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WOMEN'S GUILD INVITES WOMEN TO GATHER WITH THEM



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POSTAL



(above) The Women of Wilson Memorial Church in Watchung invites women of all ages to gather with them.

Submitted by Carol Droege

The Women of Wilson Memorial Church in Watchung made HERstory on the morning of February 19th, 2022, by holding a meeting of the Women's Guild to widen the welcome to working women who have otherwise missed the opportunity to meet for service and fellowship during the traditional meeting time of 11:30 a.m., the first Thursday of each month.

As the Women's Guild morphs into its newest iteration, it is clear that there is a desire to uphold traditional practices established decades ago by the original guild, while keeping an eye out for new ways to bring care through the love of Jesus to those in Wilson's congregation and the community beyond. In addition, the goal of both groups is to provide a source of support to women of all ages that will empower them to leading a deeper spiritual life, for themselves and their families. Becoming inclusive to women from all backgrounds and giftings only enhances the resources the Guild will be able to offer as a collective.

ISSUE 114 • APRIL 2022

In this Lenten season, the Guild has initiated the return of the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on March 1st, and provided soup for one of the four Soup Suppers taking place on the Sunday nights of Lent at Wilson from the 13th of March to April 3rd. They also facilitated the weekly postworship Coffee Hour on March 6th. There has been discussion of forming different interest groups that will act as resources and emotional support to women, and their families, facing grief and other family care issues, including food insecurity.

There are two opportunities to gather each month. The Women's Guild meets each first Thursday of the month, at 11:30 a.m. and the Collective on the second Saturday, at 10:30 a.m. Women of all ages are welcome at both meetings as their schedule allows.

Courtesy photo



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THIS EARTH DAY MAKE A COMMITMENT **TO "HELP SAVE OUR LOCAL TREES"**

Advertisement by Gene Gregory from DefendOurTrees.com

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Global Warming to know this is a bad thing. prompt action is taken" Increasing Carbon Dioxide levels decrease the amount of oxygen in the air. This along with other pollutants in the air, has not only been linked to climate change and Global Warming, but an array of diseases as well: Cancer, Diabetes, Premature births,.. Autism, the list goes on and on.

These problems and the severity are dramatically worse in poorer areas with more industry, diesel fumes and NO TREES. (please see "Earth Day turns 50" in the Star Ledger, it touches on what are children and their children are facing. One of the 2) things they speak of are the "Large bodies of polluted water" we are leaving behind.

Despite these facts and my efforts: dozens of these during construction", trees, our "Oldest Residents", are killed in our local neighborhoods each year. Among the many losses: Most importantly, you will recognize what will harm Shade, Solace the Filtering of our Air and Water, the a tree. Make a commitment to share this information oxygen they provided, ...they also release the Carbon with your children and friends. they have accumulated for hundreds of years.

On June 8th, 2021, I hired a tree expert to help

save some of the trees in our area. I showed him dozens of trees in Westfield, New Providence, Summit and Scotch Plains. He used the word "disgusting" to describe what he saw. In his report You don't have to believe in Climate Change or he writes "that many of these trees can be saved if

HOW CAN YOU HELP SAVE THESE TREES? Please visit our site and read all the facts

defendourtrees.com See the:

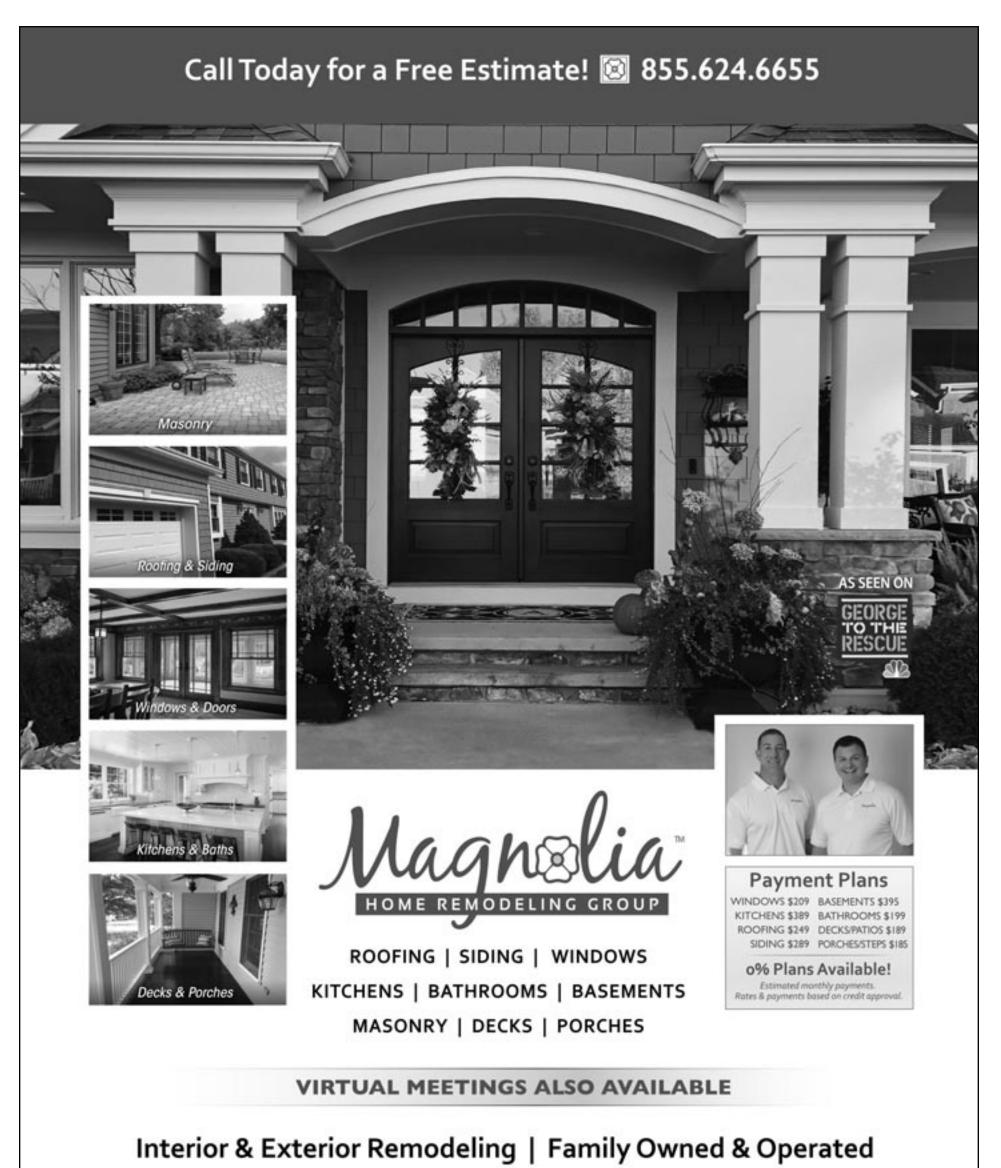
- 1) "Pictorial of trees that can be saved". These are just a few of the many OLD trees being destroyed and dying in our area. If you live in the area, please write a letter (to your local mayor and town council) demanding this needless destruction of our old trees, stop immediately. Please Email a copy to **defendourtrees.com**
- Please also read "Rooting out Problems" at my site or google it yourself.

It explains: "simple measures for saving trees

which is the biggest cause of killing our trees.

Instagram @DefendOurTreesNJ to see other sites and locations.





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WATCHUNG RESCUE SQUAD **NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS**

Submitted by Genevieve Nitzsche, President The Watchung Rescue Squad has continued to fulfill its mission to provide fast and professional emergency medical services to the residents, businesses, and visitors to the Borough of Watchung and the surrounding areas. Our squad operates on a fully volunteer basis and provides care from 6 p.m. - 6 a.m., 7 days a week. In 2021, the Watchung Rescue Squad responded to 280 emergency calls. Our top responders for the year were Jeiner Betancourt, Leo Marchetti, and Matthew King.

The Squad held its annual Tree of Lights Festival event once again in early December. Thanks to the Watchung Borough residents who showed their support through generous donations and great attendance, this event was an enormous success. Our Tree of Lights Festival was held in honor of the educators of Watchung. Faculty and staff from Watchung Hills Regional High School, Mount Saint Mary's Academy, The Giving Nest. Bayberry Elementary School, and Valley View Middle School were present and accepted awards given by the Squad.

The time for our annual Fund Drive is fast approaching. Keep an eye out for our mailer in early May! The Watchung Rescue Squad is an independent, volunteer organization, and is therefore dependent on the generosity of Watchung residents. We rely solely on your donations for medical supplies and other daily



(above) The Rescue Squad is always looking for dedicated volunteers interested in joining our team as a driver or EMT. To donate, or for more information about volunteering, visit our website at watchungems.org.

expenses required to keep our ambulances on the road and maintain the high quality, free Emergency Medical Services provided to the town. Don't wait until the Fund Drive to support us! Visit our website at watchungems.org to make a donation today, and be sure to follow us on Instagram and like our Facebook page to stay up to date on Squad events and information.

Be a part of the action! The Rescue Squad is always looking for dedicated volunteers interested in joining our team as a driver or EMT. No prior medical experience or training is necessary to join. Training and uniforms will be provided by the Squad. If you have the desire to help your community, please visit our website and click "Join Us" to learn more and fill out an application! If you have any questions about becoming a member, please contact us at membership@watchungems.org.

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ROBOWARRIORS SECURE 2ND PLACE VICTORY IN FIRST QUALIFIERS

Submitted by Leanna Wellerding Watchung Hills Regional High School Team 41 RoboWarriors added a 2nd place ranking victory and an award for Excellence in



(above) Team 41 RoboWarriors robot – at this writing, name has not yet been announced.

Engineering to their long list of achievements, during the weekend of March 5th-6th, 2022.

At the FMA District Bridgewater-Raritan Event, part of the international FIRST® (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) competition, held at Bridgewater-Raritan Regional High School, the team competed against 35 other teams from within the First Mid-Atlantic District in a series of qualifying matches. The team earned Rank 2 with a record of 13-4-1 and won the following awards: • District Event Finalist

• Excellence in Engineering Award

This marks the teams 25th year and 52nd official event with FIRST®. The drive team and team captains Victor Johansson, Aaron Binstock, Mason DiGiorgio and Luka Hadzic, with the oversight of supervising teacher Peter Ponzio, led their team to near victory, with a one-point loss in the final round.

During the 2021-2022 robotics season, FIRST® FORWARDSM presented by Qualcomm:now going full speed ahead - teams have the power to reimagine a path forward and invent the future of transportation.

Under strict rules, with limited time and

resources, FIRST® Robotics Competition teams use sophisticated technology to build and program industrial-sized robots to play a themed field game in an action-packed alliance format.

Beginning with the livestreamed season kickoff on January 8th, teams had just two months to engineer their remotely controlled computerized robotic vehicles, determine their strategy and train their drive team. Team 41 is composed of 40+ students, serving on sub-group committees of Programming, Mechanical, Electrical and Design.

The team will next compete in the FMA District Montgomery Event which will take place April 1-3 at Montgomery High School and hope to maintain good standing for the FIRST Mid-Atlantic District Championship at Lehigh University on April 7-April 9, 2022.

Team sponsors include: Picatinny Arsenal/The Knotts Company/Nokia Bell Labs/Picut Manufacturing/Warren Lions Club/Intuitive Surgical/Thor Labs/P&R Fasteners Inc./Advent Industrial/Offaly Associates LLC/Advanced Circuits/Watchung Hills Education and Technology Foundation & Watchung Hills Regional High School.









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WATCHUNG LAUNCHES HOMETOWN HEROES PROJECT

Borough of Watchung

The Borough of Watchung's Hometown Heroes Banner Project—launching on Monday, May 30—is the beginning of a new tradition. The Banner Project creates banners that honor veterans, living and deceased, who have lived in or currently reside in or work for the Borough of Watchung. Each banner includes a veteran's name, branch of service, and years served along with a military photo. Banners will line Somerset Street twice yearly—on Memorial Day and Veterans Day.

If you haven't yet submitted a form to have yourself or a loved one included in the project and cannot make the April 4 deadline for this Memorial Day, you can submit the information

later and be included for Veterans Day on November 11.

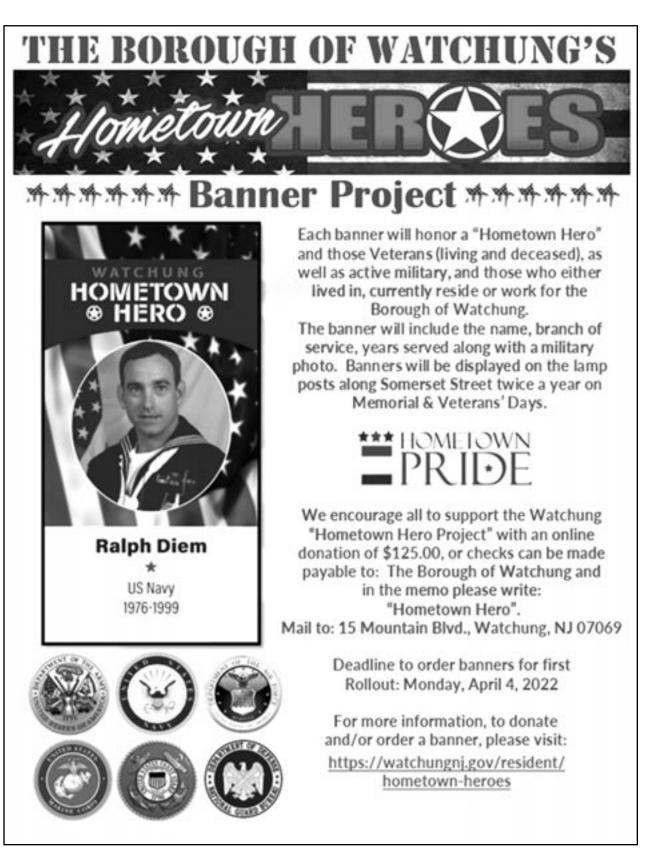
We encourage all to support the Watchung Hometown Heroes Banner Project with an online donation of \$125 or by check made payable to Borough of Watchung, specifying Hometown Hero on the memo line. Please mail checks to: 15 Mountain Blvd., Watchung, NJ 07069. Veterans who submit on their own behalf are not required to donate \$125 to the Banner Project.

To donate, submit a form,

or get more information, go to

watchungnj.gov/resident/hometown-heroes.

We thank all of you who have supported this project to date and look forward to honoring more hometown heroes as we go forward.



(above) Support the Hometown Heroes Banner Project that honors local veterans with personalized banners displayed along Somerset Street twice yearly, starting Monday, May 30. For more information go to watchungnj.gov/resident/hometown-heroes.



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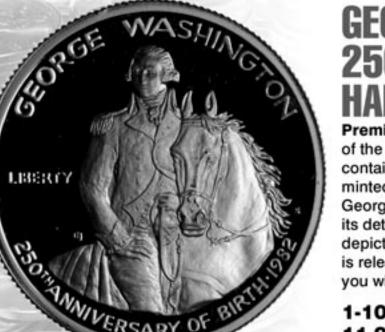
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LIVING THE GOSPEL, SHARING A SPACE

Wilson Memorial Church

This January marked the start of the second year of Wilson Memorial Church's spacesharing arrangement with St. Augustine & St. Monica Coptic Orthodox Church.

For many years now, Wilson's congregation has been using the large, modern sanctuary which faces Hillcrest Road, leaving the lovely iconic stone chapel at the corner of Valley Road quietly waiting. But in January of 2020, the congregation voted to share that space with the Coptic Orthodox Church as they plan construction of their own building on a property they have purchased in Warren.

In the interim, the two churches have been welcoming the faithful on Sunday mornings to celebrate worship in similar, yet distinct, ways. And the result has been overwhelmingly successful.

"Hospitality has always been a hallmark of Christian practice, especially when it comes to members of our own Christian family. That hospitality has been certainly reciprocal as they have contributed much to the spirit of our congregational life at Wilson. It has been a joy to have our family from St. Augustine and St. Monica's sharing the building that God gave us over a century ago," commented Rev. Michael Droege, Pastor of Wilson Memorial.

Wilson Church members have been delighted to see the quiet Chapel and unused meeting areas come to life again with families coming to worship under the guidance of the Rev. Peter Dimyan of St. Augustine and St. Monica's. Rev. Peter said, "As difficult as the early stages of a growing parish are, there are certainly an abundance of blessings as well. Among our greatest blessings have been the Christ-like love and hospitality shown to us by Wilson Memorial Church. Wilson's Pastor, Michael Droege, their leadership, and congregants have exemplified the spirit of the Gospel, to love your neighbor as yourself. They not only have followed Christ's command to go the second mile with us, but have gone to the third and fourth mile as well! Wilson Memorial Church's love has been a humbling experience

that our Parish will never forget and an example for us to imitate as we grow. Wilson Memorial Church is truly a blessing to the entire city of Watchung and I'm certain whoever walks through their doors will feel the same warmth and love we feel today!"

Someday in the future, the parishioners of St. Augustine and St. Monica Coptic Orthodox Church will have their own church building in which to pray, but for the time being, these two Christian churches, with different customs in worship, continue to enjoy the benefits of what it means to share.

3RD ANNUAL JOB & VOLUNTEER FAIR FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Attend Somerset County Library System of New Jersey's (SCLSNJ) Job and Volunteer Fair for Persons with Disabilities on Thursday, April 7 from 4 p.m. - 7 p.m. at the Bridgewater branch, located at 1 Vogt Drive in Bridgewater. This event is specifically targeted to teens and adults (Age 16+) with cognitive and developmental disabilities.

"Job fairs introduce talented job seekers to hiring managers in a convenient, neutral venue," said Nan Peterson, branch manager. "During a brief three-hour time span, candidates learn directly what industry-specific skills employers prioritize. Job seekers also have an opportunity to hone their interviewing skills while uncovering what positions are available, as well as the typical pay for these positions." For a list of vendors, see sclsnj.org/april-7-jobfair. Participating vendors and service providers are subject to change.

This program is made possible through a partnership with The Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board and the Somerset County Business Partnership. To learn more or to register, go to sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5746057.

ABOUT SOMERSET COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM OF NEW JERSEY

Somerset County Library System of New Jersey (SCLSNJ) partners with you to connect, explore, share, and discover. Together we enrich lives, expand knowledge, and strengthen communities. To learn more about SCLSNJ's branches and services, visit SCLSNJ.org.





Sunday Mornings Liturgies with Eucharist at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.

Passion/Palm Sunday - April 10 8:00 a.m. Spoken Liturgy with Eucharist 10:00 a.m. Festival Liturgy with Eucharist

Holy Thursday - April 14 12 noon Spoken Liturgy with Eucharist 7:30 p.m. Liturgy with Rite of First Holy Communion

> Good Friday - April 15 12 noon Ecumenical Community Service 7:30 p.m. Service of Tenebrae

Holy Saturday - April 16 A Day of Silence, Prayer & Reflection

Easter Celebration - April 17 7:00 a.m. Memorial Garden Liturgy 8:00 a.m. Spoken Liturgy with Eucharist 10:00 a.m. Festival Liturgy with Eucharist

Visit our website at famfaith.org or find us on Facebook at Faith Lutheran, New Providence We practice an open Communion table. All are welcome!





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BROOK ARTS CENTER OPENS SPRING SEASON

The Brook Arts Center is located in historic Bound Brook. NJ one block from the Bound Brook Train station and a few short miles from Routes 22, 287, and 78. It is the only existing vaudeville theatre remaining in Somerset County, and one of eight in New Jersey listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The Brook Theatre has been providing entertainment since 1927. Our Spring 2022 Season opens on April 1 and offers a wide variety of quality entertainment at affordable prices.

The NY Bee Gees Tribute Show April 1 at 8 p.m.

The NY Bee Gees Tribute Show presents the most extravagant Bee Gees show a fan can experience, performing '70s disco hits from "Stayin' Alive" to "Night Fever" while embracing their early works such as "To Love Somebody," "I've Got to Get a Message to You," and "Massachusetts" with a stunning production, powerful vocals, and an electric stage presence.

Sugar Mountain

Saturday, April 2 at 8 p.m.

Sugar Mountain faithfully replicates the songs of prolific and beloved singer/songwriter Neil Young as well as songs from Buffalo Springfield to Crosby, Stills, Nash, and Young to garage band Crazy Horse. Enjoy music spanning genres including folk, country, electronic, hard rock, and rockabilly.

An Evening of Comedy with Julia Scotti and Uncle Floyd Saturday, April 16 at 8 p.m.

These two Jersey-born comedy gems continue to break down barriers in every facet of show business, proving that age is not just a number it's an asset! Wildly funny, energetic, and raucous, good-time granny comedian, Julia Scotti, captured audiences when she appeared on America's Got Talent in 2016. Her critically acclaimed documentary, Julia Scotti: Funny that Way is available on Amazon Prime. Legendary Uncle Floyd, primarily known for The Uncle Floyd Show (1974 - 1998), continues to entertain audiences with his unique act of saucy songs, kooky comedy, and vivacious vaudeville.

Guys and Dolls

April 22 through May 1 (Performance schedule: brookarts.org > Events)

Guys and Dolls, featuring some of Frank Loesser's most memorable tunes such as "Luck be a Lady" and "I've Never Been in Love Before," is the story about rolling the dice and falling in love! It takes us from the bustle of Times Square to the dance clubs of Havana to the sewers of New York City as it demonstrates the great lengths to which a guy will go when he truly falls in love.

Tickets are available for purchase online at brookarts.org or by calling 732-469-7700. Box office opens two hours before showtime for walk-up sales. Concessions, bar, and free parking available. Brook Arts Center, 10 Hamilton Street, Bound Brook, NJ 08805. For more information, visit brookarts.org, email brookartscenternj@gmail.com, or call 732-469-7700.

\$	BROOK :	
April 1 April 2 April 16 Apr 22 - May 1 May 7 May 8	(ARTS CENTER) The New York Bee Gees Sugar Mountain Band - Neil Young Unde Floyd & Julia Scotti	SARCASA COMEDY SARCASA COMED SARCASA COMED SARCASA COMEDY SARCASA
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FURNITURE WORKSHOP BENEFITS **SAGE ELDERCARE PROGRAMMING**

Since 1961, the SAGE Eldercare Workshop through Fridays, 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. has offered the public fine-quality furniture repair. The volunteers will consider repairing any piece of furniture that can be carried into the workshop. The Workshop has a reputation throughout Union County and beyond for it's fine reweaving of caned and rushed chairs. Our artisans are all highly trained volunteers. Proceeds from the Workshop benefit SAGE programming. Prices are reasonable and depend upon the condition of the chair or furniture item and the materials required in the restoration process.

The Workshop started out years ago as a place for older men who no longer had access to a home workbench. Since 2007, several women have joined the historically male enclave. Most of the volunteers are former professionals including investment bankers, college professors, physicians and scientists. Many have never worked with their hands and over the years, they've taught each other caning, rushing and a myriad of other techniques needed to fix the aging furniture brought to them for restoration.

Prim La Capra of Short Hills recently patronized the workshop. She had a table restored that had suffered from years of use and weathering. "I am so grateful to the volunteers who refinished my little table to its original beauty. My late husband bought this well-crafted table from Bloomingdales' NYC store decades ago and it became a special place to store important documents, memorabilia, pictures, and other things we wanted to keep in our library." Said Prim. "It got water damage on top and sun damage on the sides over the years. The volunteers at Sage Elder Care completely restored it at a reasonable cost. I love how the piece turned out and plan to keep it for many more years. Thank you to the volunteers who contributed their skills, time, and talent to this project. It was a pleasure to work with Bob, the shop manager and visit the workshop."

The Workshop is located in the basement of the SAGE building at 290 Broad Street, Summit and is easily assessable. Shop hours are Mondays

For more information about the service or to schedule an appointment to bring in furniture, call 908-598-5531.

SAGE Eldercare supports the independence, well being and quality of life of older adults, their families and caregivers, through the provision of client-centered health, social and support services. Founded in 1954, SAGE is both the oldest and one of the few nonprofit eldercare agencies in the United States that offers a broad and comprehensive array of services under one roof that assist elderly, often frail, adults to remain independent in their own homes. SAGE Eldercare programs include: HomeCare; Mealson-Wheels; Spend-A-Day Adult Day Health Center; InfoCare free information and referral service; Fall Prevention Initiative; Chore Service; Shopping Service; Bill Paying Service; PREP caregiver support group; and SHIP (State Health Insurance Assistance Program). SAGE Eldercare serves over 5,000 older people and their families annually in Union, Essex Morris and Somerset counties. For more information, call 908.273.5550 or visit www.sageeldercare.org.



(above) Volunteer Mark Goldsmith of North Caldwell.







HELP NEEDED

St. Theresa Lil' Stallions Day Care Program in Kenilworth is in need of **Part Time Caregivers.** If you are interested in providing a loving and nurturing environment for infants and toddlers please call 908-276-7220 ext. 205 or email sr.isabel.garza@mysts.org



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The Salesian Sisters served St. Anthony's from 1954 to 1992. Please register for this free event at: eventbrite.com (search Salesian-Sisters-Celebrate-150) or link from our facebook group page: St. Anthony's school reunion

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