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Published by Renna Media, LLC. On-line at RennaMedia.com

Issue 26 • April 2024

Edward Jones

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THE MAKERSPACE PROJECT: H.S. STUDENTS RAISE FUNDS TO EXTEND ROBOTICS EDUCATION TO OTHER STUDENTS

Millburn Township Public Schools

A team of Millburn High School students, Jia Panjwani (11), Alexis Lee (11), and Joey Sorkin (12), operate a non-profit called Libre hacks (librehacks.com). Libre hacks works towards spreading the love of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) studies. They work with teachers and schools to jumpstart hackathons and robotics learning initiatives in their communities.

Through their flagship initiative, "Splash" (splash.hackmhs.com), a weekly robotics class taught by members of the Millburn High School Robotics Team, they have gathered funds to support outreach efforts to various schools. Using those funds, the students behind Libre hacks have recently launched a new initiative called "The Makerspace Project," kickstarting makerspace and robotics resources in other schools.

Their first efforts have been a collaboration with Lyndhurst High School's Director of STEM, Ms. Sabrina Leone, and STEM teacher Ms. Margaret Weckstein. They have donated a 3D Printer and Arduino Learning Kits as well as associated lessons and learning materials. They are working with students in the Technology and Creation Class with experiences using the equipment. Libre hacks recently visited Lyndhurst to help students work on their first project: creating a 3d printed light-up traffic light. Utilizing computer aided design, the students designed and 3D printed miniature traffic lights that could fit LED lights. They then programmed Arduino microcontrollers to control the LEDs, simulating the color change of a real traffic light. While this lesson is the first, Libre hacks hopes there are many more to come as the students at Lyndhurst gain new skills with these resources.

Libre hacks hope to continue their fundraising endeavors, and want to extend this program to other schools, sharing their knowledge and resources and sparking a passion for STEM with more students. If you would like to support or become involved in the cause, email jia.panjwani@librehacks.com.



(above) Jia Panjwani, Joey Sorkin, and Alexis Lee with Mrs. Weckstein

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202 Walnut Ave., Cranford, NJ 07016

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SCOUTS SHAWNEE MOUNTAIN SKI TRIP

BSA Troop 17 had a great time on the March Ski Trip at Shawnee Mountain during a Scout Weekend held in March. Troop 17 Scouts showed scout spirit on the slopes by singing songs on the ski lift and socializing with the other troops.

Additionally, many scouts worked on some of the Snow Sports Merit Badge requirements with

Mr. Ackroyd and learned some new skills. Troop 17 made do with the little snow left and even skied in the pouring rain. All in all Troop 17 had a very fun time skiing at Shawnee Mountain.

BSA Troop 17 meets on Thursday nights at St. Rose of Lima in Short Hills from September to June. Please visit Troop17ShortHills.com to learn more.



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GREENWOOD GARDENS ADVISORY BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Greenwood Gardens, the 28-acre historic public garden located on Old Short Hills Road, is pleased to announce new appointments to its primary governing body, the Board of Trustees, as well as to two Board Committees.

Rex Dyer, a resident of Summit and a former member of Greenwood's Advisory Board, has been elected to Greenwood's Board of Trustees. Mr. Dyer has over three decades of experience in international retail product importing and

wholesale distribution as a senior executive of Lorraine Home Fashions. He earned a B.A. in economics from Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut.

Peggy Shilling, a resident of Short Hills, former Advisory Board member and Trustee since 2022, has been appointed Chairman of the Development Committee, overseeing Greenwood's fundraising efforts. Mrs. Shilling served as a Co-Chair last year of the organization's major fundraising event, An Enchanted Evening, that raised significant support for The Grow Greenwood Fund. She is the owner of Wardrobe Partners which is associated with Carlisle-Etcetera LLC, a leading line of women's luxury apparel. Mrs. Shilling holds an A.B. from Mount Holyoke College and an M.S. from Stanford University.

Michael J. Moran, a resident of Short Hills, has been appointed to Greenwood's Finance and Investment Committee, chaired by Short Hills resident Ted Kundtz. Mr. Moran is also a current member of the Green Team, a corps of volunteers that assists Greenwood's horticulture staff maintain the garden. Mr. Moran served as Executive Vice President and Chief Economist at Daiwa Securities America from 1987 through 2023 and was previously an economist with the Federal Reserve Board in Washington, D.C. He was awarded the designation of Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) in 2002, and holds a

PhD in macroeconomics, monetary theory, and finance from Pennsylvania State University.

"It is a pleasure to welcome Rex as a Trustee, Peggy as the Chairman of the Development Committee, and Mike as a member of the Finance and Investment Committee. Greenwood Gardens is indeed fortunate to have the support of these highly accomplished individuals. I have no doubt their experience, knowledge, and enthusiasm will prove to be invaluable to the future of our organization," stated Louise Moos, Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

ABOUT GREENWOOD GARDENS

Greenwood Gardens is a non-profit 28-acre public garden and historic site located at 274 Old Short Hills Road in Short Hills, New Jersey. A former private estate owned by the Day and Blanchard families, today Greenwood is a peaceful haven graced by terraced gardens, stately fountains, woodlands, grottoes, Arts and Crafts follies, and winding paths. To accomplish its mission of connecting people with nature in a historic garden oasis, Greenwood offers the visiting public self-guided tours and programs at the nexus of nature, beauty, and history. Greenwood Gardens is supported by gifts, membership, and volunteers. For further information, visit greenwoodgardens.org or call 973-258-4026. Please follow us on Facebook @GreenwoodShortHills and Instagram @greenwoodgardensnj.

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CONCERT COMMEMORATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Wharton Arts

Nearly 1,000 elementary and middle school students attended a free educational concert held at the Union County Performing Arts Center (UCPAC) on February 21, 2024. The event was presented by the New Jersey Youth Symphony (NJYS).

Nearly 600 students from Union County public schools and 350 students from Paterson Public Schools were bussed to UCPAC for this special event celebrating Black History Month featuring music selections by all-Black composers including Duke Ellington and William Grant Still. Led by Conductor Helen H. Cha-Pyo, the NJYS Youth Symphony was joined by guest artist and tenor saxophonist Lance Bryant for the performance.

Said Artistic Director and Principal Conductor Helen H. Cha-Pyo, "As we celebrate our 45th anniversary season, the New Jersey Youth Symphony remains dedicated to encouraging its young musicians to use music to serve and inspire others. Our NJYS Youth Symphony musicians, predominantly high school students who serve as positive role models, are committed to helping build inclusive communities and aim to ignite a passion for the arts in our younger audience members. Hosting this educational concert is central to our mission, as it celebrates the legacies of Black composers while offering an immersive experience for the children in the audience. Through creative and engaging introductions to each section of the orchestra, we hope this concert was both memorable and educational. Opening with the singing of the Black National Anthem, Lift Every Voice and Sing, underscores our dedication to celebrating the contributions of Black artists to our cultural heritage. We are honored to share this musical experience with our community, fostering a deeper appreciation for diversity and inclusion in the arts."

Wharton Arts' mission is to offer accessible, high quality performing arts education that sparks personal growth and builds inclusive communities. Its vision is for a transformative performing arts education in an inclusive community to be accessible for everyone.

Wharton Arts is New Jersey's largest independent non-profit community performing arts education center serving over 2,000 students through a range of classes and ensembles. The 5 ensembles of the New Jersey Youth Chorus, an auditioned choral ensemble program for students in grades 3-12, encourage a love and appreciation of choral music while nurturing personal growth and creative development. The 15 ensembles of the New Jersey Youth Symphony, which serve nearly 600 students in grades 3-12 by audition, inspire young people to achieve musical excellence through high-level ensemble training and performance opportunities. Based in Paterson, the Paterson Music Project is an El Sistema-inspired program of Wharton Arts that uses music education as a vehicle for social action by empowering and inspiring young people to achieve their full potential through the community experience of ensemble learning and

playing. From Pathways classes for young children to Lifelong Learning programs for



adults, the Wharton Performing Arts School has a robust musical theater and drama program and offers both private and group classes for instruments and voice for all ages and all abilities. With the belief in the positive and unifying influence of music and that performing arts education should be accessible to all people regardless of their ability to pay, Wharton Arts offers need-based scholarships.

Wharton Arts is located in Berkeley Heights, New Providence, and Paterson, NJ and reaches students from 12 counties. All of Wharton Arts' extraordinary teaching artists, faculty members, and conductors hold degrees in their teaching specialty and have been vetted and trained to enable our students to achieve their personal best. Visit WhartonArts.org, or call 908-790-0700.

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- **Your children will start to eat better** because we'll be educating them daily on what's good and what they should avoid ...don't be surprised if they start asking you to buy more vegetables.
- **Confidence will skyrocket.** When kids get stronger, faster and more fit...their confidence will rise...so will their self-esteem which means their performance in every aspect of life will get better.
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- Robert, GRIT Athlete Parent
- “My son is more disciplined and confident in himself”
- Steve Hughes, Grit Athlete Parent
- “I have watched my children become more confident and vocal.”
- Christine Stramandinoli, Grit Athlete Parent
- “His confidence has shot up in the last few months...and has carried forward to the way he approaches other activities like sports and schoolwork. My son is now making his bed daily and exercising every day.”
- Catherine Solfaro, Grit Athlete Parent
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WELLNESS IN THE GARDEN: PRESENTATION

The Millburn Health Department is offering a free presentation program on home gardening which will be presented by Robyn Lowenthal, of Rutgers's Master Gardeners. The program will be offered on Wednesday, April 17, 2024 from 1:30 -2:30 p.m. The program will be held at the Millburn Library, 200 Glenn Ave, Millburn on the 2nd floor in the auditorium room.

During the presentation, Robyn will discuss the health benefits of gardening -physical, emotional, cognitive, social, and spiritual - how

to grow a successful garden using ecologically friendly techniques, and some easy foods you can grow. The talk will include a PowerPoint presentation, an interactive lecture, and plenty of time for questions and answers.

Space is limited and this program is being offered free of charge. Registration for the program is required. To register or if you have any questions, email Health Educator Jessica Kelly at jekelly@livingstonnj.org or call 973-535-7961 ext. 7110, 7109, or 7108.

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Explore Millbun- Short Hills has launched a new webpage which promotes open jobs in the town.

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OLD GUARD APRIL SPEAKERS PROGRAM

BOB GULA TO SPEAK ABOUT BATTLES OF CONNECTICUT FARMS AND SPRINGFIELD APRIL 7

The Union Township Historical Society invites history fans to a presentation by John Kieser and Bob Gula of the Forgotten Victory Trail Association. The talk will be given at Connecticut Farms Presbyterian Church, 888 Stuyvesant Avenue, Union on Sunday, April 7, at 2 p.m. Admission is free.

Kieser and Gula will focus on the June 1780 battles of Connecticut Farms and Springfield, which were critical in the defense of New Jersey, as well as of Washington's forces at Morristown. Those local battles were also crucial in the weakening of the British forces prior to their surrender at the Battle of Yorktown.

Kieser, a Summit resident, is a member of the Sons of the American Revolution and has been involved with the Summit Historical Society and Summit Planning Board.

Gula, a Short Hills resident, is a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, NJ SAR Color Guard, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and the General Society of Mayflower Descendants.

The Summit Area Old Guard is a social, educational, and recreational organization that serves men of retirement age. We meet most Tuesdays at the New Providence Presbyterian Church located at 1307 Springfield Ave. Our dues are minimal, and members manage all aspects of the operation. Our motto is "Come for the Programs. Stay for the Friends." The organization was founded in 1930.

We will have five programs in April:

Our speaker on April 2nd will be Laura Ekstrand, founder, and artistic director of the Vivid Stage Company. Vivid Stage Company (formerly called Dreamcatchers) is a professional ensemble of actors. Ms. Ekstrand will discuss the Company and describe how it operates. The program will include background of the artists, discuss how various plays are chosen and the processes employed to create a production. The Company is located at the Oakes Center, 120 Morris Ave., Summit, NJ.

On April 9th we will offer something a little different, a presentation and concert by the musical troupe, The Larks, under the direction of Joanne Taubner Prussak, music director (who also plays accompanying piano). The Larks have been entertaining in and around the Summit area for about fifty years. We will learn how they organize and prepare for their shows, perhaps a little feedback on the Old Guard singing endeavors, and a few words about their parent organization, the Summit Junior League.

On April 16th we will be discussing saving and restoring old furniture. Our speaker will be Bob McAnally, Furniture Workshop Manager of the S.A.G.E. Restoration Workshop. SAGE Eldercare, an all-round senior daycare center in Summit, has a volunteer group which repairs furniture for an extremely low price. We will learn what goes on behind the scenes at this iconic Summit institution.

Donna Goggin Patel will be our speaker on April 23rd. Donna serves as Chair of the Summit Environmental Commission. She will tell us about something amazing, Summit's tiny forest. It is possible to grow a full micro-forest on as little as an acre in a few decades. Summit has such a forest. It was planted behind the Community Center several years ago and is thriving. We will learn about the importance of native species and how dense pocket reforestation can help mitigate climate. Donna can also discuss the latest sustainability efforts in Summit and other planned and ongoing environmental efforts.

Finally, on April 30th our own David Dietze, Managing Principal, Senior Portfolio Strategist at Peapack Private Wealth Management, will present. David will discuss current trends and thinking regarding inflation, economic growth, political initiatives, the federal reserve, etc., and how all these factors combine to influence the stock market. He will talk about valuation and where there is both risk and reward in equities.

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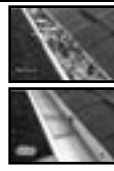
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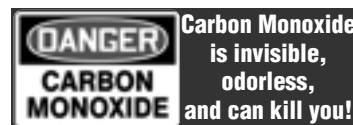


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INTERGENERATIONAL ORCHESTRA SPRING CONCERT – APRIL 21, 2024

New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra (NJIO) will present its Spring Concert on Sunday, April 21st, 2024 at 3 pm at Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church in Plainfield. This Concert celebrates NJIO's 30th Anniversary and is free and open to the public. Donations are gratefully accepted. The Concert will be followed by a ticketed Gala at the same location.

NJIO's 30th Anniversary Concert will feature a spectacular young opera star, soprano Sydney Dardis. Ms. Dardis will perform with NJIO what is known as "Four Last Songs" by Richard

Strauss, completed in 1948 when the composer was 84. According to the Los Angeles Philharmonic, they are "songs of farewell – to life, to art, to a vanished world. There is nothing like them in music for the sheer intensity of their concentrated, gentle heartache. It is music so bewitchingly sensuous, so achingly nostalgic, so subtle in its interweaving of vocal and instrumental textures as to defy description."

Ms. Dardis will also perform Lehar's "Einer Wird Kommen" (Someone Will Come) from the operetta Der Zarewitsch (The Tsarevich). Ms. Dardis, a native of Laguna Niguel, California, received her Master of Music degree in Vocal Arts from The Juilliard School, where she studied with Darrell Babidge. Ms. Dardis completed her undergraduate degree from The Juilliard School as well. In 2023 Ms. Dardis was named a winner of the New York Regional District in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions.

NJIO Symphony will also play the popular Overture to Die Fledermaus by Johann Strauss II. NJIO's Intermezzo Orchestra, conducted by

Oliver Hagen, will perform music by John Williams, a movement of Brahms' Symphony no. 3, and selections from Tchaikovsky's Sleeping Beauty. The Prelude Ensemble, NJIO's entry-level group, is conducted by Elizabeth Maliszewski. Prelude will be performing an arrangement of Haydn's Surprise Symphony, Gauntlet, and Lucy Farr's Barn Dance, as arranged by our own Graham Cohen.

A celebration of NJIO's 30th season will immediately follow the 30th Anniversary Concert. Guests will be entertained by NJIO musicians, a silent auction and a tricky tray, and a delicious dinner. For more information about the gala, please see: njio.org/gala

Concert Details:

Sunday, April 21st, 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.



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Holy Thursday - March 28
12 noon Spoken Liturgy with Eucharist
7:30 p.m. Liturgy with Rite of First Holy Communion

Good Friday - March 29
12 noon Ecumenical Community Service
7:30 p.m. Service of Tenebrae

Holy Saturday - March 30
A Day of Silence, Prayer & Reflection

Easter Celebration - March 31
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**Spring Concert &
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Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church
716 Watchung Avenue Plainfield, NJ



Guest soprano soloist
Sydney Dardis



3:00 PM
Free Concert

5:00 PM
Ticketed Gala

Purchase gala tickets at
www.njio.org/gala

For more information or accessibility requests, contact info@njio.org or call 908-603-7691

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; a 2024 HEART (History, Education, Arts Reaching Thousands) Grant from the Union County Board of County Commissioners; The Plainfield Foundation; 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. NJIO is a proud participating organization in the Families First Discovery Pass Program, a program of the NJ Departments of Health and Human Services.

NJIO is committed to ensuring that its programs and concerts are accessible.



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MILBURN LIBRARY'S APRIL EVENTS

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Monday - Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - 8:45 p.m.; Friday, Saturday: 9:30 a.m. - 5:15 p.m.; Sunday: 1 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS:

IN PERSON: HIGH TEA

WITH LIBERTY HALL MUSEUM

Thu April 4, 7-8pm, Auditorium

In the grand tradition of Mary Alice's high teas at her historic home at Liberty Hall Museum, enjoy a delectable lecture that covers 4,000 years of tea history. Discover how tea was accidentally discovered in early China. Explore how the influence of two British Queens made tea a popular drink around the world. Learn the stories of the famous high teas served at Liberty Hall, and get an up-close and personal look at some of the most incredible tea service pieces in the museum's china collection.

IN PERSON: LOCAL POETS SHOWCASE

Sat April 6, 2-3:30pm, Auditorium

The Millburn Library celebrates National Poetry Month with our third annual showcase of local poets. The reading will be followed by a question and answer period. Books will be available for purchase and signing. This year we are delighted to welcome the following poets to the library: Mary Brancaccio, David Stanford Burr, Anu Mahadev, Soraya Shalforoosh.

IN PERSON: AFTER HOURS AT THE LIBRARY: PUZZLE TOURNAMENT

Fri April 19, 6-8pm, Auditorium

Teams of 2-4 people compete to finish the same 500 piece puzzle in the least amount of time. Families and teens are welcome but each team must include at least 1 adult. Each group will be able to take home their puzzle and the fastest team will receive a special prize. Snacks and drinks will be provided. Space is limited.

Registration required.

PROGRAMS FOR KIDS:

IN PERSON: MUSIC & MOVEMENT WITH MISS BEE

Friday April 5, 11-11:30am, Auditorium, Ages up to 5 with a caregiver

Little ones will experience the magic of music and movement through traditional and original songs, puppets, parachutes, bubbles, rhythm sticks, egg shakers and other fun instruments and props. Registration required.

IN PERSON: ECLIPSE VIEWING (WEATHER PERMITTING)

Mon April 8, 3-4:30pm, Library Field

Come see the solar eclipse! Each registered attendee will be given a free pair of solar eclipse viewing glasses for the event— don't look up without them! Registration required.

IN PERSON: CRAFTERNOON

Wednesday April 17, 4-5pm,

In Person, Auditorium For ages 4-12
What does crafts + afternoon equal? Why, crafternoon of course!

PROGRAMS FOR TWEENS & TEENS (AGES 12+):

IN PERSON: TAKE A "PAWSE" WITH A THERAPY DOG

Tue April 16, 3:30-4:30pm, Teen Space
Visit with a dog to help melt your stress away.

IN PERSON: PRACTICE SAT

Sat April 20, 10am-1pm, Auditorium

This is a full-length digital practice test and will take approx. 2.75 hours to complete.

Registration required.

IN PERSON: TEEN MOVIE: FIVE NIGHTS AT FREDDIES

Monday April 23, 3:30-5:30pm, Auditorium
Rated PG-13 (2023), 1h49m.

There will be snacks!

RESOURCE OF THE MONTH!

WALL STREET JOURNAL

Read the The Wall Street Journal, online or on any device. Millburn cardholders must request access from the Library. Go to millburnlibrary.org/digital-resources/ for more information on this and all our digital resources.

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(above) Library crafters of all ages had a great time making dotted mandalas recently. Check the library calendar for more upcoming fun at millburnlibrary.org/events

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HIGH SCHOOL BIG BAND HEADLINES DANCE APRIL 13

The Summit Music Parents Association’s 51th Annual ‘Big Band Dance’ will take place on Saturday, April 13th, from 7 – 11 p.m., at the Canoe Brook Country Club. The event is headlined by the Summit High School Big Band under the direction of Alex Bocchino.

In addition to the get-on-the-dance floor

soundtrack provided by the Hilltopper Big Band, the evening will feature a cash bar beginning at 7 p.m. and a buffet dinner to follow.

Tickets are priced at \$110 each and are available by visiting smpasummit.org. For further information, contact Jennifer Kwon at jennkwonmusicmom@gmail.com



(above, l-r) Left to Right: Charlotte Witcher, Evan Gunter, Josh Roncallo, Jesaiah Leon, Sophia Medenica, Logan Valerio, Toby Phaneuf

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.

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.



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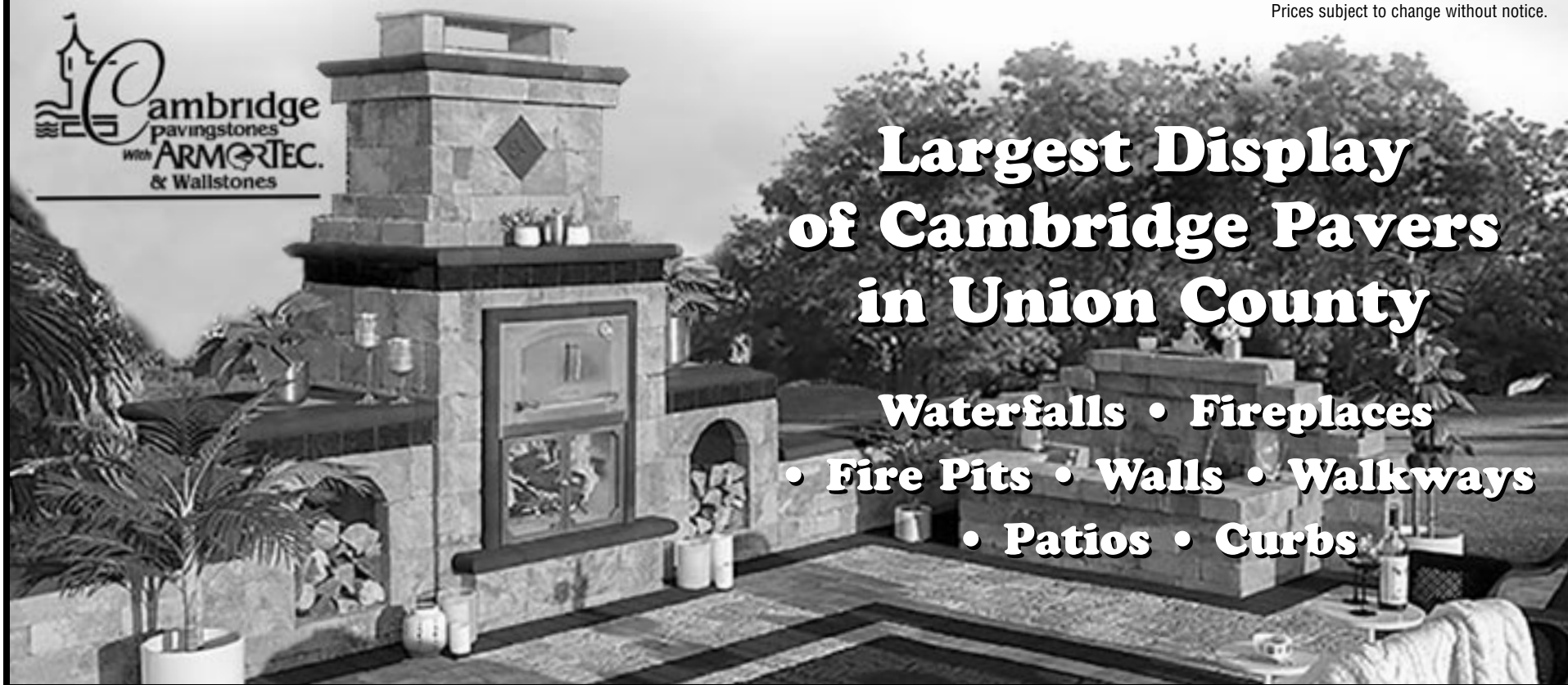
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New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner
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