

Scotch Plains Recreation Events

The Scotch Plains Halloween Parade was deemed a success with around 200 people drinking hot apple cider and eating donuts that were provided at the Halloween festivity. The Recreation Department congratulates all those who won a prize or came out to participate.

Hyper Peppy Robotics, Friday and Saturday, December 28 and 29, Cafeteria, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Cafeteria.

Children aged 7 to 12 are invited to come and design, build and program their own robots. The program is geared to beginners as well as intermediate and advanced levels. Children must bring a lunch each day of the program.

Scotch Plains residents can register at the Recreation Department Office for this program from Thursday, November 15 to Friday, De-

ember 14 at a cost of \$100. Non-residents can register from Monday, December 3 through Friday, December 14 at a cost of \$110.

Don't forget to write to Santa. He will answer all letters received prior to Friday, December 21. Be sure to include a return address. Letters should be addressed to: Santa Claus, North Pole Delivery, Scotch Plains Recreation Commission, 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, 07076.

Santa's Arrival, Sunday, December 2. Santa will arrive at the Scotch Plains Municipal Building at 5 p.m. Toddlers and children up to age 7 will have the opportunity to speak directly with Santa. All are welcome.

The Recreation Commission and the Scotch Plains Business and Professional Association will plan a variety of activities prior to Santa's arrival.



MANAGING WATERSHEDS...Union County Freeholder Linda d. Stender of Fanwood recently addressed the issue of watershed management during a conference in Kenilworth. Also pictured are Steven Jandoli, supervising program specialist for the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Program, and Anthony Walmsley, a Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects.

Linda d. Stender Addresses Issue of Watershed Mgmt.

KENILWORTH - Union County Freeholder Linda d. Stender recently spoke of the need of the greenways and watersheds to better serve residents today and in future years. Mrs. Stender offered her remarks as a facilitator at the New Jersey Conservation Foundation New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Division of Watershed Management Conference held in Kenilworth.

"I understand the connection between waterways and greenways and I'm very excited about some of the

programs the county is working on," Mrs. Stender stated. "One in particular is the Fields of Dreams Program. The county is helping each municipality in Union County expand, improve, or acquire new ball fields," Freeholder Stender said.

She said Scotch Plains officials asked for funding for new fields in the Ashbrook Reservation.

"We learned it required taking down 2,000 trees and declined. They came back asking to expand existing fields and we said 'yes.' Greenways and the watershed are vitally important to our area and we must work together to save open space. This is part of our goal to make Union County the best place to live, work and do business," Freeholder Stender said.

The theme of the conference was Greenways to the Arthur Kill Watershed. Workshops included watershed revitalization, managing and conservation and smart growth to preserve open spaces.

In addition to Freeholder Stender, speakers included Anthony Walmsley, Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects, and Steven Jandoli, supervising program specialist for the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Program.

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

Westfield Recreation Events

Events, Tickets and Trips:
The Forum Theatre Company, Friday, December 14.

The bus to see a production of "Winnie the Pooh Christmas" will depart at 9 a.m. The fee is \$25 per person.

NJ Devils Tickets: Discount tickets are available for the Wednesday, December 26 game versus the Pittsburgh Penguins. Game time is 7:35 p.m. and the cost is \$40 for tickets. Transportation will not be provided.

"Lunch & Learn," Fashion Show, with the Recreation Department and Westfield Y, 12:15 p.m., Community Room, Westfield Municipal Building, Wednesday, November 14.

Fashions for this show will be provided by Chico's with a make up demonstration presented by Douglas Cosmetics of Westfield. Those who wish to attend should register at the Recreation Department and bring a bagged lunch to the show. The event, which is free, is for adults only.

Radio City Christmas Show, Thursday, December 6.

Tickets at \$68 each are on sale now for this evening show. The cost includes transportation.

Teen Programs:

Teen Center, Friday nights from 8 p.m. to midnight. These nights feature music, movies, pool tables, video games, ping pong, foosball, air hockey, big screen TV, refreshments, lounge area and special events.

Night Place: Offered monthly to

all intermediate school youths from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Activities include a disc jockey, food, games, movies and dancing. The cost is \$2 in advance or \$3 at the door. Upcoming dates include: November 16, January 25, February 15, March 22, and May 17.

New Session to Start Monday, January 7, 2002.

New programs being offered are as follows:

Ballet Stretch and Tone. This beginner class is based on various dance exercises at the barre and floor. No experience necessary. The class is being offered on Mondays and Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Ballet for Kids. This beginning ballet class is for ages 7 to 10 years. The focus is on placement at the barre. The class is being offered Mondays from 3:30 to 4:15 p.m.

Kids Club. This program, for preschool and kindergarten-aged children features sing-a-longs, arts and crafts, free play. For preschool through kindergarten aged children and their parents. The class is being offered Tuesdays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Cardio Sculpt and Tone. This class will be held Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. (Mothers can bring their infants in infant seats while they work out).

Miscellaneous Classes to Look For: Dancercise, Arts and Crafts, music lessons, and bowling.

For more information, please contact the Recreation Department, 425 East Broad Street, (908) 789-4080.

Letters to the Editor

Kids 8 and Under or Less Than 80 lbs. Must Wear Seat Belt As of Dec. 1

On a recent drive, I witnessed a young child playing in the back seat of a car. The child ran and bounced back and forth along the length of the back seat as he frolicked, unaware that his life was in danger.

A sudden stop would have sent that child into harm's way, as his fragile body slammed into the back of the front seat or potentially upward into the inside head liner of the roof. I shuddered as I thought about how a crash could have turned a moment of play into grief and tragedy for the family.

Too many families have known such moments of tragedy. In 1999, 1,700 children across the nation died in vehicle crashes.

In an effort to save young lives and prevent needless tragedies, New Jersey's child passenger safety law is being upgraded next month.

Beginning December 1, all children up to age 8 or 80 pounds in weight are required to travel in safety seats. The new law also requires children aged 8 to 18 to wear a seat belt. Children under age

8 who weigh more than 80 pounds also are required to wear a seat belt.

The booster-type child seat, designed for older children, raises a child's body so the vehicle's lap-and-shoulder belt fits properly.

Police officers will be checking to make sure children are secured by a safety seat or seat belt when traveling. We hope to make the sight of unsecured children, playing and climbing about in vehicles, a thing of the past.

Information about the new law and child seats is available on our Web site, www.njsaferoads.com.

Finally, I ask all adults to set the proper example by wearing their seat belts when driving or sitting in the front seat, as state law currently requires.

Col. Peter J. O'Hagan
Director
Department of Law and Public Safety,
Division of Highway Traffic Safety
Trenton

Relatives of WTC Victims Have Shown True Courage Following Sept. 11 Events

After the attacks of September 11, people of this country have watched and read many stories of unbelievable acts of heroism and courage. These stories are of firemen, police officers, EMT's and every day citizens, who in the face of grave danger and tragedy, showed what true courage is all about.

Since the events of September 11th and through my job as a police officer, I along with several of my co-workers, have met others who have shown true courage and have been an inspiration to us all. The people I speak of are the wives, mothers and fiancées of our Westfield residents, who were lost in the World Trade Center attack.

These women began their day like any other but before morning's end, their lives had been changed forever. They have suffered great loss and have dealt with much sadness, anguish and despair. Because of the enormity of this tragedy, they have been asked to do so much.

They have gathered and provided necessary information to many agencies, traveled several times into New York City, dealt with hundreds of phone calls and given time to many well meaning family and friends, all the while as they grieve. Not once have I witnessed any of them show anger at what was asked of them.

At first, upon meeting them, I was not sure if some were up to the task of what lies ahead.

Some had expressed fear of never even handling the family checkbook. However, in the few weeks that have passed, these women have shown remarkable strength and courage.

They have taken on and tackled everything that was put before them. Some have spent many heart wrenching hours planning and carrying out memorial services for their loved one, all the while handling the day to day chores of a homemaker and parent.

These woman I speak of, Danielle, Diane, Dominique, Ellen, Kristen, Kate, Laurie, Maura, Rebecca and Sally, have been dealt the cruelest of fates. With the help of family and friends and through the comfort of each other, they have been able to overcome much.

Their road ahead will be long and hard but they have shown, each in their own way, that they will find a way to get through. These women have shown true courage in the face of their devastating loss, and have been an inspiration to myself and my co-workers and should be an inspiration to us all.

Det. Jim McCullough
Westfield Police Dept.

The Law Offices of JON M. BRAMNICK

Specializing In
PERSONAL INJURY LITIGATION
"From The Trial Court
To The Supreme Court"

Authors of the Automobile Litigation, UM and UIM Chapters of the ICLE Practical Skills Series
Civil Trial Preparation Textbook 2001 Edition

JON M. BRAMNICK
Certified Civil Trial Attorney

JOHN C. RODRIGUEZ
Workers Compensation

STEPHANIE ANN MITTERHOFF
Former New Jersey Supreme Court Law Clerk
Civil Appeals and Appellate Brief Writing

GARY J. GRABAS
Formerly of Purcell, Ries, Shannon, Mulcahy, & O'Neill
Former Middlesex and Morris County Assistant Prosecutor



1827 East Second Street
Scotch Plains, NJ 07076
(908) 322-7000
(908) 322-6997 (Fax)
jonbramnick@jonbramnick.com

Stars And Stripes Forever. But Not This Special Event.



You're invited to our special Veterans Day Celebration.
Saturday, November 10.

March right on over to a participating PNC Bank branch on Saturday, Nov. 10 for our Veterans Day Event. And join in the celebration featuring:

- Raffle for an American flag
- Refreshments
- Giveaways
- Special product offers

While you're there, you can get free checking for one year when you open a new checking account. Plus, you'll get \$50 when you open a new checking account with direct deposit.¹

GET \$50
When You Open A New Checking Account With Direct Deposit¹

These may not even be the best offers we can make you. So join in our Veterans Day Switch Event. Or call 1-877-BANK-PNC. Because the Stars and Stripes will last forever. But not these special offers.



The Thinking Behind The Money.

Westfield Plaza • One Lincoln Plaza • Westfield
361 Park Avenue • Scotch Plains

1 Open a new Basic, Regular, Interest or Express checking account, place a first full order of checks and apply for a new recurring direct deposit at the time of account opening and you will receive a bonus of \$50 credited to your checking account within 10 business days after the first direct deposit occurs. First direct deposit must occur prior to 12/31/2001. Offer is not available if you already have a recurring direct deposit into a PNC Bank account. Direct deposit must be an approved, recurring direct deposit. Examples of recurring direct deposit are payroll, pension, government benefit checks, etc. One \$50 bonus per household. Bonus may be considered taxable income. Please consult your tax advisor. Account must be opened on 11/10/2001. Offers may be modified or discontinued at any time without prior notice and may vary by market. Member FDIC