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MOUNTAINSIDE ELKS LODGE SPONSORS FIVE WHS STUDENTS FOR PEER LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Submitted by Valerie Ditta

Steve Ditta, Lauren Hauser, WHS Dream Team Advisor Vince Ditta, along with students from Westfield High School recently attended the Peer Leadership Conference in Long Branch, NJ.

Mountainside Elks Lodge #1585 was able to sponsor five

students attending the Conference through our Gratitude Grant.

For more information about Mountainside Elks Lodge #1585, please visit The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks at elks.org or contact the lodge, call 908-232-9667 or email mountainsideelks1585@verizon.net.



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To submit content call 908-858-4012 **Email: editor@rennamedia.com** website: rennamedia.com

Westfield Monthly is online at www.rennamedia.com like us on facebook.com/WestfieldMonthly



Reserve space in the next issue. Call Tina today at 908-418-5586 or email info@rennamedia.com

AMERICANISM AWARD HONORING BRIGADIER GENERAL EDWARD CHRYSTAL

Submitted by Richard Esposito

The Greater Westfield Chapter of UNICO National was honored to present the Americanism Award to Brigadier General Edward Chrystal. The award was presented by Chapter President Richard Esposito and District X Governor Anthony Bengivenga at the 2020 UNICO District X awards dinner at the Somerville Elks. General Chrystal, a resident of Scotch Plains, was one of six recipients to receive this award from chapters in the district.

Brigadier General Crystal currently serves as the land component commander, New Jersey Army National Guard. General Crystal is responsible for the welfare, training and readiness of over 5,000 soldiers assigned throughout the 44th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 42nd Regional Support Command and the 57th Troop Command.

General Crystal enlisted in the Army National Guard in 1985 and received his commission through the Seton Hall University Reserve Officer Training Corps program. He earned a

Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice and a Master of Arts in Education from Seton Hall University. He also holds a Masters of Science Degree in Strategic Studies from the Army War College.

General Crystal has commanded at all levels to include platoon, company, battalion and brigade.

A veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom, General Chrystal's awards include the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Global War on Terror Service Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal and the Basic Paratrooper Badge.

In his civilian life, Brigadier General Crystal retired at the rank of Lieutenant from the New Jersey State Police after 25 years. He currently serves as the Superintendent of Veterans Haven North, a transitional home for homeless veterans in Glen Gardner, NJ.

General Crystal lives with his wife, Georgette, and their three children in Scotch Plains, NJ.



(above, l-r) UNICO National President, Dr. Frank DeFrank; NJ District X Governor, Anthony Bengivenga; Chapter President, Richard Esposito; Brigadier General, Edward Chrystal; Foundation Trustee, Robert Tarte; and Second Vice President, Ralph Contini.

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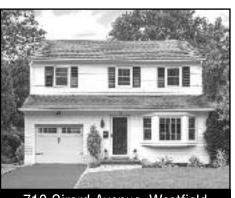
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CASA INVITES PUBLIC TO WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON MARCH 11

Submitted by Gretchen Boger-O'Bryan

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Union County will host its second annual Women's Leadership Luncheon on Wednesday, March 11 — the heart of Women's History Month — to highlight two Union County women whose contributions positively impact their community.

Among them is Tina Renna, Cranford resident and owner of Renna Media, publisher of 21 community newspapers including the Westfield Monthly.

Renna, who coordinates content for more than 135,000-issues circulated to towns in Union, Somerset and Morris counties, uses her writing, editing and photography, she says, "to tell the stories of ordinary people who do extraordinary things, big or small, that inspire others and their communities.



(above) Tina Renna, owner of Renna Media, publisher of 21 community newspapers including Westfield Monthly, will be recognized by CASA at their Women's Leadership Luncheon.



(above) Sue Adler, Summit resident and CEO of The Sue Adler Team of Keller Williams in Chatham, will be recognized by CASA at their Women's Leadership Luncheon on Wednesday, March 11.

Whether reporting news from town departments, schools and libraries, giving voice to local organizations raising awareness, or highlighting accomplishments of businesses, residents and all those who share a community — no matter strength or size — I strive to make a positive impact on each town's well-being and economic development."

Also being honored is Summit's Sue Adler, CEO of The Sue Adler Team of Keller Williams in Chatham. Currently ranked 10 worldwide out of 175,000 Keller Williams agents, Adler focuses on the community's train line towns and incorporates an in-house, teamtreatment approach for clients.

Ilyse DiChiara, owner of Green Healthy Living and certified integrative nutrition, health and wellness coach, will provide the keynote address. Prior to switching professional course, DiChiara ran her nationwide trial consulting business, Litigation Support Solutions, for more than 20 years. Other participants include Summit Mayor Nora Radest and Westfield Councilwoman Joann Neylan.

Tickets are available now for the luncheon, which begins at 11:30 a.m. at the Grand Summit Hotel. Seats are \$65; tables of 10 and sponsorships are available.

To purchase, log on to casaleadershipluncheon.eventbrite.com. For luncheon details, contact Alexis at aslade@casaofunioncounty.org.

CASA of Union County recruits, trains, supervises and supports community volunteers to advocate for abused, neglected and abandoned children placed in foster homes or residential facilities. There are more than 500 Union County youth, from birth to age 21, in foster care. With court-ordered access to a foster child and all parties in their life, volunteer advocates report findings to the judge so as to ensure best interests remain a priority, needs are met, and already experienced trauma is not exacerbated.

Contact Courtney at cgreen@casaofunioncounty.org or 908-293-8136 to learn more about CASA of Union County.





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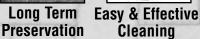












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GRADUATES RETURN TO ALMA MATER TO SHARE TIPS ON COLLEGE LIFE

Westfield High School graduates returned to their alma mater on January 8 to share tips for navigating college life with current WHS students and their parents. Entitled "I Wish I Knew Then What I Know Now - College Edition" and moderated by K-12 Director of Counseling Maureen Mazzarese, the panel of college students discussed selecting majors, time management, roommates and other topics.

The panel included WHS Class of 2014 graduate Sanjay Sujanthakumar (University of Southern California); WHS Class of 2017 graduates Izzy Montes (Monmouth University) and Paul Vernick (George Washington University); WHS Class of 2018 graduate Madison Pena (The College of New Jersey); and WHS Class of 2019 graduates Emma Herber (College of William and Mary), Julia Salvato

The panel included WHS Class of 2014 (Penn State), Matthew Siroty (College of aduate Sanjay Sujanthakumar (University of William and Mary) and Ethan Useloff outhern California); WHS Class of 2017 (University of Massachusetts, Amherst).

"I hope the WHS students and parents who were present were able to see that there are many paths and options when it comes to post-graduation success," says WHS principal Mary Asfendis who praised panel members for their "articulate and thoughtful presentation."



(above, l-r) Westfield High School graduates returned to their alma mater on January 8 to share tips for navigating college life with current WHS students and their parents: Emma Herber, Ethan Uselhoff, Matthew Siroty, Julia Salvato, Izzy Montes, K-12 Director of Counseling Maureen Mazzarese, Sanjay Sujanthakumar, Paul Vernick, and WHS principal Mary Asfendis. Not pictured: Madison Pena.

Photo by Westfield Public Schools



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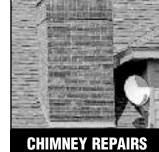




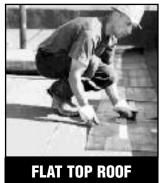


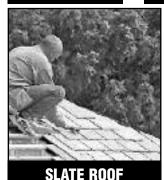
















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SPRING PROGRAM REGISTRATION IS OPEN AT WESTFIELD RECREATION DEPTARTMENT

Registration is open for spring programs at the Westfield Recreation Department. Adults are encouraged to come and participate in our Tai Chi program held on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. and join in on our Zumba & More Fitness Class on Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m. Both of these classes can be tried by dropping in and paying a small fee. This Spring Adults can also take our Tennis lessons (available Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday). Or how about trying Pickleball (open to beginner to advanced players)? The department also offers year-round Senior Transportation for medical and shopping trips to Westfield senior residents along with a variety of senior activities and trips

For school age children there is a variety of After School Enrichment programs which include: Sewing/Fashion Design (Thursdays grades 2-12), Jr. Bakers (Mondays K-5) and Jr. Scientists (Fridays K-5). We also offer our 1-time class on Social Etiquette and Dining Etiquette for ages 6-10. How about trying our Cartooning class for ages 6-12 or our Pre-K Drawing class for ages 3-5 on Tuesdays. LEGO STEM offers youth ages 5-10 the opportunity to gear up their engineering skills with tens of thousands of LEGO parts on Wednesdays 4 – 5:30 p.m. Our theme this spring is Batman Master Mechanics! NEW this spring is a Girl Powered Engineering w/ LEGO material

2 hour workshop on Saturday, May 2 from 10-12 Babysitting? The Rec Department is offering the noon for ages 5-10. Safe Sitter Essentials Course. This is a one-day

Spring is a time to get outdoors and what better way than with our Pre-School Sports programs (run through the US Sports Institute). We offer Multi Sports, T-ball, Soccer and Lacrosse weekly classes, including Parent & Me Sports classes for ages 2-3. Classes are held during the week and on Saturday and Sundays. It's not too early to sign up for their Summer sports camps and classes! US Sports Institute offers programs for ages 2 to 14. Classes and weekly camps range from soccer, multi-sports, flag football, lacrosse, golf and more. There is a program for every age and ability! They even offer a soccer camp during the spring break for ages 5-14 (April 6-10, 9 a.m. to 12 noon).

For elementary youth interested in sports we offer Fencing classes for grades 2-6 on Tuesdays from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m., no prior experience is needed. Field Hockey Clinics are offered for girls in grades 3-8. This program meets for 6 weeks and teaches the fundamentals of the sport to the beginners and more advanced techniques for the experienced player. Our Volleyball Clinic is offered for girls and boys in grades 3-8 and all levels are welcomed. This program meets Monday evenings for 6 weeks.

Do you have a teen who wants to start recreation@westfieldnj.gov.

Babysitting? The Rec Department is offering the Safe Sitter Essentials Course. This is a one-day class designed to prepare teens in grades 6-9 to be knowledgeable, safe and responsible sitters. Two classes are being offered this Spring. The first on Saturday March 28 and again on Saturday April 18. Both classes are from 9 – 3:00 p.m. and include CPR training. For older youth and Adults, we offer CPR/AED & First Aid certification training. Our next classes are Tuesday, March 24 (5:30-10 p.m.) and again Sunday, April 26 (9:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.). For more information, call the Department 908-789-4080 or visit the web site at westfieldnj.gov/recreation

Summer programs, camps and Playground program information and registration will be available mid-March. To find out more or to register go to westfieldnj.gov/recreation or call 908-789-4080.

"Be Active" with one of our programs at the Westfield Recreation Department this Spring. For additional information or to register visit westfieldnj.gov/recreation or secure.rec1.com/nj/westfield-nj; "Like" our Facebook page, FaceBook.com/WestfieldRecreation or contact the Westfield Recreation Department, 425 East Broad St., Westfield at 908-789-4080 or email recreation@westfieldnj.gov.



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Westfield MONTHLY • Page 10 • March 2020 FIVE STUDENTS PERFORM WITH ALL-STATE BAND

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were accepted to the New Jersey Music Educators Association (NJMEA) All-State Band. Senior Max Tennant (trumpet), juniors Alexander Cha (clarinet) and Aprina Wang (French horn), and sophomores Conor Daly (trombone) and Patrick Gallagher (tuba) traveled to Atlantic City to rehearse with the all-state band, before performing on February 22 at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) in Newark.

"We are extremely proud of these five students

Five Westfield High School student musicians for being awarded a spot in a 2020 All-State Band," said band director Christopher Vitale. "The preparation and audition process for region and all-state band lasts about nine months. These students have displayed the time management skills, dedication, and attention to detail that is required to be named among the best musicians in the state of New Jersey. We are excited for them to represent our school and community at the All-State Band concert."

Photo by Westfield Public Schools



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(above, l-r) Westfield High School student musicians Max Tennant, Conor Daly, Patrick Gallagher, Alex Cha, and Aprina Wang performed with the New Jersey Music Educators Association (NJMEA) All-State Band at NJPAC on Saturday, February 22.

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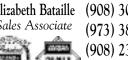
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3/14	2:00 pm	Ken Lelen "Speak Easy Jazz"						
3/13	1:30 pm	TGIF! The Red Baron—WWI Ace						
3/11	7:00 pm	Someone Must Wash the Dishes						
3/7	1:00 pm	Backyard Gardening w/ K. Camden						
3/6	1:30 pm	TGIF! The Founder—Ray Kroc						
3/4	7:00 pm	Linda Ipanema Mardi Gras Music						

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3/12, 19, 26	10:30 am	3's on Thursday Storytime*
3/16	7:00 pm	Tween Craft Club- String Art 9-12 years
3/17	6:30 pm	Evening LEGO Club 5+years**
3/21	1-00 pm	Makers Day Atseass

On Wednesday, January 22, 2020, Literacy New Jersey Union County led almost 100 local residents in a Day of Service to honor Dr. Martin Luther King's legacy. They were joined by hundreds of thousands of volunteers across the country as part of the 25th annual MLK Day of Service.

"Today we answer Dr. King's call to serve and are making a difference in the lives of Union County residents," said Barbara Bagger, Program Director of Literacy New Jersey Union County. "A resourceful way to meet local needs, volunteer service is a powerful tool that builds strong communities. We are putting the core American principles of citizenship and service into action."

Ms. Bagger was joined by public officials and guest speakers including former students, Israel Antoine and Michael Curry were in attendance and discussed their experiences with our program. There were also several current students who read essays they wrote about Martin Luther King Jr. and the importance of serving others. Reda Kadi, Carla Marza and Sugey Diaz are ESL students who prepared essays with the assistance of their tutors, Cathy Patla and Ann Oravitz. Priscila Quinteros and Abraham Aman, who both recently earned their high school diplomas, read their essays about Martin Luther King, Jr. and his "I Have A Dream" speech.

The MLK Day of Service encourages all

Americans to improve communities through volunteer service. 2020 will mark the 25th celebration of the annual service event since Congress designated the MLK holiday the first ever National Day of Service and charged CNCS with leading this effort.

With an emphasis on creating opportunity for all, Americans of all ages and backgrounds in all 50 states will re-commit themselves as citizens by volunteering in service to one another. Projects include delivering meals, refurbishing schools and community centers, collecting food and clothing, and building homes. Volunteers will also recruit mentors, provide services for veterans and military families, and help citizens improve their financial literacy skills.

Literacy New Jersey provides free instruction to adults who need help with reading, writing, math and speaking English. Trained volunteer tutors work with adults in small groups or oneto-one to help improve their language and literacy skills so they can reach their life goals. For more information on Literacy New Jersey's services visit www.literacynj.org.

The MLK Day of Service is led by the Corporation for National and Community Service, a

Federal agency that engages millions of Americans in service through its AmeriCorps and Senior Corps programs and leads the nation's volunteer efforts. For more information, visit nationalservice.gov.



COUNTY COLLEGE TEAM CHOSEN FOR PRESTIGIOUS NASA CHALLENGE

Submitted by Nicole Torella

Union County College is proud to announce that a team of four engineering students have been chosen to participate in NASA's Micro-G Next Challenge Artemis Program. Union's team

is one of only two community colleges selected Nebraska, and Arizona State. to compete in this category, which has a total of 20 teams, and includes teams from universities such as Cornell, Columbia, University of Texas,

Ohio State, University of Alabama, University of

Union's team is comprised of four students: Michael Kirkland of Westfield, Bruce Aranda of Elizabeth, Dmytro Govdan of Summit, and Antonio Mena of Cranford. Our students submitted a proposal for the Lunar Sample Coring Drill competition which if chosen, will be used on the Artemis mission to drill samples from the moon's surface.

The young men on our team are now in the process of building their drill which will be tested at NASA's Neutral Buoyancy Lab (NBL) at the Sonny Carter Training Facility near the Johnson Space Center in Houston, TX. The NBL is the large pool where astronauts train for future missions.

"For engineering students interested in working for NASA, this is the experience of a lifetime, and we are so proud of our students for being chosen for this competition," stated Union County College President Dr. Margaret M. McMenamin. "I thank the leadership in our engineering faculty for the guidance and instruction they've provided to assist our students with achieving their goal of building an effective coring drill."

Union County College Associate Professor of Physics/Engineering Nicholas Gilbert is serving as the Head Coach to the team. Associate Professior of Engineering Jennifer Ebert serves as the research and technical advisor to the team.

Please consider supporting the fundraising campaign to send Union County College's team to NASA this spring: ucc.edu/ucc2nasa.



(above, l-r) Union County College students Antonio Mena, Bruce Aranda, Dmytro Govdan, and Michael Kirkland in a lab at the College's Cranford campus.

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NJ Sharing Network operates 24/7/365. This position will oversee and participate in 24-hour on call to ensure a safe and efficient operation. Responsible for individual and departmental staff compliance with all Network programs and policies.

Education and Experience:

- Bachelor's degree from a college or university in Safety and Health, Engineering, Science, or a related field.
- 5 to 6 years of facilities and safety management experience required. Simply apply by visiting our careers website:

NJSharingNetwork.org/Careers Join us for Career Day!

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NJ Sharing Network Headquarters 691 Central Ave., New Providence, NJ Wednesday, March 18, 2020 5:00 pm - 8:00pm

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FORMER ROOSEVELT STUDENT ADVOCATES FOR **AUTISM AWARENESS AND ACCEPTANCE**

Roosevelt Intermediate School (RIS), as the school's chapter of Girls Learn International (GLI) hosted an assembly celebrating the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Members of Girls Learn International outlined the history of the declaration including its first article, which states "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights." At the assembly on January 10, the GLI chapter also welcomed keynote speaker Alexandra Jackman, former Roosevelt student, now a 20-year-old junior at the University of Pennsylvania.

Jackman is an autism advocate and the writer/director of the documentary, A Teen's Guide to Understanding and Communicating with People with Autism, which she uses as a tool to teach autism awareness and acceptance at schools and organizations around the United States.

"It was a moving assembly," said RIS social studies teacher Karen Lust, who co-advises the GLI chapter with RIS science teacher Andrea Poppiti. "Alexandra's presentation included important messages linked to the Social and Emotional (SEL) competencies of selfawareness, social awareness and relationship

Human dignity was the recent focus at skills. She emphasized to students how rewarding it can be to reach out to people they might view as different."

> Jackman told the students that meeting and getting to know people who are different from ourselves "is how we learn."

> "People are interesting. People are funny. People are worth the effort," said Jackman. "Human rights begins with you and you can make a difference as middle schoolers."

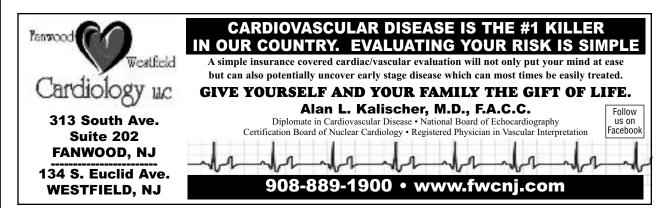
> Jackman is president of the University of Pennsylvania's chapter of the Petey Green Program, whose volunteers tutor incarcerated youth. She also is president of Penn's chapter of Best Buddies International, an international nonprofit organization which, according to its website, is dedicated to "establishing a global volunteer movement that creates opportunities one-to-one friendships, integrated employment, leadership development, and inclusive living for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD)."

> "Her message to our students was profound and empowering," added Lust and Poppiti about Jackman, who has been advocating for people with autism since she was 10.

> > Photos by Westfield Public Schools



(above, l-r) Alexandra Jackman (3rd from left) is welcomed to Roosevelt Intermediate School by principal Brian Gechtman and teachers Karen Lust and Andrea Poppiti.



SCOUTS FOOD COLLECTION BENEFITS HOLY TRINITY FOOD PANTRY



Franklin School Brownie Troop 40720 of Westfield recently collected food and supplies for the Holy Trinity Food Pantry of Westfield.



WHS COMPARATIVE RELIGIONS CLASS RECEIVES SPECIAL VISITOR

Submitted by Mary Ann McGann

Among the course offerings at Westfield High School that allow and encourage students to explore the world's diverse peoples and cultures is the academic elective, Comparative Religions. This half-year elective for grades 9-12 combines



(above) Rabbi Ethan Prosnit of Temple Emanu-El shared tenets of Judaism, including the Torah, with a Comparative Religions class at Westfield High School on January 17.

Photos by Westfield Public Schools

readings with class discussion to help students on Jews and non-Jews to come together to speak gain an understanding of the moral and spiritual values of many of the major religions. On a recent Friday, students in Cathy Luis' class welcomed a special visitor to learn firsthand the tenets of Judaism.

Rabbi Ethan Prosnit of Temple Emanu-El of Westfield explained the Jewish faith as a monotheistic tradition that believes in one God only. He shared with the class the Torah, the first five books of the Hebrew scriptures; a Tallit or prayer shawl; and a Tzedakah box, a receptacle for collecting money for charitable purposes.

These three items, said the rabbi, serve as a constant reminder of the Jewish people's commitment to their history and traditions, a life of prayer, and acts of loving kindness.

"Like a three-legged stool, if you take away one of the legs, the stool will fall," Prosnit told the students. "Our religion stands on this tradition."

Prosnit fielded thoughtful questions from the students about Judaism which he called "a culture, a religion, and a nationality." He noted a rise in anti-Semitism across the world and called a deeper understanding of humanity."

out against hate and bias.

"Sometimes you might see a swastika drawn in a bathroom," he told the students. "Some people don't always know why they're drawing it. But it's a sign of hate."

Asked how his faith impacts him personally, the rabbi said he loves its rituals and the opportunity to pass them on to his children, ages 4 and 14-months.

"It was a pleasure having Rabbi Prosnit visit our Comparative Religions class," Luis said. "Opportunities such as these are vital in helping students develop insight and can help spark curiosity."

"We are fortunate that Westfield's community leaders are willing to spend time with our students in such a meaningful way," added Andrea Brennan, K-12 Supervisor of Social Studies for Westfield Public Schools. "Visits from guest speakers, like Rabbi Prosnit, bring historic studies to life. Rabbi Prosnit's presentation clarified for students how history, culture, and religion intertwine and contribute to











SCOUTS BSA OPEN HOUSE - MARCH 9TH

Submitted by Rob Sheppard, Troop 72/772 Committee Chair

Does your daughter enjoy activities like camping, hiking and other exciting adventures? We have just the opportunity for her, join Scouts BSA! Scouts BSA is a program which gives young girls ages 11 to 18 (6th to 12th grade) an opportunity to experience these activities and more. The program is based on the same principles that have guided Boy Scouts of America for over 100 years. While the program gives young girls these unique opportunities, most importantly it encourages them to become responsible, caring young adults in their communities by giving back to those communities.

Since February 1st, 2019 across the country tens of thousands of girls 6 to 18 years old have joined the program including in New Jersey. Scouts BSA Troop 72 in Westfield, who has been chartered since 1914, helped form Scouts BSA Girls Troop 772 during the inaugural year of the program. This Troop serves girls 11 to 18 years old in the greater recruiting night on Monday March 9th at 7:30 Westfield area (Cranford, Garwood, Fanwood, Scotch Plains and Plainfield). The girls have been thriving in the BSA program and are enjoying all their new experiences.

Diana, a second class scout in the Troop, commented: "It's cool being in this Troop because there aren't any other Troops to join in the area. I like that you get the opportunity to do things you wouldn't normally be able to do anywhere else like go camping, hiking and earning Merit Badges (lots of fun and different Merit Badges!). In the Troop you feel accepted and included by all, and what's really cool is I will have the opportunity to someday earn the rank of Eagle and can't wait to see the reactions on people's faces."

Ily, a first class scout in Troop 772, states: "I like the fact you get to earn achievements at your own pace with no one breathing down your neck, it's totally up to you what you accomplish. Getting to earn the right to use a knife or start a fire on a camping trip is really cool! I'm proud when younger girls come up to me while I'm in my uniform and say, "I want to be a scout too someday."

We would love for you to come to our p.m. at the Presbyterian Church in Westfield.

For event details, please email jasurist72@wstfldnjscouts.org and let us know that you will be attending.

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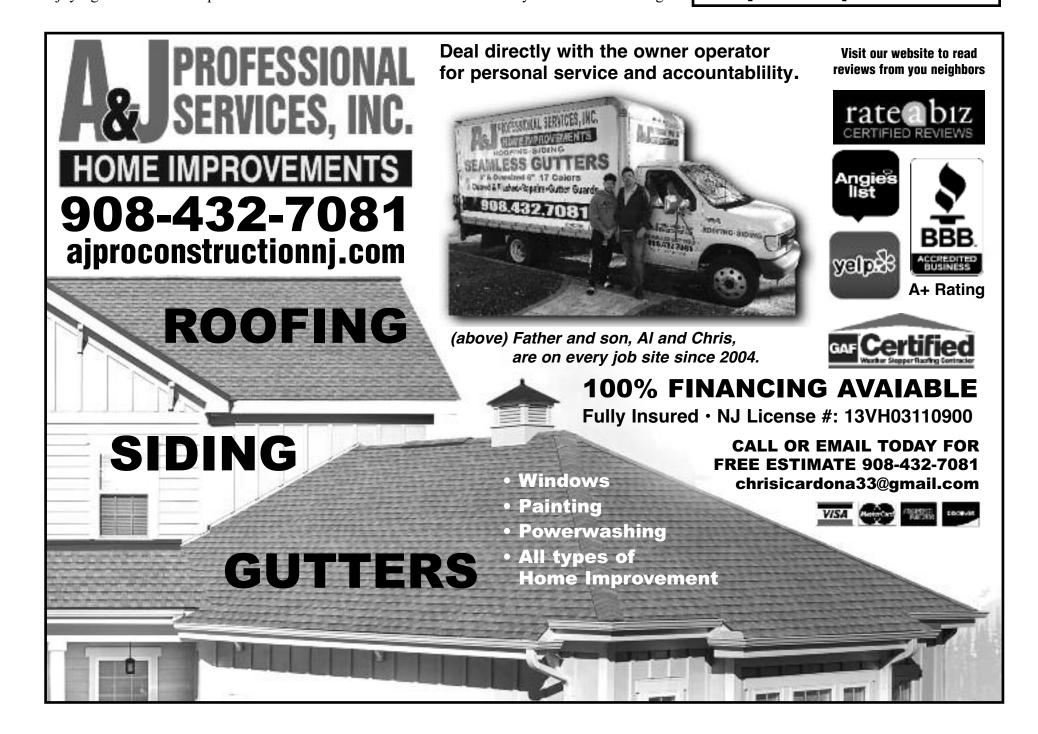
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Westfield Rotarians delivered hand made blankets to homeless veterans at the transitional shelter, Community Hope, at Lyons VA. There are currently 83 in residence there. Rotarians were joined by members of the Morristown Rotary Club and Lonnie Shermann of General Needs charity. The partnership between Rotary and General Needs is an ongoing commitment to provide the basic necessities that are missing in the everyday lives of our homeless veterans. In addition to the blankets, socks, winter hats, pajamas, thermals and toiletry packs were handed out.

Both Rotary clubs will be visiting the shelter the first Thursday of every month with the assistance of General Needs and continue to help the veterans.

For more information or to make a donation, please contact Rotarian Burim Regiai at outtahandpizza@gmail.com or visit WestfieldRotary.com.

This article graciously sponsored by:

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RAKE & HOE JUNIORS PREPARE FOR REGIONAL FLOWER SHOW

Club of Westfield met recently to make collages open to residents of Westfield and surrounding using dried flowers, seed pods and other plant materials for submission to the regional flower show to be held on April 25, 2020 at the Scotch Hills Country Club.

The Rake and Hoe Garden Club is affiliated community service. with the Garden Club of New Jersey and the National Garden Club, Inc. The club meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 12:00 p.m. at

Junior members of the Rake & Hoe Garden the Scotch Hills Country Club. Membership is towns. The Juniors, ranging from kindergarten through high school students, meet monthly, after school during the school year to work on projects focused on flower design, gardening and

> For more information about the club, call Beth Siano 908-233-4150 or visit the club's website, rakeandhoe.org, or Facebook page.



(above, l-r) Junior members of the Rake & Hoe Garden Club CJ Strauss, Malissa Morabito, Riley Dupuis, Sophia Poeschl, Arline Bound, Arabella Morabito, Lila Spadaro, Alissa Stumpf, Lexi Strauss, and Emma Sylvester gather to make collages.



DUPLICATE BRIDGE

Held at American Legion Hall Duplicate Bridge is a card game held

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WESTFIELD OPTIMIST CLUB LEARNS ABOUT THE 2020 CENSUS

Submitted by Darielle Walsh

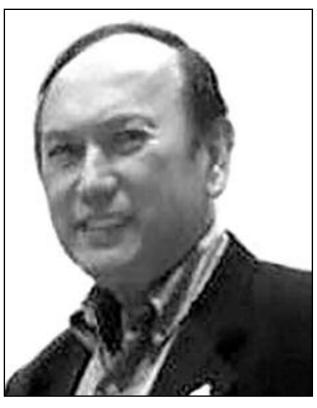
Jose Aguiling was welcomed as the program speaker at a recent Optimist Club monthly dinner meeting. Jose is a Partnership Specialist with the U.S. Census Bureau, NY Regional Census Center where he is able to share his knowledge and prior 2010 Census experience with his community partners preparing for the 2020Census.

The Census Bureau is the federal government's largest statistical agency dedicated to providing current facts and figures about America's people, places, and economy. Federal law protects the confidentiality of all the information the Census Bureau collects.

The Decennial Census is the once-a-decade population and housing count of all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Island Areas as required by the U.S. Constitution. The results of the decennial census determine the number of seats for each state in the U.S. House of Representatives and are used to draw congressional and state legislative districts and to distribute more than \$675 billion in federal funds

The Optimist Club meetings are held in Westfield on the second Wednesday of the month. To request additional information about the Club please **Optimist** contact optimist@westfieldnj.com.

To learn more about the Census contact the call center at 301-763-INFO (4636) or 800-923-8282.



(above) Jose Aguiling, Partnership Specialist with the U.S. Census Bureau, NY Regional Census Center, spoke at a recent Optimist Club monthly dinner meeting.

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WESTFIELD HIGH SCHOOL EARNS OUTSTANDING DELEGATION AWARD AT MODEL UN CONFERENCE

Submitted by Mary Ann McGann

Westfield High School's Model United Nations Club won the Outstanding Delegation Award for excelling in all parts of the annual conference of the YMCA Model UN Program, held in Hershey, Pennsylvania from January 3 -5. One hundred seventy-five Westfield students joined approximately 2,000 students from the mid-Atlantic region in attending the conference.

"The students participated in wide ranging debates that were the culmination of months of said Daniel research and preparation,"

Farabaugh, co-adviser of the WHS Model UN Schwartz, and Brianna Vaca. along with David Della Fera.

Many Westfield High School students received individual recognitions, including:

Samuel Broaddus and Catherine Collins, acknowledged for an Outstanding First Year.

Jonathan Grossman, Rohan Jonsson, Shirzad Mustafa, and Alex Weinberg received recognition for Outstanding Country Research Paper.

Officers for this year's conference were Justin Anderson, Julia Colleran, Brad Hornbeck, Jordan Horowitz, Olivia Conti, Erik Mordkovich, Adam

Officers chosen to plan, organize and run committees for next year's conference are Justin Anderson, Dylan Berger, Jordan Horowitz, Nathan Lechner, and Erik Modkovich.

Caroline Gallagher and Henry Stewart were selected to attend the Conference on National Affairs, a two-week conference in North Carolina attended by representatives from all 50 states.

The Westfield High School Model UN program is run in conjunction with the Westfield Area YMCA.



(above) Westfield High School's Model United Nations Club won the Outstanding Delegation Award for excelling in all parts of the annual conference held in Hershey, PA on January 3-5, 2020. Photo by Westfield Public Schools





7TH ANNUAL PALOOZA CONTEST STUDENT FINALISTS

Submitted by Louise DeDea

The Westfield Municipal Alliance and the Westfield High School Dream Team recognized student finalists in the 7th Annual Palooza Contest on Tuesday, January 21 at the high school student center.

Finalists from the Westfield Public Schools and Holy Trinity School, grades 1-12, were recognized for their submissions of posters, poetry and public service announcements, depicting the theme, "Westfield, We Have Better Things to Do; Healthy Choices, Everyday Choices".

This year's finalists are: Leah Nott, Mira Nirula, Morgan Moloney, Emilie Scollo, Kevin Aby, Charles Gosda, Desra Sonnek-Schmelz, Zoe Schack, Esme McLaughlin, Isabella Arevalo-Lis, Eleanor Hume, Brody Toriello, Gonzalez, Riley Gasson and Amanda Rickert.

The evening event was hosted by students from the WHS Dream Team and sponsored by the Westfield Municipal Alliance. As a token of appreciation for their hard work, the Albert Anthony Kayal Foundation funded a personal award for the first, second and third place finalists. In addition, the Matthew Thomas Toriello Memorial Fund made a donation on the finalists' behalf to Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss, and to the Westfield Rescue Squad.

The Palooza Contest begins each year in October during National Red Ribbon Week and entries are submitted before the end of November. The finalists are announced and celebrated during a ceremony each January in which family and other members of the

Alexandria Brenner, Jake Tannenbaum, Alexa community are invited. The winning posters, poetry, and PSAs are posted on the Westfield Municipal Alliance Facebook page at facebook.com/westfieldalliance.

> The message of the WHS Dream Team, is "Confidence, Choices, Challenges, Changes." The Dream Team promotes positive decisionmaking, healthy choices and creates programs that provide alternatives to underage drinking and drug use. The mission of the WHS Dream Team complements the mission of the Westfield Municipal Alliance in providing supplemental substance abuse prevention education in schools and to the Westfield community.

> For more information, please westfieldnj.gov/wma or contact Louise DeDea at westfieldalliance@gmail.com or Lauren Hauser at lhauser@westfieldnjk12.org.



(above) This year's student finalists in the 7th Annual Palooza Contest: Leah Nott, Mira Nirula, Morgan Moloney, Emilie Scollo, Kevin Aby, Charles Gosda, Desra Sonnek-Schmelz, Zoe Schack, Esme McLaughlin, Isabella Arevalo-Lis, Eleanor Hume, Brody Toriello, and Jake Tannenbaum. Not pictured are Alexandria Brenner, Alexa Gonzalez, Riley Gasson and Amanda Rickert.





MUSICIANS WITH AND WITHOUT DISABILITIES STRIKE PERFECT CHORD AT COLLABORATIVE CONCERT

Submitted by Christopher Reardon

There was a steady bustle back stage at the Eugene G. Wilkins Theatre for the Performing Arts at Kean University a half-hour before the curtain was set to rise. Musicians tuned their instruments while singers stretched their vocal cords and performers dabbed on make-up in bathroom mirrors.

Yet what was unique about this production was the performers were a mix of musicians and singers both with and without disabilities. All were ready when the curtain rose and lights went on, shining brightly on the 5th annual collaborative concert staged by Community Access Unlimited (CAU), its Academy for Continuing Education (ACE) and Kean's Music Conservatory program. CAU is a Union Countybased, statewide nonprofit that strives to integrate people with disabilities and at-risk youth into the general community through comprehensive supports.

The musicians and singers comprised members of CAU and ACE, adults with become an annual event.

This year the audience was treated to a delightful mixture of choral selections, rock tunes and music from Disney productions. Students from middle schools in Elizabeth and Roselle Park also performed.

"We perform songs that relate to our situation Marguerite Modero, music director at ACE. "We focus on our abilities, not our disabilities.

disabilities, and students of Kean's Music Conservatory program. Kean music majors have been working with CAU members and ACE students for several years, helping them learn and appreciate music and teaching them how to play instruments. Five years ago they teamed for their first collaborative concert and the production has

in life so we can advocate for greater community integration and how we have abilities that many people might not think are there," said

For Maurice Stephens, a member of CAU for 11 years, this was his first chance to play bass guitar on stage in front of a live audience. He used to play trumpet but took up guitar for the

(above) Maurice Stephens and Jessie Gaeta (center), members of Community Access Unlimited, pose with Lynn Schraer-Joiner (left) of Kean University's Music Conservatory program.

collaborative concert as a new challenge.

"I wanted to do something more with music," Stephens said. "I see a lot of people playing an instrument. I said, 'Why not play two?' I'm thinking of learning piano next. It makes me feel good. I feel like I accomplished something and that's pleasurable."

Jessie Gaeta, a CAU member for two years, also performed for the first time on stage at this year's concert. She has been taking singing lessons at ACE but never took the stage until Friday.

"It made me feel really good," she said. "I'd been singing with my lessons but this was new for me. I was really excited."

Gaeta's favorite song of the evening was Blitzkrieg Bob by the Ramones, with its catchy repeated chorus of, "Hey ho, let's go! Hey ho, let's go!"

"I really like singing it," Gaeta said.

According to Lynn Schraer-Joiner, Kean's music education coordinator, music is the great unifier and equalizer. This evening the audience at Wilkins Theater saw this first-hand. While the back stage bustle was commonplace, what took place on stage was very special.

To learn more about CAU, visit cauni.org or follow the agency on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

ABOUT COMMUNITY ACCESS UNLIMITED

Community Access Unlimited (CAU), celebrating its 40th year in 2019, supports people with special needs in achieving real lives in the community. CAU gives a voice to adults and youth who traditionally have little power in society, assisting its members with housing, life skills, employment, money management, socialization and civic activities. CAU also supports opportunities for advocacy through training in assertiveness, decision-making and civil rights. Currently serving more than 5,000 individuals and families, CAU continues to grow each year. For more information about CAU and its services, contact us by phone at 908-354-3040, info@caunj.org or by mail at 80 West Grand Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07202.



(above) Performers from Community Access Unlimited gather backstage before joining music students from Kean University for their annual collaborative concert.

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ACADEMY OF CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES ENROLLING FOR MARCH-APRIL CLASSES

The Academy of Continuing Education (ACE), located in Cranford, NJ, is accepting applications for its March 2-April 24 semester. ACE offers adults with developmental or physical disabilities the opportunity to pursue continuing education as an alternative to traditional day programs.

"Adults with disabilities who have graduated from the public school system or specialized schools often have limited choices when planning their future," said Robin Morris-Marano, ACE director of educational services. "Their options often are limited to generic day programs that do not offer the intellectual stimulation and growth provided by our academy. Our program also is ideal for older adults with disabilities who wish to sharpen previously learned skills."

ACE's course offerings for the upcoming semester include math, reading and creative writing, explore your world through science, jewelry design and merchandising, visual arts and crafts, musical expression, theatre and performance, time traveler (history), career and financial literacy, media production, card-making and self-understanding/peer leadership.

Based on their interests, students may take as many or as few classes as they choose.

"ACE differs from a traditional day program, where the attendee's day is planned for them," Morris-Marano said. "We work with our students and their families to help them select the classes that will bring them the most enjoyment and from which they will get the most benefit."

Sebastian Ruiz has been attending ACE for four years, steadily increasing his classes each semester. He works six days a week at Nautica at the Jersey Gardens Mall but was bored at home when not working. He said he enjoys attending ACE because it keeps his mind active.

"I like to learn and I like to meet new people," he said.

Last semester Ruiz switched from math and reading into jewelry and merchandising and cardmaking, and now has added career and financial literacy, theater and self-understanding, bringing his classes to six spread over five days.

"Math and reading are so quiet and calm," he said. "Jewelry and card-making are fun and they make money."

Ruiz also aspires for a more challenging job and hopes self-understanding will help him get a new position somewhere.

"(Career class) helps people get jobs, like what to wear and what not to do in an interview," he said.

"Sebastian is a perfect example of the flexibility of our program and the ability for our students to tailor their classes to their personal interests," Morris-Marano said.

Whenever possible, ACE curricula are developed in accordance with the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) guidelines, implementing Core Curriculum Content Standards and aligned with the most current information offered by the NJDOE, according to Morris-Marano. The ACE Program is approved by the New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities for Day Habilitation through the department's Supports Program.

For more information, Morris-Marano can be reached at 908-354-3040, ext. 4671. Due to growth, ACE now has an additional director of educational services, Stacy Marshall, who can be reached at ext. 4315.

For a course catalog, visit the ACE website at caunj.org/what-we-do/day-program/academy-for-continuing-education.

The Academy of Continuing Education is a program of Community Access Unlimited (CAU), a Union County-based, statewide nonprofit that strives to integrate people with disabilities and at-risk youth into the general community through comprehensive supports.

ABOUT COMMUNITY ACCESS UNLIMITED

Community Access Unlimited (CAU), celebrating more than 40 years in 2020, supports people with special needs in achieving real lives in the community. CAU provides support and gives voice to adults and youth who traditionally have little support and no voice in society. CAU helps people with housing, life skills, employment, money management, socialization and civic activities. CAU also supports opportunities for advocacy through training in assertiveness, decision-making and civil right. CAU currently serves more than 6,000 individuals and families, with the number served growing each year. For more information about CAU and its services, contact us by phone at 908-354-3040, online at cauni.org or by mail at 80 West Grand Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07202.



(above) Sebastian Ruiz shows off some of the jewelry being made in his jewelry design and merchandising class at the Academy of Continuing Education for adults with disabilities.

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Ask for TV Project Department, for job evaluation and estimate of cost and compensations!

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TRAINING TO BE OFFERED AT IMAGINE, A CENTER FOR COPING WITH LOSS

Submitted by Val Stierhoff

Sadly, children, teens and adults will experience different losses in life: divorce, moving, friendships ending, sports injuries or the death of a friend or family member. Despite these losses, children, teens and adults can learn how to cope with loss, and even grow after loss, if given the right support. How can we best support

CRISIS HOTLINE SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

Are you looking for a flexible, rewarding volunteer opportunity? Have you ever been told you are a good listener? This volunteer opportunity may be for you. The nonprofit organization Caring Contact is seeking new volunteers to support its crisis hotline and listening community.

Volunteers receive 54 hours of comprehensive training in active listening, mental health first aid and applied suicide intervention skills training. New volunteers are also supported by seasoned listeners during 24 hours of internship before answering calls independently. Ongoing support and training opportunities are also provided.

The next volunteer training program will begin on March 17, 2020, at Temple Sholom in Scotch Plains, NJ. To learn more and apply, please visit caringcontact.org/volunteer-listener-application or call (908) 301.1899.

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grieving people in their homes, communities and presence in the life of grieving youth. schools? Those who attend this training will learn: definitions of loss, grief, and mourning; how children and adults grieve differently; how grief affects behavior; and ways to support grieving children, teens and adults.

Imagine's "Supporting Children, Teens and Adults Coping with Loss" is for anyone who wants to learn how to support someone who is grieving. While loss due to death will be the primary focus of this seminar, the concepts that will be presented are applicable to all types of loss. It is especially important for parents and grandparents, teachers, members of community organizations, coaches, therapists, counselors and social workers to attend this program.

Imagine's Executive Director and Founder, Mary Robinson says, "The most important thing a grieving child needs is the active presence of at least one, preferably more, caring, healthy, and functional adults in their lives who understand that when a child has a loss they need support." This program will teach you how to be that

This program will be held from 6:30 to 8:00 on Thursday, March 12 at 244 Sheffield Street in Mountainside. CEUs are available for social workers. A \$20 donation is appreciated. Pizza dinner will be provided at 6:15 and the program will begin at 6:30.

Please register by Tuesday, March 10. To register for the training, please visit imaginenj.org. For further information contact Connie Palmer at connie@imaginenj.org or call 908-264-3100

Imagine is a free grief support center for children age 3-18, young adults 18-30, coping with loss due to the death of a parent or sibling, or coping with a family member living with an illness. Concurrent support is provided for the parents and guardians of the youth. Imagine is located in Mountainside, serving all of Union County and beyond, and in Newark's South Ward serving Newark and surrounding towns. For more information call 908-264-3100 or visit our website at imaginenj.org.







908-389-0200



HOMELESSNESS KNOWS NO SEASON IN UNION COUNTY

What do the world's religions tell us about the comprehensive supports. homeless and the needy?

Leaders of different faiths shared prevailing teachings on charity, generosity and poverty at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Rahway on December 19. The memorial vigil honored the lives of people who have died due to homelessness in Union County.

The 4th annual vigil was held just before the longest night of the year, the winter solstice, to symbolize the struggle of those who are homeless and who often live out their lives on cold streets or in dangerous abandoned buildings. The Union County Interfaith Coordinating Council organized the event with local agencies involved in the fight against homelessness: Community Access Unlimited (CAU) and The Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless. CAU is a Union County-based, statewide nonprofit that strives to integrate people with disabilities and atrisk youth into the general community through

The city of Elizabeth is losing federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funding in 2020 for homelessness-related services under the Emergency Solutions Grant initiative.

"The fact that we have lost this money in Elizabeth will increase demand for county funds that will be spread thinner," said Carolee Marano, assistant executive director of development at CAU, which will lose \$40,000 in grant funding. "The cuts in HUD funding decrease our budget for homeless prevention programs and we are concerned about a rise in homelessness in the county. We are also concerned about a rise in homelessness among youth."

CAU operates the only youth-only shelter in Union County and runs services to support their health and future independence. In addition to the County youth shelter, CAU also operates 3 federal programs under the federal Runaway and Homeless Youth Act: one shelter, a transitional

living program for females, and one for males. CAU also provides rent assistance to prevent homelessness.

Linda Flores-Tober, executive director of the Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless, reflected on circumstances that can push a person or family into homelessness.

"There's more to the story than 'I couldn't find a job," Flores-Tober said. "What we see are a lot of people who didn't get engaged in the Division of Developmental Disabilities system and now the parents are not able to take care of them."

Flores-Tober attributed 5 deaths in Elizabeth to homelessness in 2019.

Faith speakers quoted teachings that the faithful are called by God to relieve the less fortunate of their trials or difficulties. Father Sebastian Obando of St. Michael's Church in Cranford acknowledged that Jesus Christ would fit the modern description of homelessness.

"It's really a service of remembrance, because frankly if we didn't remember them, nobody would," said Rev. Carmine Pernini of Zion Church.

Parishioners at his church took people in this winter as part of Operation Warm Heart - an emergency winter sheltering program run by the Elizabeth Coalition.

"It's lifesaving work – not very many people are willing to open their doors, so people of faith come together to do it," Pernini said.

Attendees sang and lit candles for 45 people who have died due to homelessness.

Pernini and Flores-Tober acknowledged a strong correlation between funding for homelessness services and saving people from the cold.

On the night of January 22, 2019, a total of 438 people were experiencing homelessness in Union County, according to the 2019 Point-In-Time Count. A total of 39 persons were unsheltered on the night of the count, and 375 of the total homeless persons were in Elizabeth.

Rev. Ron Thompson of Townley Presbyterian Church in Union spoke about the universal responsibility to care for people in need.

"All faiths agree on the dignity of people," he said.

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(above) Attendees hold candles in memory of people who have died who were homeless at a vigil at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Rahway on December 19, 2019.



SPRING MUSICALS IN WESTFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Edison Intermediate School kicks off the season of spring musicals in Westfield Public Schools on March 5, as the student cast and crew bring to life many of the whimsical characters created by Dr. Seuss in a performance of "Seussical." The musical performances will be held in the Edison auditorium at 800 Rahway Avenue beginning at 4 p.m. on March 5, and at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 6 and Saturday, March 7. Tickets are \$10 for the Friday and Saturday performances for both presale and at the door. Visit https://eis.booktix.com to purchase tickets. Please note that tickets for the matinee on Thursday, March 5 will be on sale at the door only at \$5 each for general seating.

Next up at Westfield High School: "Chicago, the High School Edition" with more than 130 student actors, technicians, and musicians once again combining a myriad of talents. The WHS musical runs from Thursday, March 12 through Saturday, March 14, beginning at 7:30 p.m. each

SEAN CRANN TO COMPETE AT STATE TOURNAMENT

Sean Crann, a sophomore at Westfield High School took first place at the District 4 Epee Fencing Championship, on January 25th, 2020. With this win, Crann secured a spot in the NJSIAA State Tournament Individual Weapon Championship, to be held at Livingston High School on March 1st, 2020.



(above) Sean Crann, 2020 NJSIAA, takes first place in District 4/Independent Qualifier



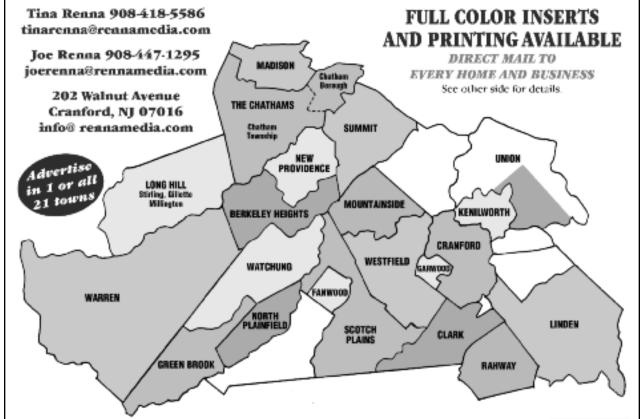
evening in the WHS auditorium at 550 Dorian by Roald Dahl. The matinee performance on Road. Tickets may be purchased whstd.booktix.com.

Roosevelt Intermediate School Theatre Department presents "Matilda, the Musical," based on the children's novel of the same name website at roosevelt.westfieldnjk12.org.

at March 19 begins at 4 p.m., with 7 p.m. performances on Friday, March 20 and Saturday, Beginning on Thursday, March 19, the March 21 in the Roosevelt auditorium at 301 Clark Street.

Ticket information is available on the school

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CARRIE JACKSON & THE JAZZIN' ALL STARS TO PERFORM AT NORTHERN NEW JERSEY'S MOST INTIMATE COFFEEHOUSE

The Salem Roadhouse Café proudly presents Carrie Jackson, performing on Saturday, March 14, 2020.

Ms. Jackson is a New York/New Jersey based jazz vocal stylist who performs worldwide for festivals, clubs, concert tours and clinics, both as a soloist or with her Jazzin' All Star Band. It's been said of their work, "A true ensemble performance...every tune is a musical collaboration...effortless, natural and unscripted." Carrie is considered one of the most consistently interesting singers in the metropolitan area, and is one of the top jazz artists around today providing classical performances in jazz favorites, soulful sultry pop, blues and poignant mellow gospel. She combines jazz originals, standards, pop/blues tunes, and improvisation in an adventurous, genre-bending

style that's inspirational and original; a singer with a Sound! Carrie Jackson & Her Jazzin' All Star Ensemble swing and perform the music of "Duke" Ellington, Count Basie, Lionel Hampton, Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong, Miles Davis, John Coltrane, Dizzy Gillespie, and musical selections songs from the Great American Song Book. Carrie has performed often at the Salem Roadhouse Café, bringing a loyal, appreciative audience with her every time.

Original artwork will be on display for all to enjoy and purchase.

Fans won't want to miss this live, up front and personal show.

All ages are welcome. It's a wholesome show, so bring the entire family!

Doors open 7:30 p.m. The show starts at 8:00 p.m. Admission is \$20.00

Plan now for an evening of great music in Northern New Jersey's Most Intimate CoffeehouseTM.

Proceeds will help YWCA Union County Domestic Violence PALS Program, Peace-A Learned Solution, helping children who are victims of domestic violence through arts therapy.

ABOUT SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ

Dedication best defines the Salem Roadhouse Café: dedication to excellent music and dedication to the community. Now in its twelfth year, The Salem Roadhouse Café reaffirms its commitment to both.

Started in 2008 by members of Townley Presbyterian Church with a grant from the Presbytery of Elizabeth, the Roadhouse Café continues to operate as a non-profit that raises funds for several carefully chosen local charities. That may be its social mission... but the Roadhouse Café is and has been a solid performance venue beloved by the musicians who play there because of its special intimacy with the audience.

CHURCH MUSIC, IT'S NOT

The Roadhouse Café has always offered its stage to local and independent main stream musicians. It's a clean, safe place for people who enjoy listening to live music, in a world of clubs and bars. Jazz, rock, folk and other groups have performed. During the past eleven years well over 120 different entertainers have appeared. Local fine artists also display their works.

COMMUNITY ORIENTATION

The Salem Roadhouse Café has raised funds for many carefully chosen charities. They include: The Presbytery of Elizabeth E-port Center, Center For Hope Hospice, Community Food Bank, Monarch Housing, Angel Paws Animal Rescue, National MS Society, Haiti Disaster Relief, Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief, The Union County YWCA Domestic Violence Program, Making It Possible To End Homelessness, Camp Johnsonburg, The Music Institute, and others. Thousands of dollars have been raised for these deserving charities.

The musicians who play the Roadhouse often ask to return as soon as possible. The Roadhouse has given them a place with a beautiful stage, good acoustics, a live, attentive audience, and a sound system that is first class. Live, active stage lighting enhances the shows.

The Salem Roadhouse Café often features many of the performers who have graced the stage in the past, as well as brings talent that is new to the Café stage. The current season is benefitting Family Promise Union County – Building Communities-Strengthening Lives.

Admission includes the show, snacks, beverages and dessert.

The Salem Roadhouse Café is located at 829 Salem Road, Union, NJ. Visit online at roadhousecafe.org or facebook.com/roadhousecafe. Phone: 1-908-687-1028

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