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### **FANWOOD-SCOTCH PLAINS ROTARY INDUCTS NEW OFFICERS**

Submitted by Maria LaMorte-Wright On July 20, 2021, the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club held their Installation Ceremony for the 2021-2022 Rotary year. New President Deanna Dell Bene was sworn in by Past District Governor Charlie Minton. The following officers were also inducted: Al Smith, President-Elect 2022-2023; Talib Morgan, Secretary; and Don Rosenberg, Treasurer.

The evening started with a presentation by outgoing President Julie Murphy. She noted that she was honored to lead the club during a particularly difficult year. She presented a Paul Harris award to Rotarian Patty Laguna, for her outstanding work and dedication as Secretary of the club. Additionally, other Rotary members were recognized for their contributions during an unusual and challenging year. Several key initiatives were completed during Murphy's presidency, including: SPF Resource Central, led by Deanna Del Bene- a centralized Coronovirus information resource for the towns of Scotch Plains and Fanwood; and a Mask Team led by Carmela Resnick, who made fabric masks and raised \$16,000 for local food banks, from the sale of those masks. They also held their first virtual Trivia Night, led by Rotarian Wayne Zuhl. Past District 7475 Governor Ann Walko was recognized for her successful year and District conference, raising over \$50,000 for the Rotary International Foundation Annual Fund. Rotarian Mike Walko was given the District 7475 Military Service and EMT awards.

Murphy presented the Joseph Y. Qutub Service Award to two amazing Interactors from SPF High School. Interact is a Rotary service club for young people. Congratulations to Evelyn Liang and Marley Holston.

President Deanna Dell Bene will be one of FSP Rotary's youngest presidents. She began her Rotary year by reinstating in-person meetings and she hopes to bring back all of the Rotary traditions that were placed on-hold during the pandemic.

Dell Bene is "so honored and humbled to be trusted with the responsibility of leading the greatest Rotary Club in the Universe, the





(above, l-r) Pictured are new Rotary Officers Al Smith-President-Elect, Deanna Dell Bene-President, Charlie Minton-Past District Governor, and Talib Morgan-Secretary.

Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club! Past President's leadership has prepared me, and helped shape me into the leader that I want to be for our club and community. I look forward to having great members of our communities join us in our efforts. One thing is certain, our group is filled with such wonderful, dedicated, passionate leaders. It is all of us combined that make our club the greatest in the Universe. More leaders like ourselves will keep our club flourishing for decades to come. I look forward to hearing ideas on new service projects Rotary can engage in both locally and globally! I am certain that we all have it in us to be even greater in our communities, the world, our club and with each other while living the motto of 'Service Above Self""

The club will continue to focus on increasing the diversity of club members, getting new members energized, and continuing to improve the club's visibility in the local community. They welcome visitors and new members who are interested in giving back to the community.

The Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club has been serving the community since 1938. The club meets on Wednesdays at noon at the Stage House in Scotch Plains, and also holds evening meetings on the last Thursday of the month. For a meeting schedule and further information about the club, go to fsprotary.org or visit their Facebook page: Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club. For membership information, contact Steve Goldberg at stegold94@aol.com.



#### Scotch Plains NJ WHAT'S HAPPENING MONTHLY

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## **PROMOTE YOUR COMMUNITY EVENT**

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

# **FANNYWOOD DAY SET FOR SEPTEMBER 19**

mean that the fun has to stop! This year, rain or shine, the 24th annual FannyWood Day will return on Sunday, September 19 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in downtown Fanwood along So. Martine Ave. and South Ave.

ACTIVITIES Fanny Wood Day is much more than just a street fair. Besides the many food and crafts vendors, this year's Fanny Wood Day will host a wide array of activities including the return of kid-friendly activities in the Kids Zone with lots of fun stuff for kids to do such as a trackless train and numerous kiddie rides.

CONTESTS Back by popular demand are

Summer is drawing to a close but that doesn't many of the same contests that were offered last year such as the scavenger hunt, pizza eating, ice cream eating, bubble blowing, water balloon toss and more!

COME HUNGRY If contests aren't your thing, grab some delicious food from one of the many food exhibitors and trucks and local eateries.

MUSIC Musical entertainment will be provided at the stage area with a DJ and live entertainers throughout the day.

This event is hosted by the Borough of Fanwood and is produced by JC Promotions, Inc. visit jcpromotions.info or call 201-998-1144 for more info.





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## **2021 COLLEGE CLUB SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED**

College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains Celebrating its 88th Anniversary, the College Club of Fanwood- Scotch Plains continues its tradition since its inception in 1933: to support the pursuit of a college education for young women in the Scotch Plains and Fanwood communities by providing scholarships. To date the College Club has awarded approximately \$720,000.00 in scholarships to about 563 young women.

This past May, a total of \$31,500 was awarded in scholarships to 11 students, 5 of whom are high school seniors who graduated this June, and 5 of whom are currently attending college. These awards included a special education award

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Walford and Angela Hopes.

academic year 2021-2022 are: Aubrey Bagdonas, daughter of John and Jean Bagdonas, a rising junior at Villanova University who received an Angela Hopes Memorial Award; Olivia Barcia, daughter of Vincent and Michele Barcia, a rising in the 2021 graduating class, daughter of Lorraine senior at Lafayette College who received the Marie Walford Memorial Award; Catherine Buren, daughter of Kenneth and Susan Corrigan Buren, a rising sophomore at the University of seeking financial assistance to pursue a four-year Pennsylvania; Antoinette Chango, daughter of David and Lisa Chango, a rising sophomore at fundraising efforts. Two of the club's largest Gettysburg College who received the Elaine efforts are the annual spring luncheon and Carmen education Award; and Audrey Davis, daughter of Andy and Sally Davis, a rising junior at Boston University who received an Angela SPFHS virtual annual awards assembly. Hopes Memorial Award.

year 2021-2022 are: Tracy Ann Bagdonas, third Monday of every month September-May; daughter of John and Jean Bagdonas, who will be free and open to the public. Anyone interested in attending Fordham University; Abigail Conklin, more information about the College Club of daughter of Joe and Cheryl Conklin, who Fanwood-Scotch Plains or would like to become received an Angela Hopes memorial award and a member please visit the club's website at will be attending the University of Delaware; fspcollegeclub.org.

donated in honor of a current College Club Alexis Gutierrez, daughter of German Gutierrez Member, Elaine Carmen and memorial awards in and Marguerite Sahaj who will be attending honor of two College Club Past Presidents, Marie Stony Brook University; Evelyn Liang, daughter of Yue Huang Liang and King Hwa Fung, who Among the 2021 College recipients for will be attending Rutgers University; and Margaret Smith, daughter of Sean and Patricia Smith, who will be attending Temple University.

The Academic Award of Excellence was also presented to Erica Schug, the top female student and Edward Schug, who will be attending Stevens Institute of Technology.

This is the 85th year that female students, college degree, have been helped by the club's clothing drive in the fall.

The High School awards were presented at the

The College Club hosts monthly informative The 2021 High School recipients for academic programs presented by guest speakers on the



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## FRAZEE HOUSE SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER FESTIVITIES

The ancient Frazee farmstead, now progressing toward the second phase of renovation, will host September and October festivities on its site.

"We're excited to once again host activities at the Frazee farmstead, home of Aunt Betty Frazee, a brave woman who stepped onto her porch to defy the British on their march past her house in 1777," said Andy Calamaras, president of the Rotary Frazee House committee. The committee has spearheaded a 14-year project to rescue the house's structure and ready it for restoration to the American Revolutionary period. Last year,

the external renovation of the Frazee House was completed and this year the internal renovation is scheduled to begin.

All three events, besides providing engagement to county residents and lovers of history, will benefit the "Save the Frazee House" project, an effort to complete the renovation of the historic house.

First, the Frazee House Ghost Walking Tour will take place at the site during the weekends of September 18-19 and October 9-10. The 90 minute tours will be led by renowned psychicmedium Jane Doherty and will begin with a short



orientation at the restored Frazee homestead, including details about the spirit world. It will proceed with a walk along the property, stopping at each "ghost hangout" to reveal the stories and secrets there. The Frazee House Committee is excited to introduce this new event. Tickets are \$25 per person and must be purchased in advance. Additional information can be found on the Frazee House website, frazeehouse.org.

Second, the Great Pumpkin Patch is ongoing from October 5 through 31. During this event, pumpkins of all sizes will be sold every day, from 11 a.m. to dusk at the Frazee site. The location will be decorated for Halloween and is the perfect setting for fall photos.

Finally, the Rotary Frazee House committee and the Township of Scotch Plains will host the 5th annual Harvest Festival at the Frazee Farmstead. Activities will entice every age group: live music, games, pony rides, a petting zoo, food trucks, pumpkin tossing, a haunted trail and the Great Pumpkin Patch. "We've made amazing progress on the Frazee renovation," said Calamaras. The Harvest Festival is another opportunity for the community to visit the site and see for themselves — rain or shine at the Frazee House site, 1451 Raritan Road in Scotch Plains, Saturday October 16, from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

More information about the Frazee House and events can be found at frazeehouse.org.





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#### HANDBAG EVENT MARKS RE-OPENING

Fanwood-Scotch Plains Thrift Shop

Tuesday, September 7 starts the annual handbag event sponsored by the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League, a local all-volunteer organization running the non-profit Thrift Shop at 1741 East Second Street in Scotch Plains. This "Designer Bag Bonanza" will feature handbags from Michael Kors, Kate Spade, Coach, Tignanello and other famous brand names. Also included are wallets for men and women and a variety of evening bags for any upcoming special event that you now can finally attend!

To prepare for the handbag event the shop will be closed from Saturday, August 28 through Monday, September 6. Store hours will then resume from Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Covid guidelines continue to be followed, with face masks expected of all patrons entering the store. Children are welcome provided they are accompanied by an adult.

Drop by the shop early in the month for the best opportunity to "bag a deal" for you or a family member. At the store you will also find a wide selection of constantly replenished clothing, shoes, bric-a-brac, linens, household goods and decor, toys, games, books, CDs and DVDs. Donating items or shopping at the store is a great way to help the environment by promoting the use of recycled goods. It also supports our local community, as all proceeds outside of operating expenses are donated to local non-profit and/or used for student organizations scholarships. Call for more information during Thrift Shop business hours: 908-322-5420.



(above) A Designer Bag Bonanza! Upgrade your wardrobe with a great handbag during the annual Handbag Event at the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Thrift Shop.



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#### **RELIEF FROM CHRONIC KNEE PAIN** FDA Approved Treatment to Avoid Surgery

#### DON'T BLAME THE ARROW FOR MISSING THE TARGET

Just like tens of millions of other Americans, you were looking for relief from your chronic knee pain. You thought Viscosupplementation injections might be the answer, but the results were disappointing and painful. Don't assume the treatment wasn't right. That could very well be like blaming the arrow for its path to the target when the problem might be the archer. If you didn't get the pain relief you were hoping for, chances are your injection treatment was off target. Unlike blind injections or even ultrasound targeted treatments found elsewhere,

Northeast Spine & Wellness Center uses diagnostic fluoroscopy to make sure the area that needs treated is the exact area where the injection goes. This is the most advanced method of delivering this pain relieving treatment with 95% accuracy to give you the results you're looking for. The use of Fluoroscopy guided injections sets Northeast Spine & Wellness Center apart. The end result is you living pain free from your chronic knee pain. You can avoid the lengthy and painful road of knee replacement surgery. You can avoid the

endless trial and error assortment of potentially addictive prescription medications. This treatment, using fluoroscopy guided injections has seen a success rate of above 85% in those suffering from knee pain related to osteoarthritis, and that includes people with bone on bone involvement. You've suffered from chronic knee pain long enough. Call Northeast Spine & Wellness Center now for a RISK FREE consultation.

#### If Knee Surgery Sounds Scary, It Should

Have you have been told you are facing knee replacement surgery? Have you been told about all the downsides you could be facing? First and foremost, there are NO guarantees that knee replacement surgery will be the answer to your pain, but let's look further:

 Surgery is costly, regardless of the percentage of services covered by insurance.
 Surgery requires lost time from work and typically requires a regimen of rehabilitation and medications.

With surgery, there is always a risk for unwelcomed complications. And you could be back to where you started, or worse.

 Medications will be required for relief from surgery and you have been down that road before. Addictions to these pain medications can cause potential side effects, something you do not want to experience.

potential side effects, something you do not want to experience. Rehabilitation can take years.

#### Consider This Alternative To Surgery

Northeast Spine & Wellness Center offers you a real opportanity and a painless way to say goodbye to your knee pain without any surgery. Here are just a few of the important benefits you should consider?

Diagnostic fluoroscopy accurately targets the pain, unlike blind injections.
 Guided fluoroscopic injections are virtually pain free, unlike blind injections.

No lost time from work or family. No expensive or time consuming rehabilitation

No potentially addictive prescription medications.

Recovery time is almost instant, not months or years.

#### Do you Suffer from any of these Symptoms?

There are a number of reasons why you developed Osteoarthritis pain. It can develop with age or because of heredity. It could be from repetitive stress from a job or some glory days in athletics. Of course your concern is with the symptoms you face daily and how to make them end, hopefully without surgery or the use of potentially addictive medications. Northeast Spine & Wellness Center understands the symptoms you have been

living with and can help. If you have any of the symptoms below, please call us today. Relief is a phone call away.

 Pain - Whether it's a sharp aching or maybe a burning sensation, the pain can range from irritating to debilitating.

 Swelling - This can cause tenderness and soreness to the entire knee area, making walking or going up and down stairs painful, getting in and out of bed or bathtubs difficult and dangerous just name a few activities affected by swelling.

 Stiffness - Getting up out of bed or after sitting for a period of time gets more and more difficult. This loss of mobility can be more than a hindrance. It can be dangerous if you need to move quickly.

 Loss of muscle strength - This can lead to balance issues and the strong possibility of falling.

Joint deformity - Not just unsightly, but painful as well.
 Creaking Joints - Can be painful and a sign of more discomfort to come.

 Sleepless nights - Losing sleep over your suffering is not just irritating, but potentially dangerous because of so many other health concerns that can be affected by loss of sound sleep.



**How Does This New Treatment Work?** 

Relief begins almost as fast as it takes to pronounce the treatment. It's called Viscosupplementation Therapy. To begin with, it starts with Northeast

investing in the use of diagnostic fluoroscopy Spine & Wellness Center This enables them to target the exact location of your knee pain with pinpoint accuracy. What follows is a simple injection that causes little to no pain, especially when compared to what you may be living with daily. That explain what you will see on the surface of this revolutionary treatment. What's taking place below the surface is how and where the natural healing process takes place. The injection of a Hyaluronic acid called Hyalgan. This gel-like substance was approved by the FDA in 1996. Hyalgan is a natural substance that mimics the synovial fluid that is already produced by your body in your joints. Osteoarthritis sufferers in particular see a reduction in this much needed synovial fluid in their knee joints. Without that cushioning layer of protection, the cartilage in your knee can begin to wear away leading to the rubbing of bone on bone. Through Viscosupplementation Therapy, this natural substance immediately goes to work reducing the swelling and inflammation in the joint and adding a coating layer of protection. Think about Dorothy taking the oil can to The Tin Man. You'll begin to feel that same kind of relief and quite possibly feel like you're ready for a dance down the yellow brick road to recovery yourself. And with a success rate of over 85% in alleviating pain associated with osteoarthritis, it's easy to see why this treatment is so readily covered by Medicare and by most major insurance providers. Diagnostic fluoroscopy to target the pain, Viscosupplementation Therapy to relieve the pain. Simple, fast and no surgery!

#### Let Me Show You Targeted Relief From Your Knee Pain

Every day, I see patients suffering from knee pain due to arthritis, osteoarthritis, sports injuries or other conditions. Many have been told that they are in need of knee replacement surgery. Other patients say they have been prescribed various prescription medications to deal with the pain.

Something else I see almost every day, are patients that have tried viscosupplementation knee injections elsewhere and found it to be a painful and ineffective experience because the injections were not administered using fluoroscopic guidance. Instead of using the incredibly accurate diagnostic fluoros-

copy we use at Northeast Spine & Wellness Center these patients experienced a blind injection technique, which can be as inaccurate as playing pin the tail on the donkey.

Once I am able to explain to my patients about the pin point accuracy of using diagnostic fluoroscopy and the amazing results viscosupplementation can provide, they are thrilled to get started. They are even more thrilled when they feel the relief. Please contact Northeast Spine & Wellness Center today to schedule your RISK FREE consultation. Call 732-827-0800

#### Scot Paris MD, FACS

#### Here's what our patients have to say

"I'm dancing without pain. I can more with no problem whatsoever. I can go up and down steps with no pain." - Patricia G.

"Over 85% relief for the first time in 15 years, suffering with knee pain. My life is getting back to normal." - Perry O.

"After only four visits, I have absolutely no pain! The staff is "top-notch."





### **FALL BOOK SALE**

The Friends of the Fanwood Library are thrilled to announce the return of our popular book sale at Fanwood's Forest Road Park. The sale is a great source of pride for our organization and the library – the proceeds support valuable library programming and extra services. **BOOK DONATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED ON** 

#### THE FOLLOWING DATES AND TIMES: Friday, September 17, 9am - 4pm;

Saturday, September 18, 9am - 4pm; Sunday, September 19, 12pm - 4pm; Monday, September 20, 12pm - 7pm; Tuesday, September 21, 9am - 4pm

#### SALE DATES AND TIMES:

Thursday, September 23, 4pm - 7pm; Friday, September 24, 10am - 5pm; Saturday, September 25, 9am - 4pm; Sunday, September 26, 11am - 4pm

### **MOBILE MEALS**

Mobile Meals is a non-profit organization which provides meals to people unable to provide meals for themselves since 1968. The organization serves the communities of Clark, Cranford, Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Scotch Plains and Westfield. If you or anyone you know would like hot meals delivered to their door, or you wish to donate to a most worthy cause in serving those in need, visit the Mobile Meals website at mobilemealsofwestfield.org.



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# **GARWOOD STILL ROCKS! ON SEPTEMBER 19TH**

Commerce (GWACC) is pleased to announce that Vermella at Garwood Station will present Garwood Still Rocks! for 2021. The key sponsorship from Russo Development's new luxury rental community opening this summer in town means that after a one year hiatus due to the Pandemic, Garwood is revving up once again to rock out and enjoy a full day of family fun! This year for the first time, the event will be held in the Fall on Sunday, September 19th, 2021, from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. (rain or shine) in downtown Garwood. Save the Date!

show hosted by "Hot Rod Mike" which is

The Greater Westfield Area Chamber of expected to draw over 100 cars this year, in addition to an all-day live stage, entertainment, vendors, and festival food including many area favorite food trucks. Artisans and craftspeople will display paintings, pottery, photography, handmade jewelry, furniture, and many other unique gifts. The Crossroads is sponsoring the Beer & Wine Garden and providing the main entertainment at the Garwood Rocks main stage. The music lineup will be announced closer to the event. A fun day for the whole family and admission is free!

For further information regarding booking a Garwood Still Rocks! features a classic car space, please contact This is It Productions at 201-653-2699 extension 251.





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# **ZOOM PROGRAM ON WOMEN IN FILMMAKING**

College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains

The College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains is hosting a zoom program on Women in Filmmaking on September 20 at 7:30 p.m. The program will be presented by Joanna Naugle, a previous College Club scholarship recipient who attended NYU's Tisch School of the Arts and is now a film, television and commercial editor.

Joanna's recent work includes the Emmy nominated show Ramy (Hulu), Big Mouth and its spin-off Human Resources (Netflix), John Kransinski's Some Good News (You Tube), and 2 Dope Queens (HBO). She has also provided additional editing for John Mulaney & the Sack Lunch Bunch (Netflix) and the film Before You Know It starring Alec Baldwin, Mandy Patimkin and Judith Light. Her work has screened at Sundance, Slamdance, Tribeca and SXSW and she has worked with clients including A24, FX, Apatow Productions, Vice, Vevo, Nike, Reebok, Vox and Refinery 29. Joanna is the co-owner of Senior Post, an award- winning Brooklyn based post house that provides full post production services.

Joanna will explain what it is like to be an editor for film and TV while sharing the most important lessons she has learned throughout her career using specific examples from her work.

The program is free and open to the public. To receive a zoom link to view the program on September 20 send an email to tishisack17@gmail.com.



(above) Joanna Naugle will share what it is like to be an editor for film and television in her program, "Women in Filmmaking".



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## OUR SPF SCHOOL DISTRICT PAID \$30,000.00 TO TEACH OUR CHILDREN TO BE RACISTS. IS THAT OK WITH YOU? IT'S NOT OK WITH US...

We are the Scotch Plains – Fanwood Concerned Parents Coalition. We are a group of parents and residents who are deeply concerned about what, and how, our students are being taught in our school district. Many of our children come home from school feeling depressed and anxious because of what has been communicated to them about the color of their skin. White children are being lectured that they are racist and oppressors. Children of color are being told that they are victims and oppressed. K-12 education is now focused on racial differences that not only adversely affect our children, but also are taught at the expense of academic achievement.

We expect our public school system to teach and model the mutual respect of all human beings, regardless of race, creed or sexual orientation. The district administration has made a radical interpretation of the NJ Learning Standards on race that have caused emotional harm to many students. In light of the negative academic and emotional effects of these current practices on our children, it is irresponsible that the Board of Education authorized \$30,000.00 to hire Dr. Khyati Joshi as a consultant to train SPF teachers this year. This contract must be cancelled.

"Teach our children how to think...not what to think".



Call To Action! Join us at the School Board Meeting Sept. 26 – 7:30PM\* 512 Cedar Street, Scotch Plains

# **Our Voices Must be Heard**

### \*Date and time are subject to change, please confirm at: <u>https://www.spfk12.org/domain/49</u>

If you share our concerns, or wish to join our mailing list, please contact John at: <a href="mailto:spf.rff@gmail.com">spf.rff@gmail.com</a>. Please visit our website <a href="mailto:www.SPFconcernedparentscoalition.org">www.SPFconcernedparentscoalition.org</a>.

### Township of Scotch Plains 9/11 MEMORIAL SERVICE



9:00 a.m. **ALAN AUGUSTINE GREEN** located at THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING 430 Park Ave.



### **COLLEGE CLUB SEEKS COMMUNITY SUPPORT** FOR SCHOLARSHIP FUND RAFFLE

Due to CDC guidelines, restrictions and Covid-19 concerns at the time the planning for their annual fundraising luncheon would have begun, the event has been postponed until 2022. The College Club is seeking community participation for two raffle drawings that will take place on October 3, 2021 at Brookside Park in Scotch Plains. Winners need not be present.

Raffle tickets are available for a 50/50 drawing with three cash prizes and the other is for a \$500 Shop Rite gift card. 50/50 tickets are \$2 per ticket or a book of ten for \$20. The ShopRite tickets are \$5 per ticket with 500 tickets available.

All proceeds will go directly into the club's

scholarship fund. The College Club has been awarding annual scholarships to young women in our community for over 80 years. The club recently awarded \$31,500 in scholarships to eleven young women for the upcoming 2021-22 school year.

Please consider supporting this very worthy cause since the College Club has not been able to hold fundraising events due to the pandemic.

Anyone interested in purchasing ShopRite raffle tickets can contact Dorothy Lusk

at 908-230-4917

or email dorothyculleylusk@gmail.com. For 50/50 tickets contact Sue Spirko at 908-472-8515 or email sslkt@verizon.net.

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### VIRTUAL WELLNESS CENTER AVAILABLE AT NO-COST

The Mental Health Association in New Jersey is providing a new virtual wellness center that offers no-cost groups and workshops statewide to individuals interested in day-to-day wellness, support for substance use disorder and strategies for improving mental health.

Called United by Wellness, the center can be accessed online or by call-in. More than 45 groups and workshops are offered daily, including weekends. Among the variety of groups are Healthy Habits, Meditation, LGBTQ, Young Adult, Anxiety and Depression Support Groups, Grief and COVID, Too Much Stuff, Virtual Job Interviews, Peer Support Career Information, and Grief and Recovery.

Groups are organized into four "communities" for like-minded people with similar goals, but participants are not limited to a specific track. The communities are general well-being; coping skills; co-occurring mental

health and substance use; and a community for those with a disorder who are seeking employment. Staff providing services are culturally diverse certified peer specialists, including some who are bilingual and facilitating groups in Spanish.

The Mental Health Association in New Jersey had been offering in-person meetings at satellite offices around the state, but during the pandemic all meetings were transitioned to online. That enabled interested participants from every county to access meetings. During COVID, the number of people attending online groups more than doubled, according to leadership at the nonprofit, which they attribute to increased need, ease of access, and reduced barriers related to transportation and childcare.

For more information about United by Wellness, call 609 652-3800 ext. 303 or mhaac.info/ubw.





## **NEW NURSES GRADUATE THE TRINITAS SCHOOL OF NURSING**

Sixty-nine students, including Nayara Coelho Silveira of Scotch Plains, received their nursing diplomas from the Trinitas School of Nursing for what would have been the 166th Convocation Ceremony on June 3, 2021.

Fifty-eight women and 11 men became eligible to sit for the registered nurse licensing exam. The convocation ceremony was a hybrid event of inperson ceremony and taped speeches. The class gathered in person in two groups to maintain

social distancing. The students received their Accreditation Commission for Accreditation in awards, pins, and nursing diplomas in person. No outside visitors were allowed. The event was recorded and edited by the UCC Media department, and the premiere of the complete version of the ceremony was conducted on June 11, 2021 at 6 p.m. A gift of the video was given by the school to each graduate.

"During the pandemic, the School of Nursing successfully underwent accreditation by the

Nursing (ACEN)," said Dr. Roseminda Santee, Dean of the Trinitas School of Nursing, which is affiliated with Union County College. "The school was granted the full eight years continuing accreditation by ACEN in March 2021. Graduates participated actively in the accreditation process. I am very proud of these graduates."



#### Trinitas School of Nursing Class of 2021



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### **UNION CATHOLIC ALUMNUS SYDNEY MCLAUGHLIN WINS GOLD**

Submitted by Edward Grande, on behalf of the UCIAC

Before she was an Olympic Gold medalist, Sydney McLaughlin was a Scholar-Athlete in Union County.

Thanks to McLaughlin, Union County and Union Catholic High School became part of the center of the sports universe this week. But four years before McLaughlin stood center stage on a podium in a near-empty Tokyo stadium wearing an Olympic Gold Medal, she stood front and center with about two dozen fellow senior Scholar-Athletes at a packed venue in Union County.

McLaughlin, who set a world record when she won the 400-meter hurdles representing the USA in the Olympics this Summer, represented Union Catholic at the Union County Interscholastic Athletic Conference's (UCIAC) annual Scholar-Athlete Banquet at The Westwood in May, 2017.

The UCIAC, led by Executive Director Tom Lewis, congratulates McLaughlin, her family and her alma mater, Union Catholic. Union Catholic Principal Sister Percy Lee, and many Vikings' supporters, cheered for McLaughlin at multiple watch parties the past week.

When McLaughlin was recognized with the rest of Union County's top Scholar-Athletes, the best of the best, with about a month left in her scholastic career, her resume included seven individual national titles, eight individual Meet of Champions titles and a trip to the Olympics.

Arguably one of the greatest high school track

and field athletes in U.S. history, McLaughlin turned the track and field world upside down at Rio in the summer of 2016 when she became the youngest U.S. track and field athlete to compete at the Olympic Games in 44 years.

A few weeks shy of her 17th birthday, McLaughlin shattered the World Junior Record (under 20 years old) in the 400- meter hurdles when she placed third at the U.S. Olympic Trials in 54.15 seconds to make the Olympic Team. At the Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, McLaughlin advanced to the semifinal round of the 400 hurdles.

Academically at Union Catholic, McLaughlin was an honor roll student for four years. Off the track, she was also a very active presence in the community. McLaughlin volunteered for the Central Jersey Chapter of Hope Worldwide, has participated in multiple community service projects throughout Perth Amboy, including distributing fire safety and disaster relief information to residents on behalf of the American Red Cross.

She donated her time to Hurricane Sandy recovery efforts in Toms River, especially the cleanup of Cattus Island County Park. She has served as a soup kitchen staffer and as part of a teen outreach project in association with her church community.

McLaughlin has assisted at local youth track events, founded Union Catholic's Juggling Club,

has volunteered her time at several Union Catholic events, has accommodated hundreds of people that have lined up to get her autograph, and has been an exceptional role model.

Sydney continued her academic and track and field career at the University of Kentucky. She spent one year at Kentucky before turning professional.







# K OF C GOLF OUTING TO BENEFIT NEW JERSEY VETERAN'S NETWORK



Cranford Knights of Columbus Council 6226 ANNUAL GOLF OUTING Friday, September 17, 2021 Galloping Hill Golf Course Kenilworth, NJ

The cost is \$150.00 per Golfer

Includes Golf, Golf Cart, Lunch, Refreshments, Prizes and Dinner with Lunch Starting at 11:30 AM and a Shotgun Start at 1:00 PM.

The Golf Outing proceeds will benefit our Council supported Charities and Programs. We will also be making special donations to the New Jersey Veteran's Network and Cranford Front Line Appreciation Group (FLAG for Cranford) in recognition of all of the great work both organizations have done and are doing in support of our Veterans and First Responders during these trying times.

For More Information about Sponsorships, Playing or to get involved, please contact:		
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#### Golf & Sponsorship Registration

Registration & Payment is due no later than September 10, 2021 Registration / Sponsorship Levels Tournament Sponsor:

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Day of Golf \$150 • Foursome \$600 • Dinner Guest Only \$35

Checks should be made payable to Cranford Knights of Columbus 6226 and mailed to: Cranford Knights of Columbus P.O. Box 501; Cranford, NJ 07016 or Venmo to: @John-J-Doolan

www.njvn.org facebook.com/groups/flagforcranford

#### FANWOOD SUMMER FANJAM – SEPT. 11

Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce

On Saturday, September 11 from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m., the community will come together in Fanwood's LaGrande Park for the first major local event since New Jersey lifted Covid restrictions. The date is also special because it marks the 20th anniversary of the September 11th attacks. In addition to the signature combo of live bands, food trucks and classic cars that bring people to the festival, this year's Fanwood Summer FanJam, with major sponsors Dentalcare Associates and the Fanwood Animal Hospital, will feature tributes to First Responders, including an honor guard, to mark the somber anniversary. Because of the pandemic, the event



"We didn't know if we were going to be able to bring FanJam back in 2021, and once we got the green light, we had to move quickly to organize everything," said Aimee Nuzzo, event director and Fanwood resident. "We are blown away by the positive response we're seeing from the community and from our sponsors."

The free festival is run by the Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce (GWACC), with contributions from additional local sponsors OceanFirst Bank, Northfield Bank, The Soho at Fanwood Station and



Sheelen's Crossing.

"I'm overjoyed about the return of the FanJam! This has always been an exciting event for our town," said Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr. "This year we have the added element of honoring our local first responders and commemorating the 20th anniversary of the 9-11 attacks. Please bring your family to LaGrande Park on September 11."

Gene Jannotti, CEO of GWACC, stated, "The Chamber is very happy to once again be able to bring this community event to Fanwood where everyone can come together for a day of music, fun and relaxation while at the same time not forgetting that terrible day in our nation's history, 9-11."

This year's music lineup will feature double headliners: The Funktion Band mixes Funk, Soul, Pop & R&B to play favorites from Motown to today. Black Dog, the popular local Led Zeppelin Tribute band that headlined the 1st Fanwood Summer Fan Jam will return to rock the stage at LaGrande Park.

Other local acts will include Bored of Ed (hard rock), Velvet Jones (Grunge Rock / 80s & 90s) and up and coming young singer/actress Shiloh Verrico. All of the acts are New Jersey based and most have roots in Fanwood or Scotch Plains.

**For 21 & Over**: Adults 21 & older with ID can enjoy a front-seat view of the show from the Sheelen's Crossing Beer and Wine Garden.

**For Kids**: A centrally located Kids' Zone will feature children's rides and attractions within the park, with the purchase of tickets.

For Car Enthusiasts: The festival will draw more than 100 vintage and classic cars as part of a car show hosted by Hot Rod Mike. Portions of Helen Street, 2nd Street and LaGrande Avenue will be closed to traffic for the car show, which is open to all. Cars register upon arrival on a firstcome basis for a fee of \$10.

FanJam goers can sample a diverse cuisine from food trucks and local restaurants.

Bring your lawn chairs, picnic blankets and the whole family.

Free Parking is available at the South Side lot of the Fanwood train station.

Please note that pets, skateboarding and rollerblading are prohibited in the festival area. For further information, please contact the GWACC, 908-233-3021, or visit the website gwaccnj.com and look for Street Fairs.

Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce

For over 70 years, the Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce (GWACC) has been connecting commerce and community. The GWACC promotes the economic prosperity of businesses primarily in Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Scotch Plains and Westfield. It is the largest association of businesses and nonprofits in our area. Members include business owners, professionals, managers and operators. Membership cultivates the opportunity to build relationships, partner, make referrals, increase business, attend lunch and learns, and support the community. For more information visit gwaccnj.com.

# **SCOTCH PLAINS POLICE HOST ANNUAL NATIONAL NIGHT OUT**









The Scotch Plains Police Department was joined by the Fire Department and Rescue Squad for the annual National Night Out Against Crime. The free community-building event was held on Tuesday, August 3rd, 2021 at Alan Augustine Park, to help promote police-community partnerships. Those in attendance were treated to live music and inflatable attractions for children, hot dogs, and giveaways. National Night Out culminates annually on the first Tuesday in August. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. For more information visit natw.org.



(above) Scotch Plains Volunteer Rescue Squad





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

#### **BACKPACKS FOR LIFE FIFTH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING FUNDRAISER**

On September 20, 2021, Backpacks For Life holes as well as on course activities. will be hosting their Fifth Annual Golf Outing in Wayne, NJ. The golf outing is one of Backpacks For Life's tentpole fundraiser events that occurs annually in an effort to spread awareness about veteran homelessness and their mission to serve the veteran community. Last year's event was cancelled after a handful of rescheduling attempts due to COVID-19. The outing is presented by the founding sponsors of the event, three local New Jersey businesses, Biltmore Tuxedos, Sal Lauretta for Men and DSM.

"While it was a disappointment to cancel the event last year, we knew it was the right call. This year, we're excited to get back out there, bring the community together and have a great day in support of the veterans we serve. Our event has a lot to offer so whether someone is a golfer or not, they can participate in some capacity," said Sgt. Brett D'Alessandro, President, Backpacks For Life.

The outing will be held at one of New Jersey's premiere golf courses, North Jersey Country Club located in Wayne, NJ. The event kicks off with the veteran owned business brunch featuring a variety of local veteran owned businesses including The Mobile Cigar Lounge, Backward Flag Brewing and Black 6 Coffee. The event continues with a round of 18

210 Court Place, Plainfield, NJ 07060

"Each yeah we try to bring something new and exciting from within our veteran community for others to experience. With the veteran owned business brunch and our cocktail reception, we're able to highlight incredible veteran owned small businesses and help them after what was a challenging year for all. It's an honor to share the stories of successful veteran entrepreneurs," said Alexa Modero, Executive Director, Backpacks For Life.

The evening concludes with a cocktail hour reception sponsored by Bond Street Mortgage. This portion of the event is open to the public, golfers and nongolfers alike. The reception features food and beverage, a silent auction and guest speaker, US Navy SEAL veteran, Anthony Page.

For all event details, tickets and registration, visit backpacksforlife.org/golf.

Backpacks For Life is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that serves the homeless and atrisk veteran community. By regularly distributing backpacks filled with essentials to Veterans on the streets and providing mentorship to at-risk Veterans and their families, Backpacks For Life aims to bridge the gap between Veterans and the resources available to them.



#### **REMINDER TO LOCK YOUR CAR DOORS**

Scotch Plains Police Department Please LOCK your car doors and do not leave anything of value in it, we are experiencing a rash of thefts from cars and thefts from packages from porch areas in town! The majority of the incidents are happening in the early morning hours, between 1 - 5 a.m., and the theft of the packages are happening at all times of the day. If you see or hear anything suspicious, please contact us immediately! Call 9-1-1 if it is an emergency or (908) 322-7100 ext. 0 if it is a non-emergency.

THE SCOTCH PLAINS POLICE DEPT. SEEKS SUBSITUTE CROSSING GUARDS Start on an on-call basisas needed: **MORNING - LUNCHTIME - AFTER SCHOOL** You must have your own transportation we supply the uniforms and training!! Call Sergeant Brown at 908-322-7100 ext 104 Or Stop by and pick up an application at the Scotch Plains Police Department 430 Park Ave, Scotch Plains, NJ



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