The PRIDE of North Plainfield

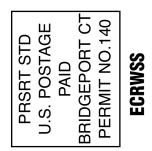
MAILED FREE TO EVERY HOME AND BUSINESS IN NORTH PLAINFIELD

North Plainfield's Hometown Newspaper

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The Pride of North Plainfield is published by Renna Media. 6,500 newspapers are printed monthly and are mailed to every businesses and homes in North Plainfield, NJ using the 07060 zip code and are distributed for free pick-up throughout town.

Although great care has been taken to ensure the information contained within is accurate, Renna Media assumes no liability for errors or omissions.

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Renna Media welcomes the comments and concerns of its readers put into writing and sent via phone, fax or email to:

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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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WATCHUNG AVENUE CHURCH IS RAISING ROOF!

Submitted by Bob Goellner & Gwyn Gronlund, elders of Watchung Ave. Presbyterian Church

Indeed, WAPC is raising the roof, literally! Our Sanctuary building is now over 125 years old and it is time for it to be brought back into life so that it can be here for another 125 years. The roof will be removed down to the wooden substructure and then rebuilt with a new ridge vent and new shingles. The gutters will be refurbished and new downspouts will be installed. Work will also be done to route the downspout drainage away from the building, requiring some concrete work as well. Direct Call Construction, from Lodi, N.J. will do all of the work. They have earned the job due to their professionalism and ability to develop all of the multiple solutions needed to complete the various projects involved at the least cost.

Our immediate neighbors will find that, due to the new water drainage systems, they will have a better situation in all seasons of the year. We hope that this will make the construction noise and commotion more palatable and make life easier for them when the work is all done.

WAPC is also raising the roof figuratively, with music, songs, and preaching. We have a new Director of Music, Quinn De Geneste, and a new Preacher, Madelynne Lindsey. Quinn has a strong background in classical, jazz, and gospel music and a degree in musical composition. His presence brings all of this together in a remarkable fashion that has made our worship a musical feast. Madelynne lends her talents to our worship with her trained coloratura soprano voice and her heartfelt and animated preaching style. Together they too are Raising the Roof, from the inside vs. the outside!

Stop by and watch the roof progress and check us out at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays. Both should be a good show!

UPCOMING NPCCR MEETING, FEB. 7

The next meeting of the North Plainfield Citizens for Community Rights (NPCCR) will be Thursday, February 7, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the North Plainfield Community Center, 614 Greenbrook Rd.

Our guest speaker will be Robert Graham, he by going to npccr.org.

will present his "Tax Assessment Seminar." A number of those attending this seminar in the past have had their tax assessments reduced.

NPCCR posts the current police reports and council meetings on our site. You can view them by going to npccr.org.

SCORE SEEKS VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST PEOPLE IN BUSINESS

Central Jersey SCORE, a non-profit resource partner of the Small Business Administration, is looking for volunteers to assist people looking to start a business or grow an existing small business. The organization is recruiting retired or current business owners and executives who want to share their experience and knowledge with today's up-and-coming entrepreneurs. The Central Jersey Chapter of SCORE serves Middlesex, Somerset and Hunterdon Counties.

Central Jersey SCORE provides in-person mentoring at a wide variety of locations and also

presents seminars at local venues. In addition, the SCORE website offers tools and templates on a wide variety of topics related to organizing and managing a business and numerous online courses and webinars to assist small business owners through every aspect of business development. Services are offered free of charge.

Anyone interested in volunteering with SCORE or seeking additional information is invited to contact SCORE at centraljersey.score.org.





NORTH PLAINFIELD BUSINESS ASSOCIATION HOLIDAY PARTY

For the second year in a row the North Plainfield Business Association had their Holiday Party and Business of the Year awards on November 27 at La Rhonda Restaurant, 27 Green Brook Road, North Plainfield. Portions of the proceeds went to the North Plainfield Association Treasury.

The winners were chosen by members of the business association. Criteria included how long companies were in business, sales and community service.

The 2018 NPBA Business of the Year Awards were presented to: Lenny Aguirre, Mayan Mobile Marketing (under 10 employees category): and John Ao, owner of Kiddie Academy (over 10 employees category)

The NPBA has operated since 1938 and is open to businesses in town or businesses that conduct business in town. The purpose of the group is networking and to help local business succeed and be more profitable.

NPBA meetings are held monthly on the last Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. All are welcome, whether you are a local resident, local business or out of town business. The next meeting will be held January 29, location to be determined.

The NPBA membership remains free. There are elevated membership levels, which range in price from \$100 - \$300, which include benefits and sponsorship opportunities. Anyone interested in the NPBA can reach out to Pete Eddy (908-256-1273), Danny Dominguez (908-447-2468), or Bruce Heyman (908-755-4700).

You can also find the North Plainfield Business Association on facebook at facebook.com/NPBusinessAssociation



OMES WAN FOR TELEVISION PROGRAM **IN THIS AREA**

We need 30 Ugly Homes with Ugly Kitchens, Bathrooms, Siding, Window, etc., Inside or Outside that need fixing or Remodeling. We will Repair and Remodel them and shoot video for training film and future TV show on Home Remodeling Work.

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CALL 1-800-281-1582 Ask for TV Project Department, for job evaluation and estimate of cost and compensations!

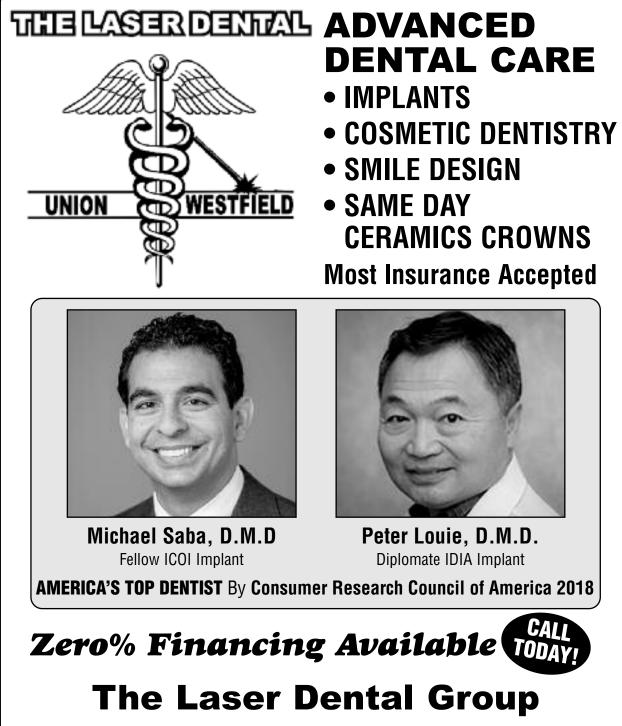
Serious Inquiries Please!

MOVEMBER EVENT RAISES \$1,300

moustaches during the month of November to St. Jude's Childrens Research Hospital.

Members of the North Plainfield Fire raise awareness of men's health issues. Between Department participated in the 'Movember' both Locals and generous donations they raised annual event involving the growing of just over \$1,300 with all funds being dontated to

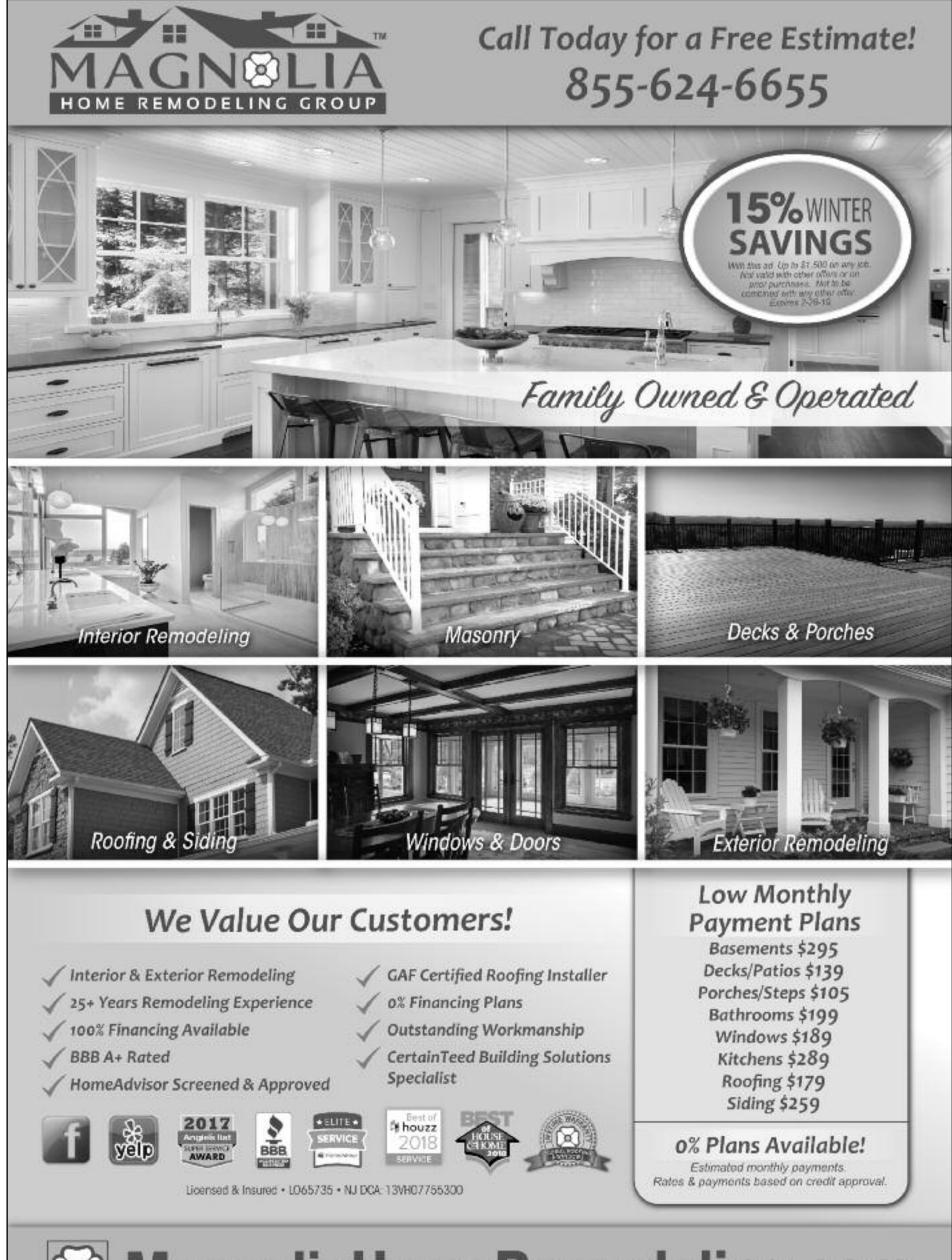




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JANUARY PROGRAMS AT NORTH PLAINFIELD MEMORIAL LIBRARY BRANCH

6 Rockview Avenue, North Plainfield, New Jersey • 908-458-8435 • SCLSNJ.org.

All programs listed are free. Registration is required unless otherwise indicated and programs are subject to change; visit SCLSNJ.org or call the library for more information and to register. *Please note the Library will be closed on

January 21.

ALL AGE PROGRAMS

Let It Shine - The American Civil Rights Movement

January 26, 11 a.m. - noon (families)

CHILDREN, TWEEN, AND TEEN PROGRAMS

Where in the World? January 2, 9:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m. (grades 5-12)

Toddler/Preschool Storytime - Rhyme and Play January 9, 16, 23, 30; 10-11 a.m. (ages 18-60 months)

Baby/Toddler Storytime - Discover Stories January 10, 17, 24, 31; 10-11 a.m. (ages birth - 36 months)

LEGO® Club

January 14, 3:30-4:30 p.m. (grades 2-4) Storycrafters

January 15, 3:30-5 p.m. (grades 5-12)

Minecraft Club January 16, 3:30-5 p.m. (grades 4-7)

Culinary Creators January 22, 3:30-5 p.m. (grades 5-12)

Young Adult Advisory Council January 23, 3:30-5 p.m.

> (grades 5-12) Knitflix January 29, 3-5 p.m. (grades 4-12)





Game Time January 30, 3:30-5 p.m. (grades 5-12)

Baking and Books - Muffins January 31, 3:30-4:30 p.m. (grades 2-4)

ADULT PROGRAMS

US Citizenship Course January 3, 10, 31; 6-8 p.m. English Conversation Group January 7, 14, 28, 7-8:30 p.m. Computer Help January 8, 11 a.m. - noon Beginner Spanish Course January 8, 22; 7-8 p.m. Broke and Busted Musical Performance January 9, 7-8:30 p.m. Book Discussion - "Little Paris Bookshop" January 10, 1-2 p.m. Saving for College January 14, 7-8 p.m. Morning Knit and Crochet January 15, 29; 10 a.m. - noon Winter Crafts January 19, 11 a.m. - noon Healthy Avenues Van January 22, 1-3 p.m.

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LIBRARY SYSTEM CONTINUES TO OFFER OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESIDENTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Submitted by Tracy Carney

One of the strategic priorities resulting from the Library's ever-evolving strategic plan is to address the needs of shifting County demographics, including individuals with developmental disabilities. As a result, the Somerset County Library System of New Jersey (SCLSNJ) is dedicated to continuing to provide and enhance volunteer and workforce development opportunities across the System.

"Individuals with developmental disabilities are a population for whom SCLSNJ can make a real difference," said Lynn Hoffman, SCLSNJ director of operations. "The public library is for everyone, and we want to provide inclusive opportunities that allow everyone to participate in the public library community."

The Library System currently offers volunteer opportunities that allows teens and adults with developmental disabilities the transitional and training skills necessary to join the workforce, to contribute to the community, and to learn new skills. SCLSNJ currently partners with approximately 40 developmental disabled volunteers, who have collectively donated an estimated 1,000 hours through September 2018.

"It is important that our volunteer program be welcoming and accessible," said Nicole Pascoe, SCLSNJ volunteer coordinator. "Adults and teens with developmental disabilities from throughout our community are currently making contributions and gaining experience as volunteers throughout the Library System. SCLSNJ is working to create the best possible experience for all volunteers."

Cathy DeBerry, SCLSNJ adult services supervisor at the Hillsborough branch, has worked closely with adults with developmental disabilities for over two years. In 2016, she began working with then Watchung Hills Regional High School student Brian Mahon, who volunteered at the Warren Twp. branch.

"I met Brian when he was 19-years-old and a student at Watchung Hills Regional High School," said DeBerry. "He was part of the the school's Learning and/or Language Disabilities (LLD) program, which is a program that allows students with developmental disabilities to take the mandated course requirements and participate in a variety of school-to-work transition experiences through vocational courses and offsite internship opportunities. This program helps these individuals prepare for life after high school."

As a Library volunteer, Mahon was assigned a variety of projects to work on, including: crafts for storytimes, shelving and checking in books, assisting staff in programs, and more.

"Due to the combination of the LLD program at Watchung HIlls, the volunteer opportunities at the Warren Twp. branch, and the adult recreational and socialization programs at the Library, Brian acquired the communication, organizational, and independent living skills he needed to apply and interview for a staff position at the Warren Twp. branch," said DeBerry. "I am happy to report he was hired as a SCLSNJ employee in June."

In order to help connect teens and adults with developmental disabilities to job and volunteer opportunities across the County, SCLSNJ will host a job and volunteer fair on April 6, 2019 at the Bridgewater branch. During this event, developmentally-disabled attendees will have the opportunity to apply and/or interview for volunteer and job positions throughout the Somerset County area as well as throughout the 10 branch Library System.

In April 2018, SCLSNJ hosted their first job and volunteer fair for teens and adults with developmental disabilities. Fifteen area businesses and nonprofit organizations looking for employees and volunteers participated in the event, which had an attendance of approximately 170 individuals.

To participate in the job and volunteer fair or for more information about services the Library offers to individuals with developmental disabilities contact Cathy DeBerry at cdeberry@sclibnj.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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CASA SHAW SESSIONS

Court Appointed Special Advocates of Somerset, Hunterdon and Warren Counties (CASA SHaW) has announced Information Sessions in January for individuals in our community who are interested in learning more about becoming a CASA volunteer advocate.

Below are the dates, times and locations for the upcoming CASA SHaW information sessions scheduled for January:

Tuesday, January 8

& Wednesday, January 23 - 5:30 p.m.

at the PeopleCare Center in Bridgewater, NJ (120 Finderne Ave, Bridgewater, NJ)

Wednesday, January 16 - 5:30 p.m.

at the CASA SHaW office in Washington, NJ (150 Boulevard, Suite 1, Washington, NJ)

If any member of our community is interested in attending one of these information sessions, registration is required.

Please contact our Volunteer Trainer, Karen Cassano, at karen@casashaw.org or by phone at 908-689-5515 if you plan to attend on either date.



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