Scotch Plains NJ

WHAT'S HAPPENING MONTHLY

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PAUL ALLEN'S EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT AT NATURE CENTER

Borough of Fanwood

Paul Allen, a junior at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, completed his Eagle Scout Project at the Fanwood Nature Center on Saturday, May 31st. In coordination between the Fanwood Environmental Commission and Boy Scout Troop 33, he decided to reconstruct a section of the boardwalk path along Luisi's Trail.

"The trail was falling into a state of disrepair," Paul said. "The path wobbled back and forth, it was flooding frequently, and it was clearly not in a condition to be walked across."

Paul, along with several members of his Scout Troop, family and friends, spent a few days taking out 60 feet of the old path, pouring concrete footings, removing invasive Multiflora Rose Bushes, planting Joe Pye plants, and building a new section of path. They even had time to install some birdhouses.

"I don't think I could have done it without the support of my family, friends, and my Troop. They were always there to help see this project through to the end, and I'm incredibly thankful for that," Paul said.

"I am also very thankful to have received donations from businesses in our area, and this project wouldn't have come together as smoothly as it had without their support," he said.

Paul gathered the materials he needed at Home Depot, Huston Lumber and Empire Supplies in order to make this project possible.





Courtesy Photos



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LABOR DAY 5K RUN & WALK - AUGUST 30

Day 5K Run/Walk? Like last year, the 5K will be held at 8:45 AM on Saturday, August 30th at the Warren Municipal Complex.

Get ready for a fun-filled morning of movement and community synergy. Whether you're aiming for a new personal best or want to enjoy a relaxing walk, this event has something for everyone!

Take in the fresh air, soak up Warren's natural beauty, and enjoy the energy of fellow runners and walkers as we kick off Labor Day weekend in a spirited way. There will be medals for

Who's ready for the 2nd annual Warren Labor winners in every age category! Early check-in will be at the Lions Club Pavilion on August 27th, 28th, and 30th, between 5 PM to 7 PM. We are looking for volunteers to help out with checkin, race set-up, water stations, and race clean-up. If you are interested, please register through the race website! This year's 5K proudly supports the Mayors Wellness Program, promoting a healthier and more active community.

> Donations are welcome. Sponsorships are available. For more information,

email warrenlaborday5k@gmail.com or call 908-505-8650.

JOIN US FOR THE SECOND WARREN LABOR DAY 5K RUN/WALK







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AUGUST 30TH 8:45AM WARREN MUNICIPAL COMPLEX

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MOUNTAINSIDE PAL TOWN WIDE GARAGE SALE SATURDAY, SEPT. 13 2025 9 A.M. - 2 P.M.

MAP PICK UP AT THE LIBRARY - 8 AM SALE DAY For more information or to

get a link to the sale application, please e-mail Mountainsidegaragesale@gmail.com

LANDSCAPE WITH BIRDS IN MIND

The Raptor Trust

How many Eastern Screech Owls do we currently have at The Raptor Trust? Apparently ALL of them! Most of these owlets were displaced after the trees that held their nests were cut down.

Cutting down trees and landscaping - especially during nesting season - can destroy active nests, scare off parents, and even injure adult birds during a critical time.

Most birds nest between March and August. Even small projects - like pruning shrubs or pulling out vines - can have a devastating result on a nest.

Here's how you can help:

- Delay major trimming until fall
- Check for nests before cutting or clearing

- Leave a few brush piles
- birds and critters love them
- Avoid pesticides and non-native plants

These small steps can make all the difference for birds trying to raise their families nearby—or young birds in the first days of their lives.

The Raptor Trust is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization which provides free medical care to thousands of orphaned or injured birds each year. Our infirmary staff is available seven days a week during daylight hours to admit injured birds, but we must rely on the people who find them to bring them to us for care.

If you find a bird that needs help, please visit our websitetheraptortrust.org for instructions. We cannot do what we do without the kindness of many – including our visitors!





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OPEN HOUSE - AUGUST 3RD

Historical Society of Scotch Plains & Fanwood

The Osborn Cannonball House, located at 1840 Front Street, will be open to the public on August 3rd from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. The museum is open for tours the first Sunday of each month (from March to December) and by appointment. Admission is always free.

Costumed docents will be on hand to recount the fascinating story of the Osborn family and their role in the American Revolution. The museum has a large collection of antique clothing and will be displaying late 19th, early 20th century traveling clothes to accompany their "Coming to America" theme.

The Osborn Cannonball House is operated by The Historical Society of Scotch Plains and Fanwood, which is always looking for new members and volunteers to help with the maintenance and displays at the museum. For more information on volunteering or to schedule private tours, please call (908) 322-6700, Ext. 230 or email Info@HistoricalSocietySPFNJ.org.



(above) The museum has a large collection of antique clothing and will be displaying late 19th, early 20th century traveling clothes to accompany their "Coming to America" theme.

LIBRARY SATURDAY HOURS

The Fanwood Memorial Library will remain open half-days on Saturdays throughout the summer. Summer Saturday hours (9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.) will be in effect through Saturday August 30. Regular Saturday hours will resume on Friday, September 6. Come check out the new library and stay cool this summer.



Courtesy Phot

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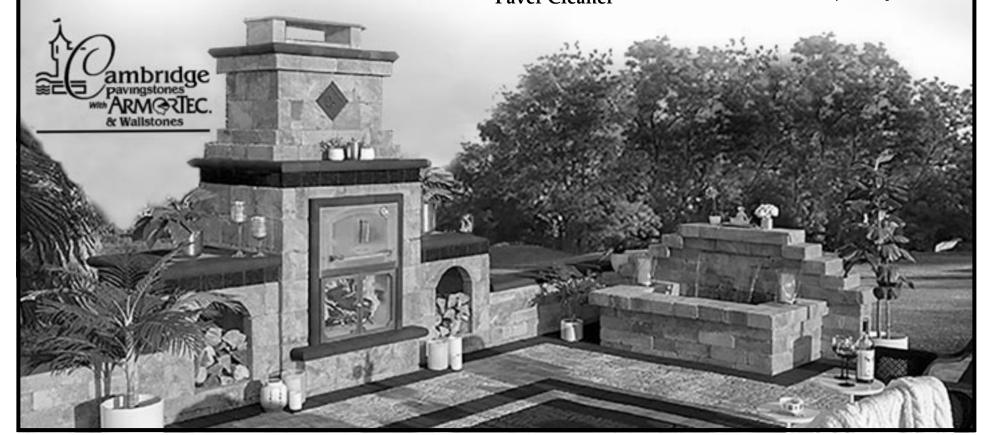
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Join us for National Night Out in Scotch Plains! Tuesday, August 5th, 2025 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM Park Avenue, Scotch Plains

Bring the whole family for a night of fun, food, music, and games as we come together to strengthen our community and celebrate partnerships between residents and public safety!



CANINE COMPANIONS CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

Canine Companions

Mike Saverino was recently matched with his third Canine Companions service dog names Arbor. Mike is overjoyed about how Arbor has picked up right where his retiring service dog Webster left off, making a difference in Mike's daily life.

Arbor II is a two-year-old lab-golden retriever cross specially bred and trained by Canine Companions to serve people with disabilities. Arbor knows over 40 professional commands to assist Mike in his daily life. Arbor opens doors, turns on lights, and picks up dropped items for Mike to name just a few.

Mike enjoys sled hockey, weightlifting, and is heavily involved in the Canine Companions New Jersey Volunteer Chapter.

About Canine Companions: National nonprofit Canine Companions is celebrating 50 years of empowering people with disabilities to live with greater independence — and it all started with a service dog named Abdul. Canine Companions invented the concept of the modern service dog in 1975 and has since placed more than 8,200 expertly trained dogs at no cost to clients, entirely supported by donations. Today, as America's first and largest provider of service dogs, Canine Companions leverages seven locations across the country to serve adults, children and veterans with disabilities as well as professionals working in health care, law enforcement and educational settings in all 50 states. Volunteer, donate and learn more at canine.org.





(above) Mike Saverino & service dog Arbor

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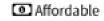
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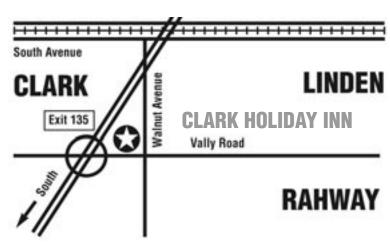
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BUYING ALL DIAMONDS

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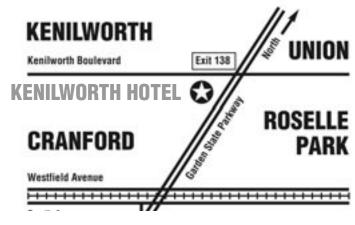
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BECOME A LITERACY VOLUNTEER TUTOR

Literacy New Jersey-Union and Middlesex Counties announces its Tutor Training Program. There will be a information session on Wednesday August 6 at 6 p.m. If you are interested in registering for tutor training, you must attend one of the information session.

The Tutor Training Program will begin on Tuesday August 19th and will provide tutor trainees with the tools and strategies necessary for working with adult students in one of four categories: English As A Second Language, High School Equivalency, Basic Skills or Job Skill/Digital Literacy.

All training sessions will be conducted online via Zoom. The five required training sessions will take place on August 19, 26, Sept. 2, 9, 16 from



(above) Make A Difference Become a Literacy New Jersey Volunteer Tutor. There will be a mandatory information session on Wednesday August 6 at 6 p.m. on Zoom.

6 pm to 8 pm.

After completing the training sessions, tutors are matched with a small group of adult students from the growing waiting list of students who need to improve their literacy skills. Tutors meet with their students online for 2 hours per week. After meeting your students, tutor trainees may be matched with a tutor mentor to guide them through their first lesson plans. New tutor volunteers are asked to make a commitment of at least 50 hours of instruction with students.

Literacy New Jersey provides ongoing supervision and support to tutors in the form of free Professional Development workshops on specific topics such as Health Literacy, ESL Conversation, Small Group Instruction and Job Readiness.

To volunteer, you must be at least 18 years old, able to speak English and willing to tutor in Union County or Middlesex County. You do not need to have any teaching experience and you do not need to speak a foreign language. The training will provide volunteers with techniques and strategies for working with adult learners, as well as sample instructional materials and activities. There is a \$25 registration fee to cover the cost of books and materials. Literacy New Jersey is a non-profit organization.

For more information or to register, please call Literacy New Jersey at 908-486-1777 or email Barbara Bagger, Program Director bbagger@literacynj.org.

Courtesy Photo



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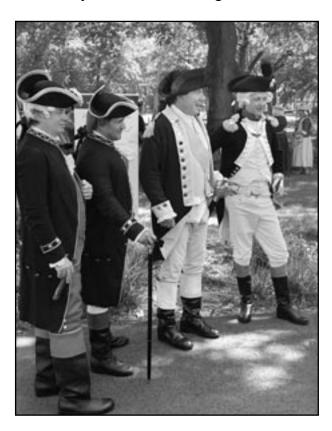
THE BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN ARCHIVES & CENTER FOR AMERICAN MUSIC TO BE SIGNATURE GROUP AT 6TH ANNUAL MARCH TO YORKTOWN DAY

As the country enters a year of celebrations leading up to 2026 and America 250, the Semiquincentennial of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route New Jersey (W3R-NJ) announces an event that is a prelude to Westfield Celebrates America 250.

The 6th Annual March to Yorktown Day Commemoration & Encampment Festival in Westfield, NJ will be held on Sunday, August 17th from 12:00 noon – 4:00pm.

The event will kick off at 12:00 noon at outside of Westfield's Town Hall with an opening ceremony and the playing of patriotic music followed by remarks about the importance of Westfield commemorating when the French and American troops marched from Newport, Rhode Island to Yorktown, VA (an almost 700 mile, nine state, land and water journey) to lay siege to the British forces there, securing independence for the United States. The march of the troops took place in the summer of 1781 taking them through several Union County towns including Westfield, Mountainside and Scotch Plains on August 29, 1781. The March route was designated in 2009 as the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail, a unit of the National Trail System, administered by the National Park Service.

At 12:30, the community is invited to watch or join-in the symbolic march re-enactment along East Broad Street to Mountain Ave. Wreaths of remembrance will be placed at the Presbyterian burial grounds where over 70 Revolutionary War Veterans, their families and other patriots are buried. The march will continue into Mindowaskin Park accompanied by the Generals Rochambeau, Washington and Lafayette, the New Jersey Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the New Jersey Fifes and Drums, the Miller-Cory Museum colonial living history group, women camp followers and the New Jersey Militia Heard's Brigade.



From 1:00 to 4:00, a history themed festival will be set up in Mindowaskin Park. A talk on African American experiences in the Revolutionary War will be given by Dr. Sean Dineen, Adjunct History Professor, Kean University and disabilities advocate. The event's signature group is The Bruce Springsteen Archives & Center for American Music. They will be on hand to share news about their mission and they will have an exhibit with engaging items. Children's games and activities along with information will be provided by local history organizations such as the Forgotten Victory Trail Association, Westfield Historical Society, Miller-Cory House Museum, Princeton Battlefield Society, Westfield Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution, West Fields Chapter Sons of the American Revolution, Sons of the Revolution in New Jersey, Washington Association of New Jersey, North Jersey American Revolution Roundtable, Fortnightly Club, Swan Historical Foundation, Trent House

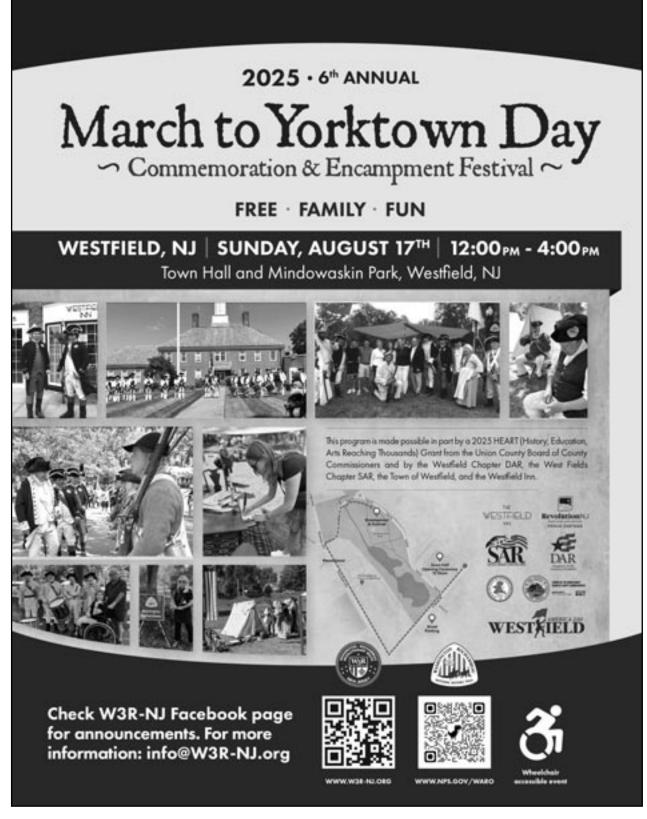
Museum, Merchants & Drovers Museum, Frazee House Museum, Center for Creativity at the Rialto, Liberty Hall Museum and others.

An encampment with tents, cooking demonstrations, fife and drum music, musket firing and marching drills will occur during the festival.

Food by A Taco Affair of Westfield, will be available for purchase.

This event is made possible by support from Mayor Shelley Brindle, the Westfield Town Council, the Town of Westfield, and in part by a 2025 HEART (History, Education, Arts Reaching Thousands) Grant from the Union County Board of County Commissioners, The Westfield Inn, Chez Catherine, the West Fields Chapter SAR, the Westfield Chapter DAR, the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Association, New Jersey (W3R-NJ).

For more information email info@W3R-NJ.org Follow on Facebook @W3RNJ and www.w3r-nj.org







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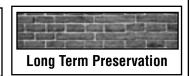




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ADVOCATE FOR CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE TRAINING BEGINS IN SEPT

CASA of Passaic and Union Counties

At just nine years old, Jayden has endured years of neglect due to his parents' substance use and mental health challenges. After they lost their apartment, the family began living in their car in various parking lots, and Jayden often went without food or basic care. Before things reached that point, Jayden had been enrolled in school and enjoyed it. Math was his favorite subject and he loved weekly math club and seeing friends. One night, police were called after Jayden was found alone and barefoot at a gas station. He was removed from his parents and is now living in foster care. A judge assigned a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer to Jayden and now he has someone who listens, shows up, and stands up for him.

Jayden is one of more than 500 children removed from home in Union and Passaic counties due to abuse and neglect. Living in foster care and separated from all they've known, each child needs a caring, consistent adult in their corner to protect their best interests while in care. Is that you?

Fall training to become a CASA volunteer starts mid-September and will be held at the Linden Library. The first step is to attend an information session. Register now casapassaicunion.org/info-session for one of the following: Friday, August 1 and Wednesday, August 6, both at 12 pm at the Child Focus office in Elizabeth, 1143 East Jersey Street, 2nd Floor; Wednesday, August 6 at 5:30 pm at the Linden Library; Monday, August 11 at 5:30 pm, Rahway Library; Wednesday, August 13 at 12 pm at the Child Focus office in Elizabeth, 1143 East Jersey

Street, 2nd Floor; Wednesday, August 13 at 5:30 pm at the Plainfield Library; Monday, August 18 at 12 pm at the Child Focus office in Elizabeth, 1143 East Jersey Street, 2nd Floor; Monday, August 18 at 5:30 pm at the Colleen Fraser Building in Westfield; and Wednesday, August 20 at 5 pm, Mountainside Library.

CASA volunteers are trained advocates who visit the child monthly and have court-ordered access to all parties in the case. Supported by CASA staff, advocates make fact-based observations about outstanding needs or concerns and make recommendations to the court. The CASA volunteer is often the only consistent person in the child's life. Applicants must be at least 21, be able to communicate effectively both orally and in writing, have computer skills, pass a background check, and complete the 36-hour training. View the training dates casapassaicunion.org/casa-training.

CASA of Passaic and Union Counties is a program of Child Focus, which prioritizes the needs and well-being of infants, children, and teens impacted by, or at risk of, abuse or neglect. For details about CASA of Passaic and Union Counties, call 973-832-4002, email info@casapassaicunion.org, or log on to casapassaicunion.org.

AREA ELKS SUPPORT OUR VETERANS

NJ Elks East Central District

On May 31, the NJ Elks East Central District hosted a BBQ luncheon at their Mountainside Lodge for residents of the Lyons VA Medical Center. Attendees feasted on fresh grilled food, sandwiches, salads, and deserts. And the weather was perfect to enjoy the lodge's outdoor amenities.

On June 13, Elks members from Rahway Lodge treated residents of the Menlo Park Veterans Memorial Home to a delicious catered lunch from White Castle. They then tended the raised garden beds of flowers, fruits, vegetables, and herbs that they had helped to plant in May.

On June 20, the NJ Elks East Central District held a Cigar and Bunco fundraiser at their Stirling Lodge for members and invited guests to benefit the Veterans Service Committee. Participants enjoyed a wonderful evening of food, entertainment, premium cigars, prizes, and a tricky tray raffle. All proceeds will directly support local veterans and veterans causes, including the Elks Veterans Annex which provides hundreds of backpacks to homeless veterans each year and delivers Welcome Home Kits to formerly homeless veterans across the

Elks pledge that as long as there are veterans, they will never forget them. Thousands of Elks volunteers across the country give generously of their time, energy, and resources to serve veterans and military members in their communities each day to ensure that pledge is not an idle one. You can visit the elks.org website to learn more about the many causes that Elks support and how to join.



in Elizabeth NJ Saturday, October 11, 2025

from 6-11pm

Route 22 West in Springfield.

The cost is \$145.00 per person - guests invited. Donations are also welcomed.

Interested parties should contact Linda Mallozzi by email at lemlaw@comcast.net.





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COLLEGE CLUB 2025 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS Scotch Plains Monthly • Page 17 • August 2025

Celebrating its 92nd anniversary, the College AMONG 2025 HIGH SCHOOL RECIPIENTS ARE: Club of Fanwood Scotch Plains continues its tradition since its inception in 1933: to support the pursuit of a college education for young women in the Scotch Plains and Fanwood communities by providing scholarships. To date the College Club has awarded approximately \$843,000 in scholarships to 608 women.

This past May, the College Club of FSP awarded a total of \$32,500.00 in scholarships to 13 students, 5 of whom are high school seniors who graduated this June and 7 of whom are currently attending college. These awards included a STEM education award donated in honor of current College Club Member Elaine Carmen, the Marie Leppert Community Service Award in honor of the Club's Past President and dedicated community leader, the Charles A Culley Jr. Memorial Award, as well as the Dr. Marsha L Anderson Memorial Award.

The Academic award of Excellence was also presented to the top female student and Valedictorian of the 2025 Class of SPFHS.

THE 2025 COLLEGE RECIPIENTS ARE:

- Katelyn Gaulin daughter of Eric and Karyn Gaulin, who will be a senior at TCNJ in the fall;
- Lily Gaulin daughter of Eric and Karyn Gaulin, a rising sophomore at the University of Florida;
- Bridget Hernandez daughter of Hans and Jennie Hernandez, who will be a junior at the University of Arizona in the fall
- Chloe Howell daughter of Philip and Holly Howell, a rising senior at The University of San Diego;
- Katelyn Lester daughter of Lawrence and Margaret Lester, the recipient of the Charles A Culley Jr. Memorial Award, who will be a sophomore at the University of Texas in the fall;
- Sairah Liano daughter of Joe and Sapna Liano, a rising sophomore at TCNJ
- Natasha Vega daughter of Jose Vega and Jacqueline Soto, who will be a junior at Case Western Reserve in the fall.

- Janae Barnes
- the daughter of Michael and Jennifer Barnes, the recipient of the Marie Leppert Community Service Award, who will be attending Rutgers University in the fall;
- Carolina Conklin daughter of Joseph and Cheryl Conklin, who will be attending the University of Delaware in the fall;
- Olivia LaPorta the daughter of Pietro and Noelle LaPorta, the recipient of the Marcia L Anderson Memorial Award, who will be attending the University
- Sophia Shapiro daughter of Yuriy Shapiro and Anna Yaikova, who will be attending Rutgers University in the fall

of Maryland in the fall,

- Saanvi Suresh, daughter of Suresh Srinivasan and Rema Suresh, the recipient of the Elaine Carmen STEM Education Award, who will be attending Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in the fall.
- The Academic Award of Excellence was presented to Sophie Gingold the daughter of Alan and Karen Gingold, who will be attending The University of Michigan in the fall.

This is the 89th year that female students seeking financial assistance to pursue a four year college degree have been helped by the club's fundraising efforts. Two of the club's largest efforts are the annual spring luncheon and clothing drive in the fall. The High School awards were also presented at the SPFHS annual awards assembly. The College Club hosts monthly informative programs presented by guest speakers on the third Monday of every month September - April that are free and open to the public.

Anyone interested in more information about the College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains, or if you would like to become a member, please visit the club's website at:

fspcollegeclub.org.

SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION AWARDS OVER \$241,000

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Scholarship Foundation has continued to fulfill its mission of helping local students achieve their goals of a higher education by distributing over \$241,000 in scholarship aid to 125 deserving students at the end of the 2024-2025 school year.

Throughout the year, members of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood community generously contributed to the Foundation's "Dollars for Students Campaign," which distributed \$18,000 to various high school and college students who are residents of Scotch Plains or Fanwood and have demonstrated both impressive academic achievement and financial need.

"The dedication of our community and donors to supporting our mission is so inspiring," said Michelle Wyrwa, Foundation President. "The annual awards night is one of my favorite nights of the year and I am so impressed by the graduating seniors and college students who receive awards."

For a full list of recipients, please visit: SPFScholarshipFoundation.org/scholarshipsawarded-2025

Congratulations to these outstanding scholars and our deepest thanks to all of our partners who have stood by us for over a half a century. For further information, please visit our website SPFScholarshipFoundation.org or contact the Foundation's president, Michelle Wyrwa at spfscholarshipfoundation@gmail.com.





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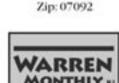
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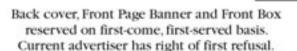
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GIRL SCOUTS HEART OF NJ 5K AT ORANGE RESERVOIR - SEPT 21ST



On Sunday, September 21, Girl Scouts Heart of New Jersey (GSHNJ) will host its annual "I Run for Girls 5K Run/Walk" at a brand-new location: the scenic Orange Reservoir in West Orange. The event kicks off at 9:00 AM, with check-in beginning at 8:00 AM.

This USATF-sanctioned race is open to runners and walkers of all ages and abilities including families with strollers and individuals using wheelchairs. Participants will enjoy a vibrant morning of community, fun, and purpose, with proceeds supporting Girl Scout programs that help girls explore new interests, gain realworld skills, and build lasting friendships.

All registrants will receive a custom event Tshirt and medal. Awards will be given to the top three finishers in each USATF age category.

Proceeds from the race help fund Girl Scout programs that spark curiosity, build confidence, and foster leadership in more than 13,000 youth from kindergarten through 12th grade. Girl Scout troops from across the region will also be on hand to help bring energy and spirit to the day.

"Whether you're racing or strolling, you're helping create life-changing opportunities for young people," said Natasha Hemmings, CEO of GSHNJ.

To register, donate, or start a fundraising team, visit www.gshnj.org/irunforgirls.

ABOUT GIRL SCOUTS HEART OF NEW JERSEY

Girl Scouts Heart of New Jersey (GSHNJ) believes in the power of every girl. Our leadership program is designed to help girls discover who they are, what they can do, and

connect with a powerful community of girls and mentors to make it happen. With unique opportunities, Girl Scouts explore, learn, succeed, and take action to make a difference in their community. Providing over 13,000 girls from kindergarten through 12th grade access to leadership programs and mentors throughout Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Somerset, Union, southern Warren, and parts of Middlesex counties, GSHNJ offers girls a chance to practice a lifetime of leadership. GSHNJ operates two service centers located in North Branch and Westfield and the Girl Scout Leadership Center in Newark as well as three camp locations: Camp Hoover in Middleville, N.J., Camp DeWitt in Hillsborough, N.J., and The OVAL in Maplewood, N.J. To volunteer, reconnect, donate, or join, please visit www.gshnj.org.

Event Details

- Location: Orange Reservoir, 9 Cherry Lane, West Orange, NJ 07052
- Check-In Opens: 8:00 AM
- Race Starts: 9:00 AM
- Awards: Top three finishers in each USATF age group category
- All registrants receive: T-shirt and medal

Registration Fees	Sept.	Race
Category	1 - 20	Day
Adult Runners (18+)	\$50	\$60
USATF Members	\$45	\$55
Adult Walkers (18+)	\$45	\$50
Youth (under 18)	\$25	\$25
- running or walking		

Register/donate: gshnj.org/irunforgirls

COUNTDOWN TO JULY 4TH, 2026 America250 - In New Jersey & Nationwide

Next year, on July 4, 2026, the United States of America will commemorate and celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. This historic milestone is an opportunity to pause and reflect on our country's past, to honor the contributions of all Americans, and to also look ahead towards the future that we want to create and leave behind for the next generation of Americans.

On the federal level, America250 is a nonpartisan initiative working to engage every American in commemorating the 250th anniversary of our country. This multi-year effort, from now through July 4, 2026, is an opportunity to pause and reflect on our nation's past, honor the contributions of all Americans, and look ahead toward the future we want to create for the next generation and beyond.

In New Jersey, RevolutionNJ has been set up and is a partnership between the New Jersey Historical Commission (NJHC), a division of the New Jersey Department of State, and the nonprofit Crossroads of the American Revolution Association to plan the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution in New Jersey.





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