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Issue 56 • July 2025

ANNUAL FEAST OF ST. ANTHONY MARKS 25TH YEAR

The Church of the Assumption's annual St. Anthony Italian homemade cooking, food vendors, a beer and wine garden, Feast celebrated its 25th year over the weekend of June 5-8, and a SUPER 50/50. On Saturday, there was a Mass honoring 2025. The Feast featured rides, games, live entertainment, St. Anthony, followed by a procession through Roselle Park.



OSELLE ARK MONTHLY

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CANINE COMPANIONS CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

Canine Companions

Mike Saverino was recently matched with his third Canine Companions service dog names Arbor. Mike is overjoyed about how Arbor has picked up right where his retiring service dog Webster left off, making a difference in Mike's daily life.

Arbor II is a two-year-old lab-golden retriever cross specially bred and trained by Canine Companions to serve people with disabilities. Arbor knows over 40 professional commands to assist Mike in his daily life. Arbor opens doors, turns on lights, and picks up dropped items for Mike to name just a few.

Mike enjoys sled hockey, weightlifting, and is heavily involved in the Canine Companions New Jersey Volunteer Chapter.

About Canine Companions: National nonprofit Canine Companions is celebrating 50 years of empowering people with disabilities to live with greater independence — and it all started with a service dog named Abdul. Canine Companions invented the concept of the modern service dog in 1975 and has since placed more than 8,200 expertly trained dogs at no cost to clients, entirely supported by donations. Today, as America's first and largest provider of service dogs, Canine Companions leverages seven locations across the country to serve adults, children and veterans with disabilities as well as professionals working in health care, law enforcement and educational settings in all 50 states. Volunteer, donate and learn more at canine.org.





(above) Mike Saverino & service dog Arbor

Courtesv Photo

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The Gateway Family YMCA is a nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening community.

FRED'S ROOM HELPS CHILDREN PROCESS GRIEF

Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss

and big feelings need a safe place to be five years. To honor their beloved husband, son, expressed. That's why we created the Volcano Room, a dedicated space where children can release their emotions in a healthy way. Recently redecorated with characters from the Inside Out just 38 years old. Fred's wife Suzanne, and their film series, the room features cushioned walls, daughters led the family in a heartfelt dedication soft basketballs, and big pillow piles to jump in where children can process their grief in their own time.



(above) The DeJesus family gathers in Imagine's "Volcano Room" recently dedicated in memory of Scotch Plains resident Fred DeJesus.

For the DeJesus family of Scotch Plains, At Imagine, we know that grief is complex, Imagine has been a source of comfort for the past and father, they chose to dedicate the Volcano Room as "Fred's Room." The event happened on the fifth anniversary of Fred DeJesus' death at ceremony.

> "We know that Fred is watching over us, front row for every dance recital, Girl Scout event, and school performance," Suzanne shared. "He's still cheering us on, asking, 'How did it go, kiddo? I know you hit it out of the park.""

> Spaces like Fred's Room are made possible by families who want to create a lasting tribute to their loved ones. As Imagine continues to grow, we are honored to help families find meaningful ways to celebrate the lives of those they hold dear.

> Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss is a 501c3 that offers grief and loss education and training to the community and free year-round grief support groups for children ages 3-18 and young adults 19-30 who are coping with a loss due to death. Concurrently, support groups are available for the parents and caregivers of the children in the groups and offered in English and Spanish. For more information, please contact Imagine at 908-264-3100 or info@imaginenj.org or visit their website at imaginenj.org.







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FOUR WEEKENDS FOUR LOCATIONS IN JULY

July 7 thru 11 Springfield Hilton Garden INN

Route 22, Springfield, NJ 07066 **9am to 5pm**

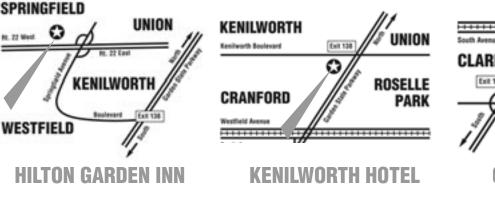


36 Valley Road Clark, NJ 07066 **9am to 5pm** July 21 thru 25 KENILWORTH HOTEL

60 S 31st Street Kenilworth, NJ 07033 **9am to 5pm** July 28 thru Aug 1 THE COURTYARD WEST ORANGE

8 Rooney Circle West Orange, NJ 07052 **10am to 5pm**

WEST ORANGE



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STEP UP, SPEAK UP FOR FOSTER CHILDREN

CASA of Passaic and Union Counties Mia spent most of her nine years in a home marked by instability and fear. Her parents' addiction left her hungry, alone, and unsure of what to expect each day. She eventually entered foster care. While her peers prepare for a funfilled summer, Mia finds herself living with strangers. A judge assigned a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer to her and now, although things still feel uncertain and scary, Mia has someone who listens, shows up, and stands up for her.

Mia is just one of more than 500 children removed from home in Passaic and Union counties due to abuse and/or neglect. Living in foster care and separated from all they've known, each child needs a caring, consistent adult in their corner to protect their best interests while in care. Is that you?

CASA volunteers are trained advocates who visit the child monthly and have court-ordered access to all parties in the case. Supported by CASA staff, advocates make fact-based observations about outstanding needs or concerns and make recommendations to the court. The CASA volunteer is often the only consistent person in the child's life. Applicants must be at least 21, be able to communicate effectively both orally and in writing, have computer skills, pass a background check, and complete the 36-hour training.

Fall trainings start soon; Union County's begins Sept. 16 in Linden. View the training dates at casapassaicunion.org/casa-training.

The first step to becoming a CASA volunteer is to attend an information session. Register now at casapassaicunion.org/info-session for any of the following:

Union County – Wednesday, July 9 at 12pm, Child Focus office in Elizabeth, 1143 East Jersey Street, 2nd Floor; Wednesday, July 9 at 5:30pm, Colleen Fraser Building in Westfield; Wednesdays July 16 and July 23 at 12pm, Child Focus office in Elizabeth, 1143 East Jersey Street, 2nd Floor; and Wednesday, July 23 at 5:30pm, Rahway Library.

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 CASA of Passaic and Union Counties, call 973-832-4002,

email info@casapassaicunion.org, or log on to www.casapassaicunion.org.



LIBRARY JULY EVENTS

404 Chestnut St, Roselle Park, NJ 07204 • Tel: (908) 245-2456 • roselleparklibrary.org

Programs marked *** have limited spots. Registration required for children's programs. All dates and times are subject to change, WE ARE CLOSED ON FRIDAY, JULY 4TH

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS (AGES 0-11) BOOKS & BADGES

TUESDAYS @ 11:00 AM

Children will have a chance to enjoy a book and craft with our officers from the RPPD. Children up to age 9 with a caregiver welcome.

STORY ON THE LAWN

WEDNESDAYS 11:00AM Bring a blanket to sit on and join us on the lawn for storytime and outdoor play. Ages 0-5 Color Splash! Kids' Tie-Dye Workshop***

THURSDAY 7/3 11:00AM Bring your white T-shirt and join us for some colorful fun! ONLINE REGISTRATION REQUIRED KIDS AGES 5-12

BINGO***

MONDAY 7/7 2:00pm Join us for an afternoon of BINGO games, trivia, prizes, snacks and fun! This program is for ages 5-12. Online registration is required!

LIBRARY LAB CANISTER ROCKETS***

THURSDAY 7/10 11:00am Join Miss Faith on a STEAM adventure as we experiment with canister rockets! Ages: 5–12 ONLINE REGISTRATION REQUIRED

MEET THE CHICKS***

MONDAY 7/14 2:00pm

Join us for a story and meet our baby chicks up close. Kids ages 0-12. ONLINE

REGISTRATION REQUIRED **LEGO CLUB**

THURSDAY 7/17 11:00 am Join us to build, create, and explore your imagination with bricks and friends! Ages: 3-12 JR.CHEF***

MONDAY 7/21 2:00 PM Join Miss Faith for a fun-filled session featuring a delightful story and hands-on kitchen fun as we make a summertime favorite—s'mores!

Ages: 5–12 ONLINE REGISTRATION

REQUIRED CAMPFIRE STORY***

THURSDAY 7/24 11:00 am Join us for a story around the "campfire" then have fun learning a few basic camp skills. Ages: 5–12 ONLINE REGISTRATION REQUIRED

WAND MAKING WORKSHOP***

MONDAY 7/28 2:00pm Create your own magical wand in this fun and imaginative kids' workshop! Ages: 5–12 ONLINE REGISTRATION REQUIRED

POTIONS & SPELLS***

THURSDAY 7/31 11:00AM Concoct gooey, magical slime in this fun-filled kids' spells and potions workshop! Ages: 5-12

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! S

TWEEN/TEEN PROGRAMS (AGES 12-17) TWEEN TUESDAYS

Tuesdays 7/15 & 7/29 2:00 - 3:00 PM Come to the library for some summer fun. Unwind listening to Lo-fi beats & work on a craft. There will be snacks!

FAMILY EVENTS Ice cream social

WEDNESDAY 7/23 1:00 PM Join us for a free Ice Cream Social to celebrate Vanilla Ice Cream Day—limited quantities, while supplies last!

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS SEMINAR

THURSDAY 7/24 12:30-1:00 PM Come and join us in listening to Cranford Park Care discuss mental health awareness in an educational seminar for all.

CONCERT ON THE LAWN

THURSDAY 7/24 6:30PM Music by the Florian Schantz Jazz combo.

SUMMER READING: COLOR OUR WORLD

Don't forget to return your reading logs each week for treats, prizes, and raffle entries! Summer Reading is for all Roselle Park residents ages 0 - 200 - if you haven't signed up

> yet, there's still time! PAJAMA STORY TIME

THURSDAYS @ 6:30 PM

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

ADULT PROGRAMS

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.

Citizenship Class

Thursdays 7/10, 7/17, 7/24, 7/31 5:00PM-6:00PM

Citizenship classes will be provided. Resources made available through the NJ State Library.

LIBRARY SERVICES TECH HELP

Mondays to Fridays from 10AM-5PM. Available in Spanish or English. Appointments available, walk-ins welcome.

NOTARY SERVICES

Mondays, Tuesday, Wednesdays, Thursdays, & Fridays @ 10:00am-4:00pm. Please call before arriving to ensure a notary is

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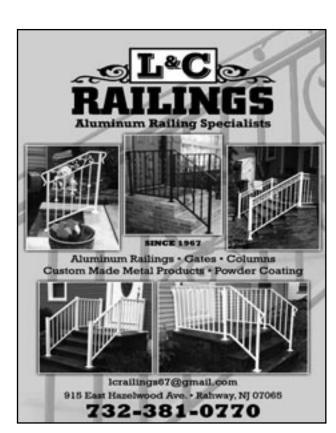
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SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ PRESENTS BRAZILIAN JAZZ QUARTET

The Salem Roadhouse Café presents Gerson Galante and his Brazilian Jazz Quartet, with special guest vocalist Melanie Mitrano and featuring students from the Community College of Morris on Saturday, July 12, 2025. The doors open at 7:15 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.

Having performed together at the Salem Roadhouse Café before, Gerson and Melanie present the mystical sounds of Brazilian Jazz with a dynamic quartet of sax/flute, bass and keyboards. Melanie will provide vocals, as will various students from the Community College of Morris, where Melanie teaches music.

Original artwork will be on display at the Roadhouse Fine Arts Gallery, as presented by an artists collective of over a dozen local artists led by Dr. Francis Billups. Music and art definitely go together, and at the Roadhouse it's a perfect blend with a great atmosphere.

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.

Now ion it's 16th year of operation, 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 nonprofit 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, The Union County YWCA Domestic Violence Program, , and others. Many thousands of dollars have been raised for these deserving charities.



PHONE: 908-686-1028 (leave message) E-MAIL: salemroadhouse@gmail.com WEBSITE: www.townleychurch.org FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/salemroadhouse

SUMMER NIGHTS OPEN **MIC SERIES THIS JULY**

Borough of Roselle Park

Show off your skills at Roselle Park's Summer Nights Open Mic series at the Gazebo on select Wednesdays - July 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th. Residents can come hear the borough's local talent at Michael J. Mauri "Gazebo" Park from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

These beloved weekly events celebrate the incredible talent within Roselle Park and give local performers a stage to shine, connect, and grow.

Each act is given up to seven minutes to perform and should be ready to take the stage five minutes before their scheduled time. Basic equipment, such as microphones, speakers, and cables, will be provided, but participants should bring anything else they need.

Performers are encouraged to present material they are comfortable with, and perfection is not required. Other acts are asked to maintain a respectful environment by remaining quiet during performances, handling equipment carefully, and supporting all artists throughout the event.

Interested acts should register by June 30th. In the event of inclement weather, the events will move to the Anthony Signorello Youth Center across the street.

Residents can learn more

by contacting Community Center Director Rupen Shah atrshah@rosellepark.net or by calling 908-245-0666.

ANNUAL INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

Celebrate freedom and American culture at residents and visitors alike. Roselle Park's annual Independence Day Celebration on Tuesday, July 1st. Gates at Herm Shaw Field open at 5:00 p.m., with fireworks lighting up the sky at dusk.

This year's event will be an evening filled with fun, excitement, and entertainment for all ages featuring live music by the Purple Shadow, rides, inflatables, a variety of food trucks, and, of course, a spectacular fireworks display by Celebration Fireworks. With something for everyone to enjoy, this year's celebration promises to be a vibrant and memorable night for

The entrance to Herm Shaw field is located at 214 West Colfax Avenue in Roselle Park. In the event of inclement weather, the Borough will announce a postponement of all activities until Saturday, July 5th. Residents can learn more by contacting Community Center Director Rupen Shah at rshah@rosellepark.net or by calling 908-245-0666.

The Borough of Roselle Park's 2025 Independence Day Celebration is sponsored by the County of Union, Suburban Disposal, Inc., and the Neglia Group.

COMMUNITY COOLDOWNS IN JULY

Borough of Roselle Park

Beat the heat this summer at Roselle Park's Community Cooldown on select Tuesdays - July 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th. Residents can cool off in the Roselle Park Youth Baseball Softball League parking lot from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. while the fire department runs drills.

Roselle Park firefighters will conduct live pump and hose drills to stay prepared, and attendees can run through the water showers created by the drills-combining community fun with essential firefighter training.

Residents can learn more

by contacting Community Center Director Rupen Shah atrshah@rosellepark.net or by calling 908-245-0666.



LANDZ Summer **Roselle Park's Annual** INDEPENDENCE DAY Nights Open Mic at the Gazebo Calling All Local Talent: Musicians, Comedians, Poets, & Singers Live Band, Food Trucks, Inflatables, & Rides 7:00 - 9:00 р.м. Tuesday, July 1st | Rain Date: July 5th Festival: 5:00 P.M. | Fireworks: Dusk WEDNESDAY, Herm Shaw Field JULY 9TH, 16TH, 23RD, AND 30TH Michael Mauri Gazebo Park Rain Location: Youth Center Brought to you by Councilwoman Rosanna Lyons and fellow members of the Mayor and Borough Council SPONSORED BY THE SUBURBAN NEGLIA DISPOSAL UNION COUNTY Find Us on Social Sign Up Deadline: @RoselleParkBorough June 30™ @ @roselleparknj PARK NJ Find Us on Social 6 @RoselleParkBorough @ @roselleparknj For more information, call (908) 245-0666 or email rshah@rosellepark.net For more information, call (908) 245-0666 or email rshah@rosellepark.net



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SMALL BUSINESS MENTORING HELP MILITARY VETERANS SUCCEED

SCORE Central Jersey

During National Military Appreciation Month and beyond, SCORE mentors offer resources for veterans to start and grow their entrepreneurial enterprises. The SCORE Veterans Small Business Resource Guide features veterans-specific resources to offer insight on developing a business plan, securing funding, starting a

Veterans' training, resolve and fortitude to overcome challenges make them the ideal entrepreneur. They soar as small business owners. According to research, 80 percent of the 1.7 million veteran-owned business owners consider themselves successful. The small business fiveyear survival rate for veterans is double that of the non-veteran population.

Data from the U.S. Small Business Administration has shown that small business owners with an established mentor have twice the success rate -70 percent versus 35 percent - as those who do not have a mentor.

In conjunction with National Military Appreciation Month in May, SCORE, a national nonprofit organization that assists small businesses, has developed specific resources for use by its 10,000 mentors nationally in mentoring veterans.

The SCORE Veterans Small Business Resource Guide features veterans-specific resources to offer insight on developing a business plan, securing funding, starting a business, buying an existing business, buying a franchise, connecting with one of SCORE's volunteer mentors, and gaining a better understanding of business through webinars and workshops.

"Volunteering at SCORE is my way of showing appreciation to those who helped and guided me during my career while sharing my background and experience to help entrepreneurs succeed," said SCORE Mid-Atlantic Regional Vice President Ed Coleman. "While I enjoy working with all SCORE clients, as a U.S. Army veteran, I particularly enjoy working with veterans to translate their military experience into entrepreneurship. Helping clients realize their dreams is very gratifying and the essence of the SCORE mission."

SCORE Central Jersey Chapter Chair Nancy





(above) Since 1964, SCORE has helped more than 17 million entrepreneurs start, grow or successfully exit a business. SCORE's 10,000 volunteers provide free, expert mentoring, resources and education in all 50 U.S. states and territories. Visit SCORE at score.org. Courtesy photo

Verduin said mentors continually expand their knowledge base to better assist veterans on their entrepreneurial journey.

"Military transitioning from active duty have different needs than civilians in terms of starting a business," said Verduin. "It's wonderful to have veterans' resources at our volunteers' fingertips to aid in mentoring our service men and women."

Veterans account for about 10 percent of SCORE's client base. Veterans own 10 percent of small businesses and 14 percent of franchises. Since franchisors have a defined plan of what the business should entail, veterans represent the perfect franchisee given their ability to effectively execute plans as intended.

Nationally, veterans own nearly 2 million businesses, employing more than 5 million Americans, and generating more than \$1 trillion in annual income. Of those, 40 percent of veteran-owned businesses generate more than \$500,000 in annual revenue.

To learn more about SCORE, request a mentor or volunteer to be one, visit score.org.

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