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*The Millstone Times would like to thank the Allentown High School Band and the Millstone Township Girl Scouts who cleaned up the campsites at Indian Rock RV Park and Campground in honor of Earth Day 2017*



**More Than Just Millstone Township News!**

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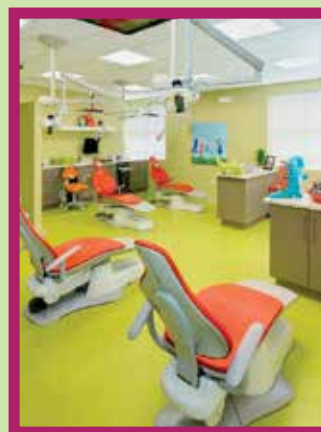
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## Monmouth Jewish Farmers PowerPoint Slide Show to Premiere in May

**T**his May, The Jewish Heritage Museum of Monmouth County will premier Back to the Land: The Story of The Jewish Farmers of Greater Monmouth, a PowerPoint slide show focusing on the Jewish agricultural industry that flourished in Central Jersey from 1920 to 1970. This program will be presented at two locations within the County. The program deals with earlier 18th and 19th century Jewish farming development leading to the 20th century when poultry farming on a commercial scale became the most important form of agriculture engaged in by the state's Jewish farmers.

The first showing will be on Monday, May 8, at 2:00 p.m. at The Jewish Heritage Museum, in Freehold Township; and the second on Wednesday, May 10 at 2:00 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center Jersey Shore, 100 Grant Avenue, Deal. Admission for both sites is \$3 for JHMOMC/JCC members, \$5 for non-members; students free.

For more information or to make a reservation for either location (non-refundable), call the Museum at 732-252-6990, or visit [www.jhmomc.org](http://www.jhmomc.org). The Jewish Heritage Museum is located in the Mounts Corner Shopping Center, at 310 Mounts Corner Drive Freehold, NJ, at the corner of Route 537 and Wemrock Road (between the CentraState Medical Center and Freehold Raceway Mall). It is on the second floor of the historic Levi Solomon Barn. The JHMOMC is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is handicapped accessible.







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# Make Mothers Day Meaningful

By Susan Heckler

Everyone loves to receive gifts. The anticipation, the surprise and the warm feeling that someone loves you enough to make that gesture means so much. Not all gifts can be purchased; some of the best gifts come from the heart rather than the wallet. With everyone's budgets so squeezed these days, all the better to give her something meaningful that doesn't need to cost much at all, yet will be priceless to them.

Mother's Day is one of the 365 days of the year that you can make your own Mom feel loved and appreciated. Don't just stop there. Do you have ladies in your life who were very loving, maternal and nurturing to you? It could be a relative, a friend, or a mentor...any lady who has had a positive influence on your life or the lives of your children.

To make this year extra meaningful for Mom and the Mom-Like ladies, consider the following suggestions:

**Express yourself** – This year, express your appreciation for moms with a handwritten card. Spell out, literally, the moments in your life that she touched your heart and how it made you feel. Tell her of the laughter she gave you, the comfort and all of those treasured times.

**Put Aside You and DO** – What are your mom's favorite things to do that you may share for the day? Put the smart phone down and give her all of you. Help in the garden, catch a museum, go for a stroll, or sift through photo albums. Put some emotion into the motion of Mother's Day.

**Plant a Seed** – Plants flowers or a manageable tree in Mom's garden so she can look back on the day and smile. Cut floral arrangements are beautiful but a garden lasts the whole summer and perennials come back every year.

**Make Mealtime Mom Time** – Keep the meal simple so you have time to spend together, make her favorites to show you care.

**Memorialize the Day** – Take photos, videos, have fun with snap chat and leave a trail of memories you can all look back on and smile.

**Be inclusive** – Is there anyone you know that doesn't have children or their children do not live local? Include them and make them feel the love. There is nothing lonelier than being alone on a holiday.



## Looking for something different to do on May 13 & May 14?

Head out to the Horse Park of New Jersey in Allentown, and join the festivities at the Jersey Fresh International 3-Day Event.

First and foremost, you will get to watch horses compete at a world-class level on 185 acres of beautiful parkland. You may also want to consider tailgating, picnicking, and just enjoying springtime. Special activities will be available for children, including complimentary painting of a Breyer Stablemates® horse to take home. Pony rides will also be available.

The Trade Fair at Jersey Fresh will be bigger and better than ever this year – with equestrian and non-equestrian items. Kismet Yoga, Preppy Player, Tiki, The Fabulous Horse, The Posh Pony Boutique, and Eponia will all be on site with exciting fashions. Two highly anticipated jewelers joining the event are Rustica Jewelry and .aym. Lilla Rose, Roz Potz, Delicious Horse Treats, and local realtors, add to the variety. And then, of course, Dubarry of Ireland, Devoucoux, and County Saddlery will all be returning. Horsemen's Outlet will be featuring a new, exclusive line of JFI merchandise for the first time. Many vendors will be open on Thursday and Friday, May 10 and 11, as well as all weekend. Stop in early and do some shopping for Mother's Day.

If that isn't enough, there will be great options for a favorite treat or meal from Jonnie G's, The Tasty Trolley, Hawaiian Husky, Maddalenas Cheesecake, Rudy's, and Squeeze'D. You can enjoy anything from organic shave ice and natural smoothies to boardwalk-style eats and comfort food.

On Sunday, May 14, two new events have been added to the schedule. There will be an early morning 5K race for runners, followed by a 1K fun walk suitable for all at mid-day. Runners and walkers are welcome to bring along their canine companions for both activities. Kids are especially invited to join in the 1K, which gives them an opportunity to be part on the pooch and people party in the center of the Grand Prix Arena during a "paws in competitive action." These activities will benefit FlyPups, Inc. a NJ based canine rescue group. Rounding out the day will be show jumping in the Arena throughout the day, including mounted awards ceremonies.

Further information about JFI is available at [www.jfi3d.com](http://www.jfi3d.com), and this includes regular updates to the schedule. Further information about the Horse Park of New Jersey is available at [www.horseparkofnewjersey.com](http://www.horseparkofnewjersey.com).



## Monroe Township Chorus FREE Concert, No Tickets Required

The Monroe Township Chorus will present a very unique and special program of songs and music honoring the Armed Forces for their service and sacrifices to our country and to the world.

***"How Important It Is To Recognize And Celebrate Our Heroes And She-ros!"***  
– Maya Angelou

The Monroe Township Chorus will present "A Salute To Our Veterans And Our Armed Forces" on Thursday evening, May 18th at the Richard P. Marasco Performing Arts Center, Monroe Township Middle School, 1629 Perrineville Rd., Monroe Township, NJ. Doors will open at 6:30 PM. The performance will begin at 7:30 PM.

The Chorus will pay tribute to the military service of men and women who proudly served, and to those who continue to serve our country. Through choral performance and sing-a-long songs, we will express our reverence, respect and gratitude to all branches of the Armed Forces. We ask that the veterans who attend, show their pride by wearing their military decorations, uniform, cap or jacket of their veteran organization.

As we think about giving thanks to our veterans, we reflect on who our veterans are today. We remember our deceased veterans who have served and have been laid to rest. We remember our living veterans who have served and continue to serve today with our current conflicts. The times have changed and warfare may have changed, but the veteran is still the same hero. We will ask all veterans to stand and accept the gratitude of our grateful community. We are all so proud of you.

For additional information: Contact Sheila Werfel, Choral Director at: 609-619-3229 or [sheila1120@gmail.com](mailto:sheila1120@gmail.com)



# MAY/JUNE

Keep Your Parents Busy!

Enjoy Paul Anka at Count Basie Theater in Redbank



Living off the Land in Early New Jersey, Museum of Early Trades & Crafts  
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Charlotte's Web - Sensory-Friendly Performance Count Basie Theatre, Red Bank

Jersey Shore Festival (Music)

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Oasis Family Farm Honey and Strawberry Weekend 2017

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Autism Speaks Walk 2017

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Mercer Family and Friends 2017 Art Show at the Lawrenceville Library

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Open Forum for Parents of Children and Adults with Autism & Severe Behavioral Challenges 7 pm to 8:30pm Alpine Learning Group  
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Jersey Shore Food Truck Festival Monmouth Park

Oceanport Ave., Oceanport



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Read & Pick: Strawberries Terhune Orchards

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The Way Back Home June 8th, - June 11th Two River Theater

21 Bridge Ave., Red Bank

See Remember Jones (music) in Downtown Freehold



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## Lloyd Garrison

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"If we don't have it, we can create it"

## Millstone Township Artist

### Lloyd Garrison

#### *A Man Who Paints from the Heart*

By Pam Teel

Millstone resident, Lloyd Garrison, has a strong passion for the arts. In fact he has made a career out of it for the past fifty-one years. His enthusiasm for drawing started at an early age when his kindergarten teacher wrote a note home to his parents telling them how nice he drew for his age.

Artwork always seemed to come easy to Garrison, who is mostly self-taught. He would revel in the attention he would get from his teachers and others throughout his school years. Even when he went into the Army in the 124th Signal Core, his special talent was recognized. He became an army artist, painting signs, murals, and historical paintings for the Officer's Club. One of his proudest moments, at just twenty years old, was when he was invited to the club celebration, and when asked to stand up, the Commanding General of Fort Lewis, Washington promoted him to Corporal. By the time he left the army, he still wasn't quite sure what he was going to do with his life. Eventually he decided to do what he did best- use his talent as an artist. He started his career in Rahway, his hometown, in 1966. From there, he and his wife opened their own gallery in Red Bank. After 48 years in business, he decided to sell the building in 2006. After years of non-stop painting, art shows, and running a gallery, Garrison decided that he wanted to make his life simpler and work from out of his Millstone Township home.

Inspired by historical events, Garrison loves to paint historical scenes such as Colonial and Revolutionary War paintings. With extensive research to back up the authenticity of his paintings, he strives to paint the real truth in his work; the real emotion of its characters, the real effects of war, not some Disney-like fantasy that all is good with the world. The final reward for his work was to bring that intense emotion he experienced while painting the scene to the person viewing it. If that person can feel the pain and the suffering depicted in his artwork, then he has done his job as an artist.

Garrisons Colonial paintings were most likely inspired by the fact that he is the 11th generation who lived in Rahway and his ancestors were innkeepers of the Terrill Tavern and they were also sled and carriage makers.

His style is realistic and he likes to paint with oils. His genre of work is unlimited. Garrison likes variety and not only has he done battlefield paintings, civil war and revolutionary scenes, but landscapes, still-life's, wildlife, aviation, animal portraits, florals, religious scenes, surrealism, and more.

Garrison has also painted miniature oils; two series of plates for the Bradford Exchange, and for two years drew comic books for Gold Key Comics. He did the cover for "Old Spice Cologne," the logo for "Sleep Doctor," and a cover for Finley Tea. He has painted murals for Prudential Insurance Company in Newark, Rahway Savings Institution, and the restaurants, Barbary Coast, Brass Bucket, and Al Dente Restaurant in Piscataway. He has impressively painted over 20 murals, produced over 45 designs of Christmas Cards, and published over 20 signed and numbered prints. He has worked with the FBI making drawings of crime scenes. He also has some of his paintings hanging in celebrities' homes. He has a painting of George Washington and his troops crossing the Delaware River hanging at Washington Crossing State Park and another portrait that he had done for the Sons of the Revolution Organization.

Garrison's artwork depicts his total devotion to his trade. "It's a field you have to love," he stated. "You can't just do it casually. You have to do things beyond what you normally do with each painting." He notes that historical paintings are not as popular as they once were. He encourages the next generation of artists who would like to make a living in the field, to find something that they like to paint that's more traditional. Go around and see what people like and what they are buying. See what's popular.

Take it from the master, with a lifetime of experience behind him and more to come!

If you are interested in Mr. Garrisons work, you can visit his website at [www.LloydGarrison.com](http://www.LloydGarrison.com) or call his home number (609) 918- 1776. Mr. Garrison is available by appointment only. He will paint whatever the client wants from landscapes to self-portraits, to house portraits, to almost any subject.



# A Roundabout for Millstone

By Susan Heckler

Generally speaking, roads historically don't just happen...they evolve. A path gets worn from repeatedly going from point A to point B and it grows from there. Add in a point C and it complicates the situation...and then there are traffic circles or roundabouts.

Millstone Township may be the proud owner of a new roundabout in an effort to make the intersection of County Route 571 (Millstone Rd), County Route 524 (Stagecoach Road) and Paint Island Springs less of a danger to motorists. A roundabout is a smaller version of a traffic circle. This 5 spoke intersection has become an increasing hazard as the town has developed over the years. They anticipate a diameter of 190 feet with a center island surrounded by a mountable truck apron. The plan includes storm water management basins, roadway lighting, high visibility pavement markings and signage, and ADA compliant handicap ramps.

The concept has been in conversation since 2004 when it was introduced. A public meeting was held March 29 including the Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) along with county engineers. The proposed project, estimated at \$1.9 million is fully funded by Monmouth County through Federal Highway Safety Improvement Program Funds from the Federal Highway Administration through the New Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA).

In a recent conversation with your Assemblyman Ron Dancer, he said "Millstone Township will continue to have all the assistance from their State Legislative Office of Senator Sam Thompson, Assemblyman Rob Clifton and myself to facilitate public safety improvements at the five point intersection of Stagecoach Road, Millstone Road and Paint Island Spring Road, commonly referred to as "Scooter Corner."

The Millstone Township Mayor and Committee members are to be commended for their efforts, along with the Monmouth County Freeholders, to obtain nearly \$2 million to completely fund a "roundabout" at the intersection from the Federal Highway Administration through N.J. Transportation Planning Authority."

Tax dollars at work to save lives!



# The Logic of Logos & Catch Phrases

By Pam Teel

Have you ever looked at a logo and wondered what their meanings were or what inspired the designer?

Take Toyota for instance. The three ellipses seen in the logo for Toyota represent three hearts: the heart of the customer, the heart of the product and the heart of progress in the field of technology. Ask someone or educate them and see if they knew this!



McDonalds - The M does actually stand for McDonalds. In the 1960's McDonalds wanted to change the logo but their design consultant and psychiatrist Louis Cheskin insisted that they leave the golden arches. According to BBC, Cheskin said that customers would unconsciously recognize the logo as a pair of nourishing breasts. Don't know if anyone ever did recognize it as such, but whether that is true or not, their logo is one of the most recognizable in the world.



Mobil Gas -The importance of their logo is its colors. The red is said to represent strength and the blue faithfulness and security that the company provides.



Pepsi - Pepsi did change their old logo and it costs them a million dollars to do so. They had to rebrand everything. They hired the group, "Arnell Associates" to come up with the new concept. Arnell's 27-page document was breached and it was revealed that their "breathtaking design strategy" proposed that the new logo is some sort of Da Vinci Code. The logo draws on Feng Shui, the Renaissance, the Earth's Geodynamo, the theory of Relativity, and much more, according to the leaked document. Who would have known the meaning by looking at it?



The Apple Logo represents forbidden fruit from the Tree of Knowledge in the biblical creation of the story of Adam and Eve.



FedEx - This logo is so creative. If you look closely you will see the arrow between the letters E and X, which represents the company's forward thinking and outlook towards the future.



BMW has a history in aviation and its logo stays true to its roots. The blue and white represent a propeller in motion with the sky peeking through. BMW had a role in World War Two as a creator of aircraft engines for the German military.



Mercedes Benz - This logo is the most confident of them all. The tri-star represents the company's dominance in quality over all things (land, sea, and air).



Logos are a part of our everyday life and a way that we recognize a product or thing; a symbol or picture that can be recognized as a company. For example, when you see the Nike swoosh, you don't have to see the name "Nike" to know what company made that logo/symbol.



# Millstone Township's own Nancy Grbelja Sworn in as Library Commissioner

By Pam Teel

Millstone Township's committeewoman, Nancy Grbelja, was sworn into her second five-year term on the Monmouth County Library Commission at the reorganization meeting held at Eastern Branch Library. Freeholder Director, Lillian Barry, the Board's liaison to the Library Commission swore in the councilwoman and praised her for her years of value to the Commission.

Grbelja was also unanimously re-elected treasurer at the reorganization meeting. Commission chair, Renee Swartz, was unanimously re-elected chairman, along with vice chair Frank Wells of Union Beach, and Peter Doyle of Atlantic Highlands, who also serves as co-treasurer with Ms. Grbelja.

Ms. Grbelja stated to the Board of Freeholders how proud she was to be a part of the library commission because of the variety of services and programs they provide to encourage frequent use of the library for both education and recreational purposes. Planning the programs and ensuring the variety of programs are her primary reason for serving. She also had praise for the library staff for keeping up with technology and constantly changing media forms to make the library accessible to all.

Grbelja, who owns a stable and races standard bred horses, plays active roles in both the township and Monmouth County. She also serves on the Monmouth County Planning Board where she is on the Amendment Review Committee. She is also the Planning Boards Representative on the County's Agricultural Development Board. She is also on the Monmouth County Transportation Board.

Grbelja was the first woman to ever serve on the Millstone Township governing body when first elected in 2004. She has served the town as its mayor for nine of those years. Currently she is the council representative to the Township Planning Board and a liaison to the open space and Farmland Council for the County.

She earned her degree in biology, magna cum laude, from Montclair State College and obtained her Masters degree in curriculum/ supervision from Georgian Court College. In 1993, she went to work for the New Jersey Education Association representing Middlesex County employees in labor negotiations. She also taught science at Freehold Township High School for nearly twenty years.

In addition to her strong advocacy for education, Ms. Grbelja is a strong proponent of open space preservation and farmland and training centers, because of the positive impact they have on taxes and the quality of life for residents.

Congratulations to one of our own. You've done this town and our county proud Ms. Grbelja!



Freeholder Director Lillian Barry swearing in Nancy Grbelja  
2017 Commission Meeting

# The Italian American Cultural Society of Monroe Township

By Nancy A Huff

Have you been hearing all the buzz on IACS? So far this year our members enjoyed learning about their town, having a "Be Mine" party, high tea and recently, musical bingo.

IACS for short, is a small social group that meets once a month on a Tuesday night, for "partying and pastries." You definitely must join, even if you are not of Italian descent, but you must have a love of all things Italian (clothes, food or amore in general). Dues are \$15.00 per person annually.

Our next meeting is a fundraiser to help Monroe Township high school students of Italian descent, with minor college expenses. What we do is bring a gift that is wrapped up and auction it off to the entire membership for a nominal fee.

The item you bring must be valued between \$10 to \$15 and can be a re-gifted item or one you buy new. Of course it should be in pristine condition and wrapped so no one can guess what's inside. Then, our auctioneer will begin the bidding as low as a \$1 and try to get the price up---maybe even beyond its value. We do ask the membership that if they do not want to participate, that they make a \$10 to \$15 contribution to the treasury for this cause.

In case you are not sure about joining, here are the calendar of events we have planned this year (notice all the eating— yes we are proud of it!) One look at the upcoming calendar should convince you that you ought to join and bring your friends too!!! You can call our Membership Vice President, Carole DeStefano (732-335-8638) for more information. Hope to see you soon. Ciao baby!

## IACS Calendar

Month	Date	Activity
May	9	Mother's Day / Fundraiser for HS (Charity auction)
June	13	Father's Day and pizza
July	11	Independence Day trivia
August	8	Deli and Dessert
September	12	T B A
October	10	pasta dinner for Columbus Day
November	14	Entertainers
December	11	Monday -- Christmas Party



## Maximize Your FUN & Make Summer Sizzle at iPlay America

This summer take advantage of all the HOT deals that allow iPlay America's guests to get the most from their entertainment dollars all summer long. It's easy to Get Inside the Fun and maximize the iPlay America experience, just remember to take advantage of these awesome money-saving offers!

### SUMMER SEASON PASS

A Summer Season Pass gives guests UNLIMITED RIDES on Freedom Rider, Kite Flyer, Sky Scraper, Pine Belt Speedway Go Karts, Spin Zone, Happy Swing, Jump Around, Dizzy Dragons, and Mini Carousel. Tickets for the Summer Season Pass go on sale Sunday, May 7. The Summer Season Pass is good every day from Memorial Day (Monday, May 29, 2017) through Labor Day (Monday, September 4, 2017), Monday through Thursday from 3 PM to close, Friday 3 PM to 9 PM for those under 21, and all day Saturday and Sunday. iPlay America's Summer Season Pass is just \$49.99 each and with every pass purchased, guests receive coupons valued at over \$100 – including vouchers to BYOF (Bring Your Own Friend!) for FREE! WOW! Want MORE? This year iPlay America offers Summer Season Pass Incentive Days on Sunday, May 7 and Sunday, May 21! When guests purchase their Summer Season Pass on an incentive day... They will receive FREE rides on that Sunday!

### BOGO Fridays

BOGO Fridays are the latest and greatest in FANTASTIC DEALS from iPlay America! Every Friday from 4 PM – 9 PM, starting April 21, purchase a Regular Price UNLIMITED Ride Band and Get One Free\*! That's unlimited rides on the Pine Belt Speedway Go Karts, Freedom Rider Spinning Coaster, Spin Zone Bumper Cars, and so much more! BOGO Fridays are for guests of all ages and will take place every Friday until 9 PM only. \*Free Ride Band must be of equal or lesser value. Promotion is valid on Friday nights from 4pm-9pm only.

### Ten Dollar Tuesdays

Every Tuesday, iPlay America invites families to enjoy a delightful dining treat where families and kids enjoy delicious UNLIMITED Pizza, Pasta, and Salad at iPlay America's Game Time Bar & Grill. It's a tasty and fun evening out and guests get it all for the exceptional price of just \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids 12 & under. Bring the whole family and dine like royalty during Ten Dollar Tuesdays from 5 to 8 PM.

Tuesdays are even more amazing with Double Arcade Ticket Tuesdays! Every Tuesday get DOUBLE Arcade ticket redemptions at iPlay America! Twice the prizes and twice the fun for serious Arcade enthusiasts!

Plus, iPlay America now features UNLIMITED \$10 Video Game Tuesdays for ALL non-redemption video games! That's ALL the non-redemption video games you can play for just TEN BUCKS!

Deals this HOT are hard to pass up! iPlay America's Summer Season Pass, BOGO Fridays, and Ten Dollar Tuesdays make it easy to MAXIMIZE the FUN all summer long!



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\*Visit website for details.



# Did you know...

By Pam Teel

Did you know that the fiery demise of the Hindenburg German Airship was really caused by an electrostatic discharge, (a spark) which ignited leaking hydrogen? The spark was most likely caused by a difference in electric potential between the airship and the surrounding air. The airship was about 200 feet above the Lakehurst Airfield in an electrically charged atmosphere, but the ship's metal framework was grounded by its landing lines that were thrown out to the ground crew below. The field was wet from previous rainy windy weather, which was the cause for delay in the ship's landing that day.

The difference in electrical potential likely caused a spark to jump from the ship's fabric covering, which had the ability to hold a charge, to the ship's framework, which was grounded by the landing lines. After a lot of research, it was determined that the ship experienced a significant leakage of hydrogen before the disaster. The Hindenburg was destroyed in a mere 32 seconds because of the inflated level of hydrogen in the air.

The ship left Frankfurt, Germany on May 3rd, flew over England, and then flew a northern track across the ocean, passing the tip of Greenland, and crossing over Newfoundland into North America. Headwinds delayed the original landing time, which was to occur at 6:00 am on May 6th, but was postponed until later in the evening, waiting on more suitable landing weather. By 3:00 pm the Hindenburg was over the skyscrapers in New York City. It passed over Princeton University first before arriving in Lakehurst. It arrived in Lakehurst at 4:15 pm but the poor weather continued to delay its landing. Captain Pruss aborted the landing and took his passengers on a sightseeing adventure over the Eastern coast of New Jersey to wait out the weather. These ships were equipped with fine dining restaurants, lounges, entertainment, and luxury quarters, so passing time on board was not a tough thing to do to wait out the weather.

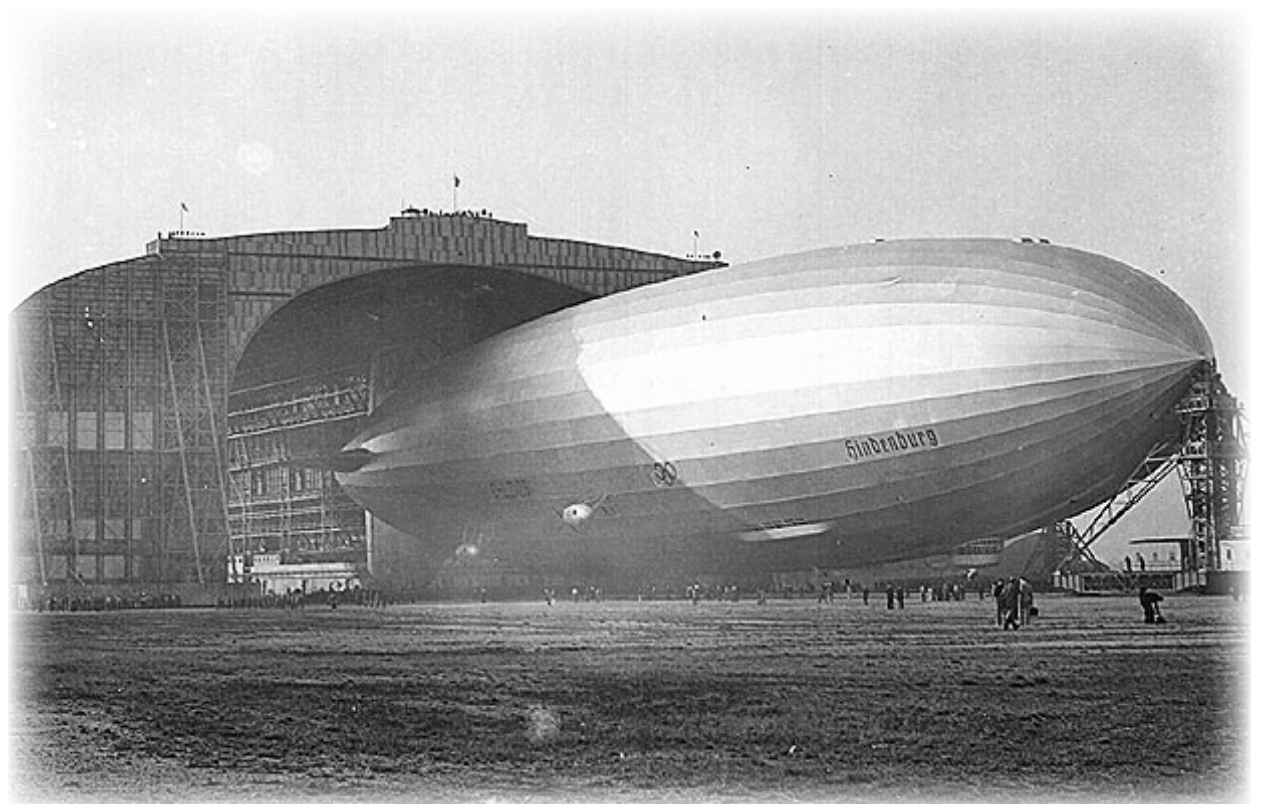
Captain Pruss directed the ship's heading and engine power settings that day as he brought the ship around to the Lakehurst field. First officer, Albert Sammt, was responsible for the trim and altitude. Watch officer, Walter Zeigler, was at the gas board, and Second officer, Heinrich Bauer, was at the ballast board. Working together, these men were to land the ship. Bauer was noted to have valved 15 seconds of hydrogen along the length of the ship to reduce the ship's buoyancy. Sammt noticed the ship was heavy in the tail and valved 30 more seconds of hydrogen into the tail to level the trim. When this failed to level the tail, more hydrogen was let loose. Six crewmen were ordered to walk up front to create more weight to level the ship.

As the wind shifted directions, Captain Pruss was anxious to land quickly before weather conditions could get any worse. He decided to execute a tight S-turn to change the ship's landing direction. Most experts believe that this sharp turn overstressed the ship causing a bracing wire to snap and slash a gas cell allowing even more hydrogen to mix with air; forming a highly explosive combination. At 180 feet, the forward ropes were dropped down to the ground crew.

R.H. Ward was in charge of the port bow landing party. He noticed what he described as a fluttering of the outer cover on the port side, which contained gas cell number 5. It appeared to him as if gas were pushing against the cover. Not soon after he noticed this, at 7:25 pm, there was the first visible flame. With little warning, a mushroom shaped flower of flame burst forth in front of the upper fin. (It was later noted that the area that Ward had seen the hydrogen leaking seemed to collapse, after which he saw streaks of flames, followed by an explosion, and then the entire tail was engulfed in flames.)

As the ship settled to the ground, less than 30 seconds after the flames, many people jumped from the promenade windows to safety. There were 92 people on board and miraculously 62 people survived. One ground crew member was killed. After more than 30 years of passenger travel on commercial zeppelins, in which tens of thousands of passengers flew over a million miles on more than 2,000 flights without one injury, the era of the passenger airship came to a crashing end right there that fateful day of May 6th, 1937, in Lakehurst, NJ.

Today, you can still occasionally see the zeppelins flying over Lakehurst Naval Base and landing in the very same field where the Hindenburg disaster occurred. Though a much smaller noncommercial version, it is still a site to see as they fly low over nearby homes and businesses. The original zeppelin hangar is still in operation at the naval base.





# Spring Lake

## *The Jewel of the Jersey Shore*

By Pam Teel



*Town of Spring Lake*

Spring Lake got its name from the natural springs that feed into the town's largest lake, Spring Lake. This town in Monmouth County is considered one of the most beautiful seashore towns in the state. It boasts a quaint downtown area with no fewer than 60 shops and boutiques, a beautiful clean two-mile beach, a long non-commercial boardwalk and many gourmet restaurants and places to eat.

Incorporated in 1892, you will find large old well-kept Victorian mansions lining tree-shaded streets. With historic bed and breakfasts to chose from, pristine beaches and gourmet dining, one can't think of a better place for a perfect vacation getaway.

Historic Spring Lakes shopping district welcomes guests from all over the world with its small village atmosphere. Its shopping district provides unique galleries, boutiques, gift shops, bike rentals and more. Add to that its casual and fine dining restaurants like the Black Trumpet, located in the Grand Victorian and just steps from the beach, and the Tap house, featuring 28 different beers to choose from, burgers, pizza and more. Stay at popular bed and breakfasts like the Beacon house or Johnson House, the Breakers Hotel or the Grand Victorian Hotel. There is also a park surrounding the spring fed lake. Spring Lake hosts many cultural events including performances from its very own Historic community theatre ensemble. One of its most popular events is the Spring Lake 5k, which draws over 10,000 people to its town.

Spring Lake Borough borders Belmar, Lake Como, Spring Lake Heights, Seagirt, and Wall.

To find out more about Spring Lake eating, shopping and places to stay, go to: [www.springlake.org/wheretoeat](http://www.springlake.org/wheretoeat), [www.springlake.org/wheretostay](http://www.springlake.org/wheretostay), and [www.springlake.org/wheretoshop](http://www.springlake.org/wheretoshop)

Two structures in town, The Normandy Inn and Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, are on the National Register of Historic Places. There is also Saint Catharine's Catholic Church. A must see beautiful church built in 1901 by a distraught father for his young deceased daughter who died from TB. The church was built and named in her honor. Don't leave without seeing the interior collection of religious artwork painted by Italian artists within its walls and on the inside ceiling. You can take a self-guided tour.

The boardwalk was rebuilt after Hurricane Sandy making it much wider with easy access to the beach. Sorry no dogs allowed. There is a bike shop in town where you can rent bikes and see the town on two wheels or you can start with a walk around Spring Lake taking in the sites of the older Victorian homes and the elegant summer cottages. Follow the paths of Divine Park, which surrounds Spring Lake. Go when the flower gardens are in bloom, and make sure you stop for a minute in the middle of a quaint wooden bridge that spans the lake's water. Across from the park is the main street of town with cozy cafes, boutiques and shops. After shopping, leave the heart of town and make your way over for a long stroll on the boardwalk by the sea.

If you plan on spending a weekend or longer, make sure you book now!



*Inside of St. Catharine's Catholic Church, Spring Lake*



*Ocean House Inn, Spring Lake*





## FOOTBALL CLINIC WITH HAKEEM NICKS

The Hakeem Nicks Foundation provides disadvantaged, at-risk, and foster care youth with opportunities in the fields of fitness, mentorship, education, and overall wellness. The foundation offers the following programs: TouchDown For A's, The Hakeem Nicks Scholarship, Big Brother Mentorship Program, and a Back To School Drive.

**JULY 1ST 2017**  
**10:00AM – 12:00PM**

**\$50.00 PER CHILD**

**INCLUDES DRINKS, LUNCH, FREE GIFTS, AND AUTOGRAPHS**  
**EACH COACH WILL HAVE 15-20 KIDS PER STATION/GROUP**

**Space is limited so register soon!**

**9:30AM:**

Camp Registration and Coaches Meeting

**10:00AM:**

Camp Starts and Hakeem Addresses Camp

**10:05AM:**

Stretching and Warm Up

**10:10AM:**

Camper Age breakdown and station selection

- Coaches will be assigned to each station by Hakeem Nicks
- We will rotate six (6) stations every 20 minutes + water breaks

**10:15:**

Station Work

(drills are subject to Coaching Staff changes)

- Station 1: Offensive Position Circuit
- Station 2: Defensive Position Circuit
- Station 3: Passing
- Station 4: Animal Drill
- Station 5: One on One Flag
- Station 6: Team Competitions

**11:30PM:**

Lunch/Gifting

**12:00PM:**

Autographs and Giveaways

**12:00PM:**

Camp ends and parent pick up



Register at: [hakeemnicks.eventbrite.com](http://hakeemnicks.eventbrite.com)

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# What Is Memorial Day?

By Susan Heckler

**What is Memorial Day?** To many, it is the beginning of summer. Believe it or not, it isn't about the beach or the barbeques. It is a solemn day of remembrance. Memorial Day is a day of commemoration for those who have died in service of the United States of America. It was born out of the Civil War and a need to honor our departed.

*"Here at the Capitol, just weeks before the end of the Civil War, a weary President Lincoln pleaded with his fellow citizens, to 'bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan.'" - Gen. Colin Powell, USA (Ret.)*

The holiday was officially proclaimed on May 5, 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic. "The 30th of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land," he proclaimed.

Originally known as Decoration Day, it was chosen because it wasn't the anniversary of any particular battle, thereby honoring all equally. On the first Decoration Day, General James Garfield spoke at Arlington National Cemetery, and 5,000 attendees decorated the graves of the 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers buried there.

By 1890, Memorial Day was recognized by all of the northern states. Unfortunately, the Southern States refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I. It was at this point when the holiday was changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war.

The passage of the National Holiday Act of 1971 has made this the Federal holiday. On this Memorial Day, we honor the sacrifices of prior generations.

We should also honor the sacrifices of the men and women next door that have served or continue to serve our country.

It has become a custom to mark Memorial Day by visiting graveyards and war monuments. One of the biggest Memorial Day traditions is for the President or Vice President giving a speech and laying a wreath on soldiers' graves in the largest national cemetery, Arlington National Cemetery, in Virginia.

On the local level, you can mark the day by:

- Put flags or flowers on the graves of men and women who served in wars.
- Send a note of thanks to Veterans you know.
- Fly the U.S. flag at half-staff until noon.
- Visit monuments dedicated to soldiers, sailors and marines.
- Participate in a National Moment of Remembrance at 3 p.m. local time.
- March in a parade.

## The Millstone Times PHOTOS OF THE MONTH

By Pam Teel

Artist and writer, Sarita Garner, lives in Hightstown. She loves taking pictures of the swans in the lake just feet from her back door. Sarita has recently taken up photography and is drawn to the water and the reflections of trees and wildlife that abounds in and around the lake. Sarita is featured in our "Meet Your Neighbor" article this month. Be sure to read all about her special talents.

Swans are the largest of the waterfowl and are some of the most beautiful birds to look at. They leave the observer with grand admiration when they see these birds for the first time. Swans such as the Trumpeter Swans are the largest of the swans and the least in numbers. The most abundant are the Tundra Swans and the Mute Swans. They were introduced to our local parks and waterways. Swans are now protected birds.

Black Swans are usually found throughout Australia with the exception of Cape York Peninsula, and are more common in the south. The Black Swan has been introduced into several countries, including New Zealand, where it is now common, and is a vagrant to New Guinea. Black Swans prefer larger salt, brackish or fresh waterways and permanent wetlands, requiring 40 m or more of clear water to take off. Outside the breeding season, Black Swans travel quite large distances. Birds fly at night and rest during the day with other swans. The Black Swan is a vegetarian. Food consists of algae and weeds, which the bird obtains by plunging its long neck into water up to 1 m deep. Occasionally birds will graze on land, but they are clumsy walkers.



Are you a photo buff? Do you love taking pictures everywhere you go? Perhaps you have a favorite one that you would like to share? We want your pictures for our photo of the month section. You can send photos to the following email: [crescent671@gmail.com](mailto:crescent671@gmail.com) Include your name and a description of the photo. If you have a brief story that goes with it, send that to. You may send photos more than one time. If you prefer to send anonymously, we will leave your name out. Make sure you put "Millstone Times Photo" in the subject area when emailing or it won't be opened. Some of the photos received are breathtaking and a true inspiration to those amateur photographic enthusiasts who like to capture and keep the memory of the things they view in the world with their eye. It got me to thinking, if there would be any interest in forming a photography group where we could learn from each other, perhaps take in some field trips, and maybe even get a professional photographer involved to give us photographic tips, please email me and let me know if you would be interested. This is open to Millstone, Allentown, Jackson, East Windsor, and all the surrounding communities. Enclosed are some favorites that were recently sent in. Please note- if you don't see your photo in the next issue, have patience, I will get it in.



# Meet Your Neighbor

## Sarita Cooke Garner

By Pam Teel

Every now and then you come across an individual that you just feel like you have a connection to. This was the case when I started corresponding with Sarita Garner of Hightstown. She emailed me because she was interested in submitting her photos for The Millstone Times' photo section. Somehow we began to converse back and forth and found that we had a lot in common. This eventually led us to go to lunch together and a thus a new friendship was born.

What I found out was not only was Sarita a really caring mother and grandmother, but also an accomplished artist and writer with very diverse interests in many things. Sarita moved into an independent senior care center at Meadow Lakes in Hightstown in 2012 because her husband was suffering from dementia. Sadly he has since passed away. Although younger than the average person there, Sarita finds it a nice environment to live in. There is a lake just outside her back door and she loves to walk down and photograph the swans. Sarita loves nature, especially photographing trees, water, and animals. She will not hesitate to jump out of her car and take a picture. (Her swan photos are featured in our Photo of the Month section).

Born in England, Sarita went to Chelsea Art School in London and finished up her degree at the Boston Museum School of Art in Boston. She started out as an abstract artist but eventually became disenchanted with it. This led her to New York University where she studied documentary filmmaking. She made a number of documentaries; the longest and most interesting being the Tock's Island Dam project, where the tri-state area was planning on damming up the Delaware River in order to produce electricity. Over time, the project was eventually scrapped. She also made a documentary on fair housing in Morristown, New Jersey, but filming at all hours of the day took a toll on her and she put that aside to take care of her son.

By sheer luck, she discovered portrait painting after heading in the wrong direction while looking for the ladies room at the DuCret School of Arts Building in Plainfield, NJ. As she passed by one of the classrooms, another teacher saw her and called her into his class. There was a man named George standing at the front of the class posing. The instructor encouraged Sarita to try doing a portrait painting of the man. The subject was an older gentleman dressed in fishing gear. Sarita choked back a chuckle because people in England would never dress like George was dressed to go fishing. So she went ahead and did his portrait in dry brush watercolor. "It's a very exacting and difficult medium and one has to have a perfectionist personality to do it," stated Sarita. It turned out her finished piece was stunning. This portrait led her into winning a Readers Digest Award at the Society of Illustrators Annual Show as well as being accepted by the Annual National Academy of Designs Show. There were also a few sporting magazines who wanted to purchase the portrait of George and publish it but Sarita couldn't part with it. To this day, it hangs on her living room wall. "I guess I have George to thank for the start of my career," Sarita joked. Sarita also taught art classes at the DuCret School of Arts in Plainfield.

Sarita lived in Far Hills, NJ for a time and while there she was well known for painting family portraits. Some of her clients included CEO's of major companies and their families, such as Governor Kean's grandchildren, the chairman of Burger Kings wife, and many other adult and children's portraits. She also lived on Chincoteague Island where she was influenced to draw the natural wildlife surrounding her. Sarita has also been interested in writing too. This is where she wrote and illustrated her children's book titled, "Mr. Scootie, A Tale of a little dog from Chincoteague." The book is based on the loss of her own dog. She has

written for the Eastern Shore News and the Chincoteague Beacon papers while living there. She loves to write because writing took her out to meet people and amazing local characters that she wouldn't normally get to know and because of the island and the incredible wildlife on it. Sarita currently writes for the Meadow Lark paper where she lives. She also is a poet at heart and it has been a lot of fun reading and sharing our poetry with each other. Sarita has now turned her artistic interests to photography and welcomes other amateur photographers, fellow poets, and artists to join her. If you would like to get in touch with Sarita or see some more of her artwork, feel free to email her at: [Sarita.a.garner@gmail.com](mailto:Sarita.a.garner@gmail.com).

Sarita has won many national awards for her work and has had the greatest honor of having one of her paintings chosen to hang in the National Academy of Designs Annual Show.

I asked Sarita if there were other artists in her family and she proceeded to show me the artwork of both her father and her aunt. One can see where she got her talent.

Sarita's earliest memories of drawing was while she was sitting in class in England at about ten years old. Instead of doing her schoolwork, she was drawing pictures of her friends in class. Many times she was called down to the office for her doodling. That doodling led her to a very fulfilling career as an Artist!

It's a pleasure to call you my neighbor, Sarita!



Random works of Sarita



Sarita and George, the fisherman - the first portrait painting she did.



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## Have You Always Wanted To Own A Plane and Learn To Fly?

Most adults have dreamed about owning an airplane and having the freedom to be able to fly whenever and wherever they like without the hassle of commercial travel. Even parents who have children going off to college want to find a way to eliminate the long dreaded drive to visit their child at an out of state college.

RedTail Partners is a New Jersey based company that sells partnership interest in the new re-manufactured highly modified Cessna 172s and is seeking to locate its first aircraft in Monmouth County New Jersey. The company is targeting the person that may not currently be a pilot but has always wanted to learn to fly. It only takes about 60 hours of flight training with a flight instructor in order to get your license. By bringing the sharing economy

to this market, RedTail Partners will make aircraft ownership available on a larger scale. All RedTail Partner aircraft come with a pre-installed Ballistic Recovery System's whole plane parachute that can be deployed in the event of a loss of control, failure of the aircraft structure, or other in-flight emergencies.

"If you ever fly one of these small aircraft, particularly around Manhattan, you will find that flying your own aircraft is one of the coolest things you will ever experience. Most people never get a chance to do something this spectacular," states RedTail Partner's founder.

RedTail Partners is currently offering 1/16<sup>th</sup> interest in a RedTail aircraft for \$29,999 and is now in New Jersey.

To learn more contact Redtail Partners at email: [info@redtailpartners.com](mailto:info@redtailpartners.com); phone: (617) 855-9241 or visit their website at [www.redtailpartners.com](http://www.redtailpartners.com).

## East Windsor Participated in Annual Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association Stream Cleanup on Earth Day, Saturday, April 22. Thirty-four volunteers participated and 218 pounds of trash were collected at Etra Lake Park.

The Watershed Association works with residents, municipal, county, and state leaders, and local groups on a wide variety of initiatives and actions to plan smart, grow community and preserve and protect our natural resources. Local volunteers including local officials, scouts and area residents gathered, joining Michael Pisauro, Policy Director of the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association and East Windsor Mayor Janice Mironov, to participate in the annual Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association Stream Cleanup at Etra Lake Park on April 22.





# The Millstone Times Helps Kentucky Pastor

By Pam Teel

Pastor Gordon Jones from Maysville, Kentucky, wanted to help his veteran friend Ernest locate his long lost sister, whose last residence known was at the Nursing home on Prodelin Way in Millstone Township. Wanting to do something special for the ailing veteran, the pastor went on a mission from God trying to find the man's sister.

Pastor Jones got to know Ernest very well, being that his church had helped to house him for free until he got his military pension. He was also very concerned about Ernest's failing health and how Ernest's only regret was not keeping in contact with his sister.

The Pastor contacted this papers owner, Cami Gunther, and told her about his dilemma about not being able to locate the sister after the nursing home had closed down. With little to go by but a few clues, Ms. Gunther put his story out there on the Millstone Community Forum asking the townspeople for any help that they could give her pertaining to the whereabouts of the woman in question. The community stepped up to try to help locate the sister, doing some of their own research as to towns and even old phone numbers of places that she had lived in the past, but the leads seemed to have all dried up. She seemed to have been bouncing back and forth from one nursing home to another. Other towns that came up in the search were Ewing and Jackson.

Ms. Gunther even had her staff do some research and follow up on any leads pertaining to where Ernest's sister might have ended up. That included contacting both the Millstone Township and Jackson Township Municipal Buildings to see if there were any records or traces of Ernest's sister, who was still using her maiden name. This led to a name of the corporation that took over the old M & M Nursing home and countless phone calls and leads that again led nowhere.

But fear not, the story does not end at all in gloom; the pastor had informed Ms. Gunther on April 10th that through a program run by the VA Hospital in Kentucky that helps veterans find lost family members, Ernest had found his long lost sister. They traced her to a nursing home in Jackson and after forty years apart, Ernest was able to speak with his sister on the phone.

An ecstatic Pastor, Jones has offered Ernest a round trip ticket to come up to see his sister. Hopefully he will be well enough to make the trip and we will be there from The Millstone Times to cover the happy reunion.

The Millstone Times loves the opportunity to reach out and help people whenever they can! They would like to also thank those community members that lent a hand in trying to locate the woman for the Pastor. In the words of Pastor Jones, "God is Good."

## Attention all New Jersey Colleges and High Schools

### You too can participate in the "Green Brain of the Year Project"

By Pam Teel

Carter A. Mandrik, PhD, lives and works at a University in Cyprus. He is a graduate Program Coordinator for the Business Program at the Middle East Technical University on the Northern Cyprus Campus. He is originally from New Jersey where his parents still reside in New Egypt.

For the last six years, his University has held a competition called, "Green Brain of the Year," for universities and high schools to compete in. This is an international project competition on the topic of sustainability open to high schools, colleges, and universities. The contest runs through the end of May, so hurry and send in your application now. Why not use your green brain to help make the world a better place. Enter now for a chance to win.

For the competition, two person teams submit projects related to sustainability, specifically the "vital Triad" of sustainable environments, water resources, and energy. The top prize is a thousand euro's per student and the top five teams get an all expense paid trip to Cyprus to present their project to a panel.

There is no fee to enter. The point is to raise awareness of sustainability, promote scientific inquiry and achievement, and of course, public relations for the University and the SEES program.

Carter Mandrik would love to see teams enter from the United States, especially from his home state. In the past, the project has been dominated by teams from Asia and the Middle East. Entering into the project would help foster an understanding of sustainability and an appreciation for innovation and a feeling of pride for that school or university that entered.

You could be the 2017 Green Brain of the Year. Do you have a green idea? This is an international project competition on the topic of sustainability. Enter now for a chance to win.

You can find more information on the contest and an application at: <http://ncc.metu.edu.tr/greenbrain>

Attn: High school teachers- this is a great project to get involved in but hurry and enter soon!

## Upper Freehold-Allentown Alliance To Prevent Substance Abuse

PRESENTS



ALL MAKES AND MODELS OF BIKES WELCOME!

Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
5:30pm - 9:00pm

The Roost at the  
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Cream Ridge, NJ

\*Door Prizes

\*Judging & Awards

\*Several Categories

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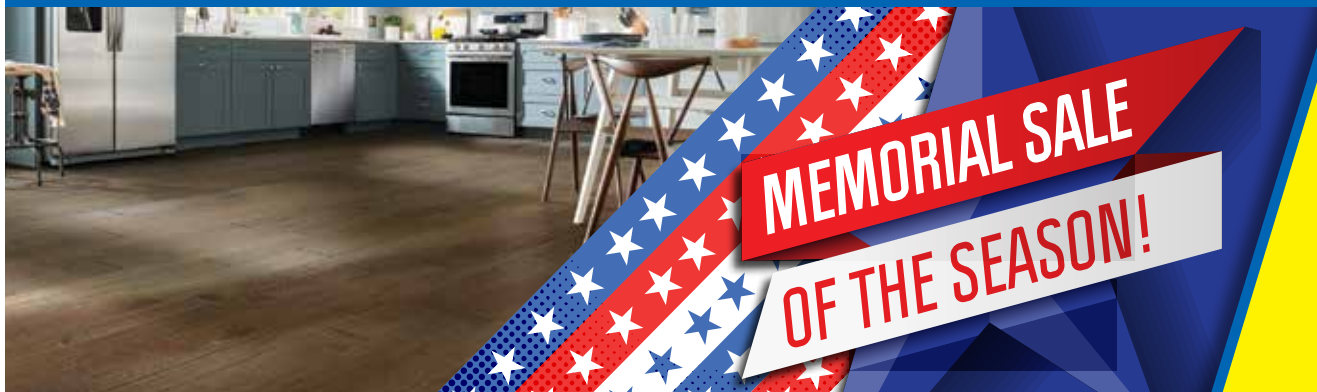
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**3<sup>31</sup>** sq. ft.  
**SALE PRICE!**

**INSTALLED!**  
**Mohawk® Prospects Luxury Vinyl Plank**  
6"W x 36"L Planks, 11 colors  
Floor prep may be additional.

**3<sup>49</sup>** sq. ft.  
**SALE PRICE!**

**INSTALLED!**  
**Glue-Down Vinyl Planks by Shaw®**  
Hottest new styles and colors!  
Floor prep may be additional.

**6<sup>19</sup>** sq. ft.  
**SALE PRICE!**

**INSTALLED!**  
**Armstrong® Rigid Core**  
with an Acoustic Cork Underlayment, 3 widths  
Floor prep may be additional.

**6<sup>69</sup>** sq. ft.  
**SALE PRICE!**

**INSTALLED!**  
**Congoleum® Timeless Luxury Plank**  
3 season product, Waterproof!  
Floor prep may be additional.

**3<sup>79</sup>** sq. ft.  
**SALE PRICE!**

**INSTALLED!**  
**Shaw® DuraTru Resilient Sheet Vinyl**  
15 new colors and patterns!  
Floor prep may be additional.

**HARDWOOD { WE Deliver! WE Install! WE Warranty your installation!**

**INCLUDES INSTALLATION!**

**7<sup>99</sup>** sq. ft.

**INSTALLED!**  
**Indusparquet® Santos Mahogany**  
2 1/4" Wide Solid Wood Flooring  
\*Nail down installation. Floor prep may be additional. Cannot be combined with other offers.

**9<sup>49</sup>** sq. ft.

**INSTALLED!**  
**Mirage® Maple and Oak**  
3" Wide, 3/4" Thick, 35 Year Warranty, 7 Maple colors, 7 Oak colors!  
\*Nail down installation. Floor prep may be additional. Cannot be combined with other offers.

**7<sup>39</sup>** sq. ft.

**INSTALLED!**  
**Mohawk® American Designer Engineered**  
Handscraped, 5 colors, 5" width  
Floor prep may be additional. Cannot be combined with other offers.

**8<sup>09</sup>** sq. ft.

**INSTALLED!**  
**Shaw® Epic Engineered**  
10 different installation types, 17 colors, Lifetime Warranty  
\*Nail down installation. Floor prep may be additional. Cannot be combined with other offers.

**6<sup>19</sup>** sq. ft.

**INSTALLED!**  
**Bruce® Turlington Full Finish Oak Flooring**  
3" Oak Flooring, 6 colors  
\*Nail down installation. Floor prep may be additional. Cannot be combined with other offers.

**6<sup>19</sup>** sq. ft.

**INSTALLED!**  
**Mannington® Gloss Oak Flooring**  
6 colors, 15 Year Warranty  
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# A LOVING FAMILY

By Pam Teel

**T**here are still a lot of animals in shelters that need homes. Please consider adopting a pet there first. At Animal Assistance, there are still many cats and dogs up for adoption. All animals have been spayed/neutered and updated on all their shots. Please take a look at some of the ones below who need loving forever homes. You can find more on their website or call to ask about the animals that are available. Please open up your heart and your home and adopt a homeless pet before you turn to a puppy mill.

To view all the pets up for adoption at the shelter, please visit them at PetFinder.com: <http://www.petfinder.com/shelters/NJ538.html> or look under animalassistance.com

**Please call Linda at 732.251.3210.** The phones are answered during open doors hours. Call between 7-10am Monday through Thursday, Friday 7am to 4 pm, or Sunday 8:30-10:30am. You can make arrangements to come in and see the animals you might want to adopt. linda@animalassistance.org. 645 Old Stagecoach Road East Brunswick (not far from the Jamesburg area).

Many of these dogs and cats were born locally and brought to Animal Assistance. Some were even spared from being euthanized in hopes of finding a good home for them. Animal Assistance, located in East Brunswick, a 501c3 Organization, is a perpetual, lifetime animal care, pet adoption, and pet boarding facility in a peaceful country atmosphere. The family oriented animal center has a purpose to provide a home for animals whose guardians can no longer care for them, or animals down on their luck, on a case-to-case basis. They are one of the few animal facilities in the area that are actually located on a farm in a country setting with over 60 year's experience. They are all about the animals. You get an animal that is ready to go, crated, trained, and socialized. The facility welcomes and accepts donations. (A tax receipt can be provided.) All donations go towards the animal's medical treatments and care. The staff does not take salaries. Toys, blankets, pet food, etc, are also welcome.

You can also help out some more local pets. There is a small colony of Millstone cats that could use a home. There is a super friendly black cat we call Stewart. He is three years old. He just had his rabies shot and has tested negative for Feline Leukemia. He is used to being out door and would make a great barn cat. If you are interested in giving him a forever home, please email me at: crescent671@gmail.com.

**Stewart**- Cat in Millstone - Super friendly male 3 years old - negative for feline leukemia, recently had his rabies shot.

**Jimmy Boy** - Male domestic short hair - a real sweetheart.

**Petunia Pig**- Found abandoned - female pot bellied pig

**Lemur** - Male domestic short hair

**Sadie** - Female dachshund

**Star Dust** - Female domestic long hair - lost his family - super friendly.

**YoYo** - Male pot bellied pig

**Fred & George**- If you want cats that cuddle, love each other and are super friendly with kids, please consider adopting Fred and George together. They need more than a cubby hole to call home!!!!!!



Stewart



Jimmy Boy



Petunia



Lemur



Sadie



Star Dust



Yo Yo



Fred & George







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## Organic "Doggy Good" Peanut Butter Cookies

Dogs love peanut butter and this treat is a great way to get fish oil into your dog's diet. Fish oil improves your dog's coat, making it shiny, soft, and healthier.

### Ingredients:

- 2 cups of organic flour (white or wheat, if your pup has no wheat allergies)
- 1 cup of organic rolled oats
- 1/3 cup of smooth organic peanut butter
- 1 tablespoon of organic honey
- 1/2 tablespoon of organic fish oil
- 1 1/2 cups of water



### Directions:

- Preheat the oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Mix the flour and oats together in a large mixing bowl. Pour in one cup of water and blend until smooth. Add in the peanut butter, honey, and fish oil and mix until all the ingredients are well blended.
- Slowly add the water until the mixture has a thick and doughy consistency.
- Lightly flour a cooking surface. Roll the dough onto the cooking surface to create a 1/4 inch thick sheet.
- Use a cookie cutter to create shapes. Place the cookies onto a baking sheet and bake for 40 minutes.
- Allow to cool completely before feeding.

## Animal Rescue Adopt A Thon

Sunday, June 4, 2017

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For more info, vendor space, advertising or sponsorship opportunities contact us at [animalrescueadoptathon@gmail.com](mailto:animalrescueadoptathon@gmail.com), call 732-682-7721 or check us out at: [www.animalrescueadoptathon.com](http://www.animalrescueadoptathon.com)

# GUNTHER

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Do you think  
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Send in your photo to:  
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# Healthy Human Foods for Dogs

By Susan Heckler

**Coconut & Coconut Oil-** Coconut is made up of a beneficial fatty acid chain called Lauric acid, which helps fight and destroy viruses and various pathogenic bacteria, thus protecting your pets from infection and boosting their immune systems. Many diseases and ailments, like yeast infections, smelly coats, hot spots, cuts that have been infected, and even cracked paws, can all be cured with just a jar of “virgin coconut oil.” Coconut Oil can help reduce cancer risks improves the digestion of your dog, normalizes thyroid function, treats arthritis, can give your dog a smooth glossy coat, as well as healthy, supple skin.

**Peanut Butter (Controversial - PLEASE READ CAREFULLY)-** This is a favorite treat and is recommended by many professionals as a safe snack and is added to hundreds of dog treat products. It a good source of protein, heart healthy fats, vitamin B, niacin, and vitamin E although some of the less expensive brands do contain trans-fats. There is a school of thought that most peanut butter contains Aflatoxins that are naturally occurring mycotoxins produced by a fungus called Aspergillus. These are carcinogenic and vary between brands.

**Lean Meat-** Lean meat (chicken, beef, pork with no visible fat) is an excellent, balanced source of amino acids, the building blocks of muscle in your dog's body. Meat is also a great source of B vitamins (Thiamin, Riboflavin, Niacin, Pantothenic acid, Pyridoxine, and Cobalamine).

**Liver-** Fresh liver can be cooked and then baked to make your own liver treats. Liver is an excellent source of B vitamins, Vitamin A, and Vitamin K. It is also a great source of iron. Too much liver may be toxic to dogs because of its high vitamin A content.

**Salmon & Tuna -** Feed your dog cooked salmon, add salmon oil to food, or slip them some of your unwanted fish skins. Tuna may be a classic cat snack. Dogs can eat tuna too, and it's healthy offering protein, vitamins on top of the omega-3 fatty acids.

**Eggs-** Cooked egg for your dog is a great way to give protein and digestible riboflavin and selenium, making them a healthy snack.

**Cheese & Cottage Cheese-** Low or reduced fat varieties given in moderation and cottage cheese are typically good to add some extra protein to your dog's diet.

**Oatmeal-** This is a great source of soluble fiber and a great alternate grain for dogs allergic to wheat.

**Pasta -** Dogs can eat pasta but pasta sauces are usually acidic, and contain a lot of sugar and salt, which can upset your dog's tummy.

**Rice/Brown Rice-** This is good to use when your dog has an upset tummy and needs a bland meal.

**Sweet Potatoes-** Sweet potatoes are great sliced and dehydrated as a chewy treat for your dog and are another source of dietary fiber and contain vitamin B6, vitamin C, beta carotene, and manganese.

**Popcorn-** Air popped with no butter or salt makes a great low calorie treat containing potassium as well as the bone-building minerals phosphorous, magnesium, and calcium.

**Carrots-** These are great for a dog's teeth when eaten raw in thin chunks. Cooked is great too as they are low calories and high in fiber and beta carotene/vitamin A.

**Pumpkin, Squash & Zucchini-** Good source of fiber as well as beta-carotene/vitamin A but be sure to remove the seeds. Zucchini like other squashes makes for a delicious and healthy snack, providing potassium, folate and vitamin content make it healthy for you and your dog.

**Green Beans-** They are filling and low in calories

**Peas-** These can be added right to your dog's food, frozen or thawed and are a good source of the B vitamin Thiamin, phosphorous, and potassium.

**Broccoli-** This vitamin-rich vegetable can be a great

occasional nutrition boost for dogs but it shouldn't make up more than 10 percent of a dog's diet as it could cause gastrointestinal irritation.

**Apple Slices-** Helps to clean residue off a dog's teeth, which helps to freshen her breath. Apples are a good source of fiber as well as vitamin A and C. Make sure to take out the seeds!

**Cranberries-** Fresh cranberries have many health benefits and provide vitamins A, B1, B2 and C, and prevent urinary tract infections.

**Pears -** Dogs can eat pears but no seeds or cores.

**Pineapple-** Small amounts are beneficial for your dog as the fruit is rich in fructose, fiber, vitamin and mineral content.

**Parsley-** Improves “doggie breath” and can also be a good source of calcium, potassium, and beta-carotene.

**Mint -** Freshens your pal's bad breath and settles upset tummies.

**Turmeric-** This is one of the most promising cancer prevention foods and can be found in your spice rack. The active compound in turmeric is curcumin, which has been shown to prevent the growth or spread of cancer cells in many types of cancer. It is as an anti-inflammatory and antioxidant.





# BEST PET PHOTO CONTEST



**CONGRATS!**  
**JACK JACK**



**RUCKUS**



**GINGER**



**MAXWELL**



**JERRY**



**SMOCKEY**



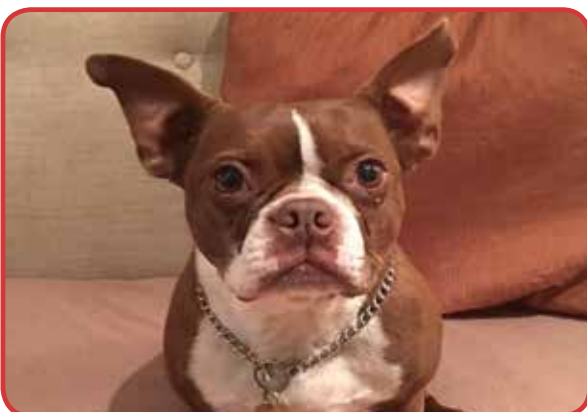
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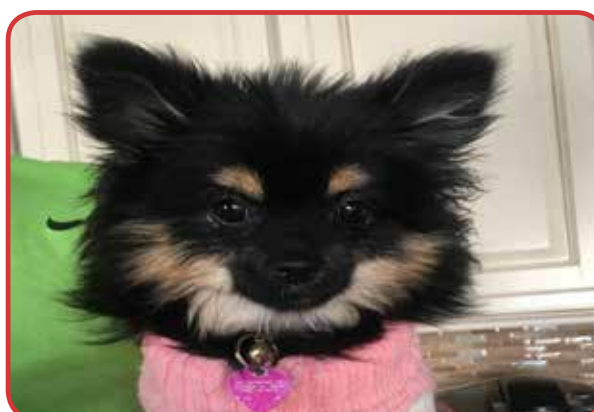
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**TIRE & SERVICE NETWORK Conventional Oil Change**

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Offer expires 6/16/17. Must present coupon to get this offer. Most vehicles. No other discounts apply. Will be deducted from participating retailer's price at the time of purchase. Up to 5 quarts of conventional oil for standard oil change. Premium oil change savings off regular price and includes up to 5 quarts of synthetic blend or full synthetic oil plus a four-tire rotation. Canister/cartridge filter and diesel oil extra. Fluid/filter disposal charges may apply. Additional charge for shop supplies, up to 7% or \$25 maximum, may be added. Redeem at participating Goodyear Retailers only. See store for complete details. Special state exceptions: IL - Waste oil/filter fee may apply; CA - \$2.50 fluid/filter disposal fee applies but no additional charge for shop supplies applies; PA - no fluid disposal charges apply; NY - no fluid disposal or additional charge for shop supplies applies. Cash value 1/50¢. G0217

**TIRE & SERVICE NETWORK Synthetic Oil Change**

**\$10 OFF**  
Regular Price  
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**Includes a FREE Four-Tire Rotation**

Offer expires 6/16/17. Must present coupon to get this offer. Most vehicles. No other discounts apply. Will be deducted from participating retailer's price at the time of purchase. Up to 5 quarts of conventional oil for standard oil change. Premium oil change savings off regular price and includes up to 5 quarts of synthetic blend or full synthetic oil plus a four-tire rotation. Canister/cartridge filter and diesel oil extra. Fluid/filter disposal charges may apply. Additional charge for shop supplies, up to 7% or \$25 maximum, may be added. Redeem at participating Goodyear Retailers only. See store for complete details. Special state exceptions: IL - Waste oil/filter fee may apply; CA - \$2.50 fluid/filter disposal fee applies but no additional charge for shop supplies applies; PA - no fluid disposal charges apply; NY - no fluid disposal or additional charge for shop supplies applies. Cash value 1/50¢. G0217

**TIRE & SERVICE NETWORK Computerized Alignment**

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- Helps improve fuel economy
- Helps improve vehicle handling

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## Texting & Driving Apps Can Save Lives

*By Susan Heckler*

Got teens? Got texters! It's a given. Even the grown-ups can't help but look at their phones, without hesitation, even while speeding down the highway.

The adults in the situation need to stop this dangerous behavior immediately. Even the most experienced drivers should never take their eyes and attention off the roads. Texting in front of your children while driving gives them free license to do the same. Let's face it, what is so important in that text that is worth risking a life over?



### Some thinking points:

- It takes 4.6 seconds to type two words; this is the amount of time it takes your car to travel the length of a football field, traveling at 55 MPH,
- Driver distraction was the cause of 18 percent of all fatal crashes – with 3,328 people killed and 421,000 people wounded.
- Insurance does not cover damages or liability for accidents caused by texting and driving.
- Civil lawsuits for damages can be pursued in accidents involving texting.
- 14 youths a day die from texting behind the wheel
- The average cost of a single crash with injuries is more than \$120,000.

Our teens are not experienced and texting is their conversation method of choice so that makes them even more vulnerable to the bad decision. You can check with your cellphone provider as some of them have apps or services built in to the phone.

*That text or email may have contained something really important...or not. In either case, you should all live to tell about it.*





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\*Must take retail delivery by May 31st 2017. Lease prices based on 7,500 miles per year. Lease prices include Volvo Loyalty if applicable (XC90 does not qualify); all others include applicable rebates. 2017 Volvo S90 \$4,817 down. 2017 Volvo XC60 \$5,384 down. Offers do not include tax, DMV, documentation fee, or bank fee. Based on fair non-credit. \*\*Prices include \$1,000 Volvo Loyalty. Offers expire 5/31/2017.





**AUTOMOTIVE**



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## New 2017 Lincoln **MKC SELECT AWD**

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**\$299**  
Lease /mo. 36 mos. **\$2,944 due at signing**



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# Dealing with Picky Eaters

By Brianna Siciliano

**W**hen kids refuse to eat certain foods, it can be extremely frustrating. Sometimes picky eaters begin loving and enjoying foods, and with the snap of their fingers, they loathe the same foods. Could it be because they eat the same meal over and over again, and they're tired of it? Possibly, but there are many other reasons.

One reason your child might be refusing to eat certain things is because of his or her desire to be independent. This situation is just like asking your child whether she wants to wear the pink shirt that you picked out or the purple shirt hanging in her closet. Do you even have to ask? Whatever you pick out, she does not want. Children want to make their own choices, so try to avoid arguments and fights and give your children some power over their food. Instead of preparing a different plate of food for your picky eater, let your child help you food shop and prepare meals. You'll get a better taste of what foods your child is willing to eat.

Another reason your child might be refusing to eat certain foods is because he/she truly does not like those foods. Your son might have a sweet tooth and be disgusted by the taste of 'bitter' foods. This is a logical reason for a child to refuse to eat certain foods. To help overcome this refusal, try switching things up once in a while. If your child despises certain vegetables, like broccoli for instance, do not cut the food from your family's diet all together. Instead, serve green beans one night, asparagus the next, followed by broccoli. Sometimes it takes 10 to 15 tries before a child accepts and enjoys new foods, so give the foods a chance before

giving up all together. If this doesn't seem to work, it might be worth your while to try preparing foods in a different way. Instead of steaming vegetables, try sautéing them. You never know what the outcome can be!

If your child enjoys peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, and refuses to eat anything else, try warming your child up to try new foods. Spread peanut butter on new foods, like apples and celery, and see if your child will begin warming up to new foods. Sometimes picky eaters want to stick to their favorite foods, which is completely understandable. If you could eat your favorite dessert over and over again, you would, wouldn't you? Sometimes it is necessary to present foods in interesting ways, or use cookie cutters to transform 'boring' looking foods into fun shapes, to spark your child's interest. By showing your child that you care, and that you won't force things he or she does not want, your child will trust you and open up his or her mind to trying new things.



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	<b>RANNEY SUMMER INSTITUTE</b> GRADES 1-12
	<b>EXTEND YOUR DAY</b> AGES 3-15



# Cures for Your Child's Spring Fever

By Stefanie Maglio

It's that time of the year when the snow has finally gone away, and those colder temperatures are becoming much less frequent. Children of all ages are bound to get "Spring Fever" to some degree. With the weather changing and becoming nicer, it's hard to stay indoors and be focused on homework or other important tasks. Luckily, there are ways to get a taste of the spring weather without taking up too much time, but satisfying the spring fever.

Parents can have younger children play games or participate in activities outside for a certain amount of time that is appropriate. Some games and activities include:

*Play "Follow the Leader"*

*Make your own obstacle course*

*Play in fields/on hills*

*Jump in puddles*

*Play hopscotch*

*Build a fort*

*Have a scavenger hunt.*

*This can be in nature only, or include manmade items.*

*Bird-watching*

*Look for/admire spring time flowers*

*Climb trees (safely of course)*

*Jump rope (can be done with games or traditional style)*

*Go for a bike ride with friends or family*

*Blow bubbles*

*Have racing competitions*

*Play "Leapfrog"*

*Play "Hide-and-seek"*

*Fly a kite*

*Have sword fights, & make your own swords with sticks you find outside.*

*Build dams and rivers out of mud and puddles*

These activities are not a guaranteed cure for every child. However, they may help to an extent. Giving them a try could be beneficial for your child and their focus. Remember, although trying to satiate the craving for springtime fun, make sure to emphasize how important it is to finish the school year strong. Your child may begin to slack and their grades may suffer as it begins to get closer to summer. Discipline your children and keep them focused. Offer to help them with projects or homework if needed, or finding a tutor may be necessary in some cases. Keep pushing your child to focus on their responsibilities, specifically academic ones, and before they know it summer will be here!



# The Millstone Times

## STUDENT OF THE MONTH

### Drew Paglia

By Pam Teel



Thirteen-year-old Drew Paglia attends the Millstone Middle School. He is in the seventh grade. His favorite subject is Social Studies. Drew believes that understanding history is an important part to becoming successful in life. It allows him to learn from others mistakes and to one-day help build for a better future.

Drew likes to spend time speaking with the elderly in assisted living homes because he finds that they have a lot of knowledge to share to anyone willing to listen. He recently met a terrific 105 year old man at Applewood Nursing Home who he really enjoyed spending time with. Drew learned that this man invented many different things and he hopes to spend more time talking to him in the near future.

Drew is a straight A student who is also in honors Algebra. School has always come first for him. One day he would like to go to the Peddie School and Princeton University. He would also like to go to Harvard and get a law degree.

Drew has always enjoyed history and politics. One day he would like to become a part of his family's rental property business. Drew enjoys public speaking and debates and might not rule out other things like one day becoming a Judge or Senator.

His favorite books to read are any type of history books as well as biographies of famous people.

Drew's favorite television shows are action movies. He likes watching War movies, listening to Hannity, and watching documentaries.

Drew likes to research everything and anything and be able to hold a conversation with anyone on the topic. He enjoys being a part of the Student Council and being involved in mock trials. He plays the piano, clarinet, and is a part of the Future Problem Solvers Club in school. He has learned that his closest friends will always stick by him and that school gives you the opportunity to learn many useful things that you will need in life.

Drew's favorite place to visit is Florida because it is warm and there is a lot to do. One day he would love to go to Hawaii and Europe. He would also love to tour some of the WWI and WWII battlefields.

Drew lives with his parents, his sister Heather, and his grandmother. He also has a rescue dog named Chester who is a Yorkie terrier mix.

His favorite holiday is Christmas because to him it is a happy time of the year. His family also loves to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas and Drew loves to spend quality time with his family and with his uncle from Minnesota.

Drew plays basketball for the Monmouth County Warriors and does wrestling and track and field for the Middle School. He has played travel baseball since the third grade and he plays first base and pitcher. Drew also loves to swim.

His favorite foods to eat are mostly healthy foods, but he likes pretty much everything.

If Drew had but one wish, he would want to be successful in whatever he decided to do in the future. He would one day like to have a big impact on the lives of others.

Drew has been named Student of the Month in school on more than one occasion. He spends a lot of time studying and learning from others so that he can be the best that he can be.

I have no doubt that you will accomplish everything you set out to do Drew. Not only are you a wonderful student but a very well mannered, conscientious young man with a very big heart! With that combination, you will go very far in life.

Attention Creamridge, Allentown, East Windsor, Hamilton- if you know of someone who loves school and you would love to showcase him or her as our Student of the Month, please reach out to me at: [crescent671@gmail.com](mailto:crescent671@gmail.com). (Please include -student of the month- in subject area).



# ShopRite Millstone Middle School Store

## *Open for business! Come and See for yourself!*

By Pam Teel

In January, if you recall, a grand opening ceremony was held at the Millstone Middle School on Baird Road as part of a life skills program for students. This was created through a partnership between the Millstone Middle School, the Wakefern Corporation, and Saker Shop Rites Inc. According to Tom Saker, Senior Vice President of Operations at Saker ShopRite's, the Middle School is the 20th Educational Institution in both Pa. and New Jersey to take part in the program and the Millstone Middle school has the honor of being the first middle school to have its own ShopRite store.

The life skills program was established in 1988 to teach life skills to children who have special needs. What's special about this school program is that it is an opportunity for all of its students to learn the ins and outs of working in a store such as ShopRite. The children love to volunteer to work in the store.

Overseeing this program is Mary Jane Russo, who for the past thirty years has been a Special Education teacher for the district. She credits the people from the Wakefern Corporation who has been very kind helping her learn the ropes of the business. Ms. Russo also would like to credit her co-workers Gail Rux Kirk, the speech Pathologists at the school, Danielle Kalash, the classroom teacher, and Lisa Mikulik, the classroom paraprofessional, who are with her on a daily basis and have a great deal to do with the success of the program. The store is bright and clean and well taken care of by the children who help to run it. During the time they are working, they are taught valuable life skills. When it's their day to work, they come into the store right after school lets out. They have a checklist of things they need to get done during the hour the store is open. Some of the chores they do are dusting and restocking the shelves, being the cashier and ringing up customers, bagging the food items and helping to count deposit money. The children are also taught to check for expiration dates and how to mark down items that have expired. They wait patiently on Wednesdays for the large Shop Rite truck to come and they enjoy helping to check items as they come off the truck. Under Ms. Russo's guidance, the children learn the right way and the safest way to perform a task. They are also taught about helping each other and being polite and courteous to the customers.

The children are all members of the Shop Rite after School Club, which started up towards the end of February. They take turns working different shifts, and strive to do their best to become Employee of the month.

The money they make from their customers goes right back into the program so they can grow the program even bigger and better. Students, teachers, and parents take advantage of what the store has to offer. The athletes come in regularly for water and Gatorade and the teachers come in a lot for tea and coffee and other items.

Ms. Russo is grateful for all the encouragement and support from the schools administrators, Principal Huss and Vice Principal Baker, and especially the generosity of the Saker family who come in often just to lend their support.

On the day that I went to visit, three very courteous young men who showed me around and explained to me what their daily chores consisted of greeted me. Collin Semanchick told me that one of his favorite jobs was making the coffee and getting it ready for the next day. He also let it be known that the Vice Principle liked his coffee black and Principle Huss enjoyed drinking chai tea. Collin also liked setting up the candy and breaking it down at the end of the day.

Arnav Vasa likes stocking the shelves and being the cashier. He likes math and he likes to help Ms. Russo with the deposits on Fridays. Nik Ranisavljevic also likes stocking the shelves and every Thursday his job is to take the items off the shelves and dust everything. He also likes bagging the groceries and setting up the candy.

The school store has also teamed up with the National Junior Honor Society to help fight hunger in their neighborhoods by collecting food to donate to the Monmouth and Ocean County Food banks.

The store is open to the public on Monday through Thursday for one hour. 3-4 p.m. You would be surprised the items it has to offer. Items such as rice, mac and cheese, cereal, canned vegetables, canned gravy, condiments, snacks, water, paper plates, soup, peanut butter, jelly, household items, beans, Windex, laundry detergent, bleach, pickles, olive oil, coffee, toilet paper, sugar, flour, honey, taco kits, candy, pop tarts, and much more.

You can help the students out by stopping in between 3-4 pm Monday through Thursday and purchasing some items. Again, all money made goes back into the program. The buses are all gone by then. If you're not familiar with where the store is located on the school grounds, drive into the second driveway after the school sign, the bus parking area, and you will see the ShopRite awning. You can park close by to the door. The best time to come is around 2:55. The buses have all gone by then.

The store is open to all residents, so please come out and shop and support the program!!!!



Arnav Vasa, Ms. Russo, Nik Ranisavljevic, Collin Semanchick attending to their duties



Collin Semanchick ringing up an order at the Shoprite store at the Millstone Middle School



# Tick Time in NJ: Prevention

By Stefanie Maglio

**T**icks are small and may seem harmless, but these creatures often carry disease that can ultimately be deadly to humans and even animals. Don't allow yourself to be bitten by a tick this season and learn how to prevent them.



Before going outdoors it is important to know where to expect ticks. Ticks live in moist and humid environments, particularly in or near wooded or grassy areas. Doing activities around your home, walking through leaves, or walking through shrubs can all put you at risk for being bitten by a tick. Products containing permethrin kills ticks. Boots and camping gear can be sterilized with it before going outdoors. Using a repellent with DEET on the skin is also effective.

After you come indoors it is crucial to check your body for ticks even if you think there is the slightest possibility you may have one. Remove your clothing and wash it in hot water to kill ticks that may have been on the material. Shower shortly after coming inside as well. Showering within two hours after coming indoors has been shown to reduce risk of Lyme disease. Plus, the shower is a perfect time to check your body for ticks. Make sure to check under the arms, in and around the ears, inside the belly button, back of the knees, in and around the hair, between the legs, and around the waist. Using a hand or full-length mirror may be helpful when checking the hard-to-reach places.

Modifying your landscape can help to prevent ticks as well. Make sure there is no long grass or stray bunches of leaves. These are ideal places for ticks. Considering using a chemical agent if you believe there is a serious tick problem. Remember, chemicals can be very strong and harmful. Lastly, discourage deer. They can carry specific kinds of ticks and deposit them in your property. This means any pets you have that spend time outside can carry ticks as well, so check your pets regularly.

If you happen to find a tick on your body, use tweezers to pull it straight out. Get as close to the skin as possible in order to remove the tick in its entirety. Watch for signs of illness such as rash and fever over the next few days and weeks. See a health care provider immediately if you have any concerns or notice any symptoms.



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## Elementary School Winners of the East Windsor Township **EARTH DAY** Recycling Poster Contest

*Were Recognized by Mayor Janice S. Mironov at Council Meeting. The poster contest theme was to promote the 4 R's of the Township Recycling Program: "Recycle, Reuse, Reduce, Rebuy." Winners received Mayoral Certificates of Recognition and gift certificates to Barnes and Noble, donated by corporate sponsor Shiseido America. All of the posters are on display in the East Windsor Municipal Building through May. The Grace N. Rogers school students were awarded the Earth Day Proclamation for the most participating students in the poster contest. Congratulations to all the participating students and to all of the winners!*

### GRADES K-2:

1st Place - Nina Marie Drago (Walter C. Black); 2nd Place - Yudhveer Singh (Grace N. Rogers), and Chase Bradshaw (Grace N. Rogers); 3rd Place - Erica Spero (Walter C. Black), and Shakthi Shyam (Ethel McKnight); Honorable Mention - Keylee Quisphe-Guzman (Ethel McKnight), Jazmin Quisphe-Guzman (Ethel McKnight), and Kelvin Quisphe-Guzman (Ethel McKnight).

### GRADES 3-5:

1st Place - Rachna Acharya (Perry L. Drew) and Rashida Udaipurwala (Grace N. Rogers); 2nd Place - Samantha Aque (Grace N. Rogers), and Kayla Arumugam (Perry L. Drew); 3rd Place - Shalini Shankar (Walter C. Black); Honorable Mention - Kristen Rodrigues Prabhu (Perry L. Drew), and Manwinder Kaur (Grace N. Rogers).



Mayor Mironov recognized the Grades K-2 student winners of the East Windsor Earth Day Recycling Poster Contest. Pictured (from left to right) are: Yudhveer Singh; Shakthi Shyam; Chase Bradshaw; Mayor Janice S. Mironov; Erica Spero; Jazmin Quisphe-Guzman; Keylee Quisphe-Guzman, and Kelvin Quisphe-Guzman.



Mayor Mironov recognized the Grades 3-5 student winners of the East Windsor Earth Day Recycling Poster Contest. Pictured (from left to right) are: Rashida Udaipurwala; Samantha Aque; Rachna Acharya; Mayor Janice S. Mironov; Kayla Arumugam; Kristen Rodrigues Prabhu; Manwinder Kaur, and Shalini Shankar.



Mayor Mironov awarded Grace Norton Rogers school students the Earth Day Proclamation for the most participating students in the poster contest. Pictured (from left to right) are: Chase Bradshaw, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade; Samantha Aque, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade; Rashida Udaipurwala, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade; Mayor Janice S. Mironov; Manwinder Kaur, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade; Yudhveer Singh, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade; Ruhi Donda, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade.

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# MUTS

## Millstone United Travel Soccer - Open to Boys and Girls

By Pam Teel

Millstone United Travel Soccer (MUTS) is located in Millstone Township in Monmouth County. MUTS has been in existence since the mid-1990s fielding competitive travel teams and providing player development opportunities to all youth ages. MUTS teams compete at various levels in the Monmouth /Ocean Soccer Association (MOSA), NJ State Youth Soccer Association (NJYSA), EDP Futures and EDP Leagues including regional tournaments throughout the year. The club consists of boy's and girl's teams ranging in age from U7 through U18.

Here are some questions answered by the Director of Training for MUTS, Vinny Farina.

### When does your season start up?

The travel soccer club runs from mid august to June. It really is an all year sport. The teams are separated by Fall (Sept- Nov) Winter (Dec-Feb), Spring (March-June). Most teams will compete in leagues throughout the year. The winter schedule varies by team depending on the age and the team's curriculum.

### Do you recruit for new players?

Tryouts for the New Year (17/18) occur in April and May time frame. Recruitment is ongoing and just part of what a coach will do to maintain a flow of players because as with everything there will be players who decide to leave midseason. Our initial idea is to market the club and remind Millstone and neighboring towns that we have a pretty good soccer club. We may be small but we act very big, meaning we aren't satisfied with typical status quo. We are constantly looking for ways to maximize the players and families' soccer experience on and off the field.

The club offers clinics, camps, summer teams, strategic alliances, with Red Bull FC and Sky Bull FC, and other outside soccer vendors and social events. We have just fallen under the recreation umbrella so we hope to have a bigger impact on the recreation soccer program. We are basically trying to use soccer as a means to educate players on the game and life skills that are involved in being part of a team/club.

We promote coaching education. Several coaches and trainers have obtained advanced coaching degrees and many continue to work on their craft by continuing their coaching education to improve the ultimate service that we are providing for the kids. Coaching soccer is just one part of it. Obviously, all of the coaches work full time so they are able to pass off their business/professional skills to their teams in the way that interacts with players' structure practices, communicating skills, etc. The coaches are mentors in many ways outside of the soccer experience.

### Are the teams pretty much the same children year to year?

As with everything in life, changes occur, people move on to different sports, and new players come to the team.

### How do you differentiate your club from others?

Agility and adapting to the environment and team circumstance are part of the coaches and Boards strategy. Youth soccer has gone through a number of seismic shifts over the past 3 to 5 years. The soccer landscape as many of us grew up with has completely changed with competition for the players coming not only from other towns but the pseudo/regional clubs and DA academies. Soccer is big business. We as a club are trying to define our strategy to deal with all of these external pressures while improving/ advancing our own infrastructure. We want to differentiate our club from others by the quality of the service that we can provide the soccer families. Hopefully that will get players in Millstone and outside of it to come to our club. It's a very tough environment. Agility and foresight are just two things we need in the forefront.

We have a number of improvements to the site this year and look to maximize its outreach. We are continuously trying to drive traffic to it by giving people reason to visit us. We are on facebook where you can find information about the program. Check it out and come and join us!

### Scheduled Spring/Summer and Fall Events:

Teams will compete in the Monmouth Ocean Soccer Association and EDP leagues this spring. There will be ongoing goalkeeper training throughout the season.

- Spring break camp
- Millstone United Day at Sky Blue is on 6/3
- Millstone will field 2 summer player development teams to compete in local tournaments.
- Series A with Fiorentina & Empoli coaches will be holding a weeklong camp in Millstone. These are coaches that work with professional and academy players in Italy. Players will have the opportunity to train with them in Millstone.
- Millstone United Day at Red Bull is in October 2017
- Millstone will host a 3V3 tournament in October 2017.

*For those interested in further information about the Muts Program please visit their website at: <http://www.millstonesoccer.com/> or visit them on Facebook.*





# Local Educator Publishes Children's Book

By Susan Heckler

**M**ost people can probably say they have an idea for a great children's book, but only a handful of those will actually take a step forward and succeed. Dawn Wilensky took the leap.

Wanting to be a writer since she was nine years old, Wilensky turned that childhood dream into a reality with her book, *No Ordinary Yarmulke*. The book, inspired by her own son Austin's journey of self-discovery as he prepared for his own Bar Mitzvah, was a defining moment in this first-time author's life. "This book is the culmination of a life-long dream and I am truly proud of the nine-year-old me who never gave up and created a book that I hope readers will find not just ordinary, but extraordinary."

*No Ordinary Yarmulke* is a tale of young Holden, who is anxiously waiting the day he becomes a Bar Mitzvah...a man according to Jewish tradition. At the age of 13, he is expected to assume certain responsibilities in his culture and go before the congregation of his synagogue and read the words so many generations before him have read. The pressure was on.

The final errand before his big day is to choose a yarmulke, a head covering to be worn during his ceremony. His mother took him to a quirky Judaica store where he meets Yentl of Yentl's Judaic Treasures. Each time she suggested a different yarmulke to try, he takes a step back in time in Jewish history.

Holden is transported in his mind to another time in Jewish history— Noah's Ark, Egypt, the original events leading up to Hannukah, the Holocaust, and finally to Israel today. He got a chance to live history, if only for a few moments in his own head.

This wonderful book allows children of all faiths to get an idea of what growing up Jewish is all about, but also anyone's connection to the culture they come from.

Dawn Wilensky, the author, lives in Marlboro. She and her husband own The Goddard School at West Windsor serving West Windsor, East Windsor, Princeton, Hamilton and Lawrenceville.



## Handling Summer Camp Homesickness

By Susan Heckler



Separation Anxiety can happen for any length of time. Whether it is for a short morning, full day or sleep away; your child may be feeling it and so may you. It is a parenting hurdle worth leaping as it helps campers learn to believe in themselves and cultivate alternate support systems away from home.

Let's face it, you have done your very best to provide a great home and family to surround your child. This is what they are familiar with. You take them out of their comfort zone and send them somewhere new, be it day camp or sleep away, and adjustments need to be made.

### *How can you help your child in this process?*

- **Watch your words before the camp experience begins.** Some parents say things unknowingly that gives a feeling of guilt. "Your little sister will sure miss you," or "The house will feel so empty" and that type of speaking can be a negative to a young mind. Talk about their summer with excitement and positivity. Camp staff understands the transition period may be hard on some kids and are prepared to handle it.
- **Don't give your child an impression that they can come home at any time and you will rescue them.** They will never give it a chance if you do this. They need to understand that this is their home away from home for a period of time and they will make friends, try new things, have a great time, and come back to their loving families with great stories to share.
- **Let go and give it some time.** Many camps will not allow calls from home for the first week to two to give your child some adjustment time. That doesn't stop you from touching base with the camp to inquire. When you do speak with them, stay upbeat and ask about their experience. Don't discuss missing them or dwell on the happenings at home. Make the call about them and their time at camp.

And if you happen to be one of the lucky parents who don't experience a homesick child, don't take it personally. They love you and miss you but feel like they are on a solid foundation and can practice some independence.

By the way...If you are sending pistachio nuts, don't send the red ones. That is an automatic fail for color war inspections!





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# QUESTION:

**Do my glasses really need UV Protection?**

# ANSWER:

YES! Both your sunglasses and regular glasses should have UV protection.

Ultraviolet (UV) is a type of electromagnetic radiation which constitutes about 10% of the total light output of the Sun. Most of it is filtered out by the Earth's atmosphere, although enough comes through to have implications. There are three types of UV radiation. UV-C is absorbed by the ozone layer and does not present any threat. However, UV-A and UV-B radiation can have long- and short-term negative effects.

Long-wavelength ultraviolet radiation can cause chemical reactions and causes many substances to glow or fluoresce. This includes the biological effects from its interactions with organic molecules. The UV spectrum has both beneficial and harmful effects to human health. On the positive side, Ultraviolet is responsible for the formation of bone-strengthening vitamin D in humans, your suntan and cute freckling. These and sunburn are familiar effects of over-exposure, along with higher risk of skin cancer.

Just as we have learned to protect our skin from the harmful rays, we must also protect our eyes. If your eyes are exposed to excessive amounts of UV radiation over a short period of time, you will likely experience Photokeratitis. This is equivalent to a "sunburn of the eye," and can be painful. Its symptoms include red eyes, a foreign body feeling or gritty feeling in the eyes, extreme sensitivity to light and excessive tearing. The symptoms are usually temporary and rarely cause permanent damage to the eyes.

The longer your eyes are exposed to solar radiation, the greater the risk of developing cataracts or macular degeneration later in life. As a precaution, whenever you spend time outdoors, wear

quality sunglasses that offer UV protection and a wide brim hat.

Not all sunglasses protect you equally. The color and degree of darkness sunglasses provide have nothing to do with their ability to block UV rays. You can also opt for wraparound sunglasses or close-fitting sunglasses with wide lenses that protect your eyes from every angle. Some contact lenses also offer UV protection, but should be worn in combination with sunglasses to maximize protection. The larger the lenses, the more of your eye and soft tissue around it get protection.

In purchasing sunglasses, keep in mind:

- Block out 99 to 100 percent of both UV-A and UV-B radiation
- Screen out 75 to 90 percent of visible light
- Lenses should be perfectly matched in color and free of distortion and imperfection
- Lenses should be gray for proper color recognition

Chronic exposure to shorter-wavelength visible light (blue and violet light) may also be harmful to the retina. Many digital devices emit this shorter-wavelength visible light. Blue light is part of the visible light spectrum. The sun emits blue light, as do artificial light sources, such as LEDs, computers and smartphones.

Blue-violet light can be harmful to the eyes, specifically the retina. It is a risk factor for the onset of age-related macular degeneration, a deterioration of the part of the retina responsible for sharp, central vision. A recent study found that Americans spend almost 2 ½ hours on their tablets and smartphones every day. In addition, most offices and stores use fluorescent light bulbs, and LED lights are becoming increasingly popular. There are lenses and coating for non-sunglasses to protect from this.

The first step in getting help is a visit to your Optometrist to determine your eye health and vision. I invite you to visit my office for an exam to discuss your eye care health and the same for your family. We take most medical insurances and have a wonderful selection of frames should you need glasses. A visit to us may be your first line of ocular defense!

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## The Power of Flossing...

**B**rushing twice a day is recommended by all of the major dental organizations, but if you're not flossing, you are missing out on an opportunity to optimize your oral healthcare.

The American Dental Association urges people to floss at least once a day to help remove plaque from the areas between the teeth where the toothbrush simply cannot reach.

Flossing is important because it helps prevent gum disease and cavities. And according to the ADA, it doesn't matter if you floss before or after brushing — as long as you're doing it. A 2015 poll by MouthHealthy.org found that 53 percent of its readers said they brush before, while 47 percent said after.

The key is finding the time to floss. Bring some floss with you to work to take care of it during your lunch break. Wake up a few minutes early or stay awake a few minutes later to give your teeth some extra attention. With just a little effort, you can make a big difference in the present and future health of your teeth.

### DON'T FORGET THE KIDS

As an adult, it's up to us to be great role models. Proper dental care is a behavior we can easily pass on to our children by teaching them the importance of taking care of their mouths. You should be flossing your child's teeth as soon as you see two teeth touching.

The ADA recommends parents flossing their children's teeth until they are about 10 years old. By this age, children have the dexterity to effectively floss by themselves.

Encourage your children to floss by reassuring them that the experience is not a painful one. Flossing should be done in a firm yet gentle manner. If you're feeling pain while you're flossing, you're not doing it correctly.

### HOW TO FLOSS

The ADA has found that only about half of Americans floss their teeth. Considering the ease of flossing, this number should be much higher. The process is simple and straightforward, as these tips from the ADA point out:

- Break off about 18 inches of floss and wind it around the middle fingers of each hand.
- Guide the floss between your teeth using a gentle rubbing motion.
- When the floss reaches the gum line, curve it into a C shape against one tooth; gently slide it into the space between the gum and the tooth.
- Bring the floss back toward the contact point between the teeth and move the floss up or down the other side.
- Hold the floss tightly against the tooth; gently rub the side of the tooth, moving the floss away from the gum with up-and-down motions.



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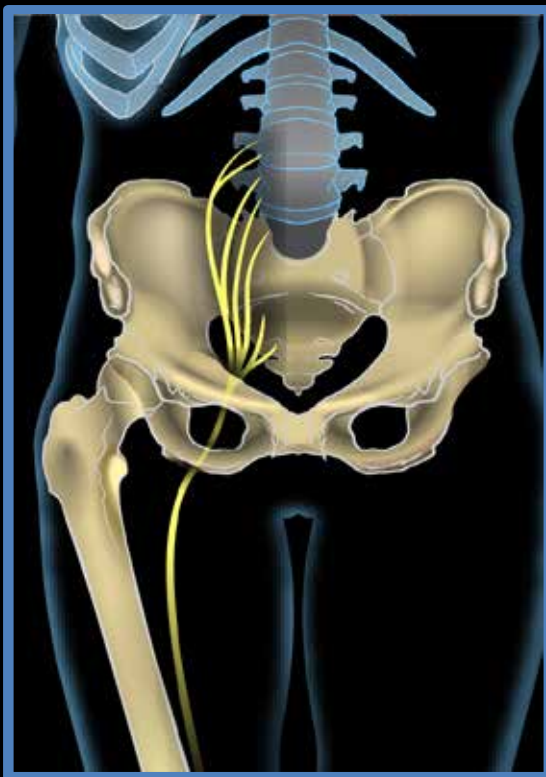
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**Q:** *What is Sciatica? How Can I Treat It?*

**A:** Sciatica is a condition that occurs when the sciatic nerve becomes compressed. The sciatic nerve is a large nerve that begins in the lower back and travels through the buttocks and lower limb. The sciatic nerve



can become inflamed due to: spinal subluxations, co-existing conditions, injuries, improper body mechanics, and more. Since the sciatic nerve runs from the hips down the legs, patients can feel radiating pain in their lower back, buttocks, hips or leg muscles. Some patients even report neurological symptoms like tingling sensations in their feet. Many feel restricted from everyday activities, unable to bend or in some cases sit and stand.

Sciatica symptoms do not go away until the root cause, sciatic nerve compression, is treated. In some circumstances, there is an underlying musculoskeletal issue that can also contribute to sciatica pain. Sciatica should be treated with appropriate rest, ice, and manual therapy (by a licensed professional) until symptoms subside enough to engage in further treatment. A stint of physical therapy should then be performed to strengthen core muscles that support the spine. We offer several avenues to relieve sciatica pain and correct the root cause of the compression including non-surgical spinal decompression. Contact us today for more information on how you can *GET BETTER FASTER*.



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# What is Reiki healing, and its benefits, both physically and spiritually?

By Gina DiRusso

**R**eiki works on different levels: the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual, enhancing everything in life. Reiki is not only one of the oldest healing systems in use; it is also one of the most versatile. This ancient Japanese technique of healing uses energy to balance the body and mind, and it can be used on children, adults, and even pets. In fact, Reiki is believed to improve just about any aspect of life, from physical health and stress relief to mental clarity and emotional well-being. Reiki techniques are used to manipulate the body's own energy and provide healing for the mind, body and spirit. It has been demonstrated that Reiki can help people suffering from both minor and major ailments alike. On the physical level, Reiki helps to relieve many sources of dis-ease, such as migraines, arthritis and sciatica, just to name a few. It also helps to address the symptoms of these ailments, like chronic fatigue, asthma, menopausal symptoms and insomnia. Reiki has

The greatest benefits of Reiki are stress reduction and overall relaxation, which trigger the body's natural healing processes (e.g., the immune system), aids in better sleep and improves and maintains physical health. Regular Reiki treatments can also bring about a calmer and more peaceful state of being, in which the person is better able to cope with everyday stress. This mental balance enhances learning, memory and clarity, and Reiki lends this balance to help address mental and emotional "scars" as well as dysfunction. Balancing

By helping the client to maintain a state of physical and emotional balance, Reiki has been shown to not only treat existing issues but also potentially prevent them from ever happening.

not only helped people with physical ailments but also helped those with minor psychological problems as well. In addition, Reiki offerings in health care facilities are becoming more and more common because its benefits are complementary with most medical therapy programs, enhancing the results of treatments in hospitals and outpatient health care plans. Reiki speeds up the healing process for a variety of medical procedures and treatments, minimizing the side effects of medication and reducing the recovery time from surgery. For example, chemotherapy patients who received Reiki noted a marked decrease in side effects during treatments. Reiki can be an effective way to help treat immediate problems with both physical and mental illnesses, but regular therapy sessions can also help promote overall health. The same improvements in overall health and with specific ailments seen in people are also observed in pets and other animals undergoing Reiki therapy.

a person's mental and emotional states through Reiki can help alleviate mood swings, fear, anxiety and even anger, often to the benefit of his or her personal relationships as well. These emotional benefits lend themselves well to the grieving process, helping to relieve emotional distress and sorrow. Reiki cleanses the emotional and mental energy, reducing the physical impact of the emotions and improving the client's overall perspective.

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# Cancer Causing Products

By Jordan Tinitigan

With cancer being one of the number one causes of death in our nation, it's safe to say we're all a little bit afraid of getting diagnosed. However, studies show that many of the products that we use everyday can actually be causes of cancer. (And no, I'm not just talking about cigarettes). These items are very common, so common actually that there is no age restriction on who can and cannot buy them! Crazy right?

To start things off, the first product that increases the risk of cancer is **AIR FRESHENERS**. Typically, air fresheners are used to sweeten the smell of your house, car, or public office. They come in all shapes and sizes and are advertised at least one hundred times a day on TV. (Yes, the Febreze commercials we all know and love). However, there is nothing really natural about these air fresheners. Actually, they're mostly made from chemicals, and some of them have been found to increase the risk of cancer. These chemicals, according to Natural Living Ideas claim to "assault the olfactory receptors in our nostrils, rendering them incapable of recognizing other smells." In other words, when we inhale these chemicals, we're hurting the air around us, as well as our nostrils.

Like I mentioned before, the big difference between these items and the more "popular" cancer causing products are that they can be sold to absolute anyone. Generally, and I'm talking from experience, a child can go to a store like Bath and Body Works and come out with a new scented air freshener for their car. Isn't that scary?

The next one might come as a surprise, but in fact, a product that we use on a day-to-day (but in this case seasonal) basis that increases the risk of cancer is **SUNSCREEN**. This may come to you as a shock, considering the fact that we've been told to put sunscreen on our entire lives to avoid getting skin cancer. However, many sunscreens contains Retinyl Palmitate, which is said to support the growth of cancerous skin tumors and lesions. In fact, according to [healthycaregroup.com](http://healthycaregroup.com), "The majority of sunscreens are harmful, do not protect the skin from cancer, and are loaded with toxins." Likewise, recent studies have actually come out to prove that the appropriate amount of time in the sun not only gives your body a great amount of vitamin D, but also prevents skin cancer! That may sound insane, but it's true. An article on [mercola.com](http://mercola.com) states, "Sunlight causes your skin to produce vitamin D -- a fact that, ironically, means that sunscreen campaigns may have made millions of people chronically short of this critical nutrient, and put them at a greater risk of skin cancer, rather than reducing their risk." Not only is this product potentially dangerous, but the major companies are totally skewing what we thought we knew about skin cancer all along!

The final product that I am going to mention that can cause cancer is **SODA**. Yes, along with the thousands of other reasons why soda is unhealthy, it is said the increase the risk of cancer. Soda contains artificial colorings and food chemicals, which has been one of the common denominators when it comes to cancer causing foods. Likewise, it is one of the factors that contributes to the nationwide obesity epidemic, and according to [naturalon.com](http://naturalon.com), "drinking large amounts of this rapidly digested sugar causes your blood sugar to spike which can lead to both inflammation and insulin resistance." Although, it is not a direct cause of ulcers, it can irritate and give more pain to those with already existing ulcers. I know, soda tastes great, but in the long run it is terrible!

Although I've only given three examples of cancer causing products, there are many more than you think, and most of them involve chemicals. We all know this disease is no laughing matter, so why put yourself at risk? There will always be a natural alternative to any product on that market, some you could even make at home. In the long run, it might just benefit you. Studies show that in 2013, about 7.6 million people died from cancer. Don't contribute to the growth of that number because of false advertising or a cool beverage. Stay safe!



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*This excess stress on the spine can cause: headaches, neck and upper back pain, premature degenerative disc disease, numbness and tingling in the arms, hands or fingers.*

A growing concern is the effects of this on children. This incorrect posture while playing games can lead to increased ear infections and sinus problems due to poor draining issues in the neck.

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## 10 Fascinating Facts About the Human Body

1. The cornea of the eye is the only part of the body that has no blood supply. It obtains oxygen directly from the air.
2. The human brain has a memory capability, which is the equivalent of over four terabytes on a hard drive.
3. A newborn baby can breathe and swallow at the same time only for up to seven months.
4. Your skull is comprised of 29 different bones.
5. Nerve impulses directed from the brain travel at a speed of 274 km/h.
6. One human brain produces more electrical impulses in one day than every telephone globally combined.
7. The average human body contains enough sulphur to kill all the fleas on the average dog, enough carbon to make 900 pencils, enough potassium to fire a toy cannon, enough fat to make seven bars of soap and enough water to fill a 50-litre barrel.
8. The human heart pumps 182 million liters of blood during the average lifetime.
9. 50,000 cells in your body died and were replaced by new ones while you were reading this sentence.
10. The human embryo acquires fingerprints within three months of conception.



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# When to Seek Medical Help for a Rash

By Stefanie Maglio

Not many people know that the skin is the largest organ of the human body. This is one of the most important reasons as to why it is so crucial that we do our best to take care of it. Keeping our skin clear, clean, and protected from harmful UV rays with topical products, soap, and sunscreen are just some of the many things we can do to help keep our skin healthy, along with drinking eight glasses of water a day. Although we try, problems as severe as skin cancer or as minor as a rash do occur. It may be difficult to know exactly when to seek medical attention. If you have a rash, keep these in mind:

If the rash covers a large portion, or the majority, of the body that could mean it is something more concerning. This could be a sign of an allergy or infection.

If a fever accompanies the rash go to your doctor or local emergency room right away. This can be triggered by a severe allergic reaction or infection. Rashes caused by infection include scarlet fever, measles, mononucleosis, and shingles.

If the rash is sudden and spreads rapidly it may be caused by an allergy.

If the rash begins to blister, or turn into open sores, this may be caused by an allergy, medication, or an internal cause. Seek medical attention if a rash affects the skin around the eye, mouth, or genitals.

If a rash is painful, seek help from a physician immediately.

If the rash is infected seek help. You will know its infected if the rash is itchy and scratched often, swelling, crusting, yellow or green fluid, pain and warmth in the area of the rash, or a red streak coming from the rash.





# QUESTION:

## What's the best way to treat knee arthritis? Consider a non-surgical treatment that really works!

Osteoarthritis of the knee is the #1 leading cause of disability in the U.S. Over 27 million people suffer with knee arthritis and that number continues to grow. With knee arthritis, the cartilage breaks down and wears away, leaving the bones to rub together causing pain swelling stiffness and limited range of motion. As the cartilage breaks down, the knee loses its lubricating fluid. We found that by replacing this lubricating fluid with a natural substance called Hyalgan, the lubrication is restored and many patients experience amazing pain relief.



### WHAT IS HYALGAN AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

Hyalgan is a natural lubricating fluid that acts as a lubricant and shock absorber inside the knee joint. The substance in Hyalgan is hyaluronic acid which is normally found in high levels in healthy joints. Replacing the hyaluronic acid with Hyalgan lubricates the joint and reduces pain. Hyalgan has been administered over 40 million times and has been proven to provide long-lasting relief of knee pain from osteoarthritis.

### WHAT IF YOU ALREADY TRIED KNEE INJECTIONS?

If you have had injections like this in the past and experienced poor results, there is still hope! Many doctors in this area offer similar injections, but very few use precision fluoroscopy guidance. Fluoroscopy guidance ensures that the pain relieving Hyalgan reaches the knee capsule where it bonds with the joint fluid to create a lubricating and cushioning layer. Without fluoroscopy, it is estimated that doctors "miss" the capsule over 30% of the time resulting in poor results. We want each and every one of our patients to have the greatest chance of success, so every injection is done with precision fluoroscopy guidance to ensure that the Hyalgan gets into the capsule 100% of the time. Because of this, patients who previously felt little to no relief with non-fluoroscopy guided injection are now getting excellent results.

The other "big difference" in our results is the multitude of other supportive care options that we have available to enhance the effectiveness of the Hyalgan procedure. These options include state of the art medical laser treatment, physical therapy, manipulation, corrective osteoarthritis bracing (takes pressure off the damaged section of the knee), and natural anti-inflammatory products. The combination of these treatments offers you what we feel is the most comprehensive non-surgical knee treatment program available.

### DOES IT HURT?

Many of our patients report that they feel little to no pain at all! We do everything possible to minimize any pain from the procedure, from pain relieving spray and a local anesthetic, to precision guidance that ensures we are always in the right spot.

### WILL MY INSURANCE COVER HYALGAN?

This procedure is covered by most major insurance companies including Medicare. Our insurance department pre-verifies every patient.

### WHO WILL BE PERFORMING THE HYALGAN PROCEDURE?

Dr. Scot Paris is the medical physician who performs the Hyalgan injection. Dr. Paris is trained as a general surgeon and has extensive experience with a variety of surgical procedures. With his conservative approach, he has excelled in the non-surgical treatment of knee pain with the use of fluoroscopy guided Hyalgan injections.

### SO HOW DO I KNOW IF YOUR KNEE PAIN TREATMENT PROGRAM WILL HELP ME?

If you are tired of suffering with painful arthritis of the knee, and you want to see if the latest advances in non-surgical treatment can help, all you have to do is call 732-683-1800 to set up a risk free consultation. During the consultation all of your questions will be answered in a warm and friendly environment. Knee replacement surgery is a very extreme measure to take without considering all of your other options first. Once it's done there is no turning back. For that reason we encourage you to schedule an appointment to see if you are a candidate for Hyalgan treatment.

We are proud to offer our patients a comprehensive knee pain treatment program that includes the best non-surgical methods to relieve pain all under one roof. We look forward to having the opportunity to help you feel better. Take the first step in ending your knee pain and call to schedule an appointment today!

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**Dr. Helen Simigiannis,  
MD, FACOG**

## QUESTION:

### How does The MonaLisa Touch counteract vaginal dryness?

**V**aginal dryness is extremely common during menopause. It's just one of a collection of symptoms known as the *genitourinary syndrome of menopause* (GSM) that involves changes to the vulvovaginal area, as well as to the urethra and bladder. These changes can lead to vaginal dryness, pain with intercourse, urinary urgency, and sometimes more frequent bladder infections.

These body changes and symptoms are commonly associated with decreased estrogen. However, decreased estrogen is not the only cause of vaginal dryness. It is important to stop using soap and powder on the vulva, stop using fabric softeners and anticing products on your underwear, and avoid wearing panty liners and pads. Vaginal moisturizers and lubricants may help. Persistent vaginal dryness and painful intercourse should be evaluated by your healthcare provider. If it is determined to be a symptom of menopause, vaginal dryness can be treated with low-dose vaginal estrogen, or the oral selective estrogen-receptor modulator ospemifene can be used. The MonaLisa Touch is a new therapy for the treatment of vaginal dryness that is non hormonal, non medication and non surgical using a gentle laser. Regular sexual activity can help preserve vaginal function by

increasing blood flow to the genital region and helping maintain the size of the vagina. Dr. Simigiannis is one of the leading gynecologists in the nation using this new procedure.

**For more information feel free to contact:**

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**Q:** What is an Endoscopic Discectomy? (Also known as a "Laser Procedure")

**A:** The word endoscopy refers to a physician's use of an endoscope, a small, flexible tube with a light to look inside of your body. It is the least invasive way to treat disc problems and takes about an hour. Ultimately, the patient is left with a ¼ inch scar but a lifetime of pain relief.

Recent studies have proven that endoscopic spine procedures are a safe and effective way to treat various spinal conditions such as disc herniations, spinal stenosis, failed back surgery syndrome, as well as other neck and back conditions.

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## Coach's Corner

By Jill Garaffa

### Making Effective Life Changes

Dear Jill,

I understand that life coaching can sometimes help with transitions. I'm dealing with a big one right now and hoping you can provide some clarity: I'm in the middle of a divorce and can't seem to regain my balance. While I can admit I wasn't even happy for most of the time I was married, I am struggling to understand why this is happening to me.

Signed,  
Dealing with Divorce

**Dear Dealing with Divorce,**

First, I am really sorry to hear you are going through this painful situation. Divorce is never an easy process as it can be filled with so much emotional turbulence. Divorce is listed in the #2 spot on the list of "most stressful life events" (right under #1, which is the death of a spouse).

In the early stages of a divorce (or any big life transition involving a loss), the main emotional issue is grief. There are several stages to grief, including denial, anger and depression. When you are still actively experiencing very powerful emotions and need to process them & heal, I strongly suggest seeking the support of a good therapist. Once you are past the initial emotional roller coaster and move into the acceptance stage, this is when a life coach can be very helpful. A life coach can help build your confidence, identify your strengths, and create a powerful mind-set in order to create a new life for yourself moving forward.

The first shift in perspective I'd like to offer is to consider that nothing happens "to you." This is victim thinking and will only end up making you feel worse. Consider instead, that things are happening "for you." Instead of asking, "Why is this happening to me?" ask yourself the question, "What will this situation provide for me?" Having an attitude that all things in the Universe happen FOR you is very empowering. All the things that feel good are there for your happiness. All the things that feel bad are there to help you learn and grow. With this thinking, you always win. You are never a victim of circumstances. You are the creator of your life, always learning.

The next step is to ask yourself different questions. Instead of asking "Why" questions, ask "What" questions. Trying to answer "Why is this happening?" or "Why did this happen" can send you down a rabbit hole of depression and analysis paralysis that can keep you stuck in the past. Instead, ask yourself future oriented questions, such as, "What future would I like to create for myself now that I have so much extra time and space in my life?" or "What can I do to bring more balance into my life right now?" Ask, "What can I do to help myself move forward?" or "What do I want?" Engaging the creative (right) side of your brain rather than the logical (left) side of your brain will provide answers that can get you unstuck.

Learning to identify your strengths and help you shift your thinking to a more powerful mindset is something a life coach can support you through.

Wishing you peace, clarity and purpose!

Jill

*Jill Garaffa, OTR/L, PCC, ELI-MP is a Licensed Occupational Therapist and Professional Certified Life Coach providing Health & Wellness Coaching for individuals and organizations. For more information, please visit [www.seedsofchangeoaching.com](http://www.seedsofchangeoaching.com) or call 732-859-6962.*

*If you have a life situation where you feel stuck or stalled, and would like coaching, please email [jill@seedsofchangeoaching.com](mailto:jill@seedsofchangeoaching.com) or visit [www.seedsofchangeoaching.com](http://www.seedsofchangeoaching.com) and click "contact us" to be featured in a future column.*

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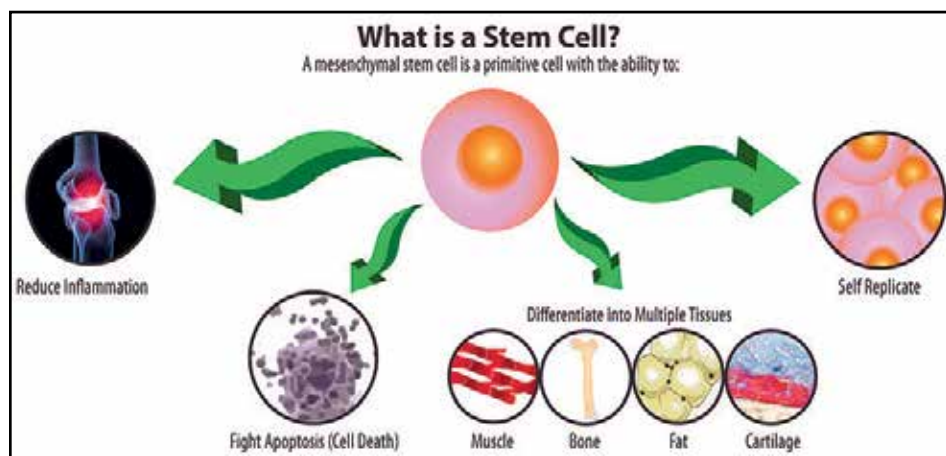
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# QUESTION:

## Can amniotic stem cell therapy help my knee pain?

Millions of patients suffer with knee pain due to arthritis. The options for treatment, until now, have been limited to physical therapy, steroid injections, viscosupplementation injections, or joint replacement surgery. Central Jersey Spine & Wellness now offers a new cutting-edge treatment option called **amniotic membrane stem cell injections**. **Amniotic membrane stem cell injections** may be used to successfully treat patients with knee osteoarthritis when other conventional treatments have failed.



### HOW DO AMNIOTIC MEMBRANE STEM CELL INJECTIONS WORK?

Amniotic stem cell injections offer the ability to heal damaged tissue naturally. With amniotic stem cell therapy, stem cells from amniotic tissues are injected directly into your knee. These stem cells have strong anti-inflammatory properties. However, stem cell therapy goes far beyond the benefits of standard “injection therapy.” While cortisone and other drugs only provide temporary pain relief, stem cells actually restore degenerated tissue while providing pain relief. The growth factors in amniotic stem cells may replace damaged cells in your body. Additionally, stem cell injections contain hyaluronic acid, which lubricates joints and tendons, easing the pain and helping restore mobility. We also use precision guided fluoroscopy to ensure the stem cells are injected into exactly the right location. For optimal results.

### WHAT BENEFITS DOES AMNIOTIC STEM CELL THERAPY OFFER?

- Amniotic stem cells contain no steroids. Instead, the injections rely on **naturally occurring anti-inflammatory agents**, such as cytokines.
- Amniotic stem cells contain **hyaluronic acid**, which lubricates cartilage and promotes new cartilage growth.
- Amniotic stem cells contain **growth factors**, which stimulate tissue growth.

- With amniotic stem cells, there is **no threat of patient rejection**.
- Lastly, amniotic fluid is a **highly concentrated source** of stem cells, which makes this type of stem cell injection preferable over embryonic stem cells and the patient’s own stem cells (from fat or bone marrow).

### ARE AMNIOTIC STEM CELL INJECTIONS SAFE?

Yes. More than 10,000 injections have been performed without a single reported adverse side effect.

- Amniotic stem cell therapy is a preferred type of stem cell therapy because the cells come from an immunoprivileged site, which means that patient-rejection is extremely rare.
- The use of amniotic stem cells is well researched, safe, and effective. Amniotic stem cells have been used by ophthalmologists and plastic surgeons for about 20 years.
- All amniotic stem cell donors go through a rigorous screening process, as determined by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and American Association of Tissue Banks (AATB).

### AM I A CANDIDATE FOR STEM CELL THERAPY?

Patients suffering with knee pain due to arthritis may be considered as candidates for amniotic stem cell therapy. Regenerative medicine is growing in popularity and is helping more and more people live with less pain and suffering. If you have already tried conventional treatments, and are looking for another safe and effective option, consider amniotic stem cell therapy.

Call to schedule a consultation with one of our doctors to determine if amniotic stem cell therapy is right for you.



Dr. Scot Paris using precision fluoroscopy guidance to ensure the best results possible.

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# AN END TO OVERDOSING:

## *Some pharmacies in New Jersey will be selling Narcan without a prescription by the end of the year.*

The drug Naloxone, which is more commonly known by the brand name Narcan, is a nasal spray or injectable that can counter the effects of a heroin or opiate overdose in as little as two minutes.

### *What is Narcan™ (naloxone)?*

Narcan™ (naloxone) is an opiate antidote. Opioids include heroin and prescription pain pills like morphine, codeine, oxycodone, methadone and Vicodin. When a person is overdosing on an opioid, breathing can slow down or stop and it can be very hard to wake them from this state. Narcan™ (naloxone) is a prescription medicine that blocks the effects of opioids and reverses an overdose. It cannot be used to get a person high. If given to a person who has not taken opioids, it will not have any effect on him or her, since there is no opioid overdose.

### *How does Narcan™ (naloxone) work?*

If a person has taken opioids and is then given Narcan™ (naloxone), the opioids will be knocked out of the opiate receptors in the brain. Narcan™ (naloxone) can help even if opioids are taken with alcohol or other drugs. After a dose of Narcan™ (naloxone), the person should begin to breathe more normally and it will become easier to wake them. It is very important to give help to an overdosing person right away. Brain damage can occur within only a few minutes of an opioid overdose as the result of a lack of oxygen to the brain. Narcan™ (naloxone) gives concerned helpers a window of opportunity to save a life by providing extra time to call 911 and carry out rescue breathing and first aid until emergency medical help arrives.

### *How is Narcan™ (naloxone) given to an overdosing person?*

Narcan™ (naloxone) can be given by intramuscular (IM) injection - into the muscle of the arm, thigh or buttocks - or with a nasal spray device (into the nose). In Illinois, Narcan™ (naloxone) is prescribed for use as an IM injection. Nasal spray use is less common, but some large cities in the U.S. use the nasal spray version and it can be prescribed.

### *How long does Narcan™ (naloxone) take to work?*

Narcan™ (naloxone) generally works within about 5 minutes. Repeated doses may be necessary if a person is still showing signs of overdose even after the first dose.

### *How long does Narcan™ (naloxone) take to wear off?*

Narcan™ (naloxone) starts to wear off after about 30 minutes and is mostly gone after about 90 minutes. By this time the body has processed enough of the opioids that the overdosing person is unlikely to stop breathing again. In some cases, such as after taking a massive dose or using long-acting opioids like methadone, the patient might need another Narcan™ (naloxone) dose and longer medical observation. Always watch the person after they receive a Narcan™ (naloxone) dose for signs of continued overdose.

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## Spring into Allergies

By Susan Heckler

Okay folks, we did it! We survived the winter of 2016-2017 only to deal with the aftermath. The Polar Vortex brought you more than just a wicked winter.

Record-breaking snowfall in and the persistent below-freezing temperatures could mean a late flowering for trees. That means that once the temperatures warm up, pollinating trees will be busy catching up, emitting higher than average amounts of allergens into the spring air.

Typically March sees red cedars, elm, and pine trees start to bloom, followed by maple, ash, birch, and oak. April sees the nut trees like pecan and walnut begin to pollinate. Grasses and ragweed kick in later in the spring. But if spring is shortened, then that process will be telescoped into a few miserable weeks for allergy sufferers.

Those piles of dirty, melting snow have made for muddy and saturated soil. Those April showers only add to puddles and the damp conditions of an already drenched ground. That could lead to more mold, and mold spores which can trigger more respiratory problems related to both allergies and asthma.

If you have the symptoms of allergies, sneezing, itching nose, sniffing...you may want to seek medical attention. Long term allergy treatment may ease your suffering. Over the counter medication may give some relief:

- Antihistamines diminish sneezing, sniffing, and itching by lowering the amount of histamine (the stuff produced during an allergic reaction) in the body.
- Decongestants clear mucus out of the nasal passages to relieve congestion and swelling.
- Antihistamine/decongestants combinations give the effects of both drugs.
- Nasal spray decongestants relieve congestion and may clear clogged nasal passages, possible faster relief than oral decongestants.
- Steroid nasal sprays reduce inflammation.
- Cromolyn sodium nasal spray can help avoid hay fever by stopping the release of histamine before it can trigger allergy symptoms.
- Eye drops relieve itchy, watery eyes.

Many thanks to Mother Nature and Old Man Winter for those ongoing gifts.







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# Evening Rituals Can Improve Your Life

By Brianna Siciliano

**W**aking up happy is the perfect way to start our days! It would be incredible to wake up in a great mood everyday, right? By following evening rituals and cleansing your spirit, freeing your mind, and organizing your life (and business), you can surely have a great tomorrow.

Rituals have strong influences on our feelings, behaviors, and thoughts, and without even realizing it, we follow our own personal rituals everyday. In the morning, what's the first thing you do? Do you have a specific routine you follow, for example shutting off your alarm, using a bathroom, and brushing your teeth in that exact order? If so, you have set your morning ritual without even realizing it! Although plenty of people follow their morning rituals, not many people follow evening rituals. It is time to change that.

Evening rituals guarantee a pleasing, refreshing rest period through the night. When you lay in bed before falling asleep, you tend to think of the things you have, and have not yet, accomplished. Like morning rituals, evening rituals are not the same for everyone. Rituals are meant to be personalized, after all, so design your evening rituals around what works for you. Evening rituals depend on your needs, but to get started on designing and following a smooth path to a great night's sleep and an even greater tomorrow, try out a few of these rituals:

*Write down what you're proud of!*

Everyday we successfully achieve many small victories (sometimes we achieve major victories!) and by the end of the night, we fail to acknowledge the progress that we make. We stress over the failures instead of successes in the middle of the night. Well, it is time to change that. By writing down three (or more) things that you are proud of, and focusing on the things that you did right throughout your day, you will wake up more motivated to continue making progress. No matter what kind of day you are having, you are bound to have at least two positive moments.

*Make time for family!*

At the end of the day, a great evening ritual could be spending time with your spouse and/or children. Reading books to little ones, talking about your child's day, and/or complimenting your spouse on something you have recently noticed and appreciated will result in a perfect way to end your day.

*Turn off electronics!*

The brightness of electronic screens keeps you up longer by tricking you into believing that it is the time to send emails, text messages, and calls instead of winding down for bed time. Put your phone, tablet, and/or laptop away and spend some time reading a book, preparing an outfit for tomorrow, or drinking a late night treat (a warm cup of milk, hot chocolate, or water; avoid sodas and caffeine!)

When's the last time you slept like a baby? A few months--possibly a few years--ago? Let's change that! You deserve nothing but the best; let's make sure all your days and nights are the best they can be!

*By following evening rituals, you are bound to have better sleep at night and a better day once you wake up. Do yourself a favor and design night-time rituals that will benefit you the most!*



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# Tips for Battling Frizz in the Summer

By Mia Ingui

Take it from a girl whose struggle each day is to tame her natural frizzy hair...there truly is no worse time of the year than the summer for those who battle with frizzy hair. The summer is your time of relaxation, and all you really want to do is get out of bed, throw on your bathing suit, and jump in the pool. But, when the only way your hair will stay tame is to spend four hours styling it, the summer proves to be a difficult time! Risk embarrassment leaving the house with your natural hair drizzling everywhere, or spend a ridiculous amount of time styling it only to have it get wet, and then frizzy again. I did my research, and these are the products that are acclaimed for the wonders they work on frizzy hair.

**Living Proof No Frizz Shampoo:** If your hair is thin, opt for a silicone free shampoo like Living Proof. Packed with the anti frizz molecule OFPMA, this will keep fine hair frizz free all day.

**Aussie Moist 3-Minute Miracle Condition:** An oldie but goodie. All it takes is three minutes to get your hair hydrated and frizz free.

**Moroccanoil Frizz Control:** Though a little pricey, Moroccanoil is the salon trusted brand that contains argan oil, a Godsend for over processed, fried, frizzy hair.

**Garnier Fructis Style and Sleek Spray:** This one is silicone-free, delivers tons of shine, and contains argan oil so it won't dry out strands. Tip: Mist it on your hands, and then use your fingertips to smooth out any problem spots, like around your forehead or along your part.

**John Frieda Full Touch Up Flyaway Brush:** For a quick touch up! Applied with a mascara like wand to tame a frizzed out hairline.



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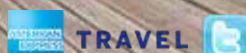
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## What is a Great Gift for a College Graduate?

By Susan Heckler

To many, graduating college is like stepping off of a cliff. Exciting, challenging, frightening, and a little like entering the abyss. Going out into the adult working world is a bit daunting and a little different than when Mom & Dad did it.

If you ask the grad what they want, they will probably say a life without college loans. If that isn't on your list, here are some things to consider:

Think about your relationship with the recipient – A generic gift is okay. Your relationship will determine the cost and how much effort you want to spend on this purchase. Just make sure it is easily returnable.

Something useful – it should make the graduate happy but also push them in a direction to improve and grow as an individual. After graduating, many students are now financially independent but may move out to a place of their own. Because they have lived at home until this point, these grads don't have everything they need to fully live on their own.

### Gifts to Consider:

- \*Housewares - they will need plenty of new things for their home or apartment. There are plenty of things you can purchase at all different price ranges.
- \*Electronics – these are the must haves! Desktop computers, laptop, tablet, cameras, flat screen TV, streaming video boxes, headphones, and music players are just a few of the electronic devices a graduate craves.
- \*Interview Wardrobe – when your grad steps into that interview, the first impression speaks loudly. Make sure they are dress to impress for success.
- \*Attaché Case – depending on the type of career they chose, invest in a quality attaché case that will organize them and make a statement of success.
- \*Luggage – if traveling is their passion or part of the job, a good set of luggage is a wise investment.
- \*Timepiece – college kids tell time using a smart phone. Graduation seems to encourage the use of a good watch. There is a plethora of choices for every price range and every lifestyle.

You can also consider combining your gift with others to get one large gift. When in doubt, gift cards are a good option as long as the card comes from a place with lots of choices for them.







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## Visiting Grandparents Can Be a Positive Experience for Kids

By Susan Heckler

**B**ack when I was a kid, the only place for the elderly population that could not manage independently was a nursing home. I have very sad and vivid memories of visiting my grandmother and great grandmother as these places were awful. These were dated hospital rooms with linoleum floors and a depressing atmosphere. Being mentally alert but physically challenged must have been a nightmare for the residents. Nursing homes back then are nothing like they are now!

They didn't have Assisted Living 50 years ago or many of the other options opened to the seniors now. We all recognize that people are living longer and there is a whole new sector of businesses opening to make their lives better and safer.

I recently accompanied a friend in her search for a place to bring her elderly father-in-law to, rather than allow him to try and manage in Florida. The first (and last) stop was The Brookside Assisted Living in Freehold. This beautiful sunshiny facility is more like a resort hotel. The residents here need a little help now and then but function independently. There is a built in social life and huge list of activities that offers something for everyone.

Today's senior is gradually getting more familiar with the use of modern technologies. They now have communication devices to be in touch with family and friends globally. This ends that feeling of isolation, which is such a detriment to their happiness.

The Brookside offers fitness programs, sports, and other types of physical and social activities. You can stroll the grounds or just take in some fresh air, play bingo and other group games, do crafts, dance, go on trips, and interact with your fellow residents. Brookside's great range of activities keeps seniors physically active, mentally alert, as well as spiritually and emotionally nourished.

They are a kosher facility and focus on the Jewish tradition, offering spiritual fulfillment to many. They have a beautifully appointed synagogue available for daily, Shabbat, and High Holiday services as well as gourmet food in their spacious restaurant style dining room.

My friend's father-in-law will be moving up from Florida to The Brookside very soon. He will be at arm's length to visit, can enjoy his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren visiting him and spending the day in his new home.

I have to tell you, I am so glad I did this tour with my friend. In my mind, the thought of putting my Mom in a facility like Grandma and Nanny ended up in was killing me. If you or a loved one is thinking about moving into an assisted living community, you can look forward to visiting them with your children and grandchildren and enjoying the day in the various community rooms or their beautiful apartment. They won't be uneasy and can spend valuable time enjoying Grandma, Nanna, Pop Pop, or whoever.



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The founder of Jenerations Health Education, Inc., Jennifer FitzPatrick has over 20 years' experience in healthcare and gerontology. The author of *Cruising Through Caregiving: Reducing The Stress of Caring for Your Loved One*, she is also a gerontology instructor at Johns Hopkins University and an Education Consultant to the Alzheimer's Association. She helps you reduce stress and increase productivity, morale and revenue. Jennifer and Cruising Through Caregiving have been featured in Forbes, U.S. News & World Report, The Huffington Post, Reader's Digest, Univision and The Chicago Tribune. She has also appeared on ABC and Sirius XM.


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# Could it be CADASIL?

By Susan Heckler

If you or a loved one has suffered from strokes, progressive dementia, mood disorders, migraine, and/or recurrent subcortical cerebral infarctions, some new research may change your diagnosis and treatment.

CADASIL (Cerebral Autosomal Dominant Arteriopathy with Subcortical Infarcts and Leukoencephalopathy) is a hereditary autosomal dominant disease, which affects all of the small cerebral arteries. It is as a result of various mutations of the Notch3 gene located on chromosome 19. So far, over 150 different mutations causing the disorder have been identified. Both men and women are affected equally.

This was described in Europe, specifically a Swedish family 30 years ago and the disease has now been observed in families with very different ethnic backgrounds, on all continents. It is likely that the frequency of this disease is underestimated as it shares symptoms with other disorders. The current term Cerebral Autosomal Dominant Arteriopathy with Subcortical Infarcts and Leukoencephalopathy (CADASIL) was named in 1993.

CADASIL symptoms result from changes in the arteriolar wall. As a result, the arteries thicken and become more rigid, resulting in decreased blood flow and ischemia, affecting the exchange of nutrients between blood and tissue is also disturbed. The disease affects the small branches of the long arteries penetrating deep into the white matter of the brain meaning restricted blood flow and oxygen deficiency.

In the most cases, patients affected will exhibit ischemic episodes, cognitive defects, migraine like headaches or psychiatric disturbances. When and the severity of these symptoms is highly variable, even within families. Cognitive function declines slowly over time; there is variability in the onset and severity of cognitive impairment. Patients demonstrate dementia in presence of severe loss of cognitive function. Seizures, although rare, has been observed in affected individuals. Other symptoms may include speech defects.

Early onset of symptoms does not necessarily mean that the disorder will progress rapidly. It is important to tell the doctors you have CADASIL so that certain treatments or tests can be avoided.

- Avoid Thrombolytics and Anticoagulant Treatments, which aim at unblocking blood vessels as they increase the risk of a cerebral hemorrhage.
- Avoid Vasoconstricting Medicines (issued from rye ergot or from Triptan) may increase the risk of cerebral infarction.
- Avoid Cerebral conventional angiographies (contrast agent within the arteries in the brain for examination of the cerebral vasculature) should be avoided because of potential neurological complications (migraine with extended and severe aura).
- Using Anesthesia must be monitored as it could cause abrupt changes in blood pressure.

Currently there is no treatment to cure or to prevent the progression of the disease. Finally, you must tell the medical teams about current medications and the corresponding doses. This is a precaution so as to avoid the combinations of incompatible medication and any risk of overdose.

## A Look at Advance Directives

*Deciding to create advance directives can be one of the most important – and complicated – decisions one can make.*

Advance health care directives offer you a way to give consent for certain situations for which you may or may not want medical treatment. This can be a touchy subject for many people, but they can be extremely useful documents that outline and facilitate your wishes should the circumstance arise.

### Timing of Advance Directives

The best time to create an advance directive, obviously, is before you need one. If you become ill or are near the end of your life, it may be too late to cognitively make your own decisions about what medical care you may want in certain situations.

Along those lines, if you make an advance directive early in your adulthood, you are allowed and even encouraged to review and update your documents if you are diagnosed with any type of serious illness.

### Life-Sustaining Treatment

The American Cancer Society defines life-sustaining treatment as anything mechanical or artificial that sustains, restores or substitutes for a vital body function. It can include:

- Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).
- Artificial respiration (mouth-to-mouth breathing, manual ventilation or a ventilator).
- Medicine to help with blood pressure and heart function.
- Artificial nutrition or hydration.
- Dialysis.
- Certain surgical procedures such as amputation, feeding tube placement or tumor removal).

### Putting Someone in Charge

Sometimes, family members make tough medical decisions for spouses, parents, or adult children who can no longer speak for themselves. Many states have passed laws that say which family members may act on behalf of someone in this situation.

A variety of documents can be considered advanced directives, including power of attorney, living wills, do-not-resuscitate orders and other agreements. Since laws vary state by state on such documents, be sure to check in with your local healthcare agency to find out what your state requires.



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# Medical Alert Systems For Seniors

## What You Need To Know

With more seniors opting to age at home in their later years, this statistic is likely to only rise. So what can you, the caregiver, do when the potential for falls seems to be on the increase? Fortunately, there are numerous medical alert systems on the market, many of which have had great success in helping the elderly population stay safer in their homes. There are different types of systems and applications, so be sure to do your research before purchasing one. It's important that you choose one that fits your family member's preferences if you want it to be a successful experience.

### DIFFERENT TYPES OF DEVICES

There are many devices available that will instantly alert you and emergency personnel in the case of a fall or other related incidents. Also referred to as personal emergency response systems, these monitors allow the user to push a button on the transmitter to summon emergency help, including medical, fire or police personnel. These systems allow seniors to wear the transmitter around their necks, on their wrists or even affixed to their

wheelchairs for convenience. This easy-to-reach button will give you great peace of mind in knowing your family member is ready to respond quickly to emergency situations.

### CONSUMER TIPS

With so many different options on the market, how do you know which medical alert system is right for you and your family? There are a few factors to keep in mind before spending your hard-earned cash. Here are a couple:

- Pricing structure. For many of the top medical alert companies, you will be required to pay a monthly fee for emergency-capable services. Always compare your pricing and make sure to get locked into a fixed monthly rate.

- Company reputation. As always, before entering into a monthly contract, be sure to do your homework on the company. How long have they been in business? What types of guarantees can they give you on the quality of their product? Reading objective reviews can help narrow the field.

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## It's Trusky about the Brewsky

By Susan Heckler

**W**hether you just finished up a long hard day, or have the day off, or the sun is shining, or the weather is frightful....or for any reason at all....sometimes you just want to kick back and pop open a nice cold beer. It tastes great, makes you feel good.....why not.

Beer dates back to 5000 BC. It has been recorded in the ancient history of Mesopotamia. There are several varieties of beer. This includes pale ale, stout, mild ale, wheat, lambic and lager beer. It is made using 4 ingredients- barley, hops, water and yeast. You can also use wheat and rice instead of barley.

Little did you know that that long, cold, tall one has some great health benefits! This does not apply to everyone. You have all experienced that alcohol affects the entire body, including the brain, nervous system, liver, heart, and the individual's emotional well-being. The cause and effects are directly related to the amount of alcohol ingested. If you are a diabetic or have disease or illness, check with your physician as to the benefit or detriment to you.

Now, now, you still have to drink responsibly and in moderation or the health benefits don't count and don't work. Moderation= no more than two 12 oz. beers daily for adult men and women.



### THE BEER FACTS:

- A flavonoid compound called Xanthohumol is found in the hops plays a major role in the chemoprevention of cancer.
- Beer is a surprising source of many nutrients. One 12-ounce beer has around one gram of fiber. It is also packed with B vitamins like niacin, pantothenic acid, folate, riboflavin, and vitamins B6 and B12. It is also rich in silicon, a nutrient that is said to help strengthen bones.
- Beer is also a good source of polyphenols because of the grains used. These are effective in fighting cancer, similar to the effect of drinking red wine.
- Putting your meat in a marinade of beer can eliminate almost 70 percent of carcinogens from the meat
- Beer contains vitamin B6, which prevents the build-up of homocysteine. This prevents the formation of clots, in the coronary arteries.
- Not surprising, beer is shown to reduce stress and facilitate sleep.
- Studies have linked moderate beer consumption to a lower prevalence of type 2 diabetes.
- Beer is a good source of vitamin B12 and folic acid, essential for maintaining normal growth, good memory and concentration.
- Regular beer drinkers have been found to have lower blood pressure
- Beer increases the potency and impact of vitamin E, which is a major antioxidant in the body
- Vitamin E helps maintain healthy skin and slows down the aging process.
- Beer consumption also increases the level of "good cholesterol" by 10-20%
- Beer is shown to possess a number of digestive properties
- It is a rich source of magnesium, which results in a reduced risk of kidney stones
- And if you drink beer, you already know beer acts as a diuretic, and significantly increases urination
- Better yet, check out the choices of craft beers made here right in your Garden State. Can't taste any fresher and you can visit and taste the artisan beers not available in your local liquor stores!

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## family recipe ..eating together matters.....

### Anytime Vegetable Egg & Cheese Bake

*The cheeses and vegetable choices are suggestions; this crust-less quiche-like meal works with just about anything and great any time of day!*

#### INGREDIENTS

- 5 eggs
- 2 cups egg substitute or 6 more eggs
- 1/2 cup cottage cheese (fat % your choice)
- 1/3 cup shredded pepper Jack cheese  
(can substitute your favorite semi-soft, open textured spicy cheese)
- 1/3 cup shredded cheddar cheese (your favorite sharpness)
- 1/4 cup grated Romano cheese (any variety)
- 1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon tobasco type sauce
- 1 medium summer squash, chopped
- 2 cups fresh broccoli florets
- 2 cups coarsely chopped fresh baby spinach
- 1/2 cup shredded fresh carrots
- 1/2 cup chopped tomatoes

#### DIRECTIONS

1. Coat an 11 x 7 backing dish with cooking spray.
2. Preheat oven to 350°. In a large bowl, whisk eggs, egg substitute, cheeses, pepper and pepper sauce until consistent and fluffy.
3. Stir in the vegetables.
4. Transfer to baking dish.
5. Bake, uncovered, 45-50 minutes or until firm.
6. Let stand 10 minutes before cutting.



### Nutty Chicken & Strawberry Spring Salad

#### INGREDIENTS

- 2 large boneless, skinless chicken breasts or thighs
- 2 tablespoons any olive oil
- 2 tablespoons your favorite balsamic vinaigrette salad dressing
- 1 bunch fresh baby spinach
- 1 pint fresh sliced strawberries
- 4 ounces goat cheese crumbled
- 5 ounces package candied pecans

#### DIRECTIONS

1. Place the whole chicken meat into 2 tablespoons of balsamic vinaigrette to marinate.
2. Place the marinated chicken into a skillet with 2 tablespoons of olive oil over medium heat.
3. Cook and stir until the chicken is browned and the juice has almost evaporated (about 10 minutes).
4. Remove the chicken and let cool, slice or cube.
5. Place the baby spinach into a large salad bowl.
6. Distribute the strawberries, goat cheese, and candied pecans over the spinach.
7. Sprinkle 2 tablespoons of olive oil and 2 tablespoons of balsamic vinaigrette over the salad and top with the chicken.
8. Great warm or cold!





# FOOD & DINING



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## Strawberries Scream Spring

By Susan Heckler

**T**he strawberry, *Fragaria*, is one of the most popular berry fruits consumed worldwide. Strawberries are native to regions of the earth known as “temperate” regions; these include most of Europe, Asia, North America, and the lower half of South America, including Chile. They grow wild but they are also cultivated.

Strawberries belong to the rose family of plants (Rosaceae). Not actually fruits as their seeds are on the outside, strawberry plants are runners, and are not produced by seeds. They have an average of 200 seeds per fruit and are actually a member of the rose (rosacea) family.

In the United States, which is the world’s largest commercial producer of strawberries grows approximately 3 billion pounds per year. Strawberry varieties are often divided by growers into categories like “early season,” “mid-season,” “late-season,” “June-bearing,” or “day neutral” (which typically produce during July, August, and September). The strawberry plant is unusual in its ability to flower in “flushes” during different seasons of the year, including spring, summer, and fall.

Nutritionally, strawberries provide us with a rich variety of phytonutrients, including dozens of polyphenolic antioxidants belonging to the following nutrient groups: flavonoids, phenolic acids, lignans, tannins, and stilbenes. Strawberries are an excellent source of vitamin C (and our 5th best source of vitamin C at WHFoods); an excellent source of the mineral manganese; a very good source of fiber, iodine, and folate; and a good source of copper, potassium, biotin, phosphorus, magnesium, vitamin B6, and omega-3 fats (in the form of alpha-linolenic acid).

Growing strawberries is easy once you decide on a variety and a method. Medium-sized strawberries are often more flavorful than those that are exceptionally large. Whether you buy them at the store or order them online, as soon as you get the strawberry plants to your garden, get them in the ground as quickly as possible. Strawberry plants have a thick section of material called the “crown” between the stems and roots. Your plants should be planted so that the crown is even with the soil. Too high and the roots dry out, too low or completely bury the crown under the soil and your plants will be much more likely to suffer injury or disease.

If you are limited with space, strawberries can be grown in pots and can be quite attractive. You can also plant them in a garden and let them go crazy. Strawberries are an easy to grow fruit crop that will reward the home gardener with ample harvests for many years as they are a perennial. With favorable conditions, each strawberry plant should produce one quart of strawberries per season.

Strawberries are one of the first plants to fruit in the spring. Once picked, they will not continue to ripen so pick them ready to eat. Be gentle, they bruise easily.

There is nothing quite like the taste of a fresh juicy strawberry. They also do well frozen for future use. The abundance of recipes is mind boggling. Essentially, there is no such thing as a bad strawberry recipe!







# Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices New Jersey Properties Hosts Annual Awards Gala to Honor Top Sales Professionals Companywide

Tony Robbins, America's number one life success coach and business strategist said, "Life is a gift, and it offers us the privilege, opportunity, and responsibility to give something back by becoming more." On March 22, 2017, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices New Jersey Properties celebrated the 2016 achievements of the company's top sales teams and agents whose efforts helped clients and customers throughout northern and central New Jersey realize their dreams of home ownership.

Set against the backdrop of the New York City skyline, "The Spark Within" awards gala was hosted at Liberty House in Jersey City and recognized the top agents and teams in each of the company's 19 offices, the top supporters of the company's family of services—Home Capital Network, Associated Title Agency and HMS Home Warranty—and "Office of the Year" which was awarded to the Basking Ridge Office and Christy Casey, manager. The evening's celebration culminated in the presentation of New Jersey Properties' 2016 Pinnacle Group—the top ranked agents and teams among 730 sales professionals companywide—with 27 agents and 17 teams qualifying for membership last year. In the Pinnacle Group countdown, Sam Joseph, sales associate in the Montclair Office, was honored as the company's number one agent; and The Deluccia Commercial Group, Tim Deluccia Broker-Associate/Team Leader in the Bridgewater/Martinsville Office, was honored as the number one team.

In addition to awards presentations, the gala included the "7 Principles of Success," a keynote message from Gino Blefari, chief executive officer at HSF Affiliates LLC which operates and manages the real estate brokerage networks of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices, Prudential Real Estate and Real Living Real Estate. In honor of the night's awards recipients, "Blue Jupiter"—NYC's own pop and Broadway four-part a cappella group as seen on Oprah, CollegeHumor.com, and stages across the world—dazzled the audience with a dynamic performance that included show-stopping "Defying Gravity" from the Broadway musical, "Wicked."

"From the venue and our cocktail reception straight through our entire program including Gino's keynote message and Blue Jupiter's performance which had all of us on our feet, this year's beautiful awards gala was a fitting tribute to and reflection of our company's most accomplished sales professionals," noted Bill Keleher, chairman and chief executive officer at New Jersey Properties. "Our theme, 'the spark within,' captured the defining difference in our top teams and agents who perennially reach higher to achieve more for themselves and the buyers and sellers they serve. We congratulate all of those recognized, particularly our Pinnacle Group members, and wish our agents continued success in the year ahead."

For more information about Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices New Jersey Properties, home buying and selling throughout northern and central New Jersey, and/or career opportunities, please visit [BHHSNJ.com](http://BHHSNJ.com).

## About Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices New Jersey Properties

*Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices New Jersey Properties is an independently owned and operated real estate company and affiliate member of the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices network. Serving northern and central New Jersey with more than 700 sales associates in 21 offices, the full-service residential and commercial brokerage perennially ranks among the nation's top 100 brokerages for sales volume and offers residential resale, new construction, luxury collection, rental and commercial properties as well as relocation, mortgage, title and home warranty services. For more information, visit [www.bhhsnj.com](http://www.bhhsnj.com) or contact the corporate office in Somerset, New Jersey at 800-LIVE-IN-NJ (800-548-3466).*



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# How to Make an Easier Move

By Susan Heckler

There are a few things you can do to make your move easier.

Many movers can provide complete moving and packing service or you can do your own packing. As you are packing your boxes, you can save time and make the job easier by taking the time to properly seal all boxes and clearly labeling the box. It is a good idea to label the boxes with the floor and description of the room where they will be placed by the movers when they arrive at your new home. Include any information about fragile items inside boxes for the movers. A very general description of contents may help and definitely keep track of box numbers and contents. You may think you will remember what you put in each box but after the 10th box, that idea is out the door.

If you are packing your own belongings, it is important to make sure all your packing is done before the movers arrive. If you aren't finished, it will slow down the moving process. You are responsible for the items you pack, but remember that nothing flammable is permitted on the truck.

Although most movers provide exceptional quality moving service, it is always advisable to keep certain things in your possession. For example, keep your important information, valuables, health records, and other important documents with you during your move. You can always place fragile items, such as electronics and pictures, in your car.

## MOVING BOXES MADE SIMPLE:

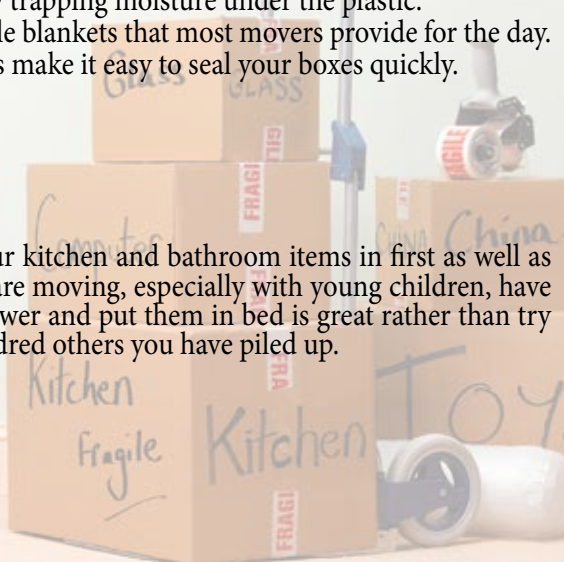
- Small moving boxes are easy to handle and best suited for fragile or heavy items.
- Medium moving boxes are a good choice for small appliances and various household items and great for dish and glass packing.
- Large moving boxes for light and medium weight household items so they will not be too heavy.
- X-large moving boxes are used for bulky but lightweight household items.
- Heavy duty boxes come in different sizes and have thicker, reinforced walls.
- Wardrobe boxes are available in several heights. They come with a removable hanging bar so clothes go from closet to closet without having to take them off their hangers.

## MOVING MUST HAVES:

- Unprinted news wrapping paper
- Bubble wrap is used to protect fragile items and fill air pockets in boxes to reduce shifting and breakage in transit.
- Dish and glass pack kits are compartmentalized inserts used to pack glassware, crystal and stemware.
- Stretch plastic wrap is used to bind items together, protects furniture from scratches, dust and damage. Not necessarily a good choice for wood or leather furniture as it can cause damage by trapping moisture under the plastic.
- Furniture pads are thick, durable blankets that most movers provide for the day.
- Box tape or tape gun dispensers make it easy to seal your boxes quickly.
- Box tape refills
- Permanent markers
- Box cutters and refill blades

## LOCAL MOVES:

When possible, try to move your kitchen and bathroom items in first as well as bed linens and towels. When you are moving, especially with young children, have the essentials to make a snack, shower and put them in bed is great rather than try and find the boxes among the hundred others you have piled up.



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Coupon must be present at time of estimates.



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## Mortgage Shopping Tips

When shopping for a home mortgage make sure you obtain all the relevant information:

- Research current interest rates. Check the real estate section of your local newspaper, use the Internet, or call at least six lenders for information.
- Check the rates for 30-year, 20-year and 15-year mortgages. You may be able to save thousands of dollars in interest charges by getting the shortest-term mortgage you can afford.
- Ask for details on the same loan amount, loan term, and type of loan from multiple lenders so that you can compare the information. Be sure to get the Annual Percentage Rate (APR), which takes into account not only the interest rate but also points, broker fees, and other credit charges expressed as a yearly rate.
- Ask whether the rate is fixed or adjustable. The interest rate on adjustable rate mortgage loans (ARMs) can vary a great deal over the lifetime of the mortgage. An increase of several percentage points might raise payments by hundreds of dollars per month.
- If a loan has an adjustable rate, ask when and how the rate and loan payment could change.
- Find out how much down payment is required. Some lenders require 20% of the home's purchase price as a down payment. But many lenders now offer loans that require less. In these cases, you may be required to purchase private mortgage insurance (PMI) to protect the lender if you fall behind on payments.
- If PMI is required, ask what the total cost of the insurance will be. How much will the monthly mortgage payment be when the PMI premium is added and how long you will be required to carry PMI?
- Ask if you can pay off the loan early and if there is a penalty for doing so.

There is a long list of sources for mortgages loans: mortgage banks, mortgage brokers, banks, thrifts and credit unions, home builders, real estate agencies and Internet lenders. For more information on home buying and mortgages, visit Fannie Mae's website or call 202-752-7000.





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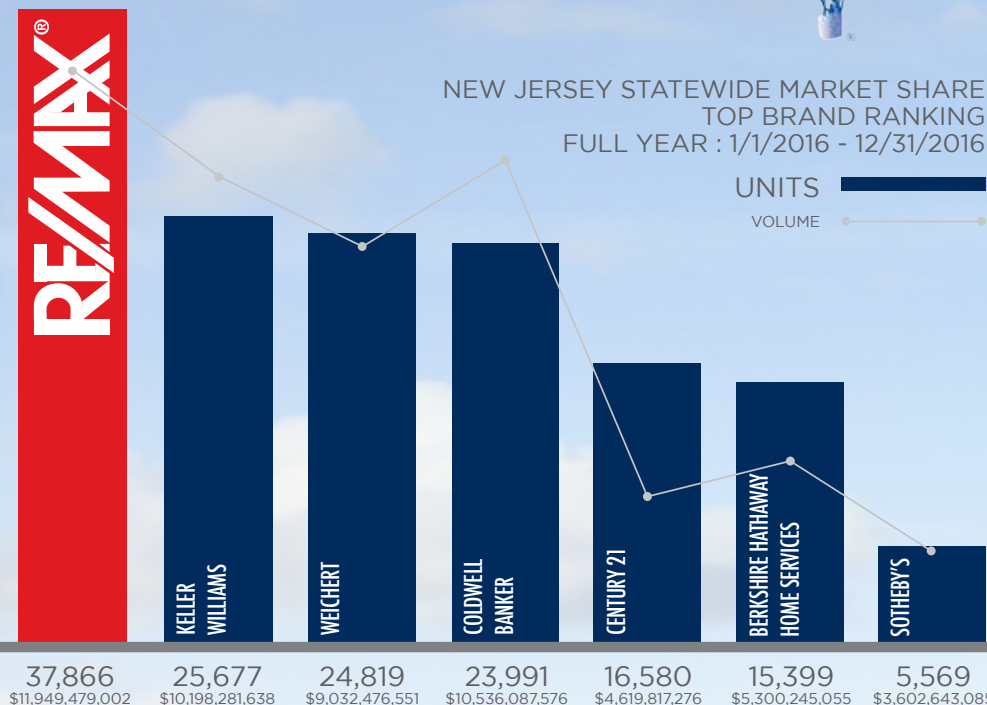


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This chart combines "total units sold" and "total volume sold" for residential listings for all office locations of each organization identified from 1/1/16 - 12/31/16. It includes which listings were sold by such organization itself, or with the aid of a cooperating broker for the state of NJ and time period indicated, according to the data by the following Multiple Listings Services in NJ: Trend MLS, Garden State MLS, Monmouth County MLS, Middlesex MLS, South Jersey Shore MLS, New Jersey MLS, Hudson MLS, Ocean MLS, and Cape May County MLS. This representation is based in whole or in part on data supplied by each MLS listed. Each MLS does not guarantee or is in any way responsible for its accuracy. Data Maintained by each MLS may not reflect all real estate activity in the market. This chart lists up to the top 7 competitors in the market indicated. Each RE/MAX office is independently owned and operated. Equal opportunity employer.



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**18 Steeple Chase Rd.,  
Millstone Twp.  
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**7 Doe Court  
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**153 Rogers Ave.  
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UNDER CONTRACT



**6 Graham Place  
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MLS#6943213

18 Roosevelt Way, Robbinsville, NJ 08691  
\$679,000 Agent: Cynthia Rosen

3,438 sq. ft. situated on a corner lot on a quiet cul-de-sac in desirable Crestwood Acres. 4br, 2.5ba brick Cedar Model with vaulted ceilings with skylights and so much more. Make an appointment to see all this home has to offer.



MLS#6957885

25 Cardinalflower Lane, Princeton Junction, NJ 08550  
\$344,900 Agent: Jessica Leale

Pride of ownership shines from every room in this wonderful 2br, 2ba Village Grande 55+ Community home! Staring in the oversized and bright kit, enjoy the large living room with a gas fireplace, dining room & upgraded sunroom. 2 car garage. This is a must see!!



MLS#6957181

102 Compton Cir., Robbinsville, NJ 08691  
\$615,000 Agent: Suzanne Garfield

Welcome home to one of the best locations in Robbinsville's desirable Dalton Meadows. Spacious East-facing 4br, 2 full, 2 half ba Col on a cul de sac is a must see. Oversized fin bsmt w/powder room and plenty of closets for storage. This home is move-in ready! Don't miss it!!



MLS#6751197

1 Sienna Ct., Robbinsville, NJ 08691  
\$749,900 - \$1,099,900 Agent: Anthony "Tony" Rosica

Introducing Bear Creek Estates- 16 lot SFR subdivision in Robbinsville w/lots ranging from 1.2 - 2.1 acres. Homes range from 3200 - 4700sqft. Model home pictured, Sherborne "D" offers 4/5 br, 4 full & 1 half ba, 3 car side entry gar & full bsmt.



MLS# 6896083

354 Shawn Place, North Brunswick, NJ 08903  
\$659,900 Agent: Banumathy Rajan

3br, 4ba East/North East facing beautiful colonial home w/brick front in prestigious community of North Brunswick with 3730 sq ft of living enjoyment. Fully finished bsmt w/brand new carpeting and possible 3th br and full bath. So much to offer schedule your tour and come experience this home.



MLS#6950554

9 Windward Way, Robbinsville, NJ 08691  
\$849,999 Agent: Robert Angelini

WOW! Best describes this gorgeous 4br, 4.5ba Col located in Combs Farm. This home offers 3,658 sq ft of luxurious living space + an add'l 1206 sq ft fin walk-out bsmt. 3 car side entry gar, an added 19x19 Florida rm. Better Hurry! Much better value than buying new construction.



MLS#6957474

8 Evesboro Rd., Chesterfield, NJ 08515  
\$489,900 Agent: Meghan Parker

New Construction without the wait! Impeccably maintained 3,000 sq ft Hesse model home professionally decorated tucked back in the highly desirable Cross Creek at Chesterfield Community. Offering 4br, 2.5ba with an open floor plan. Come be impressed for yourself schedule a showing today!



MLS#6927433

5 Anderson Lane, Robbinsville, NJ 08691  
\$589,900 Agent: Jessica Leale

Recently updated 4br, 2.5ba home boats brand new natural carpet, fresh paint, and new upgrades. First floor laundry room adds to the convenience of the home and leads to the 2 car garage. Walking distance of town center.



MLS#6899584

17 Fanning Way, Pennington, NJ 08534  
\$487,900 Agent: Jan Rutkowski

3br, 2.5ba Beautiful colonial in the Smiths Crossing section of Brandon Farms. Bosch SS5 burner range & dishwasher, granite top counters and breakfast bar. 1st laundry room. Fully fenced backyard & front yard nicely landscaped. Don't pass this one by.



MLS#6950188

148 Walnford Rd., Upper Freehold, NJ 08501  
\$1,179,999 Agent: JoAnn Stewart

4br, 4ba fabulous Country home on 27.15 pristine acres in Upper Freehold. Open floor plan, grmt kit, updated baths w/heated flrs and so much more. Just bring everyone and your horses and truly enjoy this wonderful estate that is Move-in ready!!



MLS#6910231

63 Honeyflower Lane, West Windsor, NJ 08550  
\$439,900 Agent: Donna Moskowitz

3br, 2.5ba Eden model in 55 and over Community. Open floor plan includes Master bedroom, sunroom, & added den/office/bedroom on main level. Home has solar heating, newer air conditioning & heating system & hot water heater all approx. 2 yrs ago. Come take a look!!

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## Awareness Can Prevent Teen Suicide

By Susan Heckler

**F**rom the moment your child comes into this world, your life as an individual has changed, and you will forever be a parent. Your new responsibilities grow and morph as your child matures. Each phase of life brings different bumps and rewards as a parent. As you get over one hurdle, another one is right there in front of you.

One horrendous hurdle that looms in front of every parent seems to be Teen Suicide.

***I can hear you thinking... "Not My Child"...please don't.***

NO matter how well you parented and how amazing your feel your child is, no one is immune to this tragedy. Suicide is the third leading cause of death in adolescence and the second for college aged students. No one can imagine that your own child might become one of those statistics.

The Center for Disease Control study released in April 2016 looked at a 15-year spread beginning in 1999. They found that the suicide rate rose nationally by 24 percent, from 10.5 deaths per 100,000 people to 13 per 100,000.

Girls aged 10 to 14 saw the largest increase in suicide, climbing 200 percent.

One local school district is urging parents to preview the Netflix show "13 Reasons Why" before allowing your children to view it. There are concerns about the series glamorizing the issue of suicide and not sufficiently addressing the mental health issues.

One national study establishes that almost 20% of high school students admitted to thinking about suicide and almost 8% acknowledge actually making an attempt. Some children are more expressive of their feelings than others. Look...listen...and learn what is on your child's mind and what is in their heart. If they are not expressing it verbally, observe their actions or changes in behavior. It may save their life.

Warning Signs:

**FEELINGS** that seem different from the past, such as hopelessness, fear of losing control, helplessness, worthlessness, feeling anxious, worried or angry often.

**ACTIONS** which are different from the way your child acted in the past, especially things like talking about death or suicide, taking dangerous risks, withdrawing from activities or sports or using alcohol or drugs.

**CHANGES** in their personality, behavior, sleeping patterns, eating habits, loss of interest in friends or activities, or sudden improvement after a period of being down or withdrawn.

**THREATS** or hints can convey a sense of hopelessness, worthlessness, or preoccupation with death. Making plans like giving away favorite things, studying ways to die, obtaining a weapon or stash of pills; suicide attempts like overdosing or cutting.

**SITUATIONS** can serve as "trigger points" for suicidal behaviors. These include things like loss or death, humiliations, rejections, failures, getting in trouble at home, in school or with the law, a break-up, or impending changes for which your child feels scared or unprepared.

Acknowledging that suicide is as much a risk for your child as anyone else's child is the first step in prevention. Talking with your children about suicide opens up communication about a topic that is often kept a secret.

Nearly 60% of all suicides in the United States are completed with a gun. If you own one, is it unloaded, locked, and kept under lock and key?

Overdose using over-the-counter, prescription, and non-prescription medicine is also a very common method so careful monitoring all medications in your home is important.

Young people with mental health difficulties — such as anxiety, depression, bipolar disorder, or insomnia — are at higher risk for suicidal thoughts.

There is an excellent short video on the website of SPTS - SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF TEEN SUICIDE (110 West Main Street Freehold, NJ 07728, (732) 410-7900) called Not My Kid <http://www.sptsusa.org/not-my-kid/> that offers a wealth of knowledge to all parents. Watch it and spread the word because you never know who's life you may be saving.

Fortunately, New Jersey is among few states that provides ongoing youth suicide prevention and public awareness as a continued commitment to the reduction and ultimate elimination of suicide among youth. This means New Jersey residents have a lot of resources available to them.

*The Traumatic Loss Coalition for Youth Program (TLC) at University Behavioral Healthcare at Rutgers (ubhc.rutgers.edu/tlc) is funded by the DCF. TLC is an interactive, statewide network that offers collaboration opportunities and support to professionals working with school-age youth. 151 Centennial Avenue Piscataway, NJ 08854 (732)235-2810*

*2ND Floor Youth Helpline (www.2ndfloor.org) at 180 Turning Lives Around is funded by the DCF. 2ND Floor serves youth and young adults (ages 10-24) in New Jersey. (888)222-2228*

*NJ Hopeline (www.njhopenline.com) is New Jersey's dedicated in-state peer support and suicide prevention hotline staffed by mental health professionals and peer support specialists 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The service is available to callers of all ages for confidential telephone support (except when a suicide attempt is in progress), assessment, and referral. Crisis chat is also accessible through the website and the service can be reached by texting njhopeline@ubhc.rutgers.edu or (855)654-6735.*

*The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24/7. (1-800-273-8255)*





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### Divorce and Special Needs Children

*By Mia Ingui*

**D**ivorce is one of the hardest concepts to grasp for a child with special needs. The negotiable aspects of divorce, like visitation times, custody, and property division are difficult things to understand for any child. If your child has special needs and you are now a single parent, you will have to plan out your future and take careful precaution. Before the divorce is through, make sure the terms of taking care of your special needs child are set and understood, since legally, the terms of a divorce are as follows: With whom will the child live? How much contact will the parents, legal guardian or other parties be allowed to have? To whom and by whom will child support be paid and in what amount? This stresses the importance of addressing the extra attention a child of special needs will require. To do this, first explore what page you and your spouse are on concerning your child's disabilities and abilities. It is also essential that your family law attorney work with a special needs attorney as well as an experienced financial adviser to eliminate the risk of losing your child's entitlements. The care of the child also comes into play. Since caring for your child with special needs may extend as they age, you need to tailor your divorce agreement for the long-term. Divorce is not easy, but it may work out better for you and your family by taking a practical look at what special needs exist and how they are appropriately addressed during the divorce.





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# THE BUYER'S SIDE OF A REAL ESTATE TRANSACTION

By John Bazzurro

The first step in a New Jersey residential real estate transaction is the signing of the contract. When a realtor is involved, a buyer may sign the contract prepared by the realtor and then immediately have it sent to their attorney for review. Both attorneys will then discuss the terms of the contract and make appropriate changes as required. However, it is important that a buyer ensure that the realtor prepared contract is immediately forwarded to their attorney because there is a three day deadline for the attorney review period.

One concern for a buyer is how and where they are going to get the money to purchase the home. Typically, buyers will obtain their purchase money either from the sale of their existing home, a mortgage, or a combination of both. If a buyer has an existing home to sell, it is important that there is a "home to sell" contingency in their purchase contract. This means that they will not be obligated to buy the new home until their existing home is sold and they have the money from that sale. Further, it is important that any purchase contract is contingent upon the buyer actually obtaining a mortgage. Without these contingencies, a buyer can be in breach of contract if they are unable to close on the new home because they do not yet have the proceeds of the sale of their existing home or were unable to get a mortgage.

Another issue that buyers must be concerned with is the home inspection. Typically, buyers will have between 10 and 14 days from the date of the contract to have a qualified home inspector perform an inspection on the home. The home inspectors generally look for system failures (i.e.-air conditioning systems, heating systems, hot water heaters, septic systems, wells, etc.). However, they also look for potential hidden defects that could signal the existence of a bigger problem such as past or present roof leaks, water infiltration, structural defects, termites, mold or the existence of underground oil tanks. Depending upon the severity of the issues found, the buyers may be able to obtain a credit or a reduction of the sale price or, alternatively, request that the sellers repair or replace the defective items prior to the time of closing.

Finally, prior to entering into a contract, buyers must be aware of the actual amount of money they will need to close. Although the buyers may have enough money to cover the purchase price of the home, they must also take into account closing fees that must be paid at the time of closing. These include title and title insurance costs, mortgage company charges, escrows for taxes and insurance, capital contributions to homeowners' associations, surveys and attorney's fees. In an average residential real estate transaction, I typically tell my clients that they should at least have an additional \$10,000.00 available for these closing costs in order to be on the safe side. However, this is just a guidepost and may differ in each transaction depending upon the cost of the home and issues involved.

Of course, the purchase of a home is the biggest single transaction and investment that people make during the course of their lifetime. Accordingly, it is important to obtain the right attorney to insure that all of their interests are protected and the above issues are properly addressed.

If you have any questions about the legal issues involved in the purchase of a home please feel free to contact my office and I would be happy to discuss these issues with you.

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## FAMILY FINANCE

**N**ow that the New Year is into full swing, and tax time is behind us, you may be taking stock in those resolutions you made. Common resolutions to exercise and lose weight might come to mind first. But your health and wealth go hand in hand—now and when you retire. To make sure you are doing everything you can today to plan for a better tomorrow, consider these tips for making yourself healthy, wealthy, and wise.

### Tip 1: Save as much as you can, as soon as you can

No matter what your age, you should be saving for your future. Start young and you can put the power of compounding on your side. Your money will grow faster over time as your earnings produce their own earnings. With the price of gas dropping, put the money you save into a retirement account or away for your child's college education.

### Tip 2: Prepare and prevent

When planning for a healthy future, preparation and prevention play a key role.

Preparation means saving for retirement and making sure you have appropriate insurance.

Prevention means having routine tests, screenings, and health exams to catch any problems before they become serious and expensive health conditions.

### Tip 3: Understand your retirement benefits

Learn as much as you can about your retirement savings plan. Don't miss out on the company match your employer offers, and AVOID taking loans and withdrawals that can reduce the money you'll have available in retirement.

If you have a pension plan, find out about projected benefit levels at various retirement ages and under various distribution options.

Also be sure to review your personal Social Security statement that is available online at [socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](http://socialsecurity.gov/myaccount). The statement is an easy-to-read record of your earnings and a summary of the estimated Social Security benefits you may receive as a result of those earnings.

Another helpful tool is the Social Security Claiming Guide from the Center for Retirement Research at Boston College. The guide can help you understand your options and when the best time might be to start collecting your Social Security benefit.

### Tip 4: Insure you have a better future

Make sure you have the insurance you need to protect your health and financial future before and after you retire. As you approach retirement, learn everything you can about Medicare, supplemental health policies, and long-term care insurance. While you don't want to waste money by having too much insurance, you also need to be careful you aren't leaving yourself exposed to financial catastrophes.

### Tip 5: All things in moderation

Moderation (and diversification) is good advice for many aspects of your life. Your investments should be appropriately diversified (not too risky, not too conservative, and typically not all in one basket). To determine an asset allocation strategy that's right for you, take an interactive risk tolerance quiz.

Your diet should be diversified, too. Try to include all the food groups in your daily menu. Even with exercise, try to include weight training, aerobic workouts, and simply incorporating more activity into your daily routine.

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Rucker Capital sponsors companies that raise pools of capital through private placements for companies that use their capital to acquire or merge with distressed and high growth venture stage companies. Sponsored companies use their cash in acquisitions which effectively provide funding for the target company. Despite the stock market's current performance, no one except contrarians like Rucker Capital are currently focused on distressed companies. However, the firm believes that over the next three years distressed opportunities will offer some of the best profit generating opportunities that we have seen in recent decades because the probability of asset prices (including stock prices) decreasing is substantially higher than the probability of asset prices increasing. This higher probability of an asset price decline combined with very high corporate and governmental debt levels will lead to many companies having unsustainable debt levels, therefore causing them becoming distressed.

Rucker Capital Principals' who have advised on billions of dollars of financial transactions point to the following fundamentals that indicate the probability of this asset decline:

### 1. Stock prices are very high as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product ("GDP")

As of March 8, 2017, the total value of the stock market as a percentage of GDP was 130.6% which indicates that stock prices may be overvalued. GDP represents the total value of goods and services produced in the market. Rucker Capital believes that this fundamental ratio of GDP and the changes in GDP should have a relationship to stock prices within a range. The only period where the ratio has been higher is right before the major market decline in 2000.



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### 2. Price to earnings ratios for the S&P 500 index are high compared to historical ratios

As of March 7, 2017, the price to earnings ratio for the S&P 500 index was 26.58 times earnings. This ratio represents how much one pays for each dollars of earnings. This ratio assumes that if there were no growth in earnings it would take 26.58 years to recover or payback your investment. Rucker Capital believes that this may indicate that many stocks may be overvalued. This ratio is substantially higher than the 15.64 mean and 14.65 median ratio since the 1800s.



### 3. Federal debt is 105% of GDP

Federal debt is currently 105% of GDP. This is very high compared to historical levels. Federal debt to GDP has increased dramatically since the 2007 Great Recession. This high debt to GDP severely limits the flexibility that the government has in the event of any financial downturn. A major tax cut will only cause this ratio to become worse.



### 4. Since 2007, worldwide debt has increased by over \$57 trillion and is in excess of \$199 trillion dollars.

Mckinsey & Co. one of the leading consulting firms has indicated that Global debt has increased to \$199 trillion since the 2007 Great Recession. These higher debt levels combined with higher interest rates can make servicing this debt increasingly difficult for highly leveraged corporations. This combined with a decline in asset values can lead many corporations to become distressed.



Although most people are focusing on the current rapid gains they have experienced in their stock portfolios, Rucker Capital Advisors believes that the fundamentals indicate that those that are positioning themselves to take advantage of distressed opportunities when they present themselves will likely be the real winners over the next three years. However, these returns are not without high levels of risk so one must act prudently and not commit more capital than they can comfortably afford to loose. Rucker Capital Advisors, LLC is currently sponsoring a company that is raising capital through a private placement to accredited investors only that will focus on distressed opportunities. For those that may have an interest in learning more can contact Rucker Capital Advisors, LLC at (201) 855-9142 or visit them online at [www.ruckercapitaladvisors.com](http://www.ruckercapitaladvisors.com).

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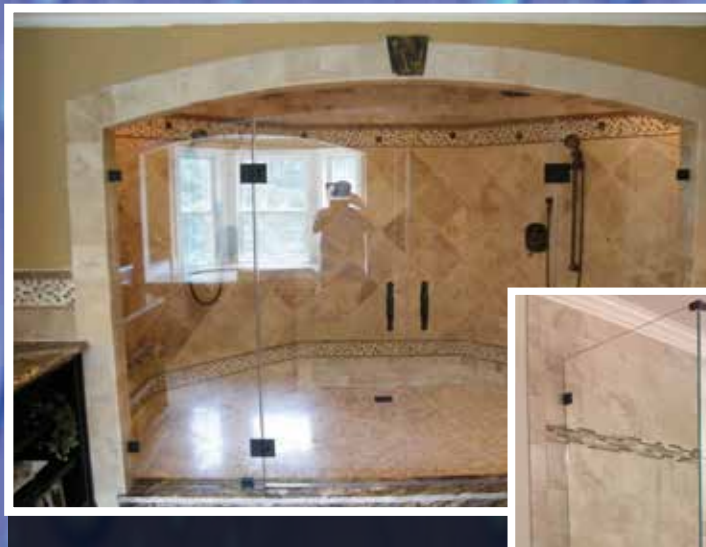
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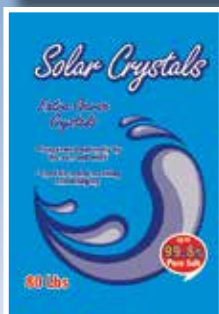
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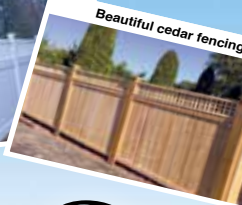
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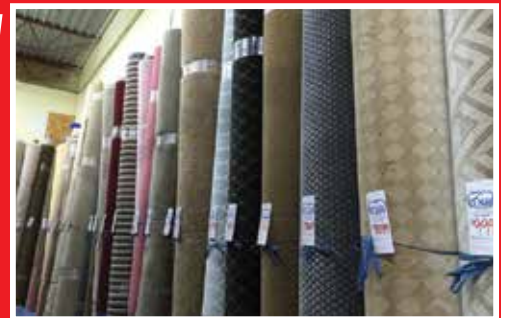


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# Invasion of the Lawn Snatcher

## CHINESE PACKING GRASS

By: Pam Teel

**H**ave you noticed over the past few years the aggressive weed that has been taking over our lawns, woodlands and roadsides? It's everywhere you look. You plant a garden and a week later, almost by magic it's covered with this high grass like species that seems to invade more and more area of your property each year. Yes, it has a name. The Japanese stilt grass is a relatively weak stemmed annual that can grow from one to three feet high. Its hairless stems have a sprawling growth habit that are usually branched and often root at the lower nodes. Each stem has many alternately arranged lance shaped leaves, which are pale green and up to three inches in length. Spikes with numerous quarter inch long flattened trapezoid shaped flowers emerge from the top of the plant in late summer. In the fall, the plants develop a purplish tinge.

These plants are native to eastern and central Asia and the origins here in the U.S. seem to have started in the early 1900's in Tennessee when the plants were used as packing material for fragile Asian porcelain. A hundred years ago, shipment was packed in wooden crates with gaps in between the slates. As it was loaded onto rail cars and sent to different locations, it dropped seeds along the way. People also discarded the packing grass into the environment after opening their packages. This invasive grass grows in both shade and sunny areas. It gets its name because the mature plant stems resemble stilts. It also looks a little like bamboo, which is perfectly understandable since bamboo is also a gigantic grass. By late October the weed is finished producing seeds and dies shortly afterward, but the seed can stay on the ground for up to three years and reseed.

It is currently established in many states east of the Mississippi and along the gulf coast. It has also been reported in Indiana. Statistics show that it is slowly spreading northeast to northern New England. Mowing down these weeds before seeds have set can prevent spreading. Mowing during seed production will only result in spreading the weed even more. Remember that even though this species is listed as an annual, seeds on the ground can reseed for up to a three-year span, which will result in never ending seeding. Seeds can also be windblown.

The best way to rid your property of this invasive weed is to use some kind of pesticide on it. This must be applied before the weed fruits. Seeds can often survive the chemicals so continual spraying is advised. When choosing a pesticide, please choose something other than Round up, which is owned by the GMO food-producing corporation, Monsanto.

We don't need to support them in anyway. For lawns, crabgrass control products seem to help stop the seeds from spreading. This invasive weed can grow from one to three feetnd can smother plants and gardens, invade lawns and take over the forest floor. The weed is easy to pull and should be pulled in early summer before the seeds appear. Too bad the deer do not like this plant. That would certainly be a solution to the invasion problem. Now that you know what you are dealing with, you can take the steps necessary to keep it from further taking over your property. Good Luck!



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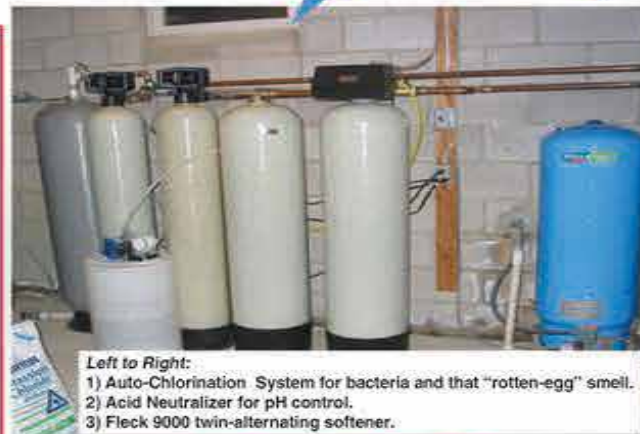


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Before letting your children hit the water this summer, the Y is offering these few tips to ensure it's an enjoyable and safe experience.

1. Never swim alone. Teach your children that they should only swim in locations where a lifeguard is on duty.
2. Supervise your children whenever they're in water. Whether it's bath time or taking a dip in a pool or lake, make sure your children are within arm's reach of you at all time.
3. Don't engage in breath holding activities. Children shouldn't hold their breath for a prolonged amount of time while swimming, as this can cause drowning and has several other severe physical side-effects.
4. Wear a Life Jacket: Inexperienced or non-swimmers should wear a Coast Guard-approved life jacket.
5. Don't jump in the water to save a friend who is struggling in deep water. If a child finds their friend in deep water unexpectedly, their natural reaction may be to jump in the water to try to save them. Even if a child is a great swimmer, a panicked person will overpower them, pulling them underwater with them. The Y's Safety Around Water program teaches the "reach, throw, don't go" concept of using a long object to reach for them and pull them to safety. By using these technique children can help their friend without compromising their own safety.
6. Enroll your children in water safety or swim lessons. Just like teaching your children to look both ways before they cross the street, having them participate in formal water safety lessons teaches them an important life skill.

Learning how to swim also has multiple benefits beyond the ability to enjoy water safely. It helps children strive for physical achievement, promotes healthy living and builds their confidence. To find out how to enroll your child in the Freehold Y's swim program, visit [www.ymncaj.org](http://www.ymncaj.org).

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Most pesticides are designed to act as neurotoxins on bugs, but when you send your kids or your dog out to play on a pesticide-treated lawn, they're going to touch, breathe and probably even swallow some of the chemicals. Pesticides can increase the risks of asthma and cancer in children. They can contaminate drinking water and be tracked inside of your home.

A well-maintained lawn requires no pesticides and little or no watering. Instead of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides, use a natural lawn care system. Start with the soil, by making sure it's not compacted or poorly drained. Talk to a local garden center or nursery about the best kind of grass to grow in your area of the country. When you mow, never cut more than one-third of the total length of the grass, and leave the clippings on the lawn -- the added organic matter will help keep the soil fertile. Daily sprinklings of water make grass less likely to survive a drought, so if you must water, do it deeply and no more than once a week.



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## Natural Weed Killers

By Stefanie Maglio

**W**eeds on your property, particularly in your landscaping, are often unsightly and a nuisance, especially when the weather gets warmer during spring. Unfortunately, weed killers often contain harsh chemicals that can be dangerous to breathe in or touch. There are safer ways to rid your property of weeds. For your family's health and the environment, consider these natural weed killers:

Pull them. Simple enough, and quite obvious, but it will get the job done. Just remember to pull from the root, or they will grow back. Also, try pulling them when the ground is wet from rain or watering. This will make the weeds come out of the ground easier.

Pour boiling water on them. This is a similar concept to pulling out the weeds while the ground is wet. Scalding hot water will shrivel even the toughest of weeds within a few days.

Smother them. Cover low-growing weeds with newspaper to cut them off from sunlight. This will help prevent growth. This can be used as a prevention tactic before weeds grow as well.

Salt them. Stock up on leftover rock salt from the winter and sprinkle it in your garden during the springtime. Salt can make a good weed barrier and leave the ground barren for a prolonged period of time.

Make simple and cheap edging out of scraps and pressure-treated decking boards. Cut them into 8-inch "pikes" and hammer the pieces into the ground next to each other to form a continuous edge.

Outnumber them. In gardens, there is competition for resources such as water, soil, and sunlight. Plant ground covers, flowers, and garden crops that will naturally beat out weeds for resources and nutrients.

Douse weeds with vinegar and they will shrivel up a few days later.

You can always learn to love them. Some weeds such as dandelions are not complete eye-sores. Whatever you choose to do, avoid pesticides, as it is healthier for earth and your family.





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## Putting Your Herb Garden to Work

By Susan Heckler

*Whether you grow your own or hit the spice aisle in the supermarket, herbs are a wonderful addition to your kitchen. Can using herbs spice up your life?*

Herbs and spices are both from plants. Herbs are obtained from the leaves of herbaceous (non-woody) plants that die down at the end of a growing season. Used for savory purposes in cooking, they do have some medicinal value. Some examples of herbs would be thyme, dill, mint, sage and oregano. Spices are obtained from roots, flowers, fruits, seeds or bark. Spices are often more potent and stronger flavored than herbs so you would use a bit less. Ginger, nutmeg, cinnamon and clove are spices. Some plants give you an herb and a spice like cilantro or coriander. There are over 400 common herbs, so a trip to the World Wide Web may be in order.

In addition to putting pizzazz on your plate, herbs and spices have some great health benefits. Here are some of your edible favorites and how they can help:

Basil or Sweet Basil has the Botanical Name of *Ocimum basilicum* and had 64 varieties. Delicious in cooking. In herbal remedies basil tea is used to ease nervousness and stress and can have a positive effect in controlling diabetes as well as asthma.

Ginger Root has the Botanical Name *Zingiber officinale* and is used in many of recipes in Chinese and Indian cooking. Ginger has been used for many centuries to treat digestive problems in Asia, recommended to be consumed to stimulate your appetite, helps the blood flow more freely, and is well known as an anti-nausea aid.

Cayenne Pepper, Capsicum, African Pepper, Chillies, or Bird Pepper has the botanical name *Capsicum Minimum*. This plant is hot stuff; it contains capsaicin, Beta Carotene, Manganese, Potassium, Vitamin A, B6, C, and E. it is the capsaicin which causes the burning sensation. Cayenne pepper actually contains more Vitamin C per unit than citrus fruits. Cayenne pepper is known for its qualities to stop both internal and external bleeding, is widely known as a heart remedy as it will open up clogged arteries, help prevent blood clots and strokes, will assist the body to burn calories faster, has shown positive results in helping to cure stomach ulcers, lowers cholesterol and brings down blood sugar levels, is used to treat colic and relieve gas and even helps prevent damage to the lungs and assists in clearing chest infections.

There are over 300 different Thyme herb species; the most common is *Thymus Vulgaris* or garden thyme. It goes well in soups, chicken, cheese and meat dishes.

Thyme tea has traditionally been used to treat fight respiratory infections, treat dry coughs, bronchitis and laryngitis, is an antifungal, is an antiseptic, and is also used to cleanse the kidneys because of its antiseptic qualities.

Sage (*Salvia Officinalis*) is one of the best known herbs. There are about nine hundred different varieties. The sage herb tastes great with fatty food dishes like duck, turkey, red meat and pork. And what is the Sage Wisdom of sage as a medicinal herb? Sage is used as a mouthwash to fight sore throats and gum infections, helps people with extensive sweating, has positive effects on the mind by improving memory and concentration, has antioxidants, can be used to rub on stings and insect bites to ease itching and pain, will help defeat dandruff, and improves liver function and digestion.

Herb history is full of contradictions, superstition and dangerous mistakes. Some herbs have deadly side effects and have been used to do harm. Herbs have religious significance to many cultures and were credited with providing protection from evil spirits, ghosts, and the devil and are even mentioned in the Bible. But that, my readers, is herbaceous reading for another day.



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- Install smoke alarms on every floor and near all rooms family members sleep in.
- Test smoke alarms monthly; Change alkaline batteries annually.
- Install carbon monoxide alarms near bedrooms.
- Do not smoke or allow anyone else to smoke in the home.
- If your home was built before 1978:
- Test your home for lead paint.
- Fix peeling or chipping paint using lead-safe work practices.
- Use safe work practices when painting, remodeling, and renovating to prevent spreading lead dust.
- Clean up clutter—it provides places for rodents and insects to nest and can be a trip hazard.
- Keep floors clear of electrical cords and clutter such as shoes, clothing, and children's toys.

### Healthy Homes Action Steps for Kitchens

- Never use the stove or oven to heat the house.
- Use a range hood fan or other kitchen exhaust fan. The best fans vent outside; a fan that is not vented outside keeps the poisons and moisture in the house.
- Install a carbon monoxide alarm, Test it regularly, Change the batteries at least once a year; a good time is when clocks are reset forward or back.
- Never leave food unattended on the stove.
- Avoid wearing clothes with long, loose fitting sleeves when cooking.
- Use safe cleaning and pest control products. If you cannot avoid using harmful products, Keep them locked up away from children, Read the labels and follow directions for use, Dispose of products safely.
- Stop cockroaches, ants, and mice without pesticides:
  - Keep them out—seal openings to the outside and between rooms.
  - Starve them—put away food, clean up, and cover the trash and garbage.
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### KNOW THE BASICS

Do you live in a flood zone? How about within a hurricane danger area? Your emergency preparedness begins with knowing the potential dangers around you so you can put together a full plan. No matter where you live in the country, there is potential for emergency situations to arise. Learn how to do things like turning off your gas, electricity and water. Dangerous storms can cause gas leaks or broken water pipes that can add to the hazards around you.

### KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS

Your best friend in an emergency situation can be your neighbor, especially if you are out of town when disaster strikes. Build relationships with your neighbors and get to know them well. Exchange phone numbers with them so you can both be contacted in case of an emergency. Also share your disaster plan with your neighbors and ask them to explain theirs. You may pick up some good tips that you could incorporate into your own plan.

### KNOW YOUR KIT

Everyone should have a basic disaster supplies kit handy in case of emergency. The Federal Emergency Management Agency recommends the following items for your kit: one gallon of water per person, a three-day supply of non-perishable food, battery-powered radio, flashlight, first-aid kit, whistle, dust mask and local maps. See FEMA's full list at ready.gov.

In addition, many older Americans have special needs related to medications, medical equipment, mobility and support. Plan wisely and accordingly to accommodate all of your most health-critical requirements.



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## *Speedy Growers In The Garden*

By Susan Heckler

If you got off to a late gardening start or like immediate gratification, these are the perfect vegetables to grow. Here are the 12 fastest growing vegetables to get your garden jump-started and great reasons to eat them.

***RADISHES:*** Most varieties will be ready for harvest in just 25 to 30 days after planting. Radish is a root crop, and it is sharp-tasting or sweet in taste with a lot of juice. Radishes can be white, red, purple or black, and can be long and cylindrical, or round. They are eaten raw, cooked or pickled. The parts of radishes that are consumed are the leaves, flowers, pods and seeds.

***GREEN ONIONS or SCALLIONS:*** Green onion stalks can be harvested after just 3 or 4 weeks. All of the Allium have hollow green leaves, but these are used while they lack a fully developed root bulb. Used as a vegetable, they are eaten either raw or cooked. Scallions have a milder taste than most onions.

***LETTUCE:*** Leaf lettuce is at their best in spring and early summer before high heats and long days make them bolt and turn bitter....MORE There are hundreds of different types of lettuce, including iceberg, Boston butterhead, Bibb butterhead and green leaf lettuce. The type of lettuce used in cooking depends if it is to be used for a salad, sandwich or side dish. Romaine can begin to be harvested about 30 days after planting. Cut the leaves once they reach at least 3 inches.

***BABY CARROTS:*** This is an immature carrot, grown in a small size as opposed to baby-cut carrot which is a small piece cut from a larger carrot often marketed as “baby carrots”. Baby carrots can be harvested after about 30 days. Other carrot varieties may take between 50 and 80 days to mature.

***SPINACH:*** Spinach is ready in as little as 4 to 6 weeks after planting. Spinach leaves are ready to harvest as soon as they are big enough to eat.

***KALE & OTHER LEAFY GREENS:*** Dark leafy greens provide more nutrition per square foot than any other garden crop, and different greens can come and go as the season unfolds. You can start out with kale in early spring, plant heat-tolerant chard as a summer crop, and then grow more lettuce and kale for fall. Kale, mustard greens and watercress are just a few delicious, super healthy greens that are fast growers. Most take about 50 to 65 days to mature, but baby leaves can be picked as early as 25 days.

***PEAS:*** There are your regular garden peas which are great either raw in salads or by themselves. Snap peas which are actually used as split peas, and then there are snow peas which are the pea pods you use in a stir fry. Snow peas take only about 10 days to germinate and are ready for harvest in about 60 days.

***BUSH BEANS:*** There are many varieties of bush beans to choose from, Most are ready to harvest within 40 to 65 days from planting.

***TURNIPS:*** Turnips don't always dress in purple-splashed white. You'll find round ones, finger-shaped ones, small ones and big ones, in an array of colors. Turnip roots are ready for harvest after about 60 days; however the highly edible leaves can be harvested in only 40 days.

***CUCUMBER:*** These are in the gourd family. It is a creeping vine that bears cucumiform fruits that are used as vegetables. There are three main varieties of cucumber: slicing, pickling, and seedless. Most varieties of cucumbers can be harvested about 50 to 70 days after planting.

***SQUASH:*** Summer squash is a prolific producer. 'Eight Ball' zucchini, Lebanese 'White Bush', a yellow crookneck called 'Sundance', 'condor' zucchini, and the yellow patty pan 'sunburst' are fun varieties. Many variations of squash, including zucchini, are usually ready after about 70 days. For best flavor, harvest squash when they are still small.





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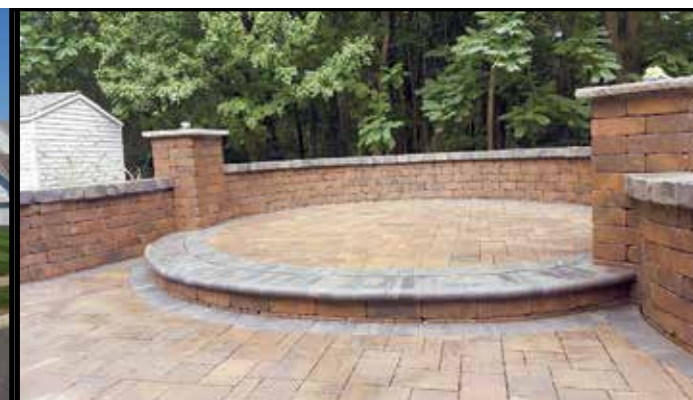
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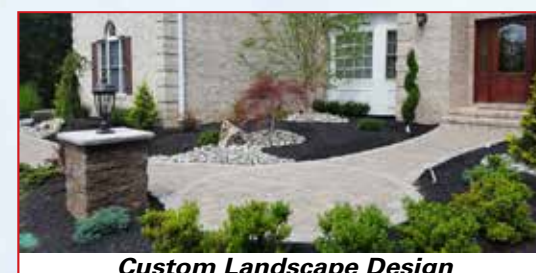
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