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EGRWSS

STUDENTS STEP UP FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE WEEK

Submitted by Mary Ann McGann

There is no shortage of civic-mindedness in Westfield Public Schools and Community Service Week was no exception. Through the coordinated efforts of school Parent Teacher Organizations, students across the district packed lunches, designed greeting cards, made care packages, picked up litter, and participated in many other activities as a way of giving back to those in need.

Community Service Week ran from March 11-15, 2019 with parent volunteers coordinating and organizing the many activities. The elementary school activities took place outside of school hours and followed the same basic format of different stations with projects in support of homeless shelters, fighting hunger campaigns, senior citizens, rescue animal organizations, and others in need of charitable help.

At Lincoln School, the youngest learners colored a pictures for Color A Smile, a non-profit organization that "distributes cheerful drawings to senior citizens, our troops overseas, and anyone in need of a smile." The intermediate schools used a portion of their lunch periods to participate. At Roosevelt Intermediate School, parents organized and directed the assembly of snack packs to be given to the Rotary Club of Westfield's backpack initiative for children who receive food assistance through school programs but who may not have enough to eat throughout the weekend. Students at Edison volunteered their time as well during a portion of their lunch period to create birthday cards for the troops, dog treats for local animal shelters, and care packages, felt hats, and extra lunches for people in need.

A sea of Westfield High School students crossed from WHS to the Armory on March 15, delivering nearly 2,000 sorted/bagged toiletries assembled that morning for local charitable organizations including the Westfield non-profit Bonds of Courage which supports our troops, veterans and their families. "It's always nice to see the school come together in such a great way," said Community Service Club President Emma Wolynez.

"It was such a great day," said WHS-PTSO co-presidents Monica Bergen and Liz Miller, who thanked parents for their generous donations. "All of the students were so happy to be a part of this important outreach."

Superintendent Dr. Margaret Dolan thanked all who organized and participated in Community Service week, adding "This amazing, well-coordinated week of community service truly embraced the school district's mission of partnering with families and community to educate our students to reach their highest potential as productive, well-balanced and responsible citizens."



(above) Franklin fourth grader Whitney Crooks creates a colorful greeting card to be given to patients newly diagnosed with Type I Diabetes.



(above) Students at Edison Intermediate School make dog treats for local animal shelters as part of a districtwide Community Service Week in Westfield Public Schools.



(above) Roosevelt Intermediate School students assemble snack packs for the Rotary Club backpack initiative, which helps children.

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OPA! IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE A TASTE OF GREECE AT NJ GREEK FEST, MAY 31-JUNE 2

After a long winter, what could be more refreshing than a quick trip to sample the sights, sounds and tantalizing flavors of Greece? It's all possible with a visit to Holy Trinity Greek Fest 2019, being held May 31-June 2 at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church.

Whether festival-goers choose to relax under the big tent or order items for takeout, there's a full menu of delicious fare from which to choose. Menu includes appetizers such as Greek salad and spanakopita, mouth-watering entrees such as lamb, gyros, souvlaki and moussaka; and to-die-for desserts such as crepes, baklava and loukoumades (honey puffs). Adults also can order a beverage from the Taverna or Kafenio.

The sights of Greece will come alive with the talented roster of entertainment acts, which include the Greek Hellenic Dancers from the Youth group and live music from Fantasia. Or why not take a piece of Greece home with you? The marketplace will have a variety of finely crafted wares available, including clothing, jewelry, and Greek delicacies. And for the youngsters and the young-at-heart, there will be a children's area. And as with every GreekFest, you can try your luck at the Grand 50/50 Raffle.

Festival hours are Friday, May 31; 5 - 11 p.m.;

Saturday, June 1, 12 - 11 p.m.; and Sunday, June 2, 12 - 3 p.m. Holy Trinity supports charities such as: Orthodox Christian Mission Center; The Westfield Rescue Squad; and The Westfield Police Benevolent Association.

Admission to the Greek Fest is \$2 (children are free). Holy Trinity supports charities such as: Orthodox Christian Mission Center; The Westfield Rescue Squad and Police Benevolent Association.

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church is located at 250 Gallows Hill Road in Westfield. Street parking and a free shuttle are available. For more information on NJGreekfest, call (908) 233-8533, visit www.njgreekfest.com, or follow us on Facebook and Instagram at NJGREEKFEST. For more information on Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church and our ministries, visit holytrinitywestfield.org.



Photos of NJ Greek Fest 2018 Photos from this and other events can be found online at rennamedia.com and on the Westfield Monthly page on facebook.com.



2018 MAY 31 - JUNE 2

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SPRING ASSEMBLY FEATURED PRESENTATION BY JOHN PRESCOTT

Submitted by Carol Goggi

John Prescott of the Union County Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs presented a program entitled "Invention, Innovation & Industry in Union County" at the Assembly Room of The Presbyterian Church in Westfield on Thursday, April 11, 2019.

During Mr. Prescott's talk, the near full-house audience heard how Thomas Edison and Nikola Tesla were both connected to Union County as was the invention of the golf tee! Guests were also surprised to hear that planes, trains, automobiles... and submarines are all a part of the rich and diverse History of Union County. John Prescott serves as the History Programs Coordinator for the Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs.

The Spring Assembly programs are offered to the public each Spring through the efforts of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Westfield Chapter; The Genealogical Society of the West Fields; The Miller-Cory House Museum Volunteers; The Sons of the American Revolution, West Fields Chapter; the Westfield Historical Society; and The Presbyterian Church in Westfield.

For further information, please contact the Westfield Historical Society at 908-654-1794 or westfieldhistoricalsociety@gmail.com.



(above, l-r) Barbara Benko of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Westfield Chapter; Dave Rogers of the Presbyterian Church in Westfield; Nancy Priest of the Westfield Historical Society; John Prescott, Presenter; Charles Heinze of The Genealogical Society of the West Fields; Patricia D'Angelo of the Miller-Cory House Volunteers; and Jay Hershey of the Sons of the American Revolution, West Fields Chapter.

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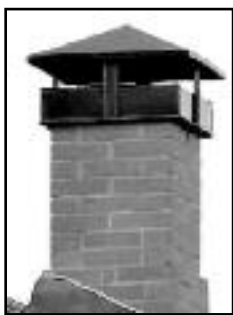
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WESTFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S ANNUAL DINNER TO BE HELD MAY 10

Submitted by Carol Goggi

On Friday, May 10, 2019 the Westfield Historical Society will have its 51st Annual Dinner at the Echo Lake Country Club. The annual general membership meeting will start at 5:30 p.m., and social/cocktail hour will begin at 6:00 p.m. Entertainment will be provided by the Florian Schantz Jazz Combo.

The Society is proud to announce the President and Trustee Award Recipients for 2019 which will be conferred during the Annual Dinner event:

CAREY GOLDEN

– 2019 TRUSTEES' AWARD

Carey Golden has served on the Trustee Board of the Westfield Historical Society since 2015, first as Chairperson for the Volunteers Committee, and currently as Curator for the Society's Archives. She is responsible for organizing and cataloging Westfield's expansive archives and for recruiting and overseeing the team of volunteers who work there. Carey also volunteers as docent at New York City's 9/11 Museum and for the Municipal Arts Society of New York; and was historian for the Westfield Service League. She is also Deacon, on the Outreach and Welcome Committee, and has served as a Congressional Care Leader at The Presbyterian Church in Westfield.

JACK PANOSH

– 2019 C. HOUGHTON BIRDSALL PRESIDENT'S AWARD

John R. (Jack) Panosh has been instrumental as the "Westfield Clock Meister" due to his restoration of the 133 year-old Town Clock which is in the tower of the First United Methodist Church. Thanks to Jack's tireless efforts since 1992, in restoring and maintaining the clock's works, bell, cables, weights, pendulum motion and accuracy, the Town Clock, "Westfield's Treasure on the Circle", remains accurate to within one minute and regularly rings on the hour. Jack was also named the "Westfield Town Bellmaster" in 1994 by then-mayor Garland "Bud" Booth. In 1995, Jack was significantly involved in restoring the Town Bell.

The annual dinner is open to all members of the community. We invite all who are interested in attending to please contact the Westfield Historical Society at 908-654-1794 or by email to westfieldhistoricalsociety@gmail.com. The cost is \$70 for members (\$75 for non members).

The Westfield Historical Society celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2018. Since 1968, the 501(c)(3) non-profit Westfield Historical Society has worked to preserve, interpret and encourage interest in history, Westfield, and its residents through educational efforts and community outreach programs.

For further information on the Westfield Historical Society and its activities, or to volunteer, call 908-654-1794 or visit westfieldhistoricalsociety.org; and like us on Facebook.



(above) The Florian Schantz Jazz Combo will perform during the 51st Annual Dinner of the Westfield Historical Society to be held on Friday, May 10 at Echo Lake Country Club.

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WESTFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S JUNE FIRST WEDNESDAY LUNCHEON: "A BRIEF JOURNEY OF WESTFIELD"

Submitted by Carol Goggi

As part of The Westfield Historical Society's First Wednesday Luncheon series town historian Robert Wendel will be speaking on the topic entitled "A Brief Journey of Westfield" on June 5, 2019. The event will begin with check-in at 11:45 a.m. at the Echo Lake Country Club, located at 515 Springfield Avenue, Westfield.

Mr. Wendel's talk will include a brief introduction to Westfield's 300 Year History. He will discuss Westfield's history from its colonial foundations, as the West Fields of Elizabethtown, to its creation as the quintessential American town.

Robert Wendel served for over 25 years in the insurance industry in a variety of positions. Since leaving the corporate world, he works with his wife Lisa, in their financial consulting firm but

also has made significant time for his love of history which began in college. Since moving to Westfield in 1991, he has served as curator for the Westfield Historical Society archives, was Vice President of the Historical Society Board and is currently serving on the Miller-Cory House Museum Board of Governors.

He is also a member of the Historic Preservation Commission for the Town of Westfield which is tasked with saving historically and architecturally significant buildings in Westfield in addition to serving as the Town Historian for Westfield.

Those wishing to attend the luncheon may make a reservation by email to westfieldhistoricalsociety@gmail.com; or, by calling 908-654-1794, before Friday, May 31. Please advise if there are special dietary needs.

The luncheon fee of \$35 (WHS members) or \$40 (non-members) includes a three-course meal, coffee/tea, and gratuity. The luncheon fee should be paid in advance (check payable to Westfield Historical Society) by mailing to Westfield Historical Society, P.O. Box 613, Westfield, NJ 07091; or, online at westfieldhistoricalsociety.org/registration.

Payments should be received by Friday prior to the luncheon. Westfield Historical Society memberships will also be available at the luncheon.

The June luncheon is the last luncheon before the summer. First Wednesday Luncheons will resume on September 4th. For more information on the Westfield Historical Society and their events, visit westfieldhistoricalsociety.org and like us on Facebook.



(above) Robert Wendel will present "A Brief Journey of Westfield" during the Westfield Historical Society's First Wednesday Luncheon to be held on June 5, 2019 at Echo Lake Country Club.

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RAKE AND HOE GARDEN CLUB VISIT JARDINE ACADEMY

Submitted by Betty Round

As part of its commitment to community service, members of the Rake and Hoe Garden Club of Westfield visited Jardine Academy to decorate the Spring Tree with numerous frog ornaments designed by club member Mary Lou Nolas and made by fellow club members. The ornaments were inspired by "The Frightened Frog, an Environmental Tale," by Brenda Moore and Jean Ohlmann. The book was illustrated by Emily Lackey and produced for National Garden Clubs Inc. The book describes the challenges of being a frog and includes fun facts about frogs as well as ways children can help protect, preserve, and support frog and amphibian habitats in their own backyards.

Mary Lou read the book to the students and a copy of the book was donated to the school's library. The Spring Tree stands in the lobby of the school and is enjoyed by all who pass by. The area around the tree was also decorated with the frog ornaments and bird houses donated by club members Richard and Jeanette Pelikan.

The Jardine Academy, operated by the Cerebral Palsy League and approved by the New Jersey Department of Education, provides a comprehensive educational program designed to meet the cognitive and physical needs of children and young adults, 3-21 with multiple disabilities.

The Rake and Hoe Garden Club is affiliated

with the Garden Club of New Jersey and the National Garden Club, Inc. The club meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 12:00 p.m. at the Scotch Hills Country Club. Membership is

open to residents of Westfield and surrounding towns. For more information, call Jeanne Marie Ryan 908-654-0271 or visit the club's website, rakeandhoe.org, or Facebook page.



(above, l-r) Heidi Glass (Social Worker at Jardine); Club members: Lena Peitsinovski, Mary Lou Nolas, Mary Fran Annese, Jane Christiani, Cathy Becker, Gail Anderson, students and faculty.



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CELEBRATE MOTHER'S DAY WITH A TOUR OF NOTABLE HOMES

The popular Tour of Notable Homes produced each year by the Friends of NJ Festival Orchestra will be held on Saturday, May 11th between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. to benefit NJ Festival Orchestra.

"This year we present a stylish medley of four Westfield residences -- each with a different history, some with noteworthy renovations, all in different genres with plenty of appeal," states Michele Pierce, co-chair of the event.

People who love grand homes, and families looking for something fun to do together to celebrate Mother's Day will have a treat in store. This year's tour includes a superb home showcasing a dedication to leaving a minimal environmental footprint, a south side new custom construction demonstrating an appreciation of organic, fresh, indoor/outdoor west-coast style living, a stately 1920s manor home recently updated for a young family with stylish yet relaxed interiors and a magnificent recently constructed home designed to have a modern Tudor look.

"The tour is a much-anticipated local tradition when owners of some of the area's finest homes generously throw open their doors to the public -- and this wide diversity of outstanding architecture and stylish décor must be seen to be fully appreciated," added Regina Kelley, 2019

Home Tour co-chair.

The tour also presents live music provided by gifted musicians from the Junior Musical club in Westfield. Luxury raffles, door prizes and local vendor tastings will further complement the event according to organizers.

Pierce explains that the home tour raises key revenue for the orchestra. She expressed appreciation to the homeowners for generously opening their homes to benefit the orchestra, which in turn adds significant value to communities of central New Jersey.

"The Home Tour is a critical element of the funding mix that's necessary to operate the orchestra, and bring acclaimed professional soloists to the area," continued Music Director Wroe. "Supplemental fund raising is necessary because only about a third of our revenue comes from the sale of tickets. Income from the Home Tour will also support our important educational outreach and music therapy programs."

Tickets for the 2019 Tour of Notable Homes are \$40 in advance, \$45 on tour day. Purchase tickets online at www.njfestivalorchestra.org. Tickets are also available at Baron's Pharmacy and Town Books in Westfield and Christoffers in Mountainside.

For information go to njfestivalorchestra.org,

call 908 232 9400 or visit the Friends of NJ Festival Orchestra on Facebook.



Return to jazz age elegance in this stately 1920s manor home on one of Westfield's most desirable streets. Recently rethought, renovated and updated for a young family, the stylish interiors are relaxed yet sophisticated, with dark chestnut trim, mirrored furnishings and rich gold and grey accents.



Designed and built by an environmentally-conscious architect, this superb home showcases a dedication to leaving a minimal environmental footprint. The construction used recycled, energy-efficient and eco-friendly materials, reclaimed lumber for floors and ceilings, and reused antique windows and staircase.



The magnificent stylized furnishings and eclectic artwork of this recently constructed residence combine to give the home a feeling of open elegance as well as a sense of comfortable family living. A modern must-see in one of Westfield's prime neighborhoods!



This Southside new custom construction stands in a class of its own. The home reflects organic, fresh, indoor/outdoor West-Coast living, merging a relaxed, lived-in, layered aesthetic with impeccable architecture, workmanship and high-end natural finishes.

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Closed May 27 for Memorial Day

Programs for Adults Check website for sign up info

5/9, 16	7:00 pm	Tai Chi Demo with Gang Huang
5/10	1:30 pm	TGIF! When Carl Sandburg Died
5/11	2:00 pm	Rhythm 'n Sound Musical Group
5/13	2 & 6:30 pm	Foreign Film: Back to Burgundy (French 113 minutes)
5/15	7:00 pm	Armchair Art Tour: West Africa
5/17	1:30 pm	TGIF! Paul Simon & Friends
5/29	7:00 pm	Raconteur Radio: Wizard of Oz
5/30 & 6/6	7:00 pm	Art Journaling by Shari Seltzer- Register and check supply list.
5/31	1:30 pm	TGIF! Classic Movie: The Grand Budapest Hotel

PROGRAMS FOR KIDS: CHECK WEBSITE FOR SIGN UP INFORMATION AND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS CAREGIVERS STAY WITH CHILDREN FOR MOST CLASSES

5/7, 14, 21, 28	10:30 am	It's Movie Time All ages
5/9, 16, 23, 30	10:00 am	Zumba Fun 2-5 years
5/10, 17, 24	10:00 am	Playgroup for Babies 0-23 months
5/14	6:30 pm	Evening LEGO Club 5+ years
5/15	10:00 am	Pipsqueak Players- Fun with Books 3-5 years
5/18	10:00 am	Paws to Read. Beginning readers read to library dogs for 10 minutes. Sign in when you arrive.
5/20	6:30 pm	Explore Coding 7-9 years

TIM HEINE AND CHRISTINE WALDRON MAKE A BIG IMPACT ON THE LIVES OF URBAN YOUTH

Student/Partner Alliance Board members and Westfield residents, Tim Heine, SVP & Managing Counsel in the American Express General Counsel's Office, and Christine Waldron, Chief Global Strategy Officer at U.S. Bank Global Fund Services have been significant funders and committed mentors to many low-income high school students in nearby urban areas of Newark and Jersey City. After spending the past 20 years mentoring students through S/PA, Tim Heine's son Ryan just joined to mentor a student in Bayonne.

Tim remarks on his involvement: "I have been involved with S/PA for over 20 years. It has provided me the opportunity to help and directly connect with young people who have all the potential in the world but, without the financial and mentoring support that S/PA provides, simply wouldn't have access to a stable learning environment or a clear path to college. S/PA provides this access, and its track record speaks for itself. For me (and for other S/PA partners and mentors), the program affords a wonderful personal way to give back to the community and to make a real difference in the lives of students and their families."

Christine joined Student/Partner Alliance as a Partner in 2017 after she relocated from the Midwest and was looking for an impactful local organization. Christine and Tim's commitment to S/PA goes even further as they have encouraged their companies to become supporters. Both The American Express Foundation and US. Bank are two of our funders. As an extension of her ongoing support, Christine recruited two of her team members at U.S. Bank as mentors this year, and they are enthusiastically mentoring two students at Cristo Rey - Newark.

Tim and Christine's enthusiastic support of urban students has inspired other residents in the Westfield community including their friends and the Westfield Rotary to support urban education.

Christine notes, "I became involved with S/PA to provide future leaders the same opportunities afforded me. If I had not received the mentoring and financial support as a teen I would not have achieved my full potential. S/PA is also a unique organization in that it allows leaders in the community to give both of their time and financially and appreciates the need and connection between the two."



(above) Christine and her mentee, a student at Cristo Rey Newark.



ABOUT: STUDENT/PARTNER ALLIANCE

The mission of Student/Partner Alliance (S/PA) is to support motivated high school students at private high schools in New Jersey's urban areas of Essex, Hudson and Union counties with tuition assistance and mentoring to increase their chances for college admission and scholarships, and ultimately to lead successful and productive lives.

Research from mentor.org shows that mentors play a powerful role in providing young people with the tools to strive and thrive, to attend and engage in school, and to reduce or avoid risky behavior like drug use. In turn, these young people are:

- 55% more likely to be enrolled in college
- 81% more likely to report participating regularly in sports or extracurricular activities
- 78% more likely to volunteer regularly in their communities.
- More than twice as likely to say they held a leadership position in a club or sports team.

Yet, the same research shows that one in three young people in our country will grow up without a mentor. Today, in our community there are so many young people who could benefit from having a mentor outside their family.

To learn more about the role mentoring plays in our community and to find volunteer opportunities with us visit www.studentpartneralliance.org.

We will also be holding an informational coffee at our offices at Christ Church on 561 Springfield Ave in Summit from 930-1130am on May 10th. If you would like to learn more about our program or attend the coffee, please contact akent@studentpartneralliance.org.



(above) Tim and his former mentee, Marist Graduate.



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TWENTY-FIVE VOLUNTEERS STEP UP FOR UNION COUNTY FOSTER YOUTH

More than two dozen volunteers from 10 Union County municipalities as well as towns in Bergen, Essex and Monmouth counties have been sworn in by Superior Court Judge Richard Wischusen to advocate for Union County youth removed from home due to abuse, neglect or abandonment and placed in foster homes or residential facilities.

After completion of training with Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Union County and taking their oath, the new CASA volunteers - or advocates - attended three hours of family court hearings to observe other CASA volunteers in action, and then were matched to their assigned foster youth or sibling set.

They are Steve Polychronopoulos of Berkeley Heights; Dana Panavalli of Cliffside Park; Shelley Grobe, Corey Sherlock and Susan Shaw of Cranford; Brittany Gonzalez and Flor Maria Mendez of Elizabeth; Janice Pettiford of Fanwood; Arlene Sumner of Linden; Adejoke Adedokun and Belinda McFarland of Newark; Louise Connelly of Roselle; Coleen Coffey and Margaret Van Heek of Scotch Plains; Laura Nanda of Spring Lake; Jim Moss and Meredith Nolen of Summit; James Ancharski, Karen Gorman, Su Huskey, Zoe Kimble, Suzanne LaForge and Michele Roosevelt of Westfield; Fernanda Olivo of West Orange and Diane Zinkowicz of Union.

The advocates range from age 23 to 74, and are parents, nonparents and grandparents; high school graduates to PhDs; full-time, part-time and retired professionals in such fields as education, law, medicine, nonprofit and business; and homemakers. Some had experience with foster care or adoption, as well as domestic violence or substance abuse within family or friends. Most, however, had no prior knowledge of the foster system.

CASA volunteers are extra eyes and ears for

family law judges. With court-ordered access to foster parents, doctors, caseworkers, therapists and teachers, they incorporate findings into court reports and work to ensure each youth's needs are met and best interests protected. They are a constant during chaos. There are approximately 500 Union County youth in foster care; more than 200 still await a CASA volunteer. Is that you? Reach Courtney at 908-293-8136 or cgreen@casao.unioncounty.org for details on the next training opportunity.



(above) Union County Superior Court Judge Richard Wischusen with the newest advocates for Union County's foster youth. There are approximately 500 Union County youth in foster care; more than 200 still await a CASA volunteer. Is that you? Reach Courtney at 908-293-8136 or cgreen@casao.unioncounty.org for details on the next training opportunity.

(below) Westfield residents recently sworn in as CASA volunteers.



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James Ancharski



Suzanne LaForge



Karen Gorman



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Michelle Roosevelt

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		Rutgers Preparatory School
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WHS CHAMBER GROUP PERFORMS AT NJ WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Diavoli Blu, a small chamber group from Westfield High School, performed during the opening breakfast of the New Jersey Women's Leadership Conference on March 14, 2019. "This is a small group made up of students from the WHS Chamber Orchestra. It was their first performance," says WHS Orchestra Director Craig Stanton. "The students really enjoyed themselves. It was a great chance to put the musical skills we work to improve on display in a real-world situation. They performed very well and learned a great deal from the experience."



(above, l-r) Morgan Eng (Violin 1, 12th Grade), Sydney Butler (Violin 2, 11th Grade), Amy Xiao (Violin 3, 9th Grade), Stanton, NJDOE Commissioner Dr. Lamont Repollet, Westfield Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Margaret Dolan, Sofia Lemberg (Viola, 12th Grade), Dustin Paden (Cello, 11th Grade), Jeremy Cha (Cello, 12th Grade).

Photo by Westfield Public Schools

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IMAGINE ROOM NAMED AFTER KEITH HERTELL II

A room dedication was recently held at Imagine in honor and memory of Westfield resident Keith Hertell II who died in a car accident in 1997 at the age of 25. Keith's father, Keith Hertell, made a very generous gift to Imagine to name the child loss support group room, Keith's Room. The funding provides support for the over 320 children and parents currently attending Imagine on five different nights of support.

"It is an absolute honor for my family and me to be able to dedicate a room in my late son Keith's name," said Keith Hertell. "It is hoped that this room can provide comfort and solace for those parents that lose a child and provide a place to recount all the special memories that that late child brought to the mourning family."

Darren Hertell shared, "Keith was a grandson, a son, and a brother, a musician, a comedian, and a performer. He absorbed the world around him and reflected back to it his voice, always in a humorous and loving way. He was honest, trustworthy, driven and motivated. He didn't sacrifice his values to achieve his goals. This

room offers each visitor the opportunity to reflect on the important place that loved ones take in our lives."

"Imagine wouldn't exist without Mr. Hertell and Dr. Gerry Glasser whose vision it was to create a children's grief support center in his beloved Westfield community," said Mary Robinson, Imagine Executive Director. "I'll never forget Dr. Glasser telling me he knew who could get the job done as our founding Board Chair, and that that person was Keith Hertell. No truer words were ever spoken. We are so very grateful for his contributions from day one of Imagine until today with this generous gift in memory of his son Keith."

For more information about Imagine's free year-round grief support groups visit imagineenj.org or call us at 908-264-3100.

ABOUT IMAGINE

Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss, is a grief support center for children, young adults and families dealing with the death or life-altering illness of a parent, sibling or child. We provide free peer grief support year-round for as long as is needed. In addition to these services, we provide training through our education and outreach programs across the state to a variety of organizations including schools, houses of worship and corporations. We also provide onsite support after any trauma or loss. Our goal is to create communities where no child grieves alone.

Imagine is completely privately funded through the generous contributions of our donors, and our work is only made possible through their support.



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(above, l-r) Pictured in front of Keith's Room is Keith Hertell; Connor Lavelle; Kerry Lavelle; and Darren Hertell.

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CASA FETES JANE HOFFMAN OF WESTFIELD

Submitted by Gretchen Boger-O'Bryan

In celebration of Women's History Month, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Union County recently hosted its first-ever Women's Leadership Luncheon, highlighting three Union County women whose contributions have impacted the community: attorney Lizanne Ceconi, a principal and managing partner at her Summit firm; Alma DeMetropolis, president of the New Jersey Market Leadership Team and Market Manager for J.P. Morgan Private Bank's New Jersey Market, also in Summit; and Jane Hoffman of Westfield, founder of the nonprofit, A Birthday Wish, which grants birthday wishes to children in foster care.

Summit Mayor Nora Radest welcomed the crowd of more than 160 that included freeholders, mayors, and myriad women in business, law, philanthropic and other fields. Susan P. Ascher of The Ascher Group, provided the keynote. CASA of New Jersey Associate Director Liza Kirschenbaum served as master of ceremonies.

CASA of Union County Executive Director Marla Higginbotham described Ceconi as a trailblazer; DeMetropolis as a believer, citing the businesswoman's notion that the word hope is an acronym for "help one person every day"; and Hoffman as a visionary. Higginbotham presented each with an award inscribed with a sentiment from Girl Scouts' Founder Juliette Gordon Low: "The work of today is the history of tomorrow, and we are its makers."

CASA of Union County recruits, trains, supervises and supports community volunteers to advocate for abused, neglected and abandoned

children placed in foster homes or residential facilities. There are approximately 500 Union County youth, from birth to age 21, in foster care, and the nonprofit advocates for just over half. Volunteers have court-ordered access to a child and all parties in their life, then report findings to the judge in order to ensure best interests remain a priority, their needs are met, and their trauma is not exacerbated while in care.

To learn more about CASA of Union County and how to get involved - from training as an advocate, becoming a donor or attending events throughout the year, contact Courtney at cgreen@casaofunioncounty.org or 908-293-8136.



(above) Jane Hoffman of Westfield, founder of the nonprofit, A Birthday Wish.



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LETTER CARRIERS' STAMP OUT HUNGER FOOD DRIVE – MAY 11

The 27th annual Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger® Food Drive is on Saturday, May 11, 2019.

The Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger® Food Drive is happening on Saturday, May 11, 2019. On this day, you can set out your non-perishable food before your letter carrier's regular pick up time. The top requested non-perishable food items are: cereal, pasta, pasta sauce, rice, canned fruits and vegetables, canned meals (such as soups, chili, and/or pasta), 100 percent juice, peanut butter, macaroni & cheese, canned protein (tuna, chicken, and/or turkey), beans (canned or dry). You can also donate healthy, low-sodium, low-sugar items such as beans, oatmeal, and other whole grains, and canola or olive oil.

Please do not donate frozen food, homemade food, or home-canned items. Please do not donate items that have expired or are in glass containers. In keeping with good food-handling and food-safety procedures, food that is opened, damaged, out of code or does not have the official ingredients will be discarded by the food bank in the sorting process.

The Food Drive is primarily a people food drive, but if you also want to give pet food in addition to your regular donation, food banks may be able to distribute or direct it to pet shelters and organizations in the area that have a need.

Please do not donate any form of individual baby food products, including formula, jarred vegetables and fruits, meals, snacks, infant cereal.

Baby food may be donated by the case or pallet, but single item donations present potential contamination risks and special handling requirements.

The Food Drive is primarily a food drive, but if you also want to give personal care items (such as diapers, laundry detergent, soap, toilet paper, and household cleaning items) in addition to your regular donation, food banks may be able to distribute or put them to good use with organizations that also provide help to those in need. Please note that not all food banks will be able to accept these items.

If you would like to volunteer with food distribution and sorting, or in any other capacity, call your local post office and ask to speak to the local food drive person there. Many food banks have a great need for volunteers on Food Drive Day, as well as all throughout the year.

All donations to the Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive are tax-deductible because all the food collected on Food Drive Day is given directly to non-profit charity food agencies in the community the food was collected. Though the National Association of Letter Carriers plans the Food Drive's logistics and letter carriers provide the transportation for each donor's generous donation, the National Association of Letter Carriers is not the agency that gets listed on tax forms for claiming deductions. There are more than 10,000 food agencies throughout the country that receive these donations, so if you itemize

your taxes and want to provide proper credit for your Food Drive donations, you will need to determine the name of the agency (food pantry or other charity) that received your food, as well as the agency's address and tax I.D. number for proper reporting on your tax-filing forms. The Food Drive Coordinator at your local post office should be able to give you the name of the receiving agency, and that agency will likely have tax information handy.

For more information, visit: nalc.org.



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WESTFIELD ROTARY INDUCTS NEW MEMBER

Submitted by Dr. D. Michael Hart

The Rotary Club of Westfield Inducted new member, Attorney Heidi Obiajulu on Tuesday, March 12, 2019.

Heidi is an attorney and a 20-year resident of Westfield. She is a graduate of Cornell University with a BA in Economics, and Cornell Law School. Heidi works as a New York State No Fault Arbitrator adjudicating no fault cases. Heidi has been married for 32 years and has four children, two of whom won Rotary scholarships. Two children are attorneys, one is a software engineer, and the fourth is in high school. She is grateful to be a member of the Rotary Club because of the wonderful charitable events it does for the community. She feels blessed to be part of the group and looks forward to contributing to the club. She believes that her association with the group will help her live out her Christian faith.

The Rotary Club of Westfield gives to the community in many ways. They are actively

involved in the "Backpack Program," which helps to supply children who are on the Federal School Lunch program meals when they are not in school on the weekends, school breaks and summer vacations. The Rotary club provides close to \$100,000 in Scholarships and \$23,000 in Community Grants every year. Last year the club members planted 25 trees on Dudley Court, and plan to plant more trees at Jefferson School soon. The club members also collect used bicycles to send to the third world. The Club is known for its signature Rotary Pancake Day, now called Breakfast with the Bands, which has been running every Spring for 53 years. They also have an Small Plates Party and Fashion Show at Lord and Taylor in the Fall, an Art Auction and raffles to support their charitable giving.

The Rotary Club of Westfield meets the first three Tuesdays of the month at 12:15 p.m. for lunch at the Westfield Area Y. Guests are always welcome. Contact Secretary Michael Hart at drmhart@yahoo.com for more information.

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(above, l-r) Past District Governor Dr. D. Michael Hart; President-elect Liz Ensslin; new member Heidi Obiajulu; President Clark Lagemann; President Nominee Joe Mindak; and Foundation President Phil Salerno.

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NEWARK BAIT AND FLYCASTING CLUB ANNUAL YOUTH FISHING DERBY



The Newark Bait and Flycasting Club Annual Youth Fishing Derby was held on Saturday April 13, 2019 at Echo Lake Park in Westfield, NJ.

The Newark Bait and Flycasting Club was founded in 1907 and remains the oldest fishing club in the nation. We are listed on Amazon Smile and are a recognized 501(c)3 nonprofit. We provide outings to support veterans, adults and children as well as people with disabilities which focus on environmental education, fishing knowledge and practice.

We are always looking for new members, donations, and volunteers if anyone would like to get involved.

Our monthly meetings are held at the Kenilworth VFW, located at 33 S. 21st St., Kenilworth, NJ, on the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. (except July and August). There is no fee to attend a meeting.

For more information visit nbfcc.org or contact Bob Jones: BJonesJRNJ@hotmail.com, 908-272-3545.

(left) Westfield residents Melanie Scheiber with sons James and Joe.

MUSICAL CLUB CONCERT

The public is invited to a free concert given by the Musical Club of Westfield on Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Westfield, located at 170 Elm St., Westfield, NJ.

Ellen Goff Entriken, soprano, and Dr. William F. Entriken, piano, will begin the concert with selections of Schubert, Schumann, and Brahms. The second portion will feature the music of composer Dennis E. Hyams. Pianist Yuly Verbitsky will also perform.

There will be a reception with light refreshments immediately after the concert where audience members will have the opportunity to meet the performers.

The Musical Club of Westfield is a non-profit organization whose mission is to foster and encourage good music, provide performance opportunities for local musicians and support young musicians from Union county with college scholarships. It also sponsors the Junior Musical Club for students in grades 8 to 12 from the surrounding communities. Additional information about the club can be found by visiting musicalclubofwestfield.org.

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SENIOR CITIZENS INVITED TO “BREAKFAST WITH THE CHIEFS” - MAY 17

Lifelong Westfield and the Westfield Police and Fire Departments will host a breakfast for seniors on Friday, May 17, 2019, from 9 - 11 a.m. in the Community Room of the Westfield Municipal Building, 425 E. Broad Street. The event is free and open to all seniors and their caregivers.

Police Chief Christopher Battiloro and Acting Fire Chief Anthony Tiller will give a short presentation on community policing and fire prevention efforts geared specifically to older

residents. Officers from both departments will be available to greet residents and answer questions.

The breakfast is part of a new ‘meet & greet’ series designed to engage older residents on issues unique to them. Lifelong Westfield is an initiative of the Mayor’s Senior Advisory Council to attract and retain senior citizens, a valuable part of our community. For additional information, including a calendar of events for seniors, please visit westfieldnj.gov/lifelong or call 908-301-1287.

WESTFIELD MEMORIAL DAY PARADE PLANNED FOR MONDAY, MAY 27

Plans for the Annual Westfield Memorial Day Parade are underway. The parade, scheduled for Monday, May 27, 2019 will have opening ceremonies at the Veterans Memorial Monument beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Participants in this parade are required to assemble in the Lord & Taylor (West) parking lot at 8:00 a.m.

All Westfield organizations are invited to march in this year’s Tribute to Veterans who made the supreme sacrifice fighting for the freedoms we often take for granted.

The parade committee urges organizations or individuals to either march in the parade, sponsor a wreath to be placed at the Monument or to make a financial contribution to the parade committee to help offset the costs of running the

parade.

The committee is requesting information about any surviving World War II Veterans from Westfield and surrounding towns. We are planning a special tribute for them. Please call the number below.

This year’s parade route, after the opening ceremonies, will be straight up East Broad Street ending at Fairview Cemetery. After the parade all participants are invited to a BBQ at the American Legion Hall at the corner of North Avenue and Crossway Place.

The Westfield Memorial Day Parade is sponsored by the Town of Westfield and The American Legion Martin Wallberg Post #3.

If there are any questions, please call Stan Cuba at (908) 233-2767.

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SECOND WESTFIELD SENIORS FUNDRAISE FOR THE WESTFIELD RESCUE SQUAD

The senior citizens of Second Westfield Senior Housing held a fundraising event to support the volunteers of the Westfield Rescue Squad for their selfless commitment in helping those in need. A check in the amount of \$300 was recently presented to the squad.

The Westfield Rescue Squad has been servicing the town since 1951. All of their trained emergency technicians (EMTs) are volunteers. The squad is supported by the townspeople's tax deductible donations.



(above) Keith Peterson (Treasurer), Tiffany Landazabal (Ambulance Sergeant), Jane Barris (SWSCH Senior Resident), Dalber Pereira, Sergio Guzman (Chief), and David Sloan (President).

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