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CALVIN COAKLEY BUILDS INTERNATIONAL STEM BRIDGE

Livingston Public Schools

A unique two-year collaboration led by students from Livingston High School (LHS) has culminated in the establishment of a new STEM Robotics Lab at the GRACE School in Kisii, Kenya, marking a significant achievement in global education partnership.

What began as a cultural exchange has grown into a high-impact global citizenship project, spearheaded by LHS student Calvin Coakley. Calvin raised over \$5,300 to purchase ten VEX IQ Robotics Kits and, crucially, designed a comprehensive 35-lesson robotics curriculum tailored for the Kenyan students.

FROM FUNDRAISING TO FOREIGN TRAVEL

The initiative reached a dramatic turning point when Calvin traveled to the GRACE School in Kisii to provide intensive, on-site professional development for the Kenyan STEM teachers. He equipped the local staff with the skills and confidence necessary to teach the new curriculum. Since his return, he has maintained weekly virtual meetings to ensure the program's sustained success.

"Watching our students collaborate across continents—sharing knowledge, culture, and compassion—has been incredible," said Robert Rolling, K-12 Supervisor of Technology, Business, and Media. "They're not just building a STEM lab; they're building a future rooted in global connection and showing the true power of student-led innovation."

A PARTNERSHIP BUILT ON LITERACY AND CULTURE

This international bridge was initially forged by the LHS DECA club and Robotics Team. Under the guidance of teacher Dan Quackenbush, the collaboration began with a vibrant summer reading and cultural exchange. These sessions run twice weekly from June through August, connecting students through interactive online activities like trivia games,



(above) Livingston High School student Calvin Coakley designed a robotics curriculum, and traveled to Kenya to launch the program.

Courtesy Photo

collaborative reading, and cultural showcases.

Beyond academics, the exchange focuses on mutual cultural learning: Livingston students teach Spanish or French, while their Kenyan peers introduce them to Swahili, traditional songs, and dances. This deepens mutual understanding and transforms the partnership into more than academic tutoring—it builds genuine friendships.

This entire global initiative has been made possible through the support of TEEM (The Empathy, Equality, Entrepreneurship Mission), a non-profit dedicated to empowering the next generation of changemakers by partnering with schools in underserved communities worldwide.



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(above) For the past 28 years, Cantor Fine has served on the faculty of the Jewish Theological Seminary, teaching Biblical Cantillation to a generation of budding cantorial students.

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FREE MUSICAL SEMINAR: WORDLESS ECSTASY: THE NIGGUN IN JEWISH TRADITION'

Cantor Perry Fine of Temple Beth Shalom in Livingston will present a fascinating, free two-part series, titled "Wordless Ecstasy: The Niggun in Jewish Tradition," on Thursdays, Nov. 6 and 13, at 1 p.m. via Zoom. From sadness to ecstasy, the niggun--a form of wordless, melodic tunes, sung in group settings to aid in prayer or study-has connected Jews for centuries with the many facets and emotions of Jewish prayer.

The cantor's series is coordinated by National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW), West Morris Section's Our Jewish World program, co-chaired by Ilene Dorf Manahan and Melanie Levitan, both of Morristown.

The first session. on Nov. 6, will delve into the origins of the niggun from its Hasidic roots in the 18th century with the rise of the Baal Shem Tov. "We will explore the importance of niggunim (plural of niggun) as a spiritual tool for its practitioners and devotees to connect beyond the intellectual to the emotional, wordless ecstasy. Through recorded examples and demonstration, together we will experience the niggun as a form of communal bonding and spiritual elevation, and its profound influence in the development of Jewish liturgical music," the cantor says.

For the second session, participants will examine the evolution of the niggun through the centuries, and its adaptation to local musical

styles and communities. Cantor Fine notes, "We will look at examples by modern Hasidic and Jewish artists, including Shlomo Carlebach and Joey Weissenberg, and the niggun's appeal as a contemporary expression of Jewish outreach. We will also explore the influence of the niggun on secular Jewish music and even broader musical genres."

Cantor Fine has given numerous concerts and lectures on Jewish music, including many years as part of the NCJW, West Morris clergy series. He is the co-founder and principal conductor of Voices in Harmony, an interfaith choral ensemble that has served the Essex County community for the past 27 years. He has been awarded the Conservative Movement's Nathan H. Winter Award for Professional Excellence, and recently was honored by both the South Orange/Maplewood Interfaith Holocaust Remembrance Service and the Seton Hall Sister Rose Thering Jewish/Christian Studies Program for lifetime achievement.

For the past 28 years, Cantor Fine has served on the faculty of the Jewish Theological Seminary, teaching Biblical Cantillation to a generation of budding cantorial students.

Preregistration is required for Cantor Fine's series. To register, email iadpr@aol.com.



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Celebrate the magic of the season as Opera at WHY YOU CAN'T MISS IT Florham presents its beloved Annual Holiday Spectacular at St. Margaret of Scotland Church, 6 Sussex Avenue, Morristown, NJ.

This cherished holiday tradition invites audiences to enjoy an enchanting afternoon of Operatic favorites, holiday classics, and festive cheer. Featuring a stellar cast of acclaimed vocalists and musicians, the concert promises to fill the air with warmth, joy, and the timeless beauty of the human voice.

Whether you're a lifelong Opera lover or discovering Opera at Florham for the first time, this delightful performance captures the spirit of the holidays through music that transcends generations. From beloved Arias to familiar seasonal melodies, the Holiday Spectacular is a joyful celebration of artistry and community perfect for audiences of all ages.

Opera at Florham's Holiday Spectacular is more than a concert - it's a heartwarming experience that has become a highlight of the holiday season across New Jersey. Each year, this festive performance transforms St. Margaret of Scotland Church into a winter wonderland of music, where world-class voices and live accompaniment inspire wonder and joy.

Expect to be swept away by the power of the human voice, the beauty of timeless melodies, and the spirit of togetherness that defines this special time of the year. Whether you come to be uplifted, share the magic with family and friends, or simply savor the music of the season, the Holiday Spectacular is a gift you'll remember long after the final note.

Tickets are \$30 for general admission, with student discounts available. For tickets and more information, please visit operaatflorham.org.

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2:00 pm

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NJ FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA: CANDLELIGHT CONCERT AND TENORS RETURN

Step into an evening of sophistication and charm as the New Jersey Festival Orchestra presents its first-ever candlelight concert, Romance in the Mansion, on Saturday, November 15 at 6:30 PM at the James Ward Mansion in Westfield.

Under the baton of Music Director and Maestro David Wroe, a string quartet of NJFO musicians - Bradley Bosenbeck (Violin I), Théo Payen (Violin II), Gregory Williams (Viola), and Ansel Cohen (Cello) — will perform an intimate program that blends the romance of Broadway, the emotion of cinematic scores, and the allure of contemporary classics. Audiences will be swept away by lush arrangements from beloved artists such as ABBA, Coldplay, George Gershwin, and more — all illuminated by the warm glow of candlelight in one of Westfield's most elegant settings.

Guests can indulge in complimentary wine and small plates as they enjoy this unique fusion of artistry and atmosphere. With its golden décor, intimate seating, and unforgettable musical program, Romance in the Mansion promises to be a highlight of the NJFO season.

NJFO gratefully acknowledges the Ward family for generously sharing their beautiful space to support this fundraising event. Proceeds will help bring notable soloists to future NJFO concerts and fund community initiatives such as the orchestra's Listening is Healing music therapy program. Earlier this season, NJFO musicians Yifei Xu and Matthew Armbruster shared the gift of music with patients at Overlook Hospital in Summit, NJ, an inspiring example of the impact programs like Listening is Healing bring to the community.

"We are thrilled to present this intimate concert experience and deeply grateful for the generosity that allows us to continue sharing music both on stage and beyond," said Maestro Wroe.

Following Romance in the Mansion, NJFO rings in the festive season with one of its most anticipated events — The Return of the Holiday Tenors.

- NEW JERSEY O FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA MUSIC DIRECTOR DAVID WROE Romance in the Mansion Se Sat, November 15, 6:30 pm The James Ward Mansion, 169 E Broad St, Westfield, NJ Return of the Holiday Tenors Sat, December 6, 7:00 pm The Presbyterian Church, Westfield Sun, December 7, 3:00 pm The Concert Hall at Drew University, Madison

Back by popular demand, this symphonic spectacular will fill the concert hall with the magic of the holidays, featuring award-winning tenors John Kun Park, Luke Norvell, and Michael DeShield alongside guest choruses and the full New Jersey Festival Orchestra. Together, they'll perform an uplifting program of holiday classics, Broadway-style showstoppers, and beloved



seasonal songs that capture the joy and wonder of the season.

Under Maestro Wroe's direction, this festive performance blends grand symphonic arrangements with soaring vocals and heartwarming moments, making it a beloved tradition for families across New Jersey.

Performances take place on Saturday, December 6, at 7:00 PM at the Presbyterian Church in Westfield, and on Sunday, December 7, at 3:00 PM at The Concert Hall at Drew University in Madison.

From the candlelit elegance of Romance in the Mansion to the jubilant voices of The Return of the Holiday Tenors, NJFO's 2025 season offers something truly special for every music lover.

Tickets are available at nifestivalorchestra.org or by calling the NJFO office at (908) 232-9400 during operational hours. Seating is limited, and early reservations are encouraged.



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ENROLLING IN MEDICARE AND UPDATING YOUR PLAN

By George Sosa, President, The Sosa Insurance Group

Turning 65 marks eligibility for Medicare, a federal health insurance program designed for seniors and certain individuals with disabilities. While the system can be complex, resources are available to help beneficiaries navigate enrollment, updates, and plan changes to ensure their coverage continues to meet their needs.

Original Medicare consists of Part A (hospital insurance) and Part B (medical insurance). Part A covers hospital stays, skilled nursing facilities, home health, and hospice care. Part B focuses on outpatient care, doctor visits, preventive screenings, and therapies. While comprehensive, Original Medicare leaves gaps in coverage, which can be supplemented through Medigap policies. These help with deductibles, co-pays, and sometimes foreign travel coverage, offering flexibility and predictability.

Medicare Advantage (Part C), offered by private insurers, combines Parts A and B and often includes additional benefits like vision, dental, hearing, fitness programs, and lower premiums. These plans have out-of-pocket maximums, but often require use of in-network providers.

Prescription drug coverage (Part D) is also offered through private plans. Each plan has a formulary outlining covered medications, costsharing structures, and potential coverage gaps, though assistance programs like "Extra Help" exist for those with limited income. New Jersey also provides state assistance through PAAD and Senior Gold to help seniors manage prescription

drug costs.

For higher-income beneficiaries, Medicare applies IRMAA (Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount), which adds extra costs to Part B and D premiums based on IRS tax information.

Enrollment timing is crucial. While some may delay enrollment due to employer coverage, late enrollment penalties apply if coverage lapses without creditable insurance.

Every year, Medicare beneficiaries have an opportunity to review and adjust their coverage. The Annual Enrollment Period (October 15 – December 7) allows switching between Original Medicare and Advantage plans, adding or changing drug plans, or returning to Original Medicare. Any changes take effect January 1. Additionally, the Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment (January 1 – March 31) allows those in Advantage plans to switch or return to Original Medicare.

When evaluating options, beneficiaries should consider cost, provider networks, additional benefits, drug coverage, and changes in their health or medications.

Understanding Medicare is the first step to making the best decisions for your health and budget. If you'd like help comparing plans or reviewing your coverage for 2026, The Sosa Insurance Group is here to guide you every step of the way. Contact us at 973-902-5445 to schedule a one-on-one review about your Medicare choices.

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Understanding Parkinson's Disease

Monday November 3rd, 11-12P
Physicians from the Cooperman Barnabas
Medical Center will join us for a discussion
about the evolution of this disease, risk factors,
and finding community support.

Genetics & Aging

Wednesday November 5th,12-1pm
How do genetics influence the aging process and what lifestyle choices enhance longevity and quality of life.

Community Word Games

Thursday November 6th, 11AM
The 20th Century in Pictures

Monday Nov 10th, 12:30-1:30

The twentieth century was filled with unforgettable moments - and many of them were captured in images that the world will never forget. From soldiers raising a flag in World War II, to the first steps on the moon, to the powerful faces of leaders, artists, and everyday people, these images tell the story of a century of change. In this presentation, we'll journey through some of the most striking and memorable moments of the 1900s, reliving the

shaped modern history." Veteran's Day Celebration

triumphs, the struggles, and the milestones that

Tuesday, November 11, 11-1P
We welcome all local veterans to join us. If you are a veteran please call us at the Senior Center of the Chathams to RSVP for this event.

LIVE Classical Guitar Concert

Wednesday Nov 12, 12 noon with local musician Jane Pritsker.

The Separation of Powers in the 21st Century

Monday Nov 17th, 1:30-2:30

What is the separation of powers and where does it come from? Bruce Peabody, Professor of Government at Fairleigh Dickinson University will join us for a discussion about "The Separation of Powers in the 21st Century." What are some of the contemporary problems that are straining this system - and what can we do about it? A timely discussion of our centuries-old system of constitutional checks and balances, and a sober assessment of whether it is equal to the numerous challenges of the 21st century.

Garden Club Meet-up

Wednesday Nov 19th, 10am

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THE SIEMINSKI THEATER FUND RAISING EVENT OF THE YEAR!



The Sieminski Theater, a professional 501c3 not-for-profit performing arts center located in Basking Ridge NJ, announces our 2025 fund raising event of the year!

Saturday November 15th at 6:00pm Join us for this fun-filled evening and fundraising event for the Sieminski Theater! Just in time for the holiday Hallmark movie season, and who doesn't love those cheesy Hallmark holiday movies! "My Unauthorized Hallmark Movie Musical"!

In this innovative one-woman musical show, supported by a cast of eight characters in her imagination via multimedia, we escape into her movie fantasy where men and women find courage and acceptance to speak their own voice without judgement. Frivolous, fractured, and fun musical moments take you on a ride of pure joy where love always wins. "My (unauthorized) Hallmark Movie Musical" is a unique and captivating blend of live theater and cinema, offering audiences a spellbinding escape into the magic of a rom-com where they, too, can discover their inner love warriors. The story follows an exhausted essential worker who finds solace in binge-watching cheesy Hallmark movies. As she attempts to write her own Hallmark-inspired musical, the characters suddenly come to life on screen, taking over the

story and challenging her to wade through the cheese and find a truly happy ending.

The evening will start with a cocktail reception in the lobby with Hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. Then move into the theater for this delightful, lighthearted musical production. Afterwards, enjoy a dessert bar and champagne and an opportunity to meet the star of the show. There will be raffles, drawings and more surprises. All proceeds from this fundraiser will go to future programming at the Sieminski Theater. An event not to be missed and will help keep the Arts alive at the Sieminski Theater!!

ABOUT THE SIEMINSKI THEATER:

Bringing a professional performing arts venue with a diverse lineup of entertainment to Basking Ridge and the surrounding communities makes the Sieminski Theater and Somerset County an artistic and cultural destination. We enjoy a newly expanded performance schedule from American Theater Group, Light Opera of New Jersey, New Jersey Festival Orchestra, Trilogy Repertory, and countless national touring groups. Our intimate, award-winning non-profit venue features technical amenities that rival any Broadway theater. Visit us at www.sieminskitheater.org to view our upcoming entertainment schedule, where any seat is the best seat in the house.

EXPERIENCE ROCK, SOUL & OLDIES AT DREW UNIVERSITY CONCERT HALL

Get ready for a season of unforgettable live music that spans generations and genres. Drew University Concert Hall is hosting a powerhouse lineup of shows that bring the best of American rock, soul, and oldies to the stage. Whether you're a lifelong fan or discovering these classics for the first time, each performance promises a night of nostalgia, energy, and pure musical joy.

ROCK & SOUL HIGHLIGHTS NOV. 1 – THE BSTREET BAND: THE MUSIC OF BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN

Kick off the series with the ultimate tribute to The Boss. The BStreet Band has been electrifying audiences for over 40 years with their spot-on renditions of Springsteen's greatest hits. From the anthemic "Born to Run" to the heartfelt "Thunder Road," this show captures the spirit, sound, and soul of Jersey rock. Expect a high-energy night of sing-alongs, storytelling, and Springsteen magic that'll leave you on your feet.

NOV. 21 – MOTOR CITY REVUE: MOTOWN TRIBUTE FEATURING LAYONNE HOLMES

Feel the groove with this 11-piece powerhouse that brings the golden age of Motown to life. With rich harmonies, tight rhythms, and powerhouse vocals led by Layonne Holmes, Motor City Revue delivers unforgettable renditions of hits by The Temptations, The Supremes, Stevie Wonder, and more. It's a soulful celebration that will have you dancing from the first note to the last.

DEC. 14 – TRIBUTES TO MELLENCAMP AND BAD COMPANY: ONE STAGE, ONE NIGHT

Two rock legends, one epic night. Experience the heartland grit and storytelling of John Mellencamp alongside the anthemic rock energy of Bad Company. From "Pink Houses" to "Feel Like Makin' Love," this double-header delivers powerhouse vocals and unforgettable riffs. Plus, enjoy a few holiday twists—including Mellencamp's gritty spin on "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus" and other rock-infused Christmas classics to get you in the spirit.

OLDIES & HOLIDAY FAVORITES NOV. 14 – THE CYRKLE & BILLY J. KRAMER: MEMORIES OF THE HITS, '60S & THE BEATLES

Step back into the era of peace, love, and chart-topping harmonies. These original hitmakers bring the British Invasion era to life with timeless songs, behind-the-scenes stories, and a night of pure '60s nostalgia and The Beatles!.

NOV. 29 – CHRISTMAS WITH THE DUPREES & ANTHONY DUKE CLAUS

Celebrate the season with the smooth harmonies and timeless charm of The Duprees. Known for their romantic doo-wop sound, they'll perform holiday favorites alongside beloved hits like "You Belong to Me" and "Have You Heard." Joined by Anthony Duke Claus, this festive evening is the perfect kickoff to the holiday season.

Buy now at gdpresents.simpletix.com. Tickets start at just \$30. Groups of 10+ get 15% off automatically at checkout

Don't miss your chance to be part of this incredible concert series.





(above) Santa visits with children at Twin Maples beside the Club's Annual Mitten Tree



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA AT TWIN MAPLES

The entire family is invited to one of the areas loveliest historic homes, Twin Maples in Summit, on Saturday or Sunday, December 6 and 7 to join Santa for food and fun. The weekend event is hosted by the Fortnightly Club of Summit to benefit historic preservation. Festivities begin at 9:15 a.m. each day with a delicious Holiday 'Breakfast with Santa' served in the beautifully decorated ballroom with catering by 'What a Dish.' For those who can't make it for breakfast, 'Brunch with Santa' will be served each day at 11:15 a.m. All seatings include a children's buffet, adult served meal, photos with Santa, live music and more. This year's beautiful holiday décor features a 'Nutcracker' theme, so don't be surprised to see Clara, the Sugar Plum Fairies and some really naughty mice. Tickets to Santa at Twin Maples can be purchased at fortnightlyclub.org or through Eventbrite. Seating is limited. Pricing for Breakfast with Santa is \$45 for adults and \$20 for children under 12. Please bring booster seats for children. Highchairs are not available.

The weekend event benefits the preservation of Twin Maples, 214 Springfield Avenue, Summit, a property on the New Jersey and National Historic Registers. The house was designed and built by New York architect Alfred F. Norris in the Colonial Revival style in 1908 and resembles the White House. The Fortnightly Club purchased the property in 1949. Today, Twin Maples serves as a clubhouse and hosts many community events and fundraisers. The Fortnightly Club of Summit, a non-profit organization founded in 1893, offers women camaraderie and a full calendar of interesting events and volunteer opportunities. The Club supports the preservation of Twin Maples, education, the arts and humanitarian efforts. For over thirty-years the Club has awarded annual scholarships to deserving young, local women. Fortnightly Club's 104 members are from Summit and many neighboring towns.

To join or for more information, visit the Club's website at www.fortnightlyclub.org.

SHAKESPEARE AT THE LIBRARY - NOV 16

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Join us for Shakespeare At The Library on Sunday, November 16th at 2pm when the awardwinning LHS Theatre Club will be performing selections from their upcoming production of MACBETH. Shakespeare's timeless tragedy of ambition and betrayal is reimagined in this haunting post-apocalyptic dystopia, where survival is fragile and every choice comes at a cost. This bold production breathes new life into Shakespeare's classic play.

This event is free and open to all and registration is not required.





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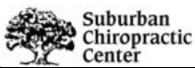
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Ask for TV Project Department, for job evaluation and estimate of cost and compensations!

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SCANDINAVIAN FOOD & GIFT SALE - NOV 22ND

Lodge Linne #429 will be sponsoring their 45th annual Scandinavian Food & Gift Sale on Saturday November 22nd from, 10 am -3pm. The sale will be held at Salt Brook School, 40 Maple St., New Providence, NJ. We will feature Scandinavian Christmas decorations, Norwegian Sweaters, tomtar, candles, linens, housewares, imported foods and baked goods. Light Scandinavian refreshments will be served starting at 11:00. Lodge meetings are held the 3rd Friday of the month at Faith Lutheran Church, 524 South St., New Providence.

Free admission, handicapped accessible. The event is sponsored by Lodge Linne #429, Vasa Order of America.

Proceeds from the sale benefit many local organizations and charities such as First Aid Squads, local libraries, high school scholarships, Sage, Summit speech schools and New Providence Community Organization.

For Further information contact: Karen 908-665-1292, Judy 908-464-0139, Vibeke 908-313-0376.



(above) Nancy Lamensdorf, Erin Cook, Margaret, Warlick, Carol Liscinsky, and Carol Liscinsky.



Saturday, November 22, 2025

10:00am - 3:00pm

Scandinavian Refreshments Available

Salt Brook School

40 Maple Street, New Providence, NJ Handicap Accessible

INFO: Karen 908-578-1945 • Judy 908-464-0139





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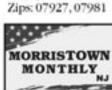




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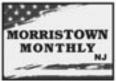
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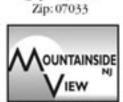
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560

900

1200

1300

1400

1800

TOWNS

460

600

1000

1400

1600

1800

2200

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260

360

560

760

860

960

1200



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12

TOWNS

560

700

1300

1600

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2100

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18

TOWNS

660

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