

Scotch Plains NJ

WHAT'S HAPPENING MONTHLY

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2019 HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES ON THE VILLAGE GREEN

The township's annual holiday celebration was held on Sunday, December 8, 2019, on the Village Green. Visitors were treated to live entertainment, holiday music and caroling, face painting, horse-drawn carriage rides, and more! Santa Claus was there to meet with children and help light the tree.



(above) Many township departments and organizations provided treats such as cookies, and hot coco. The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Chapter of UNICO International handed out cannoli.

Photos from this and other events can be found online at rennamedia.com and on the Scotch Plains Monthly page on facebook.com. Feel free to "Like," "Tag," and "Share."

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Scotch Plains NJ

WHAT'S HAPPENING MONTHLY

Scotch Plains Monthly is published by Renna Media. 9,500 newspapers are printed monthly and mailed to every business and resident in Scotch Plains.

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Community service organizations, schools and sports teams are encouraged to submit news of upcoming events or highlights and photos from recent events.

Organizations who are interested in submitting content, please email editor@rennamedia.com or call 908-858-4012

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SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED

Submitted by Bernadette Hoyer

Scholarship applications for 2020-2021 are available from the College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains. The application can be obtained from the SPFHS Counseling Office or online at spfk12.org or fspcollegeclub.org.

Scholarships are awarded annually to women who are high school seniors or college students who plan to pursue a Baccalaureate Degree at a four-year college.

Scholarships totaling \$37,000 were awarded for the academic year 2019-2020 to eleven students, six high school seniors of the Class of 2019 and five who were attending college.

To be eligible for consideration, high school applicants must be residents of Fanwood or

Scotch Plains. College applicants must be local residents of Fanwood or Scotch Plains at the time they graduate from high school.

Scholarships are awarded based on three primary characteristics of the applicants: financial need, academic achievement, and character of the applicant.

This will be the 84th year that female students seeking financial assistance to pursue a four-year college degree have been helped by the club's fund-raising efforts. To date the College Club has awarded approximately \$667,000 in scholarships to approximately 540 women.

Application materials must be postmarked on or before February 15, 2020 to be considered.



(above, l-r) Last year scholarships totaling \$37,000.00 were awarded by the College Club of F-SP to (sitting) Jillian Lapidus, Madison Haught, Aubrey Bagdonas, (standing) Olivia Gelding, Audrey Davis, Isabella Hurtado, Alexis Marta, Melanie Litwin and Vanessa Handy. Not pictured: Olivia Welham and Olivia Barcia.



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“OVERCOMING OBSTACLES TO SUCCESS” WITH THE SPF WOMEN’S NETWORK

Submitted by Elaine Coupe

The SPF Women’s Network is hosting a Women’s Conference entitled “Overcoming Obstacles to Success” on Thursday, January 23, 2020 at Shady Rest starting at 7:00 p.m.

The SPF Women’s Network is a newly founded group that came together with the desire to “build community”. The mission of the group is to provide an opportunity for the women of Scotch Plains/Fanwood to gather, share their stories, make greater connections and establish relationships with other women in our great towns. The inaugural event will be held on January 23rd at the Shady Rest at 7:00 p.m. and will include a panel of impressive women from Scotch Plains/Fanwood.

The diverse panel includes Bernadette Rossi of Rossi Funeral Home, Oshanda Erb of the US Air Force, Kristen Bush or NY1, Samantha Kowalczyk of MettaCasa and Sofia Casimiro of Catcalls of Union County. These women will share their experiences and how they overcame obstacles in their path to success. Each woman has an interesting story to tell.

While the panel discussion is the main part of the night, the real purpose is to bring the women of our towns together and to start building

relationships and community. The night will be filled with stories, sharing and the beginning of friendships. Moving forward, the Network will ask the guests what they would like to see in the future.

The team behind the scenes are a group of women who care for our community consisting of Elaine Coupe, Susanna Cates, Holly Schneider-Brown, Margaret Heisey, Betsy Ringel, Phyllis Mirabella, Lisa Mohn and Kelly Watson.

“We recognized the need to provide a place and opportunities for the women of Scotch Plains/Fanwood to come together, share their lives and build a community,” explains Elaine Coupe.

The event is free and is open to all SPF Women.

To register, email
SPFWomensNetwork@gmail.com.
 (There is babysitting upon request.)

The group would like to highlight woman owned businesses in Scotch Plains/Fanwood in their program. If you would like to have your business listed, please send an email. This night will be the first of many gatherings for the women of our great towns!

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MAKING A RESOLUTION THAT BENEFITS YOURSELF AND OTHERS

Submitted by Susan Baldani, a life member of the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad

In this new year, instead of just making a resolution to lose weight or stop smoking, why not also make a resolution to help others? After all, studies have shown that people who volunteer are happier, less stressed and enjoy a higher level of self-esteem.

Once you decide to volunteer, find a cause that is meaningful to you, and then sign up to make a difference. Unlike many other resolutions that are often broken within a month or two, you'll find it's much harder to break a promise to others, especially when they're relying on you for their basic needs.

For adults, volunteering is a chance to meet other like-minded people and do something much different than their chosen career. It's also an opportunity to learn a new skill, enrich your mind, and help your community.

Volunteering is also a wonderful way for teens to try out different professions to help them decide what they may want to do in the future.

For example, if they're interested in medicine, they can join a local ambulance corps like the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad, or volunteer at a hospital. Or, if they think they may want to work in construction, they can help build homes with Habitat for Humanity.

The rewards of volunteering are not just experienced by the recipients, but by the givers as well. So, whatever your interests or talents, there is a cause looking for help. Some people find it easier to give money, which by all means is sorely needed and important. But it's getting out there and joining with other people who have the same goals in mind that makes volunteering so meaningful.

For more information on volunteering for the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad or to obtain an application, please go to our website at scotchplainsrescuesquad.com, email us at scotchplainsrescuesquad@gmail.com, or call 908-322-2103.

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ALLSTATE EARNS GRANT FOR HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Sixteen Allstate agency owners and staff throughout New Jersey recently came together to volunteer and secure a \$5,000 Allstate Foundation Helping Hands® Grant to benefit Habitat for Humanity. Habitat for Humanity used the funding to support the construction of a home in Perth Amboy for a veteran and his family.

Allstate volunteers earned Allstate Foundation grants for Habitat for Humanity by building a home for community members. Allstate New Jersey agency owner Nelson Espeland, Scotch Plains, was the project coordinator responsible for organizing and executing this project.

The Allstate volunteers are among thousands of agency owners and staff around the country working to help communities thrive by supporting the causes they care about most.

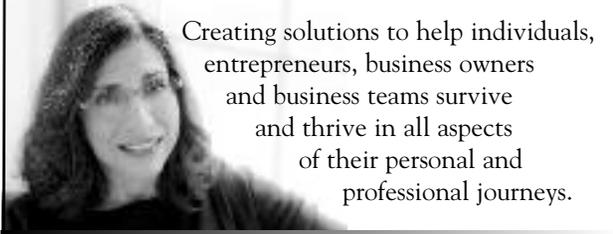
“Our Allstate volunteers see firsthand the opportunities and challenges facing the communities they serve,” said John Kane, Allstate New Jersey President. “Giving back is

core to who we are, which is why we care deeply about dedicating time to volunteer to help improve lives across Perth Amboy.”

Habitat for Humanity is one of thousands of organizations this year to receive Allstate Foundation Helping Hands Grants secured by agency owners, personal financial representatives and licensed sales professionals on behalf of the nonprofits where they volunteer. The grants support organizations addressing domestic violence, youth empowerment, disaster preparedness, hunger and other causes.

The Helping Hands Grants are one example of The Allstate Foundation’s legacy of service and giving:

- Since The Allstate Foundation was founded in 1952, it has contributed over \$449 million to support community nonprofits.
- In 2018, The Allstate Foundation contributed more than \$33 million to support local communities.



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TINY TIM BOARD THANKS COMMUNITY FOR CAROL NIGHT SUPPORT

The members of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Tiny Tim Fund Board would like to thank all residents who shared holiday spirit and solicited donations during the annual Carol Night event on December 4, 2019 and made it a successful fundraiser for the organization. With gratitude and appreciation to all caroling groups and to all generous donors, the Tiny Tim Fund will be able to carry on its mission of assisting local families. Special thanks are extended to the general manager of the Stage House Inn and Tavern on Park Avenue in Scotch Plains, who graciously provided us with a warm room in the Stage House as the collection site for the donation canisters and a comfortable space for carolers to enjoy refreshments provided by the members of the Tiny Tim Board members and the Stage

House.

The Tiny Tim Fund is a non-profit organization that provides financial assistance to children of Scotch Plains and Fanwood in need of medical or dental services, psychological testing, prescriptions or medical supplies and equipment. The organization was established in 1983 and is run by a volunteer Board of Trustees comprised of residents of Scotch Plains and Fanwood with diverse backgrounds in fields such as education, medicine, religion, social work and business. Donations and/ or referrals for assistance can be made in writing to: The Tiny Tim Fund, Inc., PO Box 181, Fanwood, NJ 07023.

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SPF HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND RECOGNIZED FOR A WINNING SEASON

Submitted by Patrice Barth

On November 14, 2019 the SPF Board of Education recognized the SPF Marching Band at their monthly meeting for their remarkable 2019 Fall Marching Band Season. The Marching Band earned a top 3 placement in every competition

this season and were first in 3 of 7 competitions for the 2019 season.

Led by Band Director: Mr. Durand Thomas, Assistant Director: Mr. John Gillick Jr., Color Guard Director: Ms. Jackie Tumolo, Assistant Directors: Jackie Close and Katie Westerlund, and Volunteers: Cristabella Fortna, Tracy Prusik and Allan Romero, the SPF Marching Band earned a Silver Medal in the U.S. Bands NJ States Group VI A Championship in Allentown, PA with a score of 87.37, earning the award for Best Visual and earning the prestigious Cadets Esprit DeCorps "Award of Excellence" in recognition of Creativity, Performance and Overall Effect. At the same competition they were awarded with a Bronze Medal with a score of 92.46, winning the caption of Visual Effect.

The SPF Marching Band should be commended for their outstanding talent, dedication, and teamwork throughout the season. This team received well-deserved recognition from fellow students, staff and the Scotch Plains-Fanwood communities for their outstanding efforts and accomplishments.



(above) Marching band faculty Durand Thomas, Jackie Tumolo, Cristabella Fortna, Katherine Westerlund and John Gillick, Jr. were recognized.



(above) The SPF marching band receiving awards.

Photos by SFPS Public Schools

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WORLD LANGUAGE HONOR SOCIETIES INDUCTION CEREMONY

Submitted by Patrice Barth

On Wednesday, November 13, 2019, a total of 32 students were inducted into their respective world language honor societies during a ceremony replete with pomp and circumstance. Flag-bearing officers led their inductees into the auditorium as cultural music played.

Senior Derick Vega, who served as Master of Ceremonies, began the night by sharing his own experiences of being raised bilingual at home and then choosing to study a third language, Italian, in middle and high school. He then introduced various guest speakers of the evening. Junior, Matthew London, spoke from the heart about his positive experiences in his Chinese classes over the years and gave specific thanks to his teacher, Mrs. Li Salewski. Senior, Michaela Genty amused the audience with her humorous tales of traveling to France and speaking with the locals. She also credited her family's French-Creole heritage as her inspiration for studying French. Senior, Kyle Isolda shared his reasons for

studying Italian in middle and high school and spoke with delight over the exchanges he was able to have with his host family while participating in the district's Italian exchange program. Finally, Senior, Aleezah Madraswalla, spoke with joy as she shared her earliest memories of learning Spanish in second grade and traveling to Mexico with her family. She attributed the world language curriculum for not just teaching her the Spanish language but for giving her the opportunity to explore and to appreciate the cultures of the Spanish-speaking world.

The World Language Honor Society officers conducted the induction ceremonies for each language entirely in the target language. The officers included: Catherine Buren and William Robertson (Chinese), Carina Delcore and Michaela Genty (French), Antoinette Chango and Christina Gubernat (Italian), and Sarai Romero and Tara Wolman (Spanish).

(continued on a page 11)

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(above) This year's Chinese Honor Society Inductees were Justin Chan, Kaelie Chung, Juan Rojas, Ryan Eng, Margaret Lapolla, Evelyn Liang, Matthew London, Thomas Peeney and Myles Talmadge.

Photos by SFPS Public Schools

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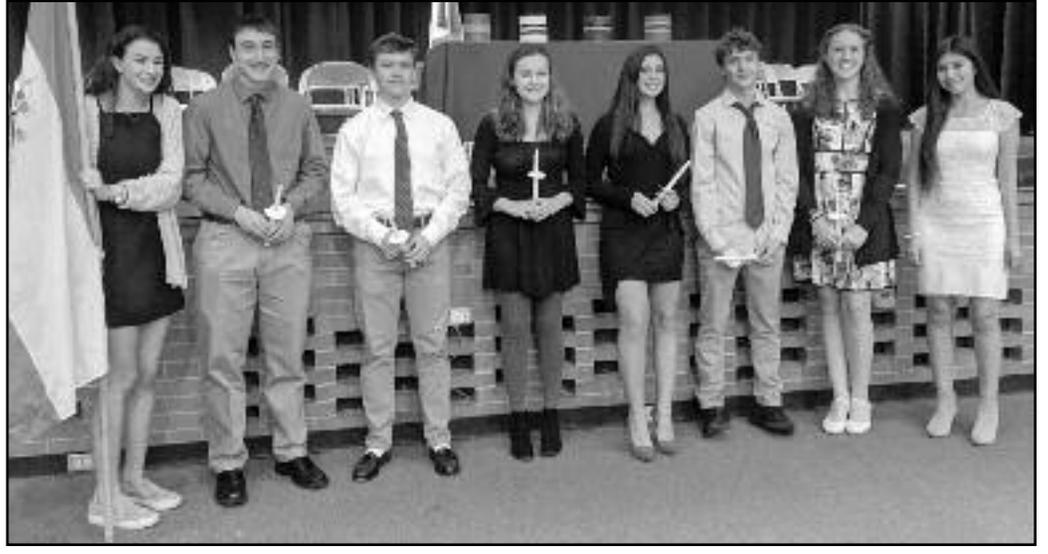
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(above) Inducted into the French Honor Society were Chloe Alce, Jessica Jimenez, Shruti Khandelwal, Chloe Rousseau, and Jamie Wirth.

(above) Inducted into the Spanish Honor Society were Kayla Avila, Conor Feeney, Ava Gelling, Patrick Howard, Daniel Sicinski, and Zoe Wernsing.



(above) Italian Honor Society Inductees included Lauren Brenner, Abby Conklin, John Dazzo, Joshua Fox, Paul Harris, Lily Holston, Luke Jones, Joseph Larmore, Michael Marino, Roy McGowan, Maxwell Oross, and Derick Vega.

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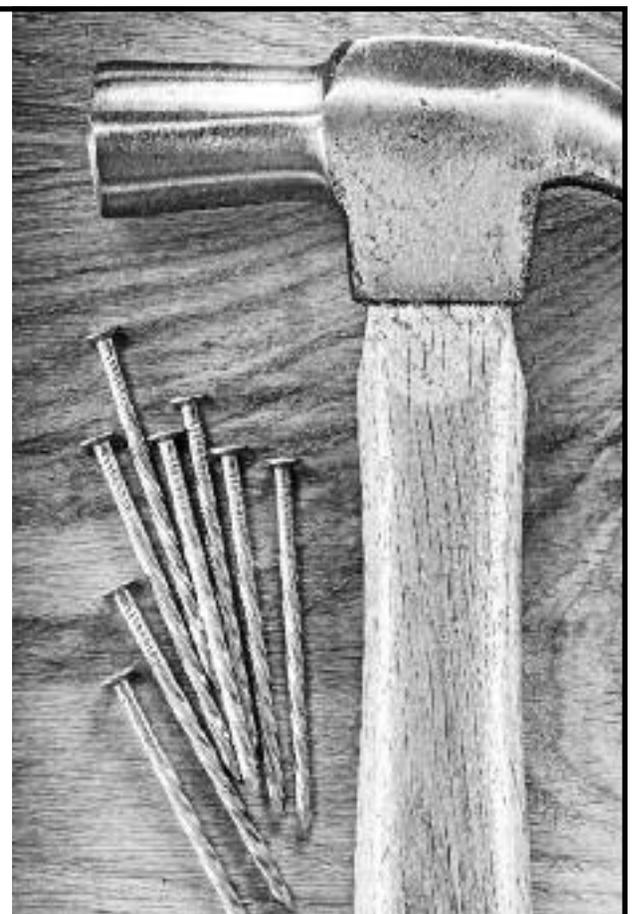
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ADOPTION DAY IN UNION COUNTY: AS SIX YOUTH JOIN FAMILIES, LOVE TEEMS



(above) Union County Assignment Judge Karen Cassidy, an adoptive mom herself, making a speech.

Submitted by Gretchen Boger-O'Bryan
On the morning of Friday, November 22, 2019, more than 25 youth gathered to celebrate the long-awaited end to living in foster care with adoption into a forever family.

National Adoption Day is the Saturday before Thanksgiving every year; Union County's Family Court celebrated on Friday, November 22, as six youth ranging from one to nine years old, entered the courtrooms of Superior Court Judges Richard C. Wischusen or James Hely as foster youth — accompanied by their foster families and other loved ones — but left as official members of their new family. More than 20 other recent adoptees returned to participate in the program.

Adoption Day is a national movement to raise awareness of children in foster care awaiting a family. Since its inception 20 years ago, more than 75,000 children have found that permanency. Still, more than 125,000 youth in the United States need a permanent home and the average wait is four years. For more than 23,000 youth nationwide, that permanency doesn't happen before they age out of the system and must face life on their own.

The family courts see complex issues fraught with loss or discord nearly every day, yet Adoption Day is eagerly anticipated by all at Union County's Family Court, as fresh starts and ample smiles fill the courthouse. Festivities

included balloon headwear creations donated by nonprofit A Birthday Wish; super-human Heroes 4 Heroes, an organization of area corrections officers in costume seeking to brighten the lives of children facing medical and other adversities; photo booth area for children to select a superhero cape and mask gifted by family court personnel, pick photo props and pose with family and their favorite superheroes. Approximately 30 students from Elizabeth's Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy A Cappella Choir performed pieces they selected especially for the occasion.

Each adoptive family received a gift basket from CASA of Union County, with collaboration from David Brearley High School's Bears that Care, The Race Matters Alliance and Peer Leadership Groups; Seton Hall Law Professor Kevin Kelly; and the Union County Bar Association. Items included board and card games, blankets, jars of popping corn, movie candy, bowling passes and WalMart gift card. In addition, every adoptee received handpicked books by Kappa Alpha Theta's Westfield Chapter and bike certificate redeemable by the Albanese family of Plainfield's Dairy Queen.

For details on CASA of Union County and becoming an advocate for a foster youth, reach Courtney at 908-293-8136 or log on to casaofunioncounty.org to learn more.



(above) The adoptees, each wearing superhero capes, ready to pose for a picture with their favorite superheroes.



(above) The Heroes4Heroes group, a nonprofit comprised of corrections officers who dress as superheroes and visit children.

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(above, l-r) CASA staff and their table of gifts for each adoptive family: Courtney Green, Recruiter/Advocate Supervisor; Natalie Deo, Program Director; Kim Stocco, Advocate Supervisor; Lisa Poris, Trainer/Advocate Supervisor; Gretchen Boger-O'Bryan, Development and Communications Manager and CASA's Adoption Day Committee member; and Abby Gallego, Advocate Supervisor.



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(above) The Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy A Cappella Choir came to perform two songs they picked especially for the event.



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The Kenilworth Chess Club has kicked off its 2020 season with a new slate of officers. Jack McCorkell of Cranford is incoming President. Outgoing president Dave Lazarus of Fanwood will serve as Vice President. Treasurer Geoff McMAuliffe of Dunellen and Webmaster John Moldovan of Garwood will continue in their positions. Trustees are Pat Mazzillo of Union and Greg Tomkovich and Joe Renna, both from Cranford.

The club was formed in 1972 amid the chess craze in America, spearheaded by Bobby Fischer's march to the world championship. For 47 years the club was a force to be reckoned with as its member roster included many Master level players, including State Champions.

The club has a reputation for being friendly and accommodating. It welcomes non-members with no obligation or cost. It's a place where beginners can learn in a casual setting without being intimidated. Strong players are generous with their time in analyzing and giving instruction.

The club's website, kenilworthchessclub.org, is well read and features an award-winning blog by Michael Goeller and other instructional features. Players are welcome to just pop into the Kenilworth Chess Club with no formalities every Thursday evening at 8 p.m. at the Kenilworth Community Center, located next to Borough Hall on the Boulevard and the corner of 24th Street.

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(above, r-l) Kenilworth Chess Club President Jack McCorkell, Vice President Dave Lazarus, John Moldovan, Treasurer Geoff McAuliffe, Web Master John Moldovan, Trustees Ed Selling, Greg Tomkovich, Pat Mazzillo, and Joe Renna.

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THIRD GRADERS WELCOME THE ROTARY CLUB

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Elementary third grade students welcomed the Rotary Club into their schools on November 13, 2019.

Every year our third graders look forward to

their visit with the Rotarians as they present the students with dictionaries to open up their world of vocabulary as a chance to help promote great readers and writers.

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood School District is grateful to the Rotary Club for supporting our schools.

Photos by SFPS Public Schools



(above) School One with their dictionaries from the Rotary Club.



(above) Coles third grade students pose with their new dictionaries.



(above) Brunner School on Dictionary Day.

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TEACHERS NAMED 2019 NEW JERSEY EXEMPLARY EDUCATORS

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood School District is pleased to announce that Sharon Atta, 8th grade Social Studies Teacher at Terrill Middle School; Ronald Litz, 7th grade Social Studies Teacher at Park Middle School and Daniel Valentine, 11th grade Social Studies Teacher at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, have been selected as 2019 New Jersey Exemplary Educators.

On Monday, November 11, Dr. Joan Mast, Superintendent of Schools, along with building Principals, Noel Baxter, Supervisor of Social Studies and Candice Testa, President of SPFEA, honored Sharon, Ronald and Daniel in their classrooms presenting them with their certificates of recognition.

The goal of the program is to identify educators who are valued by their school and community and have exhibited strong knowledge and skills, have an inspiring presence and a clear vision for quality teaching and learning.

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood School District is fortunate to have Sharon, Ronald and Daniel who provide a positive impact on our students, colleagues and the school community.

POST-CHRISTMAS A CAPELLA CONCERT

The Madrigal Singers will present their Our Annual "Last Chance at Christmas" Concert, "A Child is Born", on Sunday, January 5, 2020 at the United Methodist Church, 17 Kent Place Boulevard, Summit, New Jersey at 4:00 p.m. General admission, available at the door, is \$15; admission for students and seniors is \$10.

The program will feature music by Melchior Franck, Jean Mouton, Tomas Luis de Victoria and many others, along with traditional favorites and Christmas Readings.

The Madrigal Singers are an a capella choral group specializing in Mediaeval and Renaissance music.

The group, founded in 1948, is currently under the direction of John Sichel, and is comprised of sopranos Martha Desmond and Amy Wechsler; altos Donna Brumbaugh, Roberta Lichtenberg, Jennifer Melick, Holly Hartline and Sarah Riffel; tenors Richard DeVany, Christopher Ferro and Thom Reese; basses Greg Hartline, Scott Hobson, Kirk Robbins and Gordon Rowan. Kirk Robbins will perform the readings and flutes will be played by Eugenia Cline and Clarissa Nolde.

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED

Do you have 1.5 hours a week, every other week, or once a month, to be a volunteer driver for Mobile Meals of Westfield, delivering meals to our neighbors?

Hot and cold meals prepared by our chef are delivered fresh to our clients Monday through Friday mornings starting at 10:45 a.m.

Please contact us at 908-233-6146 if you can help, and for more information. We serve the residents of 7 towns: Clark, Cranford, Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Scotch Plains, and Westfield.



(above, l-r) Kevin Holloway, Principal of Terrill Middle School; Candice Testa, President of SPFEA; Sharon Atta, 8th grade Social Studies Teacher; Noel Baxter Supervisor of Social Studies and Joan Mast, Superintendent of Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools.



(above, l-r) Candice Testa, President of SPFEA; Dr. Joan Mast, Superintendent of Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools; Daniel Valentine, 11th Grade Social Studies Teacher at SPFHS; Noel Baxter, Supervisor of Social Studies and Dr. David Heisey, Principal of SPFHS.



(above, l-r) Kristina Morano, Assistant Principal of Park Middle School, Candice Testa, President of SPFEA; Noel Baxter, Supervisor of Social Studies; Ronald Litz, 7th Grade Social Studies Teacher at Park Middle School; Jocelyn Dumaresq, Principal of Park Middle School and Dr. Joan Mast, Superintendent of Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools. Photos by SFPS Public Schools

MOBILE MEALS MOVING FORWARD INTO ITS SECOND HALF CENTURY

Since 1968, Mobile Meals of Westfield, a voluntary, 501(c)3 non-profit program, has provided home-delivered meals serving those who are unable to shop and prepare their own meals on either a temporary or permanent basis because of age, illness or disability. Our purpose is to serve members of our community in need of help to ensure that they are provided with nutritious meals on a regular basis. We serve the residents of Westfield, Mountainside, Fanwood, Garwood, Scotch Plains, Clark and Cranford, New Jersey.

We are supported by our members and donations from charitable social services organizations such as the Westfield United Fund.

We are able to accept donations on our Facebook page, 'Mobile Meals of Westfield NJ'. As client meal fees only cover 50% of the organization costs, donations are welcome and appreciated year-round.

Change has been in the air at Mobile Meals of Westfield. At the beginning of the year, longtime President of the Board, Nancy Otchy, retired from the organization. Nancy had served as a Mobile Meals board

member for over 20 years and after taking the reigns as president steered the organization up until its 50th anniversary in 2018. The board honored Nancy for her extensive dedication and commitment at their June 2019 board meeting.

Attempting to fill these big shoes as the new Board President is Ruth Maloney. Ruth has been a volunteer driver for Mobile Meals for 20 years and joined the board in 2018 after her youngest graduated high school.

Mobile Meals also has a new chef, Karen Waldorf, who has over 20 years of experience as a private caterer. She's passionate about cooking and is delighted to be associated with Mobile Meals.

ABOUT OUR MEALS

Our meals are reasonably priced, and unlike other meal delivery services, Mobile Meals has no financial need requirements. Our customers come from all walks of life and financial situations. If you know of anyone who could benefit from receiving daily meals and personal contact, or if you have any interest in volunteering, please contact Mobile Meals of Westfield at (908) 233-6146.

We operate 5 days a week, Monday through Friday. All our meals are prepared by a trained cook and packaged and delivered by volunteers. Our well-balanced menus change daily.

Mobile Meals serves a hot meal and an optional cold meal. The hot meal consists of soup and crackers, an entree of meat or fish, a vegetable and a starch, bread and butter, a dessert and a beverage (milk or juice). The cold meals consist of a sandwich, a dessert and a beverage.

Our meals are low salt and we will take dietary requirements into consideration as much as we can. We offer sugar-free products, as well. Our food is delicious, never frozen, and attractively presented in microwavable trays. All containers are easily disposable.

Pricing: Hot dinner: \$6.50 per day

Hot dinner plus cold lunch: \$8.95 per day

Minimum delivery of 2 days per week.

Anyone may apply directly for Mobile Meals, or may be referred by someone, or through any health agency

For more information call (908) 233-6146

or visit mobilemealsofwestfield.org.



(above, l-r) Longtime Board President Nancy Otchy was recently honored by the current Mobile Meals Board: Mary Doyle, Josephine Walsh, Linda Johnson, Kit Laudati, Doug Lynch, Fran Lemberg, Kim Englese, Cherie Parker, Ruth Maloney and Marie Sloan.



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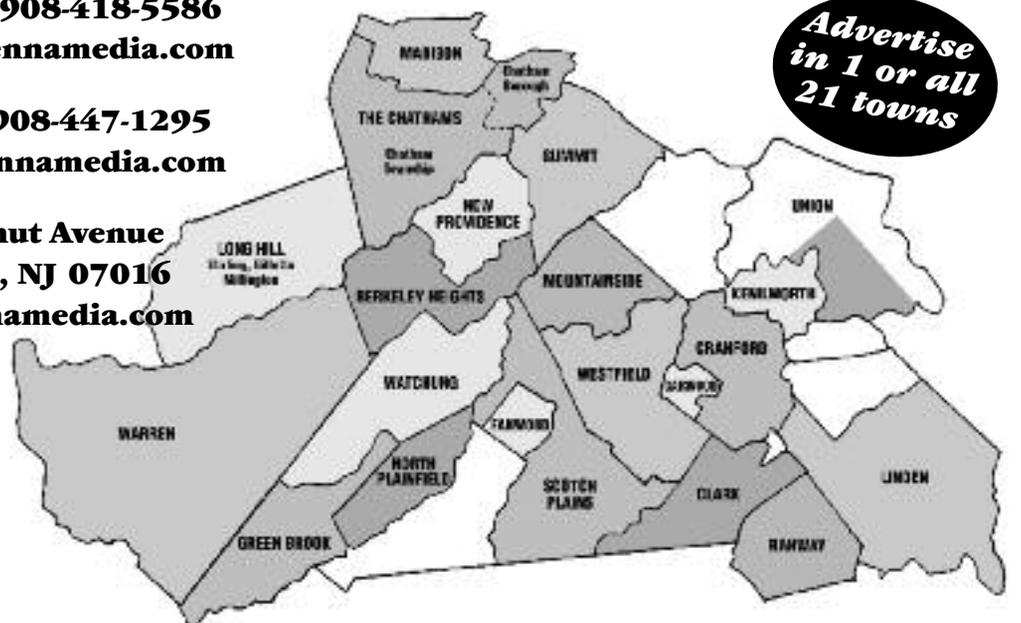
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COLLEGE CLUB OF F-SP JANUARY PROGRAM

A journalist for 40-plus years, Mark DiIunno has penned five books since 1997. "Gods of Wood and Stone," released in 2018 will be the topic of his program on January 20th. The novel is a riveting story of baseball, pop culture and nostalgia.

DiIunno grew up in Summit and trained as a journalist while serving in the U.S. Navy. After graduating from Rutgers University, he worked as a sports columnist, sports and news reporter, features writer and editor. As a news columnist with the Star-Ledger, his coverage of New Jersey families recovering from Hurricane Sandy made him a Pulitzer Prize finalist in 2013.

The program is free and open to the public. It will take place at the Fanwood Presbyterian Church, 74 Martine Avenue, Fanwood (around the back at the McDermott Street entrance). It will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Additional information about the College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains can be found on the club's website at fspcollegeclub.org.



(above) College Club of F-SP will host Mark DiIunno, journalist and author, on Jan. 20.

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