



DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. COMMUNITY CENTER

July 10, 2026

Chelley Knight and the Dope Things perform at the MLK July 15

Newport music icons **Chelley Knight and the Dope Things** will perform at our Live from the Loading Dock – Parkside concert series on **Wednesday, July 15, from 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

Join us for an amazing performance, pulled pork and chicken sandwiches, and a classic Newport summer evening with community made possible by our sponsor, **Teri Degnan Real Estate & Consulting, LTD.**



**LIVE FROM THE
LOADING DOCK...
PARKSIDE**

**JULY 15
5:30 - 7:00 P.M.**

Chelley Knight and the Dope Things



Presented by



TERI DEGNAN
Real Estate & Consulting

*Performances begin promptly and will be held at
the Pocket Park across from the Edward Street entrance
of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center
20 Dr. Marcus Wheatland Blvd.*

Food will be provided free of charge.

Please bring a lawn chair and enjoy the show!

Rain location: Community Room, MLK Community Center

mlkccenter.org | 401.846.4828 | @NewportMLK

Sign up to volunteer!





**LIVE FROM THE
LOADING DOCK...
PARKSIDE**

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Join us on July 15 from 4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. to volunteer at our summer concert series and an amazing performance by Chelley Knight and the Dope things.





HOLLIE JOHNSON,
VOLUNTEER MANAGER

 401.846.4828x103

 hjohnson@mlkccenter.org

Want to make the evening more special?

We are looking for volunteers to help with setup, food service, and making sure everyone has a great time.

We need you!

Click the button above to email our Volunteer Manager, Hollie Johnson.

Potter League helps 117 animals get healthcare at the MLK



We know how expensive healthcare can be for your pets, and we also know how important our furry friends are to our families. That's why we are so grateful to our partners at the **Potter League** for Animals for bringing a free vaccine and microchip clinic to the Center. **117 cats and dogs received the care they need to stay healthy and safe.** Clients and their pets, Potter League and MLK staff and volunteers all braved the blistering heat last week to make this happen.





We are hiring!

We are hiring a **Director of Community Programs**, a **Volunteer Assistant Manager**, and an **After School Program Teacher Assistant**.

Apply with the button below or share the opportunities with your family and friends.



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COMMUNITY CENTER

WE ARE HIRING!

OPEN POSITIONS:

- DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY PROGRAMS
- VOLUNTEER ASSISTANT MANAGER
- AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM TEACHER ASSISTANT

email us your resume at jobs@mlkccenter.org

[View Job Postings](#)

Taylor and Travis's wedding day philanthropy trickles all the way down to the MLK

Congrats to the happy couple! We are blown away by their generosity and the impact it has on Rhode Islanders and Newport County. We are ecstatic for the [***Rhode Island Community Food Bank***](#) and

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, two organizations that work closely with the MLK.



RHODE ISLAND COMMUNITY
FOOD BANK



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COMMUNITY CENTER



Happy Wedding Day, Taylor and Travis!

And, congratulations to the Rhode Island Community Food Bank on receiving an incredible \$1,000,000 donation from the happy couple.

Every day the RICFB helps 137 member agencies like the MLK distribute food to 89,000 Rhode Islanders monthly. We receive about 45% of the food we provide directly from the RICFB; we provided over 1.3 million meals last year.

The iconic couple also donated \$2,000,000 to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.

Here in Newport County, over 5,000 kids benefit from this program at the MLK.

What an impact!



CONGRATS!

A butterfly of kind words from our community

This year's preschool graduation was such a heartwarming event that we can't stop thinking about it. Did you notice the butterfly in any of the photos we shared?

It is entirely formed from happy and congratulatory wishes from across our community. The messages were written by people who attended the **Greater Newport Chamber of Commerce Business Expo**, students from **Saint Philomena's School of the Sacred Heart**, and volunteers from **RTX** and **People's Credit Union**. We asked our friends from these organizations to write words of encouragement to our preschoolers as they move on to kindergarten.

These messages show the kids they matter in our community and will help give them confidence as they take the next steps in their educational journeys. Thank you to everyone who participated.

You truly makes a difference.



Ancient Order of Hibernians Men's Singers carry on tradition

Last week at Senior Lunch & Learn, the **Ancient Order of Hibernians** Men's Singers carried on their tradition of performing traditional American and Irish songs for the 55 & Up Club. It's always such a treat when they visit. Check out the video below to see more.



Summer Camp Week 1 Highlights



We have eight amazing weeks planned for our campers this year. This week, The kids enjoyed a performance by **[Cerus Saxophone Quartet](#)**, who came all the way from Michigan to perform with

Newport Classical. They played music from iconic movies like *The Lion King*, *Star Wars*, *Aladdin*, and *The Little Mermaid* for the kids as well as playing some more classical tunes. They taught our campers about the saxophone itself and the different types there are to play. The kids were inspired to learn that these amazing performers started playing their instruments in middle school, which is not much older than most of our students!

Our kids enjoyed a very special experience as part of **Newport Historical Society's** Independence Week celebration. MLK campers toured the "**OCCUPIED! Newport and the Fight for Independence**" exhibit at the Center on Touro Street. They got to see a real copy of the Declaration of Independence! (see the photo at the bottom of the newsletter!) The learning continued as the kids walked to the Colony House escorted by Roy Lauth of the **Newport Artillery Company** in his colonial-era uniform.

The kids then trekked to the Liberty Tree on the corner of Thames and Farewell streets to reenact a moment from fifty years ago. In 1976, during the nation's 200th anniversary, 13 lanterns were brought to the tree in honor of the original colonies that fought for and won American independence. This week our kids had the privilege of carrying on this tradition.

Opportunities like this make summer at the MLK memorable and unique for our kids. ***Summer Camp only happens because of generous people like you who donate to make this program possible. Please support camp by clicking the button below.***





Provide a classic Newport summer to local children by supporting Summer Camp

Kids aren't getting breakfast in school so now we need cereal

Summer is officially here, and that means many children in our community who relied on free breakfast from school every day no longer have access to this resource. Every family who uses the food pantry chooses cereal. We never have enough.

You can help by donating cereal to our Food Pantry. **Our loading dock is open from 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Make sure to let our staff and volunteers know your donation was inspired by the newsletter!**

Don't have the time to drop off a donation? Your cash gift helps us buy the cereal we need. Click the button below to donate.

Help feed local kids this summer

DONATIONS NEEDED

MLK FOOD PANTRY



CEREAL



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Beep! Beep! Here Comes the Mobile Food Pantry!



MOBILE FOOD PANTRY TRACKER



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The Mobile Food Pantry is coming your way! Here are next week's Mobile Food Pantry Locations:

Tuesday 7/14/2026:

- Oxbow Farms, 80 Rogers Ln. Middletown RI 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- AHEPA II Apartments, 87 Girard Ave. Newport RI 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
 - Residents Only

Thursday 7/16/2026:

- Festival Field, 90 Girard Ave. Newport RI 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

All are welcome. You do not need to reside in the neighborhood to use the Mobile Food Pantry, unless otherwise advised. Please remember to bring your reusable bags.

Download Our Monthly Calendar

[Download July Calendar in English](#)

[Descargar Calendario de Julio en Español](#)

**Our Contact Information**

{{Organization Name}}

{{Organization Address}}

{{Organization Phone}}

{{Organization Website}}

{{Unsubscribe}}

Volunteer

Give



You are receiving this email because you opted in to join our email newsletter list.
We promise to never share your information with third parties, or spam you.