



GOLDEN SERVICE TO 'Y'... Colleagues congratulate Mark Swingle, center, on being named the Westfield Area "Y"'s Golden Volunteer Award recipient for 2012. Flanking Mr. Swingle are Stephen Murphy, Westfield Area "Y" board member, left, and Mark Elsasser, Westfield Area "Y" Chief Executive Officer.

Mark Swingle Is Honored As 'Y' Golden Volunteer

WESTFIELD—The Westfield Area "Y" has announced that Mark Swingle is the 2012 recipient of the "Y"'s Golden Volunteer Award. This is the highest volunteer award the Westfield Area "Y" bestows.

Mr. Swingle is a lifelong Westfield resident and has been a "Y" board member since 2004. While on the Westfield Area "Y" board, he has served on multiple committees, including Buildings and Grounds, Board Development, Nominating, Financial Development, Long Range Planning and Youth and Teens.

During that time, he also chaired the following committees: Investments, Executive and Executive Review and Youth and Teens. He received the Character Development Award for his involvement with the

Youth and Teen Committee.

Mr. Swingle also is active within the community. He has been a member of the Rotary Club of Westfield since 1996 and served as president from 2009 to 2010.

The Golden Volunteer Award was initiated in 1973 during the 50th anniversary of the Westfield Area "Y" to honor individuals for outstanding service to the community and the "Y." The Westfield Area "Y" congratulates Mr. Swingle on receiving the Golden Volunteer Award and thanks him for his outstanding service and dedication to the "Y" and the community.

To learn more about Westfield Area "Y" programs, visit westfieldnj.org. Financial assistance is available for those who qualify.

Portraits of Osborn Couple To Be Unveiled at Museum

SCOTCH PLAINS – The Historical Society of Scotch Plains and Fanwood has announced that a reception and unveiling of the portraits of Aaron and Harriet Osborn will take place on Sunday, June 3, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Osborn Cannonball House Museum. The portraits will be unveiled at 1:30 p.m. The museum is located at 1840 Front Street in Scotch Plains.

On hand for the occasion will be the Osborns' descendants, the Coursen family. Twenty-five years ago the portraits were passed down to Professor Bradner W. Coursen. In researching his family tree, he discovered he was a direct descendant of Aaron Osborn. Professor Coursen traveled to the Osborn Museum about five years ago and determined that the portraits should be donated to the museum.

Aaron's grandparents, John and Abigail Osborn, built the little home that is now the local museum. Aaron grew up next door to his grandparents. He married Harriet Manning in 1810. They had eight children in their 17 years of marriage (he died in 1827, she in 1828). Aaron was the third

postmaster in Plainfield.

Professor Bradner died several years ago, but his wife and sons completed his wishes by donating the portraits to the Osborn-Cannonball House Museum—returning them to Aaron's hometown. Two of Professor Bradner's sons will unveil the portraits.

The portraits appear to be the work of well-known portrait artist Micah Williams, who worked principally in Monmouth County and created likenesses of area residents. His portraits post-date the War of 1812. For many years his works were misattributed to Henry Conover. Williams made his own pastel pigments and backed many of his portraits with layers of newspapers.

Both portraits, oil on canvas, are in fair condition. There is some surface crazing, some damaged areas, and both canvases are very fragile. To preserve and return them to good condition will require significant money, according to the historical society. The June 3 event also will serve as a fundraiser to benefit restoration of the portraits. Punch and period light refreshments will be served.



HARDY AWARD HONOREE... Olivia Pecora, a Westfield High School senior, receives the 2012 Marc Wesley Hardy Human Rights Award for her work on behalf of universal education for girls. Aaron Marc Hardy, nephew of Marc Hardy, presented the award in memory of his uncle at a recent ceremony at the First Congregational Church of Westfield.

Olivia Pecora Is Recipient Of Marc Hardy Award

WESTFIELD – Olivia Lubrano Pecora, a Westfield High School senior, has been named the recipient of this year's Marc Wesley Hardy Human Rights Award, given annually to a young person for outstanding commitment to human rights. Aaron Marc Hardy, Marc's nephew, presented the award in memory of his uncle on April 29 during a ceremony at the First Congregational Church of Westfield.

Olivia received the award for her extensive involvement with Girls Learn International, a non-profit organization that supports universal education for girls. She founded and served as president of the Westfield High School chapter, publishing a Girls Learn International newsletter at the school for four years and organizing several successful fundraisers for the school's sister school in Afghanistan.

Olivia recently served as a delegate to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women. She spent one week as a journalist, work-

ing with nine girls from various areas of the world to help them develop their own personal stories. She was recognized with an award from Kean University for her work as an outstanding human rights activist.

Olivia also has excelled academically at Westfield High School, where she is a high honor roll student and a member of the National Honor Society. A varsity field hockey and softball player, she received an award for Leadership and Athletics. She will attend Penn State University Schreyers Honors College in the fall, where she plans to major in Women's Studies. She is the daughter of Richard and Fran Pecora of Westfield.

Marc Hardy was a member of the First Congregational Church and a talented and promising student who lost his life in a car accident in his senior year at Westfield High School in 1990. Because of his dedication and commitment to human rights, this award was established in his memory.



Doug Lynch from A-1 Basement Solutions

Home Video Studio Helps Business Promote Services

WESTFIELD—When Doug Lynch found out he'd been "caught being honest" on a *Today Show* undercover expose of mold inspectors, he immediately knew he had a small window of time to take advantage of the buzz. Mr. Lynch, owner of A-1 Basement Solutions in Scotch Plains, was one of eight contractors called in to assess a possible mold situation, and he was the only one of eight to do a test to determine that it was not mold.

After hearing of the show's airing, Mr. Lynch immediately called Dan Weiniger, owner of Home Video Studio in Westfield, to edit and post the clip on YouTube. "Thank God I know Dan Weiniger of Home Video Studio," said Mr. Lynch. "All that NBC provided was access to embed the video. The problem was that the video was seven minutes long, and I'm only in it for about five seconds, and it does not identify me by name." Mr. Weiniger edited the video down to two minutes, identifying Mr. Lynch on screen and giving his company logo and contact information at the end. "Not only was this amazing as far as Dan's talent in terms of the video, but he got it up there so quickly. The turnaround time really blew me away."

This was not Mr. Lynch's first experience with Home Video Studio. He recently completed several product videos for his basement solution company, all uploaded to YouTube. "The service that he provided was of the highest quality and well produced. His production values were tremendous," he said. "I've known Dan to be a man of high standards and it shows in every aspect of his work."

The product videos, which can be

found on A-1 Basement's YouTube channel, were shot on a green screen, which allows special-effect backgrounds to be added later. Mr. Lynch uses these videos on sales calls. "I bring my iPad with me," he said. "When someone wants to know how the water power sump pump works, instead of explaining it, I show them on the video. People are impressed with that. It's become a focal point of my sales presentation."

Mr. Weiniger also creates slideshows and videos for fundraisers, Bar/Bat Mitzvah parties, reunion events and conferences. He shoots and edits videos for commercials, college scholarship applications, sales presentations and more. Mr. Weiniger transfers videos and movies to Platinum Archival DVDs. Learn more about Westfield's Home Video Studio at <http://www.homevideostudio.com/dan>. Contact him at (908) 301-9300 or at dan.w@homevideostudio.com. You can reach Mr. Lynch at A-1 Basement Solutions at (908) 322-1313 or <http://A-1Basements.com>.

A-1 Basement Solutions makes basements dry and healthy by offering permanent solutions to give homeowners peace of mind even during a power outage. Free honest estimates are given to solve basement problems, from patching cracks to installing French Drains and sump pumps. Contact Doug Lynch and A-1 Basement Solutions at (908) 322-1313 and on the web at <http://A-1Basements.com>.

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CEDAR BROOK CLEANUP... Holy Trinity Interparochial School Cub Scout Pack No. 73 of Westfield led scouts and local volunteers in cleaning up trash and debris from Cedar Brook Park on April 14. Cedar Brook Park is a Union County park located in Plainfield. Pictured are scouts from Pack No. 73 and local volunteers.

Folk Duo Finley and Pagdon Plan Library Performance

SCOTCH PLAINS – Woodstock-based duo Denise Jordan Finley and Daniel Pagdon, lifelong natives of the Hudson Valley, will perform contemporary folk music that touches on traditional, Americana, Bluegrass, jazz, rock and classical on Sunday, June 10, at 2 p.m. at the Scotch Plains Public Library.

Known as Finley and Pagdon, the pair is self-taught on their instruments. Anchoring their music on two guitars, along with Ms. Finley's vocals and their songwriting, they perform with full bands at colleges, theaters and outdoor parks and festivals. Both started playing professionally as children. Between them, they have played for a sum of more than six decades.

To date, they have won multiple

honors and awards, including mentions, places and wins in regional, national and international competitions in songwriting, among them the New Jersey Folk Festival, Falcon Ridge Festival, Old Songs Festival, Walnut Valley Festival, The Great American Songwriters Competition, Plowshares Competition, Mid-Atlantic States Songwriting Competition and Great Lakes Songwriting Contest.

The concert will be open to the public without charge. Seating will begin at 1:30 p.m. No registration is required. In the event of cancellation due to illness or other events, check the library's website, scotlib.org. The Scotch Plains Public Library is located at 1927 Bartle Avenue, one block from Park Avenue, in the center of the township.

See it all on the web in color... www.goleader.com



Temple Emanu-El of Westfield 756 East Broad Street, Westfield, NJ 07090

A Great Opportunity to Get Acquainted with Temple Emanu-El...

Friday, June 1, 7:00 - 7:45 p.m.

Meet & Greet for Prospective & New Members
Get to know our members, clergy, educators and special education staff.

Shabbat Hallelu, an Erev Shabbat Service in Song, follows at 7:45 p.m.

Come experience Temple Emanu-El...

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Cantor Martha T. Novick
Rabbi Erin R. Glazer
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David Gronlund-Jacob, Religious School Principal
Jill Cimafonte, Early Childhood Education Director

Feel free to contact us at:
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... and see how we can become your home away from home.



HEADING FOR HOOVER... Fanwood-Scotch Plains fifth-grade Junior Girl Scout Troop No. 40857 presented "Hooverpalooza!" on April 23, an event to prepare first- and second-grade Girl Scouts for their first trip to Girl Scout Camp Hoover. During this workshop at Terrill Middle School, the older girls passed along their camp expertise to three younger troops. Troop No. 40857 also presented this workshop to three other younger troops at individual troop meetings, all in advance of the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Camporee from May 18 to 20, when all Fanwood-Scotch Plains Girl Scout troops visited Camp Hoover in Sussex County.

Kalellis Book Offers Advice On Difficult Relationships

WESTFIELD – Westfield author and therapist, Dr. Peter Kalellis' new book, "Living in Difficult Relationships," will give you the tools to:

- * Confront and gain peace of mind with persons who make your life miserable.
- * Learn to communicate with "impossible" people. There are seven distinct types: Aggressives, Experts, Agreeables, Clams, Negatives, Complainers and Procrastinators.
- * Understand and communicate with people who never accept responsibility.



Peter M. Kalellis

- * Communicate with a mate or spouse, son, daughter, friend or relative who won't speak to you.
- * Eliminate anxiety or depressive feelings by learning to express yourself with people who intimidate you.

Dr. Kalellis is a nationally recognized speaker and author and you can reach him for a free introductory consultation at (908) 232-6118, e-mail: Kalellis717@Verizon.net. Website: PeterKalellis.com.

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Volunteers Needed at Union County Bio-Blitz

RAHWAY – Union County offers nature lovers of all ages the opportunity to get up-close and personal with wildlife in their own "backyard" during Bio-Blitz 2012. Beginning on Friday, June 8, at 5 p.m., the annual outdoor event will organize teams of plant and wildlife specialists to scour three sections of Union County's Rahway River Parkway in Rahway, Clark, Winfield Park and Cranford in search of plants and animals over a 24-hour period.

Volunteer expert and amateur scientists and naturalists are needed to participate as team Bio-Blitz members. To volunteer, or to receive a brochure and application, call (908) 789-3683. When calling, please specify your level of experience and team preference. Registration also can be done online at the Union County website: www.ucnj.org.

Plant, fungi, insect, fish, bird, mammal, amphibian and reptile experts, and water monitors (along with amateur naturalists) will collect and identify species from the three sections of parkland. Teams will return to Bio-Blitz Central, an outdoor, tented field lab and exhibit space in Rahway River Park, off St. Georges Avenue in Rahway, to sort and count what they find.

The primary purpose of Bio-Blitz 2012 is to gain a "snapshot" of the biodiversity (or richness of species) in the 384-acre (0.6 square mile) Rahway River Parkway. Another important goal of the event is to raise public awareness of the importance of parkland as wildlife habitat and outdoor classrooms.

Rahway River Parkway boasts some excellent floodplain, stream, river, meadow and woodland habitat. Greenways provide valuable habitat, and act as a stopover and wildlife corridor for migratory and resident wildlife, including red tail hawks, screech owls, great horned owls, great egrets, great blue herons, coyotes and foxes.

Free nature-related programs for all ages will be offered throughout the event, including evening programs from 6 to 11 p.m. on Friday, June 8, and from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, June 9. Free shuttle buses will be available to get participants to and from program sites. Programs offered will include: River and Lake Sampling; Owl Prowl; Wild Edible Plant Walk; Fungi Foray; Early Morning Birding, and more. Bio-Blitz Bingo will offer younger "scientists" an opportunity to record their findings and enter a drawing to win nature-related prizes. A Junior Scientist tent will have young naturalists interacting with hands-on activities related to the natural environment.

For more information or to receive a brochure, call (908) 789-3683 and leave your email address. Brochures also will be available at Trailside Nature and Science Center at 452 New Providence Road in Mountainside.

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