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## ROTARY AND THE FIGHT TO ERADICATE POLIO

*Submitted by Dr. D. Michael Hart*

Mr. John Nanni spoke about Rotary's efforts to eradicate polio at The Rotary Club of Westfield Luncheon held on Tuesday, October 1, 2019. Mr Nanni is a polio survivor and suffers from "Post Polio Syndrome".

As a child he was struck with polio 8 months before Salk developed his vaccine in 1955. Mr. Nanni was paralyzed from the neck down. He eventually regained the use of his muscles, recovered, played football in high school, got married and had kids, but after age 40, the muscles started to get weaker again. He is now mostly in a wheelchair.

In 1985, Rotary International started a massive international campaign to eradicate polio. At that time, there were 350,000 new cases every year worldwide. After raising 3 billion dollars and immunizing billions of children, the disease is down to 82 cases in only two countries last year: Pakistan and Afghanistan. Rotary has reduced this disease by 99.9%. We are almost done.

This disease can only live in humans, and can be completely eradicated. There is no cure and no treatment for polio. It is highly contagious and can live for 2 weeks outside of the body, or in water. It mostly affects children under the age of five. Question: Since it is not prevalent in the United States, why do we need to immunize the rest of the world? With our world having transportation everywhere, and with tourists, students and immigrants traveling back and forth to the United States, we need to eradicate it, or it will come back and affect our children and grandchildren. Once we wipe it out, it will be gone forever. Only one other disease has been completely eradicated from the world: Smallpox.

Egyptian hieroglyphics show polio victims from 3,500 years ago, so this disease has been around for a long time. In the United States in the 1950's there was panic every time there was an outbreak. Children were not allowed outside to play, swimming was forbidden, and Little League teams were disbanded. President FDR had polio which became much worse as he aged. Children were put in Iron Lungs to help them breathe, but their parents were not allowed to visit.

When Jonas Salk developed the vaccine, he refused to patent it. He wanted the vaccine to be available to the children of the world. He could have become a billionaire, but instead became a hero.

Rotary runs "National Immunization Days" (NID) where they shut down an entire country and vaccinate every child in one day. Recently there was an NID in India in which 32 million children were vaccinated by tens of thousands of Rotarians over one weekend. They stain the children's pinkies



*(above, l-r) At lectern, Club President Liz Ensslin; Speaker John Nanni; President Elect Joe Mindak. They are holding their fingers close because "we are this close to eradicating polio".*

purple to distinguish which children have received the vaccine, and they give out prizes to encourage children to come and receive it.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is focused on world health. They recognize the efficiency of vaccinations as opposed to the cost of treating a disease. They match Rotarian contributions at a rate of 2:1, so the funds are tripled. Each year Rotary International raises \$50 million for polio, which is matched by Gates with \$100 million. Over the past 3 years, we have put \$450 million into this effort.

In addition to the vaccinations, Rotary has built a network of laboratories throughout the world. It is necessary to test and monitor people to know if the disease is reappearing. This infrastructure was used to help fight the Ebola Crisis in West Africa, and can be used to fight other diseases in the future. The program is called "Polio Plus" because we include the standard childhood vaccines in with the polio vaccine.

The Rotary Club of Westfield meets the first and second Tuesdays of the month at Addams Tavern in Westfield, NJ. Guests are always welcomed. Our website is [westfieldrotary.com](http://westfieldrotary.com); for more information contact Club Secretary Dr. Michael Hart by email at [drmhart@yahoo.com](mailto:drmhart@yahoo.com).



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## RAWAY SCHOOL RECEIVES BUDDY BENCHES TO PROMOTE SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING FROM WESTFIELD SCOUTS

*Submitted by Linda Lospinoso Lampert*

Cadette Girl Scout, Isabella Scipioni, from Troop 40186 in Westfield, made Franklin Elementary School in Rahway two hardwood Buddy Benches as part of her effort to complete her Silver Award Project for Girl Scouts.

The Silver Award is the highest award a Cadette Girl Scout can earn. The award requires a Cadette to spend at least fifty hours or more completing a sustainable community project.

Isabella decided she wanted to promote kindness and inclusion on the playground by creating Buddy Benches. Isabella met with Franklin School's Principal, Aleya Shoieb, who jumped on board with the idea. Principal Shoieb invited Isabella to speak about the concept of Buddy Benches and how they promote social-emotional learning to the Rahway Public School's Education Committee this past May.

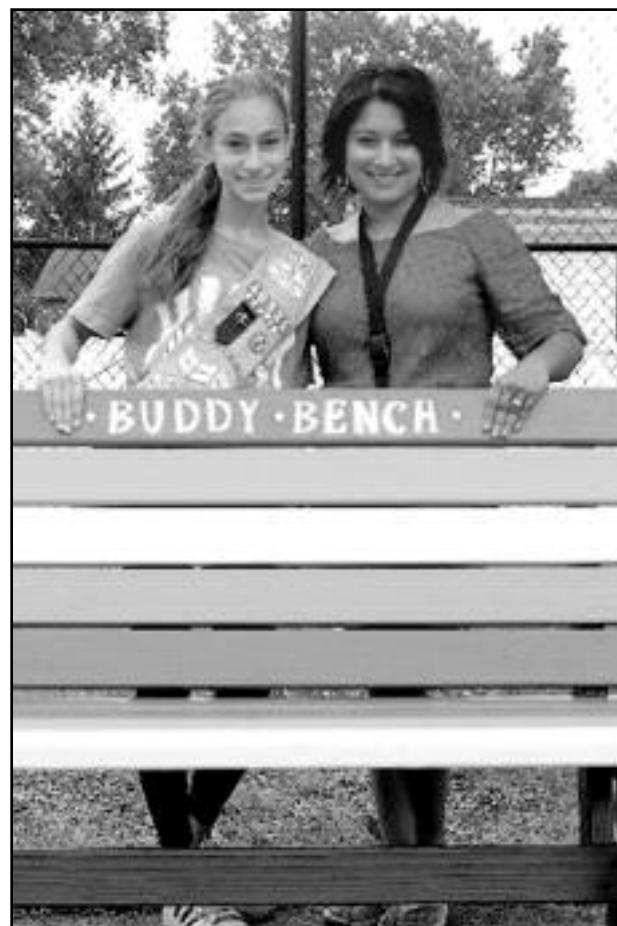
Now, after working hard all summer, Isabella's project is finally complete. Isabella proudly delivered the two benches in time for the school's opening day.

Franklin School's students and staff were very excited to learn about the new additions to their playground. Isabella's PowerPoint presentation, along with a movie that she made, demonstrated and helped train the students and staff about the Buddy Bench's proper use.

Isabella said she is very thankful for all the donations and support she received to create her benches. Home Depot in Colonia donated all the wood, nails, glue and blueprints to build the benches. Lowe's Home Improvement in Woodbridge donated all the exterior paint. Principal Shoieb expressed her gratitude for the Buddy Benches and can't wait to see them in action.



*(above) Westfield Cadette Girl Scout, Isabella Scipioni, poses with her completed Buddy Benches, which she made for Franklin Elementary School in Rahway to earn her Silver Award.*



Photos courtesy of Alicia Scipioni



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## FRIENDS OF THE WESTFIELD MEMORIAL LIBRARY RAISE \$3,300

*Submitted by Marcy Lechner*

The 9th Annual Children's and Teens' book sale hosted by the Friends of the Westfield Memorial Library was a big success this year. The sale generated almost \$3,300, all of which will go toward funding programs at the Library. The wonderful selection of books and media offered due to the community's generous donations created a great place for readers to shop.

The first day of the sale got off to a great start with a story time led by a librarian for our youngest readers. Throughout the sale, volunteers read to children in our Story Corner, providing parents and guardians time to shop at their leisure. New this year was a Color Your Own Bookmark activity, which proved to be a big hit.

A heartfelt thank you to the volunteers who truly made the book sale happen. Their efforts were appreciated by the sale organizers and by the parents and children who used the volunteers to help them find exactly what they were looking for, from a favorite board book to a Caldecott or Newberry award-winning classic. We look forward to their dedication and energy during the spring sale in April 2020. This year we were joined by student volunteers from the Students Helping Out Union County (S.H.O.U.T.U.C) program for their enthusiastic and invaluable help packing our remaining books at the end of the sale. Their assistance helped enable us to donate

our books to other groups supporting literacy among young readers. A special thank you also goes out to the Board of Education, the Department of Public Works and the Westfield Public Library for their logistical support. For our volunteer thank you breakfast, Ahrre's Coffee generously donated coffee and mugs for

volunteers who attended our thank you breakfast. With all of this participation, the book sale truly is a collaborative Westfield effort.

For more information on the Friends of the Westfield Library or to volunteer during the spring sale please contact the Friends at [info@fwmlnj.org](mailto:info@fwmlnj.org).



*(above, l-r) Book Sale Co-Chairs Dona Teschner, Joan Sandborn and Barbara Goldberg wearing Dr. Seuss hats in the spirit of 'Reading is Fun'.*

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## A FEAST OF AMERICAN MUSIC

The Musical Club of Westfield  
Scholarship Benefit Concert

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Sunday  
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musicalclubofwestfield@gmail.com  
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Concert followed by a Harvest Reception to meet the Artists  
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This arts program is made possible in part by a 2019 HEART (History, Education, Arts Reaching Thousands) Grant from the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

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Submitted by Maureen Monroe

From colonial days to the present time, from the north, south, east and west, comes the music made in America and shared throughout the world. The Musical Club of Westfield is proud to announce its biennial Scholarship Benefit Concert, A Feast of American Music. This red, white and blue musical event, produced by Kay Macrae, will give thanks for the many cultures and talented people that have made American music unique. American quilts and bunting will decorate the scene; renowned Americans from history will accompany the artists.

Please join us at the First Baptist Church, 170 Elm Street, in Westfield. Starting at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, November 24, Eric Deutchman and Debra Biderman will entertain the early arrivals with American favorites on accordion and fiddle. At 3:00, patriotic music by Robert Strauss and Rachel Markowitz, piccolos, signals the beginning of the concert. Alto Kim Gorman and pianist Joe Elefante continue with folk songs from colonial days. Fiddle music brings forward dancers for the Virginia Reel as called by Mistress of Ceremonies Elsa Hahn.

Next the spiritual heart of American music will come from the Sanctuary Choir of the First Seventh-Day Adventist Church of Newark; gospel chorales surround pianist Helen Ryba's performance of the nineteenth century spirituals captured in Florence's Price's sonata. Dr. John Wargacki intones the poetry of Walt Whitman's

"I Hear America Singing."

After intermission, the Florian Schantz combo will offer selections of Dixieland jazz, followed by modern jazz elements with clarinetist Chris Dellarso and pianist Mary Beth McFall. Chris also provides the clarinet introduction to Rhapsody in Blue played by pianist Carolle-Ann Mochernuk. Soprano Cynthia Sacco interprets Gershwin's Summertime. Joe Elefante returns to deliver a piano medley from Oklahoma! Soprano and bass-baritone Drude and Glen Crane join the entire ensemble in the finale This Land is Your Land.

As always, the after-concert reception to meet the artists will be a highlight of the afternoon. The reception, designed and coordinated by Magaly Docabo and Maryann Dolling, captures the spirit of an historic country harvest. Everyone is invited to sample the all-American delicacies.

The concert ticket donation of \$10 supports the Musical Club's college scholarships for talented Union County students majoring in music performance, composition, education, theater and therapy. The concert is made possible in part by a 2019 HEART (History, Education, Arts Reaching Thousands) grant from the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

For information about the concert or the Musical Club, please consult the website musicalclubofwestfield.org, email musicalclubofwestfield@gmail.com, or telephone 908-654-1036 or 571-262-9113.

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## SIGN UP FOR LATE FALL PROGRAMS WITH THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Registration is open for Fall Programs at the Westfield Recreation Department. Adults are encouraged to get out of the house this Fall and join us in our popular Tai Chi program on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. Another energizing program to join is our Zumba & More classes on Mondays evenings 7:30-8:20 p.m. For both of these classes, all levels are welcomed. Stop by and try a class for a small fee.

This Fall Westfield Recreation offers a wide variety of enrichment programs and afterschool classes which include: Sewing/Fashion Design for grades 2-12 on Thursdays and Cartooning & Pre-School Drawing on Tuesdays. Back again is our popular “Mannerations” courses: Dining Etiquette on November 13 and again on December 11 and Social Etiquette on December 4. Both courses are an hour program for ages 6-10 and are geared for students to learn and practice manners and proper behavior in social situations.

New this Fall is Safe@Home. This is a one-hour class (3:45-5:15 p.m. on Wednesday November 20) that is designed for students in grades 4-6 to prepare them to be safe when they are home alone. It teaches safe habits, how to prevent unsafe situations and what to do when

faced with emergencies.

Looking ahead to the holiday season, we are offering a “Mini” 2-day LEGO Engineering Camp on December 26 and 27. “Winter Wonderland” will cover concepts in engineering & architecture while building bobsleds, snowmobiles, snowblowers and much more all with thousands of LEGO pieces. Mornings 9 a.m.-12 for ages 5-7 and afternoons 1-4 p.m. for ages 8-12. Don’t be left out. Registration is open now at Play-Well.org

Keep your young kids active with our Late Fall (November - December) and Winter (January - March) indoor sports classes run by US Sports Institute. Programs are available for ages 2-5 on Saturday and Sundays. Classes offered are: Parent & Me Soccer, Parent & Me Multi-Sports, Squirts Soccer, Squirts Multi-Sports and all lead by US Sports Institute instructors. For when the schools are off for vacation days (November 7 and 8) we offer Schools Out Camp. Check out the schedule. Go to their site at [ussportsinstitute.com](http://ussportsinstitute.com)

For those who want to experience a new sport, try Fencing for grades 2-6. Participants learn the basic positions, rules and techniques of this sport. No prior experience is needed. Registration is open for the winter class (Tuesdays 3:30-4:30

p.m. January 14 - February 18)

For teens, we offer the Safe Sitters Babysitting course. This course is for teens in grades 6-9. This program is ongoing and offered once a month. Upcoming dates will be posted on the web site soon.

Join us on Saturday November 2 (9:30 – 11:00 a.m.) for a special workshop for women on protection and self-defensive. “Women’s Protection Workshop” is a collaboration with Sensei John Mirrione (Harmony by Karate) and the Recreation Department. This workshop teaches simple moves to stand up for and protect yourself in violent or hostile encounters.

The Westfield Recreation Department is always offering new classes/programs (youth & adult) year-round. Take a look at the website and like us on Facebook to see what’s being added.

All programs and classes require pre-registration. Register online at <https://secure.rec1.com/nj/westfield-nj>.

For additional information, visit the Westfield Recreation website at [westfieldnj.gov/recreation](http://westfieldnj.gov/recreation) or email us at [recreation@westfieldnj.gov](mailto:recreation@westfieldnj.gov). You can also visit our Facebook page or contact the Westfield Recreation Department at 425 East Broad St., Westfield at 908-789-4080.



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# BLUE DEVILS MARCHING BAND 2019 PRODUCTION IS “THE LIGHT”

Submitted by Marcy Lechner

Under the leadership of Band Directors Chris Vitale and Trevor Sindorf the 129 member Westfield High School Blue Devils Marching Band's 2019 Production is 'The Light,' with music by American 20th century composer, Samuel Barber. At the opening, the mood of the performance is set with the somber reading of a few lines from Dylan Thomas' poem 'Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night.' Then through music and choreography the band interprets the dramatic reflection of the overall theme which is to 'live boldly'. Mr. Vitale shares, "Our show this year centers around a famous literary work by Dylan Thomas as well as music by one of America's most well known composers in Samuel Barber. The line "rage against the dying of the light" is one that recurs throughout our production and is used to convey having a strong desire to live life to the fullest until our last breath. We're excited to have a show this year that exposes our students to meaningful literary and musical works of art and are excited to continue to share our interpretation of those works with our audiences throughout the fall."

The band is led by drum majors Christian Sawina, Theresa Lizzo and Robbie Strauss.

Earlier in the season the band won 3rd place in their class (AAA) and 7th overall at the Bands of America (BOA) Mid Atlantic Regional Competition held at the University of Maryland in College Park, Maryland on October 5, 2019, performing against 25 other bands. This is the

2nd year in a row that Westfield has been named a Finalist in this competition, which is among the largest and most competitive in the North East. The Blue Devils also placed 1st in class AAAA and was named Grand Champion at the Scotch Plains competition in September.



(above) You can see the Marching Blue Devils perform at the traditional Thanksgiving football game against Plainfield.

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on 11/27 and closed 11/28 for Thanksgiving

**PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS**

11/1	1:30 pm	TGIF! The King's Speech (movie)
11/2	2:00 pm	Eating Well for the Holidays-Limited to 20. Register!
11/8	1:30 pm	TGIF! Won't You Be My Neighbor! (movie)
11/9	7:00 pm	The Life of Irving Berlin by Historian Marty Schrein
11/13	7:00 pm	Florian Schwartz Cincinnati Jazz Band
11/15	1:30 pm	TGIF! A Ballerina's Tale: Misty Copeland (movie)
11/16	2:00 pm	Simple Gifts Musical Duo
11/19	1:00 pm	Knitting without Needles (MURAL patrons sign up 11/12)
11/20	7:00 pm	The Adrian Cunningham Trio: West Family Jazz Series
11/22	1:30 pm	TGIF! Classic Movie: "Shadow of a Doubt" Hitchcock!

**PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN:**  
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11/1, 8, 15, 22	10:00 am	Baby Playgroup 0-23 months Caregiver attends with child.
11/2	10:00 am	Drop-in Chess Club-No age restriction but players must know how to move the pieces
11/4, 11/25	10:00 am	Yoga Storytime 2-5 years old with caregiver
11/4, 18, 25	7:00 pm	Girls who Code 8-10 years old
11/6, 13, 20	10:00 am	Zumba Fun 2-5 years old with caregiver
11/16	10:30 am	All About Thanksgiving Stories and craft. 3+years with caregiver
11/19	6:30 pm	Evening LEGO Club 5+years Caregiver stays in library
11/23	10:00 am	Paws to Read-Beginning readers read to library dogs for ten-minute sessions

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## GORDON L. VICKERS NAMED GOVERNOR OF UCC BOARD OF TRUSTEES

*Submitted by Nicole Torella*

At the September 24, 2019 Joint Meeting of the Union County College Boards of Trustees and Governors, two new members were sworn in. Dr. Kamran Tasharofi, of Clark, will serve as a new Trustee. Gordon L. Vickers, of Westfield, will serve as a new Governor. Union County College Board of Trustees Chair Victor M. Richel welcomed Dr. Tasharofi and Mr. Vickers to the meeting and initiated their swearing in.

Dr. Kamran Tasharofi is a specialist in internal medicine and is a faculty member at Rutgers School of Medicine. He is also a certified medical

review officer in Union County and a civil surgeon for New Jersey's Department of Homeland Security. Dr. Tasharofi serves as the Medical Director at MD Care Urgent Care Center in Elizabeth and Amber Court of Elizabeth.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in biology from California State University at Northridge and earned his Doctor of Medicine degree from Ross University School of Medicine. Dr. Tasharofi is a member of the American College of Physicians and the American Medical Association.

Gordon L. Vickers recently retired from

Express Scripts Holdings, Inc., where he served as a National Account Executive, technical support team leader, and technical consultant since 1999. He served as a team leader and was responsible for maintaining and expanding overall business relationships with large health plans in the Eastern and Central markets in the U.S. During his career he also worked for Merck and Co., Inc., Bristol-Myers Squibb Co., and Public Service Electric and Gas Co.

Mr. Vickers earned his M.B.A. from Boston University and holds a Bachelor of Arts in political science from the University of New Hampshire.

"Both Dr. Tasharofi and Mr. Vickers bring valuable personal and professional experiences to the boards. The College will greatly benefit from their unique perspectives," stated Union's Board of Trustees Chairman Victor M. Richel.

Union County College is a public comprehensive community college providing quality, affordable, accessible educational programs that serve the greater Union County region. It is the first of New Jersey's 18 Associate Degree colleges, serving both career-minded and transfer-oriented students since 1933. The College enrolls almost 20,000 credit, non-credit, and continuing education students and is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. Many programs lead to an Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, or an Associate in Applied Science degree.

For more information about Union County College, go to [ucc.edu](http://ucc.edu).



(above) Union County College President Dr. Margaret M. McMenemy, Dr. Kamran Tasharofi, Gordon Vickers, and Union County College Board of Trustees Chair Victor M. Richel.

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## BEGIN THE HOLIDAY SEASON WITH IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

The fully staged version of the classic holiday movie *It's A Wonderful Life*, adapted by Philip Grecian, will bring George Bailey, his family, friends and the town of Bedford Falls to life on the CDC Theatre stage beginning December 6, 2019. Located at 78 Winans Ave., in Cranford, NJ the theatre is celebrating its 101st season.

The beloved Everyman, George Bailey, who had dreams of adventure and travel has given his entire life to his community, only to have it unravel through the machinations of the selfish banker Mr. Potter. In his despair, George questions whether it would have been better had he never been born. Clarence, a befuddled angel who hasn't earned his wings yet, arrives to show him exactly what this wish might really mean.

When asked what inspired him to return to direct at CDC Theatre, Maurice Moran responded "I have always loved the movie version of this story – and the play follows that script very well – because I think it is important that we stop and take stock of our lives now and then. How did we get from there to here? Who changed our lives by a word or work? And more importantly, whose

lives have we touched along the way? And, keeping that in mind, how do we continue to affect people we meet? When my parents passed away, I was comforted by those who attended the funerals, illustrating how much these two people touched so many lives from so many walks of life. And I thought, wouldn't it have been nice for them to see that, too? George gets to see that and discovers that we all make a difference on this

earth."

Boasting a large cast that ranges from 8 to 80, including a children's chorus of carolers singing holiday favorites, *It's A Wonderful Life* is a great way to usher in the holiday season! Running from December 6-15, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. with 2 p.m. matinees on December 8, 14, 15. Ticket and group sales information can be found by visiting [cdctheatre.org](http://cdctheatre.org).



(above, l-r) The Bailey family is getting ready for Christmas at CDC Theatre. Ben Bouffard as George Bailey, Rachel Zuckerman as Mary, Geovanna Ayala is Tammy, Olivia Kelly is Janie and Katia Bergstrom-Shaw is Zuzu.



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Photo by Westfield Public Schools

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# WASHINGTON SCHOOL AWARDED NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON RECOGNITION

*Submitted by Mary Ann McGann*

Washington Elementary School in Westfield has been named a National Blue Ribbon School, one of nine schools in New Jersey to be recognized in 2019. U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos made the announcement in Washington, D.C. on September 26, 2019.

“We recognize and honor your important work in preparing students for successful careers and meaningful lives,” said DeVos in a video message to honorees that was live streamed and later replayed to enthusiastic Washington students and staff. “As a National Blue Ribbon School, your school demonstrates what is possible when committed educators hold all students and staff to high standards and create vibrant, innovative cultures of teaching and learning.”

Created in 1982, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes outstanding public and non-public school achievement for overall academic excellence and/or progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups.

Washington received the Blue Ribbon Schools award in the category of “Exemplary High Performing School.” Schools in this category are among their state’s highest performing schools as measured by state assessments.

“The African proverb is right: It does takes a village when it comes to providing our children with a school environment in which they can thrive,” said Dr. Andrew Perry, who joined

Washington School as principal in 2006. “We are a community of teachers and paraprofessionals who are always looking to improve their craft, a superintendent and central office who both push and support us, and parents who would do just about anything to help youngsters learn and grow. We also stand on the shoulders of all those who came before us, allowing us to reach higher than we ever could alone – educators and members of our school community who steadfastly brought us to this place.”

“Congratulations to the entire Washington School community, past and present, for this well-deserved honor,” added Superintendent Dr. Margaret Dolan. “This award is a recognition of your longstanding commitment to the district’s tradition of excellence. All of us in the Westfield Public School District look forward to celebrating this tremendous achievement.”

On November 14 and 15, Secretary DeVos and the U.S. Department of Education will celebrate with 312 public and 50 non-public school honorees at an awards ceremony in the Washington, D.C. area. Drs. Dolan and Perry, along with Washington 5th grade teacher Matthew Cognetti, will attend the ceremony to accept the award.

Washington School is expected to hold a celebration in December for the school community to honor all those who have contributed to this coveted recognition over the

years. A date for the school Blue Ribbon celebration will be announced in the coming months.

In 2004, Westfield’s Roosevelt Intermediate School also was honored as a National Blue Ribbon School.



*(above) Washington School students and staff react with excitement to the video announcement by U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos that Washington is a 2019 National Blue Ribbon School.*

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## "STONED IN HISTORY...LORE FROM CEMETERY STONEWORK"

with David Rogers, Westfield Historical Society's December First Wednesday Luncheon

As part of The Westfield Historical Society's First Wednesday Luncheon series, David Rogers' talk is on the subject "Stoned in History...Lore from Cemetery Stonework" for December 4, 2019. Mr. Rogers takes a look at stonework as it records little-known facts about wars, conflicts and families through the centuries. The event will begin with check-in at 11:45 a.m. at Ferraro's Restaurant (2nd Floor), 14 Elm Street, Westfield.

Mr. Rogers has accumulated much information from local cemeteries. This information provides facts, through the centuries, about life in those times. He will present his findings which are organized in a time-line fashion.

Some of his research is based on the Presbyterian Church in Westfield's cemetery, the Burial Grounds of the Presbyterian Church in the West Fields of Elizabethtown, which has been active since 1737. It has been in the National Register of Historic Places since 2007. It is the final resting place of the founders of Westfield, veterans of American wars (including 73 veterans of the Revolutionary War) and has a rich history mirroring that of Westfield itself, which was first established as a village in 1720.

Mr. Rogers is a lifelong resident of Union

County, a graduate of the Pingry School and Newark College of Engineering. His 25-year employment with the Singer Co. included foreign residency and numerous positions from entry level engineering to Vice President of Marketing. Subsequently he purchased and operated Spring Valley Monuments in Spring Valley, NY until retirement. Mr. Rogers served at the Presbyterian Church in Westfield as the Clerk of Session (church ecclesiastical secretary) and a member of the team that manages the church campus including the Nationally Registered Burial Grounds. He was a Trustee of the Old First Historic Trust managing the property of the First Presbyterian Church in his native Elizabeth. His wife, Nancy Priest is the President of the Westfield Historical Society where they both serve on the building committee.

Those wishing to attend the luncheon may make a reservation by email to [westfieldhistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:westfieldhistoricalsociety@gmail.com); or, by calling 908-654-1794, before Friday, November 29. Please advise if there are special dietary needs. The luncheon fee of \$35 (WHS members)

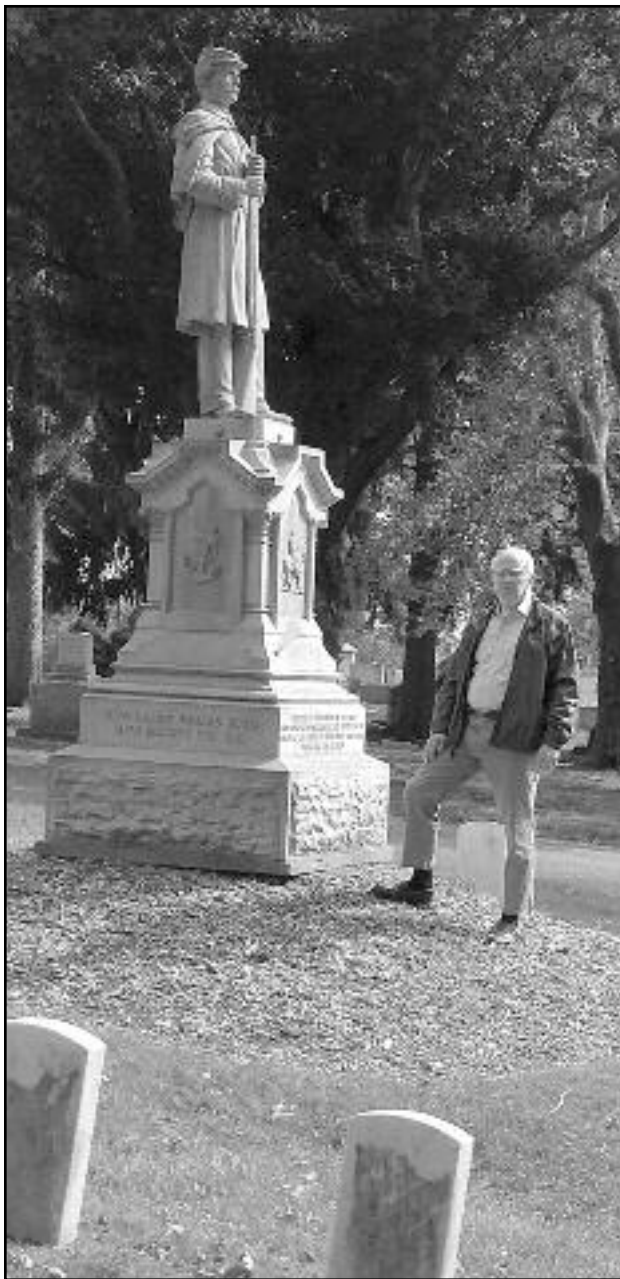
or \$40 (non-members) includes a three-course meal, coffee/tea, and gratuity. The luncheon fee should be paid in advance (check payable to Westfield Historical Society) by mailing to Westfield Historical Society, P.O. Box 613, Westfield, NJ 07091; or, online at [westfieldhistoricalsociety.org/registration](http://westfieldhistoricalsociety.org/registration).

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

The 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.

Ferraro's Restaurant is at 14 Elm Street, Westfield, NJ. Elevator access is available.

For more information on the Westfield Historical Society and their events, visit [westfieldhistoricalsociety.org](http://westfieldhistoricalsociety.org) and like us on Facebook.



(above) David Rogers will present "Stoned in History...Lore from Cemetery Stonework", during the First Wednesday Luncheon of the Westfield Historical Society on December 4, 2019 at Ferraro's Restaurant in Westfield.

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# SPIRIT DAY AT LINCOLN SCHOOL

Westfield MONTHLY • Page 15 • November 2019

In their first ever school spirit day held on Friday, October 3, 2019, Lincoln School preschoolers and kindergartners showed their true pride in clothes dominated by red, blue and of course the Lincoln Lion. This fun opportunity

will come once a month at Lincoln School, giving students a chance to show how excited and proud they are about their school. Parents view the day as an easy one for picking out clothes, making it a win for all.



(above) Proud students in Mrs. Corcoran's morning kindergarten class eagerly gathered with big smiles, ready to show their spirit to all! Go Lincoln! Photo by Westfield Public Schools

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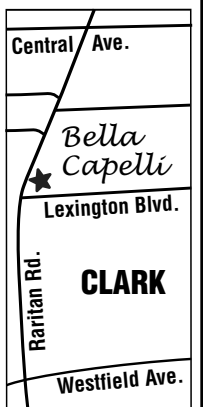


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## CELEBRITY AMBASSADOR HELPS RAISE FUNDS FOR IMAGINE, A CENTER FOR COPING WITH LOSS

Submitted by Val Stierhoff

Imagine, A Center for coping with Loss, was extremely grateful that Kimiko Glenn, from Orange is the New Black, volunteered once again to be its celebrity ambassador at this year's Cantor Fitzgerald Charity Day on September 11. Each year Cantor Fitzgerald and its affiliates, BGC Partners and GFI Group, in conjunction with the Cantor Fitzgerald Relief Fund, commemorate their 658 friends and colleagues and 61 Euro Brokers employees who perished on September 11, 2001, by distributing 100% of the charity day's global revenues to the Cantor Fitzgerald Relief Fund and selected charities around the world.

Imagine was honored to be selected to participate in this event for the second year in a row and to once again have actor Kimiko Glenn as its celebrity ambassador. "We are so grateful to Cantor Fitzgerald and to Kimiko for saying yes to our request to participate in the day on behalf of Imagine," said Mary Robinson, Imagine Executive Director. "Year after year, Cantor Fitzgerald, through grit and perseverance, has been able to turn the trauma and devastation of the day into a contribution to the world, donating millions to charities around the world. Our nonprofit, which offers grief support services to children and families, is so fortunate to be one of them."

### About Imagine

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

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(above) Mary Robinson, Imagine's Executive Director and Kimiko Glenn from "Orange is the New Black" at Cantor Fitzgerald Charity Day on 9/11. Kimiko, along with other celebrities, helped raise millions of dollars for charities around the world and for Cantor Fitzgerald's Emergency Relief Fund.

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## FRANKLIN SCHOOL DEDICATES NEW PLAYGROUND ADDITION

It was a picture perfect day for a ribbon-cutting ceremony on September 27, 2019, as Franklin School in Westfield officially unveiled a new playground addition, thanks to the

generosity of the Franklin PTO.

“We purchased and installed the new playground addition over the summer,” says Franklin PTO co-president Kendra Broad. “We

wanted to celebrate the occasion with a ribbon cutting. The playground has been open for use since the first day of school and the kids are loving it.”



(above) Joining Franklin students at the ceremony are (front row) teachers Barbara Piatkowski and David Hancock, Assistant Principal Dr. Paul Duncan, Principal Dr. Eileen Cambria, PTO members Kendra Broad, Jessica Siegel and Amy Blake and Board of Education Vice President Amy Root.

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## THE STARLET LETTER – SONGS FROM THE SILVER SCREEN

Hickory Tree Chorus is excited to present their 2019 show, The Starlet Letter: Songs from the Silver Screen on Saturday, November 23, 2019 at 3 p.m. at the West Morris Mendham High School, 65 E Main St Mendham. Come hear movie favorites like Seasons of Love, Beauty and the Beast, Aquarius, and many more, sung in

four-part acapella harmony. The show also features guest quartet Taylor Made and student singers from West Morris Mendham H.S. Buy tickets at tickets@hickorytreechorus.org, \$22 adults/\$17 students. Tickets also available at the door for an additional \$5/ticket.

The Hickory Tree Chorus, an award-winning

chapter of Sweet Adelines, International, performs fun-filled popular music, barbershop style. Founded in 1968 in Chatham Township, NJ, HTC currently rehearses in Stirling, NJ. Rehearsals are open to guests and auditions are held year round. More info at hickorytreechorus.org.



(above) Hickory Tree Chorus will present their 2019 show, The Starlet Letter: Songs from the Silver Screen on Saturday, November 23, 2019 at 3

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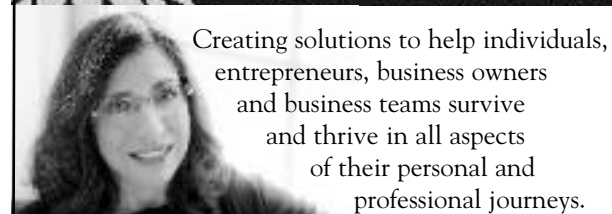
"If you are someone who likes to do hands-on projects, and enjoys fixing bikes on your free time, then the Bike Exchange is meant for you," said Russell Triolo, CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of Union County. "This is a great opportunity for a young individual to learn a new skill or continue to gain more knowledge in this type of field, and we are always happy to bring in new volunteers."

For information on our clubs and programs, please visit our website [bgcuc.org](http://bgcuc.org) or contact us

908-687-2697. Download our mobile APP free from Google Play or iTunes App Store to receive information on programs, activities, alerts and photos.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Union County

Boys & Girls Clubs of Union County seek to inspire and enable young people, who need them most, to realize their full potential and have provided opportunity for youth since 1955. They are part of a national network of some 4,000 neighborhood-based facilities, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, which serves more than 4.6 million young people annually, in all 50 states and on U.S. military bases worldwide. Clubs provide guidance-oriented character development programs on a daily basis for children 6-18 years old, conducted by a full-time professional staff. Key Boys & Girls Club programs emphasize leadership development, education and career exploration, financial literacy, health and life skills, the arts, sports, fitness and recreation, and family outreach.



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## HEARING SOCIETY LIP READING CLASSES

The Hearing Society, a local not-for-profit organization serving people with impaired hearing, is offering weekly classes in speech (lip) reading. These classes are held at the First Baptist Church of Westfield, 170 Elm Street, each Thursday, September through May, 10:30 - 11:45 a.m., unless otherwise announced. Light refreshments are served before each session.

These informal classes will again be under the direction of Morgan Orlowski, speech pathologist, and will provide strategies for coping with hearing loss as well as techniques for improving individual communication skills.

The sessions also serve as a support service for Hearing Society members experiencing problems associated with hearing loss..

Anyone in the greater Union County area who is interested in membership in the society and participating in these classes may contact Alice Knecht at [azknecht@gmail.com](mailto:azknecht@gmail.com) for more information.

## SUMMIT OLD GUARD NOVEMBER EVENTS

If you are a retired male and have an interest in living an interesting life with like-minded men... new members are always welcomed. Meetings are held each Tuesday in the New Providence Borough Hall, 360 Elkwood Ave., New Providence, NJ, starting at 9:30 a.m. with coffee and conversation, followed by programs consisting of stimulating talks. After the meetings, many members join together to have lunch at various local restaurants.

For more information, contact James Hewitt, Chairman, Membership Committee, (908) 233-5507, [info@SummitOldGuard.org](mailto:info@SummitOldGuard.org). You can also visit [summitoldguard.org](http://summitoldguard.org).

### NOVEMBER SPEAKERS

**NOVEMBER 5TH** - Dr. Merv Turner will discuss the need to develop new drugs for old diseases, especially malaria. Dr. Turner's talk will highlight the obstacles that had to be surmounted in the discovery of this molecule, which is just starting its journey towards the clinic to meet its foe.

**NOVEMBER 12TH** - wealth management advisors will speak about the risks and opportunities of tax planning under the new tax law including how to optimize charitable gifting with the changes to deductions, estate planning with the new Federal exemption and making sense of Opportunity Zone investments.

**NOVEMBER 19TH** - Dr. William Hagmann will discuss the life of Thomas A. Edison as a rock star of technology and invention in the turn-of-the-century America, despite receiving only a short elementary education. His greatest invention may be the modern research and development and his trial and laboratory that still inspires us today.

**NOVEMBER 26TH** - Dr. Matt Wyvrat will talk about an air inversion which took place in a small western Pennsylvania town in the late 1940s. This air inversion created a killer smog resulting in the death of twenty town residents with many more developing serious health problems. This disaster is recognized as the beginning of the clean air movement in the United States.

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## I AM MY BROTHER'S KEEPER! ARE YOU?

*"Every day, nearly 22 veterans take their own lives. Our team is saving lives and providing a better way of life for our uniformed heroes."*

*Michael D. Boll, Director of New Jersey Veterans Network and United States Marine Corps Veteran*

A few years ago, I was approached by a friend and co-worker of mine who expressed how extremely depressed he was and that he wanted to take his own life. Initially, I was completely shocked because this guy always seemed to be upbeat and happy all the time. Immediately, I asked him to come with me to a private office so we could talk about his awful situation. This was the first time in my life that I had a friend talk to me about suicide, and I knew I had to really do my best to help him get through this horrible ordeal. We spoke for a few hours and I listened closely to everything he said. I was able to convince him to immediately get some help and we went to the hospital. I stayed with him at the hospital and met with him when he was released. I did everything to show my friend that I had his back and because of this he is alive today. This awful situation inspired me to do whatever I possibly can to help others in need and shortly after we created our mobile outreach program.

In today's day and age, most of you have known a veteran or first responder that has taken their own life. Every day we lose nearly twenty-two veterans and approximately three hundred first responders every year to suicide. Even with all the awareness and new anti-suicide programs available, this number has not changed and, in some cases, has increased. The Veteran Hospitals' PTSD and mental health programs are packed with patients and unfortunately, they continue to grow. More of our first responders are also seeking help and utilizing some of the state programs being offered. So many people want to help and put an end to this crisis but sadly there isn't a foolproof program available that will stop this ever-growing crisis from destroying our uniformed heroes and their family's lives.

For the last two years our team has been working tirelessly with other charities to come up with a better solution to help prevent this epidemic from continuing. Personally, we believe our "Mobile Outreach Team" is really making a difference and everyday it helps our uniformed

heroes live a better way of life.

The first thing we learned is to lose your "EGO" and seek out other groups and organizations that are looking to save lives. Then we find the right volunteers who are committed and dedicated with being a mentor to a person in crisis. Volunteers are extremely valuable because they want to be there, and they usually care more than the people who get paid for their services.

To date, we have been able to change and save countless lives because of the incredible commitment from the volunteers and other supporting groups.

Our approach is to aggressively seek out and contact a veteran or first responder in crisis. Our goal is to immediately work on building trust by being completely honest with the person in crisis. Using our network is wonderful, but it's more important to show the person in need that we are there for them and won't give up. Usually, we go out and meet with those in crisis and spend whatever time is needed to help them get in a better frame of mind. Bottom line "Human Contact" and "Friendship" is the key to saving a life.

Our Mobile Outreach Team is unique because

it consists of mentors from all over the state that are willing to do whatever it takes to save and change a life.

If you are interested in joining our team please feel free to contact me at (973)-332-1556 or email [mdbollio@optonline.net](mailto:mdbollio@optonline.net). To learn more visit [njvn.org](http://njvn.org).

About New Jersey Veterans Network

We are a group of veterans and volunteers dedicated to helping our veterans and their families live better lives. Our team is raising awareness of our veterans needs by organizing public speaking engagements, meeting with business and political leaders across the state and sponsoring fundraising events. Our mission is to identify veterans and connect them with resources and programs designed to meet their unique set of needs. To ensure that EVERY single one of our veterans, who have sacrificed so much for this great country, receives the resources that they require and deserve. If you are interested in joining our team, would like us to speak at your event, or contributing to our mission, call 973-332-1556 or email [mdbollio@optonline.net](mailto:mdbollio@optonline.net). To learn more visit [njvn.org](http://njvn.org).



*(above) Operation Rebound is a mobile outreach team of mentors who help at-risk veterans and first responders to live a better life. The team has made huge strides with suicide prevention simply by building trust and cementing friendships with people in need. If you are interested in 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.*



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## UNION MUNICIPAL BAND CONCERT NOV 11TH

Invitation for new members.

The Union Municipal Band, under the direction Howard Toplansky will present a concert on Monday evening, November 11, 2019. The concert will be held at Hannah Caldwell School Auditorium, 1120 Commerce Avenue, Union, NJ at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free and the public is cordially invited to attend. This autumn concert will feature music from the Broadway stage, marches and overtures.

The concert will include the following selections: The Star Spangled Banner, Brighton

Beach March, Amazon Overture, Gypsy Fantasy, Variag March, Amazing Grace, Strenuous Life Rag, The Girl From Ipanema and Third Man Theme.

The band would like to invite musicians from Union and the surrounding communities to join the group.

If you are interested please call the band director Howard Toplansky at 908-415-4939. Please call the Recreation Department at 908-686-4200 with any inquiries.

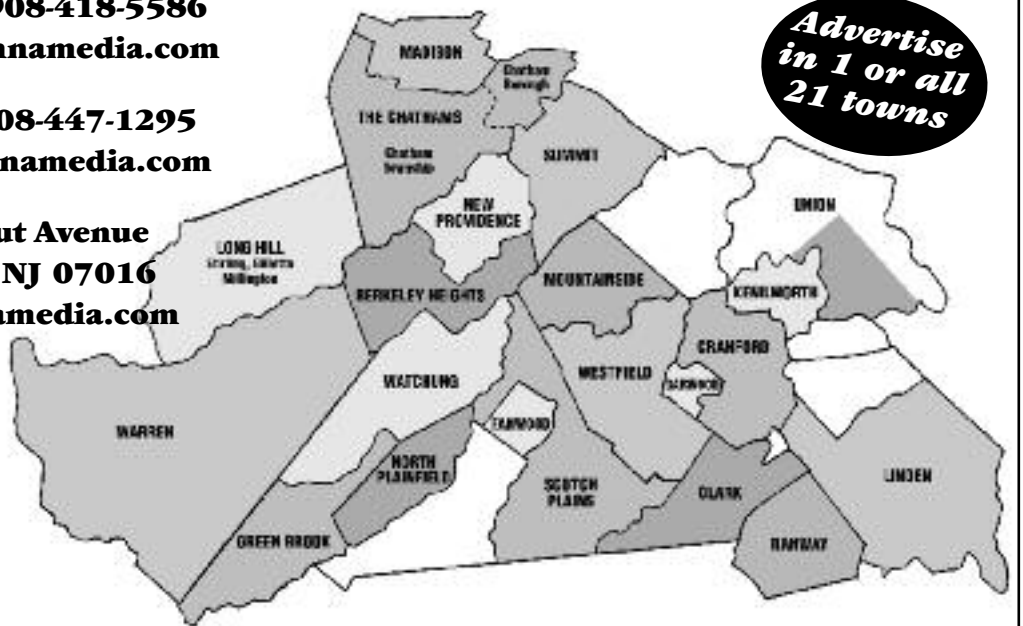
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## TICKETS NOW ON SALE FOR 21ST ANNUAL PIPES OF CHRISTMAS

The Pipes of Christmas will celebrate its 21st season with performances in New Jersey and New York this December. The holiday favorite opens on Saturday, December 14 at Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church, located at 921 Madison Avenue (at 73rd Street) for a 2 p.m. performance. The concert moves across the Hudson River on Sunday, December 15 to Central Presbyterian Church located at 70 Maple Street in Summit, NJ with performances at 2 and 7 p.m.

For those weary of the ceaseless stream of secular seasonal music from department stores to TV, the Pipes of Christmas offers a spiritual and traditional take on the season that connects concertgoers to the holiday in a fresh, meaningful way. The show features tunes such as, "Highland Cathedral," Joy to the World, and Amazing Grace, all performed live on pipes and drums, harp and fiddle, and organ and brass and more. Not only does the performance define Christmas cheer, but also it inspires those of

Celtic descent to retrace and reconnect to their ancestry.

The 2019 production will also mark the world premiere of "Mystical Nativity," an original composition inspired by the 16th century masterpiece painted by Italian Renaissance master, Sandro Botticelli.

The concert presents the music of Christmas accompanied by readings taken from the Celtic literature of Scotland, Ireland, and Wales. Featured performers include singer Maddy Kearns of Glasgow, Scotland making her concert debut, James Robinson from the film "Braveheart," New England fiddle champion Paul Woodiel, champion harpist Rachel Clemente, and the Pipe Major Kevin Ray Blandford Memorial Pipe Band from Redlands, CA among many more.

### PROCEEDS SUPPORT SCHOLARSHIPS AND MORE

Proceeds from the concert support an extensive music scholarship program, which includes the Carol Hassert Memorial Fine Arts

Scholarship at Summit (NJ) High School as well as annual gifts to the National Piping Centre and the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (both located in Glasgow, Scotland) the Gaelic College of Nova Scotia and Lyon College in Batesville, Arkansas.

Proceeds also support the Society's sponsorship of the US National Scottish Harp Championship, the Gaelic Literature Competition at Scotland's Royal National Mod and an annual academic research prize at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, Scotland's Gaelic college on the Isle of Skye.

Each year, concert highlights are webcast in hi-definition over the Christmas holiday to a global audience. In cooperation with HomeTowne Television, the 2018 production was the recipient of two prestigious Telly Awards for webcast excellence.

The concert is still accepting Title Sponsors as well as Program Ads. These gifts help offset production expenses and add help fund our scholarships.

### TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW

Tickets may be purchased online exclusively through Brown Paper Tickets at [www.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.brownpapertickets.com) (be certain you select the event name and date in the search engine) or by phone at (800) 838-3006. Reserved patron seats are available at both venues.



(above) Rachel Clemente. The acclaimed composer and performer will debut the new composition, "Mystical Nativity."



## Online Marketing Made Easy

**RENNAMEDIA**  
.COM

**NJ** LocalInfo.com

### AD WEB PAGE: \$30

**Block of 20 ads \$300** (\$15 per ad)

Ad gets its own indexed web page on NJLocalInfo.com

Searchable through search engines and shared on our Facebook network.

### CALENDER EVENT: \$20

**Block of 20 events \$200** (\$10 per event)

Events get posted on RennaMedia.com calendar

and included in weekly newsletter shared on our Facebook network

### ONLINE PRESS RELEASE: \$130

**Block of 20 ads \$1,200** (\$60 per PR)

Ad gets its own indexed web pages on NJLocalInfo.com and RennaMedia.com

Searchable through search engines and shared on our Facebook network.

### DISPLAY ADS (12 months)

**Banner Ad** (500 x 100 pixels) **\$240** on RennaMedia.com

**Column Ad** (300 x 200 pixels) **\$960**

Column ad appears on all pages of on RennaMedia.com and NJLocalInfo.com

### WEBSITE / SEO SERVICES

- Website Audit/Analysis and recommendation plan: \$250
- Website creation/update: \$2,400 (Cost for average website: 12 pages, contact form, SEO friendly, responsive design)
- Website Hosting: \$300 per year  
Includes website hosting, software updates, monthly website content updates
- SEO Services - average cost \$1,000 - \$2,000 per month  
Custom tailored solutions: Google Ranking, Local SEO, Social Marketing
- Blast your online ad or press release to a targeted market \$100
- National Press Release Distribution to 300 to 500 news outlets.  
Budget choice from \$300 to \$500.

**CONTACT JOE FOR DETAILS 908-447-1295**

**joerenna@rennamedia.com**

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# Is your home TV worthy?



If you are thinking of selling your home and want the opportunity to have it featured on national TV - please reach out to us. We have been chosen as cast members on The American Dream, a real estate show coming to New Jersey and airing nationally on the CW (11). With over 50 million viewers, this outlet brings unparalleled exposure to your home in a way the typical broker cannot achieve.

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If your home is currently listed with another real estate broker, please disregard this advertisement. It is not our intention to solicit the offerings of other real estate brokers.