

Rev. Turlington to Deliver Memorial Day Address

WESTFIELD — The Reverend Dr. Darla Dee Turlington of the First Baptist Church of Westfield will deliver the Memorial Day address at the Revolutionary Cemetery on Mountain Avenue on Monday, May 28.

The ceremony is expected to start between 9:30 and 10 a.m., after the Memorial Day Parade has passed the cemetery.

This traditional observance in memory of veterans of the Revolution and other wars is sponsored by the Westfield chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution (D.A.R.) and the Sons of the Ameri-

can Revolution, who will break from the line of march as the parade proceeds to Fairview Cemetery.

In addition to Reverend Turlington's message, the program is scheduled to include greetings from the Regent of the D.A.R.

More than 100 veterans of all wars are interred in the cemetery and grave locations have been marked with flags. Some 70 Revolutionary War soldiers' graves are decorated, as well as those of more than 25 World War II and later servicemen.

Graves also include soldiers from the French and Indian War, the War of 1812 and the Civil War.

Mobile Meals Thanks Many Volunteers at Annual Brunch

WESTFIELD — On March 9, Mobile Meals, a private, non-profit meal delivery service, thanked over 75 volunteers at its annual brunch held at the First Baptist Church in Westfield.

The party is an annual tradition where volunteers who pack and deliver freshly prepared meals in Westfield, Clark, Cranford, Fanwood, Garwood, and Scotch Plains are appreciated for volunteering their time to help the elderly, homebound and disabled community members. Jean Duma, Mobile Meals nutritionist, works with clients, packers and drivers.

"I think that this is a much-needed service. Programs like Mobile Meals are becoming increasingly important in serving the nation's elderly," she said.

The Mobile Meals gathering was an opportunity for volunteers to meet and talk, sharing experiences and anecdotes about the lives they have touched.

Many of Mobile Meals subscribers are housebound for a variety of reasons. The volunteers share a common bond in knowing that in addition to providing a hot, nutritious meal, they are giving of them-

selves by sharing a few minutes of their time with each client — many times they are the only visitors of the day.

"This is the one opportunity many of the clients have to see somebody else. Or else they're by themselves. All are very receptive and thankful," said Pete Porter, Coordinator for Cranford, Treasurer and board member. "Everybody is so pleasant and so appreciative when you deliver the meals," said Tony Wright, one of the volunteer drivers. The volunteers agree that although the time commitment is small, the rewards are great. Many volunteers have worked with Mobile Meals for over 20 years.

Reverend Dr. Darla Dee Turlington, Senior Minister at the First Baptist Church, said, "I see volunteers going quietly in and out of the church. I know they're delivering a good meal and encouraging words to people of our community."

Individuals who would like more information or want to volunteer one to two hours per week to deliver or pack food for Mobile Meals, may call (908) 233-6164 or visit www.westfieldnj.com/mobilemeals.



Veterans' Ultimate Sacrifice Is Inspiration for Generations

A Weekly Column From Members of the Westfield Ministerial Association

By REV. ANDREW HAMERSLEY

I am writing this article in the week leading up to Memorial Day weekend and, as I think about the celebrations that will take place, I am reminded of a trip my family and I took a couple of years ago to France.

We went to France following my wife as she was doing research for her dissertation on French cultural history of the 18th century. My goal was, quite frankly, a tourist's — I had food, wine and church architecture on my mind.

We rented an apartment, took in lots of sites, ate well and were quite pleased. I, by the way, speak only menu French, so I was quite relieved from the responsibility of communicating, a welcome relief for someone in my line of work!

In addition to exploring Paris, we decided to rent a car and drive to Normandy. Driving in Paris was unnerving, given that I don't read French if it is not describing food; however, we arrived in Normandy in one piece and we toured the D-Day beaches, struck dumb by the impossibility of the mission which the allies accomplished in June of 1944.

I am reminded of this trip now as I think about Memorial Day because of my experience in the American cemetery (the one featured in the movie *Saving Private Ryan*) First of all, it is beautiful and it is meticulously maintained. Second of all, it is overwhelming to see the rows upon rows of immaculate white crosses and Stars of David.

Leaving my wife and children behind, I wandered to the center of the cemetery where there is a small chapel and there, I was undone.

Having grown up in the '60s, I had not often experienced the deeply felt patriotism that was common for earlier generations. Yet, in the small chapel in Normandy, I had a profoundly spiritual experience of gratitude and pride for those Americans who paid the price for freedom.

There were some noisy tourists who joined me, speaking neither English nor French and, in one look, I bid their silence. This was sacred space.

I cannot imagine how Christians ever enter war easily. I also expect that Christians wage war with terrible regret and remorse. That being said, I salute the men and women of the rapidly diminishing ranks of World War II veterans and others who have given their lives for freedom. May their sacrifices inspire us to our own sacrifices to our own era against the tyrannies of our own era.

Reverend Andrew Hamersley is the Rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, located at 414 East Broad Street in Westfield.

Torah Center to Hold Shavuot Celebration

WESTFIELD — On Monday, May 28, the Union County Torah Center will celebrate Shavuot with a special reading of the Ten Commandments at 11 a.m., followed by an ice cream party for children and a dairy Kiddush for the adults. Everyone is welcome and there is no charge.

Shavuot, the two-day festival that commemorates the giving of the Ten Commandments and the Torah on Mount Sinai, will be ushered in on Sunday evening, May 27, and will continue through Monday and Tuesday.

For more information, please call the center at (908) 789-5252. The Torah Center is located at 418 Central Avenue in Westfield.

Runnells Volunteer Guild To Sponsor Linen Sale

BERKELEY HEIGHTS — The Volunteer Guild of Runnells Specialized Hospital of Union County will sponsor a linen sale from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday, May 31.

The linen sale, featuring sheets, towels, comforters and dish towels, will be held in the Multi-purpose Room of the facility, located at 40 Watchung Way in Berkeley Heights.

"The public is always invited to attend our vendors sales, free of charge, thanks to the efforts of our Volunteer Guild," said Freeholder Deborah Scanlon, Liaison to the hospital's Advisory Board of Managers.

People for Animals Sets Pet Adoption Event

CRANFORD — People for Animals, a non-profit animal welfare organization serving New Jersey, will sponsor a "Paws in the Park" dog and cat adoption event on Saturday, May 26, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Nomahegan Park on Springfield Avenue in Cranford (across from Union County College).

For information about pets available for adoption, please call (908) 688-1073 or visit www.pfa.petfinder.org.

Low cost spay and neuter information is available by calling the People for Animals Clinic at (908) 964-6887. Spay and neuter surgery costs range from \$35 to \$55 and include rabies and distemper vaccinations.

"All the income the Guild receives from the sales is used to purchase items for Runnells' residents and patients, such as VCRs, televisions and prizes for the bingo games," she added.

"The Volunteer Guild also sponsors a summer picnic and a Christmas party/gift distribution each year, in cooperation with the Berkeley Heights Lions Club," Freeholder Scanlon noted.

The Guild and the Office of Volunteer Services of Runnells Specialized Hospital of Union County are always interested in recruiting new volunteers. Flexible hours and various opportunities exist with resident contact, as well as performing other tasks.

For further information, please call the Office of Volunteer Services at (908) 771-5847.

Jennifer Genlot Enrolls In Program at Cititone

WESTFIELD — Lincoln Technical Institute in West Orange has noted that Westfield resident Jennifer A. Genlot is newly enrolled as an evening student in the help desk analyst program at The Cititone Institute in Edison.

A graduate of Westfield High School, Ms. Genlot attended Union County College. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Genlot of Westfield.

Good News

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them"

Matt: 18:20

The Gospel

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