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MEMORIAL DAY HONORED WITH COMMUNITY EVENTS

Township of Union

The Township of Union is proud to honor Memorial Day with a two-day celebration featuring a Living History Encampment, a commemorative parade, and a historical skirmish. This family-friendly event will take place on Sunday, May 25, and Monday, May 26, offering a unique opportunity to honor our nation's history and pay tribute to those who have served.

SUNDAY, MAY 25: LIVING HISTORY ENCAMPMENT

From 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., the Township of Union will host a Living History Encampment in front of Town Hall (1976 Morris Ave), offering visitors an immersive experience of life during the Revolutionary War era. The encampment will feature:

- Maxwell's Artillery, demonstrating period cannons and military tactics
- Lynn King, a musician and textile worker, sharing traditional crafts and music
- Noah Lewis portraying Ned Hector, a Continental soldier
- Sue Hueskin, Attwater's Militia and members of the 1st New Jersey Regiment (1NJV), showcasing authentic tents and equipment.

MONDAY, MAY 26: MEMORIAL DAY PARADE AND SKIRMISH

On Monday, the community will gather for a 10:00 a.m. parade beginning at the VFW (2012 High Street), followed by a historical skirmish reenacting the Connecticut Farms Battle. Members of the 1st New Jersey Regiment (1NJV) and other reenactors will come together to bring this pivotal moment in history to life. After the skirmish, marchers can enjoy hot dogs and Italian ice, provided by Maglione's, in the Connecticut Farms parking lot. At noon, all marchers will also be offered complimentary lunch at the VFW.

"This weekend is about remembering and honoring those who gave their life in service to our country and educating our community about the struggles that shaped our nation," said Bob Johnsen, Township of Union Veteran's Affairs Liaison and Parade Grand Marshal. "It's a time to come together in gratitude and reflection."

The Township of Union encourages residents and visitors of all ages to attend and participate in these free events to honor our nation's fallen heroes this Memorial Day.

For additional details, visit uniontownship.com or follow the town on social media at [@TWPUnionNJ](https://twitter.com/TWPUnionNJ).

Photos by Township of Union

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BOY SCOUT TROOP 23 HELPS WATCHUNG RESERVATION FOREST

On Saturday, April 5, the Patriots' Path Council, Boy Scouts of America and the Union County Board of County Commissioners joined forces for a second year in a project to eradicate invasive plants from the Watchung Reservation. The goals of the Operation WRIP event were to improve biodiversity by making room for native plants, stop encroachment on hiking and bridle trails by thorny bushes, eliminate barberry bushes that harbor the ticks that carry Lyme disease, and provide an opportunity for Scouts to complete service hours requirements.

Under the direction of Union County Parks Department staff, 261 Scouts, Scout leaders, Trail Stewards, and other volunteers spread out to 15 areas of the 2,143-acre park in western Union County. Each crew cut multiflora rosa and invasive barberry bushes and raked them into brush piles to provide shelter for small wildlife. An estimated 2,400 invasive shrubs were removed.

The Scouts of Troop 23 and Cub Scout Pack 23, sponsored by St. Genevieve's Church of Elizabeth, worked in the Deserted Village of Feltville. They were able to create two large brush piles from the plants that they cut. Their work prepared the historic site for an historic landscape restoration.

Boy Scout Troop 23, sponsored by St. Genevieve's Church of Elizabeth, welcomes any boys who are at least 11 years old or graduated

from the fifth grade to join them on upcoming camping trips and hikes, a 4-day trip on Memorial Day weekend to Philadelphia, and a week-long summer camp in July. Contact Scoutmaster Dan Bernier at 908-451-1948 or webfoottroop@gmail.com for more details.



(above) Antonios, Alex, Mr. Banic and Christian, of Scout Troop 23 of Elizabeth, headed out to remove invasive plants from the historic landscape of the Deserted Village of Feltville during Operation WRIP.

Courtesy photos

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TROOP 23 AWARDS 5 EAGLE SCOUT MEDALS

Scouting America Troop 23 proudly convened a Court of Honor on Sunday, March 30, to present Scouting's highest rank, the Eagle Scout award, to five of its Scouts. During a service in St. Genevieve's Church in Elizabeth, Eagle Scout medals were pinned on Nicholas P. Agostinho of Elizabeth, John A. Bernier of Berkeley Heights, Melanio F. Nistal of Hillside, and Daniel M. Whelan and James A. Whelan, Jr. of Mountainside.

The service was led by St. Genevieve's Pastor Emeritus Reverend George Gillen and Scoutmaster Dan Bernier, and attended by over 100 people. Special presentations were made by

State Senator Joseph Cryan, Union County Commissioner Bette Jane Kowalski, Elizabeth Mayor J. Christian Bollwage, and Knights of Columbus Council #253 Past Grand Knight Chris Burd.

Achievement of the Eagle Scout award is an accomplishment realized by only four percent of all the boys who join Scouting. Since its formation in 1962, Troop 23 has awarded 81 Eagle medals.

For information about joining Scouting, please contact Dan Bernier, Scoutmaster, at (908) 451-1948 or webfoottroop@gmail.com.



(above) Troop 23 awarded five Eagle Scout medals during a Court of Honor in St. Genevieve's Church on Sunday, March 30. The Eagle Award recipients are (l to r) Nicholas Agostinho, John Bernier, Melanio Nistal, Daniel Whelan, and James Whelan.

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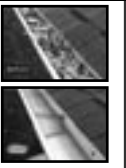
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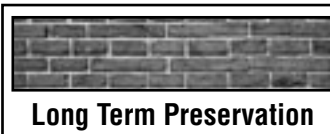


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CELEBRATE NATIONAL SENIOR HEALTH & FITNESS DAY® - MAY 28

The Gateway Family YMCA

The Gateway Family YMCA will join over 1,000 local groups nationwide to celebrate the 32nd Annual National Senior Health & Fitness Day (NSHFD) on Wednesday, May 28, 2025. As an official host site, The Gateway Family YMCA is providing a Community Open House with activities like Swimming, Group Exercise, Water Exercise, Blood Pressure Self-Monitoring, Health Screenings and Information at Y branches in Elizabeth, Rahway and Union. For details on individual Y branch events, classes and times, visit tgfymca.org/events

According to Melynda A. Disla, President/CEO, The Gateway Family YMCA, "We feel that National Senior Health & Fitness Day is an excellent opportunity for seniors to renew their commitment to lead healthier lives through wellness, nutrition and programs designed specifically to meet their needs. At the Y, we are here to partner with each individual in achieving their goals through social, educational and wellness opportunities for all."

"Older adults at all levels of physical fitness are encouraged to participate in National Senior Health & Fitness Day," says Patricia Henze, National Senior Health & Fitness Day program manager. "Our event goals are to increase awareness of the benefits of regular exercise, and to encourage all older adults to take advantage of the many health and fitness activities offered in their communities, as well as online."

During National Senior Health and Fitness Day, participants will join with an estimated 100,000 older adults across the country participating in local events to help promote active, healthy lifestyles through physical activity, good nutrition and preventative care. The Gateway Family YMCA, Shaping Elizabeth and Shaping Union County will be hosting this year's event, along with local community partners to participate in a YMCA Community Open House with information and activities provided free of charge.

A Virtual Open House is also available for individuals who cannot easily access the YMCA for Senior Health & Fitness Day on Wednesday,

May 28th with a schedule of group exercise programs available through Zoom.

The Gateway Family YMCA provides chronic disease self-management programs open to the local community in English and Spanish. Interested participants can register for the Blood Pressure Self-Monitoring Program (BPSM), Group Lifestyle Balance Diabetes Program, Diabetes Management Program, LiveSTRONG at the YMCA or the Veterans Wellness Initiative at tgfymca.org or contact 908-349-9622 or bpsm@tgfymca.org for additional information.

The Gateway Family YMCA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, health and community service organization of caring staff and volunteers dedicated to strengthening the foundations of community and stands For Youth Development, For Healthy Living and For Social Responsibility. The Gateway Family YMCA

impacts the community by providing quality services to people of all ages, races, faith or incomes.

Shaping Eastern Union County is committed to improving the health and well-being of county residents and creating strategies to support improved health, nutrition and physical activity for all. Shaping Elizabeth, Shaping Rahway and Shaping Union are also sponsoring this event.

National Senior Health & Fitness Day is the largest event of its kind, organized by the Mature Market Resource Center, a national clearinghouse for professionals who work with older adults. For more information about National Senior Health & Fitness Day, visit fitnessday.com

For more information about The Gateway Family YMCA visit tgfymca.org or contact the Y at 908-349-9622.

SUMMER CAMP INFO SESSION – MAY 21

The Gateway Family YMCA

Spring is the best time to consider Summer Camp opportunities and research the best opportunities for your child to thrive, in a safe, caring and supportive environment. The Gateway Family YMCA understands the unique needs of children and families, providing Summer Camp experiences for hundreds of children throughout Eastern Union County and Northern Middlesex County each year. Learn more about Summer Day Camp at The Gateway Family YMCA this Spring at YMCA Summer Camp Parent Information Sessions.

Hosted at The Gateway Family YMCA – Elizabeth Branch, 135 Madison Avenue, Elizabeth, Five Points Branch, 201 Tucker Avenue, Union and Rahway Branch, 1564 Irving Street, Rahway, Summer Camp Parent Information Sessions are scheduled on May 21 5:00-7:00 p.m. Parents are invited to join YMCA Camp Directors for tips on getting the most out of your child's camp experience, transition from school to camp, summer safety and fun!

At Y Summer Day Camp, kids can develop self-confidence, learn new skills, build

friendships, and gain a sense of belonging – all while having fun. From sports and games to arts and crafts to outdoor adventures to STEAM and academic enrichment, a Y Summer Day Camp experience offers children the chance to explore new activities and enjoy new adventures.

2025 Summer Camp begins on June 23rd with sessions continuing through August 28th. Registration began in December at all branches and is available in person and online at tgfymca.org. Y Summer Day Camp is available in one-week sessions for Pre-K Age 3 through Grade 6. Registration is first come, first serve and parents are reminded to register early.

In addition to Summer Day Camp, the Y also offer Holiday Break Programs when school is out, ensuring that children have a safe and fun environment to explore.

The Gateway Family YMCA is a leading 501(c)(3) nonprofit committed to strengthening community by connecting all people to their potential, purpose and each other. The Y brings together people from different backgrounds, perspectives and generations, to ensure that all have access to the opportunities.

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Senior Health & Fitness Day
YMCA OPEN HOUSE
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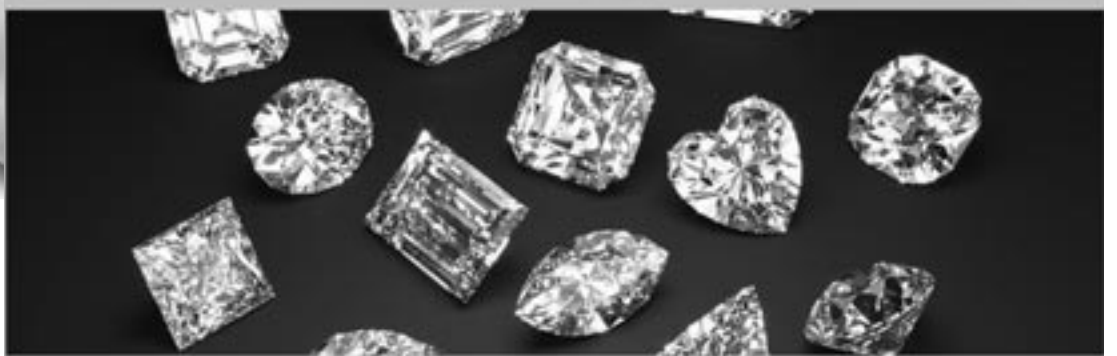
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KENILWORTH STREET FAIR

The 2025 Kenilworth Street Fair and Classic Car Show, hosted by the Borough of Kenilworth, will take place on Sunday, May 18th.

The Boulevard will be closed to vehicle traffic from 14th St. to 24th St. and transformed into a giant block party from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

This event will feature quality exhibitors, a special crafter's section, lots of great food, kiddie rides, and kids area, live music and performances, and local merchants and civic organizations.

SHOPPING

Shop til you drop along the Boulevard with over 100 quality exhibitors selling their merchandise such as jewelry, handbags, sports collectibles, clothing, home decor, and much more. There is a special section with handmade crafts from local and nearby crafters and artisans with unique one-of-a-kind items.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

This year we have 2 exciting bands. Performing first will be the Green Planet Band from 10am-1pm. They are a family band comprised of teen siblings Kylee, Tyler and Grey, along with Mama Lisa playing all cover music. Performing from 2pm-4pm will be a very seasoned band called Ladies of the Eighties. Their cover music is from the 1980s and beyond. They put on a great show.

There will also be demonstrations from the 2 local karate clubs: Twin Kicks at 11:30am and Karate World at 1:30pm in front of the stage. In

the music area you will find tables and chairs for you to sit, eat and watch the show.. The music is located on the corner of the Boulevard and 21st Street.

KIDS ZONE

The children will enjoy this section filled with kiddie bounce rides, slides, and interactive blow-ups, face painters, sand art & kids games, temporary tattoos, and face painting, just to name a few things.

FOOD TRUCKS

Come hungry! As you stroll along the Boulevard stop to have a bite to eat and sit at tables in our live music area. With over 20 gourmet food trucks there will be plenty of items to choose from. Here is a list of just some of the food that will be there: Cousin's Main Lobster, Magic Mike's Smoked Meats, Dymski's Perogies, Empanada Guy, Cold Stone Creamery, Jersey Pickles, Pat's Italian Sausages and Zeppolees, and so much more.

CAR SHOW

This year's event will again feature a car show of Custom . . . Classic . . . Street Rod . . . Muscle Cars in front of Harding School. Set up starts after 10 a.m. Registration - Day of Show. Cars must be registered by 1:00 p.m. to be judged. Trophies for Winners! For more Car Show. Info send email with your questions to: rprflocal3@gmail.com

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SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ ANNOUNCES MARK ADAMY BAND

The Salem Roadhouse Café presents the Mark Adamy Band, Saturday, May 17th, 2025. The doors open at 7:30 p.m., the show starts at 8 p.m. Admission is \$20 and includes show, snacks, non-alcoholic beverages, and dessert. The venue is located in Bailey Hall, at Townley Presbyterian Church, 829 Salem Rd, Union, NJ. The Roadhouse operates as a non-profit that raises funds for several carefully chosen local charities.

Mark Adamy is a multitalented keyboardist and vocalist who works with artists around the globe as a live performer and recording artist. This includes his own band: The Mark Adamy Band, which is a group of accomplished musicians that has thrilled listeners with its original stylings fusing pop, rock, jazz, R&B,

world, and spiritual music.

Mark has enjoyed popularity as a sought-after talent for special events, productions, and performances. He has won honors including Entertainer of the Year and Boston Music award nominations. Sharing the stage with greats like Chaka Khan, James Brown, The Four Tops, John-Lee Hooker, Pieces of a Dream, Howard Hewitt, Phil Driscoll, Phil Keaggy, Roger Humphries, and many others, Mark has established himself as the consummate professional in the Metro NYC area. Mark has played in many Broadway productions as well as music directing off-Broadway productions in NYC.

Mark's concert credentials are extensive with acts such as the Coasters, the Cadillacs, Ink Spots, Jive Five, Silhouettes, Marvellettes, the Charelles, and guitarist Billy Davis. He has jammed with jazz artists such as Warren Hill, Makoto Ozone, Darren Lyons Group, and Lee Robinson at venues ranging from New York's Russian Tea Room and Knitting Factory to Boston's Symphony Hall.

As always, the Salem Roadhouse Café is live, intimate, up front, and personal. All ages are welcome.

ABOUT SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ

It's not "church music." It's music music. Folks who've come to the Salem Roadhouse Café know that it's a clean, safe place for people who enjoy listening to live music — in a world otherwise filled with clubs and bars. The

Roadhouse has always offered its stage to local and independent mainstream musicians. Jazz, rock, folk, and other groups have performed. What's the common thread? They're all great musicians playing the kind of music people like to hear. There's no message, just music.

The Roadhouse started in 2008 by members of Townley Presbyterian Church with a grant from the Presbytery of Elizabeth. Hey — that's why we're located where we are, 829 Salem Rd, Union, NJ. The Roadhouse operates as a non-profit that raises funds for several carefully chosen local charities. That's its social mission.

But the many musicians who've played the Salem Roadhouse Café see it as a solid performance venue. They love it because of its special intimacy and great audiences. They say people here "really listen." Ask any of the musicians you meet here — they love to play the Roadhouse, and they want to come back often.

The Salem Roadhouse Café has raised funds for many carefully chosen charities. They include: The Presbytery of Elizabeth E-port Center, Center For Hope Hospice, Community Food Bank, Monarch Housing, Angel Paws Animal Rescue, National MS Society, Haiti Disaster Relief, Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief, The Union County YWCA Domestic Violence Program, Making It Possible To End Homelessness, Camp Johnsonburg, The Music Institute, and others. Many thousands of dollars have been raised for these deserving charities.

HEADACHE AND MIGRAINE ESSENTIALS: WORKSHOP – MAY 21

Join us via the Scotch Plains Public Library on Wednesday, May 21, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. for an engaging and informative virtual program on common types of headache disorders, with a special focus on migraines. This program is designed to educate and support individuals and care partners living with headache or migraine.

This online 60-minute event will feature:

An introductory overview covering the basics of primary/secondary headache, and common contributing factors/triggers, and symptoms of migraine.

A look at what to expect in a headache evaluation, including identifying potential "Red Flags" that may indicate a more serious condition.

An overview of available treatment options and strategies for acute and preventive care to help manage migraine attacks effectively.

Q&A to address participants' questions (note: speaker cannot provide personal medical advice)

The event partner for this program is the National Headache Foundation, which has been focused on elevating the awareness of headache and migraine as legitimate neurologic diseases for over fifty years. Their mission is to create a future where everyone in the world with headache can thrive in optimal, functional and connected lives. To learn more about their work, visit headaches.org.

You must register to receive the link for the event. For more information email library@scotchplainslibrary.org or call (908) 322-5007 x 204.



MARK ADAMY BAND

SATURDAY, MAY 17, 8:00 PM

DOORS OPEN AT 7:15 PM ADMISSION: \$20 STUDENTS \$15.00

Admission includes snacks, beverages, teas, coffee and desserts



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Registration is required for all events. Visit the library, or register on-line at uplnj.events.mylibrary.digital.

The Main interim library will officially be closed while we work on moving the entire library to our new building. All information and updates can be found here: uplnj.org/move/ May Vauxhall Branch Library Adult Events For more information about our adult programs and resources, please call Adult Services at (908)-851-5450 extension 3, or our Vauxhall Branch at (908)-851-5451, or check out our website at uplnj.org or visit us at the Vauxhall Branch at 123 Hilton Ave.

Library Living Room Conversations

Mon. 5/5 @ 6:00 pm

Please join us at the Vauxhall Branch Library as we come together to have a conversation on any topic that comes up. This is a great opportunity to meet new people and strengthen our community.

Wednesday Night Trivia: Television!

Wed. 5/7 @ 6:00 pm

Are you a fan of The Office or Breaking Bad? Do you watch reruns of Martin or In Living Color? Come join us for a fun day of trivia and prizes.

African Americans in Vietnam: A Film Viewing & Discussion of The Bloods of 'Nam

Sat. 5/10 @ 1:00 pm

A high percentage of men on the frontlines in Vietnam were young, poor, undereducated, and black. By most accounts, they had the highest casualties. But these young men say they were fighting two wars-against the enemy and against discrimination. Please join us as we view and have a discussion on the short documentary The Bloods of 'Nam

Sports Photography Through the Decades

Mon. 5/12 @ 6:00 pm

Chuck Solomon is one of the premier sports photographers in the country. Meet the photographer himself as he shows images and shares stories from his nearly 40-year career as a sports photographer. Thirty of those years with Sports Illustrated. Besides seeing some amazing photographs and hearing compelling stories about how these images were captured you will pick up valuable tips on how you can improve your own photographic skills. So whether you are a sports fan, photo enthusiast or just want to take better photos at a kid's soccer game or dance recital you won't want to miss this exciting evening.

Build Your Balance @ Vauxhall

Wed. 5/14 @ 10:30 am

It's more important than ever to avoid the risks of falling as we age. Through gentle strength exercises, and stepping strategies, learn to keep your body balanced in different situations. Give this popular class a try today at Vauxhall!

Unwine & Paint

Wed. 5/14 @ 6:00 pm

Please join us for an evening at the library as Newark resident, Ms. Lelia Stevenson, leads attendees for a fun and relaxing evening of painting!

Build Your Balance @ Vauxhall

Wed. 5/14 @ 10:30 am

It's more important than ever to avoid the risks of falling as we age. Through gentle strength exercises, and stepping strategies, learn to keep your body balanced in different situations. Give this popular class a try today at Vauxhall!

Off the Shelf Book Club

Thurs. 5/15 @ 6:00 pm

This month the club will be reading The Tiger's Wife by Téa Obreht. Download it on Libby or Hoopla today with your library card!

DJ Cool V: The Life of the Juice Crew DJ

Sat. 5/17 @ 1:00 pm

Please join us as Elizabeth native and Juice Crew DJ, DJ Cool V, discusses his life on being a DJ and reads excerpts from his new book

Vauxhall Negro League Baseball Club

Mon. 5/19 @ 6:00 pm

Are you a baseball fan and love history? Perhaps you are a fan of Satchel Paige or the Kansas City Monarchs? Come join us where our goal is to preserve the history of Negro League Baseball. Our meetings will consist of presentations, discussions, film viewings, book talks, and much more.

Adult Crochet for Beginners

Wed. 5/21 @ 6:00 pm

Please join us as Ms. Lisa Roberts teaches attendees the basics of learning how to crochet. Attendees can bring their own crochet hooks and yarn, but supplies will be provided!

Animal Crossing Open Hours

(Virtual on Switch)

Fri. 5/23 @ 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Come explore UPL Island! Check out our inclusive virtual library building that serves children, teens, and adults. Discover our Mario-themed maze, shake fruit/money trees, shop at Nooks & Abels, help craft DIYs, and leave a message on the bulletin board. As a thank you for visiting, there will be freebies! In order to visit our island, you must add us as a friend before entering the island. Our UPL Nintendo friend code is SW-4027-1837-6212.

All ages welcome. No registration necessary. If you have any questions, please contact jcarvajal@uplnj.org.

Love You Madly: A 125th Celebration of Duke Ellington's life and song.

Sat. 5/24 @ 1:00 pm

This concert will celebrate the musical genius of Duke Ellington, one of America's most revered composers, pianists, and band leaders. The program will feature Ellington's songs, compositions, and collaborations, including "A Train," "In A Sentimental Mood," "Lush Life," and "Chelsea Bridge," as well as a short medley of songs from the Sacred Concert.

Pianist David Janeway will accompany jazz vocalist Shirley Crabbe.

Hilton Readers Book Discussion Group

Wed. 5/27 @ 6:00 pm

The book selection for May is The Wife Between Us by Greer Hendricks

Dave Revels: Stories & Songs from the Road

Sat. 5/31 @ 1:00 pm

Join Dave Revels, former member of the Charlie Thomas Drifters and lead singer of the Persuasions will perform iconic hits as he discusses the history of Motown.

Weekly Chair Yoga

Tues. @ 9:15 am

Take a deep breath with friends and stretch! A popular class for beginners or professionals now as a weekly series. Presented by the Gateway Family YMCA. Space is limited to 15 patrons, register in advance!

Walk-in Wednesdays: One-on-One Library Technology Assistance

Weds. @ 12:30 - 2:00 pm

Get help with library resources, including downloading e-books from Libby and Hoopla, using the library catalog and resources, using mobile print, and using the photocopier and scanner. Registration is not required.

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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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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!

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.

For more information about AAI email, membership@asterism.org or visit asterism.org.



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It would not be a stretch to say that the New Jersey economy is built on the backs of the small businesses that call the state their home. Nearly one million SMB enterprises are registered in the state as of 2024, a sector of the economy that now accounts for half of all employment in the state. Things are competitive, to say the least. So, how do you, as a business owner, stand out?

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To answer that question, we need to first understand the shape of the problem facing many small business owners. There is one very critical thing putting many businesses at a massive disadvantage, not only when compared to other SMBs, but against larger competitors as well. That key ingredient? Digital marketing.

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