



FOCUSED ON MENTAL HEALTH: Fang Gong, candidate for the Livingston Board of Education, is shown here standing with Ruth Kaluski of the Mental Health Association in New Jersey and local advocates Xiaoshan He and Gloria He, at last week's National Night Out event in Livingston. Gong emphasizes the importance of mental health as a key focus in her educational platform, underlining her commitment to the school district and the broader Livingston community. NPoint Studio Photo

Irvington Man Faces Shoplifting Charges

An Irvington man is facing shoplifting charges after allegedly stealing hundreds of dollars' worth of merchandise from a Livingston Mall department store, Livingston Police said.

At 3:39 p.m. on Wednesday, August 2, officers responded to the Macy's at the Livingston Mall on a report of shoplifting.

Officers arrived and met with Macy's loss prevention employees, who had John Ampadu, 30, of Irvington, in custody for allegedly concealing over \$200 in merchandise and exiting the store without paying.

Ampadu was placed under arrest and transported to police headquarters, where he was charged with shoplifting and subsequently released on a summons.

Rin Tae Lee, 81, Dies

Rin Tae Lee of South Salem, New York, died on Thursday, July 27. He was 81.

Mr. Lee was born March 21, 1942, in Korea, son of the late Chang Ho Lee (father) and Mook Suk Kim (mother). He graduated from Kyunggi High School and Seoul National University. He married Hae Yeun Kang on May 17, 1970, in Seoul, South Korea.

He immigrated to the United States in 1974 to Brooklyn, New York, then to Livingston, before finally settling in Westchester County. He was a business owner in the garment industry in New York for over 40 years.

He is survived by his wife, Hae Yeun Lee of South Salem; his son, Joseph Lee (and his wife, Grace) of New York; daughter, Anne (and her husband, Jason Rhoades) of Clinton, Michigan; and four grandchildren.

Calling hours were held on Thursday, August 3, at the Beecher Funeral Home, Brewster, New York. Interment was private.

Old Guard Meeting At Monmouth Court Gym

The Livingston Old Guard will be meeting on Tuesday, August 15, at the Monmouth Court Gym, 26 Monmouth Court. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. and end at noon.

"The speaker will be Joel Liebowitz, who will talk about China," Ken Klein, Old Guard president stated. "The public is invited to the speaker's program, which is free," Klein continued. "It begins directly after the business meeting which concludes at about 10:45 a.m."

Information regarding this town-sponsored organization may be obtained from its website, lognj.com. For additional information, contact George Walsh at 201-953-4134 or email lognj64@aol.com.



FAIRY BRICKS: On Friday August 4, Livingston resident Jason Granet donated LEGO sets to the pediatric center at Cooperman Barnabas Medical Center. Granet is a BNY Mellon employee and the director of Fairy Bricks, a group that donates LEGOs to children's hospitals and hospices. Shown here are the BNY employees who volunteered with the child life specialists in Livingston, Ilana Ash, Konstantyn Shcherbakov, Patrick Vatel, Granet, Lisa Blank, and Danielle Pell.

Haven Savings Bank Holds Donations Drive To Support Domestic Violence Victims

Haven Savings Bank – which provides retail and commercial banking services to customers in Union, Hudson, Morris, Somerset and Essex counties – is collaborating with the Center for Hope and Safety to help domestic violence victims. The donations drive is occurring now through Thursday, August 31, at each of Haven Savings Bank's nine branches, as well as its commercial lending office in Paramus.

In addition to cash and gift cards to grocery stores and major retailers, donations being accepted during the drive include a wide array of household items – everything from aluminum foil and resealable plastic bags to toilet paper and tissues – as well as toiletries like soap, shampoo, toothpaste and deodorant.

The Center for Hope and Safety is a nonprofit agency dedicated to assisting adult and child victims of

domestic violence. The organization provides emergency and transitional housing, emotional support, and a diversified continuum of services focused on safety, empowerment and self-sufficiency. Through community partnerships, the Center for Hope and Safety raises awareness, provides services, and educates community members about domestic violence.

"Haven Savings Bank is proud to do our part in the ongoing effort to address domestic violence issues and, especially, uplift its victims," said Haven Bancorp president John H. Wessling III. "Our friends at the Center for Hope and Safety have a team of talented, compassionate individuals dedicated to their mission of helping domestic violence victims, and it's a privilege to stand shoulder to shoulder with them." ADVT.

Registration Begins For Fall Walking Club

The Livingston Health Department will offer a free walking club this fall, starting in September. The Club will meet on Fridays to walk around the reservoir at the South Mountain Recreation Complex, 9 Cherry Lane in West Orange.

The club will meet from 10 to 11 a.m. on Fridays, from September 22 through November 10, weather permitting.

The club is free and open to adults over the age of 18. Participants will meet in the parking lot at McLoone's Boathouse, which is a free public lot. The walk is 1.75 miles around the reservoir and will take about one hour.

Currently, wearing masks at any walks is optional but subject to change. All participants will be kept informed of any changes to COVID guidelines, and guidance from the New Jersey Department of Health will be followed for this program.

Walking is a great way to get some exercise and offers many health benefits: It can help you maintain

a healthy weight, reduce joint pain, improve balance, lower the risk of high blood pressure, and more.

Transportation to the walks will now be available for Livingston residents only. If you need a ride and are a Livingston resident, contact the Senior, Youth, and Leisure Services department at 973-535-7925, extension 8 to schedule a ride.

Pre-registration for the walking club is required. For questions or to pre-register, contact health educator Jessica Kelly at 973-535-7961, extension 227 or jekelly@livingstonnj.org.

Library Lawn Games At Livingston Oval

The Livingston Public Library will be hosting an evening of lawn games at the Oval on Wednesday, August 23.

Games that will be played include giant chess, badminton, limbo, croquet, and more.

The event will take place from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Gift subscription: 973-992-1771.

"Bookish Vibes" Invites Author Ethan Joella

The Livingston Public Library invites the public to join its Bookish Vibes book club through Zoom on Wednesday, September 6, at 7 p.m. The group will be discussing *A Quiet Life* by Ethan Joella, who will be in attendance for the evening. Copies of Joella's novel will be available for borrow at the Patron Services Desk.

Selected Bookish Vibes titles are based off of trending works and popular authors with a focus on contemporary fiction. Readers will discuss the author's work as well as their own bookish thoughts about the work, writing, and act of reading. Discussion will open by discussing the selected novel, and then branch off into the author's other works as well as our own bookish thoughts about the act of reading and writing.

Check the calendar at LivingstonLibrary.org for future meeting dates. All bibliophiles are welcome to the group meeting, but registration is required. An email with information on how to access the Zoom meeting will be sent the day before the event.

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