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## **SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB HOLIDAY LUNCHEON**

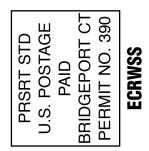
The Florham Park Senior Citizens Club held their annual Holiday Luncheon and Raffle on December 14th at the Hanover Manor. The event chairperson, Lynne Kelly, noted that over 120 Club members and guests attended.

The Hanover Park Chamber Singers, under the direction of Helen Britez, entertained the group with a variety of traditional, and some new, holiday songs. Florham Park

Mayor Mark Taylor wished everyone a health and happy holiday season. Adding to the festivities, Pat Chase organized the holiday raffle with donations provided by Florham Park businesses and friends of the Club. The Florham Park Senior Citizens Club is a nonprofit membership association celebrating their 60th anniversary this year.

Issue 11 • January 2023









(above) Paul Chase, President, Florham Park Senior Citizens Club, and Florham Park Mayor Mark Taylor

(above) The Hanover Park Chamber Singers, under the direction of Helen Britez

Photos from this and other events can be found online at rennamedia.com and on the Florham Park Press page on facebook.com. Feel free to "Like," "Tag," and "Share."



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## **LET LOVE IGNITE - HOUSE DECORATING CONTEST**

Halos for Angels, a Florham Park 501(c)3 charity, is sponsoring "Let Love Ignite," their annual holiday house decorating contest to raise funds for local families in need due to a sudden tragedy. A cash prize will be awarded to the winner of the contest on January 4th - the amount determined by the number of entries. Decorate the front of your home to showcase your spirit of love this holiday season. A photo submission is required and due no later than December 28th along with the application and tax deductible

Halos for Angels, a Florham Park 501(c)3 entry fee of \$50. Visit their website at arity, is sponsoring "Let Love Ignite," their halosforangels.org to enter.

From December 29 to January 3, all members of the community are invited to vote for their favorite decorated house by going to halosforangels.org, go to the events tab, and click on "Let Love Ignite Contest." Each house photo will be uploaded to the website for review by the community-at-large. This is a wonderful opportunity to create a family activity and help those in need during the holiday season.



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(above) The Florham Park Memorial First Aid Squad marched in the Madison Christmas Parade





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## FLORHAM PARK PARTICIPATES IN MADISON CHRISTMAS PARADE AND TREE LIGHTING

The 43rd Annual Borough of Madison Christmas Committee Parade was held on Friday, November 25th, 2022, on Waverly Place. Each year throngs of people gather on the route down Main Street to enjoy the parade and tree lighting, sponsored by the all-volunteer Madison Christmas Committee. Showcasing close to 70 floats and parade groups from Madison and surrounding municipalities, this parade draws in a crowd of close to 15,000 spectators as Madison kicks off the holiday season. Immediately following the parade is the lighting of the tree on Waverly Place. This year's parade was held both in-person, and live streamed for those to enjoy from the comfort of their own home. The full HD recording of the parade and tree lighting can be viewed by visiting the The Borough of Madison New Jersey YouTube channel.

This year's tree, which has been grown at the Toto's household for 51 years, was graciously donated by Marie Toto and family, in memory of their late husband and father, Carmine Toto.

The Madison Electric Department and Coviello Brothers cut down, transported and put up the tree.



(above) The Florham Park Fire Department Crew of Rescue Engine 22, provided lighting for Madison's annual tree lighting.

Photos from this and other events can be found online at rennamedia.com and on the Madison Monthly page on facebook.com. Feel free to "Like," "Tag," and "Share."





## **COUNTY SEEKING NOMINEES FOR 2023 "SEEDS OF CHANGE" AWARD**

The Morris County Advisory Committee on County Board of County Commissioners . Women is now accepting nominations for its "Seeds of Change Award," which will be presented in 2023 to a woman who has worked to improve the community, and who has been a leader and inspiration to other women in the county.

Nominations may be submitted through Jan. 6, 2023. The Morris County Advisory Committee on Women is asking that all nominations be submitted online: Visit www.morriscountynj.gov - Morris County 2023 Seeds of Change Award Nomination Page

For additional information, please contact Pam Bennett-Santoro at jpmp010@aol.com no later than January 6, 2023. The person selected to receive the honor will be contacted after the deadline and asked to attend the Seeds of Change Award Ceremony at a meeting of the Morris

KubickAndKubick.com

The "Seeds of Change Award" was inspired by the late State Sen. Leanna Brown, who passed in 2016, and her longtime friend and colleague, the late Morris County Freeholder Patricia Maynard, who died a few months later in 2017. The honor is intended to highlight and celebrate women who build up other women, and that includes those who work at the grassroot levels in the community.

It is preferred, but not required, that the recipient be linked with a cause of current interest to the Advisory Committee on Women. Current areas of interest include housing and homelessness, human trafficking, incarcerated women, women in the military, female veterans, and other areas that impact women.

Ms. Brown served on the Chatham Borough Council from 1969 to 1972. She was the first

woman elected to the Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders (now the Board of County Commissioners), becoming the Director in 1976. In 1978, she was named president of the New Jersey Association of Counties.

In 1983, Ms. Brown was also the first Republican woman elected to the New Jersey Senate. She was a champion of women cause and mentor to many women who sought to join the political and electoral process. Ms. Brown also was the driving force behind the county's creation of the Morris County Advisory Committee on Women.

Ms. Maynard was passionate about public service and helped to maintain and improve the cultural and educational opportunities and the quality of life in her many roles in Morris County. Her activities included the Morris County 9 Memorial Committee, Morris County Library Foundation and as trustee at the Morris Museum, Ralston Cider Mill, the County College of Morris Foundation and N.J. U.S. Olympic Committee.

Prior "Seeds of Change Award" winners include: 2018 - Lila Bernstein of Mendham Township; 2019 - Phyllis Chanda of Flanders; and 2022 - Mary Ledyard of Rockaway Borough.



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## **2023 TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY**

Florham Park's Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony was held on Friday, December 2nd at the Florham Park Community Center. The Florham Park Girl Scouts entertained the crowd with caroling. Immediately following the tree lighting, Santa arrived on a fire truck and was available to meet with families and take photos.





## 2023 TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY PHOTO ALBUM

Photos from this and other events can be found online at rennamedia.com and on the Florham Park Press page on facebook.com. Feel free to "Like," "Tag," and "Share."















(above) Pictured is the Korean War Memorial. Morris County's Office of Planning and Preservation is documenting its "Veterans of the Z," those who served in the formal Korean War and those who have served since 1953 along the volatile and dangerous Korean Demilitarized Zone.

Courtesy photo

### THRIFT SHOP PREPARED FOR JANUARY SALES

The Madison Independent Thrift Shop invites shoppers to stop in during the month of January. Christmas items and anything red will be on sale at 50% off the regular tagged prices.

The Thrift Shop is happy to announce they will be donating \$45,000 in 2023 to local charities.

The Thrift Shop, located at 39 Kings Road, is open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 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. It is looking for Community minded volunteers to help staff the store. Anyone wanting further information or may be interested in becoming a volunteer is encouraged to drop by the shop or call 973-377-2450 during business hours.

## **DOCUMENTING VETERANS OF THE "FORGOTTEN WARS"**

**County of Morris** 

The signing of the Korean Armistice Agreement 69 years ago on July 27, 1953, officially ended the brutally destructive, large scale military actions that defined the Korean War, which left more than 5 million dead after three years.

But no peace treaty was ever signed, and hostilities continued over the decades, particularly from October 5, 1966 to December 3, 1969, when North Korea launched dozens of violent, armed incursions into South Korea. United States military personnel were on the ground to repel the attacks each time, and they have remained there with nearly a hundred Americans making the ultimate sacrifice in what are called America's "Forgotten Wars."

Morris County's Office of Planning and Preservation is documenting its "Veterans of the Z," those who served in the formal Korean War and those who have served since 1953 along the volatile and dangerous Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) – a 2.5-mile wide, heavily militarized dividing line between North Korea and South Korea by the 1953 armistice.

"The Korea veteran listing is anticipated to be a unique one, encompassing not only the Korean conflict from 1950 to 1953, but the considerable tensions in the ensuing decades," said Jan Williams, Cultural and Historic Resources Specialist for the planning and preservation office.

"Along with the original soldiers that served during the 1950's, many veterans in the 1960's were sent to Korea instead of 'Nam. The expectation is that the public will be submitting names of Korean veterans from 1950 all the way up to soldiers that served in 'The Z' quite literally through yesterday," she added.

In 2012, the Office of Planning and Preservation began the task of listing Morris County veterans from several conflicts. The undertaking was inspired by a WWII veteran from Rockaway, Mr. Peter Chipko, who said that history would forget the military service and sacrifice that the men and women of Morris County rendered to the country.

The list, known as the Morris County Veterans Compendium, is releasing this latest effort to capture veterans' histories regarding Korea.

To add a soldier or sailor to any of the lists, please send an email to Jan Williams: jwilliams@co.morris.nj.us.

The criteria for listing in the Morris County Veterans Compendium remains the same as what has been established for listings of Morris County Veterans who served in Vietnam, WWI, WWII and other conflicts. They must have been born in Morris County or lived in the county for ten years. If a veteran meets the criteria, but has retired out of state or passed away, they remain eligible for listing.

The basic information required for listing is the veteran's name, Morris County municipality of birth or residence and the military branch in which they served.

If you would like to donate your personal Korean War items or provide original or scans of photographs and documents, please contact: The Morris County Historical Society 68 Lafayette Avenue Morristown, NJ 07960, 973-267-3465: Amy Curry, directormchs@gmail.com or Anne Motto, CollectionsMCHS@gmail.com.

Other ongoing projects involving Veterans and data collection on Morris County's rich history may be found at the Cultural Resources Survey section at the Morris County Office of Planning and Preservation.

To enroll in the National Purple Heart database, please visit the website of The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor.

To apply for a Morris County Distinguished Service Medal, please visit the Morris County website.

If you have lost a medal, award or decoration, please visit the Veteran's Service Records section of the National Archives website.



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## WELLNESS AT THE FLORHAM PARK PUBLIC LIBRARY

by attending a free wellness program at the Florham Park Public Library. Programs are in progress now and there is something for everyone!

A Listening Party is held at 7:00 p.m., on the third Tuesday, every other month. At these 'parties', participants are encouraged to sit back, relax, and practice active listening skills. You will expand your horizons as you immerse yourself in classic albums of every musical genre and join in a lively discussion afterwards.

Midday Meditation takes place every Wednesday at noon. This soothing class, which can be attended in person or virtually, features a

Get a head start on your New Year's resolution guide who encourages you to clear your mind, calm your breathing, and focus your energy positively.

> Do you stress bake? Cook up a storm when you're anxious? Are you considering going vegetarian or making the leap to vegan in the coming year? Cook Book Club, held at noon on the first Friday of each month, is the place for you! Members share recipes, cookbook recommendations, and advice relating to the 'challenge of the month'.

> At 10:30 a.m., on alternating Saturdays, stop by the Library for Tai Chi. This gentle form of mind-body exercise is based on slow, flowing, choreographed movements often described as

'meditation in motion'. Benefits of Tai Chi include improved balance, increased brain power, and reduced anxiety. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your physical ability to participate, Library staff can put you in touch with the instructor who will address them.

To register, or obtain more information regarding these programs, please visit the Library's website, florhamparklib.org. The 'Events' tab will take you to a calendar listing all of the offerings for a given month. See something you're interested in? Select the event for more details and to register.

The Library wishes everyone a Happy & Healthy New Year!

### **LIBRARY WILL BE "FINE FREE" BEGINNING JANUARY 2023**

ranks of Libraries across the nation and our region abolishing late fees for overdue materials. The new "fine free" policy will go into effect January 2, 2023. As a fine free library, Florham Park Public Library will not charge fines for materials that are overdue or returned late. Additionally, patrons with existing fines for late FPPL materials on their accounts will have their fines waived.

The Florham Park Public Library has been more lenient with charging fines for patrons in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic, as a measure to help increase library use and create a culture of convenience and friendliness for

The Florham Park Public Library will join the Florham Parkers. This measure is a step toward making that culture more permanent, so that the Library is an open and welcoming place to visit. "Most library fines are no more than a nuisance," said Nancy Shah, the Library's director. "The average fine for overdue materials is \$0.80. Removing these small fees is a kind gesture that discourages a feeling of shame in bringing back materials late. We want our users to feel welcome, and we want our books to be used by all!"

> Contrary to popular belief, library fines do not ensure the timely return of library materials. In fact, the opposite is true: people are less likely to use the library after incurring a fine for late



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materials. When the threat of fines are removed, fine-free libraries have often observed an increase in library card adoption, more materials being borrowed, and the return of long-lost items. "That's one of the most interesting things to me," remarked Shah, "fine-free libraries have had items overdue for decades returned to them once the patron realized they wouldn't be penalized for it. I am curious to see what, if anything, comes back to us at Florham Park!"

Going fine free has been a trend in the library industry since 2019. According to the American Library Association, getting rid of library fines removes barriers to access library services and materials, and can help individuals and families to save money and frustration. Fine-free policies are particularly helpful to create a more equitable library, since library fines are more likely to have a negative effect on low-income and minority users.

Several libraries bordering Florham Park and in the greater Morris County area have gone fine-free since 2020, and each year more and more public libraries make the switch. Other fine-free Libraries in our area include: Morristown, Chatham, Parsippany, Roxbury, Livingston, Montclair, Newark, and Bloomfield.

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