

#### WARREN'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

Published by Renna Media, LLC. On-line at RennaMedia.com

#### **ISSUE 104 • AUGUST 2021**

### THINKING OF SELLING? Learn what Your Home is Worth in Today's Market.

Call Brenda 908-672-2447 For Superior Marketing, Maximum Exposure, & the Highest Level of Service



PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID	3RIDGEPORT CT PERMIT NO. 390	ECRWSS
-----------------------------------	---------------------------------	--------

# THE WARREN LIONS CLUB EXPO IS BACK!

Scheduled for August 25-28, 2021. Spectacular Fireworks Show on Saturday, August 28

After a year's hiatus due to COVID restrictions, the annual Lions EXPO will once again transform the Warren Township municipal field (46 Mountain Boulevard) into a classic carnival over four days, 6-10 p.m. from August 25 - 28, 2021, with amusement rides, games of chance, fireworks, food vendors and an exposition of local businesses. This will be the 53rd Annual EXPO, the flagship event of the Warren Lions Club.

The Lions EXPO attracts approximately 10,000 people over the four days and has become the premier family fun event in Warren Township and the surrounding communities.

The EXPO will have a pay-one-price wristband every night this year. We will be holding a Giant 50/50 cash raffle with the drawing on Saturday August 28th, resulting in a multi-thousand dollar payout to a single winner. The winner need not be present. Tickets will be available for purchase throughout the Expo dates for \$5 each.

"Hosting the EXPO is more than a tradition, it's our resolve to spread the smiles on people's faces, especially after the difficult period we all have endured for more than a year" said Mark Ramos, the 2021 EXPO chairperson of the Warren Township Lions Club.

The Lions Club, as well as the games, rides and food vendors at the EXPO are committed to observing the state mandated COVID safety guidelines in force during the Expo dates. In addition to multiple washing stations adjacent to the restrooms, special hand sanitation stations will be available throughout the Expo. All patrons are kindly asked to cooperate with the state mandated guidelines.

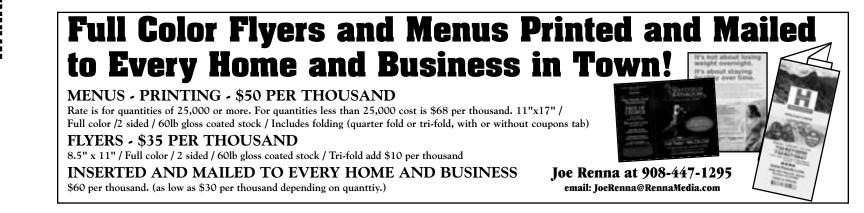
## ABOUT THE LIONS CLUB OF WARREN TOWNSHIP

When caring people join together, roll up their sleeves and take action to make their community better, it's a beautiful thing—and an incredible feeling for everyone involved. That's Lions. Being a Lion is about leading by example, building relationships and improving the world through kindness. The service of Lions reaches



around the planet. Serving in over 200 countries and geographic areas, our 48,000 clubs and 1.4 million members are helping others and making communities better.

The Warren Lions Club currently has close to 90 active members from Warren Township and surrounding communities. Members include business and professional leaders who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and bonding in the communities. All funds raised by the Lions Club of Warren Township are used to support a wide variety of community service organizations and projects. The Club holds dinner meetings every second and fourth Wednesday of the month from September through June and occasionally feature speakers, donation recipients and special guests that inform and entertain. The Club encourages all members to help set the direction of our Club, participate in leadership roles, and identify causes to support and the Club's priorities, while fostering camaraderie and advancing our mission. To learn more about us, please visit our Warren Lions Club website warrenlionsclub.org and on Facebook.





## **On-line at www.WarrenMonthly.com**

*Warren Monthly* is published by Renna Media. 6,200 newspapers are printed monthly and mailed to every business and home in Warren, NJ and the balance are distributed for free pick-up throughout town.

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

©2021. Contents of this newspaper cannot be reproduced without written consent from Renna Media LLC.

### **ADVERTISING & PRESS RELEASES**

Inquiries concerning advertising and submissions of press releases can be made to Renna Media LLC via phone, fax or email to:

Contact: Joe Renna Email: joerenna@rennamedia.com Phone: 908-447-1295 • Fax: 908-709-9209

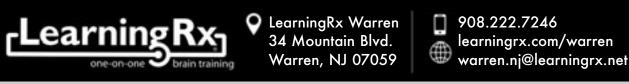
# PROMOTE YOUR COMMUNITY EVENT

Community service organizations and sports teams are encouraged to submit news of upcoming events or highlights and photos on recent events.

Organizations who are interested in submitting content can email editor@rennamedia.com. or call 908-418-5586

> Advertise in this newspaper 6,200 are printed and mailed to every home and business in Warren.

Reserve space in the next issue. Call Tina today at 908-418-5586 or email info@rennamedia.com



Get your kids back on track!

# **3 SKILL SETS STUDENTS NEED TO THRIVE THIS FALL**

LearningRx (www.LearningRx.com), the largest one-on-one brain training company, is sharing tips to help students ease the transition from summer to school. The tips highlight three key skill sets that students need to thrive in any setting.

This fall will be a return to in-person learning for many students across the country in nearly 18 months. In addition to the standard learning loss that typically occurs when formal education stops during the summer, this past year and a half was compounded because of school closures, disruptions, and new challenges with online learning. These adjustments have left many students - and parents - concerned about a return to the classroom.

But there's good news: almost everyone is in the same boat.

Here are some tips to help your student develop three primary skill sets to help them thrive this academic year:

## • SKILL SET #1: SOCIALIZATION

Understandably, students may feel nervous about returning to a social setting, especially after more than a year riddled with isolation, homebased learning, event cancelations, and limited sports and other extracurricular activities. Look for opportunities to tour the school, attend gradespecific orientations and other social engagements. Depending on your student's interests, needs, and age, you may want to enroll them in individual or group therapy, schedule "play dates," sign them up for a fun workshop (e.g., painting, star gazing, pottery), or take them to a free movie night at the park. If needed, encourage them to brainstorm conversation starters or extracurricular activities at the start of school (e.g., theater, student council, intramural volleyball) they can enroll in to make friends organically.

## • SKILL SET #2: TIME MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATION

Summer often means late nights and sleeping in, making the transition to early morning starts particularly stressful. Start by gradually adopting a sleep schedule to best prepare your student for an earlier wake-up.



Like time management, organization often serves as a reflection of learning success. As one might imagine, a well-rested teen with strong note-taking skills, clearly labeled binders, and a detailed homework schedule will likely perform better than a sleep-deprived teen who struggles to stay on top of tasks. Invest in the tools your student needs to keep academics organized like colored markers, binders, notebooks, highlighter pens, a calendar, and a whiteboard. Designate a quiet space in your living quarters - whether it's a desk, fold-up, or dining room table - to establish a learning environment without distraction.

## • SKILL SET #3: COGNITIVE SKILLS

Also known as "brain skills," cognitive skills are the underlying tools that enable kids to focus successfully, think, prioritize, plan, understand, visualize, remember, and solve problems. Those skills include auditory processing, visual processing, short and long-term memory, comprehension, logic, reasoning, and attention skills. If one of these skills isn't as strong as the others, it can affect the brain's ability to perform efficiently. Just imagine a bright student whose attention skills make it difficult to focus on the teacher's instruction. They might miss taking critical information while taking notes, a homework assignment, or project details. Imagine if every cognitive skill were strong, including their attention skill, they would thrive in school and perform at their highest potential.

By taking an initial Brain Skills Assessment through LearningRx, the student and parent would see a fuller picture of the student's cognitive skills. Then a tailored program would focus on targeting the skills needed to maximize the student's potential. After strengthening their skills, homework, test-taking, and learning, in general, are faster and easier.

Although a return to school can bring up feelings of inadequacy and anxiety, it's important to remember that almost every student is experiencing something similar. Addressing these three skill sets can help boost your students' confidence, and better prepare them for the return to school. Focus on support, independence, and the excitement of a fresh start—and understand that their apprehension is entirely normal.





# EDUCATION LEADING TO OPPORTUNITY

Submitted by The Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board

Residents of Hunterdon and Somerset counties have access to thousands of free online learning courses through SkillUp Greater Raritan, a new initiative of the Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board.

Now, any resident of Hunterdon and Somerset counties can sign up in the Metrix E-Learning System, which gives participants access to a vast catalog of courses reflecting marketable skills businesses in the region say they want their employees to have.

These include Microsoft and Adobe programs, Project Management, Help Desk and workplace behavior and customer service classes.

"Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board system partners already offer a variety of career coaching, job recruitment and workshops aimed at helping job seekers and those in lowerwage positions embark on sustainable employment pathways," said Paul Grzella, GRWDB director. "We see Skillup Greater Raritan as a way to introduce more residents to our services, and provide them with a 24/7resource for personal and professional development."

To sign up, go to:

thegrwdb.metrixlearning.com/.

websites for Hunterdon and Somerset counties.

The initiative provides a free license to users of the SkillSoft program for six months or 180 days. SkillUp Greater Raritan participants have access to a catalog of more than 4,000 courses that includes IT and software lessons, project management, human resources, banking, retail, hospitality and communication skills.

The Metrix E-Learning System was introduced by the Greater Raritan One Stop Career Training Center in the spring of 2019 as a tool to use for participants in specialpopulation youth and Workfirst New Jersey programs. The aim was to help participants in those programs learn new skills and earn certificates or prepare for future certification work.

In the late fall of 2019, the executive board of the GRWDB decided to expand this opportunity to all residents of the two counties it serves; direct participants in the One Stop system also will continue to have access to the training programs. This includes unemployed adults, outof-school unemployed youth, TANF and SNAP client, those with disabilities and those in reentry programs.

The link also can be found under the offers tools to assess an individual's knowledge Resources tab of thegrwdb.org/ and on the and skills needed for in-demand careers. The

portal provides guidance on which training courses to take to close any identified knowledge or skill gaps, and connects participants to hiring employers through Indeed.com.

Participants receive digital badges or certificates as they complete each training session, which typically includes four to five segments.

Because this is an e-learning portal, registrants can go through their selected courses at their own pace and as their schedules permit. The SkillUp Greater Raritan platform is available on desktop computers as well as digital devices.

SkillUp Greater Raritan can help different populations in different ways. For example, someone who may be currently employed but looking for a better job, or currently working two jobs and would like to move to one, could use the training modules to add to their skill base.

To sign up for SkillUp Greater Raritan, residents of Hunterdon and Somerset counties go to thegrwdb.mextrixlearning.com. The link also can be found under the Resources tab of thegrwdb.org/ and on the websites for Hunterdon and Somerset counties.

For more information, agencies or individuals After signing up, the online learning platform also may call the Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board staff office at 908-541-5790 or email info@thegrwdb.org.



# THE COUNSELING CENTER

CONVENIENT | LOCAL | TRUSTWORTHY

# GET THE HELP YOU NEED CLOSE TO HOME

World-Class Substance Abuse & Mental Health Outpatient Treatment

The Counseling Center offers a full range of substance abuse and mental health treatment in a serene and comfortable atmosphere with flexible scheduling during day and evening hours.

**10 Facilities Throughout New Jersey** 

Freehold • Monmouth Junction • Clark • West Caldwell • Fair Lawn
• Middlesex • Cherry Hill • Toms River • Roxbury • Robbinsville

LEARN MORE AT TheCounselingCenter.com 855-788-8247

All Services Also Available Via Telehealth

# WARREN SCHOOLS SAY GOODBYE TO MRS. PATRICIA LEONHARDT

#### Submitted by Shannon Regan

At the June 21 Warren Township Board of Education meeting, Board President, Mr. Marc Franco, read aloud a Resolution of Appreciation on behalf of the Board of Education and the entire Warren Township Community for Mrs. Patricia Leonhardt, School **Business** Administrator. Leonhardt and her husband are relocating out of state to be closer to their children.

The Resolution thanked Leonhardt for her nearly ten years of service to the children and community members of Warren Township. Franco described Leonhardt's dedication to the district through the various projects and committees she has served upon, such as the Study to Examine Enrollment Project (STEEP), the Ad Hoc Committee on the Impact of Future Development, the Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Committee, and the Ad Hoc Return to School Committee.

Additionally, the Resolution highlighted Leonhardt's ability to maintain a fiscally responsible budget for the taxpayer, including leading the district through a successful referendum process with zero impact on the local tax levy.

Leonhardt was also recognized for her leadership among her professional peers in the business administrator community. Franco noted Leonhardt's role as the leader of the county chapter of the New Jersey Association of School Business Officials, including a peer nomination for the state organizations' Distinguished Service Award.

Lastly, Leonhardt was thanked for her steadfast commitment to doing what is right for the Warren Township School District.

Assistant Business Administrator MaryGrace Suitovsky has been appointed as the interim Business Administrator until August 1 at which time recently hired Mr. Christopher Heagele will

begin in the role. Suitovsky and the Business Office team will miss Leonhardt dearly. "Pat's leadership, work ethic, and commitment to our school district have been inspirational for us all. We are grateful for the time we were able to work with her."

Leonhardt's positive impact has certainly reached beyond the scope of the Business Team. The entire Board office will miss Leonhardt's guidance, support, quick wit, and friendship.

"Mrs. Leonhardt has been a dedicated member of the Warren Township Schools leadership team for nearly ten years," said Dr. Matthew Mingle, Superintendent. "The students, parents, staff members, and wider Warren Township Community have benefitted from her professionalism and steadfast commitment to managing the district's finances and overall operations in a number of areas. There is no question that we have all been the beneficiaries of her work."



(above, 1-r) Special Services Secretary Janet Kozik, Payroll Administrator Darlene Nardi, Special Services Secretary Annette Glorius, Assistant Business Administrator MaryGrace Suitovsky, Human Resources & Communications Coordinator Shannon Regan, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent Sandra Dodd, Business Administrator Patricia Leonhardt, Director of Special Services Derek Ressa, Administrative Assistant to the Business Administrator Celia DeFelice, Superintendent of Schools Matthew Mingle and Purchasing & Accounts Payable Coordinator Denise Armand celebrate Leohardt's retirement.

# **INICA KOTASTHANE WILL REPRESENT** THE STATE AT GIRLS NATION

Inica Kotasthane, a Warren resident and a rising senior at Watchung Hills Regional High School, was recently selected as one of two delegates from the New Jersey Girls State program to represent the state at Girls Nation. Girls Nation is the national equivalent of Girls State, and two exceptional delegates from each state program are voted on and selected to attend Girls Nation in Washington D.C. for one week. This is the first time that a Watchung Hills Regional High School student has been selected for this honor.

During ALA Girls Nation in Washington, D.C., the girls participate in a mock legislature. They are responsible for submitting bills and resolutions, participating in senate sessions, and electing officials such as president and vice president.

Participants leave ALA Girls Nation with leadership lessons for life and an understanding of the fundamentals of U.S. government, along with the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of citizens. This seven-day experience has laid the foundation of thousands of bright futures in not only public service, but other careers as well. Some notable industries include government, programs are privately funded and presented by military, law, education, and media.

ALA Girls Nation connects participants with their peers from across the country, allowing the young women a unique opportunity to spend time with others who share common interests and those who have different perspectives from their own. The girls leave Washington, D.C. with a deeper understanding of government, a renewed sense of patriotism, and an appreciation for veterans.

While in D.C., the senators visit Capitol Hill and meet with their state senators and representatives, providing each girl an opportunity to discuss local issues and share bills they have written as part of ALA Girls Nation. The girls also participate in field trips to see the historical Washington monuments, Arlington National Cemetery, and the White House.

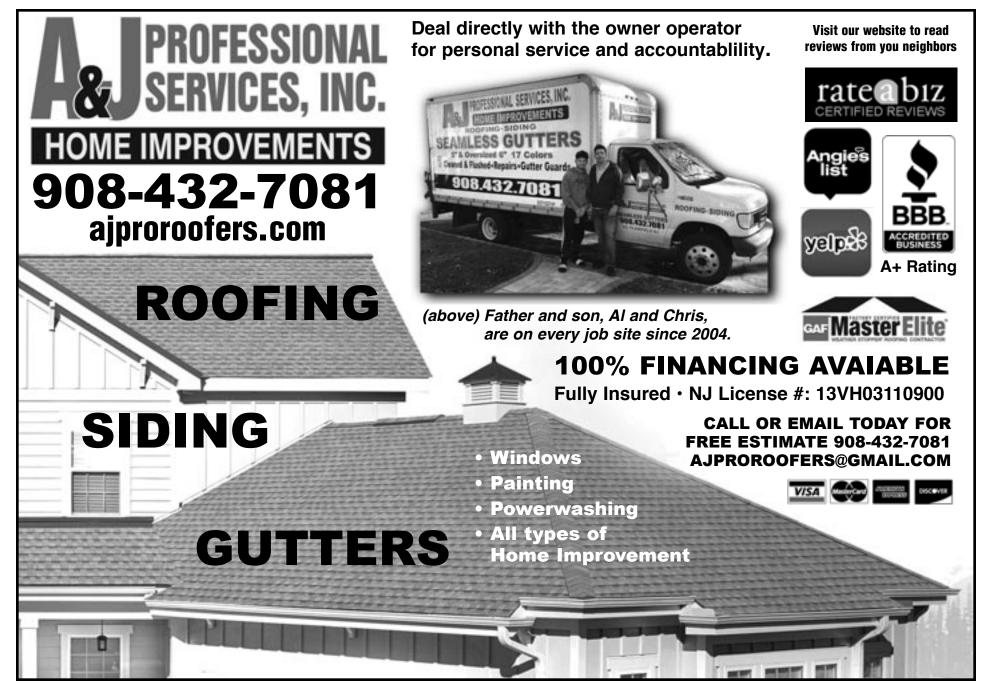
Participants leave ALA Girls Nation with leadership lessons for life and an understanding of the fundamentals of U.S. government, along with the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of citizens. This seven-day experience has laid the foundation of thousands of bright futures in not only public service, but other careers as well.

The ALA Girls State and ALA Girls Nation members of the American Legion Auxiliary.



(above) Inica Kotasthane is one of two delegates from the New Jersey Girls State program to represent the state at Girls Nation.





# **TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS FIELD DAY FUN 2021**

Warren Township Schools Physical Education (PE) teachers pulled out all of the stops this year to ensure that students in Kindergarten through 5th grade had a truly remarkable Field Day experience. The day was full of smiles, music, water play, games, ice pops, and much more. The PE teachers were thrilled to see the students and teachers enjoying themselves during the event.

Mr. John Tsihlas, Woodland School PE teacher noted, "After a year of so many uncertainties, it was great to see a bit of normalcy on what turned out to be a beautiful field day at Woodland School."

Ms. Laura Lamson and Ms. Aubrey Pellerin, Central School PE Teachers agreed with Tsihlas. "Central School's 'Royal Field Day' was a blast! We were excited to finally feel a sense of normalcy and experience our first in-person field day in 2 years. Dressed in their royal best, students and staff competed in royalty-themed activities like the Water Tea Cup Relay, Castle Obstacle Course, and the Steeplechase. Huge



(above) Central School's Royalty - Ms. Aubrey Pellerin, Mrs. Laura Lamson, and Mrs. Michele Sauro.

Warren Township Schools Physical Education E) teachers pulled out all of the stops this year ensure that students in Kindergarten through cold water bottles, and ice pops to beat the heat!"

Mr. Sean Ulichny, first-year Mt. Horeb PE teacher, declared that the 2020-2021 Field Day event has been his most memorable teaching experience thus far. "Field Day was the closest day to normal we have had in a long time. To see the children smiling and having so much fun made my PE year!"

Mr. Doug Clark and Mr, Kurt Reck, the Angelo L. Tomaso School PE Teachers shared the same sentiments as their peers, "It was great to see the students playing and laughing together with all the changes that have taken place over the last year. They said it was the most fun they had in a long time."

The district is looking forward to sharing all of the wonderful student celebrations and graduations.

Photos by Warren Township Schools



(above, left) ALT student Gavin Castagna is ready for some fun. (above, center) Mt. Horeb student Sofia Cakirdas is loving Field Day 2021. (above, right) Woodland students Shane Rajan, Harrison Malone, and Zachary Wishnia enjoying the DJ.



(above, left) Mt. Horeb student Jack Pereira in action during Field Day 2021. (above, center) ALT students Sophia Morales and Tasneem Amin enjoy a quick water break during Field Day. (above, right) Central students Daniel Mendoza, Bryce Zalepa, Sofia Saheli, Ava Traina, and Juliana Battista cool off with a popsicle.





To learn more call **908-526-8130** or visit **www.CHChousing.org** 



## ORTHOPEDIC MEDICINE CENTER

REHABILITATION AND RECOVERY ARE AT THE CORE OF EVERYTHING WE DO.

Allan D. Tiedrich, M.D., P.A. F.A.A.P.M. & R.

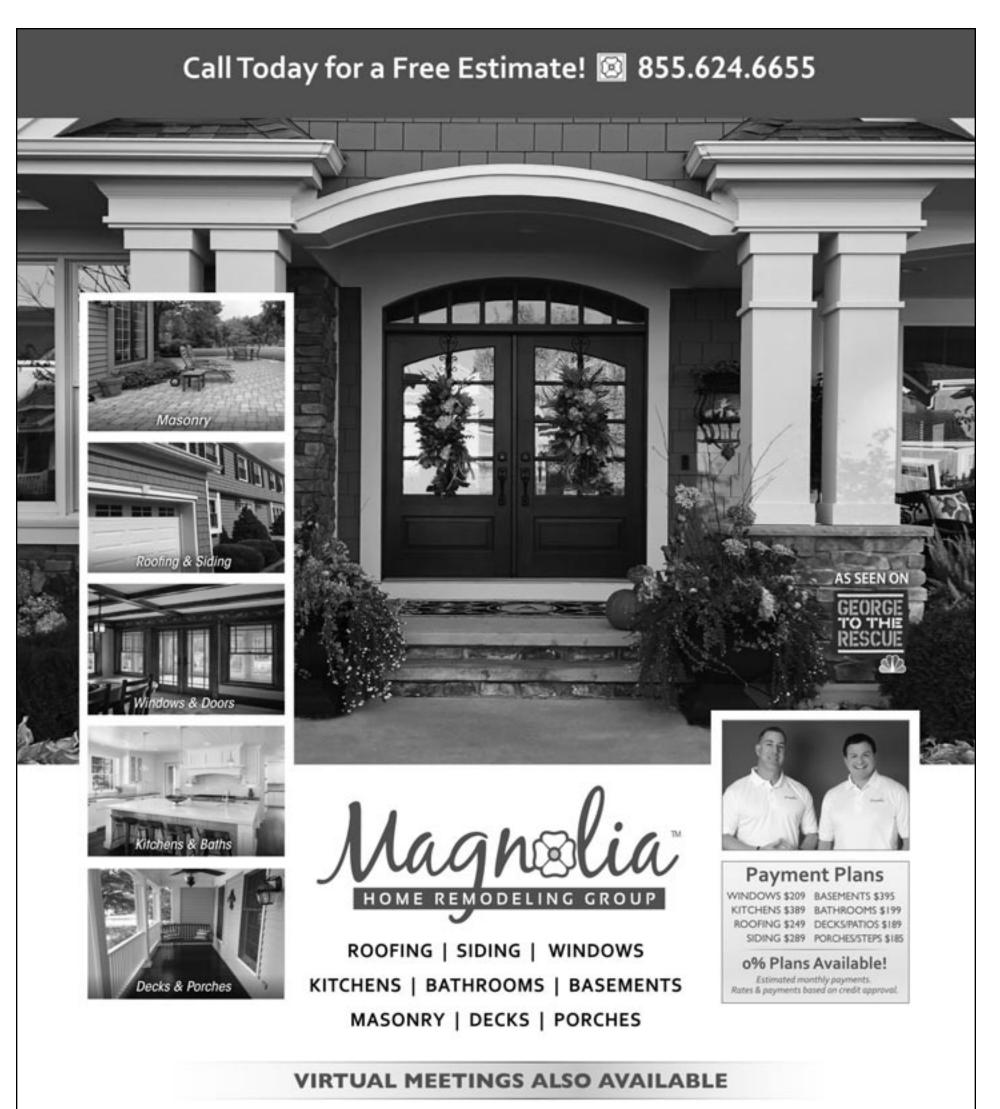
Board Certified Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation NJ State Certified Medical Marijuana Physician

Conditions Treated TRAUMA AND INJURY | SPORTS INJURY | CONDITIONS OF AGING

Special Services DISABILITY AND LEGAL ISSUES | MEDICAL MARIJUANA PHYSICIAN DRUG ADDICTION TREATMENT

#### Tel 908.769.7999

1304 South Avenue, Suite 4 Plainfield, NJ 07062 Fax 908.769.5816 info@doctortomc.com www.doctortomc.com info@doctor-thc.com www.doctor-thc.com



# Interior & Exterior Remodeling | Family Owned & Operated

100% FINANCING AVAILABLE | 30+ YEARS EXPERIENCE

NJDCA 13VH07755300

# MagnoliaHomeRemodeling.com 🖻

# WARREN TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS END OF YEAR CELEBRATIONS

#### Submitted by Shannon Regan

The late American author and educator Stephen Covey said it well, "We develop our character muscles by overcoming challenges and obstacles." Throughout the week of June 14, each Warren Township School celebrated its students by hosting moving-up ceremonies and graduations. A common theme shared by school administrators during their celebratory speeches was the students' ability to demonstrate resilience during an unpredictable school year.

School principals Mr. Scott Cook, Mr. Jeffrey Heaney, Ms. Maria Mensinger, Ms. Christine Smith, Mrs. Alison Tugya, and Mr. George Villar know firsthand the tremendous efforts made by the students, their families, and the district teachers and staff throughout the school year. Students were asked to navigate virtual school with minimal social interaction, a hybrid schedule, and then a return to full in-person school. Families became experts in Google Classroom, Google Meets and so much more while often working together with their children's teachers to provide the best possible learning experience. Teachers were often working beyond their traditional schedules well into the evening and over the weekends while also balancing the needs of their own families.

All Warren Schools (Angelo L. Tomaso, Central, Mt. Horeb, Woodland, and Warren Middle School) invited the students' families to be present during the Fifth Grade Moving-Up and Kindergarten Graduation ceremonies while also live-streaming each event for those unable to attend in-person.

Heaney was thrilled to offer an in-person graduation experience. "The Woodland Kindergarten and 5th-grade ceremonies were a wonderful celebration of the hard work, dedication, and teamwork of an absolutely amazing group of students, staff, and families. It was beyond magnificent to see everyone have the chance to be together, feel a sense of normalcy, and make wonderful memories."

Smith attributes the success of the 2020-2021



school year to the school community as a whole. "This was a year that united our school community in a way that we never thought possible. We couldn't have been so successful without the parents and staff working together to support our children. During the Kindergarten Celebration and 5th grade Moving Up Ceremonies, our staff was proud to recognize the resilience of our students who remained calm, confident, and flexible with all of the changes required during the pandemic while they continued to grow and thrive this past year. Our youngest learners witnessed trust and support as a foundation of their school experience and our 5th graders are undoubtedly prepared to conquer middle school with the maturity gained through collaboration with the adults around them. ALT couldn't be more proud of these students. Who are we?! ALT!"

Like Smith and Heaney, Central's Principal Mrs. Tugya is thankful for having had the opportunity to shine a light on her students, their families, and all of the staff at Central school after the unprecedented school year. "I'm grateful that we were able to celebrate our students with their families. Families, staff, and students all demonstrated so much flexibility and resilience this year; it truly was a celebration for all. Our students accomplished so much this year and I am so proud of each of them."

Cook shared his sentiments about the end-ofyear celebrations at Mt. Horeb School. "There is no better way to celebrate the accomplishments of our preschoolers, kindergartners, and 5th graders than to be together in person. Each of our graduates shined. Each ceremony was adorned with music, student speeches, and truly heartfelt teacher sentiments. A tremendous thank you to our custodians and buildings and grounds crews for making each of these ceremonies possible. Congratulations to our grads!"

Lastly, the Warren Middle School class of 2021 celebrated their graduation from eighth grade surrounded by their family, friends, teachers, administrators, and Board of Education members. Board President, Mr. Marc Franco, congratulated each member of the graduating class while handing the students their diplomas during the ceremony alongside Villar and Mensinger.

"It was a pleasure to look out upon the Warren Middle School graduates on the afternoon of June 16 and see the hopeful faces of our members of the Class of 2021 smiling back. They have endured unexpected challenges and emerged resilient and ready for the future," added Villar.

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Matthew Mingle, also expressed his congratulations to the class of 2021 in his convocation speech during the ceremony. "From that unheralded last day of in-school facility learning for your seventh-grade year through an uncertain summer, an anxious reopening in September, and various iterations of what school looked and felt like throughout this year, you have risen to each new challenge in ways that make us all proud...You, the students of the Warren Middle School class of 2021, have shown resilience and perseverance in ways that we adults could learn much from."

The district wishes all students and their families a safe and happy summer and looks forward to September.



(above) Front row: Riya Ramani, Emma Xu, Malia Lorimor, Samaara Golchha; middle row: Jack Lippman; back row: Joshua Wang, Evan Weiss, Matthew Machado, and Maxwell Silver showing their excitement for the ALT grade 5 moving up ceremony.





(above) Henry McDonald eagerly awaits the Kindergarten celebration at Woodland School.

(above) Mia Murach stops for a quick picture just before her kindergarten graduation ceremony at Woodland School.



(above) ALT staff holding up letters to spell RESILIENCE to describe their students. Pictured are Cheryl Plager, Nancy Andrews, Jessica Bostwick, Tara Lento, Brittney Leonard, Michelle DiPaolo, Liz Bisson, Sue Kline, Beth Figueira, Sherri Strauss and Ahmad Price.







(above) Grade 8 students Theresah Mensah, John Paul Meixedo, and Dylan Mayerchak stand proud in their graduation robes just prior to the ceremony.



(above) Gavin Velazquez and Ethan Hammond take a quick picture prior to their grade 5 Moving Up Ceremony from Mt. Horeb School.



(above) Skylar Arnold is all smiles on Central School Kindergarten Day!

# LIBRARY CELEBRATES BODY POSITIVITY FOR YOUTH AND TEENS

Celebrate yourself through these titles and more with your Library: catalog.sclsnj.org.

According to statistics from the National Organization for Women (NOW), approximately 43 percent of teenagers are "happy with their bodies." In order to encourage children, tweens, and teens to comprehend healthy body images, the Somerset County Library System of New Jersey's (SCLSNJ) continues to expand their collection to include books that foster body positivity through an inclusive, mindfully-curated collection.

"Exploring and discovering our identities is a

## **READ TO A THERAPY DOG**



(above) Read to a Therapy Dog (grades K-4) at SCLSNJ's Warren Township Library branch on August 23, 4:30-5:30 p.m. For more information: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4922790 or call 908-458-8450.

## **DISCOVER HANDCRAFTED HOOKED RUGS**

Explore a collection of handcrafted hooked rugs created by Clinton resident Lucy Walsh in the Art Space at the Somerset County Library System of New Jersey's (SCLSNJ) Warren Township branch. The fiber artist's awardwinning original works have previously been exhibited in museums and galleries across New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

fundamental part of our teenage years," said Jodi Silverman, youth services supervisor. "Through this process, teenagers develop their selfawareness, acceptance, and empathy that affects not only their personal growth, but the way in which they interact with the world around them."

She continued, "When factoring in the negative developmental aspects of social distancing, such as a reliance on social media for modeling and a lack of direct peer support, it is imperative that we provide them with positive psychosocial resources that promote core values, like self-esteem and body acceptance."

Data from the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) shows that 90 percent of teens ages 13-17 have used social media. According to an article from the "Journal of Youth and Adolescence," there is a correlation between social media use and low self-esteem in adolescents

"One of SCLSNJ's core services is making personalized connections between customers and Library materials," said Katie Salerno, youth services librarian. "SCLSNJ has made it a point to be an essential part of the body positive movement through our collections that contain a variety of fiction and nonfiction books that celebrate all body types, in all skin tones, with birth marks, stretch marks, freckles, and more. Body positive books will help children and teens see that they should love themselves and their bodies, so that they can have confidence in who they are and how they look."

Embrace the skin you are in and explore a diverse list of body positivity and acceptance titles available in your Library's catalog:

#### CHILDREN

- "Bodies Are Cool" by Tyler Feder "Love Your Body" by Jessica Sanders
- "Under Our Clothes: Our First Talk About Our Bodies" by Jillian Roberts Middle Grade/Tween
- "Starfish" by Lisa Fipps

- "Body Positive: A Guide to Loving Your Body" by Emily Lauren Dick • "Body Talk: 37 Voices Explore Our Radical Anatomy" edited by Kelly Jensen • "Fat Chance, Charlie Vega" by Crystal Maldonado
- "Here the Whole Time" by Vitor Martins
- "I'll Be the One" by Lyla Lee
- "Love Is a Revolution" by Renée Watson
- "The (Other) F Word: A Celebration of the Fat & Fierce" edited by Angie Manfredi • "Pumpkin" by Julie Murphy
- "The Self-Love Revolution: Radical Body
- Positivity for Girls of Color" by Virgie Tovar • "Smash It!" by Francina Simone

"A movement toward body acceptance is now taking place in children and teen literature," said Laura Frantz, collection development librarian. "Many authors are sharing their own first-hand experiences in fictionalized and true stories. It is vital our communities continue to see and discover books that celebrate inclusivity and positivity."

WANTED TO BUY **COMIC BOOKS 1940'S TO PRESENT DAY 1 ITEM OR AN ENTIRE ESTATE** ASK FOR MIKE 908-303-3749





(above) Walsh posing in front of the cabinet *display. The collection will be available for the* public to observe during regular hours of operation until July 31. For artists interested in sharing their works of art, or for more information contact Kathy DeCristofaro at kdecristofaro@sclibnj.org.



TEENS

# **AUGUST EVENTS WITH SCLSNJ'S WARREN TOWNSHIP LIBRARY BRANCH**

42 Mountain Boulevard, Warren Township, 07059 | 908-754-5554 | SCLSNJ.org Program dates and times are subject to change. All programs are free and registration is required unless otherwise indicated. Visit SCLSNJ.org or call the Library for more information and to register.

SPECIAL OUTDOOR PROGRAMS

Outdoor Summer Concert -Vinyl Traction (all ages) August 7, 6-7 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4923084.

Read to a Therapy Dog (grades K-4) August 23, 4:30-5:30 p.m. For more information: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4922790 or call 908-458-8450.

Outdoor Family Storytime (families with children)

August 30, 10-10:30 a.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4930960.

## VIRTUAL PROGRAMS - ALL AGES Butterfly Program

August 12, 2-2:45 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4929625.

**The Zanimal Show** August 18, 2-2:45 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4889869.

## VIRTUAL PROGRAMS -CHILDREN, TWEENS, AND TEENS Toddler/Preschool Storytime

(ages 18 months - 5 years and caregivers) Register now:

> August 2, 10-10:30 a.m. sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4903455. August 4, 10-10:30 a.m. sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4858355. August 6, 10:30-11 a.m.: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4928464. August 25, 10-10:30 a.m. sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4858383.

Mythological Mondays Unicorn Rescue Society (grades 2-4) August 2, 2-2:45 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4914495.

Minotaur, Sphinx, and Cyclops, Oh My! (grades 3-5) August 9, 2-2:45 p.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4914659. LEAD - Leadership Exploration and

Development Club (grades 6-9)

August 4, 2-3 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4911071. Explore Art -Create Your Own Paint By Numbers (grades 1-5)

August 4, 3-4 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4908363. Understanding the College Essay (grades 9-12) August 4, 5-6 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4910237. Family Storytime (families with children) Register now:

August 4, 6:30-7 p.m. sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4927690.

August 10, 10-10:30 a.m. sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4929387. August 11, 7-7:30 p.m. sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4914535. Meet the Author - Sharee Miller (grades K-4)

August 6, 3-4:15 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4882970. Bilingual English/Spanish Storytime (ages 3-7 years and caregivers)

August 10, 5:30-6:15 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4847343.

## STEAM

The Night Sky (grades K-5) August 11, 4-5 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4898157. Insect Symmetry (grades 1-4) August 16, 4-4:45 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4858209. Elephant and Piggie -Animal BFFs (grades K-2) August 13, 11-11:30 a.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4929627. Programa de STEM en Español -STEM Program in Spanish (grades 2-4) August 14, 2-2:30 p.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4900578. **Mythological Monster Mondays (grades 6-12)** *August 16, 4-5 p.m.* 

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4824208. **Panchatantra Stories (families with children)** August 17, 3-3:30 p.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4906773. Art Workshop - Facial Expressions

**(grades 6-12)** August 18, 5-6:30 p.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4910254. Dash's 5th Birthday Party (ages 3-6)

August 19, 10:30-11:15 a.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4847399. Family Night - Bottle Cap Bugs

(families with children) August 19, 7-7:45 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4914614. Music and Movement With Miss Linda (ages 3-6 and caregivers) August 20, 10:30-11 a.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4850086.

Virtual Scavenger Hunt (grades 6-12) August 25, 4-4:45 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4910265.

## **VIRTUAL PROGRAMS - ADULTS**

Meet the Author - Paul B. Skousen August 2, 7-8 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4888391. Joseph A. Grabas August 19, 7-8 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4898538. All About Animals August 3, 3-4 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4908103. The Story of Flounder Brewing -Presented by Jeremy "Flounder" Lees August 3, 7-8 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4898475.

**Unblock Your Writer's Block** August 4, 6-7 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4931222. Shades of Blue -**Diving the Central Atolls of the Maldives** August 4, 7-8:30 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4894881. **The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire Archives** August 5, 7-8 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4899158. **Shipwrecked - Presented by Museum of Early Trades and Crafts** August 9, 7-8 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4898520. What's Next for Human Space Travel? - Presented by Paul Cirillo August 10, 7-8 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4894898. **The Food Mood Connection** - Presented by Wendy Bonilla August 11, 7-8 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4904440. **Virtual Book Discussion Salon - Traditionally** hosted at the Watchung branch "This Tender Land" by William Kent Krueger August 12, 6:30-7:45 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4925917. **America's National Parks -**Presented by Mary Rasa August 13, 2-3 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4922851. The History of the United States Postal Service August 16, 7-8 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4898533. **Inventing Film - The Clergyman, the Capitalist** and the Tragic Birth of Modern Cinema August 17, 7-8 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4894916. The S.S. United States -**Fastest Ship in the World** August 18, 7-8 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4894966. Finding Work/Life Balance in 2021 -**Presented by Karen Sammer** August 23, 7-8 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4898407. **Betty Crocker - And Her Cookbook That Changed How America Cooks** August 24, 7-8 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4894969. **Unexpected Beauty in Troubled Times -Presented by David Anderson Ward** August 27, 2-3 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4905010. **Amazing New Jersey -People and Places of the Garden State** August 25, 7-8 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4895031. **Going Against the Archival Grain -Pop Culture Archives** August 30, 7-8 p.m. Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4924065.

# Marketing Toolbox

Renna Media offers a full range of marketing services, in print and online, hyperlocal to regional, for every budget and market size.

## **NEWSPAPER ADVERTS**

We mail 135,000 newspapers to every home and business in 21 towns. You can advertise in any number of towns. Ads start at \$60.

## **FULL COLOR PRINTING**

We print flyers and menus, full color, two sided, on coated stock for only \$35 per thousand.

## **DIRECT MAIL**

Insert your flyer into the newspapers and get it mailed to every home and business for \$60 per thousand and as low as \$30 per thousand for higher quantities.

## **ONLINE MARKETING**

Online ads and press releases designed and placed to drive traffic to your website and get your phone ringing.

# SOCIAL MEDIA

We can design and/or manage your social media campaign from passive to aggressive plans customized to work within your budget.

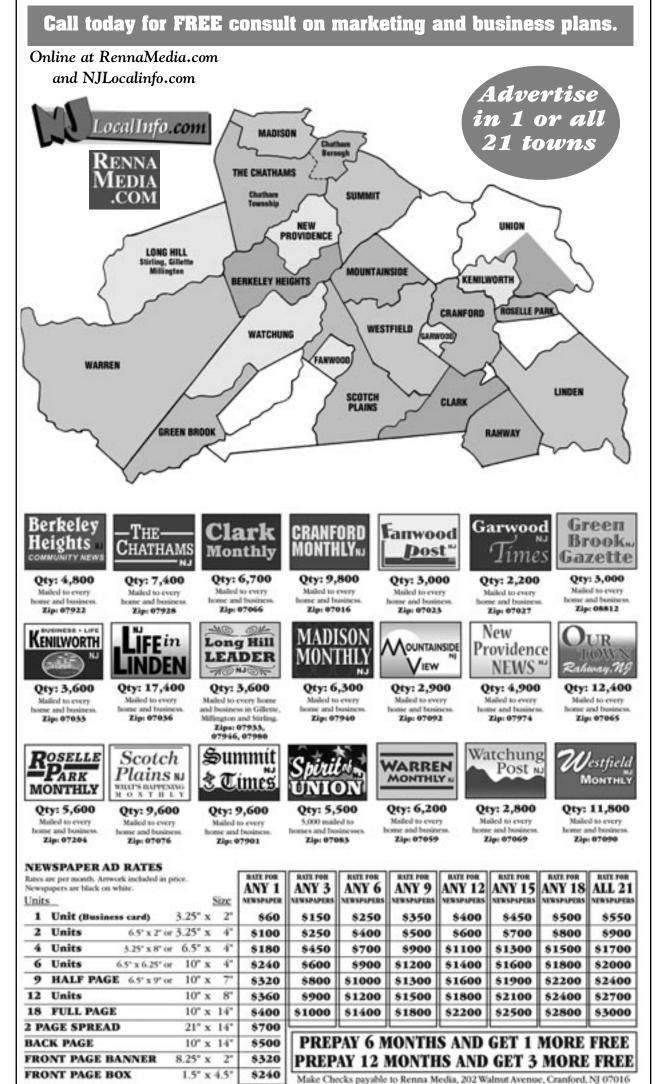
# WEBSITE AND SEO SERVICES

Start with an audit/analysis of your website giving you a report and recommendations for \$250.

It is highly recommended to have a marketing plan and budget before spending.

# CALL JOE RENNA FOR A FREE CONSULTATION. 908-447-1295

## RENNA MEDIA NEWSPAPER RATE SHEET WE MAIL 135,000 NEWSPAPERS MONTHLY! Tina Renna 908-418-5586 • tinarenna@rennamedia.com Joe Renna 908-447-1295 • joerenna@rennamedia.com 202 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ 07016



Back cover, front page banner and front box reserved on first come, first served basis. Current advertiser has right of first refusal.

# **DONATE BLOOD LOCALLY DURING EMERGENCY BLOOD SHORTAGE**

Every day, patients rely on blood transfusions and the transfusion of red blood cells, platelets and plasma to stay alive. But blood and blood products cannot be manufactured; they can only come from volunteer donors.

Blood products also typically have a short shelf life - ranging from five to 42 days, so constant replenishment is needed.

There remains an emergency blood shortage due to the coronavirus pandemic, which has limited the amount of walk-in community blood drives at such convenient locations as schools, libraries and houses of worship.

New Jersey Blood Services (2279 South Ave., Scotch Plains), a division of New York Blood Center, is part of one of the largest independent, community-based, non-profit blood centers in the United States that provides lifesaving blood products and services to nearly 200 hospitals in the tri-state area.

In order to be an eligible donor, you must be at least 16 years old (with parental permission or consent for those under 18 years of age), who weigh a minimum of 110 pounds, are in good health and meet all FDA and state Department of Health donor criteria. People over 75 years old may donate with a doctor's note.

To donate call (908) 232-9234, or schedule online: donate.nybc.org/donor/schedules/zip



(above) To learn more about New Jersey Blood Services visit the Scotch Plains Township channel on Youtube to view "Business of the Week: New Jersey Blood Services".







#### **ONLINE ADS & PRESS RELEASES** SCREEN REPAIR \$20 **DRIVE LOCAL TRAFFIC TO YOUR WEBSITE** PER POST **Fiberglass Screens for your GET UNLIMITED CLICKS** Joe Renna at 908-447-1295 An alternative to expensive pay-per-click programs **Block of 20** email: JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com Windows and Patio Doors • FREE AD DESIGN AND COPYWRITING Advertising webpage includes many features for \$200 including write-up, images, video, Google map, etc. Pick-up and delivery available • POSTS ARE SHARED THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA Posts shared on multiple Facebook pages and twitter. • GEORGE & SONS • • PAID SEARCH ENGINE PROMOTIONS Posts are promoted by industry, key words and location. LocalInfo.con 908-392-2677 (call/text) • TRACKABLE RESULTS All ads include a live view counter. WEBSITE AUDIT/ANALYSIS Video Tape Transfers DVD & FlashDuplication • High Speed Photo & Slide Scanning **ONE TIME** AND RECOMMENDATION PLAN FLAT FEE VIDEO DATA SERVICES \$250 • SEE WHAT IS WORKING AND NOT WORKING Know where your web traffic is coming from and why. • ELIMINATE / AVOID COSTLY SCHEMES Call for a consultation www.vdsnj.com Evaluate the return you are getting from your online marketing costs. if you do not have a website facebook.com/vdsnj INCREASE ONLINE MARKETING RESULTS or if need a new one. Recommendations include ways to increase traffic to your website email: ira@vdsnj.com NO OBLIGATION 908-964-4004 Joe Renna at 908-447-1295 This service is recommended even if you have an existing 406 Chestnut St. • Union, NJ 07083 web management contract. Use it to tune up your marketing plan. email: JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com **/EBSITE / SEO SERVICES STARTER** STARTER WEBSITE: \$500 WEBSITE Basic static site that can be developed further HOUSES 4 CASH.com • WEBSITE CREATION/UPDATE: \$2.400 \$500 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 973.558.8287

• 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.

Joe Renna at 908-447-1295 email: JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com



# Featuring Communities from Top Destinations -NC, SC, FL, TN and more.

## At the Show You Can...

- Compare many best places to relocate, vacation or retire in one convenient location.
- Discover areas that afford a high quality of life, yet very low taxes.
- Talk personally with relocation experts and home builders.
- View exhibits, explore dozens of lifestyle communities, and a myraid of amenities available including:

INVITATIO

- Fitness & Wellness Centers
- Walking & Biking Trails
- Golf, Tennis & Pickleball
- Fine Dining & Shopping
- Boating & Kayaking

Discover your options and find your ideal place to live!

Precautions are being taken by the hotel and the show host to minimize health risks as a result of COVID-19. CDC, state and local guidance have been considered to ensure health, safety and comfort. Please refer to the COVID-19 Safety Notice online when you RSVP.

relocation guide at the Show. **RSVP IS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED.** 

Receive your complimentary

RM1

ideal-LIVING REAL ESTATE SHOW September 11-12, 2021

**Helping Thousands Each Year** Find Their Ideal Destination, Life and Home Saturday, 10am - 5pm & Sunday, 11am - 3pm

#### HANOVER MARRIOTT 1401 Route 10 E, Whippany, NJ

RSVP for Welcome Kit and Show Pass. You will receive a confirmation email with a Show Pass when you RSVP, which you'll need to bring with you to check-in. You will also use the Show Pass throughout the event to request information from exhibitors. ideal-living.com/RM

RSVP Today to Receive Your Welcome Kit at the Show! - ideal-living.com/RM