

# New Providence NEWS

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## COMMUNITY EVENTS CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAY SEASON



(above) Santa stopped by the New Providence DeCorso Center to visit with the Seniors during a recent meeting. Mayor Al Morgan was coincidentally no where to be found during the event.

Santa made his annual visit to New Providence during the Holiday Walk. Held downtown on Friday, November 29, 2024, the family-friendly event is hosted by New Providence Business in partnership with the Downtown Improvement District.

Merchants opened their doors to visitors, and many had giveaways and attractions. A petting zoo is always a center of attention at the New Providence Presbyterian Church. The evening's magic culminated when the New Providence High School Marching Band leads a parade thru the downtown delivering Santa to light the Christmas tree accompanied by a drone light show and music soundtrack.

*Photos from this and other events can be found online at [rennamedia.com](http://rennamedia.com) and on the New Providence News page on facebook.com. Feel free to "Like," "Tag," and "Share."*



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# New Providence NEWS

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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](mailto:info@hickorytreechorus.org). Find more information at [hickorytreechorus.org](http://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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 Garden  
Communities



## THE JANUARY SPEAKERS PROGRAM FOR THE SUMMIT AREA OLD GUARD

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.

### IN JANUARY, WE WILL HAVE FOUR SPEAKERS:

#### JANUARY 7: FRED POLAK

On January 7th, Fred Polak will relate the love story of his parents, Jack and Ina, who nurtured their relationship through the exchange of letters while each was incarcerated in concentration camps during WWII. After liberation, they married and moved to America in 1950. Jack became the president of the Ann Frank Center, USA and lectured extensively on the Holocaust. Jack passed away at the age of 102 and Fred has been dedicated to retelling his parents' story and the lessons to be learned from this awful period.

#### JANUARY 14: SCOTT WALKER

On January 14th, we will learn how Rutgers Provides academic Support Services to Student Athletes. Our speaker will be Scott Walker, executive director of Rutgers' Academic Support Services for Student Athletes program (ASSSA), and a Princeton graduate. Services provided by ASSSA are available to all student-athletes at

Rutgers. During his tenure, which includes entry of Rutgers into the Big Ten, Scott has overseen the expansion and modernization of the program and the unprecedented academic success achieved by individual student-athletes and team sports. Scott will provide an insider's view of the services provided by ASSSA and how it has evolved over the years.

#### JANUARY 21: DR. STANLEY GERSCH

On January 21st, our speaker will be Dr. Stanley Gersch. He will discuss how Invisalign® revolutionized orthodontics and expanded the use of clear teeth aligners and about his early interest in how innovative technologies could enhance treatment for his patients, his early-stage introduction to Invisalign®, and how Invisalign® grew to become the leader in clear teeth aligners. Stan has been a practicing orthodontist in

Westfield, Cranford, and Linden for over 35 years and is the director of Invisalign® training in NYU's post graduate orthodontic department.

#### JANUARY 28: HON. JOEL B. ROSEN

Finally, on January 28th, our speaker will be the Hon. Joel B. Rosen. Joel will discuss the changing landscape in U.S. law, including the notion of the rule of law, federal prosecutions, judicial review, and ethics. Judge Rosen is a former United States magistrate judge, and as a former partner of the law firm Montgomery McKracken, was a nationally recognized leader in the practice of alternative dispute resolution. Over the course of his career, Judge Rosen has overseen thousands of state and federal legal matters, lectured extensively on constitutional principles, and was an adjunct faculty member of Rutgers Law School.



(above) Fred Polak



(above) Scott Walker



(above) Stanley Gersch



(above) Joel Rosen

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## SENIOR CLUB COLLECTS TOYS FOR TOTS



(above) Toys for Tots collected at the December seniors meeting at the New Providence Senior Center. Mayor Al Morgan thanked the seniors for their generous contributions.



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## SPIRITUAL? CURIOUS? SEEKING?

Do you consider yourself spiritual? Are you curious about what people are talking about when they speak of having faith or being spiritual? Are you seeking peace of mind, of heart of soul?

Come and see for yourself. Come and explore the Christian faith. Come and discuss with other seekers what is on your mind, what you cannot talk about except with other seekers. Come to an Alpha gathering.

Alpha is for everybody that wants to discuss seeking answers to life's big questions. Why are we here? Is this all there is to life? Where are we going? How do I attain peace of mind, heart, and soul? Whether you are young or old, have faith or are atheist or agnostic, Alpha provides a safe environment for exploring our big questions about life.

We begin by sharing a meal together and

getting to know each other. We watch a video together then break into small groups for uninhibited discussion about what is on our minds.

The series runs for 12 weeks on Monday nights beginning at 7:30 p.m. and ending at 9:00 p.m. It will begin February 3rd, 2025, and end May 12th, 2025. Three of the sessions are live in person and the remainder are on Zoom. There is no cost to participate. You will need a desire for frank discussion, a willingness to participate and a commitment to attend. You will also need a computer or smartphone capable of Zoom sessions.

The live in person sessions will be held at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, 1571 S. Martine Ave., Scotch Plains, NJ 07076

To register go onto IHMParish.net. If you have any questions, please call 908-889-2100.

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Alpha Winter/Spring 2025 13-week program returns  
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**OPEN HOUSE: Tuesday, January 14th 4:30pm**

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*Limited Availability*

Chanticleers (Girls Ages 12-14): 2 Openings  
Singers (Girls Ages 15-18): 4 Openings  
Continuos (Boys Ages 12-18): 4 Openings

**OPEN HOUSE: Monday, January 13th 7:30pm**

**CIVIC  
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Sopranos: 1 Opening  
Altos: 3 Openings  
Tenors: *Are you kidding? Come one come all!*  
Basses: 3 Openings

**OPEN HOUSE: Tuesday, January 14th 7:30pm**

**SENIORS SING!** *No Audition Necessary*

**OPEN HOUSE: Monday, January 13th 2:00pm**

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(above, l-r) Summit's Mayor Fagan, JLS President Montgomery, JLS Executive VP Cristina Curiale Courtesy photos

# CELEBRATING 95 YEARS OF THE JUNIOR LEAGUE

## Junior League of Summit

On November 18, 2024 - exactly 95 years from its inception- the Junior League of Summit was awarded a proclamation from the City of Summit. During the Common Council meeting, the proclamation was read by Summit Mayor Elizabeth Fagan and November 18th was declared "Junior League of Summit Day".

On hand at the reading were several members of JLS, including JLS President April Montgomery and JLS Executive Vice President Cristina Curiale, who formally received the proclamation.

The Junior League of Summit is proud of our 95 years of service in Berkeley Heights, Chatham, New Providence, Summit and surrounding communities.

The JLS has addressed critical community issues and created services such as the first Safe Houses in Union County for victims of domestic violence, Summit Childcare Center, Summit's

Senior Bus, SAGE – Meals on wheels Program, Family Service Association – Spanish Speaking Program and Santa Claus Shop, GRACE, Summit EMS and the Mabie Playground and more, leaving a lasting legacy of innovation and meaningful impact.

In addition to the above, Junior League of Summit's Thrift Shop is the oldest surviving business in Summit, having operated for 90 years. It's the primary source of funding for the wonderful services, projects, grants and programs that JLS provides.

Overall, we are thrilled to say we've returned over \$3 million in grants, scholarships, projects and programs to our local communities. It has been and continues to be a pleasure to provide much needed services. We work hard, learn, tackle challenges, enjoy ourselves and make a difference.

Interested in getting involved with JLS? Visit [summit.jl.org](http://summit.jl.org).

## OPERAS ON FILM

### Mountainside Rescue Squad

The Mountainside Rescue Squad presents Operas on Film, now in its 12th season. The selected films from famous opera houses throughout the world, will be played with subtitles on the second Friday of the month at 1 p.m. hosted by Mena Clemson. It is free to attend. Whether you are an opera buff or an opera neophyte, you are invited to join us for the following films:

#### JAN 10TH

**WIENER BLUT-BY JOHANN STRAUSS**  
94 MINS, STARRING RENE KOLLO  
GERMAN COMEDY

#### FEB 14TH

**EINE NACHT IN VENDIG**  
BY JOHANN STRAUSS, 96 MINS,  
STARRING ANTON DE RIDDER  
GERMAN COMEDY

#### MARCH 14

**ERNANI - BY VERDI**  
140 MINS, STARRING LUCIANO PAVAROTTI

#### APRIL 11TH

**THE PEARL FISHERS BY BIZET**  
122 MINS, STARRING ANNICK MASSIS

#### MAY 9TH

**IL TROVATOR BY VERDI**  
133 MINS, STARRING LUCIANO PAVAROTTI

#### JUNE 13TH

**LA BOHEME BY PUCCINI**  
123 MINS, STARRING LUCIANO PAVAROTTI



(above) Some JLS members in attendance on Nov 18.

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# WhartonARTS

Helen H. Cha-Pyo, Artistic Director

SEASON  
OF

# Joy!



New Jersey Youth Symphony  
**Concert for Peace with Violins of Hope**  
January 12

Wharton Arts in the Community  
**Piano & Cello Faculty Recital** January 26

Performing Arts School  
**The Moors** January 24-February 2

Paterson Music Project  
**Black History Month Concerts** February 1

New Jersey Youth Chorus  
**Men That Matter** February 23

New Jersey Youth Chorus  
**Just Us Girls** March 8

Wharton Arts in the Community  
**Jazz Vespers** March 23

**Wharton Arts Day**  
March 16

**Wharton Arts** invites students ages 4-18, as well as adults of all ages, for transformative performing arts education programs designed to hone their skills and nurture their personal growth. The depth and breadth of our offerings is unmatched in the Garden State. Our community transcends backgrounds and beliefs: we are united through the universal language of the performing arts.

Our umbrella organization, **Wharton Arts**, encompasses four distinct programs, each founded to advance music and performing arts education and engagement: New Jersey Youth Chorus, New Jersey Youth Symphony, Paterson Music Project, and the Performing Arts School. Join us this Season of Joy for life-changing performing arts experiences.

Tickets and more information at  
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2025  
Season

# New Jersey Youth Chorus

WhartonARTS

Helen H. Cha-Pyo, Artistic Director



# AUDITIONS

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# WHARTON ARTS PRESENTS FREE CONCERTS IN SUMMIT

Wharton Arts, New Jersey's largest not-for-profit community performing arts education organization, will present several free concerts during the 2024-25 season at Saint John's Lutheran Church located at 587 Springfield Avenue in Summit.

Said Wharton Arts Artistic Director Helen Cha-Pyo, "We are excited to partner with Saint John's Lutheran Church and music director Christopher Harlow-Jennings for our Wharton Arts in the Community series. From the fun, interactive Halloween Hoopla to uplifting Jazz Vespers and world-class performances, this series offers something for everyone. It's a wonderful way to connect with the Summit community and make music accessible to all."

"I am thrilled to partner with Artistic Director Helen Cha-Pyo and her team at Wharton Arts this season to bring exciting new musical offerings to the greater Summit community," said Saint John's Lutheran Church Director of Music Christopher Harlow-Jennings. "This unique collaboration builds on our respective institutions' strong musical foundations and programming to engage listeners of all ages."

## PIANO & CELLO FACULTY RECITAL

**JANUARY 26, 2025, AT 4:00 P.M.,**

**LUCAS BUTTON, CELLO / LEAH FRANK, PIANO**

Allow yourself to be transported by the sound and expression of this inspiring duo praised for their musical sensitivity and passionate artistry.

## JAZZ VESPERS

**MARCH 23, 2025, AT 4:00 P.M.,**

**LANCE BRYANT TRIO AND SAINT JOHN'S CHOIR**

An inclusive experience of Lenten words and music, both modern and ancient, featuring the Lance Bryant Jazz Trio.

*For more information, call 908-790-0700 or visit WhartonArts.org.*

Alongside these engaging events, Wharton Arts aims to create meaningful connections and foster creativity in young people, as well as across generations, ensuring that everyone has access to an outstanding music and theater arts education. The depth and breadth of offerings, unmatched in the Garden State, transcends backgrounds and beliefs. Wharton Arts encompasses four distinct programs, each founded to advance music and performing arts education and engagement: the New Jersey Youth Chorus, New Jersey Youth Symphony, Paterson Music Project, and Performing Arts School. Join Wharton Arts this Season of Joy for life-changing performing arts experiences.

Wharton Arts is New Jersey's largest independent non-profit community performing arts education center serving nearly 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 over 500 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 trained to enable our students to achieve their personal best.

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# COMMUNITY CENTER EVENTS FOR SENIORS

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(above) Seniors enjoyed each other's company while making a holiday craft during a recent meeting at the DeCorso Community Center.

Courtesy photo

## JANUARY EVENTS

### Pizza Bingo with Spring Grove

Friday, January 3 at 11:00am

### Club Meeting, Birthdays, & Special Bingo

Wednesday, January 8 at 11:00am

with Roxanne Giacalone of Christie's Real Estate

### Club Meeting & performance by NPHS Voice

Students and Music Club Students

Wednesday, January 15 at 11:00am

### Club Meeting & Atlantic Health program

on Sleep Hygiene

Wednesday, January 22 at 11:00am

### Book Club

(The History of Love by Nicole Krauss)

Tuesday, January 28 at 11:00am

### Club Meeting & Program on Alzheimer's and Dementia with JFS of Central NJ

Wednesday, January 29 at 11:00am,

### Lunar New Year Luncheon at Szechuan Delight

Thursday, January 30 at 12 noon,

Purchase tickets in advance.

The DeCorso Community Center, which serves as the home for the New Providence Senior Citizens Club, provides opportunities for senior residents to socialize, exercise and participate in programs and activities with their peers. The Center's hours are Monday-Friday

from 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. The New Providence Senior Citizens Club holds weekly meetings on Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. with special presentations, performances, or "special" bingo. For program details and a full calendar please visit [newprov.us/278/Seniors](http://newprov.us/278/Seniors).

## RECYCLE YOUR USED EYGLASSES

### New Providence Lions Club

Did you know that recycled usable glasses give new Life!

Refractive errors can be easily corrected with eyeglasses, yet millions living in low- and middle-income countries lack access to basic eye care services.

Lions have recognized the urgent need for corrective lenses and have been collecting usable glasses in New Providence to support the Lions Recycle For Sight Program.

The New Providence Lions Club Eyeglass collection site is in front of the New Providence Memorial Library, located at 377 Elkwood Avenue. The collected glasses will be sorted and sterilized and then donated to a charity and/or medical organizations that provide eye exams and eyeglasses to needy people.

The New Providence Lions Club is a 501(c)3 organization, giving back to the community 100% of the profits raised. Being a Lion empowers you to help others in a way that no one person could alone.

The Lions are dedicated to helping others. Lions make a difference! For more information/membership please visit [nplions.org](http://nplions.org) or email [info@nplions.org](mailto:info@nplions.org).



(above) The New Providence Lions Club Eyeglass collection site is in front of the New Providence Memorial Library, located at 377 Elkwood Avenue.



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# JANUARY EVENTS AT NEW PROVIDENCE MEMORIAL LIBRARY

377 Elkwood Ave, New Providence • 908-665-0311 • [newprovidencelibrary.org](http://newprovidencelibrary.org)

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 10:00 AM - 8:30 PM; Wednesday, Friday, Saturday: 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM; Sunday: 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

## Art Exhibit by Larry Gulmi

Jan 2 - Jan 29

Paintings will be on exhibit in the Conti Room†

## Teen Winter Reading Challenge

Jan 5 - Feb 28

Beat the winter blues with our Challenge! Read and log to enter into a raffle for the grand prize. (Grades 6-12)

## Jazz Concert

Jan 5 at 3:00 - 4:00 pm

A unique Jazz experience featuring Yvonnick Prene on the harmonica and Toru Dodo on keyboards.†

## Knit Night

Jan. 6, 16 at 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Drop by with a knitting or crochet project and chat with the group as you stitch.

## The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry

Movie Matinee Jan. 7 at 1:00 - 2:50 pm

Harold Fry captivates a nation when he sets out on a 450-mile walk of hope to reach his dying friend.†

## Knit One

Jan. 8 from 1:00 - 2:00 pm

Our newest knitting and crocheting group meets to work on ongoing projects.

## Evening Book Group

Jan. 9 at 7:30 - 8:30 pm

We'll discuss *The Women* by Kristin Hannah. A nursing student in 1966 is inspired to follow her brother to Vietnam and joins the Army Nurse Corps.

## Board Games at the Brewery

Jan. 9 at 7:30 - 9:30 pm

Play board games at Untied Brewing. Mark and Elizabeth will introduce you to new, quick to learn games. Ages 21+.

## Warli Painting Craft

Jan 11 at 2:00 - 3:00 pm

Paint a canvas in the traditional Warli style of India. Materials provided with instruction by Gunjan.†\*

## Teen Sewing Program

Jan 12 at 2:00 - 3:30 pm

Sew Dandelions teaches teens how to hem on a sewing machine and by hand. Bring a piece or learn on the materials provided. (Grades 6-12) Register online.

## Batter Up - Let's Talk Baseball

Jan. 13 at 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Enthusiasts discuss teams, players and issues of the sport with other fans.\*

## Books & Bagels

Jan. 14 at 10:30 - 11:30 am

Join us for a bagel & tell us about what you've been reading recently.†

## Good Tyme String Band

Jan. 15 at 10:30 - 11:00 am

Join this string band for some toe tapping fun. All music lovers welcomed!

## Virtual Author Talk: TJ Klune

Jan. 15 from 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Bestselling author TJ Klune speaks online about his *Cerulean Chronicles*, and his newest in the series, *Somewhere Beyond the Sea*.†\*\*\*

## Supercharged LinkedIn Profiles

Jan. 16 from 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Ken Cavanagh leads a workshop on supercharging your LinkedIn profile to get noticed by employers. In person in the Conti Room.\*

## Midterm Study Space

Saturday, Jan 18 at 10:00 - 4:30 pm

Sunday, Jan 19 at 1:00 - 4:30 pm

Wednesday, Jan 22 at 3:00 - 5:00 pm

Saturday, Jan 25 at 10:00 - 4:30 pm

Sunday, Jan 26 at 1:00 - 4:30 pm

The Conti or Coddington Room

will be open to study for Midterms.

## Film Screening & Discussion Little Rock Central

Jan 19 at 1:30 - 3:30 pm

This documentary that looks at Little Rock Central High School 50 years after it became a symbol of the struggles of the Civil Rights movement. Discussion moderated by the Summit College Club†

## Silent Book Club at Cafe Luna

Jan. 20 at 11:00 - 12:00 pm

We're back at The Cafe Luna! BYO book, & buy a drink or pastry. We'll read in quiet camaraderie. 43 Floral Ave.

## Morning Book Group

Jan. 21 from 10:30 - 11:30 am

We'll discuss *Finding Freedom* by Erin French, about a young woman finding her calling as a professional chef at her tiny restaurant. Copies at the front desk.

## Reagan Movie Matinee

Jan. 21 at 1:00 - 3:20 pm

This PG-13 drama/biopic is a journey of overcoming the odds, with Dennis Quaid and Penelope Ann Miller.†

## Virtual Author Talk: Amanda Montell

Jan. 23 at 2:00 - 3:00 pm

Bestselling author of *Cultish*, chats online about her newest book, *The Age of Magical Overthinking: Notes on Modern Irrationality*.†\*\*\* Sign up

## Teen Take Out Boxes

Jan 23 at 3:00 pm

Sign up for a box of fun which will be ready on Feb 27. (Grades 6-12)

## Play Reading Group

Jan. 23 at 6:30 - 8:30 pm

We'll read Martyna Majok's Pulitzer Prize-winning play *The Cost of Living Aloud*. Everyone gets to read a part.\*

## Teen Volunteer Sign-ups

Jan 27 - Feb 2

HS Students interested in volunteering as a Library Page or Museum Docent may sign up for required training by Feb 2. Training: Feb 3, 10 5:30 - 7:00 pm and Feb 6, 4:30 - 6:00 pm.

## Silent Book Club

Jan. 27 at 7:00 - 8:00 pm

BYO book, grab an armchair & read together.

## Cookbook Club

Jan. 28 at 1:00 - 2:00 pm

Bring a recipe, cookbook or the dish. Utensils, plates, napkins and a microwave are provided.\*

## Working with a Literary Agent

Jan 28 at 1:00 - 2:00 pm

Join us online for an inside look into working with an agent and the stages of the publishing process with Seth Fishman, VP and Agent at The Gernert Company. Sign up to watch live.†\*\*\*

## Trivia Night

Jan 30 at 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Test your knowledge with quizmaster Mary Piekarski. Questions are geared for adults but all ages welcome. Teams of one to four people, in the Conti Room.\*

# ART EXHIBIT

The Friends of the New Providence Memorial Library are pleased to present the oil paintings of Larry Gulmi in the Adult Reading room and the Conti Family Community Room, from December through January 30, 2025.

Come enjoy Larry's colorful landscapes that he paints from his imagination. Larry comes from a background in Forestry from Unity College in Maine and has had the privilege to study with various teachers at the Art Students League of New York, which include Jack Faragasso, Ronnie Landfield, Richard Vernon Goetz and Gary Faigin.

He was also fortunate to study landscape painting with John Phillip Osborn and Rebecca Leer, at the Ridgewood Art Institute, in Ridgewood, NJ, where he developed his style, working with color and design in creative compositions. Larry's paintings are for sale with a share of the proceeds to help support the library's events hosted by the Friends of the Library.



# FREE CONCERT AT THE LIBRARY – JAN. 5TH

The Friends of the New Providence Library will hold their next free community musical concert on Sunday, January 5th from 3 – 4 p.m. Experience the vibrant rhythms and timeless melodies of Brazilian jazz with Jobim's World, a mesmerizing duo project by chromatic harmonica virtuoso Yvonnick Prené and pianist Toru Dodo. This recording reinterprets classics like "The Girl from Ipanema" and "Desafinado" with fresh, modern arrangements that showcase iconic compositions with Prené's post-bop flair. Join us for an unforgettable afternoon of innovative jazz that pays homage to the spirit of Antônio Carlos Jobim while pushing musical boundaries. Don't miss the chance to witness these exceptional talents live.

The Friends of the New Providence Memorial Library is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization whose mission is to raise awareness and funds, as well as advocate for the New Providence Memorial Library.



(above) Experience the vibrant rhythms and timeless melodies of Brazilian jazz with Jobim's World, a mesmerizing duo project by chromatic harmonica virtuoso Yvonnick Prené, and pianist Toru Dodo.

Courtesy photo



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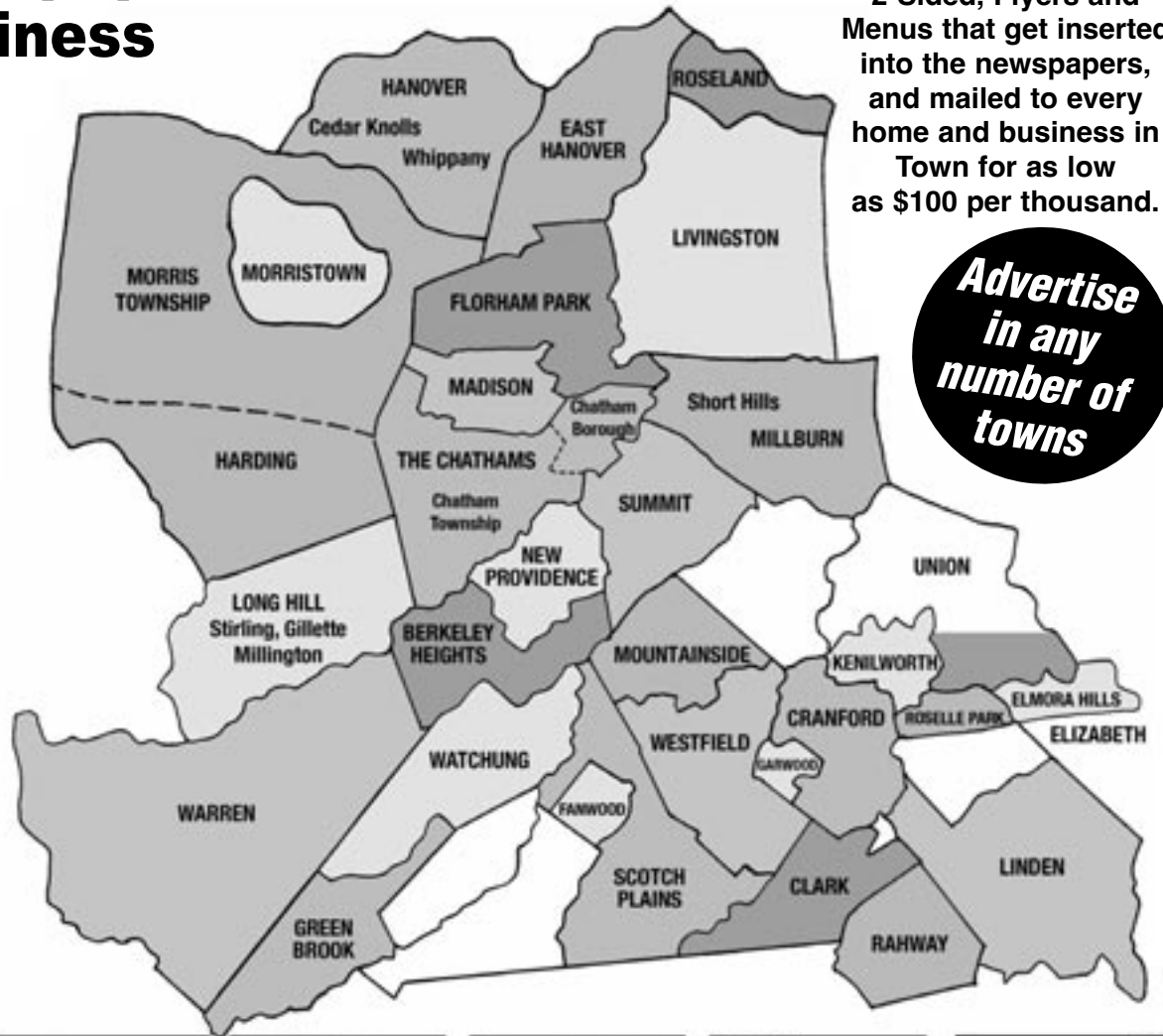
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## AN UNUSUAL GOOSE REHABBED AND RELEASED

### 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](mailto: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 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](mailto: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](mailto:membership@asterism.org) or visit [asterism.org](http://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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