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BSA SCOUTS EARN RANK ADVANCEMENTS

Scouts BSA Troop 7 celebrated rank advancements for fourteen scouts at its Court of Honor held on Monday, June 13, 2022.

As Senior Patrol Leader Dylan Hock explained during the ceremony, "The Boy Scouts of America recognizes achievements by awarding badges of rank. This Court of Honor is an opportunity to celebrate the Scouting traditions and to share in our Scouts' achievements."

The rank of "Scout" was awarded to Colin Detgen, Peter Kohut, Ryan Egan, and Sebastian Schleck of Madison and Nate Estrella of Florham Park. "Second Class Rank" was awarded to Robert Crimmins and Ryan Egan of Madison and Patrick Roberts of Harding Township. Mason Hock of Madison was awarded the "First Class" rank, Dylan Hock earned "Star" rank, and Ryan Hock earned the rank of "Life" Scout.

Troop 7 also recognized Ryan Carrell, George Dailey, and Connor Erezuma for earning the Eagle Scout Award, the highest and most coveted rank in Scouting and the last major step in the advancement program. Scoutmaster Martin Gurney lauded these young men by remarking that "fewer than 4 percent of all Scouts in the United States reach the Eagle Scout rank."

"To meet the most rigorous requirement for this rank, each of these Eagle Scouts planned, developed and led others in carrying out a significant and meaningful service project to benefit their community. It was especially challenging for these three young men, as they executed their projects under lockdown conditions over the 18 months. Ryan Carrell, who lives in East Hanover, built an outdoor classroom at Brooklake School in Florham Park. George Dailey, a Madison resident, coordinated a team of volunteers to assist with the construction of timber stairs on a trail in Madison's Summerhill Park. Madison resident Connor Erezuma selected a conservation project, building and installing bat boxes for a protected species around the perimeter of the Madison Community Pool. In carrying out these service projects, Ryan, George and Connor have left an important mark on their communities, and we applaud them."

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Troop 7 is chartered by St. Vincent Martyr Catholic Church in Madison. Information about Troop 7 is available online at troopwebhost.org/Troop7Madison, and young men ages 11-17 are welcome to observe a meeting or join at any time.



(above) Ryan Carrell, a rising junior at Hanover Park High School and Troop 7 Eagle Scout.

(above) George Dailey, 2022 graduate of the Morris County School of Technology and Troop 7 Eagle Scout.





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STUDENTS HONORED WITH NATIONAL MUSIC AWARDS

Two Florham Park piano students are the recipients of the prestigious National Federation of Music Clubs' Grand Cup and President's Cup. These awards represent a high level of musicianship and years of dedication.

Samantha Howden was awarded the NFMC's highest honor, the President's Cup, the only student in New Jersey to achieve this top award in 2022. A recent graduate of Hanover Park High School, Samantha is also a recipient of the Florham Park Rotary Scholarship. She has studied piano since she was six and has performed in Carnegie Hall five times as a winner in the Golden Key Festival. In addition,

she is also an accomplished ballet dancer. Samantha plans to major in Chemistry in the Honors Program at the University of Michigan.

Kaitlyn Vuong was awarded the NFMC's second highest honor, the Grand Cup, one of only two students in New Jersey to achieve this level. She has studied piano since she was five, has performed in Carnegie Hall as a Golden Key Festival winner, and plays flute and piccolo in band. She will be entering her Senior year at the Academy of Design at the Morris County School of Technology in the fall.

Both students study piano with Barbara Landi Hause of Florham Park.



(above) Samantha Howden was awarded the NFMC's highest honor, the President's Cup, the only student in New Jersey to achieve this top award in 2022.



(above) Kaitlyn Vuong was awarded the NFMC's second highest honor, the Grand Cup, one of only two students in New Jersey to achieve this level.

Courtesy photos



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33 Rockwood Rd	6	6.1	3	\$1,949,000	\$2,250,000	21
157 Briarwood Rd	5	4.1	3	\$1,700,000	\$1,650,000	18
8 Pheasant Way	5	5.0	2	\$1,199,000	\$1,325,000	7
244 Brooklake Rd	4	2.1	3	\$1,195,000	\$1,200,000	13
6 Indian Ln	5	4.0	3	\$1,249,500	\$1,200,000	34
18 Village Rd	4	2.1	2	\$919,000	\$1,055,000	9
28 Riverside Dr	3	2.1	2	\$799,000	\$935,000	8
117 Roosevelt Blvd	5	3.0	2	\$779,000	\$920,000	8
4 Hanover Rd	3	3.1	2	\$899,000	\$900,000	20
165 Ridgedale Ave	3	2.2	2	\$865,000	\$865,000	44
7 Casper Ct	2	3.2	2	\$865,000	\$800,000	53
20 Northern Ave	3	2.0	2	\$769,000	\$800,000	10
100 Edgewood Dr	4	2.0	1	\$739,990	\$775,000	20
22 Woods End Rd	3	2.0	2	\$699,000	\$733,000	15
44 Circle Rd	3	2.0	2	\$659,000	\$723,000	14

Source: GSMLS, select properties sold 6/17/022-7/18/2022



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(above) Samantha Howden and Sydney Stavraka - Rotary Scholarship Winners

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ROTARY MARCHES IN INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

Submitted by Peter Nicolas

The Florham Park Rotary marched in the 65th Florham Park Independence Day Parade. It was a beautiful day. The two Rotary scholarship award winners sat up high in the back of a 2000 Ford Mustang convertible and waved to the crowds who lined the parade route.

Past President George Gregor, President Simone Campbell, and Sergeant-at-Arms Peter Nicolas marched with the Rotary banner. At frequent stops Peter frequently walked over to groups of parents and their kids to share that the two scholarship winners earned this recognition because of their community volunteer work. They performed good deeds, including some leadership roles, in such efforts as Moms Helping Moms, Market Street Mission, Bridges (feeding homeless), Spark!Lab, and ERASE (End Racism and Sexism Everywhere).

The 50/50 raffle tickets sold by the Rotary at the Independence Day Parade and the 2022 Rotary Dog Parade and Costume Contest are two main sources to raise funds for next year's scholarship award winners. The awards recognize students who are Florham Park residents and who attend their senior year in local high schools. This year's winners were from Hanover Park High, with recent winners also being from Morris County School of Technology, Oratory Prep and St. Peter's High School.



(above) Simone Campbell, Bob and Nicki Feid selling Rotary 50/50 Raffle Tickets Photos by David Kramer



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CALLING LOCAL ARTISTS, CRAFTERS, AND COLLECTORS!

The Florham Park Public Library is looking for fun and interesting things to feature in their lobby display cases. Past exhibits include PEZ dispensers, military collectibles, ceramic masks, collages crafted during the pandemic, bookmarks, vintage sheet music, Barbie dolls, and many other diverse collections. Currently, the Herold family's Lego creations are on display!

If you are a collector, crafter, artist, or member of a community group, the library's lobby display cases offer a great opportunity to showcase your work. Exhibitors have access to two five-foot by five-foot glass cases which are twenty inches deep and have locking doors. Each case contains glass shelves that can be height adjusted or removed completely; the library will provide small display easels to aid exhibitors in arranging their items. Displays are typically featured for one month. If you are interested in becoming an exhibitor, please email the Florham Park Public Library at reference@flo.mainlib.org.



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PAT GIORDANO SEMPER FIDELIS

Michael Boll, President NJVN

The New Jersey Veterans Network has been extremely fortunate with the overwhelming amount of support from the general public. This allows our team to continue its work to provide veterans life-saving and changing resources. One of our new supporter/volunteer is my father-inlaw, Pat Giordano.

Pat Giordano was born and raised in Madison, NJ and after high school graduation, he



(above) Florham Park resident Pat Giordano with his pickup truck honoring the Marine Corps. Courtesy photo

immediately joined the United States Marine Corps. While in the Marines, Pat was assigned to a infantry recon unit in Okinawa Japan. After being discharged honorably, he moved to Florham Park, NJ, got married to his wife Bonnie and started a family.

Pat has always loved the Marines and continued to serve by being an active member of the American Legion and Marine Corps League. Recently, he stepped things up and purchased a pickup truck and had it completely decorated with Marine Corps history. Almost immediately after this, he began displaying his truck at our team parades and events.

A few weeks ago, I used his truck at an event and had countless people thanking me for my service and asking to take a picture of the truck. It was nice seeing so many patriotic people loving our military.

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 a veteran or family member that is in need of assistance, or 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.

CHESS FOR FUN CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

players who have been meeting for roughly 50 years. The group's players come from all over, and in the case of Larry Morse, as far away as Whitehouse Station. The most senior player, at 98 years old, is still playing strong.

It their earlier years the group met at the Rahway Public Library when it was located on St. Georges Avenue. In 1999 a flood destroyed the library. Chess for Fun has been meeting in it would be helpful if you can.

Chess for Fun is a casual group of chess the Clark Public Library every Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. And at Max's Pizza & Bistro in Scotch plains on Monday mornings at 11 a.m.

> There are no formalities to the group. It is not an established club with officers or membership. Everyone of any ability is welcome to participate. Regulars bring their own board to share so it is not necessary to bring a board, but



(above, standing, l-r) Players and hometowns: Larry Morse, Whitehouse Station; Mark Shoengold, Colonia; Jack Rothstein, Edison; John Foy, Scotch Plains; Bodre. (seated, l-r) David Goldstein, South Plainfield; Neil Landau, Edison; Matthew Bistis, Mountainside.



Patios
Curbs

SAGE WORKSHOP RENEWS LIFE FOR 20-YEAR-OLD **FATHER'S DAY GIFT**

Ed Midgley of Berkeley Heights received a bench as a Father's Day gift from his children. After years of outdoor weathering and exposure to the temperatures, it had fallen apart in a distant corner of his garden. While spring cleaning this year, Ed decided to have it refurbished at SAGE Workshop in Summit and it is now a focal point of curbside appeal for his home. "Coming into the workshop in the basement" said Ed, "is like coming into Santa's Workshop with every workstation abuzz with elves working on gifts for the holiday."

Simon Rosenstein, workshop volunteer, chose mahogany flooring to restore the bench. He measured, cut the wood planks to fit the originals, and painted the wrought iron back to its original glamour. "Repairing this bench for Ed was an honor," said Simon.

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 its 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 over fifty years ago as a place for older men who no longer had access to a home workshop. Dozens of women have worked in the historically male enclave. Most volunteers are former professionals including investment bankers, college professors, physicians, and scientists. Over the years, they have taught each other caning, rushing and a myriad of other techniques needed to fix the aging furniture brought to them for restoration.

The Workshop is in the basement of the SAGE building located at 290 Broad Street, Summit and is easily accessible. 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.



(above) Ed Midgley of Berkeley Heights with bench after repairs.

LOCAL CHORUS OFFERS FREE **A CAPPELLA SINGING SESSIONS**

Adelines International invites women singers to register for its free "Big Summer Sing." You can come any Wednesday, in August, 7 to 9:30 p.m. at The Shrine of St Joseph, 1050 Long Hill Road, Stirling, NJ for chord-ringing, fun-filled, four-part a cappella music.

Each week, guests will participate in vocal

The Hickory Tree Chorus chapter of Sweet and physical warm-ups and work on songs with the chorus. The chorus sings a variety of music, including old-fashioned love songs, Broadway, Disney, Beatles, and more.

> To register for the Big Summer Sing, please email info@hickorytreechorus.org or call 908-377-1399. For more information, visit hickorytreechorus.org.



WATERSHED ASSOC JOINS EFFORT TO PRESERVE DREW FOREST

Great Swamp Watershed Association (GSWA) has become the latest organization to officially join in the efforts to save the Drew Forest from development.

Located on the Drew University campus in Madison, New Jersey, Drew Forest is a 53-acre undeveloped, biodiverse preserve that is home to glacial ponds and some of the oldest trees in Morris County. The Forest has been called a living classroom for teaching and research for Drew University students and the wider community.

Drew University recently requested that the Borough of Madison rezone the Forest to potentially allow for the development of hundreds of market rate housing units. This has prompted more than 15 municipalities, government agencies, and organizations working with Friends of the Drew Forest to urge Drew University to partner with the Borough of Madison to preserve this tract of land.

"Great Swamp Watershed Association is proud to support this important preservation initiative," stated Sally Rubin, GSWA Executive Director. "The Drew Forest is an invaluable natural resource that will be lost forever if the Borough is ordered by the court to allow construction and the land is fragmented by development."

The Buried Valley Aquifer flows beneath the Forest which provides all the drinking water for the boroughs of Madison and Chatham and is a major source of drinking water for 30 municipalities in Morris, Essex, Somerset, and Union County. The Forest provides critical recharge, a natural cleansing process, that captures and purifies approximately 71.5 million gallons of rainfall each year. This ecosystem service is valued at \$1.5 million annually by the Department of Environmental Protection.

Friends of the Drew Forest, a volunteer advocacy group, was formed by concerned citizens to permanently protect and sustain the Forest and to raise awareness on the value of all forests. The group has proposed a "win-win" solution; a conservation sale where Drew University would work with Madison Borough to sell the land for full market value to a conservation buyer. The organization is asking the public to support this initiative by signing their online petition. With more than 13,000 signatures towards the goal of 15,000, The organization states, "The petition is a clarion call to local officials, Drew University and the press." To learn more and to sign the petition, visit friendsofthedrewforest.org.

GSWA joins the following municipalities, government agencies, and organizations working with Drew University in support of preserving of the Drew Forest: Chatham Borough, Chatham Township, Harding Environmental Commission, Morristown, Morris Township Environmental Commission, Parsippany-Troy Hills, Sierra Club NJ, Ridge and Valley Conservancy, the Drew University Student Government, Whippany



River Watershed Action Committee, Schiff Natural Lands Trust, Native Plant Society of NJ, Garden Club of America Zone IV, and the Old-Growth Forest Network.

ABOUT THE GREAT SWAMP WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

Founded in 1981, the Great Swamp Watershed Association (GSWA) is a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting and improving the health of the Passaic River through science, education, land preservation and stewardship, and advocacy. In collaboration with partners, we work to instill our communities with an awareness of water's effect on health and the beauty of the environment, from source to sea. The organization educates nearly 5,000 school children, monitors over 30 stream locations, and holds approximately 50 public events each year.



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