

Garden Club of New Jersey Recognizes Rake and Hoe

WESTFIELD — Rake and Hoe Garden Club of Westfield President Diana Kazazis has announced club members' achievements and a special award received from the Garden Club of New Jersey (GCNJ) at the Spring Annual State Show for their participation. The show took place in February in Edison.

Jeannie Geremia, representative of the GCNJ, recognized Rake and Hoe Garden Club of Westfield as one of three garden clubs in the state to be given a special award for their participation. The club was acknowledged for its continuing support of the Annual GCNJ Flower Show year after year.

"When you think of the flower show, you think of several members of this dynamic club who have worn so many hats that it's hard to keep track," said Ms. Geremia.

"There is Barbara Mullin, that little dynamo, who chaired the show in 2009, has been a design consultant innumerable times, as GCNJ president provided the workers luncheon by making everything herself, entered more design competitions than a dozen of us combined, always participates in the Judges Competition, and has a 'can do' attitude that can't be beat. Then we have Diana Kazazis, who has taken the youth section in tow these many

years, chaired the flower show in 2014, snow and all, and just keeps it all together; Kay Cross, who has worn innumerable hats throughout the years; Pat Wilson, with the engaging smile at our membership tables; Clare Minick and the whole Rake and Hoe team that has helped our horticulture entries run smooth, and all their club members who sign up as docents year after year."

Additionally, Beth Siano won Top Exhibitor Award in Artistic Crafts for her botanical earrings. The Rake and Hoe youth group won most blue ribbons in each of the three age categories. Barbara Mullin won a blue ribbon for her patriotic red, white and blue traditional design. Rake and Hoe photographers garnered several blue ribbons as well.

The Rake and Hoe Garden Club of Westfield has a diverse membership spanning all ages, interests and occupations. Federated with the National Council of State Garden Clubs and the Garden Club of New Jersey, Rake and Hoe has between 50 and 70 members, including a junior membership between first and eighth grades. For more information, call Pat Wilson at (908) 389-9342 or check the club's Facebook page and its website, rakeandhoe.org.



DEDICATION DAY... Current and former trustees of the Westfield Foundation, as well as local dignitaries, participate in the official ribbon-cutting ceremony for Foundation Park on June 11.

Foundation Park Dedicated With Ribbon-Cutting

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Foundation announced the establishment of Foundation Park and held a ribbon-cutting ceremony June 11 with Mayor Andrew Skibitsky, members of the town council, the Downtown Westfield Corporation (DWC) and past and present trustees of the Westfield Foundation in attendance.

Foundation Park is a joint project of the Westfield Foundation and the Town of Westfield, commemorating 40 years of community service by the Westfield Foundation. Foundation Park, which is located across from the South Avenue Circle, will be used as a venue for Jazz Night and other town events. The area was scheduled to be completed with landscaping and lighting by early July, so it can be used as a venue for the DWC's Sweet Sounds Downtown Jazz Festival, held on Tuesday evenings in July and August.

The concept and the design for Foundation Park was created by Craig Stock, who was awarded a plaque by the Westfield Foundation in recognition and appreciation for his time and effort in creating the park, as well as for his extensive community service for the town.

On behalf of the Foundation, former Foundation President Russ Finstein thanked the following companies for contributing either materials or labor to help create the park: Weldon Materials Inc., T. Fiotakis Construction, Harol Landscaping & Construction, A&N Landscaping and Craig Stock Landscape Design. Mr. Finstein also thanked the mayor and town council for their support, as well as Town Administrator James Gildea, Town Engineer Kris McAloon and the employees of the Westfield Department of Public Works, for their hard work in establishing the park.

Finally, Mr. Finstein thanked current and past Westfield residents who have donated or bequeathed funds to

the Foundation, which now manages more than \$15 million in restricted and unrestricted funds. The Foundation uses a portion of these funds each year to provide grants benefiting the community overall and many art organizations, health-related programs, social service agencies/programs and education.

For further information about the Westfield Foundation, visit its website, westfieldfoundation.com, or contact Executive Director Betsy Chance at (908) 233-9787 or by e-mail at foundation@westfieldnj.com.

Paraguayan Harpist Due In Cranford

CRANFORD — The Friends of the Cranford Public Library will sponsor an appearance by master Paraguayan harpist Nicholas Carter on Thursday, July 21, at 7:30 p.m. It will take place in the Cranford Community Center, located at 220 Walnut Avenue.

At home in two cultures, Mr. Carter was raised in Minnesota and in Asunción, Paraguay, where he learned to play the harp. Paraguay has a distinguished tradition of harp music. Paraguayan musicians developed a unique instrument based on the 16th-century Spanish harp and established their own style of playing. The Paraguayan harp is the national folk instrument of Paraguay and is often present at parties, churches, musical festivals and other social events.

Mr. Carter has recorded more than a dozen albums and has performed as a soloist and with various ensembles in the United States, Latin America, Europe and Israel. He currently resides in Asunción, where he teaches harp. He also travels often to appear in concerts and to teach at various harp festivals.

Admission to the program is free and all are welcome.



Nicholas Stone



Jenni Zakarin

Scotch Plains Lions Award Scholarships to Students

SCOTCH PLAINS/FANWOOD — Nicholas Stone and Jenni Zakarin, residents of Fanwood and June graduates of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, recently were awarded Grausso/Bendel Memorial Scholarships from the Scotch Plains Lions Club. The scholarship is given in memory of two former leaders of the Scotch Plains Lions Club, Norm Bendel and Tony Grausso.

This scholarship is awarded annually to a Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School senior who plans to go to college. Preference is given to students who have demonstrated involvement in community service, especially those causes dedicated to the blind and visually-impaired.

Lions Clubs are comprised of more than 1.4 million members active in over 43,000 Lions clubs around the world. They are dedicated to meeting a variety of community needs, with the association's major service initiative being serving the blind and visually-impaired.

Both Nick and Jenni were honor students at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, and both were in-

involved in many community service activities.

Some of Nick's activities include coaching baseball for special-needs children; the Emmanuel Cancer Foundation; Haloween for Hunger; feeding the homeless and volunteering at the Center for Hope Hospice. Nick also has collected eyeglasses for the Lions Glasses Recycling program. In the fall he will attend Stockton University, where he will study physics/engineering and business/finance.

Jenni also is very active in the community. She has volunteered with the Jewish Community Center's (JCC) aftercare program and is active in Relay for Life, Teen Service Action Corporation, Students Against Destructive Decisions, the Environmental Club and the Education Club. In the fall Jenni will attend the University of Rochester in a five-year (BS/MS) program in early childhood and special education.

For more information on the Scotch Plains Lions Club or to attend a meeting, call Club President Barbara Anilo at (908) 322-4472.

Imagine Eyeglass Collection To Benefit Those In Need

WESTFIELD — Members of the community are asked to donate no-longer-needed eyeglasses and sunglasses to Imagine at 1 East Broad Street, Westfield, for the Resilience Service Project being conducted by Imagine participants.

Used glasses will be donated to New Eyes for the Needy, a non-profit organization located in Short Hills that collects and distributes used eyeglasses to those in need nationally and internationally. In 2014-2015 alone, New Eyes helped 6,668 United States residents in need and recycled 250,000 glasses in 21 developing

countries.

Imagine's vision is to transform grief, trauma and loss into resilience, empathy and compassion. One way to build resilience is to be of service and to support others. When the collection of glasses is completed in August, Imagine participants, staff and volunteers will go to New Eyes' center to sort, label and test glasses for delivery overseas.

Imagine requests that glasses be dropped off by Monday, August 1. For more information, contact Imagine at (908) 264-3100 or info@imaginenj.org.



ON THE RIGHT PATH...Volunteers with Boy Scout Troop 77 of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Westfield spent several days in early June making improvements to Sycamore Park, including an updated walking path and new ornamental grasses and perennial flowers. Scout Matthew DeBenedetto, facing forward and wearing cap, spearheaded the Eagle Scout project.

Scotch Plains Rescue Squad: Tips to Prevent Drowning

SCOTCH PLAINS — Summer is here, and many people will be heading to pools, oceans and lakes to take a swim and cool off. Before jumping in, it is important to keep some things in mind to stay safe in the water.

According to the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), "Every day, about ten people die from unintentional drowning. Of these, two are children aged 14 or younger. Drowning ranks fifth among the leading causes of unintentional injury death in the United States." There are many things people can do to prevent themselves or a loved one from becoming a statistic.

First and foremost, learn how to swim. Children can start as babies, but it is never too late to learn. Individuals can look online to find classes near them. Owners of a pool should make sure the fencing around it is secure. They also should watch children and even other adults carefully around water, especially if they have any medical issues such as a seizure disorder. Drowning can happen fast and cause almost no commotion. Even a bucket full of water can prove fatal for a small child. Use a buddy system, if possible, while swimming. If going out on a boat, individuals should wear a life jacket, even if he or she is a good swimmer. In an accident, a person may not be able to keep afloat due to injury or shock. Do not drink alcohol or take drugs while participating in any water activities. These can affect judgment, coordination and balance and lead to disaster. In the ocean, if stuck in a rip current, swim parallel to shore; never against the current. Once free, swim diagonally toward shore.

If witnessing someone struggling in the water, do not attempt to rescue him or her unless trained to do so. Instead, throw the person a rope or some buoyant device or hold out a pole for him or her to grab on to. If a person is pulled from the water, and he or she is breathing, the individual should be turned on his or her side in case he or she vomits. The person needs follow-up medical attention since water in the lungs can lead to serious complications and even death. If the person is not breathing and/or does not have a pulse, CPR should be started and 9-1-1 called immediately.

The Scotch Plains Rescue Squad is a volunteer organization of

Neighbors Helping Neighbors. With over 90 volunteers, the squad answers calls not only in Scotch Plains but in surrounding towns as well when needed. Besides answering calls, the public will see squad ambulances at many special events held in town, such as Scotch Plains Day, the Memorial Day Parade, high school football games, and the summer concerts on the Village Green. The squad also is available to provide demonstrations for Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops, clubs, and any other group that may be interested in what the squad does. In addition, the squad lends out wheelchairs, crutches, canes and other assorted medical equipment free of charge. Members of the community are encouraged to reach out to the squad if there is something the squad can do for them. The squad can be reached at: scotchplainsrescuesquad@gmail.com or at (908) 322-2103 for non-emergencies.

Contributing Author: Susan Baldani, a life member of the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad.

Career Success Plan To Be Program Topic

MOUNTAINSIDE — The Scotch Plains and Mountainside Public Libraries' Career Networking Group will present "The Million Dollar Personal Success Plan" on Monday, July 11. Beginning at 6:30 p.m., it will take place at the Mountainside Public Library.

This session, led by Terry Viney, will teach attendees how to develop a clear sense of purpose for greater focus; to identify their key success factors; to develop confidence and act from strength, and to balance life and career success.

Mr. Viney is president of the Plus Factor, a company focused on helping successful organizations and people become more successful more quickly. Among his many speaking engagements, he has shared the podium with executives of NASA Space Center, Exxon and Eastman Chemical.

Individuals may connect with the libraries' Career Networking Group on LinkedIn, Career Networking Group at SPPL.

The Mountainside Public Library is located at 1 Constitution Plaza. To register for the program, call (908) 233-0115.

Westfield Library to Begin Foreign Film Series Monday

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Memorial Library will present six foreign films during the months of July and August. They will be shown on consecutive Mondays beginning July 11, at 2 and 6:30 p.m. The library is located at 550 East Broad Street.

The first film, *Lady in the Van*, is in English and runs 104 minutes. Starring Maggie Smith, it tells the true story of a woman of uncertain origins who "temporarily" parks her van in a London man's driveway and proceeds to live there for 15 years, and of the relationship that will change both their lives.

The next film, on July 18, is Hungarian and runs 107 minutes. The winner of the 2016 Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film, *Son of Saul* focuses on a Jewish prisoner at Auschwitz-Birkenau in 1944 who is determined to give a deceased young boy a proper burial.

Samba, to be shown July 25, is in French and runs 118 minutes. In this comedy, an immigrant aspiring chef and an emotionally vulnerable immigration advocate with little experience but plenty of heart inspire each other to reinvent themselves.

On August 1, *The Second Mother*, a Portuguese film that runs 112 minutes, will be screened. A Sundance

Film Festival winner, this movie depicts what happens when the estranged daughter of a hard-working live-in housekeeper suddenly appears, and the unspoken class barriers that exist within the home are thrown into disarray.

Coming Home, a film in Mandarin that runs 109 minutes, will be offered August 8. It tells the story of a devoted husband's loving efforts to reconnect with his amnesiac wife after he returns home following years as a political prisoner during the Cultural Revolution.

The final film in the series will be featured on August 15. In German and running 123 minutes, *Labyrinth of Lies* is set in 1958 Germany. Against the will of his immediate superior, a young prosecutor begins to examine the case of a recently identified teacher who was a former Auschwitz guard, which lands him in a web of repression and denial but also of idealization.

These films are free and open to the public. For more information on library programs and services, call (908) 789-4090, visit the library's website, wmlnj.org, and sign up for the monthly e-newsletter, "Library Loop," or stop by the library for a copy of its award-winning, quarterly newsletter, "Take Note."

Old Guard to Hear About Navy's Role In Civil War

SUMMIT AREA — Naval historian John Orzel will speak to the Summit Old Guard at its Tuesday, July 15 meeting. The subject of his address will be "Damn the Torpedoes - An Uncivil War Afloat! - Blockading, Bombardment, and Foreign Treachery during the U.S. Civil War."

Mr. Orzel is a partner in the prominent New Jersey law firm Carroll, McNulty and Kull. He specializes in admiralty and maritime law. At this meeting, he will speak about naval innovations and operations in the American Civil War.

When the war began, the United States Navy was an obsolete force spread across the globe. For immediate operations in the American theater, it was nowhere to be seen. A Confederate Navy was no more than a dream. From those humble beginnings, the United States Navy grew to rival the

fabled Royal Navy; the Confederate Navy became a force to be reckoned with. In the end, it was as much the U.S. Navy on the oceans and the rivers of America as the men fighting in blue that doomed the Southern cause.

All active men age 50-plus are invited to attend the Tuesday morning meetings of the Summit Area Old Guard. Meetings are held at the New Providence Municipal Center, located at 360 Elkwood Avenue, New Providence. A coffee hour starts at 9:15 a.m., followed by a 10 a.m. business meeting brightened by singing and humor. Guest speakers begin their talk at 10:30 a.m.

Old Guard members participate in sports, bridge, hikes, trips, plays, concerts and other cultural events. For more information, call Jim Hewitt at (908) 233-5507 or log onto the website summitoldguard.org.



DAR OFFICERS...The Crane's Ford chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) recently installed its slate of officers for the 2016-2019 term. Pictured, from left to right, are: Mary Leonard, regent; Nancy Hatfield, treasurer; Valeri Shafer, recording secretary; Patti Campanelli, registrar, and Barbara Krause, historian.

Crane's Ford DAR Installs Officers, Reveals Activities

CRANFORD — During a meeting held on June 11 at the Hanson House in Cranford, the Crane's Ford Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) chapter conducted the installation ceremony of new officers for the 2016-2019 term.

The following officers have been installed: Regent, Mary Leonard of Roselle Park; Vice Regent, Betsy Vary of Plainfield; Recording Secretary, Valeri Shafer of Winfield Park; Corresponding Secretary, Diane Racinos of Rahway; Chaplain and Librarian, Judy Panagakos of Cranford; Historian, Barbara Krause of Cranford; Registrar, Patti Campanelli of Clark, and Treasurer, Nancy Hatfield of Westfield.

The DAR is a women's volunteer service organization dedicated to history preservation, education and patriotism. For membership in the DAR, a woman must prove her lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution. DAR volunteers are always willing to provide guidance and assistance with searches for ancestors.

The Crane's Ford chapter registrar, Patti Campanelli, can be reached by e-mail at patushkat@aol.com, or interested persons can visit the National DAR website at dar.org for more information on membership.

The Crane's Ford chapter was organized in March of 1944 in Cranford. Meetings of the chapter are held from October to June each year. Programs include guest speakers giving presentations on conservation, historic preservation and American history; visits to the Veterans Administration facil-

ity in Basking Ridge, and the annual holiday party, when the chapter collects school supplies for DAR-sponsored schools.

Program to Spotlight Historic Photos

CRANFORD — The Friends of the Cranford Public Library will sponsor a program by photojournalist Jim DelGiudice entitled "Gotcha! Snapshots that Made History" on Monday, July 25, at 7:30 p.m. It will be held in the Cranford Community Center, located at 220 Walnut Avenue.

Mr. DelGiudice will look at some of the accidentally historic photographs that not only changed history, but have become the icons by which people remember certain great events.

Mr. DelGiudice is a three-time winner of New Jersey's Historic Preservation Award. He is an adjunct assistant professor at County College of Morris, and also lectures frequently at Drew and Columbia Universities, as well as to adult and professional groups around the metropolitan area. Recently, he served as photo editor for "A Lifetime with Shakespeare," published by McFarland & Company.

Admission to the program is free and all are welcome. For information about other upcoming programs sponsored by the Friends of the Cranford Public Library, go to cranford.com/library.