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Issue 83 • August 2022

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#### **CELEBRATING FIFTY YEARS OF SERVICE**

Submitted by Marcy Lechner

The Friends of the Westfield Memorial Library capped this vear with a Proclamation from the Westfield Town Council acknowledging their fifty years of service on June 14, 2022. Many of the long standing members of the Friends were in attendance to appreciate the town's recognition. Co-President Mike Miller shared "It's an honor to receive this Proclamation. The Friends enjoy their time and effort to provide service to the library and the Westfield community. We look forward to the next fifty years."

While the spring season is over, the Friends are busy

planning for the fall. Come join us for a Broadway Bus trip to see Funny Girl on October 19 or to see a performance of Lady MacBeth of Mtsensk (Shostakovich) by the NY Metropolitan Opera on October 12. If a service program is your interest sign up to deliver Books-on-Wheels or to our Little Free Libraries around town. Of course, the Friends welcome new members to join any one of our program and event committees. To learn more about the Friends visit us at FWMLNJ.ORG, like us on Facebook at Friends of the Westfield Memorial Library or follow us on Instagram friendswmlibrarynj.



(above) Standing in the lobby of the Westfield Municipal Building are Friends Members, Suzanne O'Rourke, Harriet Davidson, Marcy Lechner, Mike Miller, Jerry Skotnicki, Mary Orlando and Erin Miller with Library Director, Allen McGinley.



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FREE CONSULTATION

#### YOGA ON THE GREEN

Westfield High School Girls Ice Hockey



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Westfield Monthly

The Westfield High School Girls Ice Hockey team hosted their annual Yoga on the Green fundraiser at Shackamaxon Country Club on Tuesday, June 7th. Seventy-five people experienced a memorable evening of yoga and meditation led by Gina Pachkowski of Alluem Yoga followed by singing bowls led by Sherrie Williamson of Summit Yoga & Sound. A

healthy dinner and delicious pastries from Bovella's Pastry Shoppe rounded out the evening.

A portion of the proceeds were donated to Play for P.I.N.K, an organization which raises money to bring about breakthroughs in detection, treatment, prevention and survivorship of breast cancer.



(above, l-r) Top: Olivia Rosario, Jordan Khan, Paige Felter, Lillie Martel, Joelle Tannenbaum,
Emily Shabinaw, Ava Benson, Miriam Walsh, Joanie Gallo, Jane Gugliemo. Bottom:
Beth Hornstein, Sarah Lamonica, Juliana Habib, Ella Conover, Marlena Gapp, Ava Gorski
and Gina Pachkowski
Photo by DeHanes Photography

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#### Westfield MONTHLY · Page 4 · August 2022 STUDENTS TO COMPETE AT THE COLLEGE LEVEL



#### Westfield Public Schools

signed Letters of Intent with colleges and universities, signifying recognition of the seniors' accomplishments both academically athletically. The following student-athletes will continue to compete at the college level:

Owen Carolan - Hobart and William Smith Colleges – Sailing; Michael "Trey" Constantinou - Stevens Institute of Technology - Lacrosse; Nicholas Conti - Gettysburg College - Golf; Adam Contract - Gettysburg College – Tennis; Sean Crann - Stevens Institute of Technology -Fencing; Conor Daly - Washington University in

St. Louis - Cross Country/Track & Field; Emily Sixteen Westfield High School student-athletes DiSarno - Providence College - Cross Country/Track and Field; Shane "Duke" Edmondson - Dickinson College - Lacrosse; Patrick Flaherty - Gettysburg College – Baseball; Emma Heinze - Ithaca College - Swimming; Sarah Kennedy - University of Scranton -Swimming; Kieran Koenke - Susquehanna University – Lacrosse; Chloe Kreusser - Emory University – Basketball; Erin McKinney - Iona College - Swimming; Charlie Stock - Virginia Tech - Cross Country/Track & Field; Jack Walter - Wheaton College - Lacrosse. (Not pictured: Charlie Stock, Jack Walter, Conor Daly)

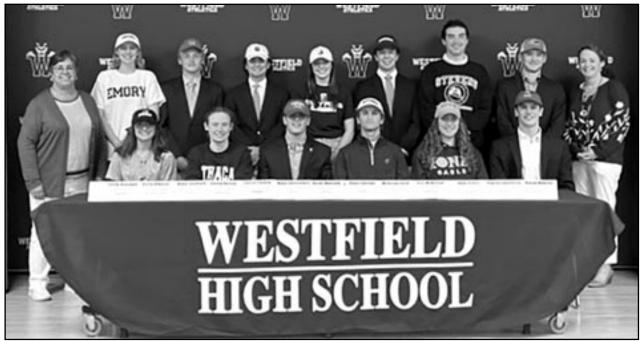


Photo by Westfield High School Athletics Department

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#### Recent Westfield Home Sales

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ADDRESS	BEDS	BATHS	GARAGE	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	DOM
256 Canterbury Rd	4.2	5	2	\$1,699,000	\$2,210,000	8
861 Boulevard	5.0	6	2	\$1,799,000	\$1,825,000	9
110 Golf Edge Dr	3.0	4	2	\$1,275,000	\$1,665,000	0
9 Bell Drive	4.0	5	2	\$1,549,900	\$1,651,000	11
101 Winchester Way	3.1	5	2	\$1,299,000	\$1,225,000	11
316 Park St	4.0	5	2	\$1,050,000	\$1,140,000	18
1501 Pine Grove Ave	2.1	4	2	\$999,900	\$1,075,000	7
515A Carleton Rd	4.1	4	1	\$899,000	\$970,000	6
88 Fairhill Dr	2.2	4	2	\$895,000	\$905,000	6
318 Orenda Cir	3.0	4	2	\$899,000	\$899,000	45
251 Hazel Ave	3.0	4	2	\$789,000	\$835,000	8
131 Greene Pl	3.1	3	1	\$779,000	\$793,000	30
321 E Grove St	3.1	3	1	\$749,900	\$780,000	21
608 Ardsleigh Dr	1.1	3	1	\$749,000	\$780,000	12
1472 E Broad St	2.1	3	1	\$674,900	\$650,000	43

Source: GSMLS, select properties sold 7/1/022-7/18/2022



Rahul + Smitha Ramchandani, Laura DiCataldo, Charlene Milano, and Marta Kowal Sales Associates

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#### SUMMIT FOUNDATION DONATES \$14,000 TO CARING CONTACT

Julie Keenan, President of the Board of Trustees of the Summit Foundation, presented a \$14,000 grant to Caring Contact on June 10, 2022.

For 50 years, the Summit Foundation has served the community by growing and granting philanthropic resources to address local needs. During the last 5 years alone, they invested \$5.3 million through grants, scholarships, community-supported funds, and donor-advised distributions.

"On July 16th the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline changed its' 10-digit phone number to "988", making it easier for those in emotional distress to get the help they need. With this change will come an increase in calls to Caring Contact", said Mary Claire Givelber, Executive Director of Caring Contact. "The Summit Foundation's generosity will ensure that Caring Contact has more trained listeners available to answer these calls."

Caring Contact's goal for 2022 is to answer over 6,000 calls from the Lifeline. We provide this support through our amazing staff of highly trained Volunteer Crisis Line workers. We currently have over 90 volunteers and will begin our 101th training session this September. The Summit Foundation's support allows us to continue training more volunteers which enables us to help more individuals in distress.

Caring Contact is an award-winning, volunteer-staffed caring and crisis hotline providing active listening support and best-inclass education to the Central and Northern New Jersey community. They attentively and compassionately serve those in emotional distress and educate communities about the power of personal connection. Caring Contact is accredited by the International Center for Helplines, a member agency of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, and the American Association of Suicidology. To learn more about volunteer opportunities at Caring Contact, visit caringcontact.org. Ringcontact.org If you, or someone you know, is in crisis and need someone to listen, call us at 800.273.8255. You are not alone.



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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.
- · Rehabilitation can take years.

#### Consider This Alternative To Surgery

Northeast Spine & Wellness Center offers you a real opportunity 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.

#### **How Does This New Treatment Work?**

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

Spine & Wellness Center investing in the use of diagnostic fluoroscopy 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 explains 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!

#### 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

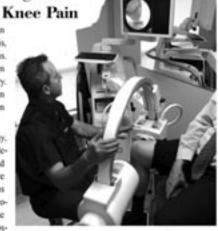
living with and can help. If you have any of the symptoms below, please call us today. Relief is a phone call away.

- 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.

#### 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.

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."

- Quenton L.

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#### Westfield MONTHLY • Page 8 • August 2022

(above) Emcee Marklyn Johnson and event coordinator Aimee Nuzzo



(above) Event sponsor, Dental Care Associates



(above) Addison, 3, from Scotch Plains gets an temporary tattoo



(above) Audra, 4, from Scotch Plains, with her dad



(above) Elvis impersonator Jim Barone

#### **THE SUN SHONE BRIGHTLY ON FANJAM 2022**

#### Borough of Fanwood

A perfect summer day greeted thousands of revelers attending the annual FanJam live music festival in Fanwood's LaGrande Park on Sunday, July 10, 2022.

Featured bands provided music for all generations—Elvis impersonator Jim Barone, rock cover band Mushmouth, funk and soul band Funktion Band and Eagles tribute band Winslow. All appeared on the stage under shade trees just off the main ballfield at LaGrande. Master of ceremonies was local comedian and impresario Marklyn "MisterDirect" Johnson.

Just a stone's throw away was a beer garden sponsored by Sheelen's Crossing bistro and a midway featuring local and regional vendors, games, face-painting, rides and a collection of

food trucks which has grown over the years. And behind the bandstand was a vintage car show that wrapped around three sides of the park including regional car clubs and their beautiful vehicles.

The FanJam is a production of the Borough of Fanwood and the Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce with a lengthy list of business sponsors including the event's Official Sponsor, Family Investors Company, as well as Fanwood Pharmacy, The Soho at Fanwood Station, Sheelen's Crossing and the Presenting Sponsor, Dentalcare Associates.

Supporting the event was the Fanwood Police Department, Fire Department and Rescue Squad, along with the Fanwood Department of Public Works.



(above) Fanwood Rescue Squad with Bruce and Melissa Padulsky of Little Hearts,
Big World Safety instruction
Photos by Tom Kranz

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#### **THROUGH THE LENS '22**

The Westfield Public Arts Commission (WPAC) Second Annual Through the Lens Photography Exhibit will be on display thru the summer. The exhibit runs alongside The Rialto on Central Avenue. This year's theme is "Renewal and Strength," and the photos from local artists explore what renewal and strength look like through their eyes and the camera lens. Photos are available for sale, with all proceeds to go towards future public art exhibits.



Courtesy photo

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#### **FLYERS CAPTURE 11 STATE TITLES** AT USATF JUNIOR OLYMPICS

Westfield Area YMCA

Twenty six athletes from the Westfield Area Brian Guterl. Javelin - Alex Kessler. YMCA Flyers Track Club were among more than 700 athletes that competed at the State Junior Olympics on June 25-26 in Jersey City. One athlete set a meet record, three set club records and eight athletes brought home state championships. Two athletes won state championships in multiple events – Lidia Wright winning in three events and Millen Dhiman winning in two events. Overall, 18 athletes advanced to the Regional Junior Olympics in Slippery Rock, PA on July 7-10.

#### **STATE CHAMPIONS:**

**Girls 13-14 Division**: 4x100m Relay – Sydney Kessler, Lidia Wright, De'Janna Mathis, Grace Gloster. 3000m Race Walk – Diya Jain. 100m Hurdles & 200m Hurdles – Lidia Wright.

Boys 13-14 Division: 3000m Race Walk -

Boys 11-12 Division: Discus & Javelin (meet record) – Millen Dhiman.

Also advancing to the regional championships: Rachel Biondo, Julia Ronnen, Anna Youssef, Jessica Zhou, Abigail Drennan, Ruth Sharlein, Lucia Junkroft, Reya Yadav, Isabella Pacheco & Pallavi Shah.

The Westfield Area Y Flyers Track Club is dedicated to healthy competition, teamwork and individual development. The summer season will continue through July which will be followed by cross country in the Fall. For more information about the team, please visit the team's website at yflyerstrackclub.com or contact Michelle Almeida at (908) 233-2700.



(above) Girls 13-14 4x100m Relay Team - Sydney Kessler, Lidia Wright, De'Janna Mathis, Grace Gloster Courtesy photo

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THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

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#### **STUDENTS GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY**

Students in Westfield Area YMCA child care, preschool and Kindergarten programs recently made over 500 sandwiches which were donated to St. Helen's Church in Westfield to feed those in need. According to Mrs. Allyson Gialluisi, Y Kindergarten Teacher and drive organizer, "I love bringing my devotion to community service into my classroom lessons. This is one of the many reasons I love teaching at the YMCA. We are creating whole learners with strong foundations in social responsibilities as well as strong academics."

Courtesy photo





National Night Out Tuesday, August 2 6:00-9:00 pm At the North Avenue Train Lot Meet the staff Learn about Library Services Games and Activities for the Kids

Carol Simon Levin presents Women of the Sea and Stars Tuesday, August 2 at 7:00 pm

MRB Jazz Tuesday, August 9 at 7:00 pm

To register for Library programs and services, visit www.wmlnj.org or our Facebook page at facebook.com/wmlnj 550 E. Broad Street 908.789.4090

#### **CMC OF WESTFIELD ANNOUNCES 2022 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**

The College Men's Club of Westfield (CMC) has awarded \$61,000 in scholarships and grants to four young men from Westfield High School to help them pursue their college education. David Germond, CMC President, explained that "the recipients were selected based on their community achievement, academic involvement, and career direction.'

Antonio Carrero was awarded a \$20,000 College Men's Club of Westfield Scholarship. Antonio plans to study Political Science at Pennsylvania State University in State College, Pennsylvania, laying the foundation for a possible future career in law.

Pierce Kelly was awarded a \$20,000 College Men's Club of Westfield Scholarship. Pierce will attend Syracuse University in Syracuse, New York, and plans to major in Civil Engineering. He hopes to pursue a career in the design of transportation infrastructure.

Kevin Warren was awarded a \$20,000 College Men's Club of Westfield Scholarship. Kevin will attend Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana this Fall where he plans to study Aerospace Engineering. He intends to pursue a career in space technology.

Ellijah Burke was awarded a one-year, \$1,000 College Men's Club of Westfield Grant. Ellijah will be attending Union County College

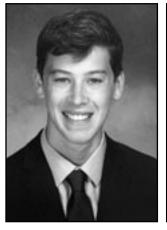
in Cranford, New Jersey, where he plans to study Graphic and Digital Design. He hopes to pursue a career in design for digital media.

The CMC held a reception to honor this year's four-year scholarship recipients on June 22nd at Echo Lake Country Club. During the reception the 2022 recipients were presented with their scholarships and previous awardees from Westfield High School classes of 2021, 2020 and 2019 shared updates on their academic and career progress.

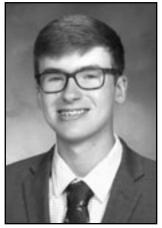
The College Men's Club of Westfield was founded in 1922 and over the past century has helped hundreds of Westfield young men by providing college tuition assistance and funding standardized test preparatory courses. Since its founding, the CMC has raised and distributed over \$1.2 million in higher education assistance to young men of the Westfield community.

Scholarship applications are available through local high school guidance departments in February of each year and are evaluated by a committee of CMC Trustees each Spring. Funds for scholarships come from fund raising events, donations, membership dues, endowment investment income, and legacy bequests.

To learn more about the College Men's Club of Westfield, please go to cmcwestfield.org.









(above, l-r) Kevin Warren, Ellijah Burke, Pierce Kelly, Antonio Carrero

Courtesy photos

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#### **WESTFIELD'S NEWEST EAGLE SCOUTS**

Westfield BSA Troop 72

Westfield's Troop 72 inducted 5 Eagle Scouts during a Court of Honor Ceremony held on June 12, 2022 at the Presbyterian Church in Westfield.

Westfield Chief of Police Christopher Battiloro, Mayor Shelley Brindle, Assemblyman Jon Bramnick and other representatives were on hand to celebrate the achievements of Evan McNamara, Peter Nazzaro, Richie Panikiewsky, Dhillon Patel, and Aidan Sheppard.

Multiple speakers at the ceremony pointed out, of all scouts since the inception of scouting in 1910, only 4% of scouts have earned the rank of Eagle (Scouts BSA's highest rank). Some well-known Eagle Scouts you have heard of: Gerald Ford, Martin Luther King, Jr., Neil Armstrong, Bill Gates and Steven Spielberg, to name a few.

In addition to earning many Merit Badges, and moving through years of rank advancement, an Eagle Scout must also undertake a project to benefit their community. Westfield was fortunate to be the beneficiary of the following 5 Eagle Scout projects.

Richie Panikiewsky's Eagle Scout project involved designing and building a custom made wood cabinet to be used by the Westfield DPW for storing the town's American flags. Troop 72 puts up and takes down the American flags from

the light poles in town each Spring and Fall as a service to the community.

Evan McNamara restored and enhanced the 4 deer exclosures on the Red Trail in the Watchung Reservation to encourage reforestation. Kean University environmental studies students now use these exclosures for research.

Peter Nazzaro's project, "Tech Essentials for Beginners" is designed for teaching people who are inexperienced with technology the basics through tutorial videos which are accessible on YouTube.

Dhillon Patel's project rehabilitated and improved 2 miles of wooded trails in Tamagues Park that had become hazardous from overuse.

Aidan Sheppard built a custom 5x8 shed for the Martin Wallberg American Legion Post 3. The shed was built to hold American flags dropped off by the community, as well as the miniature American flags placed at the graves of veterans at Fairview Cemetery each Memorial Day; the flags are stored in the shed until they can be properly retired.

To learn more about these and other Eagle scouts/projects; visit Troop troop72westfieldnj.org.

Congratulations to these amazing young men and their families on this spectacular achievement!

Photo by Westfield BSA Troop 72



(above, front row, l-r) Peter Nazzaro, Aidan Sheppard, Evan McNamara, Dhillon Patel, and Richie Panikiewsky.





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#### CMC OF WESTFIELD **HOLDS RECORD SETTING FUNDRAISER**



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After a 2-year hiatus due to COVID, the College Men's Club of Westfield (CMC) held a record-setting Poker Night fundraiser to benefit the CMC Scholarship Fund that more than doubled the results over past years. On Friday, June 17, more than 50 players assembled at the Kenilworth Veterans Center which was transformed into a Poker room with professional dealers to conduct the tournament. The evening generated net proceeds of more than \$10,000 for the club's scholarship fund.

CMC President Dave Germond noted, "The CMC is thrilled to see this turnout in support of our local charity; this was our first in-person event since the onset of the pandemic and we look forward to hosting our next fundraiser early this Fall." The tournament was run until there was a declared overall winner and prizes were awarded to the top three finishers. First prize winner of the night was Matthew Meyer, second place went to Alex Watson, and finishing in third of Westfield, please go to cmcwestfield.org. place was Scott Gootzheit.

The College Men's Club of Westfield was founded in 1922 and over the past century has helped hundreds of Westfield young men by providing college tuition assistance and funding standardized test preparatory courses. Since its founding, the CMC has raised and distributed over \$1.2 million in higher education assistance to young men of the Westfield community. In 2022 the CMC awarded \$61,000 in scholarships and grants to four Westfield High School graduating seniors.

Scholarship applications are available through local high school guidance departments in February of each year and are evaluated by a committee of CMC Trustees each Spring. Funds for scholarships come from fund raising events like the annual Poker Night, donations, membership dues, endowment investment income, and legacy bequests.

To learn more about the College Men's Club

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(above) College Men's Club Poker Night tournament champions. The first prize winner of the night was Matthew Meyer shown in the center, finishing in second place was Alex Watson on the right, and in third place was Scott Gootzheit on the left. The charity tournament was held at the Kenilworth Veterans Center.







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#### **JULY GARDEN** OF THE MONTH

Garden Club of Westfield

The Garden Club of Westfield has chosen Jessica Watley's lovely garden at 658 West Broad Street as their July Garden of the Month. Ms. Watley has loved nature and flowers ever since she was a young girl. She started to create her garden in April 2021 shortly after she bought her home. She planted the garden from scratch designing all the beds, hanging baskets and plant containers. Since her home is a corner property, she was able to continue her beds on the side of the house so that they would be visible to all who pass by. The front of the house contains eyecatching displays of petunias, dianthus, red salvia and marigolds. Hanging baskets and containers consist of mini-petunias, geraniums, verbena and impatiens. Along the side of the fence, one will discover more petunias, alternating with fragrant lavender as well as gladioli. Daylilies, Shasta daisies and hydrangea are coming into bloom. Later in the season, dahlias, hibiscus and mums will provide even more color. In her backyard, she planted a garden with tomatoes, arugula, peppers, Swiss chard, zucchini and more vegetables and flowers. Ms. Watley isn't finished planting yet. She plans on adding even more plants and flowers in the future.



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#### **GENE JANNOTTI RECEIVES NJBIZ ICON HONOR**

Gene Jannotti, CEO of GWACC (Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce), received the NJBIZ ICON Honor Award during a breakfast held on June 28, 2022, at The Palace at Somerset Park. This award recognizes New Jersey business leaders over the age of 60 for their notable success and demonstration of strong leadership both within and outside of their chosen field.

Gene graduated Cum Laude from Siena College in Loudonville, NY and was elected to Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities. He received a



(above) Gene Jannotti

Courtesy photo

Teaching Fellowship to St. John's University obtaining a master's degree in Mathematics. Following a military service as an officer in the US Army Reserves, Gene began a career at New York Telephone (NYT) Company in the fledging computer department as a programmer assistant, ending his career there as a Division Manager. NYT selected Gene to attend the Master's Degree Program for Executives at Columbia University where he graduated with an M.S. in Business Policy. Upon retirement, he joined Bell Atlantic Yellow Pages as Vice President and Chief Information Officer. With the merger of Bell Atlantic and NYNEX, Gene left the Bell System to join Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC), an international outsourcing and consulting firm, as a Director of Operations. Gene managed the outsourced IT department of General Dynamics; performed transformation services for companies such as Nortel, Motorola, and the NSA. He then moved to the CSC consulting division and worked for several Fortune 500 companies managing large IT projects for them. He spent one year in Asia working for AIA, at the time when they were the Asian insurance subsidiary of AIG, and for Manulife Insurance, operating as John Hancock in the United States. His wide range of program and project management skills and experience gave him the opportunity to work for many diversified corporate clients. His projects were valued at several million dollars.

Upon retiring from CSC, Gene joined GWACC, the Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce in 2014. He raised the membership

level from 260 business members to approximately 500 now. The Chamber started a 501c3 Foundation with the purpose of providing scholarships to high school students in the five towns served by GWACC, Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Scotch Plains and Westfield and to also provide grants to non-profit GWACC organizations.

In 2016, he received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Patriots Council of the Boy Scouts. Gene is a past member of the Trinitas Medical Center Foundation Board, a past President and current member of the Board of Trustees of the Union County Performing Arts Center and currently on the Board of the Union County College Foundation. He is also Vice President of the World County and Line DanceSport Federation and had competed Internationally in line dance competitions. Gene enjoys dance, world travel, golf, music and reading James Patterson novels, his high school friend.

#### **ABOUT THE GWACC**

Established almost 75 years ago, the GWACC is the primary business organization in Scotch Plains, Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, and Westfield. The chamber promotes local business opportunities, economic development, and community growth. The GWACC includes 500 member businesses and nonprofit organizations. For more information, go to GWACCNJ.com or contact Gene at the GWACC office, 908-233-3021, or email him at gene@gwaccnj.com













#### **CHESS FOR FUN CELEBRATES 50 YEARS**

players who have been meeting for roughly 50 years. The group's players come from all over, and in the case of Larry Morse, as far away as Whitehouse Station. The most senior player, at 98 years old, is still playing strong.

It their earlier years the group met at the Rahway Public Library when it was located on St. Georges Avenue. In 1999 a flood destroyed the library. Chess for Fun has been meeting in

Chess for Fun is a casual group of chess the Clark Public Library every Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. And at Max's Pizza & Bistro in Scotch plains on Monday mornings at

> There are no formalities to the group. It is not an established club with officers or membership. Everyone of any ability is welcome to participate. Regulars bring their own board to share so it is not necessary to bring a board, but it would be helpful if you can.

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(above, standing, l-r) Players and hometowns: Larry Morse, Whitehouse Station; Mark Shoengold, Colonia; Jack Rothstein, Edison; John Foy, Scotch Plains; Bodre. (seated, l-r) David Goldstein, South Plainfield; Neil Landau, Edison; Matthew Bistis, Mountainside.



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via email jose.vergara@njwg.cap.gov, or GoCivilAirPatrol.com.

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#### **WALK TO END LUPUS NOW SET FOR SEPT. 11**

The Lupus Foundation of America, New Jersey Chapter, invites you to our 30th Annual Walk To End Lupus Now. Join us at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 11, 2022 at Nomahegan Park in Cranford, NJ as we walk for a cure and to assist people suffering from lupus. Form a team, or walk as an individual, to raise money. register donate visit: givebutter.com/FNpmmK or text 53-555 and type in: WALKLUPUS22. For more information, please call 973-379-3226.



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