

PROJECT GRADUATION 2023

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Submitted by Chrissy Kiesewetter

Governor Livingston Project Graduation 2023 was a HUGE success. Over 170 seniors enjoyed a fun-filled night at the Branchburg Sports Complex. The event ran from 9:30 p.m. - 2a.m. There were a variety of activities available to the students including Gaga, Laser Tag, an arcade, basketball, volleyball, dodgeball, soccer, an inflatable obstacle course, a casino (with Amazon gift card prizes), BINGO (with varied gift card prizes), caricaturists, airbrush tattoos, tarot card readers and so much more!

Mountainside EMTs Domenico Deluca and Antonio Famiglietti were on hand for the entire evening as were police officers from each town...Cpl. William Sforza from Mountainside and Cpl. Don Maxwell from Berkeley Heights. A huge shout out to the EMTs and Police Officers!

11 event volunteers traveled by bus to and from the event; without them this event wouldn't be possible. Those amazing volunteers were: Jordan Hyman, Tracey Gardner, Dana Liloia, Jill and Greg Vaidman, Virginie Delwart, Kelly Hufnagel, Iwona Gaeckle, Mark Gioioso, Janet Graham, Carolyn Klimas, and on-site coordinators Catia

Salerno, Jovan Siconolfi, and Jeanie Ruban. A team of 16 additional volunteers, led by Jennifer Doll, helped with registration and bag check in at GL before the 5 busloads of seniors departed.

A huge thank you to the Berkeley Heights Board of Education, Mr. Nixon and the GL administrators, local businesses for their generous donations (including 20 dozen donuts donated from the Berkeley Heights Dunkin Donuts located on Springfield Avenue).

Freshmen, Sophomore and Junior parents, please consider getting involved with Project Graduation in the future. Project Graduation includes many activities throughout the year including a Senior Breakfast in the fall, Prom Fashion Show in February, a Senior Picnic on the day of the prom and finally the Project Graduation event. The Project Graduation committee is also responsible for sale of the graduation lawn signs as well as the sale of the Highlander Way pavers and seat and parking spot raffles for Graduation.

If you would like to get involved please reach out to Project Coordinator, Kiesewetter Graduation Chrissy at cmkiesewetter@msn.com.

(More photos on pages 20)

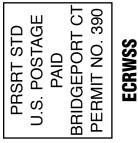


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in this space and be in every mailbox in town!





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Mountainside View • Page 2 • July 2023



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CAPSTONE SCIENCE PROJECT PRESENTATION

Berkeley Heights Public Schools

Students in the Accelerated Physical Science classes in grade 8 at Columbia Middle School recently participated in their first ever Capstone Science Project Presentation and Fair. Capstone is a year-long project that the Accelerated Physical Science classes at CMS does. Grade 8 science teachers Mr. Thomas Clayton and Ms. Connie Lee teach the classes. The project involves student groups devising an optimized solution to a problem where the solution either does not currently exist or which improves upon a current solution. Some examples of the

incredible work done by students include creating affordable environmentally-sustainable cosmetics, natural food dyes, and shoes with interchangeable heels.

Dennis Dagounis, Science Supervisor said, "This was a wonderful opportunity for our students to go through the design and engineering process. Students needed to identify a problem, do research and devise a solution. This is just another example of some of the exciting things taking place in the Berkeley Heights Science classes."

Photos by Berkeley Heights Public Schools







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10TH ANNUAL GRETA'S RUN FOR IMAGINE

The 10th Annual Greta's Run for Imagine was held in Westfield, NJ on Sunday May 21, 2023. More than 1,000 registrants gathered at Roosevelt Intermediate School for the three events of the day. More than \$150,000 was raised to support Imagine's mission of no child grieves alone.

Greta's Run began 10 years ago when a group of Greta Schoenemann's friends decided to honor her memory with a 5k community 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. Imagine inherited the race in 2019 to continue raising awareness on the impact of grief on all of us.

Located in Mountainside and Newark, NJ. Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss is a 501(c)3 non-profit that offers free year-round grief support groups for children ages 3-18 and young adults 19-30 who are coping with a loss due to death. Concurrently, support groups are available for the parents and guardians of the children in the groups and offered in English and Spanish.

Groups are also available for parents who have lost a child aged 30 or younger. Additionally, Imagine provides grief and loss education and training to the community. Additionally, Imagine staff are available to provide support in the immediate aftermath of a loss in a school community, organization, or place of business.



(above) More than 1,000 people showed up for the 10th annual Greta's Run for Imagine.

Courtesy photo





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GLHS CODING CLUB EARNES TOP PRIZES

Berkeley Heights Public Schools

Competition students in the GLHS Programming Club (also known as the Coding Club) recently participated in the "American Computer Science League (ACSL)" Competition which ran from November 2022 through May 2023, and included some 500 teams across the United States, Canada, Europe, and Asia.

In the "Senior 3" Division, the GL team scored in the Top 25 of all schools (for the second year in a row!), edging out competition from schools in states across the US, Canada, China, Russia, UAE, Taiwan, among others.

In addition, two GLHS students - Daniel Long (senior) and Anthony Tan (junior) - competed in the ACSL Invitational Finals on May 27th. Out of over 580 students, our team scored in the top 200, with Daniel Long finishing tied for 45th, earning Bronze medal honors.

Justin Polce, GLHS Math teacher and Programming Club advisor said, "The Programming Club is in its fourth-year at GLHS. The general goal of the club is to learn coding (no experience necessary), talk about projects, find resources for skill building, and explore STEM applications. Some students share projects in which they are creating games (think Minecraft). Members of the club researched and found the ACSL competition and decided to participate in it. The ACSL goes from fall into spring and is

composed of four contests, each with multiple this year." choice questions and open-ended coding questions. The students completed each of the participated in the ACSL Competition include: contests over the course of 8 months and then competed in a day-long final exam. I am proud of the team and all that they have accomplished

Members of the GL Programming Club who Club co-founders Daniel Long and David Andrews, Roland Aranas, William Ng, Anthony Tan, and Poorva Vakharia.



(above, l-r) Top row: Justin Liu, Anthony Tan, Daniel Long, Vibhav Chaturvedi, Justin Polce. Bottom row: William Ng, Sean Gleeson, David Andrews, Poorva Vakharia

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for our customers. You will still find the same reliable technicians and office staff from **REEL-STRONG now at WOOLLEY HOME.**







(above, l-r) Top: Isabelle Embden (Summit) and Brielle Angelson (Millburn); Bottom: Kendall Torres (Mountainside), Alexandra Munies (New Providence), and Valeria Narvaez (Chatham). Not pictured: Eden Levkov (Summit) Courtesy photo

YOUR ONE-STOP REPAIR SHOP



KENDALL TORRES AWARDED SUMMIT COLLEGE CLUB SCHOLARSHIP

a celebratory occasion: the annual awarding of high school scholarships on June 4, 2023. "It never gets old," said Lynne Rogerson, SCC president; "this is the happiest day of our year."

Founded by a Summit High School teacher over a hundred years ago, Summit College Club has awarded more than a million dollars in scholarships since then. In 1935, SCC became a branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), an organization devoted to gender equity in research, education, and advocacy.

Club members had gathered in the sun-filled Lile Hall at Christ Church in Summit along with the six graduating honorees and their proud families. The afternoon began with a glad welcome by Ellie Redington, co-chair of this year's reception.

Then came the main event: the awards. Members of the SCC Scholarship Committee took turns in describing some of each candidate's considerable achievements and presenting a certificate, a rose, and a check for \$4,500 to each young woman.

Kendall Torres, who lives in Mountainside and attends Governor Livingston High School, received the Kathi C. Madison Scholarship. Kendall is editor-in-chief of her class yearbook,

The Summit College Club (SCC) gathered for president of the Environmental Club, and VP of the Student Movement Against Cancer. She won the prestigious West Point Dwight D. Eisenhower Leadership Award. Kendall is an active environmentalist at home, at school, and in Berkeley Heights, where she helped convince the Board of Education to institute a sustainability policy. Kendall plans to major in Environmental Studies at Boston College. Barbara Sayres presented Kendall with her award.

> Once the awards had been given, two of last year's awardees, Crystal Jong and Lara Cota, each spoke briefly. Crystal and Lara talked about their freshman experiences at college, Crystal at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and Lara at the University of Pennsylvania.

> Finally, Summit College Club member Leslie Carson gave a description of an exciting AAUW initiative, an annual four-day leadership conference that draws hundreds of college women nationally. The 2023 SCC winners, she said, would be eligible to take part in the spring of 2024, and Summit College Club was eager to facilitate and sponsor them.

> Refreshments and photos, and lively conversation followed as the students, their families, and club members chatted happily with one another.





LIBRARY **SUMMER READING**

The Summer Reading Program: All Together Now is underway at the Mountainside Library. Children, teens, and adults are invited to register and log their reading for weekly prizes, book raffles and a chance to win a Kindle Paperwhite or a Family Game Basket. Registration continues throughout the summer, but the sooner you register, the more reading you can log and earn prizes.

Whether a child, teen, or adult, readers may choose their own books, but the library staff is available to help with suggestions. Students with school assignments may even log their required reading.

Preventing summer slide is another reason to join the summer reading program. It's well known that students can move backward academically during the summer if reading and learning are not continued and reading achievement declines as well. But if students read just six books over the summer, they can maintain their current reading level, and, if they read between ten and twenty books of their own choosing, they can actually increase reading achievement.

In addition to the Summer Reading Program, the Library has a roster of exciting and informative programs for all ages including story times, yoga story times, crafts, and robotics and coding for children and teens. For adults the library has several hands-on experiences including creating a natural summer survival kit, ricotta cheese making, and painting as well as The Great Courses program every Monday afternoon featuring a series about The Gilded Age, movies most Fridays, and an evening concert with Marc Black highlighting music from the 1950s and 60s.

For a complete listing of all of the summer programs at the Mountainside Library, visit mountainsidelibrary.org for details including registration and fees or call the library at 908-233-0115 for further information or to register for events.

A MASS OF HEALING FOR CANCER

on July 7 at the Koinonia Academy Gym, 1040 Plainfield Avenue, Plainfield, NJ 07060 by Fr. John Gordon, Secretary of the Office of Evangelization for the Newark Archdiocese. The

A Mass of Healing for Cancer will be offered Mass is for all cancer patients, caregivers, family and friends to pray for those with cancer or have succumbed to cancer. All are welcome, there is no charge or obligation. For further information call 908-256-1788.





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IS IT REALLY POSSIBLE FOR A KID TO LEARN HOW TO RUN FAST

Retired San Francisco 49ers QB Joe Montana, is arguably one of the greatest over 20 years experience with training NFL players that has ever played football...when his son started playing football it would have made sense for him to help his son learn how to play Quarterback.

But that's not how it went. Joe Montana had to hire a quarterback coach to help his son be a better football player. Here's possibly the greatest NFL QB of all time, needing to hire someone else to help his son. It was not that Joe Montana was not equipped for the job...it was that his son needed a second voice to help him get to the next level.

Many parents who have much less knowledge, experience, and skills than Joe Montana are in the same boat in regards to helping their kids get stronger, faster, and more confident.

Most parents we've come across want their kids to eat healthier, be more active, and have a stronger mindset. But many have told us they need help.

Even with the constant reminders of telling their kids to eat more vegetables, get outside instead of watching TV, practice their sport more, get to bed earlier...they find that sometimes the message falls on deaf ears...and some backup would be helpful toward their vision of helping their kid be the best they can be.

Parents have told us that having us(the Grit Athlete Performance Coaches) as a second voice to help reinforce the habits they want for their kids...is changing the game.

athletes himself...and certainly knows a LOT more about getting stronger and faster than the average parent...But has all 3 of his children(9,8 and 6) enrolled in Grit year round....because he knows the power of that second voice.

And after they come through our program, parents tell how it's turbocharging their parenting. Here are some real-life examples that have been reported...

Before, parents struggled with getting kids to eat vegetables...now their kids are asking for more.

Before, parents struggled with getting their kids to get enough sleep....now their kids are getting to bed earlier on their own.

Before, parents struggled with getting their kids to watch less TV or play video games...now they are limiting these activities because they've learned they don't really help them become better athletes.

Before, parents struggled with helping their kids have more confidence...now their kids are doing things out of their comfort zone more often which is helping them believe in themselves which further improves self-esteem.

Before, parents had no clue how to help their kid get faster...now they are faster because they've learned that speed is a skill, and a few simple tweaks can make a kid faster immediately.

Before, parents could not get their kids to make their beds...now their kid makes their bed each morning on their own

Further...Our Grit Athlete Founder has because they learned that making their bed in the morning helps them have a better day.

> Before, parents struggled with getting their kids to do even one good pushup...now they catch them in their room practicing on their own.

> Before, parents wanted their kids to have more determination and grit when training new things...now they are staying calm under pressure and seeking out challenges instead of avoiding them.

> Many times it's not about telling your kid to eat more vegetables or stop watching TV...but rather finding the right environment for them to be more successful.

> Right in your backyard, there's a team of great coaches waiting to be second voices for your kids...so that all the things you're teaching as parents will be reinforced. But most importantly, the results you're after for your kids will actually become a reality. The Grit Athlete summer Sports Performance session runs June 19 until August 24 in Berkeley Heights NJ, visit www.gritathletes.com to fill out an application for your child.

Grit Athlete Performance is a Sports Performance Training Company located in Berkeley Heights that helps kids ages 6-18 get strong, fast, and confident so they can have a bigger and better future. They have just released the dates for their summer program that starts on June 19 and runs til August 24.

Visit www.gritathletes.com to register for their summer session...or see below for more details...

Do you want **GRIT ATHLETE PERFORMANCE** to Help You with all of this?

Summer Program began June **l**`he Scan the QR code to see if there is any availability left.





Scan QR Code for cost, timeslots, and dates.

Attention Parents of Kids Ages 6-18 UPDATE: THE GRIT ATHLETE PERFORMANCE SUMMER PROGRAM HAS STARTED!

Scan Below to see if there are any spots left.

We'll have your kid stronger, faster, and more confident...guaranteed.

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.

HAPPY PARENTS TALKING ABOUT THE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL TRANSFORMATION OF THEIR KIDS...

• "When my son started Grit he was quiet, shy, and had some difficulty with movements...Now he is confident in himself, has become more vocal, and is mastering the exercise he struggled with in the past."

- Jen O'Brien, Grit Athlete Parent

• "My son is more disciplined and confident in himself"

- Steve Hughes, Grit Athlete Parent

• "I have watched my children become more confident and vocal."

- Christine Stramandinoli, Grit Athlete Parent

• "His confidence has shot up in the last few months...and has carried forward to the way he approaches other activities like sports and schoolwork. My son is now making his bed daily and exercising every day."

- Catherine Solfaro, Grit Athlete Parent

GET MORE INFORMATION (STARTED JUNE 19TH)



Warning: The Summer session is extremely popular and we cannot guarantee a spot in the program now that it has begun. Please scan the QR code and enter your information to find out if there are spots left in your child's age group.

FELIPE SANTOS – JUNE STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Berkeley Heights Public Schools

In an effort to showcase our students in Berkeley Heights Public Schools who have excelled either in academics, leadership, community, or have shown excellent growth in any of those areas, the district is hosting a "Superintendent's Student of the Month". For June, we honor Governor Livingston High School junior Felipe Santos.

Felipe was recently recognized with the NJ Governor's Award in Arts and Education as a "Exceptional Promise in Music" among the best artists and arts educators in New Jersey. The Award Ceremony took place on June 2nd at The College of New Jersey where he performed with other artists.

Felipe has dedicated his life to music since an early age and has performed all across the country and abroad. Felipe won The Modern Drummer Magazine Readers Poll 2021, the world's most widely read drum magazine, and his talent and his hard work has been recognized by Berklee College of Music for the past two summers with full tuition scholarships to their Summer Program where his excellence resulted in six college credits towards his future education and an invitation to submit an early application.





SUMMIT OLD GUARD JULY SPEAKERS PROGRAM

The Summit Old Guard was founded in Summit in 1930 and meets every Tuesday at the New Providence Presbyterian Church located at 1307 Springfield Ave. Our motto is "Come for the Programs. Stay for the Friends." Our July program theme focuses on current national political issues. Please join us. These programs are free to the public, and we welcome you!

Due to the Fourth of July celebration, we will only have two speakers for our July program.

Both are fascinating experts speaking on current national issues.

On Tuesday, July 18th, John Miano Esq. counsel for the Immigration Reform Law Institute will discuss "The Immigration System: Is it Fixable?" Mr. Miano will emphasize its effects on employment and the prospects for change. He focuses on foreign workers displacing Americans.

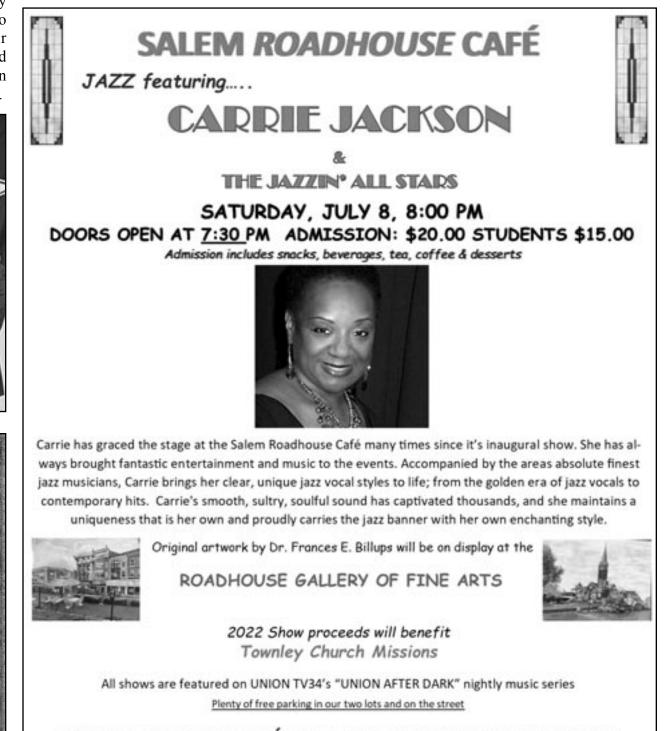
On Tuesday, July 25th, Associate Professor Ian Drake, widely published on constitutional law issues, will speak on "The Supreme Court: Its Recent History and Decisions." He will touch on the politics of nominations and the makeup of the court. Both immigration policy and the Supreme



(above, l-r) Assoc. Prof. Ian Drake, John Miano Esq

Court and its recent decisions will be widely discussed in the approaching presidential nominations and campaigns.Start your own study of these issues of critical importance to our nation.

Past speakers and much, much more can be viewed at SummitOldGuard.org but we encourage people to drop in on our meetings which take place at the church at 10:00 a.m. most Tuesdays. "Come for the Speakers. Stay for the Friends." We look forward to meeting you.



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MOUNTAINSIDE BSA TROOP 177

Submitted by Sheila Sidhu

As the school year finishes up, Mountainside BSA Troop 177 is getting ready for the summer after a busy year.

Late in January, the troop participated in the Klondike Derby. A yearly tradition, many of our scouts pitched in to help. We raced against the other troops, testing our scout skills and leadership out in the cold weather.

In March, we went on a trip to Shawnee, where we went snow tubing. Our troop joined others at Shawnee to go tubing for Boy Scout Day. Also, in March, we saw the arrival of new scouts to our troop.

In April, the Blue and Gold ceremony was held for the Cub Scouts, and new scouts crossed over to join the troop. Our new scouts went camping in the Watchung Reservation's campground. They pitched their own tents and slept overnight for their first Boy Scout trip. Even though the severe weather cut short the camping trip to only one night, everyone enjoyed themselves. We were still able to hold our Flag retirement ceremony.

In May, the troop was incredibly busy with many events, such as the Relay for Life, where scouts from our troop served as the Color Guard. We also went camping at Munsee, pitching our own tents and going backpacking through the woods around the campground.

Also, in May, we honored the veterans at Fairview Cemetery, planting flags at the graves. The troop also planted flags around town in the Flags Across Mountainside fundraiser. We even marched in the Memorial Day Parade.

We anticipate many more troop activities in the summer of 2023, including one hiking venture week in Pennsylvania and one week of Boy Scout camp in the Catskills of New York.

If you have an interest in Scouting, please get in touch with Jeff Healy at jeffhealy8@gmail.com.

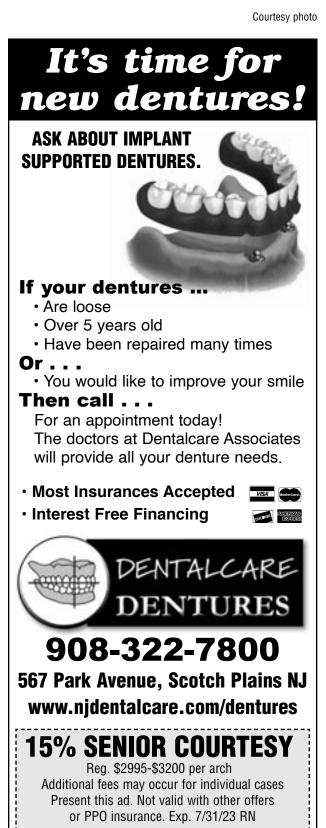




Mountainside View • Page 18 • July 2023



(above) Daniel M. Whelan will be sworn in as a member of the United States Coast Guard Academy Class of 2027 on June 26, 2023.



WHELAN HEADING TO US COAST GUARD ACADEMY

Livingston High School in Berkeley Heights, NJ, and a member of BSA Troop 23 in Elizabeth, NJ, has been recognized for superior academic achievement and leadership potential. Daniel will be sworn in as a member of the United States Coast Guard Academy Class of 2027 on June 26, 2023.

The United States Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut is an accredited collete educating future Coast Guard officers. The smallest of our nation's five military service academies, the Coast Guard Academy's Corps of Cadets represents the nation's best and brightest students, ready to

Daniel M. Whelan, a senior at Governor serve and lead their country. Admission to the Coast Gueard Academy is highly competitive and fewer than 400 appointments are offered annually from a pool of over 2,000 applicants. Cadets receive a full tuition scholarship and monthly stipend for a five year service ommitment to the Coast Guard upon graduation. All graduates receive a Bachelor of Science degree and are guaranteed a position of leadership as a commissioned officer in the United States Coast Guard.

Daniel is the son of James and Colleen Whelan and grandson of Philip and Suzanne Gallaher from Richmond, VA, and Edward and Eileen Whelan from Elizabeth, NJ.

LOCAL CHORUS OFFERS FREE A CAPPELLA SINGING SESSIONS

The Hickory Tree Chorus chapter of Sweet Adelines International invites singers to register for its free "Big Summer Sing." You can come on any or all of the following Wednesdays: July 12, July 19, July 26, and August 2 from 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 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.

For more info, or to register for the free "Big Summer Sing," visit hickorytreechorus.org, email info@hickorytreechorus.org or call 908-377-1399.



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PROJECT GRADUATION 2023 PHOTO ALBUM

Photos by Jeanie Ruban



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NEWSPAPER ADVERTS

We mail 160,000 newspapers to every home and business in 24 towns. You can advertise in any number of towns. Ads start at \$60.

FULL COLOR PRINTING

We print flyers and menus, full color, two sided, on coated stock for only \$45 per thousand.

DIRECT MAIL

Insert your flyer into the newspapers and get it mailed to every home and business for \$60 per thousand and as low as \$30 per thousand for higher quantities.

ONLINE MARKETING

Online ads and press releases designed and placed to drive traffic to your website and get your phone ringing.

SOCIAL MEDIA

We can design and/or manage your social media campaign from passive to aggressive plans customized to work within your budget.

WEBSITE AND SEO SERVICES

Start with an audit/analysis of your website giving you a report and recommendations for \$250.

It is highly recommended to have a marketing plan and budget before spending.

CALL JOE RENNA FOR A FREE CONSULTATION. 908-447-1295

RENNA MEDIA NEWSPAPER RATE SHEET WE MAIL 160,000 NEWSPAPERS MONTHLY! Tina Renna 908-418-5586 · tinarenna@rennamedia.com Joe Renna 908-447-1295 · joerenna@rennamedia.com 202 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ 07016



Back cover, front page batter and front box reserved on first-co-first-served basis. Current advertiser has right of first refusal.



We are so happy and grateful for the outstanding staff at Brandywine (Summit). The entire staff is kind and compassionate. They have created an atmosphere that is warm, caring and attentive. They are extremely patient and make sure your loved ones get involved in the wonderful activities the coordinators have planned. The residence is beautiful, well kept and clean. We have been happy with the care and attention our Mom is receiving. More importantly our mother is very happy living there. Thank you,

Julie



Luxury Senior Living IN THE HEART OF SUMMIT!

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Brandywine Living has luxury communities with Assisted Living, Memory Care, and other supportive services throughout NJ, PA, DE, CT, NY & MD.

> For a full list of our communities or more information, visit www.Brandycare.com or call 1-877-4BRANDY



bit.ly/brandywine-rm7