

# New Providence NEWS

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## DOWNTOWN CHRISTMAS WALK: KICK OFF THE HOLIDAY

**ON FRIDAY, NOV. 25.**

*Kick Off the Holiday on Friday, Nov. 25.*

*Come watch Santa arrive in town with a parade led by the Pioneer Band and the New Providence Fire Department. The fun begins at 4:30pm and Santa arrives at 6:00pm at Provident Bank on South Street.*

**For more information about these and other events sponsored by the New Providence Business Community, please call 908-665-1400 ext. 232 or go to [www.newprovbiz.com](http://www.newprovbiz.com)**

## BANNER PROGRAM IN SUPPORT OF VETERANS

By: *Edir Coronado*

Detective Michael Hand from the New Providence Police Department has created a new program in the Borough to support local service members and veterans. Beginning in early November banners will be hung across the town, displaying the faces of hometown heroes, during appropriate times of the year, like Veterans Day. The idea was acquired from Woodbridge Township where, per Det. Hand, banners showcasing veterans have been displayed for years. He learned that other areas, like Raritan Borough had similar programs and decided that he would attempt to display the same form of gratitude in New Providence. The response to his idea has been overwhelmingly positive.

Chief Anthony D. Buccelli, Jr. was approached by Det. Hand, with the new project and without hesitation the Chief agreed. Det. Hand then set forth meeting with several widows, family members, and veterans who all graciously accepted the honor.

The project called for a minimum of 40 banners, and to Det. Hand's pleasant surprise, he received 82 as of this writing. The Local American Legion Post 433 was instrumental in identifying members that would be interested in participating. While the project is new to the town, community members are very much aware of it. The price of the banners is upwards of \$3,000 and through the generosity of local businesses and residents, like Clearpoint Designs, Creative Wall Coverings and Interiors, Sproutlings, NP Fuel, Dr. Bob Robinson, Murray Hill Inn, Prestige Diner, Braunschweiger Jewelers, Warren Perillo, Kerry Lee, Nancy Hayes and Kristin Jacobs, those costs were covered.

Det. Hand, who is also the president of the PBA, spoke about the PBA's belief that veterans should be held in the highest honor and should be remembered for their sacrifices. With the banners on display throughout the year, it is the hope of the PBA that the residents of New Providence will look upon the banners and think of the men and women who put their life on hold to serve.

Through a collaborative effort and with all the hard work involved, the expectation is that the banner program will be in existence for as long as there are veterans willing to participate. Det. Hand appreciates the experience he shared with the veterans and families, through their stories, and considers himself lucky to have received such a rich history lesson. As a token of his appreciation to the families, he was even able to refurbish some of the photos that had creases and tears.

Chief Buccelli also sees the program as a great opportunity to bond with the community and strengthen ties. The New Providence PBA is optimistic that, just like the program spread to New Providence, it will spread to the surrounding towns of Berkeley Heights and Summit.



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# SANTA CLAUS SHOP IS IN NEED OF DONATIONS

The Santa Claus Shop will open its doors to area families, providing its 50<sup>th</sup> consecutive year of complimentary holiday shopping. The shop serves more than 500 low-income families and senior citizens from Summit, New Providence and Berkeley Heights who are referred by local social services agents.

The Santa Claus Shop guests personally select a household item, new clothing for each member of their immediate family, a hat and mittens, a book, and new toy for each child. Local volunteers are responsible for the shop setup, personal shopping services for each guest, gift wrapping and clean up.

This year's Santa Claus Shop will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church, 587 Springfield Avenue in Summit. The Santa Claus Shop will be hosting a holiday gathering for senior citizens Tuesday, November 29th. Families will be offered shopping hours by invitation only on Wednesday, November 30th.

The Santa Claus Shop is chaired by Summit residents, Jennifer Easton, Sarah Roberts, Melissa Sartorius and Amy Wise and co-chaired by Denise Holmes, Laura Lameo, Jenn Moore and Diana Moran. The Santa Claus Shop exists solely on the donations of local businesses, organizations and residents. With the monetary donations, the Santa Claus Shop can purchase the gifts that allow less fortunate neighbors to

experience the joy of holiday giving without the financial burden.

To keep the holiday spirit alive for those in the community, the Santa Claus Shop chairwomen ask for checks to be made payable to SHIP, with Santa Claus Shop noted on the check's memo line, and mailed to the Santa Claus Shop, P.O. Box 119, Summit, NJ 07901. The ability to make an online donation is also available at [www.summitsantaclausshop.com](http://www.summitsantaclausshop.com) If you would like to find out more information or get involved please visit our website or follow us on Facebook at Santa Claus Shop - Summit, NJ.



(above) Santa Claus Shop helpers.

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## BOROUGH HONORS SAGE ELDERCARE FOR 50 YEARS OF MEALS ON WHEELS

### MEYERSVILLE GRANGE SOUP & PASTA CONTEST

The Meyersville Grange Soup & Pasta Contest will be held at the historic Meyersville Grange 188 Hall at 500 Meyersville Road in Gillette on Friday, November 11. Pot lids come off at 6:30pm sharp so plan to arrive about 6:15 p.m.

The Menu: All you can taste Soup & Pasta Dishes served with (Biaggio's) bakery bread and butter, coffee or tea. Homemade desserts (\$2) and bottled water (\$1) are available for purchase.

The Contest: Each person votes for his/her favorite Soup or Pasta. The top three Soup/Pasta cooks get ribbons and prizes. The Grange encourages you to bring a generous pot of soup or pastadish to share and make the meal a true contest with many choices! You could be a winner!

The Long Hill String Band provides old-time Bluegrass musical entertainment.

Admission is \$8 for Adults, \$4 for Children 12 & under. Any cook who brings a pot of soup or a pasta dish to share gets in free. We look forward to seeing you!

The Borough of New Providence presented a proclamation on October 10th to congratulate SAGE Eldercare for its Meals on Wheels 50th anniversary. SAGE serves about 44,000 meals to nearly 250 clients annually in 10 communities, including New Providence.

The proclamation in part states, "...since 1954, SAGE Eldercare has been helping make this community an amazing place to age. Professional and highly trained staff provides a wide array of information, support, and services designed to help older adults lead the most independent and active lives possible. SAGE Eldercare continues to make a positive impact on the lives of the older adults in our community."

Mayor Allen Morgan read the proclamation at the October 10th Borough of New Providence Council meeting. "I thank SAGE Eldercare's Meals on Wheels for their extraordinary generosity and commitment to the residents of New Providence and congratulate them on celebrating their 50th anniversary," Morgan said. "This is a service that you provide that we, as a Borough, cannot possibly provide, and we know it is very important, especially that you provide (beyond a meal delivery), a watchful eye for our seniors. Thank you so much for everything you do."

SAGE Eldercare began its Meals on Wheels in October 1966 with funding received from the Summit Junior League. Volunteers were recruited from various organizations such as the College Club, United Church Women, P.E.O., Red Cross, Women Pioneers of Bell Laboratories, and the Junior Fortnightly Club.


"We are currently serving about 35 residents

in New Providence and we really appreciate the partnership with the Borough," said SAGE Executive Director Angela Sullivan. "During our 50th anniversary, we are encouraging elected officials and community partners to come by as a guest volunteer for the mid-day run so that you may witness the amazing work that our volunteers and the program have been doing for 50 years."

SAGE Eldercare is committed to being the leading provider of programs and services to meet the changing needs of older adults, their families, and caregivers throughout Union, Essex, Morris, and Somerset Counties. For more information, please call 908.273.5550 or visit [www.sageeldercare.org](http://www.sageeldercare.org).



(above l-r) Mayor Allen Morgan, SAGE Eldercare Executive Director Angela Sullivan, Board of Trustees President Kitty Hartman, a resident of New Providence, and Trustee Geetha Ghai.



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## ENJOY A SCANDINAVIAN SHOPPING SPREE

On Saturday November 19, 2016 Lodge Linne #429 Vasa Order of America will sponsor a unique day of shopping, culture, and camaraderie. The 38th annual Scandinavian Import and Gift Sale will be held at Salt Brook School, 40 Maple St., New Providence (off Springfield Ave.). The sale will be open to the public between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Handicapped Accessible. Admission is free. Only cash and checks accepted.

The sale will feature a wide variety of traditional holiday and everyday Scandinavian items made from silver, pewter, amber, wood, paper, wool, straw and other materials. These gift and handicraft items are either manufactured in one of the Nordic countries or are designed in a Scandinavian style or motif and manufactured elsewhere.

Many of the traditional Scandinavian decorating items will be offered, including a large variety of elf-like tomten, Jul Bock or straw goats in all sizes, painted Dala horses, and many Christmas ornaments. Among paper items for sale will be a wide selection of Advent calendars, including those filled with chocolate candy, Carl Larsson calendars, Christmas cards, and stationery. An assortment of table linens will be available, including runner fabric by the yard for both Christmas and every day use. For the home one will find, trays, baking needs, aprons, knives, a large variety of Danish wrought iron candleholders, and wooden candleholders for Christmas and general use. Personal items will include lovely sweaters from Dale of Norway, for men and women in both cardigan and pullover styles. The jewelry department has been expanded to include Norwegian silver solje,

pewter and amber pieces designed as necklaces, earrings and pins.

We will be selling a large variety of Scandinavian baked goods, such as limpa bread, coffee braids, and pastries. Imported foods that will be sold include cheeses, such as authentic Farmers cheese; several types of herring and mackerel; lingonberries and cloudberry; and various chocolates and marzipan.

Coffee and Danish pastries will be served beginning at 10:00 a.m. followed by a light lunch of Scandinavian open-faced sandwiches and pastries starting at 11:00 a.m. Drawings for door prizes will be held frequently during the day.

The location of the sale is easily reached by taking either route 24 to Summit or route 78 to New Providence.

Lodge Linne No. 429, Vasa Order of America, is a non-profit organization, originally for individuals of Scandinavian descent. However, membership has now been opened up to also include people who are interested in Swedish and Nordic heritage and culture. For further information about membership contact: Vibeke (908-464-0425) or Judy (908-464-0139). The Lodge meets on the third Friday of each month at the DeCorso Community Center on Fourth St. in New Providence.

Proceeds from the Import Sale benefit many local organizations and charities such as First Aid Squads, Volunteer Fire Departments, local libraries, high school scholarships, Sage, Cherished Creations and we sponsor a local softball team in New Providence. A portion is also donated to the local Vasa Order to be used for Scandinavian cultural programs and scholarships.



(above) Karen Jenshoej of New Providence, Susan Finn of Berkekeley Heights, and Judy Campbell of New Providence are standing in front of Scandinavian candleholders display .

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<b>2016 Leaf Collection Schedule (Weather Permitting)</b>	
<b>EAST</b> Summit Line to South Street	<b>WEST</b> South Street to Berkeley Heights Line
WEEK OF:	WEEK OF:
<b>November 14, 2016</b>	<b>November 28, 2016</b>

County road leaf collection schedule – residents who live on county maintained roads will be vacuumed by the union county public works department.

Please check Union County Public Works website for more information. All roads listed

below will be vacuumed as scheduled by union county.

- Springfield avenue
- Mountain avenue
- South street
- Passaic street



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Attorney David C. Bendush announced settlement of a lawsuit arising from a home explosion in Hunterdon County in September of 2014. The blast was caused by a contractor who was converting the home of his clients, from oil to natural gas. The clients were in the home with their infant daughter at the time of the explosion and fire. Davis Heating and Cooling was attempting without success to purge the new gas lines. Large amounts of natural gas were caused to accumulate inside the basement until the gas exploded, nearly levelling the structure and knocking the clients to the ground where they stood. Mr. Bendush litigated the liability issues aggressively, and attained the unusual result of summary judgment for plaintiff. The defense had little choice but to settle quickly and on favorable terms, in order to avoid a trial.

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# NEW PROVIDENCE GROUPS JOIN TOGETHER FOR 35TH ANNUAL SCOUTING FOR FOOD DRIVE

New Providence's Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts will join together with Faith Lutheran Church and the Community Service Association of New Providence (CSA) for the 2016 Scouting for Food drive. Now in its 35th year, this community-wide event collects non-perishable items for local families in need.

This year, the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts will deliver grocery bags to Borough residents' homes on Saturday, November 12. On Saturday, November 19, they will return to pick up the filled bags and bring all the collected items to Faith Lutheran Church on South Street where they are sorted and packed.

A portion of the food items are given to struggling New Providence families who receive assistance from the CSA. The rest of the food is donated to the Starfish Food Pantry based in Plainfield. Hilary McCarron, New Providence mom and volunteer organizer for the Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts, said, "As we look ahead to the holiday season, we are mindful that there are those who struggle financially to put food on their table. For over three decades, scouts in the town

of New Providence have exemplified the scout oath by taking part in this drive. We thank the New Providence community and our local supermarkets for their generous support. Their efforts help feed thousands of people in need."

She noted, "We also ask that drivers be vigilant about the boys' safety as they head door-to-door and cross streets for this important effort."

In addition to staples such as pasta, soup, and cereal, other items needed for the food drive include mayonnaise, ketchup, mustard, pancake mix, and pancake syrup. The groups involved also ask that those participating in the food drive carefully check expiration dates on the donated items.

Scouting for Food would not be possible without the support of area grocery stores including ACME in New Providence, Kings in Summit, ShopRite in Stirling, and Stop & Shop in Berkeley Heights. These stores generously donate more than 5,000 grocery bags to the cause.

For more information, contact: John Malinauskas at the CSA (908) 665-8254.

# THE JUNIOR MUSICAL CLUB WILL HOLD AUDITIONS ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20

The Junior Musical Club, a club for students in 8th -12th grades from Westfield and nearby towns, welcomes applications from young instrumentalists and vocalists who have a personal commitment to performing music of any and all genres. For more information about the Club and how to apply, please email juniormusicalclub@gmail.com.

Teen-aged musicians may audition to join the club on Sunday, November 20, 2016, between 5:00 and 7:00 pm. Exact audition times will be set after the candidate submits an application. Auditions will take place at the home of Beverly Shea, Senior Advisor to the Club, 2121 Princeton Avenue in Scotch Plains.

To obtain an audition form and to request the name of a possible accompanist, applicants may email Samantha Sprechman at juniormusicalclub@gmail.com.

The club holds two concerts each year at the First Baptist Church of Westfield, open to the public free of charge. On March 29, 2017, at 7:30 p.m., The Ensemble Concert presents all club members in duets and group performances; on June 1, 2017, at 7:00 p.m., the high school junior and senior members will perform solo pieces in the Upper Class Recital.

For additional information contact Beverly Shea, 908-654-1036, Senior Advisor, The Musical Club of Westfield.



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## ADVOCATES NEEDED FOR FOSTER YOUTH

CASA of Union County is seeking New Providence residents to step up and be the voice for one of the nearly 600 Union County youth, ages 0-21, currently in foster care through no fault of their own.

Traditionally, the required 30-hour training is held over six weeks, with volunteers meeting several evenings each week. However, two new training options are now available, in response to prospective volunteers seeking more scheduling flexibility. A December training — which begins Monday, Dec. 5, 2016 — allows those home during the day to complete all training within five days from 9 am to 4 pm at the CASA offices; the January training — which begins Thursday, Jan. 12 — continues the traditional six-week format, but incorporates online learning at the volunteer's convenience, and fewer in-person sessions. Lunch or light dinner is provided. At the conclusion of training, a Superior Court judge swears in the new child advocates at the Union County Courthouse.

New Providence residents are encouraged to contact Rachel at (908) 527-7044 or [rwhite@casaoofunioncounty.org](mailto:rwhite@casaoofunioncounty.org) to RSVP for an information session below, or for more details on claiming a seat in the December or January class.

## NEW PROVIDENCE MEMORIAL LIBRARY EVENTS

Stop by New Providence Memorial Library in November for some entertaining and informative events. The month kicks off on Sunday, November 13 @ 3PM with Entertainer Maggie Worsdale, with a program honoring Veteran's Day entitled Songs and Letters from World War II. Maggie's programs are always well-received and popular so make sure to come early for the best seats.

Andy Gross will return on Thursday, November 17 @ 7:30PM to demonstrate Zinio

and answer any questions that may have come up for current users. Zinio is a service that enables library card holders to read magazines from their mobile devices or home computers. Bring your tablet, laptop or phone and get it set up to start reading magazines on the go.

Don't forget that our normal schedule of book groups, baseball club, knitting group and movies are always in full swing. Check the library calendar on [www.newprovidencelibrary.org](http://www.newprovidencelibrary.org) for details on times.

## COLLEGE CLUB INVITES YOU TO NOV MEETING

On Thursday, November 17, 2016, 7:00 PM Erin Miller will discuss her grandmother's life as a member of the Women Air Service Pilots of World War II. She will tell us of Elaine Harmon's work to gain recognition and veterans' benefits for the WASP including a Congressional Gold Medal, and of the Harmon Family's efforts to

encourage Congress to allow WASP to be buried in Arlington Cemetery.

New Providence Memorial Library, 377 Elkwood Avenue, New Providence, NJ.

The American Association of University Women promotes equity for all women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

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# CROP HUNGER WALK

Submitted by Marianna Martins

On October 16, in New Providence, members of several churches in the area participated in a three mile walk across the town. The CROP Hunger walk was hosted by the United Methodist Church to raise money for local and international initiatives against hunger. CROP Hunger Walk is sponsored by Church World Service, but is an interfaith event meant to build a sense of community while making a difference.

Mike Warin, who organized the event, started it by reminding the small crowd of locals that their participation provided funds for nutritious food and clean water in over 30 countries, including the United States. A short prayer, appropriately labeled Blessing of the Walkers, was said in a moving manner. The prayer was a plea to God to watch over those who are afflicted by extreme poverty. The crowd was then asked to sing an African folksong named We Are Marching in the Light of God. After two verses in English, they impressively began to sing the hymn in Swahili.

When the song had reached its end, excited murmurs surfaced from the conjunction. Supervisors for the event passed out picket signs that participants were encouraged to hold up during the walk. The walk began in the direction of the quiet town's main intersection at South Street with Springfield Avenue. Throughout the march, the walkers encouraged each other with

uplifting conversation. One group spoke about their first time getting involved with a religious program, while another spoke about the self-effacing thoughts that evoke emotion during an event that calls upon the help of those who are more fortunate.

In 25 years CROP Hunger Walks have raised over \$300 million for families around the world. Although such large contributions are made, about one in nine people do not have enough food to sustain a regular life. While Latin American and Caribbean countries have decreased their numbers, Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa continue to have an overwhelming population of starving families.

Although the fight seems far from home, members of the United Methodist Church are well aware that the struggle reaches neighborhoods near us, since 42.2 million American families live in food-insecure households.

Upon arriving to the church, everyone was reminded that they can take more initiative to help the cause. Once a month, an organized group goes to Saint John's Soup Kitchen to prepare and serve seasonal meals.

The church has not only recognized that starvation is a preventable epidemic, but they have spread awareness and raised money to make a difference.

# AFFORDABLE HOUSING PRESENTATION BY LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Affordable Housing presentation by League of Women Voters.

The League of Women Voters of Berkeley Heights, New Providence and Summit is sponsoring a public meeting around Affordable Housing. The meeting will be held on Thursday, November 10th at 7:30pm at the De Corso Community Center, 15 East Fourth Street in New Providence.

Vito A. Gallo, former housing authority

director and a professional planner will be the keynote speaker. The title of his presentation is Hitting the Restart Button on Affordable Housing. A March 2015 decision of the NJ Supreme Court has hundreds of municipalities amending their Master Plans. After years of inaction, Affordable Housing is back in the forefront of local agendas.

Light refreshments will be able. If you have any questions please contact 908-464-1988.

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