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STUDENTS START WITH HELLO IN PROMISE PROGRAM

Submitted by Pat Kane

As part of Scotch Plains-Fanwood Schools' participation in Sandy Hook Promise, our schools participated in Start with Hello Week. This week was dedicated to creating a more connected and inclusive school community so that students who feel isolated or alone know that they have people in their school who care about them and want them to be included.

The fourth-grade students in Christine Mill's classroom at School One took part in a concentric circle activity where they rotated around to different partners and learned something new about that person. Questions were asked such as, "Do you play any sports?" "What's your favorite food and why?" "If you could travel anywhere, where would you go and why?" "Would you rather be a bird or a dog, why?" Students then had the chance to ask a question of their own to a student in the class. The elementary schools posted "Start With Hello" signs throughout their buildings. Scotch Plains Mayor Al Smith, along with Al Mirabella, Margaret Heisey and School Superintendent Dr. Margaret Hayes participated in the activities along with Mrs. Mill's students.

Brunner third grade students loved learning about ways to help people that may feel socially isolated. The third-grade students in Charlene Hall's classroom read the book, The Invisible



(above) Brunner Third Grade students Russell Bolling, Ari White, Anjali Sharma participating in "Start With Hello" week.

Boy. Students identified with the young boy that was isolated from his peers and came up with strategies to help a student like the one in the story they read.

Students at the middle schools were reminded of the importance of saying hello to one another and how each one of us can make a difference in someone else's life. At Terrill Middle School, the Health and Physical Education Department kicked off the "Start With Hello" program by conducting the "Start With Hello" introductory lesson. Throughout the course of the past week, students in physical education classes, discussed the benefits of sharing a "hello" with someone else. In the same lesson, students also participated in a concentric circles activity that prompted the students to ask getting-to-know-you questions of one another. In the process, students were encouraged and made aware of how to say "hello" in fifteen different languages. Teachers and students reported a high level of engagement and insight with and about one another.

The students at Park Middle School were reminded every morning and afternoon of the importance of saying "Hello" to one another and how each one of us can make a difference in someone else's life. "Hello my name is..." name tags were given to both the Park students and staff and were worn through the day. During lunch time, the students sat with different students doing a get to know you activity. On Friday, September 28, everyone at Park was invited to wear green to show their support for our school community and once again recognize the importance of starting with "Hello".



(above) The "Start with Hello" bulletin board on display at the school entrance. The program was part of Scotch Plains-Fanwood Schools' participation in Sandy Hook Promise.



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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

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“THE LITTLE FREE LIBRARY” COMES TO EVERGREEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Submitted by Jennifer Delos Santos

Cheers to reading all the time, any time! Thanks to the non-profit organization “The Little Free Library,” people from all over the U.S.A. in their own neighborhoods have access to books anytime. Their motto is “take a book, return a book.” The idea is that all members of the community get to share their favorite stories with others through this free book exchange.

Mrs. Jamie Socha, third grade teacher at Evergreen Elementary School, is responsible for sponsoring and leading the establishment of the “The Little Free Library” at Evergreen. This is the fourth registered Little Free Library in the Scotch Plains/Fanwood area.

Mrs. Socha’s students gathered at school on Friday August 10, 2018 to build and paint the library. The location became open for use on September 26, 2018.

“The Little Free Library” project makes books available to all children in the Scotch Plains/Fanwood community. Students will run the library in a way that insures that books are always accessible and the library is full at all times. Since Mrs. Socha’s students during the school year of 2017-2018 were prolific readers during their time with her, they chose to support and build “The Little Free Library” in order to foster the same love of reading for all children in the community. For this project, students selected books for all elementary age/grade levels as well as the kit to build the actual library to be placed outside the main doors of the Evergreen Elementary School.

Congratulations to Mrs. Socha and her 2017-2018 third grade class for this wonderful achievement and contribution to the community!



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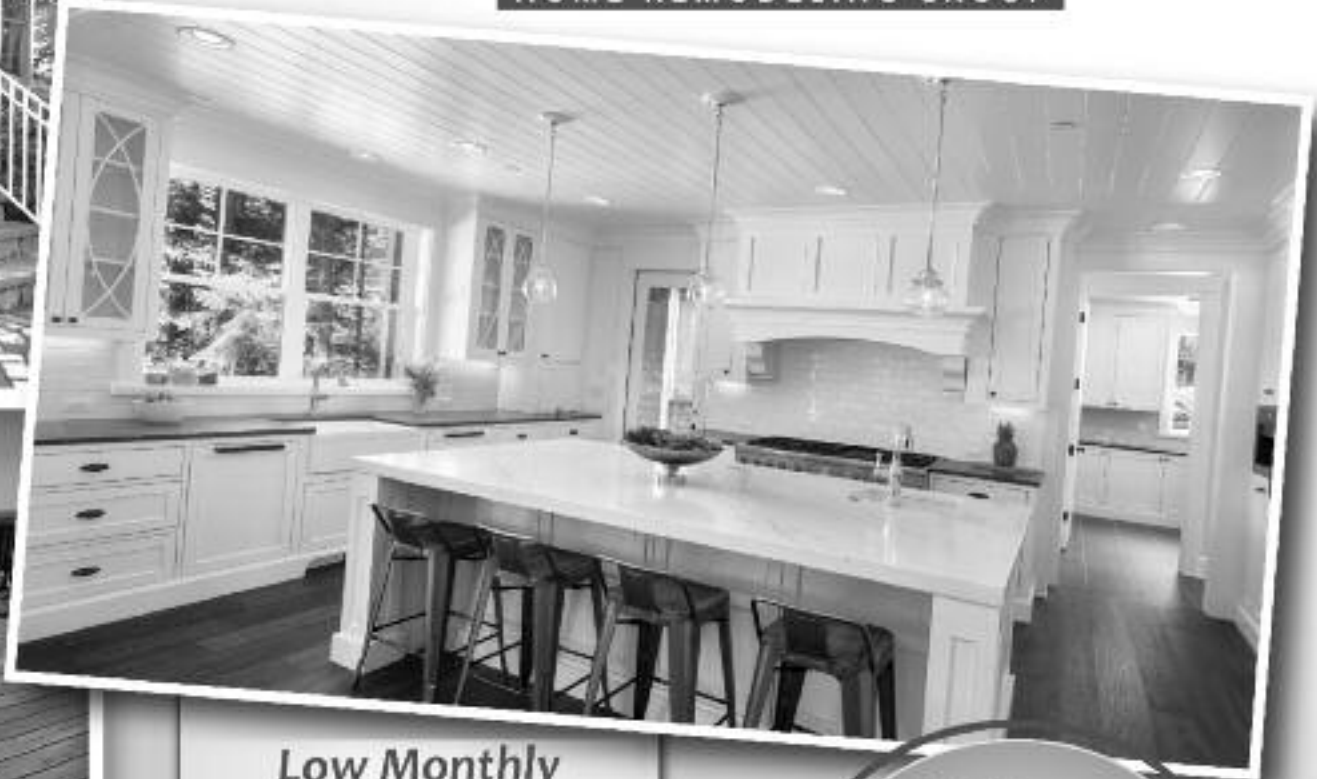


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TEMPLE SHOLOM COMMEMORATES THE 80TH ANNIV. OF KRISTALLNACHT DR. MAGDELENA WROBEL OF THE LEO BAECK INSTITUTE TO PRESENT PERSONAL STORIES AND REPORTS FROM JEWS AFFECTED BY POGROMS IN 1938 NAZI GERMANY

Temple Sholom of Scotch Plains announces its 2018 Kristallnacht program to be held on Sunday, November 4 at 7:00 p.m. Dr. Magdalena Wrobel, Project Manager for the Leo Baeck Institute of New York and Berlin, will present "Posts from the Past: Personal Stories on the 80th Anniversary of Kristallnacht and the Events of 1938." These personal stories are reports from Jews from 1938. The Leo Baeck Institute is the premier repository for archival materials from German and German speaking countries in Europe.

Eighty years ago, on November 9, 1938, the Nazi party escalated its anti-Semitic campaign against the Jews through a pogrom in Germany,

Austria and part of Czechoslovakia. Prior to that, in March 1938, Nazi Germany annexed Austria (the Anschluss); at the end of September 1938, England, France, Italy and Germany signed the infamous Munich Agreement which allowed Nazi Germany to annex parts of Czechoslovakia and eventually led to the dismemberment of that country. And on December 2, 1938, the kindertransport began, eventually sending 10,000 children from Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia to safety in England and elsewhere, most of whom never saw their parents again.

Dr. Wrobel earned her Ph.D. from the Ludwig-Maximilians University in Munich in 2013 and has served as a visiting scholar at the University of Haifa, University College London and Columbia University. Before coming to the Leo Baeck Institute in New York, she worked at the Jewish Foundation for the Righteous in their

Rescuer Support Program and served as Assistant to the Ambassador at the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Poland to the United Nations.

The program is free and open to the public. Temple Sholom is located at 1925 Lake Avenue in Scotch Plains, NJ. For additional information, please call the Temple office at 908-889-4900 or visit sholomnj.org.

About Temple Sholom

Founded in 1913, Temple Sholom is a Reform Jewish congregation led by Rabbi Joel N. Abraham and Cantor Darcie Sharlein. The temple and its religious school are home to more than 250 families from the greater Scotch Plains-Fanwood area. The congregation is in a new home at 1925 Lake Ave. in Scotch Plains. Temple Sholom is a member of the Union for Reform Judaism. For more information about the Temple or joining the congregation, please call 908-889-4900, e-mail sholom@sholomnj.org or visit sholomnj.org.



(above) Dr. Magdalena Wrobel, Project Manager for the Leo Baeck Institute of New York and Berlin, will present "Posts from the Past: Personal Stories on the 80th Anniversary of Kristallnacht and the Events of 1938."

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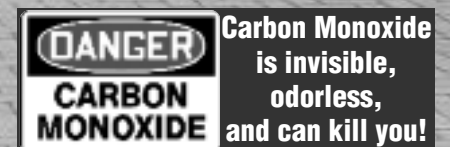
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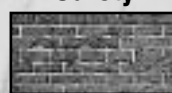
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METROPOLITAN OPERA EDUCATES TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Submitted by Patricia Kane

On October 3, 2018, four teachers from the Scotch Plains-Fanwood schools attended the 2018 Educator Conference presented at The Metropolitan Opera. In its mission to promote opera education across America, the MET brings teachers from around the country for three days to NYC to study opera through a wide variety of presentations and workshops. Representing SPF were Barbara Prestridge and Jennifer Jenkins from Park Middle School, Megan Fernandez from Terrill Middle School and Monique Gilbert from SPF High School.

Last year, Ms. Prestridge and Ms. Jenkins introduced the MET's program and HD Live opera broadcasts to the students of Park. This opera education program has been expanded for 2018-19 to include Terrill's choral program and the High School French students. Students from the middle schools and high school will attend three HD Live Operas from the MET during this school year.

In addition to attending the conference, Barbara Prestridge was honored as she was asked to address the entire conference on its closing day. The MET had requested that she share her work on the topic of empathy. Using faceless paper puppets requiring the collaboration of three puppeteers, Ms. Prestridge leads professional development workshops created to study the subtle yet powerful language of body movement, gesture and mood as a bridge to building awareness and empathy in students. During a presentation by a puppeteer group last year at the MET, Ms. Prestridge envisioned taking puppets beyond entertainment and directing that artistry to speak to children and adults about body

language, empathy and compassion. Ms. Prestridge and the Arts Integration team in Scotch Plains-Fanwood will continue to use the puppets this year within 4th and 5th grade classrooms and

world language classrooms. The study of both opera and puppetry through arts integration initiatives continue to broaden and enrich the lives of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood students.



(above l-r) Coles principal, Dr. Karen Wetherell; Park Middle School Principal, Dr. Jocelyn Dumaresq; and K-12 Language Arts Supervisor, Elizabeth McKenna.

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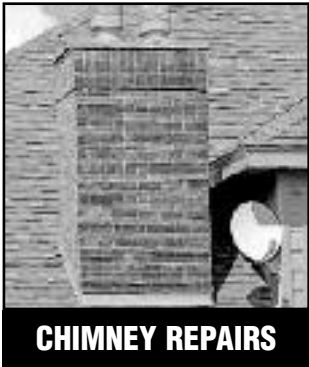
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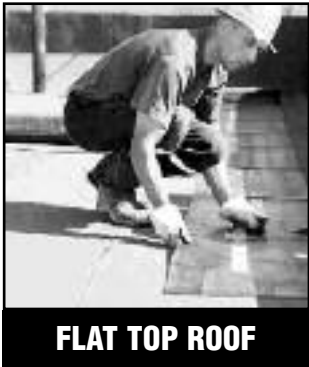
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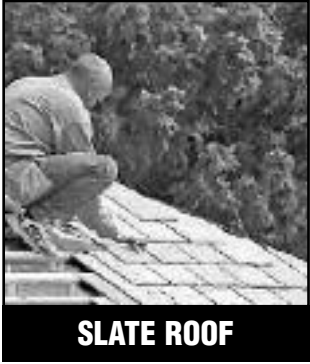
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TINY TIM CAROL NIGHT SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5

Submitted by Bernadette Hoyer

Members of the Tiny Tim Board are beginning preparations for the annual Tiny Tim Carol Night scheduled for Wednesday, December 5, 2018 from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. Residents of Fanwood and Scotch Plains are needed to form groups to sing seasonal songs door to door and solicit donations for the Tiny Tim Fund. A group can consist of family members, friends, co-workers or any combination of participants. Caroling and collecting can be done in the neighborhood of the group leader's choice.

The Tiny Tim Fund is a non-profit organization that provides financial assistance to help families pay for the medical needs of children from Fanwood and Scotch Plains. The organization has been providing financial assistance to local families since 1983.

The annual Tiny Tim Carol Night is the organization's sole fundraising event. Many groups of adults and children are needed to make the evening a success. All donations collected are used for medical needs of local children.

Anyone interested in doing a community service while having fun in the spirit of the season can form a group or volunteer to join an existing one.

To register a group, reserve materials and/or to obtain further information please contact Mary Beth at 732-616-7695; email: mbrehner@gmail.com or Mari at 908-233-6513; email: mlwmcd@aol.com.



(above, l-r) Members of the Tiny Tim Board are beginning preparations for the annual Tiny Tim Carol Night and are hoping for widespread community participation to make the event a success: Jodi Frank, Barbara Anilo, Carol Kiley, Bernadette Hoyer; (seated) Mari McDevitt and Flavia Blechinger.s

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The Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League Thrift Shop, 1741 E. 2nd St., Scotch Plains, (908-322-5420), will be open regular business hours from November 1 thru November 17, 2018. Business hours are Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Thrift Shop will be closed from November 18 thru November 23, 2018.

NOVEMBER 6-11

- the Thrift Shop will hold its Annual Toy and Doll Sale.

NOVEMBER 13

- Christmas Bric-a-Brac will be available. For your holiday needs, home decor and holiday items will be available.

NOVEMBER 24, SATURDAY

- the shop will hold its Annual "Black Saturday" Sale. The sale is one day only from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Get the newest and freshest items at the best prices.

DECEMBER 4

- the Annual Christmas Boutique begins. Volunteers have spent the year selecting new, never used items and clothing for the holiday season. The best time for that special gift and party wear.

DECEMBER 23 THRU JANUARY 1

- the Thrift Shop will be closed for Christmas.

JANUARY 2, WEDNESDAY

- the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League Thrift Shop reopens for regular business hours.

All items are sold on a first come, first serve basis. The shop cannot hold purchases. Cash

only. No refunds. Any questions, please call.

The members and volunteer staff of the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League Thrift Shop wish our customers and contributors a Merry Christmas, and Best of New Year's.

The Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League 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 scotchplainsthriftshop.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."

Shop hours are Tuesday thru Friday, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Volunteers will gladly accept new and gently used donations during business hours. Volunteers will provide tax receipts. Tax receipts can be used only for saleable items.

Parking is available on the street and in the rear of the building. Visitors may enter the parking lot via Willow Avenue.

FANWOOD ANNUAL HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Fanwood's holiday season officially begins when Santa Claus arrives in town on Sunday, December 2nd, at 3 p.m.! (Please note: the date has changed from the originally announced date of December 9th.) Everyone is invited to meet Santa under the big tent on the lawn in front of Fanwood's North Avenue Train Station and enjoy an afternoon of seasonal music, holiday crafts and refreshments—all for free. Bring your camera and take pictures of your children with Santa. And children can also enter contests and win prizes. The celebration concludes at 5 p.m. when Mayor Mahr lights the Fanwood town tree on the train station lawn. This event is sponsored by the Fanwood Recreation Commission.



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SHINING STARS PRESENTS FIRST EVER CHRISTMAS SHOW SPECIAL NEEDS TALENT TO TAKE THE STAGE ON NOV. 30TH

By popular demand, the Shining Stars cast will take their amazing talents to the stage for their first ever holiday show. The "Shining Stars Christmas Spectacular" will feature special needs individuals and their high school "buddies" from around Union County in a fun night of singing and dancing to the greatest songs of the season.

The show is set for Friday, November 30, 2018 at the theatre at Union Catholic High School in Scotch Plains. All tickets are \$10 for general admission in advance - \$15 at the door, and are available at ShiningStars.booktix.com.

"We are extremely excited to present our first-ever Christmas show," said Shining Stars Network's Founder and the show's Co-Director Sally Curci. "We've been thinking about doing this for several years, and adding this event to our very successful "Evening of Shining Stars" talent show will give our expanding cast another chance to shine on stage. It will be a great way to start the holiday season."

"We are incredibly grateful and excited that we

are able to have a Christmas show this year," added Co-Director Nicole Greene. "All of the performers cannot wait to perform once again. We really are a family, and we can't wait to start the holiday season with our show."

In their 7th year, Shining Stars Network (SSN) has produced a yearly spring talent show called "An Evening of Shining Stars" which has grown into one of the area's must-see events. This past May, over 1,000 audience members watched the "stars" light up the stage at the historic Union County Performing Arts Center in Rahway. The Shining Stars are set to return to UCPAC for their 8th annual show on Friday, May 3, 2019.

"As excited as we are about our upcoming holiday show and our new relationship with Union Catholic, we are also thrilled that we will be back at the Union County Performing Arts Center for our "Evening of Shining Stars" extravaganza," noted Shining Stars Network President Mike Curci. "That was a night we will never forget and our talented cast and incredible

volunteers are looking forward to creating more great memories for everyone in our next two shows."

The shows are produced and presented by Shining Stars Network, a registered 501(c)3 non profit organization that shines the light on the special needs community through the performing arts.

Also, make plans to join the Shining Stars cast members for a pancake breakfast on Saturday, November 10th at the Clark Recreation Center, 430 Westfield Ave., Clark, N.J. from 8:00 a.m. until 11 a.m.

Pancakes, sausage, coffee, tea, orange juice and hot chocolate will be served, and the cast will be performing songs throughout the morning. Get autographs and have your photo taken with the stars. Tickets are just \$8 per person and \$25 for a family of four.

For more information on the shows or to learn more about Shining Stars Network, log on to shiningstarsnetwork.org.





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FIREFIGHTER JOE ROUTÉ NAMED VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

During the October 15, 2018 Fanwood Council meeting, which coincided with Fire Prevention Week, Fanwood Firefighter Joe Routé, was awarded the traditional print of the historic Fanwood train station.

Joe's been on the FFD since 2005 and now administers its Relief Fund, which helps firefighters and their families at times of need. Joining Joe at the podium was Fire Chief John Piccola.

Photo by Borough of Fanwood.



CALLING ALL VETERANS – JOIN THE ROTARY

The Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club is hosting a Veterans Appreciation lunch at their meeting on Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at 12 p.m. at the Stage House Restaurant in Scotch Plains. They'll honor veterans in the club as well as veterans in the local community. The Rotary Club is very grateful to all men and women who served the United States Armed Forces and will

pay tribute to those who served, those who continue to serve and those who made the ultimate sacrifice. Veterans in the towns of Fanwood and Scotch Plains are invited to attend but must register in advance because space is limited.

To register for the event, Veterans can contact Wayne Zuhl at wayne.zuhl@gmail.com.

COLLEGE CLUB WELCOMES SALLY WEINER

The Fanwood-Scotch Plains College Club Welcomes Sally Weiner, Archivist of the Plainfield Public Library, to present a program entitled "Highlights of the Plainfield Public Library Local History Collection" on November 19, 2018 at 7:30 pm

The College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains welcomes Ms. Sally Weiner, Archivist of the Plainfield Public Library, to present a program on the local history collection housed at the library. The Local History Collection of the Plainfield Public Library is the largest in Union County, and includes historical and contemporary materials about the city of Plainfield and its inhabitants. The collection is composed of books, documents, photographs, postcards, blueprints, maps, newspapers, oral histories, personal papers, and records of local clubs and organizations in Plainfield and the surrounding communities. Ms. Weiner will present highlights from the collection and provide tips on how to care for your own treasures.

For the past two years, Ms. Weiner has been the Archivist in the Local History Department of the Plainfield Public Library. Her responsibilities include processing, rehousing, and digitizing materials with the ultimate goal of providing accessibility. Ms. Weiner earned her Masters of Library and Information Science from Rutgers University and worked with historic archival collections at the Monmouth County Park System and the Monmouth County Historical Association. Currently, she splits her time as the Archivist at Plainfield and the Librarian at a marine science laboratory out on Sandy Hook, NJ.

This program is open to the public, is free of charge and will take place on November 19, 2018 at The Fanwood Presbyterian Church, 74 South Martine Avenue, Fanwood (McDermott Street entrance) at 7:30 p.m. after a brief refreshment period.

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CHELSEA SENIOR LIVING DONATES TO FANWOOD RESCUE SQUAD

LATE FALL INDOOR SOCCER PROGRAMS

Is it getting too cold for your child to play soccer outside? Fanwood Recreation offers soccer classes for children ages 3–5 and 5–6 inside the Forest Road Park building on Saturday mornings and Monday afternoons, beginning on November 17, 2018 for 5 weeks.

Run in association with the US Sports Institute, these programs have boys and girls learn the fundamental skills of soccer, including dribbling, passing, shooting and defending, and are designed to make sure that, most importantly, they have lots of fun while doing so.

For more information about this program go to fanwoodrecreation.org, where you can also register and pay online.

COLES KIDS GET REWARDED FOR THEIR LOVE OF READING

Submitted by Christine Schiumo

J.A. Coles Elementary School students in Scotch Plains, NJ are off to a great start of the new school year! Approximately 164 kids participated in our PTA-sponsored “Camp Read A Lot” program. Kids across all grade levels who read the required number of books during summer break got a nice reward in the beginning of the school year.

All students who participated were allowed to choose a free book to take home. The children really enjoyed being a part of such a wonderful program. We are so proud of our young readers and their love of books!



(above) Coles kids enjoy choosing the books they earned from reading over the summer.

FREE RABIES CLINIC

The Borough of Fanwood will be holding its annual rabies clinic on Wednesday, November 14, 2018 from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. at La Grande Park in Fanwood. Both Dogs and Cats are welcome. There is no registration required for this clinic. It is open to all neighboring municipalities.

Chelsea Senior Living's annual golf outing raised more than \$20,000 for volunteer rescue squads across New Jersey.

The Fanwood Rescue Squad is among the

squads, receiving \$1,500.

The golf outing took place on September 24, 2018, at Fiddler's Elbow Golf Club in Bedminster, NJ.



(above) Councilman Tom Kranz, who is also Director of Communications for Chelsea, Annette Watson, Executive Director of The Chelsea at Fanwood, and Brian Downing, Rescue Squad EMT and recent MSN graduate.

NOVEMBER EVENTS AT THE FANWOOD MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Jewelry Making with Perthea Saunders

Saturday, November 3 from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Perthea is coming back to the library with her jewelry-making supplies to help us hone our jewelry-making skills! A bracelet or a necklace will look good on you when you make it at the library!

The Florian Schantz Jazz Combo Concert

Saturday, November 10 at 3:00 p.m.

The Florian Schantz Jazz Combo presents a FREE concert to celebrate the anniversary of the WWI Armistice. This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Fanwood Memorial Library. Highlighting music that was popular between 1914 and 1918, the band will offer a mix of early Dixieland, military music and other standards, accompanied by educational content and narrative to honor the 100th anniversary of the WWI armistice.



(above) The Union County based-band is led by 16 year old professional trumpet player Florian Schantz, who formed the group when he was 9 years old; since then, Florian has performed around 375 engagements across NJ, NY, CT and Germany. Also appearing with the group are Rup Chattopadhyay on trombone and tuba, Margaret Schantz on fluegelhorn, Cory Ackerman on drums and Lowell Schantz on guitar.

CELEBRATION SINGERS WINTER CONCERT: “ONCE UPON A DECEMBER”

The Celebration Singers would like to invite you to our winter concert which will be held on November 30th and December 1st, 2018 at 8 PM at St. Michael's Church located at 40 Alden Street, Cranford NJ. Our “Once Upon a December” concert will feature songs from the movies “Frozen”, “White Christmas”, “Polar Express”, and many more. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for children and seniors. Tickets can be purchased in advance through our website, celebration-singers.org, or at the box office at the night of the concert.

Any questions concerning the performances can be directed to our email at celebrationsingersnewjersey@gmail.com or to

our landline at 908-552-4656.

The Celebration Singers are multi-generational ambassadors of song drawing music from a breadth of genres and cultures. The Choir's commitment to artistic excellence and its engaging and dynamic style provide its diverse singers and audiences with a compelling musical experience. The Choir lends support through music and participates in the cultural life of the community.

Funding for the Celebration Singers is made possible in part by the New Jersey State Council for the Arts, Department of State, through a grant administered by the Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs.



FANWOOD 5K AND FAMILY FUN RUN

The 9th annual Fanwood 5K and Family Fun Run saw the chilliest weather anyone could remember. Wind chills around 40 degrees or below made the runners eager to get started. Dressed in superhero costumes, families started the Fun Run, launched by Councilman Tom Kranz and Recreation Commission president Joe Valente at 9 a.m., followed shortly thereafter by the main 5K race.

The winner of the 5K was Rob Lynn of Scotch Plains, dressed as Spiderman. Thanks to the Fanwood Recreation Department and their volunteers for organizing and running the race and to the volunteers of the Fanwood, Scotch Plains and Mountainside Rescue Squads and Fanwood Fire Department for standing by to keep everyone safe. And as always, thanks to Police Chief Richard Trigo and all the officers for their work.



SUPPORT OUR TROOPS CASINO NIGHT 2018

Bonds of Courage and the NJ Cavalry and Armor Association will be hosting the Support Our Troops Casino Night on Saturday, November 17, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Westfield Armory, 500 Rahway Avenue in Westfield.

The night will benefit Bonds of Courage and the Family Readiness Groups of the 1st Squadron 102nd Cavalry Regiment, 50th Brigade Combat Team of the New Jersey National Guard.

Bonds of Courage is an all volunteer organization that serves to support our troops, veterans, and their families. Their programs include: resources and referrals, care packages for deployed troops, and a military assistance fund for emergency financial assistance in times of need (utility assistance, food cards, etc).

The Family Readiness Groups assist the Commanders in maintaining readiness for service members and families by promoting self-sufficiency, resiliency, and stability during peace and war. Funds raised will support their primary missions: the shipping of care packages, supporting soldier and family morale enhancement activities and for military assistance.

Tickets are \$50 per person, \$40 for seniors and veterans. Tickets include \$60 in gaming chips for the casino, buffet dinner, beer and wine, and music.

Business owners, please join the community and consider a donation of product, service, program ad, or sponsorship to our event. Please contact Christine Bradley, (703)-407-0203, chrisb@bondsofcourage.org.

For ticket sales and further information, please go to bondsofcourage.org

MAMMA MIA AUDITIONS

Don't miss the chance to be part of history! Audition to be part of the 100th Season at CDC Theatre, 78 Winans Ave. in Cranford. Auditions for Mamma Mia are set for Wed., Nov. 14, 2018 at 7 p.m. and Sat., Nov. 12 at Noon.

ABBA's hits tell the hilarious story of a young woman's search for her birth father. This sunny and funny tale unfolds on a Greek island paradise. On the eve of her wedding, a daughter's quest to discover the identity of her father brings three men from her mother's past back to the island they last visited 20 years ago.

The story-telling magic of ABBA's timeless songs propels this enchanting tale of love, laughter and friendship, creating an unforgettable show. A large cast, non-stop laughs and explosive dance numbers combine to make Mamma Mia! a guaranteed smash hit for any theatre. A mother. A daughter. Three possible dads. And a trip down the aisle you'll never forget!

Please prepare 16-32-bars in the style of the show or any 70s disco era song and bring sheet music in the appropriate key. An accompanist will be provided. Rehearsals will start Dec. 10 with performances running from Feb. 15 to March 2, 2019. Additional details can be found by visiting cdctheatre.org.

IMAGINE RECEIVES GRANT TO EXPAND CHILD BEREAVEMENT PROGRAMS

"We are so grateful to The Merck Foundation for their generous grant of \$25,000 for the expansion of our bereavement support programs at our new center in Mountainside," said Stuart Arnold, Imagine Board Chair. "With Merck's commitment to healthcare and the community it's a perfect match. The Merck Foundation has been a generous supporter of Imagine for many years and we are so grateful."

Childhood bereavement is a serious public

health issue. The death of a parent or other important person in a child's life has been noted to be one of the most commonly reported and disruptive Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs.) There are currently over 109,000 NJ youth age 0-18 who are bereaved due to the death of a parent. Imagine is currently serving 285 of those children, from 55 NJ towns every two weeks at our center.

"Imagine helps make a difference in the lives of grieving children and families in the communities around our sites," said Paula Alston, Executive Director of Merck's NA Research Facilities. "We are proud to partner with Imagine through our Merck Foundation Neighbor of

Choice grant program this year, and we are pleased to be able to help Imagine grow and succeed in their mission."

Imagine offers free year-round grief support groups for children age 3-18 who have had a parent or brother or sister die, and for families coping with a family member with a terminal or chronic illness. Concurrent groups are available for parents and guardians, and young adults 18-30. Support groups meet on weekday nights for an hour and a half. Dinner is provided prior to the group meeting. To schedule an orientation for yourself or your family or for more information please contact Imagine at 908-264-3100 or info@imagine-nj.org.

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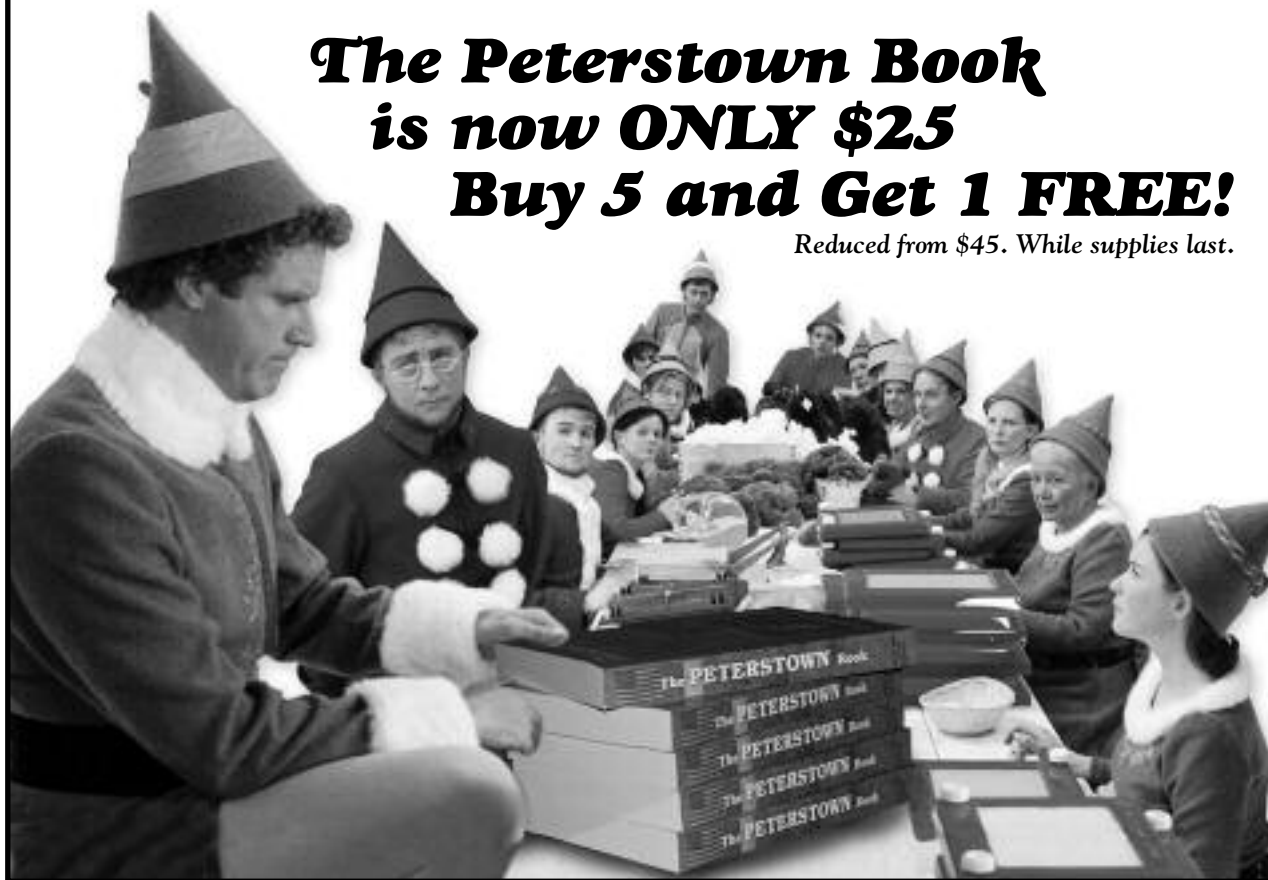
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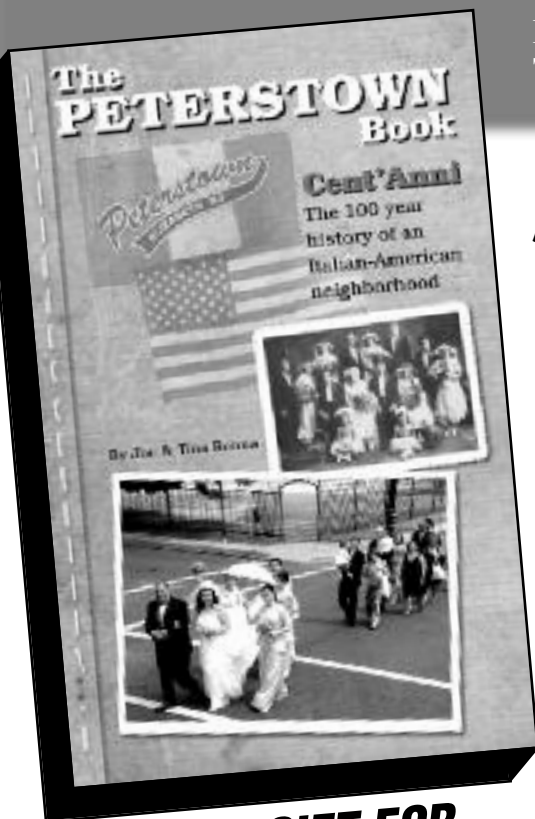
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