

Westfield MONTHLY NJ

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EXCEPTIONAL SCHOOL STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS CELEBRATED

Westfield Public Schools

The Westfield Public School District is pleased to announce a series of significant staff achievements that underscore the high level of commitment and professionalism within the district's educational community.

Among the notable accomplishments, Westfield High School Boys Tennis Coach George Kapner reached a remarkable milestone with his 700th win on April 9, highlighting Kapner's dedication to excellence and his impactful guidance on athletes over the years.

Supervisor of Athletics Sandra Mamary notes that this milestone makes Kapner "the winningest coach in Westfield Blue Devil history."

In early March, WHS Technology Education teacher Laura Doyle was among the outstanding technology and engineering educators honored by the International Technology and Engineering Educators Association (ITEEA) at its annual conference in Memphis. Doyle received the 2023-2024 Teacher Excellence Award, one of the highest honors given to technology and engineering education classroom teachers in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the profession and their students.

Visual and Performing Arts Supervisor Shawna Longo joined other music educators for a congressional briefing on March 11 in Washington, D.C., organized by the National Association for Music Education (NAfME) and the Country Music Association Foundation (CMAF). Longo, who received the CMAF Teachers of Excellence Award last fall, was on a panel that briefed lawmakers and others in attendance about the importance of music education. Longo also has been appointed to the NAfME Artificial Intelligence Task Force, which will examine the use of AI in music education.

WHS Cross Country / Track and Field Head Coach Christopher Tafelski, who teaches science at the high school, received national recognition earlier this year by the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) as a 2023 High School Cross Country State Coach of the Year. One boys coach and one girls coach from all 50 states and the



(above) Boys Tennis Coach George Kapner (center).



(above) Track & Field Head Coach Christopher Tafelski (2nd on right)

District of Columbia were selected based on their teams' performances throughout the 2023 cross country season.

District administrators and faculty often are invited to present at county, state, and national conferences. Most recently, on March 18 at the New Jersey Association of School Administrators (NJASA) Women's Leadership Conference, Lincoln Principal Dr. Tiffany Jacobson provided a session for women who are working full time in K-12 education and considering the pursuance of doctoral studies.

"These recent achievements, and the many that come before them, reflect the high standards and commitment our educators uphold in their roles," says Superintendent Dr. Raymond González. "The honors and recognitions are reflective of the district's collective effort to foster an environment that encourages both staff and students to excel. We are immensely proud of our educators and their dedication to our students and the school community as a whole."

Photo by Westfield High School Tennis

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SPRING SPRUCE UP

The Garden Club of Westfield welcomed spring on April 5 with the planting of pansies and stock in their containers on the corners of East Board and Elm Streets in Westfield. Pussy willows were also part of the design.

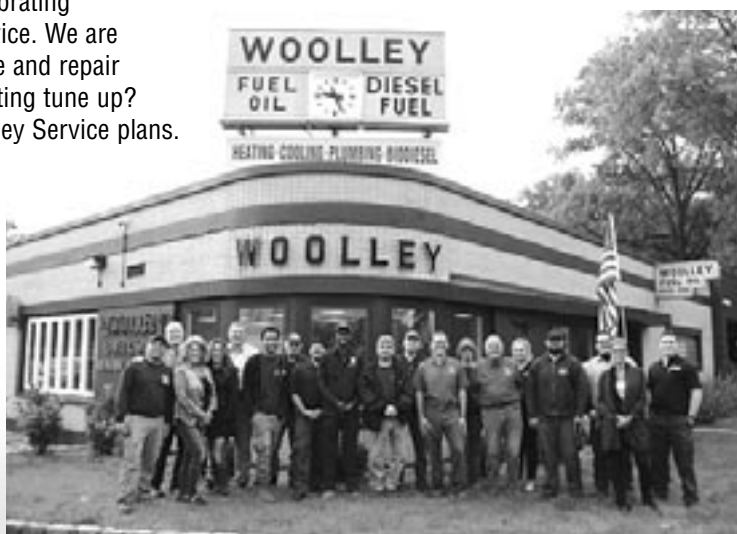
Pictured l-r: Pat Meschke, Marion Bavolar, Merrilyn Crane, Holly Zakharenko, Joanne Mitchel, Marie Higgins, Margaret Allen, Rosemary Shire, Jane Manniello, Elaine Puma and Estella Tarradellas.



Courtesy photo

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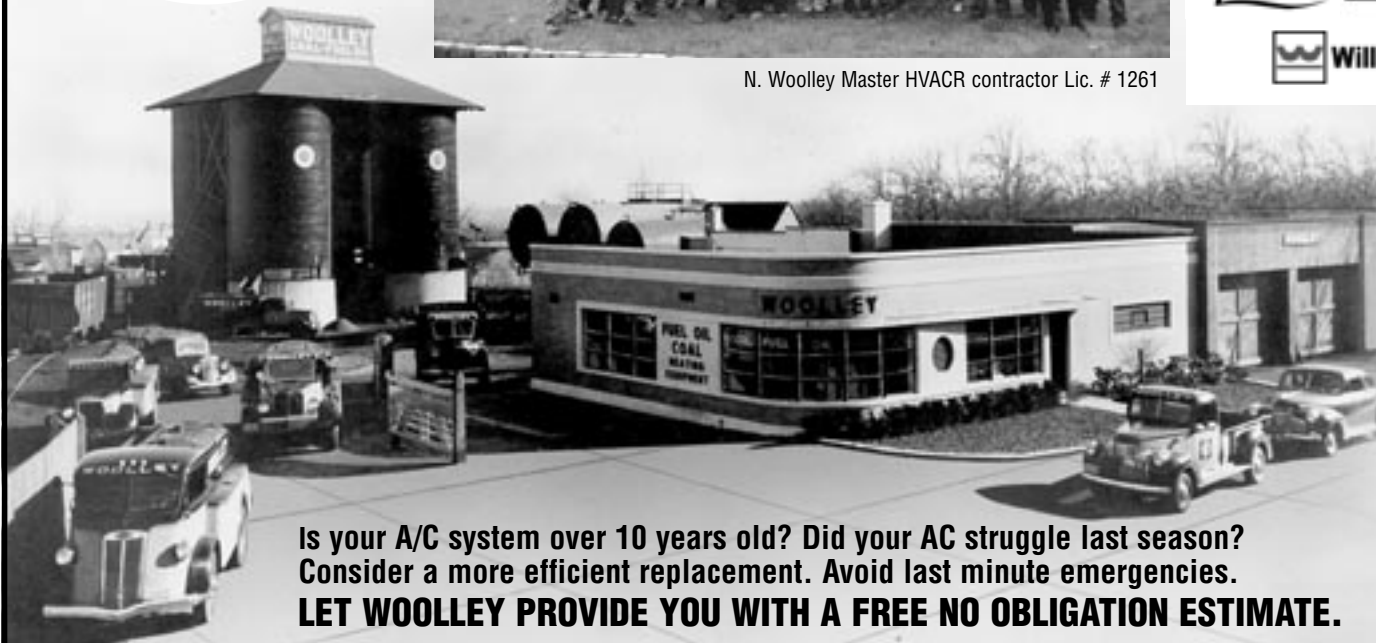
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WESTFIELD MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY, PARADE, PARTY



(above) Westfield's Memorial Day events begin with a solemn memorial service and unveiling of this year's banners honoring Westfield veterans, at 10 a.m. in front of the WWI Monument at intersection of North Ave and East Broad Street.

Memorial Day Committee

The Westfield Memorial Day Parade will return on Monday, May 27th. A solemn memorial service and unveiling of this year's banners honoring Westfield veterans will begin at 10 a.m. in front of the WWI Monument at intersection of North Ave and East Broad Street. The Parade will immediately follow and will be staged along North Avenue in front of the old Lord and Taylor building. Parade route will start on North Avenue and turn left on East Broad Street, proceed to Euclid Avenue, where it will turn left, and then move up Euclid and turn left on Park Drive and into Mindowaskin Park where there will be music, bouncy houses and food trucks.

We welcome any group interested in marching in the Parade. If you are interested, you can

register on the Westfieldnj.gov website. Type Memorial Day Parade in the search box and it will take you to the Parade registration. If you are participating, plan on arriving on North Avenue no later than 9:00 a.m. on Memorial Day. For questions contact James McDonald at jamesmc150@gmail.com or 612-910-4100.

After the activities in Mindowaskin Park, there will be an after party at the American Legion Hall at 1003 North Avenue. The party will go from 2 – 4 p.m. with two bands, and free wine, beer & food. The party is open to all residents of Westfield to come celebrate and thank the Veterans for their service while remembering those we lost. Sponsorships are still available so contact Joe Mindak at 201-410-8282 or joe@finnconnective.com for more info.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Spring Fling

MAY 05 From 10 – 5 rain or shine in Downtown Westfield! Central Avenue will be transformed into a marketplace of vendors, crafters and retail establishments. Come enjoy the culinary delights of our food vendors.



Garwood Rocks

JUNE 02 Center Street in Garwood will be transformed into a marketplace of vendors, crafters and retail establishments. The event will include a huge car show which attracts thousands of fair goers.



Clark Rock the Block

JUNE 23 This block party will feature quality exhibitors, a special crafter's section, a classic car show, gourmet food trucks, a beer garden, a kid's zone, live music and performances, and local merchants & civic organizations.



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ROBERT TARTE HONORED FOR 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

The Greater Westfield Chapter of UNICO National recently honored Westfield resident-Robert Tarte for 50 years of Dedicated Charitable Service.

Bob has been an instrumental member of Seton Hall University's Alumni Association and has personally provided foundation grants for academic scholarships for young people to advance their education.

His work spanning over the past fifty years has included support for both the Greater Westfield and Plainfield chapters of UNICO. He has donated time and guidance to the Food Bank of New Jersey, served as the committee chairperson for the Westfield High School Scholarship Committee, and has given time to family support platforms for the Westfield Armory. In addition, he has served as a member of the Board for the National UNICO Foundation which supports a multitude of charities such as Cooley's Anemia, Mental Health Support, Cancer Research and Prevention Grants.

Bob has always approached service with respect for the individual and extolling his love of country for the greater good!

Unico's Mission is to promote the image of Italian Americans along with Italian Heritage and culture by supporting charitable, scientific, cultural, educational, and literary projects".

For more information visit:
unicowestfield.wixsite.com/greater-westfield-un



(above) April Bengivenga (Districtioin 10 President), Anthony Bengivenga (Pending National President), Bob Tarte & Myrian Restrepo (Westfield Chapter President). Courtesy photo

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- **Your children will start to eat better** because we'll be educating them daily on what's good and what they should avoid ...don't be surprised if they start asking you to buy more vegetables.
- **Confidence will skyrocket.** When kids get stronger, faster and more fit...their confidence will rise...so will their self-esteem which means their performance in every aspect of life will get better.
- **Their mindset will improve.** We're going equip your child with very specific mindset skills that'll help them learn how to transform how they think about mistakes and failures.

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- Morgan GRIT Athlete Parent
- “My son has been talking about it since the summer program ended. After he attended the summer program we have seen a tremendous improvement with Mason in sports. He is much more aggressive and focused now.”

- Robert, GRIT Athlete Parent
- “My son is more disciplined and confident in himself”

- Steve Hughes, Grit Athlete Parent
- “I have watched my children become more confident and vocal.”

- Christine Stramandinoli, Grit Athlete Parent
- “His confidence has shot up in the last few months...and has carried forward to the way he approaches other activities like sports and schoolwork. My son is now making his bed daily and exercising every day.”

- Catherine Solfaro, Grit Athlete Parent
- “We saw a noticeable difference in his throwing - he could throw it further and faster!
The training definitely paid off!”

- Dara, GRIT Athlete Parent

GET MORE INFORMATION (STARTS JUNE 17TH)

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THE TOUR OF NOTABLE HOMES IS BACK

The Friends of New Jersey Festival Orchestra, the auxiliary and fund raising arm of the orchestra, has announced that the renowned Tour of Notable Homes will resume this year. Five magnificent Westfield residences will generously open their doors to benefit the NJ Festival Orchestra's outreach and music therapy programs on Saturday, May 11th 2024, Mother's Day weekend.

"After three years of pandemic interruption, this much-anticipated local tradition is finally back," according to Shuang Guo Wroe, Friend's Co-President. "There is an increasing diversity of outstanding architecture and stylish décor in our community just waiting to be seen. This year's event reflects the area's rich architectural history, as well as showcasing some of the hottest new properties, architects and interior designers in the Westfield area,"

she continued.

People who love grand homes, and families looking for something fun to do together to celebrate Mother's Day will have a treat in store. "This year's tour presents a stylish medley of five magnificent Westfield residences -- each with a different history, some with noteworthy renovations, all in different genres and each with plenty of appeal," added Veena Upadhyay, Friend's Co-President.

The tour also presents live music provided by gifted musicians from the Junior Musical club in Westfield.

Ms. Upadhyay explains that the home tour raises key revenue for the orchestra. She expressed appreciation to the homeowners for generously opening their homes to benefit the orchestra, which in turn adds significant value

to communities of central New Jersey.

"The Home Tour is a critical element of the funding mix that's necessary to operate the orchestra, and bring acclaimed professional soloists to the area," explained Music Director David Wroe. "Supplemental fund raising is necessary because only about a third of our revenue comes from the sale of tickets. Income from the Home Tour will also support our important educational outreach and music therapy programs."

Tickets for the 2024 Tour of Notable Homes are \$50 in advance, \$55 on tour day. Purchase tickets online at www.njfestivalorchestra.org. Tickets are also available at Baron's Pharmacy in Westfield and Christoffers in Mountainside.

For more information go to www.njfestivalorchestra.org or visit the Friends of NJ Festival Orchestra on Facebook.



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(above) BEST FRIENDS Members of the Friends of NJ Festival Orchestra gather to plan the 2024 Tour of Notable Homes to benefit the New Jersey Festival Orchestra.

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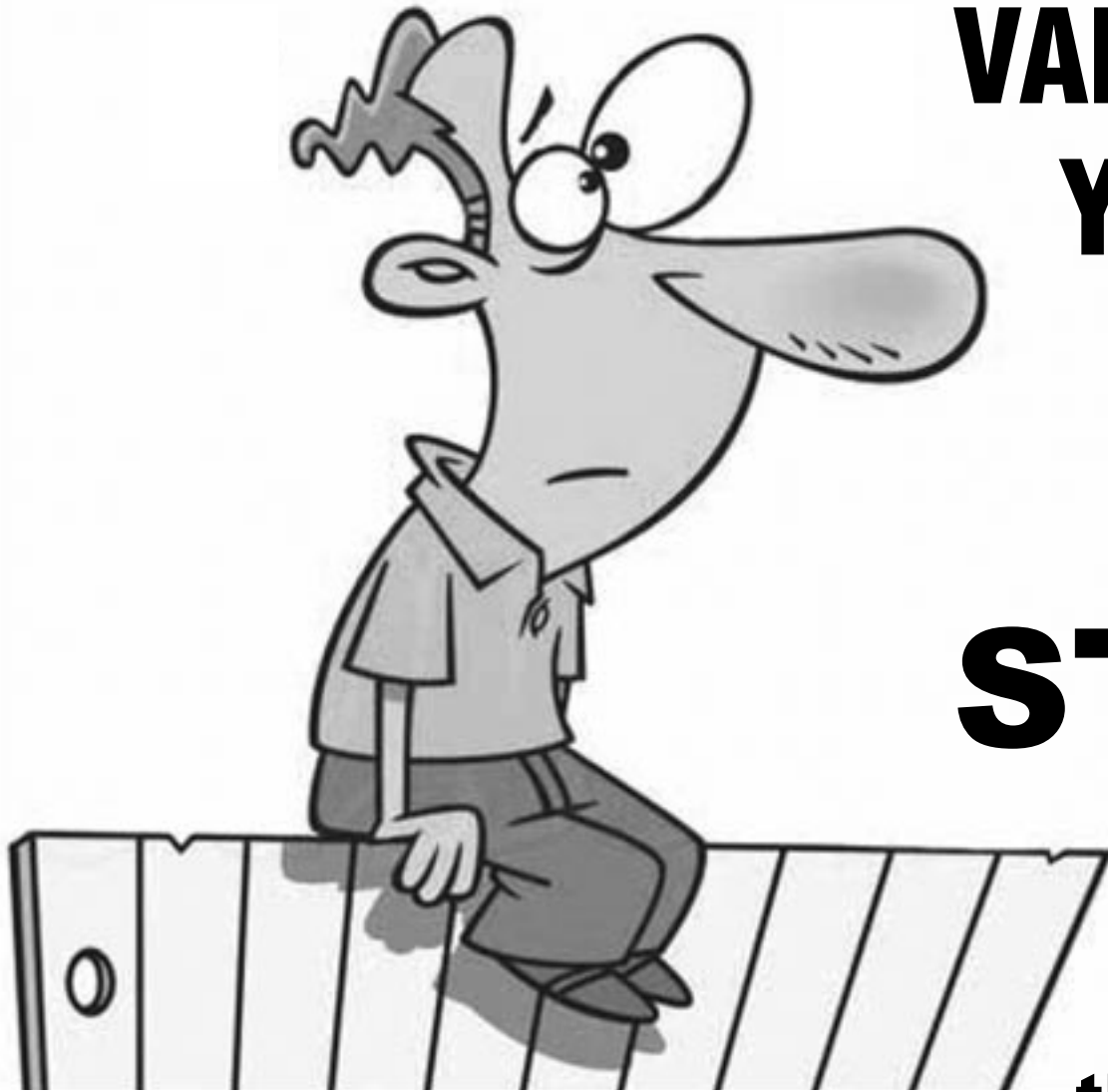
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(above) Join us for one of our most popular programs, Lenape Lore on May 19 from 2-4 p.m.

LENAPE LORE STORY TIME & CRAFT - MAY 19TH

Join us for a special program highlighting the earliest inhabitants of New Jersey, the Lenape Indians. Various aspects of everyday life such as beliefs, families, home, food, clothing, medicine, and games will be presented. Storytelling was an integral part of Lenape society. Not only was it a way to pass along wisdom and cultural practices to the next generation, it also fostered a sense of community. The fully furnished c1740 farmhouse will also be open for viewing and our cooks will be demonstrating 18th century open-hearth cooking. Children can enjoy story time and a craft. Admission is \$5 ages 13 and older; \$4 ages 3-12 and free age 2 and younger. No reservations are necessary.

The Miller Cory House Museum is located at 614 Mountain Avenue in Westfield, NJ. Call the museum at 908-232-1776 or email millercorymuseum@gmail.com for more information.

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 on the Miller Cory House Museum/Westfield Historical Society and their events, millercoryhouse.com or westfieldhistoricalsociety.org and, like us on Facebook, and follow us on Instagram.

“WESTFIELD: THEN & NOW” PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT TO HIGHLIGHT PRESERVATION MONTH

In celebration of National Preservation Month, Westfield’s Historic Preservation Commission and Public Arts Commission have teamed up to host a special photography exhibit at the Center for Creativity at the Rialto, 250 E. Broad Street, throughout May. Titled “Westfield: Then & Now,” the exhibit features vintage photos sourced from the archives of the Westfield Historical Society alongside present-day views of the same scene. The resulting images are a vivid portrait of Westfield’s timeless architectural heritage and enduring

community spirit.

Among the many municipal, commercial, and residential sites featured are Arcanum Hall, Elm Street, Mindowaskin Park, and historic neighborhoods including Boulevard, Stoneleigh Park, and Kimball Avenue. In some cases, the image was faithfully recreated using the site’s current occupants.

In conjunction with the Rialto exhibition, the public is invited to submit their own “Then & Now” photographs for an online display by emailing them to hpc@westfieldnj.gov.



1950's



2024

(above) The Westfield Fire Station is one of many local landmarks featured in “Westfield: Then & Now,” a photography exhibit marking National Preservation Month at the Center for Creativity at the Rialto.



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ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE (RYE) PROGRAM

Submitted by Dr. D Michael Hart

At a recent regular meeting of the Rotary Club of Westfield Rotarian Mark Wright explained how the RYE program works. The RYE program creates worlds of possibilities, leadership skills, lifelong memories, and new friendships for both students and the families they live with during their time away. Designed for high school students aged 15 to 18.5 at the time of departure, over 9,000 students around the globe participate in the program each year and the RYE program offers a fun, yet safe way to travel and immerse yourself in another country and culture.

Mark explained the details of the Student Exchange program is run through ESSEX (Eastern States Student Exchange Program) which provide structure and oversees the program for Rotary Districts along the East Coast of Canada and the US, including Bermuda. Students enter the US on a J-1 visa and host parents and volunteers are required to complete a background check and training from the Department of State. ESSEX also requires the use of certain insurance programs and travel agencies to ensure the safety of the students during their year abroad.

During the academic year (typically August to June), the students attend the local high school and live with a host family, may also take sponsored and Rotary sanctioned trips throughout the country. Mark's daughter is currently in Argentina and will take three extensive trips during the year and his exchange student from France will take a month-long trip around the United States.

ESSEX also offers short term Student Exchange programs for several weeks over the summer. In our District, we focus on Japan and have established an excellent exchange experience.

Our district collaborates with neighboring Rotary districts (eastern PA and southern NJ) during the year with a goal to bring the exchange students (15 total over three districts) together once a month. We had a joint orientation in September, followed by a Halloween party in October and a Friendsgiving in November. In



(above, l-r) Clara Fauvieux (Belgium, hosted by the Rotary Club of Philipsburg, NJ); Rotarian District Chair Mark Wright; Antonio Mao (Taiwan, hosted by the Rotary Club of Caldwell, NJ); and Serena Chalon (France, hosted by the Rotary Club of Westfield, NJ). The flags represent Belgium, Taiwan and France respectively. Courtesy photo

December, we went to NY City and in February, the exchange students will have an international pot luck supper where each student brings a dish from their home country. The event is in Allentown, PA.

In March or April, SSEX will decide on the exchange student match for the 2024-2025 academic year. The students put in their top 5 countries, and the hosts put in their requirements. For Example, Mark asks for girls since he has 3 daughters, and someone who does not speak German, since both he and his wife are fluent, and find it more interesting to deal with someone speaking another language.

To find out more about the program or to apply, go to the ESSEX website exchangestudent.org.

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 check out the website westfieldrotary.com or contact club secretary Dr. D. Michael Hart by email drmhart@yahoo.com.



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RAKE & HOE GARDEN CLUB BRIGHTEN UP JARDINE ACADEMY

As part of its commitment to community service, the Rake and Hoe Garden Club of Westfield visited Jardine Academy on April 11, and decorated the Spring Tree with one hundred paper rainbow spotted leopards designed by Mary Lou Nolas and made by fellow club members.

The ornaments represent Spot, the main character in the “Put Me in the Zoo” book by Robert Lopshire. Spot is a leopard that can change his spots. Spot longs to be put in the zoo, but they will not take him. He shows a little boy and girl all the wonderful things he can do, and they find the right home for him.

The Spring Tree stands in the school lobby for

CONSERVATION CENTER RECYCLING PROGRAM

Town of Westfield

The Conservation Center is now partnering with Helpsy, a certified B Corp and Public Benefit Corporation, to help keep clothes out of landfills. The EPA estimates that the average US resident discards over 100 pounds of clothing per year and 85% of it ends up in landfills. Now, in addition to the clothing and shoes you’ve already been able to deposit at the Conservation Center, Helpsy has a dedicated bin for additional textile items such as accessories, linens, luggage, and stuffed animals. This is part of the free recycling program open to all residents at the Conservation Center, no permit required.

For a full list of accepted items visit: westfieldnj.gov/conservation.

all to see. A copy of the book was donated to the school's library, and each student will be given an ornament to take home.

The Rake and Hoe Garden Club meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 12:00 p.m. at the Scotch Hills Country Club. Each meeting includes a guest speaker to educate members in the art and science of gardening, horticulture, floral design, and nature photography. New members are welcome.

On May 8, guest speaker Deb Ellis will present “Think Like a Caterpillar Bloom Like a Butterfly”. She will discuss the life cycle of butterflies and months and what we as gardeners can do to support them at various stages of their lives throughout the gardening season. If you are interested in attending this talk or learning more about the club, contact Cathy Becker, cathymbecker@gmail.com, or visit the club’s website, rakeandhoegc.org or Facebook page.



(above, l-r) Club Members: Jane Christiani, Adah Levin, Gayle Lechner, Faten Mahran, Marylou Nolas, Irene Greenstein, and Heidi Geissel (Jardine staff).

Courtesy photo

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550 East Broad Street. Library hours are Mon - Thur 9:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m., Fri and Sat 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Sun 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.,
The library will be closed May 12 for Mother's Day, and May 25-27 for Memorial Day weekend. wmlnj.org

Saturday, May 4 from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m., the new Tween Crafting Club will be led by librarian Miss Carey who will show 9- to 12-year-olds how to make a zipper pouch and wallet out of duct tape. Pre-registration is required.

Saturday, May 4 from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m., The Fundamentals of Tai Chi with Dr. Gang Huang will be taught on Tai Chi, an ancient practice that originated in China, is proven to boost both mental and physical health. It helps promote balance and prevent falls, relieves depression, Parkinson's disease, dementia and helps reverse disease progression in osteoarthritis. Those suffering from insomnia, hypertension, and fibromyalgia can also be helped by Tai Chi, often referred as "Meditation in Motion." In this session, Dr. Gang Huang will lead a hands-on session to work on Tai Chi fundamentals such as joint health, standing meditation, weight shifting and balance, and Tai Chi walking.

Sunday, May 5 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. The popular Visual Arts Class for Seniors will continue with artist Alicia Cotter. She will lead students in working with mixed media to create their own unique piece of art.

On Tuesday, May 7 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., Jodi Bloom, a Certified College Funding Specialist, and Founder of Cornerstone College Solutions, will present, "Don't Risk your Retirement: 7 Roadblocks to Success."

Wednesday, May 8 from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. The Virtual Author Series continues with Nina Simon, author of the New York Times-bestselling Mother-Daughter Murder Night on The community is invited to join Nina Simon online as she discusses her lighthearted whodunnit about a grandmother-mother-daughter trio of amateur sleuths. Her debut novel Mother-Daughter Murder Night is a Reese's Book Club pick and a "Best of 2023" selection for Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Crime Reads, and Library Journal. It is necessary to register for this program to receive the Zoom link.

Thursday, May 9 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., craft workshop for adults. Librarian and craft expert Marge Barkan will present a craft workshop for adults: Floral Painting on Canvas. Learn some simple tricks and techniques to create a beautiful picture of lavender flowers on canvas using acrylic paints. No prior painting experience or skill is required. Registration for the class opens at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 25.

A new six-week series, "Introduction to Mindful Meditation" begins on May 9 at 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. This meditation series is an invitation to pause and quiet the mind in a supportive and inclusive environment. It is suitable for adults with no prior meditation experience. Each class will include a talk on a topic of mindfulness followed by a guided meditation and group discussion.

May 9 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., "The Gut-Brain Connection: Through the Functional Medicine Lens" will be presented by mental health and gut health experts Cheryl Schmid, AFMC-SLP and Elana Mundorff, LCSW-AFMC. They will discuss how mental health and gut health are interconnected by the well-documented Gut-Brain Axis.



Gang Huang



Jodi Bloom



Nina Simon



Marge Floral



Tween Craft Wallet

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MAY PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS	
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Closed May 25-27 for Memorial Day Weekend	
550 East Broad Street Westfield, NJ 07090	
5/1	3:00pm Virtual Author: Genius, Power and Deception on the Brink of World War I by Douglas Brunt
5/2	1:00pm Paper Marbling: Make a Craft for Adults -Marge
5/4	3:00pm The Fundamentals of Tai Chi - Dr. Gang Huang
5/5 & 5/19	2:00pm Visual Arts for Seniors: Mixed Media taught by Artist Alicia Cotter
5/6	3:30-8:30pm Holocaust Commemoration Community Event Programs, exhibits, speakers
5/7, 9, 21, 23	1:30-3pm One-on-One Technical Help 30 minute sessions by appointment only
5/7	7:00pm Don't Risk your Retirement: 7 Roadblocks to Address by Jodi Bloom
5/9, 16, 23, 30	4:00pm Introduction to Mindfulness Meditation With Elaine Manganello
5/9	7:00pm The Gut-Brain Connection
5/14	7:00pm An Evening of Poetry: Adele Kenny & Tom Plante
5/21	7:00pm Three Major Strategies to Improve Energy Efficiency
5/23	7:00pm New Artist in Residence: Jennifer Wilner In the Spotlight

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LET THE SUNSHINE IN! HAIR IS COMING TO CDC THEATRE IN CRANFORD

The American classic rock-musical Hair, the final production of the 105th season at CDC Theatre, celebrates the sixties counterculture in all its barefoot, long-haired, bell-bottomed, beaded and fringed glory. To an infectiously energetic rock beat, the show wows audiences with songs like "Aquarius," "Good Morning, Starshine," "Hair," "I Got Life" and "Let The Sunshine In." Exploring ideas of identity, community, global responsibility and peace, Hair remains as relevant as ever as it examines what it means to be a young person in a changing world.

Controversial in 1968, with its rock music, hippies, nude scene, multiracial cast, and anti-war irreverence, it billed itself as "the American Tribal Love-Rock Musical." Audiences didn't quite know what to make of that. But they figured it out eventually.

To appreciate how unexpected Hair was in 1968, consider what else was playing on Broadway the week it opened: Hello, Dolly!, Man of La Mancha, Funny Girl, and Fiddler on the Roof. One of Fiddler's signature numbers, of course, is an anthem about the importance of "Tradition." This new musical questioned everything about tradition.

Up until Hair, Broadway's idea of rock music had been the Elvis-like character in Bye Bye Birdie. Galt MacDermot's music for Hair was much closer to the real thing. And the flower-power lyrics of James Rado and Jerome Ragni, like those from the second act's "Three-Five-Zero-Zero", didn't sound like traditional show-tunes either.

This thoroughly American "Tribal Love-Rock Musical" soon became a hit all over the world making rock music something that theater was forced to reckon with. In shows like Jesus Christ Superstar, Grease, Dreamgirls and Rock of Ages, the rock musical became a Broadway genre. Hair got there first.

The show will run weekends from May 3rd through the 19th. For the best selections and prices, visit cdctheatre.org for tickets.

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A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM BALLET BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

Prepare to be enchanted once again! American Repertory Ballet (ARB) proudly announces the return of Ethan Stiefel's celebrated production of A Midsummer Night's Dream, May 10-12, 2024 at the New Brunswick Performing Arts Center.

"This production was made during my first year as ARB's Artistic Director, and it truly represents the overall vision we wanted to kickstart at the time," says Stiefel. "Its blend of artful, athletic, whimsical and heartfelt movement and storytelling absolutely encapsulates ARB, and what makes both the show and the company wholly authentic. Simply put, our A Midsummer's Night Dream production is as unique as our artists and our repertoire."

This timeless tale, set to Felix Mendelssohn's iconic score with additional music written for film by Erich Wolfgang Korngold, promises to transport attendees into to a magical forest filled with fairies, elves, mischief, romance, and joy. Audiences of all ages will once again be cheering, laughing out loud, and mesmerized by

the ballet's whimsy and crisp storytelling. There is no better way to celebrate Mother's Day weekend!

With scenery by award-winning designer Howard Jones, lighting by Joseph Walls, and original costumes by ARB's Resident Costume Designer Janessa Cornell Urwin, Shakespeare's beloved masterpiece receives a modern transformation. The cast will feature the entire ARB Company alongside trainees from Princeton Ballet School.

For ticketing and information,
please visit arballet.org

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Friday, May 10, 2024 at 7 pm

Saturday, May 11, 2024 at 2 pm and 7 pm

Sunday, May 12, 2024 at 2 pm

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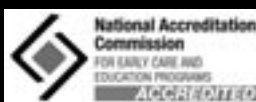


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Submitted by Elizabeth Berberich
 Westfield Girl Scout Troop 40099 recently installed three sets of "See Me Flags" to enhance pedestrian visibility and safety as their Bronze Award Project.

This high honor requires troops to identify a concern in their community and then implement a solution. The 5th graders from Tamaques Elementary School worked with their school, the Town Council, and the Department of Public Works to make their plan a reality.

The flags can be found at Baltimore Avenue & Willow Grove Road, Clark Street & Ludlow Place in front of the YMCA, and Rahway Avenue & Shackamaxon Drive.

Pedestrians should grab a brightly colored

flag from a holder and return it to the other side of the street after they've crossed the street safely. The troop also taught lessons to younger students and made a video reminding all pedestrians to continue to cross at crosswalks, look both ways before they cross, make eye contact with drivers before crossing the street, and avoid distractions like cell phones when crossing.

At the conclusion of the project, Girl Scout Sonja Berberich said, "I learned that even kids can make a change, but it takes teamwork, hard work, and tons of time and effort." Troop Member Lauren Gibbons agreed: "Hopefully, we've made kids even younger than us see that they can eventually make big changes too!"



Courtesy photo
 (above) Troop 40099 installs their first set of "See Me Flags" at the intersection of Baltimore Avenue & Willow Grove Road with the help of the Westfield Department of Public Works.

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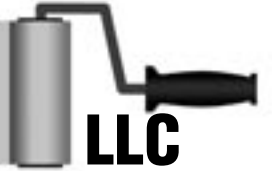
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Westfield Regional Health Department

As high school graduation and other celebratory events approach us, please take the time to speak to your teen(s) about the consequences of underage drinking.

Underage drinking can have serious consequences for teens and young adults. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), at least 6 youth under 21 die every day from non-driving alcohol-related causes (such as drowning and suicide). Studies have shown that alcohol consumption by adolescents results in brain damage (possibly permanent) and impairs intellectual development. When drinking is delayed until age 21, a child's risk of serious alcohol problems decreases by 70%.

Underage drinking is against the law, and it is also against the law for adults to serve or provide alcohol to minors. Parents who host parties and permit underage drinking may face serious consequences as a result. Adults who provide alcohol to minors can be held legally responsible for anything that happens when the minors drink and can face legal consequences. The penalties for giving alcohol to minors or allowing alcohol to be consumed on your property can include fines and is a Criminal Disorderly Persons Offense. A civil claim could also hold you financially responsible for injuries sustained by a third party as a result of the actions of a minor, who has been illegally served or had alcohol.

"Parents Who Host, Lose the Most" is a public health awareness campaign that encourages parents and the community to send a unified message that teen alcohol consumption is unacceptable. Contact Amy Lewis, Health Educator, at alewis@westfieldnj.gov to pick up your free lawn sign and place it in your yard May-June to show your support of the Parents Who Host Lose the Most campaign.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- Always be home when your child has a party or friends over.
- Let your child know that drinking alcohol is not ok and how alcohol can and will affect them.
- Check and make sure that alcohol is not brought into your home by other teens or young adults.
- Know your kids' friends and communicate with other parents.

WHS SPRING 2024 NATIONAL LETTERS OF INTENT

Westfield Public Schools

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

Tomas Cestero, Seton Hall University, Baseball; Maxwell Cho, Union College, Football; Grace D'Angelo, Franklin & Marshall College, Softball; Randal Davis, Rochester University, Baseball; Peter Del Re, Union College, Football; Gabrielle Demeter, Davidson College, Track & Field; Erin Doherty, Salisbury University, Softball; Shannon Gibbs, SUNY Brockport, Gymnastics; James Gildea, George Washington

University, Cross Country/Track & Field; Catherine Heflin, Swarthmore College, Softball; Avery Keith, Princeton University, Cross Country/Track & Field; Grace Lisnock, Gettysburg College, Cross Country/Track & Field; Tage Mehta, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cross Country/Track & Field; Julian Montez, Lackawanna Community College, Football; Sean O'Brien, Columbia University, Track & Field; Anne Reilly, Russell Sage College, Softball; Maxwell Rotter, Muhlenberg College, Wrestling; Shane Sheehan, Catholic University, Basketball; Darcy Scheiner, American University, Track & Field; Alexander Valencia, University of Alabama, Cross Country/Track & Field.

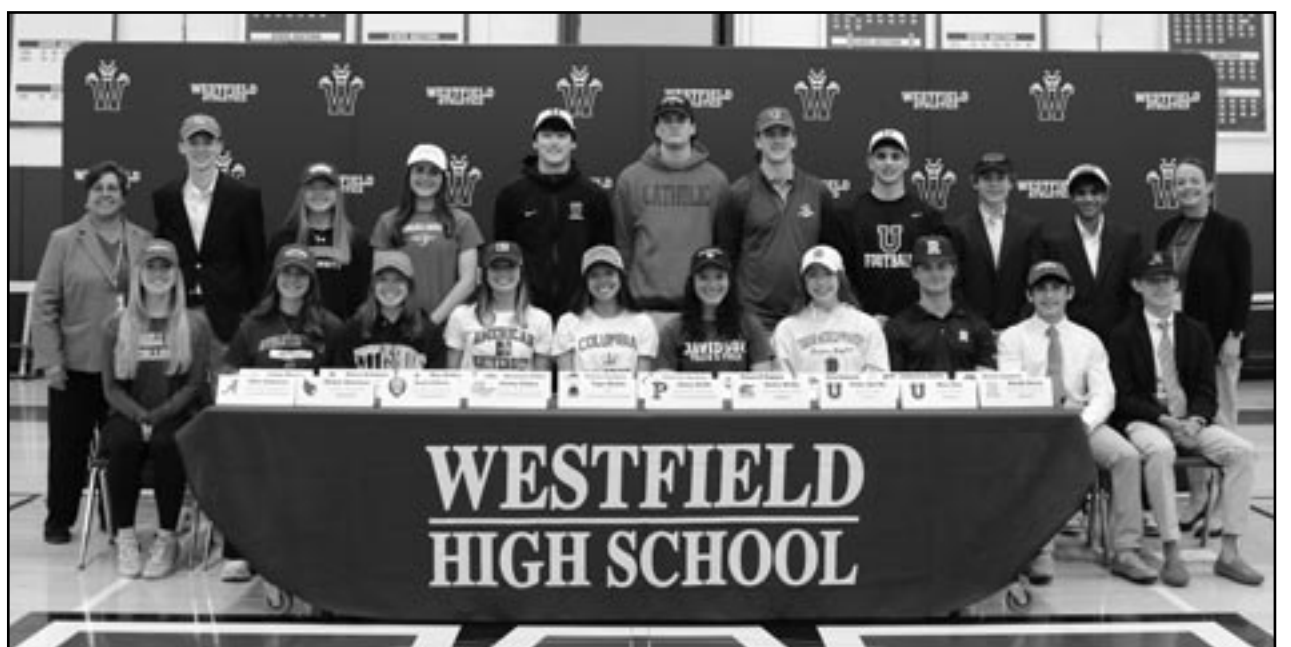


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The 2024 Kenilworth Street Fair and Classic Car Show, hosted by the Borough of Kenilworth, will take place on Sunday, May 19th. The Boulevard will be closed to vehicle traffic from 14th St. to 24th St. and transformed into a giant block party from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

This event will feature quality exhibitors, a special crafter's section, lots of great food, kiddie rides, and kids area, live music and performances, and local merchants and civic organizations.

SHOPPING

Shop til you drop along the Boulevard with over 100 quality exhibitors selling their merchandise such as jewelry, handbags, sports collectibles, clothing, home decor, and much more. There is a special section with handmade crafts from local and nearby crafters and artisans with unique one-of-a-kind items.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Whether on stage or under our music tents, you will enjoy the sounds of some very talented cover bands, soloists, dancers, demonstrations from the local karate and dance studios and more. It's also a chance to kick back, take a break in the music section filled with tables and chairs for your use.

KIDS ZONE

The children will enjoy this section filled with kiddie bounce rides, slides, and interactive blow-ups, face painters, sand art & kids games, temporary tattoos, and face painting, just to name a few things.

FOOD TRUCKS

As you stroll along the Boulevard stop to have a bite to eat and sit at tables in our live music area. Come hungry and enjoy eating carnival food favorites like a sausage & pepper sandwich, cheesesteaks, kettle corn, chicken fingers, ice cream, zeppole, shish kabobs, gyros, fresh-cut fries, fresh-squeezed lemonade, Italian ice, and the many great gourmet foods from the food trucks.

CAR SHOW

This year's event will again feature a car show of Custom... Classic... Street Rod... Muscle Cars in front of Harding School. Set up starts after 10 a.m. Registration – Day of Show. Cars must be registered by 1:00 p.m. to be judged.

Trophies for Winners! All Proceeds go to Pride in Kenilworth Committee. For more Car Show Info send email with your questions to: rprflocal3@gmail.com

LOCAL SENIORS ARTS & CRAFT SHOW

At this street fair, local seniors (Age 60 or older) will have an opportunity to show and/or sell their artwork, crafts, and photographs during a Kenilworth Senior Arts, Crafts and Photography Show that will take place at the newly renovated Kenilworth Senior Center. The event, a major highlight of the center's planned grand reopening celebration, coincides with the timing of the Kenilworth Street Fair. Exhibit space in the show will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Interested participants should register by May 8. Registration forms will be available at the Kenilworth Senior Center and Kenilworth Public Library. For further information, please call Shirley Boyden Maxwell, senior program director, at 908-276-1716.

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A special shout out to our annual sponsors for this event: Renna Media & Wide Eye Security.

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The 11th Annual Greta's Run for Imagine will be held in Westfield, NJ on Sunday, May 19, 2024. Runners, walkers, and rollers are welcome to register for this official USATF 5K through Westfield. Proceeds raised will benefit Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss located in Mountainside and Newark, NJ.

Participants arrive for check-in at 8:00 a.m. and a welcome address from Imagine's Executive Director, Lindsay Schambach, will kick off at 8:40 a.m. The 5K will start at 9:00 a.m. followed by a 200-yard Kids Fun Run dash at 9:45 a.m. for children 10-years-old and younger. The Memory Walk will start at 10:15 a.m. and the event will conclude with a dove release at 10:45 a.m. and a free concert by Southpaw until 11:30 a.m. Both the 5K and Memory Walk route will be lined with memory signs, available for purchase to anyone who wants to memorialize a special person who has died.

New events this year include the dove release at 10:45 a.m. followed by a free concert by Southpaw, who was named Country Group of the Year at the 2023 Josie Music Awards in Nashville, where the band also won Modern Country Song of the Year. The lead singer, Christine Radlmann, won Female Country Vocalist of the Year in 2022.

Greta's Run began 11 years ago when a group of Greta Schoenemann's friends decided to honor her memory with a 5k community race. Greta had died on September 15, 2002, due to injuries sustained when a branch fell on a group of students as they were eating lunch outside of Westfield High School.

Sadly, many of us have experienced the loss of someone we love, and this year's event is in honor of all of them. We invite everyone to join us as we run, walk or roll in honor of Greta and all those we love who have died. At Imagine, we see this run as an act of honor, as an act of mourning and of remembrance for our families and our community.



Proceeds from the race support Imagine's free peer support groups for children, families and young adults coping with grief. Additionally, Imagine staff are available to provide support in the immediate aftermath of a loss in a school community, organization, or place of business. Imagine also offers grief education programs which are available for schools and businesses looking to better support their communities.

Sponsorships help underwrite the event and help ensure that every dollar goes directly to providing free grief support for children and families. To become a sponsor for future Imagine events, please contact Angela Marie Tayco at angela@imagineinj.org or 908-228-3360.

To register for Greta's Run for Imagine, please visit imagineinj.org/gretasrun. Registrations are live – early bird special rates are available until May 10, 2024, then standard rates will apply. Day-of registrations will also be available. We look forward to coming together as a community to honor and remember those we love who have died.

Imagine is a 501c3 that offers grief and loss education and training to the community and free year-round grief support groups for children ages 3-18 and young adults 19-30 who are coping with a loss due to death. Concurrently, support groups are available for the parents and guardians of the children in the groups and offered in English and Spanish. For more information please contact Imagine at 908-264-3100 or info@imagineinj.org or visit our website at imagineinj.org.

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Westfield Public Schools

The Westfield High School Band spent Spring Break touring and performing in Italy. 86 Westfield High School music students and 7 district music teachers revelled in the sights, food and music of Rome and Tuscany for nine days. Tour highlights included a visit to historical sites in Rome and Vatican City along with music clinics run by professors from the Conservatorio Ottorino Respighi in the nearby city of Latina, followed by a

performance at the stunning concert hall, Teatro Nuovo in the city of Spoleto. The Westfield High School Band is the first American band to perform in the historic concert hall. The group also visited Renaissance masterpieces of Florence. The trip culminated in a stay in the Tuscan city of Lucca where local music students gave their Westfield guests a tour of their town, and then gave a joint performance at e Chiesa di San Francesco before a standing room only crowd

of over 600 attendees.

The Westfield High School Bands are led by Chris Vitale and Gabe Batiz. Additional district teachers and staff chaperones included Kristine Bates, James Doyle, Maggie Fatsis, Amanda Gant, Aaron Stallupi, along with nurse Rowena Naeseth.

For more info on Westfield High School Band, visit westfieldhsbands.org or visit them on Facebook or Instagram at WHS Bands Friends Family and Alumni.



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6 Units	6.5" x 6.25" or 10" x 4"	\$240	\$600	\$900	\$1200	\$1400	\$1600	\$1800	\$2000	\$2200
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Every year we honor the fallen, who have sacrificed their lives so we can live in the best country in the world. Please reflect on the service our heroes perform to keep us safe and protect our way of life. This Memorial Day we are asking people to call and check on our active duty soldiers and veterans that have served. Every day we lose twenty-two veterans to suicide and 40 percent of veterans that return from combat are diagnosed with PTSD. Unfortunately, this number has not changed much, and we feel that recreational therapy and peer support can really make a difference for our veterans living in crisis. The New Jersey Veterans Network (NJVN) is fully committed to combat this epidemic by aggressively seeking out veterans in need. Our

goal is to contact the veteran before they fall into a deep state of depression and provide them lifesaving and lifechanging resources.

Over the last few years, the NJVN has been able to provide thousands of meals to our veterans and active duty soldiers. Thousands of veterans were given new suits and clothing from our storage area, over thirty newly refurbished automobiles were gifted to disabled veterans, and the most important thing the NJVN does is save lives through our peer support /mentorship program.

The NJVN works from the heart and is therefore able to work with all the other amazing veteran charities that share the same common goal, putting veterans first. Our donations go directly to the veteran's programs, which allows

us to assist veterans and their families throughout the entire state and host numerous recreational therapy activities as well. This year we are starting up a few veterans' retreats and will focus on increasing events at our state veteran hospitals and shelters.

We are always looking for volunteers that can both assist with upcoming events and help mentor veterans so they can live better productive lives. Volunteers are the most important NJVN resource, and we would love to have more people help us save lives. If you need assistance or are interested in joining the team, please send us your name, email, and phone number to NJVN1775@gmail.com or call 973-332-1556. Check out our website NJVN.org for our services and accomplishments.



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