

New Providence NEWS

Published by Renna Media, LLC. On-line at RennaMedia.com

Issue 125 • February 2026

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WHARTON ANNOUNCES NEW LOCATION FOR SUMMER CAMPS

The Wharton Performing Arts School (PAS) is pleased to announce that all 2026 Summer Camps will take place at a new location: 570 Central Avenue in New Providence—the home of the New Jersey Youth Chorus and New Jersey Youth Symphony. Bringing PAS summer programming to this site allows Wharton Arts to host all camps under one roof and create a unified, convenient experience for its student families.

“We’re excited to welcome our summer campers to a new home this year,” said PAS Director Debra Joyal. “This location supports our commitment to providing a fun, engaging, and inspiring summer for every student.”

Said Wharton Arts Artistic Director & Principal Conductor Helen H. Cha-Pyo, "As we bring our Performing Arts School summer camps to New Providence, families can rest assured that the same exceptional instruction and nurturing environment they’ve come to expect will continue without interruption. Our New Jersey Youth Symphony orchestral, double reed, and chamber music camps will remain in the New Providence location as always. Looking ahead, we’re excited by the possibilities of uniting all Wharton Arts summer programs under one roof creating a vibrant, cross-disciplinary summer experience where young performers can learn, grow, and be inspired together.”

Wharton Arts’ 2026 summer camps feature programs in music, drama, and musical theater for students of various ages and experience levels. Registration is now open online. For more information and complete summer camp listing, visit WhartonArts.org.

The Wharton Performing Arts School (PAS) is proud to be part of Wharton Arts, New Jersey’s largest independent non-profit community performing arts education center, serving nearly 2,000 students each year through a wide range of programs. PAS has been nurturing artistic excellence and creativity in the community for 40 years. Offering programs in music and performing arts, the school empowers students to develop their talents, confidence, and lifelong appreciation for the arts.

Wharton Arts’ mission is to offer accessible,



(above) PAS is pleased to announce that all 2026 Summer Camps will take place at a new location: 570 Central Avenue in New Providence.

high quality performing arts education that sparks personal growth and builds inclusive communities.

Wharton Arts is New Jersey’s largest independent non-profit community performing arts education center serving nearly 2,000 students through a range of classes and ensembles. The 5 ensembles of the New Jersey Youth Chorus, an auditioned choral ensemble program for students in grades 3–12, encourage a love and appreciation of choral music while nurturing personal growth and creative development. The 15 ensembles of the New Jersey Youth Symphony, which serve over 500 students in grades 3–12 by audition, inspire young people to achieve musical excellence through high-level ensemble training and performance opportunities. Based in Paterson, the Paterson Music Project is an El Sistema-inspired program of Wharton Arts that uses music education as a vehicle for social action by empowering and inspiring young people to achieve their full potential through the community experience of ensemble learning and playing. From Pathways classes for young children to Lifelong Learning programs for adults, the Wharton Performing Arts School has a robust musical theater and drama program and offers both private and group classes for instruments and voice for all ages and all abilities. With the belief that performing arts education should be accessible to all people regardless of their ability to pay, Wharton Arts offers need-based scholarships.

Wharton Arts is located in Berkeley Heights, New Providence, and Paterson, NJ and reaches students from 12 counties. All of Wharton Arts’ extraordinary teaching artists, faculty members, and conductors hold degrees in their teaching specialty and have been vetted and trained to enable our students to achieve their personal best.

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NEWS FROM ATTIC OF THE SALT BOX MUSEUM

New Providence Historical Society safeguarded local newspapers from April 1968 to May 1969 at the Salt Box. Those issues are now online, thanks to the library's ongoing digitization project. Find local news from 1950 to 2006 online

at [#nparchives](https://bit.ly/nparchives)

Prefer to thumb through vintage newspapers? Bound copies of The Dispatch can be read in the Mason Room at the back of the library on Tuesdays from 10 am-12 pm.



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DECORSO COMMUNITY CENTER UPCOMING EVENTS FOR SENIORS

please call (908) 665-0046 or e-mail decorsocenter@newprov.us to register in advance (space is limited)

The DeCorso Community Center, which serves as the home for the New Providence Senior Citizens Club, provides opportunities for senior residents to socialize, exercise and participate in programs and activities with their peers. The Center's hours are Monday-Friday from 9:30 a.m. —2:30 p.m. The New Providence Senior Citizens Club holds weekly meetings on Wednesdays at 11:00am with special presentations, performances, or "special" bingo. For program details and a full calendar please visit newprov.us/278/Seniors.

Nurse's Hours

**Wednesday, February 4 at 10:30am,
Club Meeting, Birthdays & AWR Band
Students, followed by Bingo**

**Wednesday, February 4 at 11:00am
Painting with Veronica**

**Thursday, February 5 at 11:30am
Table Tennis, Register in advance**

**Friday, February 6 and February 13
at 9:30am,**

**Pizza Bingo with FREE pizza
provided by Spring Grove**

**Friday, February 6 at 11:00am
Club Meeting & Braven BCBS
"Wellness Challenge"**

**Wednesday, February 11 at 11:00am
Valentine's Craft with LifeHospice**

**Thursday, February 12 at 11:30am,
Nurse's Hours**

**Wednesday, February 13 at 10:30am,
Bingo with refreshments provided
by Cranford Park Care**

**Friday, February 13 at 11:00am
Club Meeting & Lunar New Year program
with Arbor Terrace**

**Wednesday, February 18 at 11:00am,
Lunar New Year Luncheon
at Szechuan Delight
(purchase tickets in advance)**

**Thursday, February 19 at 12:00pm,
Sandwich Making Service Project**

**Monday, February 23 at 12:00pm
Book Club (Still Life by Louise Penny)**

**Tuesday, February 24 at 11:00am,
Nurse's Hours**

**Wednesday, February 25 at 10:30am
Club Meeting, LINC & Special Bingo**


**Wednesday, February 25 at 11:00am
Osteoporosis program with
Westfield Regional Health Department
Thursday, February 26 at 11:00am,**



*(above) MahJongg 2026 started with a full house at the DeCorso Center!
They play every Thursday at 12 noon.*

Courtesy Photo


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FEBRUARY 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.

In February, we will have four speakers:

FEBRUARY 3RD, MATTHEW LIBERA

Professor of Materials Science and Engineering at Stevens Institute of Technology, will tell us how to make a better hip implant. Biomedical implants such as hip and knee prostheses have had a huge impact on human health and have improved the quality of life for millions of patients. However, in addition to their wonderful healing properties, these, and other tissue-contacting biomedical devices (e.g., catheters, tissue-expanders, pacemakers, etc.) can also catalyze infection. Infection rates vary from about 1-5% but can be as high as 50% depending on the nature of the device. Device-associated infection can be a life-changing complication which currently has no cure. Professor Libera will give an overview of tissue-contacting implants using hips as a prime example and then describe the infection problem as well as ongoing efforts to prevent, detect, and cure these infections.

FEBRUARY 10TH, NANCY ORI

Nancy Ori will discuss ‘Nature as the Inspiration of Art’. Nancy has been an internationally respected photographer for over 35 years and a video producer for Ciba-Geigy and Novartis, and is owner of New Jersey Media Center, LLC in Berkeley Heights, NJ. Nancy studied with Ansel Adams and was a teaching assistant for many years with the Ansel Adams Workshop in California. In 1994 she established the NJ Photography Forum, a group of professional and serious amateur photographers. Nancy will share her personal interpretation of the landscape and architecture, demonstrating how she uses photographs to transform natural and man-made settings. Her images, which reveal a love of light, shadow, and form, become powerful documents that express the land's vulnerability and endurance.



FEBRUARY 17TH, STEVE NISBERG

We will learn about the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF). Our speaker will be Steve Nisberg, a human resource specialist. Steve will give us insight into this global Non-Governmental Organization and share its history, the work that it does around the world to stabilize the climate, strengthen the ability of people and nature to thrive and support people's health through eight key areas of focus.

FEBRUARY 24TH, KEN CAVANAGH

We'll delve into AI – artificial intelligence. Our speaker will be Ken Cavanagh, former faculty member, cyber security, Fordham University. Ken will review the various elements of AI and how they affect our daily experiences, including debunking common misconceptions and highlighting ways AI is used today, such as virtual assistants, healthcare, and daily assistance.



(above, l-r) Matthew Libera, Nancy Ori, Steve Nisberg, and Ken Cavanagh

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At Drew University, Madison, NJ • Saturday, March 21, 2026 • 4:00 PM

TheraYouth Foundation
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KARÉN HAKOBYAN, CONDUCTOR

Haydn – *Symphony No. 59 "Fire"* es

Saint-Saëns – *Cello Concerto No. 1*

Komitas – *Three Armenian Miniatur*

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Pegasus: The Orchestra will perform at Drew University on Saturday, March 21 at 4:00 PM for the TheraYouth Foundation's Third Annual Concert fundraiser. Held at the Dorothy Young Center for the Arts, the concert will unite world-class professional musicians with local student performers to raise critical funds for TheraYouth's mission to provide needed physical, occupational, and speech therapy services to disadvantaged children who cannot otherwise access care.

Pegasus: The Orchestra pairs artistic excellence with social impact. Pianist, conductor and composer Karén Hakobyan founded the group in 2017 as a nonprofit dedicated to supporting exceptional musical talent, and to bringing world-class performances to underserved communities. True to its namesake, the ensemble empowers its musicians to soar artistically. Pegasus functions as a collective of artist leaders, resulting in performances that run the range of vibrant, driven orchestral performances alternating with intimate and chamber-like expression. The New York Concert Review calls Pegasus "a truly first-rate ensemble" and a "can't miss" group, urging audiences to "get your tickets right away before they sell out."

As a composer-arranger, Director Hakobyan frequently crafts orchestral works to showcase

the unique musicality of the ensemble's artists, as in this concert which Hakobyan specifically wrote for this performance.

The Chatham High School Chamber Choir, directed by Kenneth Bryson, will perform the Interlude. This ensemble has performed at venues including the White House, the National Anthem at Citi Field to open a Mets game, the Empire State Building, and the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, and appreciated for their musical excellence.

The proceeds from this concert will support the TheraYouth Foundation, whose mission is to ensure that children are never denied critical physical, occupational, or speech therapy simply because their families cannot afford it. TheraYouth serves disadvantaged youth with treatable conditions, helping them gain strength, communication, and independence. Funded entirely through donations and fundraisers, every dollar raised supports life-changing therapy sessions for children who might otherwise go without the care they need to thrive.

"Every child deserves the chance to reach their full potential," said TheraYouth founder, Dr. Irina Marcoff, DPT. "This concert not only raises vital funds but brings the community together around the belief that early, high-quality therapy can change the course of a child's life."

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OPERA AT FLORHAM PRESENTS VALENTINE SERENADE

Lenfell Hall, The Mansion, Fairleigh Dickinson University (285 Madison Ave, Madison, NJ • Sunday, February 15, 2026 at 2:00 PM

Opera at Florham invites audiences to celebrate Valentine's Day weekend with a concert of love on stage: Valentine Serenade, a special Sunday afternoon concert on February 15, 2026 at 2:00 pm at Lenfell Hall, The Mansion, Fairleigh Dickinson University (285 Madison Ave, Madison, NJ 07940).

Featuring beloved Opera at Florham favorites Sarah Barrera, Soprano, and Pedro Barrera, Tenor, this program showcases a married couple united on and off the stage, whose shared artistry brings rare intimacy and authenticity to every performance. The concert unfolds as a cinematic emotional journey - exploring love, longing, joy, and farewell through music that resonates deeply with the heart.

In past performances, the Barreras have captivated audiences with repertoire ranging from Giuseppe Verdi, Giacomo Puccini, and Charles Gounod to Ennio Morricone, Stephen Sondheim, and other modern favorites, seamlessly bridging Opera, theater, and film in performances that are both emotionally rich and theatrically compelling.

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- A rare opportunity to hear a married couple perform together, bringing genuine intimacy and emotional authenticity to the stage

- A cinematic, story-driven program that goes beyond a traditional recital
- A unique blend of Opera, musical theater, and film music
- Performed in the elegant, intimate setting of Lenfell Hall at The Mansion, perfect for a Valentine's weekend experience

Tickets available online operaatflorham.org:

General Admission: \$30

Students (25 & under): \$10

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A Valentine Serenade is presented by Opera at Florham as part of its ongoing commitment to offering inspired, intimate performances in one of New Jersey's most beautiful historic venues. Reserve your seat online and early to enjoy this afternoon of love and passion, as limited tickets will be available at the door.

Opera at Florham has been northern New Jersey's leading Opera company since its founding in 1982. This 2023-2024 Season, we present six concerts, including the International Vocal Competition, and the educational series Opera Talk. Our concerts are performed by professionally trained artists singing Opera Arias and excerpts from Broadway musical theater and The Great American Songbook.

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Valentine Serenade



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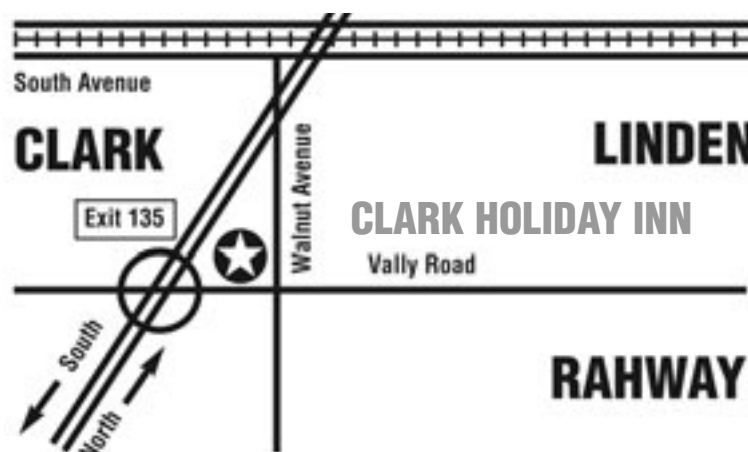
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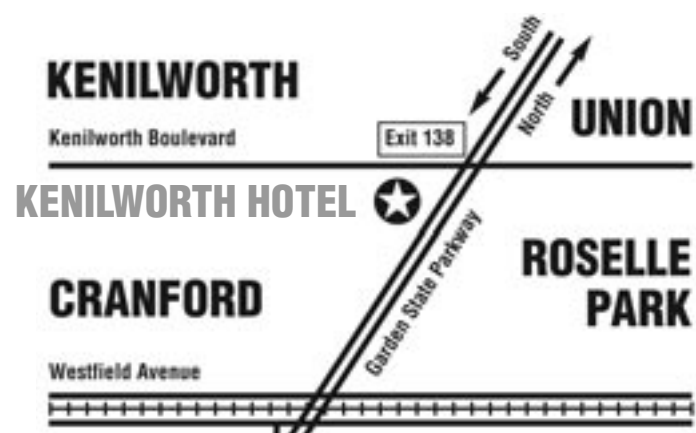
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SHARP-SHINNED HAWK RELEASED BACK TO WILD

This feisty Sharp-shinned Hawk was admitted on 12/22 after being found in a yard in Warren following a window strike. On intake, the hawk had bloody nares and mouth, consistent with head trauma often seen after collisions. The nares are a bird's nostrils, located near the base of the beak, and bleeding there often points to head or facial trauma from collisions.

With supportive care and time to heal, this "Sharpie" as we call them, made great progress and was moved to an outside flight cage on 12/28/25. After proving strong, steady flight and good awareness, the hawk was successfully released back to the wild on 1/2/2026.

Sharp-shinned Hawks are incredibly fast and agile forest hunters, built to weave through dense trees while chasing small birds. That same speed and focus, however, can make them especially vulnerable to window strikes when reflective glass looks like open sky or habitat.

Remember, small changes matter.

ABOUT THE RAPTOR TRUST

The Raptor Trust is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization located at 1390 White Bridge Rd., Millington, NJ. They provide free care and assistance to injured, sick, or orphaned wild birds. They offer educational programs to the public about wild birds, especially birds of prey. They strive to provide a human example for others. For more information, or to make a donation visit info@theraptortrust.org. To report an injured bird call 908-647-2353.



RAPTOR TRUST SUMMER SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Each year from mid-May through August, The Raptor Trust receive hundreds of injured, orphaned, or displaced nestling and fledgling songbirds found by citizens. We see this time as a perfect opportunity to provide experience and education to students who wish to learn about wildlife care and rehabilitation.

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY FEB 6TH, 2026.

To apply, please submit an application, resume, and cover letter through our website at theraptortrust.org/summer-scholars-program. A selection of 2-3 references whom we may contact is optional.

If you have any questions,
please contact Amanda Cannizzo at
acannizzo@theraptortrust.org

If you are interested,
Visit theraptortrust.org
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FEBRUARY EVENTS AT NEW PROVIDENCE MEMORIAL LIBRARY

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Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 10:00 AM - 8:30 PM; Wednesday, Friday, Saturday: 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM; Sunday: 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

NP Chess Club

February 2, 9, 23 4:30 - 6:30 pm

Learn to play chess. Instruction lectures & strategy, followed by play. Questions?

Email: new.providence.chess@gmail.com

Teens Teaching : Math Club

February 7, 21, 28 at 3:30 - 4:30 pm

An hour of 5-6th grade math designed to deepen understanding. Led by NP Teens.

Evening Book Club

February 12 at 7:30 - 8:30 pm

We'll discuss The Zelmenyaners by Moyshe Kulbak, a classic of Yiddish literature, as part of the Yiddish Book Center's Public Libraries Program.

DIY Book Page Vase

February 15 at 1:00 - 2:30 pm

Make a vase by folding the pages of a book. All materials and silk flowers included. Register.

Morning Book Club

February 17 at 10:30 - 11:30 am

We'll discuss The Correspondent by Virginia Evans, a novel about the power of literature and connection with people we might never meet.

Movie Matinee: Hamilton

February 17 at 1:00 - 3:00 pm

A musical that tells the story of Alexander Hamilton, one of America's foremost founding fathers and the first Secretary of the Treasury, famous for his duel with Aaron Burr.

Keys 2 Success Concert

February 22 at 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

A nonprofit founded 10 years ago by a New Providence mom and local volunteers, Keys 2 Success provides free piano lessons in Newark.

Be part of the performance with hand percussion instruments and singing along to pop favorites.

History of Greenwood Gardens

February 23 at 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

The Executive Director of Greenwood Gardens will show how two families in the 1900s created this peaceful haven graced with winding paths, terraced gardens, and Arts and Crafts follies.

Silent Book Club

February 23 at 7:00 pm - 7:45 pm

BYOBook to introvert happy hour. Gather at the armchairs in the Quiet Zone to read in quiet camaraderie. Stay after for an optional chat.

Cookbook Club

February 24 at 1:00 - 2:00 pm

This month's theme is Soups and Stews. Most participants prepare and bring a dish to share. Send your recipe to info@newprovlibrary.org.

The History of the Smithsonian

February 24 at 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

An online interview with the curator emeritus of the Smithsonian, Tom Crouch. Learn the incredible history behind the world's largest museum. Register online.

Haunting Chapters Book Club

February 24 at 7:00 - 8:00 pm

We'll be discussing Ring Shout by P. Djeli Clark, a dark fantasy historical novella that gives a supernatural twist to the Ku Klux Klan's reign of terror. Copies at the front desk.

Teen Take Out Box Pickup

February 26 at 3:00 pm

If you signed up for a February Teen Take Out Box, they will be available for pickup starting today at 3:00 pm.

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MUSICAL PERFORMANCE FOR ALL AGES - FEB 22

Friends of The

New Providence Memorial Library

For the first time ever, Keys 2 Success brings its magic to the New Providence Library. Join us for an afternoon where you become part of the performance—grab hand percussion instruments, sing along to pop favorites, and enjoy stunning classical performances by youth musicians. From babies to seniors, everyone's invited to make music together!

Founded 10 years ago by a New Providence mom and local volunteers, Keys 2 Success provides free piano lessons in Newark while bringing together teens and adults from all backgrounds to build friendships and leadership skills through music. The organization has performed with the New Jersey Symphony, Harlem Chamber Players, and at venues from NJPAC to New York City—but there's something special about coming home.

Experience how music transforms young lives into tomorrow's leaders. Be part of the joy!

The Friends of the New Providence Memorial

Library is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization whose mission is to raise awareness and funds, as well as advocate for, the New Providence Memorial Library.

For more information about the Friends visit:
NewProvidenceLibrary.org/about/friends-of-npml



(above) Keys 2 Success brings its magic to the New Providence Library on Feb. 22nd. Fun for all ages!

Courtesy Photo

HEADACHE

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YOU ARE INVITED TO A WEDDING AT CDC THEATRE

A modern musical farce with heart, *It Shoulda Been You*, at CDC Theatre, 78 Winans Ave in Cranford, NJ, invites you to a wedding day where nothing goes as planned. Chaos, secrets, and laughs abound as two families, one Jewish,


one Catholic, collide in a whirlwind of love, identity, and unexpected twists. Her mother is a force of nature. His mother is a tempest in a cocktail shaker. And, when the bride's ex-boyfriend crashes the party, the perfect wedding

starts to unravel. It's up to the bride's sister to turn a tangled mess into happily ever after in this musical comedy for anyone who has ever had parents.


This fast-paced ensemble comedy celebrates acceptance, forgiveness, and the true meaning of family. At the Steinberg wedding, nothing is what it seems; religions collide, Machiavellian plots are revealed, promises are broken, secrets are exposed and hope springs from the most unlikely of places. The charming, funny musical, *It Shoulda Been You*, invites you to a wedding day that you'll never forget, with blushing brides, nervous grooms, overbearing moms, unexpected guests and plenty of crazy twists and turns. Anything that can go wrong does, and love pops up in mysterious places.

Performances are Fridays and Saturdays from February 13th- 28th at 8pm, and Sundays February 22 and March 1 at 2pm.

CDC Theatre is happy to announce that as part of a new pilot program, the February 22nd matinee performance will be ASL interpreted. For tickets and more details, visit cdctheatre.org.




CDC Theatre 78 Winans Ave. Cranford, NJ



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Feb 28: Menlo Park Mall, Edison

www.njkidsonline.com/camp-fairs

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DAR LAUNCHES AMERICA 250 CELEBRATION

Submitted by Holly Dunbar

America's semiquincentennial year has arrived and the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) kicked off the celebration by honoring their patriot ancestors at the Somerset County Park Commission's Festival of Trees.

"Celebrating America 250 by Honoring Our Patriot Ancestors" was the theme of the tree hosted by Elizabeth Snyder-Continental Chapter DAR at the Environmental Education Center in Basking Ridge during December. The 8-ft. tall tree was decorated with red, white and blue lights and the profiles of the Revolutionary War ancestors of DAR chapter members.

"We hope that our tree helped to raise awareness of the individuals who established our nation," said Regent Nancy Stoll. "Our members are descended from patriots in nine states who served in a variety of ways. We need to remember the sacrifices that they all made for our freedom."

Featured on the tree were mini profiles of 50 patriot ancestors and their service. They included a captain of the Lexington Alarm in

Massachusetts, a river boat pilot, people who donated money or supplies, a brigadier general of the light dragoons, a spy, a president of the provincial Congress, and farmers who joined their local militia.

To join the DAR, women need to document their descent from a man or woman who aided the cause of American independence. Some prospective members have mapped out their family tree, but others know only that they have an ancestor who served in the Revolution. In that case, the DAR will assist them with research and the application process.

The DAR is a non-profit, non-political women's service organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and securing America's future through better education. There are currently 190,000 members in 3,000 chapters in the U.S. and several nations abroad.

If you are a descended from a patriot of the Revolution and would like to join the DAR, contact the chapter at

ESCchapterDAR@gmail.com.



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(above) The DAR tree was decorated with early American flags and profiles of 50 Revolutionary War ancestors of chapter members.



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VOLUNTEER FACILITATORS JOIN COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITY

Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss

The staff at Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss are so excited to welcome 10 wonderful new volunteers to the Imagine community! This group recently spent 3 full days or 24 hours sharing stories of loss and giving and receiving support. During their training, these new volunteers also learned about the Companionship Model for grief support created by Dr. Alan Wolfelt and practiced in Imagine's support

groups. The idea is that we're not going to be able to fix anyone's grief, but we can walk alongside them as companions on their grief journey. We can create opportunities for story sharing, connection, and support, which is what Imagine's volunteer facilitators do night after night in Imagine's support groups.

Many who have attended Imagine's trainings have shared that they use the skills gained during the training in their everyday lives as they support

and connect with others. One volunteer shared this about her training experience: "This training gave me skills that I didn't even know I needed. What I gained from taking part in this facilitator training will assist me in every relationship I have. I've already learned how to be a better listener to my children, to my husband, and to my friends...this training was life-changing!"

The staff at Imagine are so pleased to welcome these compassionate new volunteers to their incredible community of facilitators that's now over 140 strong! Imagine couldn't possibly support the hundreds of participants who take part in their support groups each year without their volunteer facilitators...they are truly the heart of Imagine.

If you are inspired by this work, please visit imaginein.org to learn more about joining the Imagine family.

Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss is a 501c3 that offers training and education on loss and grief to the community and free year-round grief support groups for children ages 3-18 and young adults 19-30 who are coping with a loss due to death. Concurrently, support groups are available for the parents and caregivers of the children in the groups and offered in English and Spanish. Imagine has centers in Newark and Mountainside and offers virtual groups as well. For more information, please contact Imagine at 908-264-3100 or info@imaginein.org or visit our website at imaginein.org.



(above, l-r) Imagine's latest Facilitator Training class members Back Row: Justin Mitchell, Jennifer Moshier, Susan Gray, Josie Gray, John Karuitha, Fabio Taliercio. Front Row: Lindsay Sherman, Imagine's MSW Intern, Lucy Makin, Caroline Shelby and Silquia Patel

Courtesy Photo



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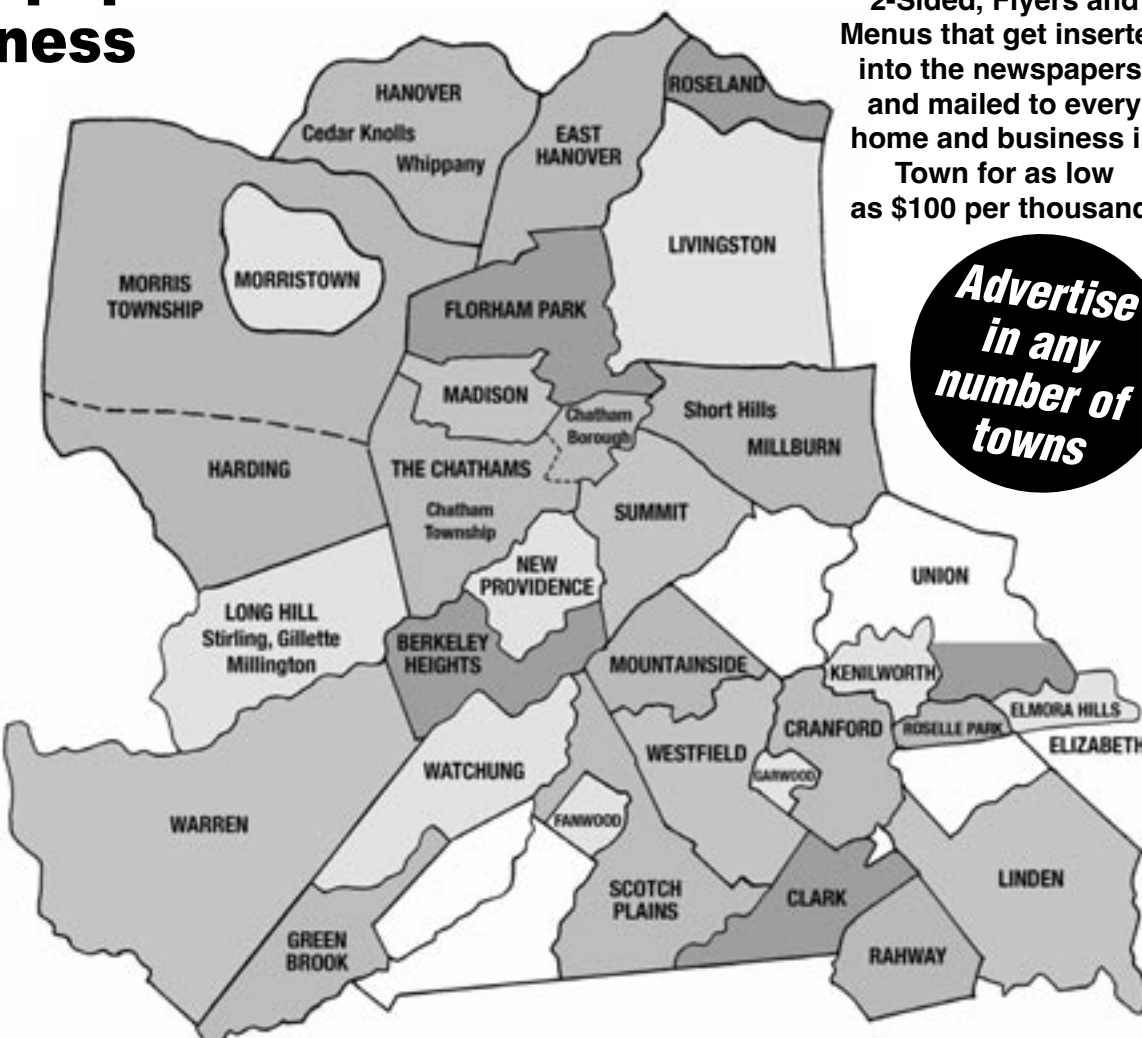
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MOBILE MEALS OF WESTFIELD ANNUAL APPEAL

Mobile Meals of Westfield's new President, Solange Bueno, continues the non-profit organization's annual appeal solicitation to raise capital from supporters and organization volunteers to help fund the food program for

those individuals unable to prepare or shop for food for themselves. Mobile Meals has served the communities of Clark, Cranford, Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Scotch Plains and Westfield in providing hot, affordable, prepared meals delivered to client residences since 1968. The non-profit receives no government funding and relies on contributions from donors and grants to sustain the cost of food and operations.

Mobile Meals of Westfield continues to seek donations from the community now. A \$55 donation will provide lunch and dinner for one person for one week. A \$220 donation provides lunch and dinner for 20 people. Donations in any amount are most sincerely appreciated.

For anyone interested in donating to Mobile Meals of Westfield, please call 908-233-6146, or visit mobilemealsofwestfield.org/donate, or scan this QR code.



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or visit chathamseiorcenter.org.

AARP Free Tax Aide Preparation
The Senior Center is again hosting the AARP Free Tax Aide program starting in February. Appointments are required; no walk-ins. Contact 973-635-4565 for more information.

Alzheimer's NJ Caregiver Support Group
Thursday, Feb. 5, 10:30 AM
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.

The Game of Bridge Demystified
Monday, Feb. 9, 11:00 AM
Rick Hartley, a local bridge teacher and author, will talk about the many facets of this fascinating game, including his own journey to the game, the many celebrities who play, the personal benefits of playing, scandal in an otherwise honorable game, why it's the only 'perfect' card game, and how you can to play.

Mindfulness & Music
Wednesday, Feb. 11, 11:30 AM
Ken Knowlton, a musician and mindfulness coach, blends music with healing, connection, and stress reduction in this guitar performance and teaching experience.

Name That Tune: Silly Love Songs
Thursday, Feb. 12, 11:00 AM
Get in the spirit of Valentine's Day early by testing your knowledge of love songs in this fun group game.

Lunar New Year Program
Wednesday, Feb. 18, 12:00 PM
Journey through imperial China and discover the dynasties, philosophies, traditions, and innovations that shaped one of the world's oldest civilizations in this engaging, illustrated and historical presentation.

Discovering America: Off the Beaten Path
Monday, Feb. 23, 1:00 PM
Jennifer Fischer, author and newspaper columnist, will share highlights of her cross-country road trip exploration of the US.

Comedians of the Borscht Belt
Wednesday, Feb. 25, 1:00 PM
Popular Entertainment Historian, John Kendrick, returns to talk about the famous comedians who made the Borscht Belt famous.

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—Hugo F., A community resident

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