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Issue 28 • June 2024

TOUR DE ELIZABETH DRAWS OVER 800 CYCLISTS

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Groundwork Elizabeth along with the City of Elizabeth hosted the 21st Annual Tour de Elizabeth on Sunday, May 19, 2024. The annual recreational bicycling tour is held the Sunday before Memorial Day weekend each year. Unique tour routes are redesigned each year, in order to showcase Elizabeth's rich history, art, culture, and economic opportunity. The event was the 21st Tour, proving to be an overwhelming success, which drew in over 800 participants to the event which began and ended at Elizabeth City Hall.

Each year a bicycle committee made up of public, private, and community stakeholders chooses a theme reflective of the 15-mile recreational ride. For 2024 the theme was "Riding with Heart," which underscores the importance of physical well-being and social consciousness. At the event, riders, sponsors, and public officials were asked what 'Riding with Heart' meant to them.

Jonathan Phillips, Executive Director at Groundwork Elizabeth and Tour organizer was thrilled with the turnout, "Riding with Heart' means riding and embracing health, recreation, and a love for the city, sharing an experience with friends and new friends made along the pathways." Elizabeth Mayor J. Christian Bollwage added, "As we embarked on the 15-mile journey of the Tour de Elizabeth, let's remember, our bike pedals are powered by something greater. This year's theme, 'Riding with Heart,' signifies our unity and determination that drives us forward. This yearly tradition exemplifies how our community comes together to celebrate and make a simple bike ride unforgettable."

Helmets were mandatory for all participants, and bicycles and helmets were available for rental from Unlimited Biking. The presence of the Elizabeth Police Department ensured a safe and enjoyable ride for all attendees. Prior to the event, a thorough pre-run of the course was conducted to ensure road safety and readiness for cyclists.

The Tour de Elizabeth received generous support from over 20 various organizations, including Elizabethtown Gas, the Union County Board of Commissioners, Community Access Unlimited, the Elizabeth Destination Marketing Organization (EDMO), as well the Greater Elizabeth Chamber



of Commerce, the Elizabeth Avenue Partnership, the Historic Midtown Special Improvement District, the Elizabeth Development Company, and a broad community minded list of public and private sector sponsors and partners. Elizabethtown Gas was the 21st Annual Tour's lead sponsor. The Elizabeth Police Department, Elizabeth Fire Department and Fire EMS helped keep the route secure.

A portion of the proceeds from the event contribute to non-profit Groundwork Elizabeth's mission of improving the physical environment and promoting environmental justice. To learn more about Groundwork Elizabeth and future events, visit groundworkelizabeth.org.



Photos courtesy of the City of Elizabeth

Full Color Flyers and Menus Printed and Mailed to Every Home and Business in Town!

LARGE MENUS - PRINTING - \$85 PER THOUSAND 11"x17" / Full color / 2 sided / 60lb gloss coated stock / Includes folding FLYERS / BROCHURES - \$45 PER THOUSAND 8.5" x 11" / Full color / 2 sided / 60lb gloss coated stock / Tri-fold add \$10 per thousand INSERTED AND MAILED TO EVERY HOME AND BUSINESS \$60 per thousand. (as low as \$30 per thousand depending on quantity.)

Joe Renna at 908-447-1295 - email: JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com









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

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



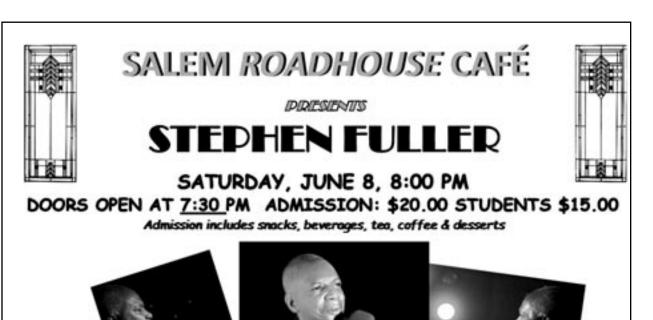
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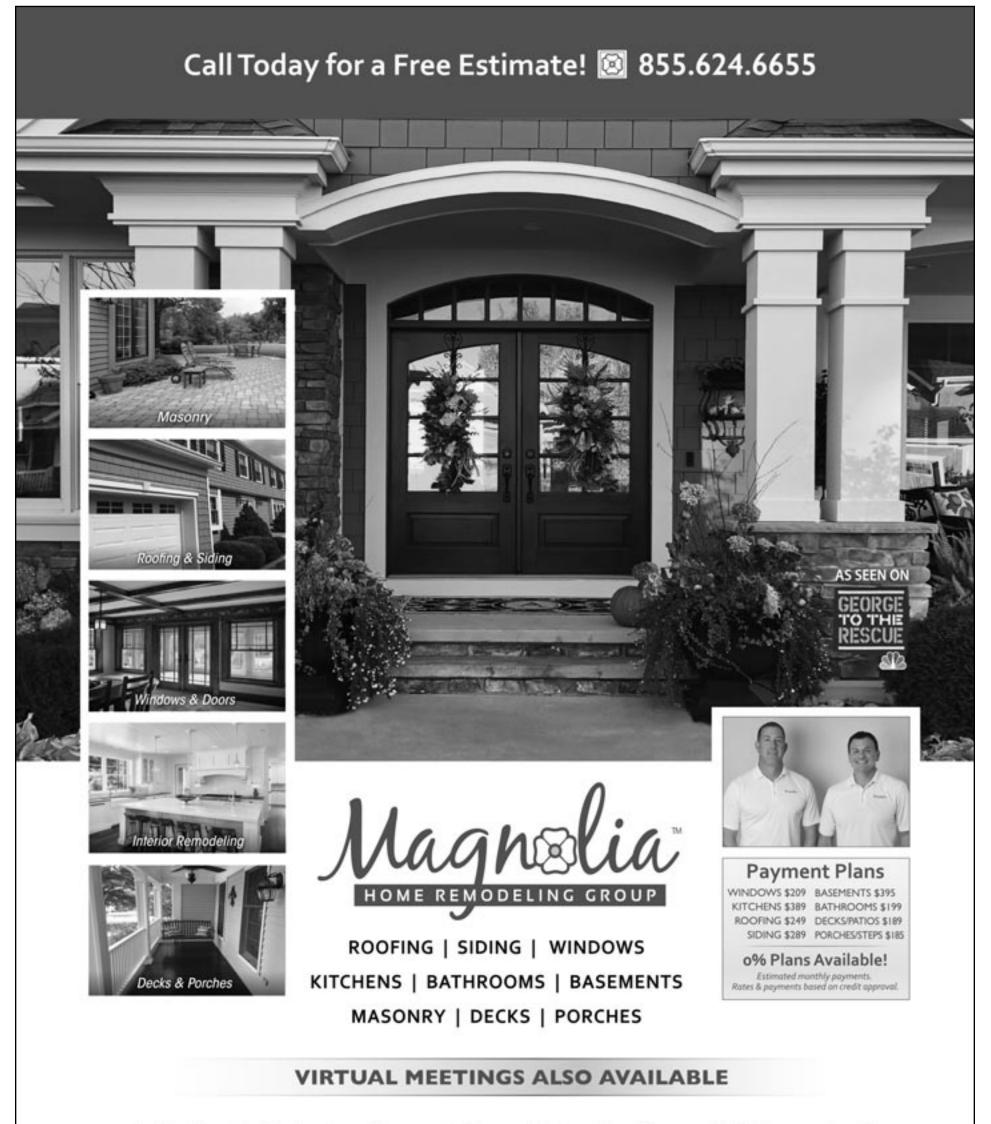
2024 Show proceeds will benefit GATEWAY YMCA Childrens Programs

All shows are featured on UNION TV34's "ROADHOUSE UNPLUGGED" nightly music series Plenty of free parking in our two lots and on the street

SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ @ TOWNLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 829 SALEM ROAD UNION NJ 07083 PHONE: 908-686-1028 (leave message) E-MAIL: salemroadhouse@gmail.com WEB: www.townleychurch.org FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/salemroadhouse







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JAY ARISSO, JR. JOINS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

NJ Sharing Network

NJ Sharing Network, the federally designated non-profit organization focused on saving and enhancing lives through the recovery of donated organs and tissue in the Garden State, is pleased to announce the appointment of Jay Arisso, Jr. of Elizabeth, NJ, to its Board of Trustees.

Effective immediately, Jay Arisso, Jr. joined the board to help guide NJ Sharing Network's strategic efforts. NJ Sharing Network's Board of Trustees is comprised of a diverse group of individuals from both public and private sectors, many of whom have been touched by donation, including donor families and transplant recipients.

"We are honored to welcome Jay to our Board, recognizing their many years of championing our lifesaving mission through their leadership and advocacy efforts. His deep-rooted commitment and invaluable insights will strengthen our ability to drive positive change and save and enhance more lives," said Carolyn M. Welsh, President and CEO, NJ Sharing Network.

Jay Arisso, Jr. is the Lead Pastor of Today's Church in Elizabeth, NJ, and is a certified Grief Recovery Specialist from the Grief Recovery Institute. He has more than 20 years of experience in guiding and inspiring his congregations as an ordained pastor.

Arisso, Jr. has a powerful personal connection to organ donation and transplantation as his brother became a living kidney donor to help save the life of their father. His connection to NJ Sharing Network began in 2007 when he earned a staff position as Family Support and Faith-Based Outreach Coordinator. He advanced his career to become Manager of Family Services, leading a team focused on supporting families



njdentalcare.com

emotionally and spiritually throughout the organ and tissue donation process. He also collaborated with donor families, hospitals and NJ Sharing Network team members to ensure that best practices were implemented on every case.



(above) Jay Arisso, Jr.

ABOUT NJ SHARING NETWORK

NJ Sharing Network, headquartered in New Providence, NJ, is the federally designated nonprofit organization focused on saving and enhancing lives through the recovery of donated organs and tissue in the Garden State. NJ Sharing Network partners with an extensive network of 54 local hospitals to provide hope for the nearly 4,000 New Jersey residents currently waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant, and it is part of the national recovery system for the over 100,000 people on the national transplant waiting list.

For five consecutive years, NJ Sharing Network has reported organ donation records, and 3.8 million New Jerseyans are registered as organ and tissue donors, according to the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (NJMVC).

To learn more, get involved, and join the National Donate Life Registry as an organ and tissue donor, visit NJSharingNetwork.org.





9PM ROUTINE REMINDER

Elizabeth Police Department

We want to remind residents to remove valuables from their vehicles, lock their vehicle doors, lock the doors to their residences, turn on exterior lights and activate all alarms and security systems.

Set a nightly reminder on your smartphones that will remind you to follow the #9PM routine. Don't be an easy target for criminals.



24TH ANNUAL FEAST OF ST. ANTHONY

Church of the Assumption, Roselle Park, NJ

The Church of the Assumption's annual St. Anthony Italian Feast returns for its 24th year! The Feast will feature rides, games, live entertainment, homemade cooking, food vendors, a beer and wine garden, and a SUPER 50/50 drawn Sunday night at 9 p.m.

The Feast, located on the Church grounds at 113 Coolidge Place, Roselle Park, NJ,

begins on Thursday, June 6 and runs through Sunday, June 9.

Feast hours: Thu 6-10 p.m., Fri 6-10 p.m., Sat 5-10 p.m. and Sun 5-10 p.m.

On Sat, June 8, there will be a 4 p.m. mass honoring St. Anthony, followed by a procession through Roselle Park

beginning at 4:45 p.m. Thursday, June 6, Pay-One-Price unlimited ride wristbands will be sold at the Feast for \$30. Visit the Church of the Assumption website at

assumptionrp.com for more information and to Musical entertainment: Thu, June 6: Valencia School of Music/

Paper Statues, 8 to 10 p.m. Fri, June 7: 2/5ths Crazy, 7 to 10 p.m. Sa, June 8: Diamonds in Jupiter, 7 to 10 p.m. Sun, June 9: DJ playing traditional Italian music from 5:30 -7 p.m.

Other performances at the Feast: Thu, June 6: 6 p.m. – Roselle Park H.S. Band, Fusion Dance, Planet Dance

Sat, June 8: 5:30 p.m. – Susie Karlik Dance Sensation, Akido Schools of NJ Sun, June 9: 5 p.m. – Sabre Guild, 730,

Maplewood Glee Club

COOL ART IN JUNE AND JULY

ELIZABETH ARTS COUNCIL

The coolest place to be this summer is the Elizabeth Arts Council (EAC) annual exhibit "Cool Art In June And July" at the Elizabeth Public Library, 11 South Broad Street, third floor exhibit area.

Cool Art is a mixed media show featuring the work of EAC members Ray Horner, Derek J. Dent, Marjorie Picard, Daphnie Manzione, Joanne Leone, Lydia Watson, Shez and Paula Borenstein.

An opening reception is planned for Thursday, June 6, 5:30 - 7 p.m. at the library, third floor exhibit area.

The EAC is also proud to announce that the organization is celebrating its 25th year and its ongoing support and promotion of the arts in and around the City of Elizabeth.

For further information about the EAC and Cool Art, please call 908-289-3584.

For library hours, phone 908.354.6060 or check the library website: elizpl.org



24th Annual **2024** Feast of St. Anthony

Church of the Assumption •113 Coolidge Place • Roselle Park, NJ

Saturday, June 8 Sunday, June 9 Friday, June 7 Thursday, June 6 6:00pm-10:00pm 6:00pm-10:00pm 5:00pm*-10:00pm 5:00pm-10:00pm

*Mass 4:00pm Saturday, June 8 followed by St. Anthony's Procession \$30 Pay-One-Price Ride Wristband Night on Thursday, June 6

Four Days of Faith, Family, Friends and Fun Games Homemade Food 50/50s Rides Music





Valencia School of Music Paper Statues Thursday, June 6 8:00pm-10:00pm

2/5ths Crazy Friday, June 7 7:00pm-10:00pm Diamonds in Jupiter Saturday, June 8 7:00pm-10:00pm

A special thank you to the Borough of Roselle Park for supporting our Feast!

Sponsored by the Union County Board of County Commissioners UNION COUNTY We're Connected to You!

For More Information: Call Parish Office at 908-245-1107 www.assumptionrp.com.or Follow Us On Facebook

Coupon Free Water with Food Purchase at Parish Food Stand. Limit 1 per coupon.

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ELKS ASSEMBLE 200 BACKPACKS FOR HOMELESS VETERANS

Elks members from across NJ recently gathered at the NJ Elks Veterans Annex in Stirling to assemble 200 backpacks which will be distributed to homeless veterans at Stand Down events in Newark, Atlantic City, and other locations throughout the state. These backpacks help to provide comfort to homeless veterans, offering them a sense of support and care during challenging times.

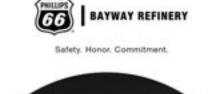
The backpacks contain clothing, food, personal hygiene, and other care items, including many of the 4,000 pairs of socks and undergarments that were collected and donated to the Elks through



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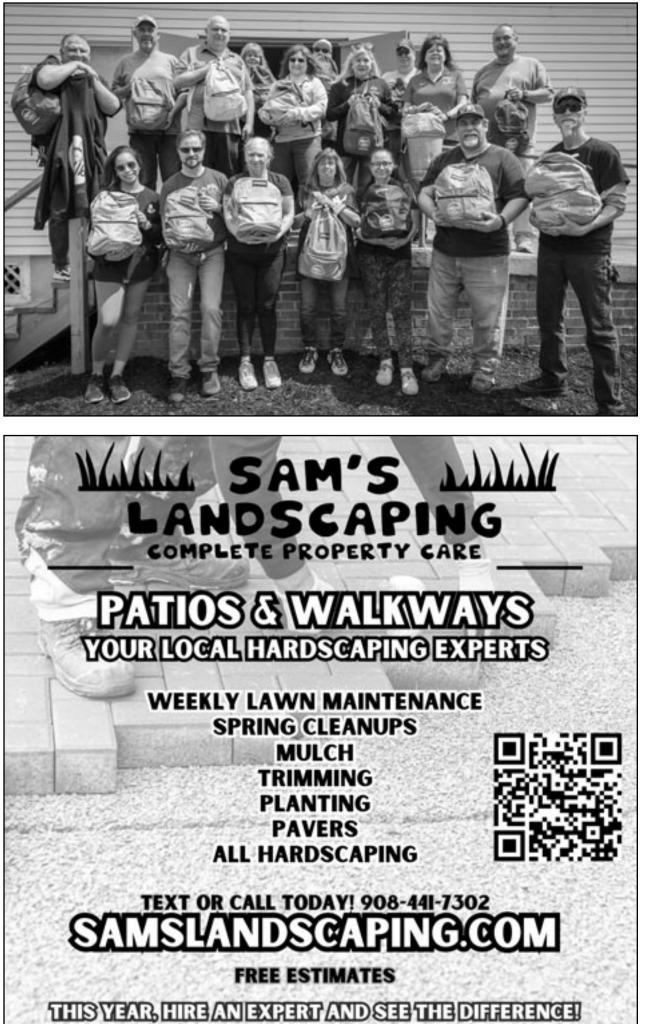
the Middlesex Borough Police sock drive for 40,000 veterans sleep on the streets. In New Jersey veterans. partnership with the Department of Veterans

The NJ Elks Veterans Annex also serves as a warehouse for Welcome Home kits consisting of furniture and other household items that a formerly homeless veteran would need when moving into their new housing. It is featured in the Youtube video "Givers of Hope".

Elks pledge "So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them." Every night, as many as

40,000 veterans sleep on the streets. In partnership with the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Elks National Veterans Service Commission has pledged to help end veteran homelessness and ensure that all veterans have the safe, stable homes they deserve.

Please email njelksnvsc@gmail.com to learn more about what NJ State Elks are doing to help veterans and visit Elks.org for more information about the Elks, including how to become a member.





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JUNE PROGRAMS AT THE ELMORA BRANCH LIBRARY

740 W Grand St, Elizabeth, NJ 07202 • Phone: (908) 353-4820 • www.elizpl.org/ Monday - Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 7:45 p.m. • Friday: 9:30 a.m. - 5:45 p.m. • Saturday: 9:30 a.m. - 4:45 p.m. • Sunday: Closed

Storytime at Green Acres Park

Saturday, June 1 at 11 am Located on 169 Bellevue St, Elizabeth, NJ Join Ms. Martha for Storytime and craft, and so much fun at the park! No registration required

Election Day Storytime & Craft

Monday, June 3 at 3 pm Join the Adult Chess Club every Friday at 12:30pm! Regardless of your skill level, beginners are welcome to participate.

Zumba Gold

Monday, June 3, 10, 17, & 24 and Thursday, June 6, 13, 20, & 27 at 9 am Add fitness into your day through dance with us! Call 908-353-4820 to reserve your spot, however, walk-ins are welcome!

Mahjong Monday, June 3, 10, 17, & 24

from 1 pm - 4 pm Everyone who loves Mahjong is welcome to

come & play at the library. Bring friends or come alone & find new partners. We'll provide the space for open play.

Ages: 18 & up

Junior Chess Club - (Ages: 7-12)

Monday, June 3, 10, 17, & 24 at 4 pm Don't miss out on our Chess Club for Kids! It's happening every Monday at 4 pm, and we welcome all kids, including beginners. Join us and let's play some chess!

Tai Chi & Qi Gong

Mondays, June 3, 10, 17, & 24 at 4:30 pm and Wednesdays, June, 5, 12, & 26 at 9 am Join Pete every Monday & Wednesday for Tai Chi, a gentle Chinese martial art that combines slow, flowing movements with deep breathing. Call (908) 353-4820 or reserve your spot on our

website at elizpl.org **The Book Clubbing Club** *Tuesday, June 4 at 11 am*

Become a part of our Book Club and engage in lively discussions about the latest and most intriguing book news with like-minded book lovers! Lil' Bookworms

Wednesday, June 5 at 5 pm Kids will share their love of reading, learn to talk about the books they're reading, and be motivated to read. Ages: 5-8

Adult Chess Club

Friday, June 7, 14, 21, & 28 at 12:30 pm Join the Adult Chess Club every Friday at 12:30pm! Regardless of your skill level, beginners are welcome to participate. We hope

to see you there!

Flag Day Storytime & Craft Wednesday, June 12 at 5 pm In Celebration of Flag Day, join Ms. Martha for

a story, craft, and some patriotic fun! DIY Pride Cupcake Decoration

Friday, June 14 at 3 pm

Decorate a cupcake for Pride Month! Bubbles aRe Us

Saturday, June 15 at 1 pm Located on 640 3rd Avenue, Elizabeth, NJ Join Ms. Martha for songs, stories, and crafts with LOADS of fun! This storytime will feature stories in English and Spanish for the whole

family. FREE PIZZA!!! Celebrate Father's Day with a Talent Show

Saturday, June 15 at 3 pm

In celebration of Father's Day, show off your talents at Elmora. Come join us for storytime, spotlight your talent, and fun!

Stitch & Chat

Tuesday, June 18 at 10 am and Wednesday, June 26 at 5 pm Come to Elmora to mend your clothing. Bring the article you need help with and assistance

will be provided. Bridge for Beginners

Tuesday, June 18 at 1 pm All skill levels are welcome to join the library for Bridge - a challenging trick-taking card game played with a standard 52-card deck by four players in two partnerships sitting opposite each other around a table. Stop by with your own deck of cards!

> Scan for 4th Episode of Mind Your Own Local Business on YouTube.





DanceDemolitionAndCleanupNJ.com



African Tribal Mask

Tuesday, June 18 at 3pm Come join us for make your own Tribal Mask! Adult Scrabble

Thursday, June 20 at 2:30 pm Word lovers! Exercise your B-R-A-I-N (7 points) by playing Scrabble with other likeminded adults.

Under the Sea Salt Painting

Monday, June 24 at 2 pm Paint any creature in the ocean using glue, salt, and water colors to bring you image to life!

Adult Spanish Book Club

Tuesday, June 25 at 2 pm Come and join Martha as she hosts a monthly book discussion for Spanish-speaking adults!

Drawing for Kids

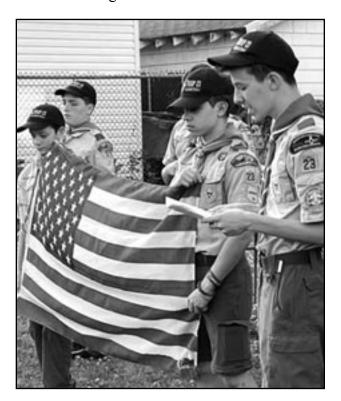
Thursday, June 27 at 3 pm Come and join us for a delightful storytime where you will get to learn how to draw various animals!

SCOUTS TO RETIRE AMERICAN FLAGS

Boy Scout Troop 23 and Cub Scout Pack 23 invite all Elmora residents to join them as they retire worn out or damaged American flags on Flag Day, Friday, June 14.

The ceremony, in which flags are properly retired by burning, will occur behind the St. Genevieve's Church Convent, 210 Princeton Road, Elizabeth, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Bring a lawn chair.

Prior to June 14, old flags can be left in the container next to Webby's Woodshed, located behind St. Genevieve's Rectory, near the garages that face Livingston Road.



(above) Boy Scouts of Troop 23 will conduct their annual American flag retirement ceremony on Flag Day, Friday, June 14. Members of the public are invited to participate.

