

FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: TODAY, MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY. Includes weather icons and temperature forecasts.

ALMANAC

Table with 2 columns: Item (Temperature, Precipitation, Wind Chill) and Value.

WIND CHILL

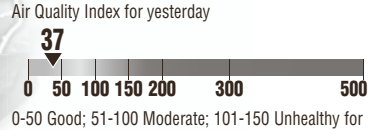
Table with 2 columns: Time (8 a.m., Noon, 4 p.m., 8 p.m.) and Wind Chill value.

UV INDEX



The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

AIR QUALITY INDEX



0-50 Good; 51-100 Moderate; 101-150 Unhealthy for sensitive groups; 151-200 Unhealthy; 201-300 Very Unhealthy; 301-500 Hazardous

HEATING DEGREE DAYS

Table with 2 columns: Day (Friday) and Heating Degree Days value.

TIDES

Table with 2 columns: Location (SANDY HOOK, KEYPORT AT RARITAN BAY) and High/Low times.

MARINE FORECAST

Today: Wind south-southeast at 6-12 knots. Seas less than a foot. Visibility clear.

GARDENING FORECAST

Mostly sunny today; fog in the morning, then becoming warm. Winds light and variable.

AccuWeather.com logo and contact information.

SUN AND MOON

Table with 2 columns: Sun/Moon phase and Time.

THE STATE

Table with 3 columns: City, Today Hi/Lo/W, Mon. Hi/Lo/W.

LOTTERIES section with details for SATURDAY, SEPT. 27 and FRIDAY, SEPT. 26, including game names and prize amounts.

CAFÉ

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way that they can't in ordinary social gatherings," said Caroline Grossmann, an elder at the church and co-coordinator, with Ginny Fisher, of the Memory Café.



"The café got Jeff (Fisher, above) out of the house, which was an issue. ... He was home alone because I was working," says his wife, Ginny, a co-coordinator of Memory Café.

Other programs focus on their problems, therapies, and treatments, according to Grossmann. But not the Memory Café movement, begun by Clinical Geriatric Psychologist Bere Miesen in The Netherlands in 1997.

"It's something that we can do together, which is very important for us," Charlie Courtney said. But there's more to it than that. Sometimes the group enjoys an activity — anything from crafts to musical entertainment — before coffee and cake are served.

he spoke to an 80-something gentleman in early-stage Alzheimer's who recalled a high school football game in which he made an open field tackle of Alex Webster, who went on to play, star for and coach the New York Giants.

When applying for a \$2,013 New Thing Grant from the Newton Presbytery to fund the Memory Café, Grossmann estimated some 7,800 people in Morris County — 11 percent of the population over 65 — could have the disease.

"The café got Jeff out of the house, which was an issue," she said. "He was home alone because I was working. He can't drive anymore. It was a social thing for us to do together. He always enjoys meeting people there and the entertainment stimulates his mind."

In 2011, the last year for which data is available, there were 1,960 deaths in New Jersey from Alzheimer's disease and 105 in Morris County, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Death statistics often are used to measure the prevalence of the disease. "There is, after all, no

definitive diagnosis until after death," said Theresa Davis, director of the Morris County Division on Aging, Disabilities and Veterans.

When applying for a \$2,013 New Thing Grant from the Newton Presbytery to fund the Memory Café, Grossmann estimated some 7,800 people in Morris County — 11 percent of the population over 65 — could have the disease.

"Programs like the café are very much an unmet need in our area," she said.

Indeed, the first café in the United States didn't open in Santa Fe, New Mexico, until 2008. Canada trailed three years later, opening its first in 2011.

It was Ginny Fisher who first read about the movement online and discovered the nearest Memory Café to Morris County was meeting in a restaurant in Manhattan. Way too far. She found out it was run by the New York City Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association. So she contacted the Denver-based Greater New Jersey Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association.

"Our church was thrilled with the idea because it's big into outreach," Fisher said.

Learn more

» MEMORY CAFE WHEN: 2-4 p.m. third Thursdays (second Thursdays in November and December) WHERE: Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains, 400 Speedwell Ave., Morris Plains COST: Free INFORMATION: Ginny Fisher at 973-229-4145 or Caroline Grossmann at 973-993-9134 » ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE: THE INFORMED CAREGIVER, A MORRIS COUNTY CAREGIVER CONFERENCE WHEN: 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Oct. 11 WHERE: Morris County Human Services Building, 340 W. Hanover Ave., Morris Township COST: Free INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION: Call 973-586-4300 by Oct. 6.

The church has room for a lot more than the current core group of 10 patients and 10 caregivers, she said, adding that new participants are enthusiastically invited.

Memory Cafes are but one program in a national trend to create social engagement programs for early-stage dementia patients, one that the Alzheimer's Association National Office embraced in 2013, according to Monica Moreno, its director of early-stage initiatives.

After two years of pilot studies, she explained, the national office last year distributed a toolkit to each of its 70 chapters nationwide and encouraged them to create early-stage engagement programs. One particularly interesting example is the Ballroom for the Brain program, an initiative of the Central and North Florida chapter and the Orlando chapter of USA Dance.

"People in early stage, and their partners, get ballroom dancing lessons," Moreno said. "It's really a social event that allows them to feel normal, that gives them purpose."

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Today in History

Today is Sunday, Sept. 28, the 271st day of 2014. There are 94 days left in the year. On this date in: 1066: William the Conqueror invades England to claim the throne. 1787: The Congress of the Confederation votes to send the just-completed Constitution of the United States to

state legislatures for their approval. 1850: Flogging is abolished as a form of punishment in the Navy. 1924: Three Army planes land in Seattle, having completed the first round-the-world trip by air in 175 days. 1964: Comedian Harpo Marx, 75, dies in Los Angeles.

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Trial

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the body, will be tried separately. Benedicto-Aleman will not be a witness for the state against Rojas, authorities said. Rojas' defense lawyer, Peter Willis, was not available for comment last week on the upcoming trial.

According to an arrest affidavit, Benedicto-Aleman told police that he was at his Cliff Street home in Fairview with Rojas on Aug. 3, 2011. He told police that acquaintance Hernandez-Vazquez entered his driveway and Rojas approached the unsuspecting man and struck him in the head with a hammer that he pulled from his backpack, the affidavit said.

Benedicto-Aleman further told police that the victim fell and Rojas hit

him a few more times, the affidavit said. The body was wrapped in a painter's tarp and put into the trunk of a Toyota Camry that the victim had been driving. The affidavit stated that Benedicto-Aleman told police that Rojas got into the Camry and he got into Rojas' vehicle, and they drove to Lincoln Park, where the Camry was driven off the side of Ryerson Road and abandoned.

Benedicto-Aleman also stated that Rojas removed the stereo from the Camry, the affidavit said. Authorities said a possible motive for the killing was a large debt the victim supposedly owed Rojas. Rojas and Hernandez-Vazquez had some form of relationship since the cellphone used by the victim was in Rojas' name through an AT&T account, according to court records.

The investigation began on Aug. 4, 2011 when

Lincoln Park police were told by a passerby about a Camry in a patch of woods. The car wasn't locked, and there was a baby seat in it as well as motor oil spilled on the seats. Police found the victim in the trunk, soaked in motor oil.

Police saw that the stereo had been stripped from the car, and they found a receipt on the floor from Food Basics of Bergen Boulevard in Fairview dated Aug. 3, 2011. Police obtained videotape of the transaction which showed two men making a purchase at 1:30 p.m. that day. They quickly identified the men as Hernandez-Vazquez and Rojas, the affidavit said.

Witness found

Police found a witness who had seen the Camry being driven by Rojas on the Garden State Parkway and another who told police that Rojas confided he beat a man with a hammer in Fairview and dumped his body in Lincoln Park, the affidavit said.

The affidavit said that, in an initial interview with police, Rojas explained his whereabouts on Aug. 3, 2011, by stating he worked at a construc-

tion site near Route 17 in Teaneck. He said he left at noon, went back to North Bergen, paid a bill, visited McDonald's and returned to the job site at 1:30 p.m. and remained there until 7 p.m.

Rojas never mentioned being at Food Basics with Hernandez-Vazquez and told police he last saw the victim on Aug. 1, the affidavit said. Later, with search warrants, police searched Rojas' room in North Bergen and found the stereo stolen from the Camry.

Police learned of Benedicto-Aleman's alleged role by searching the Fairview area for garages or warehouses where the killing might have occurred and spotted a multi-unit garage on Cliff Street. They saw Benedicto-Aleman, who lived at the Cliff Street address, wearing a shirt with a car-wash logo on it that was the same logo on a business card found in the abandoned Camry, the affidavit said.

Benedicto-Aleman initially said he last saw the victim a while ago but ultimately disclosed his and Rojas' involvement, the affidavit said.

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Corrections Policy

The Daily Record corrects factual errors as soon as they are brought to our attention. Errors should be reported to Executive Editor Joe Ungaro at 973-428-6624.

MONTHLY MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS table with columns for subscription type and price.