

ROSELLE PARK MONTHLY

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ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION

The Borough of Roselle Park hosted its annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration on Saturday, March 8th at the

Casano Community Center. Attendees enjoyed free food and live music from Joe Caroselli's Masterpiece Orchestra.



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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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BLACK HISTORY MONTH PROCLAMATION

Borough of Roselle Park

To honor the contributions of Black Americans, Mayor Joseph Signorello III formally proclaimed February as Black History Month during the Mayor & Council Meeting on February 20th. Councilman Gregory Johnson, liaison to the Diversity & Inclusion Committee, Dr. Rodric Bowman, and Rory Bowman all accepted the proclamation.

“Like in previous years, today the council and I presented a Black History Month proclamation to honor the legacy of Black Americans,” remarked Signorello. “This historical month recognizes the triumphs and struggles of African Americans throughout history, and I encourage everyone to honor this history with me.”

Dr. Bowman previously served on the Roselle Park Board of Education and Board of Health. His son Rory joined, showcasing the family’s cross-generational commitment to borough residents. At the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, Dr. Bowman utilized his experience working with the Red Cross to assist Roselle Park’s public health education efforts that helped save lives.

“Our nation has a difficult history, but by recognizing the adversity and acknowledging the accomplishments of the Black community, we are righting the wrongs of the past,” said Johnson. “We hope Roselle Park residents observe February with a shared appreciation for the rich and dynamic heritage of African Americans.”



(above, l-r) Councilman Gregory Johnson, Mayor Joseph Signorello III, Rory Bowman, Dr. Rodric Bowman

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“MEET THE BOROUGH” EVENT – APRIL 5TH

Borough of Roselle Park

Come by and explore all that Roselle Park has to offer at its annual “Meet the Borough” event on Saturday, April 5th. Local businesses and new residents are invited to connect from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Casano Community Center located at 314 Chestnut Street.

Started in 2022, “Meet the Borough” aims to introduce new residents to the resources and services available in Roselle Park, while also connecting them with their local elected officials and various municipal departments. Participants will receive a welcome packet, along with giveaways and promotional materials from local businesses.

“We encourage everyone to stop by, say hello, and learn about our many local resources,” said Mayor Signorello. “It’s always great to see new faces coming together as our community continues to grow.”

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YMCA LAUNCHES FREE VETERANS INITIATIVE

The Gateway Family YMCA

The Gateway Family YMCA is launching a Veterans Wellness Initiative, offered for the first time at the Wellness Center Branch in Union, NJ. Beginning this Spring, the free Veterans Wellness Initiative program will meet weekly for in-person exercise and wellness, led by a wellness coach, as well as virtually, online to discuss their health in mind, body and spirit.

Open to active military, military veterans, and their spouse or partner, the free 12-week Veterans Wellness Initiative program provides participants access to health and wellness opportunities, as well as meaningful social connection with those who share the bond of military service. Participants benefit from 24-hour access to the YMCA360 virtual platform, an adult couple membership to the Y during the 12-week session, and an additional six month individual adult membership following successful completion of the program.

“I have seen first-hand the impact our Y programs have had on so many individuals and families,” explained Susan Butler, Director of Community Wellness. “I have worked with veterans throughout our programs and am excited to begin the Veterans Wellness Initiative this spring.”

The Gateway Family YMCA is joining other

Y’s in our region in launching the Veterans Wellness Initiative. The Veterans Wellness Initiative began in 2015 at the Doylestown branch of the River Crossing YMCA as a way to create community and wellness opportunities for veterans. The Gateway Family YMCA is collecting an interest list of veterans to participate in the program launch at tgfymca.org/contact-us. For additional information or questions, contact veterans@tgfymca.org or 908-349-9622.

During the 12-week course, classes will focus on balance, nutrition, tai-chi, mental health, working out with tension bands, stretching and the circuit course, as well as other weight machines. Small group discussions will build bonds and provide support.

As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization committed to strengthening community by connecting all people to their potential, purpose and each other, the Y focuses on empowering young people, improving health and well-being and inspiring action in and across communities. The Gateway Family YMCA has served the community in Eastern Union County and Northern Middlesex County since 1900.

To learn more about The Gateway Family YMCA, visit tgfymca.org or contact the Wellness Center Branch 908-349-9622 for more information.



(above) During the free 12-week course, classes will focus on balance, nutrition, tai-chi, mental health, working out with tension bands, stretching and the circuit course, as well as other weight machines. Small group discussions will build bonds and provide support.

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CASA of Passaic and Union Counties

Calling all trivia buffs, pub quiz champions, and fun-seekers! CASA of Passaic and Union Counties invites you to its first-ever Pub Quiz Trivia Night to benefit local children living in foster care through no fault of their own.

Held 7 to 9 p.m. on Wednesday, April 2 at the "The World Famous" Waiting Room in Rahway, forget your midweek woes and enjoy an unforgettable night of brain-teasing questions, team strategizing, and community spirit. Whether a seasoned trivia master or just there for the laughs and good food – children under 12 years old eat free on Wednesdays! – there will be plenty of competition, camaraderie and, most important, charity.

Show off your smarts in pop culture, sports, history, science, and more, amid friendly rivalry and a community playing for a purpose. All proceeds benefit CASA of Passaic and Union Counties, which champions the best interests of abused and neglected children through effective advocacy in court, community, and classroom.

You can help change the lives of local children in foster care, one question at a time. So rally your friends, coworkers, or family and form a team of two to six players, or go solo for the big win yourself. Prizes go to the top three individuals or teams.

Pre-registration is suggested. Tickets are \$20 per person.

For more information and to secure your spot at the table visit: www.childfocusnj.org/pubquiz, or contact Courtney Como at courtney@childfocusnj.org.

CASA of Passaic and Union Counties is a program of Child Focus, which prioritizes the needs and well-being of infants, children, and teens impacted by, or at risk of, abuse or neglect. For details about the CASA program, call 973-832-4002, e-mail info@casapassaicunion.org, or visit casapassaicunion.org.

BOROUGH-WIDE SPRING CLEAN-UP - APRIL 12TH

Borough of Roselle Park

Even though we might still have snow in the forecast, it is time to start thinking about spring. On Saturday, April 12th at 10 a.m., residents will come together for a borough-wide clean-up.

"Debris from the winter collects around the borough and we all can lend a hand to spruce things up for the warmer weather," remarked Mayor Joseph Signorello III. "I look forward to seeing many of our residents working together to enhance our community."

"Volunteerism is the backbone of a strong community," said 2025 Clean Communities Liaison, Councilman Jay Robaina. "When we come together to clean up our neighborhoods,

we're not just improving our environment—we're showing pride in our town, strengthening connections with our neighbors, and setting an example for future generations. A clean community is a thriving community, and every helping hand makes a difference."

The event has a rain date of Sunday, April 13. Participants can expect to volunteer for approximately two hours. All volunteers will meet up at the Casano Community Center located at 314 Chestnut Street before heading to their clean-up areas.

For more information, email Roselle Park Clean Communities Coordinator Deborah DiCosmo at ddicosmo@rosellepark.net.

Join us for the

Spring Borough-Wide Clean-Up

Sign Up Here




SATURDAY, APRIL 12 • 10 A.M. – 12 P.M.
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CRANFORD FILM FESTIVAL TO CELEBRATE THE BEST IN SHORT FILM

The fifth annual Cranford Film Festival will showcase selected short films from rising and established filmmakers at the Cranford Theater on Saturday, April 26. Filmmakers and enthusiasts alike are invited to participate in an evening celebrating the best and most creative voices in short film.

The festival champions diverse voices and innovative storytelling by curating a selection of films that span genres from filmmakers across the globe. This year, the festival received nearly 100 submissions across categories including fiction, documentary, animation, iPhone, music videos and student films. “Best of Festival Awards,” “Cranford Cougar Awards,” and “Laurels” will be given in each of the six categories.

“As we celebrate the fifth anniversary of our film festival, I'm filled with gratitude and excitement for the incredible filmmakers, passionate audiences, and dedicated team that have made this journey possible,” said Stephanie Levine, festival director and Cranford Schools Friends of the Performing Arts president. “This milestone is not just a reflection of our past achievements but a testament to our commitment to showcasing diverse voices and inspiring stories.”

The festival screening will occur from 6-10 p.m. at the Cranford Theater, located at 25 North Ave W in Cranford. A pre-screening celebration will be hosted at Cranford's Yale Terrace Brewery for selected filmmakers and VIP ticket holders. A post-show Q&A session for audience members to ask questions of filmmakers about

their films will take place after the screening. The full schedule of this year's films will be available online in April.

Tickets are now available for purchase at the Cranford Film Festival website. They start at \$25 for the screening of the short film block. VIP tickets, which include admittance to the pre-party and a festival T-shirt, will cost \$45 for one and \$75 for two. The festival historically is a sellout event, so attendees are encouraged to purchase their tickets early.

The festival also offers an entirely virtual screening of selected short films for viewing online from April 27 to May 11. The virtual ticket also costs \$25.

The 4th annual Arts Day, a free companion event held in the afternoon before the film festival screening in downtown Cranford, will celebrate the performing and visual arts from within Cranford and beyond. It will feature

performances from local groups, including Cranford High School's performing arts ensembles, at the Eastman Clock Plaza and student visual art on display in nearby downtown locations.

This year, the festival is expected to be sponsored by over 50 businesses, many of them local to the Cranford area, who have generously donated funds and products to support the festival. A full list of festival sponsors can be found on the website.

The proceeds generated by the film festival's ticket sales, donations and sponsorships support the non-profit organization Cranford Schools Friends of Performing Arts (FOPA). FOPA's purpose is to enhance the experience of the students participating in all performing arts programs in Cranford's school district. All funds raised benefit Cranford's performing arts students directly.

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(WEDNESDAY 4/16 11:00AM)

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1,000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN

AGES 0-5 Sign up for our 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program. Get your reading log, log your books, collect your prizes, and join us for the end of summer reading party! Sign ups are ongoing, drop in any time to sign up.

Roselle Park residents only

KIDS PROGRAMS

(ages 5-12)

KIDS CRAFTAFTERNOON***

(MONDAY 4/07 3:30 pm)

Join Miss Faith for a story and craft! Space is limited; online registration is required!

Ages 5-12

JR. GARDENERS***

(MONDAY 4/21 3:30 pm)

Join Miss Faith for a story to celebrate Earth Day then plant your very own potted plant to take home and care for. Space is limited; online registration is required! Ages 5-12

STEAM SQUAD ***

(MONDAY 4/28 3:30 pm)

Join Miss Faith for a fun-filled adventure in making marshmallow catapults! Once you've built yours, test it out to see how far you can launch a Peep. Space is limited; online registration is required! Ages 5-12

TWEEN/TEEN PROGRAMS

(Ages 12-17)

T(W)EEN MOVIE

TUESDAY 4/22 at 3:00PM

Join us in an afterschool movie event. There will be snacks!

HAIKU HANGOUT

TUESDAY 4/29 3:00PM

April is National Poetry Month. Express yourself through writing in this Haiku Hangout Event!

FAMILY EVENTS

LEGO CLUB

(WEDNESDAYS 3:00PM-4:00PM)

(SATURDAYS 4/12 & 4/26 11:00AM)

Use the library's LEGO bricks to build your own creations.

ONCE UPON A TEA PARTY

(04/05 11AM) ***

Step into a world of wonder and enchanting stories! Dress up as your favorite character, sip on delicious tea and nibble on treats fit for royalty. This program is for children up to age 12. Online registration is required.

PAJAMA STORY TIME

(THURSDAYS 6:30 PM)

Bring your favorite stuffed animal, wear your pajamas and join library staff for a cozy bedtime story and craft.

TINY ART SHOW

Stop by during library hours to explore the community art show on display from April 7th through the end of the month.

ADULT PROGRAMS

KNITTING CLUB

(WEDNESDAYS 1:00 - 3:00 PM)

Knit and crochet winter hats and scarves to donate to charities.

QUILTING CLUB

(2nd + 4th THURSDAYS 1:00 - 3:00 PM)

Try out new quilting patterns with friends.

***DIGITAL LITERACY

(THURSDAYS 4/03 & 4/17 6:30PM)

Build your computer skills and confidence studying essential computer skills, software skills, and using everyday technology. Space is limited. Call/visit the library to register

ESL

(THURSDAYS 4/03 & 4/17

6:00PM -7:00PM)

Sign up for our English language learning class. EXTRA HELP SESSION: 5:30PM on corresponding dates

CAFFEINE & CHAPTERS: AUTHOR VISIT

(THURSDAY 4/24 6:00PM)

Please welcome local author, Roger Brenner in the discussion of his book, The Secret Life of a Background Actor. .

ADULT BOOK CLUB & CRAFT

(MONDAY 4/28 6:00PM)

Come Join Maria and make pressed flower candle jars while reviewing What Does It Feel Like? by Sophia Kinsella. Call the circulation desk or come in to reserve a spot!

TAI-CHI

(TUESDAYS 6:30PM-7:30PM)

Build strength, flexibility, and balance through this gentle form of exercise for ages teens through adults. Space is limited. Roselle Park residents given priority.

TECH HELP

(Mon-Fri 10-5)

Available in Spanish or English. Appointments available, walk-ins welcome.

NOTARY SERVICES:

Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, & Fridays
10:00am-4:30pm

Tuesdays 1:00pm-7:30pm

Please call before arriving to ensure a notary is available!

The Library Board meets every 3rd Wednesday of the month. All are welcome to attend.

Fax, Copy, Print, & Scan Services: Available during library hours

Free WIFI



(above) Another beautiful puzzle completed by our amazing patrons! There's nothing like the satisfaction of placing that final piece. Stop by downstairs (adult section) relax and join in on the next one!

HEALTHY KIDS DAY® - SATURDAY, APRIL 26TH

The Gateway Family YMCA is hosting the Y's annual Healthy Kids Day® on Saturday, April 26th at YMCA Branches in Elizabeth, Rahway and Union, NJ. This free, annual event features a variety of family-friendly activities to encourage healthy kids, healthy families, and a healthy start to the summer season.

Hosted at The Gateway Family YMCA – Elizabeth Branch, 135 Madison Avenue, Elizabeth, Five Points Branch, 201 Tucker Avenue, Union, Rahway Branch, 1564 Irving Street, Rahway, and Wellness Center Branch, 1000 Galloping Hill, Union, The Gateway Family YMCA's Healthy Kids Day takes place on April 26th, with free registration available at tgfymca.org/events

The Gateway Family YMCA is offering a one-day Membership Sale in honor of Healthy Kids Day on all memberships with code HKD at tgfymca.org/join-the-Y on April 26th.

"It is very important for kids to stay active over the summer, both physically and mentally," stated Melynda A. Disla, President/CEO, The Gateway Family YMCA. "At the Y, we believe in providing resources for families to create healthy habits, no matter the time of year. Healthy Kids Day is a fun, free community-wide event that encourages families to take advantage of all the great summer activities the Y has to offer."

Sponsored nationally by Peanuts, Healthy Kids Day's mission is to prepare community families

for a safe, healthy and fun summer. Some featured activities at The Gateway Family YMCA include Family Yoga, Swimming, Basketball, and a Summer Day Camp Parent Information Session 12:00-2:00 p.m.

In addition to the Healthy Kids Day event, YMCA programs including Child Care, School Age Before/After School Care, Swimming Lessons and Youth Sports will be celebrating Healthy Kids Day activities with youth and families throughout the week.

The Gateway Family YMCA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, health and community service organization of caring staff and volunteers dedicated to strengthening community through Youth Development, Healthy Living and Social Responsibility. The Gateway Family YMCA impacts the community by providing quality services for all. The Y doesn't just strengthen bodies – it strengthens people, families and communities.

For more information about The Gateway Family YMCA, visit tgfymca.org or contact the Elizabeth Branch 908-355-9622, Five Points Branch 908-688-9622, Rahway Branch 732-388-0057 or the Wellness Center and WISE Center Branch at 908-349-9622.

(above) The Gateway Family YMCA Sets Kids Up for a Safe, Healthy and Fun Summer at Healthy Kids Day. The free family event is open to the community on April 26.

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Elizabeth Location

Current/Upcoming Studies **Call: 908.242.3110**

- Personal Care Products
- Hair Products
- Anti-Aging Products
- Eczema Studies

288 N Broad St
 Suite 2B
 Elizabeth, NJ 07208

Scan the QR code to see a full list of studies and sign up!

Pay ranges from \$30-\$1600 depending on the study.

FIND YOUR FUN AT THE Y!

the **Y**

YMCA Healthy Kids Day Open House

Bring your family to the Y for fun games, information on Summer Camp and more! Join us on 4/26 at all branches!

\$0 JOINER FEE on ALL Full Memberships April 26, 2025 Join the Y & Use Code HKD

THE GATEWAY FAMILY YMCA tgfymca.org

YMCA Summer Camp 2025 Register NOW!

Summer Camp Open House Parent Information
 4/26 12-2pm
 5/21 5-7pm

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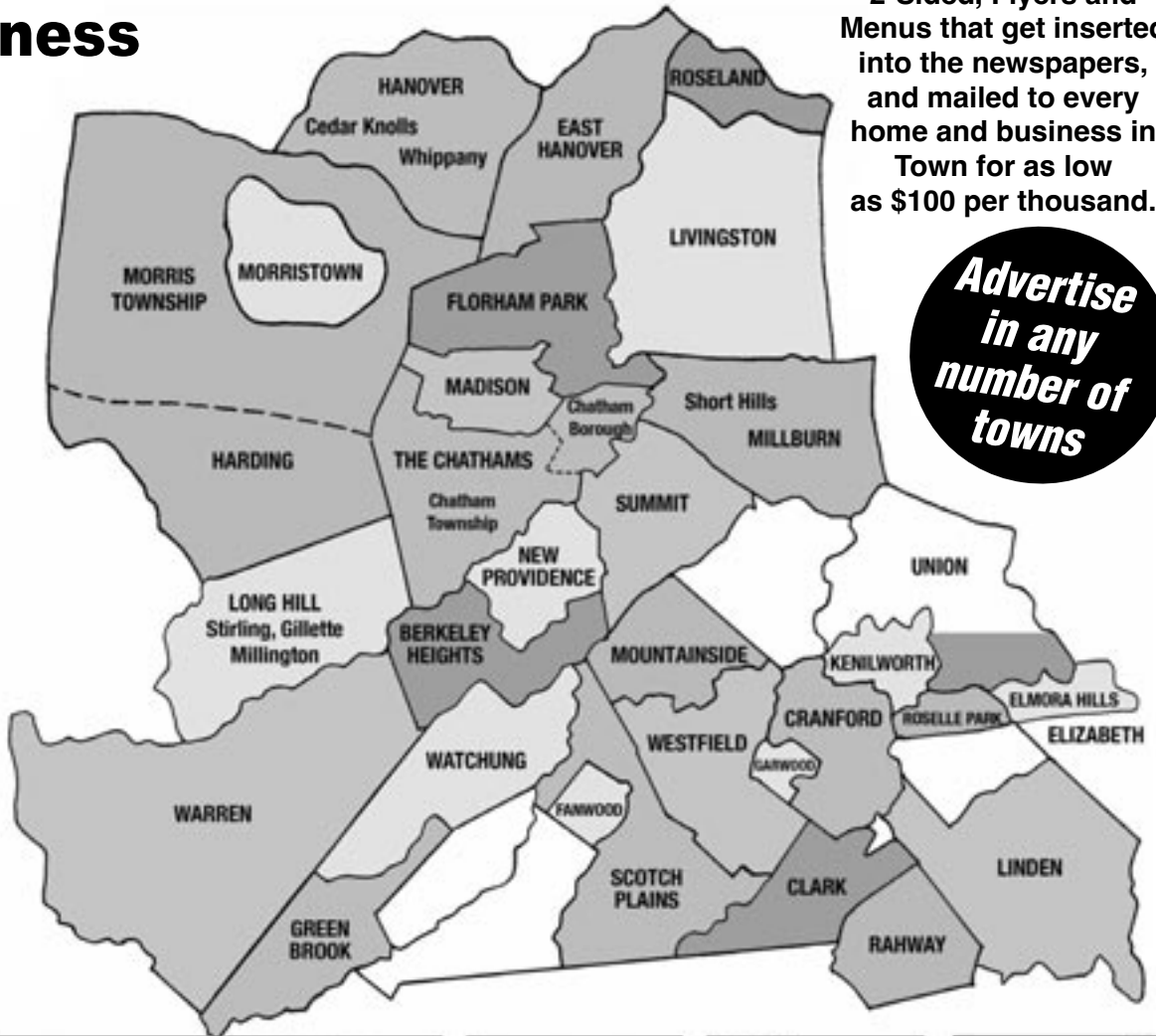
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