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A TASTE OF MADISON SET FOR MARCH 19TH

Submitted by John Morris



(above) Members of the 2018 Taste of Madison Organizing Committee posed for a photo on Friday, February 2, 2018.

(Seated, l-r): Jim Hollenbach, Madison Mayor Bob Conley, Executive Director Madison Chamber of Commerce Karen Giambra, and Michael Odell. (Standing, l-r): President Madison Chamber of Commerce John Morris, Taste of Madison Co-Chair David Morozoff, Melanie Tomaszewski, Anna Riker, and Rocco Iossa. (Not in photograph): Madison Council Member Maureen Byrne, Taste Co-Chair Danielle Dixon, Director of Business Development Borough of Madison Lisa Ellis, and Taste Co-Chair Michael Pellessier.

Traditional over-the-counter tickets are available for purchase at Gary's Wine & Marketplace of 121 Main Street in Madison, and through the members of the Taste of Madison Organizing Committee.

For information and rates about sponsorship plans, advertising opportunities, and corporate ticket packages, please contact Karen Giambra, Madison Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, at MadisonChamber@gmail.com or 973-214-7014.

Taste of Madison's silent auction and tricky tray events are among the best in northern New Jersey. The businesses of Madison and the friends of Madison donate merchandise, services, and experiences to the cause. To make a donation, please contact Jim Hollenbach at JimHollenbach@gmail.com. The Taste will also conduct 50/50 raffle drawing the night of the event.

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The Taste of Madison is the annual festive fundraising extravaganza that benefits several non-profit, community-based initiatives. In its previous 16 editions, the Taste of Madison has been the "must-attend" party for food lovers and a celebration of the best of Madison.

Chefs from 30 of the area's best restaurants will graciously serve samples of their finest dishes. Gary's Wine & Marketplace, the event's longtime presenting sponsor, will provide guests with fine wine, beer, and spirits.

"Exacting attention to detail and legendary service make Brooklake one of the top event and wedding venues in New Jersey," said Taste Co-Chair David Morozoff of Haven Savings Bank, 177 Main Street, Madison. "Brooklake is short trip from historic Downtown Madison and Main Street," Morozoff said.

Always held in the first quarter of the year, the Taste of Madison was established in 2002 as a fun, town-wide fundraiser that is a cure for the winter blues. To date the Taste of Madison has raised more than \$500,000 and entertained more than 7000 guests.

The Taste of Madison Organizing Committee is a volunteer, non-profit partnership between Rotary Club of Madison, Madison Downtown Development Commission, and Madison Area Chamber of Commerce. Taste proceeds fund charitable causes, civic improvements and business development in Madison.

Tickets for the 2018 Taste of Madison, which is being held on March 19, 2018, at Brooklake Country Club, 139 Brooklake Road in Florham Park, are on sale now online at TasteOfMadison.org.

VIP Admission, which entails early entry at 6 p.m., is \$100 per person. General Admission, which permits entry at 7 p.m., is \$65.00 per person. The event ends at 9:30 p.m. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Guests must be at least 21-years-old. Recommended attire is business casual.

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MUSEUM IS READY FOR SPRING

Submitted by Tara Heffernan

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We are so ready for spring at METC!
 The Museum of Early Trades & Crafts is offering an abundance of new and different programs for all our visitors with the goal that everyone will be able to find something of interest at the museum to celebrate Spring.

First up is our new exhibition, "Are We There Yet? Stories of Travel by Stagecoach and Steam" opening in our Main Gallery on Friday, March 9, 2018. It will tell the story of the major expansion in travel during the 19th century, featuring personal accounts from letters in our collection, of journeys throughout New Jersey. It will also examine through actual artifacts, how the transportation networks were built, from the surveyors' compasses, to rail roaders' equipment to the tracklayers tools, that helped connect these early travelers with their world. METC will host a special opening reception on Thursday, March 15 at 6:30 p.m.

On March 10, we have a very special Makers Day project featuring the construction of a scale model of an East Jersey Cottage. This architectural style is a hybrid form, first seen

around 1730 almost exclusively in what is now Essex, Union, and Morris Counties. The project, our interpretation of a "spring barn raising," will be led by Master Carpenter Tyler Merson.

And finally, the Museum is expanding its After School Programs for spring and we are pleased to offer two new programs for kids. Museum Curators will explore the art of collecting, and offer insight into how museums use collections to create exhibits. Participants will be work with a museum educator to create their own min-exhibit. Our second program, "Introduction to Tabletop Game Design" will incorporate the mechanics of game design, story-telling and strategy development culminating with each student creating their own unique table top game. This program is led by guest instructor, Jennifer Graham-Macht of Play Satellite, who brings years of experience as a gaming industry consultant, designer, educator, and game store owner. Both are eight-week programs starting in April and registration can be done on line at metc.org/after-school-program-2/ or by calling the Museum at 973-377-2982.

We look forward to seeing you at the Museum of Early Trades & Crafts, 9 Main Street, Madison, New Jersey.

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(above) Carter Schabel, Makers Day, 2017

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AARP FREE TAX ASSISTANCE AT MADISON SENIOR CENTER

The Madison Senior Center is taking signups for the AARP Free Tax Assistance program. Appointments can be made every Wednesday, at 9 a.m., 11 a.m. or 1 p.m. until April 11, 2018. by calling 973-593-3096.

The Madison Senior Center is located at 28 Walnut Street, Madison, New Jersey. Visit the website at: rosenet.org/347/Senior-Services.

'SAVING THE GREAT SWAMP' FREE SCREENING AND DISCUSSION

Fifty years ago, a group of committed citizens came together to block a jetport at what is now the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. To celebrate this inspiring example of community activism, The Madison Environmental Commission is hosting a free screening of "Saving the Great Swamp" on March 10 at 2 p.m. at the Chase Room of Madison Public Library, 39 Keep Street, Madison, New Jersey.

"This is a story about local residents with no experience in community activism coming together to overcome financial and political obstacles," says Ellen Kranefuss, event organizer and member of the Madison Environmental

Commission. "It's a story that's as important today as it was fifty years ago."

The one-hour documentary will be introduced by Karl Fenske, whose mother Helen, led the fight to save the Great Swamp, a 55-square mile watershed located in Morris and Somerset Counties. Scott Morris, the documentary's director and co-producer will be on hand for a discussion afterward.

Residents are invited share their ideas and sign up to help Madison be a greener community. Refreshments will be served.

For more details go to sustainablemadisonnj.org

MADISON SENIOR EVENTS MARCH 2018

The Madison Senior Center is located at 28 Walnut Street, Madison, New Jersey.

For more information, visit the website at: rosenet.org/347/Senior-Services or call 973-593-3094.

Trip Committee.

Monday, March 5, 9:30 a.m.

If you like to discuss future trips with the Senior Citizen Director and Committee, this is the right gathering for you. Meetings are open to the public. Coffee/tea and some snacks will be available.

SCAC (Senior Citizens Advisory Committee).

Thursday, March 8, 2 p.m.

The committee provides a conduit for information among the Mayor and Council, the senior center, and relevant community-based groups. SCAC identifies needs relevant to the senior population and recommends programs and strategies to implement solutions. Meetings are open to the public. Coffee, tea, and snacks will be served.

Madison High School's Annual Senior Citizen Dinner and Spring Play, "Footloose."

Wednesday, March 21.

Dinner is at 5:30 p.m.

The play begins at 6:30 p.m.

in the Madison High School Cafeteria.

Madison High School is located at 170 Ridgedale Avenue, Madison, NJ Please

RSVP by March 15

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- NOON MOVIES - "A Man Called Ove"

Tuesday, March 13.

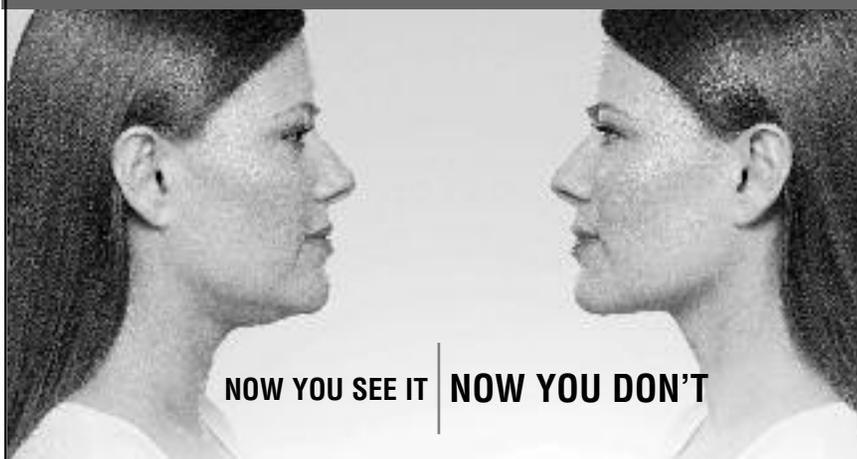
(2016, one hour, 56 minutes). Ove, an ill-tempered isolate retiree who spends his days enforcing block association rules and visiting his wife's grave, has finally given up on life just as an unlikely friendship develops with his boisterous new neighbors.

"The Glass Castle"

Tuesday, March 27.

(2017, two hours, seven minutes). A young girl comes of age in a dysfunctional family of nonconformist nomads with a mother who's an eccentric artist and an alcoholic father who would stir the children's imagination with hope as a distraction to their poverty.

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HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS HONORED BY THURSDAY MORNING CLUB

Submitted by Eileen Ryan

The Thursday Morning Club of Madison held a Scholarship Social and Game Day at the Madison Community House, 25 Cook Avenue, Madison, New Jersey, on Thursday January 25, 2018. The event was a great success both socially and financially and honored the recipients of scholarships which sponsored students at multi-day institutes in June 2017. The HOBY (Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership) recipient, Logan Sabol, his mother, Madison High School Guidance Director Brett Levine, and Mary Jane Breen of The Women's Club of Edgewater Park were honored guests.

Logan Sabol spoke about the intensive immersive leadership experience that took place at Kean University designed for sophomores who have demonstrated strong leadership potential and the ability to "think outside the box." At the conclusion of his speech Logan said, "I believe that every participant was inspired and walked away with something completely different. What I walked away with were the tools to think and act as an individual and to make better decisions as a leader."

Mary Jane Breen, Education Committee Chair of Edgewater Park's Women's Club, read a letter



(above, left to right) Brett Levine, Madison HS Guidance Director; Mrs. Sabol, mother of Logan Sabol, HOBY recipient; Cathy Gotliffe, TMC Education Chair; Logan Sabol, HOBY recipient; Carol Schessler, TMC President; and Mary Jane Breen, Education Committee Chair of Edgewater Park's Women's Club.

written by De'nai Simms of Burlington Township High School. The Thursday Morning Club of Madison contributed to the sponsorship of De'nai at the Girls' Career Institute (GCI) in June 2017. This event is offered in June to junior high school girls to spend four days at Douglass College to focus on career opportunities. In her letter, De'nai said that the experience led her to "being more comfortable in the choices I make and being confident with myself."

Both students considered their experiences to be life-changing events and thanked the Thursday Morning Club for their support.

The Education Committee of the Thursday Morning Club extends sincere appreciation to all those who attended, and to those who volunteered their time before, during and after

the function to make it fun for all while generating funds for these leadership institutes, as well as scholarships for Madison Junior School students and the winners of the Memorial Day Patriotic Contests.

Thursday Morning Club a social and philanthropic organization owns, operates, and maintains the Madison Community House, Nursery School and Before and After School Child Care programs. Organized in 1896, the club is a member of both the New Jersey State and General Federation of Women's Clubs. The club offers programs and services to support the community, and its Community House provides a home for sports, recreation, and civic groups.

For information about the Thursday Morning Club or membership, call the Community House at (973) 377-0244 or visit TMCMCH.org

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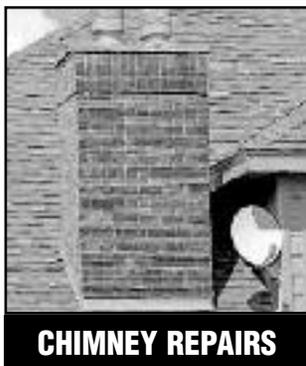
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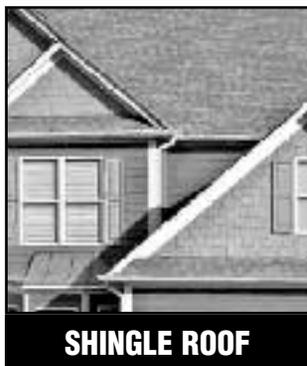
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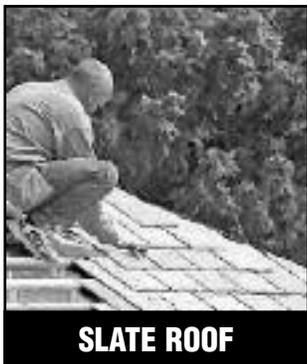
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FRIENDS OF THE MADISON LIBRARY'S GALA BENEFIT

Submitted by Kathy Trombacco

The Friends of the Madison Public Library, a nonprofit organization, will honor The Thursday Morning Club at its annual Gala Benefit to be held on Saturday, March 10, 2018 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., at the library which is located at 39 Keep Street, Madison. "The club founded the Friends of the Madison Library in 1938, so it is most appropriate that the Friends honor their founder on the Library's 80th anniversary" said Sylvia Lubber, Chairman of the Friends. "The Thursday Morning Club has contributed so much, not only to the library, but also to Madison and the surrounding area, that it is a privilege to recognize their work. Many on our library board are also members of the club as are most of the volunteers who prepare the mailing of the Friends' newsletters," she added.

"The Thursday Morning Club is 122 years old," said Carol Schessler, club president. "The club's founders anticipated the needs of Madison and contributed to the educational, social, and recreational fabric of the town at the turn of the century. In 1906, they hired the first District Nurse; in 1907, they began the Shade Tree Commission, and in 1908, they opened the first playground, at what is now Dodge Field, which they operated until 1924 when the Borough assumed responsibility for its operation.

Lubber added, "In 1924, a bequest from member Mary B. Cash enabled the club to construct a Settlement House, now known as the Madison Community House, at 25 Cook Avenue.

Today the club sponsors a Preschool, Before and After School Care Programs, and after-school enrichment classes. More than 25 local organizations also use the Community House as their meeting place. "Michal Holzman, a past president and current chair of the Archiving Project of the club, will give more of the club's background at the Gala," said Lubber.

The Friends will also formally welcome the library's new director, Lynn Favreau, who began on May 1, 2017. Lynn was the former Director of Mountainside Public Library. In addition to her graduate degree in Library Science from McGill University in Montreal, she earned a Diploma of Education and taught elementary education classes before becoming a reference librarian. "The Friends have enjoyed working with Lynn and look forward to another successful year at the library."

Wine and beer, and a variety of delicious hors d'oeuvres prepared by the Catering Department of the Thursday Morning Club will be served at the March 10 Gala Benefit at the library.

All are cordially invited to attend. Invitations have been mailed and are also available at the

front desk of the library, as well as tickets for a fund-raising event with prizes. Reservations also can be made online at <http://friendsmadisonnjlibrary.org> Admission is \$50 per person. Checks should be made payable to Friends of the Madison Public Library and mailed to 39 Keep Street, Madison, NJ 07940 along with the RSVP card. Cancelled checks will serve as a receipt; no tickets will be mailed.

Proceeds from the annual Gala Benefit will be used to support special library programs for children, teens and adults, and to expand the book and media collections. The Friends also fund new museum passes as part of the library's popular Museum Pass Program. Adult education programs sponsored by the Friends include Drew University Mini-courses, "Tech Tuesdays", and the Summer Seminar Series that is co-sponsored with the Madison Senior Center. Music, movies, app parties, "Games Day", and workshops are among the popular family events also made possible by the Friends.

For information about the Gala Benefit or the Friends of the Madison Public Library, please visit friendsmadisonnjlibrary.org.



(above, l-r) Rose Mary Dinnhaupt, Sylvia Lubber, Michal Holzman, and Carol Schessler.

Photo by Kathy Trombacco

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IRS WARNS PUBLIC ABOUT SCAMS TARGETING TAXPAYERS

The IRS is urging the public to be aware of suspicious individuals claiming to be from the IRS.

Thousands of people have lost millions of dollars and their personal information to tax scams. Scammers use the regular mail, telephone, or email to set up individuals, businesses, payroll, and tax professionals.

The IRS doesn't initiate contact with taxpayers by email, text messages, or social media channels to request personal or financial information. Recognize the telltale signs of a scam.

SCAMS TARGETING TAXPAYERS

IRS-IMPERSONATION TELEPHONE SCAMS

A sophisticated phone scam targeting taxpayers, including recent immigrants, has been making the rounds throughout the country. Callers claim to be IRS employees, using fake names and bogus IRS identification badge numbers. They may know a lot about their targets, and they usually alter the caller ID to make it look like the IRS is calling.

Victims are told they owe money to the IRS and it must be paid promptly through a gift card or wire transfer. Victims may be threatened with arrest, deportation or suspension of a business or driver's license. In many cases, the caller becomes hostile and insulting. Victims may be told they have a refund due to try to trick them into sharing private information. If the phone isn't answered, the scammers often leave an "urgent" callback request.

Some thieves have used video relay services (VRS) to try to scam deaf and hard of hearing individuals. Taxpayers are urged not trust calls just because they are made through VRS, as interpreters don't screen calls for validity.

Limited English Proficiency victims are often approached in their native language, threatened with deportation, police arrest and license revocation, among other things. IRS urges all taxpayers caution before paying unexpected tax bills. Note that the IRS doesn't:

- Call to demand immediate payment using a specific payment method such as a prepaid debit card, gift card or wire transfer.
- Threaten to bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups to have you arrested for not paying.
- Demand payment without giving you the opportunity to question or appeal the amount they say you owe.
- Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.

SCAMS TARGETING TAX PROFESSIONALS

Increasingly, tax professionals are being targeted by identity thieves. These criminals – many of them sophisticated, organized syndicates - are redoubling their efforts to gather personal data to file fraudulent federal and state income tax returns.

SURGE IN EMAIL, PHISHING AND MALWARE SCHEMES

Phishing (as in "fishing for information") is a scam where fraudsters send e-mail messages to trick unsuspecting victims into revealing personal and financial information that can be used to steal the victims' identity.

The IRS has issued several alerts about the fraudulent use of the IRS name or logo by scammers trying to gain access to consumers' financial information to steal their identity and assets.

Scam emails are designed to trick taxpayers into thinking these are official communications from the IRS or others in the tax industry, including tax software companies. These phishing schemes may seek information related to refunds, filing status, confirming personal information, ordering transcripts, and verifying PIN information.

Be alert to bogus emails that appear to come

from your tax professional, requesting information for an IRS form. IRS doesn't require Life Insurance and Annuity updates from taxpayers or a tax professional.

Variations can be seen via text messages. The IRS is aware of email phishing scams that include links to bogus web sites intended to mirror the official IRS web site. These emails contain the direction "you are to update your IRS e-file immediately." These emails are not from the IRS.

The sites may ask for information used to file false tax returns or they may carry malware, which can infect computers and allow criminals to access your files or track your keystrokes to gain information.

For more details, visit www.irs.gov; YouTube IRS Videos on Tax Scams.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Madison Police Department.

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CARE BEARBOX VISITS ST. HUBERT'S ANIMAL WELFARE CENTER

By Maryanne Christiano-Mistretta

Jayne DiGregorio recently paid a visit to St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center, 575 Woodland Avenue, Madison, New Jersey. She came carrying a large box filled with goodies for the sheltered dogs. Items included: gently used towels, blankets, beds, toys, leashes, and collars. This is something she plans to do each month. The box, filled to the brim with donations, is called a Care BearBox.

The mission of Care BearBox is to inspire a collective awareness of reusable extras for animals that are stray, abandoned, and surrendered to local no kill animal shelters serving Northern New Jersey. In addition to Mt. Hubert's and Mt. Pleasant Animal Shelter in East Hanover, Jayne plans to send Care BearBoxes to Home for Good Animal Rescue in Berkeley Heights; and Rawhide Rescue in Warren. Each month drop-off locations will be alternated between the four centers.

"It's such a beautiful idea," said Kim Kancylarz, development manager of St. Hubert's. "The staff will put it to good use right away."

Thanks so social media communities on Facebook and Instagram, Jayne was able to promote Care BearBox requests and make local destination drop offs and pick-ups.

The idea of Care BearBox came to Jayne late last year when she was sending her nieces and

nephew monthly care packages as they began college. "I jokingly called them Care Bear packages, as my dog Bear would take a ride with me to UPS as I dropped them off," she said. And on the same day, she'd also drop off a bag of items at her local animal shelter. Then the two thoughts blended together, sparking an idea.

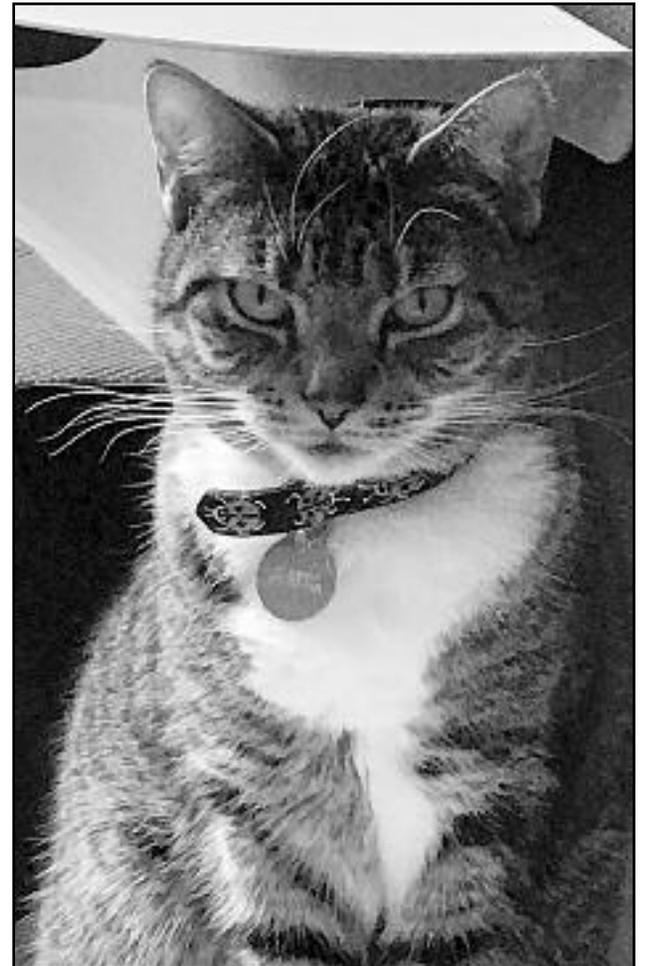
"Our pets really become part of the family," Jayne said. "To see the joy in the volunteers' faces when they receive their Care BearBox makes it all worthwhile. They are so grateful, it melts my heart. And it's beautiful how giving becomes contagious. I've had so many people reach out to me on Facebook. A friend of a friend heard I was collecting towels for animals 'Where can I drop them off?' she asked. It's just amazing and inspiring!"

Jayne hopes that each month Care BearBox brings a little comfort and care to the shelter animals as they wait for their new home and new family.

To reach out to donate items to the Care BearBox mission, email CareBearBoxFriends@gmail.com or follow Bear, the first ambassador on Instagram: [LifeIsBetterAsADog](#).

For more information on St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center, visit: sthuberts.org or call 973-377-2295.

Photo by Maryanne Christiano-Mistretta.



(above, l-r) Jayne DiGregorio and Kim Kancylarz with Care BearBox donation.



(above and left) Animals waiting to be adopted.



(above) Bear, the inspiration for Care BearBox.

Animal photos by Jayne DiGregorio.

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