

Scotch Plains NJ

WHAT'S HAPPENING MONTHLY

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NEW JERSEY VETERANS NETWORK - HELP US SAVE VETS!

Michael D. Boll, Director NJVN

Everyday 22 veterans take their own lives, unfortunately this number hasn't changed over the years. Several groups and organizations have worked tirelessly to combat this horrible epidemic. The New Jersey Veterans Network (NJVN) is one of those groups that strives to help veterans daily to live a better way of life.

NJVN is a mobile outreach team, that aggressively seeks out veterans in need and provides them life changing and saving resources. The NJVN is a 501c3 created in 2017 and has focused its mission by always putting our veterans first. Since the NJVN started thousands of veterans and National Guardsmen have been fed, clothed, and provided with various personal items. Also, we were able to get 30 veterans newer refurbished vehicles through the Recycled Rides program. However, the NJVN most important mission is that we save lives, just in the past first years alone our team has saved over a dozen lives.

Being a network, the NJVN works with other military, veteran, and first responder groups that share the same mission. We would never have succeeded without having the support and commitment from our partners and sponsors. This is vital for the NJVN to be able to help veterans in need

throughout New Jersey.

Most recently, the NJVN has stepped up recreational events and programs such as camping, hiking, movie nights, BBQs, and field trips. We are fortunate to have amazing partners and volunteers that will help transport our veterans to and from the hospitals and shelters. These events allow our veterans to feel like they are part of a unit again and are not forgotten or abandoned.

What makes the NJVN unique is its willingness to try different things and think outside the box. By asking the veterans what they want most, and how we can help them, has really made our program a huge success.

Our next initiative will be the launch of our veteran peer support/ mentoring program the "Uniformed Heroes Project". This initiative is a collaboration between the military-veteran-first responders groups and organizations. Also, it is backed by legislators and numerous charitable organizations. The NJVN is currently looking for volunteers and groups willing to help us provide our veterans with the best help possible.

If you are interested in filing the team, or would like to volunteer, please send us an email at NJVNM1775@gmail.com or call directly (973)332-1556.

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(above) The Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club hosted a Veterans Appreciation lunch at their meeting held on Wednesday, November 15, 2023. They honored veterans in the club as well as veterans in the local community. Pictured are the veterans who attended.

*****ECRWSEDDM*****
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Scotch Plains NJ

WHAT'S HAPPENING MONTHLY

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BUILD A BETTER WORLD WITH LEGO

Temple Sholom of Scotch Plains will host its annual Chanukah Lego Night on Thursday, December 14th from 6 pm to 7:30 pm at Temple Sholom, 1925 Lake Avenue, Scotch Plains, NJ. Back by popular demand, the event is free and open to the public.

Participants are welcome to build as many Lego creations as their hearts desire, while reveling in dreidel games, enjoying Chanukah music. We will enjoy the sweetness of Chanukah through good friends and enjoying tasty donuts and chocolate gelt.

In Hebrew, the word "Chanukah" means "dedication." The name reminds us that this holiday commemorates the re-dedication of the holy Temple in Jerusalem following the Jewish victory over the Syrian-Greeks who tried to destroy the Jewish population in 165

B.C.E. Also known as the Festival of Lights, the eight-day festival celebrates the triumph of light over darkness.

"While not one of the most important Jewish holidays, Chanukah is the most anticipated – and a time when friends, family, and community come together to celebrate," said Rabbi Joel Abraham of Temple Sholom. "As Jews, we believe that it is our duty to build

a better world. What better way than to start with Lego?"

Space is limited. If you are interested in attending please RSVP by Wednesday,

December 6 at www.sholomnj.org or call 908-889-4900.

Temple Sholom's annual Chanukah Lego Night showcases one of the largest collections of Legos in Scotch Plains! Play, sing, light the menorah, enjoy getting to know the Sholom family!

ABOUT TEMPLE SHOLOM

Founded in 1913, Temple Sholom is a Reform Jewish congregation led by Rabbi Joel N. Abraham and Cantor Darcie Sharlein. The Temple and its religious school are home to about 250 families from the greater Scotch Plains-Fanwood area. Temple Sholom is a member of the Union for Reform Judaism. It has recently become the first synagogue in Union County, NJ, to offer a voluntary membership contribution model.

For more information about the temple or joining the congregation, please call 908-889-4900, e-mail sholom@sholomnj.org or visit www.sholomnj.org.

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ROTARY LUMINARY SALES

During the month of December, the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary club will sell Luminaries at the Fanwood Department of Public Works on Manfra Way, off of North Avenue. The sale dates are December 9-10, December 16-17 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and December 24 – 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The luminary kits cost \$1 per kit in all quantities and include paper bags, candles and sand. Customers are encouraged to bring buckets, boxes or plastic bags to transport the sand. Payments can be made by cash, check or Venmo. Contact-less pickup will be available; customers can call the number listed on the whiteboard to place orders or pick up orders.

Pre-orders placed prior to December 8th will be discounted to \$0.75 a kit. See the Rotary website for additional information regarding online purchases: fsprotary.org.

Luminaries are traditionally used to illuminate the streets on Christmas Eve. A candle is nestled in sand at the bottom of a paper bag and placed along sidewalks to create a beautiful walkway. The candles are then lit at dusk on Christmas Eve. Some neighborhoods in the area get together and buy hundreds of kits to create an amazing display.

All proceeds from the sale will be used to fund the various charitable and humanitarian

projects that Rotary supports, both locally and internationally.

The Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club has been serving the community since 1938. The club meets at 12:15 p.m. on the second and third Wednesdays of every month at the Stage House Restaurant. On the fourth Wednesday of the month, the club meets at Darby Road at 6:30 p.m. Guests are invited to attend and learn about the good that Rotary is doing worldwide. For further information about the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary club, go to fsprotary.org or visit their Facebook page: Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club.

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SHINING STARS CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR – DEC. 2ND

With cast members from all over Union County and beyond, the Shining Stars Network has been producing live programming for the special needs community for eleven years.

Celebrate the holiday season when the Shining Stars take the stage for their 2023 Christmas Spectacular” set for Saturday, December 2nd, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

The show will take place on the main stage at the historic Union County Performing Arts Center in Rahway as this talented cast sings and dances to your holiday favorites.

This year’s Christmas Spectacular marks the return of the Shining Stars to one of the most beautiful theaters in New Jersey and will feature 35 special needs cast members and their volunteer buddies from local high schools, who serve as mentors to the cast during rehearsals.

Two previous Shining Stars shows at UCPAC drew more than 1,000 audience members for each performance, and already, the buzz is building in the community.

“We’re so excited to ring in the holiday season,” noted Shining Stars Network founder and President Mike Curci. “Our stars are ready to share their smiles, energy and amazing talents with everyone. This will be a great way to cap off our 11th year.”

“We strongly believe in creating an inclusive environment for our cast, and our buddies are an integral part of the Shining Stars experience,”

noted Shining Stars founder and show director Sally Curci. “We are so excited to bring a new show to the stage and cannot wait to connect with our incredible audience again to celebrate the holiday season.”

Shining Stars Network is wrapping up their biggest year yet, which included their annual “Evening of Shining Stars” Spring Show, their Broadway debut at the Gershwin Theatre, and their impressive main stage debut at the iconic Paper Mill Playhouse.

The Shining Stars performed “This Is Me” on Broadway as part of the Arts for Autism concert and soon after, took the Paper Mill stage to present The Greatest Show, a history-making performance which was the first full production of performers with special needs in Paper Mill history.

“Shining Stars Network is not only about

performing, but more importantly we’re about building self-confidence and self-esteem,” said Shining Stars co-director Nicole Greene. “Our cast members are not only talented, but inspire us every day, and we are all very excited about seeing our cast take the stage again to share another magical night with the audience.”

Tickets are on sale now at UCPAC.org. For groups of 10 or more, email shiningstarsnetwork@gmail.com.

The night will also feature a Tricky Tray and 50/50 raffle. Doors will open at 6:00 p.m.

Shining Stars Network is a 501(c)3 not for profit organization based in Cranford, N.J. that offers opportunities in the performing arts for the special needs community.

For more information on Shining Stars Network or to make a donation, please visit shiningstarsnetwork.org.



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ANNUAL HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE



(above) November 28th starts the annual Holiday Boutique at the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Thrift Shop.

HEAR YE! HEAR YE! COME ONE! COME ALL!

Fanwood/Scotch Plains Historical Society

You are invited to the Osborn Cannonball House for the annual open house and Christmas party on Sunday, December 3rd, 2023 from 2 – 4 p.m. Located at 1840 Front St in Scotch Plains. Join us for hot mulled cider along with goodies to eat. Featured is our Victorian Christmas tree and 1800s winter clothing display. Join us for caroling around our restored 1885 Mason and Hamlin reed pump organ. Costumed guides will conduct tours. The museum will be closed for January and February. It will reopen Sunday, March 3rd in the New Year.



Fanwood-Scotch Plains Thrift Shop

Looking for brand new items at a very reasonable price point to round out your holiday gift list, or to use as stocking stuffers? Mark Tuesday, November 28 for the start of the annual Holiday Boutique at the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Thrift Shop. That's when shelves are stocked with new items generously donated to the shop all year and set aside for just for this purpose.

From clothing to crafts to candles and more, the Holiday Boutique is a great opportunity to find presents for under the tree, to stuff in stockings, to mark Hanukkah or Kwanza, or even to re-donate to your favorite charities. You can also find a wide assortment of new and gently used holiday décor along with the regularly replenished clothing, shoes, bric-a-brac, linens, household goods, toys, games, books and DVDs that are consistently displayed.

The Thrift Shop is located at 1741 East Second Street in Scotch Plains and is open Tuesday

through Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Children are welcome provided they are accompanied by an adult. Bringing a child to the store to have them pick out presents for their family or friends is a great way to teach them the value of money while encouraging them to take pride in picking out presents on their own.

Also note that a gift bought at the Thrift Shop has twice the impact—one to your recipient and another to our community. All store proceeds outside of operating expenses are donated by the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League to local non-profit organizations or used for student scholarships. What a great way to spread holiday cheer and to support the spirit of giving!

To learn more about the Service League, volunteer opportunities and types of donations accepted call the store during Thrift Shop business hours: 908-322-5420. You can also visit on-line scotchplainsthriftshop.weebly.com.



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BLUE ENVELOPE POLICE PROGRAM FOR AUTISTIC RESIDENTS

The Blue Envelope Program is accessible to all Union County residents on the Autism Spectrum. Residents can obtain a Blue Envelope at their local police departments throughout the county.

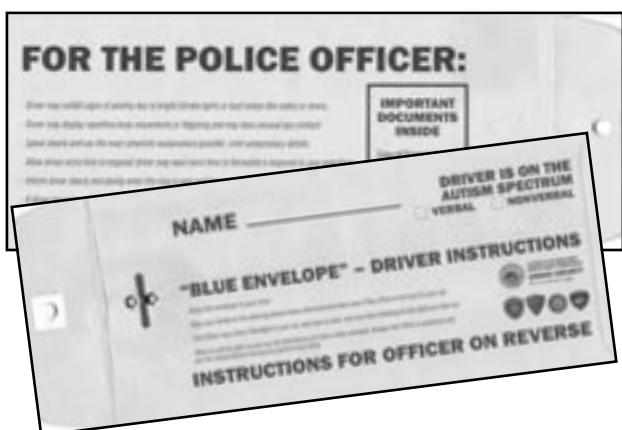
The Blue Envelope Program introduces a simple yet effective tool that contains essential information for drivers with Autism Spectrum Disorder. This includes a copy of their driver's license, vehicle registration, insurance details, and an emergency contact card. Additionally, the envelope provides clear instructions to drivers on how to navigate a traffic stop and interact with law enforcement officers in a manner that promotes clarity and safety.

Key features of the Blue Envelope Program include:

- **Specialized Training:** Every officer in Union County, including local officers in all 21 municipalities, will undergo specialized training to develop a deeper understanding of Autism Spectrum Disorder and the best practices for engaging with individuals during traffic stops.
- **Communication Facilitation:** Drivers with Autism Spectrum Disorder can present the blue envelope to the officer upon being stopped, allowing officers to quickly recognize the situation and adapt their approach accordingly.
- **Essential Information:** The envelope includes guidance for officers to simplify requests and minimize the risk of misunderstandings or potential escalation. Additionally, officers are advised to contact the person listed on the emergency contact card for assistance if needed.
- **Verbal or Nonverbal Indication:** A checked-off box on the envelope indicates whether the driver is verbal or nonverbal, which aids officers in communicating effectively.

"Every single police department in Union County is proud to be a part of this initiative," said Elizabeth Police Chief Giacomo Sacca and President of the Union County Police Chief's Association. "Our officers have undergone thorough briefings and trainings to ensure they are well-versed in the proper protocols, and they are eager to put their training into action."

For information on this program in your town, contact your local Police Department's Community Outreach Unit.



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. Additions to these pain medications can cause potential side effects, something you do not want to experience.
- Rehabilitation can take years.

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- 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 pronounce 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

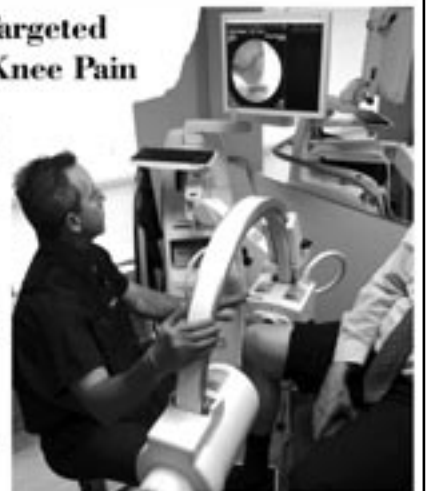
Every day, I see patients suffering from knee pain due to arthritis, osteoarthritis, sports injuries or other conditions. Many have been told that they are in need of knee replacement surgery. Other patients say they have been prescribed various prescription medications to deal with the pain.

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

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

Call 732-827-0800

Scot Paris MD, FACS



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- Patricia G.

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- Perry O.

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- Question L.

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 Sunday School, Youth & Adult Forums at 8:45 a.m.

Midweek Advent Services with Eucharist
 December 6, 13 and 20 at 12 noon
 Organ Recitals After Services on December 6 and 20

Christmas Eve
 Sunday, December 24
 Family Service with Eucharist at 4:00 p.m.
 Candlelight Eucharist with Special Music at 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Day
 Monday, December 25
 Nativity of Our Lord Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.
 Service of Lessons, Carols and Eucharist
 Sunday, December 31 at 10:00 a.m.

Livestream available
 Visit our website at www.famfaith.org
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 We practice an open Communion table - All are welcome!

ASSUMPTION CHURCH CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Church of the Assumption in Roselle Park, in conjunction with Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark, is coordinating a Christmas Concert on Wednesday evening, December 6th @ 7 PM.

New Jersey's own Chris Pinnella and His Quartet will be performing an array of Christmas and Holiday Classics. Chris is a world class vocalist who has been compared to Josh Groban and Micheal Buble.

All proceeds from the concert will benefit Assumption Church and Catholic Charities.

Tickets in advance are \$20, and can be purchased via the Rectory or by visiting assumption23.givesmart.com Tickets at the door will be \$25.

Sponsorships are also available.

For more information contact Peter Ruccione @ 973-818-4060. pruccione@ccannj.org

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GINGERBREAD SUNDAY, DEC. 3RD

The Miller Cory House Museum

Spicy sweet gingerbread is a special part of the holiday season. Children will make a decorative, non-edible gingerbread house and listen to “gingery” stories. We will also be demonstrating and offering visitors a chance make orange pomanders, which have been decking the halls since the Victorian era, but date back to medieval times. Members of the Cooking Committee will be in the Frazee House preparing early American recipes using ginger over the open hearth. Suggested age: 3 (with assistance for crafts) through elementary school. \$5 per child; accompanying adults free. Reservations are required. Call the museum at 908-232-1776 or email millercorymuseum@gmail.com to place yours. Please include your phone number in the email.

Since 1968, the 501(c)(3) non-profit Miller Cory House Museum/Westfield Historical Society has worked to preserve, interpret and encourage interest in history, Westfield, and its

residents through educational efforts and community outreach programs. For more information visit millercoryhouse.com or westfieldhistoricalsociety.org and like us on Facebook, and follow us on Instagram.



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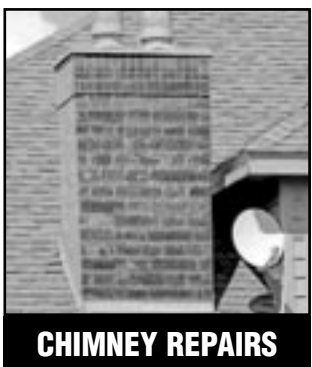
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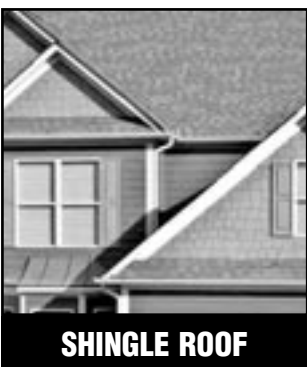
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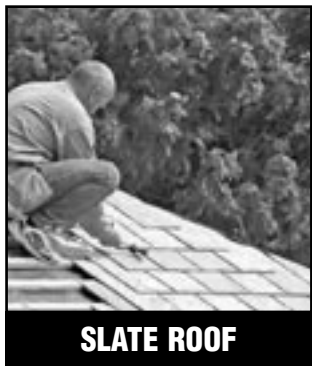
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NJIO PRESENTS FREE FAMILY HOLIDAY CONCERT IN SUMMIT

New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra will be entertaining families on Sunday, December 10, 2023 with a free concert of seasonal holiday favorites. The concert will be from 2pm to 3pm at the Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School, 272 Morris Avenue, Summit, NJ. Families with children of all ages are invited to come and join in the fun!

NJIO's three orchestral ensembles will combine to perform music by Strauss, Mozart, Brahms, and more! The concert concludes with Leroy Anderson's exciting Sleigh Ride, with percussion accompaniment provided by the youngest members of the audience!

The concert is free and open to the public. Donations are gratefully accepted.

Following the concert, the famous NJIO

Instrument Petting Zoo returns! Experienced NJIO musicians will guide young audience members and assist them in safely trying out the instrument of their dreams. Instruments are loaned by Elefante Music of New Providence and Scotch Plains.

Concert Details:

Sunday, December 10, 2023 at 2 pm
Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School
272 Morris Avenue
Summit, NJ 07901

Admission is free;

donations are gratefully accepted.

This concert is made possible by funds from: the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts; Frank and Lydia Bergen Foundation; The Lillian Schenck Foundation; The Henry S. and Agnes M. Truzack Foundation; Investors

Foundation; Standish Foundation; and many other generous supporters. NJIO is a proud participating organization in the Families First Discovery Pass Program, a program of the NJ Departments of Health and Human Services.

NJIO is committed to ensuring that its programs and concerts are accessible. For more information regarding the concert or to inquire about patron services, please contact NJIO at info@njio.org, or visit NJIO's website njio.org.

New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra, now in its 30th season, has been nationally recognized as a leader in intergenerational excellence through its unique approach to teaching musical performance and as a model for intergenerational orchestras across the country. Depending on space availability, NJIO welcomes new members of all ages and abilities each concert period to one of its several orchestras - no auditions needed!

NJIO's 30th anniversary season will continue with two more concerts:

NJIO'S WINTER CONCERT

Sunday, February 25, 2024, 3 pm
Dolan Performance Hall,
Saint Elizabeth University,
Morristown, NJ

NJIO'S SPRING CONCERT

followed by 30th Anniversary
Celebration!
Sunday, April 21, 2024, 3 pm
Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church,
Plainfield, NJ

Free Concert
 Sunday, December 10, 2023 • 2 pm
 LCJ Summit Middle School
 272 Morris Avenue, Summit
 New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra
Family Holiday Concert
 Featuring Traditional Holiday Favorites
 A Family Concert!
 Instrument Petting Zoo
 Thanks to Elefante Music
 Percussion play along!



Visit us at NJIO.org
 Warren Cohen, Artistic Director & Symphony Conductor



(above) Young audience members get to try out orchestra instruments at NJIO's Holiday Concert Instrument Petting Zoo. Instruments are loaned by Elefante Music.

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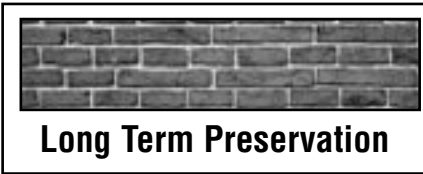
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VETERANS KILLED IN WORLD WAR II AND KOREA TO BE HONORED

Scotch Plains Township

The Veterans Advisory Board is seeking family members to join in a December 16, 2023, ceremony to honor fallen heroes.

When Scotch Plains launched its Veterans Advisory Board in May 2022, one of its goals was to ensure every local veteran who lost his life in combat or is missing in action would receive special recognition.

There have been five “Gold Star” families / Fallen Heroes honored to date, with ceremonies held and street sign “toppers” placed where the fallen heroes had lived in Scotch Plains at the time of their enlistment.

The ceremonies include participation from Scotch Plains’ elected officials and other dignitaries, local veterans and their families. The American Legion Post 209, based on Park Avenue, coordinates all aspects of the ceremony, providing an honor guard and rifle salute, in tribute. Then, township leaders and family members unveil the street sign toppers, featuring the name of the veteran. In addition, the Township Council issues a proclamation, honoring the fallen hero for their ultimate sacrifice in combat.

There are an estimated 15 more Gold Star families that need to be honored. But volunteers with the Veterans’ Advisory Board say that is not an easy task. These veterans fought in World War I and II as well as the Korean conflict; many of their extended family members are deceased, unknown or have moved away from Scotch Plains decades ago.

Regardless, the Veterans Advisory Board in conjunction with American Legion Post 209 are planning to honor 10 at one time, asking the public for any information that may be available, as well as locating surviving relatives. The fallen heroes are to be honored with street signs during the Wreaths Across America event, set for 12 p.m. December 16, 2023, at the Scotch Plains Baptist Church and the hope is that relatives and friends can be in attendance.

The remaining five veterans are to be honored during Memorial Day events next year.

Kon Zoganas, chair of the Veterans Advisory

Board and a retired colonel in the U.S. Marines Corps, said: “It is becoming increasingly difficult to track down the information about these veterans and any remaining family relatives who can attend the ceremony.”

Zoganas said the committee uses Ancestry.com and other online tools to find descendants. “We continue to look to honor any person or families who fit the guidelines,” he added, noting the Veterans Advisory Board can be contacted through the Township’s administrative offices, reaching Margaret Heisey at mheisey@scotchplainsnj.com, or 908-322-6700 ext 314.

Councilwoman Elizabeth Stamler, liaison to the Veterans Advisory Board, said Zoganas and other local veterans should be commended for their efforts to honor and remember fallen soldiers from wars that occurred generations ago. “Even though these heroes from our community died in battle some 80 years ago, their time for recognition is now,” Stamler said. “They should remain an ever-present reminder of patriotism and their willingness to make the ultimate sacrifice in the name of freedom.”

Mayor Josh Losardo added that the stories of these fallen soldiers should also serve as a learning tool for the youngest residents of Scotch Plains. “Our children should learn there are no real winners in war,” the mayor said. “It should not be glorified, especially during these turbulent times. Instead, the brave men and women from Scotch Plains who served and sacrificed should be remembered for their courage, dedication and true love of country.”

Initiated during World War I, the title “Gold Star” distinguishes a family member who lost a loved one in military service. Today, immediate family members (parent, sibling, spouse, or child) receive a Gold Star from the U.S. Department of Defense to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Here are the names of the 10 Scotch Plains Fallen Heroes to be honored on Dec. 16:

- U.S. Navy Specialist Rudolf Bochkay, killed January 5, 1944, World War II
- U.S. Army Master Sgt. Alfred Borman, killed October 27, 1943, World War II
- U.S. Army Sgt. Louis Checchio, killed July 20, 1944, World War II
- U.S. Army Sgt. Nick D’Addamio, killed Sept. 8, 1944, World War II
- U.S. Army Private Leroy Mack, killed in April 23, 1951, Korea
- U.S. Marine Private First Class Carroll Meyer, killed Feb. 1, 1944, World War II
- U.S. Army Cpl. Andrew Smith, killed Dec. 10, 1944, World War II
- U.S. Navy Fireman Harry Stocker, killed Aug. 7, 1942, World War II
- U.S. Army Private Leonard Velard, killed Jan. 16, 1945, World War II
- U.S. Army Second Lt. Albert Von Block, killed July 17, 1944, World War II

The Veterans Advisory Board is now focused on programming in 2024, serving as an ongoing conduit for municipal leaders to be informed about issues and concerns impacting local veterans and the many organizations and citizens who support them.

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Adapted by John Kane for the Royal Shakespeare Company

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Dec. 9,10,16,17/2pm

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SUMMIT OLD GUARD DECEMBER SPEAKERS PROGRAM

The Summit Old Guard was founded in 1930 and meets most Tuesdays at the New Providence Presbyterian Church located at 1307 Springfield Ave. Our motto is “Come for the Programs. Stay for the Friends.” Please join us. Our programs are free to the public, and we welcome you!

December speakers include Bill Freund, Mitch Erickson, and a special event featuring Joe Regan.

On December 5th, Summit Old Guard member, Bill Freund, will tell us about fleeing Nazi Germany with his family in 1936 at age 11. A refugee doesn’t look for happiness, only survival. He was a shoe-shine boy, learned English, and attended school. He eventually earned a PhD from Columbia and became Chief Economist at the New York Stock Exchange. He wrote several professional books and later, two children’s stories, including one about a cookie that played a central role in his life. We’ll hear the remarkable life story of one of our most notable members.

On December 12th, another distinguished Old Guard member, Mitch Erickson will review the science, biology, and environmental and social uses of water as a parable of the intersection of science, environment, policy, recreation, safety, climate change, and social justice that affects all 8 billion of us. It is important to be informed about the fundamental properties of H2O to participate in societal discussions. Mitch is an environmental chemist with a lifetime of



(above, l-r) Bill Freund, Mitch Erickson, and Joe Regan

professional experience with water. He also enjoys a variety of beverages comprised largely of water.

December 19th will be our last meeting of the year. We always try to make it a little special and a little festive. This year we will feature Joe Regan, a well-known cabaret singer and pianist we have always enjoyed, and he’ll appear with a repertoire of popular standards and holiday songs. There will be special refreshments and decorations, and the bigger the turnout the better it will be. Join us for the music, snacks, and SOG bonhomie.

Past speakers and much more can be viewed at SummitOldGuard.org but we encourage people to drop in on our meetings which take place at the church at 10:00 a.m. most Tuesdays. “Come for the Speakers. Stay for the Friends.” We look forward to meeting you.



(above) The Summit Old Guard has 19 activity and interest groups. During a Nov. 3rd fishing outing Bob Eng, along with Joe Geist, Joe Corona, and Marv Gersten all landed some sizeable striped bass for dinner and the freezer. Besides fishing, members golf weekly, play bocce followed by lunch, discuss the latest technology issues, and much more.

Courtesy photo



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SERVING THE NEEDS OF INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

Inroads to Opportunities

Michele Ford, President & CEO, Inroads To Opportunities, was recently interviewed on 106.7 Lite FM, "Get Connected," with Host Nina Del Rio. Inroads to Opportunities is a Union County, NJ based non-profit human services agency, that provides programs and services to individuals with disabilities.

In a wide-ranging conversation, Ford covered what drew her to advocacy, her experiences and vast responsibilities at Inroads. Ford is dedicated to the success of each participant and noted that Inroads is one of the most diverse workplaces to be employed.

During National Autism Awareness Month, Inroads expands their already robust outreach to increase awareness for individuals with autism who are seeking employment. Ford mentions 45% of Inroads participants that transition from their school to work program are on the autism spectrum, but yet in the employment world 85% of people with autism and other disabilities are unemployed. This is a huge statistic and obstacle that Inroads seeks to turn around.

According to Ford, "Our participants bring such an enrichment to our setting...we really need employers to open their doors just for practice, just to let someone come in and try." Exposure is necessary for these prospective employees to have a better understanding of

their work environment and the expectations of their potential job.

ABOUT INROADS TO OPPORTUNITIES:

Since 1959, Inroads to Opportunities, formerly the Occupational Center of Union County, has provided programs and services to over 400 individuals each year with all types of disabilities and ranging in age from 16 through retirement. Programs and services include vocational preparation, transition from school to work, job placement and mental health services. For more information visit: inroadsto.org/contact-us

Inroads to Opportunities is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF), an approved provider of the NJ Department of Labor, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services and Commission of the Blind and Visually Impaired. Inroads is licensed by the State of New Jersey Department of Human Services, NJ Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services to provide partial care and the NJ Department of Developmental Disabilities to provide Day Habilitation Services. Inroads is an approved Medicaid provider, an approved Employment Network under the Ticket to Work Social Security initiative and an approved Benefits Planning and Counseling Service through the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services.



(above) For over 35 years, Michele Ford has dedicated her life to serving the needs of individuals with disabilities. A life-long advocate, Michele has been a champion for this most vulnerable population by serving on the Union County Nonprofit Consortium, Union County Crisis Consortium and most recently addressing members of the US Commission on Civil Rights in Washington, D.C. to raise awareness of choice in defense of employment options for individuals with disabilities.

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THE TINY TIM FUND NEEDS VOLUNTEERS & DONATIONS

The Tiny Tim Fund is a registered NJ non-profit Corporation 501 (c)(3) that raises funds to provide financial assistance to help families pay for the medical expenses of children in Fanwood and Scotch Plains including doctors, dentists, and psychological testing. The organization has been assisting local families since 1983.

This year there are two ways that volunteers can help the members of the Tiny Tim Fund Board raise funds to be able to continue our mission.

This year the Tiny Tim Fund Board is inviting members of the community who have enjoyed the tradition of caroling on Tiny Tim Carol Night and spreading holiday cheer while soliciting donations, to form a group and commit to caroling on December 7th. A carol group can be made up of family members, neighbors, co-workers, scout groups, church organizations etc. A group can also select a date to carol that is more convenient if needed.

Since carol groups will not be able to reach all neighborhoods in Fanwood and Scotch Plains, volunteers are needed to help distribute letters requesting financial support to homes during November and December. Carol Night in combination with the letter campaign will be the organization's sole fundraiser. Donations for this

year's fundraiser are being requested during the holiday season and are also greatly appreciated at any time during the year.

To register a carol group and receive more information about Carol Night or to volunteer to deliver solicitation letters, please contact Barbara at 732-259-6348 or Mari at 908-917-5979.

The Tiny Tim Fund is administered by a volunteer Board of Trustees which consists of Fanwood and Scotch Plains citizens from varied sections of the community. There are no administrative fees. All collected contributions are dispersed for children's needs.

Donations from local citizens as well as from civic and service organizations will enable the Tiny Tim Fund to continue supporting families in our local community. The trustees are hopeful that members of the community who have generously supported the Fund in the past, will make it possible for the Tiny Tim Fund to continue to provide assistance to current cases as well as to accept new requests for financial assistance during the coming year.

Donations can be sent directly to the Tiny Tim Fund. Checks made out to The Tiny Tim Fund can be mailed to: The Tiny Tim Fund, PO Box 181, Fanwood, NJ 07023.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH THRIFT SHOP

The Fanwood Presbyterian Church thrift shop is a good place to shop, and a great place to volunteer. It isn't just bags of use clothing. It's more than that. There are many one-of-a-kind items and new items there too. It's a comfortable place to browse, have a friendly conversation with volunteers and customers, and find some great bargains. All proceeds from the shop are donated to local nonprofit organizations.

This little treasure is hidden at the back of the church's educational building with the entrance on McDermott Place. Their shop is open on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. for shopping and donations. Come, find us! Fanwood Presbyterian Church is at 74 South Martine Ave., Fanwood. With side streets Marion Ave., LaGrande Ave. and Mac Dermott Place.

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Tuesday, Friday, Saturday:

9:30 AM - 5 PM;

Sunday: Closed

Tuesday, June 6 – Library Closed;

open for Primary Election

Monday, June 19 - Library Closed

Balance Awareness with Yasmin Ofek

Fridays at 10am

a gentle but effective approach to moving confidently throughout the lifespan.

Registration is required for this virtual class.

Hypertension Clinic

Friday, December 1, 10am to Noon

in the Adult Room with a public health nurse from Union County. Walk-ins welcome.

Bring Your Own Book

Monday, December 4 at 10am

an informal discussion of what participants have recently read and enjoyed. Registration is required.

Monday Movies

Mondays at Noon

We'll show Monday Movies in our downstairs meeting room.

Napoleon's Rise & Reign

Monday, December 4 at 7pm

Prof. Rafe Blaufarb will discuss Napoleon's successes not only as a general, but as a political leader. Registration is required to receive the Zoom link.

Blood & Ink

Wednesday, December 6 at 7pm

Blood & Ink: The Scandalous Jazz Age Double Murder that Hooked America on True Crime with author Joe Pompeo. Registration is required to receive the Zoom link.

Drawing with Sandra Cerchio

Monday, December 18 at 10am

Registration is required, space is limited.

Drop In Crafting

Tuesday, December 12 at 1pm

bring your work-in-progress and craft with company. Learn about our community project to make hats for the Overlook Cancer Center.

Afternoon Book Club

Tuesday, December 19 at 1pm

will discuss A View from the Bridge by Arthur Miller.

Evening Book Club

Thursday, December 21 at 7pm

will discuss Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt.

Drop In Crafting

Thursday, December 28 at 7pm

bring your work-in-progress and craft with company. Learn about our community project to make hats for the Overlook Cancer Center.

CASA of Essex County is thrilled to announce the upcoming screening of "Earth Mama." Prepare for a thought-provoking cinematic journey that delves into the complexities of the foster care system. The film unravels the heartache and resilience within the foster care system, focusing on the life of a pregnant single mother who seeks solace and strength in her Bay Area community. As she navigates the daunting challenges before her, she must make life-altering decisions that will shape the destiny of her family.

Following the screening, we are delighted to present an exclusive Q&A session with the brilliant Director and Writer, Savannah Leaf. The discussion will be expertly moderated by Michelle Miller, distinguished CBS Anchor and New York Times Best-Selling Author of

"Belonging."

Screening Details: Date: December 6th; Time: 7:00 p.m.; Venue: The Clairidge, Montclair, NJ

Rating: R (Some Drug Use|Language|Sexual References|Nudity)

For more information and to secure your complimentary tickets, please visit casaeearthmama.eventbrite.com.

For nearly four decades, CASA of Essex County has been dedicated to a singular mission: providing unwavering support to the young individuals placed in foster care, who, through no fault of their own, bear the weight of repeated traumas and uncertainties. Our commitment is to offer them the advocacy, guidance, and care they so desperately need to rise above adversity and carve out brighter futures.


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WESTFIELD ROTARY RECYCLES BICYCLES

Submitted by D. Michael Hart

The Rotary Club of Westfield collected 69 bicycles and 4 sewing machines to send to the developing world. The collection, held on Saturday, October 7, 2023, will be divided between Togo in West Africa, or Belize, in Central America.

This program was started by an American working with the Peace Corps in Ecuador. He noticed that a carpenter with a bicycle was a lot more productive than another carpenter who had to walk and carry his tools everywhere. This gave him the idea to start shipping used bikes to the third world. A bicycle will enable a person to get to work easier or produce more, if they run a small business. Children may be able to ride longer distances in order to attend school. When a person gets a sewing machine, they could start their own small business, and be able to support a family.

Bicycles will change an individual person's life for the better, plus many bikes will help raise the GDP of a country, bikes do not produce air pollution, and a shipment of 500 bikes creates jobs, since now the village will need a bike shop to do repairs, fix flats, and trade bikes. When the bikes arrive in the country, they are sold for a small amount to give them value. From the donations, road bikes go to countries with paved roads and mountain bikes go to countries with

dirt roads.

Americans purchase 50 million bikes per year, and dispose of 20 million perfectly good bikes in landfills every year.

The Westfield Rotary Club joined this program in 2007. Rotarian Warren Rorden has been the committee chair for 26 years. Warren states that we have collected over 2,500 bikes and 100 sewing machines in that time. The club works with a non-profit organization, Pedals For Progress, website p4p.org which collects and ships the bikes. We also ask for a monetary donation in addition to the bikes to help pay for shipping costs.

Twelve Rotarians came to the event to process the bikes, plus four more non-Rotarian volunteers, including a high school student Lydia Wright, and a High School Rotary Exchange student from France, Serena. People donating bikes came from all over: Westfield; Scotch Plains; Cranford; Randolph; and Sparta. One Rotarian brought 14 bikes.

The Rotary Club of Westfield meets the first three Tuesdays of each month for lunch at noon, at Limani Seafood Grill on North Ave. Guests are always welcome.

For information visit westfieldrotary.com or contact club secretary Dr. D. Michael Hart by email at drmhart@yahoo.com.



(above) Westfield Rotarians and guests collecting and processing bikes.

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TICKETS NOW ON SALE FOR 24TH ANNUAL PIPES OF CHRISTMAS

The Pipes of Christmas will celebrate its 24th joyous season with performances in New Jersey and New York this December. The holiday favorite opens on Saturday, December 17 at Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church, located at 921 Madison Avenue (at 73rd Street) for two performances at 2 and 7PM. The concert moves across the Hudson River on Sunday, December 18 to Central Presbyterian Church located at 70 Maple Street in Summit, NJ also with performances at 2 and 7PM.

For those weary of the ceaseless stream of secular seasonal music from department stores to TV, the Pipes of Christmas offers a spiritual and traditional take on the season that connects concertgoers to the holiday in a fresh, meaningful way. The show features tunes such as, “Highland Cathedral,” “Joy to the World”, and “Amazing Grace”, all performed live on pipes and drums, harp and fiddle, and organ and brass and more. Not only does the performance define Christmas cheer, but also it inspires those of Celtic descent to retrace and reconnect to their ancestry.

According to producer Robert Currie, “We are absolutely delighted to be bringing our concert back to full force after two devastating years weathering the Covid pandemic. Supporting our GoFundMe campaign will continue to make these concerts possible.”

The 2022 production marks the NYC solo debut of soprano Sharon Lyons originally from Dublin, Ireland.

The concert presents the music of Christmas accompanied by readings taken from the Celtic literature of Scotland, Ireland, and Wales. In addition to Ms. Lyons, featured performers include James Robinson from the film “Braveheart,” New England fiddle champion Paul Woodiel, champion harpist Rachel Clemente, and the Pipe Major Kevin Ray Blandford Memorial Pipe Band from Redlands, CA among many more.

PROCEEDS SUPPORT SCHOLARSHIPS AND MORE

Proceeds from the concert support an extensive music scholarship program, which include annual gifts to the National Piping Centre and the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (both located in Glasgow, Scotland) the Gaelic College of Nova Scotia and the Carol Hassert Memorial Fine Arts Scholarship at Summit (NJ) High School.

Proceeds also support the annual Tartan Day on Ellis Island celebration and the Society’s sponsorship of the US National Scottish Harp Championship, the Gaelic Literature Competition at Scotland’s Royal National Mod, and an academic research prize at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, Scotland’s Gaelic college on the Isle of Skye.

Each year, concert highlights are webcast in high-definition over the Christmas holiday to a global audience in cooperation with HomeTowne Television. In addition to winning multiple Telly Awards for broadcast production excellence, the 2020 virtual concert was a finalist for the coveted

MG Alba Trad Music Award presented annually in Scotland.

The concert is still accepting Title Sponsors as well as Program Ads. These gifts help offset production expenses and add help fund our scholarships.

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW

Tickets may be purchased online exclusively through ShowTix4U at www.showtix4u.com (be certain you select the event name and date in the search engine). Reserved patron seats are available at both venues.

ABOUT “THE PIPES OF CHRISTMAS”

Since making its debut in 1999, The Pipes of Christmas has played to standing room only audiences. Now a cherished holiday event, the concert provides audiences with a stirring and reverent celebration of the Christmas season and the Celtic spirit. Audience-goers return year after year to experience the program, many reporting that the Pipes of Christmas has become part of their family’s annual Christmas tradition.

The concert has been lavished with critical acclaim. In his review for Classical New Jersey Magazine, Paul Somers wrote, “The whole evening was constructed to introduce gem after gem and still have a finale which raised the roof. In short, it was like a well-constructed fireworks show on the Glorious Fourth. The Westfield Leader described the concert as “a unique sound of power and glory nowhere else to be found.”



(above) Soprano Sharon Lyons originally from Dublin, Ireland, made her NYC solo debut at the 2022 Pipes of Christmas concerts NJ.



(above) Pipers from the Kevin Ray Blandford Memorial Pipe Band are returning to join the company of the 24th annual “Pipes of Christmas” concerts.

THE PIPES OF CHRISTMAS
24TH ANNUAL PRODUCTION

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Full details at pipesofchristmas.com. Brought to you by the Learned Kindred of Currie.

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Holiday Event Schedule 2023

- ▼ **Saturday December 9: Memorial Tree Lighting** following 5PM Mass
- ▼ **Sunday December 10: Living Nativity + Hot Chocolate with Santa and Holiday Gift Market (SPF PAL)** starting at 11AM
- ▼ **Friday December 15: Christmas Concert** featuring Choirs from St. Helen's & IHM at 7pm @ St. Helen's Church, Westfield
- ▼ **Saturday December 16: Confessions** at 10AM
Mass of Anointing at 11AM
- ▼ **Monday December 18: Confessions** at 7PM
- ▼ **Sunday December 24: Children's Christmas Pageant** at 3:30PM

Mass Schedule
Mon-Fri: 7am + 8:30am
Sat: 7am, 8:30am, 5pm
Sun: 8am, 10am, 12 noon
Christmas Mass
12/24: 4pm, 6pm, 10:30pm
12/25: 8am, 10am, 12 noon

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SENIOR BOY SCOUT VOLUNTEER GROUP HONORED

Submitted by Dr. D. Michael Hart

The New Jersey State Legislature issued a proclamation congratulating the Flintlocks, BSA, Inc., a 501c3 organization, on their 35th anniversary on May 18, 2023. This is a group of senior scouters who volunteer every week all year round to help the Boy Scout of America

Patriot's Path Council in northern New Jersey. In spite of their name, they have nothing to do with antique guns, although some of the older guys might be considered "antiques."

The Council serves 10,000 Cub Scouts, Scouts, Explorers, Sea Scouts, and Venture Crews. All of the programs are co-ed, and the

scouting movement seeks to be inclusive and diverse. The Council serves five counties in New Jersey, including: Middlesex, Morris, Somerset, Sussex, and Union Counties. The Council has three camps, which the Flintlocks help to maintain, build new structures, and volunteer to help run programs.

The Flintlocks BSA, Inc. held their 35th anniversary luncheon on Thursday, May 18th, 2023, with 45 attendees. Patriot's Path Council Scout Executive Marc Andreo was in attendance to congratulate them, and also to award a Silver Beaver Award to Bill Debiec. This is the highest National award a volunteer may earn in the scouts. Most of the volunteers in the Flintlocks have been awarded a Silver Beaver.

The stated mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to "prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law." Youth are trained in responsible citizenship, character development, and self-reliance through participation in a wide range of outdoor activities, educational programs, and, at older age levels, career-oriented programs in partnership with community organizations.

For more information about the Flintlocks, BSA, Inc., contact Dr. Michael Hart drmhart@yahoo.com, or visit the Facebook page "Flintlocks."



(above) Flintlocks holding plaques showing the 12 points of the scout law (plus one more).

Courtesy photos

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The Retired Policemen and Firemen's Association, Local 3 of Union/Somerset Counties (NJRPFA), is helping NJSP and the NJ Department of Transportation (NJDOT) to promote this important Safety Issue to help protect our First Responders. 41 Emergency First responders were struck and killed by motor vehicles in 2022. When you see flashing lights ahead, please, "Slow Down and Move Over", stated Local 3 President, retired Police Chief Kenneth Grady.

NJ State Trooper Marc Castellano who was killed by a speeding vehicle on June 6, 2010, while assisting during a roadside investigation. His mother, Donna Setaro has made it her life's mission to share the Slow Down, Move Over message with the public. Local 3 will assist in this program in memory of her son and many other NJSP Troopers and local Police Officers who were struck and killed by speeding vehicles while working our busy roads and Highways in the State of New Jersey.

New Jersey is a leading State in Traffic Incident Management (TIM) responder training

provided by NJDOT. It brings Police, Firefighters, medical personnel, transportation, towing, and other incident responders together to engage in interactive, hands-on incident resolution exercises. In New Jersey, more than 20,000 first responders have completed NJDOT's TIM training.

The NJRPFA was established in 1987 to promote and develop a friendly spirit among its members, both retired and associate members. There are over 3,000 members of the association in various county Locals in NJ, as well as Local 22 in the State of Florida. These members are retirees from State, County and Local Firefighters, Police, Sheriff, Prosecutors, and Attorney General's Office to name a few. These members reside in NJ, NY, PA, FL, VA, SC and many other states.

If you live in Union County or Somerset County, please consider joining our Local 3 to keep abreast of major issues which may impact on your retirement benefits and issues that may be of value to you. Our yearly dues are \$10. For more information visit: njrpfa.org/local3/

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BLUE CHRISTMAS PRAYER SERVICE

The Church of the Little Flower will be hosting a Blue Christmas prayer service on Sunday, December 10 at 3 p.m. The service will be held in the Bernauer Parish Center, 290 Plainfield Avenue in Berkeley Heights.

Many of us feel down or depressed this time of year, whether due to stress, financial issues, broken relationships, death of a loved one, or may be looking for a brief respite from the hustle and bustle of the season.

The Bereavement Ministry of the Church of the Little Flower invites anyone from the parish or any faith community to attend our service where we can pray for renewed strength and hope and experience the presence of the Lord.

Light refreshments will be served afterward. For further information, you may call the parish center at 908-464-1585 and ask for Dan Grossano or email bereavement.lf@gmail.com.

GREENSIDE PLAYGROUND IS READY FOR PLAY

Greenside Playground, on Westfield Road at Greenside Place, is now opened to the public after extensive renovations, including new playground equipment and a safety surface. The park is open from dawn to dusk. Stop by and check it out!

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Insert your flyer into the newspapers and get it mailed to every home and business for \$60 per thousand and as low as \$30 per thousand for higher quantities.

ONLINE MARKETING

Online ads and press releases designed and placed to drive traffic to your website and get your phone ringing.

SOCIAL MEDIA

We can design and/or manage your social media campaign from passive to aggressive plans customized to work within your budget.

WEBSITE AND SEO SERVICES

Start with an audit/analysis of your website giving you a report and recommendations for \$250.

It is highly recommended to have a marketing plan and budget before spending.

CALL JOE RENNA FOR A FREE CONSULTATION.
908-447-1295

RENNA MEDIA NEWSPAPER RATE SHEET

WE MAIL 160,000 NEWSPAPERS MONTHLY!

Tina Renna 908-418-5586 • tinarena@rennamedia.com

Joe Renna 908-447-1295 • joerenna@rennamedia.com

202 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ 07016

Online at RennaMedia.com
and NJLocalInfo.com

Call today for **FREE** consult on marketing and business plans.



Advertise in 1 or all 24 towns

Berkeley Heights COMMUNITY NEWS Qty: 4,700 Zip: 07922	THE CHATHAMS NJ Qty: 7,500 Zip: 07928	Clark Monthly Qty: 6,700 Zip: 07066	CRANFORD MONTHLY NJ Qty: 9,900 Zip: 07016	Elmhurst Hills ELIZABETH, NJ Qty: 5,400 Zip: 07208 Section of Elizabeth, NJ	Fanwood Post NJ Qty: 3,000 Zip: 07023
Florham Park Press NJ Qty: 5,500 Zip: 07932	Garwood Times NJ Qty: 2,500 Zip: 07027	Green Brook Gazette NJ Qty: 3,000 Zip: 08812	BUSINESS • LIFE KENILWORTH NJ Qty: 3,500 Zip: 07033	NJ LIFE in LINDEN Qty: 17,900 Zip: 07036	Long Hill LEADER NJ Qty: 3,500 Zips: 07933, 07946, 07980
MADISON MONTHLY NJ Qty: 6,300 Zip: 07940	MOUNTAINSIDE VIEW NJ Qty: 2,900 Zip: 07092	New Providence NEWS NJ Qty: 5,100 Zip: 07974	OUR TOWN Rahway, NJ Qty: 13,000 Zip: 07065	ROSELLE PARK MONTHLY Qty: 5,600 Zip: 07204	Scotch Plains NJ WHAT'S HAPPENING MONTHLY Qty: 9,400 Zip: 07076
Short Hills MILLBURN MONTHLY NJ Qty: 8,200 Zips: 07041, 07078	Summit Times NJ Qty: 9,600 Zip: 07901	Spirit of UNION NJ Qty: 6,800 Zip: 07083 (partial)	WARREN MONTHLY NJ Qty: 6,200 Zip: 07059	Watchung Post NJ Qty: 2,700 Zip: 07069	Westfield MONTHLY NJ Qty: 11,800 Zip: 07090

NEWSPAPER AD RATES

Units	Size	1 TOWN	3 TOWNS	6 TOWNS	9 TOWNS	12 TOWNS	15 TOWNS	18 TOWNS	21 TOWNS	24 TOWNS
1 Unit (Business card)	3.25" x 2"	\$60	\$150	\$250	\$350	\$400	\$450	\$500	\$550	\$600
2 Units	6.5" x 2" or 3.25" x 4"	\$100	\$250	\$400	\$500	\$600	\$700	\$800	\$900	\$1000
4 Units	3.25" x 8" or 6.5" x 4"	\$180	\$450	\$700	\$900	\$1100	\$1300	\$1500	\$1700	\$1900
6 Units	6.5" x 6.25" or 10" x 4"	\$240	\$600	\$900	\$1200	\$1400	\$1600	\$1800	\$2000	\$2200
9 HALF PAGE	6.5" x 9" or 10" x 7"	\$320	\$800	\$1000	\$1300	\$1600	\$1900	\$2200	\$2400	\$2700
12 Units	10" x 8"	\$360	\$900	\$1200	\$1500	\$1800	\$2100	\$2400	\$2700	\$3000
18 FULL PAGE	10" x 14"	\$400	\$1000	\$1400	\$1800	\$2200	\$2500	\$2800	\$3000	\$3400
2-PAGE SPREAD	21" x 14"	\$700								
BACK PAGE	10" x 14"	\$500								
FRONT PAGE BANNER	8.25" x 2"	\$320								
FRONT PAGE BOX	1.5" x 4.5"	\$240								

PREPAY 6 MONTHS AND GET 1 MORE FREE
PREPAY 12 MONTHS AND GET 3 MORE FREE

Back cover, front page banner and front box reserved on first-come, first-served basis. Current advertiser has right of first refusal. Make Checks payable to Renna Media, 202 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ 07016

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

**\$10
PER POST**
Block of 20 for \$200
Single post is \$20



Full Color Flyers and Menus Printed and Mailed to Every Home and Business in Town!

FLYERS - \$45 PER THOUSAND

8.5" x 11" / Full color / 2 sided / 60lb gloss coated stock
Tri-fold add \$10 per thousand. Minimum order \$450

LARGE MENUS - PRINTING - \$85 PER THOUSAND

For quantities more than 50,000 cost is \$55 per thousand.
11"x17" / Full color / 2 sided / 60lb gloss coated stock. Min. order \$850
Includes folding (quarter fold or tri-fold, with or without coupons tab)

INSERTED AND MAILED TO EVERY HOME AND BUSINESS
\$60 per thousand. (as low as \$30 per thousand depending on quantity.)
Minimum order \$400

Joe Renna at 908-447-1295
email: JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com



**FLYERS
\$45
PER 1,000**
**MENUS
\$85
PER 1,000**

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**

Call Walter at 201-478-7408
email: wwwinnj@gmail.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.

**ONE TIME FLAT FEE
\$250**

Call for a consultation if you do not have a website or if need a new one.
Call Walter at 201-478-7408
email: wwwinnj@gmail.com

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Not only do we sell late model pre-owned vehicles,
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