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PATRONS OF PLAINFIELD FOOD SECURITY PROJECT EXPRESS APPRECIATION TO ROTARY CLUB OF PLAINFIELDS

Submitted by Michael Townley

In recent months, members of the Rotary Club of the Plainfields have donated time to the Plainfield Food Security Project, a joint effort with the duCret School of Art, Star Fish Food Pantry, and the YMCA of Plainfield to help feed the hungry during the Covid-19 pandemic.

With the cooperation of Lt. Dontay Gibson of the Salvation Army, the club members brought fresh fruit and vegetables and sometimes regular grocery items to the parking lot of the Salvation Army every Saturday. There they set up a distribution system with families and individuals lining up, socially distant, to receive a box of food. Three hundred or more boxes were given out each week, helping fill a desperate need in the community.

On August 22, the Rotarians distributed over three hundred \$50.00 ShopRite gift cards to those waiting in line. Another three hundred cards were given out to families in a pop-up drive-through at Cedarbrook School, across from duCret School. "There was no food available that week," said Michael Townley, Rotary Club representative. "The duCret School needed the space that the project was using so they could resume classes, and all of the food was given out the week before."

The gift cards were purchased using a \$30,000.00 grant from the Plainfield Foundation to the Star Fish Food Pantry. "The purpose of the grant was to purchase food or gift cards for distribution to help off-set hunger in Plainfield that was caused by Covid-19," said Mr. Townley. "We knew that there would be no food on August 22, so purchasing the gift cards really filled the need."

The surprise of the day at the Salvation Army was the presentation of "thank you" cards from one of the volunteer helpers who worked every week signing in the families. Three cards were circulated among the waiting families who expressed their heartfelt appreciation.

"Thank you for all the help you have provided to the Plainfield community, my family and many



(above) Rotarians and volunteers prepare to give away ShopRite gift cards to families and individuals in Plainfield as part of the Plainfield Food Security Project.



(above) Plainfield residents wait in line patiently for their opportunity to receive a \$50.00 ShopRite gift card, distributed by the Rotary Club of the Plainfields for the Plainfield Food Security Project.

more. May God bless you all and thank you for everything."

"Gracias por todo. Esto era muy importante." (Thank you for everything. This was very important)

"Gracias por ayudarnos en estos momentos con la comida. Que dios te bendiga siempre." (Thank you for helping us in these moments with the food. May God bless you always)

"Dios los vendiga por todos los alirentes. Bendiciones para todos." (God bless you for all the food. Blessings for all of you.)

Many of the same sentiments were expressed verbally as the families received their gift cards and realized the value of the gift. "We didn't need to speak or understand Spanish to know that the people were sincere in their appreciation," said Mr. Townley. "As Rotarians, we are guided by our motto of "Service Above Self." This project helped us put that motto into action to benefit people who needed our help. We consider the opportunity to have been a blessing for us, too."

The Plainfield YMCA branch hopes to continue some form of food distribution going forward, most likely a series of one-day events where food is dropped off by the donors and distributed to families in need on the same day. These events will be announced on gscymca.org/locations/plainfield-ymca/plainfield-ymca/.


The Rotary Club of the Plainfields normally meets weekly for lunch to share in friendship and to plan projects and activities to support the people in the Plainfields. Meetings are suspended during the pandemic; visit rotarypnp.org to find out when and where the meetings will resume. Contact Michael Townley, club secretary, for more information - secretary@rotarypnp.org.

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VICKY GRISWOLD RECEIVES SPECIAL PRESENTATION FROM ROTARY

Submitted by Michael R. Townley

Weeks of quarantine and Covid-19 pandemic precautions have kept the members of the Rotary Club of the Plainfields from in-person meetings. Relying on virtual meetings every two weeks, the members have managed to stay in touch with each other and share events and news.

As valued as those virtual meetings can be when in-person contact is prohibited or discouraged, they are no substitute for the camaraderie of face-to-face contact. Luckily, club members had the opportunity to gather at the home of one of the newest members and share lunch and a special presentation at the same time.

The quiet, park-like setting was an ideal place to sit, enjoy lunch, and quietly share the joy of being with friends unseen for many weeks. It also gave the club the opportunity to witness the presentation of a Paul Harris Fellow Recognition to longtime member Vicky Griswold, former owner of the Plainfield Music Store.

The Paul Harris Fellow Recognition is earned through a person's contributions to the Rotary Foundation in a cumulative amount of \$1,000.00 over any period of time. It is a way for the Foundation to showcase the value it places in its supporters.

"Vicky has been a dedicated member of our club since 1999, and served as our club president for two years," said current club president Shannon Jefferys. "We presented Vicky with our 'Service Above Self Award' in 2018 to recognize her dedication to Rotary and the principles that guide us in service to others. This Paul Harris Fellow Recognition is just one more example of how Vicky puts others first."

The presentation was made by President-Elect Eugene Mitchell. "A world of peace and goodwill comes closer to reality today as Vicky becomes

a Paul Harris Fellow," said Mr. Mitchell. "It is because of gifts such as Vicky's that the Rotary Foundation can carry out an array of programs that achieve beneficial changes in the world: improved living conditions; increased food production; better education; wider availability of treatment and rehabilitation for the sick and disabled; new channels for the flow of international understanding; and brighter hopes for peace."

There are now eight current members of the Rotary Club of the Plainfields who enjoy the distinction of being a Paul Harris Fellow, including one member who has received the recognition eight times.

"Our club also uses the Paul Harris Fellow Recognition as a way to acknowledge a person's contributions to the club and to the community," said President Jefferys. "We make a donation of \$1,000.00 in that person's name, thereby entitling them to the special designation that comes with being a Paul Harris Fellow." Some previous recipients recognized for their contributions include the late Milt Campbell, Plainfield native and Olympic decathlon champion; Francis L. Lawrence, president of Rutgers, the State University in 1997; Thomas Brown, president of Union County College in 1993; and Plainfield educators Herbert "Hub" Stine, Abram "Abe" Smith, and Charles Carter, among many other noteworthy recipients.

The Rotary Club of the Plainfields normally meets weekly for lunch to share in friendship and to plan projects and activities to support the people in the Plainfields. Meetings are suspended during the pandemic; visit rotarypnp.org to find out when and where the meetings will resume. Contact Michael Townley, club secretary, for more information - secretary@rotarypnp.org.



(above) President-Elect Eugene Mitchell and Vicky Griswold pose with the Rotary International Foundation's Paul Harris Fellow Recognition certificate and pin.



(above) Club members pose at the August 26 club meeting at the home of Louise Colodne, second from right, where Vicky Griswold, far right, received Paul Harris Fellow Recognition.

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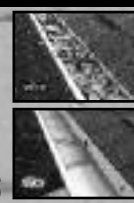
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NORTH PLAINFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES NEW RESCUE PUMPER

Submitted by William F. Eaton,
Fire Chief/Director



The North Plainfield Fire Department has recently taken delivery of a 2019 Ferrara Rescue Pumper. This purchase replaces a 21 year old, 1999 KME pumper that was currently out of service due to major mechanical issues. The new apparatus is equipped with a 1500 gallon per minute pump and an onboard water tank that holds 750 gallons. This vehicle also contains a hose, ladders, extrication tools, a thermal imaging camera, SCBA air packs and various other equipment for firefighting and rescue capabilities.

The Department would like to thank the Mayor and council for their support and funding of this purchase, and for continuing to place the life safety of the residents as a top priority.

NORTH PLAINFIELD HOLDS ANNUAL 9/11 TRIBUTE

On the morning of Friday, September 11, the Borough of North Plainfield held its annual 9/11 Silent Procession ceremony at 8:45 a.m. The procession and short service have been an annual tribute/reflection on the events of 9/11 since the first anniversary of this tragedy 19 years ago. It is our way, as a community, of remembering all of the thousands of American citizens who lost their lives that day; especially the emergency services personnel who gave their lives trying to save those civilians.

This commemorative event was coordinated by the North Plainfield Police and Fire departments, whose members marched down Somerset Street and then gathered at Somerset and Lincoln for a brief service. This year we elected to forgo the service portion of the tribute, in an effort to respect social distancing guidelines and minimize the crowd size. Instead, we held a brief moment of silence to reflect on the people who lost their life that day and to also keep their family members in our thoughts.

IMAGINE LAUNCHES SUPPORT FOR NURSES

Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss announced the expansion of its virtual group support programs with one designed to help nurses dealing with the stressors of healthcare work during Covid-19. Imagine, which serves more than 2,000 individuals annually and is nationally recognized for its work helping bereaved children and their families, offers its Peer Support Group for Nurses at no cost. Interested nurses can join the weekly support group at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays beginning September 30.

When asked about the decision to launch this program, Imagine's Founder and Executive Director Mary Robinson said, "Through the pandemic, we recognized a gap in support for some of the people we rely on most: our nurses. Supporting nurses who are themselves supporting grieving families felt like a perfect fit for our mission."

Robinson, who was named a 2019 CNN Hero, went on to say, "Nurses continue to selflessly care for others despite their own fears about their potential exposure to Covid-19. We need to ensure they have a place to turn to for support."

For many, the anxiety they feel going to work in a healthcare environment comes on top of grief they were feeling before the pandemic even hit.

Talia Sion, a newly minted nurse, had attended Imagine's Young Adult Group for support following the death of her mother in January, and then joined the organization's pilot support program for First Responders when the pandemic hit.

Of her experience, Sion said, "I was quickly overwhelmed with the weight of so many sick and unstable patients, not knowing if and when

things would ever get back to 'normal.' Once again, Imagine created a program for me to turn to with people who understood how I feel; people who understood what I was facing on a daily basis at work."

The nature of the program's virtual environment breaks down geographic boundaries for those seeking support. Nurses from New Jersey and throughout the country are welcome to attend.

"New Jersey is no longer a hotspot for Covid-19, but many of the nurses here are processing what they went through and bracing for a possible resurgence," Robinson said. "Meanwhile, there are nurses in other states in similar positions to where we were a few months ago. Sharing these stories, fears, and challenges at all different stages in a peer support model is proven to be an effective way to learn coping strategies."

As with all of Imagine's offerings, this free Peer Group Support for Nurses program will be available year-round for as long as is needed. Those who are interested can register at imaginej.org/nurses.

Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss is a New Jersey-based grief support center for children, young adults and families dealing with the death or life-altering illness of a parent, sibling or child. In addition to its peer grief support programs, Imagine provides training through education and outreach programs across the state to a variety of organizations including schools, houses of worship and corporations. Its goal is to create communities where grief and loss are transformed into resilience, empathy and compassion; and where no child grieves alone.

COMMUNITY HOPE CONNECTS VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES WITH HOUSING, SERVICES

CALL THE REFERRAL HOTLINE FOR ELIGIBILITY

Veterans and their families who are experiencing a housing crisis may be eligible for emergency assistance such as motel/hotel stays, security deposits, rent, rental arrears, groceries and utilities through Community Hope.

Community Hope's Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program is currently providing assistance remotely. Urgent community-based services such as critical supplies and veteran wellness-checks are provided in person.

The increase in support services to veterans and their families during the COVID-19 pandemic is possible thanks to funding from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

To make a referral, please call the referral hotline at 1-855-483-8466 or email SSVF@communityhope-nj.org, or email Gema Diaz at gldiaz@communityhope-nj.org.

Community Hope is a nonprofit that helps individuals, including veterans, and their families, overcome mental illness, addiction, homelessness and poverty.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVOCATE TRAINING – VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

A 40-Hour Domestic Violence Advocate training for Safe+Sound Somerset volunteers provides an understanding of the dynamics of domestic abuse, options available to individuals who experience abuse, and a philosophy of empowering survivors. Safe+Sound Somerset offers this training in the Spring and Fall of each year. Our fully remote Fall session will begin in October and run for ten weeks. To apply for Fall

2020 or Spring 2021, please complete a volunteer interest form at safe-sound.org/volunteer.

Safe+Sound Somerset is the lead domestic violence agency in Somerset County. Our mission is to prevent domestic violence and empower victims by providing protection, education, and resources. All services for victims are confidential and free of charge. For more information call 908-359-0003.

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EXPLORE SCLSNJ'S VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

All programs listed are free. Registration is required unless otherwise indicated. Programs are subject to change. All programs are virtual unless otherwise indicated. Visit sclsnj.libnet.info/events.org for SCLSNJ's complete calendar of events. For questions contact SCLSNJ staff at ask@sclibnj.org.

ALL AGES AND FAMILY PROGRAMS

Rutgers Afro-Cuban Ensemble - A Virtual Concert (all ages): October 2, 6-7 p.m. This program was made possible by funds from the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission, a partner of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and the New Jersey Historical Commission. For more: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4481062.

Trekking Through Mexico (families)

October 5, 7-7:45 p.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4478507.

Family Night (families with children)

Book Page Leaves: October 15, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4490866.

Graham Cracker Haunted Houses

October 29, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4497237.

CHILDREN AND TEENS

Baby and Toddler Storytime

(ages birth - 3 years and parents/caregivers)

October 1, 10-10:30 a.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4475925.

Storytime With a Leader - Gandhi (families)

October 3, 11-11:45 a.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4500591.

The Sorcerer's Apprentice (grades 3-8)

October 3, 1-1:45 p.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4303640.

Music With Miss Donna

(ages birth - 5 years and caregivers)

10:30-11 a.m. Register now:

October 6: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4362951.

October 20: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4362957.

American Sign Language Storytime

(ages birth - 5 years and caregivers)

October 9, 10:30-11 a.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4362980.

Kids Chat: Family History (families)

October 12, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4489944.

Explore Art - Hispanic Heritage Month

Letters of La Palma (grades 1-5)

October 13, 3:45-4:45 p.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4503712.

Teen Paint Night - Watercolor Spooky Tree (grades 6-12)

October 14, 7-8:30 p.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4490108.

English-Spanish Bilingual Storytime (ages 3-7 years and parents/caregivers)

October 21, 5:30-6 p.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4493895.

Young Adult Crossover Club - "Pride and Prejudice" by Jane Austen (grades 6-12)

October 27, 6-7 p.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4495306.

Skeleton X-Ray (grades 3-4)

October 28, 4-4:45 p.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4497210.

ADULTS

Creating a Dynamic Job Portfolio - Presented by Jan Goodman

October 1, 7-8:30 p.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4498376.

Virtual Book Salon - Traditionally hosted at the North Plainfield branch

October 7, 2-3 p.m.

"The Hound of Baskervilles

by Arthur Conan Doyle

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4520463.

Virtual Book Salon - Traditionally hosted at the Warren Twp. branch

October 8, 1:30-3 p.m.

"Rules of Civility" by Amor Towles

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4520496.

Business Databases -

ReferenceUSA and DemographicsNow

October 13, 2-3 p.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4497313.

Remember the Ladies:

A Brief History of Our First Ladies

October 14, 7-8 p.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4376208.

Halloween's Haunted History -

Presented by Kevin Woyce

October 19, 7-8 p.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4382780.

Job Skills Needed Today

October 21, 2-3 p.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4501311.

The Psychological Control of Superstitions - Presented by Carlotta Holton

October 21, 7-8 p.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4421543.

Making Sense of Fake News -

Presented by William Westhoven

October 22, 7-8 p.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4436473.

The Origins of Halloween and Witches -

Presented by Jeff Kampf

October 27, 7-8 p.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4479143.

Hail to the Chief -

A Brief History of the American Presidents

October 29, 7-8 p.m.

Register now: sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4376225.



(above) Cyprian and Blaise Gallic, safely checked out their library materials while wearing masks. The Gallic family of Warren Twp. recently visited the Somerset County Library System of New Jersey's (SCLSNJ) Watchung Library branch. During their visit the family explored the Library's collections, connected with SCLSNJ staff, and discovered contact-free checkout stations. Even though the Library's doors are open, if you prefer to travel digitally and #BeSafeAtHome, explore SCLSNJ's digital collections, resources, and more: sclsnj.org/besafeathome.



(above) Theodore Gallic holding a picture book while sporting a mask.

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4 Units	3.25" x 8" or 6.5" x 4"	\$180	\$450	\$700	\$900	\$1100	\$1300	\$1500	\$1700
6 Units	6.5" x 6.25" or 10" x 4"	\$240	\$600	\$900	\$1200	\$1400	\$1600	\$1800	\$2000
9 HALF PAGE	6.5" x 9" or 10" x 7"	\$320	\$800	\$1000	\$1300	\$1600	\$1900	\$2200	\$2400
12 Units	10" x 8"	\$360	\$900	\$1200	\$1500	\$1800	\$2100	\$2400	\$2700
18 FULL PAGE	10" x 14"	\$400	\$1000	\$1400	\$1800	\$2200	\$2500	\$2800	\$3000
2 PAGE SPREAD	21" x 14"	\$700							
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Thank you. - Joe Renna

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Website / SEO services

- Website Audit/Analysis and recommendation plan:\$250
- Website creation/update:.....\$2,400
(Cost for average website: 12 pages,
contact form, SEO friendly, responsive design)
- Website Hosting:\$300 per year
Includes website hosting, software updates,
monthly website content updates
- SEO Services:.....average cost \$1,000 - \$2,000 per month
Custom tailored solutions:
Google Ranking, Local SEO, Social Marketing

Video advertising

Production:

- Product placement \$250
- 30-second commercial \$500
- 3-minute spot \$1,000
- 30-minute show \$1,500
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- How to prevent "memory loss" and misunderstandings; the Brian Williams syndrome
- Things to include in any business contract

In this webinar, Mitch will also run through a business from idea, to startup, through getting into operation.

DATE: Tuesday, October 6, 2020

TIME: 1:00 pm

COST: FREE

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