# THE CHATHAMS

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# **BIG THANKS TURKEY TROT SPONSORS AND PARTICIPANTS**

Despite the arctic chill, The Chatham Turkey Trot posted record numbers in funds raised and runners. We had nearly 1,000 registered runners and raised more than \$27,000 making it our most successful race in our 10-year history!

This brings our 10-year total of funds raised to more than \$150,000 benefiting the Chatham Township Volunteer Fire Department, the Diabetes Research Institute, the Chatham Emergency Squad, and The Barton Center for Diabetes Education. We thank our sponsors and all who came out in the cold to be a part of this Chatham holiday tradition. Happy Thanksgiving to all!

- Curt Ritter and the entire Chatham Turkey Trot Race Committee











Information and photos about the Turkey Trot can be found on the website: thechathamturkeytrot.org and on Facebook at: the chatham turkey trot

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



Congratulations to the winners of the 2018 Chatham Turkey Trot: 5K Men: Alec Gironda 17:51 5K Women: Emily Tato 19:24 5K Boy: Alex Rosenberg 22:20 5K Girl: Juliana Falzarano 24:48 1 Mile Boy: Tommy Martin 1 Mile Girl: Sydney Grossman

(More photos on page 2)



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**Serious Inquiries Please!** 

# **TURKEY TROT PHOTO ALBUM**



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







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## CHS SENIOR RHEA SINHA COMPETES ON TEEN JEOPARDY TOURNAMENT

Submitted by Chatham Public Schools

Chatham High School senior Rhea Sinha was selected to compete in the nationally televised Jeopardy! Team Tournament, which airs from November 7th to November 20th. Rhea's episode aired on November 12th.

As part of the selection process, Rhea took an online test (50 Jeopardy!-style questions) last March after a friend from the CHS Academic Team asked all the members to take the test to see how they did. Rhea received an email inviting her to attend an in-person audition in Washington D.C. last June. During the audition, Rhea completed a second 50-question test, a mock round of Jeopardy!, and a personality interview. She received a call the next month, which informed her that she had been selected to appear on the show. Rhea traveled to Los Angeles in August to compete.

Over 10,000 teens took the online test, of which approximately 300 teens were called back for the in-person auditions, which took place across the country. Only fifteen students, nationally, made it into the Teen Tournament.

Of the experience, Rhea said, "Honestly, being on Jeopardy! was the coolest experience of my entire life and one that I'll remember and cherish forever. I'm close friends with all the other contestants, and we still text and videochat daily; we've bonded over being on the show. I freaked out when I got the call - I had never been more excited in my entire life! To prepare, I mostly just looked at my Academic Team flashcards and did practice questions online."

Rhea credits her experience as a member of



(above, l-r) Jeopardy host Alex Trebek and Rhea Sinha

the CHS Academic Team with preparing well to compete on this national stage. She said, "Honestly, being part of the CHS Academic Team and going to all the tournaments, especially Nationals, prepared me for the experience pretty well."

Rhea's counselor at CHS, Liz Tully-Cano, said, "Rhea is a an exceptionally talented and bright young woman with an insatiable curiosity and desire to learn about the world around her. She is a genuine example of a life-long learner. I'm thrilled for her to have had this experience, and I'm looking forward to watching her compete on Jeopardy! with my family."

CHS Principal Darren Groh said, "Rhea has done wonderful things while at Chatham High School. It is no surprise that her work ethic and love for learning has earned her this unique opportunity. It will be exciting to see Rhea on Jeopardy and I hope she enjoyed the moment."



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## **EMERGENCY SQUAD'S ANNUAL "SNOW VILLAGE" OPENS NOVEMBER 25**

Free, Family Fun – more than 100 Model Houses, Cars and Figures on Display Chief Architect and Caretaker Mark Spinner's Farewell Season

In celebration of the holiday season, the Chatham Emergency Squad is pleased to present the 15th annual Winter Wonderland / "Snow Village" at its Chatham Borough building, located at 31 North Passaic Street, beginning on Sunday, November 25 and continuing through December 27, 2018.

The impressive display consists of more than 100 Department 56 model houses, cars and figurines with a working ski lift, ice skating rink and more – and a model train running through the center of town. Visitors are invited to come see



(above) Mark Spinner, aka "Spanky" is retiring from the Emergency Squad at the end of the year.



Special times for groups or for more information please call 201-572-7920

A donation of a small toy or toiletry item would be appreciated and will be donated to local charities. for themselves and find various hidden treasures among the exhibition during the numerous open houses held at the Squad building.

This year marks the farewell season for Mark Spinner, aka "Spanky" who is retiring from the Emergency Squad at the end of the year. Beginning in 2003, Spanky first arranged a series of model houses and a train display to entertain children throughout Chatham and neighboring communities. Needless to say, it was a big hit and his collection only grew larger through the years, to become what it is today.

A lifelong resident of Chatham, Spanky has served with the Chatham Emergency Squad for 40 years – longer than any other member in the history of the Squad. At the end of the year, he will be retiring and moving out of town. Generously, Spanky has promised to loan his private collection to the Chatham Emergency Squad for at least another year, much to the delight of the Squad and the community. Bryan McGookin, current equipment lieutenant for the Squad, has volunteered to become the new caretaker and maintenance manager of the Snow Village so that Chatham residents of all ages can continue to visit and be entertained by the sights of the season.

"It's an annual tradition that has delighted, quite literally, a generation of kids in Chatham – and for that we owe much gratitude to Mark for his tireless devotion to this impressive display," said Craig Alperowitz, public relations manager of the Chatham Emergency Squad. "Thanks to Mark's generosity, the Snow Village will continue to surprise and excite children of all ages – not just this year, but hopefully for many years to come."

The Winter Wonderland Snow Village will be open every weekend and select dates from November 25 to December 27, 2018 - the schedule of open houses can be found on the Chatham Emergency Squad website. Special times and group tours can also be arranged by calling Mark Spinner at (201) 572-7920. Entrance is free for all, but a donation to the Squad or a small toy for local charities is also greatly appreciated.

The Chatham Emergency Squad is an allvolunteer organization funded almost exclusively by donations; they provide emergency medical assistance and transport to Chatham Borough and Chatham Township residents and visitors. CES never charges for its services. In 2017 they responded to nearly 1,100 emergency calls and provided free training in CPR to nearly 400 residents, teachers, coaches and emergency personnel.

To learn more, to donate or volunteer, please visit chathamemergencysquad.org.







## ART LEAGUE OF THE CHATHAMS UPCOMING EVENTS

Art League of the Chathams –30th Anniversary Celebration. Winter, Friends & Family Show, Reception, Boutique and Betsy Mirabelli's Solo Exhibit.

The Winter Exhibit will be held, Sunday, December 9, 2018 from 2 to 4 p.m., at the Chatham Twp. Municipal Building, 58 Meyersville Rd., Chatham, NJ. It runs from December 9, 2018 through mid-March 2019.

In addition to the member artists' exhibit in the strolling gallery, it will also showcase their annual boutique of artistic wares and wall display of  $6 \ge 6$  pieces - all for sale.

Chatham artist, Betsy Mirabelli will exhibit her landscapes in the Lundt-Glover Gallery. Her solo exhibit, entitled "Landscape Memories" includes some 40 paintings, primarily landscapes. Merynda Adams will play the harp for Betsy's solo show.

States Betsy, "I have been painting for a number of years and have always enjoyed it when a painting just flows." Betsy, a Connecticut College graduate, studied art at the New School, Parsons. When she moved to NJ, she studied at the Visual Art Center.

The event is free and open to the public. Art and boutique items are for sale and refreshments will be served. For more information, telephone the Municipal Building at 973-635-4600.



(above) Betsy Mirabelli





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# FROM MY ARRIVAL TIME FORWARD

"I was admitted to Spring Grove earlier this month from Overlook Hospital with a broken femur. I have to admit that I wasn't excited about the need to go anywhere for rehabilitation, but at the suggestion of my physician and a social worker I selected Spring Grove. The care has been great! Therapy was amazing! I went from being dependent to independent in a few short weeks!"

John Montanna

#### Submitted by Chris Furlong

Come celebrate 30 years! The Chatham Community Players keeps their longstanding holiday tradition alive with the 30th anniversary production of "A Christmas Carol" opening Friday, December 7 and running until Sunday, December 23. Our production is an original musical version of the Tale, adapted from the Dickens text and Charles Dickens letters and journals, by Philip Wm. McKinley and Suzanne Buhrer. Returning to the Chatham Playhouse, Jeffrey Fiorello of Montclair directs the show, Jack Bender of Jersey City is the musical director and Samantha Hahn of Plainfield is the Choreographer.

In this version, produced exclusively at the Chatham Playhouse since 1988, Dickens serves not only as narrator, but also as a character that befriends Scrooge and walks beside him during his life-changing journey through memories and premonitions. While the script remains true to the original story, the playwright also pulled from letters that Dickens wrote to family and friends. The story of Ebenezer Scrooge has become one of the most beloved of all holiday tales, and this unique production also reminds us that Dickens' inspiration for penning the story goes much deeper.

One of the actresses, Leslie Williams, was in the original cast as Belle and now she returns to



play the Charwoman. When asked how it feels to be returning to this show three decades later, she said, "I was afraid the experience of doing it again would pale in comparison to my early experiences. I was wrong. This has proven to be every bit as special as it was 30 years ago, and I am honored to be working with such a talented, dedicated and caring team as has been assembled this year. It feels very much as if I have come home for the holidays."

The large and talented cast includes actors from all around New Jersey: Chip Prestera of Stirling, Alan Semok of Somerset, Scott Baird of Rockaway, Michelle and Owen Finnerty of Bernardsville, Will Carey of Bloomfield, Ken Magos, Jody, Zander and Parker Ebert all from Maplewood, Christina Eliades of Wayne, Howard Fischer of Berkeley Heights, Joelle Bochner and Eila Francis of Springfield, Leslie Williams of Summit, Allen Ellis of East Hanover, Andrea Thibodeau of Westfield, Adelaide Prekopa of Ringwood, Rory and Robert Lincoln of Mendham, Samantha Paparo of Chatham, Alexia and Zoe Davies of Kinnelon, Lucas Schultz of Warren and Michael Barthel of Bedminster. As a special surprise appearance, there may even be a guest actor/actress from a past production of "Carol" during several performances.

Rounding out Fiorello's talented production team, the Co-Producers are Bob Denmark & Joe DeVico, Production Coordinator is Steffi Denmark, Stage Manager is Pam Wilczynski, Scenic Designer is Roy Pancirov, Costume Designer is Fran Harrison, Lighting Designer is Richard Hennessy, Sound Designer is Joe DeVico, Scenic Artist is Dean Sickler, Painting by Carol Saso, Props & Decoration by Tish Lum & Kate Pierce.

Box Office Information – Online Ticketing

Performance dates are December 7, 8, 14, 15, 20, 21 & 22 at 8 p.m. and December 8, 9, 15, 22 & 23 at 3 p.m. All performances are at the Chatham Playhouse, 23 North Passaic Avenue, in Chatham. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$23 for youth/senior. The theater expects this show to sell out and encourages people to reserve their tickets



early.

Tickets can be purchased online by accessing the theater's online ticketing service, where you can now reserve your particular seat, simply go to ccp.booktix.com. The service is available 24 hours a day. Purchasing tickets in person at Chatham Playhouse's box office will begin on November 27. For information regarding box office hours, please call the box office number at 973-635-7363. Patrons with special needs requiring seating accommodations should contact the Playhouse at least 24 hours prior to the performance. Without prior notice, accommodations cannot be guaranteed.



(above, l-r standing) Zoe Davies of Kinnelon, Michelle Finnerty from Bernardsville, (seated) Alexia Davies of Kinnelon, Scott Baird from Rockaway, Owen Finnerty of Bernardsville and Parker Ebert from Maplewood make up the entire Cratchit Family.



(above) Alan Semok of Somerset stars as Ebenezer Scrooge.



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# THE LIBRARY OF THE CHATHAMS

214 Main St, Chatham, NJ 07928 • For more information, or to sign up for programs visit the library online at chathamlibrary.org or call 973-635-0603.

## s**FOR ADULTS**

#### Meditation Class with Jean Leigh

Saturday, December 1 – 10 to 11 a.m. Jean Leigh, a practiced meditation teacher, will present a class on the concepts of the fading sunlight, the shortening of days and winter. Participants will reflect upon the joy of giving of ourselves, and gaining and storing energy for the new year. Pre-registration is requested.

#### Gen Y Networking Group and Other Job Seekers

Wednesdays, December 5 & 19 – 7 p.m. Gen Y Networking Group is a forum dedicated to job searching, networking, and career development. The group is open to all job seekers.

#### Grant Writing Made Easy

Monday, December 10 – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Pat Bohse of Bohse and Associates, non-profit management and training consultants, will lead this fourhour workshop introducing the key elements of grant writing. Participants will learn the essential documents needed to apply for a grant; where to find potential funders; and the essential elements of writing a grant. The workshop is limited to 20 attendees.

Pre-registration is required.

#### Italian Conversation Group

Friday, December 14 – 1 p.m. Tuesday, December 18 – 7:15 p.m. Luciana Santoriello will moderate Italian discussion groups with help from other fluent speakers.

#### FOR TEENS

Poster and Poetry Contest Launch Reception

Thursday, December 6 – 6 to 7:30 p.m. The Madison Chatham Coalition, in partnership with the library, will hold this contest of poetry and art illustrating the impact of underage use of marijuana and vaping. Entries will be accepted between December 13 and January 10. Public judging will take place between January 11 and 18. Winners in four age categories will



receive prizes. Please see chathamlibrary.org/poster-andpoetry-contest for complete rules.

#### Anime Club

Friday, December 7 – 3 to 4:30 p.m. Grades 6 to 12

Come read, watch, and discuss anything and everything about anime and manga with other fans.

All are welcome!

Winter Cupcakes for Teens Monday, December 10 – 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Grades 6 to 12, Limit: 12 students

Registration opens Monday, November 26 Get in the holiday spirit and decorate some cute winter cupcakes! Make a fun snow scene with bear cookies and build a snowman out of marshmallows. There will be an assortment of candy and other edible decorations to

make your creations. FOR CHILDREN

#### Paper Mill Playhouse Children's Theater on Tour Performs "A Year with Frog and Toad"

Wednesday, December 12 – 4 p.m. Ages 4 & Up

A Year with Frog and Toad tells the story of a friendship that endures throughout the seasons. This whimsical show follows two great friends – the cheerful, popular Frog, and the rather grumpy Toad – through four funfilled seasons. Waking from hibernation, Frog and Toad plant gardens, swim, rake leaves, go sledding and learn life lessons along the way. Throughout the year, two best friends celebrate and rejoice in the differences that make

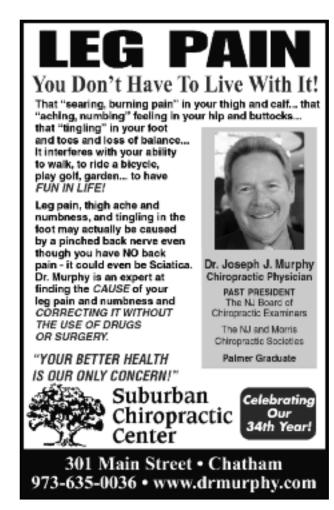
# them unique and special. **FOR FAMILIES**

#### **George Balanchine's The Nutcracker**

Sunday, December 9 – 2:30 p.m. Experience the New York City Ballet's stunning performance of George Balanchine's The Nutcracker on the big screen. Filmed at Lincoln Center, the troupe brings to life Tchaikovsky's musical setting of the Christmas fantasy.



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#### Presentation Conducted At MADISON SENIOR CENTER

28 Walnut St., Madison, New Jersey Thursday, December 20, 2018

10:00 A.M.

Please R.S.V.P. to Sara at Madison Senior Center 973-593-3094 Keffers@rosenet.org

## HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING AND SANTA'S ARRIVAL

Please join us for the Annual Holiday Tree Lighting and Santa's Arrival, hosted by Turpin Realtors at Reasoner Park and Fire House Plaza on Saturday, December 1st from 5 - 7 pm, rain or shine.

The event supported by the Chatham PBA # 226 will feature performances by the School District of Chathams Third Grade Chorus singing holiday carols, and Dance Invocations. Chatham Historical Society will provide hot chocolate and Turpin Realtors will offer yummy treats. The Chatham Girls Scouts and the Town & Country Garden Club will provide the holiday décor with a special holiday tree lighting. Tracy & Brian Ness depicting Mr. and Mrs. Claus will light the tree and visit with willing youth. Local shops like Scooch A Mi and organizations such as the Rotary Club of Chatham will join in the festivities. Why not purchase your holiday luminaries that evening?

For more information contact communityservcies@chathamborough.org or 973-635-0674 x 200.



## DI8 DR. MICHAEL LASUSAA NAMED 2019 REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR



(above) Dr. Michael LaSusa, Chief Education Officer, School District of the Chathams Submitted by NJASA On October 24, 2018 the New Jersey Association of School Administrators

(NJASA) selected three regional 2019 Superintendents of the Year including Dr. Michael LaSusa, School District of the Chathams.

The three regional Superintendents of the Year were introduced at the NJASA Executive Committee's October

24th meeting at the Annual Fall Workshop in Atlantic City. The Workshop is co-sponsored by NJASA, the New Jersey Association of School Business Officials (NJASBO), and the New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA).

NJASA Executive Director Dr. Richard G. Bozza said, "All three regional superintendents are dedicated, hard-working professionals who continually strive to improve the quality of education for all students. They are remarkable chief education officers with vision, imagination, and compassion for the students they serve."

As chief education officer of the School District of the Chathams – a comprehensive public school district serving a well-resourced community, located approximately 25 miles west of Manhattan, that has a well-earned reputation for excellence and has garnered recognition at the county, state and national level – Region I winner Dr. LaSusa has demonstrated his dynamic educational leadership ability in a manner that prioritizes balance and student well-being above all else.

