Summit L'intes

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North Caldwell.



(above) Volunteer Mark Goldsmith of

FURNITURE WORKSHOP BENEFITS SAGE ELDERCARE

Since 1961, the SAGE Eldercare Workshop 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

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





(above) Prim La Capra of Short Hills recently patronized the workshop. She had a table restored that had suffered from years of use and weathering. Before and after of La Capra's table.

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 through Fridays, 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

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; Meals-on-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.





Summit & Times

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MONUMENT PARK ON VILLAGE GREEN RESTORATION CAMPAIGN

Submitted by Summit Elks & American Legion

For those that have visited the war monuments in the park at the Village Green, you know it is in need of a renovation in order to properly honor those from our community that have served in the US military and fought for our great country. The Summit City Council has given the Summit Elks Lodge, in partnership with the American Legion Lindsey Street Post, the green light to move forward with two new monuments for the Global War on Terror, and replacement of the badly deteriorating World War II, Korea and Vietnam memorial, along with much needed cleaning and upgrades.

The total cost is estimated to be around \$85,000, and a groundbreaking is planned for Memorial Day with a dedication ceremony on September 11.

Fundraising has commenced and we need the community's help to make this happen!

If you would like to donate online, please visit https://checkout.square.site/buy/C232TJBHDGE YY7NQOCCWOCIV or you can mail a check to the Summit Elks Lodge#1246 at 40 Maple Street, Summit, NJ 07901. Checks should be made payable to "American Legion Post 322" with "Monument Park Campaign" in the memo line. All donations will qualify as a charitable tax

deduction under IRS Code section 501(c)(19) for veterans' organizations.

If you are interested in funding one of the new granite benches for the park or other donor recognition opportunities please contact Summit Elks Lodge Exalted Ruler, Rick Wolffe by email at exaltedruler@summitelks1246.org.



(above) Rendering of anticipated completed project

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AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY RELAY FOR LIFE — MAY 21

American Cancer Society

The American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Berkeley Heights invites the communities of Berkeley Heights, Mountainside, Providence and Summit to join the movement to honor and remember loved ones and fight back for lifesaving change on Saturday May 21st, 2022 (noon to midnight) at The Grove at Connell Park – 200 Connell Dr, Berkeley Heights, NJ). There is no cost to attend the event and this year's event theme is "Under the "C" Sea" and will be featuring music and entertainment by Thoro Entertainment along with games, food, and activities for all!

this movement which includes cancer survivors, caregivers, local citizens, and participants who believe that the future can be free from cancer

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and own the power to make that change.

Society attack cancer in dozens of ways, each of them critical to achieving a world without cancer - from developing breakthrough therapies to building supportive communities, from providing empowering resources to deploying activists to raise awareness.

There are many ways to get involved!

Join the Relay For Life of Berkeley Heights! Sign up to join an as a participant, cancer survivor, existing team or start a new team at RelayForLife.org/BerkeleyHeightsNJ

Get your business involved! – Being involved Community volunteers are the backbone of in Relay For Life events supports your community Relay For Life event and provides your employees and customers, an opportunity to participate in the fight against cancer. For information on sponsorship opportunities or how you can get your business involved, contact Vicky Allen, Senior Development Manager at vicky.allen@cancer.org / 732-825-6958.

> Invite someone or attend our Survivor Brunch! - Are you a cancer survivor or know someone who is? We'd like to celebrate you at our Survivor Brunch taking place on the day of Relay -Saturday, 5/21 @ 11 a.m. at The Grove - Connell Corporate Park. For more details and to RSVP please contact Maureen Pergola (973) 727-1101 / maureenpergola1@gmail.com.

Donate! - If you can't participate in this year's Funds raised help the American Cancer event, you can still help save lives by making a event donation. Every dollar fuels the American Cancer Society's fight against cancer. Visit RelayForLife.org/BerkeleyHeightsNJ to make a donation today.

> Dedicate a Luminaria Bag for a loved one! -Luminarias honor every life touched by cancer. For a \$10 donation, you can dedicate them to a loved one lost, someone currently battling, or anyone who's overcome it. Our Luminaria Ceremony begins after dusk and participants will see the Luminarias decorated with names and sometimes messages to the people they're dedicated to. To dedicate a Luminaria Bag go to: https://tinyurl.com/LuminariaBH2022.

> Volunteer! - We are always looking for volunteers to join our Leadership Team, or just help out on the day of the event! Contact Vicky Allen for information on how you can volunteer; vicky.allen@cancer.org/732-825-6958.

> Founded by Dr. Gordy Klatt in Tacoma, Washington, in 1985, the Relay For Life movement unites communities across the globe to celebrate people who have been touched by cancer, remember loved ones lost, and take action for lifesaving change.

To learn more about Relay For Life of Berkeley Heights, visit RelayForLife.org/BerkeleyHeightsNJ



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MEMORIAL DAY PARADE - MAY 30

The City of Summit annual Memorial Day parade and ceremony will take place on Monday, May 30 at 10 a.m. The parade will begin at 25 Deforest Avenue and proceed to the Village Green, honoring the men and women who have lost their lives in military service to our country.

Sponsored by the Summit Memorial Day Committee and the Summit Fourth of July and Celebration Committee, the parade will be led by members of the Summit American Legion Post #322. Summit civic and school groups are encouraged to participate and march along with veterans. The Summit High School marching band, Summit Police Department, Summit Fire Department, Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad, and scout troops will also march in the parade. All participating organizations should line up in the parking lot behind 25 Deforest Avenue at 9:30 a.m.

Spectators are encouraged to gather on Deforest Avenue, Beechwood Road, Union Place, and along Maple Street to the Village Green. Flags will be distributed to the crowd by veterans along the parade route, donated by local business Annin & Co. Veterans who are unable to march may request a ride in the parade; please meet members of the American Legion at the start of the parade route at 25 Deforest Avenue to request assistance.

The ceremony on the Village Green will feature music from the Summit High School marching band, a rifle salute and wreathlaying, and a special performance of Taps. A Summit Veteran Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented by Mayor Nora Radest, followed by readings from local students. Veterans who attend the ceremony will receive a 2022 commemorative coin in recognition of, and appreciation for, their service. Free hot dogs and cold drinks will be served on the Village Green courtesy of the Summit Elks Lodge.

The ceremony will also include a groundbreaking for a new monument honoring those who served and died in World War 2, Korea, and Vietnam, and another to recognize those who served during the Global War on Terror.

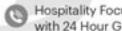
May 30, 2022, marks the five-year anniversary of the death of Summit Police Department Detective Matthew Tarentino. SPD members will wear a commemorative arm band for the parade, to honor Detective Tarentino's life and career with the Summit Police Department.

To register your organization to march in the contact David Guida parade, dguidajr@cityofsummit.org. More information is available at summitcommunityprograms.com.



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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.



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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GOOD GRIEF RECOGNIZES LOCAL VOLUNTEERS

Family bereavement nonprofit Good Grief recognized three volunteers for 15 years of dedicated service during a recent ceremony at the organization's annual Spring Institute symposium on March 19. The honorees included Morristown resident Pam Sullivan, along with Leigh Rosoff and Sue Logan both of Summit. Sullivan, Rosoff, and Logan began their volunteer journeys with Good Grief in 2007 when Good Grief offered it first program for grieving children and families at Christ Church in Summit. Today, Good Grief serves 850 families each month at its Family Support Centers in Morristown and Princeton thanks to the dedication of volunteer facilitators like Sullivan, Rosoff, and Logan. Good Grief's programs are offered free of charge for as long as

Family bereavement nonprofit Good Grief cognized three volunteers for 15 years of dicated service during a recent ceremony at the ganization's annual Spring Institute symposium a March 19. The honorees included Morristown characteristics and families need them. The support provided by Good Grief reduces isolation, teaches resilience, and helps children and families develop a sense of possibility and hopefulness for the future.

Good Grief is a respected national leader in delivering grief and resilience building programs and services to children, families, and schools. It is the leading provider of these services in New Jersey serving more than 160 communities across the state. A registered 501(c) (3) tax-exempt non-profit organization, Good Grief's mission is to build resilience in children, strengthen families, and empower communities to grow from loss and adversity. For more information, please visit our web site good-grief.org



(above, l-r) Pam Sullivan, Leigh Rosoff) and Sue Logan

Courtesy photo





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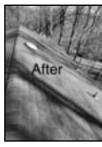
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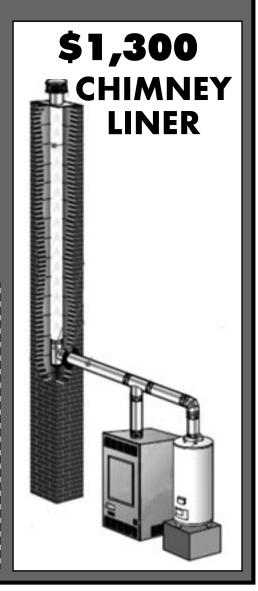
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(above) Rexy (center) is pictured with his new forever family. His canine siblings are also rescues who experienced similar rescue stories.



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Home for Good Dog Rescue

At Home for Good Dog Rescue, we recently celebrated an incredible milestone - Saving 10,000 dogs from the brink of death in just 11 short years. Each rescued dog is unique and has its own special "tail" to tell. Meet Rexy and lean into his miraculous journey as he becomes our 10,000th adoption. This poor soul lived the entirety of his 7-year life confined to an outdoor wire pen with no human contact, love and affection, playtime, or snuggles. His human captors failed him miserably, and his forlorn eyes truly reflected a lifetime of cruelty, mistrust, and hopelessness.

Since his perilous rescue by Home for Good in 2021, we've seen his transformation from just 'existing' without proper nutrition, medical care, or being protected from the harshness of the outside elements, to knowing what it's like to be loved, sleep in a warm plush bed, enjoy tasty treats, and receive endless cuddles. Remarkably, Rexy has no remnants of the extreme cruelty that he endured, and from which he survived.

Home for Good Dog Rescue is 100% foster-based and this is why. With the help of his canine foster siblings, he began to gain confidence and how to trust. Prior to his rescue, Rexy had never felt the gentle hand of a human. Through the patience and perseverance of his foster family, Rexy has developed into the devoted dog he is today. He is affectionate, playful, and eager to please.

For more information on how you can become a foster family for a deserving pup like Rexy, please visit homeforgooddogrescue.org/foster **ABOUT:**

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



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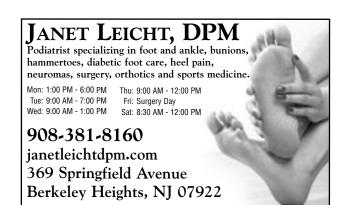


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Covid 19 brought an average weight gain of 29 pounds ...but not for these 4 local residents

"MY ACHES AND PAINS HAVE MOSTLY GONE AWAY, AND I DEFINITELY HAVE MORE ENERGY"



David: The pandemic negatively impacted how dedicated I was to working out and the type of food I ate. When I joined the challenge I increased my workout routine to at least 5 days per week. Now I feel great. My aches and pains have mostly gone away and I definitely have more energy during the work day.

"I STARTED TO FEEL IMPROVEMENT AS OUICKLY AS 1-2 WEEKS INTO JOINING"



Tom: Before joining GFP I never really maintained consistent strength training. At GFP it's easy to build momentum, and I started to feel improvement as quickly as 1-2 weeks into joining. The challenge showed me how rapidly progress can occur if you pair nutrition guidance with regular workouts. More importantly it helped me build lasting habits that have made me consistently healthier.

"GFP HAS GIVEN ME MY CONFIDENCE BACK. I FEEL GOOD IN MY BODY AGAIN"



Kristy: Before GFP I had never been to the gym before, but the trainers helped me learn how to work out effectively. I started working out six days a week, and I really saw results. Those results kept me motivated to continue coming back. GFP has given me my confidence back. I feel good in my body again.

"MY RESULTS INSPIRED ME TO KEEP GOING"



Cathy: My fitness routine had gone off track, and some of my old injuries had started to bother me. I missed working out regularly, but I was lacking direction and the right motivation to get restarted. The trainers helped me get back on track with both my fitness and nutrition. I soon started to see results, which inspired me to keep it going.

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ATTENTION PARENTS OF KIDS AGES 6-18



31 IDEAS TO HELP KIDS EAT BETTER, RUN FASTER, GET STRONGER AND BECOME THE BEST VERSION OF THEMSELVES

Cut This Page Out and Put on Your Refrigerator

Eat Better	Run Faster
☐ Drink AT LEAST 4 Water bottles	□ Do 10 hill sprints
☐ Have a fruit or veggie with each meal	☐ Perform 15 Broad Jumps
\square Have nuts instead of chips as a snack	☐ Sprint for 50 yards
☐ Have a source of protein in each meal	☐ Perform single leg jumps
☐ Take a multivitamin	☐ Perform High Knee Marches
\square Limit sweets to only one serving	Build Confidence
Get stronger	☐ Do something outside of your comfort zone
☐ Perform 50 bodyweight squats	☐ Read a book
☐ Perform 50 pushups	☐ Practice or spend time on your hobbies
☐ Perform a plank for 60 seconds 3 times	☐ Learn a new skill
☐ Perform 25 vertical jumps	☐ Work towards a new Goal
☐ Get at least 8 hours of sleep a night	Be More Active
Be Happier	☐ Walk during TV show commercials
☐ Get at least 30 minutes of exercise	☐ Schedule exercise time
\square Do a morning routine that you enjoy	☐ Whenever you see a commercial
\square Write 5 things that you are grateful for	for a car company, perform 10 squats
☐ Adopt a Growth Mindset	☐ Find a buddy, and exercise with them
☐ Listen to music whenever you can	☐ Try a new method of exercise every week
	(i.e. biking, running, lifting weights, etc.)

Do You Want
GRIT ATHLETE PERFORMANCE
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Registration for Our 10 Week Summer Program Now Open



Early Bird Registration Expires June 20 www.gritathletes.com



Summer Athlete Performance Camp AGES 6-18 in Berkeley Heights

Discover how to get your children strong, fast, and confident this summer...so they can become the best athletes they can be.

- They want to get better at sports but struggle because of lack of speed, strength or stamina.
- They eat more junk food than healthy food and you need another voice to help them understand how important a healthy diet is during these developmental years.
- They need to improve their confidence and you want them to start to get better at recovering from their mistakes.
- They're doing pretty good right now but want to take their performance in their sport to a **higher level**.

This program is for your child if: 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.





















The Details **JUNE 20-AUGUST 25** Please visit www.gritathletes.com for days/times at each age group and for pricing. GRIT SPORTS PERFORMANCE COMPLEX (Located inside Gabriele Fitness in Berkeley Heights) SIGN UP TODAY! Summer Program Early Bird Registration Expires June 20

HOW TO REGISTER





STEP 3 We'll Notify You If You Win.



About Grit Athlete Performance (A Gabriele Fitness Company) GRIT helps kids ages 6-18 get strong, fast and confident so they can build a bigger and better future. They are located in Berkeley Heights inside Gabriele Fitness. All Grit coaches have been handpicked via a very lengthy interview process by Gabriele Fitness founder, Vince Gabriele.

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SUMMIT EMS RESPONSES – MARCH 2022

Summit's EMS Volunteers answered191 emergency calls in March. These included 124 medical emergencies: 22 falls; 5 motor vehicle accidents, including three on a highway; 37 traumatic injuries; nine cases of overdose or poisoning; three allergic reactions; five responses to a medical alarm, and two pedestrians struck by a vehicle. Squad Volunteers also provided 3 "lift assists" to patients who did not require transport to a

12 emergency calls were answered by an offduty "back-up crew" of volunteers responding from home or work when the on-duty crew is busy. There were also 15 emergency responses by Summit to provide mutual aid assistance to 4 neighboring towns. Eighteen transported to a hospital by Squad members also received advanced life support care from hospital-based paramedics who accompanied the Squad's ambulance.

Summit's volunteers also covered the Borough and Township of Chatham for the Chatham Emergency Squad during their annual dinner and another Summit crew covered the Union St. Patrick's Day Parade.

The Squad answers calls for help 24 hours a day and at a variety of locations. March responses included 76 to a patient's home or apartment; 25 for accidents or medical emergencies on roads or highways; nine in public buildings; eight at a local business; three at a school; and eleven to a health care professional's office. There were also

nine medical incidents on sidewalks: four in parking lots; 13 at Summit's Train Station; 19 at a local behavioral health facility; and 4 to an assisted living facility.

The all-volunteer First Aid Squad, responds to emergency calls 24/7, is entirely funded through private donations and does not bill for service. The Squad is always looking for new volunteers to join its ranks. All needed training, uniforms and equipment is provided. For information on becoming a volunteer, or donating to the squad please call 908-277-9479, or visit their web site at summitems.org.

BAN ON PLASTIC BAGS

Get your reusable bags ready. The statewide ban on single-use carryout bags and polystyrene foam food service products will go into effect on Wednesday, May 4, 2022. The law prohibits all New Jersey stores, food service businesses, and grocery stores from selling single-use plastic carryout bags. In addition, grocery stores larger than 2,500 square feet may not provide or sell single-use paper carryout bags, and instead must provide or sell only reusable carryout bags.

The new law also prohibits all persons and food service businesses from selling any polystyrene foam food service product or selling any food served in a polystyrene foam food service product. For more information, please visit the City of Summit website at cityofsummit.org/stateban.

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A NEW KIND OF VETERANS' EVENT

Submitted by Jesus Alejandro MiroQuesada

The New Jersey Veterans Network (NJVN) has a different way of reaching out to veterans Legion and New Bridge Medical Center were on and they proved this during their recent NJVN Veterans Salute event, a joint venture between the NJVN and the State VFW. NJVN Director Frank "Doc" Schupp and President Michael Boll treated NJ veterans to an event filled with enjoyable times, hot meals, free business attire, and resources for our state's heroes.

As you walked into the large room at VFW 2433 in Union Township, NJ, there were dozens of veterans smiling and mingling while DJ Doc Bear (an army veteran) played some tunes. The usual serious tone of similar events was replaced with a feeling of fun, comradery and comfort.

Air Force Veteran Cristina Lozada said "This event provided an outlet for these veterans to be themselves and have fun in an environment with like-minded individuals. I saw firsthand how taking the time to give back really impacted these veterans lives by feeling cared for and acknowledged."

While waiting their turn to choose their clothing from an attic full of free apparel, veterans partook in video games, card games, and Army vs Navy, and Air Force vs Marines chess games. Delicious pizza was available from nearby Reggio's Pizza which was sponsored by NJVNs partner JM Rodgers. With impressive skill, local barber Emilio of Signature Barbers of Elizabeth, NJ cut veteran's hair free of charge. Volunteers, vets, and family members all enjoyed themselves side by side while honoring our brave men and women.

When asked about the event, organizer Doc Schupp explained, "We wanted to make it a point to create an atmosphere where vets can have fun while receiving resources; this way instead of feeling anxious and uncomfortable, they are relaxed while speaking to service providers."

The Veteran Salute program had plenty of community support as representatives from the MOVES program, Vet Center, VFW, American hand to talk to veterans. The atmosphere was a very relaxed as vets interacted with service providers over games and refreshments.

Camillo Vanegas of the MOVES program was on hand to discuss their veteran job placement program. American Legion Commander Dennis Duddie listened respectfully to veterans' stories and advised them of various local programs. The Vet Center was on hand to answer questions about counseling and case management. Bergen New Bridge Medical Center set up a table explaining their many veteran assistance programs. FDU's internship program.

Volunteers included the Union High School 5-year-old Almanazar ROTC, Vickie volunteered alongside her father Daniel, Army veteran Uncle Homer, and many more served food, helped with clothing distribution, entertained, or just visited with the veterans while listening to their stories.

Army recruit Miss Matias, who was shipping out to basic training shortly, was on hand to volunteer and shared her thoughts, "The Veterans Salute event was so successful. We helped a lot of people and touched so many lives. Sometimes all a person needs are a warm smile and friendly conversation to take their mind of their troubles, even if only for a moment."

ABOUT NEW JERSEY VETERANS NETWORK

We are a group of veterans and volunteers dedicated to helping our veterans and their families live better lives. Our mission is to identify veterans and connect them with resources and programs designed to meet their unique set of needs. If you are interested in joining our team, would like us to speak at your event, or contribute to our mission, call 973-332-1556 or email mdbollio@optonline.net. To learn more visit njvn.org





BOY SCOUT CHESS TOURNAMENT RETURNS AFTER TWO YEAR HIATUS

After a two year hiatus due to Covid-19 restrictions the Boy Scouts Annual Chess Tournament in Cranford was back in full swing held on March 26, 2022 at the Cranford Community Center. The event was hosted by the newly configured Pioneer District or the Boy Scouts of America and Sponsored by Renna Media. Tom Andrea, Advisor, Patriots Path Council Chess Club and District Chairman Steve Flood organized the event.

First place winner was Paul Mild of Bound Brook who finished with a perfect score of 4.0, winning all four of his games. Second and third place winners with a score of 3.5, were Paul

After a two year hiatus due to Covid-19 Rinaldi and Sander Merrick, both from Florham

Thirty contestants participated in the tournament that is organized by Joe Renna of Renna Media, and Tournament Director John Moldovan. This tournament also met the 6a requirement for earning a Chess merit badge.

The Patriot Path Council Chess Club is open to all scouts and potential scouts and is free to join. Currently the club is playing monthly, Saturday morning online chess tournaments, usually the fourth Saturday of the month. There is a signup form to join the club that can be found on their website at 247scouting.com.





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(above, l-r) Players from Summit who participated in Boy Scouts Chess Tournament: Edoardo Pasquale, Derek Shen, Justin Shen, Yuchen Yang, Yuming Yang.



VOLUNTEERS SWORN IN TO ADVOCATE FOR FOSTER YOUTH

CASA of Union County

The new class of community members to step up and train as advocates for Union County foster youth have taken their oath before Union County Superior Court Judge Lara K. DiFabrizio and become the newest volunteers with Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Union County.

Since 2005, the nonprofit has recruited, trained, supported and supervised nearly 600 community volunteers to advocate for more than 900 such youth, protecting best interests and ensuring needs are met in the courtroom, classroom and community. As caseworkers, foster placements and schools can change frequently, CASA volunteers often are the only consistent, caring adult in a youth's corner, helping ensure already experienced trauma is not exacerbated as youth await permanency in a safe and loving home.

Judge DiFabrizio presided over the Zoom swearing-in ceremony of volunteers Lynda Sun Lee of Berkeley Heights, Katherine (Katie) Rabiecki of Cranford, Dina Gharaibeh of Kearny, Lila Monroe of Roselle, Julia Dranishnikov of Scotch Plains, and Robert Mallard of Union. In commemoration with gratitude, Judge DiFabrizio noted, "Thank you all for your commitment, passion, hard work, and loyalty to these families that desperately need it. It takes a village and now you're a part of it." Each volunteer will now be matched to a foster youth or foster sibling set, and begin putting their 30-hour training into practice, ensuring their needs are met and best interests are protected while they await permanency.

Anyone passionate about making a difference in a child's life can apply to volunteer; there is no prior experience or background needed to serve as an advocate. Each undergoes a thorough training process and is supported by CASA staff throughout their work. Successful advocates have varied life experiences and this class is no exception, as professional backgrounds include social work, education, judicial clerkship, health management, and business.

Upon being court-ordered to a case, the CASA volunteer has access to the youth's foster parents, doctors, caseworkers, therapists, and teachers and, through their regular child visits, identify and report to the judge any concerns and needs in order to protect the child's best interests.

As the only nonprofit serving as extra eyes and ears for Union County judges hearing cases of youth in the child welfare system, the organization regularly recruits community volunteers to serve these local child-victims from birth to age 21. To learn more about CASA of Union County, how to join a training class, and other ways to Change a Child's Story, email info@casaofunioncounty.org.





(above l-r) Community members are sworn in as advocates for foster youth. Top row: Berkeley Heights' Lynda Sun Lee, Roselle's Lila Monroe, Cranford's Katherine Rabiecki; Middle row: Union's Robert Mallard, Union County Superior Court Judge Lara K. DiFabrizio, Kearny's Dina Gharaibeh; Bottom row: Scotch Plains' Julia Dranishnikov.

Photo by CASA of Union County





GRETA'S RUN FOR IMAGINE - MAY 22

be held in-person for the first time in 2 years! Join us on Sunday May 22, 2022 for an official USATF 5K race through Westfield, NJ. This year, we are introducing a Memory Walk – a 0.6 mile route where families of the community can walk in memory of anyone who has died. Memory Walk Registrants can purchase a sign to decorate with the name of their loved one to line the walk route and memorialize their family member.

Greta's Run began 9 years ago when a group of Greta Schoenemann's friends decided they wanted to honor her memory with a 5k race. Greta had died on September 15, 2002 due to injuries sustained when a branch fell on a group of students as they were eating lunch outside of Westfield High School. This year marks the 20th anniversary of Greta's death and the 9th year the race has been run in her honor.

Sadly, many of us have experienced the loss of someone we love and this year's event is in honor of all of them. We invite everyone to join us as we run, walk or roll in honor of Greta and all those we love who have died. At Imagine, we see this run as an act of honor, as an act of mourning and of remembrance for our families and our community.

Before the 5K race, we invite everyone to join us for a Memory Walk when we will provide time and space for all to walk in honor of those who have died but are not forgotten.

Proceeds from the race support Imagine's free peer support groups for children and families

The 9th Annual Greta's Run for Imagine will coping with grief, as well as Imagine's grief education programs which are available for schools and businesses looking to better support their communities. Additionally, Imagine staff are available to provide support in the immediate aftermath of a loss in a school community, organization or place of business.

> We are so thankful for our sponsors thus far for the 9th Annual Greta's Run for Imagine. A big thank you to our Memory Walk Sponsor: Toriello Family in honor of MTT Memorial Fund and thank you to our hydration sponsor Westfield Pediatric Dental Group, and shirt sponsors Family Investors Company and Rossi Funeral Home. Your sponsorships help underwrite the event and help ensure that every dollar goes directly to providing free grief support for children and families. To become a sponsor, please contact Angela Marie Tayco angela@imaginenj.org or 908-228-3360.

> To register for Greta's Run and/or the Memory Walk, please visit imaginenj.org/gretasrun. We look forward to coming together as a community to honor and remember those we love who have died.

Imagine's Executive Director, Lindsay Schambach would like to extend this invitation to you: 'We hope that you will join us and walk alongside our families, our children, and our community, and let everyone know that their loss matters, that they are not alone, and they are never forgotten.'

Imagine offers grief and loss education and

549 Lexington Avenue • Cranford

training to the community and free year-round grief support groups for children ages 3-18 who have had a parent, sibling, or close family member die. Concurrent groups are available for parents and guardians of the children in our groups, and young adults 18-30. Imagine also offers a support group for Spanish speaking adults. For more information, please contact Imagine at 908-264-3100 or info@imaginenj.org.



(above) To register for Greta's Run and/or the Memory Walk, please visit imaginenj.org/gretasrun.

*Some expiration dates apply so don't delay



"TOGETHER WE CELEBRATE" GALA

Wharton Institute for the Performing Arts

It was a glorious night for Wharton Institute for the Performing Arts at the sold-out "Together We Celebrate" Annual Gala on Thursday, March 10, 2022. Held at the beautiful Westmount Country Club in Woodland Park, NJ, host WNYC's David Furst welcomed the huge crowd, introduced the outstanding musicians and guests of honor: world-renowned multi-instrumentalist Paul Shaffer who received the Lifetime Achievement Award, and harpist/educator Robbin Gordon-Cartier who received the There Education Award. were performances during the night including a harp showcase by Gordon-Cartier and her students, the Cicely L. Tyson Harps and Shaffer with members of the New Jersey Youth Symphony Jazz Orchestra and the Paterson Music Project String Septet. Offering support for those in the Ukraine, all of the proceeds from the gala's silent auction -- \$8,865 – are being donated to Doctors Without

Borders.

Peter H. Gistelinck, Executive Director of Wharton Arts, shared his enthusiasm about the evening and said, "People are telling us it was, by far, the best gala in our history. There was a wonderful energy in the room and great enthusiasm for our honorees. We were thrilled that our founder, Judith G. Wharton, attended with our Board of Trustees and honored guests." He continued, and said, "Paul Shaffer is respected worldwide and is known for his years serving as David Letterman's musical director, band leader and sidekick. In addition, his career spans all aspects of entertainment - music, acting and comedy. He exemplifies the versatility available in the performing arts, and he is a true inspiration to our students. When Paul performed with our jazz students, it was thrilling for the youth and equally for everyone in attendance."

Helen H. Cha-Pyo, Artistic Director of Wharton Arts, was equally pleased with the

Photo by James Orthmann, ThinkCogo Photography

evening and very proud of the student performers. In recognition of Robbin Gordon-Cartier, she said, "Robbin is an extraordinary educator with passion for using music to help young people find themselves. Her talent as a harpist extends from the stage to the classroom to community gatherings as an ambassador of music with messages of hope. She is someone who inspires us all. Watching her performance along with several other harpists was wonderful for everyone in attendance."

ABOUT WHARTON INSTITUTE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS:

Wharton Arts' mission is to offer accessible, high quality performing arts education that sparks personal growth and builds inclusive communities. Wharton Arts is New Jersey's largest independent non-profit community performing arts education center serving over 1,500 students through a range of classes and ensembles including the 15 ensembles of the New Jersey Youth Symphony, which serve 500 students in grades 3 - 12 by audition. Beginning with Pathways classes for young children, Wharton offers private lessons, group classes, and ensembles for all ages and all abilities at the Performing Arts School. With the belief in the positive and unifying influence of music and the performing arts and that arts education should be accessible to all people regardless of their ability to pay, Wharton teaches all instruments and voice and has a robust musical theater program. Based in Paterson, New Jersey, the Paterson Music Project is an El Sistema-inspired program of Wharton Arts that uses music as a vehicle for social change by empowering and inspiring children through the community experience of ensemble learning and playing.

Wharton Arts is located in Berkeley Heights, New Providence and Paterson, NJ and reaches students from 10 counties in New Jersey. All of Wharton's extraordinary faculty members and conductors hold degrees in their teaching specialty and have been vetted and trained to enable our students to achieve their personal best. For more information, visit whartonarts.org.



(above) Paul Shaffer with musicians in the Paterson Music Project String Septet

Photo by Sharla Feldscher



Photo by Sharla Feldscher

(above) Honorees Robbin Gordon-Carter and Paul Shaffer

(above) Members of the New Jersey Youth Symphony Jazz Orchestra loved performing with Shaffer and hanging out as they took a serious look at a saxophone.

















New Jersey Youth Chorus

AUDITIONS

Joining Wharton Insitute for the Performing Arts July 1, 2022!

June 12 & June 18, 2022 New Providence, NJ

The New Jersey Youth Chorus is an auditioned choral program for students in grades 3-12.

Previous Performances include:

White House • Carnagie Hall • SuperBowl The Today Show • NJPAC • Kennedy Center

Tours to:

England & Wales • Austria • Italy Germany • Hungary • Ireland • Hawaii • Disney

Audition Application Closes June 5

For more information and to register, visit NJYouthChorus.org





Celebrating NJYC's 30th Anniversary in 2022-2023 Season with special performances, festivals and tours!

SHINING STARS TO PRESENT "GREATEST HITS" - MAY 14TH

The Shining Stars are back! Celebrating 10 the years. The Cranford-based organization still years on the stage, the talented special needs cast will be presenting "The Greatest Hits" covering many of the memorable performances over the past decade.

The outdoor show will take place on the campus of Woodbridge High School, located at 1 Samuel Lupo Way, Woodbridge, on Saturday, May 14, 2022 at 5 p.m. There will be food trucks, a tricky tray and a 50/50 raffle.

"It's hard to believe it's been ten years, but it's been an incredible journey," noted Shining Stars Network Founder and Show Director Sally Curci. "We continue to be inspired by our performers every day. Their passion, dedication and talent is what makes our shows come to life."

The Shining Stars have performed in front of audiences of 1,000 or more, with cast members from seven different counties performing over has many Cranford residents, but is open to anyone who wants to experience the performing arts.

"We're all about inclusion and opportunity while building self-esteem and creating friendships," said Shining Stars Network Founder and President Mike Curci. "There have been so many incredible performances over the years and we can't wait to see our stars shine on stage once again."

Tickets are available by going to ShiningStarsNetwork.org and clicking on the "purchase tickets" page. General admission tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the show. Please bring a folding chair or blanket. Seating boxes are first-come, first-served. Gates open at 4 p.m. Plenty of on-site parking is available. Rain date is May 21st. Any cancellation will be noted at ShiningStarsNetwork.org.

SHINING STARS NETWORK is a non-profit organization based in Cranford, N.J. founded by Sally and Mike Curci that shines the light on the special needs community by creating opportunities in the performing arts, with the goal of building self-confidence and self-esteem while enjoying the experience of performing on stage. In addition, their Shining Stars Ambassadors basketball team travels to play local first responders and organizations while building friendship and understanding. Now entering its 6th year, Camp Shine (for ages 10-20 years) and The Shining Stars Summer Workshop (21 and over performers) are two-week intensive programs open to everyone, including those with developmental disabilities, that will take place August 15-26, 2022. For more information on Shining Stars Network or any of their programs, please visit ShiningStarsNetwork.org or send your email to ShiningStarsNetwork@gmail.com.



(above) Shining Stars, a special needs performing arts group, takes the stage on May 14th. For more information visit ShiningStarsNetwork.org.





SEA SCOUTS OPEN HOUSE - MAY 21

Sea Scouts from Ship 228 operate the 65' vessel Sea Dart II, one of the largest Sea Scout vessels on the east coast, along with a fleet of smaller vessels (including sailboats) from their base located in Linden, NJ. Sea Scouting (Part of the Venturing Program of the BSA – Boy Scouts of America) offers young adults the opportunity to travel and learn skills that could be useful in future careers.

wheelhouse, learning engine room repair or visiting a new port on one of the many trips, there's something you'll enjoy in Sea Scouting. So, try something different, check us out, and prepare yourself to set sail for a real adventure.

Parents, give your son or daughter a valuable gift by encouraging them to join Sea Scouting today. The time you invest in him today will

Whether you're steering the vessel from the make a difference in the person he becomes tomorrow.

> Sea Scouting is for boys and girls who are at least 14 years old (or 13 years of age and have completed eighth grade) and under 21 years of age. We have a Maritime Explorer Club for middle school aged youth as well. Potential adult volunteers are welcome too!

> The crews of Patriots Path Sea Scouts will host their open house at the Carteret Marina, located in the Carteret Waterfront park, 200 Middlesex Avenue, Carteret, NJ, on Saturday, May 21, 2022 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sea Scout Ship's 228 and 243 normally operate out of their base at 4400 Tremley Point Road in Linden, NJ, which is currently undergoing a construction project. As a result, the town of Carteret has graciously offered the use of their municipal marina to host our open house this year.

> The open house will include tours of the council's main vessels (the 65-foot Sea Dart II and Sea Horse), an introduction to the Sea Scout program, and fun activities that are bound to pique a young adult's interest in boating and scouting. There will be free hamburgers and hotdogs for those who tour the vessels. No reservation required. Come down to visit and bring a friend or family member!

For more information visit ship228.com.





(above) The crews of Patriots Path Sea Scouts will host their open house at the Carteret Marina, located in the Carteret Waterfront park, 200 Middlesex Avenue, Carteret, NJ, on Saturday, May 21, 2022 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The open house will include tours of the council's main vessels (the 65-foot Sea Dart II and Sea Horse), an introduction to the Sea Scout program, and fun activities that are bound to pique a young adult's interest in boating and scouting.



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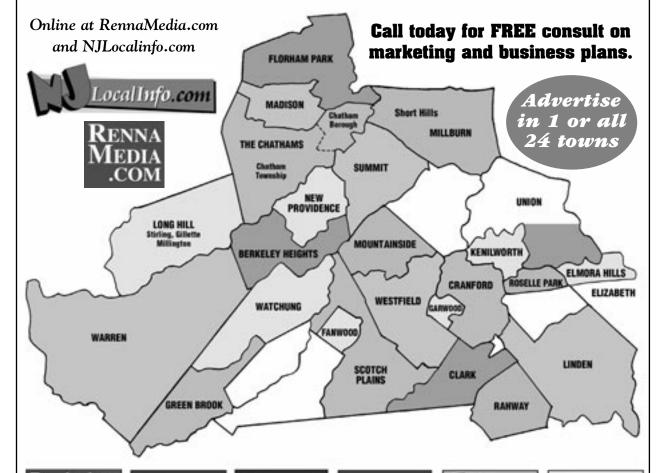
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