

THE SPIRIT OF

# Essex

Autumn 2023



## Essex County Francis Byrne Golf Course: Preserving the Past



**Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.**  
Essex County Executive  
and the Board of  
County Commissioners

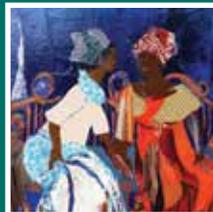


**Daniel K. Salvante**  
Director of Parks, Recreation  
and Cultural Affairs

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PUTTING **ESSEX COUNTY** FIRST

COMPLIMENTARY ISSUE



## A MESSAGE FROM THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Dear Friend,

In July, we were pleased to reopen Essex County Francis Byrne Golf Course after completing a major renovation. The project preserves the historic details created by noted golf architects Harold Banks and Seth Raynor who originally designed the course in 1928 and integrates modern drainage and irrigation systems. This has kept the course vibrant and attractive and provides our golfers with championship caliber playing conditions.

Since taking office, it has been our ongoing initiative to revitalize our historic Essex County Parks System and ensure residents have up-to-date facilities that meet their recreation needs. In addition to modernizing athletic fields and playgrounds, enhancing landscaping and preserving historic features, we aggressively are introducing more pickleball courts at our tennis facilities. Earlier this summer we opened four new pickleball courts at Essex County Grover Cleveland Park and will transition more tennis courts for pickleball use in Brookdale Park, Verona Park and Branch Brook Park to ensure participants of this growing sport have pristine places to play.

I invite you to check out your local park and experience our open spaces. Also, mark your calendars for our annual Halloween-themed events: Dress up the dog members of your family and participate in one of our Strut Your Mutt Parades and Costume Contests, witness the carved jack-o-lanterns at Gardens Aglow or welcome the new season at our Fall Family Festival! The fall season is a fantastic time to discover all that our Parks System offers.

*Together we will continue Putting Essex County First!*

Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.  
Essex County Executive



**Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.**  
*Essex County Executive*  
and the Board of County Commissioners



**Daniel K. Salvante**  
*Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs*

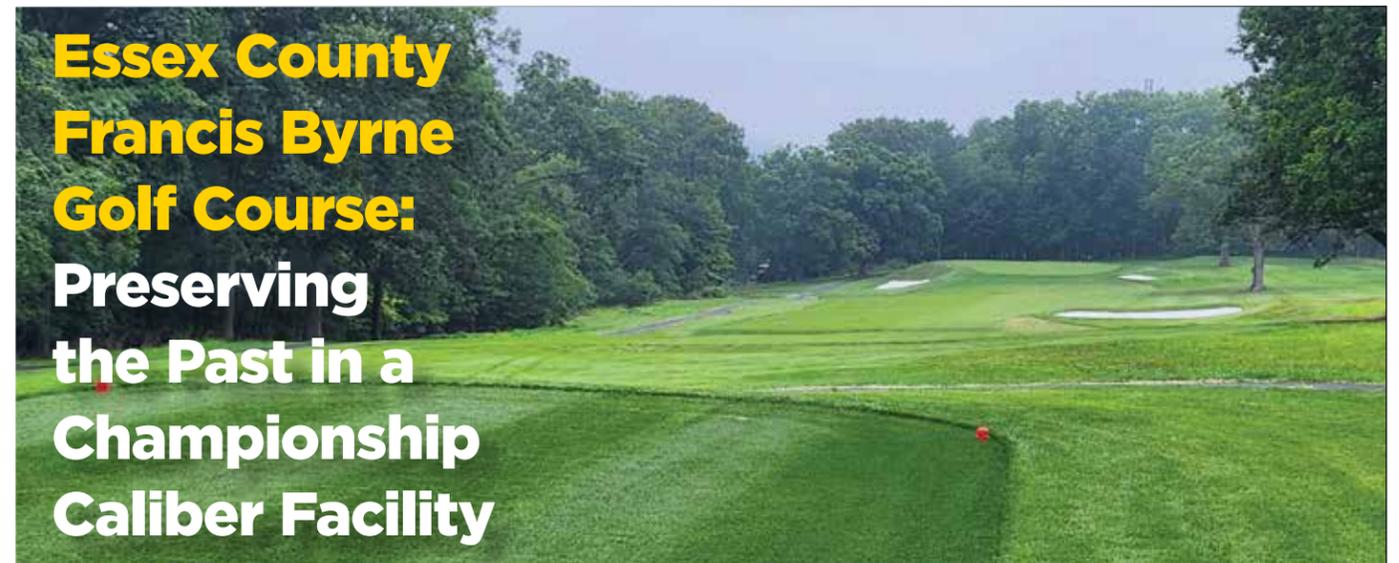
### BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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This program is made possible in part by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. The Essex County Division of Cultural and Historic Affairs received an operating support grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State.

Indicates the facility is handicap accessible. Please contact the facility directly for specific accommodations.



## Essex County Francis Byrne Golf Course: Preserving the Past in a Championship Caliber Facility

### Essex County added another crown jewel to its historic Parks System in 1978 when it acquired The West Course from Essex County Country Club in West Orange.

Designed by famed Golf Course Architects Seth Raynor and Charles Banks and originally opened in 1928, the 178-acre facility featured a rolling hillside terrain that bordered the Rahway River. Essex County recently completed an \$8.7 million comprehensive course renovation, the first time the course received a facelift in its 95-year history.

“Essex County Francis Byrne Golf Course is known for its historic features and beautiful vistas. The work that was done addresses long-standing issues affecting the course, and modernizes drainage and irrigation systems so that golfers are provided with championship caliber playing conditions,” DiVincenzo said.

Under the leadership of DiVincenzo and with support from the Board of County Commissioners, Essex County set out to update the facility while preserving its historic features and creating championship caliber playing conditions at Francis Byrne Golf Course that golfers of all skill levels could enjoy. Essex’s golf team, comprised of Golf Director Tim Christ, Golf Course Architect Stephen Kay and course builder Turco Golf, did not have far to turn, already having experience modernizing Essex County Hendricks Field Golf Course in Belleville, which also was designed by Banks.

The project included rebuilding all the

greens complexes, bunkers, cart paths and tee complexes, removing dead and hazardous trees, redesigning several golf holes and invested in new electric golf carts. Improvements that golfers will not notice, but are integral to operations, are new irrigation systems at tees and greens for better and more efficient use of water, new irrigation pumps to enhance efficiency, a new maintenance building to house golf equipment, new bathrooms, and a new open-air pavilion for golf outings.

The completion of renovations at Francis Byrne Golf Course means that work at all three of the County’s public golf courses has been completed within the last six years. Hendricks Field

Golf Course in Belleville underwent a similar modernization initiative and was reopened in 2021. Weequahic Golf Course in Newark saw its entranceway revamped with a new parking lot and open-air pavilion, renovations to The First Tee Learning Center and redesigned 10th and 11th holes completed in 2017.

These improvements are part of the Executive’s ongoing initiative to revitalize the Essex County Parks System and provide the most up-to-date recreation facilities for residents to enjoy. They make sure our golf courses are relevant, fun, affordable, and accessible for all who may want to partake in the leisure and beauty of our great open spaces, especially our classically designed golf courses. ■

### Tangible Improvements

### By the Numbers

Championship Yardage	6,623 prior to 6,971 Now
New Tee complexes to include forward and gold tees	6 different sets of Tees combinations
Added and renovated all bunkers	21 prior to 39 total Bunkers After
Greens rebuilt to USGA Specifications	5,300sqft per green prior to 6,800sqft After
Drainage Improvements	2 miles of drainage installed
Dangerous and dead trees removed	200 dead ash trees removed
Native areas added	10 acres of naturalized areas added
Transition to Electric Carts	72 new electric carts
New Shapes, Mounds, Hole 17	10,000 cubic yard of Fill Moved
#17/#18	2 Newly Designed holes
Total new pavers at the Clubhouse	6,134 new pavers
Size of New Putting Green	7,145 Square Feet

## ESSEX COUNTY SPOTLIGHT

Seasonal events sponsored by the Essex County Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs

**ESSEX COUNTY CODEY ARENA**  
560 Northfield Avenue, West Orange  
973.731.3828 / [www.essexcountyparks.org/calendar](http://www.essexcountyparks.org/calendar) 

### Fall Events

- **Saturday, September 30th** – RWJBarnabas Health Cardiac & Concussion Screening (Rear Lobby). Join RWJBarnabas Health and the Morahan Health Assessment Center for Athletes on September 30th. **Free cardiac screenings for ages 6 and up. Free concussion screenings for ages 5 and up.**
- **Saturday, October 7th & Sunday, October 8th** – NJ Daredevils Special Needs Frankenfest Hockey Tournament, 8am to 5pm
- **Saturday, November 11th** – 2023 Synchronized Skating Championship Competition, 8am to 5pm
- **Friday, November 17th to Sunday, November 19th** – New Jersey Youth Hockey League, 16s & 18s Championships

**Learn to Skate Group Lessons – 8 weeks**

**Classes start in early September**  
**Ages: 3½ to adult**

**Classes offered on Fridays, Saturdays or Sundays**

- Snow Plow (Ages 3½ to 6)
- Basic 1-6
- Freestyle
- Therapeutic Skating/Special Olympics

**Public Skating Sessions**

**Ages 3½ to adult; sessions on Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays**

**Ages 35 and older; sessions on Tuesday & Thursday mornings**

**Adults - \$10 / Children 16 & under - \$8 / Seniors - \$8 / Skate Rentals - \$5**

## Essex County Senior Wellness Day at Codey Arena

**Tuesday, October 3, 2023**  
**10am-2pm**

Essex County senior citizens are invited to attend Essex County Senior Wellness Day. Health screenings, information about nutrition and exercise demonstrations will be available. Various Essex County agencies, including the Division of Senior Services, will have representatives on site to talk about available programs for which seniors are eligible. Also participating are area hospitals, senior day care facilities, local nursing homes and other social service providers.

**For transportation, call 973.737.7200.**

**Birthday Parties** – Reserve a party room to celebrate your child's birthday on the ice

- \$125 – 3-hour party room
- Parties are held during public sessions skates or private ice sessions
- Group admission discount rates for 15+ skaters

### ESSEX COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

621-B Eagle Rock Avenue, Roseland  
973.228.8776 / [www.essexcountyparks.org/calendar](http://www.essexcountyparks.org/calendar) 

**Pre-registration and payment required either in person, by mail or online.**

### ORGANIZED GROUP BOOKINGS (Institutions, Scouts, Municipal Recreation Programs, Homeschoolers, Etc.) All ages.

Program length is 1.5 hours. Choose from a variety of topics offered by the Essex County Environmental Center. Inquire by calling the Center at 973.228.8776. Minimum of 10 person booking requirement (if less booked, minimum booking fee applied). Maximum of 20 participants including group leaders/chaperones. **Fee: \$10 per participant (including leaders/chaperones)**

### SMALL GROUPS/PODS & FAMILIES

**All ages.** Autumn topic selections include: Seasonal Nature Adventure, Lenape Village Tours, Backyard Birding, Wild Edibles, Frog Pond Science, Swamp Tromp/Wetland Biodiversity, \*Fire Making and Hot Chocolate, \*Camping 101. One group at a time with a limit of 10 people. Schedule your 45-minute time slot by calling the center at 973.228.8776. **Fee: \$10 child, \$12 adult or \$30 per family (2 adults, 2 children). \*Where noted, additional fees apply.**

### ESSEX COUNTY PARKS PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

**Submissions are due by Wednesday, September 6. All ages.** Grab a camera and visit an Essex County Park! Anyone with a camera is invited and encouraged to submit photos that capture a part of your visit to the County Parks System. For rules and regulations, please contact the Essex County Environmental Center at 973.228.8776.



## FOREST FRIENDS CAMP

**Thursday, November 9**  
**9:30am to 3:30pm.**  
**For students in grades K through 3**

Learn about New Jersey's forest friends by way of exploration, games and craft activities with a naturalist educator as your guide. Come dressed for the weather. **Fee: \$85 per camper**

### CLUBS FOR CHILDREN

#### LITTLE EXPLORERS

**Mondays, September 11, 25; October 16, 30; November 13, 27; December 4, 18**

**For Ages 2 and 3; 10am to 11am**  
**For Ages 2 to 5; 3pm to 4pm**

Join us for explorations of nature as we study plants and animals and observe the colors, shapes, textures, and sounds in the Environmental Center's forest habitat. Please come dressed for the weather; all classes include an outdoor adventure. All children must be walking and accompanied by an adult. Paths cannot accommodate strollers. Please be prepared for all weather conditions. Maximum of two children per adult. All sessions are limited to 10 children. **Fee: \$15 per child per session**

#### GARDEN DISCOVERY CLUB

**Tuesday, September 12; 4pm to 5pm**

**For ages 5 and up.** Together we'll grow food in our garden plot and learn about everything from soil to seeds along the way. Participants will get hands-on experience with planting, harvesting and cooking. Session themes include soil and composting, seed planting and labeling, thinning, weeding and watering, selective harvest, garden pests, healthy eating and more! This is a drop-off and pick-up class (children only). **Fee: \$30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or \$10 per child, \$12 per adult**

#### FROG POND CLUB

**Wednesdays, September 20, October 11, November 8; 4pm to 5pm. For children ages 5 through 9.**

Uncover and discover ecosystem interactions at the frog pond. Explore with nets, magnifiers, and microscopes to investigate what lives at the pond and learn from a naturalist what can be done to protect and conserve the pond inhabitants. **Fee: \$30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or \$10 per child, \$12 per adult**

#### FOREST FRIENDS CLUB

**Thursdays, September 14, October 19, November 16, December 14; 4pm to 5pm. For children ages 5 through 10.**

We'll explore the forest using nets, binoculars, magnifiers, and microscopes to investigate nature in our



## ESSEX REMEMBERS

Joins us for a Solemn Ceremony Commemorating the 22<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the 9/11 Tragedy

**Monday**  
**September 11, 2023**  
**8am**

Essex County  
Eagle Rock Reservation  
Essex County Eagle Rock  
9/11 Memorial  
Eagle Rock Avenue  
West Orange  
973.621.4400

wooded wetland habitat. Together we hope to foster an ethic of stewardship and offer an opportunity to take part in hands-on conservation projects. **Fee: \$30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or \$10 per child, \$12 per adult**

**HOW TO ELECTRIFY YOUR HOME, CUT UTILITY BILLS AND RECEIVE INCENTIVES FROM INFLATION REDUCTION ACT-- CITIZENS' CLIMATE LOBBY INFO SESSION**  
**Wednesday, September 13; 7pm to 8:30pm.**

For homeowners and renters how like to make their homes more energy efficient and more friendly to our environment. Sponsored by the Essex County Environmental Commission. Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL) local chapters in Essex and Morris counties are organizing this information session to show you how to take advantage of new state and federal government incentives. We will cover everything from home energy audits and to the installation of efficient electric appliances for heating and cooling. The session will have 30 minutes of presentation followed by 30 minutes of Q/A. Pre-registration required either in person, by mail or online at [www.essexcountyparks.org/calendar](http://www.essexcountyparks.org/calendar). **FREE.**

**CREATING A BIRD-FRIENDLY YARD**  
**Saturday, September 30; 10am to 1pm. For families.** Sponsored by the Native Plant Society and the Essex County Environmental Commission. Join the Native Plant Society for an informative talk from 10-10:45, guided nature walks at 11, 11:45 and 12:30, a kids art activity and sale of native bushes that will attract birds to your outdoor space. No registration necessary; walk-ins welcome. **Free Event; shrubs will be for sale.**

### FALL 2023 SEASONAL PROGRAMS

**SMORES n' MORE NIGHT HIKE**  
**Wednesday, September 13; 6pm to 7:30pm. For families.** Build a campfire and practice fundamental fire skills in a safe and controlled environment. Once we get our fire burning, we'll roast marshmallows and make s'mores. **Fee: \$30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or \$10 per child, \$12 per adult**

**EVENING CANOE PADDLE ON THE PASSAIC**  
**Wednesday, September 20; 5:30pm to 7:30pm. For adults and children ages 10 and older.** Take a leisurely paddle on the Passaic River! Paddlers will enjoy scenery and peacefulness as they

paddle up the river and float downstream. Geared for beginners and children 10 and up accompanied by a parent or guardian. Meet in the Garibaldi Hall parking lot. **Fee: \$20 per person**

**18TH ANNUAL FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL**  
**Saturday, September 23; 11am to 3pm. For all ages.** Come celebrate the Autumnal Equinox at the Environmental Center! There will be fun-filled activities for the entire family to enjoy, including hands-on nature games and crafts, naturalist-led walks, live butterflies, canoeing, Native American life, a pumpkin patch, petting zoo, food, and more. **FREE EVENT; some items may be for sale.**

**FROG POND ADVENTURE OUTDOOR CLASS**  
**Monday, September 25; 5:30pm to 7pm. For families.** This rribbettting program will take an up-close look at our pond ecosystem. Search for and identify the life found in the pond through magnifying glasses, microscopes, and field guides. **Fee: \$30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or \$10 per child, \$12 per adult**

**DINOSAUR DISCOVERY FAMILY FIELD TRIP**  
**Thursday, September 28; 4:45pm to 6:45pm. For families with young children ages 4 and up.** Meet at the end of Locust Avenue in Roseland and hike 1-mile total to explore this National Historic Landmark that is home to three-toed Grallator dinosaur tracks from the late Triassic age. Using clay, we'll make and take an impression of an existing track and leave the site undisturbed for future paleontological study. **Fee: \$12 per child, \$15 per adult**

**COMMUNITY COMPOST BIN AND RAIN BARREL SALE**  
**Pick-up on Saturday, September 30; 9am to 11am.** Backyard composting is an excellent way to reduce trash going to landfills and allows you to make your own compost! Rain barrels reduce water costs, keeps our water clean and provides a natural source of water for plants and gardens all while reducing the number of pollutants that enter our storm drains. Orders must be placed by September 29th. Pick-up at Essex County Environmental Center main building. For more information and for purchasing options, please visit <https://essex.compostersale.com>.

**PASSAIC RIVER CANOE TRIP**  
**Saturday, October 7; 9am to 1pm**  
**For adults and children ages 12 and up.** Paddle up the Passaic River from the Environmental Center to Okner Park in Livingston! Pack your own snack to enjoy at the park and then float back down to Garibaldi Hall where we launched. The session includes basic paddling safety and techniques and all equipment. For intermediate and advanced paddlers. **Children ages 12 and up may paddle with a parent guardian. Fee: \$40 per person**

**ESSEX COUNTY SOUTH MOUNTAIN RESERVATION ANNUAL FAMILY CAMPOUT**  
**Starting Saturday, October 7 at 12pm to Sunday, October 8 at 11am.** **Activities are designed for children ages 4 through 12.** Families with young children seeking a nature-intensive outdoor experience are invited to register for the 8th annual SMR Family Campout. The program will be based out of Summit Field in Essex County South Mountain Reservation. This is co-sponsored by the South Mountain Conservancy and Essex County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs, with programming from the Essex County Environmental

Center. The event will feature nature games, animal exhibits from Essex County Turtle Back Zoo, guided hikes, kids' exploration and crafts, live music, a campfire with stories, morning yoga and a Sunday breakfast. For questions regarding equipment and pricing options, please e-mail [familycampout@somocon.org](mailto:familycampout@somocon.org). Advanced registration is required. More details and registration information will be available in the beginning of September. You can stay up-to-date by signing up for the South Mountain Conservancy eBulletin at [www.somocon.org](http://www.somocon.org). **Fee: \$50 per family (up to 5 family members).**

**TODDLER SENSORY HIKE**  
**Saturday, October 14; 9am to 10am. For children ages 1-5 with caregiver supervision.** Bring your toddlers for a sensory exploration outside with a naturalist. Visit the forest trails, frog pond, Passaic River and more. Advanced registration and minimum number of participants are required; call 973.228.8776. **Fee: \$30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or \$10 per child, \$12 per adult**

**BATS OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Thursday, October 19; 5:30pm to 7pm. For students in grades 1 through 5.** Ever wonder what kind of local bats are catching bugs in your backyard? Or where they sleep? Learn from a bat enthusiast about our upside-down friends, play the role of a bat biologist in a simulated study and take-home plans to build a bat house! **Fee: \$10 per child**

**S'MORES n' MORE NIGHT HIKE**  
**Wednesday, October 25; 6pm to 7:30pm. For families.** Come out to build a campfire and practice fundamental fire skills in a safe and controlled environment. Once we get our fire burning, we'll roast marshmallows and make s'mores. **Fee: \$30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or \$10 per child, \$12 per adult**

**HOLIDAY WREATH MAKING**  
**Saturday, November 11; 11am to 12pm. For adults.** Welcome your friends and family for the holidays with a beautiful wreath! Participants will use evergreen boughs and other materials to create a

seasonal work of art! All materials and hot chocolate are included for this hands-on workshop. **Fee: \$25 per person**

**HOT CHOCOLATE AND S'MORES HIKE**  
**Thursday, November 16; 6pm to 7:30pm. For families.** Join us for a hike around the Environmental Center forest, build a winter campfire, sip hot cocoa and make s'mores. Dress warmly. **Fee: \$30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or \$10 per child, \$12 per adult**

**LENAPE LIFE**  
**Saturday, November 18; 10:30am to 12noon. For families.** Visit our Lenape Learning Area to better understand how they hunted, fished, foraged, and farmed using sticks, stones and bones. Make a clay pot and explore topics such as fire-friction, plant identification, games, clothing, and more. **Fee: \$30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or \$10 per child, \$12 per adult**

**ESSEX COUNTY TURTLE BACK ZOO**  
 560 Northfield Avenue, West Orange  
 973.731.5800 ~ [www.essexcountyparks.org/calendar](http://www.essexcountyparks.org/calendar) 

**Berson Family Center at Essex County Turtle Back Zoo**  
 973.731.5800 x103  
<https://turtlebackzoo.com/education/>

**EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS**  
**Hatchlings: September 17, October 8 & November 12 at 10am.**  
**Tots: September 17, October 8 & November 12 at 11:30am.**  
**Explorers: September 24, October 15 & November 19 at 10am.** TBZ's Early Childhood programs encourage family learning and foster early environmental awareness. We invite young children to discover the natural world through gently structured play, art, stories, animal visits and more. **Age restrictions apply; pre-registration required; zoo admission not included. Hatchlings**

Essex County Department of Parks and Recreation  
 & Rose Squared Art Shows Present




**Rose Squared Art Show**  
**at Essex County Anderson Park**

288 Bellevue Ave, UpperMontclair | **Saturday, Sept. 23 & Sunday, Sept. 24**





**Rose Squared Art Show**  
**at Essex County Brookdale Park**

473 Watchung Ave, Bloomfield/Montclair | **Saturday, Oct. 21 & Sunday, Oct. 22**

For info, directions, a gallery of participating artists and unique artisanal food visit [rosesquared.com](http://rosesquared.com)

**Beer • Wine • Food Trucks • Lawn Games**




**2023**  
**SAVE THE DATE**  
**September 23 • 6pm-9pm**  
 Rain Date: September 24

**Essex County Turtle Back Zoo**  
[turtlebackzoo.com/discover/turtlebackontap/](http://turtlebackzoo.com/discover/turtlebackontap/)

**(12-24 months), Tots (ages 2&3) and Explorers (ages 4&5) are \$25-\$30 per participant.** For more information, visit <https://turtlebackzoo.com/discover/early-childhood-programs/>

**WONDERS OF THE WILD**

**September 9: Endangered Species**  
**September 23: What is a Pet?**  
**October 7: Amazing Arachnids**  
**October 28: Weird, Creepy, and Unique**  
**November 4: Under the Sea**  
**November 18: Producers, Consumers and Decomposers.**  
**1pm to 3pm.** Turtle Back Zoo is an amazing classroom! Our Wonders of the Wild program is an opportunity to participate in supplementary science and nature-themed programs and projects that facilitate scientific literacy and life-long environmental stewardship. Available to students ages 6-12. The programs include a visit to the South Mountain Reservation, reservoir or zoo as weather permits; does not include zoo admission for after the program. **\$30/participant.** For more information, visit <https://turtlebackzoo.com/discover/wonders-of-the-wild/>



Enjoy an evening canoe paddle on the Passaic River

**SOPHISTICATED SCIENCE SEMINARS**

**September 3: Wild Careers**  
**October 22: Amazing Anatomy – Skulls and Skeletons**  
**November 12: Animal Senses.**  
**1pm to 3pm.** Sophisticated Science Seminars are conservation programs for audiences ages 13 to 103. Seminars run throughout the year and span

topics such as animal anatomy, habitats & conservation, animal careers, and more. The programs are perfect for those interested in animals, science, conservation, and nature who want to learn something new in a relaxed atmosphere. **\$30/participant includes a visit into the zoo, but not zoo admission for after the program.** For more information, visit <https://turtlebackzoo.com/discover/sophisticated-science-seminars/>

**FAMILY NATURE CLUB: NATURE GUARDIANS**

**Salamander Sundays (searching for salamanders): September 10, October 8 from 10am to noon.**  
**Monarchs Matter: September 3 from 10am to noon.**  
**World Migratory Bird Day: Saturday, October 14; from 9am to 11am.** Nature Guardians is an FNC program focused on community engagement that connects families with local conservation actions and citizen science research, shaping our understanding of the natural world. This season's programs will focus on building your birding skills and a brand-new salamander research project at



## Come trick-or-treating at the Zoo!

With candy stations throughout the grounds, everyone is sure to have a sweet time.

**Tuesday, October 31 from 4pm to 8pm**  
**Essex County Turtle Back Zoo**

**\$3 admission for current Zoological Society Members; \$5 general admission.**

All attendees must purchase a ticket; walk-up tickets will be available. This is a family-friendly event; bring your own reusable candy bag. Note: the zoo closes at 2pm on October 31 in preparation for the event. For tickets and more information, go to [turtlebackzoo.com](https://turtlebackzoo.com).

**NEW THIS YEAR!**

## SPOOKY STORYTIME

**ADD ON TO YOUR SAFE HOWL-O-WEEN EXPERIENCE**

4:15pm, 5:15pm, 6:15pm & 7:15pm

Wear your favorite Halloween costume, enjoy a spooky story read by a not-too-scary costumed character, play a game, and take home a creepy craft. Pre-registration only. Additional fee, not included with Howl-O-Ween admission. Choose the "Safe Howl-O-Ween with Spooky Storytime" option when purchasing your tickets.

# HOLIDAY LIGHTS Spectacular

## AT ESSEX COUNTY TURTLE BACK ZOO

**Friday to Sunday, November 17-19**  
**Friday to Sunday, November 24-26**  
**Friday to Sunday, December 1-3**  
**Nightly Starting Friday, December 8 to Saturday, December 23;**  
**Tuesday to Sunday, December 26 - 31**  
**Closed December 24 & 25**

**5pm to 9pm**

Take a winter stroll through Essex County Turtle Back Zoo this holiday season under the sparkling lights of holiday-themed and animal characters. Celebrate the season of giving by bringing donations of non-perishable food items, new toys, and gently used coats. Different themed activities will be featured on select December weekends.

For more information, visit <https://turtlebackzoo.com/attractions>

Sponsored by




Essex County Parks Foundation

Turtle Back Zoo. **\$5-\$15/participant.** For more information, visit <https://turtlebackzoo.com/discover/family-nature-club-nature-adventurers/>

**FAMILY NATURE CLUB: NATURE ADVENTURERS**  
**Local Hike: September 24 & October 29 from 10am to 12pm; November 12 & 26 from 1pm to 3pm.** Nature Play is playing WITH nature, not just IN nature and is a great way to interact with nature no matter your experience level or play style. Run, climb, build, dig, or even just sit and experience the sounds, smells, and sights of the outdoors. Nature Adventurers visits different locations near Essex County Turtle Back Zoo; zoo admission not included. **\$15/participant.** For more information, visit

<https://turtlebackzoo.com/discover/family-nature-club-nature-adventurers/>

**BEHIND THE SCENES TOURS & ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS**  
**Behind the Scenes at Hospital: September 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 at 12pm.**  
**Behind the Scenes at Reptiles: October 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 at 2pm.**  
**Behind the Scenes at Giraffes: November 4, 11, 18 & 25 at 1pm.**  
**Animal Encounters: Sloth Socials: September 17, October 21 & November 11 at 9am. Koffee and Komodos (featuring our new World of Water exhibit!): October 1 at 9am.** Join us for a deeper exploration into the care and conservation of our animals! For 6 years old and over only; under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

All members of the party must have a ticket. Group sizes are strictly limited. No photographs are permitted behind the scenes; all attendees will sign a photo waiver prior to the tour. Attendees may be asked to wear face coverings at some locations. Tour and program guests do not enter exhibits or touch animals. Animal Encounters include bagels and coffee and an educational presentation. **\$50/participant.** For more information, visit <https://turtlebackzoo.com/discover/behind-the-scenes-tours/>

**POP-UP EVENTS AT TBZ**  
**September 2: World Wildlife Day**  
**September 16: International Red Panda Day**  
**October 14: World Migratory Bird Day**  
**October 21: International Sloth Day; Reptile and Amphibian Awareness Day**  
**November 4: National Bison Day**  
**November 11: International Day of Zoos and Aquariums.** Join us at Essex County Turtle Back Zoo as we celebrate all things wild! Pop-ups are informal education stations in the zoo that focus on a particular animal, habitat, or conservation issue, and provide some take-away skills that you and your family can use to be better global stewards. **All events are free with zoo admission; weather permitting.** For more information, visit <https://turtlebackzoo.com/>

**OTHER PROGRAMS AT THE ZOO OR CLOSER TO YOU**  
**In-person and Virtual Programs, Outreaches, and more**  
**Dates and Times Scheduled at Need**  
 Join us for a dynamic and fun educational program that is focused on animals, conservation, and stewardship. We offer a variety of programs that satisfy many scientific benchmarks while also being engaging and informative. Programs can be adapted to age and ability; many can be adapted for outreaches to your school, senior center, etc. **Fees and restrictions vary per location.** For more information, visit <https://turtlebackzoo.com/discover/education-center-programs/>



"Our Strut Your Mutt Canine Halloween Costume Contests have become a popular event for dog owners to show off their creative talents, celebrate their pets and share a happy event with other dog owners. Whether or not you have a dog, come join us, or pick your favorites and enjoy the parade."

Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.



**Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.,**  
Essex County Executive  
and the Board of County Commissioners

Invite You to



# STRUT YOUR MUTT

Pet Costume Parade

**Free Entry!**  
**Prizes will be awarded!**

**Saturday, October 21**  
**Essex County Branch Brook Park**  
West Drive near Heller Parkway  
Registration: 9:30am • Parade: 10am  
Rain date: Sunday, October 22

**Saturday, October 28**  
**Essex County Brookdale Dog Park**  
Grove Street Entrance  
Registration: 9am • Parade: 9:30am  
Rain date: Sunday, October 29

**Saturday, October 28**  
**Essex County Grover Cleveland Park**  
Near Pond House  
Registration: 1pm • Parade: 1:30pm  
Rain date: Sunday, October 29



COUNTY OF ESSEX DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,  
RECREATION & CULTURAL AFFAIRS  
115 Clifton Avenue, Newark NJ 07104  
973.268.3500 / [www.essexcountynj.org](http://www.essexcountynj.org)

PUTTING ESSEX COUNTY FIRST

## ESSEX COUNTY CULTURAL EXHIBITIONS

### ARTS COUNCIL OF LIVINGSTON

Benches on South Livingston Avenue,  
Northfield Road and Mount Pleasant  
Avenue, Livingston  
973.650.6374 / [ACLGallery.com](http://ACLGallery.com)

### Bench Project. LIVINGSTON, the Seat of Creativity. Through September 30

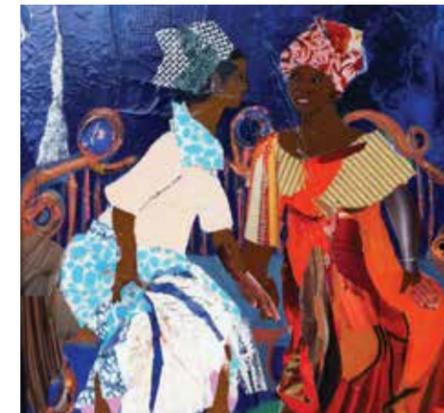
Reproductions of vetted artist's works  
will be displayed on outdoor benches to  
continue our mission to foster the arts  
community in the Livingston area. Work  
has been selected from approximately  
100 submissions.

### HEIDI GALLERY at JSDD

310 Eisenhower Parkway  
Livingston  
973.272.7148 / [HeidiGallery@JSDD.org](mailto:HeidiGallery@JSDD.org)  
Call for ADA accommodations, etc.

### The WAE Open October 19 through December 10

This annual juried exhibit at the Heidi  
Gallery features the work of artists from  
New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and  
Connecticut. Heidi Gallery is committed  
to bringing artists and the public together  
to experience art and art education in  
a fully inclusive community. The exhibit  
was juried by Jesse Firestone. Monday  
to Friday, 9am to 4:30pm. Opening  
reception: Thursday, October 19 from  
6pm to 9pm. ■



The Listening Bench

**The following events are offered for the public's enjoyment  
by Essex County-based arts and history organizations.**

The Essex County Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs takes no  
responsibility for the content, accuracy, dates or times and whether or not non-County sponsored events  
listed in this magazine are held as scheduled.



Project Bench



Opening Reception at the Heidi Gallery



"The County of Essex is proud to showcase the Presby Memorial Iris Gardens during the autumn season. Come out and see the beds of fall-blooming irises surrounded by artistically decorated jack-o-lanterns."

Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.



Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.,  
Essex County Executive  
and the Board of County Commissioners

Invite You to

# GARDENS AGLOW



Essex County Presby Memorial Iris Gardens  
474 Upper Mountain Ave., Montclair

Friday, October 20, 2023  
6pm to 9pm

Rain Date: Saturday, October 21

The free event includes a display of carved botanic, floral, and Halloween-themed pumpkins created by high school students. The jack-o'-lanterns will be lit with candles and lined around the flower beds to help illuminate the gardens.

Seasonal refreshments, entertainment and activities will be available.



COUNTY OF ESSEX DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,  
RECREATION & CULTURAL AFFAIRS  
115 Clifton Avenue, Newark NJ 07104  
973.268.3500 / [www.essexcountynj.org](http://www.essexcountynj.org)

PUTTING ESSEX COUNTY FIRST

## ESSEX COUNTY AUTUMN EVENTS

### September 7: Birder's Walk.

Venture into the garden with New Jersey Audubon Naturalist Dave Hall. This avian expert will talk about the varied species of birds that visit Greenwood Gardens' peaceful woodlands and the surrounding 2,100 acres of Essex County South Mountain Reservation's protected parkland. End the morning with refreshments at the gift shop. Greenwood Gardens, 274 Old Short Hills Road, Short Hills. 8am to 11am. \$15 per person. Advance registration required at [greenwoodgardens.org](http://greenwoodgardens.org). 973.258.4026.

### September 9: Dance on the Lawn.

Montclair's outdoor dance festival returns for its 10th and final year to the front lawn of St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Live performances for the festival's 2023 finale will include Nai-Ni Chen and Company, Maxine Steinman & Dancers, Sharron Miller's Academy for the Performing Arts, Jason Samuels Smith and more. Also included in this year's program will be the return of five of the six winners of the yearly Dance on the Lawn "Emerging Commissioned NJ Choreographer" award. Dance on the Lawn, celebrating its 10th and final year, has served as a showcase and mentoring launchpad for New Jersey's and New York's finest choreographic talent. The yearly DOTL Festival has offered Montclair residents and neighboring communities a sneak peek at emerging and established artists from New Jersey and the New York area. St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 73 South Fullerton Avenue, Montclair. 3pm to 5pm. Free. [danceonthelawn.org](http://danceonthelawn.org)

### September 17: Guided House Tours: Many Voices.

Stop by and receive a guided tour of the Crane House & Historic YWCA! Hear the many voices of the men and women who lived, worked,



Dance on the Lawn

and played in the house throughout its 226-year history. While you're here, see what's cooking on the hearth and explore the herbs in the Landsberger Learning Garden. Montclair History Center, Crane House & Historic YWCA, 108 Orange Road, Montclair (in person event). 12pm to 3pm. Tours begin at 12pm, 1pm, and 2pm. \$12 adult, \$10 student and senior, \$8 children under 18; children under 2 and MHC members free. No pre-registration needed. 973.744.1796. [www.montclairhistory.org](http://www.montclairhistory.org)

### September 17 and October 15:

**Historic House Tours.** Come explore the rich history of the Kingsland Manor, which is on the National and New Jersey Registers of Historic Places. The Manor is open on the third Sunday of each month (except August and November). Check the events page for other special activities for the fall and holiday seasons. Kingsland Manor, 3 Kingsland Street, Nutley. 1pm to 4pm. Free admission. Check our website for directions and GPS. 973.661.3410. [www.kingslandmanornutley.org/](http://www.kingslandmanornutley.org/)

### September 23 (rain date September 24): The Newark PorchFest.

The beautiful porches and yards of the historic Forest Hill neighborhood of Newark hosts an extraordinary range of performing artists and visual artists. Ballantine Gates, Lake Street and

Ballantine Parkway, Newark. KidsFest is from 11am to 12pm; PorchFest is from 12pm to 6pm. [www.newarkporchfest.com](http://www.newarkporchfest.com); Facebook: Newark Porchfest; Instagram: @newarkporchfest

### September 23-24: 39th Annual Rose Squared Art Show at Essex County Anderson Park.

130 juried professional artists and artisanal food vendors will be presenting and selling their one of a kind art. Find the perfect gift, a new look for fall or a gorgeous piece of art to brighten the day. The show is rain or shine. Essex County Anderson Park, 288 Bellevue Avenue, Montclair. Saturday 10am to 5pm; Sunday 10am to 4pm. Free admission. [www.rosesquared.com](http://www.rosesquared.com)

### September 24: Kessler Foundation Stroll 'N Roll 2023.

Stroll 'N Roll brings together people of all ages and abilities for a day of fun, food, and friendship to champion rehabilitation research and employment for people with disabilities. Help us kick off Stroll 'N Roll by forming a team, fundraising, or making a donation. Essex County Verona Park, Bloomfield Avenue, Verona. View virtually from your neighborhood. 11am to 2pm. Visit [KesslerFoundation.org/SNR](http://KesslerFoundation.org/SNR) for more information and to register for free. Make a gift of \$25 or more to receive a Stroll 'N Roll T-shirt!



**Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.**  
Essex County Executive  
and the Board of County Commissioners

*“There is a thriving arts community in Essex County and our Senior Art Show enables older residents, both professionals and non-professionals, to display their original creations in an organized juried exhibit. I invite senior artists to participate in our 39th annual show and display the talent that exists within our region.”*

**Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.,  
Essex County Executive  
And The Board of County Commissioners**

**Invite You To Participate In The**

**2023 Essex County Senior Citizens**

# Juried Art Show

**Any visual artist, professional or non-professional, over the age of 60 and currently residing in Essex County is invited to submit two works of art completed within the last three years.**

**Location:** Essex County Robert J. O’ Toole Center • 199 Fairview Avenue, Cedar Grove

**Art Drop-off:** Tuesday, August 15, 2023

**Exhibition will run from:** August 18, 2023 - September 13, 2023

**Exhibition Hours:** Monday through Friday 9:00am - 6:00pm  
Saturday & Sunday 11:00am - 6:00pm

**Awards Ceremony:** Thursday, September 14, 2023 10:00am - 11:00am  
Light refreshments to be served from 9:30am - 10:00am

**State Show Exhibition:** September 30, 2023 - October 26, 2023

For complete guidelines and registration information, please visit [www.essexcountynj.org](http://www.essexcountynj.org) or contact Jacquelyn Matthews at (973) 735-6228 or e-mail [jmatthews@parks.essexcountynj.org](mailto:jmatthews@parks.essexcountynj.org)

**Essex County Department of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs**

Essex County Parks and Recreation  
155 Prospect Avenue, Suite 100, West Orange, NJ 07052  
(973) 268-3500 • [www.essexcountyparks.org](http://www.essexcountyparks.org)

Putting **Essex County** First



**Guided House Tours at the Crane House & Historic YWCA**

**September 24: Member Lawn Party.**

Join us for a Lawn Party to express our gratitude to our valued members! Enjoy a curated array of captivating activities for all ages, including a docent-led tour of our outdoor sculptures, a kid-friendly chalk art activity, and a special photography session. Montclair Art Museum, 3 South Mountain Avenue, Montclair. 10am to 12pm. Free for MAM members. Advance registration required. 973.259.5139. [www.montclairartmuseum.org](http://www.montclairartmuseum.org)

**September 27: History at Home:**

**Native Art in Place:** Montclair Art Museum’s Regional Collection with Artist Holly Wilson, artists from Lenape (Delaware), Haudenosaunee, and other regional Indigenous nations create works with visual and political power, often grounded in relationships to place. Laura J. Allen, Curator of Native American Art at MAM, will discuss how the institution is engaging with regional and diasporic Native art. She will emphasize MAM’s exhibition and collecting work with artist and performer Thomas J. Dorsey (1920–1993, Lenape, adopted Onondaga), who lived in New Jersey in the 1950s, as well as with contemporary artist Holly Wilson (Delaware Nation). Wilson, who lives in Oklahoma, will discuss her wide-ranging practice in sculpture, photography, ceramics, and glass and how she integrates her research on generations of family who were displaced from this land, Lenapehoking. Montclair History Center (virtual event). 7pm to 8pm. Free. Pre-

Registration link can be found on <https://www.montclairhistory.org/>

**September 27: Native Art in Place: MAM’s Regional Collection, with Artist Holly Wilson.**

In this virtual talk about MAM’s past and present work with regional and diasporic Native artists, Laura J. Allen, Curator of Native American Art, will highlight the museum’s history with Thomas J. Dorsey (1920–1993, Lenape, adopted Onondaga), as well as current projects with Holly Wilson (Delaware Nation). Virtual. 7 to 8pm. Free. Advance registration

requested. 973.259.5139. [www.montclairartmuseum.org](http://www.montclairartmuseum.org)

**September 30: Fall Fest at the Montclair History Center and Montclair Community Farms.**

Join the Montclair History Center & Montclair Community Farms for the end of the harvest season at Fall Fest! Enjoy a fun-filled day for all ages full of delicious food and fall activities all around our beautiful gardens and property. Taste food and drinks from local vendors, shop naturally sourced products from local artisans and creators, meet farm animals from around Essex County, and jam out with live music from Montclair’s own School of Rock! Bring the whole family and a picnic blanket to join friends and neighbors from across the community in supporting our first annual Fall Fest Fundraiser. Full list of craft, food, beverage vendors available online in August. Montclair History Center, 108 Orange Road, Montclair (in person event). Rain date is October 7. 11am to 4pm. Free. Items available to purchase on site. <https://www.montclairhistory.org/>

**October 12: Trivial Night at the Museum.**

Join us for an unforgettable evening of intellectual excitement and friendly competition at the museum! Join forces with friends and colleagues to vie for the esteemed title of MAM Trivia Champions. Hosted by BestMenTrivia, this event will feature appetizers from the MC Hotel and beverages by



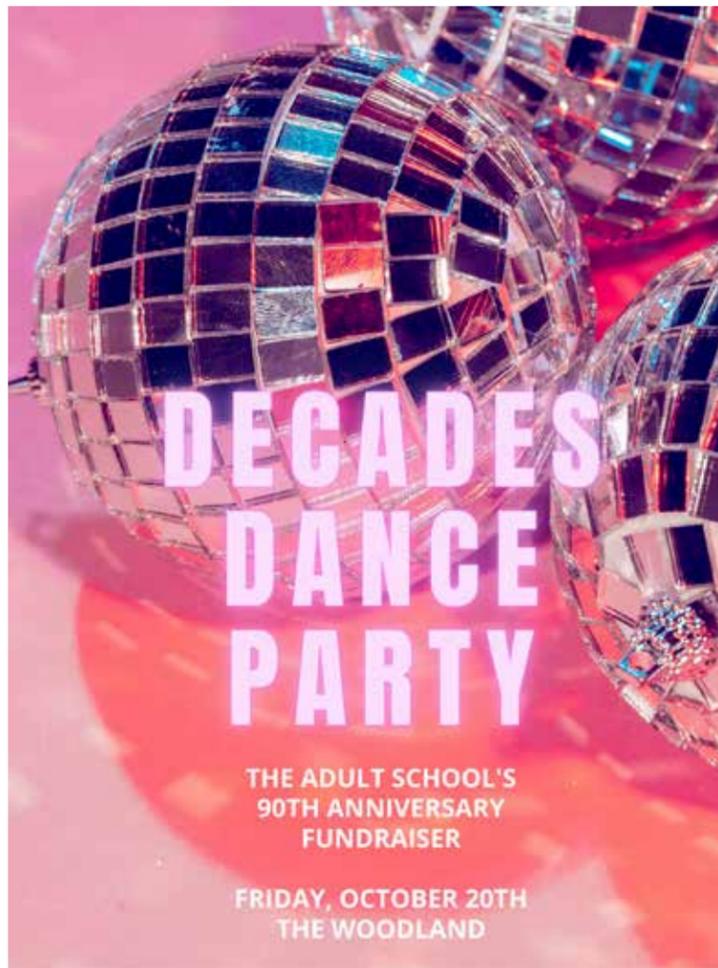
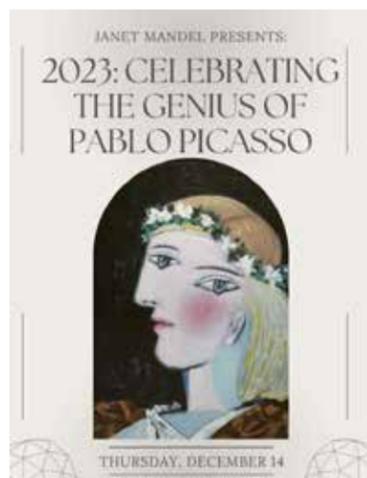
**Many Voices**



**CELEBRATING  
90 YEARS OF  
LIFELONG LEARNING!**

Day Trips • Lectures • Fitness  
Technology • Arts & Crafts  
Broadway Shows • Real Estate  
Retirement & Financial Planning  
Home & Garden • ESL • Music  
Children's Classes • Languages  
SAT/ACT Prep • Driver's Ed  
& so much more!

**FALL  
HIGHLIGHTS:**



**SOMADULTSCHOOL.ORG**

Heineken and Angelbecks. Montclair Art Museum, 3 South Mountain Avenue, Montclair. 7pm to 10pm. Check our website for ticket pricing. Advance registration required. 973.259.5139. www.montclairartmuseum.org

**October 12: History at Home: Exploring Mass Burials at Red Bank Battlefield.** Join Dr. Jen Janofsky as she discusses Red Bank Battlefield's 2022 discovery of a mass Hessian grave nearly 245 years since they were entombed at Fort Mercer after losing their lives in the Battle of Red Bank along the Delaware River across from Philadelphia. The rare and significant archaeological find came near the finish of a small research project led by Janofsky, a Rowan University Professor of History and Red Bank Battlefield Public Historian. It was a remarkable end to an already successful survey of the Fort Mercer trench in a small tract newly acquired by the Red Bank Battlefield Park. By late July, the remains of at least 12 Revolutionary War-era soldiers had been found. Montclair History Center (virtual event). 7pm to 8pm. Free. Find the zoom link at <https://www.montclairhistory.org/>

**October 13 and November 16: Spooky Stories by Candlelight.** Spooky ghosts, unsolved murders, creepy cryptids, gruesome deaths – are you afraid of the dark? Guests will travel back in time using the Crane House & Historic YWCA as their guide as we explore ghastly tales from Montclair's history on this candlelight tour. Montclair History Center, Crane House & Historic YWCA, 108 Orange Road, Montclair (in person event). October 13 from 6pm to 7pm; November 16 from 7pm to 8pm. Recommended for ages 15+. \$20/person; \$15 for Montclair History Center members. Have a ghost story or spooky tale to share? Email mail@montclairhistory.org with it and it may get included in the presentation! Purchase tickets at <https://www.montclairhistory.org/>

**October 14: Olmsted Historic Walking Tour of Essex County Anderson Park.** Before Essex County Anderson Park existed, three houses and a fire station sat on the park property. Find out where they went and other surprising stories about how this Olmsted-designed Essex County

park came to be created over a century ago, how it shaped Upper Montclair, and how it led to the formation of other Montclair parks. Also hear about efforts to rejuvenate the landscape of this park, on the National Register of Historic Places. Handicap accessible. Essex County Anderson Park, 274 Bellevue Avenue, Upper Montclair. Meet at the boulder at the park's northeast entrance. 10am to 11:30am. Free. Call or check Friends of Anderson Park Facebook page for weather updates. No rain date. Sponsored by Friends of Anderson Park. 973.477.7207. FriendsOfAndersonPark.com

**October 14: New Jersey Symphony Ellington & Dvořák: New Worlds.** The first half of the season-opener celebrates the invaluable art of Black composers past and present. Valerie Coleman's Umoja launches the concert and William Grant Still and Duke Ellington paint lush musical portraits of a hopeful future. On the second half, Dvorak's Ninth was inspired by Indigenous and Black song and, since its 1893 premiere, has been an absolute audience favorite. Jazz pianist Aaron Diehl and his Trio star with the

**MOSAIC**  
Dance Theater Company

**ALHAYAT RAKSA**  
(LIFE IS A DANCE)

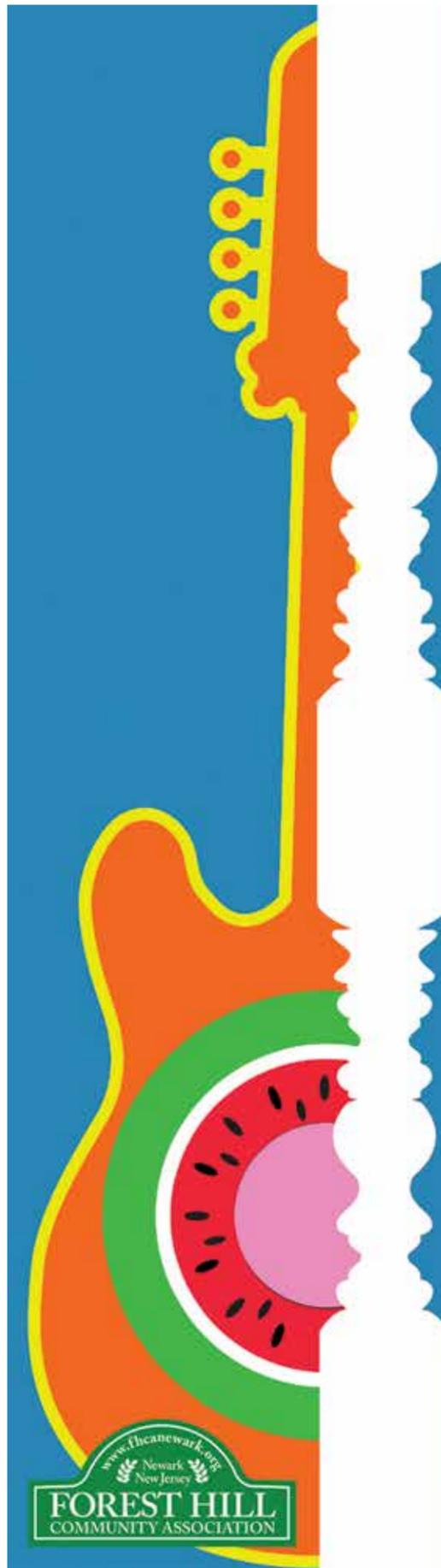
Directed by Morgiana Celeste Varricchio  
Choreography by Samara Adell  
Original Music by Maurice Chedid

November 4, 2023 at 5:00 PM  
November 5, 2023 at 3:00 PM

First Congregational Church  
40 S. Fullerton Ave., Montclair, NJ 07042  
Handicapped Accessible Venue

FREE TO THE PUBLIC  
Reservations Recommended  
[www.Eventbrite.com](http://www.Eventbrite.com)  
Alhayat Raksa

Photo by Gary Heller.



**KIDS FEST**  
11-12PM

# THE NEWARK PORCH FEST

## IN FOREST HILL

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 23 12-6PM**  
RAINDATE: SUNDAY, SEPT. 24

**A FREE NEIGHBORHOOD FAIR FOR ALL FEATURING**  
**LIVE MUSIC**  
**ARTS & CRAFTS**  
**FOOD TRUCKS**

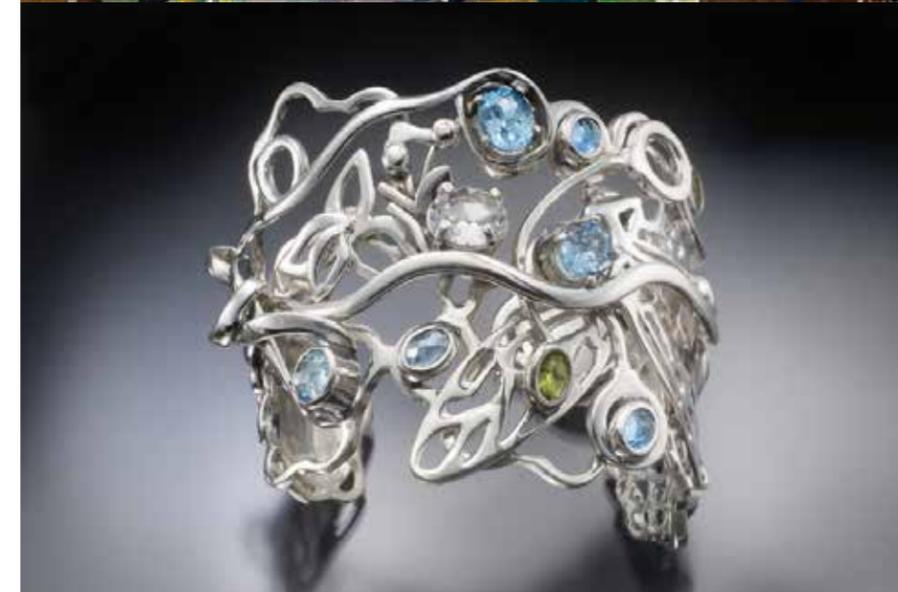
A FOREST HILL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION EVENT

[WWW.NEWARKPORCHFEST.COM](http://WWW.NEWARKPORCHFEST.COM)    [NEWARKPORCHFEST@GMAIL.COM](mailto:NEWARKPORCHFEST@GMAIL.COM)  
 @NEWARKPORCHFEST    @NEWARKPORCHFEST

MADE POSSIBLE BY FUNDS FROM  
THE ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS,  
A PARTNER OF  
THE NEW JERSEY STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

MADE POSSIBLE BY  
SENATOR TERESA RIZO

WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO ESSEX COUNTY EXECUTIVE JOSEPH N. DIVINCENZO, JR. AND  
THE ESSEX COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS



Art at the annual Rose Squared Art Show at Essex County Brookdale Park

New Jersey Symphony – all led by one of America’s most acclaimed conductors, Robert Spano. New Jersey Performing Arts Center, 1 Center Street, Newark. 8pm. Tickets start at \$25. 800.255.3476. <https://www.njsymphony.org/>

**October 20 to 29: 12th Annual Montclair Film Festival.** The 12th Annual Montclair Film Festival will entertain film lovers and professionals from across the country and region with 10 days of compelling independent films, comedies, documentaries, panels, family events, and work by emerging artists. The festival will provide a platform for talented filmmakers from around the world and give recognition to New Jersey artists. Montclair Film, 505 Bloomfield Avenue, Montclair. [info@montclairfilm.org](mailto:info@montclairfilm.org) or 973.783.6433. [Montclairfilm.org](http://Montclairfilm.org)

**October 21 to 22: 24th Annual Rose Squared Art Show at Essex County Brookdale Park.** 150 juried, professional fine artists, fine crafters and artisanal food vendors will be displaying and selling their unique art. The perfect weekend to stroll this gorgeous park and start your holiday shopping. Essex County Brookdale Park, Watchung Avenue, Bloomfield and Bellevue Avenue, Bloomfield. 10am to 5pm, rain or shine. Free admission and parking. [www.rosesquared.com](http://www.rosesquared.com)

**October 22: Guided House Tours: Women of the House.** The Crane House and Historic YWCA is a window to the history of our nation from its early years as an independent country to a country embroiled in the civil rights struggle. On this special tour, hear the stories of the women who lived, worked, and played in the house. From the Crane wives, to the enslaved and paid workers of the house, to the women and girls of the African American YWCA, the Crane House & Historic YWCA has seen how a woman’s role in the house and in society has changed over 200 years. Montclair History Center, Crane House & Historic YWCA, 108 Orange Road, Montclair (in person event). 12pm to 3pm. \$12 adult, \$10 student and senior, and \$8 children under 18, free for children under 2 and MHC members. No pre-registration needed. Tours begin at 12pm, 1pm, and 2pm. <https://www.montclairhistory.org/>

**October 24: History of the Early Morris Mills in Bloomfield's Brookdale Section.** Mark Wiley will present on the saw and grist mills that the Morris family built in Bloomfield in the 1600s, as well as the history of Ephraim Morris, inventor of the Morris Canal inclined plane mechanism. Historical Society of Bloomfield. Bloomfield Civic Center, 84 Broad Street, Bloomfield. 7:30pm. Free. [info@HSOB.org](mailto:info@HSOB.org). [www.HSOB.org](http://www.HSOB.org)

**October 26: Taking Space: Reflections on the Creative Experience.** Join us to hear a panel of dedicated female artists, including Dr. Antoinette Ellis-Williams (educator, activist, poet, artist) and Debra Cartwright (Inaugural AACC Founders Fellow), discuss MAM's current exhibition, "Taking Space: Contemporary Women Artists and the Politics of Scale." Sponsored by the African American Cultural Committee (AACC). Montclair Art Museum, 3 South Mountain Avenue, Montclair. 7pm to 9pm. Check our website for ticket pricing. Advance registration requested. 973.259.5139. [www.montclairartmuseum.org](http://www.montclairartmuseum.org)

**October 28: Historical Tour of the Montclair African American community.** Discover Montclair's fascinating African American history on a captivating and informative tour led by the Montclair African American Heritage Foundation. Learn about inspiring leaders like Sweet Daddy Grace, the pioneering filmmakers Oscar Micheaux and Alice Burton Russell Micheaux, and the influential institutions, businesses, and community organizations that have shaped this proud heritage. Tour I starts at 10am, and Tour II at 12noon. \$40 per person. Secure your spot by registering in advance and purchasing tickets at [www.maahf.org](http://www.maahf.org). Click on Trolley Tour and follow the prompts.

**October 29: Rosedale Cemetery Tour: Old Section.** Founded over 182 years ago, Rosedale Cemetery marked the beginning of a new movement in how America took care of its deceased. We'll venture into the old section on this guided tour, discussing grave imagery as well as the people who are buried there. (In-person event) Rosedale Cemetery, 408 Orange Road, Montclair. 1:30pm



Historic Walking Tour of Essex County Anderson Park

to 3:30pm. \$20/person. Registration required. <https://www.montclairhistory.org/>

**November 2: Free First Thursday: Día de los Muertos.** Sponsored by TD Bank, Free First Thursdays open the museum to the public on the first Thursday of the month. Come experience

music and dance, exhibition tours, an art activity, food trucks, and a specialty cocktail and cash bar. Celebrating Día de los Muertos in partnership with Latinos of Montclair. Montclair Art Museum, 3 South Mountain Avenue, Montclair. 5pm to 9pm. Free. Registration encouraged but not required. 973.259.5139. [www.montclairartmuseum.org](http://www.montclairartmuseum.org)

**First Annual Fall Fest**

Join Montclair History Center & Montclair Community Farms as we welcome the community for autumn fun!

With food, beverage, and crafts vendors, music, family activities, and more, this fun-filled day is not to be missed!

**30** 11 AM - 4 PM  
Sept 2023  
108 Orange Road  
Montclair, NJ  
07042

Tickets will go on presale August 1 at noon.

[www.montclairhistory.org](http://www.montclairhistory.org)  
[www.montclaircommunityfarms.org](http://www.montclaircommunityfarms.org)

@montclairhistorycenter  
@montclaircommunityfarms

**November 4 and 5: Alhayat Raksa (Life Is a Dance).** Mosaic Dance Theater Company presents Alhayat Raksa (Life Is a Dance), a story dance centering around conflicts and choices facing an Arab woman who desires to dance. The production features an original score of Arabic music and different styles of Middle Eastern dance performed by a cast of seven. First Congregational Church, 40 South Fullerton Avenue, Montclair. November 4 at 5pm, November 5 at 3pm. Free. Reservations recommended. [www.Eventbrite.com](http://www.Eventbrite.com) - Alhayat Raksa. [www.MosaicDanceTheaterCo.org](http://www.MosaicDanceTheaterCo.org)

**November 16: A New Look at Representation of Women in Art – 37th Annual Julia Norton Babson Lecture.** Explore how female artists challenge the historical and cultural representation of women in art. Join us for a conversation featuring artists Clarity Haynes and Siona Benjamin, and moderated by Brittany Webb, Curator of 20th Century Art at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. Montclair Art Museum, 3 South Mountain Avenue, Montclair. 7pm to 9pm. Check our website for ticket pricing. Advanced registration required. 973.259.5139. [www.montclairartmuseum.org](http://www.montclairartmuseum.org)

**November 18: Hometown History Bus Tour.** This two-hour bus ride gives you a fast-paced ride through Montclair's history looking at its architecture, businesses, and people. Led by Trustee member Helen Fallon and Executive Director Angelica Diggs. Montclair History Center, Crane House & Historic YWCA, (in person event). 10am to 12pm. Members \$30; non-members \$40. Registration is required no later than November 10, space is limited due to bus size. Bus leaves at 10am from 110 Orange Road, Montclair. Street parking available. Registration and ticket purchase link can be found on <https://www.montclairhistory.org/>

**November 19: Guided House Tours. Eyewitness to Black History** Explore 200 years of Black history in Montclair and New Jersey through rare first-hand accounts, primary and secondary source documents at the Crane House & Historic YWCA. Artifacts include a



Museum Store Sunday at the Montclair History Center

bill of sale for an enslaved person in the household, an 1800s newspaper, census data, personal letters, oral histories, and mid-century Jet and Ebony magazines. These artifacts provide a springboard for discussion about race both in the past and in the present-day. Montclair History Center, Crane House & Historic YWCA, 108 Orange Road, Montclair. (in person event). 12noon to 3pm. \$12 adult, \$10 student and senior, \$8 children under 18; free for children under 2 and MHC members. No pre-registration needed. Tours begin at 12pm, 1pm, and 2pm. <https://www.montclairhistory.org/>

**November 19: LEGO Day: Wind Energy at MAM.** Join us for a LEGO™ workshop led by Stephen Schwartz, architect of SWS Architects Livingston and Building Blocks Workshop. Families will learn, build, and explore "Offshore Wind Farms" using up to 70,000 LEGO

building blocks. Participants will create inventive sculptures of windmill models, forming a giant collaborative 3D map. Montclair Art Museum, 3 South Mountain Avenue, Montclair. 1pm to 3pm. Check our website for ticket pricing. Advanced registration required. 973.259.5139. [www.montclairartmuseum.org](http://www.montclairartmuseum.org)

**November 26: Museum Store Sunday.** The Montclair History Center invites you to join us for Museum Store Sunday at the Nathaniel Crane House (red house behind the Crane House & Historic YWCA). Our selection includes Montclair-centric books, mugs, enamel pins, New Jersey potholders, Montclair-related books, cookbooks, personalized maps, and fun stocking stuffers. Montclair History Center, Nathaniel Crane House, 108 Orange Road, Montclair (in person event). 10am to 3pm. <https://www.montclairhistory.org/>



# PEDRITO MARTÍNEZ GROUP

## Echoes of Africa

### SAT, SEP 30 AT 8PM

Tickets: Starting at \$31



**A NIGHT OF COMEDY WITH DREW LYNCH**  
SUN, OCT 15 AT 7:30PM  
Tickets: Starting at \$42

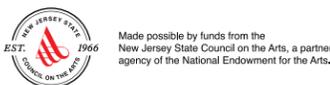


**THE MACHINE PERFORMS PINK FLOYD'S DARK SIDE OF THE MOON**  
SAT, OCT 21 AT 8PM  
Tickets: Starting at \$53



**AN EVENING WITH JESSICA VOSK**  
Co-sponsored by SOMA Stage at SOPAC  
FRI, OCT 27 AT 8PM  
Tickets: Starting at \$37

Get Your Tickets Today! [SOPACnow.org](http://SOPACnow.org) / (973) 313-2787



## ESSEX COUNTY ONGOING PROGRAMS

### THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF THE SACRED HEART

89 Ridge Street, Newark  
973.484.2400  
[www.cathedralbasilica.org](http://www.cathedralbasilica.org)

**September 17: Organ Recital with Anthony Hammond**  
3pm. Free-will offering.

**October 15: Organ Recital with Sandor Szabo**  
3pm. Free-will offering.

**November 5: Lux Aeterna by Morten Lauridsen**  
This features the Cathedral Choir, soloist, and orchestra, conducted by John J. Miller. Anita Foley will offer a short pre-concert lecture to the bereaved at 2:20pm. 3pm. Free-will offering.

**Wednesdays at Noon**  
A 30-minute recital. A brief tour of the cathedral will immediately follow the recital. Free-will offering.

**October 11:** Jason Bitonti and Thomas Verchot, trumpeters, and John J. Miller, organist.

**October 18:** Organ recital with Daniel C. Romero.

**October 25:** Music for Harp and Violin with Merynda Adams and Xin Zhao.

**November 8:** Voice and piano recital with Kimberley Mesiti and Kristin Johnson.

**BRANCH BROOK PARK ALLIANCE**  
973.969.1189  
[www.branchbrookpark.org](http://www.branchbrookpark.org)  
Please call for ADA accessibility details

**September 1 to October 28: Discovering Wellness in Essex County Branch Brook Park.** Join Branch Brook Park Alliance for a series of free weekly wellness events including Yoga, Zumba, Soul Line Dancing, and Meditation. Essex County Branch Brook Park, Prudential Concert Grove.

In-person event. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday. Times vary. Free. Advanced registration is required.

**September 1 to November 30: Volunteer Stewardship in Essex County Branch Brook Park.** Join the Branch Brook Park Alliance team in ongoing stewardship efforts. Essex County Branch Brook Park, Prudential Concert Grove. In-person event. Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. 9am to 1pm. Free. Advanced registration is required.

**September 1 to November 30: Historic & Horticulture Tours.** Join the Branch Brook Park Alliance team for a 45-minute walking tour and learn more about the historical significance of Essex County Branch Brook Park and the formal gardens. Essex County Branch Brook Park, Prudential Concert Grove. In-person event. Flexible dates. Flexible times. Fee \$10 per person (Discounted rate for groups, please inquire). Advanced registration is required.

**October 28: Branch Brook Park Fest.** Join Branch Brook Park Alliance for a day of art projects, artisans, wellness resources and a series of free wellness events to include yoga and meditation. Essex County Branch Brook Park, Prudential Concert Grove. In-person event. Wednesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays. 11am to 4pm. Free. Advanced registration is preferred.

**South Orange-Maplewood Adult School**  
17 Parker Ave. Maplewood  
973.378.7620 / [somadultschool.org](http://somadultschool.org)

**October 20: Decades Dance Party.** Dance the night away at the Adult School's 90th Anniversary fundraiser! Our DJ will keep things moving with music from every decade since 1933. There will be drinks and hors d'oeuvres, a photo booth, silent auction, special guests and lots of dancing and fun! The Woodland, Maplewood. 7:30 to 11pm. \$90 in advance; \$120 at the door.

**November 1: Ukraine Update.** This lecture will focus on the causes and consequences of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, including the chances for a



The Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark

lasting peace, the implications for Putin and his regime, the survivability of the Russian Federation and the challenges facing post-war Ukraine. Alexander Motyl, Ph.D. is professor of political science at Rutgers University-Newark. 7 to 8:30pm. \$25.

**November 14: ChatGPT, LLMs and AI - Oh My!** Is AI a lifesaver for businesses or the end of jobs and creative thinking? We will cover the foundations of these technologies and the implications of them for individuals and businesses. Matt Konwiser is a technology leader specializing in data, AI, automation and cybersecurity. 7 to 9pm. \$25.

**November 27: Stephen Whitty Presents - Independence Days.** The indie films of the '90s excited audiences and even won a few Oscars. We'll discuss how the boom started, look at some of its wonders -- Wes Anderson, Quentin Tarantino and NJ's own Kevin Smith - and try to assess how much they changed Hollywood (or it changed them). 7 to 8:30pm. \$25.

**December 14: 2023: Celebrating the Genius of Pablo Picasso.** 2023 marks the 50th anniversary of the death of Pablo Ruiz Picasso. Learn about the great artist's inexhaustible creativity and explore his tumultuous life, revealed through beautiful images of his major paintings and sculptures. Janet Mandel is an award-winning art history educator. 7 to 8:30pm. \$25. ■



**Department of Parks,  
Recreation & Cultural Affairs**  
155 Prospect Avenue, Suite 100  
West Orange, NJ 07052  
[www.essexcountynj.org](http://www.essexcountynj.org)

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**Concerts at NJPAC in Newark**

**Ellington & Dvorak: New Worlds**

Featuring the Aaron Diehl Trio

**Oct 14**

**Schumann's Cello Concerto**

Sterling Elliot cello

**Oct 19**

**Jurassic Park in Concert**

Constantine Kitsopoulos conductor

**Oct 28**

**Ruth Reinhardt Conducts**

Bartok & Mendelssohn

**Nov 9**

**Joshua Bell Leads the**

New Jersey Symphony

**Nov 30**

**GET TICKETS!**

[1.800.ALLEGRO \(255.3476\)](http://1.800.ALLEGRO) | [njsymphony.org](http://njsymphony.org)



Made possible by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

