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BERKELEY HEIGHTS HARVEST FESTIVAL

The Berkeley Heights Recreation Department sponsored a Participants had a fun day of pumpkin picking and painting,

Harvest Festival on Saturday, October 21st at Columbia Park. free popcorn and hot cocoa, music, photo cutouts, and more!

Issue 26 • November 2017



Photos from this and other events can be found online at rennamedia.com and on the Berkeley Heights News page on facebook.com Feel free to "Like", "Tag" and "Share".



IGHTS, NJ 07922 SSEDDM * * * EY F * * ECR **POSTAL** BERKEL

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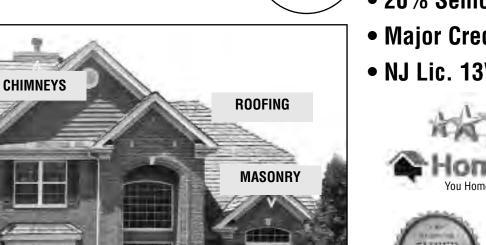
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EVENTS HONOR THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED AND SACRIFICED FOR FREEDOM

The Berkeley Heights Veterans Memorial Park Committee is pleased to announce that a community wide program honoring our veterans will be held on Veterans Day, Saturday, November 11 at 9 a.m. at Veterans Memorial Park, corner of Plainfield and Park Avenues.

The volunteer Committee, whose educational program is entitled "Operation: We Remember" raised over \$170,000 to completely renovate the Memorial and sponsor the Hometown Heroes Banner Program honoring our Berkeley Heights veterans. Citizens have been inspired by the beauty and tranquility of the park, and the reverence one finds sitting next to the Memorial Wall inscribed with "A Time To Pause And Remember."

Atop the wall sits five monument stones honoring those who have served in World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam/Southeast Asia, and the newest monument to those who served in the 1990-91 Persian Gulf War and continue to serve in the Global War on Terror.

The public is invited to pay their respect and honor all those who have put themselves in harms way to protect the freedoms we enjoy every day.

The Hometown Heroes Banner Program began last year and seeks to recognize those veterans (living or deceased) and active military who have lived in Berkeley Heights, currently reside or work here. Those who would like to participate





in the second round of the Banner Program may pick up forms at the Veterans Day Program, find them online at the Committee's website /www.BHMemorialPark.com or pick them up at Town Hall.

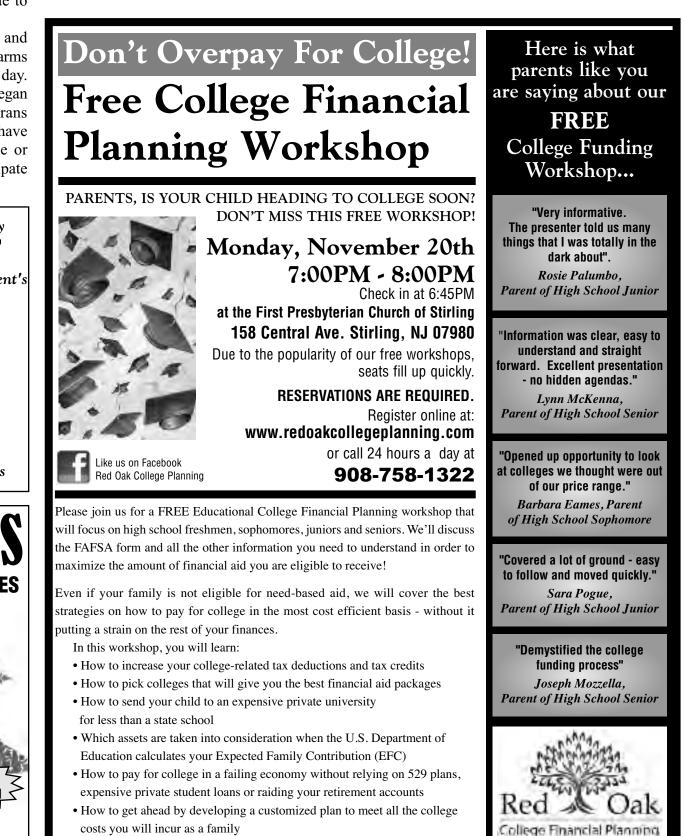
The DEADLINE FOR RETURN of Round Two Participation Forms and Photos is March 1, 2018.

The Veterans Memorial Park Renewal Committee will gratefully be accepting tax deductible donations for the continuation of the Hometown Heroes Banner Program. Contributions can be made on Veterans Day, or mailed payable to Memorial Park Renewal Committee, 29 Park Avenue, Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922 or can be made online at www.BHMemorialPark.com and are greatly appreciated.

The Berkeley Heights YMCA will host a breakfast for veterans at VFW Post #6259 following the park ceremony. The post will hold its special remembrance program at VFW headquarters, 15 Locust Avenue, Berkeley Heights at 11:11 a.m...the time that officially marked the end of World War I.

Everyone is encouraged to attend these special programs and take time to pause and remember those who have given the ultimate sacrifice or risked their lives for all of us.

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• How to lower your "out-of-pocket" costs and get the maximum amount of money from each school

Berkeley Heights News • Page 5 • November 2017





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SANTA CLAUS SHOP IN SUMMIT GEARS UP TO SERVE LOCAL FAMILIES

The Santa Claus Shop will open its doors to area families, providing its 51st consecutive year of complimentary holiday shopping. The shop serves more than 400 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 a new toy for each child. Local volunteers are responsible for the shop setup, personal shopping services for each guest, giftwrapping 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 28th. Families will be offered shopping hours by invitation only on Wednesday, November 29th.

The Santa Claus Shop is chaired by Summit residents, Denise Holmes, Laura Lameo, Jenn Moore and Diana Moran and co-chaired by Liz Febo, Kourtney Matter, Franny McBride and Shelley Sherman. The Santa Claus Shop exists solely on donations and volunteers. With the



monetary donations from area residents, local organizations and businesses, the Santa Claus Shop can purchase the gifts that allow less fortunate neighbors to experience the joy of holiday giving without 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 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 l-r) This year's chairwomen Denise Holmes, Diana Moran, Laura Lameo and Jenn Moore.



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Sunday, November 12 • 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Sunday, January 28, 2018 • 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

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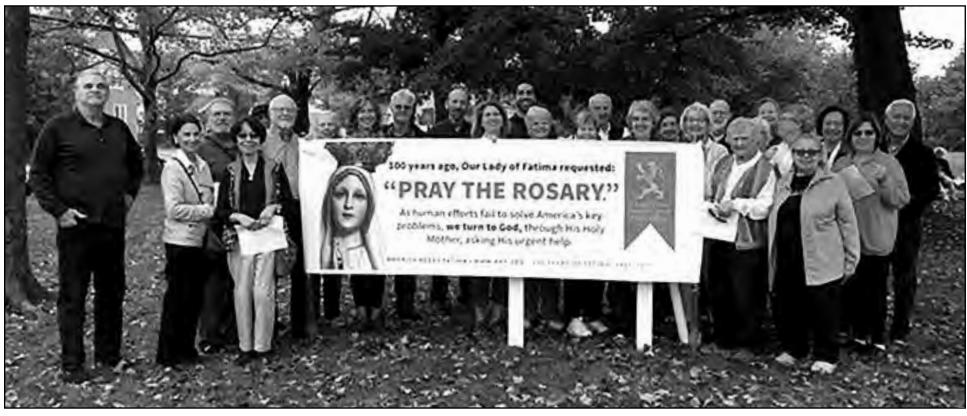
BERKELEY HEIGHTS ROSARY RALLY

rosary on Saturday, October 14th at Peppertown at Fatima, Portugal. Park in Berkeley Heights. This occasion marked

Twenty-eight participants publicly recited the the 100th Anniversary of the Marian apparitions suffering from natural disasters and a host of

The rosary was recited for world peace, those

social ills including abortion, as well as for unity in our country.











DPW RAISING CANCER AWARENESS



We need 30 Ugly Homes with Ugly Kitchens, Bathrooms, Siding, Window, etc., Inside or Outside that need fixing or Remodeling. We will Repair and Remodel them and shoot video for training film and future TV show on Home Remodeling Work.

Must Sign Release, for purpose of filming job! This must be a complete remodeling job, not just patch up work. This remodeling is to be specially priced out of work, with compensation back to the homeowner for signed release.





In support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month the Berkeley Heights Department of Public Works wore pink sweatshirts in October. To see the photo in full color visit Facebook: Berkeley Heights Township, Union County, NJ.

THE SUMMIT PLAYHOUSE PRESENTS THE BRIDGES OF MADISON COUNTY

The Summit Playhouse will present the Tony Award-winning musical "The Bridges of Madison County" this November. Performances are November 3, 4, 10, 11, 17 and 18 at 8:00pm and November 5 and 12 at 2:00pm.

The Summit Playhouse is located at 10 New England Avenue, Summit, NJ and tickets can be purchased online at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3081773.



Based on the best-selling novel, "The Bridges of Madison County" tells of a forbidden love affair between a photographer and a housewife that changes them forever. The musical captures the lyrical expanse of America's heartland along with the yearning entangled in the eternal question" "What if...?" Winner of the 2014 Tony Award for Best Score and Orchestrations, this sweeping romance about the roads we travel, the doors we open and the bridges we dare to cross will leave audiences breathless.

The cast includes Tina Kaye, Sean Finnerty, Sal Vararro, Jodi Freeman Maloy, Rich Maloy, Samantha Kaplan, Sean Switzer, Anna Lovallo, Catherine Flynn, Will K Carey, Kathleen Mals, and Kevin Ohlweiler.

For more information: visit www.thesunmitplayhouse.org call 908-273-2192 or email sunmitplayhouseinfo@gmail.com







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Lunch 11am - 3:30pm	Dinner 3:30pm - 10:00pm	
Adult\$7.99	Adult\$11.99	
Kids 7-10\$5.99	Kids 7-10\$7.49	
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FRIDAY - SATURDAY

unch 11am - 3:30pm		Dinner 3:30pm - 10:30pm		
lt	\$7.99	Adult	\$11.99	
7-10		Kids 7-10	\$7.49	
3-6		Kids 3-6	\$5.99	
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SUNDAY ALL DAY DINNER

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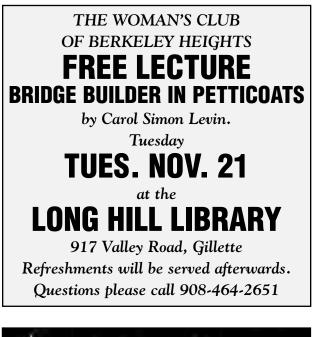


WHARTON INSTITUTE KICKS OFF SALON SERIES NOVEMBER 9

Wharton Institute for the Performing Arts (WIPA) kicks off its 2017-2018 Salon Series featuring the Dave Schumacher Quartet on Thursday, November 9 at 7:30 p.m. at 60 Locust Avenue in Berkeley Heights. Wine and cheese will be served. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$6 for seniors, and free for WIPA students. Tickets are available at the door or by calling 908-790-0700.

The Dave Schumacher Quartet, featuring Dave Schumacher on baritone saxophone, Charlie Sigler on guitar, Jamale D. Deshon on bass, and J. Taylor Leach on drums, will perform compositions from jazz masters including Thelonious Monk, Charles Mingus, and John Coltrane as well as selections from the Great American Songbook. They will also be performing original music composed by Schumacher.

Chicago native Dave Schumacher has been on the New York jazz scene for more than three decades, touring throughout the United States and internationally with the Lionel Hampton Orchestra, T.S. Monk on Monk Ensemble, Tom Harrell Octet and Big Band and as an original member of the Harry Connick, Jr. Orchestra for 19 years. Highlights of his international career include an appearance at Mount Fuji Jazz Festival in Japan with the Art Blakely Big Band. Schumacher can be heard on nearly a dozen Columbia Records recordings with the Harry Connick, Jr. Orchestra and with such jazz greats as Lionel Hampton, Mel Torme, and Tom Harrell. Schumacher received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Jazz Performance from Rutgers University/Livingston College and a Master of Music degree in Jazz Performance from New Jersey City University. He is currently Director of Jazz Studies at the The New Jersey Youth Symphony and faculty member at the WIPA.







(above) Dave Schumacher

Guitarist Charlie Sigler has been active member of the music community since his high school years studying and performing in the Baltimore and Washington D.C. area. A recent graduate of William Paterson University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Jazz Performance, Sigler has performed with Winard Harper, Harold Mabern, Eric Alexander, Myron Walden, Akiko Tsurga, Pat Bianci, Jared Gold, Vince Ector, Bruce Williams, Radam Schwartz, Kyle Koehler, and Dave Stryker. He has performed at clubs and festivals including the Montclair Jazz Festival, Litchfield Jazz Festival, Mid-Atlantic Jazz Festival, AFRAM and the Berks Jazz Festival.

Born in Newark, New Jersey, Jamale Davis Deshon is a largely self-taught bassist who credits jazz clubs such as Smalls and Fat Cat as inspiration in the cultivation of his particular aesthetics for performance: the acoustic, nonmicrophone approach, gut string setup with a concentrated lean towards more straight-ahead bebop idioms, translated in his repertoire and approach to everything musical. Deshon is known for his tenure with tenor saxophonist Ned Goold, where he has held the position of resident bassist for over five years and recorded a number of albums. Since 2012 Deshon has led his own group of talented musicians and released his debut album, Workers' Comp, on Gut String Records in October 2015

Born in Plano, Texas, J. Taylor Leach attended Raritan Valley Community College in Branchburg, NJ where he obtained a liberal arts degree and was actively involved with the music department, including performing with the jazz faculty. Upon graduating, Leach studied jazz performance and music education at William Paterson University in Wayne, NJ. Leach performs in numerous styles including jazz, blues, funk, rock, pop, experimental, R&B, country, neo-soul, big band, and DJ's with live drums. Leach has performed with worldrenowned artists including Johnny O' Neal, Gene Perla, Rich Perry, Bill Mobley, Jared Gold, Steve LaSpina, Duane Eubanks, Bernie Worrell, Tim Newman, Julius Tolentino, Paul Meyers, Dave Schumacher, Chris Berger, Mike Lee, David Williams, Adam J Brenner, Jerry Weldon, Tim Hegarty, Oscar Williams II, Adam Niewood, Danielle Illario, Steve Hudson, Nicole Glover, and DJ Wombo. He has performed at venues such as Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola (Jazz at Lincoln Center), Mezzrow Jazz Club, Ginny Super Club, The Garage, and Cleopatra's Needle.

The Wharton Institute for the Performing Arts' mission is to provide the highest quality performing arts education to a wide range of students in a supportive and inclusive environment, where striving for personal excellence inspires and connects those we teach to the communities we serve.

Wharton is New Jersey's largest independent non-profit community performing arts education center serving over 1,400 students through a range of classes and ensembles including the 14 ensembles of the New Jersey Youth Symphony which serve 500 students in grades 3 - 12. Beginning with Early Childhood music classes for infants and toddlers, WIPA offers private lessons, group classes and ensembles for all ages and all abilities. We believe in the positive and unifying influence of music and the performing arts and believe that arts education should be accessible to all people regardless of their ability to pay. We teach all instruments and voice and have a robust musical theatre program.

The Paterson Music Project is Wharton's El Sistema-inspired program held at the Community Charter School of Paterson and Paterson Public School 1/26. Students receive 6 hours of intensive music instruction each week with the goal of creating social change through the ambitious pursuit of musical excellence.

Wharton Institute for the Performing Arts is located in Berkeley Heights, New Providence and Paterson, NJ and reaches students from 13 counties. All of WIPA's extraordinary faculty members and conductors hold degrees in their teaching specialty and have been vetted and trained to enable our students to achieve their personal best.





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2017 YARD WASTE AND LEAF PICK-UP PROGRAM

Curbside pick-up of leaves and branches by the Department of Public Works will be held for eight (8) weeks this Fall. The pick-up will begin on Monday, October 23rd 2017 and will end Friday, December 15th 2017.

NO PICK-UP on November 10th, 23rd and 24th.

NEW 2017 PROCEDURES:

- 1. Leaves must be places in Paper Biodegradable Bags Only. No plastic bags or open containers will be accepted. Bags are to be left at the curbline and should not be placed in the street (gutterline). This will allow proper storm water flow and will not impede street cleaning. Leaves are not to be raked into the street.
- 2. Department of Public Works employees will pick up All paper Biodegradable Leaf Bags left at curbside. DPW crews will return for subsequent pick-ups once the remaining four sections are completed. Pick-up will be continuous until the end of the program.
- 3. Residents are reminded that the Paper Biodegradable Bags must contain Leaves Only. No trash, branches, twigs, or brush will be accepted in bags. Bags found to contain this material will be rejected.
- 4. Due to new collection procedures, please place brush (NO LOOSE LEAVES!) such that it is accessible to be picked up by large equipment from the street. The largest size branches shall be limited to four (4) inches in diameter. Lumber, building materials, leaves, roots, stumps, briars, vines, decayed branches and other debris which can damage the equipment will not be accepted. Material of this nature will be left for your disposal. Residents are advised to place at curbside only the wood items listed above. There have been instances where metal items such as posts, wire and metal bands were found mixed with the brush. This can cause severe injury to employees and damage to equipment. Should metal or other unsuitable material be found, the pile will be rejected.
- 5. Only one collection of branches will be made. In order to minimize co-mingling of leaves and branches, resulting in higher disposal costs, branches will only be collected once. Residents are advised to get their branches out for the October 23rd start of the program.

Residents can direct questions to the Department of Public Works at 908-464-2461, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



BERKELEY HEIGHTS PUBLIC LIBRARY

290 Plainfield Ave, Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922 • (908) 464-9333 • www.bhplnj.org

MOVIE NIGHT THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16 AT 7 P.M.

The library will show the Canadian film "Maudie" (in English, rated PG-13, 116 mins.) in the library's meeting room.

CHRISTMAS CAROL COMING TO CDC THEATRE

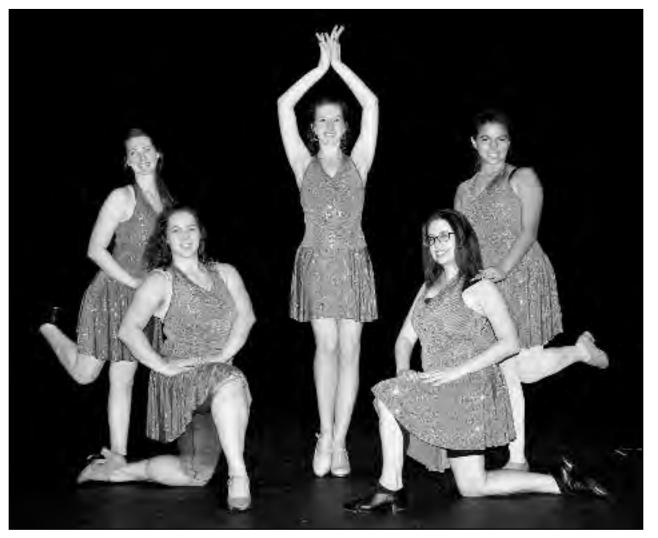
Ebenezer Scrooge and his ghostly encounters will come to life at CDC Theatre beginning December 8. Written and scored by Broadway heavy hitters, Alan Menken (Disney's Beauty and the Beast, Disney's The Little Mermaid, Little Shop of Horrors) and Lynn Ahrens (Ragtime, Seussical, Once on This Island), A Christmas Carol is a spectacular adaptation of Charles Dickens' most well-known story; proving its staying power with a decade-long run at the Theatre at Madison Square Garden.

This family friendly show will be directed by Matty Price. "I chose a Christmas Carol because it has a wonderful message about change." said Price. "That change for the better is possible and it is never too late to change. I think it applies to all people in all walks of life and at any stage. Our cast represents this with the variety of ages we have onstage working together to create this show. I think telling this familiar tale in the

Ebenezer Scrooge and his ghostly encounters musical theatre style makes it new and exciting and the story will feel right at home on the CDC ecember 8. Written and scored by Broadway stage!"

Ebenezer Scrooge is a prosperous curmudgeon who believes that personal wealth is far more valuable than the happiness and comfort of others. With an infuriated "Bah! Humbug!", Scrooge sums up his feelings about Christmas tidings and charitable giving, but he's forced to face his selfish ways when on Christmas Eve three ghosts lead him through his Past, Present and Future. Thanks to their guidance, Scrooge recognizes his faults and greets Christmas morning as a changed man and with a cheerful "Happy Christmas!"

The production boasts a talented cast of over 30 local performers and will run for 8 performances from December 8 through December 16. Details and ticket information can be found at cdctheatre.org



(above l-r) Charity Elves Amanda Dunsdon, Kylie Francis, Kimmi Zimmermann, Annamarie Carlo and Michele Greenspan prepare to dance into CDC Theatre in December.



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PARENTS SHARE STORY OF TEEN DEPRESSION AND SUICIDE, LESSONS AND HOPE

Wendy and Steve Sefcik recently shared the story of their 16-year-old son's struggle with depression and ultimate suicide at a community gathering in Westfield sponsored by crisis listening line Caring Contact and hosted by Westfield residents Linda Habgood and Gary Zanfagna in their home.

In the evening's program, "Breaking the Silence: Remembering T.J. - A Story of Depression, Lessons and Hope," the Sefciks discussed the warning signs that preceded their son's death in 2010.

They told the audience of more than 100 how their son grew up as an outgoing, sensitive boy who was well liked and excelled at sports. Yet as T.J. Sefcik moved into his teen years, he began to show what his parents now recognize as the early signs of depression, including increasing irritation and disrespect. Twice they sought guidance from counselors and both times were told T.J. was experiencing normal emotional growing pains before he was finally diagnosed with depression.

On December 1, 2010, T.J. Sefcik died by suicide. Following his death, the Sefciks immersed themselves in learning everything they could about teenage depression and suicide.

"It begs the question, 'What would lead a boy like this to take his own life?'," Steve Sefcik said.

"We feel it's so imperative we share what we learned so no other family loses a child to suicide," Wendy Sefcik added.

The Sefciks told the audience that one in four Americans will experience a diagnosable mental disorder and that one in eight teenagers will suffer at least one episode of depression before they reach adulthood. They identified symptoms of teenage depression as irritable or angry moods, unexplained aches and pains, extra sensitivity to criticism and withdrawal from some but not all



suffering from depression is the greatest barrier to treatment.

The Sefciks provided the audience with a list of resources families can turn to for help with teenage depression, including Erika's Lighthouse (erikaslighthouse.org); Foundation JED (jedfoundation.org); the Balanced Mind Parent Network (dbsalliance.org); the Society for Prevention of Teenage Suicide (sptsusa.org); and Caring Contact (caringcontact.org). A complete list can be found at rememberingtj.org.

"Sometimes these kids just want to be heard," Wendy Sefcik said. "That's one of the things I love about Caring Contact."

Since T.J. Sefcik's death his parents have made their presentation to more than 20,000 students, parents, educators and mental health professionals.

"We will speak to anyone interested in the people. They also warned that the stigma of message," Wendy Sefcik said. "We want to raise

awareness of the importance of taking care of your mental health. We believe our mental health is as important as our physical health and we don't take care of both until an issue arises. If you pay attention to your mental health, that's suicide prevention."

Steve and Wendy Sefcik can be reached through their website rememberingtj.org.

Caring Contact is an award-winning, volunteer-staffed caring and crisis hotline and listening community, providing active listening support and best-in-class training to the Central and Northern New Jersey community. More than 100 trained volunteer listeners answered nearly 9,000 calls last year from people in crisis, having suicidal thoughts or simply feeling depressed and lonely.

If you are in crisis and need someone to listen, call them at 908-232-2880. To learn more, visit caringcontact.org.

Anyone interested in volunteering may visit http://caringcontact.org/give-support/volunteer/. There non-listening are volunteering opportunities, as well.

Caring Contact serves Central and Northern New Jersey and is a primary responder to calls to the national suicide prevention line (1-800-273-TALK or 1-800-SUICIDE) that originate in New Jersey. Callers also reach Caring Contact by dialing 908-232-2880. Those preferring to seek supporting through texting may text "heart" to 741-741. The hotline also provides best-in-class training to the Central and Northern New Jersey Community.



JUNIOR LEAGUE ANNOUNCES 2017-2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Junior League of Elizabeth-Plainfield they do! (JLEP) is excited to share their 2017-2018 Board of Directors. This year's board includes a complementary mix of returning and new board members who are excited to come together to plan another year of fulfilling events for JLEP, including kicking off 95 years as a Junior League chapter in the Spring. JLEP's Board of Directors: President Nydia M Diefenbach, President Elect Suzanne Gallagher, Treasurer Naomi Benson, Nominating Placement Ashleigh Nudo, and Sustainer Reps Josephine Stack and Teri DiFrancesco.

For almost 95 years, JLEP has been helping women and children in need in the greater Union County area. From the League's signature projects Career Closet and Teen Closet to the League's annual Angel Tree partnership with Healthy Families Elizabeth, JLEP is proud of the volunteer work it accomplishes and the positive impact it provides to the local community. JLEP is a small but mighty league that loves the work

JLEP operates from September through May during the League's calendar year. To learn more about JLEP, please go to www.jlepnj.org or email

information@jlepnj.org.

You may also contact Nydia M Diefenbach, President 2017-2018, Junior League of Elizabeth-Plainfield at (908) 709-1177.



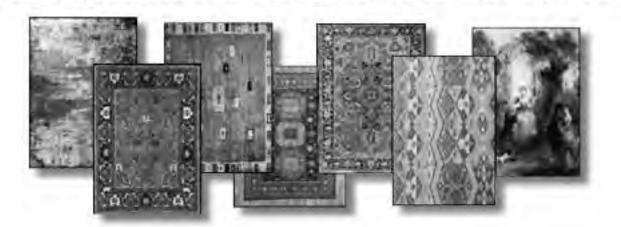
(above l-r) Teri DiFrancesco, Ashleigh Nudo, Naomi Benson, Suzanne Gallagher, Nydia Diefenbach, Josephine Stack

Grand Opening Celebration!



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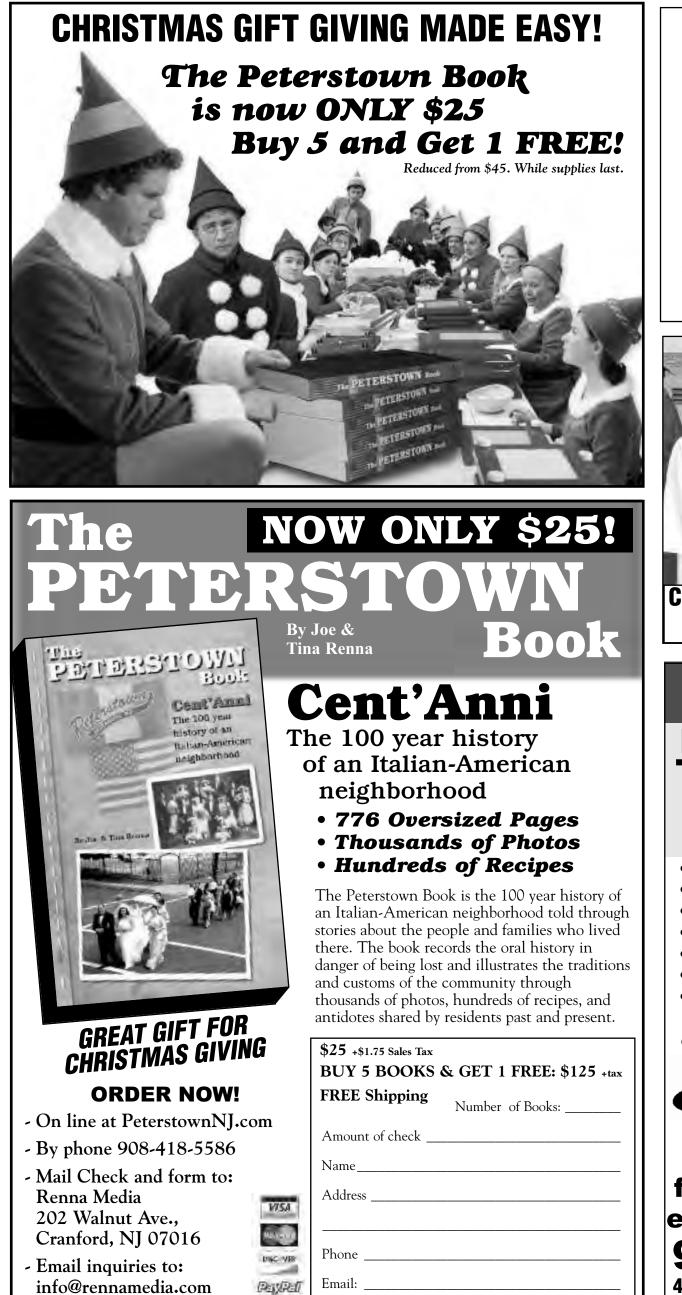
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