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NJ SHARING NETWORK AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

Twelve New Jersey high school students, including Gabrielle Johnson of Scotch Plains, were awarded scholarships from the Sharing Network Foundation for their passion and dedication to raising awareness of organ and tissue donation and transplantation. The 2025 graduates were presented with their scholarship awards at NJ Sharing Network's headquarters in New Providence.

Gabrielle Johnson (Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School), received a scholarship from the Daniel S. Buckiewicz Scholarship Fund. She will attend the University of California - Santa Barbara. Gabrielle's connection to organ and tissue donation began through a deeply personal family loss when her mother passed suddenly from a brain aneurysm. Since 2013, Gabrielle and her family have been active supporters of NJ Sharing Network, participating annually in the 5K Celebration of Life as Team One Love. Gabrielle has also volunteered at events since 2018 and made it her mission to raise awareness about the impact of donation. In 2021, Gabrielle had the honor of attending the Donate Life Rose Parade® float presentation in Pasadena.

The Sharing Network Foundation's scholarships are made possible thanks to several of the organization's family and partner funds:

Hearts for Emma Partner Fund - created in celebration of Emma Rothman's lifesaving heart transplant to support high school education and donation advocacy efforts.

Jim Rhatican Scholarship Fund - created in memory of Jim Rhatican, NJ Sharing Network Volunteer, liver transplant recipient, and retired teacher and coach of 35 years.

Missy's Miracle Scholarship Fund - created in celebration of Missy Rodriguez's lifesaving liver transplant to follow her passion as a college counselor through scholarships for high school students.

(Continued on page 2)

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(above) Recipients of the 2025 Sharing Network Foundation High School Scholarships, alongside representatives from the Sharing Network Foundation and its partner funds, gathered at NJ Sharing Network headquarters in New Providence to celebrate their commitment to organ and tissue donation advocacy.

Photo Courtesy of NJ Sharing Network

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SHARING NETWORK (continued from page 1)

Riley’s Path - created in memory of organ donor Riley Kogen to provide financial assistance to transplant patients in times of crisis, and to award scholarships to high school students and advocacy heroes.

The Sharing Network Foundation’s high school scholarship program provides an opportunity to recognize and award graduating high school seniors whose lives have been touched by organ and tissue donation and transplantation. Applicants were measured on academic achievement, community and volunteer efforts, extracurricular activities, and advocacy for organ and tissue donation. Since the scholarship program’s inception in 2011, more than \$140,000 has been awarded to 74 dedicated student advocates.

“We are grateful for the generous support of our partner funds and their ongoing commitment to rewarding students who share a commitment to our lifesaving mission,” said Amanda Tibok, Executive Director, Sharing Network Foundation. “We know that all of our scholarship awardees will continue as strong leaders educating others about donation and transplantation throughout their college years and beyond.”

ABOUT NJ SHARING NETWORK

NJ Sharing Network is a federally designated nonprofit organization committed to saving and enhancing lives through the recovery of donated organs and tissue. Headquartered in New

Providence, NJ Sharing Network partners with 54 local hospitals to bring hope to nearly 4,000 New Jersey residents awaiting a lifesaving organ transplant, while also contributing to the national effort to support more than 100,000 individuals on the U.S. transplant waiting list. With over three million New Jerseyans registered as organ and tissue donors, NJ Sharing Network has achieved record-breaking organ donation milestones for six consecutive years. Recognized as one of the nation’s top-performing organ procurement organizations (OPOs), the organization was honored as NJBIZ’s 2024 Nonprofit Business of the Year. Additionally, NJ Sharing Network has been named one of New Jersey’s ‘Best Places to Work’ for seven consecutive years, reflecting its dedication to fostering an innovative, mission-driven workplace. To learn more, get involved, or register as an organ and tissue donor, visit NJSharingNetwork.org.

ABOUT THE SHARING NETWORK FOUNDATION

The Sharing Network Foundation supports the work of NJ Sharing Network, the federally designated non-profit organization responsible for the recovery of donated organs and tissue in the Garden State. The Foundation is committed to increasing the number of lives saved through clinical advancement, family support, public awareness and education about the lifesaving benefits of organ and tissue donation and transplantation.

For more info or to make a contribution, visit SharingNetworkFoundation.org.

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UPS, DOWNS AND AROUNDS - NOV. 25TH

Historical Society of Scotch Plains and Fanwood

Join The Historical Society of Scotch Plains and Fanwood to enjoy, learn and smile together as we watch America's history and facts about yesterday and today's roller coasters and carousels through pictures, narrations and music. On November 25th at 7:30 p.m. Dan Koslowski, an avid roller coaster enthusiast, will give us an eye opening journey from the people who invented these unique rides, to one of America's favorite pastimes, the amusement park.

Koslowski was 6 years old when he rode his first roller coaster and has no plans of stopping. He has been on over 100 roller coaster and has never been sick on any one of them. He loves the speed, the excitement and going fast. He is an active member with the "American Roller Coaster Enthusiasts" and the "National Carousel Club." He is a retired instrumental music teacher at elementary schools in Linden and now gives

private music lessons. Besides riding, researching and presenting about roller coasters, Koslowski builds and designs original scratch-built working model roller coasters. His 5th, named the "Torpedo", delighted everyone at the 1994 Greenberg Train and Toy Show at Fairleigh Dickinson U. In Hackensack and won first place for being the most original and unique scratch-built model. It took him 17 months and more than 1,400 hours to build and design and model. It was sold to a collector. To make roller coasters takes patience, dedication, commitment, endurance and research. Koslowski says there is "a renaissance of roller coasters due to new materials, ideas and inventions that are coming into play."

Come, Learn and Enjoy this free program presented by the Historical Society of Scotch

Plains and Fanwood at our Thanksgiving meeting on Tuesday evening November 25th. Feel free to bring friends and relatives to this free and open to the public meeting. Delight in seeing many of the most famous carousels and roller coaster from the past to today's present, including those from Bowcraft Amusement Park. Koslowski aims to educate the public to preserve our heritage, American history, our folk lore and encourage community preservation. The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. and will be held at the historic Shady Rest Country Club, 820 Jerusalem Road (at the corner of Plainfield Avenue) in Scotch Plains. Refreshments and fellowship follow the presentation. (And for this special presentation, Dan will provide a TIP jar.)

For further information, contact Connie Klock at 908-337-7735.



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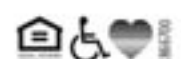
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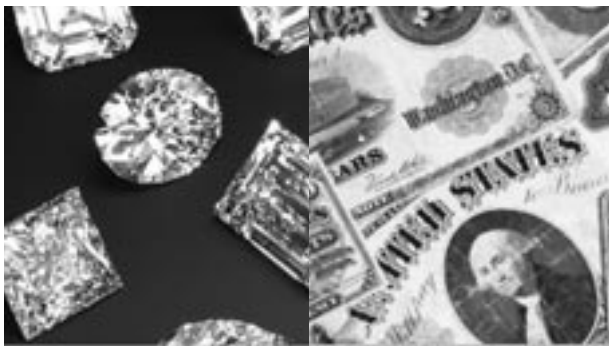
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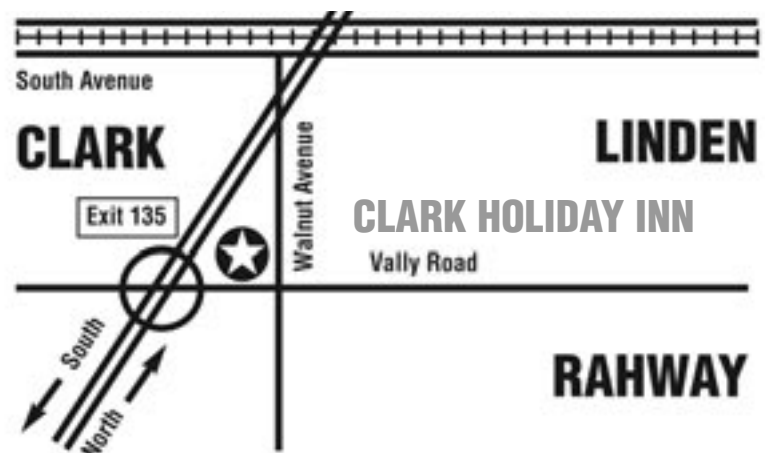
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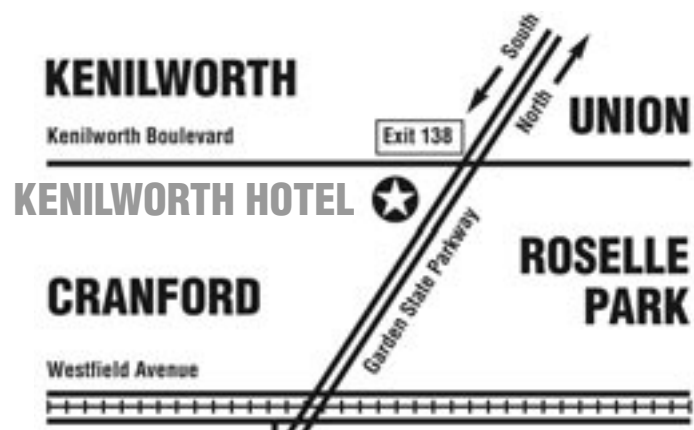


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OSBORN MUSEUM OPEN TO THE PUBLIC NOVEMBER 2ND



Courtesy Photo

CALLING ALL VETERANS JOIN THE ROTARY CLUB FOR LUNCH

Every year, the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club hosts a Veterans Appreciation lunch in honor of Veteran’s Day. This year’s luncheon will be held during their meeting on Wednesday, November 12, 2025 at 12:15 p.m. at the Stage House Restaurant in Scotch Plains. They’ll honor veterans in the club as well as veterans in the local community. The Rotary Club is very grateful to all men and women who served the United States Armed Forces and will pay tribute to those who served, those who continue to serve and those who made the ultimate sacrifice. Veterans in the towns of Fanwood and Scotch Plains are invited to attend, free of charge, but should register in advance because space is limited. To register for the event, Veterans can contact Curt Brand at 908-723-5746.

For more information about the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary club, you can visit their website at fsprotary.org

The Osborn Cannonball House Museum, located at 1840 Front Street in Scotch Plains, will be open to the public from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 2, 2025.

The museum is currently featuring a Titanic exhibit, including replicas of items used on the ship plus an Edwardian era dress display showcasing clothing similar to what was worn by the three classes of passengers on the ill-fated ship.

Costumed docents will be available to give

tours of the c. 1750 house once owned by the Osborn family whose sons fought in the American Revolution. The antique house is steeped in local history and has many stories to tell.

As always, there is no fee to attend. The Osborn Cannonball House is open for tours on the first Sunday of each month (except January and February) and by appointment by calling 908 322-6700, Ext. 230. If you are interested in volunteering at the museum, please email us at Info@HistoricalSocietySPFNJ.org.



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SP-F HS PRESENTS METAMORPHOSES NOV 21, 22 & 23, 2025

Scotch Plains - Fanwood High School is proud to present a unique theatrical event this fall:

Metamorphoses by Mary Zimmerman. A Tony Award-winning play, Metamorphoses reimagines Greek myths, such as "Orpheus and Eurydice" and "King Midas," through poetic storytelling and stunning visual design.

Tickets are on sale at spfhsrep.com.

Unlike anything ever staged at SPFHS, Metamorphoses will unfold in and around a real pool of water onstage, immersing the audience in a mythical world of love, loss, and transformation. The auditorium will be reconfigured into an intimate black box theater with audience seating on three sides, allowing spectators to look down into the water and feel part of the action.

"Metamorphoses is a one-of-a-kind theatrical experience," said Director Morgan Knight. "The live presence of water, the bold visuals, and the urgent storytelling make this production unlike anything our community has seen."

Metamorphoses is beautiful, funny, haunting, and unforgettable."

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:

Friday, Nov. 21 at 7:00 p.m.;

Saturday, Nov. 22 at 2:00 & 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 23 at 2:00 p.m.

All performances will be held in Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School's Manya Ungar Memorial Auditorium (667 Westfield Rd, Scotch Plains, NJ). The play runs approximately 90 minutes without intermission and contains some mature references drawn from classical

mythology.

Metamorphoses involves over 75 students – cast and crew – and is guided by a creative team including:

Morgan Knight (Director),

Kelly Ruggieri (Producer),

Joseph Napolitano (Set Designer),

Evan Perrotta (Technical Director),

Christian Confalone (Lighting Designer),

and Joanne Sprague (Costume Designer).

TICKETS PRICES:

\$18 (adults), \$16 (students & seniors).

Tickets can be purchased at spfhsrep.com.

FOR TICKETING INQUIRIES

contact Rosa Estevez at

SPFHSPayTickets@gmail.com

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SPFHS is committed to accessibility. Accessible seating is available for patrons with mobility needs (please contact Rosa Estevez in advance at SPFHSPayTickets@gmail.com).

Handicap parking is located near Door 1 and is first-come, first-served for vehicles displaying official placards or license plates. In select cases, early seating accommodations can be arranged.

SAFETY TALK - CYBERSECURITY AND SCAMS - NOV., 17

Please join us on Monday, November 17th at Mira Vie (295 South Avenue in Fanwood) to learn about Safety Updates-Cybersecurity and Scams. Lt. Dan Kranz of the Fanwood Police Department will give an informative talk on safety.

This event is free and open to the public, and refreshments will be provided after the talk. This event is sponsored by the College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains. Please visit our website at: fspcollegeclub.org to learn more, join, or donate!



(above) Annual Doll and Toy event at the non-profit Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League Thrift Shop kicks off Tuesday, November 4.

ANNUAL DOLLS AND TOYS EVENT

Service League Thrift Shop in Scotch Plains

The annual Doll and Toy event at the non-profit Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League Thrift Shop kicks off Tuesday, November 4 - just in time for holiday gift-giving. It's a perfect way to purchase gifts for all of the children in your life, with smart shoppers finding great options at reasonable prices for infants through teens.

Thanks to our generous donors, doll lovers can choose from gorgeous, original American Girl dolls, New Generation dolls, Barbie dolls, vintage dolls, baby dolls and a wide range of doll accessories. Savvy buyers will find an incredible Melissa and Doug easel, along with wooden puzzle sets this brand is famous for. The shop will boast a huge display of Thomas the Train toys, including a train depot and accessories, as well as Lego sets and an assortment of toys from famous brands like Fisher Price and Mattel. You can also fulfill your holiday buying needs with board games, crafts, trucks and cars, stuffed animals, books, and puzzles that are 100 percent complete. All items are either brand new or in excellent condition.

Also available on November 4 will be a fantastic array of holiday bric-a-brac and decorations to fill your house with the spirit of the season. Make sure you shop early for the best selection.

Patronizing the Thrift Shop is a great way to stretch your holiday budget while knowing that

the money collected from the purchases you make is going to benefit the local community. The merchandise for sale is donated to the store by the public and sorted, priced and sold by Service League volunteers. All profits outside of store overhead are distributed annually via grants to worthwhile organizations or through college scholarships. It is a great way to celebrate the annual season of giving!

The Thrift Shop is located at 1741 East Second Street in Scotch Plains. For questions, call the store at 908-322-5420 anytime during business hours: Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 A.M. to 2:30 P.M., and Saturday 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

Please note that the Thrift Shop will be closed Thanksgiving week from November 24 through November 28, re-opening on Saturday, November 29 for "Small Business Saturday."



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COLUMBUS DAY CO-CELEBRATED BY UNICO & ITALIAN AMERICAN CLUB

Scotch Plains-Fanwood UNICO and the Scotch Plains Italian American Club held their annual Columbus Day and Italian Heritage Celebration on October 11 at the Alan Augustine Village Green in Scotch Plains. Following the ceremony, attendees enjoyed refreshments provided by SP-F UNICO and the Italian American Club.

The event featured guest speaker Mary Lu Farrell, a resident and first-generation Italian-American. SP-F UNICO board member Paul

Raphael introduced Farrell as “someone who truly embodies the spirit of Scotch Plains.” In her talk, she discussed her family's story, starting with how her maternal grandfather, Pietro Antonio Pelosi, emigrated from the Italian village of Pescopagano to New Jersey in 1915. In 1920, he met his future wife, Carmela DiCillis, who was also from Pescopagano. They married in 1922 and settled in West Orange, where they grew their family. Farrell called her mother Josephine “a powerhouse and truly one

of a kind”, saying that her mother never missed school and took great care of their family, especially in times of need. She also mentioned how her father, Lawrence (also born in Pescopagano), built their house in Scotch Plains in 1956, adding, “Italians don’t hire contractors. They are the contractors.” She noted that she and her husband still visit Pescopagano every summer for six weeks in a small house they’ve owned for years. Farrell’s recounting of her family history was equal parts humorous, and touching.

INTERNATIONAL STUTTERING AWARENESS DAY RECOGNIZED

Borough of Fanwood

Mayor Colleen Mahr and the Borough Council issued a proclamation recognizing International Stuttering Awareness Day at the Monday, October 6th Council agenda meeting. First observed in 1998, International Stuttering Awareness Day, on October 22, celebrates people around the world who stutter and brings awareness of stuttering acceptance. The Mayor presented the proclamation to speech

pathologist Emily Root of Westfield and the Stanley family of Fanwood. Stuttering affects more than 70 million people worldwide, and three million Americans. Root said she is “proud daughter of a mother who stutters and I’ve dedicated my career to working with people who stutter.” She urged the community to get to know someone with a stutter by listening to them and becoming better communication partners.



(above) Mayor Colleen Mahr with Emily Root of Westfield and the Stanley family of Fanwood after issuing a proclamation for International Stuttering Awareness Day.

Photo by Paul Peyton

NJ FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA: CANDLELIGHT CONCERT AND TENORS RETURN

Step into an evening of sophistication and charm as the New Jersey Festival Orchestra presents its first-ever candlelight concert, Romance in the Mansion, on Saturday, November 15 at 6:30 PM at the James Ward Mansion in Westfield.

Under the baton of Music Director and Maestro David Wroe, a string quartet of NJFO musicians — Bradley Bosenbeck (Violin I), Théo Payen (Violin II), Gregory Williams (Viola), and Ansel Cohen (Cello) — will perform an intimate program that blends the romance of Broadway, the emotion of cinematic scores, and the allure of contemporary classics. Audiences will be swept away by lush arrangements from beloved artists such as ABBA, Coldplay, George Gershwin, and more — all illuminated by the warm glow of candlelight in one of Westfield’s most elegant settings.

Guests can indulge in complimentary wine and small plates as they enjoy this unique fusion of artistry and atmosphere. With its golden décor, intimate seating, and unforgettable musical program, Romance in the Mansion promises to be a highlight of the NJFO season.

NJFO gratefully acknowledges the Ward family for generously sharing their beautiful space to support this fundraising event. Proceeds will help bring notable soloists to future NJFO concerts and fund community initiatives such as the orchestra’s Listening is Healing music therapy program. Earlier this season, NJFO musicians Yifei Xu and Matthew Armbruster shared the gift of music with patients at Overlook Hospital in Summit, NJ, an inspiring example of the impact programs like Listening is Healing bring to the community.

“We are thrilled to present this intimate concert experience and deeply grateful for the generosity that allows us to continue sharing music both on stage and beyond,” said Maestro Wroe.

Following Romance in the Mansion, NJFO rings in the festive season with one of its most anticipated events — The Return of the Holiday Tenors.

Back by popular demand, this symphonic spectacular will fill the concert hall with the magic of the holidays, featuring award-winning tenors John Kun Park, Luke Norvell, and Michael DeShield alongside guest choruses and the full New Jersey Festival Orchestra. Together, they’ll perform an uplifting program of holiday classics, Broadway-style showstoppers, and beloved seasonal songs that capture the joy and wonder of the season.

Under Maestro Wroe’s direction, this festive performance blends grand symphonic arrangements with soaring vocals and heartwarming moments, making it a beloved tradition for families across New Jersey.

Performances take place on Saturday, December 6, at 7:00 PM at the Presbyterian Church in Westfield, and on Sunday, December 7, at 3:00 PM at The Concert Hall at Drew University in Madison.

From the candlelit elegance of Romance in the Mansion to the jubilant voices of The Return of the Holiday Tenors, NJFO’s 2025 season offers something truly special for every music lover.

Tickets are available at njfestivalorchestra.org or by calling the NJFO office at (908) 232-9400 during operational hours. Seating is limited, and early reservations are encouraged.

NJFO NEW JERSEY FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA
MUSIC DIRECTOR DAVID WROE

Romance in the Mansion

 **Sat, November 15, 6:30 pm**
The James Ward Mansion,
169 E Broad St, Westfield, NJ

Return of the Holiday Tenors

Sat, December 6, 7:00 pm
The Presbyterian Church, Westfield

Sun, December 7, 3:00 pm
The Concert Hall at
Drew University, Madison



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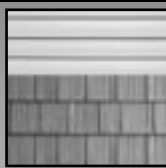
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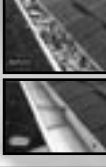
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