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# DAVID AMIEVA'S EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT UPGRADES THE MADISON COMMUNITY GARDEN

The Madison Community Garden, located at the Madison Recreation Complex, has been known for its bountiful crops and beautiful flowers grown by local residents. Thanks to David Amieva's Madison Boy Scout Troop 25 Eagle Project, gardeners can now relax there after a hard day's work. David built a stone fire pit, two benches, and a picnic table for his Eagle project. The goal was to use materials that would last as long as possible.

The benches and picnic table took much longer than the firepit to build and were made out of pressure treated wood and a recycled, composite material. David had help from many fellow scouts from Troop 25. They worked together to remove the weeds and mulch from the area, cut the wood, then pieced together the benches and the table.

David said he had a lot of fun building all of the pieces with the scouts. It was a great experience for him that hopefully will inspire the younger scouts to give back to the community in the form of their own projects.

If you would like more information about Madison Boy Scout Troop 25 or would like to attend a meeting, please contact Wayne Dieckmann, Ph #973-769-4059.



(above) Troop 25 Scouts working hard to build the structure.



(above) David and Troop 25 Boy Scouts enjoying the newly built bench.



(above) David Amieva and Madison Councilwoman Maureen Byrne with the new fire pit.



#### MADISON MONTHLY,,

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Although great care has been taken to ensure the information contained within is accurate, Renna Media assumes no liability for errors or omissions.

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#### **BOOK DONATIONS SOUGHT FOR MVAC**

Madison Volunteer Ambulance Corps. (MVAC) has set up a book bin donation box next to the squad building at 29 Prospect Street. The box is located on the gravel by the side of the building facing the train station.



(above) A book bin donation box has been set up next to the squad building at 29 Prospect Street. The box is located on the gravel by the side of the building facing the train station.

The box accepts any books as long as they are in good condition and have an ISBN code (like a UPC code, picture below). All books donated are collected and MVAC receives a percentage of money from the books collected for supplies and equipment.

This is a significant fundraiser for MVAC since we have been unable to hold regular fundraising events due to Covid. The box is permanent so please feel free to drop off books anytime! Text books are also accepted. Please do not deposit any encyclopedias or magazines.

We thank the community for their continual support as always! Follow Madison Volunteer Ambulance Corps on Facebook.



(above) Donated books must have an ISBN code.





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responders have the supplies they need to stay contact-free delivery. Thank you very much for safe and serve our community.

The wish list below allows you to buy the items on Amazon and ship directly to MVAC for supporting our hometown heroes! Please visit studentwishlistproject.org/mvac to make a donation.



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After graduating from medical school, Dr Somma served his internship in Internal Medicine at Trinitas Regional Medical Center. He then completed his residency in Internal Medicine at Seton Hall Post Graduate School of Medicine, where he was elected Chief Resident of Internal Medicine in his final year.

Dr. Somma has been in practice in Union and Middlesex counties for over 20 years, with an emphasis on excellence and compassion for his patients. He has served as the physician for the Elizabeth Fire Department, the Board of Health of Hillside and has served the Board of Education for Woodbridge NJ. He was granted the Humanitarian of the Year Award by Trinitas Health Foundation in May 2014, for his dedication to the community and his outstanding service to the goals of the Foundation.

Dr. Somma has special interests in various fields of Internal Medicine, including diabetes, obesity, cardiovascular diseases and arthritis/rheumatology. He has represented to major pharmaceutical companies, such as Schering-Plough and Pfizer, in a consulting and educational role for his peers. Dr. Somma has been a clinical educator for Seton Hall's Physician Assistant Program as an Associate Professor of Medicine for their Internal Medicine program.

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#### **MADISON WELCOMES A CHILDREN'S LITTLE FREE LIBRARY**



(above, front, l-r) Liam and Ella O'Connor; (back, l-r) Patty Driscoll, Director of the MCH Preschool, and Dorothy O'Connor, Director of the BASCC program.

Submitted by Cathy Gotliffe

You are cordially invited to visit the Thursday Morning Club/Madison Community House Children's Little Free Library. The Library is located on the left side of the Madison Community House at 25 Cook Avenue in Madison. The library is donated by a Thursday Morning Club member. It is jointly sponsored by the Before and After School Child Care (BASCC) local elementary school childcare program and the Madison Community House Preschool.

This Little Free Library book exchange, with a large book donation from a BASCC family, gives young readers ages 4-10 access to age-appropriate books which offer opportunities for readers to see whimsical characters cavort, learn about different cultures and countries, gain information about possible family pets, and build confidence in their nascent reading skills. Our goal is to inspire readers, build community spirit and foster neighborhood goodwill. This library site is proudly represented on the world map of registered Free Little Library boxes as part of their non-profit service to encourage increased readership. Children's books are free for anyone to take and read.

The Madison Community House Preschool, a sponsor of the new library, is a state-licensed preschool with the goal of providing an

intermediate experience between home and school where children ages 3 and older are comfortable with themselves and their peers. An experienced staff is devoted to the social, intellectual, emotional and physical development of each child.

Another sponsor, the Before and After School Child Care (BASCC) program, supports the parents of children attending the elementary schools in Madison by providing quality child care beyond the normal school hours, offering well planned, flexible activities that are consistent with school and home environment, are conducive to creative play, promote respectful interaction among children and encourage independent study.

The Madison Community House is owned and operated by the Thursday Morning Club, a non-profit women's service organization founded in 1896 to meet the needs of the community and surrounding areas. The Thursday Morning Club, a member of both the New Jersey State and General Federation of Women's Clubs, has a membership of 230 women volunteers.

For information about BASCC, the Madison Community House Preschool and other programs, membership and services, please contact the Community House at 973-377-0244 or visit TMCMHC.org.

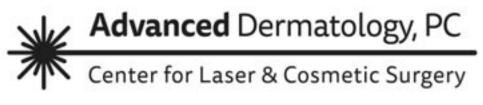


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#### **JOINT MUNICIPAL COURT RECOMMENDS** THE APPOINTMENT OF THE HONORABLE JONATHAN H. ROSENBLUTH AS PRESIDING JUDGE

#### Submitted by Michael Pellessier

The Joint Municipal Court, serving the Borough of Madison, Borough of Chatham, Township of Chatham, Township of Harding and the Township of Morris, has announced the appointment of the Honorable Jonathan H. Rosenbluth.

After serving the Borough of Madison for 21 years, and being the sole Presiding Judge for the Joint Municipal Court, the Honorable Gary F. Troxell has announced his retirement at the end of this calendar year. "We thank Judge Troxell for his many years of service not only to the Joint Court, but to the Borough of Madison," said Council President and Joint Court Committee Member Carmela Vitale. Besides hearing cases, Judge Troxell also held yearly mock court sessions with 2nd grade students from St. Vincent Martyr School and participated in the bi-yearly "Every 15 Minutes" program at Madison High School.

In addition to the recommendation from the Joint Court Committee, Morris County Assignment Judge, Stuart A. Minkowitz, has issued an Administrative Order of Approval appointing Judge Rosenbluth as the Acting Judge, and state representatives, Senator Richard J. Codey, Assemblywoman Mila Jasey and Assemblyman John F. McKeon have expressed their support of the appointment. Now awaiting gubernatorial appointment from Governor Murphy, the Joint Court Committee looks forward to swearing in Judge Rosenbluth in January of 2021.

In addition to presiding over the Joint Municipal Court, Rosenbluth also serves as the Municipal Court Judge for South Orange, Union, Springfield, Passaic and Kenilworth for many years. "When looking for the new presiding judge, the Joint Court Committee was interested in finding a successor who had the same traits and qualifications as Judge Torxell," said Council Member and Joint Court Committee Member Astri Baillie. "With his extensive background in other Municipal Courts, Judge Rosenbluth exemplifies all the traits that we were looking for, and we look forward to welcoming him to the Joint Court," continued Baillie.

Rosenbluth is a graduate of Rutgers University and earned his law degree from the University of Maryland.

"I wish Judge Troxell all the best on his welldeserved retirement," said Mayor Robert H. Conley. "His professionalism in and out of the court room will be greatly missed, but I look forward to Judge Rosenbluth taking the bench in January. His years of experience will be beneficial for the Joint Court," continued Conley.

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## THE GARDEN CLUB OF MADISON INSTALLS SCARECROWS ON WAVERLY

The Madison Area Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with the Garden Club of Madison, installed cornstalks and family-friendly scarecrows on the lamp posts on Waverly Place. The scarecrows were decorated by Chambermember businesses and organizations and remained up through November 5. All were visible from the sidewalks so children, parents and shoppers can enjoy them up close.

"Scarecrows on Waverly is one of our favorite fall projects and we are thrilled to be able to work with the Garden Club of Madison on this," said Chamber president John Morris. "The scarecrows are always fun and very creative."

The Garden Club of Madison initiates and supports many community projects, both financially and through the volunteer work of their members. Their Civics Committee leads the clubs efforts in restoring and improving common spaces in Madison.

"The Garden Club of Madison's work is done with a true love and commitment for the

The Madison Area Chamber of Commerce, in artnership with the Garden Club of Madison, stalled cornstalks and family-friendly arecrows on the lamp posts on Waverly Place. improvement and quality of our community." said Morris. "We have enjoyed partnering with them, now for the fifth year, and we plan to continue this annual tradition for all to enjoy."

#### **ABOUT THE GARDEN CLUB OF MADISON**

Since its creation in 1922 The Garden Club of Madison's purpose, as outlined in our Constitution, has remained unchanged: "... to stimulate the knowledge and love of gardening, to share the advantages of association by means of educational meetings, conferences and publications and to restore, improve and protect the quality of the environment through educational programs and action in the fields of conservation and civic improvement."

Service to our community has been a hallmark of The Garden Club of Madison since its inception. Our "Beautify Madison" mission has played a large role in making Madison more attractive to those who live, work and play in our community.

To learn more visit gcmadison.org.



(above, l-r) Pictured are Garden Club of Madison members Diane Anton, Marilyn Musielski, Hollay Mandala, Lydia Chambers, Kirsten Johnson, Ann Hargrave, and Kate Ransom-Silliman.

## FIND ROSIE THE ROSE CITY REINDEER

The Madison Area Chamber of Commerce is inviting children to participate in a month long search to Find Rosie the Rose City Reindeer this holiday season.

Beginning Friday, November 27, more than 40 Chamber-member businesses will participate in this creative and fun activity to help highlight the holidays and all that is wonderful about shopping in Madison this season. This is a free event, open to the public and for children only. For a list of participating businesses please visit the Chamber website at MadisonNJChamber.org.

How does it work?

Pick up a participation card at Tons of Toys, 64 Main St., Madison Pharmacy, 66 Main St. or at any one of the participating businesses.

Find Rosie at participating businesses or on their website, where noted, and collect a store stamp, signature, or the write in code found online.

When at least 15 different store stamps/signatures or codes are collected, bring the game card to Tons of Toys or Madison Pharmacy where a special prize can be collected. Prizes donated by Tons of Toys.

When at least 25 store stamps/signatures or codes are collected, bring the game card to Tons of Toys or Madison Pharmacy where you will be entered into a drawing.

Watch the live feed of the Grand Prize drawing on the ILoveMadisonNJ Facebook page on Monday, December 14 at 4:00 p.m. The Grand Prize Winner will receive a \$100 Madison Chamber Gift Check and 2nd and 3rd place winners will each receive a \$50 Madison Chamber Gift Check.

"The Find Rosie the Rose City Reindeer program was designed to bring customers into our downtown business district while promoting our Shop Local message," said Chamber vice president Robbin Salmeri. "This popular program reinforces our shared sense of community and is a safe way to enjoy the holidays this season."



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