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SANTA CHOPPERS IN FOR CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Santa visited Roseland on Friday, December 6th to light the Christmas tree and visit with families while posing for photos. The excitement included various activities, live entertainment, food trucks, a fire pit, and more!

300 residents and guests braved the frigid temperatures to welcome Santa back to Roseland last Friday at the annual Hometown Christmas Celebration.

There were activities aplenty for attendees of all ages to enjoy including a petting zoo, an inflatable gingerbread house, a letters to Santa station, an ice-less skating rink, horse and carriage rides, a trackless train, and a vendor fair. Food trucks with food for purchase and other tables with food and item giveaways rounded out the event offerings Friday night.

Santa arrived by helicopter to the delight of all in attendance, helped light the tree, and then through the magic of Christmas, rode down Eagle Rock Avenue with the Fire Department into the event area.

Santa then took time to take approximately 100 photos with children and their families in the Mayor's Office, with each child receiving a commemorative mini stuffed snowman while carolers sang holiday favorites in traditional garb.

The Borough would like to thank all of the employees and Public Works staff who helped make this event a success, in addition to resident volunteers, and members of the Municipal Youth Guidance Committee. Thanks also to the individuals and businesses who donated or discounted their services to make this event as fun and memorable as possible while keeping cots under control.

Holiday Storytime continues thru January 8th. Airing daily on Roseland TV at 7 a.m., 11 a.m., 5:30 p.m., & 9 p.m. Channel 2146 – Verizon HD / Channel 35 – Comcast. You can also watch any time on the Roseland Borough YouTube account.



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Life in Roseland NJ

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HICKORY TREE CHORUS WINTER SING-ALONG

Stay warm this winter by putting some music in your life in 2025! Join the Hickory Tree Chorus for a Winter Sing-Along, which will include a meet-and-greet, warm-ups and, of course, some wonderful singing. Dates are January 8 and 15, 2025, from 6:45 to 9:30 p.m. at The Shrine of St Joseph, 1050 Long Hill Road, Stirling, NJ. The chorus sings a variety of music, including old-fashioned love songs, Broadway, Disney, Beatles, and more, in a fun, supportive community. Come sing with us and share the joy of music together! Stay for friendship and fun!

And the event is free!

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.



(above) The Hickory Tree award-winning women's chorus is hosting free events on January 8 and 15, 2025, from 6:45 to 9:30 p.m. at The Shrine of St Joseph, 1050 Long Hill Road, Stirling, NJ.

Courtesy photo

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KERRY O'CONNOR CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY OF ORGAN DONATION

NJ Sharing Network

Kerry O'Connor of Morris Township celebrated a significant milestone in September – it is 11 years since a pancreas transplant saved her life. Reflecting on her journey, Kerry is using this anniversary to advocate for NJ Sharing Network and encourage people to register as

organ and tissue donors to help save and enhance lives.

“Not a day goes by that I don't think about the incredible gift my organ donor gave me. Their selfless choice has given me a life I never imagined possible,” said Kerry. “Sharing my story with others is my way of honoring my donor's legacy and supporting the vital work of NJ Sharing Network.”

Kerry's health challenges began at a young age when she was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes. Despite using the most up-to-date diabetes technology, including an insulin pump and Continuous Glucose Monitoring System (CGMS), Kerry struggled with severe hypoglycemia unawareness. Her blood sugar levels could drop dangerously low without warning, putting her life at constant risk. Simple activities like folding laundry could cause her blood sugar to plummet, forcing her to administer glucagon to herself to prevent losing consciousness.

Kerry had been living with Type 1 diabetes for 28 years. The only solution to her condition was a pancreas transplant. She was placed on the waiting list, and after 11 months, she received the life-changing call. Kerry's donor, like her, was CMV and EBV negative, a rare match that allowed for the successful transplant on September 3, 2013, at University of Minnesota

Medical Center.

Since her transplant, Kerry has not only regained her health but has also embraced life with a renewed sense of purpose. She has traveled to France, volunteered often for NJ Sharing Network, and most notably, welcomed three children into the world. Her children, Gracy (8), Saoirse (6), and Seamus (3), are a testament to the incredible second chance at life that her transplant provided.

“Most pancreas transplant recipients don't have children, let alone three,” said Kerry. “My husband Billy and I are truly blessed. I am living proof of the lifesaving power of organ donation. Our children are a daily reminder of what a miracle this journey has been. I hope my story inspires others to consider registering as organ and tissue donors. You truly have the power to save lives.”

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. But the need for registered donors is critical, as only 3 in 1,000 people pass away in a manner that allows for organ donation.

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



(above) Standing at right pancreas transplant recipient Kerry O'Connor enjoys a precious moment with her husband Billy and their children (l-r) Saoirse, Gracy, and Seamus.

Photo by NJ Sharing Network



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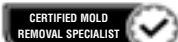
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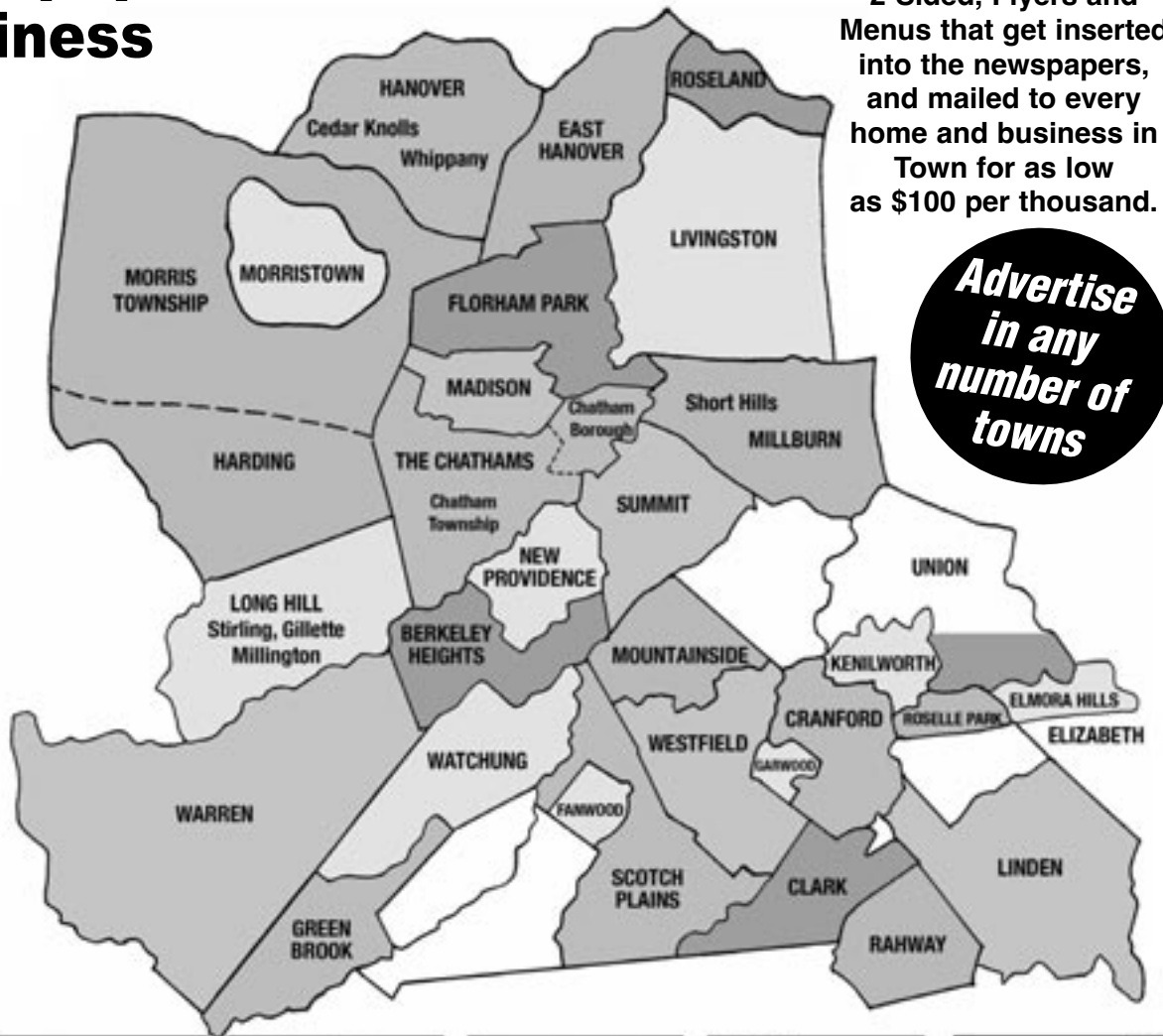
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4 Units 3.25"x8" or 6.5"x4"	240	560	900	1000	1300	1600	1700	1800	1900	2000	2100
6 Units 6.5"x6.25" or 10"x4"	320	760	1200	1400	1600	1800	2000	2200	2400	2600	2800
9 HALF PAGE 6.5"x9" or 10"x7"	360	860	1300	1600	1900	2200	2400	2600	2800	3000	3200
12 Units 6.5"x14"	400	960	1400	1800	2100	2400	2700	3000	3300	3600	3900
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REGULAR PROGRAMS

Story Time

Tuesdays, January 7 & 28, 10:30-11 am

Different story themes each week. No RSVP required.

Crafty Wednesday

January 8, 15, 22 & 29, 10:30-11:30 am

Work on a different themed craft each week.

Ages: Pre-K

Lego Club

Wednesday, January 8, 4:30-5:30 pm

Explore the library's many Lego bins and let your imagination soar.

Crafter-School Club

Thursdays, January 16 & 30, 4-5 pm

Check the library website for project details (www.roselandpubliclibrary.org)

Ages: students in grades K-6 ONLY
REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

Spanish/Bilingual Story Time

Thursdays, January 9 & 23, 10:30-11:15 am

Enjoy stories in Spanish and work on a related craft
Ages: Pre-K - REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

Dumpling Making Class

Tuesdays, January 28, at 4 pm

Learn how to make Chinese dumplings in celebration of the Lunar New Year! For school-age children. Limited to 20 participants.

CHILDREN'S EVENTS

Author Visit with Diane Bellifanti

Saturday, January 11, at 11 am

Montclair-based author Diane Bellifanti will present an interactive program based on her picture book about friendship, *Counting on Friends*. Guests can make their own bookmark crafts. Learn more about her other books, which include *Harriet: Adventures of a Honeybee* and *Walk with Me* for younger readers. She has also written some books for older kids - *Don't Drink from the Water Fountain*, a collection of humorous poems about the trials and tribulations of middle school, as well as *Adrian's Journey*, about a nine-year-old who must leave his homeland for a new and unfamiliar place. Ages: 3+

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.

Sign & Sing

Tuesday, January 14, at 10:30 am

This fun and interactive music class led by special guest Desiree Agrifolio, a certified teacher, utilizes and teaches sign language. Learn basic American Sign Language while singing along to favorite songs and nursery rhymes. Dance, play with shaker eggs, and more. Ages toddler & pre-K. Registration is required.

Stories & Signs

Tuesday, January 21, at 10:30 am

Little learners can enjoy an engaging program with special guest Desiree Agrifolio, a certified teacher, listening to stories, learning basic American Sign Language, and singing songs to promote language learning. Ages toddler & pre-K. Registration is required.

FAMILY/ALL AGES

Family Trivia: Harry Potter

Saturday, January 18, 12:30-2 pm

Bring friends and family to make a team. Prize will be awarded to the first place winner. Registration required.

Chess Class for All Ages

Thursdays, January 16 & 23, at 6 pm

Learn how to play the wonderful game of chess!
This class is open to all ages.

JANUARY ADULT PROGRAMS

Weekly Afternoon Matinee

Mondays, January 6, 13 & 27, from 1 to 3 pm

Check the library website (www.roselandpubliclibrary.org) for movies. No RSVP required.

Basic English Practice for Beginners

Mondays, January 6, 13 & 27, from 5:30 to 7:15 pm

Practice English conversation through lessons, games, and other activities.

Mindful Coloring

Tuesdays, January 7, 14, 21 & 28, from 1 to 3 pm

Relax with some adult coloring.

Corrected Pronunciation

& Conversation in American English

Wednesdays, January 8, 22 & 29, at 6:15 pm

Practice pronunciation, accent reduction, understand idioms and other things beyond the basics. Registration is required.

Vinyasa Yoga

Thursdays, January 9, 16, 23 & 30, at 6:30 pm

Collage Together

Saturday, January 11, at 12:30 pm

"Intuitive collaging" for adults with Darlene Sardinsky - RSVP required.

Knitting Circle

Monday, January 13, at 1 pm

Enjoy some knitting and crocheting time in a group setting. Register on library website.

Hybrid Author Event: The Magic of Found Family: In Conversation with Author TJ Klune

Wednesday, January 15, at 7 pm

Tune in from home or watch at the library (computers available to stream the interview at the library). Register on the library website to receive the link.

Roseland Library Book Club

Wednesday, January 15, at 6:30 pm

Join a lively discussion about this month's book - check the library website for January's title.

Hybrid Author Event: Notes on Modern Irrationality with Author Amanda Montell

Thursday, January 23, at 2 pm

Tune in from home or watch at the library (computers available to stream the interview at the library). Register on the library website to receive the link.

Hybrid Author Event: An Inside Look at Working with a Literary Agent

Tuesday, January 28, at 1 pm

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