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Issue 107 • August 2024

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GIRL SCOUTS EARN BRONZE, SILVER, & GOLD AWARDS

Over 40 outstanding young women were honored at the Westfield Girl Scouts 2024 Bronze, Silver, & Gold Awards Recognition Ceremony. Held at the Presbyterian Church, this annual event recognizes those Juniors, Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors having earned one of the three high awards achievable through Girl Scouts.

The 5th-12th graders completed various service projects recognized at both state and national levels. Efforts put forth over the last two years allowed for these community-minded Scouts to address a variety of issues. Creating pollinator

gardens, developing an archery curriculum, initiating a street-crossing safety flag program, and cultivating a love of literature were only a few of the girl-led projects presented throughout the evening.

The Girl Scout Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards are recognized as honors of great distinction. They carry a history of perseverance, community betterment, discipline, and respect. The families of Service Unit #52, together with Roxie Zeek, Director of Girl Experience, Girl Scouts Heart of New Jersey, were pleased to honor these deserving young women.



(above) Over 40 outstanding young women were honored at the Westfield Girl Scouts 2024 Bronze, Silver, & Gold Awards Recognition Ceremony.

Courtesy photo

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23RD ANNUAL DRIVE FOR AUTISM GOLF EVENT

Drive for Autism Foundation

The Drive for Autism Foundation is pleased to announce that its annual golf event, Drive for Autism XXIII will be held at Royce Brook Golf Club in Hillsborough, NJ on Monday September 16, 2024.

The Drive for Autism Golf Outing, which has been held since 2002 has raised and distributed over \$855,000 to local school programs. Previous beneficiaries of grants were Morris Union Jointure Commission (New Providence, NJ), Salt Brook School (New Providence, NJ), AW Roberts School (New Providence, NJ), Union County Educational Services Foundation/Crossroads School (Westfield, NJ), Educational Partnership for Instructing Children (Paramus, NJ), Young Life (greater Summit area), Eden II/Genesis Programs (Staten Island, NY), Spectrum360 - formally The Children's Institute (Verona, NJ), and Seton Foundation/Mother Francheska Elementary School (Staten Island, NY).

Grant recipients use money to fund Health and Fitness Programs, Social Skills Programs, educational curriculum and teacher training, a van for community trips and transportation to job training centers, laptop computers, computer touch screens, iPads, video projectors and educational toys and games

The golf event is the main fundraising function for the foundation. Single golfers and foursomes

are welcome as well as, product donations and corporate sponsorships. To register online please go to: birdease.com/DriveforAutismXXIII

ABOUT DRIVE FOR AUTISM FOUNDATION:

Based in New Providence, New Jersey, The Drive for Autism Foundation (EIN#20-1760417), is a 501(3)(c) tax exempt public charity that was created in the Spring of 2002 for the sole purpose of raising and distributing funds for educational facilities specializing in students with autism.

DRIVE FOR AUTISM GOLF OUTING 2024

The Drive for Autism XXIII is scheduled for Monday Sept 16, 2024, at Royce Brook Golf Club in Hillsborough, NJ. The event consists of a morning round of golf followed by a barbeque. Special events include golf contests, raffles and a silent auction of sports memorabilia, game tickets and golf trips.

To register or for additional information please visit birdease.com/DriveForAutismXXIII, call 908-451-8033

or email driveforautism@comcast.net.



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WESTFIELD ROTARY SUPPORTS ST JOE'S FOOD SERVICES

Submitted by Dr. Michael Hart

Two representatives from St Joseph's Social Services in Elizabeth recently spoke to the Rotary Club of Westfield. Corey Wu Jung is the Food Program Director, and Mary Phillips is the Development Director. The Rotary Club has been



(above, l-r) Representatives from St Joseph Social Service Center in Elizabeth, informed the Rotary Club of Westfield about their capital improvements. Pictured: Corey Wu-Jung, MS, RD, Food Program Director at St. Joe's; Rotary Club of Westfield President Barbara Frantz, Esq; and Mary Phillips, Development Director at St. Joe's.

Courtesy photo

helping St Joe's for several decades.

St Joseph's Social Service Center in Elizabeth has provided a variety of services to the disadvantaged in Elizabeth, since 1986. Their mission is to serve the poor with dignity and grace. They operate a thrift shop with clothing, and 3 food services: 1. Daily food pickup; 2. Saturday Soup Kitchen; 3. Monthly food distribution to 400 families. Other programs include literacy, English as a second language, health services, prescription assistance, counselling and therapy, and providing clothing and household items. The 'Choice Food Program' allows people to select their own food. The Rotary Club of Westfield helped St. Joe's purchase a huge refrigerator so that they may offer fresh fruits and vegetables, along with eggs, milk and cheese. St. Joe's also collects and distributes toys at Christmas.

The Capital Campaign for St. Joseph's has enabled them to have successfully raised the necessary funds to: build a new food pantry building; build a new clothing and household goods distribution center; renovate the existing buildings on the property; and reconfigure and repave the parking lot in order to make drop-offs and pickups easier. They reached their fundraising goal of 1.4 million dollars.

Collectively, these projects will transform the facilities of St. Joseph Social Service Center. This plan will make it possible for the agency to

improve services and to accommodate the increase in the number of residents who seek the agency's assistance. The contractors have completed the storm water management system and connected the sewer and gas lines. Equipment has been delivered for the food building, and the HVAC has been installed. The assembly of the two new buildings has been completed, and they received the Certificates of Occupancy in January, 2024.

Phase Two will include making bathrooms to be ADA compliant, redoing the counselling cubicles, improving the adult learning program, upgrading the Soup Kitchen, and improving and winterizing the garage.

Last year the Westfield Rotary Club Foundation awarded \$117,000 in college scholarships and \$29,978 in community grants. Applications for grants are available on the Rotary Club website. Since 1967, Westfield Rotary has awarded \$3.5 million in scholarships to 1800 students. Scholarship applications for Westfield students are available through the Westfield High School guidance department.

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 at drmhart@yahoo.com.

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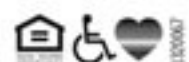
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— Marge V., A community resident

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URGENT NEED FOR ADVOCATES FOR YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE

The afternoon that five-year-old Bella’s mom failed to pick her up from kindergarten, she and her little brother Ethan, age two, would see their lives change. As Bella waited at school, calls were made to locate mom – who suffers from schizophrenia. When it was learned mom had been hospitalized, the Division of Child Protection and Permanency became involved and, upon arriving at the family home, it was discovered there was no food, furniture, or other necessary items. It was then that life in foster care for Bella and Ethan began.

Bella and Ethan are among more than 500 children who need to be removed from their homes in Passaic and Union counties each year due to abuse and/or neglect. Separated from all they’ve ever known, the road ahead is long, and they need a caring, consistent adult in their corner to protect their best interests. That’s where Child Focus comes in. Specifically, its Court Appointed

Special Advocate (CASA) program and, right now, there is an urgent need for volunteers – including those bilingual in both English and Spanish – to step up and train as child advocates for waiting children.

The next advocate training series will be held from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays September 12 through October 22 in Clark. Those interested must first attend any one of the following information sessions: Wednesday, August 14 at 5:30 p.m. at the Colleen Fraser Building, 300 North Avenue, Westfield; Thursday, August 22 at 5:30 p.m. at the Rahway Library, 2 City Hall Plaza, Rahway; and Wednesday, August 28 at noon at the Child Focus office, 1143 East Jersey Street, 2nd Floor, Elizabeth. Register now at casapassaicunion.org/info-session.

Said Executive Director Erica Fischer-Kaslander, “We are committed to recruiting, screening, and training advocates for every child in both Passaic and Union counties who needs one. It is difficult to overstate the difference a CASA volunteer can make in the life of a child removed from home through no fault of their own, due to abuse or neglect.” She added, “Children with volunteer advocates are more likely to have needed services ordered on their behalf, spend less time in the foster care system, and experience significantly better outcomes than those who go without. Becoming a CASA

volunteer requires a significant time commitment and training, but volunteers often find the work as life-changing for themselves as it is for the children they help.”

CASA volunteers receive professional training on the ins and outs of advocating for children in foster care and are fully supported by CASA staff members. No special background in child welfare or law is necessary; successful CASA volunteers are dedicated community members with varied life experiences. CASA volunteers visit the children, make unbiased observations, interview others in the child’s life, and make recommendations to the judge. They often are the only consistent adult in the life of a child involved in the child welfare system, as caseworkers, professionals, and placements can be ever-changing. A CASA volunteer provides continuity during a time of chaos and unknowns.

ABOUT CHILD FOCUS:

Child Focus champions the needs and well-being of infants, children and teens impacted by, or at risk of, abuse or neglect by amplifying their voices and working toward lasting, permanent solutions that address their unique situations and provide support needed to thrive. This critical work is accomplished through three distinct but complementary programs: CASA of Passaic and Union Counties, NJ Safe Babies Court Team, and the Open Door Store. For more information, log on to childfocusnj.org.



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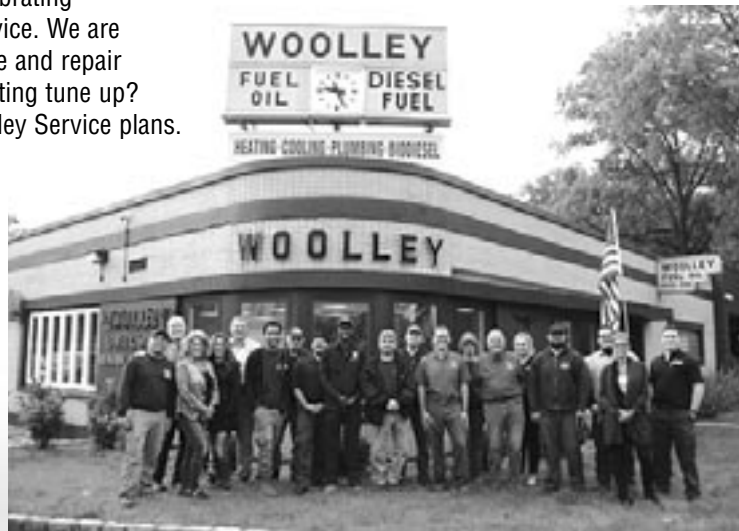
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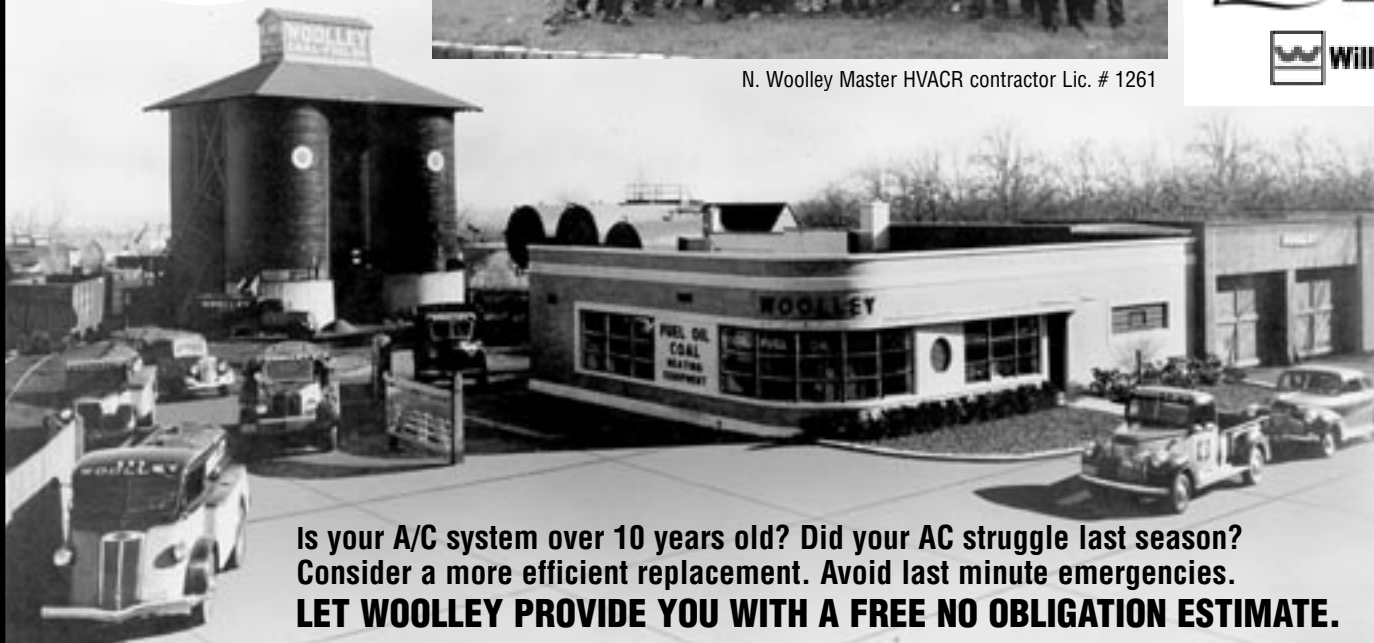
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WHS STUDENT REPORTERS RECEIVE PRESTIGIOUS RECOGNITION

Westfield Public Schools

The Westfield High School student newspaper, Hi's Eye, has been named "Most Outstanding High School Weekly Newspaper for 2023-2024" nationwide by the American Scholastic Press Association. The Hi's Eye also received "First Place with Special Merit," which is given to a student publication that scores more than 950 out of 1,000 points and, in the opinion of the

reviewer, is an outstanding overall example of a scholastic publication in format, content, and presentation.

Hi's Eye Sports received first place recognition, while Hi's Eye reporter Gianna

Puglisi was one of four student journalists in the country to be recognized for "Outstanding Investigative Reporting" for her article, "Emotions Run High at October Board of Education Meeting."



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(above) The Westfield High School student newspaper, Hi's Eye, has been named "Most Outstanding High School Weekly Newspaper" nationwide by the American Scholastic Press Association. Pictured is the Hi's Eye staff.

Photo Credit: Hi's Eye



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JULY GARDEN OF THE MONTH

Garden Club of Westfield



Courtesy photo

The Garden Club of Westfield has selected the lovely garden of The Lenox House at 227 Lenox Avenue, owned by Joe Valluzzi, as their July Garden of the Month. Mr. Valluzzi learned gardening from his father and garden design from Susan Frasier, who has created the gardens of many Westfield homes. Mr. Valluzzi designs gardens to complement the architecture of homes. For Lenox House, Mr. Valluzzi has created a garden primarily of perennial plants with some native plants that attract bees, butterflies, and birds. The garden has been certified as a Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation and New Jersey Audubon Society. The plants that Mr. Valluzzi has chosen for the garden are drought tolerant and require a minimum of mulch. The garden is a delight for the eye with its emphasis on color and composition. Highlights include crape myrtles, boxwood, pink coneflowers, red bee balm, golden sunflowers, black-eyed Susans, lavender catmint and Russian sage as well as a variety of grasses. With this garden, Mr. Valluzzi has made a significant contribution to the beautification of Westfield. For further information, please contact the Garden Club of Westfield at gardenclubofwestfield@gmail.com.

107TH ANNUAL ELKS PARADE

Summit Elks

Summit Elks joined and marched with 1,500 New Jersey Elks in the 107th Annual Elks Parade on Saturday June 8th. Leading Summit were Esquire Lou DeSocio and Exalted Ruler Fred Honold.

Immediately following was Leading Knight Rocco DiPiano who organized two dozen Elks with Summit's 20 x 40 USA Flag. At the reviewing stand of NJ State Elk Parade Judges, Rocco called an "audible" to have Summit Elks closest to the judges stand lower our USA Flag to the ground while those furthest away raised our Grand Ol'Flag on High. The judges, went "Wild in Wildwood!" Summit was awarded 3rd place for parade honors among all 107 NJ Lodges who participated.

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE SUMMIT ELKS

To be eligible for membership in the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, you must be a citizen of the United States over the

age of 21 who believes in God. The Summit Elks Lodge #1246 has close to 3,000 members, they predominantly come from these communities: Summit, Berkeley Heights, The Chathams, Millburn - Short Hills, New Providence & Westfield.

For more information visit summitelks1246.org.

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(above) Summit Lodge #1246 Leading Knight Rocco DiPiano organizes Summit's Flag Team of 2 Dozen Strong to carry the USA Flag on High @ The NJ Elks State Convention Parade on Saturday June 6 in Wildwood. Summit won 3rd Place Honors.



(above) Summit Lodge #1246 carries the 20 x 40 Flag along the Wildwood NJ State Convention parade route in early June. Among 107 NJ Lodges, Summit Lodge won 3rd Place Honors.

Courtesy photos

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KATHLEEN OATES-NILES SWORN IN AS VOLUNTEER FOR FOSTER YOUTH



(above) Kathleen Oates-Niles of Westfield was sworn in as a CASA volunteer on June 11th.

Courtesy photo

Kathleen Oates-Niles of Westfield was sworn in as a CASA volunteer on June 11th alongside training classmates Patience Opaola of Linden, Loretta Gadson of West Orange, Elaine Anderson of Summit, Christine Larrabee of Cranford, and Robert Tracy of Cresskill.

Union County Superior Court Judge Rosalba Comas presided over the swearing-in of the newly trained volunteers, and each can now be assigned to work with children living in foster care through no fault of their own, advocating for their best interests and ensuring their needs are met while in the child welfare system.

The nonprofit organization Child Focus operates CASA of Passaic and Union Counties, and its goal is to provide a CASA volunteer for each of the more than 250 child-victims in Union County foster care. Currently, just 30 percent of these vulnerable infants, children, and teens have the continuity and support of a CASA volunteer serving as extra eyes and ears for judges hearing their cases. The need is critical for additional volunteers to step up and serve waiting children. Judge Comas expressed her gratitude for the CASA program and the volunteers' commitment to the children they serve. "If I really want to know what's happening with a child I listen to the CASA worker, because they are 100% in tune with everything that the child needs, and everything that's happening in the child's life," she shared. "Their job is to look out for the kids, represent the children's interest, and make sure that all of their needs are being addressed. It's not just whether they need clothes or whether they need toys, it's the bond. It's what they need emotionally, it's someone they can count on."

Since caseworkers, attorneys, and foster homes are ever-changing, the CASA volunteer – or advocate – is a much-needed constant in a child's life, committing to work with the child until they reach permanency in a stable home and the case closes. Children assigned a CASA volunteer are more likely to receive services, spend less time

in the foster system, and experience significantly better outcomes than those without an advocate.

Becoming a CASA requires no special skills or background in child welfare. Child Focus provides thorough training on the ins and outs of advocating for abused and neglected children, and volunteers are fully supported by CASA program staff. Volunteers visit the children at least monthly and get to know the people in the child's life, such as foster parents, biological parents, teachers, therapists, and attorneys in order to make unbiased recommendations to the family court judge that support the child's best interests.

There is an urgent need for additional community members to speak up for abused and neglected children. The first step to becoming an advocate is to attend an information session. The next advocate training series will be held from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays September 12 through October 22 in Clark. Those interested must first attend any one of the following information sessions: Wednesday, August 14 at 5:30 p.m. at the Colleen Fraser Building, 300 North Avenue, Westfield; Thursday, August 22 at 5:30 p.m. at the Rahway Library, 2 City Hall Plaza, Rahway; and Wednesday, August 28 at noon at the Child Focus office, 1143 East Jersey Street, 2nd Floor, Elizabeth.

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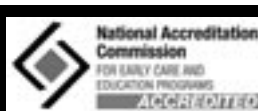


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COLLEGE CLUBS ANNOUNCE HIGHEST GPA AWARDS

The College Woman's Club of Westfield and the College Men's Club of Westfield jointly announce that the 2024 recipients of the awards honoring the female and male seniors earning the highest grade point average at Westfield High School (WHS) are Catherine Heflin and Devan Patel. The \$500 awards for academic excellence

were bestowed at the WHS graduation ceremony on Friday, June 21, continuing each club's legacy of recognizing student achievement.

Catherine Heflin was recruited to play softball at Swarthmore College, where she intends to major in engineering and mathematics. A four-year starting varsity softball player, she holds the WHS record for most doubles in a season and received the Girls Softball League of Westfield Scholarship Award and the Westfield Baseball Buddy Scholarship Award. She is a member of the National Honor Society, the French Honor Society, and received the Peggy & Jeremiah Lott Scholarship from the Westfield Foundation.

Devan Patel will attend Tufts University, where he plans to study mathematics and applied physics. While at WHS, Devan served as Captain of the Robotics Team that attended the NJ State Championship and as the Coding Coordinator for Coding for a Cause. His academic honors include the Computer Science Award, the AP Physics Award, and the Noel & Thelma Taylor Memorial Award. He is a member of the National Honor

Society and the Spanish National Honor Society.

The College Woman's Club was founded in 1917 to promote higher education for women and serve the general interests of the community. It has awarded over \$1 million in scholarships to young women from Westfield based on academics, leadership and financial need. In addition to fundraisers, the club offers social and educational events, including college admissions and financial aid seminars, book clubs, and museum trips. For further information, please visit www.cwclubwestfield.org.

The College Men's Club of Westfield was founded in 1922 and over the past century has helped hundreds of young men by providing college tuition assistance and funding for standardized test preparatory courses. Since its founding, the CMC has raised and distributed over \$1.4 million to young men from the Westfield community. For more information about the CMC, including membership and scholarship applications, please visit www.cmcwestfield.org.



(above, l-r) Catherine Heflin,
Devan Patel

Courtesy photos

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ANNUAL MARCH TO YORKTOWN DAY – AUG. 18TH

The Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route New Jersey (W3R-NJ) announces Annual March to Yorktown Day Commemoration & Encampment Festival in Westfield, NJ on Sunday, August 18th from 11:30 – 4:00 pm in Mindowaskin Park. The event is dedicated to the 1st Squadron, 102nd Cavalry from Westfield currently serving in Syria.

The event will kick off at 11:30 with an opportunity to meet living historians and listen to patriotic music and follow at 12 noon with an opening ceremony at Mindowaskin Park on Mountain Ave. There, remarks by Westfield Mayor Shelley Brindle, State Senator Jon Bramnick, New Jersey State Society Daughters of the American Revolution State Regent, Diane Waugh Oliver West Fields Chapter Sons of the American Revolution President, Jay Hershey and others will talk about the importance of Westfield commemorating when the French and Continental troops marched from Newport, Rhode Island to Yorktown, VA (an almost 700 mile, nine state, land and water journey) in the summer of 1781 taking them through Westfield on August 29, 1781. The route is designated as the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail, which is administered by the National Park Service.

At 12:30, the community is invited to watch or join-in the symbolic march re-enactment into an Mindowaskin Park accompanied by the Generals Rochambeau, Washington and Major General Chastellux and General Lafayette, the New Jersey Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the New Jersey Fifes and Drums, the 2nd Regiment Light Dragoons with horses, the Miller-Cory Museum colonial living history group and New Jersey Militia Heard's Brigade.

From 1:00 to 4:00, a history themed festival will be set up in Mindowaskin Park with children's games, musket firing, military drill on horseback and history items and information provided by local history organizations such as the Forgotten Victory Trail Association, Miller-



Cory House Museum, Princeton Battlefield Society, Union Township Historical Society, Chatham Historical Society, Westfield Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution and the Washington Association of New Jersey had informational tables set up and interacted with the public to share information, sell history books and engage new members. An encampment with tents, cooking demonstrations, fife and drum music, musket firing and marching drills will occur during the festival. Food trucks will be available for food and drink purchases.

This event was made possible by support from the Mayor Shelley Brindle, the Town Council, the Town of Westfield, a grant from the Union County Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs, The Westfield Inn, Chez Catherine, the West Fields Chapter SAR, the Westfield Chapter DAR, the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Association, New Jersey (W3R-NJ), the National Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Association (W3R-US) and the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail, administered by the National Parks Service.

For more information email info@W3R-NJ.org. Visit w3r-nj.org.

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SCHOOLS WELCOME NEW ADMINISTRATORS

Westfield Public Schools

The Westfield Public School District welcomed two new administrators this summer. At its regular public meeting held on June 25, the Board of Education approved the appointment of Jada Cole as Assistant Principal at Edison Intermediate School, effective July 1. At its June 11 meeting, the Board approved the appointment of Kathleen Nesheiwat for the new position of Supervisor of Elementary Student Support Services for students in pre-kindergarten through fifth grade, effective July 24.

At Edison, Cole will succeed Jacqueline Spring, who was recently appointed as an assistant principal at Westfield High School. During the past two years Cole served as Director of Special Services for the Irvington Public School District and as Assistant Principal at Irvington High School. From 2004-2022, she held various positions in special education, including Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant (LDT), Case Manager, and Special Education / Resource Teacher in the New Brunswick, Franklin Township, and Newark Public Schools.

Nesheiwat joins the Westfield Public School District, following a year as Acting Assistant Director of Pupil and Personnel Services in the Madison Public School District, where she also served as a School Psychologist and Child Study Team member from 2018-2023.

The addition of a second supervisor to support the Special Programs and Student Support Services Department was approved by Westfield voters in April, as part of the 2024-2025 school district operating budget. Nesheiwat will join the district's current Pre-K-12 Supervisor of Special Education Alex Linden, who was Board approved on June 11 as Supervisor of Secondary Student Support Services for Grades 6-12.



(above, left) Kathleen Nesheiwat, Supervisor of Elementary Student Support Services for students in pre-kindergarten through fifth grade, effective July 24.

(above, right) Jada Cole, Assistant Principal at Edison Intermediate School, effective July 1, 2024.

Courtesy photos

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The Westfield Memorial Library is excited to announce that as of July 1, library cardholders have unlimited access to the world's best digital publications through the new service PressReader.

Easy to read on a mobile phone or tablet, PressReader provides access to more than 7,000 of the world's top newspapers as soon as they're available on the shelves. There are no limits on downloads, and the patron can keep them indefinitely.

Some of the newspapers Westfield cardholders can access are: The New York Times, USA Today, Boston Globe, The Guardian, Jerusalem Post, Atlanta Journal, Manila Times, and Shanghai Daily.

"It's our civic duty to know what's happening in our world," says Allen McGinley, Library Director. "But with fewer print publications and paywalls for online access to newspapers, it isn't always easy to find reliable sources of information."

"I'm delighted that we are now able to provide Westfield residents with free access to thousands of digital newspapers and magazines through PressReader's mobile platform."

In order to access PressReader, patrons can visit the website and click on the PressReader icon or download the PressReader app for mobile devices (iOS app or Android app). Then they should select "Sign In" found in the upper right-hand corner, select Library, search

Westfield, and select Westfield Memorial Library. Then they'll enter their library card number.

An account is not needed to access PressReader content. However, a free account will allow patrons to read offline, create collections, save articles, and more.

PressReader works with the latest versions of Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, Firefox, or Safari, but does not support Microsoft Internet Explorer.

Patrons who rely on tools or assistive technology will find PressReader easy to use as it has an accessibility mode that meets government-mandated accessibility criteria (WCAG 2.1.). With navigation, audio, tab navigation, color contrast, large named buttons, and user font size control, it is an inclusive product for users worldwide.

Not only is it accessible but it also doubles as a research tool. PressReader's text-only version is stripped down to pull relevant content even faster—making it easier for researchers to get the information they need.

HOME PICKUP FOR CLOTHING RECYCLING

Town of Westfield

The Town has partnered with Helpsy, a certified B corporation that collects unwanted clothing to keep it out of landfills, to provide home pickup of clothing and accessories. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, textile waste is the fastest-growing type of trash in the country and takes up nearly 5% of

all landfill space. In addition to the Helpsy bins at the Conservation Center that accept clothing, footwear, linens, accessories, luggage, and stuffed animals, Helpsy has begun free pickup of these items for Westfield residents each Tuesday. For a full list of items they accept, and to schedule a pickup, please visit: helpsy.com/pickup



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August 6 @ 1-4pm	Sew a Library-themed Tote Bag
August 7 @ 12:30-2pm	Latch & Learn: A Breastfeeding Support Group
August 14 @ 7-8:30pm	Michael Norris presents "Show Me the Monet (When He was Young)"
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CENTER FOR HOPE AUXILIARY FUNDRAISING CONTINUES

Submitted by Dana Gillie

The Center for Hope Hospice and Palliative Care Auxiliary hosted its annual Wine Tasting Fundraiser recently. During the event Dolores Paruta, president of the Auxiliary, presented Frank Brady, president of the Center for Hope Hospice and Palliative Care with a check for \$75,000. Our Auxiliary raises funds to support the Charity Care Program at the Center providing financing for patients who are unable to pay for the services of the Center. Last year alone the Auxiliary was able to donate well over \$100,000. These funds are raised through events sponsored by the Auxiliary such as the Wine Tasting in the spring and our Baskets of Hope luncheon fundraiser in the fall. The Hope Chest thrift store, located on Prospect Street in Westfield, is manned fully by volunteers and is the auxiliary's major fundraiser.

The Auxiliary's next fundraiser will be the Baskets of Hope on October 6, 2024, at the Gran Centurions in Clark. Please contact the Hope Chest, 908-233-9973, or the Center for Hope Hospice and Palliative Care, 908-889-7780, for further information regarding the event.

The Auxiliary is always happy to welcome new members and information on membership can be found at the above numbers or on the Center's website - cfhh.org.



(above) Auxiliary president, Dolores Paruta and Center for Hope Hospice and Palliative Care President Frank Brady.

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