The PRIDE of North Plainfield



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It's Hard To Stop A Trane.

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DIAL-IN TO HEAR A STORY FROM A LIBRARIAN Librarians read and record new stories weekly, now accessible via phone

Oh, it's Miss Amy reading a story!" exclaimed North Plainfield resident Micah Henry, 5.

Earlier this summer, the Somerset County Library System of New Jersey (SCLSNJ) launched a new service for children - a phone-in storytime, aptly called Dial-a-Story. Librarians system-wide have been taking turns recording weekly stories for Somerset County residents to enjoy from home, from the car, or anywhere they wish.

"Dial-a-Story is a free early literacy service that allows the librarians of SCLSNJ to extend storytime and connect with our youngest patrons - directly in their homes," said Amy Behr youth services department supervisor for SCLSNJ's Warren and Watchung library branches. "It is perfect for bedtime stories, short car trips, or simply spending quality time with your child(ren). Each week - on Friday - listen and follow along to a newly featured book specially selected by your friendly SCLSNJ librarians."

"Dial-a-Story is part of SCLSNJ's SOARING (Supportive Opportunities for Achieving Reading In the Next Generation) initiative," said Jen Fitzgerald, youth services librarian at SCLSNJ's North Plainfield Memorial Library branch.

Continued Fitzgerald, "Decades of research confirms the importance of reading aloud to foster children's development and learning. Dial-a-Story is another way for Somerset County children to hear books read aloud to them in addition to our collection of Vox books, playaways, and CD books. And, of course, we encourage all parents and caregivers to use print and eBooks to read aloud to their children as well."

SCLSNJ's SOARING initiative is designed to help parents navigate early childhood programming and resources, learn the different strategies used to support early literacy through each developmental stage, and replicate those strategies at home. The newest offering within the Library's SOARING suite of services is thus far a big hit.

"My 6-year-old daughter Mikayla loves Dial-a-Story. After I dialed and gave her the phone she was elated to hear the familiar read aloud. Excitedly she shouted 'I love this story, Mommy!' When it was finished I received more hugs and thank-you's than I knew what to do, just for dialing the number. Now she dials up on her own. Can't wait for the new story every Friday." said North Plainfield resident Kesha Carter.

Even older children are enjoying the service. "My son is 9 years old and reads at a high school level, and he found this thrilling," said North Plainfield resident Janet Costello.



(above) North Plainfield branch Librarian Jennifer Fitzgerald.

Some previously recorded and heard storybooks have included "Creepy Carrots" by Aaron Reynolds, "The Book with No Pictures" by B.J. Novak, "Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons" by Eric Litwin, illustrated by James Dean, "Bark George" by Jules Feiffer, "Five Little Monkeys Reading in Bed" by Eileen Christelow, "The Pout-Pout Fish" by Deborah Diesen, "Thunder Boy Jr." by Sherman Alexie, "Dill & Bizzy Opposite Day" by Nora Ericson, and "Outside Over There" by Maurice Sendak.

To listen to a story read by one of your favorite SCLSNJ librarians, call 908-458-8409. To learn more, visit SCLSNJ.org.

ABOUT SOMERSET COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM OF NEW JERSEY

Somerset County Library System of New Jersey (SCLSNJ) partners with you to connect, to explore, to share and to discover. Together we enrich lives, expand knowledge and strengthen communities. SCLSNJ branches can be found in Bridgewater, Bound Brook, Hillsborough, Manville, North Plainfield, Peapack & Gladstone, Rocky Hill at Mary Jacobs Memorial Library, Somerville, Warren Township, and Watchung. Additionally, there are two SCLSNJ reading stations in Branchburg and Washington Valley. Visit SCLSNJ.org.

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POSTA

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PROMOTE YOUR EVENT

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

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



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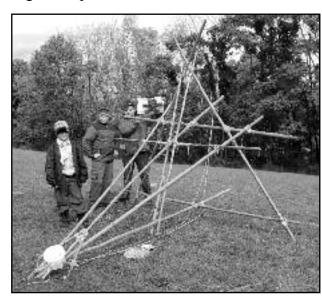
TROOP 235 TAKES 1ST PLACE AT FALL CAMPOREE

Submitted by Bob Holzer, Scoutmaster Troop 235

On the weekend of October 13th, 2018, nine Scouts ages 11 to 15 from troop 235 in North Plainfield participated in a multi-district camporee at Round valley. The camporee had a renaissance theme with two contests. There were 18 other troops from the area entered in both competitions. The first was Pumpkin Chunk'n with a bamboo catapult lashed together with ropes at the site. The second was a Dutch Oven Stew and Dessert competition. The scouts secured first place in the Pumpkin Chunk'n when they launched a pumpkin that reached the woods a couple of hundred feet away. Their savory beef stew and rice pudding also received first place in the dinner competition. overall Congratulations to the Scouts of Troop 235 who won with practice and teamwork.

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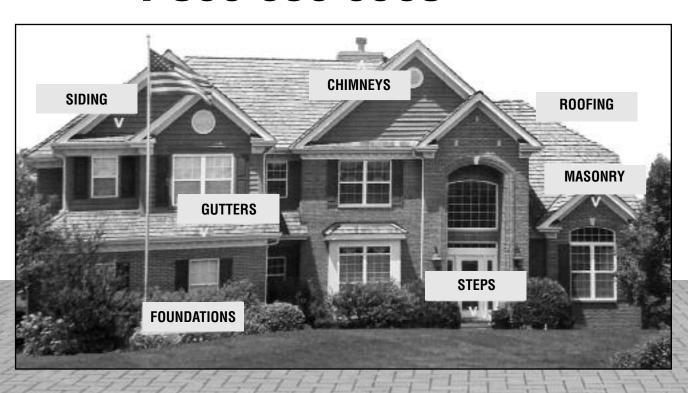
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'WEEKEND JOURNEY THROUGH THE PAST' AT VERMEULE MANSION

The Vermeule Mansion had a great turnout at their annual 'Weekend Journey Through the Past' event held on Oct 13-14, 2018. The event was a weekend tour of historically significant places in Somerset County, with approximately 30 sites participating. The event was sponsored by the Somerset County Cultural and Heritage Commission.

"The event was a great way for families and community to learn about the area's local history, and we had a great community response," explained Johanna Salvemini, president of the Friends of Vermeule Mansion (FOVM), the nonprofit organization that runs the Mansion. "Participating in a history weekend offers a way to learn about various aspects of local history — military efforts, lore, music, craft, food and pastimes." Ms. Salvemini pointed out that it's also a great way for kids who are studying the history of early America in school to allow the textbook information to come alive in a real way because history exists right in town.

The Vermeule Mansion volunteer staff immersed attendees in a variety of activities during the 2-day offering. North Plainfield High School's Interact Club members advised by Alexandra Pereira graciously provided support where needed during the event.

Attendees were treated to musical concerts by historian and balladeer Linda Russell and a photo presentation by Jim Del Giudice. Attendees also toured the Mansion and the photography museum, learned interesting highlights about the Vermeule property and how the FOVM organization came into being. Children (and adults) had the opportunity to play several old fashioned toys and work on a puzzle/activity book which included special Vermeule family and Mansion activities. Light refreshments typical of earlier times in history were also served.

Vermeule Mansion is open regularly on Saturdays from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. except holidays and is wheelchair accessible. Have a passion for history and culture and sharing your time and knowledge with the community? Join us on the Journey! Contact the Friends of Vermeule Mansion and like our Facebook page at facebook.com/vermeulemansion, or email or call johcre@yahoo.com or 908-755-8098.





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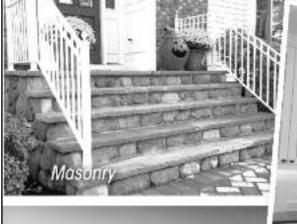
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ADOPT-A PARK PROGRAM CLEANS UP GREEN BROOK PARK

Another great Adopt-A-Park effort occurred in Green Brook Park, which is located in Plainfield and North Plainfield, on Sunday September 16, 2018, when students from Kean University joined forces with members of the North Plainfield Shade Tree Advisory Board, Thalia Saloukas and Bart Thomas, to clean up a section of the park along Parkview Avenue in North Plainfield.

The group, along with members of the Union County Adopt-A-Trail Chainsaw Crew and Adopt-A-Park steward Cathy Cole, worked hard to improve a section of trail and remove litter, recyclables and invasive plants from the site. Chainsaw crew members cut trees that fell across the path to allow access once again. Volunteers removed 32 bags of garbage and debris, 5 bags of recyclables, a tricycle, stuffed animal, power washer and a variety of other items.

The NPSTAB AAP stewards have adopted this section of Green Brook Park for over 12 years and in doing so have successfully controlled several populations of Japanese knotweed, a very aggressive, invasive plant that displaces other native vegetation.

Cathy Cole and her family have participated in many cleanups in the other sections of the park. The Adopt-A-Trail Chainsaw crew has removed many hundreds of fallen trees throughout the Union County Park System in the past year.

Recent rain storms have kept this crew leader, Ned O'Connell, and members Bob Czaja, Larry Russo, Paul Hanson and Bryon Housel quite busy.



(above) Adopt-A-Park cleanup crew at Green Brook Park.



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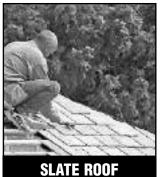
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PROGRAMS AT SCLSNJ'S NORTH PLAINFIELD MEMORIAL LIBRARY BRANCH

6 Rockview Ave, North Plainfield and can be reached at 908-458-8435. Visit online at SCLSNJ.org.

*Please note the Library will be closed on November 22 and 23 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

ALL AGE PROGRAMS

Vote! Garden State Children's Book Awards

November 5, 6, 7, 8; 9:30 a.m. - 9 p.m. and November 9, 10; 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

International Games Day

at North Plainfield Library November 10, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

CHILDREN, TWEEN, AND **EEN PROGRAMS**

We Are Thankful For

November 1, 9:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m. (grades 5-12)

Games Galore

November 5, 3:30-4:30 p.m. (grades K-5)





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Storvcrafters

November 6, 3:30-5 p.m. (grades 5-12)

Toddler/Preschool Storytime - Rhyme Time

November 7, 14, 21, 28; 10-11 a.m. (ages 18-60 months)

Minecraft Club

November 7, 3:30-5 p.m. (grades 4-7)

Baby/Toddler Storytime - Discover Stories

November 8, 15, 29; 10-11 a.m. (ages birth - 3 years)

Dungeons and Dragons

November 10, noon - 4 p.m. grades 6-12)

Drop-in Activity - Book in a Jar

November 12, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. (grades 3-5)

A Wrinkle in Time Viewing Party

November 13, 1-3:30 p.m. (grades 3-5)

Culinary Creators

November 13, 3:30-5 p.m. (grades 5-12)

Young Adult Advisory Council

November 14, 3:30-5 p.m. (grades 5-12)

Paint and Snack - Landscapes

November 20, 3:30-5:30 p.m. (grades 5-8)

Knitflix

November 27, 3-5 p.m. (grades 4-12)

Game Time

November 28, 3:30-5 p.m. (grades 5-12)

Miss Jen's Lab

November 29, 3:30-4:30 p.m. (grades K-5)

ADULT PROGRAMS

US Citizenship Course

November 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; 6-8 p.m.

English Conversation Group

November 5, 12; 7-8:30 p.m.

Time Management Fundamentals - Part One November 5, 7-8:30 p.m.

Morning Knit and Crochet

November 6, 20; 10 a.m. - noon

Beginner Spanish Course

November 6, 7-8 p.m. Book Discussion: "When Breath Becomes Air,"

on November 8, 1-2 p.m. and November 15, 7:15-8:30 p.m.

Emergency Preparedness

November 9, 11 a.m. - noon

Time Management Fundamentals - Part Two

November 12, 7-8:30 p.m.

Healthy Avenues Van

November 27, 1-3 p.m.

HONEY HEIST GANG

Teens and tweens connected at the Somerset next storycrafters program will be held on County Library System of New Jersey's (SCLSNJ) North Plainfield Memorial Library branch through role playing during the storycrafters program held in October. The monthly program series explores various ways for tweens and teens to express themselves through poetry, public speaking, and more. The

November 6 from 3:30-5 p.m., registration is required: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/794230

Storycrafters

From poetry to public speaking, explore various ways to express yourself. Each session features a new method of personal expression.



(above, l-r) Jordan Phillips, 11, North Plainfield; Samantha Funnye, 11, North Plainfield; Savannah Funnye, 11, North Plainfield; Naomi Tucker, 11, North Plainfield; Alyssa Ellis, 11, North Plainfield; Grace Klikus, 11, North Plainfield.

A MESSAGE FROM WILLIAM F. EATON, FIRE CHIEF/DIRECTOR NORTH PLAINFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the month of October, the North Plainfield Fire Department conducted fire prevention and education visits to the local schools and hosted visits at the firehouse for 'National Fire Prevention Month.' During these informative safety sessions, we have taken the opportunity of this safety campaign to teach the children many fire safety tips and techniques. Our main focus has been the age group of K thru 6 where we cover topics, including "stop/drop & roll," smoke detectors, exiting the home in case of an emergency, and kitchen safety.

We also conducted an open house at Fire Headquarters, on October 13th and we will be starting our annual smoke detector battery replacement program soon. If you or your family have difficulty in replacing your detector's batteries, or if you need assistance installing a detector, please contact fire headquarters to arrange for a visit by calling us at 908-769-2935.









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Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity has opened a Habitat ReStore that sells gently used, high-quality furniture, housewares and other items to the public at bargain prices. Proceeds will be used to build affordable homes and strong families in Somerset and Hunterdon Counties.



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CRESCENT AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CELEBRATES SOUP KITCHEN RENOVATION WITH GALA EVENT

The Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church of Plainfield will host a "Kitchen Reopening Gala" to celebrate the renovation of its kitchen. The event will be held November 10th from 6-10 p.m. at the church, 716 Watchung Avenue, Plainfield. Key participants in the church's mission to feed the hungry will be recognized and the evening will be highlighted by dining and entertainment. Both the renovation and the fundraiser will allow the Soup Kitchen Mission to better meet the needs of the community and provide a commercial grade space for community projects and missions centering on food.

What started as a small way to care for the hungry and needy after Superstorm Sandy in 2012 blossomed over time into a bustling soup kitchen at Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church (CAPC), serving hearty weekly meals to up to 150 guests and also giving out daily lunch bags. Clothing donations and "Blessing Bags" containing toiletries and essential items have also been regularly distributed as well as new winter coats, hats, gloves and socks. Most of this work was funded by the Keyes Foundation, a continued major donor towards this project.

"Our guests are treated with dignity, respect and nutritious food" says Reverend Lynn Santulli, CAPC pastor and instrumental part of the Soup Kitchen Mission. It has been reported that 14% of US households go hungry each day and the number of homeless is on the rise. Crescent Avenue Food Ministries offers hope to the Plainfields and seeks to expand the program's reach. Volunteers draw from the church, individuals from the community, companies, corporations and businesses as well as youth groups and schools who seek to partner to build a stronger community. Costco has also been a regular contributor to our food ministries.

With the major renovation of this space, the community will have access to a fully updated and certified kitchen that will allow for expanded 50/50. outreach and mission opportunities. Those who have toured the beautiful new facility agree that the outcome was well worth the wait and investment. Anticipation in the Plainfield community builds as the church now readies itself to once again open the Soup Kitchen doors.

The November 10th "Kitchen Reopening Gala" will celebrate this major accomplishment and will recognize those who have helped make it possible. Dinner and dancing will highlight the evening. In keeping with a sense of community, music will be provided by Plainfield's own popular and energetic "GBP Band." "Stone Soup", the catering arm of the Community Food Bank of New Jersey, will offer delectable dinner selections. In addition, there will be a wide array of beautiful Tricky Tray baskets as well as a

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The Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church Soup Kitchen and Food Ministries has been an essential Plainfield area mission and community outreach program. Now the renovated kitchen will enable the church's vision to do more. With the renovation complete, there are now other opportunities to explore and to expand outreach and accommodate a larger spectrum of community needs.

The public is warmly invited to enjoy and support this important and exciting event.

Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church Kitchen Reopening Gala, November 10, 6-10 p.m., 716 Watchung Avenue, Plainfield, NJ. Ticket price: \$75 per person.

For tickets and further information please call 908-7567-2468 or visit at crescentonline.org.

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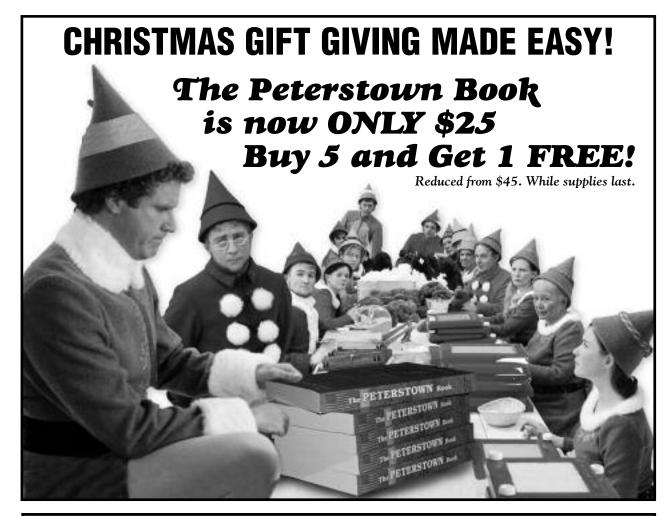
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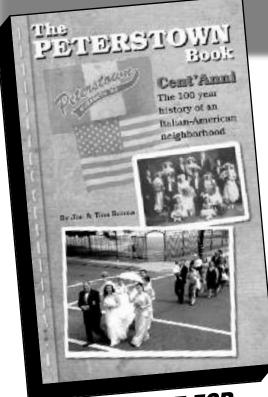
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North Plainfield Events November/December

11/3 10am Free Rabies Clinic Fire House

11/4 2am Daylight Savings Time Ends

11/6 Election Day - Go Vote!

11/10 11am Veterans Day Ceremony Memorial Park - Myrtle and

Willow

11/12 Veterans Day - Borough Hall

Closed

11/17 7pm Optimist Club Wine Tasting Vermeule Mansion

11/17 12pm Community Thanksgiving

Dinner

Watchung Presbyterian Church

11/22+23 Happy Thanksgiving! Borough Hall Closed

4pm Tree Lighting and 11/25 Santa Comes to Town!

Community Center

12/3 Happy Chanuka!

Best Decorated House Contest

12/21 1st Day of Winter

12-24+25 Merry Christmas

Borough Hall Closed

12/31 New Year's Eve - Borough Hall Closed

> See northplainfield.org For More Info Questions? - 908 769-2902 events@npmail.org



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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	'	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		2 & Under	FREE!

SUNDAY ALL DAY DINNER 11am · 10pm

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Kids 7-10	
Kids 3-6	
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