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TWO RECORDS SET AT ROTARY TRACK AND FIELD MEET

Hundreds of young athletes gathered under partly sunny skies and cool temperatures for the 90th Annual Rotary Track and Field Meet, held June 7, 2017 at the Hub Stine Athletic Complex in Plainfield.

The Rotary Club's meet has been held annually since 1924, with the exceptions of a three-year break during World War 2; and several meets cancelled due to weather. Started as an organized meet for elementary school students, the meet shifted to the high school level to provide a friendly competition for area students. Later, when high schools began competing through a statewide system of athletic events, the Rotary meet shifted to the middle school grades.

Invitations went out to area schools in early May, with just over 250 students registered for the Meet. "This year we have students from North Plainfield Middle School and College Achieve Charter School; Valley View School in Watchung; and Maxson Middle School, Queen City Academy, Plainfield Academy AAS, and Koinonia Academy of Plainfield," said Meet Director Michael Townley. "Plainfield Athletic Director John Quinn was instrumental in getting the athletes from Maxson registered for our event."

Records were set in two events this year, the 800 meter and the high jump. The new record for the 800 meter run for girls in Group 1 was set by Amaia Onque-Shabazz, whose time of 02:37.19 topped the previous record of 02:40.48, set in 2010 by Aniyah Tyler of Queen City Academy.

The record-setting effort in the high jump was the result of a determined Vincent Rizzi of Valley View School, who cleared the crossbar at 5' 10", a full four inches over the record held since 1998 by Mitchell Webb of Maxson Middle School. Last year, Rizzi also set a record in his first Rotary Track and Field Meet. He has one more opportunity next year in the 14 year group.

"Over the years, we have had the privilege of hosting a number of young athletes who have gone on to set state and national records. One athlete, the late Milt Campbell, Olympic decathlon champion, even went on to win medals in Olympic competitions" said Meet Director Townley. "We look forward to seeing Vincent Rizzi achieve at least some of those accolades as he continues his athletic career.

"But even more important than hosting future greats is our ability to give any interested student athlete the opportunity to compete against their peers, sometimes for the very first time. I have been doing this for over twenty-six years, and one of the joys of that long history is meeting young men and women who tell me that they competed in our Meets when they were in high school or middle school. Even in their thirties and forties and older, their smiles are just as big as the day they competed at the Rotary Track and Field Meet."

Members of the Club and their friends offered their services as officials and judges for an afternoon of friendly but determined competition by the young 12, 13 and 14 year-old athletes. They were supported by members of the Interact Club at North Plainfield High School who also filled key roles, such as judges, timers, and field event assistants. Interact



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(above) Vincent Rizzi and his proud father pose with the gold medal Vincent received for his record-breaking performance in the high jump event.



(above) Setting the record in the high jump was 13 year old Vincent Rizzi of Valley View School in Watchung with a height of 5'10".

is the youth-based service club sponsored by Rotary International. (continued on page 2)

The PRIDE of North Plainfield

The Pride of North Plainfield is published by Renna Media. 6,500 newspapers are printed monthly and are mailed to every businesses and homes in North Plainfield, NJ using the 07060 zip code and are distributed for free pick-up throughout town.

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PROMOTE YOUR EVENT

Community service organizations and sports teams are encouraged to submit news of upcoming events or highlights and photos on recent events.

Organizations who are interested in submitting content can email info@rennamedia.com or call 908-418-5586

NORTH PLAINFIELD FARMERS MARKET

The North Plainfield Farmers Market is proud to welcome back Norz Hill Farm of Hillsborough which is entering it's 7th year serving the people of North Plainfield. We would also like to welcome some new vendors this year. Lara's Cookies will be joining us along with the delicious offerings of Barbara's Kitchen of South Plainfield and Sun 101 Solar of Lambertville will be telling folks about the benefits of Solar Energy. The market runs every Saturday from 9am to 2pm beginning June 24th through September 30th.

This year's North Plainfield Farmers Market Festival is scheduled for Saturday September 16th from 10am to 3pm. Also, there will be a regular "Open Mic" at the market, where local musicians can come and share their talents with market shoppers. Interested vendors, shoppers or musicians should contact market manager Paul Alirangues 908-723-1480 pma1963@aol.com for more information.

The North Plainfield Farmers Market Festival is scheduled for Saturday September 16th from 10am to 3pm. Live music, food vendors, crafters, fun for kids and families.

TRACK RECORDS (continued)

"We are so grateful to our family members and friends and our Interact Club members who come out to help us with this youth service project," said Ravenell Williams, president of the Rotary Club. "There are so many positions to fill that we could not do it without their help. And our Interact Club members and their adviser, Alexandra Pereira are just wonderful! We sincerely appreciate the support of the North Plainfield School District in allowing these students to participate in so many of our club's events."

Medals were awarded to first, second and third place finishers in all events except the relays, where ribbons were awarded to second and third place finishers. All participating schools took home medals or ribbons.

College Achieve School - 7 first, 6 second, and 3 third place awards;

Koinonia Academy - 1 first place award; Maxson Middle School - 7 first, 13 second, and 10 third place awards;

North Plainfield Middle School - 22 first, 11 second, 3 third place awards;

Plainfield's Queen City Academy - 1 first, 5 second, 7 third place awards;

Plainfield Academy of Arts and Advanced Studies - 6 first, 7 second, 1 third place awards;

Watchung's Valley View -8 first, 9 second, 9 third place awards.

The Track and Field Meet was held at the Hub Stine Athletic Complex in Plainfield through the cooperation of the Plainfield Board of Education. "The groundskeepers at Hub Stine are just terrific," said Tom Reedy, a Rotarian and the Clerk of Course for the running events. "We truly appreciate their hard work."

Interested in serving others? The Rotary Club of Plainfield-North Plainfield welcomes visitors to any weekly meeting, 12:15 PM on Wednesdays at Giovanna's Restaurant in Plainfield. Come as the club's guest and learn more about Rotary!



(above) Interact Club members from North Plainfield High School are a key ingredient in the success of the Rotary Track and Field Meet, serving as officials and judges in all events.



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NORTH PLAINFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief William G. I

THIRD ANNUAL YOUTH POLICE ACADEMY

Chief William G. Parenti announced the Third Annual Youth Police Academy is going to be run by the North Plainfield Police Community Policing Unit. The program is a free program designed to provide the youth of North Plainfield the opportunity to gain an understanding of the role of the police officers in their community. Through lectures, hands on practical activities, drilling and physical training that have been designed for the young cadets the goal is to provide them with a working knowledge of Law Enforcement. The program will run on July 10, 2017 through July 14, 2017 from 8:30 AM until 2:30 PM at the West End Elementary School. This year there are 17 attendees that are in 7th, 8th or 9th grade. If you see the cadets raising or lowering the colors at the front of the school each day let them know you support them in their efforts.



(above) Youth academy participants learning about the Somerset County Swat Team.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT SET FOR TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2017

The Community Policing Unit will be hosting the Annual National Night Out on Tuesday, August 1, 2017 said Chief William G. Parenti. The festivities will be held in the parking lot across the street from Police Headquarters and scheduled activities will be; face painters for kids, a DJ playing music, the Somerset County SWAT team will have equipment there for everyone to see, the North Plainfield Fire

Department will be on hand with some of their apparatus, Somerset County Division of Child Protection and Permanency will have agents there to speak with residents and as usual PBA Local 85 will be there handing out refreshments – hamburgers, hot dogs, Italian ice, soft drinks and water. Please come out and speak with members of the Police Department and meet your fellow residents.





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Lunch 11am - 3:30pm	Dinner 3:30pm - 10:30pm
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Kids 7-10\$5.99	Kids 7-10\$6.99
Kids 3-6\$3.99	Kids 3-6\$5.99
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ROTARY CLUB HONORS INTERACT CLUB MEMBERS

The Rotary Club recognized the outstanding leaders and members of North Plainfield High's Interact Club at the May 31st meeting. They presented Student of the Month Awards to five Interact Club members and the first ever Student of the Year award to another exceptional Interact member.

The Rotarians enjoy a symbiotic relationship with the Interact Club at North Plainfield High School. They benefit and support each other with their various programs and activities. For example, the kids work very hard to help Rotarians with scholarship fundraising at Rutgers concessions; in return, they dedicate the club's F. S. Mathewson Scholarship awards to members of Interact only. Five students this year each received a \$1,000 scholarship award.

Another example of how Rotarians give back to the Interact Club is purchasing their club shirts, a gift in return for their gift of service. Student of the Year Yanqing Liang took a moment at the recent Student of the Month Awards luncheon to acknowledge how much this means to Interact by presenting a hand-made card and a shirt to show their appreciation. "What a beautiful and meaningful 'thank you," said club President Ravenell Williams.

A highlight of recognizing Interact members' achievement is the presentation of the Student of the Month Awards. At the club meeting on May 31st, six of these awards were presented. Faris Elkhouli, Jhoanna Garcia, Kevin Avalos, Kevin Forrester, Brendan Cheung, and Nakita Forrester were recognized with awards. Due to a family emergency, Kevin Avalos was not present, but received his award from Interact Club Adviser Alexandra Pereira.

The Rotary Club also presented its first ever Student of the Year Award to recognize the special contributions of the Interact Club's Yanqing Liang. Yanqing was a four-year stalwart in the Interact Club, contributing her talents and her attention to detail to many projects, including the Rotary Club's Track and Field Meet. "We needed someone who could work with our Track



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officials to assist recording results and distributing slips to the winners that they turn in for medals," said Meet Director Michael Townley. "Yanqing did such a wonderful job that we asked her to repeat that role for the past three years."

Ms. Pereira introduced each recipient and presented the awards, saying a few words about the Interact member's contributions to the club and to her. The recipients then gave a brief presentation of their own, universally thanking Ms. Pereira for her leadership and for helping them mature into leadership roles. They also acknowledged the benefits of membership in the Interact Club and how much they appreciated the service opportunities that Interact opened to them.

Nikita Forrester stated "There are few clubs that I can say have impacted me in all aspects of high school experience, but Interact Club is one of them. This club has helped me grow in leadership, service, and gratitude for everything I have been given. I am so thankful that I had the opportunity to meet great people and an inspiring adviser."

Kevin Forrester stated "Joining Interact was the best decision I've made in my high school career. It made me more empathetic, more selfless, and it made me more involved. It allowed me to meet amazing people that are truly kind-hearted. I learned that a little kindness can go a long way."

Jhoanna Garcia stated "Through my time in Interact, I have learned social skills, how to work well with others, and responsibility. Interact wasn't just your average extracurricular activity, it was a good way to give back to the people in our community by picking up trash (on Clean Up Day), going to help out at the Rutgers games, and cleaning up the beach. This club has allowed me to become a better person."

Brendan Cheung stated "I enjoy what I can accomplish in Interact. The advisers and members are great people. I help them and they are always willing to help us out, too, like we are a big family. Through Interact I can give back to the people what they gave to me - their time, service, and appreciation. Whether it is helping at the Rutgers games, tending the gardens at the farm, or even going to Beach Sweep, I feel better at the end of the day because I used my time to give back."

Yanqing Liang stated "I would like to say that it is such a great honor to be here for the second time. I am very passionate about helping the people around me. In ways, my career goal is shaped by my determination to give back to community. I will attend Stevens Institute of Technology with a major in Civil Engineering and a minor in Environmental Science [with a goal of] minimizing the effects of global warming and to bring clean water to communities that do not have access. I am thankful to have been part of Interact Club for all four years of my high school career. It definitely helped shape me into a better person and nurture my passion in service."

The Plainfield-North Plainfield Rotary Club is open to membership by business and community leaders in the Plainfield's and in the surrounding towns. Club members meet Wednesday's for a luncheon meeting at Giovanna's Restaurant, 1462 South Avenue, Plainfield. Anyone wishing to learn more about Rotary and the many opportunities to volunteer assistance to the Rotary Club should come to a meeting as a guest of the lub, or contact the club through PNPRotary@gmail.com or call 908-822-1441.



(above) Students of the Month pose with their award certificates. (front, l-r): Jhoanna Garcia, Yanqing Liang, and Club Adviser Alexandra Pereira. (rear, l-r): Brendan Cheung, Kevin Forrester, Nikita Forrester, and Fares Okhouli

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JOINT-CHURCH SUMMER DISCUSSION SERIES BEING HELD IN STIRLING

Local churches are holding a weekly discussion series for six Wednesday evenings this summer. Six weeks, five topics - each week stands alone, so attend one or all. Sessions are open to everyone high school age and above, whether they belong to a church or not.

Leading the sessions are pastors and the parish nurse of 4 local churches:

- Rev. Tom Peters of The First Presbyterian Church of Stirling,
 - which is hosting the series;

Rev. Barbara Aspinall of Meyersville Presbyterian Church;

Local churches are holding a weekly Rev. Joel Biggers, pastor of both Trinity United Church in Warren and Watchung Avenue

Presbyterian Church in North Plainfield; Kay Hurd, parish nurse at Trinity United Church.

The series features a variety of topics, listed below and on the FPCStirling.org website.

All sessions are held 7:30-9:00 pm beginning July 12, 2017 at The First Presbyterian Church of Stirling, located at 158 Central Avenue, in their air-conditioned meeting room.

For further information, contact the church at 908-647-1033 or visit www.fpcstirling.org.

2017 SUMMER WEDNESDAY EVENING SERIES

DATE	LEADER	TOPIC
DATE		ТОПС
July 12	Rev. Tom Peters	Rethinking Recycling
July 19	Rev. Barbara Aspinall	The Recent American Protestant Experience: <i>some sources and expressions</i> <i>of Protestant faith in our country today</i> Where did the fundamentalist, evangelical, social gospel movements come from? What sort of theologies are they based on? What are their expressions today?
July 26	Rev. Barbara Aspinall	The Recent American Protestant Experience: some sources and expressions of Protestant faith in our country today Where did the fundamentalist, evangelical, social gospel movements come from? What sort of theologies are they based on? What are their expressions today?
August 2	Rev. Joel Biggers	Is Jesus the Only Way?
August 9	Kay Hurd Parish Nurse, TUC	Body and Soul: <i>The 18-Inch Journey</i> between your Head and Heart
August 16	Rev. Tom Peters	The "Clobber Passages" – What DOES the Bible say about LGBTQ?"



24TH ANNUAL FORE LOVE OPEN BENEFITING VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The recently held 24th Annual Fore Love Open was a remarkable success. Over 130 golfers enjoyed Metedeconk National Golf Club's professionally manicured courses and delicious food throughout the day.

Committee Chairmen Mike Spishock and Mort Penson recognized dancker representatives Kevin Goy and Don Kolterjahn for dancker's dedicated support since 2008. Mike Spishock, a member of the Fore Love Committee since 1999 and chairman since 2001, chaired the event for the last time as he begins his transition towards his 2018 retirement. He will remain a member of the committee next year.

Presented by PVH Corporation, the event drew primary sponsorships from Industrial Cooling Corporation, JPM West, Inc., SBM Site Services, JP Metal America, Inc., and MC Construction Management, Inc., and donations from a multitude of local and national companies and individuals.

For 39 years, Safe+Sound Somerset has delivered programs and services in support of its mission providing protection, education and resources to empower victims of domestic abuse. Through a 24-hour call or text hotline, an emergency crisis shelter, transitional housing, counseling services, legal advocacy, culturally sensitive programs, community education, and domestic violence response team training, Safe+Sound Somerset has firmly established itself as the lead domestic abuse agency for Somerset County. All services are confidential, available in English and Spanish and offered free of charge. To facilitate community awareness and involvement, we provide a variety of community education, training programs and volunteer opportunities.

If you or someone you know needs help, please call or text our 24 hour, confidential hotline at 866-685-1122. For more information, visit www.safe-sound.org.



(above l-r) Mike Spishock (Co-Chairman), Kevin Goy and Don Kolterjahn - dancker, Mort Penson (Co-Chairman).



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Veteran's Benefits

Thursday, July 27

Frank Quadrino,

Community Outreach Manager of the VA NJ Healthcare System, will discuss the many benefits available to veterans. To register or obtain more information, please call

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SHOOT FOR THE STARS

Author Norman Vincent Peale famously said, "Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss, you'll land among the stars." This summer, SCLSNJ will revel in the stars as we celebrate the largest star - our Sun.

On August 21, a total solar eclipse will be visible on a narrow track across the United States, stretching from Oregon to South Carolina; an eclipse of this magnitude has not been seen in this country since 1918. Although New Jersey will experience a partial eclipse, there is still much to see, learn, and experience at your library.

Author David Baron will dive into Thomas Edison's 1878 eclipse journey in his book,

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN, TEENS, AND FAMILIES

Our Magnetic Sun: Get Ready for the Solar Eclipse July 10, 2-3 p.m. at SCLSNJ's Bound Brook Memorial Library branch July 25, 2-3 p.m. at SCLSNJ's Watchung Library branch

RVCC Planetarium: Activity Stations

July 10, 2-3 p.m. at SCLSNJ's Mary Jacobs Memorial Library branch August 1, 6-7 p.m. and 7-8 p.m. at SCLSNJ's North Plainfield Memorial Library branch August 14, 2-3 p.m. at SCLSNJ's Bound Brook Memorial Library branch

Meet the Constellations July 12, 7-8 p.m.

at SCLSNJ's Warren Township Library branch Visit the StarLab: Tour the Night Sky

July 13, 6-6:30 p.m. and 6:30-7 p.m.

at SCLSNJ's Hillsborough Library branch July 18, 6:30-7 p.m. and 7-7:30 p.m. hosted at St. Luke's Church located at 182 Main Street in

Gladstone **Out of This World Teen Trivia Night** August 14, 7-8 p.m. at SCLSNJ's Hillsborough Library branch **Build a Solar Eclipse Viewer**

August 15, 10-11 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

NORTH PLAINFIELD JR CANUCKS CHEER AND FOOTBALL SIGN-UPS

K-2nd - Flag Football and Cheer K-8th - Cheer Team

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For more information, please contact Efrem Tuff Mccrimon, NPJC Administrator, at

480-246-7717 or email: npjr.canucks@gmail.com.

"American Eclipse;" Hillsborough resident Michael Dean Lewis Ph.D. will share his experiences working with NASA as their Solar System Ambassador; Raritan Valley Community College's StarLab will visit two communities; and much more. Join SCLSNJ for an out of this world opportunity.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Meet Galileo Galilei

August 10, 7-8 p.m. at SCLSNJ's Bound Brook Memorial Library branch August 19, 2-3 p.m. at SCLSNJ's Manville Library branch

NASA's Solar System Ambassador presents: Eclipses, **Ellipses, and NASA Missions** July 20, 7-8 p.m. at SCLSNJ's Hillsborough Library branch

The Great American Solar Eclipse July 12, 7-8 p.m.

at SCLSNJ's North Plainfield Memorial Library branch

SCLSNJ's library branches will distribute free eclipse viewing glasses to safely observe the Great American Solar Eclipse on August 21. Additionally, on August 21, starting at 1 p.m. the following libraries will be connecting to NASA TV to live stream the eclipse as it makes its way from Oregon to South Carolina: Bridgewater, Hillsborough, Manville, North Plainfield, and Warren Twp.

SCLSNJ was selected through a registration process managed by the STAR Library Education Network (STAR Net) and its NASA (a) My Library project. The 2017 Solar Eclipse project is funded by the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation through Grant GBMF5373 to the Space Science Institute. SCLSNJ would like to thank the Planetarium at Raritan Valley Community College (RVCC) for donating free tickets to planetarium shows or Laser Light concerts. Tickets will be raffled at eclipserelated programs for children.

UGLY HOMES WANTED FOR TELEVISION PROGRAM **IN THIS AREA**

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Must Sign Release, for purpose of filming job! This must be a complete remodeling job, not just patch up work. This remodeling is to be specially priced out of work, with compensation back to the homeowner for signed release.



Serious Inquiries Please!

SUMMER READING, STEAM, AND FUN **ABOUND THE LIBRARY**

To kick off SCLSNJ's Summer Reading Challenge on June 19, Elijah Swank, Nathan Finger, and Samantha Finger, gathered at our North Plainfield branch for Miss Jen's Lab, a new monthly STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) program. This month's theme was Play with Your Food and featured kitchen science - projects that can completed using everyday items easily found in your pantry.

Kids and their parents explored chemistry with magic rice using baking soda, vinegar, and food dye to fizz, bubble, and change colors; got involved with environmental science by making bird feeders out of pipe cleaners and cereal; and participated in engineering challenges by constructing towers and more from spaghetti, styrofoam, and blocks. Children also used their dyed rice to make craft flowers, butterflies, and stars. Take the summer reading challenge at SCLSNJ.org/summerreading. Register for the next branch STEAM event here: http://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/134004.



NORTH PLAINFIELD RECREATION EVENTS

COMMUNITY DAY - JULY 8 :

Community day will start at 4 PM with table vendors on Geenbrook Road. Two free concerts will start at 5 PM followed by a fantastic Fireworks display at West End School Field. Food, beverages, and glow sticks will be available for purchase on the Field. (Rain date: July 9th)

CAR CRUISE - JULY 17:

Somerset Street Summer Car Cruise - 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM (Runs along Somerset Street from Race Street to Park Place. Trophies will be awarded! Food & beverages will be available for purchase.

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