

# Fanwood Post NJ

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## SCOTCH PLAINS' OWN COMEDIAN MIKE MARINO

Submitted by Michael D. Boll, New Jersey Veterans Network

I recently had the honor and pleasure of meeting "New Jersey's Bad Boy of Comedy" Mike Marino. Mike grew up in Scotch Plains, and resides there now in his childhood home.

He is a comic who has performed all over the world and head-lined at some of the biggest stages, clubs, and theaters in the country. This talented comedian has been on the stage with some of the biggest names in the business. Mike has appeared in over 200 national television commercials, received many endorsements, and a Best Actor Clio Award Nomination. He has acted in many prime-time soaps and television shows including: As the World Turns, One Life to Live, Becker, Nikki, Frasier and Party of Five. His film credits include Crooks, Pizza with Bullets, hangin' in Hedo, Steven King's Lucky Quarter and Criticized.

Adding to his great success in film, theatre, commercials and soaps, Mike Marino began touring the world performing and selling out at countless clubs, theatres and casinos. His stand-up material ranges from cutting edge observations of everyday life to his Italian family roots, which recently spun into a television pilot called "Re-Constructing Jersey". His comedic style has landed him guest appearances on "The Tonight Show" as a regular sketch player, "The Martin Short Show", "Canada's Comedy TV", "The Boomer Show", "Wild Pitch", and "Hand Held Comedy Radio". A clip of Mike's appearance on Byran Allen's "Comics Unleashed" earned him over 7 million views (and counting). This led to his current web series "Marino 2016" – an original comedy based on Mike's Road to the White House and wise guy attempt to become the first Italian American President of the United States.

Recently, Untied Brewing Company hosted a comedy show for the New Jersey Veterans Network in New Providence. Both Assemblyman Jon Bramnick, known as New Jersey's funniest lawyer, and Mike Marino performed at the show and it sold out immediately. After the show, I was able to meet Mike and he explained to me how he always supported our uniformed heroes and wanted to really get involved with our team.

A few days later, I met with Mike in his 'Mother's Basement' studio, in Scotch Plains, where he hosts his nationwide podcast show, and we began working on ideas to help the charity. Mike has always supported our uniformed heroes; he was a member of the USO comedy team and entertained the troops in places like Bosnia and Afghanistan. After his comedy tour, Mike was awarded the prestigious "Bob Hope" award. This award is only presented to performers who go beyond the call of duty. Mike has hosted and performed countless times for our brothers and sisters in blue. After the 9-11 tragedy, Mike felt he was obligated to do something for the first responders' families affected by that horrendous and devastating day. He joined up with both the Los Angeles Sheriffs and Police Department, and they do a comedy show every year that raises money for the 9-11 fallen families.

New Jersey Veterans Network is very lucky to have Mike on board and we can't wait to bring joy to these extremely difficult times.



(above) Mike with his many awards including the honors he received for helping veterans. Mike was awarded the prestigious "Bob Hope" award. This award is only presented to performers who go beyond the call of duty.

For more information, and if you would like to follow Mike Marino, please check out his website [mikemarino.net](http://mikemarino.net) and podcast – "Live from My Mother's Basement".

If you are interested in joining the New Jersey Veterans Network team please contact Michael Boll at [mdbollio@optonline.net](mailto:mdbollio@optonline.net). For more information visit [NJVN.org](http://NJVN.org).

### ABOUT NEW JERSEY VETERANS NETWORK

We are a group of veterans and volunteers dedicated to helping our veterans and their families live better lives. Our mission is to identify veterans and connect them with resources and programs designed to meet their unique set of needs. If you are interested in joining our team, would like us to speak at your event, or contribute to our mission, call 973-332-1556 or email [mdbollio@optonline.net](mailto:mdbollio@optonline.net). To learn more visit [njvn.org](http://njvn.org).

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Fanwood Post

## LES MISÉRABLES

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Repertory Theatre is proud to present this year's musical production of Les Misérables. The students of SPFHS are thrilled to bring this legendary Broadway musical to our stage and encourage one and all to come out and "hear the people sing!"

Performances will be on Thursday, March 31, Friday, April 1, and Saturday, April 2 at 7:30 p.m. There will also be a matinee on Sunday, April 3 at 2:00 p.m.

All performances will take place in the Maya Ungar Auditorium at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, located at 667 Westfield Road, in Scotch Plains, NJ.



Photo by Scotch Plains-Fanwood public schools

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## GARDEN VOLUNTEERS WANTED

*Borough of Fanwood*

A great volunteer opportunity for service groups, scouts, work groups, families, individuals, committees or organizations.

Want to get outside and enjoy the fresh air? Help improve our environment one small space at a time and learn about native plants! Get creative using nature! The Fanwood Environmental Commission is looking for volunteers to help maintain gardens at Borough Hall and other areas around town. The Commission will provide guidance, advice and know-how (and garden tools if needed).

If interested,  
please email fanwood.ec.1895@gmail.com.

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## THIS EARTH DAY MAKE A COMMITMENT TO "HELP SAVE OUR LOCAL TREES"

*Advertisement by Gene Gregory from DefendOurTrees.com*

### IN 2020 HEADLINES READ:

1. "HIGHEST CARBON DIOXIDE RATE EVER RECORDED IN HUMAN HISTORY"
2. "2020 SETS ANOTHER GLOBAL TEMPERATURE RECORD."

Did you know? Science says that **"the most important thing we can do GLOBALLY to curb this PHENOMENON is to Save our OLD Trees."**

You don't have to believe in Climate Change or Global Warming to know this is a bad thing. Increasing Carbon Dioxide levels decrease the amount of oxygen in the air. This along with other pollutants in the air, has not only been linked to climate change and Global Warming, but an array of diseases as well: Cancer, Diabetes, Premature births,... Autism, the list goes on and on.

These problems and the severity are dramatically worse in poorer areas with more industry, diesel fumes and NO TREES. (please see "Earth Day turns 50" in the Star Ledger, it touches on what are children and their children are facing. One of the things they speak of are the "Large bodies of polluted water" we are leaving behind.

Despite these facts and my efforts: dozens of these trees, our "Oldest Residents", are killed in our local neighborhoods each year. Among the many losses: Shade, Solace the Filtering of our Air and Water, the oxygen they provided, ...they also release the Carbon they have accumulated for hundreds of years.

On June 8th, 2021, I hired a tree expert to help

save some of the trees in our area. I showed him dozens of trees in Westfield, New Providence, Summit and Scotch Plains. He used the word "disgusting" to describe what he saw. In his report he writes "that many of these trees can be saved if prompt action is taken".

### HOW CAN YOU HELP SAVE THESE TREES?

Please visit our site and read all the facts **defendourtrees.com** See the:

- 1) "Pictorial of trees that can be saved". These are just a few of the many OLD trees being destroyed and dying in our area. If you live in the area, please write a letter (to your local mayor and town council) demanding this needless destruction of our old trees, stop immediately. Please Email a copy to **defendourtrees.com**
- 2) Please also read "Rooting out Problems" at my site or google it yourself.

It explains: "simple measures for saving trees during construction",

which is the biggest cause of killing our trees. Most importantly, you will recognize what will harm a tree. Make a commitment to share this information with your children and friends.

**Instagram @DefendOurTreesNJ**  
to see other sites and locations.



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## KINDERGARTEN & GRADE 1 REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools

Registration for the Scotch Plains-Fanwood 2022-2023 school year for Kindergarten and Grade 1 is now open.

All children who are residents of Scotch Plains or Fanwood who will be five years old on or before October 1, 2022 are eligible to enroll in Kindergarten. Please visit [spfk12.org/enrollment](http://spfk12.org/enrollment) > Kindergarten Enrollment for details and pertinent links.

All children who are residents of Scotch Plains or Fanwood who will be six years old on or before October 1, 2022 are eligible to enroll in Grade 1. If you are new to the SPF District, visit: [spfk12.org/enrollment](http://spfk12.org/enrollment)

Please register by May 26 to ensure enrollment in your home school.



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## SPRING AND SUMMER PROGRAMS

### EASTER EGG HUNT RETURNS

The Easter Egg Hunt returns to Forest Road Park this year on Saturday, April 9, 10 a.m. Rain date is the following Saturday, April 16. Some adjustments will be made in light of continuing COVID concerns, but the prize-popping "bunny chute" that was introduced last year will be back to dispense more Easter goodies. Come out to meet the Easter Bunny! And don't forget to bring your basket!

### SPRING AND SUMMER PROGRAMS

#### For Children:

Spring Break Multi Sports Camp, Pickleball Lessons, Tennis Lessons, Skateboarding Lessons, Pre-school & Kindergarten Sports Programs (Soccer, Multi-Sports, T-Ball), TGA Premier Junior Golf, TGA Premier Junior Golf Spring

Break Camp, Fashion Design, Young Rembrandts Elementary Drawing Class, Babysitting Certification, Hip Hop Dance.

#### Summer Programs for Children:

Summer Park Program, TGA Premier Junior Golf Camp, Junior Tennis Lessons, Pickleball Lessons, Skateboarding Camp, Girls Lacrosse Camp, Hip Hop Dance Camp, Babysitting Certification, Junior First Responders.

#### SPRING PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS:

Pickleball Lessons, Tennis Lessons, Acrylic Painting Bootcamp (online).

Spring Programs for Seniors (online): Zumba Gold, Meditation, Aerobics, Gentle Yoga

#### SUMMER PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS:

Pickleball Lessons, Tennis Lessons.

Photo by Bob Budiansky



(above) More summer programs are still being added. For more information about all these programs and to register, please go to [fanwoodrecreation.org](http://fanwoodrecreation.org).

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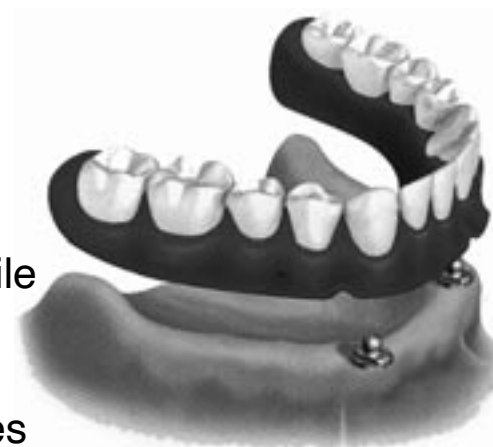
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## DOGS IN PARKS

During the Feb. 22nd Council meeting, seven citizens spoke in favor of repealing the current ordinance, which dates back 21 years, prohibiting dogs in Fanwood's parks. Carolyn Brink, leader of a group of Fanwood dog owners, presented a petition with signatures of supporters. Young Alexa Pugliese, 11, told the Council she would like to be able to walk her dog in the park. Mayor Mahr promised a continued dialogue on the issue.



Photo by Tom Kranz

## GIRL SCOUT DAY CELEBRATED

### Borough of Fanwood

Mayor Colleen Mahr invited local Brownies and Daisies to the March Agenda/Work Session meeting on Monday, March 7, 2022, in observance of Girl Scout Day. The Brownies from Troop 393 at Evergreen School and the Daisies from Troop 346 at School One led the

Pledge of Allegiance, posed with Mayor Mahr at the podium and recited various accomplishments of the Girl Scouts over the years. Julie Murphy of the Girl Scouts of Scotch Plains-Fanwood received the Girl Scout Day proclamation from the Mayor. The Mayor also reminded everyone that it's Girl Scout Cookie Time!



(above) The girls and Julie Murphy pose with Mayor Mahr.

Photos by Tom Kranz



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## FANWOOD CELEBRATES ARBOR DAY



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**SATURDAY, JUNE 4TH**

*Starting with a Mass at 5:00pm  
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### ST. ANTHONY'S SCHOOL CAFETERIA

*227 Centre St, Elizabeth, NJ*

**ALL ALUMNI ARE INVITED.**

*The Salesian Sisters*

*served St. Anthony's from 1954 to 1992.*

Please register for this free event at:

[eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)

(search Salesian-Sisters-Celebrate-150)

or link from our facebook group page:

St. Anthony's school reunion

The Fanwood Shade Tree Commission will host the annual Arbor Day celebration at Carriage House Park on Friday, April 29, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend. This is the 150th anniversary of the first Arbor Day, and the 50th anniversary of the Arbor Day Foundation.

A brief history of Arbor Day: As pioneers began moving into the Nebraska Territory, the lack of trees was felt deeply. Not only did the new residents miss the trees they left behind, they were also left without the trees they needed as windbreaks to keep soil in place, for fuel and building materials and for shade from the hot sun. Nebraska newspaper editor and tree enthusiast J. Sterling Morton advocated strongly for individuals and civic groups to plant trees. Once he became secretary of the Nebraska Territory,

Morton proposed a tree planting holiday to be called "Arbor Day". The celebration was held on April 10, 1872. Prizes were offered for the largest number of properly planted trees on that day. Today Arbor Day is celebrated in all 50 states. While Nebraska City, NE is the birthplace of the Arbor Day holiday, communities around the globe gather every year to celebrate trees and plant for a greener tomorrow.

Fanwood is a recipient of the national Tree City, USA award given by the Arbor Day Foundation in recognition of its ongoing dedication to shade tree health and environmental change. Come and hear what the commission is doing to beautify Fanwood. The event will conclude with a tree seedling give away.

## FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL - MAY 1

Scotch Plains Fanwood High School will be hosting their annual Food Truck and Craft Festival on Sunday, May 1, 2022 between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. Rain or shine. The event is pet friendly and will be held in the SPFHS parking lot, located at 667 Westfield Road in Scotch Plains.

Admission prior to April 14th is \$8 per person or \$25 per family (Max 6 per family). To pay in advance please Venmo @spfhs2022.

Admission on the day of event is cash only at the entrance, \$10 per person or \$30 per family (Max 6 per family).

The senior class is counting on our community to attend this fundraiser which supports their

year-end activities.

Come out and show your support for local vendors and the Class of 2022's final days together before departing to their new adventures.

Some delicious FOOD TRUCKS include: What's Up Dogs, Cas' Pierogi & Kielbasa, Angry Archie's, Ms Fu's Asian Fusion, Greece Lightening, Black Drop Coffee.

Some of our favorite crafters' offerings: Homemade sauces, Clothing, Personalized Woodwork. Live music and more! You don't want to miss this event.

For more information, please contact Jennifer Palermo at [foodtruckspfhs@outlook.com](mailto:foodtruckspfhs@outlook.com).



**FAITH** Lutheran Church

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### Sunday Mornings

Liturgies with Eucharist at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.

### Passion/Palm Sunday - April 10

8:00 a.m. Spoken Liturgy with Eucharist  
10:00 a.m. Festival Liturgy with Eucharist

### Holy Thursday - April 14

12 noon Spoken Liturgy with Eucharist  
7:30 p.m. Liturgy with Rite of First Holy Communion

### Good Friday - April 15

12 noon Ecumenical Community Service  
7:30 p.m. Service of Tenebrae

### Holy Saturday - April 16

A Day of Silence, Prayer & Reflection

### Easter Celebration - April 17

7:00 a.m. Memorial Garden Liturgy  
8:00 a.m. Spoken Liturgy with Eucharist  
10:00 a.m. Festival Liturgy with Eucharist

Visit our website at [famfaith.org](http://famfaith.org) or find us on Facebook at Faith Lutheran, New Providence

*We practice an open Communion table. All are welcome!*

SAVE THE DATE

SCOTCH PLAINS FANWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

## FOOD TRUCK and CRAFT FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, MAY 1<sup>st</sup> | 11am - 5pm

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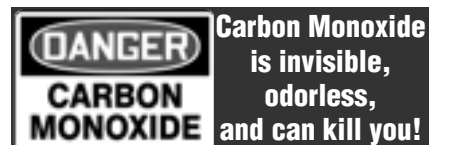
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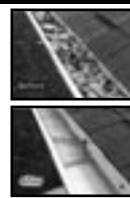
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## FSP ROTARY SUPPORTS UKRAINE – YOU CAN HELP

Submitted by Maria LaMorte-Wright

In response to the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine, the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club set up a collection to support Ukrainian refugees who have fled to surrounding countries as well as those who remain in the country. According to the United Nations, the senseless war has forced

over 2 million people to flee to surrounding countries, while over a million have been displaced within Ukraine.

The club kicked off a humanitarian relief effort on March 8th. The primary area of focus is sending donations to Shelterbox, a disaster response organization who will provide temporary transitional housing and other essential supplies. They will also send funds to organizations within Ukraine and Poland to help the people remaining within Ukraine and those who have left the country. The list of organizations who will receive money include: Rotary Clubs in Ukraine, the Rotary Club of Warsaw in Poland and Rotary International Disaster Fund.

The FSP Rotary Club sent a \$1,000 donation to Shelterbox, \$1,000 to the Disaster Fund and \$1000 to Rotary Clubs. As of March 16th, Rotarians and members of the community have already donated an additional \$2,500.

The club is also sending supplies to Ukraine and are working with the Greater Westfield

Chapter of Unico National. They are collecting aspirin, bandages, band-aids, tourniquet gauze, gauze pads, medical tape and medical gloves. These can be dropped off at Apple Blossom in Scotch Plains through April 15th.

The community is encouraged to participate in this local fundraiser. Tax-deductible donations can be made by going to [fsprotary.org](https://fsprotary.org). If you'd like your donation to be directed toward a specific organization, please include that in the note when donating online.

For additional information, go to [fsprotary.org](https://fsprotary.org) or contact Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary President Deanna Dell Bene at [president@fsprotary.org](mailto:president@fsprotary.org).

The Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club has been serving the community since 1938. The club meets in person on Wednesdays at noon at the Stage House in Scotch Plains (except the last Wednesday of the month). For a meeting schedule and further information about the club, go to [fsprotary.org](https://fsprotary.org) or visit their Facebook page: Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club.



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Employers like TJ Max have found that partnering with ITO is rewarding in and of itself. In addition to intangible rewards, ITO will recognize you and your business on its social media platforms, give you a \$100 gift card to Railside Café in Fanwood, present you with a certificate of appreciation to display in your workplace, and post signage naming you as a partner at all Inroads Events.

For more information, email [ocuc@inroadsto.com](mailto:ocuc@inroadsto.com), visit [inroadsto.org](https://inroadsto.org), or call 908-241-7200.

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## PHIL D'AMBROSIO REMEMBERED

### Borough of Fanwood

Phil D'Ambrosio, a 50-year member of the Fanwood Fire Department and decades-long volunteer with the Fanwood Rescue Squad, died at age 82 in his home in Lebanon, New Jersey, on January 2, 2022.

Phil and wife Nancy were fixtures at the Rescue Squad for many years. Nancy, one of New Jersey's first EMTs, is a Life Member. Phil and Nancy were named Volunteers of the Month in February 2012 by Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr and the Borough Council.

Born in New York, Mr. D'Ambrosio lived in Fanwood for more than 50 years. He had an extensive career as an engineer, working for

Western Union International, Honeywell, and Networks Security. He was an avid outdoorsman who loved skiing, bike riding, boating, and scuba diving and who was a certified scuba instructor. He also had a great love for animals.

Our condolences go out to our veteran Life Member Nancy and sons James of Hillsborough and Anthony of Mays Landing; four grandchildren: Danielle, Samantha, Nicholas, and Brayden; and Phil's brother William. His sister Melissa predeceased him.

Although services were private, memorial donations can be made to St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center at 3201 US-22 in Somerville.

Photo by Fanwood Rescue Squad



(above l-r) Nancy D'Ambrosio, Mayor Colleen Mahr, and Phil D'Ambrosio as the D'Ambrosios are named Volunteers of the Month by the Mayor and Fanwood Borough Council in February 2012.



(above) A 1979 group photo of Fanwood Rescue Squad with Phil D'Ambrosio highlighted.



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## EARTH DAY RAHWAY RIVER CLEAN-UP - APRIL 23

All volunteers are invited to celebrate Earth Day 2022 with Boy Scout Troop 330, Cub Scout Pack 30 and members of the Rahway River Watershed Association in a clean-up of the Rahway River on Saturday, April 23rd (with a rain date of Sunday, April 24th). The clean-up will focus on areas upstream and downstream of the dam at Winfield Park, New Jersey throughout Rahway River Park. Please plan to stop by the parking area adjacent to the waterfall of the Rahway River by the dam at Winfield Park at 8:45 a.m. to register, pick up bags, gloves, bottled water and snacks, and receive safety information.

Teams will be encouraged to travel to any part of the river within the park where they would like to perform cleanup activities but we specifically will ask folks to always work in small groups for safety purposes with folks socially distanced.

Cleaning up a river and park area is a great way to celebrate Earth Day and if you haven't participated in an event like this before, you will find it invigorating, and you will feel good about what you have accomplished. It is also fun and educational, especially for scouts and young adults as they always find something interesting. Over the 20+ years this cleanup has occurred thousands of folks have participated, including girl scouts, cub scouts, boy scouts, fishermen, local activists and citizens, and we pulled some amazing things from the river.

The clean-up will generally be between 9a.m. till noon, but any amount of time or effort that folks can volunteer is appreciated. There is always a large volume of floatable debris to pick up, and this year there remains substantial debris in the floodplain from Hurricane Ida last fall. The team working registration will provide

suggestions on areas with large volumes of floatable debris.

All participants should wear jeans, long-sleeved shirts, gloves and boots, waders are welcome for folks who like to get a little wet. Each participant should bring a standard 5-gallon carry bucket with a handle (put your name on the bottom), this makes for easy carrying of "stuff" for transfer to the large garbage bags. A mulching rake is also a great asset to have to enable reaching out and pulling debris into shore from the river bank. When we complete the event we do a basic inventory of the "big stuff" that we removed, and within approximately 24 hours Union County Parks removes and disposes of all the trash. There is no RSVP required but if you need more information or think you will attend please let us know by e-mail at [rivercleanup@comcast.net](mailto:rivercleanup@comcast.net).



*(above) Celebrate Earth Day 2022 by helping to clean-up the Rahway River on Saturday, April 23rd (with a rain date of Sunday, April 24th). Please plan to stop by the parking area adjacent to the waterfall of the Rahway River by the dam at Winfield Park at 8:45 a.m. There is no RSVP required but if you need more information or think you will attend please let us know by e-mail at [rivercleanup@comcast.net](mailto:rivercleanup@comcast.net).*



*(above) Some interesting things have been pulled out of the river during the annual Earth Day River Clean-up events*

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# JULIA DRANISHNIKOV SWORN IN AS ADVOCATE FOR FOSTER YOUTH

## CASA of Union County

The new class of community members to step up and train as advocates for Union County foster youth have taken their oath before Union County Superior Court Judge Lara K. DiFabrizio and become the newest volunteers with Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Union County.

Since 2005, the nonprofit has recruited, trained, supported and supervised nearly 600 community volunteers to advocate for more than 900 such youth, protecting best interests and ensuring needs are met in the courtroom, classroom, and community. As caseworkers, foster placements, and schools can change frequently, CASA volunteers often are the only consistent, caring adult in a youth's corner, helping ensure already experienced trauma is not exacerbated as youth await permanency in a safe and loving home.

Scotch Plains' Julia Dranishnikov has worked in education and volunteered for AmeriCorp. Her

journey in advocacy continues now as a CASA volunteer to positively impact kids in the community.

Judge DiFabrizio presided over the Zoom swearing-in ceremony of Dranishnikov and her classmates Lynda Sun Lee of Berkeley Heights, Katherine (Katie) Rabiecki of Cranford, Dina Gharaibeh of Kearny, Lila Monroe of Roselle, and Robert Mallard of Union. In commemoration with gratitude, Judge DiFabrizio noted, "Thank you all for your commitment, passion, hard work, and loyalty to these families that desperately need it. It takes a village and now you're a part of it." Each volunteer will now be matched to a foster youth or foster sibling set, and begin putting their 30-hour training into practice, ensuring their needs are met and best interests are protected while they await permanency.

Anyone passionate about making a difference in a child's life can apply to volunteer; there is no prior experience or background needed to serve as an advocate. Each undergoes a thorough

training process and is supported by CASA staff throughout their work. Successful advocates have varied life experiences and this class is no exception, as professional backgrounds include social work, education, judicial clerkship, health management, and business.

Upon being court-ordered to a case, the CASA volunteer has access to the youth's foster parents, doctors, caseworkers, therapists, and teachers and, through their regular child visits, identify and report to the judge any concerns and needs in order to protect the child's best interests.

As the only nonprofit serving as extra eyes and ears for Union County judges hearing cases of youth in the child welfare system, the organization regularly recruits community volunteers to serve these local child-victims from birth to age 21.

To learn more about CASA of Union County, how to join a training class, and other ways to Change a Child's Story, email [info@casaoofunioncounty.org](mailto:info@casaoofunioncounty.org).



(above l-r) Community members are sworn in as advocates for foster youth. Berkeley Heights' Lynda Sun Lee, Roselle's Lila Monroe, Cranford's Katherine Rabiecki; Union County Superior Court Judge Lara K. DiFabrizio, Kearny's Dina Gharaibeh; Scotch Plains' Julia Dranishnikov.

Photo by Court Appointed Special Advocates of Union County

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# AUTHOR PETER BROWN INSPIRES COLES STUDENTS



(above) Author Peter Brown gets Coles students interested in the creative processes of writing and illustration at a recent virtual visit sponsored by Coles PTA.

### Coles Elementary School PTA

To kick off the return to school following the holiday break, Coles students had a virtual visit with Peter Brown, author of *The Wild Robot* and many other popular children's books.

Mr. Brown shared his journey from a kid who liked to draw to the author he is today, giving students a peek inside early stories and the illustrations he created when he was just 6 years old.

Mr. Brown also gave students a virtual tour of his studio, where he creates the illustrations in his books.

Students then had an opportunity to sketch Roz from *The Wild Robot* along with Peter. "It was exciting to learn how to draw Roz and made me feel like an illustrator drawing!" said, Matteo Penoro, a Coles 3rd Grader.

Prior to Mr. Brown's visit, the Coles PTA ran book sales for *The Wild Robot* and *The Wild Robot Escapes*, so students could become familiar with his writing and get excited for the visit. Media Specialist Mrs. Giannacio facilitated

a school-wide read aloud of *The Wild Robot* that culminated with Brown's visit.

Events such as these are possible thanks to the hardworking Coles staff and parent volunteers of the Coles PTA.

For more information about Coles PTA, visit [spfk12.org](http://spfk12.org) > PTA.



(above) Peter Brown, author of *The Wild Robot*, makes a virtual visit to Coles Elementary School courtesy of Coles PTA.

Photos by Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools

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**\$50**

PER 1,000

## ONLINE ADS & PRESS RELEASES DRIVE LOCAL TRAFFIC TO YOUR WEBSITE

### • GET UNLIMITED CLICKS

An alternative to expensive pay-per-click programs

### • FREE AD DESIGN AND COPYWRITING

Advertising webpage includes many features including write-up, images, video, Google map, etc.

### • POSTS ARE SHARED THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA

Posts shared on multiple Facebook pages and twitter.

### • PAID SEARCH ENGINE PROMOTIONS

Posts are promoted by industry, key words and location.

### • TRACKABLE RESULTS

All ads include a live view counter.

Joe Renna at 908-447-1295

email: [JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com](mailto:JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com)



**\$10**

**PER POST**

Block of 20 for \$200

Single post is \$20

**ONE TIME**

**FLAT FEE**

**\$250**

Call for a consultation

if you do not have a website

or if need a new one.

Joe Renna at 908-447-1295

email: [JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com](mailto:JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com)

## WEBSITE AUDIT/ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATION PLAN

### • SEE WHAT IS WORKING AND NOT WORKING

Know where your web traffic is coming from and why.

### • ELIMINATE / AVOID COSTLY SCHEMES

Evaluate the return you are getting from your online marketing costs.

### • INCREASE ONLINE MARKETING RESULTS

Recommendations include ways to increase traffic to your website

### • NO OBLIGATION

This service is recommended even if you have an existing web management contract. Use it to tune up your marketing plan.

## WEBSITE / SEO SERVICES

### • STARTER WEBSITE: \$500

Basic static site that can be developed further

### • 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

Call for free a consultation if you need

help developing an online marketing plan.

**STARTER**

**WEBSITE**

**\$500**

Joe Renna at 908-447-1295

email: [JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com](mailto:JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com)

## CHESS LESSONS

### International Master Yaacov Norowitz

- Group or private lessons
- Live or virtual options
- Classes for all Levels from beginners on up



Call or email Joe Renna:

[joerenna@rennamedia.com](mailto:joerenna@rennamedia.com)

908-447-1295

For more info about lessons.

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**15% OFF  
SENIOR  
DISCOUNT**



• FOUNDATIONS • PATIOS • STEPS

• MASONRY

## Spring Specials

**\$300 OFF  
ANY  
CHIMNEY  
REPAIR**

Expires April 30, 2022



**\$200  
ANY  
GUTTER  
CLEANING**

(Average house)



**\$300 OFF  
ANY ROOF  
REPAIR**

Expires April 30, 2022



**\$400 OFF  
NEW STEPS**

Expires April 30, 2022



**\$800 OFF  
ANY NEW  
ROOF JOB**

Expires April 30, 2022



**\$1,300  
CHIMNEY  
LINER**

