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FIRST RESPONDERS CELEBRATE JEAN TRUMPP'S 100TH B-DAY

Fanwood's police, fire and EMS responders paid a noisy visit to the home of Mrs. Jean Trumpp on the occasion of her 100th birthday on Saturday, March 25, 2023.

The convoy arrived on Arlene Court with lights and sirens at full blast. Responders then were invited into the home to wish her a happy birthday in person.

Mrs. Trump and her family were among the first homeowners on Arlene Court in the mid 1950s. Much of the

neighborhood was still under construction at the time. Her husband, Ted, was a former mayor of Fanwood and her son David, who now cares for her, is a former councilman and was active in the Lion's Club for many years. Another son, Ted, lives in Atlantic City.

Thanks to the Fanwood Police Department, Fire Department and Rescue Squad for bringing the noise to Jean and wishing her a happy birthday!



(above) Mrs. Trumpp, seated, son David behind her and members of Fanwood PD, FD and Rescue Squad

Photo by Tom Kranz

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RELAY FOR LIFE SET FOR MAY 12TH

Relay For Life of Scotch Plains will be on May 12th from 5 p.m. – 10 p.m. at Scotch Plains-Fanwood Highschool.

Relay For Life is a volunteer-led experience that unites communities across the world to celebrate cancer survivors, remember loved ones lost to cancer, and raise funds to improve the lives of people with cancer and their families through advocacy, research, and patient support, to ensure everyone has an opportunity to prevent, detect, treat, and survive cancer.

The Relay for Life of Scotch Plains raised more than \$50,000 for the American Cancer Society's mission in 2022. We are aiming to raise the same if not more this year!

Since 1985, Relay For Life has raised \$6.8 billion, allowing the American Cancer Society to invest \$3.1 billion in cancer research, contributing to 3.5 million fewer cancer deaths. Dollars raised each year by over 250,000 Relay participants across the country help support the American Cancer Society's mission in countless ways – providing education and advocating for the needs of cancer patients and their families and providing essential services throughout their cancer journey.



THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO GET INVOLVED.

JOIN:

Join a Relay For Life of Scotch Plains community to connect with survivors, caregivers, and others impacted by cancer in your local community. Visit RelayForLife.org/ScotchPlainsNJ to sign up for Relay and join your community in the fight against cancer.

DONATE:

Your donation fuels the American Cancer Society's fight against cancer. Visit RelayForLife.org/Donate or donate to your own team today.

ABOUT THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

The American Cancer Society is a leading cancer-fighting organization with a vision to end cancer as we know it, for everyone. For more than 100 years, we have been improving the lives of people with cancer and their families as the only organization combating cancer through advocacy, research, and patient support. We are committed to ensuring everyone has an opportunity to prevent, detect, treat, and survive cancer.

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(above) Scotch Plains Mayor, Joshus Losardo, presented a resolution from the Township to Jean Naugle and Joan Skubish, co-Presidents of the College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains, congratulating and thanking the club for 90 years of service to the community.

Courtesy photo



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Fanwood -Scotch Plains College Club

During a recent council meeting of the Township of Scotch Plains, Mayor Joshua Losardo, presented the College Club of F-SP with a resolution which read in part: "The Township Council of the Township of Scotch Plains extend their sincerest congratulations to the College Club Members and we acknowledge and praise the club's 90 years of service to our community".

The first meeting of the College Club of F-SP was held on March 13, 1933 with twelve members in attendance. For the past ninety years the College Club has continued to keep the original objectives of the club to empower young women through education by establishing a scholarship fund through fundraising to provide scholarships for local young women and to be a source of social interaction and fellowship for its members.

In 1936 the club awarded its first scholarship for \$200. The first time the club awarded more than one scholarship was in 1949 when two \$300 scholarships were awarded. This past year, the College Club awarded \$30,500 to twelve young women for the 2022-2023 academic year. To date, the College Club has awarded approximately \$750,000.00 to approximately 574 local young women.

Fundraising for the Scholarship Fund has been crucial to the College Club members since its inception. One of the early fundraisers was ticket sales for two benefit performances of the Plainfield Players. The tickets sold for forty cents and the club was able to keep ten cents from each ticket sold. The sale of 85 tickets added \$8.50 toward a scholarship! Currently the two major fundraisers of the College Club are the annual Spring Luncheon and the annual sales of the Community Date Calendar. The Spring Luncheon fundraiser has evolved from a fashion show/bridge event that was first held in 1936 and raised \$123.50 for scholarships. The Community Date Calendar was initiated in 1963 and by 1965 the calendar netted a profit of \$775 and became a permanent project of the College Club. Community Outreach projects and interest groups for members to enjoy have been a part of the College Club since its beginning.

The College Club holds monthly meetings that include informative and entertaining programs that are free and open to the public.

Additional information about the College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains can be obtained by sending an inquiry to:

collegeclub.fsp@gmail.com



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SERVICE LEAGUE 50 YEARS OF SERVICE, \$1.5 MILLION IN DONATIONS

The Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League is celebrating 50 years of service in 2023, marked by a week-long celebration kicking off on Saturday, May 6, at 10 a.m.



(above) The Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League, operators of the Thrift Shop in Scotch Plains, celebrate 50 Years of Service.

That's when Scotch Plains Mayor Joshua Losardo, Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr and other local officials will join members of the Service League at the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League Thrift Shop, 1741 East Second Street, Scotch Plains. Resolutions will be presented, refreshments will be served and recognition given to the non-profit, all-volunteer Service League for their community contributions during the past 50 years.

From inception in 1973, the League has donated more than \$1.5 million in grants to Union County organizations and in student scholarships, including \$60,000 in donations this year alone. Proceeds come from the operation of the Thrift Shop, a staple in downtown Scotch Plains that offers good quality, reasonably priced merchandise to customers. All goods sold at the store come strictly from very generous donors who provide the shop with new or gently used items that they no longer need or want.

The Saturday ceremony will be followed by events throughout the week, including a raffle basket, small bags of candy as giveaways to store patrons, and a Vera Bradley handbag event starting Tuesday, May 9. All members of the public are invited to attend the Saturday May 6 event and to support the Service League mission to "Help Us Help Others."

Looking ahead, the Service League's goal for the next 50 years is to continue to contribute

financially to worthwhile community organizations and to local high school and college students. Allowing it to reach that goal are the dedicated efforts of more than 35 Service League volunteers who selflessly donate their time to keep the shop in continuous operation and to ensure a very successful re-sale rate at the store.

The Thrift Shop provides benefits for donors who have a clean, convenient place to drop off their goods; for shoppers who can take advantage of very modest prices; and for the environment, by giving slightly used merchandise a second chance at a useful life rather than being relegated to landfills. The store offers a wide variety of regularly replenished clothing in sizes from infants to plus-size adults; shoes; all types of accessories from scarves to handbags; jewelry; bric-a-brac; housewares; framed art; collectibles; linens; dolls, toys, games, puzzles, books and DVDs.

Items for donation can be dropped off at the Thrift Shop any time during regular store hours: Tuesday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

To learn more about the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League, the types of donations accepted and volunteer opportunities, please call the store at 908-322-5420.

You can also visit the Scotch Plains Thrift Shop web site scotchplainsthiftshop.weebly.com or our Facebook page.

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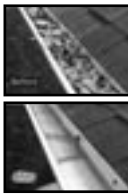
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EGG HUNT DRAWS HUGE TURNOUT

Borough of Fanwood

The annual Fanwood Easter Egg Hunt attracted hundreds of residents, children, families and friends under a blue sky and beautiful spring weather on April 8th. Forest Road Park was ground zero for the mad dash to find eggs filled with candy and prizes, more than 1700 of them. Contests included jellybean counting and chocolate egg counting. And of course, no Easter Egg hunt would be complete without the Easter Bunny.

The playground was divided by age into five different egg hunt areas. When the ribbon was cut, the entire hunt lasted less than one minute as children scrambled to fill their baskets with as many eggs as possible. Each egg contained candy or a prize. The hundreds of plastic eggs

were filled by Recreation Commission volunteers.

The annual event is a production of the Fanwood Recreation Commission, volunteers dedicated to creating programs and fun for young and old alike, and Recreation Director Bob Budiansky who acted as master of ceremonies. Recreation Commissioner Bruce Zakarin manned the “Bunny Chute” which dispensed candy into the waiting baskets of the kids. Various Commissioners and volunteers, including some local Boy Scouts, assisted every step of the way.

Mayor Colleen Mahr and Councilwomen Erin McElroy Barker and Trisha Walsh assisted at the prize tables. Fanwood Police and the Rescue Squad were on hand as was our Public Works Department.



(above) The Garde family of Fanwood

Photos by Tom Kranz



(above) Bunny Chute crew...Rec Commissioner Bruce Zakarin, volunteer Dani Bartlett and Rec Commission Chair Eryn Sinclair



(above) Rescue Squad EMT Nam-June Joe; Rec Director Bob Budiansky; Mayor Colleen Mahr; Easter Bunny; Rescue Squad EMT Juliana Crifasi; Rescue Squad member Carolyn Joe.



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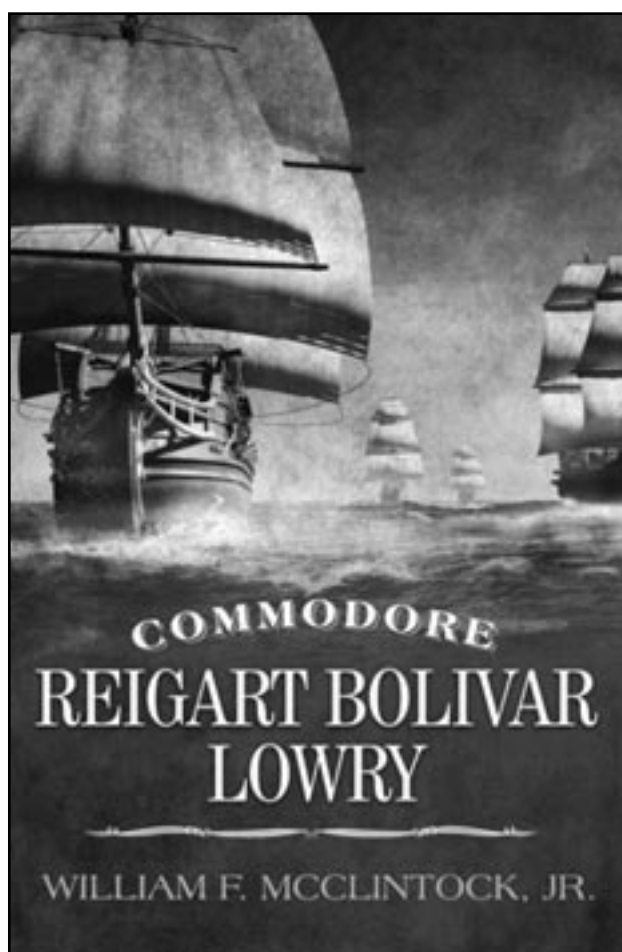
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AUTHOR TO SPEAK - MAY 23RD

The Historical Society of Scotch Plains And Fanwood



History and Civil War buffs won't want to miss this month's meeting of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Historical Society, when local author William McClintock Jr. will present a fascinating educational program on his great-great-grandfather, Commodore Reigart Bolivar Lowry, a member of the first graduating class of the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis and a career naval officer who served in the U.S. Navy from 1840-1880.

The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 23rd, at the Shady Rest Country Club, 820 Jerusalem Rd. (at the corner of Plainfield Avenue) in Scotch Plains.

McClintock's presentation, based on his 2021 book, Commodore Reigart Bolivar Lowry, will explore Lowry's storied career, beginning when he joined the Navy at age 14, and including his active role in many key naval operations of the time. Lowry was on a ship off Fort Sumter when the first shots of the Civil War were fired. He fought in the Mexican-American War and accompanied Commodore Matthew C. Perry when he opened Japan to American trade in 1854. Based on family letters and other documents, McClintock's thoroughly researched

biography goes beyond Lowry's life to examine the Navy in which he served and the politics and corruption that Lowry and his fellow naval officers encountered as they sought to prevent a captain with less seniority from being promoted ahead of them.

A resident of Scotch Plains since 1981, the author earned a bachelor's degree in history from Oberlin College, where he began his research on Commodore Lowry and the Navy. He went on to complete a master's degree in American history from New York University. Mr. McClintock previously served as township mayor and councilman, and is active in the Rotary Club, notably with the Frazee house Restoration Project. Career highlights include serving as an officer at Bankers Trust Company and as Chief Financial Officer at Corporate Annual Reports. In 1993, he formed William McClintock Associates. Commodore Reigart Bolivar Lowry is his first book.

The upcoming meeting is free and all are welcome. Refreshments and fellowship will follow the presentation.

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CARRIAGE HOUSE PERFORMANCE SERIES

On May 13th the concert series at Fanwood's Carriage House will continue with Cold Weather Company who will present its combination of vocal harmonies, sweeping instrumental arrangements and emotive lyrics. This Central Jersey trio has repeatedly been named a "band you need to hear" by NJ.com. Sharing the bill will be Shira, a New York-based singer-songwriter and ukelele stylist who describes her sound as "fairly-folk."

The powerful voice and equally powerful songs of Danielia Cotton will fill the listening room on June 10. Drawing from genres including rock, soul, gospel and country, with lyrics both deeply personal and broadly relevant, Cotton captivates her audiences with the passion and intensity of her performances.

All shows start at 7 p.m. at the Patricia M. Kuran Cultural Arts Center (a.k.a. the Carriage House), on Watson Road alongside Fanwood Borough Hall. The series is presented by Mayor Colleen Mahr and the Fanwood Borough Council, with support from the Union County Board of Commissioners' HEART grant program and the donations of attendees. The suggested donation for admission is \$15, or \$10 for students and seniors, cash at the door.

Looking ahead, the series will continue in the fall with concerts on Sept. 9, Oct. 14 and Nov. 4. The September show will bring Toronto's Shawna Caspi back to the Fanwood stage, along with Harrisburg native Meaghan Farrell. Nashville-based Kate Klim and Fanwood's own Golden Dimes will share the bill in October. The November lineup will be announced soon.

For more information, visit fanwoodperformanceseries.org or find Fanwood Performance Series on Facebook.



(above) On May 13th Cold Weather Company will perform at Fanwood's Carriage House.

Courtesy photo

MR. CHICKEN SALAD VISITS COLES SCHOOL

Scotch Plains – Fanwood Public Schools

Coles students and staff were treated to a visit from author and illustrator Mike Ciccotello (aka: Mr. Mike or Mr. Chicken Salad) in March. Mr. Mike shared his experience becoming an author and illustrator, including positive and motivating messages like, "I am unique and so is my art." He also encouraged children to never give up and to practice a little bit every day at something they want to be good at because they can only get better, not worse. Mr. Mike read from some of his

books including Beach Toys vs School Supplies, Twins and Treemendous. He then led students through a step-by-step drawing lesson where they learned to draw characters from his books. He also had time to answer questions from students and had lunch with a group of 4th graders. Coles students enjoyed having Mr. Mike Ciccotello at school with them. Thank you to the Coles staff, media specialist Mrs. Giannacio, and the PTA for making this author visit happen!



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SOS ~ SAVE OUR SEAL! A MESSAGE FROM U.C. HISTORICAL SOCIETY

War is hell. Unfortunately, that powerful expression is just as accurate today in Ukraine, for example, as it was in Elizabethtown in 1780. In both cases, civilians suffered, and are suffering, along with soldiers.

Heroic sculptures and statues of beribboned generals on horseback are noble and inspiring, to be sure. On the other hand, however, there is the World War II Katyn Memorial in Jersey City, showing the horror of war as it depicts the brutal massacre Russians committed on Polish soldiers graphically showing a bound and gagged Polish soldier impaled through his back by a bayoneted rifle. At its base, a Polish woman cradles a starving child, representing the Polish citizens who were deported to Siberia. Are we to take down such monuments because the horror they depict offends us, or should they remain, conveying their timeless message to us: "Never forget, and Never again!"

Yes, war is hell. And it was so in 1780 as local patriots fought for independence against the often cruel and brutal British and Hessian troops.

One of the most infamous events of that struggle was the horrible murder of Mrs. Hannah Caldwell, the wife of the famous Rev. James Caldwell ("the fighting Parson"), on June 7, 1780 in Connecticut Farms, now Union. It seems that ongoing discussions concerning the changing of the County Seal depicting Mrs. Caldwell's murder by a British soldier apparently have finally come to light recently.

This tragic event has been depicted on our County Seal for over 100 years. In 1923, the Union County Historical Society proposed and supported the official adoption of the Seal, which had previously been used unofficially for decades. It was formally ratified by the Board of Freeholders at that time. The Society has been proud of its role in the adoption of the Seal a hundred years ago, and strongly opposes current efforts to change it.

Some now object to the Seal's depiction of a violent and senseless act against a woman and mother of nine young children. But it really happened! Are we to ignore it? Those were dangerous times in this area and few were spared from the death, destruction, and suffering that occurred.

Indeed, Hannah Caldwell's death became a rallying cry to the despondent, tired, and outnumbered American troops who were inspired to fight on at the Battle of Springfield, the turning point of the Revolution in the North, just two weeks after her death.

Whether she was inside the house or outside when she was murdered is immaterial to the Seal's message. Showing her outside the house simply makes the event more visible. Similar artistic license is often employed in depicting important events in history. For example, the iconic and dramatic 1851 Emanuel Leutz painting of Washington's 1776 Christmas night crossing of the Delaware near Trenton is inaccurate in every way except one: its heroic portrayal of a courageous and brilliant military operation, which led to an important turning point in the war.

History is not always convenient; it has more than its share of suffering and evil, as the Union County Seal demonstrates. And isn't that in fact the meaning and message of the Seal, that democracy and freedom often demand sacrifice. It is a reminder of the terrible price paid by the brave men and women during those difficult times. Any redesign of our iconic and unique Seal would dishonor and diminish the memory of Hannah Caldwell and so many others who sacrificed all in the long and difficult struggle for independence.

Indeed, after the war, Washington acknowledged that no place had suffered greater deprivation and destruction than Elizabethtown and its environs. Our Seal reminds us of that. Let it be.

Charles Shallcross, Vice-President, U.C.H.S.



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SHINING STARS TO PERFORM ON MAY 13TH

The Shining Stars, now in their 11th year, will take the main stage at the Union County Performing Arts Center for their "World Tour" on Saturday May 13th for a 7 p.m. show.

The talented cast of special needs performers will highlight the hits from groups and artists from all around the globe, including The Beatles and One Direction (England), Bruce Springsteen (USA), Abba (Sweden), Irish dancing, and so much more. The show will feature 30 special needs individuals and their "buddies" from local high schools, who serve as mentors during rehearsals.

"Our cast has been working hard for their 2023 debut," noted Shining Stars Network Cofounder and Show Director Sally Curci. "The acts are going to be amazing and we invite everyone to join us for another exciting and fun night."

Tickets are now on sale at UCPAC.org.

Also, on Saturday, August 5th, history will be made when the Shining Stars make their Paper Mill Playhouse main stage debut. Tickets for "The Greatest Show" — which will feature songs from Broadway and movies — are on sale now at PaperMill.org.

The Camp Shine Summer Workshop will take place from August 14th-25th (go to ShiningStarsNetwork.org to register) and they will cap off the year with their annual "Christmas Spectacular" in December.



"Shining Stars is all about being inclusive and giving our performers a chance to shine on stage while creating lasting memories," said Sally Curci. "These opportunities build all-important self-esteem and self-confidence. Along the way our cast members and their high school buddies create bonds and friendships that they'll always remember."

For more information on the organization or upcoming events, please visit ShiningStarsNetwork.org.

IN THE HEIGHTS AT CDC THEATER MAY 5-20

Before Hamilton was In The Heights and it's coming to CDC Theatre in Cranford.

The final production of CDC Theatre's 104th season, In the Heights, is set to run weekends from May 5 to May 20. Lin Manuel Miranda's first Broadway show burst onto the stage in 2008. The show was nominated for thirteen Tony Awards, including Best Musical, Book and Score, as well as for Direction and Choreography. Of those thirteen nominations, it won four awards, including Best Musical, Original Score, Choreography and Orchestration.

The musical tells the story of three days in the vibrant community in Manhattan's Washington Heights — a place where the coffee from the corner bodega is light and sweet, the windows are always open, and the breeze carries the rhythm of three generations of music. It's a community on the brink of change, full of hopes, dreams and pressures; where the biggest struggles can be deciding which traditions you take with you, and which ones you leave behind.

"We are excited to at last be able to produce this show. Circumstances and pandemic restrictions caused it to have been postponed, but we were committed to having the chance to present it," said Joe Leo, the show Producer. "Once we were able to add it to this season, we had one of the biggest audition turnouts ever at the theatre and have assembled a wonderful cast from throughout the state!"

The music of In The Heights takes its cues from the diverse Latin community it represents, infusing hip-hop, salsa, merengue and soul music into the score with lyrics about life, love, community and the American dream. There are eight shows, including two matinees. For best ticket prices and selections visit cdctheatre.org.

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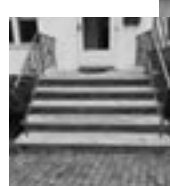


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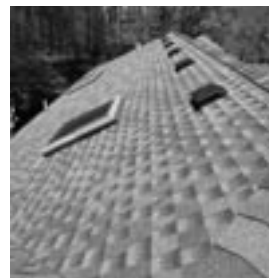
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