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ISSUE 84 • JUNE 2019

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## ROTARY CLUB TO HOLD ANNUAL TRACK AND FIELD MEET

*Submitted by Michael R. Townley*

The oldest service club of the three Plainfields will hold their most important annual community service project on June 5, 2019 at the Hub Stine Athletic Complex in Plainfield. Long a mainstay in supporting the Plainfield communities, the Rotary Club of the Plainfields will offer an afternoon of friendly but determined competition to young 12, 13 and 14 year-old athletes from area middle schools. "This invitational meet is the longest-running meet of its kind in the entire state," said Michael Townley, director of the meet. "We have offered this meet as a service to area youth since 1923, except during World War II."

Rotary club members and their friends serve as the officials at the Meet. They are also supported by members of the Interact Club at North Plainfield High School. Interact is the youth-based service club sponsored by Rotary International.

"Interact is a great club of enthusiastic students who are interested in doing good deeds for others," said Roberta Smith, Rotary president. "They help us with a number of our service projects and activities throughout the year, and host quite a few activities of their own to benefit North Plainfield residents. We are proud of them and of all that they accomplish throughout the year."

Ninety-one years of track and field meets have drawn many thousands of participants, including Olympic decathlon champion and former Plainfield resident Milt Campbell. "We recognize that participating in our Track and Field Meet was but one step in Milt's long and successful drive to achieve his decathlon championship," said Townley. "In fact, our Club was proud to be one of the many community groups that financially supported his Olympic trip." According to Townley, each year the Club members learn something new about the athletes that participated in the Meet. "One of the seniors we interviewed at Plainfield High for our scholarship awards two years ago commented



(above) Two North Plainfield Middle School students and one from Maxson Middle School in Plainfield wait to receive their medals at the 2018 Meet.

that not only did she win a medal at our Meet, it was also her first formal track event. It influenced her to go on to star on the PHS track team, and led to her decision to run track in college."

Schools that were invited to send athletes to this year's Meet include North Plainfield Middle School, Plainfield's Maxson Middle School and Hubbard Middle School, the Valley View School in Watchung, South Plainfield Middle School, and four other area schools.

Medals will be awarded to first, second and third place finishers in all events except the relays, where ribbons are awarded to second and third place finishers. If the past is any indication, medals or ribbons will be earned by athletes from every school that is registered.

"Our Club looks forward each year to this special service project," said Townley. "Rotary International's motto is 'Service Above Self'. We truly enjoy providing this service to these fine young athletes and presenting them an opportunity to win medals or ribbons for their athleticism."

The Track and Field Meet is open to the public. The Hub Stine Athletic Complex is located on Randolph Road in Plainfield. Anyone wishing to volunteer assistance to the Rotary Club should contact them at [PNPRotary@gmail.com](mailto:PNPRotary@gmail.com) or call 908-822-1441.

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## IMAGINE SEEKS VOLUNTEERS TO PROVIDE GRIEF SUPPORT

Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss currently seeks volunteers to serve as peer support group facilitators for children and families coping with loss due to death. Upcoming summer trainings will be held June 27-30th and July 26-29th, 2019.

Imagine groups are facilitated by trained adult volunteers who attend a 32-hour training and quarterly continuing education, and receive ongoing supervision. Volunteers come from all walks of life and need no special background other than a willingness to listen and the ability to be with children and adults in pain without trying to fix, solve problems, or give advice. Volunteers must be 21 years or older and attend the Imagine four-day Facilitator Training. No prior experience is necessary.

"For the first time in our seven-year history we have a waiting list," said Mandi Zucker, Imagine Program Director. "As our programs continue to grow, so does our need for volunteers. We are currently serving over 380 participants every two weeks in our peer support programs and will be adding another night of support so we can serve an additional 60 people." Volunteers say the training is "life-changing" and a wonderful opportunity for learning about themselves and how their own losses have affected the way they

grieve and how they support others. People that complete the training leave feeling empowered to be a supportive person to people grieving any type of loss.

Imagine is a free year-round peer grief support center located in Mountainside and Newark New Jersey, serving children age 3-18 who have had a parent or sibling die, with concurrent support groups for their parents or guardians. Support for children and teens living with a parent or sibling with a life-altering physical illness is also available. Free year-round support groups are also available for young adults who have had a friend, sibling, parent or other important person in their life die, or who have a parent, sibling or friend living with an illness.

If you are interested in learning more about the upcoming trainings scheduled for June 27-30th or July 26-29th, 2019 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. daily, please contact Mandi at [Mandi@imaginejnj.org](mailto:Mandi@imaginejnj.org) or visit [imaginejnj.org](http://imaginejnj.org) to schedule a tour.



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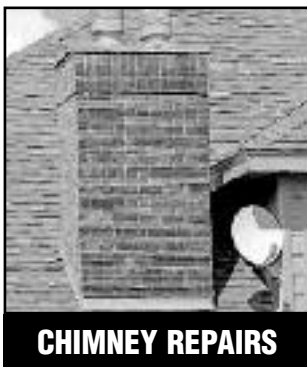




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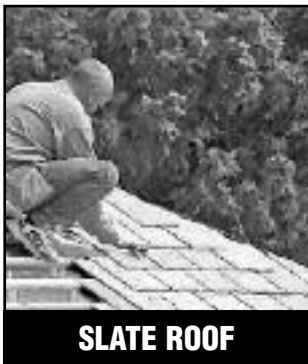
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Fill any plastic grocery bag with canned goods and place it next to your blue recycling bin at the curb on your recycling pickup days during the month of June.

Food supplies are traditionally low during the summer months when school lunch programs close and holiday food drives are not being held. That's why June is the ideal time to hold the Curbing Hunger Month food drive, which will help alleviate this annual shortage. Donations are distributed to the Food Bank Network of Somerset County and local food pantries, including the Franklin Food Bank.

The demand at local food banks and food pantries continues to be high. You can help by filling any plastic grocery bag with canned goods and placing these items at the curb on your recycling pickup days from June 3 through 28, 2019, when county recycling crews and county and municipal public works employees will pick up your food donations.

You also can purchase and donate fresh produce at [curbinghunger2019.org](http://curbinghunger2019.org). Join the conversation at GiveHealthy on social media by following #GiveHealthy.

Donations of non-perishable food also are accepted at the First Saturday of the Month recycling drop-offs held at the Somerset County Recycling Center at 40 Polhemus Lane in Bridgewater.



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## SOMERSET COUNTY: JOB FAIR - JUNE 18, 2019

Employers from 24 organizations in Somerset County will take part in a free job fair from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, June 18, 2019, at 27 Warren St., Somerville.

The event will be conducted in the ground-floor conference room; free parking is available on the third and fourth floors of the parking deck next to the Warren Street building. On-street parking also is available nearby.

Businesses in the health care, technology, leisure and hospitality, manufacturing, pharmaceutical and life sciences, auto, retail, construction and finance sectors will be attending the job fair, which is sponsored by the Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board, the

Greater Raritan One Stop Career Center and the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

Capitol Care, Cognizant, Delta Hotels/Marriott, Easter Seals, Fellowship Senior Living, Fiddlers Elbow Country Club, Hampton Inn, Ivoclar Vivadent, Komline Sanderson, Lupin, Masonite, Mavis Discount Tire, Micro, NJ American Water, Nordstrom Rack, Pfizer, Rath Gibson, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Somerset, SHI, Somerset County YMCA, Thermo Fisher Scientific, Unity Bank, US Census 2020 and Zeus are scheduled to take part.

“Our state and local partners are working to create a broad-based event that will connect employers and jobseekers,” said Aubrey Flanagan, planning and business services representative for the Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board, which serves Somerset and Hunterdon counties. “Our mission is to help people get on the pathway to sustainable, well-paying careers, and this job fair is just one example of what we are doing as we connect different key stakeholders in the workforce world to our local community members.”

Attendees will be asked to sign in, and entrance to the space will be monitored, to ensure orderly participation and equal access during the three-hour event.

Jobseekers also can gain early entry to the job fair by attending one or more of six pre-job fair

workshops being conducted in the next several weeks. Attendees of these workshops will receive a “golden ticket” allowing them early entrance to the event and access to the employers starting at 10 a.m.

Call Flanagan at 908-541-5785 or email [info@thegrwdb.org](mailto:info@thegrwdb.org) to register for this workshops:

June 4: Creating a Dynamic Job Portfolio, 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., 27 Warren St., Somerville, Ground Floor Conference Room

Call 908-704-3000 to register for the following workshops:

June 10: “Master the Art of Interviewing,” 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., 27 Warren St., Somerville, 3rd Floor Conference Room

June 11: JJC Top Notch Resumes I, 9 a.m. – 11 a.m., 75 Veterans Memorial Drive East, Somerville

June 11: JJC Top Notch Resumes II, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., 75 Veterans Memorial Drive East, Somerville

June 14: JJC Master the Art of Networking, 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., 75 Veterans Memorial Drive East, Somerville

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## VALARIE'S SOUP KITCHEN OPENING AT CRESCENT AVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Submitted by BJ Snyder*

The soup kitchen at Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church, located at 716 Watchung Avenue, Plainfield, has reopened after closing for a complete and extensive renovation of the kitchen. Volunteers working under the supervision of Executive Chef, Kevin Cook, will resume serving nutritious lunches to local residents under the name "Valarie's Soup Kitchen" in honor of the generous woman who started the operation on a shoestring following Super Storm Sandy.

Kevin Cook is a seasoned Executive Chef with more than 10 years of experience in the organization, execution and direction of culinary staffs and functions in such fine dining establishments as the Somerset Hills Hotel in Somerset, NJ and the Lake Edge Restaurant in Watchung, NJ.

Valarie's Soup Kitchen is open from 12 noon to around 1:30 p.m. every Tuesday except when a Tuesday falls during the last 5 days of a month. (Grace Episcopal Church in Plainfield hosts a soup kitchen those days.) There is no registration for guests, only a sign in so we can keep track of numbers.



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**And to the Mayor's office: 263 Somerset St.**  
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Thank you!



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# VICTORIA GRISWOLD RECEIVES THE 2019 SERVICE ABOVE SELF AWARD

Submitted by Michael Townley

The Rotary Club of the Plainfields recently presented the '2019 Service Above Self Award' to Plainfield resident and former owner of the Plainfield Music Store, Victoria "Vicky" Griswold at the club's annual Wine Tasting Dinner held on May 1, 2019 at Giovanna's Restaurant.

Vicky Griswold is a well-known and highly respected musician with a long history in the arts in Plainfield and the surrounding area. Her musicianship is highly regarded and respected, not only throughout the New York metropolitan area, but also internationally in Europe and Brazil. Vicky has recorded with prestigious symphony orchestras such as the Warsaw Philharmonic, the London Symphony, and the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic.

Ms. Griswold has been a member of the Rotary

Club of the Plainfields since 1999, and served as president of the club from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2011. She was instrumental in the success of the club's scholarship program as a tireless advocate for the graduating students at Plainfield High School, in particular.

"We chose our friend Vicky to receive the Service Above Self Award because she is the embodiment of our Rotary motto, "Service Above Self," said club president Roberta Smith. "Your spirit of volunteerism is manifested in the many ways that you have served the people in our area in both club and community activities.

"None of us on the Board can recall any club project that you did not raise your hand and volunteer to serve or chair. Third graders enjoy your presentation of dictionaries every year. Our scholarship program has benefited from your insightful review and selection of candidates every single year. Even after long hours at the Plainfield Music Store, you found time to volunteer for multiple games at Rutgers, staff concessions for our scholarship fundraiser. In the hot sun or cloudy shade, you are always there at our Track and Field Meet and for work at the Giving Garden, growing food for people in need. These are but a few of the projects that have benefitted from your participation.

"Your knowledge of Plainfield and its groups and organizations has been an invaluable asset to the club. Your participation and/or membership in many area arts organizations is second to none. You are a thoughtful, considerate, well-read woman deserving of recognition.

"We also will present this award in recognition of your service and accomplishments as a musician par excellence. Your dedication to music drove your decision to take ownership of the Plainfield Music Store and save it for music lovers everywhere. Under your ownership, the business expanded its reach with on-line sales

and served as a resource for even more musicians throughout the world. You supported this business as a labor of love for music lovers everywhere.

"As we say in our induction of new members, your fellow Rotarians see you as a leader in your field, a person who has many, many times over manifested the qualities of head and heart to interpret, demonstrate, live and impart the message of Rotary as reflected in our motto, 'Service Above Self.' These are characteristics of a true leader, and you embody them with distinction."

Ms. Griswold accepted her award with humility. She spoke of her time as a member of the Rotary Club of the Plainfields, where she has been a member for twenty years and developing long-lasting friendships with like-minded people interested in service to others.

For the past 10 years, the club has annually recognized an individual from the Plainfield area for the service provided to his or her community. Recipients include North Plainfield Police Chief Bill Parenti, former North Plainfield Mayor Janice Allen, Plainfield businesswoman Donna Albanese-DeMair, Rotarian Michael Townley from South Plainfield, former superintendent of schools Dr. Marilyn Birnbaum of North Plainfield, Plainfield Mayor Adrian Mapp, North Plainfield Mayor Michael Giordano, and South Plainfield resident Shirley Thompson, Plainfield's Linda Carter, and now our own Vicky Griswold.

For more information about the Rotary Club of the Plainfields, visit their website at RotaryPNP.org. The club meets every Wednesday at 12:15 p.m. at Giovanna's Restaurant, 1462 South Avenue in Plainfield, except for Social Hours at The Coffee Box at 8:30 a.m. on the first Wednesday of each month. Anyone interested in learning more about Rotary and the club is invited to attend a meeting as a guest of the Club.



(above, r-l) Vicky Griswold accepts the Rotary Club of the Plainfields' 2019 Service Above Self Award from club president Roberta Smith.

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2019
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# 21ST ANNUAL GREG HACKETT MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING - JUNE 22ND

Greg Hackett Memorial Golf Outing to benefit The Legacy Foundation, Inc. This event is a Plainfield Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc Academic Achievement Scholarship Fundraiser, memorializing one of the PAC most influential Charter members. This event raises scholarship funds for high school graduating seniors in the Greater Plainfield, NJ community. Since inception, The Legacy Foundation has provided scholarships to more than 60 graduating seniors from the Central New Jersey area. Through your participation and support, we can continue to positively impact the lives of inspired and high-achieving minority youth. Join us at our 21st Annual Greg Hackett Memorial Golf Outing - June 22nd. Online Registration at [pacnupes.com](http://pacnupes.com).

Saturday, June, 22, 2019. Tee time 8:00 am. Continental Breakfast & Lunch Provided @ 7am. High Bridge Golf Club, 203 Cregar Road, High Bridge, New Jersey.

The Legacy Foundation is a NJ Non-profit 501c (3) tax exempt organization established in 2006. Its purposes are exclusively charitable and educational.

The Foundation maintains efforts in building an endowment to insure a consistent level of community support and to solidify the perpetuity of its mission. The Foundation also seeks partnerships with other organizations with common purposes to increase the impact of its programs.

For more information about the Legacy Foundation, Inc, visit [legacyfoundationinc.org](http://legacyfoundationinc.org)

## PLAINFIELD MEMORIAL LIBRARY BRANCH

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Sunday, Closed

### ALL AGE PROGRAMS

Month of the Horse (families)

June 20, 2-3 p.m.

### CHILDREN, TWEEN, AND TEEN PROGRAMS

Space Haiku Challenge (grades 5-12)

June 1, 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Storycrafters (grades 5-12)

June 4, 3:30-5 p.m.

Toddler/Preschool Storytime - Rhyme and Play

(ages 18-60 months)

June 5, 12; 10-11 a.m.

Minecraft Club (grades 4-7)

June 5, 3:30-5 p.m.

Baby/Toddler Storytime - Discover Stories

(ages birth - 3 years)

June 6, 13; 10-11 a.m.

LEGO® Club (entering grades 2-5)

June 10, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Culinary Creators (grades 5-12)

June 11, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Young Adult Advisory Council (grades 5-12)

June 12, 3:30-5 p.m.

Out of This World Escape Room (grades 5-12)

Team No. 1 June 18, 3-3:40 p.m.

Team No. 2 June 18, 4-4:40 p.m.

Team No. 3 June 18, 5-5:40 p.m.

Team No. 4 June 18, 6-6:40 p.m.

Team No. 5 June 18, 7-7:40 p.m.

Game Time (grades 5-12)

June 19, 3:30-5 p.m.

Facts and Snacks Book Club - Space and Astronauts

(entering grades 3-6)

June 28, 3-4:30 p.m.

### ADULT PROGRAMS

English Language Learning

- Registration and Pre-Testing

June 3, 6-8:30 p.m.

English Conversation Group

June 3, 10, 17; 7-8:30 p.m.

Knit and Crochet

June 4, 18; 10 a.m. - noon

Cooking Class - Mini Crispy Eggplant Pizzas

June 4, 7-8:30 p.m.

U.S. Citizenship Course

June 6, 13, 20, 27; 6-8 p.m.

Division of Child Protection and Permanency Info Table

June 8, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Alternatives, Inc. - Satellite Office Hours

June 11, 3-5 p.m.

Alien Abduction - The Mohave Incident

June 11, 7-8 p.m.

Book Discussion:

June 13, 1-2 p.m. and June 20, 7:15-8:30 p.m.

"News of the World," by Paulette Jiles on

Special Needs Social Hour - Adult Sensory Storytime

June 28, 11 a.m. - noon

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## CASA SHAW VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT ON ERIKKA FLOYD

Erikka has been a dedicated CASA volunteer advocate who continues to make a difference in the lives of the children she serves. She lives with her family in Hunterdon County, where she works as a substitute teacher. She is also very proud to have two beautiful children of her own, ages 7 and 11.

When discussing her path that led her to CASA SHaW, she said, "about a year ago, I was looking for a volunteer opportunity and found CASA online. The CASA organization stood out above the rest. At the time, there was a lot of media coverage about families going through the

opioid crisis and stories of children being taken from their homes. I have also seen the affects and stress on children who have gone through the foster care system throughout my time working in different schools and in speaking to people with this experience. I have always enjoyed working with children and the thought of any child being torn away from their parents, siblings and home and how afraid they must feel, is hurtful to me."

Erikka currently advocates for two siblings ages 4 and 6. They are bright, active, cheerful, loving children who enjoy reading stories, drawing, playing games and dancing around. As their CASA, she is an extra set of eyes and ears on their case to ensure their needs are met and that they are happy, healthy and cared for by their

foster parent. Throughout their stay with the foster parent, she has formed relationships with counselors and teachers at the children's school to ensure they continue to do well and don't fall behind. She has also formed a relationship with their biological mother, and has been there for her as she set and accomplished goals for herself so she could be the best mom she could be when the children go back home.

Erikka said, "I think part of being a CASA is being able to understand where people are coming from and where they need to go to be successful. It is about being a cheerleader for the parent in helping them overcome obstacles that have prevented them from being with their children. Simply being someone who is there to listen, to bounce ideas off of, or to vent to is often helpful to a parent. It is about being a consistent part of the children's lives. For many foster children, consistency doesn't come easy, as they are moved around and experience a lot of changes. The children need to know they have someone who is on their side and looking out for them."

Erikka continued by saying, "at CASA SHAW, I have a supportive and knowledgeable group of people to reach out to whenever I have questions or concerns. CASA has provided training opportunities to further my understanding of how children in foster care are affected and resources to use throughout my case to better help the family. I have attended family court and gained a new perspective on how DCP&P and the foster system works. I am grateful the children on my case are expected to be reunified with their mother and look forward to helping another family soon."

We thank Erikka for all she has done as a volunteer advocate and her dedication to making a difference in the lives of those children who need a voice at this time in their lives.

Do you or someone you know want to volunteer to help make a difference in the life of a child in need? For more information visit [casaofnj.org](http://casaofnj.org).

## CASA SHAW ANNOUNCES INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR JUNE

*Submitted by Jeff Warren*

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

"Attending an information session is the first step in becoming a CASA volunteer advocate for a foster child who has been abused and neglected. This is where individuals learn about what it takes to become volunteer," said Tracey Heisler, Executive Director of CASA SHaW. Attending an Information Session is required for anyone interested in applying to become a CASA.

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

Monday, June 3 - 5:30 p.m. at the Phillipsburg Public Library in Phillipsburg, NJ (200 Broubalow Way, Phillipsburg, NJ 08865)

Saturday, June 8 - 10:00 a.m. at the Somerville Public Library in Somerville, NJ (35 West End Ave, Somerville, NJ 08876)

Tuesday, June 11 - 5:30 p.m. at the Hackettstown Public Library in Hackettstown, NJ (10 Church St, Hackettstown, NJ 07840)

Wednesday, June 19 - Noon at the CASA SHaW office in Washington, NJ (150 Boulevard, Washington, NJ 07882)

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](mailto:karen@casashaw.org) or by phone at 908-689-5515 if you plan to attend on either date.

CASA of Somerset, Hunterdon, and Warren Counties is part of a statewide network of community-based, non-profit programs that recruit, screen, train and supervise volunteers to "Speak Up for a Child" removed from home due to abuse or neglect. CASA is the only program in New Jersey that uses trained volunteers to work one-on-one with children, ensuring that each one gets the services needed and achieves permanency in a safe, nurturing home. To find a local CASA program in your county, visit [casaofnj.org](http://casaofnj.org).



*(above) Erikka Floyd*

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## SINGLE SENIOR WOMEN'S GROUP SEEKS MEMBERS SUPPORT, SOCIALIZE, STAY ACTIVE

Single women age 60 and above are invited to join the Single Senior Women's Group for socialization and support. Female residents, who meet the age requirements and are single, widowed, divorced, never married, or married with an incapacitated spouse are invited to join.

The group is held from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., on the second and fourth Thursday of the month at the Somerset County Senior Wellness Center at Bridgewater, located at 876 East Main St., Bridgewater.

Gather with other single female peers for support in a safe, friendly, informal and positive social environment. Listen to speakers, learn and share experiences. Join excursions such as shows, trips and other activities. This is a great opportunity for women to stay healthy.

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Single Senior Women's Group, which was formed in 1989. In 1992, the program received an award for its exemplary contributions to healthy aging. The award was issued by the American Association of Retired Persons, and the U.S. Public Health Services Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion.

The Senior Wellness Center at Bridgewater is operated by the Somerset County Office on Aging and Disability Services and offers a variety of activities including educational programs, health and wellness information, as well as an interesting and inclusive social setting.

For more information about Somerset County Single Senior Women's Group, contact President Faye Dolan at 908-541-9473.

## SEA SCOUT OPEN HOUSE - JUNE 8

*Submitted by James Zatwarnicki*

Are you interested in boating, sailing, or mechanics? Come check out Sea Scouting and let the adventure at sea begin! Sea Scout Ships 228 and 243 of Patriot's Path Council will be holding an open house from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday, June 8, 2019 at their sea base located at 4400 Tremley Point Rd, Linden, NJ. The open house will include demonstrations and tours at 10 a.m., a free BBQ at 11:30 a.m., and boat rides from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Sea Scouting is open to both male and female youth member's ages 14-21 who have graduated the 8th grade; we also have a new Maritime Explorer Club for younger youth in 6th to 8th grade. Adult volunteers with maritime experience or captain's licenses are needed too. Join us for a day on the water and bring a friend! Visit our website for more information [www.ship228.com](http://www.ship228.com).



(above) Sea Scouts from Ship 228 operate the 65' vessel Sea Dart II, one of the largest Sea Scout vessels on the east coast, along with a fleet of smaller vessels (including sailboats) from their base located in Linden, NJ. Sea Scouting (Part of the Venturing Program of the BSA) offers young adults the opportunity to travel and learn skills that could be useful in future careers. Whether you're steering the vessel from the wheelhouse, learning engine room repair or visiting a new port on one of the many trips, there's something you'll enjoy in Sea Scouting. So, try something different, check us out, and prepare yourself to set sail for a real adventure.

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# Tricky Tray Fundraiser

*A benefit for Alzheimer's New Jersey*

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# FIRE DEPARTMENT CONDUCTS ANNUAL AWARD CEREMONY

*Submitted by Chief William Eaton*

At the Borough's May 6, 2019 Council meeting, the North Plainfield Fire Department conducted its annual award ceremony and Mayor Michael Giordano read the oath of office to our two newest members. Melissa Zittel was sworn-in as a Uniformed EMT and Ross Innocenti was sworn-in as a probationary Firefighter/EMT.

During this year's award ceremony, the following recipients were recognized:

Service Commendation Award - Captain James DiPaolo, Firefighters Kevin Miller and Brendan Kinney, and EMTs John Schulz and Susan Connolly

This was earned for their life saving actions on May 30, 2017. That day, we were dispatched to a report of a person having difficulty breathing where the patient suddenly went into full cardiac arrest. CPR was initiated by the crew who performed several rounds of CPR and delivered 3 shocks with the AED prior to the arrival of paramedics. Shortly after medics arrived, the patient did regain a spontaneous heartbeat and respirations, and she was immediately transported to the hospital. Upon transfer of the patient to the hospital ER staff she was responsive and breathing on her own.

Service Commendation Award - EMT Deirdre Wright and EMT Ryan Lucas

On July 6, 2017, we were dispatched for a woman in labor. The crew responded and upon their arrival they quickly determined that the

child's birth was imminent. A few moments later, a healthy baby girl was delivered by this crew inside the patient's residence. The crew then transported mother and child to St. Peter's hospital.

Unit Citation Award - Lieutenant Thomas McDonald; Firefighters Jeffrey Meyer, Kristopher Piccola, Patrick Lanzone; EMTs: Gary Howard, Michael Frey, Matthew Kiefer

On the evening of August 18, 2018, the fire department was dispatched to a call reporting 2 unconscious people in a business along Route 22. Upon arrival, two victims were found inside the building and unconscious for no apparent reason. A paramedic unit happened to be in the parking lot of the business next door, so they were in the process of removing an unconscious female from inside the store who was one of the victims. They quickly updated the platoon officer, Lt. Tom McDonald, that there was another male patient still inside. The Lt. cautiously entered the store,

not yet knowing exactly what occurred and in that short moment, he detected a fuel exhaust odor, observed a liquid chemical agent on the floor and saw the unconscious male laying not too far from the liquid chemical. He then entered the building to quickly remove him. At that point, other Fire/EMS personnel on scene assisted with removing this victim and helped provide patient care for both patients. Further investigation determined that fatal levels of carbon monoxide had accumulated in the building due to gasoline fueled power washer being used inside the building. Simultaneously the other victim was using a highly acidic cleaner on the floor and when she became unconscious, she was laying in the chemical product, which caused significant burns to her back and right side. Ultimately the building was ventilated, returned to a safe condition and both victims survived, only because of the actions of these Firefighters and EMTs.



(above, l-r) Chief William Eaton, Mayor Giordano, Captain James DiPaolo, FF Brendan Kinney, EMT John Schulz, and EMT Susan Connolly



(above, l-r) Mayor Michael Giordano, Lt. Thomas McDonald, FF Jeffrey Meyer, FF Patrick Lanzone, and FF Kris Piccola.

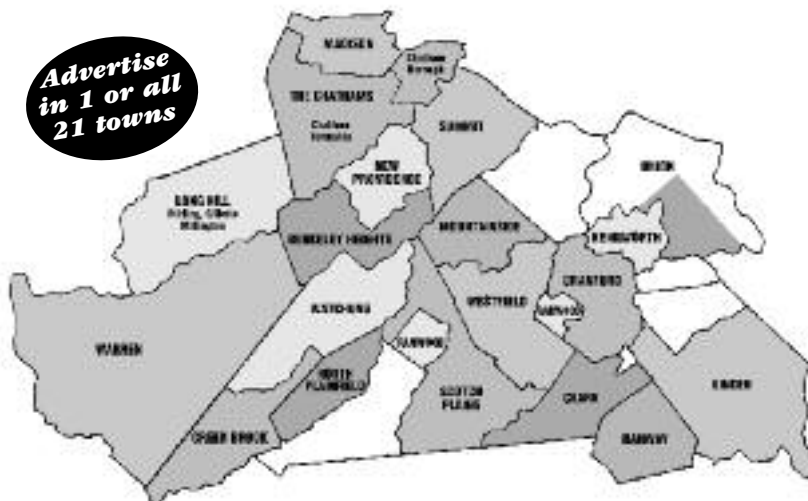
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## ELEMENTARY STUDENTS DONATE TO POLICE UNITY TOUR

As police officers around the nation, many from local departments, looked to participate in this year's Police Unity Tour, students in North Plainfield wanted their local officers to know that they supported their efforts and wished them a safe trip to Washington D.C.

The purpose of the Police Unity Tour is to raise awareness of law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty and to raise funds for the National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial and Museum. Several North Plainfield officers recently participated on a three-day bike ride, covering over 300 miles to join their fellow officers in our nation's capital.

Students in East End School, Stony Brook School, and West End School held a fundraiser to assist the officers with various travel expenses. Each participating police officer in the tour sacrifice their own money to pay entrance fees, riding clothing, and their own bicycles.

Students raised over two hundred dollars, often

forgoing buying snacks at lunchtime, to help their local heroes.

"On behalf of the entire police department, we want to extend a sincere thank you to the students and school community for supporting us in this worthwhile program," announced North Plainfield Chief of Police William Parenti. "My officers and I really appreciate the efforts of the students and I want to thank them personally for thinking about us."

Since the implementation of the Operation Safe School Partnership in May 2018, police officers regularly visit each school on a daily basis and positively interact with the students. Superintendent of Schools Michelle Vella praised the initiative for developing positive relationships between the police and the students. "During my visits to the schools, I am delighted to see the officers engaged with the students, taking the time to speak with them and answer all their questions."

John Ferguson, principal at East End School, was not surprised by the student's charitable efforts. "Through these daily visits, our students have come to know the officers and understand the important lesson that the police are always there to help them. This is their way to say 'Thank You!'".



(above, l-r) Students Yamile Guanataxi Nunez, Joseph Ixcuan, Isabella Tchubabria, Fatios Konstantopoulos, Kyndal Irving. Back row: John Ferguson, Principal, Sgt. Bill Speck, Chief Parenti, and Julie Lafferty, Counselor.

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- Custom tailored solutions: Google Ranking, Local SEO, Social Marketing



North Plainfield Officers who participated in the 2019 Police Unity Tour  
(above, l-r) Ptl. Mark Constantino, Chief William Parenti, Det. Joe Mazza, and Det. Al Domizi.

Photo by North Plainfield Public Schools

## NORTH PLAINFIELD SENIORS CLUB GOLDEN NUGGET CASINO BUS TRIP

The North Plainfield Seniors Club will sponsor an express bus trip to the Golden Nugget Casino in Atlantic City on Wednesday, June 12, 2019. The bus leaves the parking lot of Saint Luke's Church, 300 Clinton Ave., at 10:00 a.m., the cost is \$35.

On arrival, the casino will give you a \$25 voucher to use in the casino and a \$5 voucher for food. For more information call Shirley at 908-561-3240. All are welcome on this bus trip.

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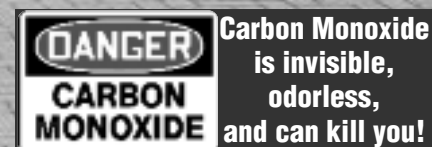
## CHIMNEY & ROOFING SPECIALISTS

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## 1-800-650-0968

Family  
Owned &  
Operated For  
15 Years

- All Work Guaranteed
- 24/7 Emergency Service
- 20% Senior Discount
- Major Credit Cards
- NJ Lic. 13VH08570100



### MASONRY



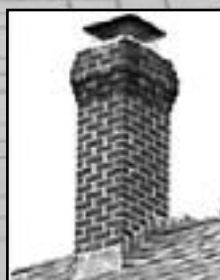
- DRIVEWAYS
- STEPS
- BRICK & BLOCK
- SIDEWALKS
- REPAIR

### ROOFING



- RE-ROOF
- NEW ROOF
- ROOF REPAIRS
- SHINGLES
- FLAT ROOF

### CHIMNEY



- CLEANING
- RE-LINE
- REPAIRS
- REBUILD
- CAPPING

### GUTTERS



- CLEANING
- INSTALLATION
- SCREENING
- REPAIRS
- REPLACEMENTS

## Special! CHIMNEY LINER \$1300

Why Should I Use A Chimney Lining System?

- Protect your house from heat transfer combustibles
- Protect the masonry from the corrosive by products of combustion
- Provide a correctly sized flue for optimum efficiency of appliance



Fire Safety



Improved Performance



Long Term Preservation



Easy & Effective Cleaning

## FREE ESTIMATES

## Special!

### COMPLETE SET OF STEPS

Includes New Bricks, Limestone & Concrete Platform

## \$2,600

Up to 5 Steps, 6 feet wide

With coupon. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 6/6/2019

## Save \$900 ON ROOF REPLACEMENT

With coupon. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Some restrictions apply. Expires 7/6/19.

## \$79.99 GUTTERS CLEANING (Any Average House)

With coupon. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 7/6/19.

## \$150 OFF ANY ROOF REPAIR of \$500 or more

With coupon. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 7/6/19.

## \$200 OFF ANY CHIMNEY REPAIR of \$800 or more

With coupon. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 7/6/19.