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EIGHT ADDITIONS TO ARTHUR L. LEWIS PARK MONUMENT

The Green Brook Lions Club celebrated the addition of eight names to a monument located in Arthur L. Lewis Park on October 19, 2024. The park, named after former Lion member Arthur Lewis, is located at 49-59 Greenbrook Road.

The monument was conceived to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the founding of Lions Clubs International, a service organization with more than 1.3 million members in 45,000 clubs, located in more than 200 countries around the world. The monument will celebrate the 100 individuals that have shaped Green Brook into the wonderful community that that is, with new honorees being added from time to time.

The initial honorees that were celebrated on the monument were Arthur L. Lewis, the namesake of the park. Art was a Lions Club member, former Township tax assessor, and one that could always be counted on to lend a hand. He was a member of nearly every charitable social club there was, from the Elks to the Moose. The second honored name was Vernon Noble, Charter Green Brook Lions Club member, Mayor, Somerset County Freeholder & County Surrogate, and Long-time chair of the Green Brook Flood Control Commission. The third initial honoree was Alvin P. Kappelman, former Green Brook Fire Chief, who was tragically killed helping others on 9-11. The fourth initial honoree was Irene E. Feldkirchner, teacher and principal of Green Brook's first schools, after whom the elementary school is named.

THE EIGHT ADDITIONAL HONOREES ADDED TO THE MONUMENT THIS YEAR INCLUDE:

Edward Boniakowski, 50-year Lions Club member and local businessman, who built an insurance and real estate empire from scratch, with the help of his loving wife Eleanor.

Marie Bradley, consummate volunteer, who would not be afraid to tell anyone why they needed to donate to a cause. Marie was integral in the building of Green Brook's 9-11 memorial, which along with Al Kappelmann honored her grandson Christopher and 6 other individuals with a connection to Green Brook.

Roth Brown, Green Brook's first Town Clerk, who ran the town with the guidance of the elected officials from his front porch, before the days of a town hall.

Raymond Demarco, local attorney and longtime municipal judge, who one would never be afraid to appear in front of, due to his compassionate distribution of justice.

Walter Kafka, Charter Green Brook Lions Club member, local surveyor who physically helped shape Green Brook.

John Kline, long-time fire volunteer and Fire Chief, who risked his life almost daily to protect the township and its



(above) Members of the Boniakowski Family pictured in front of the 4-sided monument.

Courtesy photos

residents, and brought a new professionalism to how the department was run.

Robert Lund, former Green Brook Police Chief and Somerset County Sherriff, who shaped our law enforcement community here and throughout the county with a professional, smooth hand.

Walter Pritchard, long-time tax collector and Charter Green Brook Lions Club member, who helped turn Green Brook's municipal operations into a more professional operation.

The Green Brook Lions Club will celebrate 75 years of service to the community this spring. For more information about the club or about becoming involved, email the club at greenbrooklions@gmail.com.



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Green Brook Gazette NJ

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ANNUAL WINTER INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT

The Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS) Music Department recently resented its Annual Winter Instrumental Concert, a celebration of musical talent and holiday spirit. Under the direction of Allan V. Daleus, Director of Instrumental Music, the WHRHS instrumental ensembles, including the String Orchestra,

Symphonic Band, Concert Band, and Wind Ensemble, performed an eclectic program featuring classic holiday tunes, contemporary pieces, and traditional repertoire. Highlights of the evening included "The Night Before Christmas" being narrated by Mr. Peter Martin, a WHRHS teacher.



(above) The Winter Instrumental Concert featured the incredible talent and teamwork of Watchung Hills Regional High School students while fostering a sense of togetherness and holiday cheer.

Photos by Watchung Hills Regional High School



Anthony Paterno

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SANTA CAME TO TOWN

Green Brook Recreation hosted the annual Green Brook Tree Lighting on Friday, December 6, 2024, at Arthur Lewis Park. Green Brook Middle School's Instrumental & Vocal Ensembles provided festive holiday music. There was complimentary hot chocolate & cookies.



Photo by Township of Green Brook

GRIEF FACILITATORS WELCOMED; VOLS SOUGHT

The staff at Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss are so pleased to welcome 10 new facilitators to their wonderful team of volunteers! The new facilitators completed three full days of training where they learned about Dr. Alan Wolfelt's Companionship Model practiced at Imagine, and role-played situations in which they used their new facilitation skills assisted by members of the Imagine staff.

One of the participants in the training shared a bit about her experience saying: "I was amazed by the way a group of strangers could feel so safe in a non-judgmental environment to share their most vulnerable feelings and stories." Another spoke about the Imagine staff who facilitated the training sharing: "All three facilitators were more than generous of heart and spirit."

Each of the new volunteers is now facilitating a grief support group on one of Imagine's Nights of Support in Mountainside or Newark. The staff at Imagine are so grateful to welcome this new team of volunteers! One of the largest hurdles the staff at Imagine faces in meeting the demand for

their services is finding compassionate individuals like those above, who can dedicate their time and talents to volunteer.

If you would like to explore the possibility of joining Imagine's incredible team of volunteers, please visit their website at imaginejnj.org to complete their interest form, or contact Imagine's Communications and Volunteer Engagement Manager, Val Stierhoff at val@imaginejnj.org. Additional trainings are planned for youth facilitators in January, and for adults in February and May 2025.

Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss 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@imaginejnj.org or visit our website at imaginejnj.org.



(above, l-r) Participants in Imagine's recent facilitator training. Back Row: Indira Jagoo, Imagine's Newark Clinical Program Director; Cynthia White; Zeinab Fattahi; Virginia Farnum; Arlette Rodriguez; Tikeisha Johnson; Rena Jordan, Imagine's Chief Development Officer; Sonia Nunez, Imagine's Bilingual Program Manager; Ruth Lushen; Front Row: Abigail Priece, Imagine's Clinical Program Supervisor; Tracy Maitin; Tèanna Johnson and Caroline Hislip

Courtesy photo

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WARRENBROOK SENIOR CENTER - DECEMBER CALENDAR

Warrenbrook Golf Course, 500 Warrenville Rd., Warren, NJ. Tel: 908-753-9440 • Open Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

New Year's Trivia

January 2, 11 a.m.

We will play New Year's resolutions word scramble, Word Search and learn some New Year Traditions from Around the World.

Snowy Snow Night Craft

January 3, 11 a.m.

with Karen Haake – We will create a snowy night scene inspired by the former artist Vincent Van Gogh. All materials will be provided. Pre-registration is required.

Tapping Solution

January 6, 11 a.m.

Part 2 of 3. Alicia Grey, a certified tapping practitioner, will offer a workshop to introduce you to this incredible self-help tool.

The Somerset County Traveling Library.

January 6, 1 p.m.

Sign up for a library card, get help troubleshooting technology, check out a book, or just share a book you are currently reading.

Jeopardy

January 7, 11 a.m.

Play Jeopardy in which categories include Winter Flavors & Treats, January Fun Facts, Little Foods, Winter Idioms, Hodgepodge.

Blood Pressure Screening

January 8, 10:30 a.m.

Visiting Nurse Association will meet with you individually and take your blood pressure and answer your questions.

Bingo sponsored by Kristina Bischof of Country Arch Care Center

January 8, 11 a.m.

Bingo is more than just an exciting activity.

Breathing techniques for mental wellness

January 9, 11 a.m.

Dr Prabha Srinivas will be teaching some practices that can be used to distract the mind and induce calm during an anxiety episode.

New Year's Musical Entertainment

January 10, 11 a.m.

As we kick off the new year, we will welcome the year 2025 by singing and dancing to the music provided by Lorri Woodward.

Musical Colors!

January 13, 11 a.m.

Discovery Orchestra staff will explore the seasonal landscape of "Autumn," one of Antonio Vivaldi's famous collection of violin concertos, The Four Seasons. The presentation will include a live performance and interactive audience experience.

Drum Circle with Anil Sachadev

January 13, 1 p.m.

Soothe the mind, body and spirit in this drumming circle.

Craft – Snowflakes with Parul

January 14, 11 a.m.

We will be creating simple, beautiful and stunning snowflakes. All materials will be provided. Pre-registration is required.

Monthly Book Club

(Hybrid) January 14, 1:30 PM

Meets Every Second Tuesday of the month.

Supporting Aging at Home

January 15, 11 a.m.

This presentation is designed to help older adults maintain their independence and quality of life while remaining in their own homes.

Penguin Paradise of South Atlantic (Video)

January 16, 11 a.m.

In the middle of the Antarctic Ocean, an entire mountain range arises from the water: South Georgia, the nursery of the Antarctic. Hundreds of thousands of penguins, elephant seals, fur seals and their young overcrowd the beaches.

Winter Adaptations

January 17, 11 a.m.

Explore how wildlife survives the long winter.

Closed in observance of Martin Luther King

January 20

Boggle

January 21, 11 a.m.

This is a challenging game that is played using a grid of letters.

Hearing Screening

January 22, 11 a.m.

A hearing screening is a brief test to detect if you have hearing loss.

Armchair Travels to China

January 23, 11 a.m.

China! We will visit the Great Wall of China and learn its secrets. We will watch the Chinese Dragon Dance and play China Trivia.

Brains n Games and Hand Bells with Adrienne Graubard.

January 24, 11 a.m.

Join Adrienne for some mind-tingling, brain-stumping word games and a fun-filled musical workout using hand bells.

Garden State:

Living Off the Land in 19th Century New Jersey

January 27, 11 a.m.

Explore the agricultural history of New Jersey .

Technology

January 28, 11 a.m.

Discover how simple tech tricks can help you.

Unleash Your Inner Dragon Artist! - with Parul

January 29, 11 a.m.

Let's bring a mythical creature to life!

Chinese Bingo

January 29, 1 p.m.

Let's play bingo and discover the fascinating world of Chinese traditions and zodiac animals!

Bingo sponsored by Waypoint Legal

January 30, 11 a.m.

Bingo is more than just an exciting activity.

Blaxploitation – with Charlie Smith

January 31, 10:30 a.m.

Charlie will provide a review of the so - called "Blaxploitation" films of the 70s

Yoga with Kartika

Mondays, 10 a.m.

This class is open to all levels of skill.

Studio 60+

1st and 3rd Mondays, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Warrenbrook Seniors will meet twice a month to plan the events they are interested in.

Mahjong for Intermediate Players

Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

If you are an intermediate mahjong player then join us on Tuesday mornings.

Take control with Exercise

Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

This is an exercise program, in video form.

Zumba Gold with Judith

Tuesdays, 10:15 a.m.

Get your blood pumping with some zesty music that will truly inspire a hearty workout.

Bridge Group with Ronnie

Tuesdays, 1 – 4 p.m.

Bridge is a mentally challenging card game that offers intellectual and social stimulation.

Geri-Fit

Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m.

Geri-Fit is a unique and evidence-based seated (standing optional) exercise program.

Line Dancing with Lynda Hyland

Thursdays, 9:30 – 10:15 a.m.

Increase cardiovascular and muscular strength as well as improve coordination and balance as you work through different moves.

Card/Table Games

Thursdays, 1 – 4 p.m.

Join in and play some of your favorite games such as Dominoes, Left-Center-Right, dice games, Rummikub, Canasta, Mexican Train.

Bridge

Fridays, 1 – 4 p.m.

Playing bridge regularly stimulates your brain and helps keep your memory active.

Tai Chi with Roger

Tai Chi can help reduce falls, especially for those with balance problems. This program can be practiced while either standing or sitting.

No class on January 24 & 31

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JOSEPH DOLL CELEBRATES 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF LIFESAVING HEART TRANSPLANT

NJ Sharing Network

As we honored the brave men and women who served our country this Veterans Day, Joseph Doll, a Vietnam veteran from Green Brook, reflected on his own incredible journey - not only as a proud serviceman but as a heart transplant recipient who recently celebrated the 10th anniversary of his lifesaving transplant.

A decade ago, after battling advanced heart failure due to his service-related exposure to Agent Orange, Joseph received the ultimate gift - a new heart - thanks to the selflessness of an organ donor. Today, Joseph enjoys precious moments with his family, moments he once feared he would never experience. In addition, Joseph has become a passionate advocate for NJ Sharing Network, using his story to raise awareness about the importance of organ and tissue donation.

“Organ donation gave me my life back and has allowed me to experience many incredible moments. I encourage everyone to register as organ and tissue donors. You can truly make a difference and save lives,” said Joseph.

From Vietnam Veteran to Heart Transplant Survivor

Joseph Doll’s battle with heart disease began early in life. At the age of 21, shortly after returning home from military service in Vietnam, Joseph was diagnosed with chronic hypertension. Despite undergoing multiple heart procedures over the years, including a triple bypass and valve replacements, his heart condition continued to worsen.

Joseph’s journey to transplant was fraught with emotional and physical challenges. In addition to his own medical battle, his wife, Harriette, was diagnosed with thyroid cancer. Their daughter Carrie and her husband Nathan were also expecting the birth of their first child at the same time.

On October 16, 2014, Joseph’s prayers were answered thanks to a successful heart transplant

at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center.

“Words cannot express the gratitude I have for my donor Steven and his family. They gave me the ultimate gift - a second chance at life. I honor them every day by living fully and appreciating every moment,” said Joseph. “Meeting Steven’s family in person at NJ Sharing Network was one of the most profound moments of my life. We are like family now.”

Adding to his many blessings, Joseph celebrated the birth of his first granddaughter, Reagan, just two days after his heart transplant. Joseph also shared the heartening news that Harriette had her cancerous thyroid removed seven weeks after his transplant and enjoyed many years of good health. Though Harriette is currently facing a new health challenge with uterine cancer, they remain hopeful and continue to support each other through every step.

Now, ten years after his transplant, Joseph remains active, shares his story to inspire others, and continues to advocate for NJ Sharing Network’s lifesaving mission.

“I’m not wasting a second. I go for long walks, I travel, and I spend as much time with my family as I can. Waking up every morning and knowing I get to be here for these moments is the greatest feeling,” said Joseph.

According to the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS), over 100,000 Americans are waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant, with nearly 4,000 of them in New Jersey. One organ and tissue donor can save eight lives and enhance the lives of over 75 others. However, the opportunity to give the gift of life is extremely rare - not everyone who registers as a donor is able to donate after they pass away. In fact, less than 1% of all deaths meet the specific medical criteria to be an organ donor. This underscores the pressing need for more registered donors.

To learn more about organ donation, get involved, and join the National Donate Life Registry, visit www.NJSharingNetwork.org.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT NEW JERSEY BLOOD SERVICES

New Jersey Blood Services (NJBS), a division of New York Blood Center, which provides blood for local patients, is looking for a few good volunteers. The blood drive volunteer is an integral member of our team whose tasks include assisting donors with registration and/or at the refreshment area. No medical background necessary. Volunteers should be outgoing to provide friendly customer service, be able to perform tasks as needed, must provide proof of COVID Vaccination prior to volunteering and must have transportation. All training is provided including additional precautions for the safety of our team and blood donors. For additional information call or text Sharon Zetts, Manager, NJBS Volunteer Services at 732-850-8906, Monday to Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

To apply online as a blood drive volunteer, please go to:
volgistics.com/appform/2127944197



(At Center) Joseph Doll receives the Vinnie DiPane Award from the Vietnam Veterans of America - Chapter 233 for his commitment to the organization. Standing with Joseph Doll is (left-to-right) Robin Goodrich, Steven Leventhal, Joseph Doll’s granddaughter Reagan, Harriette Doll, and James Hixon.

(Photos Credit: Courtesy of NJ Sharing Network)



Joseph Doll with his granddaughter, Reagan, honor fallen heroes at the historical colonial cemetery of the First Presbyterian Church of Woodbridge.

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Hickory Tree is an award-winning women's chorus singing four-part a cappella harmony in the barbershop style. We are passionate about music, performance, fun and friendship. We believe every voice counts and encourage women singers of all ages, colors, ethnicities, and orientations to visit us and share our joy of music.

Please contact the Chorus for the Winter Sing-Along by email at info@hickorytreechorus.org. Find more information at hickorytreechorus.org.



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LONG-TIME PUPPY RAISERS HONORED

The Seeing Eye

The Seeing Eye recently honored five long-time puppy raisers with induction to “The Seeing Eye 21 Club”, a special honor for volunteers who have raised at least 21 Seeing Eye® puppies. The non-profit also honored the Seeing Eye puppy raising club volunteers with two awards, the Outstanding Leader Award and the 20-year Leader Award. Finally, 34 exceptional college-bound puppy raisers were awarded college scholarships totaling \$64,000.

“Each year, The Seeing Eye’s Family Day is a celebration of all the hard work and dedication of our volunteer puppy raising families,” said Seeing Eye director of canine development Peggy Gibbon. “An army of volunteers provides each Seeing Eye puppy with a loving home environment, socialization, and basic training that prepares them to become Seeing Eye dogs for people who are blind.”

“We’re actively recruiting puppy raisers and puppy sitters for our upcoming litters that are planned for the coming months. If you’re interested in joining our community of dog lovers, now is a great time to reach out to us and learn what puppy raising is all about,” said Gibbon. “We need homes and families of all shapes and sizes for our puppies because fully trained Seeing Eye dogs are placed in similarly diverse families and living situations with people who are blind.”

A puppy raiser family is responsible for providing a loving and nurturing home environment for approximately one year. During that time, the raiser is responsible for teaching basic obedience, house manners, bringing the puppy to Seeing Eye puppy club meetings and socialization trips in their area. The Seeing Eye puppy could be a German shepherd, Labrador retriever, golden retriever, or a Labrador/golden retriever cross.

Puppy raisers must live within New Jersey, eastern Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware or New York (Rockland or Orange Counties) so they can attend regular puppy club meetings

where they will receive help and coaching with their puppies. All veterinary expenses are covered by The Seeing Eye and a stipend is provided to help cover the cost of dog food. If a Seeing Eye puppy does not graduate from the program, the family who raised the puppy is offered the first option to adopt the puppy they raised. For more information visit seeingeye.org/raise.

Established in 1929, The Seeing Eye provides specially bred and trained dogs to guide people who are blind. Seeing Eye dog handlers experience greatly enhanced mobility and independence, allowing them to retain their active lifestyles. The Seeing Eye is a 501(c)3 non-profit supported by contributions from individuals, corporations and foundations, bequests, and other planned gifts.

The Seeing Eye is a trademarked name and can only be used to describe the dogs bred and trained at the school’s facilities in Morristown, N.J. If you would like more information on The Seeing Eye, please visit the website at SeeingEye.org, call 973-539-4425, or email info@seeingeye.org.



(above) Pam Heady was among those inducted into “The Seeing Eye 21 Club”, a special honor for volunteers who have raised at least 21 Seeing Eye® puppies.

Courtesy photo

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SIEMINSKI THEATER 2025 SEASON STARTERS

The Sieminski Theater is thrilled to announce Act 1 of their 2025 season featuring diverse shows that are sure to deliver something unforgettable for every theatergoer.

**JANUARY 25TH @ 7:30PM
WOODEN SHIPS BAND**

Opening their season on January 25th @ 7:30pm is WOODEN SHIPS. The WOODEN SHIPS BAND pays homage to the fantastic music of Crosby, Stills & Nash (and Young). The band faithfully reproduces the CSN songbook just like you remember it, but with a twist – the beautiful, intricate vocal harmonies are sung by three women! WOODEN SHIPS BAND is composed of seasoned, well-respected musicians who know how to deliver a great show. The music, having passed the test of time, is classic.

**FEBRUARY 8TH AND 9TH
THE LIGHT OPERA OF NEW JERSEY
PUCCINI'S MADAMA BUTTERFLY**

Up next, The Light Opera of New Jersey presents one of the most beloved of all operas, Puccini's Madama Butterfly February 8th and 9th. Madama Butterfly premiered in 1904 and has enthralled audiences ever since. This timeless opera tells the tragic story of Cio-Cio-San, a young Japanese woman who falls in love with an American naval officer, B.F. Pinkerton. As she waits faithfully for his return, her unwavering devotion clashes with the harsh realities of betrayal and abandonment. With its breathtaking melodies and powerful themes of hope, longing, and heartbreak, Madam Butterfly not only captivates opera enthusiasts but also invites newcomers to experience its profound emotional depth.

**FEBRUARY 23RD @ 2:30
THE NEW JERSEY FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA**

On February 23rd @ 2:30 the New Jersey Festival Orchestra, under the music direction of David Wroe, will present "Vienna: Invitation to the Dance" with Strauss Waltzes and a Mahler's 4th symphony to close the program. Famed Polish Soprano Marcelina Beucher to also join NJFO.

**MARCH 2, 2024, AT 2:30 PM
NEW JERSEY SYMPHONY CHAMBER PLAYERS**

The New Jersey Symphony Chamber Players will present two programs this season. On March 2, 2025, at 2:30 pm they will present a mix of classical and contemporary compositions spanning a range of vibrant, dynamic styles and showcasing the versatility of a woodwind quintet. The chamber players will return on June 22, 2024, at 2:30 pm, this time with a string quartet. The programs will feature compositions by Black composers from the 18th century through today in a collection of powerful string quartet works.

For more information on all the upcoming shows of our 2025 season visit our website at www.sieminskitheater.org.

Tickets are available online at www.sieminskitheater.org or by phone at 908-580-3892. Tickets range from \$25.00 to \$90.00 depending on the show with discounts available for students and seniors. The theater is located at 8000 Fellowship Road, Basking Ridge on the campus of Fellowship Village.

Enjoy an exceptional preshow dining experience at Wilson's Tapas Bar Lounge restaurant before the evening performance. Located steps away from the Sieminski Theater, culinary dishes prepared by Fellowship Village's award-winning executive chef feature only the freshest ingredients and highest quality. Make a reservation by calling 908-580-3818 for 5:30 pm for the show date.

ABOUT THE SIEMINSKI THEATER:

Bringing a professional performing arts venue with a diverse lineup of entertainment to Basking Ridge and the surrounding communities makes the Sieminski Theater and Somerset County an artistic and cultural destination. We enjoy a newly expanded performance schedule from American Theater Group, Light Opera of New Jersey, New Jersey Festival Orchestra, Trilogy Repertory, and countless national touring groups. Our intimate, award-winning non-profit venue features technical amenities that rival any Broadway theater.

THE KID FROM WARREN

Watchung Hills Regional High School
Watchung Hills Regional High School alum Daniel Edelman made waves on Saturday, December 7th, when he took to the field with the New York Red Bulls in the MLS Cup Final against the LA Galaxy, showcasing his talent on soccer's biggest stage.

Edelman, grew up in Warren Township attending Central School and then Warren Middle School to Watchung Hills Regional High School where he played soccer, Daniel Edelman has always been "The Kid from Warren".

The Warren community is thrilled to cheer on one of its own and extends heartfelt support to Daniel as he continues to represent his hometown with pride.



(above) Daniel Edelman

Photo by Watchung Hills Regional High School

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<p>Wooden Ships <i>Crosby Stills and Nash Tribute</i> January 25</p>	<p>Madama Butterfly <i>Presented by The Light Opera of New Jersey</i> February 8 & 9</p>	<p>NJ Festival Orchestra <i>Vienna: Invitation to the Dance</i> February 23</p>
<p>New Jersey Symphony Chamber Players <i>Woodwind Quintet</i> March 2</p>	<p>Anything Goes <i>Presented by Trilogy Repertory</i> March 2 – April 6</p>	<p>Frontiers <i>A Journey Tribute</i> April 26</p>
<p>Doscoteks <i>A Disco & Motown Tribute</i> May 10</p>	<p>Broadway in the Burbs <i>Presented by American Theater Group</i> May 18 & 19</p>	<p>New Jersey Symphony Chamber Players <i>String Quartet</i> June 22</p>

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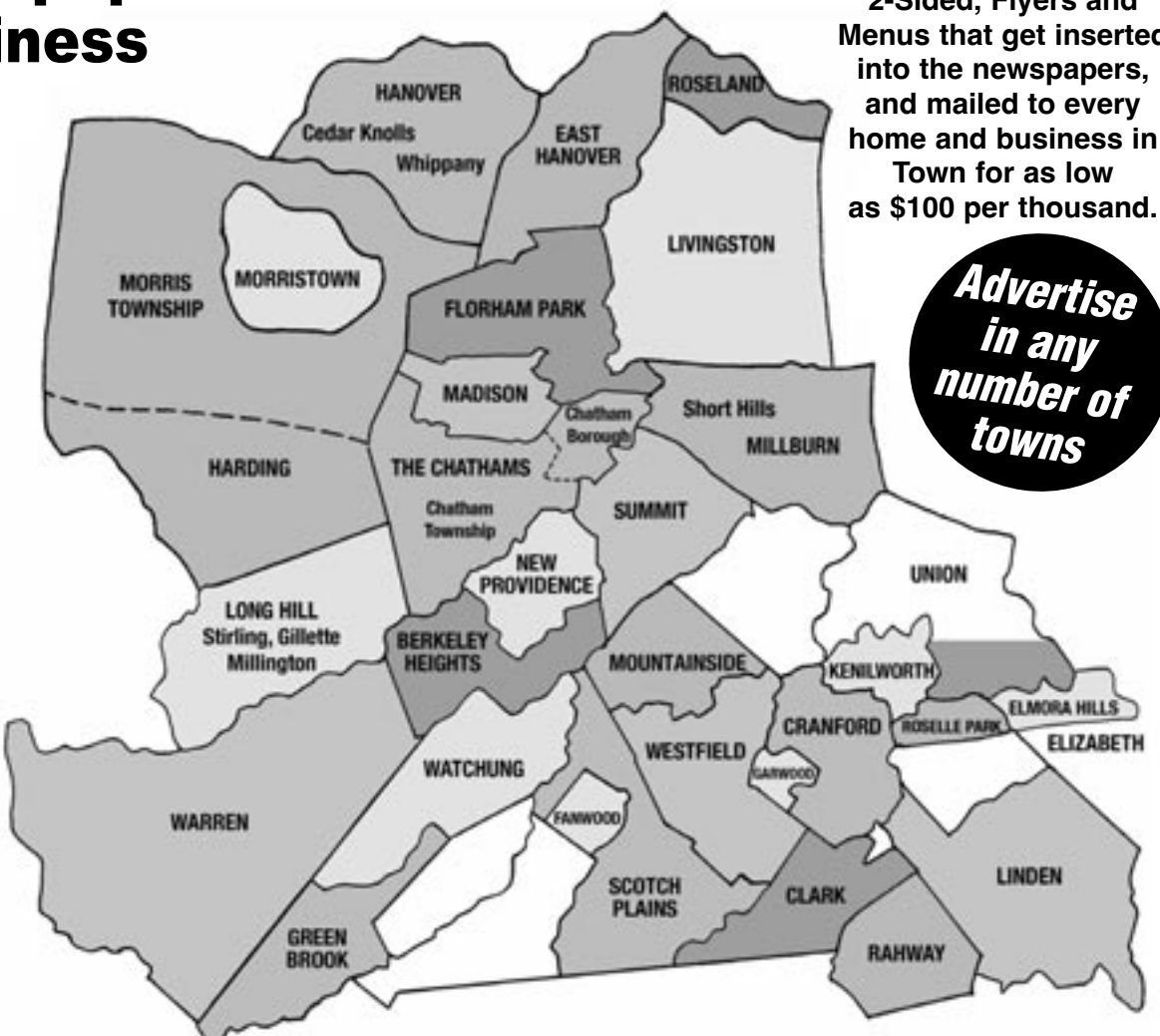
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AN UNUSUAL GOOSE REHABBED AND RELEASED

The Raptor Trust

The Brant goose, with its compact size and striking black-and-white plumage, is a remarkable bird. Adapted to drink saltwater, these geese embark on long migratory journeys from their Arctic breeding grounds to coastal winter



(above) We're thrilled to see this Brant goose take to the skies (or water) once more! It was a charming patient.

Photo by The Raptor Trust

habitats. Look for them in estuaries, mudflats, and saltmarshes, where they thrive throughout the winter months.

Recently, The Raptor Trust treated a Brant goose (Admit #21-4190) found in Long Valley with wounds from a predator attack. After intensive care, including suturing lacerations, treating an eye injury and parasites, this resilient bird was successfully released at Sandy Hook on November 2nd.

ABOUT THE RAPTOR TRUST

The Raptor Trust is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization located at 1390 White Bridge Rd., Millington, NJ. They provide free care and assistance to injured, sick, or orphaned wild birds. They offer educational programs to the public about wild birds, especially birds of prey. They strive to provide a human example for others. For more information about upcoming events, to make a donation, and volunteer opportunities visit info@theraptortrust.org. To report an injured wild bird call 908-647-2353.

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS NIGHT SKY GAZING

Amateur Astronomers, Inc (AAI) of Cranford, NJ celebrated their 75th Anniversary on Sunday, November 17, 2024, at The Westwood Caterers of Garwood, NJ. In attendance were 53 past and current members who range from teenagers to seniors.

AAI has always interested anyone who loves looking and learning about the night sky. Housed in the William Miller Sperry Observatory on the Union College campus in Cranford, the observatory is open to the public every Friday night with their twin domes looking at the heavens. One of the domes houses a 24-inch reflector and the other dome houses a 10 refractor, which was constructed by club members. Public lectures start at 8:30 p.m. on Fridays, they are on current topics in Astronomy.

Youth lectures are presented by the club at 7:00 p.m. to preregistered scout groups to help them earn their patches in science. If you are interested in preregistering a scout group, please contact info@asterism.org.

The club also celebrates celestial events such as eclipses by opening the Observatory and having numerous telescopes outside the building. For more information about AAI email, membership@asterism.org or visit asterism.org.

ASTRONOMY DAY - MAY 17, 2025

Amateur Astronomers, Inc. along with the North Jersey Astronomical Group, two amateur astronomy clubs located in New Jersey, are once again holding their annual Astronomy Day on Saturday, May 17, 2025. The event will be held in 2 locations: Trailside Nature & Science Center in Mountainside in the afternoon and at William Miller Sperry Observatory on the campus of Union College in Cranford in the evening. The theme is "Solar Max, Unlocking the Secrets of the Sun." This is a family friendly event that focuses on learning about our Sun and its impact on us, and also about astronomy and related sciences in a fun and easy to understand atmosphere. This event appeals to both children and adults. The event is free and open to the public and does not require preregistration. So, mark your calendars for Saturday, May 17, 2025, and come out to learn more about the Sun and our universe!



(above) AAI has always interested anyone who loves learning about the night sky. Housed in the William Miller Sperry Observatory on the Union College campus in Cranford, the observatory is open to the public every Friday nights. One of the domes houses a 24-inch reflector and the other dome houses a refractor. Public lectures start at 8:30 p.m. on Fridays, on current topics in Astronomy.

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Tom & Karen B.



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