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GRANT A CHILD'S HOLIDAY WISH - ANGEL TREE AT POST OFFICE

Submitted by Peter Nicolas

The Florham Park Angel Tree is now available in the Florham Park Post Office with each ornament representing a child in need. More than ever, residents and local businesses are encouraged to donate holiday gifts under the Angel Tree. On Friday, November 28, for the 26th consecutive year, the Florham Park Rotary decorated the tree and placed it at the Florham Park Post Office at 187 Columbia Turnpike.

Each ornament on the tree holds local children's gift wishes. Most of the children are from Florham Park, East Hanover and other Morris County towns, many of whom are orphans or resource (aka foster) children. "The people of Florham Park do a fantastic job," said Rotarian Rexford Lyon, who helped to organize the annual event. "Some of these gifts are real needs, like diapers or a winter coat. Coloring books and toys are also common requests. The people of Florham Park really go above and beyond."

This effort is coordinated by the Florham Park Rotary through the East Morris office of the state Division of Child Protection and Permanency, formerly known as the DYFS.

More than 100 ornaments are filled with wishes and hang from the tree. They are a reminder that even in eastern Morris County, there are many children and families in need.

Amazing Grace Lutheran Church, 160 Ridgedale Avenue, Florham Park is galvanizing its parishioners to contribute for the second year in a row. This is especially appreciated this year as many families struggle.

Dave Kramer, Rotary club president, encourages residents to visit the Angel Tree at the Post Office, take a look at the ornaments, and see which gift request they can fulfill.

nail polish kit, sneakers (girls 7), hygiene items, winter coat, boots, hat, glove, scarf, anything for drawing, coloring or painting.

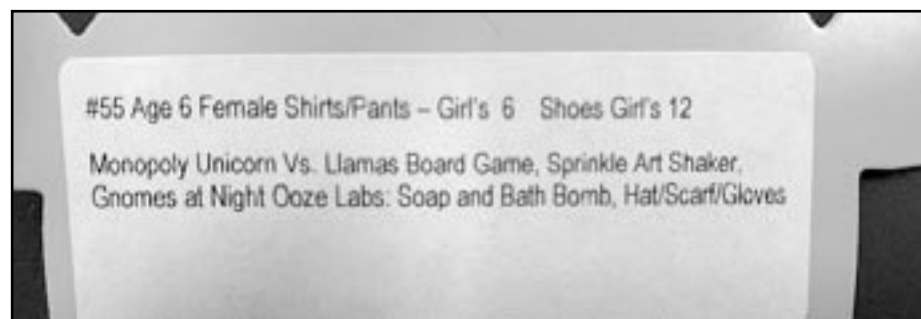
Rotarian Betty O'Brien reminds all that in many cases this is the only thing a child may receive during the holiday season.

Residents may select an ornament from the Angel Tree and return with that wrapped gift by December 19.



(above) Rotarians with Angel Tree - Bob Feid, Damion Bernard, Betty O'Brien, Rex Lyon, Peter Nicolas, George Gregory, Kristen Jankowski, Karol Williams, and Dave Kramer at Florham Park Post Office.

Courtesy Photo



(above) Angel Tree wishes TAG example

ABOUT ROTARY

Rotary International is a nonpolitical and nonsectarian organization open to all people, regardless of race, color, religion, gender, or political preference. There are 40,000+ clubs in 200 countries worldwide dedicated to humanitarian services, high ethical standards, and goodwill and peace around the world. It is a global network of 1.4 million people who volunteer their skills and resources to solve issues and address community needs.

Florham Park has one such club that strives to make a positive impact. To learn more and even consider joining, guests are welcome to attend a weekly Rotary breakfast meeting at the Florham Park Diner at 182 Ridgedale Ave. Meetings are 7:47 to 8:50 a.m. every Friday. For additional information visit the website at FlorhamParkRotary.org, check Facebook at facebook.com/groups/428768947164657, or write or call Membership Chair George Gregor at ggregor@florhamparkrotary.org or 917-848-0982.

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Do you have a community service that you need help publicizing? Did you or someone you know accomplish something amazing? We are interested in hearing about your latest achievement (accomplishment, honor, award, etc.), send us your news!

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SENIOR CLUB EVENTS

HEALTH CARE NURSE – UPDATE

Our new health care nurse is, Michael Camara, providing blood pressure monitoring before member meetings at the Florham Park Community Center/ Recreation Center.

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON DATE (save the date)
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11TH, 2025

Florham Park Senior Citizens Club announces the 2025 Holiday Luncheon date for Thursday, December 11th, 2025, at 11:30a.m. to 2:30p.m. We are excited to let all Florham Park Senior Citizens know the holiday luncheon will be at the Park Savoy, 236 Ridgedale Avenue, Florham Park, N.J. For entertainment as in the past we welcome once again the fabulous Hanover Park High School Chamber Singers.



All residents are invited by Mayor Taylor to attend the
Sheila Williams Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

Florham Park Community Center.

Friday, December 5th at 6:30 p.m.

Special guest carolers the Florham Park Girl Scouts.

Pictures with Santa will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m.

2 new additions to the Tree Lighting

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HISTORY OF THE ARMED FORCES OF AMERICA

Submitted by Peter Nicolas

In celebration of Veterans Day, on November 11, The Historical Society of Florham Park scheduled a "History of the Armed Forces of America" presentation.

Author Walter Choroszewski returned to Florham Park to present the program in the Akhoury Room of the Florham Park Library. He took the audience through key dates and facts of America's military from its Colonial beginning to the Armed Forces of today. His presentation started with the American Revolution for independence when the United States formally established Armed Forces for defense on land and sea. Walter "C" took us through the development and evolution of the US military branches of Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, US Air

Force, right up to US Space Force.

He also shared the latest enlistment numbers of each branch of service.

Army 445,475, Navy 330,311, Marines 168,298, Coast Guard 40,590, Air Force 313,615 and US Space Force 9,671.

The program included the Missions of each of the military branches and their theme songs. For example, "Anchors Aweigh" is the official song of the US Navy. Attached is the Mission statement of the United States Marines.

Veterans Day was officially named in 1954 under President Eisenhower. Originally celebrated as Armistice Day in 1919 under President Wilson, it marked the one-year anniversary of the end of World War I. Veterans Day was created to mark a shift from honoring those who served in WWI to honoring all veterans.

Mr. Choroszewski is a New Jersey advocate and an avid photographer. He has published more

than 18 photographic books. Some may recall last November's presentation for The Historical Society of Florham Park – "First People: the New Jersey Connection". Commented Peter Nicolas, a vice president of The Historical Society of Florham Park "We will certainly invite Walter to return to Florham Park".

The Historical Society of Florham Park was founded by a group of women in 1935 to save and preserve the Little Red Schoolhouse and the history of the borough. Virtually all the artifacts in the museum were donated to and are the responsibility of the Historical Society. The Historical Society is a 501c3 non-profit organization.

To learn more about The Historical Society of Florham Park and consider joining this organization celebrating its 90-year anniversary, contact Peter Nicolas at pnicolas@optimum.net, call 973-520-8654 or write to the historical society at PO Box 193, Florham Park, NJ 07932.



(above) Author Walter Choroszewski returned to Florham Park to present the program in the Akhoury Room of the Florham Park Library.

Courtesy Photo

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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.

LIBRARY EVENTS AND OFFERINGS

For more information, visit the Library's website, florhamparklib.org or stop in and speak with a staff member. Relax, unwind, and explore with your library card!

Midday Meditation

every Wednesday at 12:00pm.

Participants may attend in person or virtually, making it easier to fit restorative time into a lunch break or daily routine.

Chair Yoga

Tuesday, December 9th at 11:30am

is ideal for beginners or anyone who prefers to use a chair rather than getting on the floor.

Gentle Yoga

Saturday, December 13th at 10:30am

welcomes beginners. Participants are asked to bring a yoga mat or towel.

December's Second Sunday Program is "Return to the Moon with NASA"

December 14th at 2:00 pm.

Come together for an afternoon of space exploration and community learning. Sponsored by The Friends of the Florham Park Library.

LIBRARY OFFERINGS

For those who prefer to focus on relaxation or enrichment at their own pace, these Library offerings may be just right:

Borrow a museum pass.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library, these passes allow patrons to enjoy a refreshing outing to a selection of cultural institutions.

Borrow a jigsaw puzzle or board game

for a solo challenge or to compete with friends/family.

Explore Mango Languages

to start learning a new language and initiate a brain workout.

Free music downloads

Let Freegal provide the soundtrack to each day with free music downloads and ready-to-enjoy playlists.

Download an e-book

Escape into a good book from our shelves, or download an e-book through Libby.

LIBRARY OF THINGS

Finally, for those seeking hands-on creativity, why not explore the Florham Park Library's collection known as the Library of Things? Here are a few of the items available to borrow:

LED sketch pad • Knitting loom

Digital camera • Therapy lamp

Stud finder • Electronic drum kit

Electronic keyboard • Electronic ukulele

Elescope • Stargazing kit

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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.

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- If you're new to Medicare, you might have a different election period; reach out to us to review your options.

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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.



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TWO CONCERTS: HOLIDAY TENORS & BROADWAY THROUGH THE AGES



NJFO NEW JERSEY FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA

Return of the 3 Holiday Tenors

 **SAT, Dec 6 at 7:00 pm**
The Presbyterian Church, Westfield
SUN, Dec 7 at 3:00 pm
Drew University, Madison

Renowned tenor fare, holiday classics, and winter-time favorites guaranteed to make the season merry.

BROADWAY THROUGH THE AGES

 **WED, Dec 31 at 5:00** **THURS, Jan 1 at 2:30**
Westfield High School Sieminski Theater

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New Jersey Festival Orchestra ushers in the holiday season with two major December performances that showcase the full breadth of the orchestra's artistic range.

Under the direction of Maestro David Wroe, NJFO welcomes audiences to celebrate the magic of the season with Return of the 3 Holiday Tenors on December 6 and 7, followed by the orchestra's signature New Year's celebration, Broadway Through the Ages, on December 31 and January 1.

Return of the 3 Holiday Tenors features award-winning vocalists John Kun Park, Luke Norvell, and Michael DeShield, each bringing a distinct artistic profile to this beloved NJFO tradition. Park, praised for his "radiant lyricism," has appeared with major opera houses across the country. Norvell, known for his "effortless charm and ringing tenor," continues to shine as a rising star on both concert and operatic stages. DeShield, celebrated for his powerful presence and versatility, is a frequent soloist with ensembles throughout the Northeast.

The trio joins NJFO for a sparkling program of holiday favorites, classical tenor showpieces, and uplifting choral moments. They are joined by the Holy Trinity Choir of Westfield and Central Avenue Choir of Madison, adding festive warmth and community spirit to this seasonal celebration. Performances take place Saturday, December 6 at The Presbyterian Church in

Westfield and Sunday, December 7 at Drew University in Madison.

The festivities continue with Broadway Through the Ages, NJFO's dazzling New Year's tradition performed in Westfield and Basking Ridge. This year's concert brings together a powerhouse lineup of guest artists: Tess Marshall, acclaimed for her magnetic stage presence and vocal brilliance; Lisa Marie Rogali, a versatile performer equally at home in opera and musical theater; and Peter Kendall Clark, praised for his "commanding baritone and dramatic flair." This year's program also features stars from the Dance Theater of Harlem, adding movement, elegance, and theatrical artistry to this musical celebration. Together with NJFO, the ensemble leads audiences on a spirited journey through iconic Broadway classics.

RETURN OF THE 3 HOLIDAY TENORS

Sat Dec 6, 7 PM

The Presbyterian Church, Westfield

Sun Dec 7, 3 PM

Drew University, Madison

BROADWAY THROUGH THE AGES

Wed Dec 31, 5 PM

Westfield High School

Thu Jan 1, 2:30 PM

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PIPES OF CHRISTMAS RETURNS TO SUMMIT DECEMBER 14

The sound of pipes and drums will once again ring out this holiday season as the 27th Annual Pipes of Christmas returns with performances in Boston, New York City, and Summit, New Jersey.

Presented by the Learned Kindred of Currie, the beloved concert celebrates Scotland and Ireland's rich musical and spiritual heritage through a vibrant program of traditional carols, hymns, and readings that tell the story of Christmas through a distinctly Celtic lens.

Audiences will experience stirring performances by world-class musicians on bagpipes, brass, fiddle, harp, and organ, alongside the majestic voices of the Pipes of Christmas Choir. Narrations drawn from the works of Scottish poets, scripture, and classic holiday literature bring warmth, reflection, and inspiration to the stage.

Over the years, The Pipes of Christmas has become a cherished tradition for families across generations, drawing capacity audiences from across North America and abroad.

Beyond the stage, the concert has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to support educational and cultural initiatives, including music scholarships in Scotland, the United States, and Canada - helping nurture the next generation of artists and scholars.

This year's program will feature new musical selections alongside cherished favorites such as Highland Cathedral, Auld Lang Syne, and Silent

Night, performed in the rich Celtic style that has captivated audiences for over two decades.

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

- Boston, MA – December 5-6,
Church of the Covenant at 7PM and Noon
- New York, NY – December 13,
Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church at 2PM
- Summit, NJ – Central Presbyterian Church
at 2 and 7PM

Complete information and tickets are available on the concert website at **WWW.PIPESOFCHRISTMAS.COM**.

- Global Webcast of Concert Highlights to Follow

For those unable to attend in person, concert highlights will once again be shared with audiences around the world through the Pipes of Christmas Global Webcast, premiering on December 19 for subscribers.

The broadcast brings the magic of the live performances to homes across six continents, allowing friends and families everywhere to share in the music, message, and joy of the season.

ABOUT THE LEARNED KINDRED OF CURRIE

The Learned Kindred of Currie is an international Scottish heritage society dedicated to celebrating Scotland's history, language, and culture. The organization sponsors the annual Pipes of Christmas concerts and a variety of educational programs, including scholarships for young musicians, writers, and scholars.



Join Us for the Learned Kindred of Currie's 27th Annual Production

THE PIPES OF CHRISTMAS

Answer the call of the pipes and drums.

BOSTON	
December 5th at 7:00 PM	December 6th at 12:00 PM
NEW YORK CITY	SUMMIT
December 13th at 2:00 PM	December 14th at 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM

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December 19th - 31st available on demand	

Full details at **pipesofchristmas.com**

This annual concert is a special fundraising event that supports our cultural outreach and scholarship programs.

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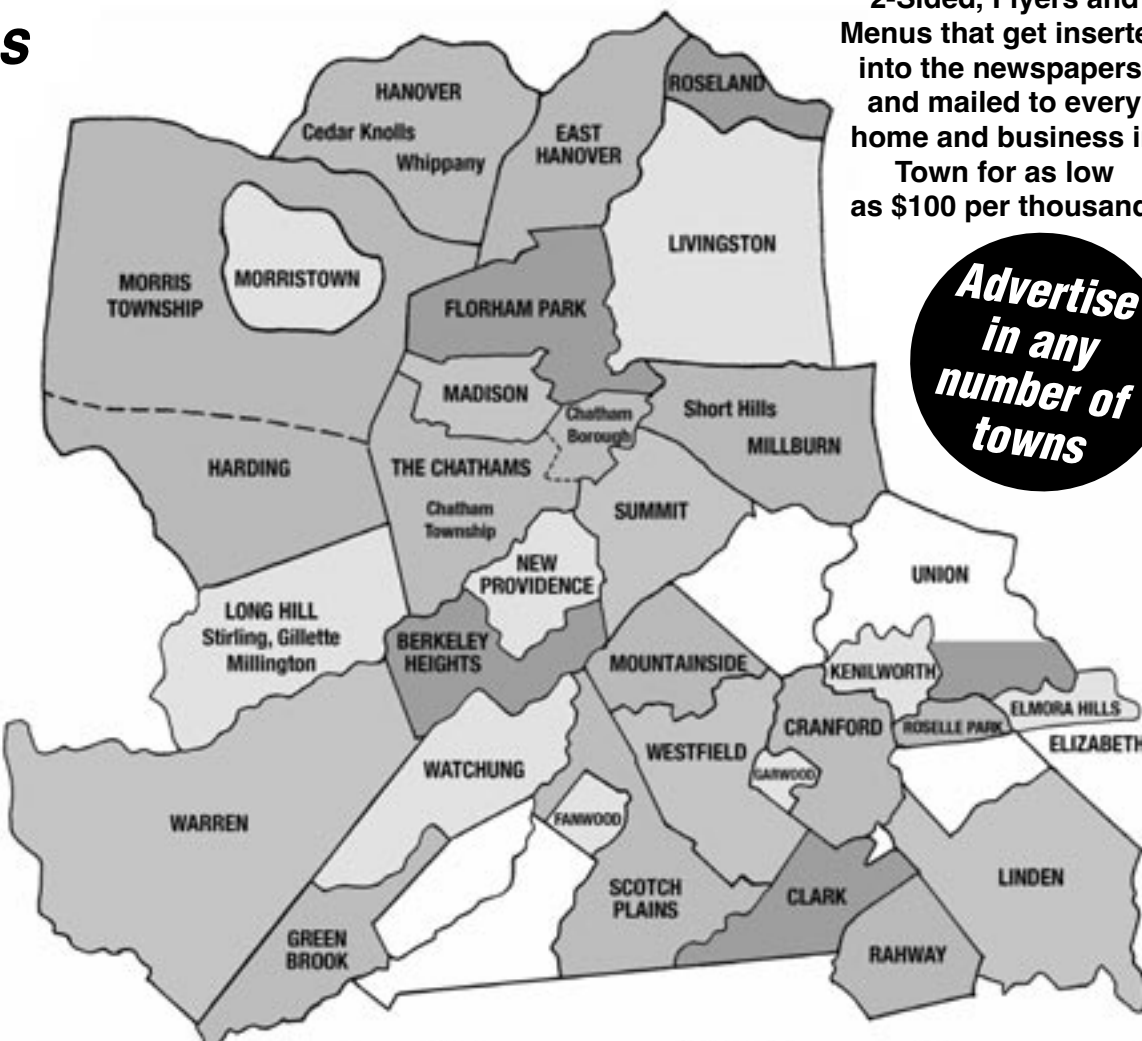
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Long Hill LEADER NJ	MADISON MONTHLY NJ	Short Hills MILLBURN MONTHLY NJ	MORRIS TOWNSHIP TIMES NJ	MORRISTOWN MONTHLY NJ	MOUNTAIN SIDE VIEW NJ	New Providence NEWS NJ	OUR TOWN Rahway, NJ
Qty: 3,500 Zips: 07933, 07946, 07980	Qty: 6,300 Zip: 07940	Qty: 8,200 Zips: 07041, 07078	Qty: 13,500 Zip: 07960, Harding 07976	Qty: 7,000 Zip: 07960	Qty: 3,000 Zip: 07092	Qty: 5,100 Zip: 07974	Qty: 13,100 Zip: 07065
Life in Roseland NJ	ROSELLE PARK MONTHLY	Scotch Plains NJ WHAT'S HAPPENING MONTHLY	Summit Times NJ	Spirit of UNION NJ	WARREN MONTHLY NJ	Watchung Post NJ	Westfield MONTHLY NJ
Qty: 3,000 Zip: 07068	Qty: 5,600 Zip: 07204	Qty: 9,600 Zip: 07076	Qty: 9,600 Zip: 07901	Qty: 7,800 Zip: 07083 (partial)	Qty: 6,500 Zip: 07059	Qty: 2,700 Zip: 07069	Qty: 12,000 Zip: 07090

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A JOYFUL FREE FAMILY CONCERT - DEC 13

The New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra (NJIO) invites music lovers of all ages to celebrate the season at its annual Holiday Spirit concert on Saturday, December 13 at 2:00 p.m. at Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School in Summit, NJ. Admission is free, with suggested donations of \$10 per person gratefully accepted. The concert will also be livestreamed and recorded, with details available at www.njio.org.

This festive event brings together NJIO's three orchestras—Prelude, Intermezzo, and Symphony—for one joyful performance that showcases musicians of many ages and skill levels performing side by side. The program features a playful mix of holiday and family-friendly favorites, including Reineke's Toy Symphony, Vivaldi's Winter, and the always-rousing Radetzky March (complete with audience clapping). Concertgoers can also join in the fun with a sing-along of classic carols and hand-held percussion instruments for "Sleigh Ride" to close the concert.

Following the performance, families are invited to stay for NJIO's Instrument Petting Zoo, sponsored by Elefante Music, where children can meet musicians and try out orchestral instruments.

Thanks to a generous \$4,000 grant from The Summit Foundation, this year's Holiday Spirit concert will feature extra touches of fun, including printed program books for the sing-along and "instrument passports" for young concertgoers to collect stamps as they explore the Petting Zoo.

This concert is made possible by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, The Summit Foundation, Instrument Petting Zoo sponsor Elefante Music, Allison Ziefert Real Estate Group - Compass, and our season sponsors: the Frank and Lydia Bergen Foundation, The Henry S. and Agnes M. Truzack Foundation, Standish Foundation, and many other generous supporters. NJIO is a proud participating organization in the Families First Discovery Pass Program, a program of the NJ Departments of Health and Human Services.



(above) Future orchestra member tries out the cello at the Instrument Petting Zoo

ABOUT THE NEW JERSEY INTERGENERATIONAL ORCHESTRA

NJIO is committed to ensuring that its programs and concerts are accessible. For more information regarding the concert or to inquire about patron services, please contact NJIO at info@njio.org, or visit NJIO's website www.njio.org

New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra, now in its 32nd season, has been nationally recognized as a leader in intergenerational excellence through its unique approach to teaching musical performance and as a model for intergenerational orchestras across the country. Depending on space availability, NJIO welcomes new members of all ages and abilities each concert period to one of its orchestras – no auditions needed!

The Holiday Spirit concert is the second of four free NJIO performances this season. Upcoming concerts include the Winter Concert on March 1, 2026 at 3 p.m. at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark and the Spring Concert on May 3, 2026 at 3 p.m. at Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church in Plainfield.

CAFE FOR THOSE WITH MEMORY LOSS

Christ Church, Summit, NJ

Too often, those living with memory loss can suffer from social stigma and isolation. A Memory Cafe is a social gathering for those living with cognitive loss, together with their care-partners. It's a welcoming community where all feel safe, accepted, and understood.

"The Gathering Place" is a monthly Memory Cafe hosted by volunteers at Christ Church in Summit. They meet the first Wednesday of every month, from 12 - 2 p.m.

Guests socialize over a light, nutritious lunch and share friendship, information, and often a few laughs. It is non-sectarian and all are welcome. From guests: "It was enjoyable, uplifting, and worthwhile," and "I wish my mother had something like this to participate in while she was able."

A suggested donation is \$5 per person.

RSVP is requested for menu-planning.

Contact Brenda Dodds 908 273-5549

or brenda@ccsnj.org.

Christ Church is located at

561 Springfield Avenue, Summit, NJ.

Gene DiNapoli Presents at
THE CONCERT HALL
Drew University, Madison, NJ
917-567-5842
Tickets:
gdpresents.com



Saturday, November 29 - 7:30pm



Sunday, December 14 - 6pm



Sunday, February 15 - 3pm





New Jersey
Intergenerational
Orchestra

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More info at www.NJIO.org



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Sunday: 12 noon to 6 pm

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