

# Scotch Plains NJ

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### KATHERINE SCHUG RECEIVES UNITY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Fifteen individuals and seven organizations recently received the Union County Human Relations Commission's prestigious Unity Award for Achievement, an honor given to role models who dedicate their time and efforts to activities and programs that raise and honor the human 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.

The Unity Achievement Award by a Student was presented to Katherine Schug, a senior at Scotch Plains/Fanwood High School. Katherine was recognized for standing up and speaking out to embrace her "differentness" and to turn a challenge into an opportunity. Below is preprinted from the event's program.

Katherine Schug had to learn how to adjust to some of life's challenges at an early age. She has severe allergies to milk, eggs, and peanuts, she was allergic to wheat, too, until she partially grew out of that at the age of five. She is ok if the wheat is toasted. She also has eczema and asthma.

Katherine has said that having allergies has had a profound effect on her family. Her parents, with concerns about their children's nutrition and health, had to embark on a new path. They worried about school, and how these allergies would impact peer relationships. Would she be teased? Would she be invited to parties? They also feared for her safety and worried about the risk of a fatal reaction. The number of people developing food allergies is increasing, and many don't know they can be life-threatening.

In elementary school at lunchtime, Katherine had to sit separate from her classmates at a special "allergy table," far away from the common area, which featured scary peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. In middle school, she sat at the end of the table to give herself a little more space. Katherine has shared that sitting with the others who shared allergies, she didn't feel alone; she felt special.

Anyone who knows Katherine Schug knows she is special. When she was in sixth grade, she started a website for teens called "Reach For The Stars" to help create awareness about food allergies. Witnessing classmates who are bullied by others for their allergies, she changed the name to Teen FAAB - Food Allergies and Anti-Bullying - to show the FAABulous side of food allergies, help teens cope and support each other, and to help people change their lives.

She has presented information on food allergies and anti-bullying at the Food Allergy Research and Education Teen Summit in Washington, D.C. She has advocated for those who face the challenges she faces, letting them know they are not alone, and they can make a difference in their own lives, and in the attitude of the world. Katherine has shared that, although having food allergies has made things challenging, it hasn't made them impossible.

Katherine has said, "Together, as a community, we can accomplish something big! It just takes one person to start it."



*(above) Katherine Schug receiving the Unity Achievement Award.*

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# Scotch Plains NJ

WHAT'S HAPPENING MONTHLY

Scotch Plains Monthly is published by Renna Media. 9,500 newspapers are printed monthly and mailed to every business and resident in Scotch Plains.

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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**

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## THE FANWOOD-SCOTCH PLAINS SERVICE LEAGUE THRIFT SHOP READY FOR FALL

The Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League Thrift Shop, 1741 E. 2nd St. Scotch Plains, has reopened for the fall season. The shop is ready to take customers from warm fall days and cool nights into the late fall holidays.

Back-to-School and fall clothing for men, women, toddlers and babies is stocked. Accessories are also available. Houseware and linens are readied for indoor activities.

September features designer handbags. Gently used and new bags which cost hundreds in department stores are available at reasonable prices. Don't forget a pair of shoes to go with that bag.

Service League President Carol Marquardt is excited by the upcoming fall-winter season. She notes that the shop has many new, never used items and the "gently" used items are in excellent condition.

The Thrift Shop continues to carry Woman sized clothing from 16 to 20W, XL, (1X) to 2X, (XXL), and Chico sizes.

Thrift shop hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization that has served the local communities since 1974. Since its founding, the League has donated more than \$1.3 million for local causes.

Anyone interested in learning more about the League or membership is invited to call (908) 322-5420, visit the League's website at [scotchplains thriftshop.weebly.com](http://scotchplains thriftshop.weebly.com) or speak to any of the volunteers at the Thrift Shop. Checkout the organization's Facebook page, "Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League," and give the League a "Like."

New and gently-used saleable donations are always welcome during business hours. Free parking is available on the street and in the rear of the building.

Visitors may enter the parking lot via Willow Avenue.

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## MARCHING BAND TO HOST 20TH ANNUAL BAND FESTIVAL ON SEPT 22

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Marching Band will welcome fifteen fellow New Jersey marching bands to its 20th Annual Marching Band Festival on September 22, 2018. Performances will begin at 5 p.m. at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, located at 667 Westfield Road in Scotch Plains. The festival will be held at the Perry Tyson Football Field, behind the school at the rear of the parking lot.

Admission cost will be \$10 for adults and \$7 for students and senior citizens, and will include a free festival program. Food, drinks and 50/50 raffle tickets will be available throughout the evening. The Festival will include performances by marching bands from: Bayonne High School, Cranford High School, Edison High School, Elizabeth High School, Jackson Memorial High, John P. Stevens High School, Linden High School, Monsignor Farrell High School, North Warren Regional High School, Somerville High School, South Brunswick High School, Walt Whitman High School, Weehawken High School, Westfield High School, West Orange High School, and Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School.

The 150 members of the SPFHS Marching Band will perform their 2018 show, *On Point*, under the direction of Durand Thomas. Additional band staff includes the assistant director, John Gillick, Scott Burrows, and Chris DiCarlo. Color Guard staff includes the director, Jackie Tumolo and assistant, Jackie Close. Student drum majors are Brent Mankin, Audrey Smith and Josh Venick.

Throughout the upcoming 2018 season, the marching band will perform at SPFHS home and

away football games and US Bands competitions each weekend. In 2014, the SPF Marching Band was the NJ Group 6A State Champion and National Gold Medal Champion. In 2015, the SPF Marching Band was the Group 6 Open State Silver Medal Champion. Additional information is available at the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Music Boosters website [spfmusicboosters.org](http://spfmusicboosters.org).

Come out to support this proud Raider tradition, and stay to enjoy an evening of food, fun and fantastic musical performances!



(above) The 20th Annual Marching Band Festival will be held on September 22, 2018 at 5 p.m. at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School. Come see the SPFHS Marching Band will perform their 2018 show, *On Point*, as well as performances from 15 other local marching bands.

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## HOMETOWN HEROES BANNER PROGRAM

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(above) Pictured is one of the Hometown Heroes banners that will be lining the main streets of Scotch Plains and Fanwood. The banners honor Scotch Plains/Fanwood veterans and active duty military.

St. Bartholomew the Apostle Church, the Township of Scotch Plains, the Borough of Fanwood, American Legion Post 209, and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10122 have partnered to honor local veterans by lining the main streets with banners picturing our veterans and noting their branch and years of service.

The banner program seeks to recognize Scotch Plains/Fanwood veterans (living and deceased) and active duty military who have served in the U.S. Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard, Merchant Marines, or Women's Airforce Service Pilots (WWII).

"This project came about because one person thought we should honor our veterans in the same way some of our surrounding towns have. We approached the mayors of Scotch Plains and Fanwood and within minutes got an emphatic yes," said Elaine Coupe, Director of Community Outreach at St. Bartholomew Church. "This community loves our veterans and this is the perfect way to show how proud we are."

Families can honor their loved ones by submitting an application and photo. There will also be a special luncheon hosted by the community on Veterans Day, November 11, 2018, to celebrate.

If you are a veteran, or a family member of a veteran, and would like an application, contact Elaine Coupe at [SPFHeroes@gmail.com](mailto:SPFHeroes@gmail.com), (908) 322-5192 ext 141, or stop by St. Bartholomew Church rectory to pick up a copy.

This program will be funded by private donations so that there is no fee to the veteran to participate. If you would like to help our local veterans, a tax deductible donation can be made by credit card: [membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/NJ844/28975](http://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/NJ844/28975).

Checks can be made payable to St. Bartholomew the Apostle Church (with "Hometown Heroes" in memo line) and mailed to: Elaine Coupe

St. Bartholomew the Apostle Church  
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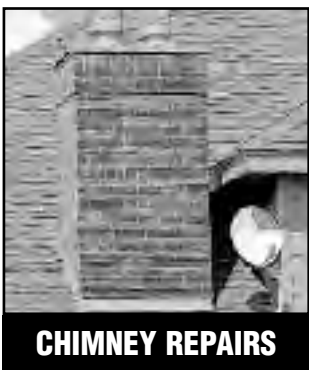
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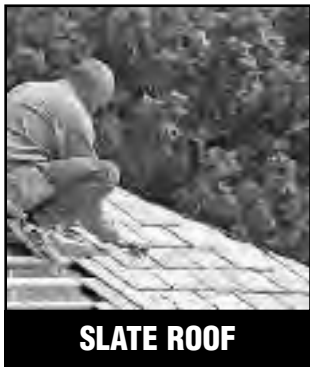
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## PRESENTATION ON VETERANS BENEFITS AT AMERICAN LEGION

Submitted by Sharon Knight

On October 9, 2018 at 7:00 p.m., David Brimmer, Community Outreach Manager for the Veterans Administration (VA) New Jersey Healthcare System, will present a program on Veterans benefits at the Martin Wallberg American Legion Post 3 located at 1003 North Avenue West in Westfield, New Jersey.

Included will be information on: Diagnostic, treatment, preventative, and other healthcare services available to eligible veterans enrolled for VA Healthcare benefits; eligibility, and information on local VA health centers and Community-Based outreach centers (CBOCs.) There will be also be representatives from the Union County Office of Veteran Services with information from local and State organizations.

## CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNOUNCES MAYOR'S 0.5K RACE- THE ANTI-5K RACE

Submitted by Barbara Rappaport

On Friday, September 7, 2018, The Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce (GWACC) in support of the Scotch Plains Business and Professionals Association and the Township of Scotch Plains will host its first Mayor's 0.5k Race – The Anti-5k Race.

"We are very excited to bring this unique tongue and cheek race event to Scotch Plains and provide support to The Frazee House renovations as well help fund the Mayor's Hometown Heroes Banner Program," said Gene Jannotti, GWACC CEO.

The Mayor's 0.5k Race takes place in town center on Friday, September 7th. The event will start with a check-in pre-party from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. with local food, drink and a DJ. The "race" begins at 7:30 p.m. Participants will follow an approximate 547-yard course. Along the course

will be rest stops with snacks and water should runners get tired. All participants will receive a beer or ice cream cup to help them celebrate their achievement. An awards ceremony will follow with an "I Did It!" celebration. Event information and registrations can be found on the GWACC website at gwaccnj.com/0\_5krace.

"This race isn't to be taken seriously. Its intent is to bring the Scotch Plains community together in a fun and unique way. We are happy to be working with the Township Scotch Plains and the Scotch Plains Business and Professional Association in this endeavor," said Jannotti.

Scotch Plains Mayor Al Smith added, "We are delighted that the GWACC brought this light-hearted event to us. We are looking forward to hosting this exciting community-minded and fun evening, the whole family can participate. I hope everyone will come out and have a great time."

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## VOLUNTEERS BRING SMILES AND MORE TO RESIDENTS OF CENTER FOR HOPE HOSPICE



(above, l-r) Maliek Flynn, Rachel Buxbaum, Tracy Hawk and Dustin Coughlin from Unity Bank.

Volunteers from Unity Bank came to the Center for Hope Hospice on July 17, 2018 to learn how to make colorful flower arrangements for residents at Peggy's House in Scotch Plains and Father Hudson House in Elizabeth. Teaching them was Tony Sweisford, who teaches flower arranging online and whose son, Travis Sweisford, is the Center chef. After hearing about the idea, he connected Stacy Kaplan, the volunteer coordinator, with his mother. Maliek Flynn, Rachel Buxbaum, Tracy Hawk and Dustin Coughlin transformed small mason jars into colorful bursts of cheer; the arrangements were hand-delivered to each resident at both Center facilities, along with bags of fresh-baked cookies from the Center kitchen.

On June 12, employees from L'Oreal USA came to plant flowers on the grounds of Peggy's House; this is the fifth year in a row that L'Oreal volunteers enjoyed a project day at the residence. A video from that day's project is posted on the Center's website, cfhh.org.

The Center for Hope offers hospice and

palliative care at Peggy's House and Father Hudson House, as well as in patients' homes, and other medical and long-term care settings.

Organizations interested in partnering with the Center for volunteer opportunities can contact Stacy Kaplan at [skaplan@cfhh.org](mailto:skaplan@cfhh.org) or (908) 889-7780.



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(above) Volunteers from L'Oreal spent a day planting flowers on the grounds of Peggy's House in Scotch Plains.

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# FANNYWOOD DAY SET FOR SEPTEMBER 16

This event is hosted by the Borough of Fanwood NJ and produced by JC Promotions, Inc.  
[www.jcpromotions.info](http://www.jcpromotions.info) or 201.998.1144 for more info.



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Hosted by: Borough of Fanwood NJ  
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[www.jcpromotions.info](http://www.jcpromotions.info) 201.998.1144

Summer is drawing to a close but that doesn't mean that the fun has to stop! This year, rain or shine, the 23rd annual Fanny Wood Day will return on Sunday, September 16 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 a classic car show and the return of kid-friendly activities in the Kids Zone with lots of fun stuff for kids to do such as a trackless train, petting zoo, pony rides, and numerous kiddie rides.

### CONTESTS

Back by popular demand are many of the same contests that were offered last year such as the scavenger hunt, pizza eating, ice cream eating, bubble blowing, water balloon toss and more!

### COME HUNGRY

If contests aren't your thing, grab some delicious food from one of the many food exhibitors and trucks and local eateries.

### MUSIC

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



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# POLICE HOSTS NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2018



On Tuesday, August 7, 2018 the Scotch Plains Police Department invited the community to join millions of neighbors across thousands of communities from all fifty states, U.S. territories and military bases worldwide for National Night Out.

A surprise thunderstorm earlier in the evening didn't dampen the fun.

This year's event included many activities for the children and featured an appearance from Bat Man, inflatable rides, dunk tank, free hot dogs, giveaways, and more.

The Scotch Plains hometown Braodcasters band performed, and there were demonstrations from the Police Department as well as the Fire and Rescue Squad.

## WHAT IS NATIONAL NIGHT OUT?

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.

Millions of neighbors take part in National Night Out across thousands of communities from all fifty states, U.S. territories and military bases worldwide on the first Tuesday in August. Neighborhoods host block parties, festivals, parades, cookouts and various other community events with safety demonstrations, seminars, youth events, visits from emergency personnel, exhibits and much, much more. For more information visit [natw.org](http://natw.org).



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



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# SCOTCH PLAINS TOWNSHIP LAUNCHES NEW RECYCLE COACH APP

The Township of Scotch Plains launched Recycle Coach, a free app designed to help make recycling information more accessible to residents. Recycle Coach provides accurate up-to-date information on Scotch Plains recycling schedules in a handy, user-friendly app format.

Residents can access Recycle Coach from their mobile devices, desktop computers, or through digital assistants like Amazon Alexa and Google Home. The Recycle Coach app is available to download free of charge on the Google Play and the Apple iTunes Store, just search "Recycle Coach."

With Recycle Coach, residents can:

- Stay organized with custom curbside collection and events calendars.
- Receive collection reminders and real-time updates on service disruptions.
- Become recycling experts with a comprehensive "What Goes Where?" search tool, including local disposal information and collection requirements for common and uncommon items, e.g. electronics, scrap metal.
- Take the "What Type of Recycler Are You?" quiz for useful recycling tips and tricks.
- Use the problem-reporting tool, equipped with geolocation, to notify municipal customer services about issues like missed collections.

"In keeping with Scotch Plains' goal of making information accessible, this free Recycle Coach app provides an excellent opportunity for Scotch Plains residents to obtain accurate up-to-date

information on Township recycling schedules all with the convenience of their cell phone or computer," said Mayor Al Smith.

About Recycle Coach

Recycle Coach is a technology company with deep roots in public and private waste management services. It develops a comprehensive digital solution that optimizes

collection, waste, and recycling programs. Recycle Coach connects residents with local disposal information on desktop, mobile, or through digital assistants. Serving over 3,000 communities across the U.S., Canada, Australia, and New Zealand, Recycle Coach strives to make the world a greener place by making it easier for people to practice waste mindfulness.

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# SCOTCH PLAINS' ADAM ROTHENBERG JOINS CASA OF UNION COUNTY TRUSTEES

Submitted by Gretchen Boger-O'Bryan

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Union County welcomes attorney Adam Rothenberg of Scotch Plains to its board of trustees.

CASA of Union County is a nonprofit organization that recruits, trains, supervises and supports community volunteers to advocate for abused, neglected and abandoned Union County children removed from home and placed in foster care or residential facilities. There are nearly 500 Union County children in foster care.

A personal injury attorney at Levinson Axelrod in Edison, Rothenberg said, "I am honored and excited to join the board of CASA of Union County. Its mission is a unique opportunity to advocate solely for the well-being of children in the foster system. I look forward to assisting to advance the goals of CASA to benefit those children and hope we ultimately can get a CASA volunteer for every child who needs one." His wife Christie is a CASA volunteer. He was gala chairman for the

organization's Foster the Dream Gala in 2016.

"We are so pleased Adam joined the board," said Executive Director Marla Higginbotham. "Adam's wife is a long-time volunteer who's advocated for five youth and he's seen firsthand the responsibility — and reward — that brings. Add to that to Adam's work as an attorney to help those in crisis, the board expects to continue to flourish with his added support and expertise."

Through court-ordered access to foster parents, doctors, caseworkers, therapists and teachers, CASA volunteers ensure a child's best interests remain a priority while working toward establishing a safe, stable and permanent home. CASA of Union County currently serves half the county's youth in care; its goal is to provide an advocate for every child. To do that, more volunteers are needed. For details on training or other ways to get involved, contact Courtney at [cgreen@casaoofunioncounty.org](mailto:cgreen@casaoofunioncounty.org) or (908) 293-8136.

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The training includes Mental Health First Aid and ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) certifications in the cost.

Our next volunteer training will be held from

September 12, 2018 – December 12, 2018, 7 p.m. – 10 p.m. one evening weekly plus one full weekend.

**REGISTER NOW! REGISTRATION IS LIMITED.**

To learn more and apply, please log onto <http://caringcontact.org/volunteer-listener-application/> or call 908-301-1899

### ABOUT CARING CONTACT

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## ANNUAL CEMETERY TOUR TO HAVE WORLD WAR I THEME

The focus throughout much of 2018 has been the observance of the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I. To pay tribute to the men and women who gave so much during the "war to end all wars," this year's cemetery tour, hosted by the Merchants and Drivers Tavern Museum Association, will feature a World War I theme. The tour, the Association's 24th annual, will be held on Sunday, October 7, 2018 in the historic Rahway Cemetery.

Guests will be escorted to eleven graves of citizens who have interesting and in some cases tragic stories to tell. Costumed actors will represent both soldiers and civilians as they give the historic accounts of the parts they played in the war.

Tour stops will include the graves of two soldiers who were killed in action, the mausoleum of Dr. Fred Albee, the famous orthopedic surgeon, and a 15 year old girl who

worked as a Red Cross Volunteer. Descriptions of some of the brutal battles will be given by soldiers who were there, two of whom received the Purple Heart and came home with life-altering injuries. Visitors will also learn about the USA Coast Artillery Corps, the Army Air Force, and the Balloon Squadron. Visitors will hear the unusual story of a decorated soldier, who after the war, murdered his girlfriend and was executed in the electric chair.

Tours start at noon and leave every 15 minutes with each tour taking approximately 1 1/2 hours. The last tour goes out at 4:00 p.m. Since large crowds are anticipated, tour time reservations are recommended to ensure a desired starting time. Admission is \$15.00 for adults, \$10.00 for seniors (65+), and \$5.00 for children (12 and under). For reservations and more information, call the Museum office at (732) 381-0441.



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## SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN SCOUT REGATTA

Students at the Crossroads School in Westfield participated in their annual "Raingutter Regatta," the school's summer version of their annual Cub Scout Pinewood Derby. In a raingutter regatta two students race handmade sailboats down a narrow channel, whoever reaches the end of the channel first is the winner. The students can decorate and name their boats before the race.

Patriots' Path Council of the Boy Scouts of America has partnered with the Union County Educational Services Commission for over 5 years to provide Scouting programs to special needs youth in Union County at The Crossroads School (Pack 45) and The Westlake School (Troop 1571), both in Westfield. The Westfield United Fund sponsors the program and pays for the students' registration and material costs.

Pack 45 at Crossroads school is led by school

social worker Ms. Elaine Liggeri, who enjoys using Scouting to give her students enrichment activities that they may not be able to participate in outside of a school setting. The pack will have its annual Pinewood Derby next winter.

For more information about Special Needs Scouting in Munsee, Raritan Valley, or Watchung Mountain, please contact Program Executive Will Adams at will.adams@scouting.org or 973-765-9322 x234.

For Black River, Fishawak, and Sussex, please contact Program Executive Michael Loughman at michael.loughman@scouting.org or 973-765-9322 x 226.

For more information about Special Needs Scouting in our area, please contact Program Executive Will Adams:

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(above) Students from Crossroads School in Westfield participating in their annual "Raingutter Regatta," where they raced handmade sailboats down a narrow channel.

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## FOUR GENERATIONS OF MARSH FAMILY VISIT ROTARY - JOHN SR. HONORED



John Marsh Sr. was recently awarded the prestigious "Paul Harris Award" for his volunteer work for the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary.

John is shown here visiting his son at the Bath Maine Rotary Meeting. His Grandson Jesse Marsh was visiting from Sweden with his son, Cosimo. John Marsh, Jr. and his wife, Anne, are past presidents of the Bath, Maine Rotary Club.

*(left, l-r) Cosimo Marsh being held by Jesse Marsh, John Marsh Jr., John Marsh Sr.*

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The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Newcomers and Neighbors Club will hold our annual Welcome Coffee on Sunday, September 9, 2018 from 9:30-11:00 a.m. at La Grande Park in Fanwood. This event is open to all, especially new and prospective members. Please join us for breakfast, refreshments, an opportunity to meet club members and a chance for your kids to play. Feel free to bring friends, neighbors and other potential new members.

Scotch Plains-Fanwood Newcomers and Neighbors is a non-profit social club that has been active in the community since 1950. Comprised of approximately 80 active families, we offer daytime and evening social activities. Please visit our website for more information at [spfnewcomers.com](http://spfnewcomers.com).

## MOVIE ON THE GREEN WONDER WOMAN

Beginning at dusk (7 p.m.) on Friday, September 14, 2018 the Township of Scotch Plains will present the movie Wonder Woman. The family friendly event is free. Bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on. Alan Augustine Green is located at the Municipal Building, 430 Park Ave., Scotch Plains, NJ.

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## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP AT BLOOD DRIVES

New Jersey Blood Services (NJBS), which supplies blood to hospitals throughout the state, is in need of volunteers to help at blood drives. The blood drive volunteer is an integral member of the blood collection team whose task it is to assist donors with registration and/or at the refreshment area. No medical background necessary. 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, Monday to Thursday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Manager of Community Relations & Volunteer Services Sharon Zetts at 732-850-8906.

### About New York Blood Center

Founded in 1964, the New York Blood Center Network (NYBC) is a nonprofit organization that is one of the largest independent, community-based blood centers in the world. NYBC, along

with its partner organizations Community Blood Center of Kansas City, Missouri (CBC), Innovative Blood Resources (IBR), Blood Bank of Delmarva (BBD), and Rhode Island Blood Center (RIBC), collect approximately 4,000 units of blood products each day and serve local communities of more than 45 million people in the Tri-State area (NY, NJ, CT), Mid Atlantic area (PA, DE, MD), the Kansas City metropolitan area, Minnesota, Nebraska, Rhode Island, and Southern New England. NYBC and its partners also provide a wide array of transfusion-related medical services, including Comprehensive Cell Solutions, the National Center for Blood Group Genomics, the National Cord Blood Program, and the Lindsley F. Kimball Research Institute, which—among other milestones—developed the Hepatitis B vaccine and a patented solvent detergent plasma process innovating blood-purification technology worldwide.

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# PARTNERSHIPS FULFILLED: SCOTCH PLAINS FANWOOD SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION DISTRIBUTES \$156,150 IN SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

*Submitted by Cathy Cvetovich*

In its 52nd year, the Scotch Plains Fanwood Scholarship Foundation continues to fulfill its many varied partnerships with community members, community organizations and individuals by distributing \$156,150 in scholarship aid to 97 students.

Community members contributed to the Dollars for Students Campaign used to distribute \$24,000 among high school and college students who demonstrated both academic achievement and financial need. The High School students are: Jennifer Lambert (Eleanor Kramps), Connor Wirth (John Lawson), Christine Vilarino (Joseph Nagy), Jakub Hibner, Andrew Lomuscio, David Chango, Jr., Aaron Schack, Carolyn McArdle. The college students are Alaina Frank (Recipient Funded), Rebecca Citarella (Henry Schwiering), Rachel Lambert (Lenore Stein), Matthew Auda, Jessica Vilarino, Alexander Karakis, Brianna Sorrentino, Alexa-Jada Nelson.

Several individuals and families have entrusted funds to the Foundation's stewardship and this year the following students have benefited from such partnership: Jim Alfano Memorial, Scott Kaiser; Adrian Andrews Memorial, Karl Wirth; George Bryan Memorial, Ashley Becker; Karen and Joseph Franzone Memorial, Anna Gumpel; William and Ruth Linge Memorial, LeeDar Sneor and Caitlin Bourke; William McGinn Memorial, Nicholas Route; Courtney Metzger Memorial, Maria DelSordi; James O'Hara Powers Memorial, Nicholas Heath and Caraid McGovern; Dr. Murial Ramsden Memorial, Mackenzie O'Brien; Terry and Arlene Riegel Scholarship Fund, Caroline English; James Sochan Memorial, Samantha Graifer; Jeffrey Spring Memorial, David Saggio; and Franklin Maine and Helen McConnell Spooner, Rachel Graham.

Other individuals and community organizations delegate to the Foundation's dedicated Screening Committee the details of scrutinizing and determining the year's most deserving students who also meet their varied

criteria. These partners and the students honored by their scholarships are: Besson Family Memorial, Joseph Dietze and Zoe Cardenas; Charlie Brown's Fresh Grill, Adam Mayerson; Mauro and Rulene DiFrancesco, Riya Desai; Frank DiNizo Memorial, Caraid McGovern; Donna Doremus Memorial, Daniella Cohen; Friday's Place, Clifford Stueck; Girl Scouts, Ciara McParland; Gordon Memorial Lacrosse, Jake Rigney and Kerry Regan; Doris Koues Memorial, Bridget Wallden; John and Marie Losavio Memorial, Samantha Graifer; Tom Montagna (Follow Your Dream), Louis Daniele; Katherine Newcomer Memorial, Sydney Von Oehsen; Lynn Payne Memorial, Sydney Von Oehsen; Dr. Robert V. Scalera Memorial, Mackenzie Inacker; LaVerne Schnell Memorial, Grace Fontana; School One Retired Elementary Educators and Staff, Amelia Graham; SPFH Italian Honor Society, Maria DelSordi and Josephine Catuogno; Scotch Plains-Fanwood Ice Hockey Association, Adam Glod; Lina Suriano Memorial, Josephine Catuogno; SPF Lacrosse Club Scholarship, Nicholas Route and Erica Paprocki; Mauro and Rulene DiFrancesco Saint Bartholomew Student Caroline Gutierrez; Frank Fumosa Memorial Ethan Wollman; Marie DiFrancesco Leppert Briana McGowan; John J. Maggs Memorial, Ryan Midwinter and Camille DiNizo Memorial Claudia Sahaj.

One of our deepest partnerships is with the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club and the Rotary-Garbe Foundation who administer the funds for the following scholarships: Rotary Garbe Foundation, awarded for four years to Rosella Cuomo, Rhiannon Leonardo, and Patrick Gannon (2018); Lukas Stein, Ethan Cheung and Marc Occhipinti (2017); Matthew Auda, Alexander Guevara, Maxwell Kearns and Jacob Brown (2016); and Alaina Frank, Steven Davies and Roland Crystal (2015); William Mullin Memorial, awarded for four years, Julia Dunlap (2018); Taylor Sirchio (2017); and Mariel Weigel (2016); Ethel Perkins Memorial, awarded for four years, Niva Patel (2018); Brianna Sorrentino

(2017); Noah Bernstein (2016); and Emily Fidlow (2015); David Ringle Memorial Valedictorian Award, Madeline Bord and Salutatorian Award, Olivia Barcia; Robert Kraus Memorial, Sydney Evans and Dr. Richard Dobyns Turnaround Award, Sydney Martorano.

Our Foundation began in 1966 with a donation from the SPFH PTA - a partnership which flourishes to this day. Every PTA in the school district contributes at least two scholarships to graduates who have attended their schools. In addition, the Scholarship Chairperson for each PTA serves on the Foundation's Screening Committee. The PTA Council scholarships: Manya Unger to Michael Leegan and Sierra Moorman, Dr. Carol Choye to Kiley Porter and Health and Wellness to Brandon Boyarsky; SPFH PTA scholarships: Robert Adams, Jr. to Matthew Lozito and Dr. Terry K. Riegel to Alexandra Vuono; Park Middle School McTB scholarships: Andrew Kriney and Vaishnavi Ramanan; Terrill Middle School John C. Foulks scholarships: Zachary Fleischman and Bridget Wallden; Brunner Elementary scholarships: Dr. Albert DeSousa Memorial to Nirmitt Damania and Brunner PTA Special Services to Shefali Dahiya and Anna Piekutowski; J. Ackerman Coles Elementary scholarships: Carl M. Kumpf to Julie Kim and Divya Narayanan, and Carol Patten Memorial to Hannah Davis; Evergreen Elementary scholarships: Dr. Beverlee Kaminetzky to Mikaela Tajo, Kehs-Aakjer Memorial to Bradley Chernoff and Chickie Giraud Memorial to Andrew Parvin; McGinn Elementary Mariana Cassidy Excellence Awards to Matthew Shih and Megan Small; and School One Elementary scholarships: James V. Cerasa to Lauren Trentacoste and Jeffrey Grysko to Katherine Schug.

Congratulations to these outstanding scholars. For further information, please visit our website [www.spfscholarshipfoundation.org](http://www.spfscholarshipfoundation.org) or contact the Foundation's president, Mary Ball Cappio at: 908-889-8155 [spfscholarshipfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:spfscholarshipfoundation@gmail.com)

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