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## 'Scooch A Mi' Gets a Chatham Welcome at its Grand Opening

By ED BARMAKIAN

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CHATHAM, NJ - **Ellen Eppie** learned how friendly Chatham can be on Thursday afternoon when she officially opened her boutique and gallery at 17-19 N. Passaic Avenue, located next to the Chatham Playhouse.

Before her official ribbon cutting in the afternoon, furniture had been delivered but left unpacked in front of the store. Chatham resident **Ken Ryan**, who called himself the "Mayor of Elmwood Avenue," was walking his dog, Cookie, when he saw that help was needed. He returned with some tools to unpack the furniture and helped move it inside.

Also stopping by to welcome the new owner was **Doris Crater**, the owner of D.J. Crater.

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"It's going to be successful, we've got an amazing, amazing woman running it," Crater said. "It's about the best it can be."

***Ellen Eppie explains how she named "Scooch A Mi" in honor of her father***



On the second floor of the building will be an art gallery run by **Marcia Reich**.

"On behalf of the mayor and council, we're thrilled that Scooch A Mi has chosen Chatham to be their home," Chatham Borough Council member Len Resto said. "I think they're going to do very well because I know they are really going to promote what they sell and I encourage all Chatham residents to come visit."

"Scooch A Mi" will feature homemade accessories and gifts that are social and eco-conscious.

"People can give back to their charities, to their communities with these purchases," Eppie said. "I have jewelry where the artisan gives back to autistic foundations and earthquake victims."

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