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## BENJAMIN WEBB EARNS EAGLE SCOUT RANK

Submitted by Laura Cheshire,  
Green Brook BST 129

Benjamin Webb achieved the rank of Eagle Scout on November 12, 2025, from Green Brook Boy Scout Troop 129. Ben's start in Cub Scouts began in 1st grade and continued into his Senior Year at Watchung Hills Regional High School. Ben says, "Scouts has positively shaped my character and the way that I view the world. I can't help but ponder how Scouting has helped me become the version of myself that I am today."

Ben has shown his amazing leadership as a Den Chief all while pursuing other school activities. Den Chief is an important role in scouting, older Boy Scouts work with younger Cub Scouts to "prepare the boys to feel prepared for the journey ahead of them, and to know that even if they were anxious, they would always be welcome in Scouting." In continuing with this effort, once this group of boys crossed over into the Troop, Ben then became their Troop Guide, another leadership position that "provides consistency and support during their transition." It was extra rewarding for Ben while working on his Eagle Scout project that the boys he mentored for so many years returned their support by helping him. Ben stated, "The boys' presence at my project demonstrated to me that my leadership had an effect on them, which made me



(above) Benjamin Webb, Green Brook Boy Scout Troop 129's latest Eagle Scout.



(above) Ben's Eagle Scout Project benefited All Saints Episcopal Church in Millington, NJ.



Courtesy Photos

feel emotionally rewarded for my work."

The Eagle Scout project served as Ben's largest test of leadership; he was able to "coordinate a large group of Scouts and adult volunteers simultaneously" while designing a project that consisted of three raised planter boxes made of cedar wood filled with plants. All Saints Episcopal Church in Millington, NJ requested this project to solve the problem of drivers using a walkway that was designed for pedestrians. The walkway in front of the church was becoming dangerous; this project now blocks the walkway to vehicles in addition to beautifying the front of the church.

Ben's interests include the High School Marching Band, Jazz Band, Academic Team, Italian Honor Society and National Honor Society. Ben begins to prepare for college this fall and will study business. While Ben balanced his scouting, academic and extracurricular activities he also earned some scouting awards Den Chief Service Award and National Outdoor Achievement Award. He held the following positions in the Troop: Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Den Chief and Bugler.

Learning Loyalty from the Scout Law, Ben states, "I know that loyalty will continue to guide the way I make decisions. I aspire to be steadfast regardless of the circumstances, allowing others to rely on me for guidance and support. No matter where life takes me, I will find satisfaction dedicating myself to others."

For more information about Green Brook Boy Scout Troop 129 visit their Facebook page: [GBTroop129](https://www.facebook.com/GBTroop129)

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# Long Hill LEADER

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# CHEER TEAM WINS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP



(above) Warren Hills Regional High School Competition Cheer Team recently won the Somerset County Championship for their Game Day Routine.

Photo by WHRHS



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# COMMUNITY RAISES NEARLY \$11,000 AT EDUCATION FOUNDATION GALA

*Submitted by Mary Pepe*

On November 14, the halls of the Bridgewater Manor came alive for the Long Hill Education Foundation 2nd Annual Gala, a night of dinner, dancing, and community spirit. With the support of generous sponsors, dedicated volunteers, and 160 local residents, the event brought in \$10,908 in funds for the benefit of the Long Hill Township School District.

Founded to support academic enrichment and innovation, LHEF is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit “dedicated to providing financial resources to maximize student potential” by funding programs, grants, school supplies, and creative educational opportunities not covered in the standard school budget.

The Gala included a dinner, a DJ, a wine pull, and a raffle featuring 75 baskets.

Thanks to the funds raised, LHEF will continue supporting essential programs across the district, including:

- Instrument scholarships for the Central Band program
- School supplies and FORCE participation for families facing financial hardship
- Grants for teachers to support classroom innovation, inclusion, and enrichment
- New playground equipment for Pre-K students
- Support for the district’s reading-incentive program, in partnership with literacy teachers this year

It was a wonderful evening of connection and community, underscoring that none of this would be possible without the generous support of the Long Hill community members and local businesses.

As LHEF looks ahead to future projects and events, they invite anyone interested to visit their

website to learn more about who they are and how to get involved. - [longhillforce.org](http://longhillforce.org)

A special thank you to the following sponsors: Concierge Pediatrics of Short Hill (Bullseye Entertainment DJ), Flowers by Karyn Gordon (centerpieces and arrangements), and Clark Travel Agency of Branchburg (wine pull).



*(above, l-r) LHEF Gala Committee: Jaclyn Pepe, Erin Givens, Yasmine DiGiovani, Michael Lacosta, Mary Pepe and Kim Beckerman*

Courtesy Photo

## LYDIA MASTERSON CELEBRATES 10 YEARS AS A LITERACY VOLUNTEER

Speaking with a teacher at a parent-teacher conference. Scheduling a medical appointment over the phone. Writing an invitation to a baby shower. If you speak English, these tasks are probably easy for you. But if English is not your native language, these tasks can be monumentally challenging.

That’s where Literacy Volunteers of Somerset County (LVSC) comes in. LVSC promotes literacy throughout the community by providing student-centered tutoring and literacy programs for adults who struggle with English as a Second Language (ESL). The organization matches students with trained volunteer tutors, tutors like Watchung resident Lydia Masterson.

Noting that the “winter doldrums” were starting to take effect, Masterson signed up to become a volunteer tutor in January of 2015. “I had recently retired from teaching high school history and jumped at the opportunity to learn how to teach literacy. The training provided eased all fears,” said Masterson. She has since tutored students from Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, South Korea, China and India.

Commenting on her LVSC experience Masterson said: “I’ve gained a deeper

appreciation for cultures other than my own and truly respect the motivation and determination of my students. To talk with others about life enriches my own journey.”

LVSC is actively recruiting volunteers, like Masterson, to help meet the needs of the local community. An hour or two a week is all it takes to make a difference, and you don’t have to be a teacher to be a tutor.

For more info, visit [literacysomerset.org](http://literacysomerset.org), email [info@literacysomerset.org](mailto:info@literacysomerset.org), call (908) 725-5430.



*(above, l-r) Lydia Masterson, right, and student Catherine.*

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# COMMUNITY INVITED TO SUBURBAN CHIROPRACTIC OPEN HOUSE - JAN 8

The Suburban Chiropractic Center, located at 301 Main Street in Chatham, New Jersey will be celebrating 41 years in practice with an Open House on January 8, 2026. The public is invited to stop by and enjoy refreshments and fellowship. Community service is an integral part of the practice and Dr. Murphy would like to thank his patients, as well as the local community for another successful year.

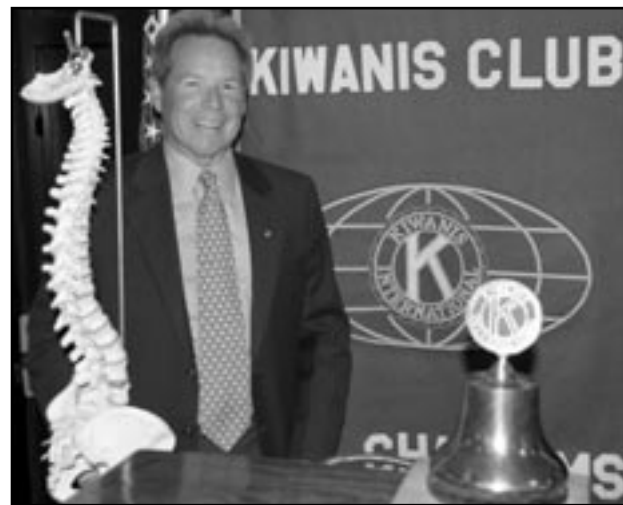
Dr. Joseph J. Murphy began the center in 1985 to offer the community a natural alternative to the traditional allopathic medical facilities in the Chatham area. They owe their success to the loyal patients who have continued with them, referred their friends and family, and their efforts to provide the highest level of service possible.

Dr. Murphy has a record of supporting the local first responders, police, fire, and emergency

squad. He also focused on supporting student programs including being an advisor to the Kiwanis Club's Chatham High School Key Club. Dr. Murphy has been a member of the Chatham/Madison Kiwanis Club for over 40 years, offering his services to all their events including being a guest speaker. He especially enjoys the Summer Hot Dog & Ice Cream social for the Chatham Library children. He can be found volunteering at Chatham schools during their Teacher's Wellness Day events and is a supporter of the Chatham Education Foundation and Sports Foundation. For 25 years Dr. Murphy has served on the Board of Trustees of ECLC in Chatham, a school for special needs students, including a stint as Board President. He was a consistent participant in over 23 Fishawack events and is a sponsor of Bottle Hill Day in

Madison. He is a member of the Madison Elks BPOE 1465 and Chatham Chamber of Commerce, where he has served as President.

You can find out much more about the Suburban Chiropractic Center by visiting their website at [drmurphy.com](http://drmurphy.com).



(above) Dr. Joseph Murphy has been a member of Kiwanis Club for over 35 years.

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Leg pain, thigh ache and numbness, and tingling in the foot may actually be caused by a pinched back nerve even though you have **NO** back pain - it could even be Sciatica.

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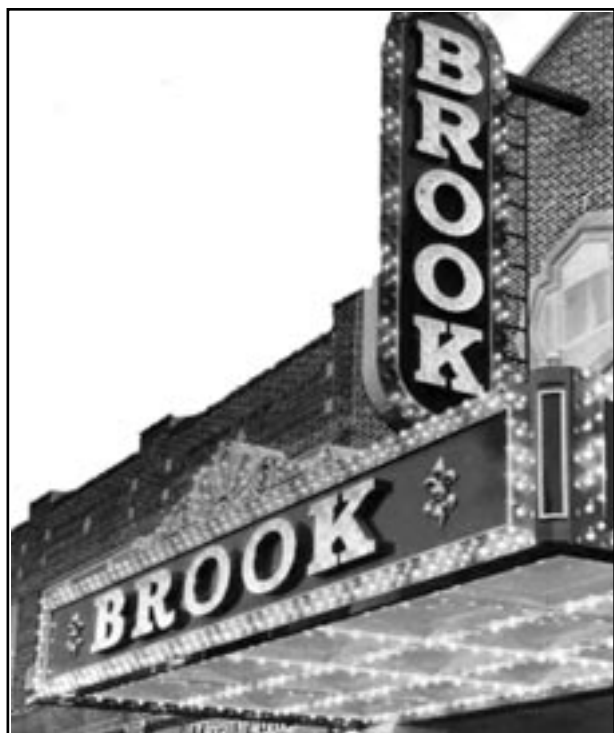
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## BUDDY BASKETBALL REGISTRATION OPEN

The Warren Youth Basketball Association is excited to announce the 11th year of Buddy Ball Basketball. Buddy Ball is a free sports program for children who may have a disability or a neurodivergent condition that makes it difficult to participate in a traditional basketball program. Clinics offer 60-minute sessions focused on basketball fundamentals and social interaction. Buddy Ball is open to children from kindergarten through 12th grade, from Warren and any surrounding towns that do not already have a program.

It will take place at Mt. Horeb School in Warren on Fridays, from 6-7 p.m., January 9 to February 27, 2026. Register at: [warrenyouthbasketball.leagueapps.com/events](http://warrenyouthbasketball.leagueapps.com/events)

The program will be coached by WYBA volunteer Terry MacConnell. Each player will be paired with a “buddy” who will help them throughout every session. Volunteer buddies currently in 8th grade through high school are welcome to join.

Buddies should email Terry MacConnell at [tmacc2713@gmail.com](mailto:tmacc2713@gmail.com) and register at: [warrenyouthbasketball.leagueapps.com/events](http://warrenyouthbasketball.leagueapps.com/events)

## WOMAN’S LITERARY CLUB OF BOUND BROOK

*Submitted by Sherry Gilroy*

The next meeting for The Woman’s Literary Club of Bound Brook will be on January 5, 2026 at 1p.m. The address is Rennell Hall, St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 214 Church St, Bound Brook. Members are reminded to bring their \$45 membership dues. Refreshments will be served.

Our guest speaker will be from the National Alliance on Mental Illness. The program will be “In Our Own Voice: Living with Mental Illness.”

We welcome potential members from the Bound Brook area to be our guests.

For membership information, email [MFicszko@optonline.net](mailto:MFicszko@optonline.net) and reference WLCBB on the subject line.

## BROOK ARTS CENTER ANNOUNCES ITS 2ND SPEAKEASY SOIREE AND SILENT AUCTION.

The historic Brook Arts Center is proud to announce its Second Annual Speakeasy Soirée & Silent Auction, Friday, January 23, 2026, at 7:00 PM. This Roaring ’20s–themed evening promises an unforgettable night of glitz, glamour, entertainment, and support for one of Somerset County New Jersey’s, historic landmarks.

Guests will be transported back to the golden age as they enjoy live music, period-inspired entertainment, and a lavish buffet.

The evening’s highlight is a silent auction featuring more than 100 exclusive items, including a cruise getaway, a Bradford Portraits gift certificate with a private photo session, a 20-inch framed wall portrait and luxury hotel stay, four VIP tickets to Meadowlands Racing with dinner and winner’s circle photos, designer handbags, sports memorabilia, dining and spa packages and so much more.

Tickets are \$50 per person or \$80 per couple and include buffet dining, live music, live

entertainment, and a cash bar.

Attendees are encouraged to dress in their finest 1920s-inspired attire to fully embrace the spirit of the evening.

The Speakeasy Soirée is the Brook Arts Center’s largest fundraiser of the year.

As a fully volunteer-run 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, the Brook Arts Center relies on community support to continue with the preservation and restoration of the facility and its mission of providing high-quality entertainment, inspiring creativity, fostering community partnerships, and nurturing education and growth through the arts.

Tickets are on sale now through January 16, 2026.

To purchase tickets or learn more, visit [www.brookarts.org](http://www.brookarts.org).

Reserve your tickets today and be part of a glamorous night that helps keep the arts alive in our community.

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# LONG HILL TOWNSHIP LIBRARY JANUARY PROGRAMS

## CHILDREN / TEEN PROGRAMS:

### Storytime (Ages 2-6)

*Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, & Fridays at 10:30am*

Join us for a themed storytime and craft. This interactive program builds early literacy skills through books, movement, and activities.

### Rhyme Time Storytime (Ages 0-2)

*Wednesdays at 10:30am*

For our youngest patrons! Enjoy 20 minutes of songs, fingerplays, and simple stories.

### Hackaneers Coding Club (Grades 3-8)

*Saturdays at 1pm*

An engaging, beginner-friendly coding club led by experienced high school coding instructors.

Each session introduces core programming concepts through fun projects in Scratch, Python, and robotics, with a focus on creativity, collaboration, and real-world applications.

Everyone is welcome, no experience needed!

Please bring an iPad or laptop.

### Library Chef for Kids and Teens

*January 14 at 6pm*

online on the Library Chef platform

Enjoy live, virtual classes that teach basic kitchen safety and cooking skills, while demonstrating how to make delicious recipes. This month's recipes include a class on making Oatmeal Flour Breakfast Cups for ages 10+ on 1/14. There will also be an additional class for ages 5-9 that is yet to be announced. Classes are recorded and available to view anytime.

### Swim Into Reading Storytime

*January 20 at 3:30pm*

In this special storytime presented by Big Blue Swim School – Watchung, we'll read a children's book with a water theme, discuss simple, age-appropriate swim safety tips, and create a water themed craft.

## ADULT PROGRAMS:

### Mindful Movement

*January 3 at 11:30am*

Join us for an hour-long movement class, focusing on breathing, stretching and light aerobic exercise. Some of us have been exercising with our favorite instructor Anita Pacheco for years but newcomers are always welcome. A great way to start off the new year!

### Winter Sowing

**presented by the Rutgers Master Gardeners**

*January 6 at 6:30pm*

This in-person presentation will take you through the steps, materials needed, and timing of winter sowing. This method of seed-starting is so easy, you'll be amazed at how many hardy plants you'll have when spring arrives. We will cover Frequently Asked Questions and get your hands dirty in practice.

### Chef Virtual Wellness & Cooking Classes

*January 7, 14, and 21 at 7:30pm*

online on the Library Chef platform

This month's live, virtual, expert-led classes include Knife Skills (1/7), Butternut Squash and Apple Soup (1/14), and New Year Detox Reset (1/17). Classes are recorded and all previous classes are available to view anytime.

### 250th USA Anniversary Talk:

### The Life and Times of the Continental Soldier

*January 11 at 2:30pm*

In this 'in-person' talk, John Dwyer portrays a soldier serving in the Continental Army which was camped in New Jersey in the Winter of 1780. He wears the uniform and equipment carried by Revolutionary War soldiers and tells stories about his life, his pay, his food, and clothing and the campaigns he has participated in since 1777. He shows what he is carrying and explains his gear, weapons, and belongings in detail as he passes it around the audience to handle.

### Culinary Herbs

**presented by the Rutgers Master Gardeners**

*January 13 at 12:00pm online*

One of the easiest and most useful plants to grow are herbs. They smell and taste enticing and can easily be stored over the winter. Please join us as Vicki Dole, Rutgers Master Gardener, shares how to grow and use herbs creatively, enhancing the flavors of even the simplest of dishes.

### The Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

*January 13 at 7pm online*

Take a journey through history as we explore Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's life and legacy, beyond his iconic "I Have a Dream" speech. Come learn about his childhood, education, mentors and influences, as well as the most important events of his career in activism, such as the Montgomery Bus Boycott, Greensboro Sit-In, and Selma to Montgomery March.

### Virtual Art Talk: Monet and Venice

*Part 1: January 21 at 7:00pm online*

*Part 2: January 28 at 7:00pm online*

In Part 1 of this talk, we will learn about Monet's journey from a rejected outsider to a ground-breaking icon of Modernism. In Part 2, we will not only be dazzled by Monet's Venetian masterpieces but will see centuries of art works by a variety of painters who were inspired to capture the city of Venice, creating spellbinding images of the water, light, architecture, and magnificent coastal landscapes of this unique and magical place.

### Using AI to Simplify Life

*January 25 at 2:30pm*

Join us for a deep dive into how AI tools can be leveraged to simplify your daily tasks, enhance productivity, and bring a new level of efficiency to both personal and professional endeavors. Presented in a very engaging, informative, and easy-to-understand manner with plenty of Q&A opportunities throughout. This is a great opportunity for those who are familiar with or brand new to using AI to learn how to incorporate it into their life.

### Moonlight Meditation

*January 26 at 8:30pm online*

Moonlight Meditation on Zoom is back! Learn techniques from our experienced instructor Anita Pacheco. Appropriate for new as well as experienced meditators. We start with short 5 to 10-minute guided meditations. A nice way to end your Monday!

### Vision Board Workshop with Kara DJ

*January 31 at 11:00am*

Start off the new year the right way with this vision board workshop! Collage and Zine artist Kara DJ will help you build a vision board to keep your motivation to achieve your goals high throughout all of 2025. Kara will discuss composition and other artistic principals as you create your personalized board.



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## HICKORY TREE CHORUS INVITES ACAPPELLA SINGERS TO OPEN AUDITIONS

The award-winning Hickory Tree Chorus is calling singers in the soprano, alto, and contralto ranges to join their harmonious sisterhood!

Performing in communities throughout northern and central New Jersey, the chorus enjoys singing recognizable popular songs - arranged in rich four-part harmony.

Fresh off their top-scoring performance at the 2025 Sweet Adelines Region 15 competition, the

chorus has earned a coveted spot in the Harmony Classic at the 78th Annual Sweet Adelines International Competition in Columbus, Ohio, October 2026. Now, they're building their sound for the world stage.

Open auditions will be held in Stirling between 6:30-7:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings in January 2026 and take less than 10 minutes (flexible scheduling is available). Singers are

asked to perform a brief acappella song of their choice. No experience required, just a love of singing and a desire to grow.

This is more than a chorus—it's a sisterhood, a mission, and a moment. Will your voice be part of it?

For details and to schedule your audition, email us at [info@hickorytreechorus.org](mailto:info@hickorytreechorus.org) or call 908-377-1399.



(above) The award-winning Hickory Tree Chorus invites you to join the sisterhood. For details and to schedule your audition, email us at [info@hickorytreechorus.org](mailto:info@hickorytreechorus.org) or call 908-377-1399.

Courtesy Photo

## JANUARY SPEAKERS PROGRAM FOR THE SUMMIT AREA OLD GUARD

The Summit Area Old Guard is a social, educational, and recreational organization that serves men of retirement age. We meet Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m., at the New Providence Presbyterian Church located at 1307 Springfield Ave – we encourage visitation, and all are welcome. Our motto is “Come for the Programs. Stay for the Friends.” The organization was founded in 1930. Our website address is [summitoldguard.org](http://summitoldguard.org).

In January, we will have four speakers:

### **TUESDAY, JANUARY 6TH: RICHARD LANDER**

Shares a deep, personal connection to the Civil War as the great-grandson of John R. Lander, a Union soldier. John emigrated from Germany and enlisted with an Illinois regiment at the remarkably early age of fourteen, serving for the entire duration of the war. This military service instilled a generational interest: members of the Lander family have continuously studied the Civil War and maintained membership in the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW). In his presentation, Richard will detail the complex tapestry of events that led to the conflict, covering the cultural, political, economic, and military factors at play. Attendees are encouraged to note the striking parallels between these historical forces and current events.

### **TUESDAY, JANUARY 13TH: DR. DEAN EPPLER**

Though the Apollo Program was a revolutionary 20th-century achievement, many of its difficulties and successes have faded into

historical obscurity. Dr. Dean Eppler, a retired NASA scientist with over 35 years in human spaceflight, possesses the breadth of experience to bring the mission into focus. His background includes Apollo Program history, advanced space suit engineering, ISS facility development, and training/selecting astronauts (1990, 1996, and 1998 selections). Dr. Eppler will identify the key areas of the mission's success and discuss Apollo's enduring contributions to human spaceflight.

### **TUESDAY, JANUARY 20TH: HOWARD MEYER**

A long-time leader in New Jersey volunteer EMS. He is the past president of the EMS Council of New Jersey, the country's largest volunteer squad association, and served as its volunteer legislative director for over 20 years. Since 1971, he has served in leadership roles, including president and chief, across all types of New Jersey environments—rural, suburban, and urban. Howard will detail the history and

evolution of the volunteer EMS system, highlighting its critical importance to the state. His talk will cover key events and the major challenges volunteer squads face moving forward.

### **TUESDAY, JANUARY 27TH: BOB GULA**

The Forgotten Victory Trail explores one of America's most overlooked Revolutionary chapters in the brutal campaigns of 1780 in NJ, when burning towns, secret networks, and fierce local resistance helped turn the tide of the war. The Battles of Springfield and Connecticut Farms in June 1780 were critical in the defense of New Jersey (and Washington's forces in Morristown) and in the weakening of the British Forces ahead of the Battle of Yorktown. Our speaker will be Bob Gula, Education Officer –West Fields Chapter of Sons of the American Revolution Patriotic Instructor, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Member and General Society of Mayflower Descendants.



(above, l-r) Richard Lander, Dr. Eppler, Howard Meyer, Robert Gula

# MORRIS COUNTY LIBRARY JANUARY EVENTS

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## Lunch & Learn: Wills, Trusts, & Estates

Fri., Jan. 23, 12:00-1:00 p.m.

with Morris County Surrogate Heather J. Darling: Surrogate Darling will discuss wills, trusts, and estates. Registration is required.

## Celebrate 250:

### Music of the American Revolution:

Tue., Jan. 27, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Anne and Ridley Enslow return for an entertaining evening of 18th-century songs about the struggle for American independence. No registration; seats are limited and first-come, first-seated.

## ALL AGES

### Chess Club

Wed., Jan. 14, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Friendly & non-competitive chess games between players of all ages and ability levels. No registration.

### Spanish Conversation

Thu., Jan. 29, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Practice your Spanish language proficiency in a casual, small group environment. A basic level skill is recommended, but any skill level is welcome. No registration. For teens and adults. in the Conference Room

## ADULTS

### Computer Classes for Adults

January classes include PC Basics, Excel I, II, & III, Internet Basics, Online Spam & Phishing, and Intro to Excel Tables. Schedule and registration (required) at:

[mclib.info/Programs/Computer-Classes](http://mclib.info/Programs/Computer-Classes)

### Friday Afternoon Movies at 2:00 p.m.

no registration:

1/9: "Relay"

1/16: "The Untouchables"

1/30: "Eleanor the Great"

### True Crime Chat (Via Zoom)

Thu., Jan. 8, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Virtual true crime discussion group meets via Zoom on the second Thursday evening of each

month. The Zoom link will be emailed to you shortly before the program start time. Register at [tinyurl.com/mcltruecrime](http://tinyurl.com/mcltruecrime)

### Tuesday Book Club

Tue., Jan. 13, 2:00-3:00 p.m.

January's book: The Ten Thousand Doors of January by Alix E. Harrow. No registration.

### Socrates Cafe

Tue., Jan. 20, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

A discussion group using the dialogue of the Socratic Method. No registration.

### Mystery Book Club

Mon., Jan. 26, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

January's book: The Moonstone by Wilkie Collins. No registration.

### Writers Circle

Wed., Jan. 28, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Join our Writing Circle for experience, tips on writing, reading, editing, and revising your work, whether poetry, prose, or long story. No registration.

## CHILDREN

### Winter Bingo Reading Challenge

Mon., Jan. 5 through Sat., Jan. 31

Complete a bingo card and return it to the Children's Room for a prize. For ages birth-12. No registration.

### Paws for Reading

Thu., Jan. 22, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Read to a very patient therapy dog! For ages 5-12. Registration (required) begins 1/13 at: [tinyurl.com/mcl-paws1](http://tinyurl.com/mcl-paws1) in the Children's Room

### LEGO Club

Sat., Jan. 24, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Create and build using LEGO! For ages 4-12. Registration (required) begins 1/13 at: [tinyurl.com/mcl-lego5](http://tinyurl.com/mcl-lego5)

### Preschool Storytime & Music w/Mr. Laurence:

Tuesday, Jan. 27, 10:00-10:30 a.m.

Stories, fingerplays and music with Mr. Laurence. For ages 2-5. No registration.

## RESIDENTS 55+ WELCOMED

Senior Center of the Chathams

58 Meyersville Road, Chatham

Mon through Fri from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information call 973-635-4565

or visit [chathamseiorcenter.org](http://chathamseiorcenter.org).

### Alzheimer's NJ Caregiver Support Group

Thursday, Jan. 8, 10:30 a.m.

This group provides families and caregivers with the emotional support and education they need to better understand Alzheimer's Disease and other forms of dementia. A trained facilitator guides the group. Visit [alznj.org](http://alznj.org) to register and learn about their additional programs, or call the Center.

### Plastics & Health

Monday, Jan. 12, 11:00 a.m.

Learn about plastics, why recycling is not an option, and steps to reduce exposure to its harmful impacts.

### Problems Falling & Staying Asleep

Wednesday, Jan. 14, 1:00 a.m.

Learn how sleep problems, sleep schedules, and bedtime habits can affect your daily life.

### Classical Piano Performance

Monday, Jan. 19, 1:00 p.m.

Luc Reyes, a 17-year-old, who has received multiple awards at prestigious piano competitions will perform classical pieces.

### Photography Group: Smartphone Cameras

Wednesday, Jan. 21, 11:00 a.m.

This meeting focuses on taking pictures with cell phones.

### Benefits of Walking in Winter

Monday, Jan. 26, 1:00 p.m.

Learn the benefits of outdoor walking adventures.

### Salute to Sondheim, His Songs & Shows

Tuesday, Jan. 27, 12:00 p.m.

Hear about the unforgettable work of Stephen Sondheim - from his iconic Broadway hits to his boundary-pushing storytelling techniques.

### Aging with Intention: Rewriting Your Narrative

Wednesday, Jan. 28, 12:00 p.m.

This presentation discusses Positive Psychology principles that promote vitality, engagement, meaning, and accomplishment - and ways to enhance overall health and happiness while aging.

Courtesy Photo



(above) Our thanks to the Town and Country Garden Club of Chatham for returning to teach the always-popular holiday centerpiece project.

## STATE CANCELS LEGAL NOTICE MANDATE

We rarely ever hear about the government reducing taxes but it happened this year when New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy eliminated the mandate that legal notices must be printed in a newspaper.

The antiquated mandate is decades old and the cost for the advertising was paid for by public funds from municipalities, counties, school districts, and independent authorities. It was a lucrative business for the publications and more recently the majority of their revenue. Without the mandate the fear in the newspaper industry was that the publications relying on the legal advertising income will not survive.

In some cases the majority of content in the newspaper had been the legal ads. In question was the criteria for the mandate, i.e., were the publications meeting the required numbers of

paid subscriptions, and circulation.

The idea of doing away with the mandate, though practical, was considered political poison. No lawmaker wanted to be deemed responsible as the cause for newspapers' closures and people losing their jobs. During the Governor Christi administration the Star Ledger warned that doing away with the mandates would cause 250 weekly newspapers to close.

What brought about the change is a successful lawsuit filed by the County of Warren which named the Star Ledger and Daily Record as defendants. The suit may have been the last straw in the Ledger's decision to stop printing the newspaper in January of 2025.

Local governments will now be required to publish their legal notices on their websites.

# RENNA MEDIA NEWSPAPERS RATE SHEET

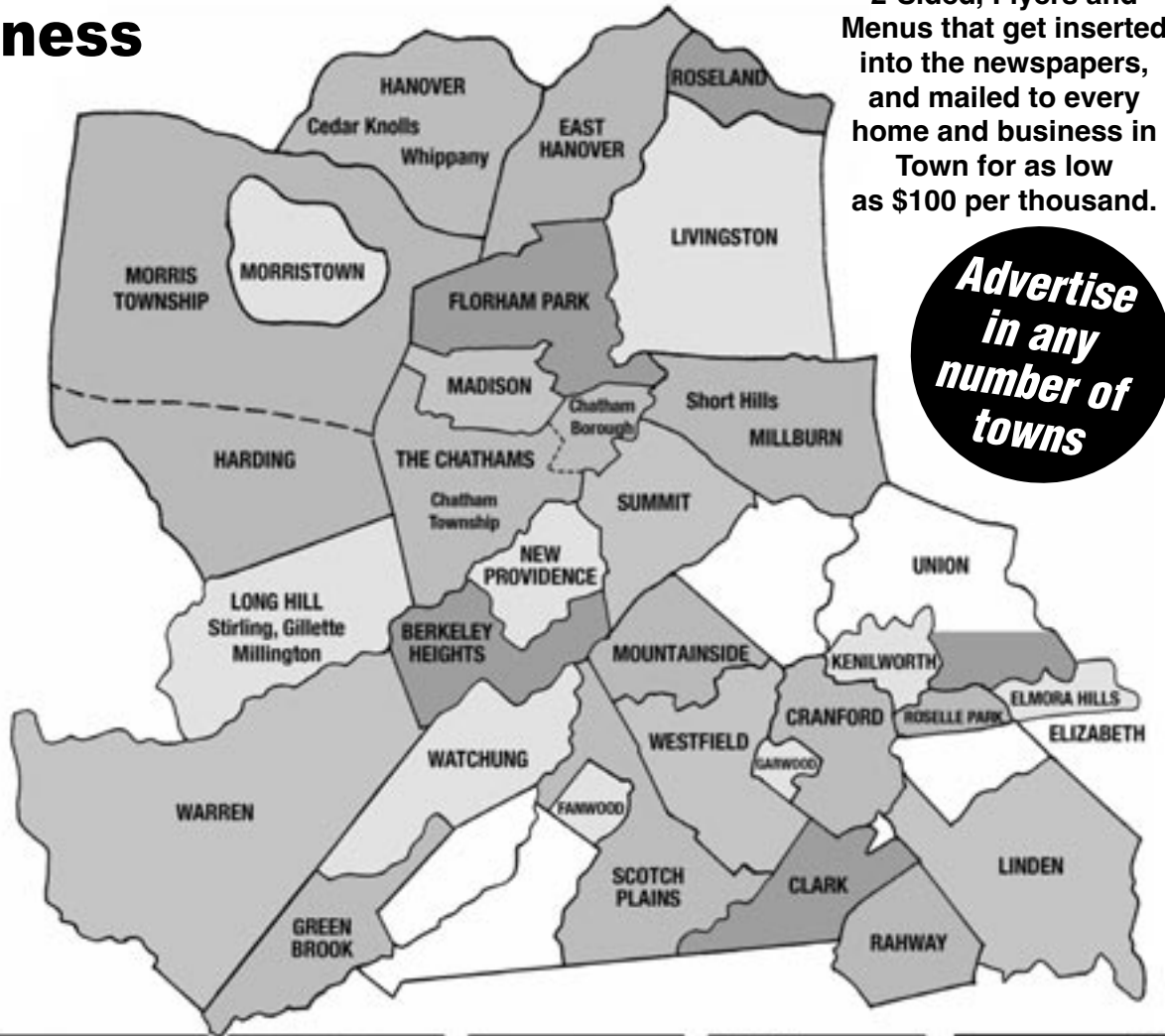
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joerenna@rennamedia.com

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**Advertise in any number of towns**

<b>Berkeley Heights</b> COMMUNITY NEWS Qty: 5,000 Zip: 07922	<b>THE CHATHAMS</b> NJ Qty: 7,600 Zip: 07928	<b>Clark Monthly</b> Qty: 6,800 Zip: 07066
<b>CRANFORD MONTHLY</b> NJ Qty: 9,900 Zip: 07016	<b>East Hanover View</b> NJ Qty: 4,700 Zip: 07936	<b>Elmora Hills</b> ELIZABETH, NJ Qty: 5,400 Zip: 07208

Section of Elizabeth, NJ

<b>Fanwood Post</b> NJ Qty: 3,000 Zip: 07023	<b>Florham Park Press</b> NJ Qty: 6,000 Zip: 07932	<b>Garwood Times</b> NJ Qty: 2,500 Zip: 07027	<b>Green Brook Gazette</b> NJ Qty: 3,300 Zip: 08812	<b>HANOVER TOWNSHIP PRESS</b> NJ CEDAR KNOLLS WHIPPANY Qty: 6,100 Zips: 07927, 07981	<b>BUSINESS • LIFE KENILWORTH</b> NJ Qty: 3,500 Zip: 07033	<b>NJ LIFE in LINDEN</b> NJ Qty: 18,000 Zip: 07036	<b>Livingston Monthly</b> NJ Qty: 12,100 Zip: 07039
<b>Long Hill LEADER</b> NJ Qty: 3,500 Zips: 07933, 07946, 07980	<b>MADISON MONTHLY</b> NJ Qty: 6,300 Zip: 07940	<b>Short Hills MILLBURN MONTHLY</b> NJ Qty: 8,200 Zips: 07041, 07078	<b>MORRIS TOWNSHIP TIMES</b> NJ Qty: 13,500 Zip: 07960, Harding 07976	<b>MORRISTOWN MONTHLY</b> NJ Qty: 7,000 Zip: 07960	<b>MOUNTAINSIDE VIEW</b> NJ Qty: 3,000 Zip: 07092	<b>New Providence NEWS</b> NJ Qty: 5,100 Zip: 07974	<b>OUR TOWN Rahway, NJ</b> NJ Qty: 13,100 Zip: 07065
<b>Life in Roseland</b> NJ Qty: 3,000 Zip: 07068	<b>ROSELLE PARK MONTHLY</b> NJ Qty: 5,600 Zip: 07204	<b>Scotch Plains</b> NJ WHAT'S HAPPENING MONTHLY Qty: 9,600 Zip: 07076	<b>Summit Times</b> NJ Qty: 9,600 Zip: 07901	<b>Spirit of UNION</b> NJ Qty: 7,800 Zip: 07083 (partial)	<b>WARREN MONTHLY</b> NJ Qty: 6,500 Zip: 07059	<b>Watchung Post</b> NJ Qty: 2,700 Zip: 07069	<b>Westfield MONTHLY</b> NJ 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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WhartonARTS

Helen H. Cha-Pyo, Artistic Director



# AUDITIONS

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There is still time to join NJYC!

## Auditions for Select Ensembles January 2026

Past Tours and Performances include The White House, Carnegie Hall, Super Bowl, Radio City Music Hall, The Kennedy Center, Domestic & International Tours, and more!

Call 973-998-5670  
for more information.

Register Online at [NJYC.org](http://NJYC.org)



Made possible by funds from the  
New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner  
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Wharton Institute for the Performing Arts is a non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization and is committed to being accessible to all patrons, students, parents and visitors. All programs, classes, events and concerts are accessible ensuring that everyone can participate in a diverse range of arts programming and classes.



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RELOCATION  
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Sat 10am-4pm • Sun 11am-3pm

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**RSVP: BestPlacesExpo.com**

EXPO HOURS:  
Sat : 10am - 4pm  
Sun: 11am - 3pm

Scan to RSVP



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