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SCOUTS ANNOUNCE WEBBY'S FUN FEST

On Friday, October 3, Boy Scout Troop 23 and Cub Scout Pack 23 will host their 3rd annual Webby's Fun Fest at St. Genevieve's Church, 200 Monmouth Road, Elizabeth, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. There will be activities for boys and girls of all ages, from 4 to 17. The event is open to everyone free of charge. There is no preregistration required.

Webby, the Webfoot Duck, has been the mascot of Troop 23 since 1967. He will be providing activities that include a choice of craft projects, cornhole, mini-golf, ring toss, Connect 4, Jenga, lawn dice, checkers, chess, Battleship, bottle toss, and other games. Weather permitting, there will be a campfire for marshmallow roasting outside. And participants can build an ice cream sundae.

The Scouting program instills character, good citizenship and physical fitness in youth through outdoor activities such as campouts and hikes, involvement in community activities, and just plain FUN! If you have a son or daughter, nephew or niece, grandson or granddaughter, or neighbor who is anywhere between a Kindergartener and a high school senior, please suggest they consider getting in on the fun of Scouting.

Cub Scout Pack 23 and Boy Scout Troop 23 have been serving the youth of St. Genevieve's parish and the surrounding area for over 60 years. These units have earned hundreds of awards on the local and national level, have produced 80 Eagle Scouts, and have leaders who are well-



known and widely respected by other Scout leaders across the country.

New members are welcome at any time, all year round. For more details, please contact Dan Bernier, Scoutmaster, at 908-451-1948 or webfoottroop@gmail.com.



(above) Children and their families can enjoy many activities and board games, including marshmallow roasting and ice cream sundaes, at Webby's Fun Fest at St. Genevieve's Church on Friday, October 3.

Courtesy Photos

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A THRILLING AFTERNOON OF OPERA FIREWORKS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2025 AT 2:00 PM
Get ready for sparks to fly when two sopranos meet one tenor! Opera at Florham invites you to Due Soprani e Un Tenore, an exhilarating afternoon of soaring arias, dramatic duets, and fiery trios, staged with wit, rivalry, and romance.

Taking place in the elegant Mansion at Fairleigh Dickinson University, this one-of-a-kind concert transforms the timeless magic of opera into an intimate and unforgettable event. Audiences will be swept away by the dazzling interplay of voices as passion, humor, and heartbreak unfold through some of opera’s most beloved music.

- WHY YOU CAN’T MISS IT**
- Hear world-class voices collide in moments of rivalry, romance, and drama.
 - Experience the thrill of live opera in a beautiful, historic setting.
 - Perfect for both seasoned opera lovers and first-time attendees!

Reserve your seat now and be part of an afternoon that promises vocal fireworks, theatrical flair, and the kind of energy only live opera can deliver.

TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT OPERAATFLORHAM.ORG OR AT THE DOOR:
General Admission: \$30
Students (22 & under): \$10
FDU Students (22 & under): FREE
Follow it up with our next Opera Talk with

Opera Educator Lou Barrella on Sunday, November 16, 2025 at 2:00 pm entitled “The ‘Love Triangle’ Trios of Giuseppe Verdi. George Bernard Shaw said that “Opera is when a Tenor and a Soprano want to make love and are prevented from doing so by a Baritone!” \$10 registration fee for Opera Talks!



Due SOPRANI e UN TENORE
When Two Sopranos Meet a Tenor

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2:00 pm
The Mansion at
Fairleigh Dickinson University
Madison, NJ



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NATIONAL SENIOR HEALTH & FITNESS DAY® ON OCTOBER 29TH

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, October 29, 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

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, October 29th with a schedule of group exercise programs available through Zoom.

"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."

The Gateway Family YMCA also provides

chronic disease self-management programs open to the local community. 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 community and stands For Youth Development, For Healthy Living and For Social Responsibility.

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.

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Senior Health & Fitness Day
YMCA OPEN HOUSE
Wednesday, October 29

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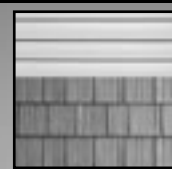
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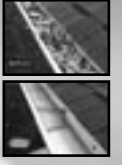
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ELMORA SCHOOL 12'S BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

Elizabth Public Schools

Elmora School No. 12 welcomed families for its annual Back to School Night on Thursday, September 11th, 2025.

The evening was filled with excitement as parents eagerly entered the building, ready to meet their children’s teachers and learn more about the engaging activities planned for the school year. The event provided a wonderful

opportunity for parents and educators to connect, fostering a strong home-school partnership.

Teachers shared classroom expectations, curriculum highlights, and upcoming events, giving families a glimpse into the enriching experiences their children will enjoy.

With such a strong start, it's clear that Elmora School No. 12 is on track for an excellent and inspiring school year ahead!



Photos by Elizabeth Public Schools



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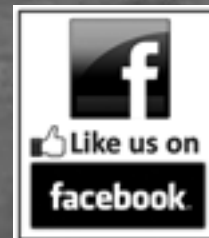
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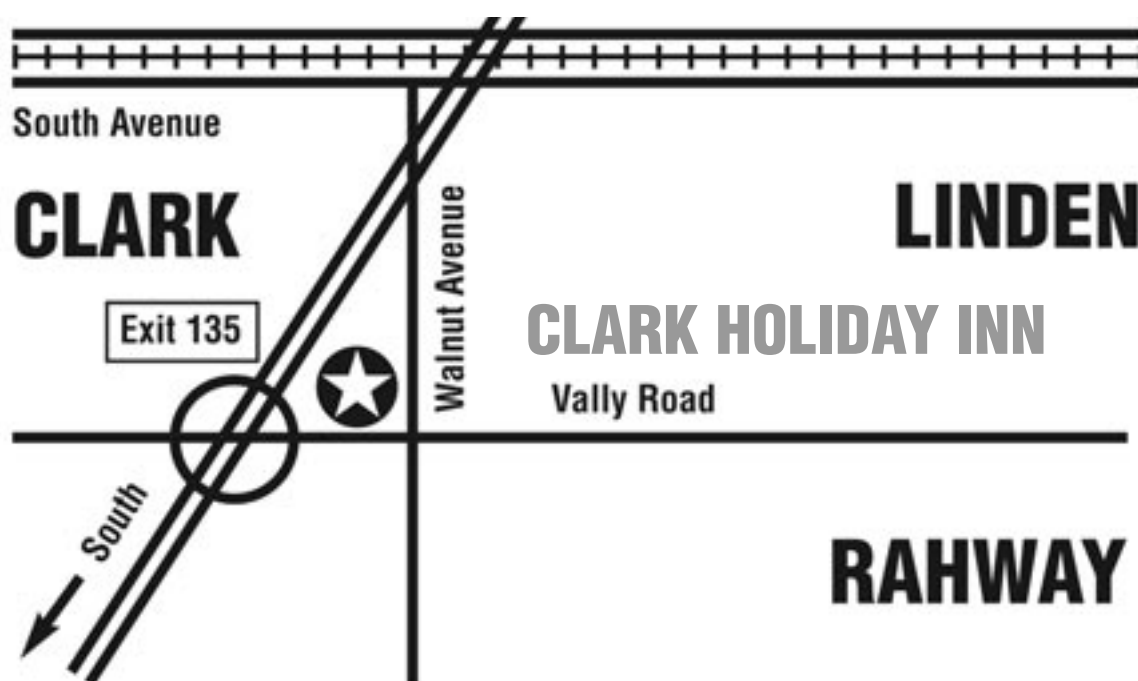
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MORRISTOWN PUP NABS SPOT IN 2025 BARK FOR LIFE CALENDAR

She’s got the ears of a supermodel, the zoomies of a champion sprinter, and a bark that says “treat, please.” Meet Josie, Morristown’s unofficial mayor of South Street — and now, one of the proud winners of the 2025 Bark for Life Calendar Contest!

After a week-long voting frenzy, Josie galloped ahead of the competition to earn a coveted feature in this year’s 2025 Bark for Life calendar. And not just a cameo — a full-page glam spread, complete with her story, her signature side-eye, and plenty of reasons why she’s the queen of local hearts.

But Josie’s calendar win is more than just a photo op. It means she’ll be a VIP (Very Important Pup) at the Bark for Life of Central NJ celebration on October 12, 2025 at Bell Works in Holmdel, where she’ll be officially honored for her victory — likely with applause, belly rubs, and maybe a few snacks.

WHO IS JOSIE?

Josie is a 4-year-old Australian Cattle Dog (allegedly)— though some suspect she may also be part professional napper and part mayhem enthusiast, depending on the hour. She was rescued as a puppy and now lives her best life ruling the sidewalks and hearts of Morristown.

Known for her expressive ears, her suspiciously dramatic sighs, and a highly curated side-eye, Josie has become a local celebrity — both on leash and online.

Her favorite things include: Car rides (windows down, please), Sidewalk café people-watching (her favorite being the Lokl!), Chasing squirrels she has no intention of catching, Ignoring her toys to chew sticks instead, and Judging humans from the couch like it’s her full-time job.

In short: she’s a rescue with attitude, heart, and a whole lot of fans.

WHAT IS BARK FOR LIFE?

The Bark for Life event is part of the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life movement. It

honors the caregiving qualities of canine companions while raising critical funds for cancer research and support services — especially here in New Jersey.

Proceeds from calendar sales and fundraising events all go toward supporting programs like free rides to treatment, overnight stays near major cancer centers, and 24/7 access to cancer information and support for patients and families. **GET INVOLVED!**

Missed your chance to vote for Josie? You can still be part of the tail-wagging fun. Donations are open at the Bark for Life of Central NJ

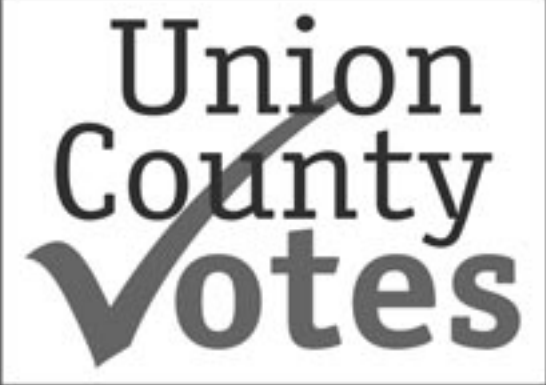
website, and registration is now live for the October 12 celebration at Bell Works.

Whether you’re walking in honor of a loved one, supporting a survivor, or just want to hang out with some adorable dogs (like Josie), this is your chance to do some good — and pet some pups.

Big paws up to Josie and all the calendar winners! Be sure to snag your copy of the 2025 Bark for Life Calendar, come say hi to Morristown’s finest furry ambassador this fall, and follow @ispyjosie and @barkcentralnj to come along for this year’s adventure!



(above) Paws Up for Josie!



Joanne Rajoppi
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COURSE ON HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR LOVED ONE’S MENTAL HEALTH JOURNEY

The NAMI Family-to-Family Education Course will be offered by the Union County Chapter of NAMI. The course will meet in person starting on Thursday evening October 9th and meet each Thursday from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. over a consecutive 8-week period in Scotch Plains. The course is free-of-charge, with all necessary materials furnished at no cost to participants.

The course is specifically for the parents, siblings, spouses/partners, teen-age and adult children, and significant others of individuals with severe and persistent mental illness. The program is not appropriate for individuals who, themselves, suffer from one of the major mental disorders. NAMI members who have completed intensive training will teach.

Curriculum topics include schizophrenia,

bipolar disorder (manic depression), clinical depression, panic disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder etc., the clinical treatment of these illnesses and how caregivers can learn to cope more effectively. Attendees will learn about new research, medications, skills needed to successfully communicate with a relative and how to deal with critical periods.

Advance registration is required. To register or if you have questions contact Evelyn Nath at (908-377-4886) or email evelynodat@gmail.com

Family-to-Family education has been called one of the most valuable programs NAMI offers. Many graduates say it changed their lives and interactions with their loved ones for the better.

Visit namiunioncountynj.org for more information about the NAMI Family to Family Education program.

SUZIE TOMASSO TURNS 101 YRS OLD

Elmora’s own Sue “Suzie” Tomasso celebrated an incredible milestone - her 101st birthday. Born in 1924, Sue has lived through more than a century of history while building a legacy rooted in family, love, and resilience. She is the proud mother of two, grandmother of six, and great-grandmother of twelve, each of whom call her the heart of their family. Known for her warmth, humor, and Sunday dinners that brought generations together, Susie’s greatest gift has been the love she’s shared across 101 remarkable years.



(above) Suzie Tomasso celebrated her 101st birthday.

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Founded on the belief that orchestra is for everyone, NJIO welcomes people of all ages and

musical levels into its four non-audition orchestras. By blending generations and skill levels, NJIO creates more than music; it creates moments of human connection, belonging, and joy.

All NJIO concerts are free, open to all ages, and require no tickets or RSVPs. Each performance is also livestreamed and recorded for later viewing on NJIO's YouTube channel, ensuring accessibility. Concert lobbies feature NJIO's Concert Comfort Station, offering sensory and comfort items such as cushions so everyone can enjoy the music.

A SEASON OF "SPIRIT"

This year, NJIO's 32nd concert season carries the theme "Get Into the Spirit!", highlighting the natural spirit, the holiday spirit, the human spirit, and the national spirit. Each program is designed to draw people together around a shared experience of beauty and hope.

• FALL CONCERT:

**The Natural Spirit November 2, 2025 at 3pm
Crescent Ave Presbyterian Church, Plainfield**

Beethoven's "Pastoral" Symphony paints a picture of meadows, flowing streams, and a sudden storm. The concert also features the NJIO 2025 Young Artist Concerto Competition winner (sponsored by NJIO's community partner, Elefante Music), Marcus Chong-Wah Wong, a 9th grade violinist from Edgewater, NJ.



• FAMILY HOLIDAY CONCERT:

**The Holiday Spirit December 13, 2025 at 2pm
Summit Middle School**

A joyful celebration of holiday and winter favorites, including interactive moments for kids and an Instrument Petting Zoo sponsored by Elefante Music.

ABOUT NJIO

The New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra (NJIO) brings together musicians of all ages and skill levels through four non-audition orchestras and educational programs. Its mission is to open the world of orchestral music to diverse audiences and to foster human connection through education and performance.

For more information, visit www.njio.org or email info@njio.org.



DREW CONCERT HALL PRESENTS: LEGENDS, LAUGHS & RETRO VIBES

A Fall Series That Hits Every Note—From Hilarious to Heartfelt

Drew University Concert Hall invites audiences to groove, grin, and get nostalgic with Legends, Laughs & Retro Vibes, a dynamic series of tribute concerts and comedy showcases celebrating the icons who shaped generations. From the velvet swing of Sinatra and the poetic rock of Springsteen to the harmonies of doo-wop and the soul of Motown, each show is designed to move you—body and soul. Whether you're reliving the soundtrack of your youth or discovering timeless hits for the first time, this lineup delivers pure magic.

For showtimes, artist details, and ticket info, visit GDPRESENTS.SIMPLETIX.COM or call 917-567-5842.

UPCOMING SHOWS INCLUDE

- Sept. 27 – Rodney Norman Live: Comedian & TikTok Star
- Sept. 28 – Lights Out: Tribute to The Jersey Beach Boys
- Oct. 5 – Afternoon of Doo Wop: The Chimes, The Classics & The Fireflies
- Oct. 11 – Sinatra: A Man & His Music featuring Michael Martocci
- Oct. 18 – Jersey Four: Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons with Gerry Polci Tribute
- Oct 24 – Clint Holmes, Let's Go, Up On the Roof!
- Oct. 25 – Four Sticks: Led Zeppelin Experience
- Nov. 1 – The B Street Band: The Original Tribute to The Boss

- Nov. 14 – The Cyrkle & Billy J Kramer: Memories of the '60s & The Beatles
- Nov. 15 – Your '80s Request Show performed by 1989
- Nov. 21 – Motor City Revue: Motown Tribute featuring Layonne Holmes
- Nov. 29 – Christmas with The Duprees & Anthony Duke Claus
- Dec. 14 – Human Wheels: Mellencamp / Rock n' Roll Fantasy: Bad Company

Tickets start at just \$30

Groups of 10+ automatically receive 15% off at checkout.

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Set on the scenic campus of Drew University, the Concert Hall offers seating for 433 and boasts rich acoustics in an intimate setting - making every show feel personal, powerful, and unforgettable. Event info at drew.edu/events



OCTOBER 2025 PROGRAMS AT ELMORA

Registration for our programs will be on our website! Please visit elizpl.org to check-out all our events!
For any cancellations, please visit our website for more information. *The library will be closed on August 30*

Tai Chi & Qi Gong

Wednesday, October 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29
at 9 am and

Monday, October 6, 20, & 27 at 4 pm

Join Pete on Mondays and Wednesdays for Tai Chi, a gentle Chinese art that combines slow, flowing movements with deep breathing.

Zumba Gold

Thursday, October 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30

Monday, October 6, 20, & 27

Tuesday, October 7, 14, 21, & 28 at 9 am

Add fitness to your daily routine through the joy of dance! Walk-ins are welcome.

Creative Knots with Pamela

Thursday, October 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30 at 10 am

Discover macramé to create unique handcrafted items for your home and wardrobe. Express your creativity with various knots and designs.

English Conversation Class

Thursday, October 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30
6 pm to 7:15 pm

Practice speaking English in a friendly and relaxed setting! Build confidence, improve your vocabulary, and meet new people while enjoying fun, everyday conversations.

Junior Chess Club

Friday, October 3 & 10 at 4 pm

Don't miss out on our Chess Club for Kids!

We welcome beginners.

Bubbles aRe Us

Saturday, October 4 at 1 pm

Located on 640 3rd Avenue, Elizabeth, NJ
Join Ms. Martha for songs, stories, and crafts with LOADS of fun! This storytime will feature stories in English and Spanish for the whole family. FREE PIZZA!!!

Mahjong

Monday, October 6, 20, & 27
12 pm - 2 pm

Everyone who loves Mahjong is welcome to come & play at the library. Bring friends or come alone & find new partners. Ages: 18 & up

CodeForward

Monday, October 6, 20, & 27
5 pm to 6:30 pm

Offering free coding education to kids who are ready to create, build, and lead. Our team brings years of experience in Java, Python, and other programming languages. *PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN ELECTRONIC DEVICE

The Rummikub Club

Tuesday, October 7 & Tuesday, October 28
10 am

Join us for a friendly game!

Beginners are welcome!

Adult English Book Club

Tuesday, October 7 at 11 am

Join our Book Club meeting and engage in a lively discussion about our latest book.

Crochet with Sol

Tuesday, October 7, 14, & 21 at 12 pm

Learn the tips and tricks with Ms. Sol!

Fundamental stitches to understanding gauge.

Toddlers World

Friday, October 10 & 24 at 11 am

An hour of fun songs to sing, music, and playtime.

Stitch & Mending

Tuesday, October 14 at 10am

Wednesday, October 15 at 5pm

Come to Elmora to mend your clothing. Bring the article you need help with and assistance will be provided.

Adult Spanish Book Club

Thursday, October 16 at 2 pm

Join Martha as she hosts a monthly book discussion for Spanish-speaking adults!

Autumn Scavenger Hunt

Monday, October 20 to Saturday, October 25

Can you find all the images hidden in the Children's area? Get a small prize from our treasure chest when you complete the hunt!

Adult Bingo

Tuesday, October 21 at 11 am

Join us at the Elmora Branch Library for a fun-filled game of Bingo!

Family Bingo

Wednesday, October 22 at 5 pm

Join us at the Elmora Branch Library for a fun-filled game of Bingo!

Adult Scrabble Club

Thursday, October 23 at 2 pm - 3:30 pm

Word lovers! Exercise your B-R-A-I-N (7 points) by playing Scrabble with other like-minded adults.

Lil' Bookworms

Wednesday, October 29 at 5 pm

Encouraging kids to share their love of reading, engage in book discussions, and feel eager about reading.

Paint n' Sip

Wednesday, October 29 at 11 am

Relax and get creative with a fun painting session! Enjoy coffee and Munchkins while you paint—no experience needed, all supplies provided.

The Edible Book Club

Wednesday, October 29 at 1 pm

Welcome to The Edible Book Club, where cooking and reading come together! Each month, we explore a cookbook and bring its recipes to life. Join us to share experiences and enjoy delicious food. Come for the books and stay for the bites!

Adult Craft

Thursday, October 30 at 11 am

Join us for an adult seasonal craft at Elmora.

St. Joseph Social Service Center

Fundraising Dinner

Thursday

16
OCTOBER

6:00 PM

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Questions? Call Mary Phillips

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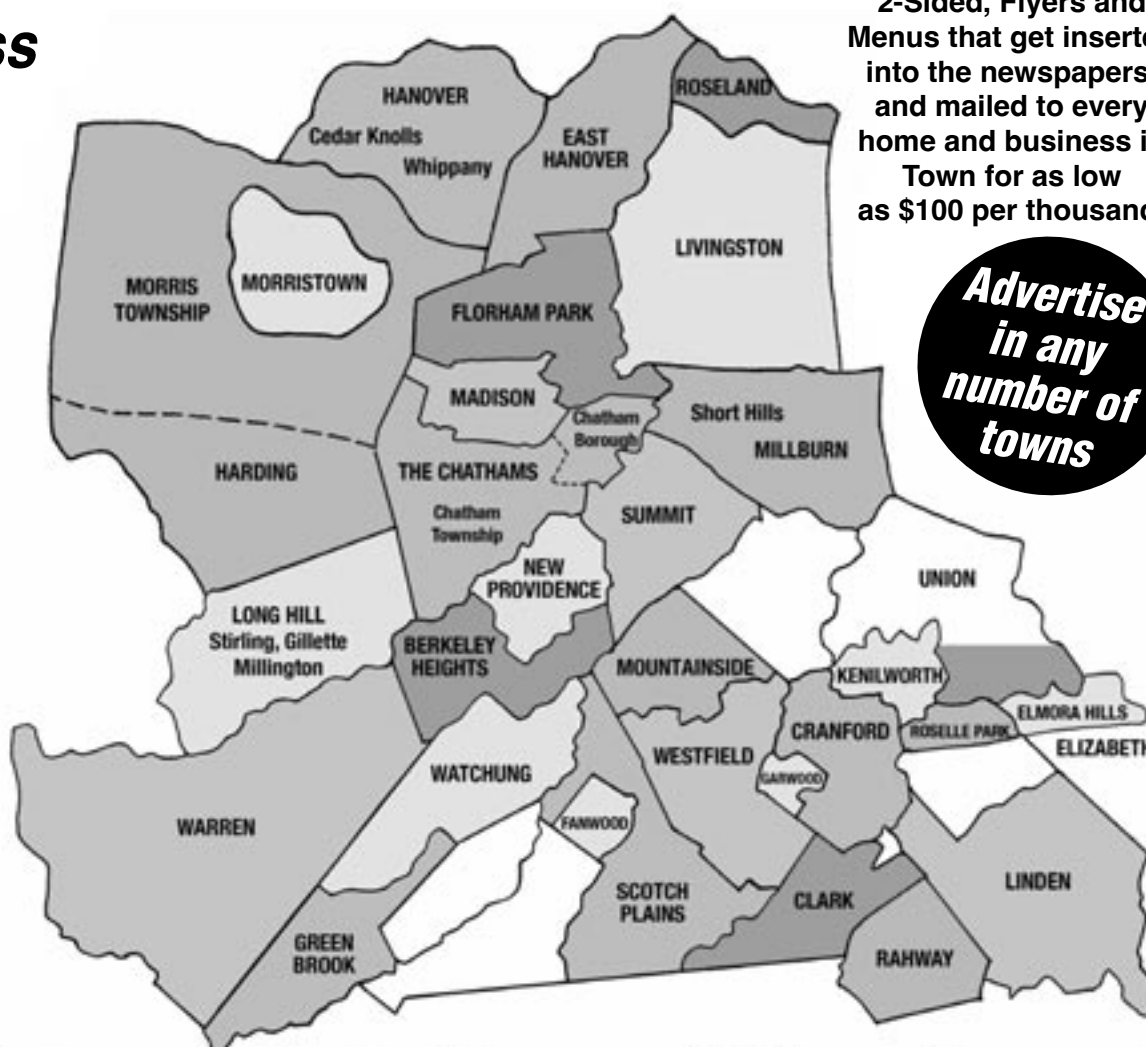
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CARING CONTACT CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF LIFESAVING SUPPORT

Caring Contact

On October 11, 2025, Caring Contact proudly celebrated 50 years of unwavering service to individuals in crisis. Since 1975, its mission has remained clear and steadfast: to provide immediate, compassionate, and confidential support to those experiencing emotional distress, mental health challenges, or personal crises.

What began as a small group of volunteers answering calls from the basement of Willow Grove Presbyterian Church in Scotch Plains has grown into a vital community resource. Today, more than 100 trained Listeners - both volunteer and paid - offer support and understanding to

thousands of callers every year.

In 2005, Caring Contact became one of the first agencies to respond to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline while continuing to serve its original warmline. When the Lifeline transitioned into the nationwide 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline in 2022, the volume of calls surged dramatically. In 2024 alone, Caring Contact Listeners answered over 21,000 calls, serving as a lifeline for anyone in need - no matter the reason for their call.

Caring Contact extends heartfelt gratitude to the supporters, volunteers, donors, and staff - past and present—whose dedication has made

this work possible. Their compassion has touched countless lives and built a legacy of hope that will carry forward into the next 50 years. With this milestone, Caring Contact reaffirms its commitment to continue evolving, listening, and responding - because everyone deserves to be heard, especially in their darkest moments.

Become a volunteer. Caring Contact Listener training applications can be found at caringcontact.org.

If you or someone you know is struggling or having thoughts of suicide, please call 988.

“You Are Not Alone.”





Oct. 10,11,17,18 8pm
Oct. 12,19 2pm

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