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# MOUNTAINSIDE ACTIVE RETIREES HOLD WINTER LUNCHEON

The Mountainside Active Retiree Club held their Winter Luncheon on Tuesday January 14th, 2020. 47 members and guests attended.

Mountainside seniors and their guests are always welcome at M.A.R meetings, luncheons, and trips. As always, meetings start at 10 a.m., 2nd floor Community Room, Mountainside Borough Hall.

The scheduled meetings and speakers in February are:  
February 11th – “Life” by guest speaker Walter Sosnosky. Retired police officer and Kenilworth Senior Citizen Club Chaplin.

February 25th - Brian Pinto from Tiffney Drugs. Brian spoke last year and we had many requests from our members for his return.





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## PROMOTE YOUR COMMUNITY EVENT

*Community service organizations, schools and sports teams are encouraged to submit news of upcoming events or highlights and photos from recent events.*

**Organizations who are interested in submitting content, please email:**  
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## MOUNTAINSIDE TO CELEBRATE 125 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

*Submitted by Rachel Pater*

The Borough of Mountainside, founded in 1895, will celebrate its 125th anniversary, the Quasiquicentennial, throughout 2020.

A variety of events have been planned as part of a year-long, community-wide celebration. All of the events and activities will highlight Mountainside's history and achievements.

Committees have been established to organize events and volunteers have been working diligently to plan the events. A special 125 logo was designed and will be incorporated into various activities, apparel and merchandise.

"Commemorating this milestone in the coming year is something all of our residents can look forward to," said Mayor Paul Mirabelli. "The hard work and dedication of the volunteers working to make Mountainside's celebration a success is what makes Mountainside a special place. It will surely be a grand celebration."

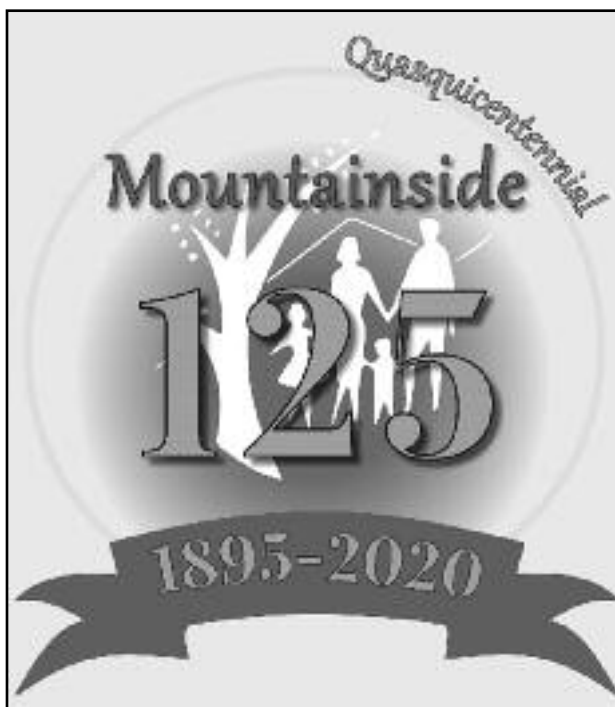
Anniversary events will kick off February 21

with the "Cheers to 125 Years Adult Cocktail Party," coordinated by Jeanie Ruban. This adult-only cocktail party is from 7-11 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn on Route 22. The cost is \$75 per person. In June, "Arts Inside Mountainside" will convene at Constitution Plaza. Residents will have the opportunity to showcase their artistic ability. The official date is to be announced, and is being coordinated by Kristen Ciccimarra and Andi Hoy. Finally, on Saturday, September 12 the "Mountainside 125th End of Summer Celebration" will be held on the grounds of Our Lady of Lourdes Church. Residents will enjoy live music, children's rides, games, food trucks and much more and is being coordinated by Gary Whyte.

For those interested in Mountainside's rich history, The Mountainside Restoration Committee, established in 1985 to preserve the Borough's links to the past, provided some tidbits on the history of Mountainside to include:

- In 1895, a group of concerned citizens living in the northeastern hills area of Westfield Township, decided to break off from Westfield because their taxes paid to Westfield were not benefiting the area. The Borough of Mountainside was formed as a result.
- During the early 20th Century, Mountainside was home to three Children's Homes: The Children's Country Home, located at the corner of Mountain Ave. & New Providence Rd. (now the Levi Cory House, since moved to Constitution Plaza), The Coles Memorial Home located on what is now Route 22 at the site of Brighton Gardens and The Highland Home once located at the intersection of Coles Ave. and New Providence Rd.
- Echo Lake Park and the Watchung Reservation (both located in Mountainside) are two parks in a chain of Union County Parks (all linked by a system of trails) designed by the renowned Olmsted Brothers in 1921.

The co-chairs of Mountainside's 125 Anniversary are Councilwoman Deanna Andre and Councilwoman Rachel Pater.



*(above) This specially created logo was made for the 125th anniversary of Mountainside, which will be celebrated throughout 2020.*

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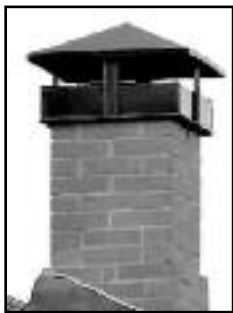




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(above) Magician Mark Zacharia will perform a magic show on February 28, 2020 in the auditorium at Governor Livingston High School. Tickets can be purchased at [mountainsideeducationfoundation.org](http://mountainsideeducationfoundation.org) or [brownpapertickets.com/event/4475039](http://brownpapertickets.com/event/4475039) (\$10 general admission and \$20 for premium tickets).

## MEF'S FIRST ANNUAL MAGIC SHOW WITH MARK ZACHARIA

Join us for a night of magic while raising money for a good cause!

The Mountainside Education Foundation will be hosting its first annual magic show with renowned magician, Mark Zacharia, on Friday, February 28, 2020, in the auditorium at Governor Livingston High School, 175 Watchung Boulevard, Berkeley Heights, NJ. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Show starts at 7 p.m. There will be a concession stand where snacks

and drinks can be purchased. The MEF will also hold a 50/50 raffle during the event.

Tickets can be purchased at [mountainsideeducationfoundation.org](http://mountainsideeducationfoundation.org) or [brownpapertickets.com/event/4475039](http://brownpapertickets.com/event/4475039) (\$10 general admission and \$20 for premium tickets).

This is a great family event to attend, and it helps raise money that is donated back into the Mountainside School district. We hope you can join us!



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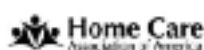
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## MARY ROBINSON NAMED 2019 TOP 10 CNN HERO

Mary Robinson, Executive Director of Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss, based in Mountainside, NJ, was awarded \$10,000 and honored during the 13th annual CNN Heroes: An All-Star Tribute, which aired live from the American Museum of Natural History in New York City on December 8, 2019.

Robinson was introduced by Anderson Cooper, who said "My dad, Wyatt Cooper, died when I was ten. For a long time I found it difficult to speak about him, to even say his name. Too often we go through grief alone, but Mary Robinson is trying to change that, especially for kids. Imagine is a place where the language of loss is spoken and understood. It's a place where children and their parents can speak their loved

one's names, where they don't have to pretend that everything is ok. They can learn coping skills, and they can see that they are not alone in their pain, none of us has to be alone."

Childhood bereavement is a serious public health issue. The death of a parent or other important person in a child's life has been noted to be one of the most commonly reported and disruptive Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs.) There are currently over 114,000 NJ youth age 0-18 who are bereaved due to the death of a parent. This doesn't include the death of a sibling which Imagine also supports along with children and caregivers living with a family member with any life-altering illness.

Currently, over 425 children and adults meet every two weeks at Imagine in their free, year-round grief support groups in Mountainside and Newark. The impact on children's lives of participating in Imagine grief support programs is immense. At Imagine children and adults make life-long friends, develop healthy coping skills and grow more resilient. By working to eradicate the potential negative effects of unresolved grief and creating communities well equipped to cope with loss, it is Imagine's expectation that grieving children everywhere will grow up to be emotionally healthy and able to lead meaningful and productive lives.

If you'd like to support this work, please donate on CNNHeroes.com. With the \$10,000 award, Subaru's matching gift of \$50,000, and your donation, Robinson will use the funds to expand its services in their Mountainside and

Newark locations.

In addition, as part of the award package, Robinson and a member of her board will also participate in a customized version of the Annenberg Alchemy program, which offers leadership development that will help strengthen Imagine for long-term success. Alchemy is offered through the Annenberg Foundation, a leading supporter of nonprofits worldwide.

"Our hope is that through this recognition more children and teens will get support, know their loss matters, and feel less alone in their grief," said Robinson. "The spotlight shown on our mission by CNN and the training from the Annenberg Foundation will be invaluable in helping us achieve our goal that some day no child will grieve alone. I believe this is now possible to achieve in my lifetime."

Since 2006, CNN has profiled more than 300 heroes and has received upward of 85,000 nominations from more than 100 countries.

### ABOUT IMAGINE

Imagine offers free year-round grief support groups for children age 3-18 who have had a parent or brother or sister die, and for families caring for a family member living with a life-altering physical illness. Concurrent groups are available for parents and guardians, and young adults 18-30. Support groups meet on weekday nights for an hour and a half. Dinner is provided prior to the group meeting.

To schedule an orientation for yourself or your family or for more information please contact Imagine at 908-264-3100 or [info@imagine-nj.org](mailto:info@imagine-nj.org).



(above) CNN Top Ten Hero Mary Robinson will receive a \$10,000 cash donation from CNN and a \$50,000 donation from Subaru for her organization and personalized leadership training from the Annenberg Foundation to advance the work of Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss.

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## “DOWNTON ABBEY...THE TITANIC CONNECTION” STYLE COCKTAIL PARTY

*Submitted by Carol Goggi*

Fans of Downton Abbey will appreciate the show's connection to the sinking of the Titanic which took the heir to the Crawley fortune with it. This set off the chain of events that led to all the plot twists during 6 seasons of Downton Abbey. Volunteers at Mountainside's historic Deacon Andrew Hetfield House plan a “Downton Abbey...The Titanic Connection” Cocktail Party. Scheduled for 7:00-9:30 p.m. on Friday, February 28, 2020 (snow date 2/29) and held at Mountainside's historic Deacon Andrew Hetfield House, this enjoyable event is a fund raiser for the Mountainside Restoration Committee with a portion of the proceeds going to the restoration and maintenance of the historic Hetfield and Levi Cory houses.

A highlight of the evening will be a presentation entitled “Sinkable...Unthinkable” by history educator, Meg Wastie. Meg will provide an overview of what happened that fateful night, discuss who was on board and provide a sense of what it was like on the ship. Her power-point presentation will include quotes from survivors to highlight the many interesting, often sadly ironic, facts about the famous ship and its ill-fated passengers. Meg Wastie, a retired teacher, is the Program Consultant for the Westfield Historical Society. She formerly worked with the Museum of Early Trades & Crafts in Madison, and has been actively involved with history groups in the Somerset Hills area.

The event will feature special Downton Abbey inspired hors d'oeuvres and sweets with a signature cocktail, wine & beer. Decorated with spectacular Downton Abbey décor and served by costumed servers, the event will feature trivia games and period appropriate music. Space is limited, so reserve early. Guests are encouraged to dress in costume or dress for cocktails. The cost is \$50 per person.

The evening will begin with a reception held in the Hetfield House's formal parlor where guests will enjoy music, appetizers and signature cocktail. After the reception, guests will proceed to the center rooms and small tables for more hors d'oeuvres and the “Sinkable...Unthinkable” presentation. Afterward, guests will enjoy desserts, coffee/tea and participate in Downton Abbey era party activities. Throughout the evening, costumed servers will assist guests amidst era-appropriate decorations accompanied by Edwardian and 20's music.

Space for this Downton Abbey Cocktail Party is limited and any interested adults should call for reservations immediately. The cost is \$50 per person. Full payments are due within one week of reservation. Reservation forms can be found at the Mountainside Library, Borough Hall, at [mountainsidehistory.org](http://mountainsidehistory.org) or by calling 908-789-9420.

The Deacon Andrew Hetfield House and Levi Cory House are located at Constitution Plaza adjacent to the Mountainside Library. Constitution Plaza is the first right off Birch Hill

Road which is off New Providence Road near the Mountainside Volunteer Fire House. The Mountainside Restoration Committee is a committee of volunteers whose purpose is to restore and maintain the Deacon Andrew Hetfield House and the Levi Cory House and collect and save historic information and items from destruction. To make reservations, for information, or to donate funds, please call 908-789-9420; or, go to [mountainsidehistory.org](http://mountainsidehistory.org).



*(above) Guests enjoy the Mountainside Restoration Committee's Downton Abbey themed Cocktail Party at the Hetfield House. This year, on February 28, the Committee will host a “Downton Abbey...The Titanic Connection” inspired cocktail party at the Hetfield House featuring a cocktail reception, hors d'oeuvres, dessert, music and a presentation of “Sinkable...Unthinkable”.*



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The Ultimate Fire Department Cook-off will be an integral part of the evening as firefighters from 25 departments will compete in three

different categories: Gourmet, Firehouse and Dessert.

The competition is part of the culinary extravaganza where participants will be able to experience the tastes and flavors of more than 40 of New Jersey's finest restaurants, caterers and dessert shops all in one location.

If you are looking for an entertaining evening of great food and wine, don't miss this event. Tickets are \$60 in advance and \$65 at the door. Visit [cookedanduncorked.com](http://cookedanduncorked.com) to order tickets, view participating restaurants and wine/spirits and for more information.

Tickets can be also be ordered by calling the NJ FMBA at 908-499-9250.

## TRICKY TRAY FUNDRAISER & DESSERT CABARET

For 81 years, The Celebration Singers, a local multi-generational community choir, has entertained audiences within Union County and across the globe. On February 7 and 8, 2020, they will hold their Annual Tricky Tray Fundraiser & Dessert Cabaret at Union Elks Lodge 1583, 281 Chestnut Street in Union, NJ. Doors open at 7:15 p.m. and guests can immediately start placing their tricky tray tickets in for the prizes. The show, "Are We There Yet?," begins around 8 p.m. and features songs about places performed by members of its adult choir.

Artistic Director Joe Elefante, along with Collaborative Pianist, James Lubrano artfully cast the showcase which features a musical review of solos, duets, trios, as well as small and full ensemble pieces. Co-Hosts Kathy Gordon and Daniel Frieri emcee the evening. Their witty humor and playful banter are sure to bring a smile to your face and fill the room with laughter and enjoyment.

"I love singing with the choir throughout the year, especially for our Cabaret - it's a chance to feature our singers' vocal talents individually," said President Nicole Pepe. "The tricky tray and 50/50 gets bigger and bigger every year. We've had guests leave with \$1,000+ in their pockets and vacations to Florida, the Hamptons, and even tickets to a Knicks game!"

In addition to door prizes, a 50/50 raffle and exciting tricky tray baskets, homemade desserts and a cash bar will also be available. Tickets are: Adults - \$25, Seniors - \$20, and 10% discount with advanced purchases of full tables of 10.

For ticket reservations, please visit: [celebration-singers.org](http://celebration-singers.org). For questions or seating

requests, please call 908-552-4656 or email [celebrationsingersnewjersey@gmail.com](mailto:celebrationsingersnewjersey@gmail.com).

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## THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE IS COMING TO CDC THEATRE IN CRANFORD

Running from February 14th through the 22nd and winner of the Tony and the Drama Desk Awards for Best Book, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee has charmed audiences across the country with its effortless wit and humor. Featuring a fast-paced, wildly funny and touching book by Rachel Sheinkin and a truly fresh and vibrant score by William Finn (Falsettos, A New Brain), this bee is one unforgettable experience.

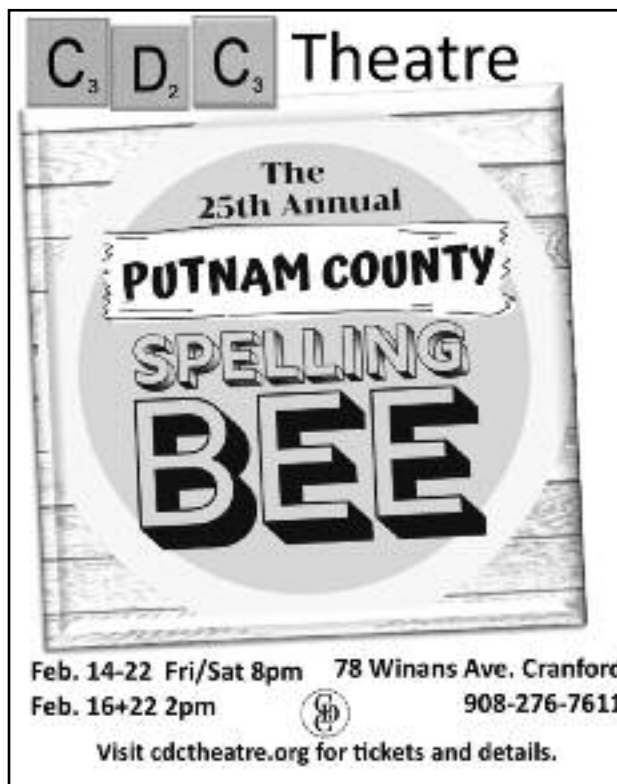
An eclectic group of six mid-pubescent vie for the spelling championship of a lifetime. While candidly disclosing hilarious and touching stories from their home lives, the tweens spell their way through a series of (potentially made-up) words, hoping never to hear the soul-crushing, pout-inducing, life un-affirming "ding" of the bell that signals a spelling mistake. Part of the fun of the show is that no two performances are ever the same. Audience volunteers are selected at each show to participate onstage in scenes, songs and choreography.

The cast features some familiar faces at CDC Theatre and some new ones: Sean Lynch-Littlejohn as Chip Tolentino, E. Rachel Valovcin as Logainne Schwartzandgrubenier, Zach Mazouat as Leaf Coneybear, Zach Love as William Barfee, Mallory Ann Wu as Marcy Parks, Patrina Caruana as Olive Ostrovsky, Alexa Teebo as Rona Lisa Peretti, Ian Federgreen as Vice Principle Panch and Brendan Lynch-

Littlejohn as Mitch Mahoney. The show is directed by Nevil Schwartz with choreography by Michelle Massa and musical direction by John Brzozowski.

Six spellers enter: one speller leaves! They learn that winning or losing isn't everything and at least the losers get a juice box.

Links to tickets and additional information can be found by visiting [cdctheatre.org](http://cdctheatre.org).



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## WINTER EVENTS AT THE RAPTOR TRUST

The Raptor Trust is a 501c3 organization that provides free medical care to thousands of injured and orphaned wild birds each year. Located at 1390 White Bridge Road, Millington, NJ, The Raptor Trust is offering the following events this winter. To register please visit [TheRaptorTrust.org](http://TheRaptorTrust.org).

### Trivia – Animal love languages

Saturday, February 15th, 2 p.m.

This quiz-style competition will include two rounds of questions and the opportunity to meet one of our education birds. Ages 14 and up. \$10 per person.

### Great Horned Owls in Love!

Saturday, February 8th, 2 p.m.

Discover how this important and thriving NJ species gets an early start at growing families and preparing for spring during snowy winters. \$10 per person.

### Frosty Feathers

Sunday, February 23rd, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Families with children ages 3-8 are invited to huddle into our heated classroom for a warm cup of cider and a fun filled program on the fashionable fluff birds use to keep out the cold.

### Education Open Houses

Sunday, February 16th

Monday, February 17th,

Pop on in to visit the education staff inside our warm and cozy classroom full of avian artifacts, interactive games, craft projects, and informational exhibits. You may even meet a special feathered guest. No advanced registration required.

### Focus on Raptors

Saturday, March 28th, 2 p.m.

An opportunity for committed shutterbugs to take close-range photographs of our educational raptors perched in an outdoor setting. \$150 per person.

### Private group tours

Weekend and weekday availability.

Join one of our staff educators for a guided outdoor tour of the Raptor Trust's aviary trail. Learn about the Raptor Trust's mission and history, as well as the life stories of some of our resident raptors before being introduced to one of our ambassador birds. \$100 per group, Maximum 10 people per group.

Call or email Shari Stern at 908-647-1091 or [Education@theraptortrust.org](mailto:Education@theraptortrust.org) to schedule.

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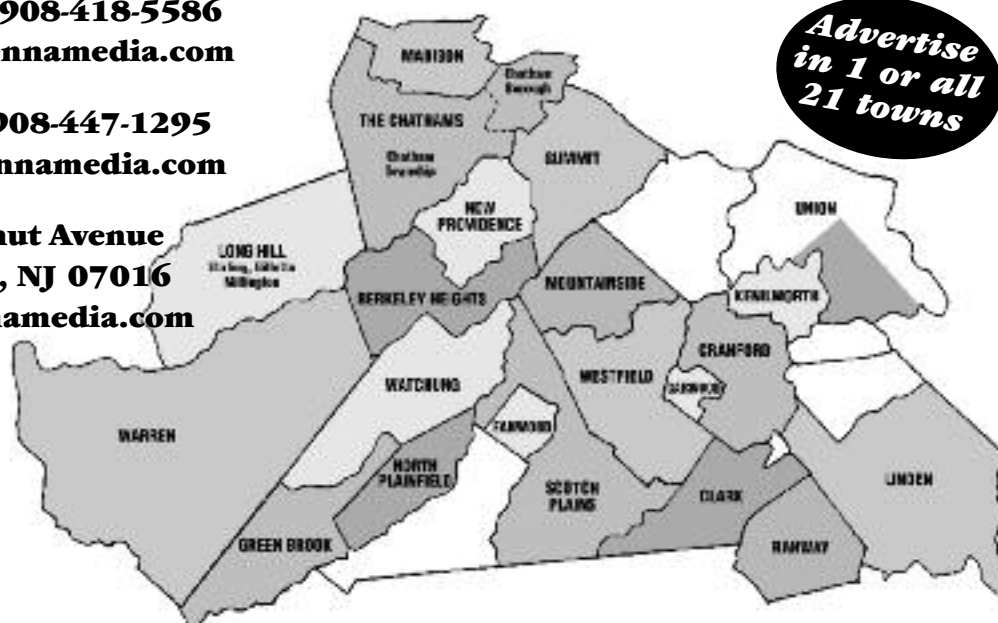
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**Saturday, February 22, 2020**

10:30 am to 3:00 pm

Sign-in/setup starts at 10:00 am

Registration Closes 2-21-20

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Registration is \$15 • Note: this is a non-rated tournament.

Limited to 40 players who must know how to play chess, age 11 and older.

For More Information: Email Jim Parlapiano at [jim.parlapiano@hotmail.com](mailto:jim.parlapiano@hotmail.com)

Or Will Adams at [will.adams@scouting.org](mailto:will.adams@scouting.org) or 973-765-9322 x234

Scouts can use Patriots' Path Council Munsee District Double Knot link to register on-line at [ppbsa.doubleknot.com/event/2583007](http://ppbsa.doubleknot.com/event/2583007)

Scouts can email Will Adams at [Will.adams@scouting.org](mailto:Will.adams@scouting.org) for more info.

Trophies awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers.

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This tournament meets the 6a requirement for earning a Chess merit badge.

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