# Watchung Post

Watchung's Hometown Newspaper

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#### **VERA STINE - GOOD SCOUT OF THE YEAR**

Long time Watchung resident and volunteer, Vera Stine was honored by the Patriots Path Council of the Boy Scouts of America on September 29, 2021. She was presented with their Good Scout of the Year Award.

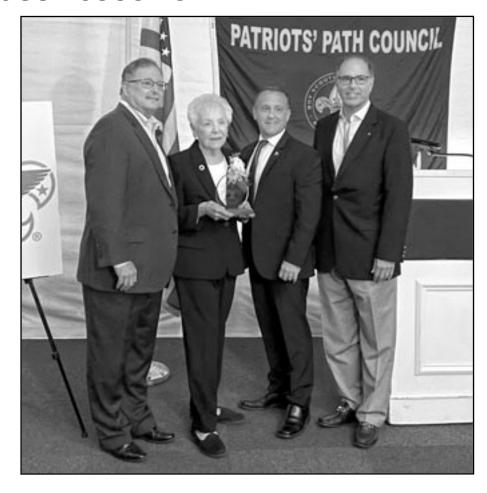
Peter Marino introduced Vera. The below is an excerpt of his comments.

Vera was born on March 26, 1940 and grew up in Linden. She married the love of her life, Pete in 1964 and moved to North Plainfield. There she tried to join the North Plainfield Rescue Squad but she only had time to ride at night because she worked at PSE&G during the day. She was told "women were not allowed to drive on the rescue squad at night because it was too dangerous," so there was no way for her to participate. But that didn't deter her will to serve the community.

Vera joined the Watchung Rescue Squad in December of 1967 as a full member and served on the Wednesday night crew. This was the start of her long public service career. She served on many committees on the squad, from the communications committee to the new ambulance purchase committee. Vera was always totally involved with helping on the squad. She went on to be an EMT instructor for Union County and began her rise through the ranks within the department, serving as crew chief, sergeant, lieutenant, and finally served as the first female captain of the Watchung Rescue Squad in 1977. Her service continued until 1999.

Vera and Pete moved to Watchung in 1975, there they introduced their two sons, Walter and Roger, to what was then called The Indian Guides, which was a family-oriented precursor to Scouting. When Mr. Dick Wellbrock took over as Scout Master, Pete Stine became the Cub Scout Master for the troop. Vera assisted in many of the activities, including training the scouts in first aid and CPR. She frequently supplied the food and materials needed for all the camping trips and projects, not an easy job and I'm sure many of you can relate to that.

Even after their son Roger received his Eagle Scout Award in 1988, Vera and Pete stayed on to assist in the local scouting program until 1995.



(above, l-r) Wayne Hanlon (co-chair of event), Vera Stine,
Pete Martino (presenter of award),
and Lawrence Najarian MD (co-chair of event).

Courtesy Photo

She went on to work at the Greenbrook Board of Education in 1983, where she is still employed and serving the children of the community.

Obviously, this is the story of a lifelong dedication to service, and those who know Vera, also know that it is a story of consistently having a positive outlook, despite facing some of life's most difficult ordeals. The loss of beloved family members, her son Walter in 2007, her mom Marion Wright in 2009, and her beloved Pete in 2010. Vera is also a 2 year survivor of Pancreatic Cancer. Even with that adversity, she is truly a role model for carrying on and making a difference in people's lives.

Most remarkably, even with all she has done for family, friends, neighbors, and community, even with all the ups and downs in her life, Vera always makes time to sit with me and discuss matters affecting our town. We have covered so many topics, from geese to trees, to traffic and beautification, and, of course, the always important public health and safety. Vera is still striving to help keep Watchung's quality of life a priority.



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## Watchung Post

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#### **SEND US YOUR NEWS**

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.), send us your news!

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#### **UMAINE BROADENS HORIZONS FOR LAUREN BABB**

Lauren Babb, a native of Watchung who attends the University of Maine, found new experiences — both academic and personal — and opportunities to meet people who inspired her.

Babb, a chemistry master's student, began her graduate studies at UMaine in the fall 2019. She has been involved in research to create renewable fuel from biomass and study the capture of fluorinated contaminants in water. The Journal of Chemical Education recently published a paper she co-authored detailing a Chemistry and Racism course she co-taught at her alma mater, Barnard College. She also co-created and co-instructed a course called Black Feminist Theory and Expression at UMaine.

As an activist and writer, Babb, an Indo-Caribbean student raised in Watchung, New Jersey, collaborated with members of the Penobscot Nation, and learned more about environmental racism. She also discovered a passion for downhill skiing.

"UMaine has shown me that I am a force and that I have skills that I never believed I had within me," she says.

About the University of Maine: The University of Maine, founded in Orono in 1865, is the state's land grant, sea grant and space grant university, with a regional campus at the University of Maine at Machias. UMaine is located on Marsh Island in the homeland of the Penobscot Nation. UMaine Machias is located in the homeland of the Passamaquoddy Nation. As Maine's flagship public university, UMaine has a statewide



(above) Lauren Babb

mission of teaching, research and economic development, and community service. UMaine is the state's only public research university and among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast. It attracts students from all 50 states and 81 countries. UMaine currently enrolls 11,989 undergraduate and graduate students, and UMaine Machias enrolls 747 undergraduates. Our students have opportunities to participate in groundbreaking research with world-class scholars. UMaine offers more than 100 degree programs through which students can earn master's, doctoral or professional science master's degrees, as well as graduate certificates. UMaine Machias offers 18 degree programs. The university promotes environmental stewardship, with substantial efforts campuswide to conserve energy, recycle and adhere to green building standards in new construction. For more information about UMaine and UMaine Machias, visit umaine.edu and machias.edu.

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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.



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.



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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#### **LEONARD J. BUCK GARDEN HOSTS FREE ART & PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT**

The Leonard J. Buck Garden is hosting a free art and photography exhibit featuring naturalistic artwork by talented local artists. The exhibit includes scenic paintings, photography, and drawings that capture the seasonal beauty of the garden. Visitors and naturists will appreciate exotic depictions of lush alpines, woodlands, wildflowers, trees, shrubs, and rock formations. Afterward, visitors can stroll through the garden to revel in nature.

The exhibit will be open on weekdays through March 18 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and only one weekend day on Saturday, March 12, f rom noon to 4 p.m. at the Leonard. J. Buck Garden Visitor Center, located on 11 Layton Road in Far Hills. For more information, call 908-722-1200, ext. 5621.



(above) What better place to feature the naturalistic artwork of local talent than at the Leonard J. Buck Garden! The free exhibit runs through March 12.

Photo by Somerset County Park Commission

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#### **CLUE ON STAGE IN MARCH**

Brook Arts Center in Bound Brook on March 18 through 29, when six mysterious guests assemble for a dinner party at Boddy Manor.

Join us as we bring to life the classic board game Clue. Based on the cult 1985 Paramount movie and inspired by the classic Hasbro game, this farce-meets murder- mystery is bloody good fun.

When six guests are invited to a dinner party thrown by an anonymous host, they are given aliases--Colonel Mustard, Mrs. White, Mr. Green, Mrs. Peacock, Professor Plum, and Miss Scarlet.

Though discouraged from revealing personal information, it is soon discovered that all of them have fallen victim to the same blackmailer, - their host for the evening!

Each is presented with a weapon and an option: pay their extortionist double or kill the innocent butler. What follows is a madcap,

Murder and blackmail are on the menu at the slapstick evening full of murder, mystery, and laughs as they seek to figure out the culprit amongst criminals. Was it Mrs. Peacock in the study with the knife? Or Colonel Mustard in the library with the wrench?

> Can you solve the mystery, before it is revealed?

> Opening night Friday, March 18 at 8 p.m. Showtimes Fridays and Saturday 8 p.m. and Sundays 2 p.m.

> Running through March 29. Tickets are \$30 and \$20 for Seniors (62+) and Students with IDs.

> Order early for the best seats @ brookarts.org or call 732-469-7700. Box Office Opens two hours prior to showtime for walk-up sales.

> Reserved socially distanced seating, concessions, bar, and free parking are available.

> The Brook Arts Center is in historic Bound Brook, NJ, one block from the Bound Brook Train station and a few short miles from Rt 22, 287, and 78.





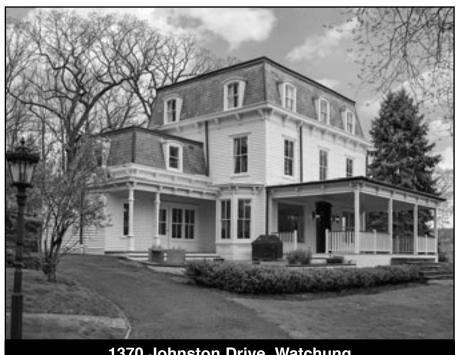
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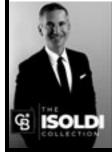


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#### **JOIN THE WHRHS MARCHING WARRIOR FAMILY**

a few years off? Either way, it's a great time to start thinking about all of the many exciting reasons to join the WHRHS Marching Band!

band?

For one, friendships that will change your life and may very well last a lifetime. For incoming Freshman, marching band can be your ticket to walking in the door that dreaded first day of high school already set with a tight knit group of friends. How? You will have just spent time in late August getting to know everyone during band camp. And when I say "getting to know everyone", I don't say that lightly. By the end of band camp, there are special bonds that have formed between members of the band...you will have become part of the "band family". Which, by the way, will include upperclassmen who will be able to "show you the ropes" and help get you up and running quickly in that new high school environment.

Did you know that marching band can also make you smarter?

As it turns out, human brains are wired for music. Multiple studies have shown that students who learn music are more adept at language and mathematics. Plus, those who are proficient in music demonstrate higher IQ

Is high school right around the corner, or still scores. Not to mention, music is also a great stress alleviator. Who can't use a little of that these days?

Let's not forget one of the most important Why on Earth would I want to join marching reasons though...marching band is a LOT OF FUN!!!! There's the thrill of watching an entire performance show come together, step by step. And the pride that comes with performing it for your parents for the very first time. Then there are fun bus rides, cheering for the football team while playing sing-along stand tunes, competitions and the thrill of victory when WHRHS takes home a first place win. The band also schedules bowling nights, pool parties, backyard movies, trampoline parties and more, which you can join! Sum it all up and it spells a ton of F-U-N!!

> Well, there are literally hundreds of reasons why you should join marching band, so over the next few months you'll get to hear from current members themselves...why they joined and what they love most about it.

> If you'd like more information, or have any questions about joining the marching band, please reach out to either Michael Banker at 908-462-4446, or Jake Bilotti 908-910- 2498 or email jakeabilotti@gmail.com. They're waiting to welcome you into the WHRHS Marching Warrior family!





Photos by WHRHS Marching Band

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12 Stirling Road, Watchung, NJ 07069 • Phone: (908)-458-8455 • SCLSNJ.org • sclsnj.libnet.info/events Monday - Thursday 10 AM - 8 PM; Friday- Saturday 10AM-6PM; Sunday: closed • Library will be closed on January 1, 17

Discover scheduled programs spanning March through May 2022. All programs will be hosted virtually. Most programs request registration. Visit SCLSNJ.org for more information.

To join a virtual program by phone, dial (646) 876-9923. After dialing, you will be prompted to enter a meeting ID, which is unique for every event. The meeting ID is the series of numbers at the end of the Zoom link posted for each event.

# VIRTUAL BOOK DISCUSSION SALONS:

**Graphic Novel Discussion** 

April 5; 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

The Marrow Thieves by Cherie Dimaline

March 8; 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

The Children's Blizzard by Melanie Benjamin

March 15; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Chair Yoga

April 6, & May 4; 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Planning for Children with a Disability

March 8; 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

**Leading Ladies of the Renaissance** 

March 8; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Presented by Greater Raritan One-Stop
Career Center:

Business Etiquette for Jobseekers: First Impressions Count

March 9; 10 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Neuro Linguistic Programming: Tools for Real Life

April 13; 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Conquering Your Fear of Public Speaking May 18; 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Recipe Club

6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Casseroles on March 9.
Middle Eastern Food on April 13
Celebrity Chef Recipes on May 1

Poet, Codebreaker, Nazi Hunter: The Puzzle-Solving Adventures of Elizebeth Smith Friedman

March 10; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

### Broad Band: The Untold Story of the Women Who Made the Internet

March 14; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

The Audacious Adventures of Nellie Bly with Dr. Bill Thierfelder

March 16; 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Presented by The Greater Raritan Workforce
Development Board:

**SkillUp Greater Raritan** 

March 18; 2:00 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Making Your Job Search Work for You April 20; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Career Connections Resources: Local and

**National**May 13; 2:00 p.m. - 3 p.m.

The Price of Popularity: How Uncle Tom's Cabin Changed America

March 21; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Walking with Grandma Gatewood: The Woman

Who Saved the Appalachian Trail March 24; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

My Return to Glacier National Park

March 28; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

**Springtime Storytime (ages 3-6 & caregivers)** 

March 30; 10:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.

**Competition Math Prep (grades 7-12)** 

March 30 & April 20; 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Margaret Bourke-White and the Corporate Creation of the Photojournalist

March 30; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Midcentury Cuisine:

American Food Fads from the '40s - '60s

April 4; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Designing Discords (grades 6-12)

April 6; 5:00 p.m. - 6 p.m.

The Lincoln Assassination

with Mallory Howard
April 6; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Swing into Spring: Music, Dance, & Comedy Show

April 12; 4:30 p.m. - 5:10 p.m. The RMS Titanic: Her Final Days with Eco-Photo Explorers

April 12; 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

#### My Letter to the World: A Virtual Tour of the Emily Dickinson Museum

April 13; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

The Science of Political Polling: A Lecture on Recent Industry Trends with Ashley Koning

April 18; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Perennials in Pots: Creative Combinations for Jaw-Dropping Containers

April 19; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

The Brilliant and Bizarre Bronte Sisters with Dr. Engel

April 25; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Meet Rachel Carson, the Woman Who Advanced the Global Environmental Movement

April 27; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

# MEET THE AUTHOR (GRADES 6-12)

**Tehlor Kay** 

April 28;5:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Carlos Hernandez

May 10; 5:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Transatlantic Airships with Jason Scappaticci

May 4; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Understanding Hypertension

wth Dr. Cedrick Batchateu May 5; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Broadway:From Back Row to Backstage

May 9; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

The Smallest War Heroes:

the U.S. Army Pigeon Service with Mary Rasa

. Allıly Piyevii Selvice Willi Ma

May 17; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Moviegoing in America: Nickelodeons to

Movie Palaces to IMAX to Netflix

May 18; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

The Jersey Shore: The Past, Present, and

Future of a National Treasure May 23; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Ecological Gardening with Charlie Nardozzi

May 24; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Claude Monet: Obsessed with the Natural World with Janet Mandel

May 25; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.



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#### NJ Department of Agriculture

The weather is warming up, check your trees for Spotted Lanternfly (SLF) egg masses. When you find them crush them. Use an old bank card, small rolling pin or putty knife.

Citizens are advised to destroy the Spotted Lanternfly in all its forms.

#### WHY YOU SHOULD CARE

SLF is a serious invasive pest with a healthy appetite for our plants and it can be a significant nuisance, affecting the quality of life and enjoyment of the outdoors. The spotted lanternfly uses its piercing-sucking mouthpart to feed on sap from over 70 different plant species. It has a strong preference for economically important plants and the feeding damage significantly stresses the plants which can lead to decreased health and potentially death.

As SLF feeds, the insect excretes honeydew (a sugary substance) which can attract bees, wasps, and other insects. The honeydew also builds up and promotes the growth for sooty mold (fungi), which can cover the plant, forest understories, patio furniture, cars, and anything else found below SLF feeding.

If you see a Spotted Lanternfly, help us Stomp it Out!



(above) The weather is warming up, check your trees for Spotted Lanternfly egg masses. When you find them crush them. Use an old bank card, small rolling pin or putty knife.





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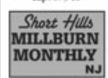


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6	Units 6	.5° x 6.25° or	10° x	4"	\$240
9	HALF PAGE	6.5° x 9° or	10° x	7"	\$320
2	Units		10° x	8"	\$360
8	FULL PAGE		10° x	14"	\$400
.P/	GE SPREAD		21" x	14"	\$700
A	K PAGE		10° x	14"	\$500
RC	NT PAGE BA	NNER	8.25° x	2"	\$320
RC	NT PAGE BO	X	1.5° x	4.5"	\$240

TOWN SGO	3 TOWNS \$150	6 10WNS 5250	9 TOWNS \$350	12 TORNS 5400	15 TOWNS \$450	18 10935 5500	21 TOWNS \$550	24 TOWNS 5600
\$100	\$250	\$400	\$500	\$600	\$700	\$800	\$900	\$1000
\$180	\$450	\$700	\$900	\$1100	\$1300	\$1500	\$1700	\$1900
\$240	\$600	\$900	\$1200	\$1400	\$1600	\$1800	\$2000	\$2200

PREPAY 6 MONTHS AND GET 1 MORE FREE PREPAY 12 MONTHS AND GET 3 MORE FREE

\$800||\$1000||\$1300||\$1600||\$1900||\$2200||\$2400||\$2700

\$900 | \$1200 | \$1500 | \$1800 | \$2100 | \$2400 | \$2700 | \$3000 \$1000 | \$1400 | \$1800 | \$2200 | \$2500 | \$2800 | \$3000 | \$3400

first-served basis. Current advertiser has right of first refusal.

Make Checks payable to Renna Media, 202 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ 07016

#### **FOOD PANTRY'S SERVICES & NEEDS**

Twelve Baskets Food Pantry

Saints' Episcopal Church Parish House at 5 Church Road in Millington, is now open every first and third Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Twelve Baskets provides food and various non-perishables to individuals, families, seniors, and veterans in Long Hill and surrounding areas. A valid driver's license or state ID to verify local address is the only documentation needed. Anyone in need of walk-in hours for emergency appointments can call 908-647-0067 ext. 4 and arrangements will be made. All calls and visits are free and confidential. Masks are required. Please bring reusable bags for food.

The goal of the pantry is to help supplement families during these difficult times. Donations are accepted and can be placed in our donation barrels located in the side door at All Saints'

Twelve Baskets Food Pantry, located at All Church, 15 Basking Ridge Road, Millington. We ask that food items should not contain high amounts of salt, sugar, or highly-processed grains. We ask for foods high in protein, healthy fats, and whole grains when possible. At this time, please avoid pasta and all bulk sizes.

> In lieu of fresh foods, a ShopRite card donation is appreciated so items such as fruit, veggies, eggs, milk, and bread can be purchased and made available. We also accept donations of fresh produce after 9:30 a.m. on days the pantry is open.

> For more information, please visit allsaintsmillington.org/outreach.html or call 908-647-0067 ext. 4.

> Twelve Baskets Food Pantry is sponsored by All Saints' Episcopal Church, First Presbyterian Church of Stirling, and Meyersville Presbyterian Church.

#### **RENNA MEDIA LAUNCHES THREE NEW NEWSPAPERS**

Beginning in March three new towns have joined Renna Media's growing family of newspapers: Florham Park Press, Millburn Short Hills Monthly, and Elmora Hills Elizabeth. Renna Media is now mailing 160,000, townspecific newspapers, to 24 towns each month.

The newspapers' goal is to be a positive influence on the economic development and overall well-being of the town. Our publications exist to share community service news and the good things that are happening in the community.

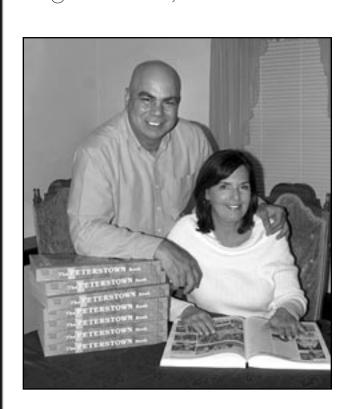
Renna Media is a Cranford, NJ based business owned and operated by husband and wife team of Joe and Tina Renna. Renna Media's family of 24 community newspapers are published in Morris, Essex, Union and Somerset counties, with a total circulation of 160,000. The publications are "hyperlocal" in nature in that they contain information focused on each individual town, and are direct mailed within those towns.

The concept of being hyper-local is to give local businesses a venue to promote services. Reaching local customers gives you the highest return for your advertising dollars. The newspapers are designed (black ink on newsprint) to keep the cost of an advertisement to as low as \$60. Regional businesses can take advantage of one low rate for advertising in multiple towns.

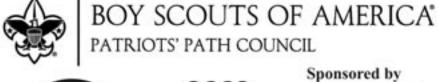
Renna Media also prints full-color flyers that get mailed along with the newspapers. A cost effective alternative to mailing postcards.

For more information about Renna Media publications, please visit rennamedia.com.

You can contact Tina Renna regarding advertising, or to submit news, via email info@rennamedia.com; or call 908-418-5586.



(above) Joe and Tina Renna, owners of Renna Media, LLC, publish 24 direct-mailed community newspapers with a total circulation of 160,000. They have been publishing community newspapers since 1998. For more information, please visit rennamedia.com.









#### Pioneer District Boy Scout Chess Tournament

Open to all registered Boy Scouts/Venturers/Explorers. Non-scouts welcomed!

> Saturday, March 26, 2022 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Tournament play starts at 10:00 am

# **Cranford Community Center**

220 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ • 908-709-7283

Registration is \$15 • Note: this is a non-rated tournament. Scouts can register online at https://scoutingevent.com/999999 Non-scouts (under 18 only) can register by calling Joe Renna at 908-447-1295. For questions or information, contact Victoria Moran at victoria.moran@scouting.org or 973-765-9322 ext 250.

Trophies awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers. Lunch will be provided for all players and fans. This tournament meets the 6a requirement for earning a Chess merit badge.

# Dine out across the country without leaving home

Introducing a new kind of home-dining experience with a kitchen that comes to you. Try exclusive menus from top chefs like Bobby Flay, Thomas Chen, Michael Symon, and more. It's dining in on a whole new level.

YOUR MEAL IS FIRED, FINISHED, AND PLATED RIGHT OUTSIDE YOUR DOOR.



#### **HOW IT WORKS**





an order







to order



Your meal is served

#### JUST A FEW OF OUR RESTAURANT PARTNERS:

Bar Nakazawa - Sushi

Fred's Meat & Bread – Burgers

**Chai Pani** – Indian

Barrio Café - Mexican

SriPraPhai - Thai

Pizzeria Mozza – Italian



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