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## THE CHATHAMS

## **Renna Media LLC, Publishers** 202 Walnut Ave., Cranford, NJ 07016

The Chathams is published by Renna Media. 7,500 newspapers are printed monthly and mailed to every business and resident in the Chathams.

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## **OLIVIA BARY OFFICIALLY SWORN IN**

Chatham Township Volunteer Fire Department

Please join us in congratulating Olivia Bary, who was officially sworn in as a member of the Chatham Township Volunteer Fire Department (CTVFD) in August.

Olivia joined the department in January 2021 through the CTVFD's Junior Firefighter Program and went on to earn her Firefighter 1 certification at the Morris County Fire Academy. According to Olivia, "The fire service is like a family, and the longer I'm around the firehouse, the more that idea is solidified."

Olivia graduated from Chatham High School and will be attending Boston University this fall. Deputy Chief James Soccodato shared that, "The CTVFD is very proud of Olivia. Not only is she a great addition to our team but hopefully she will inspire more women and high school students to join us."

If you are a high school junior or senior and would like to join, please email membership@ctfd.org.

#### ABOUT THE CHATHAM TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Established in 1925, the Department is comprised entirely of volunteer members including 25 active firefighters, junior firefighters and associate members providing services 24 hours a day, 365 days per year. The department operates its headquarters on River Road and a second station on Southern Boulevard and responds to approximately 300 calls each year, both within Chatham Township and in the form of mutual aid to departments in neighboring communities.



(above) Pictured are Deputy Chief James Soccodato, Olivia Bary, and CTVFD President Richard Gentles.

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2 Linden Ln	6	6.2	3	\$2,820,000	\$2,820,000	0
18 Highland Ave	6	4.1	2	\$2,250,000	\$2,560,000	10
166 Fairmount Ave	5	4.0	2	\$1,490,000	\$1,806,000	19
10 Peppermill Rd	5	2.1	2	\$1,749,000	\$1,800,000	42
131 Highland Ave	4	2.1	2	\$1,695,000	\$1,720,000	8
10 Lake Rd	5	4.1	2	\$1,699,000	\$1,675,000	10
328 Fairmount Ave	5	4.1	2	\$1,550,000	\$1,632,500	34
11 Poplar Ln	3	4.0	2	\$1,595,000	\$1,550,000	24
2 Molino Drive	4	4.1	3	\$1,425,000	\$1,385,000	30
19 Inwood Rd	4	3.0	1	\$1,295,000	\$1,375,000	9
52 Sunset Dr	4	2.1	2	\$1,350,000	\$1,270,000	34
11 Fairfax Ter	4	2.1	2	\$750,000	\$975,000	10
3 Long Hill Ln	3	3.0	1	\$849,000	\$875,000	8
36 Van Doren Ave	3	2.1	1	\$849,000	\$785,000	56
181 Watchung Ave	3	2.0	2	\$689,000	\$689,000	36

Source: GSMLS, select properties sold 7/23/2022-8/23/2022



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## **GREAT SWAMP ASSOC JOINS EFFORT TO PRESERVE DREW FOREST**

Great Swamp Watershed Association (GSWA) Madison to preserve this tract of land. 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

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"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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## **FABULOUS FALL FUNDRAISER**

Thursday Morning Club

On Saturday, October 15, 2022 the Thursday Morning Club (TMC) returns with the Fabulous Fall Fundraiser Raffle and Cocktail Party. Join in the fun by purchasing a \$100, 50%/25%/25% raffle ticket which entitles you to two chances of winning one-quarter (1/4) of the total receipts plus attendance for two to the Cocktail Party at the Madison Community House. Proceeds go to support the Madison Community House (MCH), owned and operated by the Thursday Morning Club.

The TMC's MCH provides a Pre-School for

3- and 4-year-olds, Before and After School Child Care (BASCC) at all Madison elementary schools, summer camps, and space which is used by a number of groups and organizations for meetings and/or social events. "Dress for Success Northern New Jersey's 10 Counties" also makes its home at the MCH. As many as 50,000 people use the MCH annually.

To purchase tickets for the "Fabulous Fall Fundraiser" or for further information, please call the Madison Community house at 973-377-0244 or visit thursdaymorningclub.org.



(above) Thursday Morning Club members getting ready for the Fabulous Fall Fundraiser. (back, l-r Marie Toto, Anne Lawless, Judy Hynes, Pat Wolf; (front, l-r) Linda Gero, Nancy Wallace, Arlene Odell.





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## **HALOS FOR ANGELS HOSTS** "LOVE IS IN THE AIR GALA"

Halos for Angels, a Florham Park based 501(c)3 charity, will celebrate life-love-family at their 11th Annual "Love Is In The Air Gala" on September 15, from 6 to 10 p.m., at the Brooklake Country Club in Florham Park.

The 2022 Honorees are Harsh and Nina Bansal, Natalee Bartlett, Susan Cannilla, Police Chief Christopher Cannizzo, and Charles Germershausen. The Community Spirit Award will be presented to the ECLC of NJ - Chatham Chapter. All are welcome to attend an evening of dinner, raffles, comedian April Tinari, and dancing to the music of The Powertones.

Since 2010, Halos for Angels has provided temporary relief, comfort, and support to over 300 families in the Morris County area. Through a network of volunteers, and donations from individuals and corporations, Halos for Angels

has offered financial assistance, transportation, medical supplies, clothing, meals, emotional support, and scholarships to those facing devastating events in their lives. The charity is always looking for new volunteers and sponsors to support this community-based organization.

The Gala is our primary fund-raiser. By purchasing a ticket your support will raise crucial funds needed to continue helping families in our communities. If you can not attend the Gala, tax-deductible donations and gift cards are greatly appreciated.

To purchase tickets for the Gala, or to join our volunteer staff, contact Director and Founder, Karen Casolaro at halosforangels@gmail.com or call 973-738-3883. Tickets are \$125.00 per person.

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## **NAVY VETERAN GIFTS CEREMONIAL SWORD TO NAVY ENSIGN**

Submitted by John Merwin

Fifty-eight years ago, a young, newly commissioned Navy Ensign Sam Francis purchased his ceremonial sword and set off for duty on a destroyer. Recently, the long-time Chatham Emergency Squad member presented that sword to another young, just-commissioned ensign, about to leave for duty, and just like Francis, on a destroyer.

The recipient is Gavin Mayes, 23, a six-year member of the Chatham Emergency Squad, and for much of that time a member of Francis' Thursday Chatham Emergency Squad crew. Said



(above) Pictured are Sam Francis and Ensign Gavin Mayes.

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Francis, age 79, "I watched Gavin's Navy ROTC Services. journey at Rutgers and admired his devotion in pursuing a Navy career. As a token of my respect, I wanted to pass along my sword." Francis bought his sword in 1964 when commissioned at Yale University as a Navy ROTC graduate.

"It is an incredible honor," said Mayes. "Sam's sword is a decades old family heirloom, imbedded with a lot of tradition."

The sword, with a 31-inch steel blade, today is used in the Navy for ceremonial occasions. Also, it is used in Navy weddings where the justmarried bride and groom walk through the familiar "Arch of Swords," held high by fellow Navy officers. The ceremonial sword is a very distant relative of the shorter and lighter Navy cutlass, which centuries ago was used by sailors in hand-to-hand combat, when clambering aboard enemy ships.

In May, Vice Admiral John Muston, chief of US Navy Reserve Operations, commissioned Mayes and other Rutgers-Princeton Navy ROTC graduates. Francis said he asked Admiral Muston whether new officers today are required to have ceremonial swords. "Muston replied, 'No,"" Frances said, "but that it would be a useful gift to Mayes for formal occasions or to lend another officer." Added Francis, "Gavin was honored to receive the sword, and I was honored to give it."

Mayes is a lifelong resident of the Green Village section of Chatham Township and a 2018 Chatham High School graduate. At Rutgers, he was elected student body president and also served as an EMT for Rutgers Emergency

Mayes joined the Chatham Emergency Squad in 2016 as part of the squad's high school cadet program. Mayes is one of a number of Chatham Scout Troop 8 Eagle Scouts who in recent years joined the squad's cadet program, then studied to become licensed EMTs, and worked through the squad's rigorous training program to become full members of Chatham Emergency Squad.

Mayes' interest in the Navy was inspired by his grandfather, a career naval officer, and also his great grandfather, who served in the Navy as an enlisted man.

For his five-year Navy service obligation Mayes elected to join the Navy's "surface community," which means serving aboard ships. "I was attracted to serving on a ship because it gives me the chance to be leader in a challenging 'ecosystem,' with hundreds of folks working in tandem to make the ship's operation proficient."

Recently Mayes traveled to San Diego to begin a seven-month officer training program, including training on the Tomahawk missile system, a low altitude missile launched from Navy guided missile destroyers. Afterward, Mayes will be a watch officer for that system on the USS Spruance, a guided missile destroyer based in San Diego, assigned to the Navy's Seventh Fleet.

When deployed, The Spruance will be part of a Seventh Fleet carrier attack group, an aircraft carrier surrounded by a contingent of other naval ships, including destroyers, sailing in the Pacific, primarily off Southeast Asia.



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## **SEPTEMBER EVENTS AND PROGRAMS FOR SENIORS**

973.635.4565 • CHATHAMSENIORCENTER.ORG • INFO@CHATHAMSENIORCENTER.ORG MONDAY-FRIDAY, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM • 58 MEYERSVILLE ROAD (LOWER LEVEL), CHATHAM, NJ NON-CHATHAM RESIDENTS ALSO WELCOME. CALL CENTER TO SIGN UP.

#### The Senior Center of the Chathams Grief Support Group

Tuesdays, starting September 6, 10:00 a.m. This support group provides a space to explore experience with loss. Sessions take place on Tuesdays through October 21; no session on September 23.

#### **Welcome Back Pizza Lunch**

Thursday, September 8, 11:45 a.m. Enjoy some "welcome back" pizza and stay to watch the Thursday movie. Sponsored by Morris View. Space is limited. Caregiver Support Group

Thursday, September 8, 1:00 p.m. Provide caregivers with the emotional support and education they need to better understand forms of dementia. The group will meet on the first Thursday of each month.

#### Connections Self Discovery Group

Fridays, starting September 9, 10:00 a.m. Endeavor fun, self-discovery, and mutual support in this group.

#### Short Story Reading Club Friday, September 23, 10:00 a.m. Join the discussion about the short story, "The

Lesson" by Toni Cade Bambara. Writing Workshop

Monday, September 12, 11:00 a.m. Try this fun, introductory writing workshop which is open to all types of aspiring writers.

#### **Postage Stamp Collecting** Monday, September 12, 1:00 p.m.

How postage stamps are collected, stored, evaluated, traded, bought, and sold.

#### Line Dancing

Monday, September, September 12, 1:30 p.m.

Instructor Linda Hyland will teach line dancing. Wear sneakers and loose clothing.

#### **Salsa Dancing Classes** Tuesdays, starting September 13, 2:00 p.m.

Intended for older adults who dance or enjoy the music. Five classes through Tues, Oct. 11. Senior Travel Program: Bella Italia

Wednesday, September 14, 2:00 p.m. This presentation will explore travel to Italy.

#### Improving Sleep and Mood

Thursday, September 15, Noon Representatives from the Mt. Sinai School of Medicine discuss how to improve sleep and mood with the power of light.

#### **Reminiscence Group**

Monday, September 19, 10:00 a.m. Participants will have a chance to share their good memories and personal stories based on the mystery question pulled from a jar. Meet new friends and enjoy a great cup of coffee.

#### **Fiction Book Group**

Tuesday, September 20, 12:45 p.m. All are welcome to join the discussion. Call the Center for this month's reading selection.

#### **DVD Lecture Series**

*Tuesdays*, 10:30 *a.m.* Documentaries will be shown that are in keeping with the month's Italian theme. Romantic Italian Songs Wednesday, September 21, 1:00 p.m. Enjoy wonderful singer Bob Marino. Fall Prevention Program Thursday, September 22, 10:30 a.m.

Learn how lifestyle and home environment can be modified to reduce the risk of falling.

Free Blood Pressure Screening Thursday, September 22, 11:45 a.m. Get your blood pressure checked for free. No appointment necessary; walk-ins are welcome.

#### Celebrate the Month's Birthdays

Thursday, September 29, 12:00 p.m. Celebrate Senior Center members who have

## birthdays in September. **Nonfiction Book Group**

Friday, September 30, 1:00 p.m. All are welcome to join the discussion of "On Call in the Arctic" by Thomas J. Sims.

#### Men's Basketball

Mondays & Fridays, 10:00 a.m. Game is played in the gym. Sign-up is required. Fee for July-September is \$20.

#### Gentle Exercise Classes

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, 12:20 p.m. The Gentle Exercise classes sequence is

Balance & Flex on Mondays and Thursdays, and Gentle Stretch on Tuesdays.

#### Intermediate Exercise Classes Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 9:00 a.m.

The Intermediate Exercise Classes sequence is Balance & Flex on Tuesday, Mat Stretch & Alignment on Wednesday, and Low Impact Cardio on Friday. **Pickleball** 

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10:00 a.m. Game is played upstairs in gym. Sign-up is required. Fee is \$20 for July-September. The Women's Circle Tuesdays, 1:00 p.m.

#### A social discussion group where women get to know one another by talking about issues and

#### topics that interest them.

#### Open Bridge Practice

Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m. The session is open to those who want to practice playing bridge. Bring some friends.

#### Nifty Knitters

Wednesdays, 1:00 p.m. This active and social group gets together to create caps, blankets, and more for donation to local hospitals and veterans' organizations.

#### Bridge for Experienced Players

*Thursdays*, 10:00 *a.m.* This class is for experienced players and alternates between lessons and duplicate lite. Instructor: Rick Hartley. Cost is \$7 per class. **Free Paint** 

#### Thursdays, 10:00 a.m. - Noon.

The art room is open for artists to work on their own creations using their own supplies.

#### Movies

Thursdays, 12:30 p.m. A movie is shown every Thursday. A foreign film is shown once a month on a Friday at 12:30 p.m.

#### Men's Discussion Group

Fridays, 10:30 a.m. A friendly and relaxed gathering of men who engage in lively discussion about current events, have some laughs.

#### **Beginner Knitting Class**

Fridays, 11:30 a.m. Learn how to knit from Center staffer Carol Eisenhardt. All materials provided. Free class. Fee required as class progresses.

#### Table Tennis

Five Days a Week, 12:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays are for experienced players; Tuesdays & Thursdays are for those new to the game.

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(above) Art by James Van Duzer will be on display this fall at the Art League of the Chathams Lundt/Glover Gallery Exhibit.

### MADISON THRIFT SHOP READY FOR SEPT

The Madison Independent Thrift Shop invites shoppers to stop in during the month of September when men's suits, women's dresses, lamps, china and tea sets will be offered for 50% off their usual prices.

The Thrift Shop, located at 39 Kings Road, is open Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m. and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. It is a non-profit group operated by volunteers, with all proceeds received from sales distributed annually to charitable groups in Madison and surrounding communities. If you have questions or need further information, please call 973-377-2450 during business hours above.

## **BOOK DONATION DAY** SEPTEMBER 17

#### Library of the Chathams

Would you like to find a home for those already-read wonderful books you have? The Library of the Chathams will hold a special oneday collection from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, September 17 – an early donation day for the March 2023 book sale. Empty carts will be in the rear hallway of the library, waiting for your gently read fiction, non-fiction, biographies, and children's books, puzzles, and games - items you and your family have enjoyed and would like to pass on to someone else. This will be the only donation collection day this fall. The regular collection of these kinds of items will start in January 2023.



## **FALL EXHIBIT ANNOUNCED**

#### Art League of the Chathams

James Van Duzer, a life, long artist, lives in Wyckoff, NJ. After studying at San Antonio College and Famous Artist School in Westport, Connecticut for Fine and Commercial Art, he worked as a commercial artist, spending most of his time in San Antonio, Texas. James operated a commercial art and advertising studio even before digital art was popular.

Living his passion, working as a full-time artist, allowed him to work on newspaper advertising, logo drawing and design, as well as technical drawing and assembly. This continued until he retired.

His artist life was put on hold, answering the call of duty, as a member of the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War era. He served in the Republic of the Philippines and South Korea from 1967 to 1974.

The retired artist now enjoys spending time working with media from oils to acrylic to watercolors and colored pencils.

James became absorbed in the Dutch culture after researching his Dutch heritage. This background qualified him as a member of the New York Holland Society. Both parents being of Dutch heritage stimulated his interest to study Dutch history as well as the language. He began to research photos of Dutch culture and decided to create an art exhibit exemplifying it.

Van Duzer's endless talents lead him to paint portraits of animals after a dear friend's retriever died. Aware that pets are like a member of the family, their death creates a great loss. His animal portrait business became very popular allowing him to turn the portrait artwork around within one week. For anyone desiring a pet portrait, the artist requests three photos. He studies them to gain the "spirit of the pet" The portraits are very meaningful to the owners.

His biggest fan and supporter is his wife, Sheryl.

Along with James Van Duzer's solo exhibit in the Lundt/Glover Gallery, Art League member artists will exhibit their work in the strolling gallery. The Fall Exhibit opens on Sunday, September 18, 2022, with a public reception from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. and continues to be on view until December. The reception and exhibit are free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

The exhibit is located at 58 Meyersville Road in the Township of Chatham Municipal Building Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. The show is free to the public and is handicapped accessible. Refreshments served.

Masks required; COVID restrictions apply. For questions, please call 973-635-0845.



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## **TEEN DEBUTS CUPCAKE STAND AT CHATHAM FARMERS' MARKET**





Each week at the

Oliver Wu, a rising sophomore at Chatham High School, debuted his home-baked Tuxedo Cupcakes at the Chatham Farmers' Market this season.

Oliver got his start baking "bread bear" rolls for his family when he was four years old. He developed his skills in summer camps at the Kings Cooking Studio, and has long enjoyed creating custom cakes for relatives' birthdays.

With Tuxedo Cupcakes, Oliver is excited to share his recipes, developed to highlight bold flavors and just-right sweetness appealing to children and adults alike.

Each week at the farmers' market Tuxedo tuxedocupcakes.com.

Cupcakes will feature classic chocolate and vanilla cupcakes, as well as rotating specials such as raspberry chocolate and caramel cashew. This week's specials will be mint chocolate chip and salted caramel.

For National Peach Month, Oliver has created a cinnamon peach cupcake, which will be available at the market on August 20.

In addition to appearing at the Chatham Farmers' Market most Saturdays through October, Oliver is available to cater cupcakes and full-sized cakes. Information about catering and farmer's market dates can be found at tuxedocupcakes.com.

## WOMEN TAKING THE LEAD ON FIGHTING CLIMATE CHANGE

The American Association of University Women (Madison Branch) and the League of Women Voters (Morristown Area) will hold a joint program title "Women Taking the Lead on Fighting Climate Change" at 7:00 p.m. on September 12, 2022, at the Florham Park Library, 107 Ridgedale Ave. We invite the public to join us at this free and highly informative event. Advance reservations are not required.

Panelists include Nancy Hedinger, League of Women Voters Morristown Area (LWVMA); Chris Schorr, Chair of Friends of Madison Shade Trees and board member of Friends of the Drew Forest; and Claire Whitcomb, author, editor, environmental advocate and Chair of Madison's Environmental Commission.

Nancy Hedinger is an active member of the NJ and local League of Women Voters Morristown Area. She will update us on the League of Women Voters' activities to help fight climate change at the state and national levels.

Chris Schorr has chaired the Friends of Madison Shade Trees since 2015. She will be speaking on the irreplaceable value of canopy shade trees, individually and in woodlands and forests.

Claire Whitcomb will talk about the climate

impact of our built environment, specifically, the use of building materials and plans to update our aging building stock to achieve the needed energy efficiency. Selecting the type of energy used is equally important.

We invite everyone interested in learning more about our organization, our mission and membership to visit our website, AAUWMadisonnj.org. Women interested in joining AAUW are invited to come to our programs. Advancing equity for women and girls, through advocacy, education and research is our Mission. Membership is open to all graduates who hold an Associate Degree or higher.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, grassroots civic organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Membership in the League is open to people 16 years and older of all gender identities. To learn more about the League of Women Voters of the Morristown Area, please visit our website at lwvmorrisarea.org or follow us on facebook at lwvmorrisarea, and Instagram.@lwvmorristown.





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## **WOOFSTOCK 2022: BATTLE OF THE BANDS!**

#### Home for Good Dog Rescue

WoofStock is back and better than ever! Home for Good's 3rd Annual two-day music and food festival will feature two of NJ's most popular live bands, The Nerds and Brian Kirk & The Jerks. Bring your family and furry friends and be ready to rock and roll! Live music, beer and wine, and food trucks will be ready for you to devour their tasty treats.

It will be a fun-filled weekend with vendors, games, dog contests, and activities for kids and the whole family. WoofStock is a reunion event for adopters, fosters, and volunteers. We have a network of over 10,000 adopters throughout the New Jersey area that come to the yearly summer event to reunite with their Home for Good family. There will be a Tricky Tray, prizes, and a 50/50 raffle. WoofStock welcomes all well-behaved and leashed dogs!

WoofStock is your chance to not only support our local dog rescue but to promote your business, no matter how big or small, by having direct contact with the local community.

Join Home for Good Dog Rescue on Saturday and Sunday, September 10 and 11, at Brook Valley Farm, located at 336 Loantaka Way, Chatham, NJ, for a weekend celebrating Puppy Love! To purchase tickets visit homeforgooddogs.org or call 908-598-8212.

Home for Good Dog Rescue is a non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization based in Berkeley Heights, New Jersey. We are dedicated to saving dogs from the South from abuse, neglect, and high-kill shelters. Our dogs are fostered by local families until they are adopted. In the 11 years we have been in operation we have saved over 10,000 dogs and adopted them to loving families.



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Joe Renna has been in business since 1984 supplying businesses with a full array of marketing and advertising services. From developing business and marketing plans to multimedia production, over the years, his ad agency has worked with every size business. Since 2000 Renna Media has been publishing hyperlocal community newspapers.

Each month, over 160,000 newspapers are mailed to every home and business in 24 towns. He also offers full color printing and mailing services as well as an online presence that parallels his print publications. Through these publications, Renna Media has focused on the needs of the local business owner offering customized, affordable, advertising opportunities. Joe Renna also helps his advertisers with their marketing plans as a value-added service.

Joe Renna Renna Media

Mr. Renna's presentation will address the different aspects of building a marketing plan and tuning up existing ones. The audience will leave with the information to guide them in developing a plan that will get them the best return for their marketing budget. The presentation will encourage questions from the audience and will address specific challenges facing participating business owners.





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## **STRANGERS HELPING STRANGERS**

The New Jersey Veterans Network The New Jersey Veterans Network (NJVN) works with many different organizations to bring food, groceries, and clothes to veteran families in need. One organization they've worked with is Strangers Helping Strangers (SHS). They've provided over 100 meals for veterans and their families while pairing up with the NJVN over multiple projects. SHS itself distributes 20,000 pounds of food in Elmwood Park, NJ.

On Friday, August 12, 2022, Doc Schupp, Director of Veterans Outreach for NJVN, and Dennis Duddie, American Legion Department Vice Commander, presented the Strangers Helping Strangers team with four awards, including a Hero Award for team President Chris Braitsch, a Certificate of Commendation, as well as the Community Service Award, recognizing their continuous support for Veterans and their families. Strangers Helping Strangers was also presented with the Certificate of Appreciation from The Department of NJ State VFW and an NJVN Community Service award.

When asked about the assistance that SHS has provided for the Veteran Community, Doc Schupp said, "This team (SHS) has provided for our State's heroes time and time again, we are blessed to have them as partners."

Strangers Helping Strangers was created during the COVID-19 crisis, and has continued to work with the New Jersey Veterans Network to provide for our veterans. They work closely to provide not only goods for those in need, but they also give hope in times of crisis. While SHS provides the food and groceries, the NJVN distributes them directly to the veterans homes. It's a wonderful system that has helped improve the lives of so many veterans and their families.



(above) Doc Schupp, Director of Veterans Outreach for The New Jersev Veterans Network, and Dennis Duddie, American Legion Department Vice Commander, presented the Strangers Helping Strangers team with four

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Courtesy photo



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