

# NEIGHBORS OF Andover

An exclusive magazine series featuring the residents of Andover Borough and Township

DECEMBER 2017



*Meet the Neills:*

**A Family Who Values Health and Helping Others**

Photos by Todd Holtz Photography



Best Version Media

# NEIGHBORS OF Andover

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 March 25..... May  
 April 25..... June  
 May 25..... July  
 June 25..... August  
 July 25..... September  
 August 25..... October  
 September 25..... November  
 October 25..... December  
 November 25..... January  
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## Dear Neighbors,

We hope you're reading our latest issue with something warm to drink and a soft blanket. December is truly a time of indoor comforts. The chill of the outdoors brings most of us inside our homes for a good part of the time. Hopefully we are able to enjoy inside activities for the holidays like baking and creating beautiful wrappings. The holidays are quickly approaching with a new year right behind. In this time of renewal and restoration, take a moment to honor 2017 and all it entailed for you and your family. We are so thankful to have a voice in this wonderful community through *Neighbors of Andover* and bring you all just a bit closer to each other. We hope you enjoy meeting the wonderful people of Andover through these pages and remember to say hi when you see them! After all, December is a time for connecting and giving to others, and your smile and message may be just the gift someone needs that day. May your families be blessed this holiday season and may the next year bring us all hope, charity, and love.

*Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and  
 a very Joyous New Year to all!*



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# The Neills:

## Family, Fitness, and Faith

*By Linda Presto      Photos by Todd Holtz Photography*

Viewing their house in Lake Lenape for the first time, the Neills immediately felt like it was “home.” Shortly after that viewing, it became just that. Janine and Patrick Neill moved to Andover over a year ago and instantly felt part of their new community. They view the families around them as “the best neighbors ever!” Janine says, “It was definitely the right move for us.” The Neills were treated with warmth and kindness as they were welcomed into their Andover neighborhood. It’s a place they feel comfortable raising their two girls, Allyson, 12; and Caitlyn, 9. The girls, who frequently go next door to do crafting or hang out with their next-door neighbor’s grandchildren, love their new home as well. Recently, there

was a new baby born in their neighborhood and the girls could not wait to welcome him. Janine says the families share gifts and recipes and she “couldn’t ask for better.” Even Joon, the Neills’ Pit Bull-mix rescue dog, is loving her Andover home. Joon was adopted from Father John’s Animal Rescue in Lafayette Township.

Coming from Green Township, the Neills are familiar with this area and Sussex County. They enjoy living near the lakes and are members of the Lake Lenape Association. Janine and Pat met while working at Lucent Technologies/Bell Labs Headquarters where they were running the company’s corporate fitness program. They shared a love for physical fitness and

## Resident Feature



*Allyson, 12; and Caitlyn, 9*

Pat graduated from East Stroudsburg University with a BS in Exercise Science and Movement Studies. He always had an interest in physical health and wellbeing, for himself and for others. In 2008, Pat started RedShed CrossFit, literally in his “red shed.” He had a red, detached garage and started there teaching others the strength and conditioning program “CrossFit.” It is a different approach to fitness focusing on performing varied functional movements. Not only did Pat study fitness in college, he is still studying today. He continues to expand his knowledge on longevity, and strives to set a good example for his children.

Janine graduated Rutgers University with a BS in Exercise Science and Sport Management. She currently works from home for HealthFitness, a Trustmark company, whose mission is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of the people they serve, delivering corporate wellness solutions to their employees. She is also a business owner/partner and coach at RedShed CrossFit with Pat. Along with her husband, Janine enjoys seeing people become healthier and wants to provide them with an opportunity for better health and wellbeing. Their goal is to make a difference in the lives of others and fitness is their catalyst.

Their mission for life is much the same. Pat and Janine have embodied their healthy attitude and way of life by giving their children a healthy lifestyle from the start. They believe balance is of utmost importance. Eating well and being active is something the entire family participates in. During the summertime Pat and the girls enjoy making their own homemade ice cream creations, and they have also made a trip to Hershey Park an annual family tradition. As active adventurers, the Neills love to spend time there on all the thrill rides.

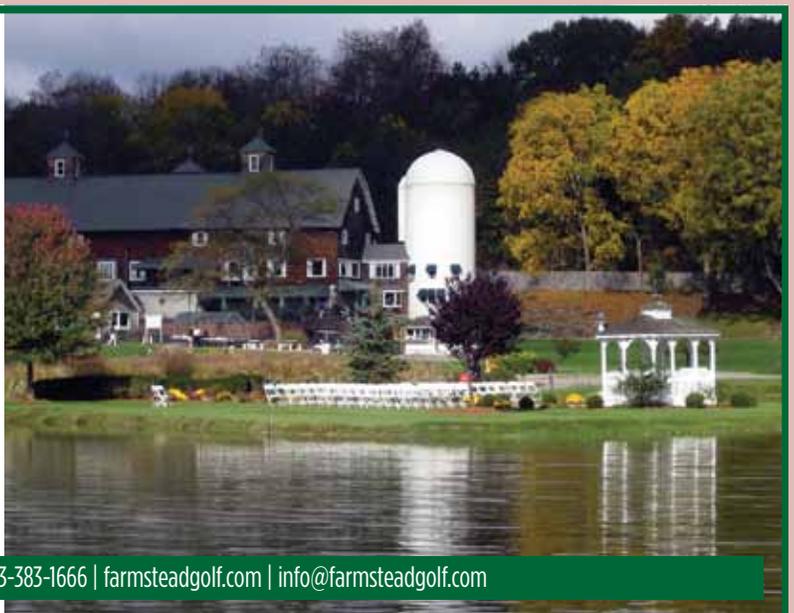
Even Joon lives an active life, taking part in the family’s

helping others to be healthy and were married in 2001. They say, “We live and breathe health, fitness, and wellness into everything we do.”

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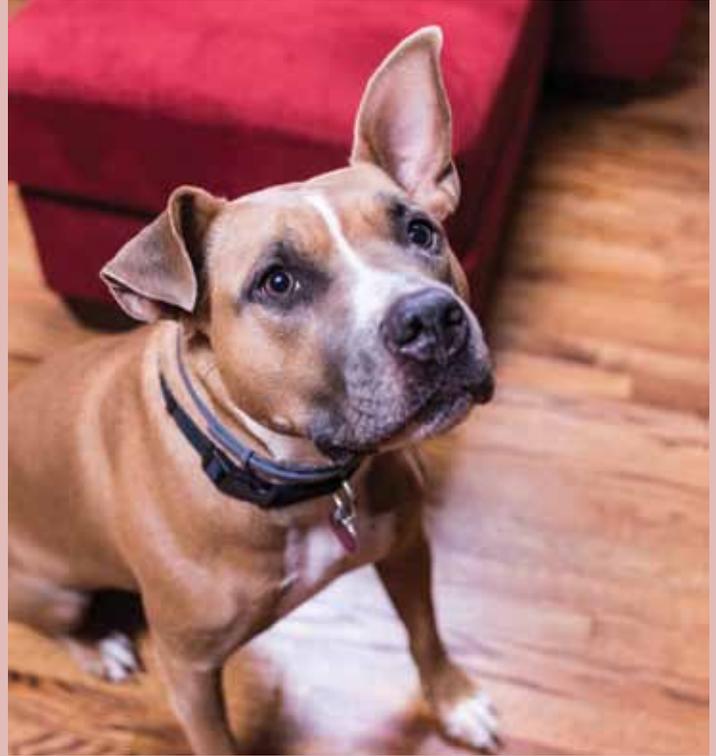
outdoor activities as much as possible. Their family enjoys the lake and all the activities it provides. According to their youngest, Caitlyn, they also love board games like Yahtzee and Monopoly. Caitlyn is active in sports like field hockey, basketball, soccer, and the swim team. She likes science, painting, and playing the flute. Caitlyn also loves to ride escalators! Her older sister, Allyson, takes part in field hockey, basketball, and track. Allyson loves art and plays the hand bells, too. Allyson is a master hair braider and is planning to study Cosmetology. Caitlyn says activeness makes her family great! Other unique traits make the Neills a wonderful Andover family, too. Both Pat and Janine have birthdays in December (Pat is actually a Christmas baby), so the winter holidays are extra special with celebrations and parties.

Janine and Pat both feel they are doing the work they are supposed to be doing and create the fitness foundation for people who need their help. Their generosity extends to their religious life as well. Their family is a member and very involved with Good Shepherd Roman Catholic Church in Andover. Janine is a eucharistic minister and the girls both act as altar servers for Sunday masses. Janine has also spent her volunteer time helping organizations like Girls on the Run. Girls on the Run inspires girls to be joyful, healthy, and confident using a fun, experience-based curriculum which creatively integrates running.

Janine and Pat also promote local organizations who are doing good work right here in Andover. Mare Galeos (featured on our October cover) is the founder of Friend2Friend, a nonprofit organization (featured in our June issue) which provides funds for women's health. Pat contacted Mare to offer assistance in raising funds for the organization. Janine and Pat wanted to do something for breast cancer and try to focus on something philanthropic each year. Their efforts are to honor Pat's mother and two athletes from their gym who have recovered from breast cancer. Combining these traits to live a balanced life is what the Neills try to accomplish. Janine believes that they have "built a strong foundation on family, fitness, and faith." Based on their good works, one could add friendship to that list as well.

This unique and active family believes in perseverance and the act of taking chances. Starting their business was a chance they took together and that business continues to grow through a valued partnership created in 2013. Now, their mission in life is embodied in their personal and professional lives. When asked about their own family motto, they believe it's "love makes a difference." Those are words that you'll find all over their home and words they try to live by. The Neills actively love their work, their family, and their community. They say, "What you teach your own children is what you really believe in." This is reflected on a picture in their home that reads: "Encourage each other; Forgive; Stay on the same team; Laugh every day; Do all things with love." And they do.

*Who would you like to see on the cover of Neighbors of Andover? Help us honor those people who make this community a great place to live, work, and raise a family. Email your nominations to [lpresto@bestversionmedia.com](mailto:lpresto@bestversionmedia.com) with your suggestions and nominations.*



*Joon waits patiently for a treat!*

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