



FLORAL EXTRAVAGANZA...Ruth Paul, Life Judge from the Westfield Garden Club, assists youth members from the Rake and Hoe Garden Club of Westfield with floral design in preparation for Rake and Hoe's "Surfing the Garden" flower show on Wednesday, May 18, from 1 to 8 p.m. For tickets, please call Erica at (908) 654-5274.

Rake and Hoe to Present 'Surfing the Garden' Show

WESTFIELD - The Rake and Hoe Garden Club of Westfield will present its Standard Flower Show and Home Tour on Wednesday, May 18, from 1 to 8 p.m.

Floral designs and artistic crafts, including projects by the club's Junior Division, will be showcased at two homes in Westfield and two in Mountainside. The show also will include horticulture and boutique items and a silent auction at The Presbyterian Church in Westfield on Mountain Avenue.

All entries in the show are for competition and will be judged by 25 judges from around New Jersey.

This year's show, entitled "Surfing the Garden," will focus on educating members and the public about the Internet. Attendees will learn about horticulture and design, and gain knowledge about "surfing" on the Internet.

Special exhibits will include entries from Boy Scout Troop No. 72 of Westfield. Some 18 scouts have been working toward their gardening merit badge all year, culminating in a display of their plants for competition at The Presbyterian Church. The

Lifestyles for the Disabled from Staten Island also will exhibit there.

Unique sculptures will mark the church hall entrance, the homes and gardens to be visited. The public will be asked to vote for their favorite sculpture and return the ballot to the hostess at the last place visited.

The show will be self-guided, with the addresses of the featured homes and gardens and a map printed on the back of the tickets. Tickets are available for \$15 in advance and \$20 the day of the show.

Funds raised will benefit the club's many community projects, which include the Lyons Veterans Hospital, the Cerebral Palsy Center of Union County and Mobile Meals, as well as the Miller-Cory Museum gardens, Shadowlawn garden and the Claire Brownell Memorial Wildflower Garden, all in Westfield, which the club designed and maintains.

Tickets may be purchased at The Flower Zone, Baron's Drug Store, Lancaster Ltd, The Presbyterian Church, St. Paul's Episcopal and the First United Methodist churches, all in Westfield, or by calling Erica at (908) 654-5274.

WCP Musical Spitfire Grill To Benefit Mobile Meals

WESTFIELD - Mobile Meals of Westfield will hold its first fundraising event on Friday, May 13, by sponsoring the Westfield Community Players (WCP) production of the musical *The Spitfire Grill*.

Produced by the WCP, it tells the story of a woman who injects new life into a skeptical and wary small town and features a score inspired by American folk music.

Mobile Meals, a private, non-profit volunteer community service organization, provides freshly prepared, hot, nutritious meals to the elderly and disabled of Westfield, Scotch Plains, Fanwood, Clark, Garwood and Cranford.

The goal of the fundraiser is to help defray the cost of service to Mobile Meals' clients, many of who are on fixed incomes.

The WCP theater is located at 1000 North Avenue, West. Hors d'oeuvres and wine will be served from 7 to 8 p.m. Curtain time is 8 p.m.

Mobile Meals has expressed appreciation to local businesses such as Winthrop's, Adler's Jewelry,

Christoffers of Mountainside, the Juxtapose Gallery, John's Meat Market of Scotch Plains and Westfield's Northside Trattoria for donating food and gifts for a basket raffle.

The event also will include a 50/50 raffle. Winners will be drawn at intermission. All proceeds will benefit Mobile Meals and its clients. The suggested donation is \$35 per person. To obtain tickets, please call (908) 232-4853.

Borough of Garwood To Hold Yard Sale

GARWOOD - The Borough of Garwood will hold its Ninth Annual Town-wide Yard Sale on Saturday, June 25, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

In order to participate, interested persons must register by Wednesday, June 22, in person at Borough Hall or by calling (908) 789-0710 or emailing garwood@garwood.org.

A list of participating households will be available at Borough Hall, 403 South Avenue in Garwood, on the morning of the yard sale.

Scotch Plains Library Events To Focus On Education

SCOTCH PLAINS - The Scotch Plains Public Library, located at 1927 Bartle Avenue, will present two programs next week that deal with education. Both will be free of charge.

A comprehensive workshop for parents of high school students, entitled "Everything You Need to Better Prepare for College," will be offered on Tuesday, May 10, at 6:30 p.m. by the American Education Foundation (AMEDF).

Registration is required and the group size is limited. To register, please call the library at (908) 322-5007, extension no. 204.

The AMEDF is a tax-exempt, not-for-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of higher education. A member of the College Board and NCAN, it assists families with college planning through seminars, focus groups and counseling programs.

The second program, "Improving Study Strategies," will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 12. Marcella Craver, a school psychologist with the Mendham and Bernardsville school district, will be the speaker. She will discuss how to improve study techniques for students from fifth grade through college.

Ms. Craver is the author of a book on the subject called "Learn to Study: A Comprehensive Guide to Academic Success." In her presentation, she will review topics such as goal-setting, organizational skills, creating a study time line, memory versus learning techniques, stress and test anxiety, and why 20 minutes per study session is optimal for success.

This program is open to all, and light refreshments will be offered. For further information on either event or for directions, please call the library or visit www.scotlib.org.



BUDDING ARTISTS...Pre-school students in the Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA's Child Care Center hone their artistic talents in preparation for their annual art show, which will be held on Friday, May 13, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. in the center's gymnasium.

Pre-Schoolers at YMCA To Display Works of Art

SCOTCH PLAINS - Pre-schoolers at the Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA Child Care Center will have their creations showcased at their annual art show on Friday, May 13, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. in the center's gymnasium. The center is located at Grand Street and Union Avenue in Scotch Plains.

In learning about various styles of art, students were introduced to such artists as Jackson Pollock, Georges Seurat, Vincent Van Gogh, Georgia O'Keefe and Pablo Picasso. Students then used their mini-lessons in art history as inspiration for their own original pieces of art.

This year's theme, "From Masters to Minis," resulted from an art project

created by a toddler class last year. Finger paintings that resembled Van Gogh's "Starry Night" caught the eye of a music teacher, who mentioned it to program director Kathy Barros.

"I gave it an immediate green light," recalled Ms. Barros, an art lover herself, "which set in motion many months of research, planning and creating. Now we're anxiously preparing for our debut!"

For more information about the art show, please call the Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA at (908) 322-7600.

See it all on the Web!
www.goleader.com

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