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## TWO NEW EAGLE SCOUTS - MICHAEL & KEEGAN HEALY

BSA Troop 177 is proud to announce their 32nd Eagle Scout, Michael Healy, and their 33rd Eagle Scout, Keegan Healy.

Michael earned his Eagle rank after completing 23 merit badges, camping for 57 nights, hiking over 110 miles, and devoting 158 hours to community service. He served as Patrol Leader, Den Chief, Troop Scribe and Troop Quartermaster. He served as a leader on Troop 177's Philmont trek in 2024.

For his Eagle project, Michael constructed a 12 foot by 12 foot patio and pavilion at the Mountainside Elks.

Keegan earned his Eagle rank after completing 27 merit badges, camping for 83 nights, hiking over 147 miles, and devoting 250 hours to community service. He served as Den Chief, Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader and Junior Assistant Scoutmaster. He served as the crew leader on Troop 177's Philmont trek in 2024.

For his Eagle project, Keegan combined his interests in emergency management and the outdoors. He designed and installed a series of 20 maps mounted on posts throughout the trails of the Watchung Reservation. These help hikers find their location, and also act as reference points to help guide EMS to an injured person's location if necessary.



(above, l-r) Michael and Keegan Healy

Anyone interested in Scouting can get in touch with the Troop 177 Scoutmaster, Jeff Healy, at [jeffhealy8@gmail.com](mailto:jeffhealy8@gmail.com). Follow them on Facebook at [MountainsideBoyScouts.com](https://www.facebook.com/MountainsideBoyScouts.com).

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(above, l-r) Michael and Keegan Healy's eagle projects.

Courtesy photos

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## BHPS GIRLS SWIM ARE THREE-PEAT CHAMPIONS

The Governor Livingston Girls Swim Team edged out New Providence 86-84 to win their third consecutive sectional championship in February. They then went on to make a historic appearance in the NJSIAA Group C Finals at the State Competition. Congratulations ladies!



Photo by BHPS

## 4 TIME AWARDEE of US News Best Nursing Home Union County's Leading Rehabilitation Option

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## AMATEUR RADIO CLUB IS CALLING ALL HAMS

The New Providence Amateur Radio Club is a general interest amateur radio club open to all. Our goals are technical growth, community service, fellowship, and fun! We also hope to encourage more people to become hams. If you are thinking about becoming a ham, or if you are a ham looking for a club affiliation, we invite you to visit one of our meetings or activities and talk to some of our members.

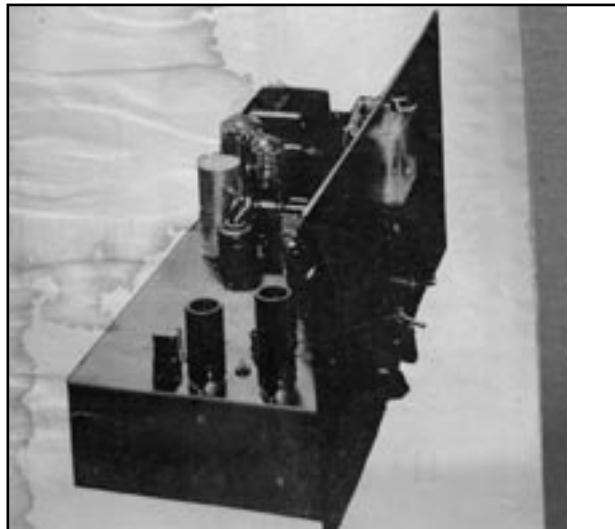
We do all kinds of Ham Radio Activities. We take part in contests and exercises to practice our communications skills. We work with local kids, at school and at summer camps

The club was formed in 1965, primarily by hams working at Bell Labs. Meetings were (and are still) held in New Providence, hence the name of the club. Despite the name, there are no resi-

dency requirements for membership, although most members happen to live within 20 miles of New Providence, NJ, which is in Union County.

We currently have about 50 members - men and women - of all ages, including students, with a wide variety of ham radio skills and interests. Please join us!


Our meetings are held in the Salt Brook Elementary School in New Providence, NJ at 7:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Monday of every month when the school is open. Topics discussed at our meetings are always related to Ham Radio or electronics, but are frequently non-technical, or presented for the education of our young and/or new members. YOU are cordially invited to attend one of our meetings. For more information, please visit nparc.org, or call 908-464-1730.









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# WRESTLING WINS 2ND PLACE AT COUNTY TOURN

**Governor Livingston High School**  
The Governor Livingston Varsity Wrestling Team competed in the Union County Tournament taking Second Place overall as a team and with three of student athletes winning their classes: Pictured: Brandon Rayack 126 pounds; Cristian

Gioia 165 pounds; and Nate Faxon 215 pounds. Other GL place-winners included: 113: Brandon McGuire 6th; 120: Eddie Ribeiro 2nd; 138: Henrique Ribeiro 2nd; 144: Tommy Dinorscio 6th; 150: Vinny Capone 3rd; and 157: Jake Kreisberg 2nd.



Photo by Berkeley Heights Public Schools

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## ANNUAL YOUTH FISHING DERBY - APRIL 12

The Newark Bait and Fly Casting Club Annual Youth Fishing Derby will be held on Saturday, April 12, 2025 at Echo Lake Park in Westfield, NJ. The event is free for children under 16, and \$10 for adults who wish to participate. Sign up is early morning 7:30/8:00 a.m. and throughout the event.

Tagged Fish will be stocked that day so the children can see them get stocked. Prizes are awarded for different species of fish. This is an ongoing event until May 3 so if a child cannot fish that day they can sign up and send in their tag if they catch a tagged fish up to the deadline that tags will be received.

You may donate and sponsor a fish for this event. Download our form online at nbfcc.org, we can mail one to you, or stop in at Ponzio's, 211 Union Ave., Scotch Plains, NJ.

The Newark Bait and Fly Casting Club was founded in 1907 and remains the oldest fishing club in the nation. We are listed on Amazon Smile and are a recognized 501(c)3 nonprofit. We provide outings to support veterans, adults and children as well as people with disabilities which focus on environmental education, fishing knowledge and practice. We are always looking for new members, donations, and volunteers if anyone would like to get involved. Our monthly meetings are held at the Kenilworth VFW, located at 33 S. 21st St., Kenilworth, NJ, on the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. (except July

and August). There is no fee to attend a meeting. For more information visit nbfcc.org or contact Bob Jones: BJonesJRNJ@hotmail.com, 908-325-6657.



(above) The Newark Bait and Fly casting Club Annual Youth Fishing Derby will be held on Saturday, April 12, 2025 at Echo Lake Park in Westfield, NJ. - Photo from 2019 Derby





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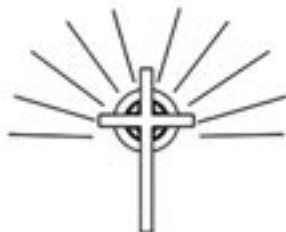
## ANNUAL BOOT DRIVE – MAY 3RD

### Mountainside Fire Department

On Saturday, May 3rd members of the Mountainside Fire Company will be conducting their annual boot drive to raise funds for the fire company. Firefighters will be accepting donations in town at various locations. “We’d

like to thank the entire Mountainside Community for their support,” says Fire Company President Dan Clark, “Community donations help us continue to provide fire protection for the residents of the Borough”. The Department has served the people of Mountainside since 1910.

If you wish to make a donation to the Mountainside Fire Department, you can mail your tax-deductible donation to:  
Mountainside Fire Department,  
210 New Providence Road,  
Mountainside, NJ 07092.



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Palm Sunday – April 13th at 10:00 AM  
Maundy Thursday – April 17th at 12:00 PM & 7:00 PM  
Good Friday – April 18th at 12:00 PM & 7:00 PM  
Easter Vigil – April 19th at 7:41 PM  
Easter Sunday – April 20th at 10:00 AM

Following Easter Sunday worship, children are invited to join our Easter Egg Hunt!

Come and be part of this special season of worship and celebration as we give thanks for a century of God's faithfulness.

Redeemer Lutheran Church  
229 Cowperthwaite Place, Westfield, NJ  
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[www.redeemerwestfield.com](http://www.redeemerwestfield.com)



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#### Sunday Mornings

8:00 and 10:00 a.m. Liturgies with Eucharist  
8:45 a.m. Education Hour

#### Passion/Palm Sunday - April 13

8:00 a.m. Spoken Liturgy with Eucharist  
10:00 a.m. Festival Liturgy with Eucharist

#### Holy Thursday - April 17

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

#### Good Friday - April 18

12 noon Community Ecumenical Service  
7:30 p.m. Service of Tenebrae

#### Holy Saturday - April 19

A Day of Silence, Prayer & Reflection

#### Easter Celebration - April 20

7:00 a.m. Memorial Garden Liturgy  
8:00 and 10:00 a.m. Liturgies with Eucharist

Livestream available on our website [www.famfaith.org](http://www.famfaith.org)  
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## APRIL PROGRAMS MOUNTAINSIDE LIBRARY

Library will be closed on Friday, April 18th in observance of Good Friday.

**The Friends of the Library Yoga Fundraiser**  
Thursday, April 3rd from 6:30-7:30pm.

Contact the library for more information.

**Spring Boutique to benefit Library**

April 30 - Noon - 4:30 pm

May 1 - Noon - 7:30 pm;

May 2 & 3 - 10 a.m. - 4:40 p.m.

Jewelry, pocketbooks, hats, scarfs, and small gifts will be for sale. This is the perfect time to think about a Mother's Day gift!

### FAMILY & YOUTH PROGRAMS

**Cuddle Story Time**

Tues, April 1, 8, 15 & 22 10:30-11am

Nursery rhymes, simple stories and songs for children up to 23 months with their caregivers. Siblings are welcome.

**Preschool Story Time**

Tues, April 1, 8, 15, & 22) 1:45-2:30pm

Longer stories and a craft for 3, 4 & 5 year olds with their caregivers.

**Family Story Time**

Wed, April 2, 9, 16 & 23) 10-10:45am

Favorite stories and more for all ages.

**Read to a Therapy Pet**

(Thurs, April 17) 4-5pm

Come cuddle up and read for 10-15 minutes. Bring three of your own books when you come. Reserve your spot by emailing Ms. Elizabeth at [eperrin@mountainsidelibrary.org](mailto:eperrin@mountainsidelibrary.org).

**Process Art**

Friday, April 11th) 11am-12pm

**Concrete Poetry**

Monday, April 14th) 2-3pm

A writing activity. Grades 2 and above. We will create and read poems together. Limited to 10 writers. Email Ms. Elizabeth to register [eperrin@mountainsidelibrary.org](mailto:eperrin@mountainsidelibrary.org).

**Springtime Origami**

Wednesday, April 16th) 2-3pm

Grades 2 and above. We will fold flowers, birds and more Springtime models. Limited to 10 folders. Email Ms. Elizabeth to register [eperrin@mountainsidelibrary.org](mailto:eperrin@mountainsidelibrary.org).

### PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

**Classics Book Club**

Saturday, April 5th) 10:30am

Join us to discuss "Rebecca" by Daphne DuMaurier. Copies are available at the library. No registration required.

**Monday Night Book Club**

(April 7th) 6:30pm

Join us this month to discuss the book "The Women" by Kristin Hannah. Books available at the library. No registration required.

**Friday Afternoon Movies**

(April 4th) 1pm.

"Saturday Night".

**Monthly Documentary**

Wed, April 9th) 1pm

**Scrapbooking Class with Jessica**

(Saturday, April 12th) 1pm

Bring 8-10 printed photos and learn how to scrapbook quickly and simply. All skill levels welcome. All supplies included in this introductory class. Adult and teens 15+, registration required.

**Dan Furnald Music**

Wednesday, April 23rd) 11:30am

Musician/songwriter Dan Furnald will perform acoustic music ranging from the 40's to today. Classic Standards, Oldies, Country, Folk and Pop. Light refreshments provided. Sponsored jointly by the Friends of the Library and Mountainside Senior Services.

### VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

Enjoy recordings at your leisure.

**Library Chef March Virtual Events**

To sign up, please visit [mountainside.librarychef.com](https://mountainside.librarychef.com). You will need your library card barcode, your email address, and a password. These programs are free.

**Mini Strawberry Shortcake**

Wednesday, April 2nd 6:00pm

Virtual Program: Ages 10 & older. Learn how to make adorable, bite-sized strawberry shortcakes from scratch! In this class, we'll cover everything from baking fluffy mini-cakes to whipping up fresh cream and assembling these delightful treats. Perfect for parties, desserts, or just a sweet afternoon project.

**Virtual Chef: 3 Ways to Asparagus**

Wednesday, April 2nd 7:30pm

Virtual Program: Discover three delicious and creative ways to prepare asparagus! From quick weeknight dishes to elegant sides, this class will inspire you to make the most of this versatile veggie. Perfect for asparagus lovers and adventurous cooks alike!

**Microwave Mug Cakes**

Tuesday, April 8th, 6pm

Virtual Program: Ages 5 to 9. Join us for a fun and easy class where you'll learn how to make your own mug cakes in the microwave! We'll guide you step-by-step to create a delicious, individual cake using simple ingredients-perfect for a sweet treat anytime!

**Seasonal Eating and Ayurveda**

Tuesday, April 8th, 7:30pm

Virtual Program: Join us for a special session with our guest nutritionist on the Ayurvedic practice of eating with the seasons. Discover how aligning your diet with nature's rhythms

can boost your health and well-being.

**Cinco de Mayo!!**

**Mexican Street Corn (Elote) Salad**

Wednesday, April 30th, 7pm

Virtual Program: Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with a flavorful twist on a classic! Join us for a live, interactive class where we will teach you how to make delicious Mexican Street Corn (Elote) Salad. Perfect for any fiesta!

### VIRTUAL AUTHOR PROGRAMS

Enjoy a range of talks from bestselling authors and thought leaders. Register by visiting <https://libraryc.org/mountainsidelibrary>. When you register, you will receive an email with the link to the live feed. You may also watch past recordings at any time.

**Virtual Author Talk with Jodi Picoult**

Wednesday, April 2nd, 7:30pm

Step into Spring with us as we chat with the highly acclaimed New York Times bestselling author Jodi Picoult about her newest novel "By Any Other Name". Told in intertwining narratives, "By Any Other Name" is a sweeping tale of ambition, courage and desire that asks what each woman is willing to pay to see their work live on- even if it means they will be forgotten. Register now to join the wondrous conversation!

**Virtual Talk with**

**Horticulturist Matthew Fleming**

Tuesday, April 8th, 2pm

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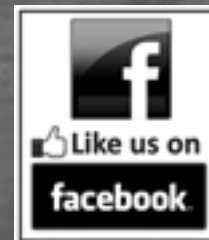
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# ST. JOSEPH SOCIAL SERVICE CENTER DEDICATES RENOVATED MAIN HALL

The St. Joseph's community, including residents from Elizabeth and volunteers and supporters from five counties in New Jersey, came together on February 8 to celebrate the renovation of the Main Hall on its campus. The Hall is the main building at the agency, used to provide a wide array of social services to residents in need in Elizabeth. The renovated Main Hall includes new private offices for mental health counseling and case management services, new facilities for the soup kitchen program, new spaces for the Adult Learning Center and health and nutrition workshops and diagnostic testing, and a reception area where residents can obtain information about agency programs and community services. Karen Maher, President of the Board of Trustees, noted that these new spaces have "allowed the agency to expand services to the community, particularly in the areas of physical and behavioral health."

The renovation of the Main Hall marks the successful completion of a comprehensive facilities improvement plan for the agency. From the initial planning phase five years ago, the principal objectives of this plan have been to 1) enhance and expand services to families and children in need in Elizabeth; and 2) offer services in an environment with greater dignity. "Dignity has been a core value of the agency since our founding in 1986," noted Bernadette Murphy, Executive Director. "Our goal is to help

people acquire the material items they need to live with dignity. We believe that it is vital for our clients to receive food, clothing, supplies and support services in an environment that fosters dignity, where individuals experiencing poverty and homelessness are truly welcomed as sisters and brothers."

The renovations have created new spaces to serve the needs of Elizabeth residents more effectively. The private offices for counseling and case management, for example, now allow staff to speak with residents in confidence about mental and physical health issues, family dynamics and personal trauma. The Adult Learning Center now has a dedicated space for English as a Second Language classes and for work skills training sessions. Community healthcare partners have state of the art spaces to test and diagnose residents on health issues. There is now adequate space to offer health, nutrition and wellness workshops. The soup kitchen now has new equipment and better workflow to serve food. And the reception desk finally gives the agency a central place for residents to come to access agency and community partner resources. All of these spaces have allowed the agency to improve and expand services.

Guests at the dedication included contributors to the \$1.6 million capital campaign to finance the renovations, community leaders in Elizabeth

and Union County, agency volunteers and partners and residents of the local neighborhood. As part of the dedication program, soup kitchen volunteers convened to recognize the founders of the agency by naming the new soup kitchen the "Founders Kitchen" in the Main Hall. Remarkably, the soup kitchen has served guests every single Saturday for 2025 weeks without interruption since the agency was established. Founder and longtime Executive Director of the agency, Sister Jacinta Fernandes, traveled from her community in Maryland to attend the dedication. All in attendance toured the Founders Kitchen and other renovated spaces in the Main Hall and participated in a moving dedication ceremony.

Six days a week a dedicated team of more than 6,000 volunteers from Elizabeth, Union, Clark, Westfield, Cranford, Mountainside and dozens of other communities, make sandwiches for the hungry in their kitchens, bring food, clothing and home goods, serve meals at the soup kitchen and help with the operations of the agency. St. Joseph's serves over 3,500 individuals annually. The organization helps Elizabeth residents access food, medicine, mental health counseling, adult education, clothing and a myriad of additional healthcare and support services.

To learn more about St. Joseph Social Service Center, please visit [www.sjeliz.org](http://www.sjeliz.org)



(above, l-r) Msgr. Tom Nydegger St. Helen's Westfield, Marilyn Ryan St. Helen's Westfield, Steven Abood St. Helen's Westfield, Sr. Jacinta Fernandes Founder of St. Joseph's, Ray Kostyack, Jr. St. Helen's Westfield, Cindy Abood St. Helen's Westfield, Annette Calderin St. Joseph Social Service Center Elizabeth, Maria Chaillet St. John's Clark, Shirley, Doris & Idali Ramirez Immaculate Conception Elizabeth, Jerry Conheeney St. Michael's Cranford, Aswm. Annette Quijano LD 20, Joan Garthwaite Holy Spirit Union, Harold Kessler Building Project Manager & St. Helen's, Michael Marcus Temple Sha'arey Shalom Springfield, Fr. Anthony Randazzo Holy Trinity Westfield, Second.

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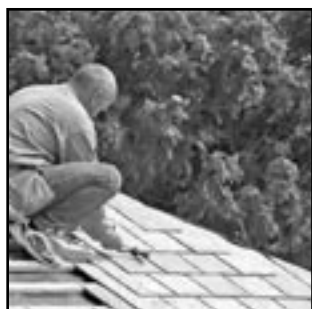
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# CELEBRATING 75 YEARS NIGHT SKY GAZING

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](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 10 refractor. Public lectures start at 8:30 p.m. on Fridays, on current topics in Astronomy.

# EARTH DAY RIVER CLEAN-UP – APRIL 26

## Rahway River Association

All volunteers are invited to celebrate Earth Day 2025 with a clean-up of the Rahway River within Union County Parks and Recreation's Rahway River Park on Saturday, April 26th (with a rain date of Sunday, April 27th).

Please join the Rahway River Watershed Association, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, local officials and environmental commissions, fisherman and other stakeholders in this annual event. The clean-up will focus on areas upstream and downstream of the dam at Winfield Park, New Jersey in Cranford, Clark, Linden, and Rahway.

Please come by the parking area adjacent to the waterfall of the Rahway River by the Bloodgood Dam at Winfield Park at 8:45 a.m. to register, pick up bags, gloves, bottled water and snacks, and receive safety information. Teams will be encouraged to travel to any part of the river within the park where they would like to perform cleanup activities. We specifically ask all folks to register and to work in small groups for safety purposes. Everyone under 18 must have their parent's signature on the attached Individual Waiver form as well as adult supervision to participate.

Cleaning up a river and park area is a great way to celebrate Earth Day and if you haven't participated in an event like this before, you will find it invigorating, and you will feel good about what you have accomplished...it is also fun and educational...especially for Scouts and young

adults as they always find something interesting. Over the 25+ years this cleanup has occurred thousands of folks have participated, and pulled some amazing things from the river improving its quality. The Rahway River watershed is a better place thanks to the commitment of so many great volunteers over the last quarter century!

The clean-up will generally be between 9-12, but any amount of time or effort that folks can volunteer is appreciated. There is always a large volume of floatable debris to pick up. The team working registration will provide suggestions on areas with large volumes of floatable debris.

All participants should wear jeans, long-sleeved shirts, gloves and boots, Waders are welcome for folks who like to get a little wet. Each participant should bring a standard 5-gallon carry bucket with a handle (put your name on the bottom)... this makes for easy carrying of "stuff" for transfer to the large garbage bags. A mulching rake is also a great asset to have to enable reaching out and pulling debris into shore from the riverbank.

After the event there is an inventory of the debris removed, and within approximately 24 hours Union County Parks and Recreation removes and disposes of all the trash.

There is no RSVP required but if more information is required please contact [rivercleanup@comcast.net](mailto:rivercleanup@comcast.net) or the Rahway River Watershed Association at [CleaCarchia@outlook.com](mailto:CleaCarchia@outlook.com).

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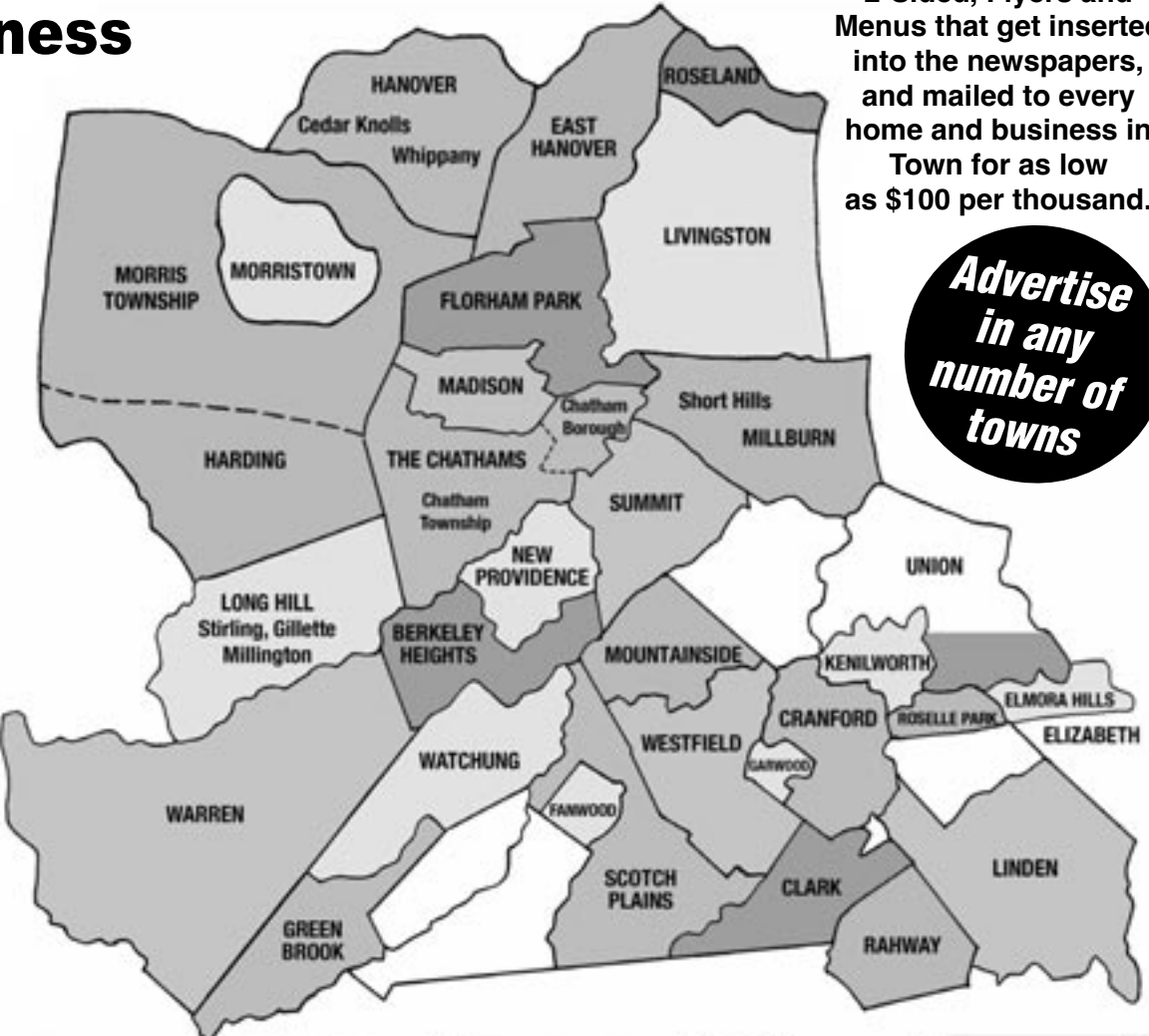
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