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Issue 179 • November 2025



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SECOND ANNUAL THANKSGIVING DAY TURKEY TROT - NOV 27

Township of Union
Get a head start on your holiday feast at the Township of Union's Second Annual Turkey Trot! This year, we're proud to announce a Certified 5K route for all runners and walkers. All ages, fitness levels, families, and even your furry friends are invited to join this festive community event.
DATE: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2025 (THANKSGIVING DAY!)
TIME: RACE STARTS AT 8:00 A.M. SHARP.
LOCATION: RAHWAY AVENUE, UNION, NJ
Registration is free! Every pre-registered participant receives a free long-sleeve shirt, beanie, and post-run refreshments (while supplies last). Online Registration: uniontownship.com
Don't forget to dress up! We'll have a Festive Costume Contest with prizes for the Best Group Costume and Best Thanksgiving Costume.



Annual Township of Union Turkey Trot 5K Fun Run/Walk

Thursday, November 27 on Rahway Avenue

7am Check-in
8am 5k Run/Walk Begins

register via uniontownship.com



Photos from 2024 Inaugural Turkey Trot.

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202 Walnut Ave., Cranford, NJ 07016

Spirit of Union is published by Renna Media. 7,800 newspapers are printed monthly and mailed to every business and resident in Union Township, NJ. Although great care has been taken to ensure the information contained within is accurate, Renna Media assumes no liability for errors or omissions.

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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, cost-sharing 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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Medicare can be complicated. We Make it simple.

Annual Enrollment Period ends December 7th!

The Medicare Annual Enrollment Period is the time when Medicare beneficiaries can choose to re-evaluate their health care coverage. Getting Medicare or changing Medicare plans is a major milestone.

We specialize in Medicare Supplement, also known as Medigap, Medicare Advantage, Medicare and Medicaid and Stand-Alone Part D Prescription. We provide prospective clients with phone, virtual and face-to-face appointments to assist in navigating all your Medicare options:

- Change from one Medicare Advantage Plan to another Medicare Advantage Plan.
- Change from a Medicare Advantage Plan to Original Medicare.
- Change from Original Medicare to a Medicare Advantage Plan.
- Enroll in a Prescription Drug Plan or change your Prescription Drug Plan.
- If you're new to Medicare, you might have a different election period; reach out to us to review your options.

CALL TODAY: 973-902-5445

EMAIL: info@thesosainsurancegroup.com

TheSosaInsuranceGroup.com

450 Pleasant Valley Way, West Orange, NJ 07052



The Sosa Insurance group is dedicated to assisting Medicare beneficiaries throughout their Medicare journey.

If you, parents or a loved one is new to Medicare, considering a change or just simply want to review their plan options, please call 973-902-5445 to speak with one of our expert agents. You can also reach us by email at info@thesosainsurancegroup.com to request a quote. Consultations are free of charge.



The Sosa Insurance Group

George A. Sosa Jr.
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HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR FEATUES BIG TRUNK OR TREAT

The Union Recreation Department Halloween Spooktacular took place on October 18, 2025. The day featured two big events.

The “Big Trunk or Treat” event was held at the Jefferson School Parking Lot in Vauxhall. Guests decorated their vehicles for children to stop by

and receive treats.

Later in the day, the fun continued with the “Haunted Halloween Food Truck Fest, at Rabkin Park. The park was transformed into a carnival-like atmosphere with a wide-variety of food trucks, carnival games, rides, and bouncy houses.

The event also featured a costume contest.

“We are excited to once again have the opportunity to kick off the Halloween season in Union,” said Superintendent of Recreation, Robert Cowper. “It’s wonderful to see the community come together.”



FIRE PREVENTION MONTH

Township of Union Public Schools

October is Fire Prevention Monthly. Livingston Elementary School Pre K and Kindergarten students had a special visit from the Township of Union Fire Department. The firefighters talked about the importance of fire

safety, calling 911 for emergencies and explained their fire equipment to the group. They also generously provided firefighter hats and water bottles to the students. At the end of the visit, each group took a class photo by the fire truck.

Courtesy Photo

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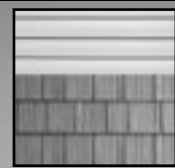
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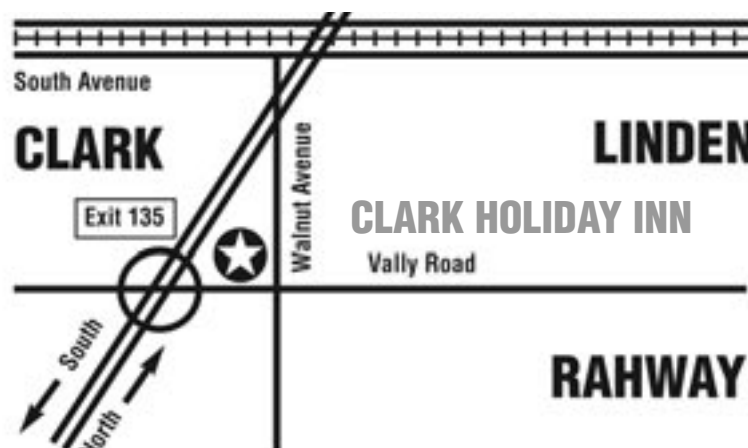
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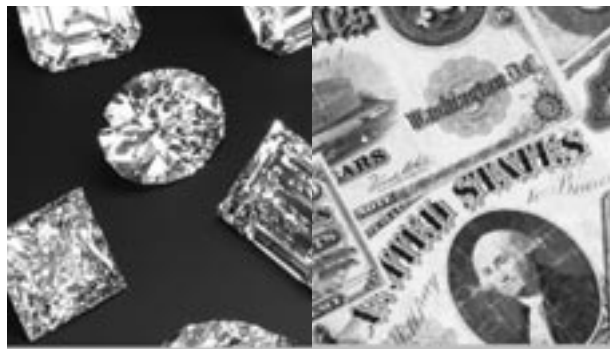
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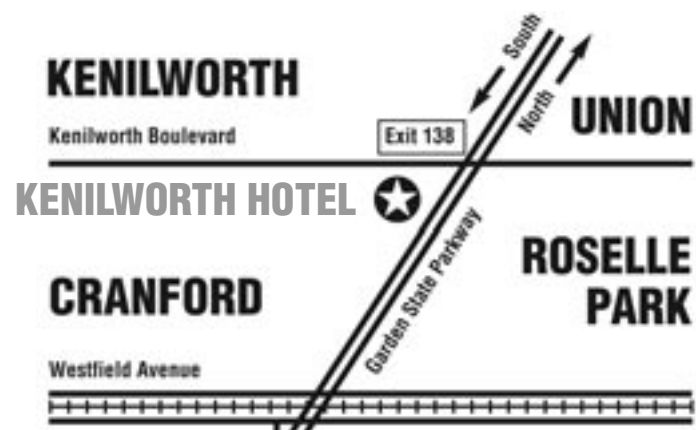


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THE SIEMINSKI THEATER FUND RAISING EVENT OF THE YEAR!



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 B STREET BAND: THE MUSIC OF BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN

Kick off the series with the ultimate tribute to The Boss. The B Street 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.

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VAUXHALL BRANCH

(unless indicated otherwise)

Monday Night Trivia: Celebrities

Mon. November 3rd @ 6:00 pm

Do you like to follow the lives of famous people in entertainment, sports or media? Are you always watching TMZ and talking the latest gossip about celebrities? Please join us for a night full of fun and prizes as we test your knowledge!

Library Karaoke!

Wed. November 5th @ 6:00 pm

Do you think you can sing better than Whitney or Taylor? Maybe you have better moves than the King of Pop? Please join us for some fun and meet some new people as we sing some music hits.

Veterans Day Vietnam Vets Panel Discussion

Sat. November 8th @ 1:00 pm

Please join us for this special event as we honor Vietnam veterans who served from Vauxhall and Union. Attendees will learn about their personal experiences and perspectives in order to educate the public and express our gratitude for their service.

1620 - Plymouth, Massachusetts: Where the Pilgrims Landed

Mon. November 10th @ 6:00 pm

Travel with Mario Medici on a photographic tour of Plymouth, MA, and Provincetown, MA, where the pilgrims landed in 1620. This program has something for everyone: history, art, and attractions of present-day Plymouth and Provincetown.

Adult Crochet for Beginners

Wed. November 12th @ 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!

Urban Jungle – Indoor Gardening Class (Main Library)

Mon. November 17th @ 5:30 pm

This program is designed to introduce participants to the art and science of indoor plant care. Led by Ayana April-Sanders of Chlorophyll & Chill, this class provides a welcoming environment for beginners and plant enthusiasts alike to explore the basics of houseplant care, including watering, lighting, repotting, and propagation.

Vauxhall Negro League Baseball Club

Mon. November 17th @ 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.

Build Your Balance (Main Library)

Wed. November 19th @ 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.

Hilton Readers Book Discussion Group

Wed. November 19th @ 6:00 pm

Join a regularly meeting book club at our Vauxhall branch. The book selection for October will be announced.

Off the Shelf Book Club (Main Library)

Thur. November 20th @ 6:00 pm

This month the club will be reading *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien. Pick up your copy at the Main Library, or download it on the Libby app. Great way to make new friends!

Union Public Library's Silent Book Club (Main Library)

Mon. November 24th @ 6:00 pm

Join us for Union Public Library's Silent Book Club. There's no assigned reading. All readers are welcome to join in, from fiction and non-fiction to ebooks and more! Bring your own book and join us as we read in quiet camaraderie.

ESL Conversation Group (Main Library)

Tues. November 25th @ 5:30 pm

Join us at the Union Public Library for our English Conversation Group. English is a major barrier to health for many within our community. This ESL-adjacent program offers monthly, 2-hour group sessions to support English speaking, writing, and listening skills. While loosely structured, sessions are informal and use ESL books, games, audio lessons, and role play to build proficiency with the English language.

The Trail of Tears: A Film & Community Discussion

Sat. November 29th @ 1:00 pm

The Trail of Tears was the forced relocation during the 1830s of Indigenous peoples of the Southeast region of the United States. Please join us as we discuss one of America's darkest periods due to President Andrew Jackson's Indian Removal Act of 1830 and how nearly a quarter of the Cherokee Nation died during it. A community discussion will follow after the film.

Meditation (Virtual on Zoom)

Mondays @ 6:30 pm

Join Bindu Bhatt for a virtual evening meditation session. No prior experience is necessary. Bindu has practiced meditation for over 30 years and wants to share her insight.

Chair Yoga (Main Library)

November 18th & November 25th @ 9:15 am

Take a deep breath with friends and stretch! From beginners to professionals, join this popular class as a weekly series. Presented by the Gateway Family YMCA. Space is limited, please register to secure your chair!



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Romance in the Mansion

 **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



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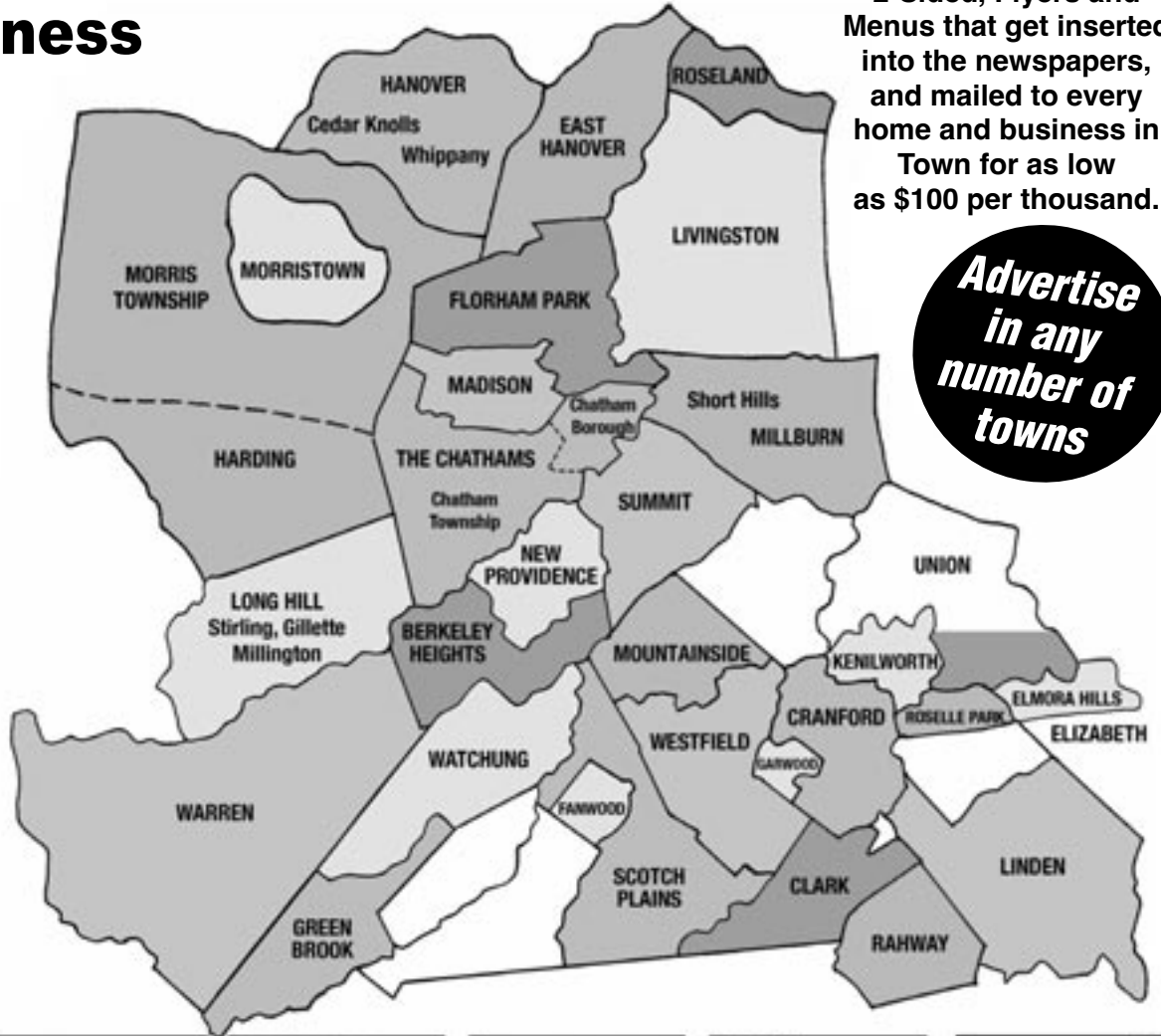
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NJ LIFE in LINDEN
Qty: 18,000
Zip: 07036

Livingston NJ Monthly
Qty: 12,100
Zip: 07039

Long Hill LEADER NJ
Qty: 3,500
Zips: 07933, 07946, 07980

MADISON MONTHLY NJ
Qty: 6,300
Zip: 07940

Short Hills MILLBURN MONTHLY NJ
Qty: 8,200
Zips: 07041, 07078

MORRIS TOWNSHIP TIMES NJ
Qty: 13,500
Zip: 07960, Harding 07976

MORRISTOWN MONTHLY NJ
Qty: 7,000
Zip: 07960

MOUNTAINVIEW NJ
Qty: 3,000
Zip: 07092

New Providence NEWS NJ
Qty: 5,100
Zip: 07974

OUR TOWN Rahway, NJ
Qty: 13,100
Zip: 07065

Life in Roseland NJ
Qty: 3,000
Zip: 07068

ROSELLE PARK MONTHLY
Qty: 5,600
Zip: 07204

Scotch Plains NJ WHAT'S HAPPENING MONTHLY
Qty: 9,600
Zip: 07076

Summit NJ Times
Qty: 9,600
Zip: 07901

Spirit of UNION NJ
Qty: 7,800
Zip: 07083 (partial)

WARREN MONTHLY NJ
Qty: 6,500
Zip: 07059

Watchung Post NJ
Qty: 2,700
Zip: 07069

Westfield NJ MONTHLY
Qty: 12,000
Zip: 07090

NEWSPAPER AD RATES		1 TOWN	3 TOWNS	6 TOWNS	9 TOWNS	12 TOWNS	15 TOWNS	18 TOWNS	21 TOWNS	24 TOWNS	27 TOWNS	30 TOWNS
Units (wide x High)	Size											
1 Unit (Business card)	3.25"x2"0	100	260	360	460	560	600	660	700	800	900	1000
2 Units	6.5"x2" or 3.25"x4"	150	360	560	600	700	800	900	1000	1100	1200	1300
4 Units	3.25"x8" or 6.5"x4"	240	560	900	1000	1300	1600	1700	1800	1900	2000	2100
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
18 FULL PAGE	10"x14"	500	1200	1800	2200	2500	2800	3000	3300	3600	3900	4300
2-PAGE SPREAD	(2) 10"x14"	800										
BACK PAGE	10"x14"	600										
FRONT PAGE BANNER	8.25"x2"	360										
FRONT PAGE BOX	1.5"x4.5"	320										

**PREPAY 6 MONTHS AND GET 1 MORE FREE
PREPAY 12 MONTHS AND GET 3 MORE FREE**

Rates are per month. Artwork included in price. Newspapers are black on white.

Back cover, Front Page Banner and Front Box reserved on first-come, first-served basis. Current advertiser has right of first refusal.

Rates effective November 1, 2024. Subject to change. See RennaMedia.com for most up to date pricing.

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\$100

per thousand

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PRINTING

8 1/2" x 11" \$45 per thousand

Minimum cost is \$450. Tri-folding add \$15 per thousand.

8.5" x 11" / full color / 2 sided / 60lb gloss coated stock

11" x 17" \$85 per thousand

Minimum cost is \$850. INCLUDES FOLDING

Quarter-fold or Tri-fold, with coupon tab option.

11"x17" / full color / 2 sided / 60lb gloss coated stock

INSERTING \$55 per thousand

Minimum cost is \$350.

POST CARD \$120 per thousand

8.5" x 5" / full color / 2 sided / 9 pt. coated stock

STAND-ALONE EDDM

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ARTWORK \$300

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RENNAMEDIA.COM

JOE RENNA 908-447-1295

email: JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com

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REPAIR**



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ROOF JOB**



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\$1,300**



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CLEANING**



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OFF
NEW STEPS**



With coupon. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 11/30/25.

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DISCOUNT**

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SERVICE**