AMERICAN HELLENIC EDUCATIONAL PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION

The 91st AHEPA 5th District Convention

June 24 to June 26, 2022 Kimisis Tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox Church 20 Hillcrest Road - Holmdel - New Jersey - 11901

Hosted by Garden State - Chapter # 517





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It is with great pride and excitement to be hosting AHEPA's 5th District Convention this year and kicking it off with our 11th annual Cigar Extravaganza. This is the most anticipated event of the year for our Chapter and the money it raises supports some great initiatives. We are most proud of our "Service Dogs for Warriors" project. An idea that our own Brother George Karatzia started as a grass roots project with our Chapter's support and blessings. It has gained National momentum within AHEPA and with other organizations as well. We are now close to raising \$1,000,000 all of which goes to supporting our veterans who suffer from PTSD by providing them with a trained service dog, which gives them the comfort, confidence and safety to overcome the horrors they face from PTSD.

AHEPA is an international organization with over 400 chapters worldwide. Its original mission to fight bigotry and discrimination, unfortunately, still holds true today as we continue to promote philanthropy, education, and civic responsibility through volunteerism and community service. As a district (serving NJ & DE) our chapters have also done enormous work to promote these ideals, most notably Wilmington, DE Chapter's opening of the Odyssey Charter School which last year graduated their 1st high school senior class. Its school is rated the #1 school in Delaware.

It takes a lot of commitment and hard work from our Brothers to make events like these come to life. A special thank you to Bill Parlamis and Artie Wassif, whom for the past 10 years have Chaired our cigar night and have worked tirelessly to make it the success that it is. This year we're honored to have our Brother Bob Fourniadis as District Governor, making it even more rewarding to host the convention. Finally thank you to Demetri Orfanitopoulos who is Chairing the convention and has put together this wonderful journal for us.

Most importantly though is that none of this would be possible without ALL of our Brothers, sponsors and attendees. We thank you for your continued support, encouragement, and company. We value the relationships we've formed over the years.

Enjoy,

Dimitri Dimitriades

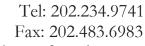
President - AHEPA #517

Holmdel, NJ



Daughters of Penelope

Supreme Headquarters 1909 Q Street, NW Suite 500 Washington, DC 20009



www.daughtersofpenelope.org e-mail: dophq@ahepa.org

Dear AHEPA Family and Guests,



It is with great pleasure that I send greetings along with the Sisters on the Grand Lodge to our Members, Friends, and Delegates at your District Convention.

The purpose of an AHEPA Family District Convention is to bring all the respective members of our chapters together to deliberate, hold elections, conduct, and take care of business for our Orders. There are old friends to see, new friendships to make, face-to-face conversations and hugs with your Sisters and Brothers.

Congratulations to the Sisters and Brothers who will carry on our mission, as you move into leadership positions to "**Keep our Light Shining Bright**".

Let's not forget to continue promoting Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, Family and Individual Excellence, for it is the only way the AHEPA family will keep moving forward. To successful deliberations and trust that we all work together for the "Good of the Order."

My wish to all is to leave this organization just a little bit better than we found it because without you, our members, we would not exist.

It has been my Honor to serve you as the Grand President - Thank you.

"Re-ignite our AHEPA Family and Keep our Light Shining Bright".

Love in Theta Pi,

Kathy Bizoukas

Grand President
Daughters of Penelope



AHEPA SUPREME LODGE REGION THREE

Brother and Sisters

April 23, 2022

Greetings from Episcopi, Cyprus as I prepare for tonight's Resurrection Service at the village church. And while we will be celebrating Easter here tomorrow with friends and family, I am looking forward to my next Ahepa involvement in our effort to Defend Hellenism. It is a joint mission of Ahepa with the American Hellenic Institute, B'nai B'rith and the Conference of Presidents of major American Jewish Organizations. This will be the 5th biannual trip since 2014 and my second. Strengthening the cooperation between Greece, Cyprus and Israel in fostering peace and stability in the Eastern Mediterranean as the world is rapidly changing, our mission is an indication of our willingness to do our share to promote goodwill in the region in accordance with the interests of the United States.

Congratulations to our Garden State chapter #517 for all the good work you do for our Order and for hosting the 5th District Convention. As we celebrate the 100th year anniversary of this highly reputable organization, I urge the delegates to deliberate productively and while you participate in the various committees please start thinking of where you want to take this Order as we look ahead for the next 25 years. Nobody likes change but we need to maintain interest and boost modernization while maintaining our deep rooted values and traditions. All in the spirit of Brotherhood. For the future of our Ahepa Family.

Be well!

Fraternally,

Vassos Chrysanthou

Supreme Governor Region 3

Delaware, New Jersey, and New York

Dear Brother AHEPANS of the John G. Thevos 5th District,

As we are come to the completion of another AHEPA year in our District, I would like to welcome all and each one of you to our 91st AHEPA Family District Convention and the 2nd live and in person Post Covid Convention, which is being held on the eve of the celebration of AHEPA's 100th anniversary!

The past few years have been challenging on many fronts but these challenges have not kept AHEPA, from staying on task as it has for the past 100 years .

Whether its providing disaster relief, aid to local food banks, granting scholarships, supporting worthy causes like the Ronald McDonald House, the AHEPA Service Dogs For Warriors, the 5th District Cancer Research Foundation, aiding firefighters and border guards in Greece, being stewards of our churches and making our voices heard in the capitals of our states and the nation on issues pertain not only to the interests of Greece and Cyprus, but to the defense of Hellenism, which is synonymous with western civilization and democracy, AHEPA is the embodiment of the best aspects of human nature and the ancient Hellenic ideals of education, philanthropy, civic responsibility, family and individual excellence through community service and volunteerism.

The true measure of the success and growth of AHEPA, of course, comes from the foundation of the Order, the Chapters, the place where the work is done and where the Hellenic ideals are promoted and perpetuated. Visiting each and every chapter in the district twice a year for the past six years and getting to know the brothers of District 5 has been the best part of this job. I appreciate how we are always welcomed with open arms. The discussions that took place, the trading of best practices, and the advice, suggestions and ideas we receive from veterans and rookies alike that we can then share with other chapters are the tools with which we all grow and prosper.

I would also like to thank the District Governors with whom I served, George Petrakakis, Zenon Christodoulou, Dimitri Rozanitis, Steve Marmarou and George Pappas, for setting the example for leadership which I sincerely hope I was able to emulate, Past Supreme Governors from our District who were always there to lend a hand, Chris Diamantoukos, Vassos Chrysanthou, our dearly departed Louie Arvanitis and Mr. AHEPA himself, George Karaztia, Chairman and founder of the AHEPA Service Dogs for Warriors program, which began in my home Chapter Garden State 517, with whom I was honored and privileged to serve as Vice Chair and the two past supreme presidents from our district always there when I needed advice and counsel, Andy Zacharides and George Horiates.

Thanks also to my Chapter, its President, Dimitri Dimitriades and the Convention Chairman, Demetri Orfanitopoulos, not just hosting this convention but for being exemplary AHEPANs. My father and I were among the founding members of Garden State 517 in 1995. I am very proud of all we have accomplished, how we have grown these past 27 years and that the chapter's members now include my son and my Godson.

Finally, I would like to thank my District Lodge, Savvas Kyriakou, John Koninis III, Ioannis Kontolios, Louis Stefanou, George Perentesis and Evans Johns. I don't think I will ever work with a finer group of dedicated AHEPANs and faithful Orthodox Christians. I look forward to seeing each one you take on the mantle of District Governor over the coming years.

As another productive year comes to a close, I would like to extend my gratitude to those that have attended this District Convention. I look forward to joining that the Past District Governors club and continuing in the service of the Order of AHEPA.

All the best,

Robert Fourniadis

District Governor John G. Thevos 5th District





June 25, 2022 AHEPA John G. Thevos 91st District Convention, Holmdel, NJ Garden District 5

Dear AHEPA Family,

My thanks to the Brothers of AHEPA Chapter # 517 for their assistance in hosting the 91st District Convention, and handling most of the details. Wishing everyone good deliberations.



Special thanks to my District Lodge and all the wonderful ladies that have served as my mentors and supporters throughout the year.

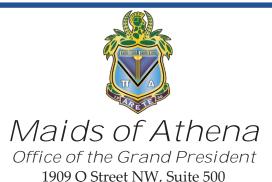
While this was yet another challenging year overshadowed by Covid-19, the Lodge and I did our best travelling around the District and spending our time with our members both in person and virtually. We have accomplished so much this year, visiting all but one chapter, and attending many events. We saw the activation of a brand new Maids of Athena chapter here in Holmdel, NJ. While there is no Daughters of Penelope chapter here, hopefully having the Maids chapter is the spark needed to start the chapter.

Members of our District are looking forward to celebrating the AHEPA 100-year anniversary at the Supreme Convention in Orlando, Florida at Disney World. We have two PDGs from our district on the National Grand Lodge running higher office. We wish the best of luck to both GVP Georgette Boulegeris of Tethys #229 running for Grand President, and GGZI Antoinette Marousis Zachariades of Aulis # 195 running for Grand Treasurer.

It has been a privilege and an honor to serve as the District Governor this past year. I learned a great deal, strengthened friendships, and made many new friends. I hope for many more productive years for the District. I am looking forward to seeing everyone in Orlando, Florida for this year's Supreme Convention.

Yours in Theta Pi,

*Dina Fanikos*District Governor, 2021-2022



Washington, DC 20009

Dear AHEPA Family of District 5,

On behalf of the entire Maids of Athena Grand Lodge, it is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the 2022 District 5 Convention. The district convention is an important time of year in which our chapters of all four orders come together, to reflect on our accomplishments, share ideas, and set up a plan to succeed for the remainder of the year. I commend you all for your outstanding devotion to your respective Order and congratulate you on your numerous achievements. Thank you for your active participation in our beloved organization.



The accomplishments of the Maids of Athena have been quite impressive this year. Through the promotion of our projects and programs we have been able to INSPIRE our members, EMPOWER our youth and IMPACT our local communities by various philanthropic efforts. Alongside the Sons of Pericles, we have made our national project The Ronald McDonald House – Greek Division in New York, our focus. In addition to fundraising, our membership is focusing on expanding our existing chapters and increasing our overall membership through the reactivation and initiation of new members – truly exemplifying the goals and ideals of our Sisterhood.

The bonds created and kept within this organization are what makes our AHEPA Family unique, and what has helped this organization prosper for a century. We aim to prepare our members for the responsibility of continuing the legacy of our senior orders, while also relying on our senior brothers and sisters to help us grow. District 5 has two active chapters: Our tenured chapter in Cherry Hill, and our newest chapter addition in Holmdel. We hope to continue to grow that number and build upon the chapters' continued success in the years to come.

I wish you harmonious and productive deliberations in the spirit of Brotherhood and Sisterhood. I thank all of you for your support and I offer our best wishes for continued success and growth in the years ahead.

In Pi Alpha, Maria Ana Pantelous Maids of Athena Grand President



New Maids of Athena — Theodora, Chapter #282—Holmdel, NJ

The AHEPA Garden State Chapter #517 would like to welcome a new addition to our AHEPA family, the Maids of Athena Theodora Chapter #282. The young women of Kimisis Tis Theotokou were recently initiated by the Maids of Athena Grand Lodge and are excited to begin their journey in this sisterhood. The members named their chapter, "Theodora", meaning God's gift to pay homage to the church, which brought all the women together. Elected as the first executive board of the Theodora Chapter #282 on April 9th, 2022 are:

Worthy Maid (President)- Margaret Dounis Loyal Maid (Vice President)- Vasiliki Belitsis Treasurer- Stephanie Buchsbaum Corresponding Secretary- Evangelia Ramos Recording Secretary- Anna Countouroudas

The Maids of Athena, the junior auxiliary of the Daughters of Penelope, is an international charitable and fraternal society. The sisterhood, founded in 1930, quickly grew among young Greek women and now has chapters in the United States, Canada, and Greece. The Maids of Athena aim to uphold Athena's principles while also promoting the Order's Principles: Sisterhood, Service, Citizenship, Hellenism, Family, and Arete.

The Maids of Athena Theodora Chapter's mission is to create a strong community of young women, service our local community, and help those in need. Currently, they are working on having a car wash fundraiser at Kimisis Tis Theotokou.

The Maids of Athena Theodora Chapter #282 accepts members from ages 14 to 23. If you or someone you know would like to join, e-mail Margaret Dounis at dounism8@gmail.com

Follow us on instagram @moatheodora282





AHEPA Service Dogs for Warriors is Saving Lives

The AHEPA Service Dogs for Warriors Program reached two significant milestones as the program completed its 5th full year of operation. The first came from the endorsement of Archbishop Elpidophoros. After enjoying the opportunity to meet with His Eminence to explain the purpose and objectives of the AHEPA Service Dogs for Warriors Program in March 2021, the Archbishop provided a heartfelt commendation for the program. In his words:

"As you honor our veteran's military service and duty to our homeland through the wonderful program of providing them with a specially trained service dog in order to aid them in their recovery and return home, you simultaneously respect the sanctity of creation...and for this genuine display of Christian love and compassion for your fellow man and created world, I offer you my wholehearted praise..."

The second milestone was the accomplishment of sponsoring our 78th Service Dog through the AHEPA Service Dog for Warriors Program. In only 5 years the AHEPA Service Dogs for Warriors Program has raised over \$930,000. This program works and walks shoulder to shoulder with the entire AHEPA Family receiving support and strength from our AHEPA chapter across the country. Working together as one family we realize there is no limit to the future and what we can and will accomplish.

Sadly, in our great country there are still in excess of 22 suicides a day of Combat Veterans and activeduty soldiers. The Veterans Administration Department reports that Many American combat Veterans come home from war physically, but mentally they remain on the battlefield. They are imprisoned by their thoughts, crushed by Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Suicide is chosen every day by 22+ warriors rather than to live with the devastating effects of PTSD and their invisible battle scars.

We know fram validated studies that specially trained Service Dogs can mitigate the horror of PTSD and help overcome the challenges that inhibit these veterans from fully returning to normal life after being at war. These Service Dogs are not "pets". They are MEDICINE on four legs. They provide treatment for an unseen illness by opening doors both literally and figuratively for the veterans, performing tasks and behaviors that reconnect the veterans with family, community and each other.

Taking care of our veterans is a sacred obligation, one that the AHEPA Service Dogs for Warriors Program has undertaken with honor. In answering the call of being OUR BROTHER'S KEEPER we are given the opportunity to do something few have done. We have the amazing chance of saving the life of another person, one who answered the call to duty that only 1% of all citizens answer, so the remaining 99% can live free! What gift in our own life is greater than that?

Together we can continue to save lives. Be a hero. Support the AHEPA Service Dogs for Warriors Program. Visit our web page at www.ahepa-servicedogs.org or call the National Chairman George Karatzia 732-610-6622

Please donate as AMERICANS we can make a difference!!!



JUNE 2021

AHEPA SERVICE DOGS FOR WARRIORS

January 2016 our Chapter # 517- Garden State of Holmdel, NJ Sponsored our First Service Dog, today we have sponsored 72 Service Dogs and raised more than \$900,000. We thanks everyone for their support!



HTTPS://AHEPA-SERVICEDOGS.ORG/

OCTOBER 2021

21

JUNE 2021

2 PENELOPE

3 GEORGE

4 JP

5 APOLLO 6 ATHENA

7 MIKEY

8 MAVERICK 9 MINA

10 THOMAS

11 TRENTON

12 EVA

13 HOOSIER

14 FILOS

15 NICK S 16 LOUCAS

17 CJ

18 KREON

19 BERGEN 20 YANKEE

21 LILLI ANN 22 BUNKY

23 ATLAS

24 MURPHY

25 ELLIE 26 ANDY

27 BEAR

28 DELTA

29 GABRIEL 30 LOUIF

31 PERICLES 32 TOMMY

33 KEANE

34 AHEPA 24 35 RICEY

36 PATRICK

37 WYNN

38 BEACON

39 MOLLY

40 LUCKY

41 DELPHI

42 SCOTTY

43 ZOI

44 UNCLE BUCK

45 DIXON

46 FILO 1

47 FILO 2

48 KNIGHT

49 ARGOS

50 PRIVATE GEORGE K

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TEDDY (F)

61 CHACJI

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63 TED

64 KATHY

65 RANDY

66 STAVIE 67 SAM

68 CASEY

69 REBELLIS

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72 EVA JEAN

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Prakash Santhan Deputy Mayor

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April 21, 2022

American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association Garden State Chapter #517 Holmdel, NJ

Dear Members,

It is a pleasure to extend my warmest greetings to the 91st American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA) 5th District Convention, hosted by the Garden State Chapter 517.

I would like to acknowledge the tremendous work your organization has done to support our veterans. Since 2016, AHEPA has supported over 65 veterans through your AHEPA Service Dogs for Warriors initiative. Additionally, you have raised nearly \$900,000 dollars to support that program. Thank you for your commitment to help those who have served in the armed forces and kudos to all your members.

As your join together for your convention, I hope you have a wonderful time reconnecting with old friends and fellow volunteers, and I wish you all the best your future work.

Sincerely,

Greg Buontempo

Mayor

Holmdel Township

Dear Guests:

Welcome to our 7th Annual Cigar Night and Ne

In 2016 the success of our Cigar Night Event

grateful to have Ahepa by his side. To date we have s

George, Apollo, Athena, Maverick, Micky and JP.

GARDEN STATE - CHAPTER + #er 5.17 og! WOUDHOUSE 154 15495 t cog "/

PAST PRESIDENTS

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1995 – 1997	Paul Stamoulis	2001 Paul Stamoulis		
1997 – 1999	Zack Moros	2002 AHEPA Service Dogs for Warriors, Inc. is 2003 AHEPA Gregory Ploussas		
1999 – 2000	Dimitri Geaneas	2003 Gregory Plouseasurer of this organiz		
2000 – 2002	George Karatzia			
2002 – 2004	Bill Parlamis	2005 provide more life-saving dogs each year for our ve 2007		
2004 – 2005	Theo Hadjitheodosiou	Distability. The senvillate dipologisth the sights, sound		
2005 – 2007	Jim Nikitopoulos	2009 veteran lives are fost each day! We must continu : 2010 Steve Bontales		
2007 – 2009	George Katsingris	organizations allowerossuAmersica are embracing t		
2009 – 2011	Gregory Ploussas	701 make a difference nright noveloof our brave wa		
2011 – 2015	Robert Fourniadis	2015 Artie Wassif 2016 Florio Petrou		
2015 – 2021	Demetri Orfanitopoulos	२०१७ । Tiono Fellou 2017 chapter prondips sapptints many different ph		
2021– 2022	Dimitri Dimitriades	2018 Nick Plakoudas 2019 The Ronald Managna Hohlawse in NYC		
		²⁰²¹ Foodbank of Mary Strain and Ocean County		

Cancer Research Fund
 Manmouth Utian - Special Color



AHEPA Garden State Chapter 517 Deceased Brothers



Richard Bolton

Father Jim Chakalos

John Colligas

Ted Countouroudas

Alex Fourniadis

Nick Frangos

Socrates Gavalas

Charles Gavaris

Peter Homatopoulos

John Mookas

Danny Pappas

John Sanoudis

Hercules Stamoulis







CONGRATULATIONS

to Our AHEPA

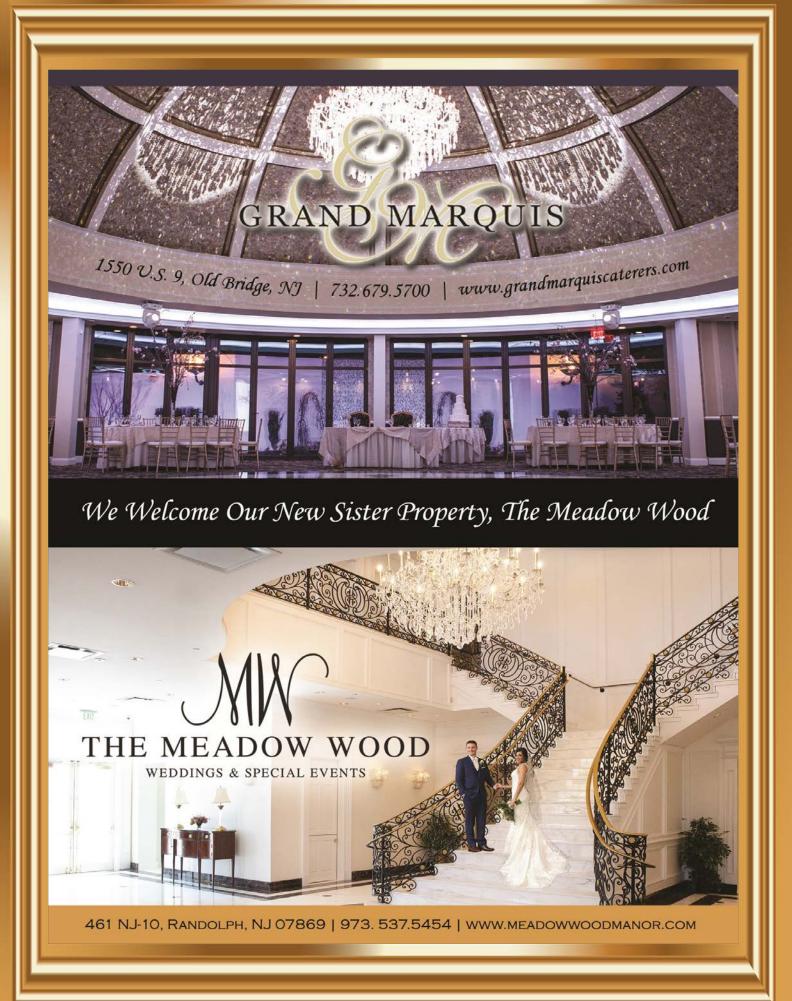
District Governor Bob Fourniadis

For a Productive Year

Brothers of Chapter 517 — Holmdel, NJ

Dimitri Dimitriades President - Chapter 517	Artie Wassif Vice President - Chapt	Kostas Koufi er 517 Treasurer - Chap			e Anastasatos retary - Chapter 517
Elezi Fotinos Fourniadis Fourniadis	Albert Stavros Robert Nicholas	Nikolis Nikolis Orfanitopouls Panagakos Panagiotopoulos	Michael Demetri George Dimitrios	Vakkou Viris Wassif Zafiriou	George Ted Artie Paul







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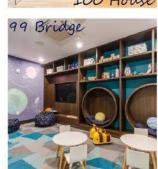


















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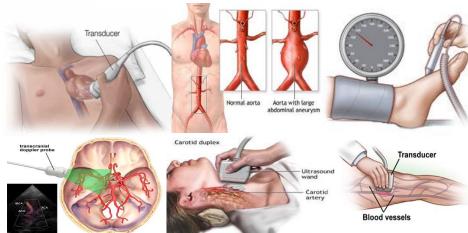
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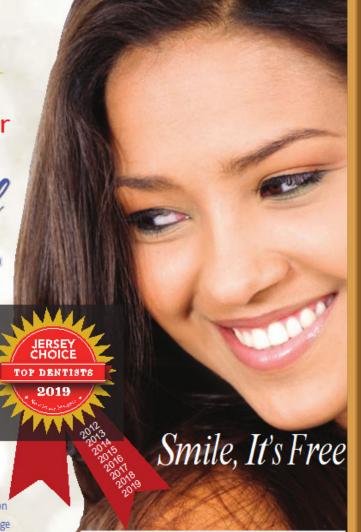
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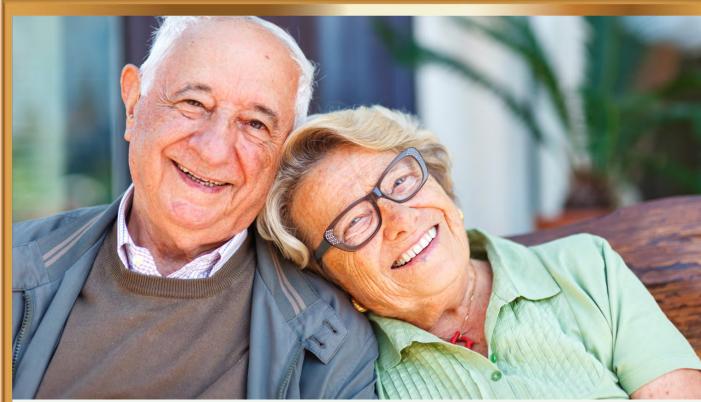


We salute

AHEPA #517

for its outstanding work with **Service Dogs for Warriors, Inc.** and all its philanthropic efforts

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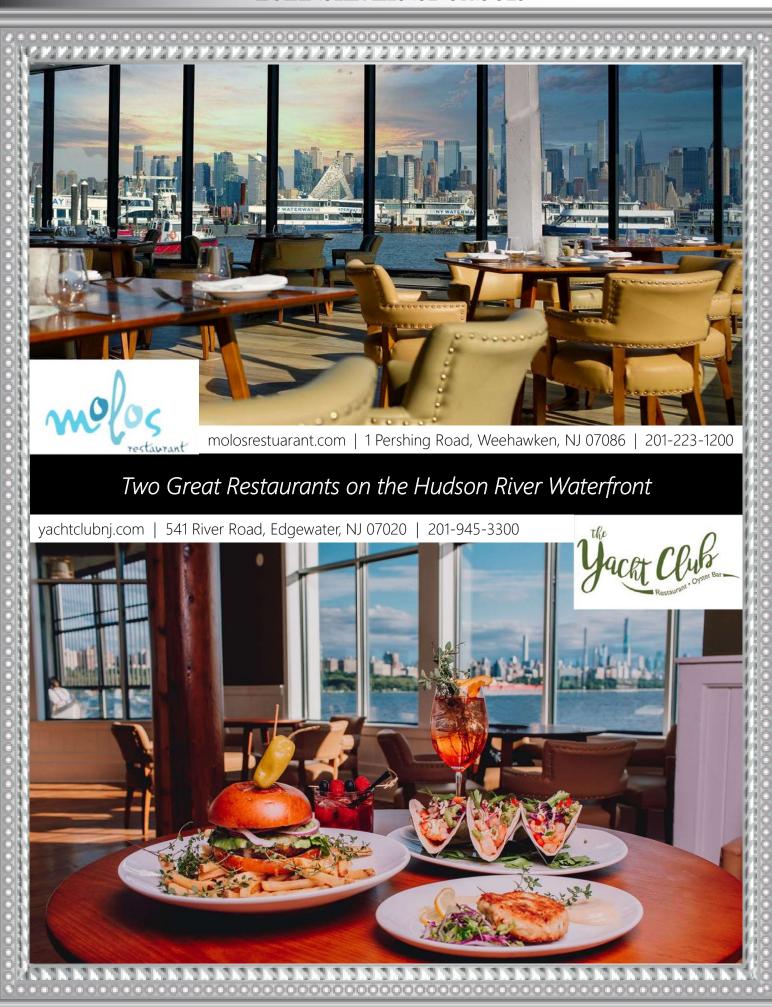
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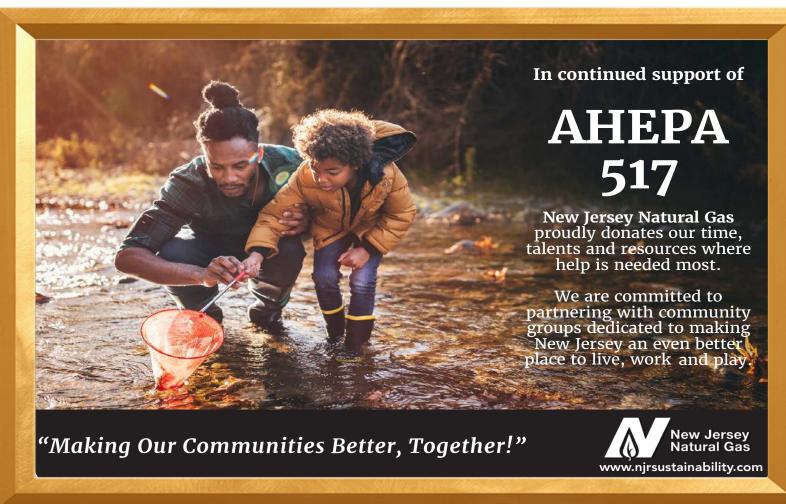
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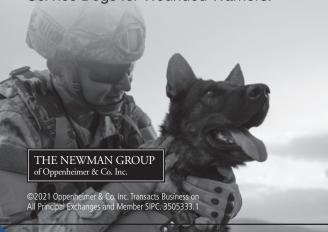


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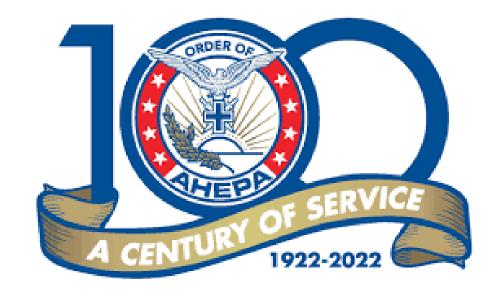
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