

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2018

10 reasons to be optimistic about 2018 in N.J.

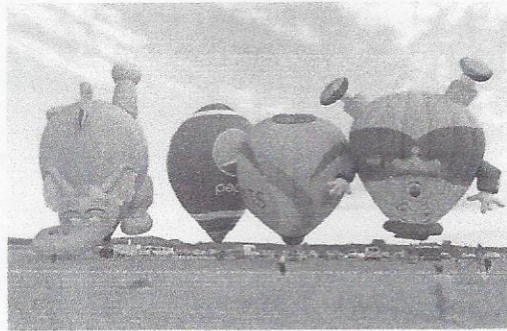
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It's easy to get bogged down in the gray, winter days now upon us. But spring is nigh, and there are plenty of reasons to look forward to the rest of the year right here in New Jersey. Here are 10 of them:

3. Fairs and festivals

Another great Jersey tradition that's right around the corner is fair season. From the more rural farm-focused 4H county fairs to ones that include midways, Ferris wheels, fireworks and other spectacles and up to the giant State Fair that takes over the Meadowlands each year, we'll flock to our fairs this spring and summer. Plus we'll line up in droves for yearly fun like the QuickChek Festival of Ballooning in Readington, where all eyes are focused on the skies.



The Quick Check New Jersey Festival of Ballooning is a summer tradition that draws tens of thousands each year. MARK R. SULLIVAN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER