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WARREN'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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ISSUE 101 • MAY 2021

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MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS RECEIVE NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Submitted by Shannon Regan

On Wednesday, April 7, Dr. Susan Cooper, Warren Middle School (WMS) E2 Teacher, was notified that her team of grade 6 WMS students had received 2nd place in the nation at the Knowledge Master Open.

The Knowledge Master Open is an asynchronous computerized academic challenge. Teams from across the country compete in the rigorous competition.

The Knowledge Master Open is among many academic challenges sponsored by an organization called Academic Hallmarks. The founders of the organization believe that academic challenge gives people who love knowledge a peer group, as well as helps to build confidence and teamwork. The organization strives to expand opportunities to people of all ages in all schools, businesses, and organizations. Academic Hallmarks believes that by expanding services they can meet the needs of all who want these challenges.

In addition to Cooper, Mr. George Villar, WMS Principal, and Ms. Maria Mensinger, WMS Assistant Principal, are extremely proud of the team of students. "Our students engage in this academic challenge on a voluntary basis, which is a testament to their desire to expand their minds. Their dedication is a credit to our entire school community," said Villar.

Cooper and her team of students thoroughly enjoyed the academic challenge. "Team-based quiz bowls like these provide an opportunity for students to bond and to critically think in a competitive setting. This was one of the first times this year for our 6th graders to compete. They did a super job! Looking forward to more bowls and bees in the months to come."

On Monday, April 12 during the Warren Township Board of Education meeting, Dr. Matthew Mingle Superintendent of Schools congratulated the team of students and their coach, Dr. Susan Cooper on a job well done.



(above, l-r) Grade 6 students (back row) Madelyn Paradise, Vanessa Spata, Bina Megrish, Sydney Paradise, and (front row) Hailey Martins, Siya Gokhale, and Madeline Feldblum stand proudly with their certificates and medals to celebrate the National Academic Challenge.

Photo by Warren Township Schools

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DONATE UNWANTED BICYCLES

On Saturday, May 8, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, Faith Lutheran Church, 524 South Street in New Providence, will be collecting second-hand bikes for use by adults and children in third world countries.

The collection is being conducted on behalf of Pedals for Progress (P4P), an organization which annually recycles 6,000 bicycles for persons in developing countries.

Anyone with a bicycle in repairable condition is urged to donate to this worthy cause. Bikes may be dropped off at the parking lot next to the church. Members of Faith will repair and process the bikes for shipment.

Since 2002, Faith Lutheran has been collecting bikes. In 2020, 170 bikes were collected from persons in New Providence, Berkeley Heights, Mountainside, Westfield, Warren, Scotch Plains and Fanwood. This range of towns was aided by articles published in Renna Media town newspapers.



(above) Alana Lamberti of Faith repairs a bike for shipment.

Every year affluent Americans buy 22 million new bicycles and discard millions of old ones, abandoning many more in basements, sheds and garages. Most of these end up in our already overburdened landfills.

P4P ships its reconditioned bikes to persons in need of countries in Latin America, Africa and Asia. The bikes provide reliable transportation to commute to work, transport produce to market, access health care and other services. Steady employment for adults is vital to the development and success of these economies.

Persons who have bikes but are unable to deliver them to Faith on May 8 may call the church office on 908-464-5177 or email family.faith@verizon.net.



(above) Bikes filled the P4P truck to capacity.



(above) Repaired and processed bikes are ready for placement on the P4P truck.

SUMMER PLAYGROUND PROGRAM 2021

The Recreation Department will be offering a modified Summer Playground Program to Warren Residents only entering grades 1 -5 in September. Our camp will follow the guidelines for Youth Camps issued by the New Jersey Department of Health and Governor Murphy and we are still awaiting updated guidelines for the 2021 camp season. The camp is a 4-week program that will run from July 6-July 30, Monday-Thursday from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. We will share more information about the program regarding size of camp, cost, registration and COVID-19 protocols soon. Please be patient, as we will release more information when it is

ready. Due to the current camp guidelines in place from last year, we will not be holding the Teen Camp, Lego/Robotics and Little Kids Camp this summer. We hope to bring those programs back next summer.

ANNUAL FISHING DERBY POSTPONED TO SEPTEMBER 18, 2021

After careful consideration, the Annual Fishing Derby that traditionally takes place in May will be postponed to September 18, 2021. Given the current status of COVID-19 the Township feels that it will be safer to hold the event in September. We look forward to coming together in September to enjoy this event as a community.

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Visit online at NJVN.org for more information about our services, and ways you can make a difference in a heroes life.

ROGER, a search platform for New Jersey veterans, launched on November 9th, just ahead of Veterans Day 2020. The platform was created by Backpacks For Life founders Brett D'Alessandro and Alexa Modero. After serving the Veteran community for 6 years, they found many inefficiencies and convoluted systems that prevented veterans from getting the care they need in a quick and efficient way. From lengthy intake processes to outdated information on organizations' websites, the Backpacks For Life team knew there was a better way to get veterans the care they needed.

ROGER allows veterans and their family members to search for programs, resources and care by a variety of factors such as zip code, branch of service, discharge status and income. With these customizable search features, veterans will see only the programs that they qualify for. This helps mitigate time wasted for not only veterans searching for programs that fit their needs, but also the service providers to ensure the

veteran is a good fit for them.

"Navigating through resources is hard...we get it. As a veteran myself, I was often running around in circles trying to find programs that I was eligible for and that fit my needs. When we're working with veterans, every minute matters and with ROGER we can work more quickly to get veterans what they need. We're excited to bring ROGER to the NJ veteran community." - Sgt. Brett D'Alessandro, Retired US Marine & President of Backpacks For Life

To explore ROGER, visit www.roger.vet or contact the ROGER team at roger@backpacksforlife.org

Backpacks For Life is a 501(C)3 nonprofit organization that serves the homeless and at-risk veteran community. By regularly distributing backpacks filled with essentials to veterans on the streets and providing mentorship to at-risk veterans and their families, Backpacks For Life aims to bridge the gap between veterans and the resources available to them.

COMMUNITY HOPE HELPS VETS FIND SERVICES

CALL THE REFERRAL HOTLINE FOR ELIGIBILITY

Veterans and their families who are experiencing a housing crisis may be eligible for emergency assistance such as motel/hotel stays, security deposits, rent, rental arrears, groceries and utilities through Community Hope.

Community Hope's Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program is currently providing assistance remotely. Urgent community-based services such as critical supplies and veteran wellness-checks are provided in person.

The increase in support services to veterans and their families during the COVID-19 pandemic is possible thanks to funding from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

To make a referral, please call the referral hotline at 1-855-483-8466 or email SSVF@communityhope-nj.org, or email Gema Diaz at gdiaz@communityhope-nj.org.

Community Hope is a nonprofit that helps individuals, including veterans, and their families, overcome mental illness, addiction, homelessness and poverty. Learn more at communityhope-nj.org.

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CLOTHING DRIVE – MAY 21

SONALI HOWE TO ATTEND HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

Sonali Howe, who graduated from Watchung Hills Regional High School in 2017, will complete her undergraduate degree at Northeastern University in Boston and then begin her Doctor of Law (JD) degree at Harvard University in the fall.

Sonali and her family would like to thank the Green Brook schools, Warren Hills Regional High School, including all the teachers and school staff who helped Sonali along the way.

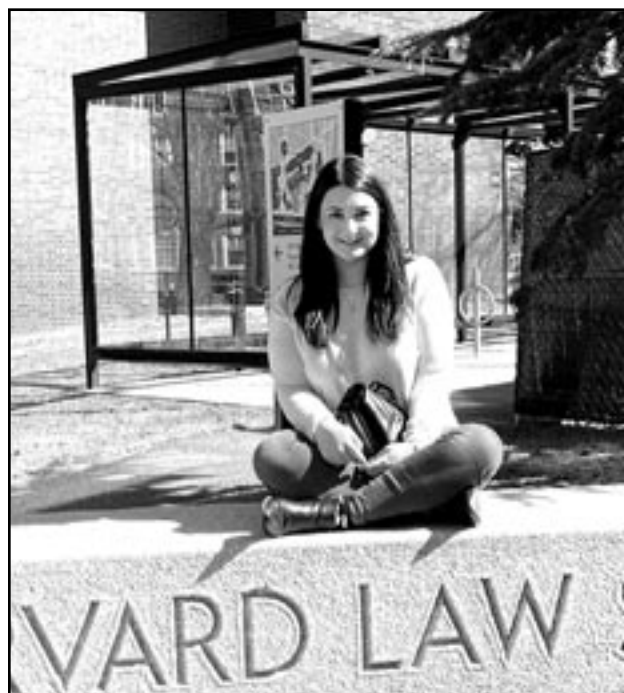
St. Vincent de Paul Parish Rosary Altar Society will be holding a clothing drive on Friday, May 21, 2021.

Your donations can be dropped off at the church meeting room, 250 Bebout Ave., Stirling from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. on May 21. The needed items are men's, women's and children's clothing, shoes, belts, ties, handbags, backpacks and hats. We are also accepting linens (bedding, curtains, towels, pillows, small rugs and quilts) and bikes, strollers and stuffed animals. Please put all items in kitchen plastic bags weighing less than 20 lbs. (except the bikes and strollers) and tie the bag closed. Bag

shoes separately. Please do not bring your items to the church meeting room before the collection date as we do not have any space to store them.

A & E Clothing Corp, Carteret, NJ, helps facilitate collection of clothing, linens and shoes for distribution throughout the US and developing countries. They will sort and ship the items and compensate the Rosary Society per pound collected. These funds will go toward the needs of the Parish community.

Please contact the parish office at 908-647-0118 or parish@stvincentschurch.org with questions.



(above) St. Vincent de Paul will hold their Spring clothing drive on Friday, May 21, 2021. Pictured is the collection from their Fall drive.

A MESSAGE FOR FAMILIES OF ADULTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

LearningRx brain training is a great option for New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities service recipients. LearningRx Warren provides cognitive training to improve the underlying skills we all use to think, learn, and work. For over 30 years our programs have been used to improve cognitive skills like auditory processing, attention, memory, and more to help make school, work, and life easier. Because we are a qualified New Jersey DDD goods and services provider the full breadth of our programs is available to DDD recipients.

Weak cognitive skills are at the root of learning struggles. Our method is to train and strengthen those cognitive skills. This approach makes our programs an excellent fit for many NJDDD

services recipients. We work one-on-one with our students to overcome obstacles, build confidence, and strengthen skills we all utilize to think and learn. This training approach supports goals related to self-direction, educational opportunities, independence, and economic opportunities. We do this while providing a fun and social alternative to traditional learning experiences.

The process begins with a cognitive skills assessment to customize the right solution for the student's needs. We then track progress through the duration of the program, and conclude programs with a second assessment. We will work closely with support coordinators and caregivers, providing periodic updates and, if directed, coordinate with other service providers for a more integrative approach.

We encourage DDD families to learn more about us. Our website is a good initial source of information www.learningrx.com. For detailed analysis of our programs, the LearningRx affiliated Gibson Institute of Cognitive Research www.gibsonresearchinstitute.org links many peer reviewed studies. If you'd like to see if training is right for your family member, book a free one-hour, no obligation trial. Call us at 866-272-4601 to learn more.



(above) A LearningRx trainer implementing a customized program with a student.

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BE AWARE OF RABIES

The Warren Township Health Department is reporting that a raccoon found in Warren Township tested positive for rabies on March 31, 2021. The Warren Township Health Department urges residents to be aware and cautious of potential rabid animals and avoid contact with any unknown animal. Rabies, a neurological disease, is almost 100% preventable. However, rabies is nearly always fatal once symptoms have developed so prompt action is necessary to prevent rabies.

While health department personnel have identified individuals potentially exposed to this animal, we encourage anyone who has had direct contact with a raccoon in Warren to contact the Health Department immediately. This incident should serve as a reminder of the importance of making sure your pet is up to date on their vaccinations, especially rabies. In addition, we encourage pet owners to be aware of their pets' location and activities at all times in order to try to avoid preventable exposures. If your pet is exposed to a wild animal, it is very important to notify the health department, have the pet seen by a veterinarian, test the wild animal if it is available, and to avoid human contact with any saliva, wounds, etc. to prevent human exposures.

The Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission, is available to assist you with any incidents. Please contact us at 732-968-5151 or call the Warren Health Department at 908-753-8000 ext. 239.

You can also contact us by email at pmartins@warrennj.org with any questions or concerns. If an incident occurs after normal hours please contact your local police department.

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT ANIMAL LICENSING

The Warren Township Health Department recently identified a rabid raccoon in town. The best way to protect your pets and yourselves is to vaccinate your pets against rabies. In addition, avoid contact with all wild animals and keep your pets on a leash when outdoors.

The Warren Township Health Department would like to thank those residents who have licensed their pets in 2021. This action assures and verifies current rabies vaccinations protecting our residents and furry friends.

In order to protect our community, because unlicensed and unvaccinated pets are a public health concern, the Township is increasing its enforcement of state and local laws requiring licenses, including increasing late fees to encourage prompt licensing and issuing summonses for failure to license.

While we have sent several notices and reminders to residents who have licensed their pets in past years, there are some who have still

not renewed their licenses. All dogs and cats must be licensed annually by January 31 to avoid the increased late fees. After February 1, late fees are charged for every month a pet is not licensed. In order for your pet to be issued a license, proof of an up-to-date rabies inoculation must also be provided. Please note that proof of rabies must be valid for the entire year of licensing.

The Health Department is offering a free rabies clinic on May 1, 2021 from 9 a.m. - 10 a.m. at the Washington Valley Fire Company, 146 Washington Valley Road, Warren.

Summonses will be issued beginning May 10, 2021, for failure to license.

Prevent animal emergencies and avoid further action by the Health Department by licensing your pets now. If you have any questions regarding licensing or online renewals, please contact the Warren Township Health Department at 908-753-8000 ext. 239 or by email at pmartins@warrennj.org.

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LOCAL CHORUSES PRESENT FREE ONLINE SHOW

Summer is coming! And what better way to celebrate than with a virtual concert full of songs about sunshine and summer and the hope they bring.

Here Comes the Sun: Three Great Choruses, One Online Show will premiere Sunday, May 23, at 5:00 p.m. on YouTube. It's a first-of-a kind collaboration between three of the area's best-loved choruses. The Maplewood Glee Club is a community chorus that's been delighting local audiences with its harmonies and humor since 1946. The Morris Music Men is Morris County's premiere barbershop harmony chorus. The award-winning Hickory Tree Chorus shares the joy of barbershop through songs from the Beatles to Broadway.

This family-friendly show features a range of uplifting songs including Happy Together, Kokomo, Heat Wave, and Circle of Life, plus music by Beyoncé, Whitney Houston, Chance the Rapper, and more! The show will also feature guest appearances by two dynamic teen ensembles from West Morris Mendham High School.

Here's the best news about Here Comes the Sun: it's free! Just register ahead of time at threechoruses.com and you'll receive a free show link 24 hours before the premiere.

The choruses are also spreading sunshine by raising money for Newark Working Kitchens, a non-profit organization that enables many local

Newark restaurants to keep their doors open, their stoves on, and their employees paid during the Covid-19 crisis by cooking and delivering hundreds of meals a day to low-income seniors and families and people without homes. Donations can be made during the show or through the show's website.

To learn more about Here Comes the Sun, visit threechoruses.com or contact Josh Adler at JJadler@ymail.com or 917 697-2893.

To learn more about the three great choruses, check out: maplewoodgleeclub.com; morrismusicmen.org; and hickorytreechorus.org.





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PEACE THROUGH SERVICE

Submitted by Shannon Regan

Warren Township Schools values its relationship with the Lions Club and continues to be appreciative of the support the club provides to the district. The club's intentions are to bring caring people together to improve their community, lead by example and build relationships through kindness.

According to lionsclubs.org, "For over three decades, Lions Clubs around the globe have been sponsoring a very special art contest in schools and youth groups. Creating peace posters gives children everywhere the chance to express their visions of peace and inspire the world through art and creativity."

For the 2020-2021 year, the contest theme is "We Are All Connected." Due to the ongoing global pandemic, many individuals have faced extreme hardship. Students were invited to illustrate and celebrate the things that kept people connected.

Dr. Susan Cooper, E2 teacher, from Warren Middle School encourages student participation in the poster contest. On Monday, April 6, Cooper was informed that grade seven Warren Middle School student, Kayla Peng's Peace Poster was awarded first place by District 16-J of the Lions Club. Lions District 16-J is made up of 60 clubs in New Jersey.

Peng's amazing poster depicts "Peace Through Service." The district is extremely proud of Miss. Peng.



(above) Kayla Peng proudly holds her award-winning submission, "Peace Through Service."

Photo by Warren Township Schools

GRADE 5 STUDENTS CELEBRATE PI DAY

Submitted by Shannon Regan

March 15, 2021, was an exciting day for the Warren Township Elementary Schools. Students in grades 4 and 5 joined their kindergarten through grade 3 peers for 5 days of in-person instruction. The parking lots were crowded at drop-off, the hallways were a little bit louder than usual and the students and teachers were smiling, it was a fantastic day!

To make this day even more special, grade 5 students at Mt. Horeb School also celebrated Pi Day! Two weeks prior, the students in Mrs. Lisa Lukko's, Mrs. Christina Trump's, and Ms. Christine Burkhardt's classes studied the mathematical term pi through reading books, viewing videos, listening to music, direct instruction, and handouts.

Inspired by the mathematical constant, students designed creative Pi posters and were encouraged by their teachers to dress up in homemade Pi costumes. Lukko, Trump, and Burkhardt held a contest and awarded prizes to

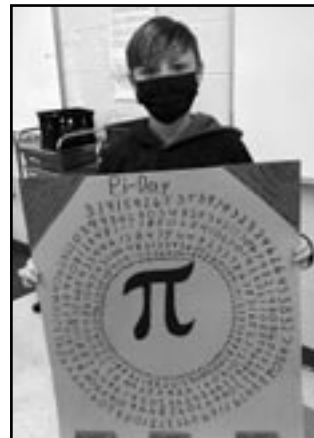
the students who memorized the most numbers of Pi as well as to the student who wore the best costume and made the best poster. All winners were given a gift certificate to La Strada's Pizzeria to get their own pizza!

In addition to the posters and costumes, students wrote Pi Haikus, drew Pi Spiral Art, created a Pi skyline, and played Pi Jeopardy. Students even shared Pi jokes with another.

"Why shouldn't you eat too much pi? Because you will end up with a bigger circumference!"

"What is a circle's favorite snake? A Pi-thon!"

Trump enjoys the Pi Day lesson and looks forward to the annual celebration. "We have been observing Pi Day for a few years now. Our students enjoy learning about Pi, participating in the contests, and completing the various activities on the day of our celebration. This year we had the highest engagement ever, and it was a fun way to commemorate our return to school 5 days a week!"



(above, l-r) Nika Polyakov showing off her Pi poster; Ms. Burkhardt and Sophie Babbitt dressed as Pi.; Gavin Velazquez showing off his Pi poster; Mrs. Lukko and Eun-Ah Lee dressed as Pi.

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BLOOD DONORS URGENTLY TO FILL NEEDED CHRONIC SHORTAGES

New Jersey Blood Services, a division of New York Blood Center (NYBC), wants to increase blood donations for area hospitals. The COVID-19 pandemic has created a chronic shortage across the country that shows no sign of improving. This is particularly dangerous given the looming uncertainty surrounding the pandemic's trajectory over the course of the next few months.

Blood is urgently needed. The region's healthcare system requires 1,500 donations each day to treat patients ranging from trauma victims and cancer patients to newborn babies and their mothers. Prior to the pandemic, blood drives were held at businesses, high schools, colleges and community groups. Most of those groups have had to cancel their blood drives due to COVID-19. Donations are at just 65% of pre-pandemic levels - well below what is needed by hospitals and patients in our area.

"This is an incredibly challenging time for our communities. We are now relying on people seeking out a place to donate. So far, that is not happening at the level we need," said Andrea H. Cefarelli, Senior Executive Director of Recruitment & Marketing for New York Blood Center.

We are asking our community to visit our donor centers or to find a convenient community blood drive to donate. "The Covid-19 pandemic

has created blood shortages for all New Jersey and NY hospital systems, said Cefarelli. Donated blood is essential for trauma and surgery patients in need. We encourage healthy New Jersey residents, aged 16 to 75, to donate blood at NJBS blood drives and donation sites now. Visit NYBC.org or Call 1-800-933-BLOOD (2566) to make an appointment today."

HOW NEW JERSEY RESIDENTS CAN HELP:

To make an appointment to donate blood, visit donate.nybc.org/donor/schedules/zip.

NYBC also needs more partners to step up and help host drives in large venues. If you have a space available and would like to host a blood drive, please sign up at nybloodcenter.org/support-us/host-blood-drive/apply-host-drive.

For information on the extra precautions being taken to help prevent the person-to-person spread of COVID-19, visit our website.

ABOUT NEW YORK BLOOD CENTER

Founded in 1964, New York Blood Center (NYBC) is a nonprofit organization that is one of the largest independent, community-based blood centers in the world. NYBC, along with its operating divisions Community Blood Center of Kansas City, Missouri (CBC), Innovative Blood Resources (IBR), Blood Bank of Delmarva (BBD), and Rhode Island Blood Center (RIBC), collect approximately 4,000 units

of blood products each day and serve local communities of more than 75 million people in the Tri-State area (NY, NJ, CT), Mid Atlantic area (PA, DE, MD, VA), Missouri and Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska, Rhode Island, and Southern New England. NYBC and its operating divisions also provide a wide array of transfusion-related medical services to over 500 hospitals nationally, including Comprehensive Cell Solutions, the National Center for Blood Group Genomics, the National Cord Blood Program, and the Lindsley F. Kimball Research Institute, which — among other milestones — developed a practical screening method for hepatitis B as well as a safe, effective and affordable vaccine, and a patented solvent detergent plasma process innovating blood-purification technology worldwide.

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SCLSNJ’S MAY VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

*All programs listed are free. Registration is required unless otherwise indicated. Programs are subject to change.
All programs are virtual unless otherwise indicated. Visit sclsnj.libnet.info/events.org for SCLSNJ’s complete calendar of events.
For questions contact SCLSNJ staff at ask@sclibnj.org. Please note: The Warren Twp. branch will be closed on May 9, 30, 31.
Library hours are subject to change. For complete branch locations and hours visit sclsnj.org/about/branch-locations.*

VIRTUAL PROGRAMS FOR FAMILIES

Family Storytime (families with children) Register now:
Pajama Time
May 5, 6:30-7 p.m.
sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4713811.
Pajamarama
May 19, 7-7:30 p.m.
sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4686931.
Panchatantra Stories (families with children)
May 6, 3-3:30 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4697781.
Meet the Author - Linda Sue Park (all ages)
May 14, 2-3 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4644929.
A Virtual Visit With Charles Lindbergh (all ages)
May 20, 7-8 p.m.
Performed by American Historical Theatre
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4553354.
Bilingual English/Spanish Storytime (families)
May 25, 5-5:30 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4674363.
Family Night - Pencil Pinwheels (families with children)
May 27, 7-7:30 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4686933.

CHILDREN, TWEENS, AND TEENS

A Virtual Escape Room - Hippokampus (ages 10 and up)
May 1-14
For more: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4731062.
Teen Book Talk - Spring/Summer Reads (grades 6-12)
May 3, 4-5 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4713715.
Tabletop Gaming (grades 3-6)
May 3, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4704442.
May the Fourth Be With You (grades 6-8)
May 4, 6-7 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4718251.
Toddler/Preschool Storytime (ages 18 months - 5 years and their caregivers)
Register now:
May 5, 10-10:30 a.m.
sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4686924.
May 6, 10-10:30 a.m.
sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4713817.
May 19, 10-10:30 a.m.
sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4694296.
May 26, 10-10:30 a.m.
sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4717509.
May 27, 10-10:30 a.m.
sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4697773.
May 28, 10:30-11 a.m.
sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4705926.
Explore Art - Surrealism (grades 1-5)
May 5, 3:45-4:45 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4709859.
LEGO® Club (grades K-5) Register now:
May 6, 3:30-4:15 p.m.
sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4706080.
May 13, 3:30-4:15 p.m.
sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4709894.
May 20, 3:30-4:15 p.m.
sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4706087.
May 27, 3:30-4:15 p.m.
sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4706089.
How Much is Your Mental Health Worth to You?
May 6, 5-6:30 p.m.
Hosted in Partnership With Somerset County Youth Services Commission
(grades 6-12 and caregivers).
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4718547.
Construction Club (grades 2-5)
May 6, 7-7:30 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4686929.
May 17, 4:30-5:30 p.m.
sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4686928.
Music and Movement With Miss Linda (ages 3-6)
May 7, 10:30-11 a.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4704650.

Stay at Home Science Demonstration - Sugar Crystals (grades K-5)
May 8, 1-1:45 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4693350.
Artes y Manualidades (Kids Crafts) (grades 2-4)
May 8, 2-2:45 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4701854.

STEAM

Captivating Colors (grades 1-4)
May 10, 4-4:45 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4697824.
Sensational Sounds (grades K-5)
May 12, 4-5 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4700560.
Songs That Count - Add to the World (grades Pre-K to 2)
May 11, 10:30-11:15 a.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4649288.
Crafting Fun - 3D Vase With Flowers (grades 2 and up)
May 11, 3-3:30 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4672709.
Highlighted Doodled Letters (grades K-4)
May 13, 3-3:30 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4697820.
Understanding the College Essay (grades 9-12)
May 13, 5-6 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4718811.
Intro to Robotics - Disc Color Maze (grades 6-12)
May 13, 5-6:30 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4674788.
Passport to Reading (grades K-3)
May 14, 5-5:30 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4706134.
Toddler Sing With Pat (ages 18 months - 3 years and caregivers)
May 18, 10:30-11 a.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4618762.
You Can Garden (grades 1-4)
May 18, 4-4:45 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4674360.
Art Workshop - Portraits (grades 6-12)
May 18, 5-6:30 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4718013.
Meet the Author - Kwame Alexander (grades 4-12)
May 19, 1-1:45 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4718788.
Wacky Science (grades 2 and up)
May 19, 4:30-5:15 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4650076.
Mad Libs® Madness (grades 3-5)
May 24, 4-4:45 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4717074.
American Sign Language Storytime (ages birth - 5 years and caregivers)
May 25, 10:30-11 a.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4635125.
Kids in the Kitchen (grades 3-5)
May 27, 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4686937.
Game Design Workshop - Dice Games (grades 6-12)
May 28, 3:45-4:45 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4709934.

VIRTUAL PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Meet the Author Lisa Wingate
May 1, 2-3 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4598691.
Jim Amon
May 5, 7-8 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4614633.
Michael Aaron Rockland
May 10, 7-8 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4618642.
Michael C. Gabriele
May 13, 7-8 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4557179.
Garrett M. Graff
May 17, 7-8 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4662144.
Stephen Puleo
May 25, 7-8 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4626798.

Celebrating Cinco de Mayo With Crafts Celebrando el Cinco de Mayo con Manualidades
May 3, 5-6 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4713886.
Cooking With Chef T - Flour Tortillas and Beef Taco Filling With Pico de Gallo
May 3, 7-8 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4626829.
Online Training With SkillUp Greater Raritan
May 4, 11 a.m. - noon
Presented by Paul Grzella
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4711149.
New York Skyscrapers 1870-1931
May 4, 7-8 p.m.
Presented by Kevin Woyce
Register now: <https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4642233>.
Dungeons and Dragons
5-7:45 p.m.
Register now:
May 5: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4714353.
May 12: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4714354.
Hamilton vs. Jefferson the Rivalry that Shaped a Nation
May 6, 7-8 p.m.
Presented by Pr. Louis Masur
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4571781.
Recipe Club - Brunch
May 11, 6-7 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4717386.
UrbEx 101 Investigating Abandoned New Jersey
May 11, 7-8 p.m.
Presented by Luke Boyd.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4670890.
The Beatles From Liverpool to Abbey Road - Presented by Vincent Bruno.
May 12, 7-8 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4594455.
Camping 101 - What You Need to Know
May 13, 4-5 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4715247.
Online Job Searching
May 14, 11 a.m. - noon
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4696424.
Basic Spanish for the Traveler - Part Three
May 18, 5-6 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4713837.
The RVCC Workforce Training Center Career Pathways and Continuing Education
May 18, 7-8 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4698093.
Writers Group
May 19, 6-7 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4717397.
The Art of Crossword Puzzle Construction
May 19, 7-8 p.m.
Presented by Ruth B. Margolin
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4644422.
One Shot Art History - Helen Frankenthaler
May 20, 2-3 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4711504.
Gut Health
May 21, 2-3:30 p.m.
Presented by Dr. Cedrick Batchateu
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4703448.
Picturing America
May 24, 7-8 p.m.
Presented by Louise Cella Caruso
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4662897.
What Is Coding, Anyway?
May 26, 4-5 p.m.
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4708343.
A Virtual Trip To Alaska
May 26, 7-8 p.m.
Presented by NJ Audubon
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4580775.
The Early Days of Television
May 27, 7-8 p.m.
Presented by Evan Weiner
Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4689046.

THE IMPACT OF COVID - A LOOK BACK WITH GRATITUDE

On January 24, Home for Good Dog Rescue (HFGDR) achieved a milestone of the 9,000th dog adoption in just ten years since our founding. This new year is full of hope and thus, we look back to 2020 with gratitude to our friends, supporters, and community partners who lifted us up in the midst of the COVID pandemic.

Like so many others, the effects of the pandemic certainly presented challenges to the rescue. The immediate objective was to ensure the safety of our staff, volunteers, foster and adoptive families while continuing to carry out our mission of saving the lives of thousands of dogs living in squalid conditions, abusive situations, or on death row at high-kill shelters in the South.

From the pandemic, two trends emerged. First, changes in household routines and more time spent at home increased the community's interest in dog fostering and adoption. Second, the financial hardship of some households in the South exacerbated the need for dog rescue and respite in already severely life-threatening conditions.

"A year of quarantine and isolation has provided an opportunity for all of us to take stock of what is important in our lives," says Bernie Cicirelli, HFGDR Board Member and Director of Operations. "At the top of that list are our families, of which our dogs are an integral part."

The local community rallied around our mission and offered support in so many ways and for that, we are grateful. An emergency aid grant from the Berkeley Heights Business and Civic Association was a lifeline for the rescue. Other

resources came in the way of supply and gift card donations and an increased participation in fostering and adoption.

The heart and generosity of our community continues to be a beacon of hope and light to pave the way to an even greater impact in 2021. On behalf of the dogs we save, and the families who have been enriched through fostering and adoption, we extend our deepest appreciation for the support of our community.

Sincerely,

The Home for Good Dog Rescue Team

WHO WE ARE:

Home for Good Dog Rescue is a 100% foster-based, non-profit 501(c)(3) dog rescue established in 2010 in Summit, New Jersey, with offices in Berkeley Heights. We socialize, care for, and provide rescue dogs with life-saving medical care at our Wellness Center in Aiken, South Carolina, transport them to New Jersey, and nurture them in our network of foster families while they await adoption into loving homes - giving them a second chance at life.

We work to significantly decrease the number of animals living in conditions of squalor and under the threat of abuse and death, by rescuing, medically treating, fostering, transporting, and finally adopting those animals into loving homes. We promote humane companion animal ownership that recognizes the dignity of each and every life. Our rescues do not live in a shelter or kennel, but rather in loving, volunteer foster homes, right up to the point of adoption into their "home for good".



(above) Home for Good Dog Rescue extends a "thank you" to the community and celebrates their 9,000th dog adoption.

BLOOD DONATION ESSENTIAL AMID COVID

American Red Cross

A year ago, many things in the world paused due to the COVID-19 pandemic. But the need for blood never stopped. Today blood donations are just as essential, and the American Red Cross urges individuals who are healthy to make an appointment to donate blood.

For patients in the emergency room, fighting cancer or coping with a life-threatening illness, help can't wait. Their health is reliant on the selfless generosity of blood donors. However, the blood supply continues to face challenges from the ongoing pandemic and extreme winter weather that impacted much of the U.S. last month.

More donors, especially those with type O blood, are needed now to ensure that patients have lifesaving blood products available for emergencies and everyday medical treatments. Schedule a blood donation appointment by downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device.

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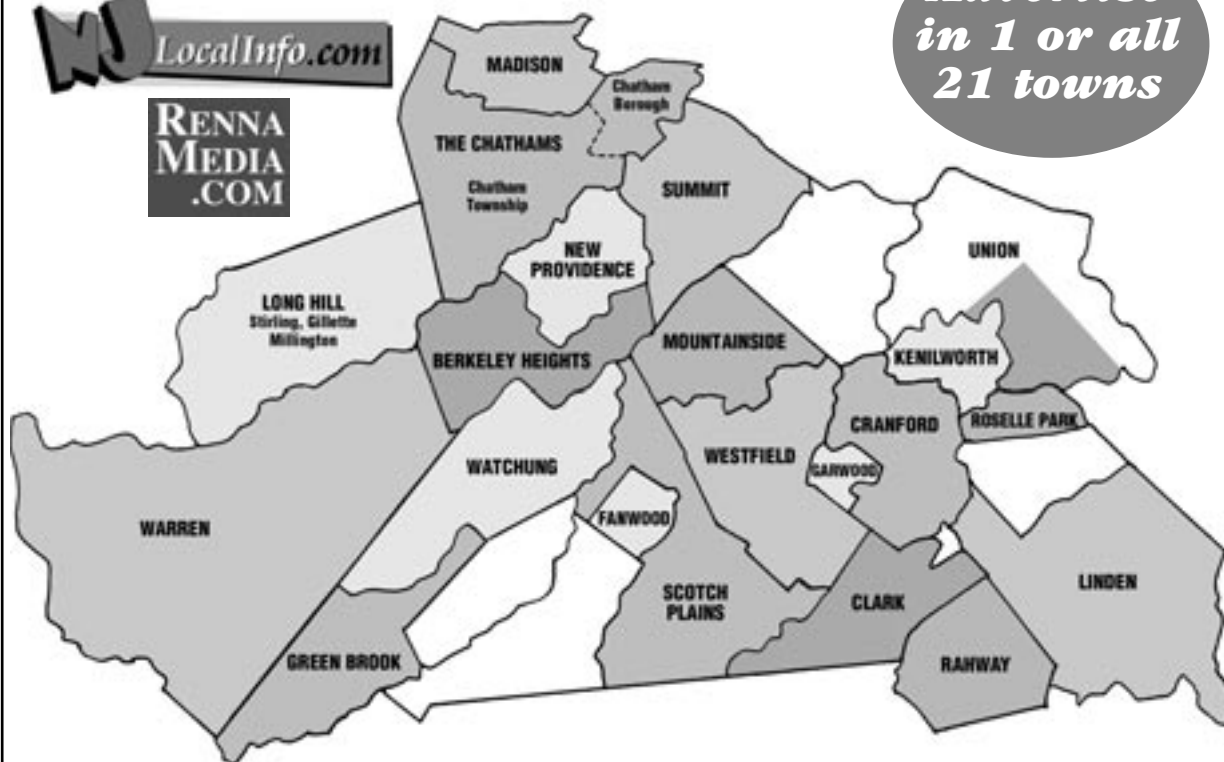
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- **SEE WHAT IS WORKING AND NOT WORKING**

Know where your web traffic is coming from and why.

- **ELIMINATE / AVOID COSTLY SCHEMES**

Evaluate the return you are getting from your online marketing costs.

- **INCREASE ONLINE MARKETING RESULTS**

Recommendations include ways to increase traffic to your website

- **NO OBLIGATION**

This service is recommended even if you have an existing web management contract. Use it to tune up your marketing plan.

**ONE TIME
FLAT FEE
\$250**

**Call for a consultation
if you do not have a website
or if need a new one.**

Joe Renna at 908-447-1295

email: JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com

WEBSITE / SEO SERVICES

- **STARTER WEBSITE: \$500**

Basic static site that can be developed further

- **WEBSITE CREATION/UPDATE: \$2,400**

Cost for average website: 12 pages, contact form, SEO friendly, responsive design

- **WEBSITE HOSTING: \$300 PER YEAR**

Includes website hosting, software updates, monthly website content updates

- **SEO SERVICES: AVERAGE COST \$1,000 - \$2,000 PER MONTH**

Custom tailored solutions: Google Ranking, Local SEO, Social Marketing

**Call for free a consultation if you need
help developing an online marketing plan.**

**STARTER
WEBSITE
\$500**

Joe Renna at 908-447-1295

email: JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com

Full Color Flyers and Menus Printed and Mailed to Every Home and Business in Town!

MENUS - PRINTING - \$50 PER THOUSAND

Rate is for quantities of 25,000 or more.

For quantities less than 25,000 cost is \$68 per thousand.

11"x17" / Full color / 2 sided / 60lb gloss coated stock /

Includes folding (quarter fold or tri-fold, with or without coupons tab)

FLYERS - \$35 PER THOUSAND

8.5" x 11" / Full color / 2 sided / 60lb gloss coated stock /

Tri-fold add \$10 per thousand

INSERTED AND MAILED TO EVERY HOME AND BUSINESS

\$60 per thousand. (as low as \$30 per thousand depending on quantity.)

Joe Renna at 908-447-1295

email: JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com



**FLYERS
\$35
PER 1,000**

**MENUS
\$50
PER 1,000**

The Isoldi Collection

#LOVEWHEREYOU LIVE



14 Kimball Circle, Westfield
5 Bedrooms | 5.1 Baths | \$3,850,000



306 Massachusetts Street, Westfield
5 Bedrooms | 4.1 Baths | \$1,599,900



225 Eton Place, Westfield
4 Bedrooms | 2.1 Baths | \$899,900



37 Barchester Way, Westfield
5 Bedrooms | 3.1 Baths | \$1,150,000



553 First Street, Westfield
4 Bedrooms | 3 Baths | \$649,000



1370 Johnston Drive, Watchung
8 Bedrooms | 5.1 Baths | \$999,000



941 Fox Hill Lane, Scotch Plains
5 Bedrooms | 4.3 Baths | \$1,399,900



230 Virginia Street, Westfield
4 Bedrooms | 2 Baths | \$550,000

Now More than Ever #LoveWhereYouLive



THE
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COLLECTION

Frank D. Isoldi



Cell **908.787.5990**
Office **908.233.5555**
Web **theisoldicollection.com**
Facebook **/theisoldicollection**
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