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ROTARY CLUB SUPPORTS LOCAL FOOD BANK FOR HOLIDAYS

by Hal Daume

In response to an urgent request by the Berkeley Heights Food Pantry, managed by volunteers at the Church of the Little Flower, the Berkeley Heights Rotary Club dedicated this year's 35th Annual Pancake Breakfast to that need.

On Saturday, November 7th, members of the club plus Interact Club students from Governor Livingston High School (sponsored by the Rotary Club) and the Boy Scouts of Troops 68 and 368 (also sponsored by the Rotary Club) held one of its most successful breakfasts ever.

This year, there was no set "price" for the breakfasts. Instead, the breakfasts were actually free to all who came, with voluntary donations

of any amount welcomed with warm smiles and thanks. As a result, with the Rotary Club absorbing all expenses, the Club donated 100% of the more than \$3,000 in gross proceeds received.



(above, front, l-r) Jim Ramentol, Event Chair front holding check: Catherine Sofaro, Food Pantry; Rev. Nnaemeka ("Andrew") Onyemaobi, Church of the Little Flower (back) Rotary Club members (Center: Linda Sausville, Club President).

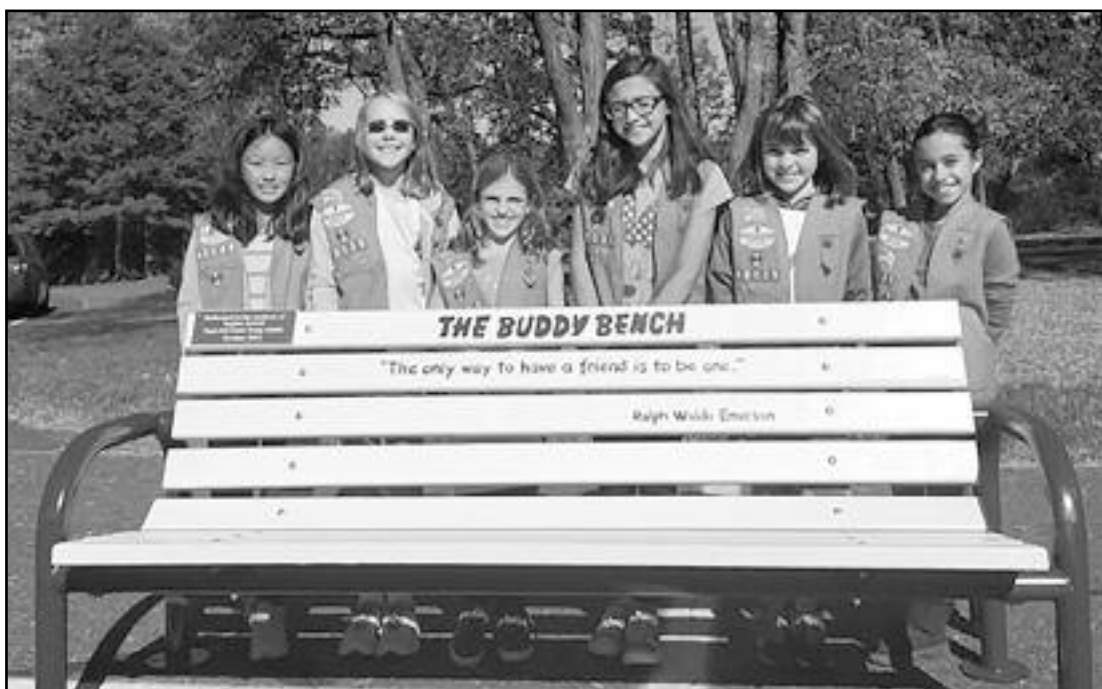
HUGHES SCHOOL HAS A BUDDY

Over the summer, the Fifth Grade Girl Scout Troop (pictured) at Thomas P. Hughes School worked together on their Bronze project. The result of the students' hard work was a fabulous Buddy Bench for use on the Hughes School playground.

The girls researched the project, ordered the materials, and helped design the bench. With the help of school staff and community members, the final product was recently revealed. Then, the troop members met with each grade level on the playground to explain the use of the bench.

Through age-appropriate skits and Q&A, the girls expertly explained that anyone who is feeling sad, lonely, or upset could sit on the bench, and caring classmates should

then respond by joining the student or inviting him/her to play. In this way, kids are helping kids, and together they are creating a culture of kindness.



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Helen Kirsch, President of the Berkeley Heights Board of Education, was recognized at October 27, 2015 Board of Education meeting for

being selected as the New Jersey "Board Member of the Year" by the New Jersey School Boards Association.



(above) Mrs. Kirsch is pictured here, seated, center, with current and former Board of Education members and administrators from Berkeley Heights who were among the many individuals who gathered to pay tribute to her.

Join us this *Christmas* at
The Presbyterian Church at New Providence

Sunday Services

8:30 AM - Worship w/ Piano (Sanctuary)
9:30 AM - Worship w/ Praise Team (Ministry Center)
9:30 AM - Worship w/ Choir and Organ (Sanctuary)
11 AM - Contemporary (Sanctuary)

Lessons & Carols

5 PM - Sunday December 20th

Christmas Eve Services

4 PM - Children's Service
7 PM - Candlelight Service w/ Choir
9 PM - Candlelight Service w/ Choir
11 PM - Candlelight Service w/ Praise Team

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VANESSA WILLIAMS HITS THE DANCE FLOOR AT ARTHUR MURRAY'S



(above, l-r) Ms. Lynda Smith presents Champions, Leo Mora and Christina Garced with the Jesse Smith Memorial Award.

Celebrity Vanessa Williams recently "burned the floor" with local Arthur Murray Central NJ's dance pro Leo Mora during her pre-wedding party featured on David Tutter's CELEBrations (<http://goo.gl/yCd3nA>). "I was not prepared to hit the dance floor tonight," Williams claims, "but Salsa music does something to me!"

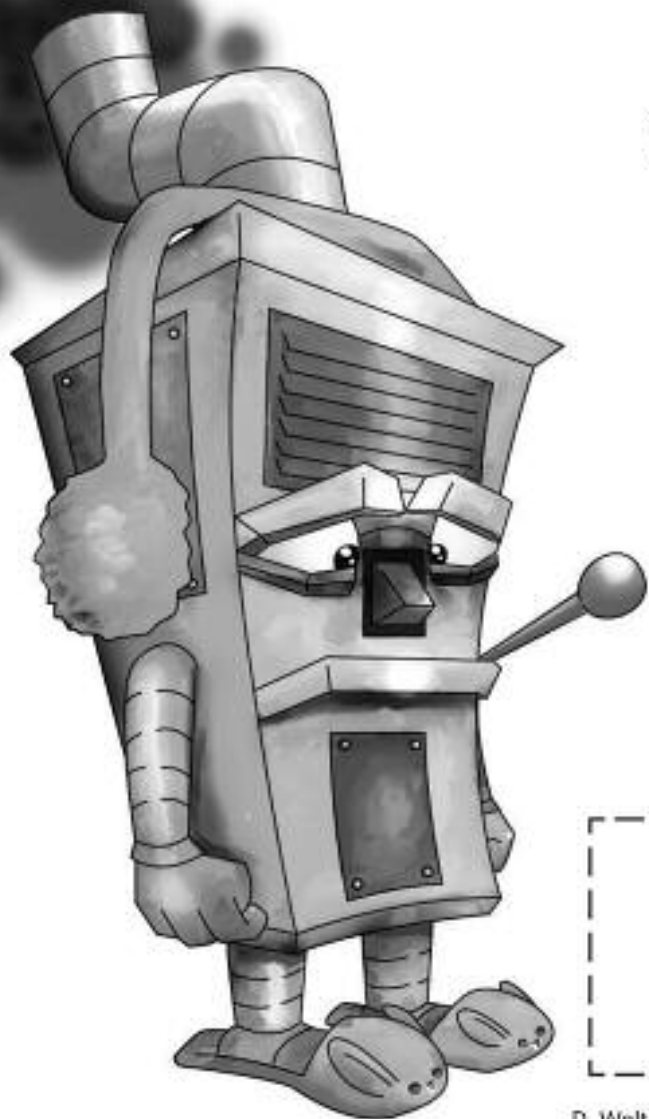
Arthur Murray has locations in Green Brook and Highland Park, New Jersey. The studio hosted the private party for Ms. Williams.

Instructors, Leo Mora and Christina Garced of Arthur Murray have been have almost 40 years teaching dance. The studio also serves the community through charity/non-profit fundraisers that support performing arts, healthy/wellness/fitness, education and personal development, and public service initiatives.

Visit www.amdancing.com for more information about Arthur Murray Dance Centers of Central New Jersey.



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BUILDING THE CITIZENS OF TOMORROW

Submitted by Vishal Agnihotri

Hard work has never been this much fun. The Scouts of Troop 368 had been hard at work during the summer, earning a total of 232 merit badges among themselves. They were just getting warmed up for the new school year. Within the first 10 weeks of the school year, the Scouts have gone canoeing, visited the attractions of Washington DC, committed their time to three community service projects in town and launched an official STEM program within their Troop.

The school year started with a canoe trip down Delaware at the Ten Mile River in New York where the Scouts camped and cooked next to the river. Over NJEA weekend, under the watchful supervision of the adult leaders of the Troop, 30 Scouts visited the many educational museums and historical monuments of the nation's capital, including the Capitol building, the Washington Monument, the American History Museum, the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum, the National Archives and the International Spy Museum. They attended workshops on what it took to become a spy at the Spy Museum and saw the original Declaration of Independence at the National Archives; the Scouts had a full schedule.

The Scouts walked all the way to all the attractions and some of them even packed in a History of Scouting hike.

Under the leadership of Scoutmaster Joe Allegra and several other dedicated Adult Scout leaders, Troop 368 has made a consistent commitment of giving back to its community. Although community service hours are essential for rank advancement, these projects achieve much more by engaging the young boys in something productive and purposeful. Scouts learn the humble responsibility of giving back and doing so with respect, which in turn helps build up their character and integrity. Adult Scout leaders not only mentor the Scouts, but also set an example themselves by volunteering their own time and energy to the next generation of young men. The Troop kicked off the year by cleaning up the town on September 26th, they even invited family and friends to join in the cleanup. Troop 368 volunteered to give back to its host school, Mountain Park School. For several hours on a crisp October afternoon this year, Scouts raked and bagged leaves and blew away debris to make the school tidier and safer for its students. In November, Scouts helped serve breakfast at the Rotary Club Pancake Breakfast at the Little Flower Church.



Currently about 20 of the Troop Scouts are preparing for a High Adventure trip to the Grand Canyon in the summer of 2016. They have begun fundraising for this week long trip and have started preparing themselves physically for the grueling hikes and rafting in the Canyon. A handful of the senior Scouts are working towards their Eagle Rank and as is common with Eagle Projects, their projects will touch and improve parks, trails, churches, schools and other community facilities.

These young men and boys are giving back to their communities, building deep friendships with each other, learning valuable leadership skills and having fun while doing it. At the December campout, Scouts will be building their own fire without matches! A Winterfest is planned for mid-January and in another upcoming challenge at the end of January called the Klondike Derby, Scouts will race sleds, a test of skill and strength, through the Watchung Reservation. If you would like to know more about the Boy Scouts Troop 368, please feel free to reach out to email: scoutmaster@bhtroop368.com





(above) Scouts on Delaware canoe trip where they camped and cooked along New York's Ten Mile River.

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Submitted by: Gay Hollowell

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DECEMBER & JANUARY EVENTS

DECEMBER 2016

Evening Book Group

Tuesday, December 8 from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
The \$60,000 Dog: my life with animals, by Lauren Slater

JANUARY 2016

Morning Book Group

Friday, January 8 from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Vanessa and Her Sister, by Priya Parmar

Evening Book Group

Tuesday, January 12 from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
The View from Castle Rock,
by Alice Munro (short stories)

This year a new tradition began in Berkeley Heights. A special program honoring our Veterans and military personnel and formally renaming the centrally located Memorial Park was held on November 11th. The new program was part of "Operation: We Remember" and coordinated by the Veterans Memorial Park Renewal Committee. VFW Post 6259 presented the colors. Honorary Committee Member and long time resident Vito Mondelli led the flag salute. In an emotional speech, Shiloh Frampton representing the VFW, thanked the town for honoring our Veterans and service men and women with this new ceremony, and how significant it is that the Park has been renamed. Mayor Robert Woodruff formally renamed Memorial Park to Veterans Memorial Park and placed a wreath on the Memorial Wall. He encouraged the over 100 people in the crowd to remember our Veterans and enlisted personnel not just on Veterans Day, but every day.

Through funds already raised and with tremendous volunteer help and donated materials, a new Memorial wall and walkway to the park have been installed, along with new electrical upgrades that beautifully light Old Glory at night.

Mayor Woodruff shared his recent experience visiting Normandy and reminded the crowd of the amazing courage and sacrifices of our soldiers so that we might enjoy our freedom. Councilman and Committee member Craig Pastore read the names of Berkeley Heights men who died in service to our country in World War II.

Committee Chair Ted Romankow explained that funds are still needed to complete the park renovations which include: new sidewalks, benches, and lamp posts, as well as a new statue entitled "Fallen Soldier" and monuments to those who served in Afghanistan and the continuing War on Terror in the Middle East. Renovations will be done in time for Memorial Day 2016 but financial and volunteer support is still needed. Community members are invited to visit www.BHMemorialPark.com for more information or to donate online. Contributions are tax deductible and may also be made payable to: Veterans Memorial Park Renewal Committee and sent to 29 Park Ave., Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922. To find out how you or your business or organization might help in the restoration efforts, please call (908) 208-7800.

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HOME FOR GOOD DOG RESCUE CELEBRATES 4,000 ADOPTIONS

Summit-based nonprofit organization Home for Good Dog Rescue celebrated its milestone 4,000th adoption on Nov. 28 as part of a special two-day event hosted at its offices in Berkeley Heights, NJ.

At a mere 13-weeks-old, Stella, a former stray Labrador Retriever mix from Swainsboro, GA and the sole survivor of her litter, found her forever home that morning amid enthusiastic applause from the organization's volunteers, staff, and fosters.

"It's amazing how far we have come in just five short years," Rich Errico, Home for Good's co-founder and treasurer, said. "Our operation started out of somebody's living room in 2010, and we would not have been able to grow so much in such a short time without the support of our local community."

Home for Good's staff surprised the Perrone family of Madison, NJ by announcing that they and Stella marked the latest major benchmark in the organization's five-year history. And following a round of applause, the team popped open a bottle of champagne to truly begin the celebration.

"Every dog we save reminds us why we do what we do," Home for Good Dog Rescue's Public Relations and Social Media Coordinator Matt Holowienka said. "It's wonderful to see Stella go home with such a wonderful family, and everything truly seemed to align to make this moment possible."

After visiting the first part of the adoption event on Nov. 27, the Perrone family fell in love with Stella and hastily filled out an application for adoption. And although they worried she would find another home as they waited for approval, she was still eagerly waiting when they returned Saturday morning.

"I was here for the 1000th adoption," Foster



(above) Members of the Perrone family react with surprise upon being informed they are adoption number 4,000.

Coordinator Susan Strell said. "That we have placed so many dogs not only in permanent homes but in foster homes is more success than we could have ever imagined."

The 100-percent foster-based Home for Good Dog Rescue transports dogs from high-kill shelters throughout South Carolina and Georgia to New Jersey in search of their forever homes. It has been only one year since it celebrated its milestone 3,000th adoption in 2014.

"We're only going to keep growing from here, and it's wonderful that so many people have gotten involved in our mission," Errico remarked.

Home for Good's next endeavor is the construction of the ALMOST HOME Wellness Center in Aiken, S.C. This specialized facility

will allow the organization to rescue even more dogs by providing a safe place of recovery and rest for dogs either too young or too sick to make the journey north.

For more information on Home for Good Dog Rescue or to support the capital campaign for the ALMOST HOME Wellness Center, visit www.HomeforGoodDogs.org.



(above) Stella, a Labrador Retriever mix, was living as a stray in Swainsboro, GA. She was the sole survivor of her litter.



(above) Enrico and Keri Perrone of Madison became the latest benchmark adopters in Home for Good Dog Rescue's five-year history.



(above) A longtime volunteer gives the Perrone family a special gift basket as they prepare to take Stella home as thanks for opting to adopt.



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❄ **Dorsi's Deli & Pharmacy (908) 647-0497**

The Cornerstone of Main Avenue. Your local convenience store

& pharmacy for all your needs; Family owned for 68 years

❄ **Milk Money Children's Consignment (908) 604-2444**

Upscale children's consignment shop. We carry new and gently used clothes and shoes for kids 0-16, toys, books, games, maternity and baby gear.

- 15% off clothes and shoes (except dance and cleats).

❄ **High Gear (908) 605-6347**

Bicycles, apparel and accessories for all your cycling needs

- 10% off 1 item.

❄ **Restore (908) 647-0613**

43 years of providing skilled restoration and repair for furniture and antiques, carousel figures and works of art

Support Your Local Businesses!
Mention/bring in this Ad to receive
sale/discount at select businesses.
All valid through December 2015.

Fresh Fruit &

Vegetable Market

Freshly baked Portuguese and Italian bread delivered daily!

somersetfarms@verizon.net
somersetfarmsnj.com

908-757-7730

950 Route 22 East • North Plainfield, NJ



Store Hours: Mon-Sat: 9:00 am to 7:00 pm
Sun: 9:00 am to 5:00pm

"We're Not Just Produce"



HOLIDAY ITEMS

- Panettone
- Toronne
- Almond paste
- Chestnuts
- Dried fruit and nuts

FRESH FRUIT OR VEGETABLE PLATTERS

Platters over stuffed with the best the season has to offer.

- 14 inch 24.99
- 16 inch 29.99
- 18 inch 39.99

Perfect for Special Occasions!



COUPON

FRESH SHRIMP

\$9⁹⁹ BER12
lb 16/20 size

By the pound only. Limit 1 lb per customer per coupon per day. Not to be combined with other offer. Offers good thru 1/15/16.

FRESH FISH

Available Thursday to Sunday

*Filleted, Steaked,
Cleaned to your liking!*

COUPON

FRESH TALAPIA

\$5⁹⁹ BER12
lb

By the pound only. Limit 1 lb per customer per coupon per day. Not to be combined with other offer. Offers good thru 1/15/16.

COUPON

Boar's Head Genoa Salami

\$5⁹⁹ BER12
lb

BER12

Must purchase 1 lb. Limit 1 lb. per coupon. Coupon may not be combined with other offers. Limit 1 offer and coupon per day. Offer expires 1/15/16.

COUPON

Sicuro Mild Slicing Provolone

\$5⁹⁹ BER12
lb

BER12

Must purchase 1 lb. Limit 1 lb. per coupon. Coupon may not be combined with other offers. Limit 1 offer and coupon per day. Offer expires 1/15/16.

COUPON

\$1.00 OFF your purchase of \$20.00 OR MORE



BER12

Excludes garden center and fish purchases. Limit 1 offer per customer per day. Not to be combined with other offer. Offer expires 1/15/16.

GARDEN CENTER

Large selection of freshly cut

Christmas Trees \$29⁹⁹ and up

CHRISTMAS WREATHS, GRAVE COVERS, ROPING AND MUCH MORE.



Call Today To Order! 908-757-7730 • 950 Route 22 East North Plainfield

Open 7 Days Daily 9am-7pm / Sunday 9am-5pm



Fresh Fruit Arrangements &

Chocolate Covered Strawberries

PERFECT GIFT FOR

- Birthdays • Thank You
- Get Well
- Deepest Sympathy
- I Love You
- Centerpieces

PERFECT DESSERT ADD ON

**Available For
Pick Up Or Delivery**

December Special

**Chocolate Covered
Strawberries**



**\$24.99
BOX OF 12**

Strawberry Holiday Special - Pick up only

\$5 OFF

**YOUR
FRUITFUL
CREATION
\$39.99
OR MORE**



BER12 Offer expires 1/15/16