



North Caldwell

DECEMBER 2016

M A G A Z I N E

A SOCIAL PUBLICATION EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE RESIDENTS OF NORTH CALDWELL

In this issue...



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Athlete



North Caldwell Living



Family Spotlight
THE ROHDE FAMILY



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Kids 2 Kids



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Area Director's NOTES

December rings in holiday cheer!

Gathering the stories and photos of the amazing families from this neighborhood has been a real joy this year. We thank you, the residents, for your continued excitement and involvement in your *North Caldwell* magazine. It has been a joy to work alongside you this past year. I feel such tremendous gratitude for the business partners who continue make this magazine free for North Caldwell residents to enjoy! We hope you're enjoying reading and participating with our publication as much as we

enjoying putting it together for you. The continued feedback we receive from you, the residents, brings us continued joy this season! Warmest holiday wishes from all of us here at *North Caldwell Magazine*!



Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Happy New Year!

Brian O'Neill

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Twice Baked *sweet potatoes*

**resident
recipe**

By **Chrissy Davenport**
North Caldwell Resident



Hosting for the holidays can be quite stressful not only because of the pressure to make the most perfect turkey but also because it seems most every dish requires simultaneous use of the oven! So when I created these Twice Baked Sweet Potatoes last year they made it to my official "Thanksgiving / Christmas" menu for two reasons. First, I made them the day before and just prior to feast-time I topped with marshmallows and baked till the whites started to brown and the potatoes warmed up and second, they were ridiculously good (so even if my turkey was a little dry, no one seemed to notice! The sweet potatoes took center stage!) I hope you love the idea and look of these and try them out this year!

TWICE BAKED SWEET POTATOES

INGREDIENTS

- 6 small sweet potatoes
- 1 Tbs olive oil
- 2 Tbs softened butter
- ¼ cup brown sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- ¼ tsp ground nutmeg
- 9 regular marshmallows, cut in half



INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Rub sweet potato skins with olive oil and place on parchment lined baking sheet. Bake for about 45-60 minutes or until sweet potatoes are cooked through. Remove from oven and allow them to cool until easy to handle. Reduce oven temperature to 350 degrees.
2. When potatoes are cool enough to handle, carefully cut off the top 1/2 inch of each potato, lengthwise. Discard the tops. Using a spoon, carefully remove the flesh of the potatoes, leaving a small amount along the inside of the skins to help hold the shapes of each potato.
3. Mix (using a kitchen aid type mixer) together sweet potato flesh, butter, brown sugar, vanilla extract, cinnamon, nutmeg and allspice until smooth. Divide mixture back into the potato skins and top with halved marshmallows.
4. Bake at 350 (note: a bit lower temp than before) for 15 minutes or until filling is heated through and marshmallows are melted. You could do this last step before serving your turkey and do steps 1 - 3 the day before!)
5. Serve immediately and enjoy!



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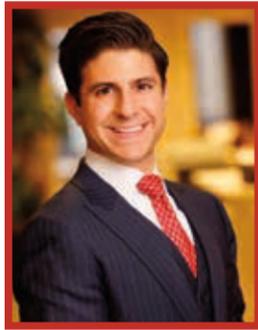


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By Joseph Saccamanno

5 RETIREMENT-PLANNING Myths

You Will Spend Less in Retirement.

Some people expect to reduce their spending once they say goodbye to their careers and enter retirement. But new travel experiences and reinvigorated interests in hobbies mean that many new retirees actually tend to spend more than when they were working. As the years go by, potential health issues often prove to be an increased financial expense that wasn't anticipated.

You Don't Make Enough Money to Save for Retirement.

While this is obviously true for some, many people simply live beyond their means. If you want to save money for retirement, make it a priority by paying yourself first through payroll deductions or other automatic payments.



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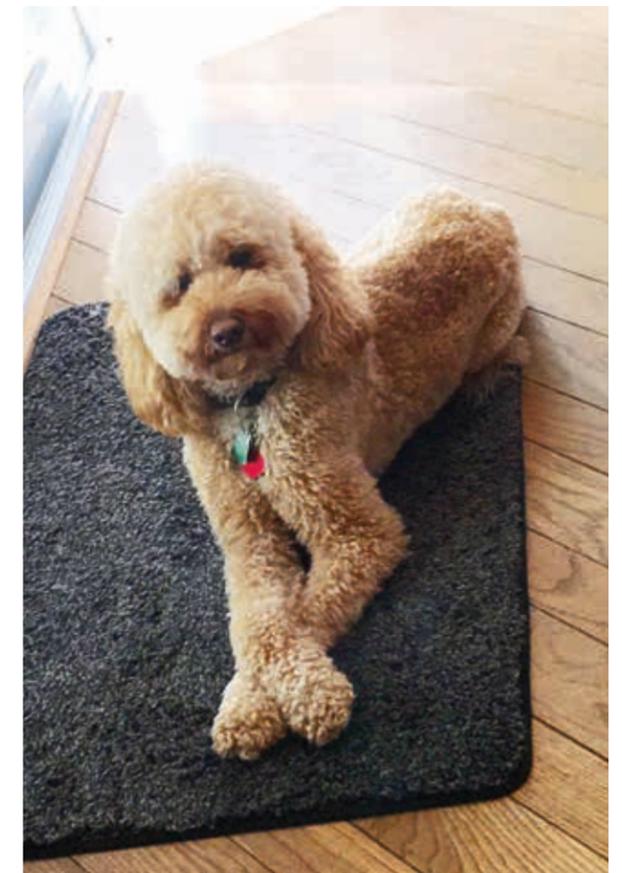
Some baby boomers did not save much during their careers because they expected Social Security to carry them through retirement. However, Social Security was never intended to be a primary source of income. It was designed to be a supplement to a pension or other retirement savings. Since it is unlikely to support you over the whole of your retirement years, it is better to view Social Security as a safety net rather than the foundation of your retirement plan.

\$1 Million Will Be Enough on Which to Retire.

It sounds like a lot, but a million dollars is simply not what it used to be. In light of longer life expectancies, potential health-care costs, and the lifestyle you want to maintain, \$1 million may not go that far. It's important to get the facts regarding ways to create your brightest future using what you have today. Ask for the facts, review the choices, and decide for yourself.



By Jessica Wiederhorn



When two kids want a dog, they will stop at nothing to convince their parents to allow them to get one. Sisters Tali and Zoe Offir spent over a year taking care of other dogs, so wanted more than anything to come home to their own little four-legged friend. They even created a powerpoint presentation to convince their parents how much they really wanted a dog, and how responsible they would be as pet owners. Their hard work paid off, and they are now the proud owners of Tucker, a two-year-old Australian Labradoodle.

Tucker loves to play and one of his favorite games is fetch. He will even drop the ball at a person's feet to make them throw the tennis ball again! Socializing with other dogs is another activity he loves and this friendly pup will play with just about anyone. When he is not playing, he will be found snoozing the day away. If he wants attention, all he has to do is bark to get his point across.

Also very spoiled, Tucker loves eating human food. He will eat anything, his two favorites being hamburgers and cheese. He was also very easy to train, learning sit, paw, and lay down very quickly.

Family is one of the most important things to Tucker, and whenever someone comes home, he runs to the door, wagging his tail. He follows everyone around the house and even sleeps in his parents' bed. They love him just the same, and are so glad Tucker came into their lives. Without Tucker, the Offir household would not be the same.



If you or a friend would like to have your pets featured in an upcoming issue, please contact Jessica Wiederhorn at (973)-570-3919 or jesspugs@yahoo.com.

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KIDS 2 KIDS

By Jessica Weiderhorn
Photos by Portraits by Michael Stahl



Ashley



Jordan

Five-year-old Ashley Rose loves being a big sister to her brother, Jordan. At one-and-a-half, Jordan is one of the happiest babies. He always waves hello and goodbye and never stops smiling. His favorite shows are Elmo and Mickey Mouse, and he also likes playing with cars. Ashley loves to help take care of her little brother and believes she is very special because of it.

Being a big sister is just one of Ashley's talents. She also plays softball, tennis and soccer, and aspires to be an astronaut when she grows up! When asked about any upcoming challenges she may have, this kindergartener said driving a car will be difficult. Ashley loves to play on the playground with her friends, and her two favorite toys are Magna Tiles and Barbies. Another pastime of hers is swimming, and Ashley enjoys using the diving board. Her favorite movie is "Toy Story" and her favorite book series is "Pete the Cat" by Eric Litwin. She couldn't choose just one favorite color, instead stating that she likes all of them.

Ashley had the same type of answer for her favorite food, not being able to pick between ice cream, macaroni and cheese, and bagels. In school she enjoys art class, and her favorite animal is a dog. Ashley likes to listen to "Shut Up and Dance with Me" by Walk the Moon, and her two most-enjoyed trips were to Florida and Chicago. While Ashley leads a very exciting life, her pride is in being a big sister. She believes the way in which she cares for and loves Jordan makes her special, and it most certainly does.



If you or a friend would like to have your kids featured in an upcoming issue, please contact Jessica Wiederhorn at (973)-570-3919 or jesspugs@yahoo.com.

from the mayor's desk . . .

Photo by David Kaptein of David Kaptein Photography

Season's Greetings



It's that time of year when we all get 31 days to spend more money than we should, to go to more parties than we've been to for the last 12 months, eat too much and see a lot of family and friends that we should have but haven't seen in a year. Everyone seems a little happier, work slows down and our social life speeds up. It's all good. And, all the celebrations seem to begin with our Spirit of Peace and Good Will ceremony. We light the Menorah and Christmas tree right next to Town Hall. It gives the town a "Currier and Ives" feeling, even more so than it has the rest of the year. And, the beautiful lights of the Menorah and Christmas tree can be enjoyed through the end of the year. The many revelers received candy canes, hot cocoa, toasted marshmallows and other holiday treats. I'd like to thank all the volunteers and organizations, especially the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts who made this possible. And, of course, Santa Claus came on the fire truck and distributed candy canes to all the good little boys and girls. In the spirit of giving, we continue to have our Holiday Toy Drive. Please donate an unused, unwrapped toy. Please contact our Recreation Department for details.

I want to give a special thanks to the third grade Brownie Troop who are fundraising to benefit the Usher 1F Foundation. The girls are selling baked goods to help four-year-old Zachary Root who suffers from this debilitating disease. That is the right thing to do, especially at this time of year. As the old saying goes, "To those who much have been given, much is expected." We are certainly blessed in North Caldwell and by helping others we will be blessed even more.

The seniors had an extra special Thanksgiving feast last month. They were entertained by Donnie Fararro and Joe Gilligan of "Touch of Sinatra," a tribute to Frank Sinatra. Does it get any better than Frank? Not to be outdone, in the beginning of December the seniors had their holiday luncheon with their annual "white elephant gift exchange."

A gift from the town to all of you dog and cat owners is the Free Rabies Vaccination Clinic scheduled for Saturday, January 7, 2017 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm at the North Caldwell Fire Department on Gould Avenue. Please remember to have your dogs on leashes and cats in carriers. You may have your pet(s) vaccinated and also register them at the same time.

A special shout out to Beth Holmes Tanelli for the excellent job she did on the 5K Zombie Run/Walk for the benefit of the Nick

Tanelli Children's Soccer Foundation. The organization raises money for local sports teams and clubs as well as provides scholarships for local West Essex area high schools. She exceeded her \$30,000 goal and had more than 300 runners. Way to go, Beth!

We all know the snow is coming and that is a reminder that the ski trip registration opens this month. The Tuesday trips begin the first week in January. This program is for boys and girls in grades fourth through sixth.



Diane, my daughters, Dena and Mara, and I wish everyone a happy healthy and joyous holiday season.

Happy Chanukah and Merry Christmas.
Mayor Joe

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HOME IMPROVEMENT MATTERS



In our last few installments, we've been designing our kitchen as part of a virtual home addition project. This month, we're looking at construction methods and materials used in modern cabinet building. First, here are three terms you'll hear: knock-down, custom and semi-custom.

Knock-down cabinets (also known as "flat-packed") are boxed flat to ship cheaply. Cabinets are delivered as pre-cut, flat boards and locking nut connectors. (Think Home Depot or Ikea's "assemble-it-yourself" products.) These cabinets are less expensive, but often become less solid after a few years of use.

Custom cabinets tend to be the most expensive, but are hand-built to order, often on site. They are exceptionally sturdy, perfectly sized to your kitchen and you can select the wood types and finishes.

Semi-custom cabinets are the cost-effective middle ground. Cabinets are "modules," which are installed to your kitchen design. Cabinet are shipped as already-built boxes. Matching

panels, corners, spacers and trim are all included and match the style and finish materials you've selected. There are many offerings from many manufacturers, so there is very little chance of not finding what you like.

Here are two other terms you'll hear when shopping for cabinets – frame construction and frame-less construction.

To understand the difference, picture a cabinet "module." It is going to have a door that opens and a drawer on top. At the most basic, it's a box. It's made up of six panels – the top, the bottom, the front, the back and a left and right side panels. If we remove the front panel completely from corner to corner, (so that we see the edges of side panels) this becomes a frame-less cabinet. If we leave the front panel in place, but cut holes for the drawers and cabinet, leaving part of the panel in place as a "frame," it's called frame construction.

What's the difference? Style. With frame-less construction, the hinge hardware is built into the box's side-wall and hidden from view. With frame construction, you see (and can choose) the hinges. Neither is better than the other. Just different ways of building cabinets based on the style you select.

Lets talk about what your cabinets are actually made from. Once choice is solid wood. Just as you might think, this material is solid planks of a specific wood (or tree species, like walnut or cherry) that you select. The wood you see on the outside goes all the way through as a single piece.

There is also plywood, typically with a "finish" veneer. Plywood is manufactured from thin layers of wood and glue, is strong and cost effect. When used for cabinets, the top layer is typically a veneer, (which is what you see). It's chosen for appearance and can be stained, painted or finished just like a solid wood (but at a lower cost).

There's also particle board, which is made from wood chips, sawdust and glue. The top layer is then a wood veneer or plastic (vinyl, melamine, or Formica(tm)) laminate. Some lower end cabinets are made this way and while it's less expensive, but you get what you pay for. Particle board has no structural grain and can sag over the years. It's also is susceptible to swelling and crumbling from moisture.

Next month we'll discuss what you should look for when selecting counter tops. If you've missed any articles, you can always catch up on past articles about renovation and home addition projects at: <http://stilleandsons.com/articles/index.html>.
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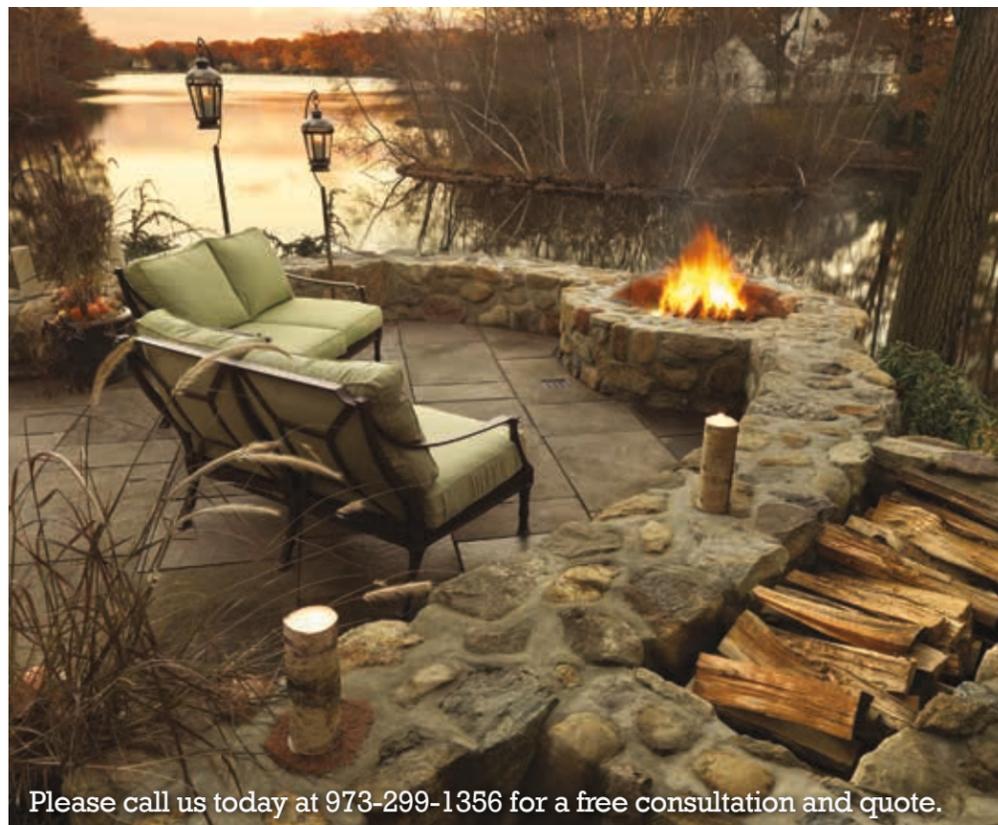


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meet the
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family



In 2006, Chris and Kristen Rohde became residents of North Caldwell, a town that means more to them than just a nice place to live. Chris was born and raised in Clifton, NJ, and Kristen in Fanwood, NJ. Their two children, Amanda (12) and Ashley (nine) have lived in their current home for most of their lives. The girls now attend Trinity Academy in Caldwell, NJ. Amanda's passion for swim is evident as she trains with the MKA Cougars for 11 months out of the year. She also enjoys playing soccer and softball with her school friends. Ashley who also swims for the same club team enjoys everything that is social...soccer, softball and tennis to name a few.

Chris is a graduate of Seton Hall University and Seton Hall Law School. Upon obtaining his CPA, he began his legal career as an attorney in Nutley, NJ, where he developed an estate and trust practice. He now has his own private practice in Caldwell on Smull Avenue, where he specializes in estate planning, estate and trust administration and elder law. When he is not at the office, you will find him jogging around town, coaching softball for both of his girls' teams, or spending time with his family enjoying their backyard.

Kristen is a graduate of the University of Scranton. She balances her time between motherhood and working part-time as an accountant in Caldwell. She enjoys spending time volunteering, jogging, having lunch with friends and spending afternoons with family at home or at their sporting activities.

While living in North Caldwell, the Rohdes have attended Notre Dame Church, participated in the Fighting Fish swim team, and joined Summer Fun and the town pool each summer. They get exercise by taking long walks or jogging around the neighborhood. They feel blessed to have developed lifelong friendships with many people in town.

Their favorite activities are spending time together walking in town, playing tennis, going to the town pool and to the beach. Their favorite restaurants are The Franklin Steakhouse in Fairfield and Avenue Bistro in Verona.

The Yankees and Giants are their favorite sports teams and they always try to attend a few games a year. Living in North Caldwell makes it easy to travel to New York City to see a show when they are not watching their favorite sports team.

Entertaining friends and family at home, especially in the summer months, is something they very much enjoy. Their favorite vacation spots are the Outer Banks in North Carolina, Jamaica or a getaway to the Jersey shore.

They feel very fortunate to be part of such a wonderful community and look forward to spending many more years in North Caldwell embracing all that the town has to offer.



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ice cream social at Gelotti's

resident event

Written By Madison Santaromita



One of the attendees, Robin Wilson, a resident of Essex Fells, quoted "My daughter Rainey and I love all exotic flavors, from sweet to tart and it was a very family-friendly place to go to. Rainey's favorite was chocolate!" Rainey, who is three-years-old, is currently obsessed with chocolate ice cream and was in complete heaven when she heard there was

chocolate ice cream. Every flavor was a delectable treat and they recommend this shop for any ice cream lovers! Another party-goer, Karyn Caplan, from North Caldwell, mentioned, "It was so nice to enjoy mingling, eating ice cream and Italian ice, while meeting new people." The guests were mostly from different towns and areas and were all seated at a long table. Sitting next to new but some familiar faces, provided great conversation, which was a fun time for everyone. As the guests were leaving, they got a taste of autumn that came in the form of yummy peach cobbler and apple pie dairy goodness. Towards the conclusion of the gathering, the group photo was taken to capture the enjoyable time everyone had, which was a great way to end the night!



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Creamy, delectable, lick the cup worthy ice cream, Italian ice and gelato were enjoyed by many at the recent ice cream social. It was located at Gelotti, in the heart of Montclair. Refreshing frosty guava ice was the first to be introduced and heaping servings of blood orange, watermelon and mango ice followed, which all cleansed the palette. Rich ice cream was served immediately after by the great staff. Cookie monster, coffee oreo, pumpkin pie, and Bailey's chocolate chip were favorites that kept the attendees wanting more! Soon, even more deliciousness was brought to the tables and everyone got to experience authentic Italian gelato in a variety of flavors, lampone, raspberry, stracciatella, hazelnut, bacio, and a must-have chocolate chip.

While the frozen desserts were being devoured, the guests had a pleasurable experience at this location. The light tinted wooden tables give the shop a sense of warmth and yellow, bright, sunny flowers sit atop each and every table. The Gelotti location in Caldwell is very similar, except this spot is much more expanded and more seats are available for customers. The same delicious flavors are served at both Gelotti's. This particular shop opened just over a year ago and it has proven to be very successful and worth the ride! The owner, Mike Guerriero, is very pleased to have customers come by and was especially happy that everyone enjoyed the social this year.

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By North Caldwell resident Kat Krannich

Small Town Living...

In this day and age of the internet and high-speed virtual reality, North Caldwell connects people to people.

One resident, Veronica Palazone, expresses it best: "I love the small town feeling of North Caldwell. It is so nice for the children to see their school friends at different events around town. On the field, at the pool, and when they come to the bakery. I have made many new friends here in town." She explained how she comes from a small town in Italy, where everyone knows each other and she is so happy that she found the same experience here for her children!

Our little hamlet is close to New York City, yet far enough away to offer a respite from the hustle and bustle of city life. One can enjoy the night life of the Big Apple and all the excitement that it offers and return home to our quiet hidden gem.

The allure of small town living in a world where life is so fast paced still appeals to many people. This is evident by the amount of new homes being constructed and the quick rate of sales in town.

Some of the neighborhoods are changing as "for sale" signs are popping up. Perhaps you may have noticed other changes as you walk, or drive, around town. Change is the one constant in our lives. Even if we don't change, the world will change around us.

December is a perfect reminder of how nature makes changes that affect our behavior and the way we view the world. The cold weather may chase some indoors. Others may seek out warmer climes. And, hopefully, many of us will enjoy holiday gatherings of the season with family and friends.

As the year winds down, and we look to a new year and new beginnings, we think of all the wonderful possibilities change brings to our community. Change can be good. With new homes, come new neighbors, new experiences, and new friendships to be forged. But, let's keep that small town feeling, even as we grow. That is something better left un-changed.



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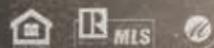
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in the garden

By Jason Sponzilli

OUTDOOR FIREPLACES & Fire Pits

For thousands of years, people have gathered around the fire. There's something in all of us that is attracted to the warmth of a fire on cool evenings and the relaxing atmosphere that the soft light of a fireplace or fire pit can add to any outdoor setting. In fact, one of our most important trade associations, the American Society of Landscape Architects has published findings pointing to fire pits or outdoor fireplaces as the #1 design feature requested by clients today, in the planning and design of their outdoor environment.

An outdoor fireplace will increase the value of your home and significantly increase the amount of time you can enjoy the great outdoors. Your fire feature will extend the days into the evenings and lengthen the seasons, as you will be able to enjoy the weeks and months of early spring... and well into the fall.

Here are a few thoughts and considerations that will help you determine what kind of fire feature is in your future:

Finding the Best Location for Your Element of Fire

Your new outdoor fireplace will quickly become the perfect space for friends and family to gather for a fireside chat or where the kids can toast marshmallows and make s'mores until bed time. So consider the location and space you will need to accommodate not only the outdoor fireplace or fire pit but also comfortable outdoor seating in the area. There are several considerations to take into account regarding the location of your fire element on your landscape which include zoning laws, distance from structures, proximity to outdoor living areas and the view from your fireplace's location.

Size and Proportions for Outdoor Fireplaces and Fire Pits

The size and scale of your fire feature should be suitable for the location you have chosen. Space considerations will often dictate the dimensions of this portion of your landscape design. If you have a limited space, your situation might be perfect for a small natural stone fireplace in an intimate setting. In more expansive projects the outdoor fireplace itself can have extended hearths that can seat several people.

Materials Options for the Outdoor Fireplace

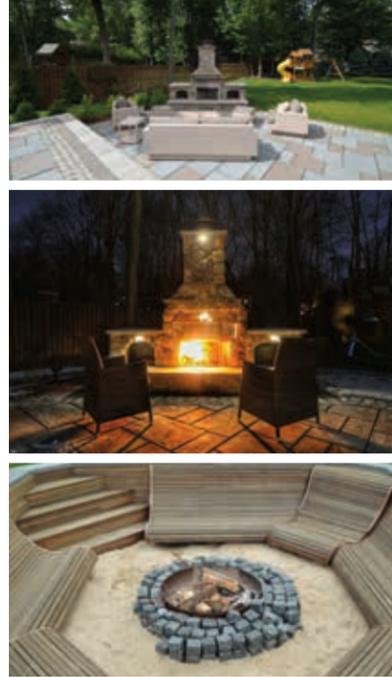
The materials that can be utilized to create your outdoor fireplace or fire pit is a long list that includes a variety of colors, textures and finishes. Some of the choices include natural stone, brick, river rock, flagstone, manufactured masonry products or masonry construction with stucco or clad stone fascia. Consulting with your landscape architect about which materials will withstand the elements your outdoor fireplace will be exposed to and suit your design scheme is essential to the look and feel of your finished project.

Deciding Between a Wood Burning or Gas Fire Feature

One important decision is to determine whether you would like to burn wood logs or if you prefer faux logs or stone with a gas flame for your outdoor fireplace. You may love the aroma and ambiance of the wood burning fire, but before you get too far along, remember local construction and building code requirements can differ from town to town. Some communities can even prohibit an outdoor fireplace that is going to be "fueled" by wood. Other municipalities may regulate burning wood flames near wooded areas, slopes or other situations. Wood burning fire pits or fireplaces create a lot of smoke, so you will want to consider the actual location you are planning and your property's prevailing wind direction and conditions.

Natural or propane gas, on the other hand, is somewhat easier to control, considered "cleaner" and requires less ventilation and draft to burn correctly. For many homeowners, the decision between a gas and wood burning outdoor fireplace comes down to town ordinances and the amount of space available to accommodate this luxurious yet family-friendly feature.

Whether you chose an outdoor fireplace or a fire pit, the positive aspects of having a fire feature in your landscape will be obvious -- extended seasons of outdoor time, a comfortable and relaxing place to entertain and an increase in your property's value.



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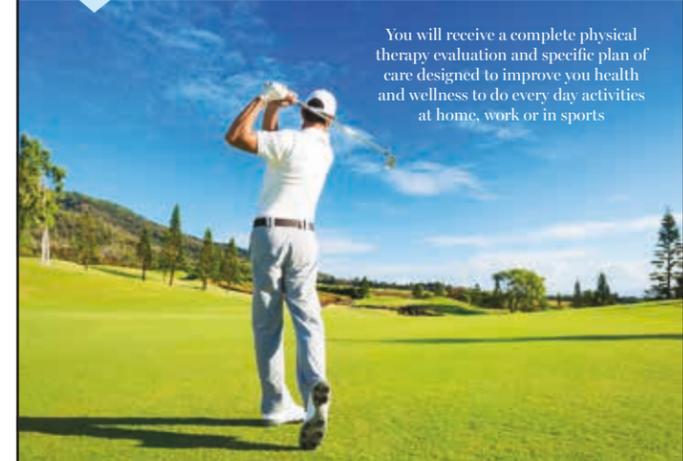
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Holiday TRAVEL TIPS

By N2 Staff Writer, Tracy LaFon

Years ago, all that was needed for a great holiday season was a road trip to grandma's house. Now, with families spread across the globe, endless vacation options and an estimated 100 million people expected to travel the highways and skyways this time of the year, holiday travel has become more of a complicated expedition. But, with just a little bit of detailed planning and compromise, traveling during the holidays can still create greeting card-worthy memories.

Consider booking a hotel room when going home for the holidays. Gathering at grandma's house for a huge holiday sleepover may seem wonderful, but the reality is that people, especially children, can get overstimulated by the noise, festivities and crowds ... even when it's just family. A suite at a nearby hotel allows the privacy to recharge in-between celebrations.

When families are spread out geographically, destination holidays at a resort can be an equally joyful option to bring everyone together. This keeps the burden of the holidays from falling on just one host. Take a family vote on whether to book a wintery resort or celebrate the season under palm trees and beside blue tropical waters.

Travel Wisely:

Schedule wiggle room. Weather, traffic and flight delays are out of your control; planning extra time for these unforeseen events can help bring the stress levels down.

Be prepared. If traveling by car, make sure to have extra snacks, bottled water, electronic backup power, pillows and blankets, and an emergency kit (flashlight, jumper cables, ice scraper, tow rope, bottled water, etc.). Make sure to download your favorite classic holiday tunes, movies and audiobooks before leaving to help pass the travel time in a festive spirit.

Take advantage of apps. Most airlines have apps; using them helps plan your trip and keeps you up to date on delays or schedule changes. There are also several apps available that provide emergency roadside assistance or help you find a last minute room if the unexpected arises.

Stay hydrated and move around. By plane, train or auto, moving is essential. Take intermittent stops on car trips, and get up and walk through the cabins when on airplanes or trains; this helps with circulation and boredom. Drink plenty of water; dehydration leads to irritability, fatigue and makes you drowsy.

Ship ahead and pack light. Shipping your gifts allows you to decrease luggage charges or free up trunk space. Many online retailers even offer gift wrapping and free shipping. Carry as little as possible with you, and don't forget to leave room to bring gifts home.

Most of all, try to remember that the highest holiday travel priority should be experiencing the season with family and creating wonderful memories with them. Remind yourself often to take a deep breath, be patient, and remember to count your blessings.

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Written By Teddy Press



A Natural

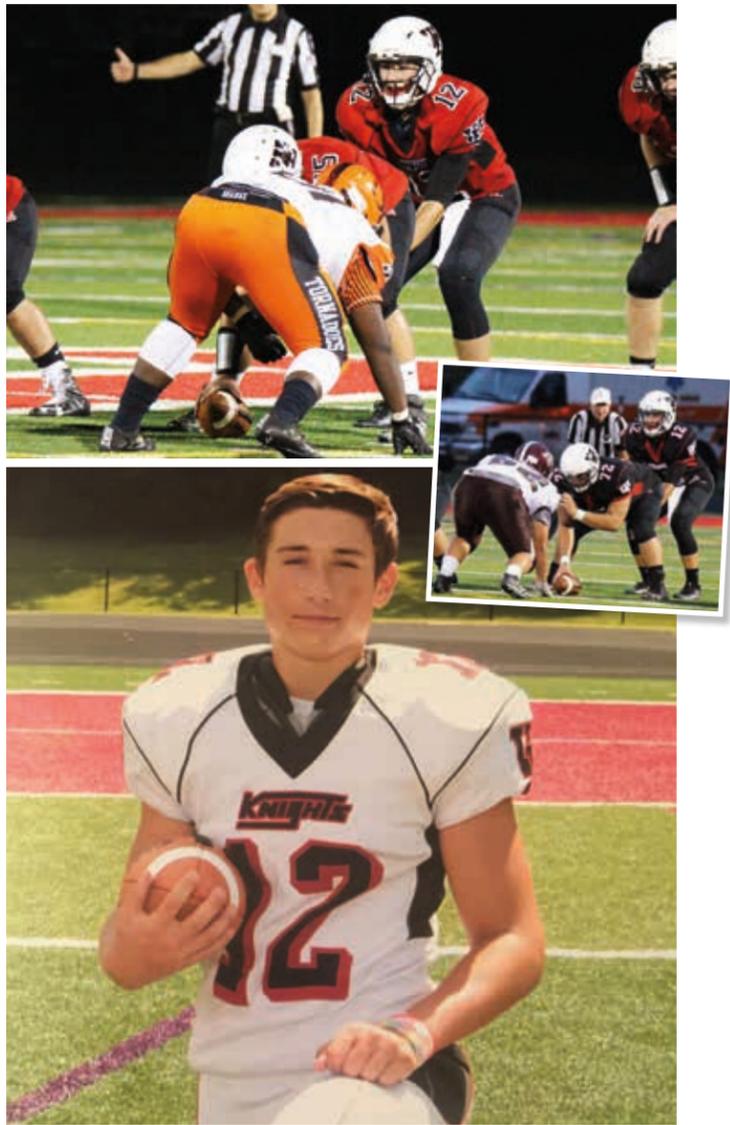
In Kindergarten, almost every boy plays a sport: soccer, flag football, teeball. And early on, everyone's just getting used to the game. But there's always that one kid that's different. He seems confident, as if he plays on a whole different level. It's intuitive to them. The kid is a natural athlete. This year, the star quarterback for the West Essex Knights varsity football team is one of those kids that I, personally, witnessed while growing up. Either in pitching for baseball, playing games in cub scouts, catching frogs in a pond or throwing a football, I saw the progression of one of the most talented local athletes: Zach Lemanski. But what sets him apart from others is his hard work and dedication, allowing both his natural ability and determination to push him to his greatest.

Early on, Zach participated in numerous sports but encountered his true passion in football. His dad, Steve, and mom, Tricia, had been huge football fans and directed Zach to attempt football, starting out with flag. As he progressed, his parents began to recognize his talent, as well, and continued to nurture his passion for football.

These days, Zach is two feet taller and eating for two. He continued to play throughout middle school; he started at the freshman level in grade nine but was quickly moved up to junior varsity within three weeks. Now the varsity starting quarterback, Zach has demonstrated his ability and everyone recognizes it. Zach, on starting varsity: "I was extremely excited but a bit anxious as I didn't know what to expect. [Varsity] is definitely a much faster-paced game than JV. Working with better players, definitely, helps you to get better." But there is no excessive egotism; at no point has he gloated about his talent. Not only does this make him a more respectable player but it also makes him enjoyable to be around.

Going into a game, Zach, too, gets nervous but is always excited to play. His favorite part of football is working with his teammates and bonding with them. As for his favorite plays, Zach loves the feeling of completing a deep pass to a receiver. In fact, his most memorable moment so far from his football career was a huge touchdown pass just this year against Orange that allowed West Essex to edge out a victory. Go on youtube to watch the highlight reel and you can see why he is on the varsity squad.

Zach is an avid New York Giants fan and has even gotten the chance (twice!) to attend the Manning Passing Academy just outside of New Orleans. There, he got to meet kids around the country just like him, as well as receive tips and advice from the best, such as DeShaun Watson (Clemson University's quarterback).



However, Zach has struggled with injuries in the past. Over the past four years, he has received injuries that force him to recover before continuing to play. Although he is cautious about getting hurt, Zach sees these injuries as a motivating factor. In other words, he comes back after each injury hoping to be stronger than ever before.

In the offseason, Zach also plays lacrosse, which he started in fourth grade. Though he does not love it as much as football, he says that it's a great way to pass time with similar athletes and stay in shape. He is also a member of the Italian club and enjoys designing and releasing his creativity through Legos. He has a sister, Jillian, and two dogs, Bailey and Jax.

Though it is difficult, at times, to manage both schoolwork and sports, Zach is an honors student who works hard in all subjects. His favorite subject is chemistry, yet could see himself as an architect or an engineer in ten years. Zach is still mulling over the idea of playing college football.

Overall, his family is his biggest supporter and has been from the start. No matter whether Zach wins or loses, his mom just hopes that he doesn't get hurt.

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Local events

Thursday, December 15 • COMCAST HOLIDAY SPECTACULAR

Where: Comcast Center

When: 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Come out to the Comcast Center this holiday season to experience this FREE light show.

For more information: Visit http://www.jerseyfamilyfun.com/calendar-of-new-jersey-events/action~agenda/exact_date~12-15-2016/

Thursday, December 15

THE BARRON ARTS CENTER'S HOLIDAY MODEL TRAIN SHOW

Where: The Barron Arts Center

When: 11 a.m. -4 p.m.

In the tradition of family exhibitions for the Holiday Season, the Barron Arts Center in Woodbridge, New Jersey will once again host an exhibition of model trains curated by Colonia resident Michael Gelesky. The exhibition will be free to the public but donations are always greatly appreciated.

For more information: Visit <http://www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us/Calendar.aspx?EID=120&day=1&month=11&year=2016&calType=0>

Thursday, December 15 • ESSEX COUNTY LIGHT SPECTACULAR

Where: Turtle Back Zoo

When: 5-9 p.m.

Come visit the Essex County Turtle Back Zoo with your family and friends during our Holiday Lights Spectacular! During this event, the Zoo will be illuminated by lights and holiday displays throughout the park. Donations of non-perishable food items, unwrapped toys and new or gently used winter coats for the less fortunate are appreciated. There will be specialty displays, holiday music, and arts and crafts activities. The features of the Holiday Lights Spectacular keeps expanding which offers your family more reasons to explore it this year!

For more information: Visit http://www.jerseyfamilyfun.com/calendar-of-new-jersey-events/action~agenda/exact_date~12-15-2016/

Friday, December 16 • BRICK CITY BAR CRAWL

Where: 56 Congress Street

When: 6-8 p.m.

For over two years, the Brick City Bar Crawl has been connecting Newark's nightlife lovers with the best after-dark spots in the city. This weekly crawl will visit four bars in Newark's Ironbound District and features food and drink specials. \$15

For more information: Visit <http://events.funnewjersey.com/grid/events/5807ea27473b6/brick-city-bar-crawl#sthash.gTQwEgbo.dpuf>

Saturday, December 31 • DO IT

Where: Montclair Art Museum

When: 12-5 p.m.

do it is an exhibition unlike any other the Museum has hosted. Rather than an exhibition of objects created by artists, do it is a collection of conceptual instructions throughout the Museum provided by 27 renowned artists including Robert Barry, Louise Bourgeois, Felix Gonzalez-Torres, Sol LeWitt, and Yoko Ono. A highly participatory contemporary art exhibition, do it has brought together the community and Montclair-area organizations to implement these written instructions. Visitors will have new interactive experiences as they are invited to write, doodle, draw, and design based on projects that include oversized coloring books, optical illusions, and more! Museum admission is \$12 adults, \$10 seniors and Free for members and children.

For more information: Visit <http://events.funnewjersey.com/grid/events/57b7750ebd464/do-it#sthash.HzoeUNYk.dpuf>



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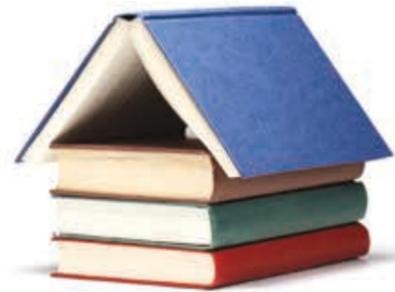
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59 Avon Dr	Essex Fells	\$799,000	\$745,000	158	5	3.1	Split Level
127 Devon Road	Essex Fells	\$939,000	\$869,393	30	4	3.2	Ranch
46 Gordon Road	Essex Fells	\$1,149,000	\$1,100,000	81	3	3.1	Expanded Ranch
1146 Stephanie Dr	North Caldwell Boro	\$389,900	\$385,000	13	2	2.2	Multi Floor Unit, Townhouse-Interior
76 Mountain Ave	North Caldwell Boro	\$564,999	\$535,000	62	3	2	Colonial
84 Evergreen Dr	North Caldwell Boro	\$889,000	\$939,000	18	4	3.1	Ranch
17 Shenandoah Dr	North Caldwell Boro	\$1,650,000	\$1,500,000	48	5	4.2	Colonial, Custom Home
69 Stonegate Dr	Roseland Boro	\$420,000	\$420,000	9	2	2.1	Multi Floor Unit, Townhouse-End Unit
36 Meeker Ct	Roseland Boro	\$500,000	\$490,000	112	2	2.1	Multi Floor Unit, Townhouse-Interior
16 Cheryl Ln	Roseland Boro	\$569,900	\$565,000	54	2	2.1	Multi Floor Unit, Townhouse-Interior
26 Cooper Ave	Roseland Boro	\$600,000	\$575,000	55	4	3.1	Colonial, Custom Home
106 Kent Dr, C0129	Roseland Boro	\$615,000	\$605,000	28	3	3.1	Multi Floor Unit, Townhouse-End Unit
80 Kent Dr, C0172	Roseland Boro	\$619,000	\$612,000	7	3	3.1	Multi Floor Unit, Townhouse-End Unit
5 Morgantine Rd	Roseland Boro	\$639,000	\$620,000	45	6	3	Bi-Level, Contemporary, See Remarks
1 Hickory Ln	Roseland Boro	\$745,000	\$785,000	10	3	2.1	Ranch

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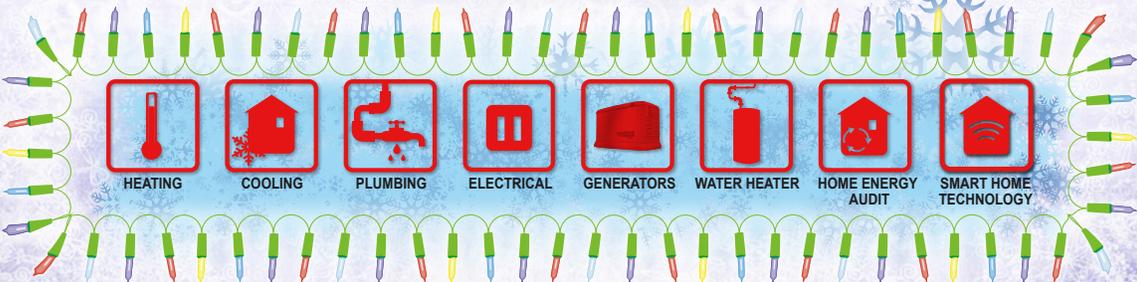
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