secrets. At that time, "the two Marks," as they familiarly are referred to, started conducting their own investigations into local legends, ancient mysteries, bizarre beasts, ghosts, unexplained phenomena and fabled people and places throughout New Jersey.

In 2003, Barnes & Noble released the first Weird N.J. hardcover book, authored by Moran and Sceurman under their own imprint. Additional books followed in a nationally successful Weird U.S. series, also produced by "the two Marks." A number of Weird N.J. publications will be available for sale during the Kenilworth Historical Society's May 18 "Afternoon Tea With a 'Weird N.J.' Twist."

In 2005, Weird U.S. became a weekly television series, starring Moran and Sceurman, on the History Channel. "The two Marks" currently are commentators on the program Paranormal Caught on Camera, which airs weekly on the Travel Channel and on Discovery.

## **BUS TRIP TO JACKSON PREMIUM OUTLETS** AND DELICIOUS ORCHARDS

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 designers and name brands, including American operating expenses, including the cost of an 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 on-site 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.

For further 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 elevator that makes the restored "living history" museum and cultural arts center fully accessible to everyone.

The Kenilworth Historical Society (www.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 and culture.

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## **RUMMAGE SALE**

Townley Presbyterian Church, 829 Salem Road, Union, NJ will be holding its Spring rummage sale, on Friday, April 26 from 9 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Saturday, April 27 from 9 a.m. to noon. Lots of merchandise including clothing, toys, books household goods, and more. A portion of our proceeds supports local charities.

If you have items to donate, you can drop them off Sunday, April 21st through Thursday, April 25th. All donations are tax-deductible. Please don't bring TVs, computer parts, or furniture too big to fit in a car. You can leave items outside the Salem Road parking lot door and we'll move it inside within an hour or two. Or call us 908-686-1028 if it looks like rain. Donations are tax deductible.

Townley Presbyterian Church gathers at 10 a.m. on Sunday for family worship, followed by coffee and fellowship. Services are also live on Facebook@TownleyChurch. Please join us. Our phone number is 908-686-1028.

#### **OFFICIAL NOTICE OF PUBLICATION**

Kenilworth Board of Health

- 575 Boulevard, Kenilworth, New Jersey 07033-1654 Tel. (908) 276-2740 / Fax: (908) 276-4813 **Reference:** Board of Health Ordinance
- Amendment
- Title: "An Ordinance Amending Chapter 212-26 Fees Enumerated G. Subsection (9) Vending permit and (10) Vending license stamp."
- Authority: New Jersey Statues Annotated Title 26 Section 26:3 - 66 et seq
- **Code Summary:** Amendments to Chapter 212-26 Fees Enumerated G. Subsection (9) Vending permit \$100.00 and (10) Vending license stamp, each: \$10.00
- **Introduction:** 1st reading of this Ordinance was held on Thursday, February 15, 2024, 7:00 P.M., at the Kenilworth Board of Health Meeting, Borough Hall Conference Room
- **Final Passage**: Second reading and final passage of this Ordinance is scheduled for April 25, 2024 at 7:00PM at the regular meeting of the Kenilworth Board of Health in the Borough Hall Conference Room.
- **Enactment:** This Ordinance shall become effective 30 days after publication in the manner provided by law.
- Submitted By: Li' Ani Miller Board Secretary February 29, 2024

Posting on the Bulletin Boards of the Borough Clerk and Health Department, 567 Boulevard Kenilworth, NJ 07033. Copies Upon Request

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO ADVOCATE FOR UNION COUNTY CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE**

Five-year-old Jennifer is diagnosed with autism and almost completely nonverbal. Due to excessive violence in the family home, a concerned neighbor called for help and, after investigation, Jennifer was placed in foster care. The two phrases Jennifer can say graphically depict violence witnessed at home and confirm trauma she's endured. Since entering care and being enrolled in school, it's evident Jennifer has also experienced educational neglect. At age three, she was entitled to an Individualized Education Plan from the Department of Education to provide such intervention services as in-home speech and behavioral therapies, both helpful for future enrollment in a half-day educational program. Unfortunately, Jennifer's parents neglected to utilize these services and she is now more than two years behind her peers.

Jennifer is just one of the more than 500 children removed from home in Passaic and Union counties each year due to abuse and neglect. These children are separated from all they've ever known: parents, siblings, friends, teachers, and their belongings. For Jennifer, the road ahead is long, and she needs a caring, consistent adult in her corner to protect her best interests while in foster care. That's where Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteers come in.

A CASA volunteer is trained on the ins and outs of advocating for child-victims and fully supported by CASA staff for the duration of the case. No special background in child welfare is necessary; successful CASA volunteers are dedicated community members with varied life experiences who believe abuse and neglect are non-negotiable. CASA volunteers visit the children, make unbiased observations, interview others in the child's life, and make recommendations to the judge. They often are the only consistent adult in the life of a child involved in the child welfare system, as caseworkers, professionals, and even placements



(above) There are currently hundreds of Union County children in need of a CASA volunteer!

can be ever-changing. A CASA volunteer provides continuity during a time of chaos and unknowns.

There are currently hundreds of Union County children in need of a CASA volunteer! Plans are underway for an advocate training class.

To learn more, attend an information session either Monday, April 22, at 5:30 p.m. at the Clark Public Library, 303 Westfield Avenue in Clark, or Tuesday, April 30, at 10 am at the CASA office, 1143 East Jersey Street, Second Floor in Elizabeth. Register now at

#### casapassaicunion.org/info-session. ABOUT CASA OF PASSAIC AND UNION COUNTIES:

The nonprofit is court-empowered to recruit, train and support volunteer advocates to speak up for the best interests of children in foster care. Assigned by a court order that grants access to the child and all those in their lives, the CASA volunteer gathers information and makes informed recommendations to the judge deciding the child's future. Often, the CASA volunteer is the only consistent person in the child's life. For more information about CASA of Passaic and Union Counties, call 973-832-4002, e-mail info@casapassaicunion.org or log on to www.casapassaicunion.org.



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## **40TH ANNUAL QUILT SHOW – APRIL 20TH**

their 40th annual quilt show on Saturday, April 20, 2024. The 40th Sharing the Quilts will be held at the Willow Grove Presbyterian Church, 1961 Raritan Road, Scotch Plains, NJ from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$8 for adults, and \$3 for children under twelve.

At 10:30 a.m., fiber artist Karen Hochman of Plainfield will show her creations and speak on "Everything Old is New Again, What Inspires You?" The award-winning hand-quilter is a former antique dealer and collector of vintage textiles. A Harvest Quilter since 1990, her quilts are influenced by and connected to women artists and makers of the past and present.

Kathy Anderson Lee of Plainfield will be recognized as 2024's Featured Quilter with a special display of 17 colorful modern bed sized quilts. The chemical engineer and active STEM education volunteer began quilting in the 1980's while living in North Carolina. After a hiatus from the craft to raise 2 children and work in oil research, she rediscovered her talent in 2018.

"It was a revelation returning to quilting given all the advancements in technology, dyes, digital printing along with the new availability of international fabrics," Lee said.

Baby quilts made by members will be displayed and later donated to a local women's shelter. Several additional local charities will benefit from the sale of fabric and drawings for a queen-sized quilt and sewing themed gift baskets.

In addition to viewing a full array of modern, traditional, art and wall-hanging quilts, attendees can participate in viewer's choice awards, kid's crafting table and vendor sales area.

A tearoom offering lunch, snacks, homemade

Harvest Quilters of Central NJ will present baked goods, and beverages will benefit Willow Grove Church's youth activities.

> For additional information, please contact harvestquilters.com or with questions email: harvestquiltersnj@gmail.com.



(above) Fiber artist Karen Hochman of Plainfield will show her creations and speak on "Everything Old is New Again, What Inspires You?" The award-winning hand-quilter is a former antique dealer and collector of vintage textiles. A Harvest Quilter since 1990, her quilts are influenced by and connected to women artists and makers of the past and present. Courtesy photos



#### Kenilworth Life • Page 11 • April 2024 **SENIOR ART SHOW/SALE**

Local seniors (age 60 or older) will have an opportunity to show and/or sell their artwork, crafts and photographs during a Kenilworth Senior Arts, Crafts and Photography Show that will take place at the newly renovated Kenilworth Senior Center (526 Boulevard) on Sunday, May 19. The event, a major highlight of the center's planned Grand Reopening celebration, coincides with the timing of the Kenilworth Street Fair. Exhibit space in the show will be allocated on a first-come, firstserved basis. Interested participants should register by May 8. Registration forms will be available at the Kenilworth Senior Center, Kenilworth Public Library, Love You More floral boutique (13 N. 20th Street), Borough Clerk's office and on the Borough website kenilworthborough.com. For further information, please call Shirley Boyden Maxwell, senior program director, at 908-276-1716.

Other exciting new programs being presented for seniors at the Kenilworth Senior Center include the acclaimed WISE (Wellness Initiative for Senior Education) program, which features six enlightening, interactive 2-hour sessions led by knowledgeable facilitators from Prevention Links. Topics to be covered include the aging process and how to make healthy lifestyle choices; risk factors and behaviors to avoid in order to stay healthy; stress/depression management; medication management and prevention of substance misuse; guidance in communicating with health care providers; and tools to build confidence and empowerment in life and in health care. The WISE program starts on Tuesday, April 23, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., and continues at the same time each subsequent Tuesday through May 28. Admission to the program, including lunch, is free. To register, please call Shirley Maxwell at 908-276-1716 by April 16.

For a complete listing of programs offered by the Kenilworth Senior Center, please see postings at the center's entrances and refer to the Borough website under the Senior Services tab.



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## **NEW FOOD PANTRY AND CLOTHING BUILDINGS CELEBRATED**



(above) A moving dedication ceremony concluded with an uplifting blessing offered by Father Anthony Randazzo of Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church in Westfield.





St. Joseph Social Service Center

The St. Joseph's community, encompassing residents from Elizabeth and volunteers and supporters from five counties in New Jersey, came together on February 24, 2024, to celebrate the opening of two new buildings on its campus. The new food pantry building is already in use, and the second building will ultimately be used for clothing distribution.

The cold weather was no match for the warm spirit of compassion and caring that animated the event and has guided the agency for the past 38 years. All in attendance toured the new buildings and participated in a moving dedication ceremony that concluded with an uplifting blessing offered by Father Anthony Randazzo of Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church in Westfield.

The two new buildings represent the first phase of an ambitious capital improvement plan to improve and expand services to families and children in need in Elizabeth and to fulfill St. Joseph's vision to serve those experiencing homelessness and poverty with dignity. The new food pantry building will allow St. Joseph's to offer a better food pantry model - an individual choice food pantry. With this model, clients will come at an appointed time and will be able to choose their food based on their personal and cultural preferences. The new clothing building will be used as temporary program space during the next wave of renovations and ultimately will be used to offer clothing and home goods in a more dignified environment.

"Dignity has been a core value of the agency since our founding in 1986," noted Bernadette Murphy, Executive Director. "Our goal is to help people acquire the material items they need to live with dignity. We believe that it is vital for our clients to receive food, clothing, supplies and support services in an environment that fosters

dignity, where individuals experiencing poverty and homelessness are truly welcomed as sisters and brothers."

Daisy Trocan, a member of the Board of Trustees, spoke at the dedication event about what these new buildings will mean to Elizabeth residents. As a child her family relied on support from the agency during difficult times. "The love and support my family received from St. Joseph's meant so much to us," Trocan reflected.

Harold "Kess" Kessler, who has overseen the capital improvement plan from its inception several years ago, remarked that work has already begun on the second phase of the construction plan. Over the next year, the main hall on campus will be transformed into a multipurpose space with private offices for mental health counseling and case management services, new facilities for the soup kitchen program, spaces for the Adult Learning Center and health and nutrition workshops and diagnostic testing, and a reception area where residents can obtain information about agency programs and community services. Karen Maher, President of the Board of Trustees, noted that these new spaces will "allow the agency to expand services to the community, particularly in the areas of physical and behavioral health."

Six days a week a dedicated team of 6,000 volunteers from Elizabeth, Union, Westfield, Cranford, Mountainside, and dozens of other communities, make sandwiches for the hungry in their kitchens, bring food, clothing and home goods, serve meals at the soup kitchen and help with the operations of the agency. St. Joseph's serves over 3.500 individuals annually. The organization helps Elizabeth residents access food, medicine, mental health counseling, adult education, clothing and a myriad of additional healthcare and support services.

To learn more about St. Joseph's please visit sjeliz.org.

Photos from this and other events canbe found online at rennamedia.com and on the Renna Media page on facebook.com. Feel free to "Like," "Tag," and "Share."





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## **KENILWORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY APRIL 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 PROGRAMS**

Weekly programs:

Bingo For Children

Mondays at 6:30pm – 7:00pm April 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 Bingo games for children ages 3 & up

**Lap Sit** Tuesdays at 10:30am – 10:50am April 2, 9, 23 & 30

Interactive stories and songs for ages 0-2 years old

#### **PJ Story Time**

Tuesdays at 6:30pm – 7:00pm April 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 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** Wednesday at 10:30am – 10:50am April 3 & 17 Interactive stories and songs for ages 2 – 3

years old. Lego At The Library

#### Thursdays at 3:30pm – 4:00pm April 4 & 18

Build your own unique creations with Lego bricks for age 4 – 12



(above) Read To A Dog at The Kenilworth Public Library, Tuesday, April 30. Registration is required.

**Fun Friday Crafts** 

Friday at 3:30pm – 4:00pm April 5 & 19 Ages: 4 – 9

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

#### **APRIL SPECIAL EVENTS**

Registration is required for all special events. **Cursive Handwriting Class** 4:00pm – 5:00pm on Tuesdays beginning on April 2 Participants must be available to attend an eight-week cursive writing course for third,

fourth and fifth graders. All participants will receive their own book and by the end of the course will be able to sign their name in script. Registration is required.

#### Solar Eclipse Event

Monday, April 8, 1:30pm- 3:30pm Children ages 5 and up, teens and adults are welcome to join us in the library's parking lot to safely view the solar eclipse. Safe solar viewing glasses will be provided for all participants. Although New Jersey won't be in the path of totality, about 90% of the sun will be blocked by the moon for more than an hour in the late afternoon on April 8, at about 3:25 p.m If you are unable to attend the library's event, but would like to request a pair of safe solar viewing glasses prior to the event, please contact the library. In the event of inclement weather, this program may be canceled.

#### Yoga Story Time

Wednesday, April 10, 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.

#### **Robotics Demonstration**

Thursday, April 11, 4:00pm – 5:00pm David Brearley Robotics Club members will present a demonstration for children and Teens ages 5 – 17.

#### **Boogie Woogie Babies**

Tuesday, April 16, 10:30am – 11:00am Interactive musical program will be presented by Tiffany Taylor for ages: 0- 4

#### **Good Tyme String Band**

Wednesday, April 24, 10:30am – 11:00am All ages are welcome to attend and enjoy foot tapping knee slapping banjo music.

#### Read To A Dog at The Kenilworth Public Library

Tuesday, April 30, 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.

#### Mad Science Workshop: Playing With Polymers

Thursday, April 25 at 3:30pm – 4:30pm. Ages: 4 – 12. Interactive workshop exploring a

#### unique science theme. ADULT PROGRAMS Paper Pals

Tuesdays, April 2 & 16 at 2-4 p.m. and Monday, April 8 at 6:00–7:45 p.m. for our card making group "Paper Pals." You don't need any paper crafting experience to join the fun.

Yarnies

Thursdays, April 4, 11 & 18 at 2-4 p.m. and Thursday, April 25 at 6:00 – 7:45 p.m.
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, April 30 at 5:00–7:45 p.m. 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.



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## **CARRIE JACKSON QUINTET - APRIL 13**

#### Salem Roadhouse Café

On Saturday, April 13 at 8 p.m., Carrie Jackson, the quintessential jazz vocalist, will present "What Is Jazz?"

With a dynamic backup group featuring keyboards, bass, drums, and saxophone to back up her musical travels through the history of jazz, Carrie will also have a question-and-answer period after the music for all patrons at the show to participate in. All of this is in celebration of April - National Jazz History Month.

This is expected to be a full house show. Doors will open at 7:15 p.m.

From the golden era of Jazz to the present, Carrie brings her clear, unique jazz vocal styles to life. Her smooth, sultry sound has captivated thousands, garnering a very loyal following.

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

#### **ABOUT SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ**

It's not "church music." It's music music. Folks who've come to the Salem Roadhouse Café know that it's a clean, safe place for people who enjoy listening to live music — in a world otherwise filled with clubs and bars. The Roadhouse has always offered its stage to local and independent mainstream musicians. Jazz, rock, folk, and other groups have performed. What's the common thread? They're all great musicians playing the kind of music people like to hear. There's no message, just music.

Now in its 16th year of operation, the Roadhouse started in 2008 by members of Townley Presbyterian Church with a grant from the Presbytery of Elizabeth. Hey — that's why we're located where we are, Townley Presbyterian Church, 829 Salem Rd, Union, NJ. The Roadhouse operates as a non-profit that raises funds for several carefully chosen local charities. That's its social mission.

But the many musicians who've played the Salem Roadhouse Café see it as a solid performance venue. They love it because of its special intimacy and great audiences. They say people here "really listen." Ask any of the musicians you meet here — they love to play the Roadhouse, and they want to come back often.

The Salem Roadhouse Café has raised funds for many carefully chosen charities. They include: The Presbytery of Elizabeth E-port Center, Center For Hope Hospice, Community Food Bank, Monarch Housing, Angel Paws Animal Rescue, National MS Society, Haiti Disaster Relief, Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief, The Union County YWCA Domestic Violence Program, Making It Possible To End Homelessness, Camp Johnsonburg, The Music Institute, and others. For 2024 the chosen charity if the Gateway YMCA's Children's Summer Camp Programs. Many thousands of dollars have been raised for these deserving charities.



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## Kenilworth Life · Page 15 · April 2024 IMAGINE SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss has been offering free peer support groups to children, youth and adults who are grieving for more than 10 years. The volunteers who facilitate these groups create safe spaces where the pain of grief can be acknowledged and shared, and where group members feel felt. Imagine's volunteers are the heart of Imagine's programs, and many find their volunteer work with Imagine so fulfilling that they continue for many years, some having stayed since the program began. Here's what some of Imagine's volunteer facilitators have to say about their experience:

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. Volunteers must be 18 years or older and 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.

This Spring, Imagine will offer two facilitator training classes for those who would like to join this amazing group of volunteers. The first will be held at their location at 570 Broad Street in Newark from May 3-5 from 9 am-5 pm each day. The second option will take place at Imagine's location at 244 Sheffield Street in Mountainside from June 7-9, also from 9am-5pm each day. Imagine staff ask those participating in the training to plan to attend all three days.

If you'd like to join one of the upcoming trainings, please visit imaginenj.org and complete the interest form found on the website or scan the QR code below. When completing the form, you'll be asked to choose a convenient date to attend an information session where you'll learn more about volunteering with Imagine. We hope you'll consider joining this wonderful team of volunteers who support Imagine's efforts to ensure that no one grieves alone.

Imagine is a 501c3 that offers grief and loss education and training to the community and 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. For more information please contact Imagine at 908-264-3100 or info@imaginenj.org or visit our website at www.imaginenj.org.



