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Published by Renna Media

Issue 48 • December 2021



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EMERGENCY SQUAD'S 17TH ANNUAL "SNOW VILLAGE"

Free, Family Fun – A Delight for Kids of All Ages

It's the most wonderful time of the year - the Chatham Emergency Squad proudly presents the 17th annual Winter Wonderland / "Snow Village" taking place throughout the month of December at its Chatham Borough building, located at 31 North Passaic Avenue.

The impressive display features more than 100 Department 56 model houses, cars and figurines with a working ski lift, ice skating rink and more, set amidst the backdrop of a snow-filled winter wonderland and a model train running through the center of town. Children of all ages are invited to see the exhibit for themselves and find hidden treasures among the exhibition during the numerous open houses held at the Squad building.

This year is particularly exciting since the exhibit was disassembled and packed into multiple cartons when it became clear that COVID would prevent a 2020 show. Despite the thousands of parts, a team of five volunteers, including several members of the all-volunteer Chatham Squad, working over multiple weekends, were able to recreate the magic of the experience. "We're excited to continue this annual holiday tradition which has helped spread holiday cheer to, quite literally, a generation of Chatham residents," said Bryan McGookin, an active member of the Squad who has carefully maintained the private collection, which remains on loan by Mark Spinner (Spinner retired in 2018 after 40 years of service and relocated to another community). "Much like the arrival of Santa himself, the Chatham Emergency Squad "Snow Village" has become a fixture of our community, signaling the arrival of the holiday season throughout Chatham," added McGookin.



The Winter Wonderland / Snow Village will be open from 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. every Saturday in December except Christmas Day; and from 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. each Sunday in December. In addition, open houses will be held from 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. on December 8th, 16th, 24th and 27th. The full schedule is available at chathamemergencysquad.org. The Squad is happy to consider special times and group tours if staffing is available. These can be arranged by submitting a request through the website.

The Chatham Emergency Squad is an all-volunteer organization funded almost exclusively by donations. The Squad never charges for its services. They have responded to nearly 1,100 emergency calls so far in 2021 and have continued to provide free training in CPR to teachers, coaches and emergency personnel despite COVID restrictions on class size. To learn more, to donate or to volunteer, please visit chathamemergencysquad.org.

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTEN CHRISTMAS TREE SALE

The Chatham Volunteer Fire Department (CTVFD) annual Christmas tree sale is on-going at the CTVFD headquarters at 495 River Road. The tree sale is open Monday-Friday 6 - 9 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Something new! We will have food available. You can get a tree and each lunch or dinner at the same time.

You can buy a Christmas tree, eat, meet local volunteers,

and support the fire department when you stop by the tree sale and purchase a tree, garland, or a wreath. It's a great way to support your first responders and celebrate the holidays.

If you have any questions regarding tree sale operations or if you are interested in volunteering or other ways of donating, please email the CTVFD at info@ctfd.org.

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FIRST DAY WALK FOR OPEN SPACE

THE CHATHAMS N.J.

Renna Media LLC, Publishers

202 Walnut Ave., Cranford, NJ 07016

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Do you have a community service that you need help publicizing? Did you or someone you know accomplish something amazing? We are interested in hearing about your latest achievement (accomplishment, honor, award, etc.). Then send us your news!

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The Chathams

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A healthy, happy way to start the year! BSA Troop 280 will hold its third annual First Day Walk for Open Space on New Year's Day, 2022 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Join whenever convenient for you during that time. The 2.5-mile walk starts and finishes at the Loantaka Way parking lot in Chatham ("195-215 Loantaka Way, Madison" on Google Maps), the entrance to Loantaka Brook Reservation. Pets are welcome!

Your \$10 contribution per person will fund BSA outdoor stewardship projects in our immediate area, and each contributor will receive a handsome commemorative pin. In the

past year, Scouts used the funds to plant native trees on public land, build boardwalks over muddy sections of three trails, purchase trail-markers for a brand new trail, and more.

To purchase tickets or donate to local open space stewardship, go to: www.eventbrite.com/e/first-day-walk-new-years-day-tickets-204064070127.

You can also visit our Facebook page: First Day Walk - New Year's Day.

First Day Walk is a service project of BSA Troop 280, a troop of 40 girls in Chatham and surrounding towns.



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U.S. News

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Nathan Weiser

★★★★★

Spring Grove is by far the best rehab center I have ever been to. The staff are kind and caring and have gone above and beyond my expectations. The building is kept extremely clean and the new renovations are very nice.

Thank you Spring Grove for a wonderful and pleasant stay.



Charles Sherrick

★★★★★

I have been at Spring Grove for a few weeks now, they have exceptional service and excellent staff. All the nurses have been professional and attentive to all my needs. I never thought a rehab center can have such a beautiful layout and well put together. The newly renovated room I have stayed in, is up to date and extremely clean. The therapy staff have gone above my expectations with their expertise and getting me to where I am today. Alyssa the social worker has gone above and beyond with all her assignments.

Thank you Spring Grove.



Chrissy Sloan

★★★★★


The nursing staff and administration is professional, patient, attentive and understanding. The facilities are very clean and well maintained. My parents room is always clean and tidy. Although it was a difficult decision to make relocating my folks from a home environment to a senior living facility, Spring Grove made my decision easy.

Thank God for them!

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(above) Maia Kumari, artist and Reiki Master

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WINTER ART SHOW, RECEPTION, AND BOUTIQUE

Art League of the Chathams

The Art League of the Chathams welcomes you to the Winter Art Show, Reception, and Boutique on Sunday December 12th, from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Member artists will exhibit their work in the strolling gallery of the Chatham Twp. Municipal Building, which is located at 58 Meyersville Road, Chatham, NJ.

Included at the reception is a boutique featuring various types of artwork from the talented artists. Items include, but not limited to, note cards, pottery, small artwork, published books for adults and children, jewelry, as well as other items that make lovely gifts for friends, loved ones or oneself.

The featured solo artist, Maia Kumari, lives in Chatham. Her show entitled, “Moving Light”, will appear in the Lundt-Glover Gallery.

Maia is an architect, artist, and published author. She is also a practicing Reiki Master and infuses all of her abstract, mixed media art with that energy flow. Trained in the formal structures of architectural drawing, she branched out into abstract art several years ago. She often brings a layer of geometry into the early parts of her creative process. While the mathematics and harmony might not be visible in the final result,

they are fully embedded in her art.

Her exhibit will include approximately 60 mixed media pieces, some on stretched canvases, some framed, but all wired for hanging per Lundt-Glover Gallery standards — sizes vary from 9”x12” to 36”x36”.

The Winter Show Reception is free and open to the public. Individually packaged snacks and drinks will be available and COVID restrictions will prevail. For more information, visit the website, artleagueofthechathams.org, or call 973-635-0845.



(above) Maia Kumari's art piece, titled “Bird Call-1”, mixed media

CUB SCOUTS AND SCOUTS BSA STAYING ACTIVE

Wintertime does not stop Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA and Venturers from having fun!

Firstly, Cub Scouts are for boys and girls in grades K-5. Even though boys and girls are in the same pack, dens are all-boy or all-girl. Dens are small groups of Cubs who are in the same grade and the Scouts continuously meet with their own dens. For the annual Pinewood Derby, the Cubs met with their entire pack, which are all the dens coming together, and built their own cars!

In addition, Scouts BSA are for boys and girls ages 11-18, however, troops are boy-only or girl-only. Scouts BSA meet weekly to learn new

skills as well as go camping throughout the year. Most of our troops will compete in the Klondike Derby on February 5th, where teams of Scouts pull a sled around Camp Somers in Stanhope, NJ. The sleds visit different stations where Scouts are tested on skills, such as, fire building, first aid, wilderness survival, orienteering, etc.

Finally, Venturers are ages 14-20. Venture crews have fun throughout the year with activities that the Venturers choose for themselves.

To find the pack or troop nearest you, please contact al.thomas@scouting.org; 973-765-9322, extension, 229.



(above) Cub Scouts building their cars for the Pinewood Derby!



(above) A couple of Scouts learning important skills!

OUTDOOR CHRISTMAS PAGEANT WITH LIVE ANIMALS – DEC.19TH

Bring the whole family to an unique Christmas Pageant in Chatham Township this year. Positioned side-by-side on Southern Boulevard, the Presbyterian Church of Chatham Township (PCCT) and Corpus Christi Roman Catholic Church are joining together to present an outdoor Christmas pageant on their front lawns. Children from both churches will be presenting the Christmas story.

The pageant will take place from 4:30 to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 19th, starting on the front lawn “shepherd’s hills” of the Presbyterian Church, located at 240 Southern Blvd, and will conclude at a Nativity scene with bell-ringing and carols at Corpus Christi, located at 234 Southern Blvd. Costumed children will play the roles of Mary, Joseph, the innkeeper, shepherds, and a narrator. Trained animal handlers from Swift Farms Animal Zoo of Milford, NJ, also in costume, will shepherd their barnyard creatures for the gathering.

“We are delighted to invite the whole

community to join our two church families in celebrating the joy of Christ’s birth,” said The Reverend Dr. Ellen C. Clémot, Senior Pastor of PCCT. “We hope children and adults of all ages will find this a heart-warming and memorable event.”

“We are excited to join in celebrating the birth of our Lord. We hope that many will come to share in the joy, hope, and healing of this season,” added Father Kevin Corcoran, Pastor of Corpus Christi.

The pageant will also feature musical selections, where everyone attending is encouraged to raise their voices in singing popular Christmas carols.

All in the community are welcome. Attendees should park in either the church’s parking lot or behind their buildings before 4:30 p.m. to allow enough time before the pageant begins. At the event’s conclusion, everyone is invited to enjoy hot chocolate and cookies in Corpus Christi’s church lobby.

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

The Friends of The Library of the Chathams

Get into the spirit with a visit to The Friends of The Library of the Chathams’ fabulous Holiday Boutique – Friday, Dec. 3, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 4, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 5 from 2 to 4 p.m.

There will be a large selection of beautiful children’s and adult “gift-able” books with holiday themes, best sellers, DVDs (many brand new), CDs and puzzles and games for all ages.

The sale will be held in a large meeting room in the basement of the library for your safe and comfortable shopping experience. Masks will be required. The sale is made possible by the Friends of the Library of the Chathams and the many generous donations from the Chatham community.

Come browse and buy something special for your special people. It is sure to get you into the holiday spirit of the season.

ST. PHILOMENA'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2021

3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

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In person: \$75, \$50 & \$25
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Sponsorships are also available, with a variety of amenities, for \$1,500, \$1,000, \$500.

To purchase tickets or sponsorships, scan the QR code or visit xmasconcert21.givesmart.com

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IS IT REALLY POSSIBLE FOR A KID TO LEARN HOW TO RUN FASTER?

Retired San Francisco 49ers QB Joe Montana, is arguably one of the greatest NFL players that has ever played football...when his son started playing football it would have made sense for him to help his son learn how to play Quarterback.

But that's not how it went. Joe Montana had to hire a quarterback coach to help his son be a better football player. Here's possibly the greatest NFL QB of all time, needing to hire someone else to help his son. It was not that Joe Montana was not equipped for the job...it was that his son needed a second voice to help him get to the next level.

Many parents who have much less knowledge, experience, and skills than Joe Montana are in the same boat in regards to helping their kids get stronger, faster, and more confident.

Most parents we've come across want their kids to eat healthier, be more active, and have a stronger mindset. But many have told us they need help.

Even with the constant reminders of telling their kids to eat more vegetables, get outside instead of watching TV, practice their sport more, get to bed earlier...they find that sometimes the message falls on deaf ears...and some backup would be helpful toward their vision of helping their kid be the best they can be.

Parents have told us that having us(the Grit Athlete Performance Coaches) as a second voice to help reinforce the habits they want for their kids...is changing the game.

Further...Our Grit Athlete Founder has over 20 years experience with training athletes himself...and certainly knows a LOT more about getting stronger and faster than the average parent...But has all 3 of his children(9,8 and 6) enrolled in Grit year round....because he knows the power of that second voice.

And after they come through our program, parents tell how it's turbocharging their parenting. Here are some real-life examples that have been reported...

Before, parents struggled with getting kids to eat vegetables...now their kids are asking for more.

Before, parents struggled with getting their kids to get enough sleep....now their kids are getting to bed earlier on their own.

Before, parents struggled with getting their kids to watch less TV or play video games...now they are limiting these activities because they've learned they don't really help them become better athletes.

Before, parents struggled with helping their kids have more confidence...now their kids are doing things out of their comfort zone more often which is helping them believe in themselves which further improves self-esteem.

Before, parents had no clue how to help their kid get faster...now they are faster because they've learned that speed is a skill, and a few simple tweaks can make a kid faster immediately.

Before, parents could not get their kids to make their beds...now their kid makes their

bed each morning on their own because they learned that making their bed in the morning helps them have a better day.

Before, parents struggled with getting their kids to do even one good push-up...now they catch them in their room practicing on their own.

Before, parents wanted their kids to have more determination and grit when training new things...now they are staying calm under pressure and seeking out challenges instead of avoiding them.

Many times it's not about telling your kid to eat more vegetables or stop watching TV...but rather finding the right environment for them to be more successful.

Right in your backyard, there's a team of great coaches waiting to be second voices for your kids...so that all the things you're teaching as parents will be reinforced. But most importantly, the results you're after for your kids will actually become a reality. The Grit Athlete winter Sports Performance session starts on December 13th in Berkeley Heights NJ, visit www.gritathletes.com to fill out an application for your child.

Grit Athlete Performance is a Sports Performance Training Company located in Berkeley Heights that helps kids ages 6-18 get strong, fast, and confident so they can have a bigger and better future. They have just released the dates for their winter program that starts on December 3rd. Visit www.gritathletes.com to register for their winter session...or see below for more details...

SPORTS PERFORMANCE TRAINING FOR KIDS AGES 6-18 STARTS DECEMBER 13 (17 SPACES REMAINING)

APPLY NOW

STEP 1

Scan This QR Code



STEP 2

Enter Your Info When You Get To This Page



STEP 3

Coach Mike will call you and set you up



Warning: The Winter session is the most popular session of the year and always sells out before it starts. We strongly encourage you to scan the QR code today and enter your information to make sure your child doesn't get locked out of the winter session.

Attention Parents of Kids Ages 6-18

UPDATE: THE GRIT ATHLETE PERFORMANCE WINTER PROGRAM HAS ONLY 17 SPACES REMAINING

Give us 12 weeks with your kids and we'll have them stronger, faster, and more confident...guaranteed.

Here's what parents can expect to happen:

- **They will get stronger** which means when they show up to their sport they'll be able to perform better than ever.
- **They will run faster and jump higher** so they can show up to their next season and people will start asking what the heck have they been doing.
- They'll become **more coordinated and improve agility** which means they'll pick up new skills their coaches teach them faster.
- **Your children will start to eat better** because we'll be educating them daily on what's good and what they should avoid ...don't be surprised if they start asking you to buy more vegetables.
- **Confidence will skyrocket.** When kids get stronger, faster and more fit...their confidence will rise...so will their self-esteem which means their performance in every aspect of life will get better.
- **Their mindset will improve.** We're going equip your child with very specific mindset skills that'll help them learn how to transform how they think about mistakes and failures.

HAPPY PARENTS TALKING ABOUT THE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL TRANSFORMATION OF THEIR KIDS...

- "When my son started Grit he was quiet, shy, and had some difficulty with movements...Now he is confident in himself, has become more vocal, and is mastering the exercise he struggled with in the past."

- Jen O'Brien, Grit Athlete Parent

- "My son is more disciplined and confident in himself"

- Steve Hughes, Grit Athlete Parent

- "I have watched my children become more confident and vocal."

- Christine Stramandinoli, Grit Athlete Parent

- "His confidence has shot up in the last few months...and has carried forward to the way he approaches other activities like sports and schoolwork. My son is now making his bed daily and exercising every day."

- Catherine Solfaro, Grit Athlete Parent

STARTS DECEMBER 13TH (Only 17 Spaces Remaining)

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SCOUT EXECUTIVE SPEAKS TO ROTARY CLUB

Submitted by Dr. D. Michael Hart

Marc Andreo, the Scout Executive and CEO of the Patriot's Path Council, Boy Scouts of America spoke to the Rotary Club of Westfield on Tuesday, September 21, 2021. His topic was to update the club on the state of the local Scouting. The pandemic has decreased the scouting program somewhat, but it is still going strong, and they are planning to rebuild it to where it was before the shutdown.

Paul Harris, the man who started Rotary International in 1905, was great friends with James E. West who started the Boy Scouts of America in 1910. Paul gave advice on how to spread the program throughout the US, mirroring the way Rotary clubs were spreading. Both organizations have a lot of similarities, including an ethical code, teaching leadership skills, being community based and service oriented. Rotary clubs currently charter 1,000 scout units across the US.

The Patriot's Path Council, BSA consists of 5 counties in northern New Jersey with more than 10,000 scouts and 4,000 adult volunteers. They are in the counties of Sussex, Morris, Somerset, Union and northern Middlesex. The headquarters in Cedar Knolls has only 25 full-time staff. There are two scout shops one in Cedar Knolls, and one in Mountainside.

The Council offers three Day Camps: at Watchung Reservation; Johnson Park, New Brunswick; and Camp Wheeler at Mt. Allamuchy Scout Reservation. The Council offers four overnight camping opportunities: Winnebago Scout Reservation in Rockaway, NJ; Mt. Allamuchy in Byram Township; Sabattis

Adventure Camp in Long Lake NY, and the four national high adventure bases: The Summit in West Virginia; Northern Tier in Minnesota, Sea Base in the Florida Keys, and Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico.

Recent changes to the Scouts include welcoming girls to the Cub Scout and the legacy Boy Scout programs three years ago. The purpose was to include entire families in the activities. To accommodate this change, the "Boy Scout" program for ages 5th grade through age 18 was renamed the "Scouts BSA". The name of the parent organization remains the Boy Scouts of America. The Cub Scout program is for children from K through 5th grade; Scouts BSA is for children 5th grade through age 18. Other programs have been coed for many decades, including Explorers - who explore career opportunities, Venture Crews - who go on high adventure trips, Sea Scouts who learn mariner skills, and a relatively new program - STEM- in which students explore science related careers. These last four programs welcome boys and girls from ages 14 to 21.

Cub Scout Dens may be all boy and all girl, or

coed. Scouts BSA Troops are either all girl or all boy. This year there are 250,000 young women in the scouts, and 1,000 girls were the first graduating class of female Eagle Scouts. Only 4% of all scouts ever achieve the rank of Eagle, making it a mark of distinction.

The residents of Westfield are enthusiastic supporters of Scouting. There are 12 units: 7 Cub Scout Packs and 5 Scout Troops, with nearly 500 youth, which is double the national average. Last year the Patriots' Path Council recognized 315 Eagle Scouts and Scouts collectively earned more than 6,200 merit badges. The Rotary Club of Westfield has been a long time supporter of the Scouts. Several members are Eagle Scouts, and many of the children of Rotarians are in the Scouting program, and a number have earned the rank of Eagle. The club likes to support Eagle Service projects financially.

Scout Executive Marc Andreo asked the Rotarians to help spread the word about local Scouting. With units and camps open again, they are seeking more youth to join the local programs. Please visit beascout.org to locate a unit near you!



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HELP US FIND MORRIS COUNTY'S PURPLE HEART HEROES

THE CHATHAMS • Page 9 • December 2021

County of Morris

In the final days of the American Revolution, on Aug. 7, 1782, General George Washington established the Badge of Military Merit to, as his general orders stated, "cherish virtuous ambition in his soldiers." It was the birth of what we now call the Purple Heart, presented to military personnel wounded in the line of duty.

Morris County has a rich and storied history of Purple Heart honorees and its historians have joined the mission of the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor in New Windsor, N.Y. to collect, preserve and share the stories of all Purple Heart recipients. The Morris County Office of Planning and Preservation wants to make a full accounting of the local men and women who earned the honor, and the office is interested in any photographs, news accounts or artifacts that help to tell the story of each soldier.

"The Purple Heart Project is another avenue for veterans to get their history out there. We want to include everyone, regardless of the conflict they served in. Veterans' history isn't just national or global history, it is also a personal history of families on a very local level – even gut level. It's important for future generations to

know what their ancestors did. Their bravery and sacrifices should not be forgotten," said Jan Williams, a Cultural and Historic Resources Specialist with the Morris County Office of Planning & Preservation.

The county has a list of more than 350 area veterans who received the Purple Heart, but historians are convinced it is only a fraction of the actual number. Williams also noted that the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor, which operates as a research center and maintains a national database of Purple Heart recipients, also is trying to make a full accounting.

"This Purple Heart database contains service members' names and units, but it has gaps and I hope that families will add this important information to the archives. For researchers and family members, it's difficult to find information sources like this, completely cost free and easily accessed from home," she explained.

Anyone may enroll a Purple Heart recipient with documentation. Go to thepurpleheart.com.

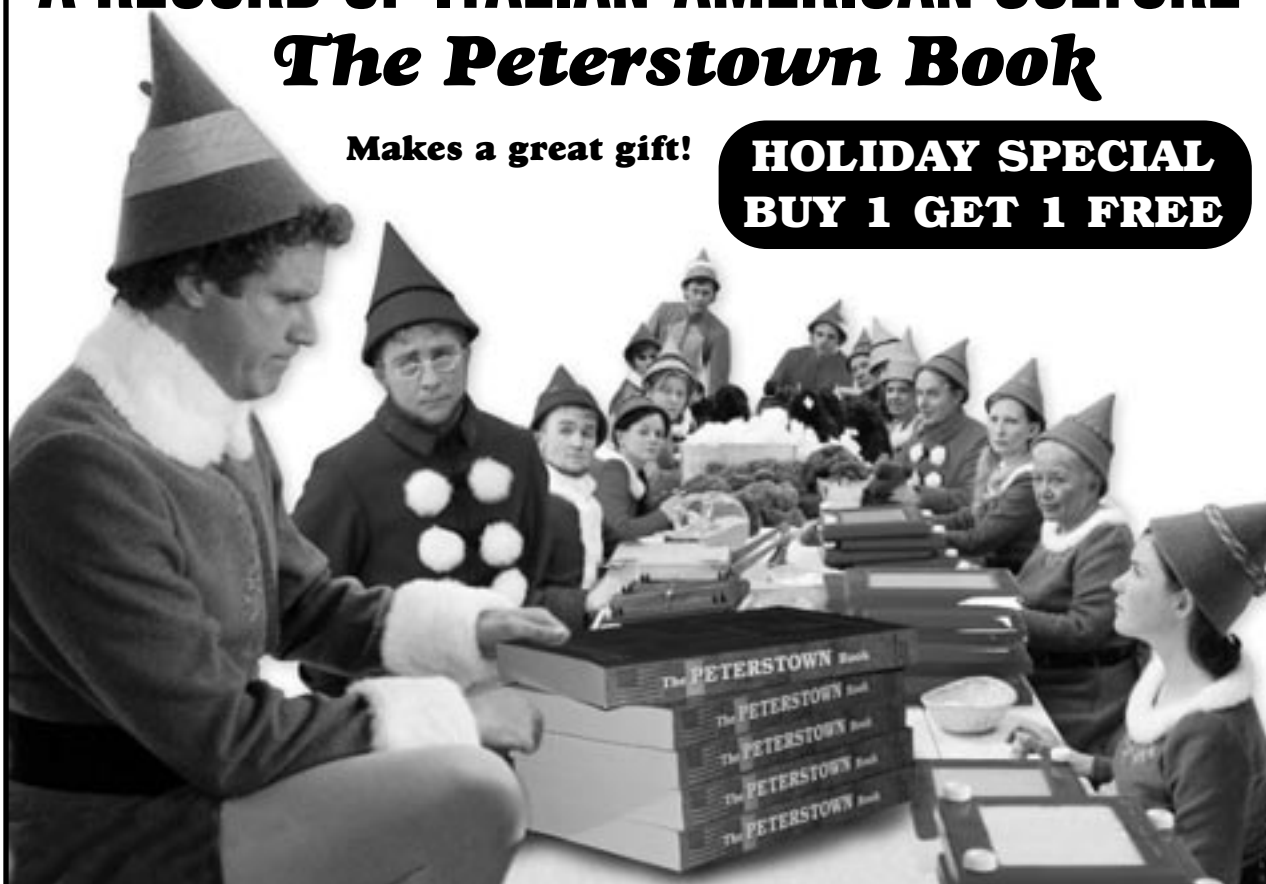
Please contact Jan Williams if you can add to Morris County's accounting of its Purple Heart recipients by emailing her at jwilliams@co.morris.nj.us.

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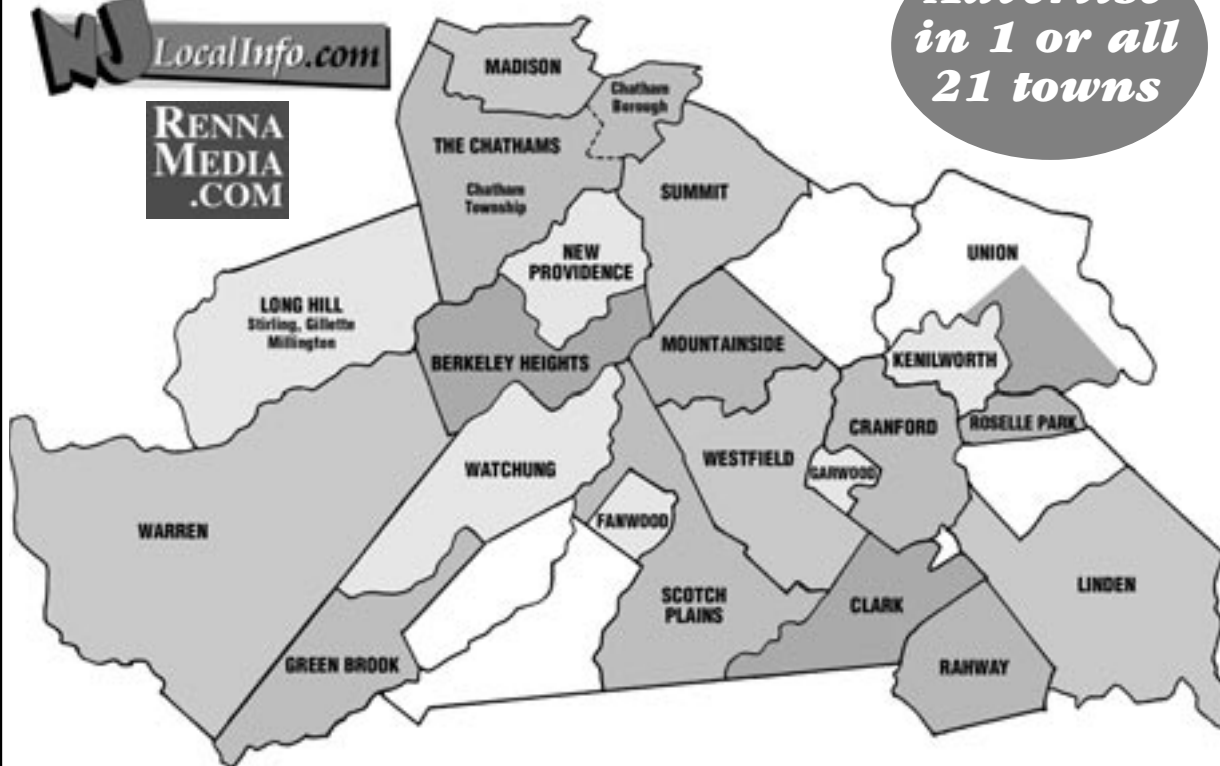
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US SPACE FORCE: GUARDIANS OF THE HIGH FRONTIER

Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program (NJ-102)

As we explore new horizons, the United States expands beyond what is imaginable. With the creation of the US Space Force, the country truly embodies the notion of "reaching for the stars"! On June 29, 2021, Captain "Bud" Jackson Composite Squadron (NJ-102) of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP), an Auxiliary of the United States Air Force, had special guest speakers from the US Space Force - Major Jose Almanzar and Captain Ronald Nguyen. In a virtual meeting of over 110 participants, including visitors from other CAP squadrons, attended and the speakers shared the goal and purpose of this new branch of the military, talked about their jobs, gave advice to the cadets considering the path and much more. There was time for a Q&A session, where the speakers provided valuable information towards a wide range of cadet/senior member questions. Cadets took away extensive information to inspire them about this new

exciting path of space research and operations.

Headquartered at the Pentagon, the US Space Force is an independent branch of the military that was carved out of the Air Force in December 2019. With their Command motto as "Guardians of the High Frontier", the US Space Force is considered a critical asset, impacting everyday life. Although it is currently the smallest of the US armed services, the Space Force is responsible for operating and defending military satellites and ground stations and supports communication and navigation on Earth. It provides a much needed position of strength, especially technology-wise, for protecting US interests in space or going on offense, if needed, in the future. Civilian life cannot survive without our space capabilities. Our military based missions are now largely supported by space operations. Additionally, as space tourism is about to lift off in the coming years, the US will have a growing space community.

As an empowerment message to the young cadets, Maj Almanzar and Capt Nguyen talked about the Space Force's need for bold and diverse leaders with new ideas. They stressed the importance of being exposed to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) experiences and education early on - "Always take advantage of opportunities presented to you and explore the growing areas of the Space Force."

The Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Cadet Program is open to all Middle School and High School students from ages 12 to 18. For more information about C.A.P., please contact the NJ-102 Squadron Commander, Captain Jose Vergara, at jose.vergara@njwg.cap.gov, or the NJ-102 Squadron Recruiting Officer, 1st Lt Josline Pinto, at josline.pinto@njwg.cap.gov. Visit the CAP National webpage at gocivilairpatrol.com or the NJ-102 squadron website at nj102.cap.gov. Also, be sure to check out the NJ-102 Squadron's Facebook page at facebook.com/NJ102/.

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