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## FALL PROGRAM REGISTRATION IS OPEN AT REC DEPT.

Registration is OPEN for all Fall Programs at the Westfield Recreation Department. Adults are encouraged to get out of the house this fall beginning with our Tai Chi program on Tuesdays at 10:00am and by joining the "party" with our Zumba Fitness Class on Mondays 7:30pm. Come out and check out the latest fitness craze, LaBlast, on Thursdays at 7:00pm coming in October! The department also offers Adult Tennis for beginners and intermediate levels on Sundays starting the end of September. Guitar for beginners or those just needing a "refresher" lesson will be offered on Wednesday mornings. The department offers year-round Senior Transportation for medical and shopping for residents. Register now for your spot! Please visit our website for details on each program listed.

After school Enrichment programs for kids include: Fashion Design, Slime-ology, Creative Art Lab, Dining Etiquette, Social Etiquette, Voice Lessons, Intro to Rock, and Lego-Engineering! There is a variety for everyone to choose from. Classes are scheduled to start end of September. Kids can "Be Active" this fall with Tennis, Fencing, and Golf Clinics, a variety of Fall Camps, as well as our weekly United Soccer Academy Soccer classes and weekly USSI Multi-Sports classes. Weekly Sport classes and enrichments such as Soccer, Flag Football, T-Ball, Lacrosse, Multi-Sports are offered for ages 2-7. We offer the following Parent & Me Classes: PreK Music(ages 6m-4yrs), PreK Art (8 mo to 4yrs) and Sport Classes. Check the "Rec Room" Brochure for details on all programs.

Don't forget to sign up for Fall Soccer Camps when kids are out of school! Our USA Instructors are hosting mini-camps for ages 5 to 14 on the following dates: September 21, 22, October 9, and November 9, and November 10. There is a soccer camp for everyone!

"Be Active" with one of the programs offered through the Recreation Department this fall. For additional information, please visit our website: [www.westfieldnj.gov/recreation](http://www.westfieldnj.gov/recreation) for a copy of "The Rec Room" program brochure. Also visit our FaceBook page: [www.FaceBook.com/WestfieldRecreation](http://www.FaceBook.com/WestfieldRecreation), or contact the Westfield Recreation Department at 425 East Broad St., Westfield at 908-789-4080, or by email: [recreation@westfieldnj.gov](mailto:recreation@westfieldnj.gov) . Photos by Westfield Recreation Department.



(above) The dept. offers year-round Senior Transportation for medical and shopping for residents. Call 908-789-080 for more info.

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## WESTFIELD SCHOOLS READY FOR STUDENTS – OPENING DAY SEPTEMBER 6

The Westfield Public Schools are ready for students.

6,300 students are expected to arrive on Wednesday, September 6. Westfield's youngest learners will enter Lincoln School's pre-school and kindergarten programs; boys and girls in grades 1 – 5 will head to one of six neighborhood elementary schools; Roosevelt and Edison Intermediate Schools will welcome the town's sixth, seventh and eighth graders; and Westfield High School is ready to prepare more than 1,800 students for college and careers.

902,000 square feet of classrooms, hallways and stairwells have been scrubbed and polished, awaiting the arrival of students and staff in all 10 schools.

35 new teachers will join the Westfield Public Schools staff – mostly to fill the roles of those who have retired.

6 new administrators have been appointed to replace recent retirees.

The new administrative hires include: Susie Hung – Principal, Jefferson Elementary School; Mary Asfendis – Principal, Roosevelt Intermediate School; Crystal Marsh – Assistant Principal, Edison Intermediate School; Paul Duncan – Assistant Principal, Franklin

Elementary School; Tom Weber – Supervisor of Visual and Performing Arts; and Enrique Pincay – Supervisor of World Languages.

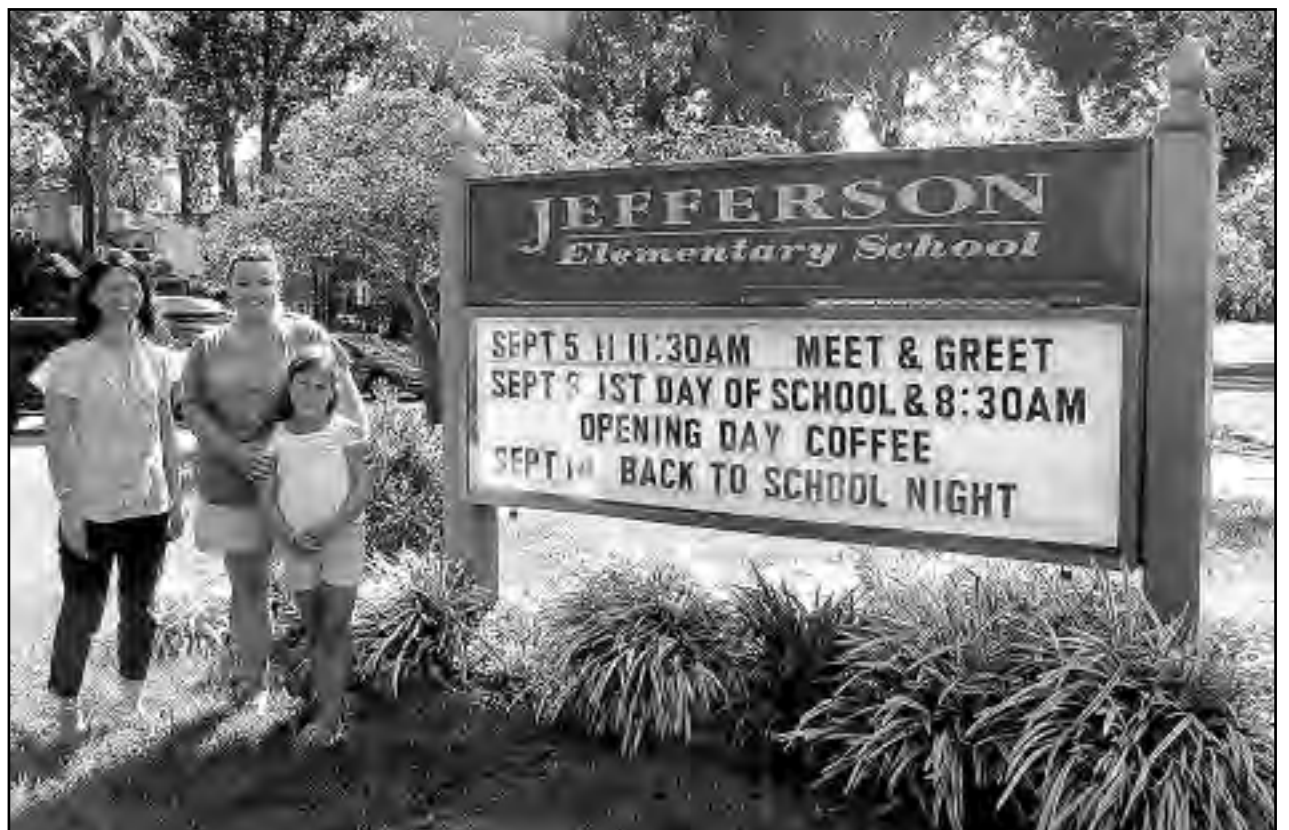
60 revised courses at the elementary, intermediate and high school levels have been incorporated into this year's curriculum to meet or exceed standards set by the New Jersey Department of Education.

2,686 students -- grades K-5 -- will engage in the research-based, cross-curriculum concepts in the New Generation Science Standards to be implemented in the district.

350 new Chromebooks will be used in every Social Studies classroom in grades 6 – 12 following last year's successful pilot program using this technology.

589 students of all ages who were enrolled in Westfield Public School programs this summer will benefit from the extra enrichment or support that was provided.

"It all adds up to a new school year filled with innumerable opportunities for our students to become life-long learners," stated Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Margaret Dolan. "We are excited to be part of their educational journey and look forward to continuing Westfield's Tradition of Excellence."



*It's a Sure Sign that School is Ready to Open*

(above) Jefferson Elementary School's new principal, Dr. Susie Hung, expresses her gratitude to PTO Secretary Lindsay Wagner and third grader Lacey Wagner who updated the school's welcome sign. Westfield Public Schools open on Wednesday, September 6.



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## WESTFIELD FESTIFALL STREET FAIR SEPT. 24

The 28th annual Westfield FestiFall street fair, sponsored by the Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce (GWACC), will take place Sunday, September 24, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., rain or shine.

Tens of thousands are expected to arrive from near and far to enjoy this 28th annual event, which will close off downtown streets to cars to make way for pedestrians, vendors, rides, games and entertainment. More than 230 local

businesses and guest vendor booths will participate this year, according to the GWACC.

There is no admission fee and parking will be free. The best spots to park, according to the chamber, are in the South Avenue train station. From there, attendees should cross into the festival area through the train underpass. Downtown streets closed to traffic will include Prospect, Elm, East Broad and Quimby Streets.

"FestiFall is a great time for everyone to come out and enjoy the fall weather, browse the vendor booths, visit the KidZone and listen to the great

entertainment on the main stage," Gene Jannotti, executive director of the GWACC, said. "This year the headline group will be High Strung Band."

High Strung Band will perform at 4 p.m. Other live entertainment will include 8 Till When (Mike Craig Band) at 2:30 pm, RMC at 10 a.m., the NJ Workshop for the Arts at 11:30 a.m., and 8School of Rock - Clark at 10 a.m..

"We look forward to the thousands of visitors who will be there," Jannotti said. Learn more at [gwaccnj.com/events/festifall2017](http://gwaccnj.com/events/festifall2017).



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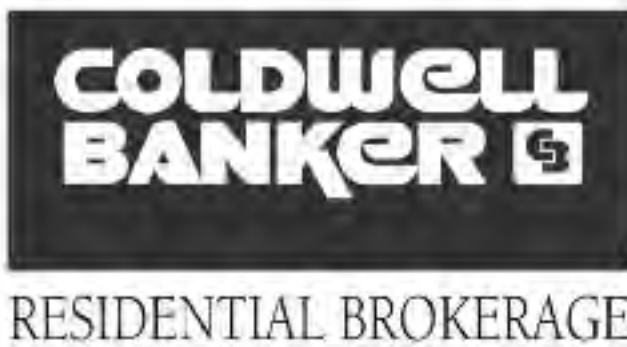
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## RAPTOR TRUST SEPTEMBER EVENTS



(above) The Raptor Trust's longtime falcon resident, Georgette.

The Raptor Trust, located in Millington, NJ, would like to announce two upcoming public events in September. This non-profit wild bird rehabilitation center has a mission to provide care to injured, sick, and orphaned wild birds and to educate the public about these birds, especially birds of prey. Their location includes an avian medical infirmary, education building, a gift shop, and exterior cages and aviaries. The Trust gets about 6,000 birds brought to them per year. Thousands of these birds are able to receive medical attention, be rehabilitated and released back into the wild.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND, 11:00 A.M. AND 1:00 P.M.**

**RAPTOR TRUST "TOUR TALKS"**

**\$10 ADULTS & CHILDREN 12 & UP**

**/ \$5.00 CHILDREN 12 & UNDER**

Take a guided tour of our outdoor display aviaries with one of our educators. Visit with our resident hawks, eagles, falcons, owls and vultures and learn about some of their fascinating stories as well as the mission of The Raptor Trust. Meet one of our education raptors up close.

Please park in the visitor's lot, check in at the Gift Shop and meet one of our resident education raptors before the tour. To register, visit [www.TheRaptorTrust.org](http://www.TheRaptorTrust.org)

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 6:00 P.M.**

**"NATURE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD**

**- THE BIRDS ALL AROUND US" WITH IVAN KOSSAK**

Join us for an evening lecture with long-time TRT friend and volunteer, Ivan Kossak. Ivan is

an expert birder and has birded in over 30 states and in Canada. He leads bird walks in his native and beloved New Jersey. Ivan has been a member of the Hackensack Riverkeeper for over 15 years and currently serves as President of the Board of Trustees there.

This program will reveal the magic that allows all birders – from beginner to advanced – to identify birds in the field. Learn who is living in your backyard and living in your trees! The program focuses on the physical attributes of NJ's wild birds (plumage, size, shape), as well as behavior, range, habitat preferences, and vocalizations.

Come early to the Trust and enjoy a self-guided twilight tour of the aviaries prior to the talk. Light refreshments will be served.

**FREE**

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED AT [THERAPTORTRUST.ORG](http://THERAPTORTRUST.ORG)**

The Raptor Trust is located at 1452 White Bridge Road in Millington, New Jersey and is open to the public 7 days a week to visitors who can come see and learn about some of the facility's avian residents such as hawks, eagles, falcons, and owls. They also offer outreach educational programs for children and adults by appointment. The organization runs on donations in order to provide its services year round, every day of the year. Visit their website at [www.theraptortrust.org](http://www.theraptortrust.org) to find out more about their organizations, visiting and program schedules, or to donate.

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## MOVING WITH YOUR CHILDREN OUT-OF-STATE AFTER A DIVORCE

By: James McGlew II, Esq.

One of the most contentious issues faced by many divorced parents has always been whether the custodial parent has the right to relocate with the parties' children out of state. In an increasingly mobile society this has become an issue for many parents. Often custodial parents decide that they cannot continue to reside in New Jersey. They need to explore job opportunities in other states and/or move back to a state where they were raised and may have a family-type support system in place. They may have started a relationship with someone who resides out-of-state or may be contemplating marriage with that person who has an established career in another state. For years, the custodial parent could not permanently remove the children from the state of New Jersey without the written consent of the other party or a court Order. If there was no agreement, the party wishing to move would petition the court for permission. Over the past several decades the standard our Courts have used to make this determination has evolved. For more than 15 years, the standard has been that the prospect of moving the children out of state would be granted unless it was "inimical to the child's interest."

Last month, the New Jersey Supreme Court changed the standard that lower courts are to utilize when determining whether or not a custodial parent may relocate the children out of New Jersey. It was also determined that this new standard would apply whether or not the party seeking to move has been the child's primary residential parent. This ruling represents a significant departure from existing law by changing the standard a court is obligated to interpret. It also gives the noncustodial parent considerably more input and seeks to protect the rights of both parents.

When examining the issue of relocation our courts are now charged with determining whether there is "cause" (to be interpreted under the existing statute) to authorize a child's relocation out of New Jersey. To do so, courts are now obligated to weigh many factors including, but not limited to: "the parents' ability to agree, to communicate and cooperate in matters relating to the child; the parents' willingness to accept custody and any history of unwillingness to allow parenting time not based on substantiated abuse; the interaction and relationship of the child with its parents and siblings; the history of domestic violence, if any; the safety of the child and the safety of either parent from

physical abuse by the other parent; the preferences of the child when of sufficient age and capacity to reason so as to form an intelligent decision; the needs of the child; the stability of the home environment offered; the quality and continuity of the child's education; the fitness of the parents' homes; the extent and quality of the time spent with the child prior to or subsequent to the separation; the parents' employment responsibilities; and the age and number of children."

The court found that such a showing of "cause" was required "to preserve the rights of the noncustodial parent and the child to maintain and develop their familial relationship." Furthermore, in making the determination of "cause" the court must examine the custodial parent's interest in freedom of movement as qualified by his or her custodial obligation, the State's interest in protecting the best interests of the child, and the competing interests of the noncustodial parent."

In conducting their best interest analysis, the Supreme Court has directed the lower courts to consider the position of the parent of primary residence who might have important insights about the current and proposed arrangement that will most effectively serve the child. Of similar importance is the input of the parent of alternate residence who may similarly offer significant information about the child. The court also stated that the views of other adults who have significant relationships with the child may also lend assistance to the Court in making its determination. Lower courts were instructed to consider all of the above in addition to other evidence including documentary evidence, judicial interviews with the child conducted at the court's discretion and expert testimony. Courts often rely on the expertise of psychologists and other mental health professionals when making these determinations.

This new standard has a great impact on those parents who are either seeking to move out of New Jersey with their children or wish to object to such a request by their former spouse. Each case in this regard is extremely fact sensitive and requires a family lawyer with experience.

To discuss these changes which may relate to your present or anticipated situation please call my office at (908) 233-6800 or contact me via email: [jmcglew@lindabury.com](mailto:jmcglew@lindabury.com) to schedule an appointment.

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 Re-opening on Sundays on September 17  
 1:00 to 5:00 pm  
 Closed Sept 18-21 for New Carpet Installation

**Programs for Adults**  
 Check website for sign up information

9/8	1:30 pm	TGIF! Miss Potter (movie)
9/9	2:00 pm	Mystic Songs of Love: Music from Persian Poetry
9/13	7:00 pm	Guitarist Peter Biedermann
9/15	1:30 pm	TGIF! Leonard Bernstein: The Gift of Music (video)
9/22	1:30 pm	TGIF! The Gathering Storm (video)
9/29	1:30 pm	TGIF! Classic Movie: "The Artist"

**Programs for Children**  
 Check website for sign up information

9/6	10:30 am	It's Movie Time-Animated Picture Books: Parent attends with child.
9/8	3:45 pm	Chees Club for Kids. No age limit, but must know how pieces move.
9/9	10:00 am	Paws to Read. New readers read to library dogs for 10 minutes each.
9/12	6:30 pm	Evening LEGO Club 5+years Parent stays in library.
9/15	10:00 am	Baby Playgroup 0-23 months Parent attends with child.
9/26	10:30 am	2's on Tuesday Storytime. Parent attends with child.
9/26	1:00 pm	Afternoon Fun for 4's and 5's Storytime. Child attends w/out parent.
9/28	10:30 am	3's on Thursday Storytime. Parent attends with child.

## FANNY WOOD DAY SEPTEMBER 17

Summer is drawing to a close but that doesn't mean that the fun has to stop! This year, the 22nd annual Fanny Wood Day will return on Sunday, September 17 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in downtown Fanwood along So. Martine Ave. and South Ave.

### ACTIVITIES

Fanny Wood Day is much more than just a street fair. Besides the many food and crafts vendors, this year's Fanny Wood Day will host a wide array of activities including the return of kid-friendly activities such as a petting zoo, pony rides, and numerous kiddie rides. Back by popular demand are many of the same contests that were offered last year such as the pizza eating, ice cream eating, the hoola hoop contest and more!!

### COME HUNGRY

Fanny Wood Day has something to offer everyone. If contests aren't your thing, grab some

delicious food from one of the many food exhibitors and trucks, kick back for some serious people-watching, stroll the many interesting booths, visit the local merchants and enjoy live entertainment.

### KIDS ZONE

The kids will have fun with the trackless train, pony rides and petting zoo, kiddie rides and more. There will be face painting, temporary tattoos, contests and more.

### MUSIC

Musical entertainment will be provided the stage area with a DJ and live entertainers throughout the day.

So mark your calendars and visit the street fair where you'll be sure to run into many friends and neighbors. It's a fun day and a chance to show your support to the community just by showing up and enjoying yourselves.

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# Fanny Wood Day

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## "CELEBRATE FALL" ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR

The Annual "Celebrate Fall" Arts & Crafts Fair, hosted by the Borough of Fanwood and produced by JC Promotions, Inc., will be held on Sunday, September 10 at the Fanwood Train Station. It will feature 50+ artisans selling and displaying their original work. Open to the public from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., you will find a wide

variety of items such as paintings, sculpture, ironworks, metal works, glassworks, pottery, jewelry, fashion clothing, garden works and much more. Be sure to come hungry and enjoy the wide variety of food being sold including shish ka bob, french fries, gyros, burgers, kettle corn, zeppoles, ice cream and more.

Celebrate Fall

# Arts @ Crafts Fest

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Kids 3-6.....\$3.99	Kids 3-6.....\$5.99
2 & Under.....FREE!	2 & Under.....FREE!

### FRIDAY - SATURDAY

Lunch 11am - 3:30pm	Dinner 3:30pm - 10:30pm
Adult .....\$7.99	Adult .....\$11.99
Kids 7-10.....\$5.99	Kids 7-10.....\$7.49
Kids 3-6.....\$3.99	Kids 3-6.....\$5.99
2 & Under.....FREE!	2 & Under.....FREE!

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Kids 3-6 .....\$5.99
2 & Under.....FREE!

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## WESTFIELD TEACHERS NAMED WOODROW WILSON HISTORYQUEST FELLOWS

Westfield High School teachers Elizabeth Piombino and Joseph Berardi, who were accepted as fellows in the Woodrow Wilson HistoryQuest program, completed their six-day program this summer and are ready to apply their skills to the classroom. “The fellowship helped me focus on new ways to work with game-like learning and a student-centered design challenge in my social studies classroom,” stated Mr. Berardi.

The Woodrow Wilson HistoryQuest Fellowship, which provides the workshops and lodging free of charge for selected teachers, describes its program as “using the power of games, play, and digital tools to transform both teacher practice and student engagement.”

Presenters from the Institute of Play and HistoryQuest led the summer workshops which were held in Princeton, NJ, from 9 a.m. – 9 p.m. from July 16 – 21.

“Unlike other professional development conferences that I have attended, there were very few lectures,” explained Ms. Piombino. “Typically, the presenters provided a short explanation and then gave us a task to accomplish that integrated the game design principles and process; so most of our time was actually spent creating and engaging in the games we designed,” she added.

Piombino and Berardi were among 50 teachers selected from New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and Massachusetts. All of the participants play-tested the learning games with local students to gain valuable feedback on their work. The games and design challenges created

by all of the fellows will be posted on the Institute of Play’s websites.

Photo by Westfield Public Schools



(above) Westfield High School Social Studies teachers Joseph Berardi and Elizabeth Piombino were among a group of select teachers accepted in a fellowship program at the Woodrow Wilson Summer HistoryQuest held in Princeton, NJ this summer.

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## UNION COUNTY INTERFAITH COORDINATING COUNCIL

The Union County interfaith Coordinating Council, an organization of clergy and lay persons representing all faith traditions, held an Interfaith Prayer Unity Service at the First United Methodist Church, Westfield, NJ on July 20. This event followed a solidarity gathering held on June 28 at Temple Sha'arey Shalom in Springfield, NJ.

Additional programs are being planned including supporting Union County

Thanksgiving Services in November, a Homeless Sabbath in December and the Third Annual Day of Prayer Service at The Parish Community of St. Helen in Westfield on October 24.

For more information on the Union County Interfaith Coordinating Council please contact Rod Spearman at [rspearman@caunj.org](mailto:rspearman@caunj.org) or [UCInterfaith@caunj.org](mailto:UCInterfaith@caunj.org) or by phone @ (908) 354-3040 x 4324.

ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL RAHWAY

### Annual Community Meeting

Thursday, September 14, 2017  
6:00 pm

Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Rahway Conference Room 1  
865 Stone Street, Rahway, New Jersey  
President and CEO Kirk Tice will discuss new programs, services, hospital financials and current healthcare trends.

Pre-registration is requested.  
To register call Community Education at 732.499.6193.

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(above) The following clergy, spokespersons and musicians participated in this truly ecumenical service: The Rev. Dr. David Mertz, host pastor of The First United Methodist Church of Westfield, Rev. Anthony Randazzo of Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church of Westfield, Rev. Carmine Pernini of Zion Lutheran Church, Rahway, Rev. Ann Marie Alderman of the First Unitarian Society of Plainfield, Zaghaym Chaundry of the Muslim Community Center of Union County, Eric Kussman, Jr. of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Springfield, Rev. Mayra Castaneda of the First Baptist Church of Westfield, Rev. Richard Hogans, Chaplain of the Union County Correctional Center & Shiloh Baptist Church in Elizabeth, Rabbi Ethan Prosnit of Temple Emanuel, Westfield and Dr. Mohammed Ali Chaudry of the Islamic Society of Basking Ridge. Music selections were provided by Jonathan Evers of the First United Methodist Church of Westfield and Cynthia Manno of the Townley Presbyterian Church in Union.

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## YEA! WESTFIELD WELCOMES NEW PROGRAM MANAGER

The Westfield Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!) welcomes Melinda Sánchez Donio as the new program manager for the 2017-18 academic year.

YEA! is a year-long program in which students in grades 6-12 generate business ideas, conduct market research, write business plans, pitch to a panel of investors, and launch their very own companies. The Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce has been sponsoring the Westfield YEA! program since 2013. Student applications are currently being accepted for the 2017-18 year.

Mario Cesario, former co-program manager said, "I am excited to have Melinda on board as our Program Manager for the 2017-18 YEA! school year. Her experience and expertise will be a great asset to the Young Entrepreneurs Academy and our community. With Melinda leading the pack, this will be our best year yet!"

Ms. Donio is an alumna of the University of Pennsylvania, earning a BA in Urban & Environmental Studies in 2002 and a Masters in City Planning in 2003. She has been actively involved in community development and ministry in the Greater Philadelphia Region for more than 20 years.

In 2015, Donio was appointed by the White House to serve as Special Assistant to the Regional Administrator (RA) for the U.S. General Services Administration's (GSA) Mid-Atlantic Region. Prior to joining GSA, she served as a National Programs Director and Training Coordinator for Esperanza, Inc., one of the largest Hispanic Faith-Based Evangelical networks in the United States.

As a strong proponent for her hometown of Camden, New Jersey, Ms. Donio has served on several boards. In recent years, she served a 5-year term as Commissioner for the Camden Redevelopment Agency and a 2-year term as member of the Board of Trustees for LEAP Academy Charter School. Currently, she serves

on the Board of Directors for the Cramer Hill Community Development Corporation and serves on the Salvation Army Kroc Center – South Jersey Advisory Board.

"I am thrilled to be appointed as the YEA! Program Manager. My experience in working with youth and my passion for entrepreneurship makes this position the perfect fit for me. I am excited to work with our staff and volunteers to see this year's cohort turn into CEOs of their own businesses," said Ms. Donio.

For more information about Westfield YEA!, go to [www.gwacnj.com/yea-young-entrepreneurs-academy](http://www.gwacnj.com/yea-young-entrepreneurs-academy) or email [programmgr@yeawestfield.org](mailto:programmgr@yeawestfield.org).



(above) Melinda Sánchez Donio.



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## WESTFIELD STUDENTS INTERN AT IMAGINE

This summer Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss, was the fortunate beneficiary of the work of four interns. Pictured here from Westfield are Matt Enslin (L) a rising Senior at Lehigh University, and Will Sherry (R) a rising Senior at Westfield High School. Not pictured are Ronan Limroth, a graduate of Chatham High School heading to University of North Carolina, and Melissa Mirabelli of Mountainside, a rising Junior at Villanova. "We are so very grateful for the hard work, expertise and productivity of these young people. They accomplished a great deal for Imagine and were a pleasure to work with," said Imagine Executive Director Mary Robinson. "We will be looking for more interns for next year and are currently looking for a Graduate Student to work with us this coming year." For information on volunteering contact Imagine at 908-264-3100 or visit [www.imagenenj.org](http://www.imagenenj.org).



## IMAGINE RAISES OVER \$15,000 AT DOWNTOWN WESTFIELD PIZZA RUN

Five teams comprised of over 40 runners, walkers and cheerleaders, participated in the Downtown Westfield Pizza Run on July 26th and raised over \$15,000 in the process. "This was our most successful run yet," said Kathy Vergel, Imagine Development Director. "We are incredibly grateful to everyone who participated. All of the money raised from the Pizza Run goes towards funding and sustaining our peer support programs which are completely free to families for as long as they need." Imagine would also like to thank Keller Williams of Westfield which hosted the Pizza Run After Party for Imagine race participants, friends and family and their local agents and staff. "This is the third year they have done this for us," said Mary Robinson, Executive Director, "and we couldn't be more grateful. In fact they've been supporting us since we first

opened our doors in Westfield, providing us with free office space before we had a home of our own."

Imagine provides free year-round peer support groups for children age 3-18 who have had a parent or sibling die, with concurrent groups for parents and guardians. Free support groups are also available for young adults 18 and up who have had a friend, sibling or parent die. Imagine also provides in-home support and support groups for children and teens who have a family member living with a life-altering physical illness.

For more information about Imagine, come for a tour offered three times a month.

Tour dates can be found by visiting their website at [www.imagenenj.org](http://www.imagenenj.org) or contact [info@imagenenj.org](mailto:info@imagenenj.org) or 908-264-3100.



(above l-r) Morgan and John Toriello of Westfield were team captains for the Garden Gives team raising money for Imagine at the Downtown Westfield Pizza Run on July 26. Pictured are some of their team members Lisa Espina, Gina Marie Mazzeo, Ashley Pagelow, Pam Tanki, Krista Aslanian, Morgan Toriello. The team raised over \$5,000 of the total raised for I imagine peer grief support groups.

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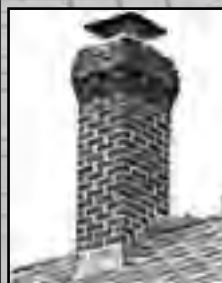
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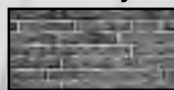
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# RICHARD DELUCA JOINS GWACC BOARD



Richard DeLuca of the Lindabury, McCormick, Estabrook & Cooper law firm has joined the board of the Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce (GWACC). “We are fortunate to have Mr. Richard DeLuca join our Board of Directors. His experience will

complement those of the current Board members and I am sure that he will be a very active member and bring new and fresh ideas to all of us,” said Executive Director Gene Jannotti. DeLuca is the Director of Business

Development and Marketing at Lindabury. Prior to that, he held positions in marketing and business development at Stark & Stark, Pillsbury Winthrop, Reed Smith, LLP, and Weil, Gotshal & Manges. DeLuca is a graduate of Rutgers University. For the past year, DeLuca has served as a volunteer mentor in the Young Entrepreneurs Academy Program sponsored by the GWACC. “I am excited to join the Board because I see the great work the Chamber does in the local business community and I want to be part of those efforts,” said DeLuca. About the GWACC Established almost 70 years ago, the GWACC is the primary business organization in Scotch Plains, Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, and Westfield. The chamber promotes local business opportunities, economic development, and community growth. The GWACC includes 500 member businesses and nonprofit organizations. For more information, go to GWACCNJ.com.

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## HOME FOR GOOD DOG RESCUE'S ANNUAL DOG ADOPTION EVENT SEPT. 9

Meisel Park will 'go to the dogs' this year as Berkeley Heights-based Home for Good Dog Rescue brings its Seventh Annual "Bark-a-Que" & Dog Adoption Event to Springfield, NJ for the first time on Sept. 9.

From 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., the pet-friendly event, which attracts up to 3,000 attendees each year, will feature rescue dog adoptions, food and merchandise vendors, family activities, professional photos, canine contests—including the annual 'Mr. and Mrs. Bark-a-Que' Costume Contest—and on-site prizes and giveaways.

"We're so thrilled to welcome our community to join us for a day of food and fun as we celebrate the more than 5,300 dogs we have rescued since our inception," Richard Errico, Home for Good's co-founder and treasurer, said. "We hope to see so many new faces in 2017 at our exciting new venue in Springfield."

In addition to welcoming the general public and all of Home for Good's adoptive families, "Bark-a-Que" hosts the rescue's largest adoption event of the year. In 2016, the festivities placed nearly 30 dogs with loving permanent households.

"We are committed to rescuing dogs from high-kill shelters throughout South Carolina and Georgia, nurturing them at our rescue facility in Aiken, SC, and transporting them northward to New Jersey for adoption," Errico explained.

As a 100-percent foster-based organization, Home for Good then places each animal with a volunteer family rather than in a kennel or shelter until adoption into a loving, permanent home.

"Seeing our dogs go to good families makes all the hard work worth it," long-time volunteer Anna Newmark of Warren, NJ said. "But even if you're not ready to adopt right now, 'Bark-a-Que' is definitely a great time for adults and kids of all ages. It's just a fun day for any pet lover!"

This year, Home for Good Dog Rescue is encouraging attendees to register early as "Bark-a-Que VIPs" by visiting [www.HomeforGoodDogs.org](http://www.HomeforGoodDogs.org). For a suggested donation to the organization's rescue mission, families can avoid the line at the park entrance on Sept. 9.

Home for Good Dog Rescue is a 100% foster-based, non-profit 501(c)(3) dog rescue established in 2010 in Summit, NJ with offices in Berkeley Heights, NJ. We rescue homeless dogs from high-kill shelters in the South, which are overflowing with unwanted dogs on the brink of being euthanized. We socialize, care for, and provide them life-saving medical care at our property in Aiken, SC, transport them to our rescue in New Jersey, and nurture them in our network of foster families while they await adoption into loving homes – giving them a second chance at life.



(above) Long-time Home for Good foster Simonti Choudhuri of Berkeley Heights, NJ, pictured with a puppy adopted at last year's "Bark-a-Que" has welcomed over 300 dogs into her home through Home for Good's foster program. Photo by Gail Ryan

## Back to School – Back to Routines HELLENIC THERAPY CENTER



Maria Sikoutris DiLorio, MA, EdS, MFT, LPC  
Clinical Director, Hellenic Therapy Center

The new school year is quickly approaching us. Back to the routine of getting up early, school assignments, sport activities (which means more driving), early breakfasts, meal planning and overall more activities.

Oftentimes as parents, we begin to take on a lot of the responsibility for our kids going "back to school". We are overwhelmed by the number of things we need to do in order to have them ready for their upcoming academic year.

This year, start off your routine a little differently than the past. Think about giving some responsibility to your children. If you know that they can do something for themselves, allow them the opportunity to do it. When we jump in too quickly to "rescue" or "enable" we are disabling our children. Set some new rules at the beginning of the school year such as letting them know they are now in charge of setting their alarm clock and getting ready on time for school, they are in charge

of homework assignments, as well as keeping a calendar of their sporting events. Our children may be annoyed with our new rules and complain at first, however, within time you will notice a more confident, healthier child.

Many of you may be thinking at this point, "my child would never wake up nor ever get homework done if I'm not there to tell them or remind them". The more we do this, the more they rely on us and the less confidence they have to be self reliant and responsible individuals. Ask yourself: "Am I doing this to help them or to relieve my own anxiety?" We will often step in too quickly to control the situation in order to obtain the outcome we want.

For example: finding out at 10:00pm that your child never completed a project that is due the next day, and completing it for them. This does not allow the child to face the consequences of the project being late nor help us in experiencing our own anxiety.

Yes, it is back to school soon and back to routines. This is an excellent time to start fresh and set new boundaries with our children. Allow them to make their mistakes and learn from them.

As a parent, it is especially important that you practice self care when the kids return to school. It is easy to dismiss your own needs while managing the family. Self care is not selfish. "Take care of yourself first or you will have nothing left to give others".

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## BLOOD RESERVES CHALLENGED BY PATIENT DEMAND

New Jersey Blood Services, a division of New York Blood Center (NYBC) is asking for help to maintain an adequate supply of all blood types, but especially O-negative – the “universal” blood which can be transfused into anyone in an emergency. In addition, hundreds of additional blood drives need to be scheduled to meet projected hospital demand. Current inventory of several blood types is running below the desired target level.

“It’s simple: hospital patient demand for blood often outpaces our best efforts to recruit donors and schedule blood drives,” said NYBC Executive Director of Donor Recruitment Andrea Cefarelli. “There are always reasons but we have to overcome that for the sake of hospital patients who need us.”

“This is one of the toughest times of the year,” Cefarelli added. “We’re asking for our dedicated supporters to roll up their sleeves to make sure we’re able to provide our hospital partners with whatever they need to take care of their patients.”

Blood products have a short shelf life – from five to 42 days, so constant replenishment is necessary. Each and every day there are patients who depend on the transfusion of red blood cells,

platelets and plasma to stay alive. But blood and blood products can’t be manufactured. They can only come from volunteer blood donors who take an hour to attend a blood drive or visit a donor center.

To donate blood or for information on how to organize a blood drive Please call Toll Free: 1-800-933-2566 or Visit: [www.nybloodcenter.org](http://www.nybloodcenter.org).


If you cannot donate but still wish to participate in bringing crucial blood products to patients in need, please ask someone to donate for you, or consider volunteering at a local blood drive. The blood mobile volunteer is an integral member of the blood collection team whose task it is assist donors with registration, perform canteen duties and make appointments for their next donation. Volunteers should have the ability to relate to the public, be able to perform different jobs as needed and have the willingness to follow the rules. For additional information contact Manager of Community Relations & Volunteer Services Jan Zepka at 732-616-8741.

Any company, community organization, place of worship, or individual may host a blood drive. NYBC also offers special community service scholarships for students who organize

community blood drives during summer months. Blood donors receive free mini-medical exams on site including information about their temperature, blood pressure and hematocrit level. Eligible donors include those people at least age 16 (with parental permission or consent), who weigh a minimum of 110 pounds, are in good health and meet all Food & Drug Administration and NY or NJ State Department of Health donor criteria. People over 75 may donate with a doctor's note.

Established in 1964, New York Blood Center (NYBC) is one of the largest independent, community-based blood centers in the country. Each year, NYBC provides approximately one million blood products to nearly 200 hospitals in the Northeast.

NYBC also provides a wide array of transfusion-related medical services. NYBC is also home to the world’s largest public cord blood bank, which provides stem cells for transplant in many countries, and a renowned research institute, which – among other milestones -- developed the Hepatitis B vaccine and innovative blood purification technology. Visit [www.nybloodcenter.org](http://www.nybloodcenter.org).



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**Friday, September 8, 11:00 am to 6:00 pm**  
**Saturday, September 9, 8:00 am to 3:00 pm**  
**Sunday, September 10, 8:00 am to 3:00 pm**  
**Monday, September 11, 2:00 pm to 9:00 pm**  
**Wednesday, September 13, 2:00 pm to 9:00 pm**  
**Friday, September 15, 11:00 am to 6:00 pm**



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## ANNUAL OKTOBERFEST SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 9TH AND 10TH

The Deutscher Club of Clark and the Bayern Verein Newark announced that their joint Annual Oktoberfest will take place at the clubhouse grounds, 787 Featherbed Lane, Clark, NJ. The event will feature German food, beer, music, and traditional Bavarian dancers.

Activities will take place from 5 pm to 11 pm on Saturday, September 9th with the John and Maria Orchestra providing live music between 6 pm and 10 pm. On September 10th, activities will

take place from 12 noon to 6 pm with Bernie's Orchestra providing live music between 1 pm and 5 pm.

Come and see the dancers that participated and won in the competition held at the 26th Gaufest in Buffalo, New York this past 4th of July weekend.

The Oktoberfest will be held rain or shine. There is a large pavilion with a dance floor to enjoy the event in case of rain.

## AUDITIONS FOR A CHRISTMAS CAROL AT CDC THEATRE

CDC Theatre in Cranford will be having auditions for its December production of a musical version of A Christmas Carol. This high energy version of the classic, first performed at Madison Square Garden, is full of heart and optimism. The score was composed by Alan Menken (The Little Mermaid, Beauty and the Beast, Aladdin) with lyrics by Lynn Ahrens (Ragtime, Once on this Island, Seussical).

Auditions will be held at the CDC Theater, located at 78 Winans Avenue in Cranford, on

Tuesday, September 19th at 7pm and Saturday, September 23rd from 11am-2pm. Performance dates are December 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, and 16. Actors are asked to please prepare 32 bars of a musical theatre song in the style of the show and provide clearly printed and legible sheet music in a binder (an accompanist will be provided). Please be prepared to dance at all auditions. Female dancers, please bring tap shoes as well as regular dance footwear.

For additional details visit [www.cdctheatre.org](http://www.cdctheatre.org)

## 9/11 COMMEMORATION CEREMONY

The Town of Westfield will observe the 16th anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks with a community gathering on Monday, September 11, 2017, at the September 11th Memorial site on North Avenue at East Broad Street. Mayor Andrew K. Skibitsky extends an invitation to all residents to attend. "We must never forget our neighbors who lost their lives on that horrific day and we must never forget their loved ones whose lives were forever changed by their incomprehensible loss."

The commemoration ceremony will begin at 6:30 p.m. with opening remarks from Mayor Skibitsky. Local clergy will offer prayers of commemoration followed by the presentation of the ceremonial wreath by an honor guard, the playing of taps, and the singing of God Bless America.

Each year, the ceremony concludes with a period of silent reflection and show of community support. As Mayor Skibitsky explains, "The events of 9/11 affected so many people in so many different ways, and continues to do so. This allows people to reflect privately but not be alone"

The ceremony will be held rain or shine.





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## “ESCAPE INTO LANDSCAPES” WITH SUNG GROSS

The works of Westfield artist, Sung Gross, are currently on exhibit at SCLSNJ’s Warren Township Library branch. This art show, featuring nineteen oil paintings focusing on nature landscapes and cityscapes, depicts locales near and far. Paintings titled “Amsterdam,” “Crater in Maui,” “Lake Garda,” and “View from High Line” are a few of the pieces included in the “Escape into Landscapes” exhibition.

Gross, born in South Korea, enjoyed a career in the U.S. as a social research scientist and more recently, she has taught as an adjunct professor. Her interest in drawing and painting began in childhood and many of her earlier works include Korean watercolor folk paintings.

For the last 10 years, while attending and painting in the Visual Arts Center of New Jersey, she has exhibited her oil paintings in a variety of venues, including: Mayo Performing Arts Center, Paper Mill Playhouse, Morristown Library, Livingston Community Center, Johnson & Johnson Gallery, and the Summit Art Center Gallery.

The paintings in this collection will be on display at the Warren Township branch, located at 42 Mountain Blvd, Warren, during regular library hours through September 29.

Anyone needing more information or any artist interested in exhibiting either in the small, glass-enclosed display case or on the gallery wall, should contact library staff member, Kathy DeCristofaro at [kdecrist@sclibnj.org](mailto:kdecrist@sclibnj.org).



(above) Artist Sung Gross alongside several of her featured oil paintings.

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## WESTFIELD CHESS CLUB INSTRUCTOR DAVID LAZARUS COACHES NATIONAL CHESS TEAM IN ISRAELI COMPETITION

David Lazarus of Fanwood coached the 2017 United States Maccabiah Chess Team in an international competition held in Israel from July 6 to 17, 2017.

Locally, Lazarus helps John Moldovan and Patrick Mazillo direct the Westfield Chess Quads on Sundays at the Westfield YMCA. He was recruited to coach by Michael Weinstein of Pine Brook during a tournament in Westfield on April 2, 2017.

Lazarus accepted the challenge with the support and insistence of his wife. He underwent extensive background and reference checks and then received a congratulatory welcome letter from Maccabiah National Leader Shane Carr. Many other coaches had been hired in early 2016, so Lazarus quickly made up for lost time in preparing for the competition, undergoing medical tests and information webinars.

On June 27, he and hundreds of others boarded planes to Israel to take part in the Maccabiah competition. This competition is held every 4 years and attracts athletes from around the world.

The first three weeks included many activities. The first week entailed Israel Connect, six days of excursions to many of Israel's most important and historic sights. On July 4, Lazarus and his junior team of four boys and two girls headed to Haifa, where the junior chess tournament was held. On July 6th, 1,135 US athletes and athletes from 80 other nations converged in Jerusalem for the opening ceremonies. "We had been told this

would be the highlight of the games and we weren't disappointed," said Lazarus. "To have 50,000 people cheering you as you walk around the track is something I never thought I would experience in my lifetime. It was surreal and no matter how many times I watch the videos, I still have to pinch myself."

U.S. players, Joseph Zeltsan of New York and Simona Nayberg of California earned the individual boys' and girls' gold medals.

"I was happy with our performance although I

had little to do with it. My job was to make sure the kids had the best possible overall experience of appreciating their heritage and on that point I believe we succeeded," said Lazarus.

The Westfield Chess Club meets on Sundays, usually from 1:15 to 7:30 p.m. at the YMCA building, 220 Clark Street, Westfield, NJ 07090. They are USCF-affiliated, and they run rated tournaments almost every week.

For more details visit their website at [www.westfieldchessclub.org](http://www.westfieldchessclub.org)



(above) Coach David Lazarus of Fanwood with his junior team overlooking Jerusalem.

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## MATTHEW PADEN ATTENDS HOBY



The Woman's Club of Westfield recently sponsored Matthew Paden, son of Sheryl Sacra - Paden and Charles Paden of Westfield to attend the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership program (Hoby). The three-day program took place in June at Kean University in Union and was attended by sophomore year high school students. Matthew was chosen by the Westfield High School Guidance Department to attend this event along with three hundred other students chosen from all over the state of New Jersey. Matthew will be a rising junior at Westfield High School this fall.

Hoby's mission is to inspire and develop our community of youth toward a life dedicated to leadership, service and innovation. The program included lectures, planned activities, programs and panel discussions adapted to developing

young people with individual and group leadership skills. The students were given the opportunity to meet many new faces and to begin lasting friendships. Matthew described his experience as a very interesting time filled with many ideas for his academic and social future. It was impressed upon the youths that they have great potential to contribute to our communities. Matt is also involved with the Westfield High School Key Club, the Oxfam Club, founded by Matt and his friend and the Presbyterian Church in Westfield.

The Hoby time served as a prelude, and introduction to college life. Founded in 1958, Hoby programs are conducted annually throughout the United States and abroad serving local and international high school students.

## LAW EXPLORER POST 629 ACCEPTING NEW MEMBERS

It is that time again when students will be returning to school and choosing their after school activities. Law Explorer Post 629, now on its seventh year, is gearing up for another year of exploring the field of law and government through trips, guest speakers, discussions and hands-on activities. Students who are interested in this career path or simply want to learn more about law and government are welcomed to sit in on one of the meetings and discover what the program is all about.

Law Explorer Post 629 is an after school enrichment program where youth have the advantage of seeing and experiencing law and government in a captivating, age appropriate way. The program is open to Union County youth, ages 14 - 20. The youth Explorers meet in the Law Offices of Lucia E. Perpina, Esq., 629

North Wood Avenue, Suite 5, Linden, NJ on Friday nights, from 6:00pm - 7:30pm. In addition to its educational goals, Post 629 also offers fun outings during the year which may involve hiking, bowling, camping or other non-law related activities to foster teamwork and cohesion within the group. The youth are also encouraged to select and organize a year-long community project (relating to law and/or government) in which all the members will take an active role. Post 629 is not a political group, does not have

any political affiliations, and all members must be open minded and accepting of all people.

Post 629's adult volunteers welcome the opportunity to speak with parents and youth about the program prior to making any commitments regarding membership in the program. If you are interested in the program, you may call (908)718-5877 or simply stop by on a Friday evening. Weekly meetings have already begun and the program accepts members on rolling basis.

## WINE TASTING EVENT ON THUR, SEPT. 14TH

The Boy Scouts of America, Patriots' Path Council will be holding a Riedel Wine Tasting event on Thursday, September 14th at Ferraro's of Westfield at 6:30 p.m. Guests will sample great wine using Riedel Wine glasses, learn more about the wines, how to pour them, the effect wine glasses have and how to improve the overall enjoyment of wine. The ticket price of \$150 includes hors d'oeuvres, four glasses of red and white wine rated at 90 points or better on the Wine Spectator List, four course meal, auction and a set of Riedel Wine glasses to take home. All contributions over \$50 are tax-deductible. All guests must be 21 years or older to attend. The event is being co-hosted by community members

Melanie and Bill Penders of Westfield.

The proceeds of this event provide the necessary funds send underprivileged youth to four of our camps in New Jersey and New York State. Over 4,000 youth are served in this program, and a total of 16,000 youth served in traditional Scouting in our area. Most recently the BSA has enhanced STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) content in every facet of Scouting, from summer camp to the Pinewood Derby, by developing programs that explore the STEM principles behind Scouting activities.

The RSVP deadline is Thursday, September 7th. Registration required at [www.ppcbsa.org/give/special-events](http://www.ppcbsa.org/give/special-events)

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## JOURNEY TO WHOLENESS - HEALING THE GRIEVING HEART

The First Presbyterian Church of Cranford, located at 11 Springfield Ave., will hold their free eight-week seminar "Journey to Wholeness - Healing the Grieving Heart" on Sunday evenings from September 17- November 5, 2017.

Patti Williams, a registered nurse and certified pastoral bereavement counselor, along with Virginia Waters, a PhD. Psychologist, will lead the sessions from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Thompson Youth Center of the church. Patti and Virginia are beginning the 18th year of this ministry, and have helped about 2,600 people experience healing, find a new purpose for their lives, and feel joy once again. This is an experience like no other.

The sessions include learning about the stages of grief and understanding the tasks of the grieving process, coping strategies, dealing with loneliness, building a support system, and other helpful skills for healing.

Both of the leaders and all of the facilitators have experienced loss within their lives and share from "the inside out". It does not matter if your loss is divorce, death, or job loss; loss is loss- it must be grieved. It does not matter how long ago your experienced loss. Bring family members and friends. All faiths are welcome. Teen group available. To register for this life changing event, please call 908-709-1341. No fee is charged.

The seminar is dedicated to Patti's late husband, the Rev. Dr. Bruce D. Williams, who had a vision for this program out of wanting to

help others deal with their pain and suffering during their time of loss.



(above) Patti Williams, a registered nurse and certified pastoral bereavement counselor, along with Virginia Waters, a PhD. Psychologist, will lead a free eight-week seminar "Journey to Wholeness - Healing the Grieving Heart".

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# MARCHING BAND TO COMPETE AT ANNUAL FESTIVAL

Westfield MONTHLY • Page 29 • September 2017

The Westfield High School Marching Band will perform along with ten other New Jersey marching bands during the 19th Annual Marching Band Festival to be held on Saturday, September 16, 2017 starting at 6:00 pm at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School.

Admission cost will be \$10.00 for adults, \$7.00 for students. A free program will be included with every paid admission. Food, drinks, and a 50/50 raffle will be available all evening. Scotch Plains Fanwood High School is located at 667 Westfield Road, Scotch Plains, NJ.

The festival will take place on the varsity field behind the high school at the rear of the parking lot.

The Festival will include performances by marching bands from: Bridgewater-Raritan High School, Chatham High School, Cranford High School, Edison High School, East Brunswick High School, Fair Lawn High School, Immaculata High School, J. P. Stevens High School, Weehawken High School, Westfield High School and Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School.



(above) Image from 2016 Marching Band Festival held at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School

Photos from this and other events can be found online at [rennamedia.com](http://rennamedia.com) and on the Westfield Monthly page on [facebook.com](http://facebook.com) Feel free to "Like", "Tag" and "Share."

# WESTFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S APPLEFEST 2017

The next outdoor community event organized by the Westfield Historical Society will be Applefest. The event will take place at the Reeve House on Saturday, September 30, from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., and will host numerous activities based on the theme of the 1930s and 40s. There will be music and dancing, movie clips in the Apple Cinema, an informative history-walk, children's books exhibits, talks regarding the Enigma machine, information on the history of the NFL, art and trivia contests, old-fashioned children's games, information about the history of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) projects around the Westfield area, 30s- and 40s-themed food at the Apple Cafe, and the Historical Society's famous apple pie baking contest. The popular guided tours of the Reeve House will also be available.

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# SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING AND VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Are you a good listener? Do you want to make a difference in the life of someone in crisis? Are you an empty nester or retiree looking for flexible and rewarding volunteering opportunities?

Become a volunteer listener at Caring Contact, the crisis listening line located in Westfield. Caring Contact will be offering Excellence in Listening training beginning September 18 at the First Baptist Church at 170 Elm Street in Westfield. Classes run for three hours one night a week, plus one full weekend, ending December 11, 2017.

Through the training, volunteers receive 52 hours of comprehensive training in active listening. In addition, volunteers become certified in Mental Health First Aid and Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training. Volunteers develop the ability to listen actively, assess the needs of someone in crisis and provide empathy and support. The cost is \$299, which includes materials and certification fees.

This award-winning training enables graduates to become volunteer listeners on the hotline, helping people in crisis and perhaps saving a life. Following training, new volunteer listeners are supported by seasoned listeners during 24 hours of internship before they take calls on their own. Even once a volunteer is a certified listener, the hotline provides a range of support and training opportunities to allow them to keep honing their skills.

"Caring Contact offers a flexible, rewarding volunteer opportunity," said Janet Sarkos, the hotline's executive director. "People who have been told they are a good listener and have a

yearning to volunteer should consider becoming a Caring Contact listener."

Colleen Mannix has been volunteering at Caring Contact for about two years. She came to the hotline with a master's degree in counseling and was impressed with the professionalism of the training and how prepared it makes volunteers to take calls.

"I thought it was really comprehensive," Mannix said. "They prepare you for every scenario. It provides an understanding of mental health that is really important for volunteers who don't have a background in counseling."

Jane Berlant began volunteering at Caring Contact because she was looking for something meaningful to do with her time after her daughter went to college.

"It had to make an impact," she said. "I can't just play golf and tennis and go to lunch. It has given me such a sense of purpose and accomplishment. The biggest reward is knowing that when we hang up someone is feeling a little better at the end of the call than they were at the beginning of the call. It also has changed my life in ways of dealing with people for the better, how I deal with my family, my daughters, how I listen to them. Instead of always wanting to fix things, I now just listen."

The suicide rate in the United States has been increasing every year since 1999, rising more than 24 percent between 1999 and 2014. Every 13.7 minutes someone in the United States dies by suicide and more than 44,000 people died by suicide in 2015, including 5,400 young people. Suicide is the second leading cause of death for



youth aged 10-24 and four out of five teens who attempt suicide have given clear warning signs.

Research has shown that suicide prevention training results in a stable and significant increase in a trainee's readiness to intervene with a person at risk. The training also is excellent for individuals who do not want to become volunteer listeners. It is valuable for educators and parents, first responders, social workers, counselors, clergy, business managers and community group leaders.

Anyone interested in registering for the training should visit [caringcontact.org/volunteer-listener-application/](http://caringcontact.org/volunteer-listener-application/).

Anyone interested in volunteering should visit [caringcontact.org/give-support/volunteer/](http://caringcontact.org/give-support/volunteer/). There are non-listening volunteering opportunities, as well.

Caring Contact serves Central and Northern New Jersey and is a primary responder to calls to the national suicide prevention line (1-800-273-TALK or 1-800-SUICIDE) that originate in New Jersey. Callers also reach Caring Contact by dialing 908-232-2880. Those preferring to seek support through texting may text "heart" to 741-741. The hotline also provides best-in-class training to the Central and Northern New Jersey Community.

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# The Feast of St. Michael Cranford, NJ

## **FEAST HOURS**

**Sept. 28 ~ 6-9**

**Sept. 29 ~ 6-10**

**Sept. 30 ~ 3-10**

**Oct. 1 ~ 1-5**

## **Fun for the Whole Family!**

**Pay one price Bracelet Night!**

**Thursday and Sunday unlimited rides for \$25!**

*Discount Ride Tickets Available at  
St. Michael's Parish Center &  
Lifeline Technology Solutions, Cranford*

## **FEATURED BANDS**

*Thursday ~  
The Fine Line*

*Friday ~  
Brother John Brown Band*

*Saturday Evening ~  
Goldenseal Band*

*Sunday ~  
The Alden Street Band*

**Bring this ad to the  
ST. MICHAELS  
FOOD COURT FOR ONE  
FREE WATER OR SODA!!**

**Games • Music  
50/50 • Rides  
Food • Prizes**

**St. Michael School Parking Lot  
Holly & Alden Sts.  
Cranford, NJ**

<http://stmichaelcranford.org/feast-of-st-michael/>



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