

# The PRIDE of North Plainfield

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North Plainfield's Hometown Newspaper

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## POLICE HOST 2019 NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME

The North Plainfield Police Department hosted National Night Out Against Crime on Tuesday August 6th, 2019 across from the Municipal Building. The police were joined by the North Plainfield Fire Department, Rescue Squad, and the Army for the community building event.

First responders held demonstrations for the kids, and allowed them to explore their vehicles, complete activities, and ask any questions. The event featured different vendors from the surrounding areas. Inflatable attractions, face-painting stations, a DJ, and free food were also available to everyone in attendance.

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign celebrated by millions of neighbors across thousands of communities in America to enhance the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it is designed to: Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; Generate support for local anti-crime efforts; Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police community partnerships; and Send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back. For more information visit [natw.org](http://natw.org).




Photos from this and other events can be found online at [rennamedia.com](http://rennamedia.com) and on [Pride of North Plainfield page on facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/PrideofNorthPlainfield). Feel free to "Like," "Tag," and "Share."

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# The PRIDE of North Plainfield

*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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## PROMOTE YOUR EVENT

Organizations who are interested in submitting content can email [editor@rennamedia.com](mailto:editor@rennamedia.com) or call 908-858-4012

## ROTARY CLUB HOSTS DISTRICT GOVERNOR

*Submitted by Michael Townley*

Ray Freaney, the Rotary District 7475 Governor for 2019-2020, enjoyed coffee and breakfast treats with the Rotary Club of the Plainfields at The Coffee Box in Plainfield recently. He met with ten members of the club, including its new president Shannon Jefferys, manager of Columbia Bank on Oak Tree Avenue in South Plainfield.

The district governor represents Rotary International and is the link between local clubs and the greater Rotary organization. One of the governor's duties is to meet at least one each year with every club in his or her district.

Governor Freaney took a few minutes out of

the Social Hour to go over his goals for the year, especially highlighting more cooperative ventures among clubs. He hopes that this will help the 82 clubs in the district to get to know each other and learn from each others' projects and successes.

Rotary District 7475 stretches from Sussex County down through Mercer County, with the Rotary Club of the Plainfields just about in the middle of this area. The club represents North Plainfield, Plainfield, and South Plainfield.

For more information about the Rotary Club and how they serve the community, please contact the club secretary, Michael Townley, via email at [secretary@rotarypnp.org](mailto:secretary@rotarypnp.org), or visit their website at [rotarypnp.org](http://rotarypnp.org).



(above) Rotary District 7475 Governor Ray Freaney (third from left) poses with members of the Rotary Club of the Plainfields at The Coffee Box in Plainfield.

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## NORTH PLAINFIELD TO HOST FALL FESTIVAL

*Submitted by Jim Maloney*

On September 28th, 2019, North Plainfield will host its first Fall Festival. The event, which has been in the works for several months, will take place on the high school grounds at 34 Wilson Ave. Various groups from all parts of the community have been working together to plan the big day.

The festivities will kick off early, with the Car Nutz Car Show beginning at 9:00 am. The event will expand further at 11:00 a.m., as the high school fields and lots fill with vendors, inflatables, and community organizations. Food trucks will be available to keep everyone well-fed, and entertainment will be provided with musical acts and athletic events.

Planning began back in the spring, with North Plainfield School Superintendent Michelle Vella organizing a cross-section of the North Plainfield community to take part. Representatives from the schools, businesses, local government, religious groups, and residents have all taken part to make this a fantastic event involving the whole town. Come on out to have fun and learn more about all that goes on in the community!

Vendors interested in being a part of this day can sign up on the website, [npfallfestival.org](http://npfallfestival.org).

For more information, please visit [npfallfestival.org](http://npfallfestival.org) or find us on Facebook @NorthPlainfieldFallFestival.

# North Plainfield Fall Festival

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 28, 2019**

**11AM - 4PM**

**NORTH PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL  
WILSON AVE**

**RAIN DATE: OCTOBER 5, 2019**



food - vendors - community groups  
inflatables - entertainment  
featuring Car Nutz car show (9am - 2pm)



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# NORTH PLAINFIELD MEMORIAL LIBRARY BRANCH MAY 2018 EVENTS

The Somerset County Library System New Jersey North Plainfield Branch is located at  
6 Rockview Avenue, North Plainfield. For more information call 908-458-8435 or visit SCLSNJ.org.

## ALL AGE PROGRAMS

**Family Night - Luminaries**  
(families with children)  
September 26, 7-8 p.m.

## CHILDREN, TWEEN, AND TEEN PROGRAMS

**LEGO® Club**  
(grades 2-5)

September 9, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

**Young Adult Leadership Academy**

(grades 5-12)

September 10, 3:30-5 p.m.

**Toddler/Preschool Storytime**

- Rhyme and Play

(ages 18 months - 5 years)

September 11, 18, 25; 10-11 a.m.

**Digital Escape Room Design**

(grades 5-12)

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

**Baby/Toddler Storytime - Discover Stories**

(ages birth - 3 years)

September 12, 19, 26; 10-11 a.m.

**Family Storytime - Fables and Tables**

(families with children)

September 14, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

**Drop-in Activity - Talk Like a Pirate**

(grades K-5)

September 16, 9:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.

**Culinary Creators**

(grades 5-12)

September 17, 3:30-5 p.m.

**Teen Movie Screenings**

"Everything, Everything"

(grades 5-12)

September 18, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

**Learning Lab - Engineering**

(grades K-5)

September 19, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

**SAT Strategy**

(grades 9-12)

September 19, 6-8 p.m.

## Homework Help

(grades 3-6)

September 23, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

## Game Time

(grades 5-12)

September 25, 3:30-5 p.m.

## Friday DIY - Wind Chimes

(grades 3-6)

September 27, 3-4:30 p.m.

## Baking and Books - Apple Scones

(grades 2-5)

September 30, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

## ADULT PROGRAMS

### Writer's Group

September 3, 17; 6-8 p.m.

### English Conversation Group

September 9, 16, 23, 30; 7-8:30 p.m.

## Alternatives, Inc.

September 10, 10 a.m. - noon

### Knit and Crochet

September 10, 24; 10 a.m. - noon

### Cooking Class

**Air Fried Apple Crisps With Almond Yogurt Dip**

September 11, 6:30-8 p.m.

### Book Discussion

"Born a Crime" by Trevor Noah

September 12, 1-2 p.m.

September 19, 7:15-8:30 p.m.

### Special Needs Social Hour

### Adult Sensory Storytime

September 13, 11 a.m. - noon

### Local Author Talk - Ryan Shepard

September 14, 3-4 p.m.

### Medicare - What You Need to Know

September 17, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

### Resume and Job Search Assistance

September 18, 11 a.m. - noon

**North Plainfield Optimist Club**  
**Wine Tasting**  
**Saturday October 19, 2019**  
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## ROTARY CLUB SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

The Rotary Club of the Plainfields will meet at two area restaurants in August and September as it looks for a regular meeting place.

The club will sample the fare at Jessica's Café in September for its August meetings and at Paulo's Restaurant in South Plainfield for September.

- September 4 - The club's regular Social Hour on the first Wednesday of each month will continue to be held at The Coffee Box, 1359 South Avenue, Plainfield, from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.
- September 11, 18, and 25 meetings will be held at Paulo's Restaurant, 2341 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield.

More information about future meeting places will be posted as it becomes available. Anyone with interest may attend any of the above meetings to learn more about the Rotary Club and how they serve the community. Contact the club secretary, Michael Townley, via email at [secretary@rotarypnp.org](mailto:secretary@rotarypnp.org) for more information, or visit their website at [www.rotarypnp.org](http://www.rotarypnp.org).

## ATLANTIC CITY BUS TRIP TO GOLDEN NUGGET

On Wednesday, September 11, 2019, an Atlantic City Express Bus Trip will take guests to The Golden Nugget. The bus trip is sponsored by the North Plainfield Senior Citizens, and takes place on the second Wednesday of each month.

The bus departs at 10:00 a.m. from Saint Luke's Parking Lot, 300 Clinton Avenue, North Plainfield. You are allowed to park for free in the lot. The bus will return at 8:00 p.m. Cost is \$35 per person. Upon arrival you will receive a \$25 voucher to use on the casino floor and a \$5 voucher toward a food purchase.

Call Shirley for reservations at 908-561-3240. Everyone is welcome to join us on this bus trip.

## ROTARY SUPPORTS SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE

Submitted by Michael Townley

The oldest service club of the three Plainfields is again partnering with the Netherwood Heights Neighbors Association to give school supplies to children in need in Plainfield.

The Rotary Club of the Plainfields purchased twenty-four backpacks and assorted school supplies, which club members then packaged together so each child received the basic supplies needed for the school year.

"We spent just over \$200 for twenty-four complete outfits," said Shannon Jefferys, club president. "It's a fun little project for us and, more importantly, the children who get these bags should be pretty well set for their school year."

The needed items included pens, pencils, crayons, markers, tape, glue, paper, notebooks, folders, scissors, rulers, and the sturdy backpacks.

"We've put together backpacks with school supplies before and always enjoy knowing that these special gifts make children so happy," said Ms. Jefferys. "The NHN will present the supplies they've collected to the Frederick Cook and the Woodland elementary schools in Plainfield."

The local Rotary Club is open to membership by business and community leaders in the

Plainfield's and in the surrounding towns. Club members meet Wednesdays for a luncheon meeting. Locations are announced on the club's website ([RotaryPNP.org](http://RotaryPNP.org)) and Facebook page ([Facebook.com/RotaryPlainfields](https://Facebook.com/RotaryPlainfields)). The first Wednesday of every month they meet at The Coffee Box on South Avenue for a morning Social Hour over coffee and breakfast treats.

Anyone wishing to learn more about Rotary and the many opportunities to volunteer assistance to the Rotary Club should come to a meeting as a guest of the club, or contact the club through [secretary@RotaryPNP.org](mailto:secretary@RotaryPNP.org), or call 908-822-1441.



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NOTE: There is no market on July 4th.



# HELPING HOMELESS VETERANS WITH BACKPACKS FOR LIFE

Submitted by Michael Boll, New Jersey Veterans Network

For the last few years our charity racing team, Operation Rebound, has been sponsored by Backpacks for Life (BFL). This amazing charity is responsible for providing thousands of homeless veterans backpacks full of essential toiletries and personal items. Also, the BFL will seek out veterans in need and help them with housing, food, employment and any other service that will help them live a better life.

The founder of the BFL, Brett D'Alessandro, is a United States Marine Corps veteran and started this outstanding charity shortly after he returned home from his tour of duty in Afghanistan. Brett recalls living out of a backpack during the war and felt a backpack can be a life-saving tool. In just a few years, Brett and the BFL are responsible for making thousands of backpacks for our homeless veterans.

The BFL doesn't just do backpacks, they are committed to helping our disabled veterans by providing them with the necessary resources and life-saving services by participating in various health fairs and PTSD groups. The BFL estimates about 350 disabled veterans have benefited from their resources and outreach. The BFL feels it's easy for a veteran to feel lost in the system. There are amazing resources out there, but it can be overwhelming trying to navigate it alone, so the BFL is there to help and guide the veteran through this agonizing process. What makes the

BFL special is they invite veterans into their home and help with filling out paperwork, draft resumes, apply for housing, or whatever else is needed to help the veteran.

The future looks bright for the BFL. They're excited to expand their backpacks distribution and reach even more homeless veterans. As they connect with more veterans' organizations across the country, they will equip even more communities with backpacks.

Their mentorship and coaching process will soon be accessible online. In this exciting development, veterans from across the country will be able to utilize the organization despite their location. Through this growth, the BFL focus remains on bringing hope back into the lives of veterans.

The BFL is out there every day making a difference and the Operation Rebound Racing Team is lucky to be a part of this incredible charity.

If you are interested with helping the Backpacks for Life please visit their website [backpacksforlife.org](http://backpacksforlife.org).

For more information about New Jersey Veterans Network visit [njvn.org](http://njvn.org).

About Operation Rebound

Operation Rebound is a mobile outreach team of mentors who help at-risk veterans and first responders to live a better life. For the last two

years, our team has made huge strides with suicide prevention simply by building trust and cementing friendships with people in need. It's most important to be honest with each person in crisis and follow up with ways to help them regain purpose in life. Setting goals motivates them to stay on a positive track. If you are interested with joining the Operation Rebound Racing Team please feel free to contact Michael Boll at [mdbollio@optonline.net](mailto:mdbollio@optonline.net) or call 973-332-1556.



(above) Brett D'Alessandro, Founder of Backpacks for Life

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# CASA SHAW ANNOUNCES INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER

Court Appointed Special Advocates of Somerset, Hunterdon and Warren Counties (CASA SHaW) has announced Information Sessions in September for individuals 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 a 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 and times for the upcoming CASA SHaW information sessions scheduled for September.

All sessions will be held at the CASA SHaW

office located at 150 Boulevard, Washington, NJ 07882.

Registration is required by contacting Karen Cassano at karen@casashaw.org or 908-689-5515.

- Tuesday, September 10 - Noon
- Saturday, September 21 - 10:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, September 24 - 5:30 p.m.

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.

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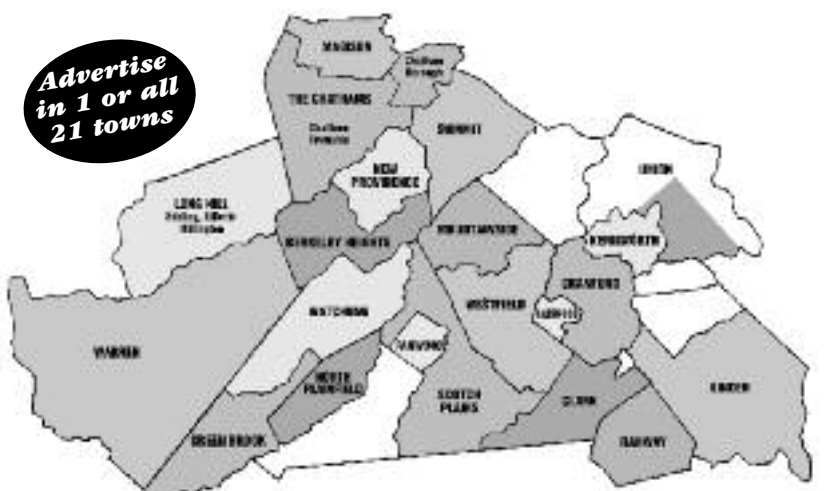
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