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Issue 35 • August 2018

## **VOLUNTEERS WIN TWO GOVERNOR'S JEFFERSON AWARDS**

Imagine Adult Volunteer Facilitators and Teen Volunteer Facilitators were the recipients this year of the New Jersey State Governor's Jefferson Award in the Adult Volunteer Group Award category and the Youth Volunteer Group Award category.

Each year the New Jersey State Governor's Jefferson Awards highlight the spirit of civic engagement among New Jersey's 1.5 million volunteers and provide Jefferson Awards medals in 22 categories of volunteer service.

The Jefferson Awards were established in 1972 as the official recognition program of the United States Senate. They are considered America's highest honor for public service and volunteerism.

In New Jersey the awards are also the official recognition program of the Governor's Advisory Council on Volunteerism, administered by a partnership that includes the NJ Office of Volunteerism, NJ Advance Media, the Community Foundation of New Jersey, and corporate sponsors, such as PNC Bank, PSEG, BD and others.

"Imagine adult and teen volunteer facilitators are a consistent, loving, empathic presence for the children and families we serve, providing hope and support while facilitating the mourning process," said Mary Robinson, Imagine Executive Director who nominated the volunteers. "Our volunteers are the foundation of Imagine's community-based peer support model. We would not and could not exist without them and are so grateful for each and every one of them for their commitment and extraordinary service."

Imagine offers free year-round grief support groups for families with children age 3-18 who are coping with loss due to the death of a parent or sibling or other significant family members, or who are coping with a family member with a terminal or chronic physical illness. Concurrent

support groups are available for parents and guardians of the children and for young adults ages 18-30.

Imagine is completely privately funded through the generosity of our donors, and our work is only made possible through their support. For more information please contact Imagine at 908-264-3100 or www.imaginenj.org.



(above) Accepting the award on behalf of Imagine's 17 Youth Facilitators are Justin Zucker and Dani Jayinski of Scotch Plains.



(above) The 2018 New Jersey State Governor's Jefferson Awards presentation ceremony was held at the War Memorial in Trenton on June 2, 2018. Accepting the award on behalf of all of our over 70 adult facilitators are (l-r) Imagine Adult Volunteer Facilitators Gail Rhein of Plainfield; Monica Rodriguez of Union; Joanne DeSantis of North Bergen; Tamela Beene of Westfield; Jacqueline Miller of North Plainfield; and Steve Johnson of Westfield.

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## **PROMOTE YOUR COMMUNITY EVENT**

**Community** service organizations, schools and sports teams are encouraged to submit news of upcoming events or highlights and photos from recent events.

**Organizations who are** interested in submitting content, please email editor@ rennamedia.com or call 908-858-4012

Scotch Plains Monthly is online at www.rennamedia.com like us on facebook.com/ Scotch Plains Monthly



Reserve space in the next issue. *Call Tina today at 908-418-5586* or email info@rennamedia.com

## **KENILWORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT CARNIVAL** AUGUST 13-18TH, 2018

The Kenilworth Volunteer Fire Department \$10,000 in past years. will continue its long running summertime tradition of hosting its annual fundraising carnival on August 13 - 18th, 2018.

Stop by St. Theresa's School for lots of rides (kiddie rides too), games, food, music and safe family-friendly fun. Pay-One-Price-Ride-All-Night wristband nights are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Visit the Beer Garden, enjoy a sausage sandwich or grab a bag of zeppoles and try your luck on the Money Wheel. There will be a Super 50/50 grand prize drawing on Saturday night, which has amounted to over

Proceeds benefit the Kenilworth Volunteer Fire/Rescue Support Organization. The Kenilworth Fire Department thanks you for your continued support and hopes to see you and your family there. Like "Kenilworth, NJ Fire Rescue" on Facebook for updates. Visit Kenilworthfire.org.

Carnival hours are Monday thru Friday 6:30 -10:30 p.m., and Saturday 5:30 - 11 p.m. St. Theresa's School is located at 540 Washington Ave., Kenilworth, NJ. One block off of Kenilworth Blvd.



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## **SCOTCH PLAINS DANCERS AT DISNEY WORLD**

Three Scotch Plains students danced in Disney World's Magic Kingdom and Epcot in Orlando, Florida on June 28 and June 29, 2018.

Featured Scotch Plains dancers were Aliyah Daniel (SPF High School Student - rising 11th grader), Valdon Daniel, III (SPF High School Student - rising 10th grader) and Ananda Daniel (Park Middle School - rising 8th grader). Also joining them was Aaliyah Frederick (rising 6th grader at RES in Virginia).

They presented a feature dance at Epcot showcasing their own hip hop and step routine with touches of old school robot moves. All dancers also danced in a Magic Kingdom Parade on June 29, 2018.

As Youth Dance Ambassadors with iDance Ministry, they were selected to present their feature dance at Epcot and participate in this once in a lifetime opportunity.

For more information about the iDance Ministry, visit them online at idanceministry.com.

## PAL FOOTBALL REGISTRATION

Football registration remains open to play in the Scotch Plains Fanwood PAL this coming fall season.

The PAL offers contact football for Grades 3 through 8, and flag football for Grades K through 7. All games are played each Sunday, starting on September 9, 2018, and will run until early November.

To register, go to spfpal.com. Questions can be emailed to Bruce Moran, SPF PAL vice president, at brucemdfs@yahoo.com.



(above) Ananda Daniel, Aliyah Daniel, Valdon Daniel and Aaliyah Frederick danced at Disney World earlier this summer, showcasing a hip hop and step routine with touches of old school robot moves.

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## VARSITY TRACK TEAM CONTINUED THEIR YEAR OF SUCCESS THIS SPRING

The 2018 Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Varsity Spring Track Team continued to have an outstanding year this Spring. Individual athletes, as well as relay teams, earned championships at the County and Conference levels and advanced to the State Group Finals.

The 4 x 100 team of Justin Sanders, Jacob Leigh, Kyle Estivene and Dwight Laylor ran a North II Group IV best time of 42.34, earning a North II Group IV Sectional Title.

Trinity Hart set a school record in the Long Jump of 18' 1.75" earning the Watchung

Conference and Union County Interscholastic Championship in the 200 M Dash by running a Athletic Conference Championship and qualified as a top five Long Jumper for the Group IV Meet.

Ben Fleischer qualified for the Group IV Championship as a 3200-meter competitor after winning the Watchung Conference and Union County Interscholastic Athletic Conference Championship with times of 9:41.89 and 9:36.70.

Jacob Leigh continued his personal success by qualifying for the Group IV Meet in the 200 M Dash and earned the Union County Interscholastic Athletic Conference

time of 22.11 seconds.

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education recognized these track athletes who provided a spark for the entire Spring Track Team to improve their performances. Led by Head Coaches Rich McGriff and Jeff Koegle with the support of Assistant Coaches Alli Neidig, Dan Doherty, Peter Kane, Jonathan Stack and Ken Hernandez exhibited outstanding talent, dedication and teamwork.



(above, l-r) Coach Jeff Koegel, Coach Rich McGriff, Jacob Leigh, Trinity Hart, Justin Sanders, Kyle Estivene and Ben Fleischer of the Track Team.





## **CAROLYN M. SORGE PRESENTED WITH THE UNITY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

recently received the Union County Human Relations Commission's prestigious Unity Award assistant director of nursing. for Achievement, an honor given to role models who dedicate their time and efforts to activities career, but honor her tonight for her 29 years of and programs that raise and honor the human dedicated service to the residents of the Township spirit.

The awards were handed out during a special presentation held at the Kean University's STEM Building in Union Township on Monday, May 7, 2018. The 2018 awards marked the 17th year in which the Commission has named honorees.

Carolyn M. Sorge, member of the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad, was presented with the Unity Achievement Award in Public Service in recognition for decades of tireless public service of dedicated volunteer service to the Rescue as a role model and inspirational leader.

Below is preprinted from the event's program. Carolyn Sorge became a Registered Nurse in 1999, and since then has worked primarily in hospital emergency rooms and surgery centers.

Fifteen individuals and seven organizations In her career, she has filled several leadership positions, including as charge nurse, and as

> We applaud her for outstanding professional of Scotch Plains.

> Carolyn's lifelong passion and commitment to public service was a shared bond with her father, Ercole Sorge. He had been an active member of the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad for 15 years, and was an inspirational role model for Carolyn before he became ill and passed away in 1988, when Carolyn was only 16 years old.

> Like father, like daughter. During her 29 years Squad, she has served as Deputy Chief since 2013, and since January of this year, as its Chief.

> In her many years of service in the field of emergency medicine, she has touched scores of people with her dedicated determination, compassion, and kindness.

> One of Carolyn's greatest passions comes from working with and mentoring the youth of the

community. Under her leadership as the cadet advisor for the Rescue Squad, she has seen countless youth become dedicated volunteers serving their community, with many continuing on to become medical professionals.

Carolyn was a member of the Scotch Plains Town Council and served as Deputy Mayor from 2001 to 2004. She also serves as a members of the Union County Medical Reserve Corps, and her service as the first female volunteer firefighter in the history of Scotch Plains Fire Department, from 1997 to 2004, set a shining example for the women who followed in her footsteps and continue to serve in the department's rank and files.

She also finds time to participate as a member in the Scotch Plains/Fanwood UNICO, and the Galloping Hill Cruisers Car Club, which has helped to raise money for the New Jersey Institute of Disabilities, which benefits children with lifelong illnesses and disabilities.

We applaud Carolyn for her perseverance to overcome many obstacles, and for her many years of public service.



(above) Carolyn M. Sorge was presented with the Unity Achievement Award in Public Service.







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Kids 7-10\$5.99	Kids 7-10\$7.49
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Kids 3-6	\$3.99	Kids 3-6	\$5.99
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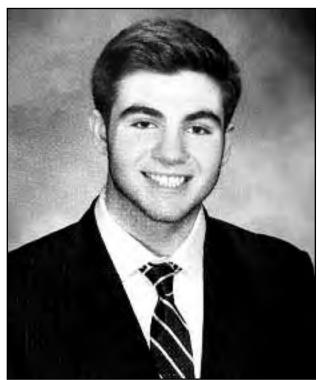


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(above, top-bottom) Jennifer Lambert of Fanwood and Bradley Chernoff of Scotch Plains, the recipients of the Grausso/Bendel Memorial Scholarships from the Scotch Plains Lions Club.



## LIONS CLUB GRANTS SCHOLARSHIPS

Submitted by Jerry Kirshenbaum

Jennifer Lambert of Fanwood and Bradley Chernoff of Scotch Plains were recently awarded Grausso/Bendel Memorial Scholarships from the Scotch Plains Lions Club. This scholarship is in memory of two former leaders of the Scotch Plains Lions Club - Norm Bendel and Tony Grausso.

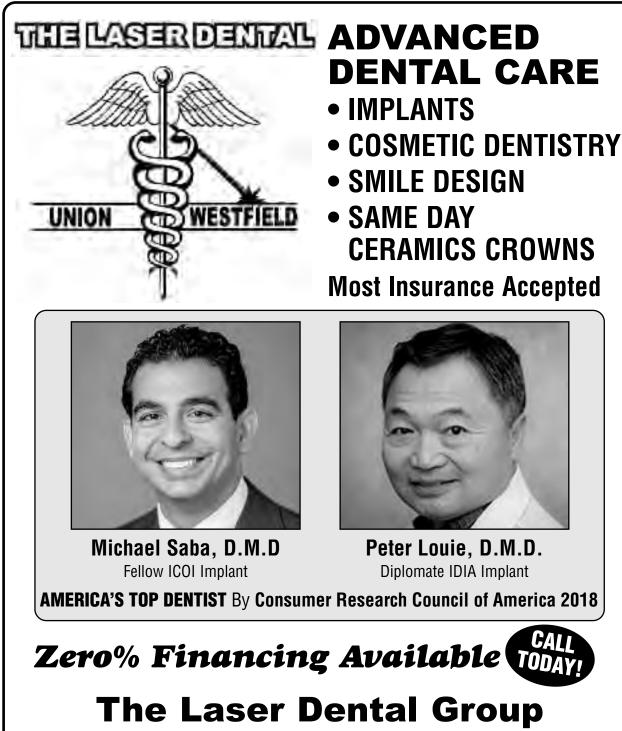
This scholarship is awarded annually to a Scotch Plains Fanwood High School senior who plans to go to college. Preference is given to students who have demonstrated involvement in community service especially those causes dedicated to the blind and visually impaired. The Lions Clubs are the World's largest and most active service organizations. They have more than 1.4 million members active in more than 43,000 Lions clubs around the world. They are dedicated to meeting a variety of their community's needs with the association's major service initiative being serving the blind and visually impaired. Both Jennifer and Bradley were honor students at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School,

and both were involved in many community service activities.

Some of Jennifer's community service activities included collecting dog food and toys for The Seeing Eye Foundation, which matches trained dogs with blind people, as well as collecting used eyeglasses for the Lions Club's recycling program. Jenifer will be attending Villanova University in the Fall studying Peace & Justice.

Bradley has been active as a "big brother" in The Friendship Circle, which provides services for children with disabilities. He spent a lot of time working with a young man with autism. Brad will attend Kean University in the fall majoring in Communications: Media/Film.

For more information on the Scotch Plains Lions Club or to attend a meeting call the club's president Barbara Anilo at 908-322-4472.



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## COLES STUDENTS DONATE OVER \$1,500 IN GAMES AND TOYS

As school was wrapping up for students at the JA Coles Elementary School in Scotch Plains, NJ at the end of June, they were continuing to give back to those in need.

Students contributed over \$1,500 in donations to several Child Life Service Departments at local area hospitals and organizations through the Coles Kids Care program. Donations included new crafts, puzzles, cards, activity sets, coloring books and makers and games.

Kelly Blanchette, CCLS, of the Valerie Fund Children's Center, Goryeb Children's Hospital, said, "The donations will go into our prize bin so that children in the hospital who receive a needle or have a test performed can pick a special prize for being so brave."

The Coles Kids Care program, sponsored by the JA Coles PTA, was created to give back to those in need in our community throughout the school year. Other programs include Sharing Lunches, a holiday food drive, a clothing and shoe drive, a pet food drive and a canned food drive.



(above) Coles students Zoey and Finn Doyle deliver crafts and supplies to Kelly Blanchette at the Goryeb Children's Hospital.

## COLES STUDENTS DONATE OVER 3,000 LUNCHES TO THOSE IN NEED

J. Ackerman Coles School in Scotch Plains-Fanwood has been busy collecting lunches to share with neighbors in need. In 2014, the PTA Kid's Care Committee started a program called "Sharing Lunches".

Each month on a designated day the children at Coles School pack an extra brown bag lunch and bring it in to "share." The lunches collected are brought to the Salvation Army in Plainfield, where they are given to patrons of their daily soup kitchen. Bagged lunches are packed with love by students at Coles and make their way to children only a few miles away who are hungry, to families that are struggling, and to older people who have a need. The collections have grown over the last four years, driven by contests where the classes and grades compete for which can bring in the most bags. So far this year Coles has donated 3,125 lunches. Together they are sharing, caring and helping to make the world a better place.

Lieutenant Dante Cox from the Plainfield Chapter of the Salvation Army came to Coles School in June to thank the students for their generosity. He presented them with a Certificate of Appreciation and expressed his gratitude for the all of the donations over the last year. The Salvation Army is located at 615 Watchung Ave, Plainfield, where they run a daily soup kitchen open to the public.

For more information or if you are interested in starting a Sharing Lunches program in your school, please contact Kathy Manara: kathymanara@hotmail.com / 908-322-0248.



(above) Students, committee members and a member of the Salvation Army celebrate the Sharing Lunches program at Coles School.



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## **RECOGNITION FOR "RISING STAR" SARA MILLER**

On Thursday, June 14, 2018 the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education recognized Sara Miller, a senior at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, for her outstanding music talents as well as her Paper Mill Playhouse Rising Star nominations during the years of 2016, 2017 and 2018. Sara has been a member of multiple Scotch Plains-Fanwood Choral and Instrumental Ensembles such as Concert Choir, Select Choir, Las Cantadoras, Wind Ensemble and Moonglowers, additionally performing as a soloist.

Sara has participated in Repertory Theatre for all four years of high school, acting as student music director for two years, and being nominated three years in a row for a Paper Mill Playhouse Rising Star Award for her performances as Best Supporting Actress as Princess Puffer in "The Mystery of Edwin Drood"; Best Leading Actress as Rose Alvarez in "Bye Bye Birdie"; and Best Leading Actress as Princess Winnifred in "Once Upon a Mattress".

Sara Miller will be attending Princeton University this fall.

Photo by Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools.





(above, 1-r) Sara Miller; Courtney Nemec, Rep Theater Director; Deb Brody, Board member.



## **"SHINING STARS" MAKES TRIUMPHANT DEBUT ON UCPAC STAGE**

Special needs talent show draws 1,000 for 7th annual event It was truly their night to shine!

With a crowd of over 1,000 packed into the historic Union County Arts Center, the Shining Stars cast put on a spectacular performance, singing and dancing their way through "Music From the Decades" — which featured songs from the 20's to today while totally engaging the audience at every turn.

The show, which starred 30 special needs individuals from around Union County, took the stage with their high school volunteer buddies and rocked the house from start to finish. The well-conceived concept kept everyone engaged throughout the show, topped off by the finale, which featured Gloria Estefan hits Get On Your Feet, Conga and Turn the Beat Around, where the cast joined the audience for the exciting finish.

U.C.P.A.C. Executive Director Brian Remo could not have been more impressed with the cast performances.

"This event and these amazing young artists have inspired not only the surrounding community, but each other, in what was truly one of the most memorable nights this stage has ever seen."

Each decade was represented by several songs, where the entire cast took part in a big dance ensemble. The show was highlighted by solo acts from each member of the special needs cast who performed an array of hits, from the Beatles "All You Need Is Love" to Frank Sinatra's "My Way " to Bobby Darin's "Mack the Knife," which garnered one of many standing ovations throughout the evening.

The 7th annual "Evening of Shining Stars" was an idea conceived and developed by

Cranford resident Sally Curci, who back in 2012 had the idea of giving local special needs children the opportunity to shine on stage through the performing arts by putting on a full show. Since then, the show has become a must-see event, leading to their recent record-breaking show.

"While all of our previous shows have been wonderful, we wanted our cast to have the chance to perform on a professional stage and the Union County Performing Arts Center was the perfect venue," said Sally Curci. "I'm so proud of every one of our stars. It was like being on Broadway. The crowd was amazing and the performances were wonderful. It was a perfect night."

Master of Ceremonies Ryan Fay was masterful again, entertaining the audience in between acts while making sure the show moved smoothly. Ryan has been the emcee from the beginning, and his wit and humor continues to charm the audience. His brother, Sean Fay, had everyone singing to Sweet Caroline in another great moment.

Along with Director Sally Curci, the show was guided by Co-Director Nicole Greene, Sally's daughter, and Assistant Director Angie Sandoukas, who was a former volunteer "buddy" who returned to join the Shining Stars staff. All three are special needs teachers.

"This was an incredible night," noted Nicole Greene. "For many of us, it's our favorite time of the year. The performers put their hearts and souls into rehearsals for months, and to see them shine on stage even brighter every year is absolutely incredible. It is amazing to see how passionate the audience is, and how proud the



(above) The cast of the Shining Stars Network's "Music From the Decades" drew in a crowd of 1,000 people for their 7th annual performance. The Shining Stars Network shines a light on the talents of local special needs children through performing arts.





performers are of themselves. I feel so lucky just to be a part of this experience."

The show's Executive Producer and Shining Stars CEO, Mike Curci, is a television broadcaster and producer who also runs the dayto-day operations of Shining Stars Network, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization which shines the light on the special needs community through the performing arts and various events throughout the year. The annual show is the biggest highlight.

"I am so proud of every one of our cast members and the entire Shining Stars team of volunteers," said Curci. "Each and every one of them shares in the success of this show. They truly inspire us every day. It was an emotional night watching them perform in front of a big crowd at an iconic venue. They proved they belonged there."

Shining Stars would like to thank the U.C.P.A.C. staff, who helped them through the process of putting on a show of this magnitude.

"It was incredible to see this show come to life after four months of rehearsals," continued Mike Curci. "Everyone worked extremely hard. I was especially moved by the audience response. They were wonderful. We're honored that so many people came to see our stars. And of course, this couldn't have been done without the generosity of our sponsors and boosters who helped make this happen and our dedicated parents who helped in so many ways. It was a night we'll always remember."

Members of the cast include: Joe Bacque, Gina Berry, Alexis Cassino, Alejandro Colon, Brian Curci, Courtney Curci, Aidan Dolan, Andrew Downey, Ryan Fay, Sean Fay, Adam Fleissner, Bret Fleming, Aidan Flynn, Jessie Gaeta, Elizabeth Garcia, Meghan Lamar, Caitlin Madden, Brian McAuliffe, Dan Montealegre, Josh Moreines, Simone Palermo, Melissa Pearl, Gerard Russomanno, Alyssa Santos, Andrew Seiler, Nicole Serkin, Garrett Smith, Dominick Vito, and Mark Zulauf.

This year's volunteer high school "buddies" were Johnny Bush, Diego Colon, Tim Eimer, McKenna Flynn, Abby Heller, Kayla Hooey, Judith Kikikis, Mark Lynch, Kelly McAulliffe, Izzy Pinto, Peter Roefaro, Kelly Ryan, Hannah Scepkowski, Leah Scepkowski, and Sarah Scepkowski,

Special thanks to Jamie Greene, Beth Wolfe, Jim & Kathy Parlapiano, Amy Downey, Johanna Hathaway, Christina Smith, Maria Palermo, Joe Silano, Derek Thorn, Andrew Iocavano, Megan Convery, Megan Santarelli and all the parents who contributed their time and efforts, and thank you to Lori Fleissner for her outstanding photography.

Shining Stars Network is also excited to announce the return of Camp Shine, a two-week performing arts camp for special needs individuals ages 10 and up. The camp will take place at the Fanwood Presbyterian Church from August 21-30.

For more information please email ShiningStarsNetwork@gmail.com.

## HOW TO AVOID TICK BITES

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For more information, visit the NJ Department of Health's website at state.nj.us/health



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Ticks can become infected with diseases when feeding on white-footed mice and other small mammals. An infected tick can then spread disease to a person through a tick bite. You can reduce the risk of getting diseases from ticks by taking steps to avoid tick bites.

Know where ticks are: ticks live in or near wooded or grassy areas. Always walk in the center of trails to avoid contact with ticks.

#### **KEEP YOUR YARD CLEAN:**

mow lawns, clear brush and remove leaf litter. **REPEL TICKS:** 

use EPA-registered repellent with DEET picaridin, IR3535, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus (OLE), or 2- undecanone on skin and permethrin on clothing, boots and gear. Most repellents can be used on children older than 2 months. Products containing OLE should not be used on children under 3 years. Always follow product label instructions.

#### **INSPECT:**

check your entire body—and your children's— for ticks after being outside. Remove attached ticks with tweezers. Be sure to check these parts of your body and use a handheld or full-length mirror to view all parts of your body: inside belly button, back of the knees, under the arms, in/around the hair, between the legs, around the waist, in/around the ears, on the scalp.

#### **COVER UP:**

wear long sleeves and pants tucked into socks to prevent ticks from getting under clothes. **SHOWER:** 

#### showering within two hours after being outside (ideally, as soon as possible) can help find and wash off unattached ticks.

#### **PROTECT PETS:**

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## SCOTCH PLAINS RESCUE SQUAD TIP OF THE MONTH: IS IT REALLY AN EMERGENCY? WHEN TO DIAL 911

Submitted by Susan Baldani, a life member of the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad

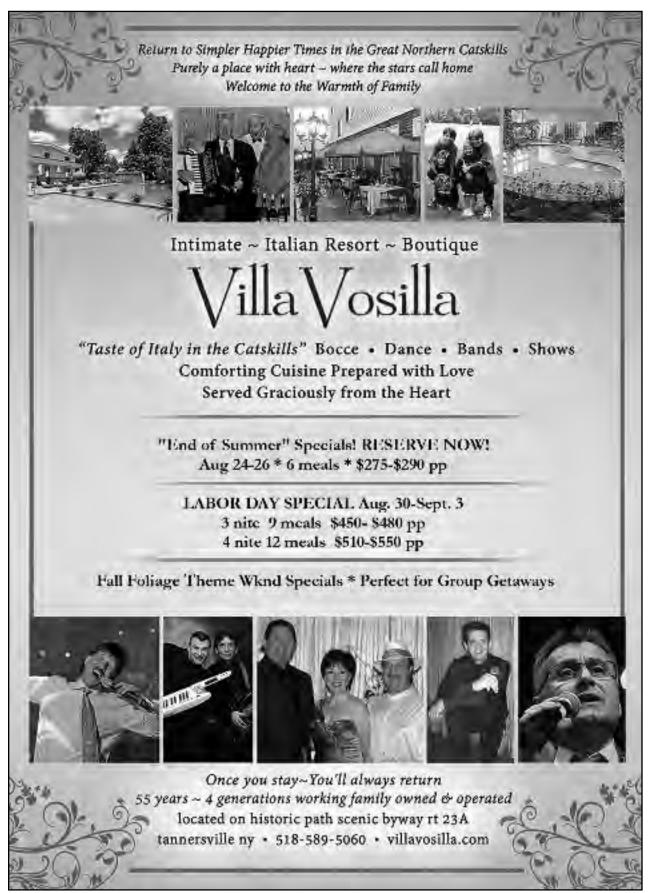
There are many times you should call 911. If you or someone around you is in true medical distress, such as experiencing difficulty breathing, chest pains, bleeding, possible stroke, or any other serious health issues, then 911 should be called as soon as possible. If there are wires down, fire, a crime in progress, or other dangerous conditions to people or property, call 911 immediately.

However, if you want to report your neighbors making too much noise or want to find out when the snow plows will get to your street, or any other situation that is not an actual emergency, please call the regular police number at 908-322-7100.

One of our squad members, Joan Lozowski,

who spent 29 years as a dispatcher for the Scotch Plains Police Department before recently retiring, said that people would call 911 for all sorts of non-emergency reasons. Some of these calls would be to ask for directions, to check road conditions, to find out when their power would be restored, and to report deer sightings. Her alltime favorite was when someone called to complain that his television remote was not working!

Obviously, these things are not emergencies and some do not require an EMS response at all. Furthermore, calling 911 and requesting an ambulance for a stubbed toe or other minor issue ties up an ambulance and crew and prevents them from responding to other more critical calls. So



please take a minute to think: Is it really an emergency? It's also important for children to understand when they should and should not call 911, so please discuss this with them.

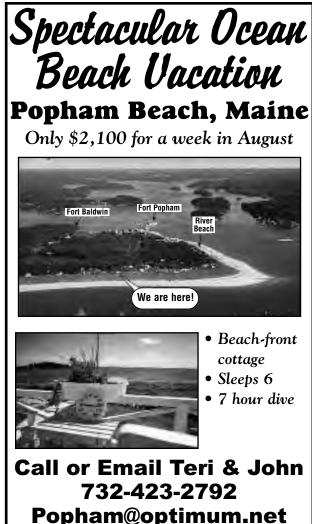
Calling 911 when it isn't necessary may prevent someone who is having a true crisis from getting through to dispatch. In turn, this can delay the person from getting the help they or their family so desperately need in a timely manner.

So the next time you're thinking about dialing 911, please make sure it's really necessary. Keep the line and resources available for those who really need them.

About the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad:

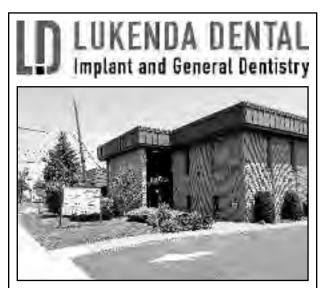
The Scotch Plains Rescue Squad is a volunteer organization of Neighbors Helping Neighbors. With over 90 volunteers, we answer emergency calls not only in Scotch Plains but in surrounding towns as well when needed. Besides answering calls, you will see our ambulances at many special events held in town, such as Scotch Plains Day, the Memorial Day Parade, high school football games, and the summer concerts on the Village Green. We are also available to provide demonstrations for Boys and Girls Scout troops, clubs, and any other group that may be interested in what we do. In addition, we lend out wheelchairs, crutches, canes and other assorted medical equipment free of charge. Our Auxiliary Group holds fund raisers and provides other much needed support for our members. Please reach out to us if there is something we can do for you, or if you would like to become a part of our organization.

Call (908) 322-2103 for non-emergencies or scotchplainsrescuesquad@gmail.com.



## Scotch Plains Monthly • Page 18 • August 2018 BOYS' VOLLEYBALL ENDS AMAZING 1ST SEASON

Photo by Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools.



Dr. Richard Lukenda's new office is now open and accepting new patients!

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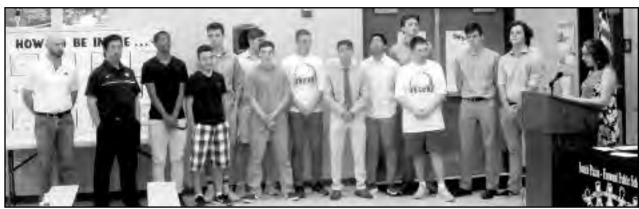
Mary DePaola, ABR, SRES Sales Associate **COLDWELL BANKER RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE** 600 North Avenue West Westfield, NJ 07090 Office: 908-233-0065 Cell: 908-963-8673 www.marydepaola.com Email: mary.depaola@cbmoves.com

Varsity Boys' Volleyball Team had a remarkable first season as a varsity program. This team earned an overall record of twenty wins and four losses earning the Hackensack Tournament Championship as well as the Union County Conference Championship.

This Varsity Boys' Volleyball Team earned the top seed in the Union County Interscholastic Athletic Conference Championship and earned the school's first Boys Volleyball County

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Championship by defeating Summit High School in sets. This team also advanced to the quarter finals of the New Jersey Interscholastic Athletic Association Tournament.

> The team consisted of Marcello Cappuccio Braedon Cooke, Colin Donahue, Adam Glod, Ethan Johnston, Ryan Metzger, Joshua Morris, Michael Rinaldi, Peter Sailsman, Joseph Varela, Steven Verrastro and Evan Zakovic. Head Volleyball Coach is Brock Hor, assisted by Matthew Ritter.



(above) The Varsity Boys' Volleyball Team had an impressive inaugural season, ending with a record fo 20-4 and winning the Hackensack Tournament Championship as well as the Union County Conference Championship.



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## **NAMI UNION COUNTY 2018 EVENTS**

(NAMI), is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness.

Below are some of NAMI Union County's 2018 offerings. For more information, plase visit the NAMI website at nami.org.

Register Now for Free Course Offered by NAMI

The Union County affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) is pleased to once again offer the free 12-week course Family to Family (F2F) Education Program. The course is offered specifically to the parents, siblings, spouses, teenage and adult children of individuals with severe and persistent mental illness.

In a confidential setting, loved ones will learn how to understand and support their ill relative while maintaining their own well-being. Attendees will learn about the biology of the

The National Alliance on Mental Illness brain, new research, medications, skills needed to successfully communicate with a relative and how to handle critical periods. Other topics include advocacy, fighting stigma and problem solving.

> Class will begin in September and be held once a week for 12 consecutive weeks. For more information, call Pat at 732-382-0762 or email patroman2@aol.com. Please include F2F in the subject line.

> Support Group Meetings Offered by NAMI Union County

> Are you feeling stressed and alone in trying to cope with the effects of a loved one's mental illness? Join our peer led group meetings and gain insight from others facing similar challenges. Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at the First Presbyterian Church of Cranford, 11 Springfield Ave. Cranford, NJ. Time: 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. Next meeting is August 21st. For more info call 908-233-1628.







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612 E. Jersey Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07206

## **SPF HIGH SCHOOL GOLF TEAM** HAS A SEASON OF SUCCESS

The 2018 Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Golf Team endured a season of dramatically cold and rainy weather and finished the season with a 13-3 record.

At the start of the season, the Raiders were successful in defending the Bomber Tournament Championship in Middlesex County. This golf team set a school record of scoring 308 in the Union County Tournament and they were crowned the Runner Up for the 2018 Union County Tournament with Jimmy Bagdonas winning the Individual County Championship, only the fourth in school history, scoring 74.

The team, consisting of Jimmy Bagdonas, Jared Bloom, Patrick Bourke, Sam Calao, Louie Daniele, Miguel Fontora, Sean Illanovsky, John Williamson and Jonathan Yu earned the school's fifth North II Group 3 Sectional Championship scoring a 33 lead by Jared Bloom's 2 under par score of 70.

The Golf Team's successful season culminated with a 7th place finish in the State Tournament of Champions led by Louie Daniele's fifth place finish. The complete team, led by Coach Ryan Goracy, had an incredible year.

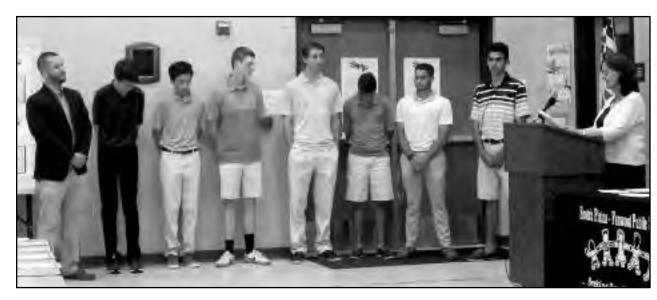


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(above, l-r) Head Coach Ryan Goracy, Patrick Bourke, Jonathan Yu, Jimmy Bagdonas, Louie Daniele, Miguel Fontora, Jared Bloom and Sam Calao.

Photo by Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools.



## **HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS RECEIVE SEAL OF BILITERACY**

Seventeen Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School senior students were awarded the 2018 New Jersey State Seal of Biliteracy by the New Jersey Department of Education. In order to receive the Seal of Biliteracy, the students had to demonstrate proficiency in a foreign language and English in their junior or senior year.

These seventeen students took the online Standards-Based Measure of Proficiency (STAMP) assessment in their chosen foreign language and received a score of Intermediate Mid or higher in all four measured skills of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. These students also demonstrated proficiency in English by scoring Proficient or higher on one of the English Language Arts Assessments approved by the New Jersey Department of Education.

Jakub Hibner, a senior student, was awarded the 2018 New Jersey State Seal of Biliteracy in Spanish and Polish thereby making him proficient in three languages! Here is the list of seniors, the language(s) they are proficient in as well as the colleges they will be attending this fall:

MADELINE BORD – SPANISH – Johns Hopkins University CAITLIN BOURKE – SPANISH – University of Maryland FRANCESCA CARLINO – ITALIAN – University of Notre Dame AMY CHEN – MANDARIN CHINESE – Montclair State University PHOEBE COLLINS – SPANISH – Smith College ZHENGJIE DONG – MANDARIN CHINESE – Rutgers University ALANNA GAONA – SPANISH – Farleigh Dickinson University EMILY GONYOU – SPANISH

- Union County College

**JAKUB HIBNER – SPANISH AND POLISH**  Rutgers University **ALEXANDER JOSHUA – ITALIAN**  Rutgers University JOSHUA LOANGO – SPANISH - Rutgers University **JARED MANN – SPANISH** - Northeastern University NIKITA PARANJAPE – FRENCH Rutgers University **MICHAEL RAMOS – SPANISH** – University of Delaware **SOHIA ROSAHL – FRENCH**  Rutgers University JULIA VERARDI – ITALIAN DeSales University PAULINA ZAMORA – SPANISH - Lynchburg University



## **SEAL OF BILITERACY RECIPIENTS**



(above) Pictured are some of the students who attended the reception. In total, seventeen Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School senior students were awarded the 2018 New Jersey State Seal of Biliteracy by the New Jersey Department of Education.

Photo by Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools.

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Any errors in customer's ad artwork provided to Chamber are solely the customer's responsibility. Chamber assumes that the customer has the full legal right to use and reproduce the provided logo(s) and brand(s) and will provide accurate and truthful information and text. Exact reproduction of colors cannot be guaranteed because different computers can alter and even distort intended color shades. Other conditions available on request.

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Deadline for ad sales and art is June 30, 2018

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