



Ms. Margaret A. Kritsch and Eric J. Anderson

Ms. Margaret A. Kritsch To Wed Eric J. Anderson

The Reverend and Mrs. Paul Kritsch of Scotch Plains have announced the engagement of their daughter, Ms. Margaret Annalise Kritsch of Harpers Ferry, W. Va., to Eric John Anderson of Triangle, Va. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Anderson of Hanson, Mass.

A 1995 Westfield High School graduate, the bride-to-be earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Biology, with an emphasis in Natural History, from Kansas State University in 1999.

She graduated in 2000 from the Seasonal Law Enforcement Training Program at Northern Arizona University. In the fall of 2004, she received a Master of Science degree in Biology, focusing on non-native plant species, from Fort Hays State University in Hays, Kan.

A United States Park Ranger for the National Park Service since 2000, she worked at Bryce Canyon National Park in Utah from 2000 to 2003 as a seasonal Ranger. Since 2004, she has worked at the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park in Maryland as a Park Ranger.

The future bridegroom graduated from Whitman-Hanson High School in Whitman, Mass. in 1997 and was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in Park Management from Unity College in Unity, Me. in 2001.

He graduated in 2002 from the National Park Service Seasonal Law Enforcement Training Academy at Southwestern Community College in Franklin, N.C.

From 2000 to 2001, Mr. Anderson was a Wildland Firefighter for the National Park Service, working at Shenandoah National Park in Virginia and Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado.

Since 2002, he has been a United States Park Ranger for the National Park Service. He worked at Bryce Canyon National Park from 2002 to 2003 and at Yellowstone National Park in 2004. He currently works at Prince William Forest Park in Virginia.

The couple met while working as Park Rangers at Bryce Canyon National Park in Utah. They became engaged on December 17, 2004, and will be married in October at the Redeemer Lutheran Church of Westfield.

Men's Club and Sisterhood To Welcome Maria Sliwa

CRANFORD - The Men's Club and Sisterhood of Temple Beth-El Mekor Chayim, located at 338 Walnut Avenue in Cranford, will hold their annual brunch on Sunday, February 13, at 9:30 a.m. at the temple.

Guest speaker Maria Sliwa will present a program on modern day slavery. A former New York City police officer and sister of Guardian Angels founder Curtis Sliwa, she currently works for an organization called "Freedom Now."

Ms. Sliwa works to free slaves, particularly in Sudan, the largest African country.

The Hospitality Committee will provide a dairy brunch. There is no charge, and the Judaica Shop also will be open for business. Members of the public are invited to attend. For more information, please call the temple at (908) 272-9231 during business hours.

Westfield Area 'Y' Offers Adult Education Programs

WESTFIELD - The Westfield Area "Y," located at 220 Clark Street in Westfield, has scheduled two Adult Education programs, both of which will meet at the "Y."

The Lunch and Learn program for Wednesday, February 16, from 12:15 to 2 p.m. will feature a presentation entitled "Toe-dipping into Genealogy."

Richard Underhill, a Trustee and Past President of the Genealogical Society of the West Fields, will discuss exploring one's family tree, as well as some reasons and tips for doing so.

Lunch and Learn programs are free and open to the community;

participants are asked to bring a bag lunch and a small salad to share. For additional information, please call Mary Ann at (908) 966-9344.

Registration has been extended for the "Y"'s daytime Beginning Bridge Class, which will begin on Friday, March 4, and meet from 9:30 to 11 a.m.

Master bridge instructor Susan Schwartz will provide hands-on instruction for the course, which is designed for both beginners and those who need a bridge refresher. Early registration is advised. The fee is \$50 for "Y" members and \$60 for non-members. To register, please call the "Y" at (908) 233-2700.

Newcomers Club to Host Wine and Cheese Event

WESTFIELD - Women interested in meeting new people and getting more involved in the community are invited to a wine and cheese meeting hosted by the Newcomers Club of Westfield.

The event will take place at a member's home on Wednesday, February 23, at 8 p.m. Prospective members will have an opportunity to meet current members and learn about the numerous activities the club sponsors.

Among the current monthly offerings are book groups; children's playgroups and activities; women's social outings and dinners at local restaurants, plus social events for couples. The club also includes several committees.

The Newcomers Club is a social organization for women over age 21 who are new to Westfield or surrounding communities, as well as established residents who have experienced a change in lifestyle such as the birth or adoption of a baby, a marriage, a job change or a move within the town.

Anyone interested in attending this event or in obtaining more information about the club may call Michelle Habayeb at (908) 233-7228 or Rachel Manzo at (908) 518-0997.

Ponzios Welcome Zoë Arianna

Dawn and Matt Ponzio of Roselle Park have announced the birth of their daughter, Zoë Arianna Ponzio, on Monday, November 15, at 1:42 a.m. at Saint Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston.

Zoë weighed 8 pounds and 6 ounces and measured 19½ inches in length at birth.

She joins her brother, Aydon Christopher, age 9.

The baby's maternal grandparents are Frank and Diana Todisco of Westfield.

Her paternal grandparents are Carmen and Arlene Ponzio of Scotch Plains.

The baby's maternal great-grandparents are Jesse and Margie Pate of Fanwood.

Teen Group at Library Posts Book Discussion

FANWOOD - The Teen group of the Fanwood Memorial Library will hold its monthly book discussion on Tuesday, February 22, from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m. at the library, located at North Avenue and Tillotson Road.

This month's selection is "My Sister's Keeper," a novel by Jodi Picoult. In it, a 13-year-old explores today's political and scientific battles over cloning and DNA and gene replacement therapy, plus the issues of just being a teen. Refreshments will be served.

The Teen group offers many programs at the library, which all teenagers are invited to join. For more information, please call Nancy at (908) 322-6400.

Singles Group Lists February Meetings

WESTFIELD - Widowed, divorced, or never-married individuals are invited to join other single people on Sunday mornings at the First Baptist Church of Westfield, located at 170 Elm Street.

Meetings will take place on February 6, 13, 20 and 27 at 9 a.m. in the downstairs Fellowship Hall. Participants gather for coffee, cake and lively discussions on single living. A \$2 donation is requested and all are welcome.

Group members also take part in winter movie nights, summer picnics and holiday get-togethers, among other activities. For more information, please call (908) 889-5265 or (908) 889-4751.



A PROMISE TO SERVE...Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr, second from left, swears in new Fanwood Memorial Library Trustees at the January 10 board meeting. Pictured with her, from left to right, are: Al Mirabella, who also is a Union County Freholder; Ann Minski and Fanwood Borough Council President Katherine Mitchell, Liaison to the library board. Officers for 2005 also were elected at the meeting, including Liz Hogan, President; David Richard, Vice President; Peggy Ferreira, Treasurer, and Pat Plante, Secretary. Other members include new appointee David Kiley and Dr. Carol B. Choye, Superintendent of Schools for Scotch Plains-Fanwood and school board Liaison to the library board.

Winter Aquatics Courses To Begin Sunday at JCC

SCOTCH PLAINS - The Jewish Community Center (JCC) of Central New Jersey will offer 11 American Red Cross Learn-to-Swim classes at its Wilf Jewish Community Campus, located at 1391 Martine Avenue in Scotch Plains.

Parent-and-child classes will be available, along with classes for ages three and up. Beginner swimmers of all ages are welcome.

Each class will be held several times during the Winter Session, so individuals are urged to check the new program guide at the JCC or visit www.jccnj.org for the most current information available.

Classes will run Sunday, February 6, through Wednesday, March 23, and meet once a week during each session. Winter Aquatics class fees are \$66 for members and \$80 for non-members.

If an individual is unsure of his or her child's swimming level, he or she

can bring the youngster to the JCC to be tested. It only takes a few minutes for an instructor to evaluate a child's level, and this will ensure the child will be placed in the right class.

For more information or to schedule an appointment for a child to be evaluated, please call the JCC Aquatics Department at (908) 889-8800, extension no. 219.

African Violet Group To Meet February 10

SCOTCH PLAINS - The Union County Chapter of the African Violet Society will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, February 10, at 1 p.m. at the Scotch Plains Public Library, located at 1927 Bartle Avenue.

The program will be entitled "Soil Mixes," and participants are invited to bring their recipes. Anyone interested in African Violets is invited to attend.

Scrapbooking Class Among YMCA Program Offerings

SCOTCH PLAINS - The Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA, located at 1340 Martine Avenue in Scotch Plains, will offer a scrapbooking class as part of its Early Spring Session.

Registration is being conducted for this session, which begins on Monday, February 7, and will continue through Sunday, April 17.

Designed as an interactive activity for all ages, the scrapbooking program will feature different classes geared to parents and children, teenagers, adults and senior adults.

Participants will learn how to care for photographs using a variety of scrapbooking techniques, while having access to cropping tools, pens, rulers, decorative scissors, paper and stickers. Everyone will receive their own photo tape and a 12-inch by 12-inch album. Individuals just need to bring their own photographs.

For the experienced scrapper, a three-hour open crop each week will provide time, space and assistance for scrapbook makers to work on their albums.

Participants may sign up for all 10 weeks of the session, or pay a drop-in rate and come only on the nights they prefer. Cutting tools, pens and idea

books will be available, so that open croppers need only to bring their own photographs, albums and tape.

For information on scrapbooking or any of the many programs and classes offered at the YMCA, please call (908) 889-8880. Information also is available at www.fanwoodscotchplainsymca.org.

Rainbows Program To Begin Soon at 'Y'

WESTFIELD - The Westfield Area "Y" Family Life Department plans to offer a nationally known support group called Rainbows, for youngsters who are experiencing loss due to divorce or death of a loved one.

A 12-week curriculum takes participants through the grieving process with activities designed to help them identify and express emotions associated with significant loss.

The "Y," located at 220 Clark Street in Westfield, will offer the segment called Spectrum, which was created for youth in grade 9 and up.

There is no fee for this program; however, pre-registration is required. The program will begin in the next few weeks. For registration information, please call Linda Christopher at (908) 966-9341.

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February 12, 2005
6:00—8:30 p.m.
Cost: \$25 / person Donation
Location: First Baptist Church of Westfield

For BOTH Singles & Couples— Purchase tickets at the church office— (908) 233-2278— no later than Wed. Feb. 9th to guarantee proper seating. Free childcare will be provided— only with advanced notice.

A Fundraising Event- Hosted and Served by Sunday Nite Youth Group of First Baptist Church. All proceeds benefit and support youth activities, such as the 2005 Summer Mission Trip to assist the poor in Appalachia Tennessee. Additional donations are welcomed!

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