

Holy Trinity Church Offers Fall Sessions of Rainbows

WESTFIELD - The Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church will host Rainbows sessions this fall for residents of Westfield, Scotch Plains, Fanwood, Mountainside, Cranford, Garwood and Clark. Sessions will be held at the Holy Trinity Grammar School, located at 336 First Street in Westfield.

An international, non-profit program, Rainbows fosters emotional healing among children grieving a loss from a life-altering event, including death, divorce, separation, illness or other painful family transitions. Begun in 1983, it has grown to include programs in 49 states and 16 other countries.

The program is offered to children ages 5 to 12, with special exceptions for 4-year-olds based on maturity. Sessions are planned for teenagers as well. Adults also can participate in the program at the same time as their children, in an adult discussion group that follows a similar session outline as the one for the children.

Anticipated to start on October 14, the program will run through November/December. It will consist of six, one-hour sessions on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the fall, with six additional sessions planned for the spring of 2009.

The program is based on children providing peer support to each other. Small groups meet to discuss topics ranging from anger and guilt to forgiveness. This is not counseling or therapy, but rather designed as a nurturing environment to allow the children to share their experiences and support one another.

Adult volunteers are trained as "loving listeners" to facilitate the

groups. Sessions run from 30 minutes to an hour, depending on the age of the children. In addition to having discussion time, the children play games, do art projects, sing and write in their journals.

Rainbows is offered free of charge regardless of school enrollment, religious affiliation or town of residence. To register a child or teenager for the fall 2008 program, visit westfieldrainbows.org, where an online web registration form is available, or call Westfield Rainbows Coordinator Mike Meriton at (908) 720-7044.

For more information about the Rainbows program or if interested in helping as an adult volunteer facilitator, e-mail Mr. Meriton at rainbowshelp@gmail.com or call (908) 720-7044.

Rotary Commences Mega 50/50 Raffle

SCOTCH PLAINS - The Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club on September 3 kicked off its Mega 50/50 Community Share Raffle, which it has conducted for many years.

A total of 2,000 tickets will be sold, with the first prize being \$6,000. Tickets are \$10 each, with half the cost being directed to local charitable organizations.

Prizes will be drawn at the Rotary Club's evening meeting on Wednesday, December 10, at Snuffy's Pantagis Renaissance restaurant in Scotch Plains.

Tickets may be purchased from any Rotary Club member. For more information, call Raffle Chairman Tom Cusmano at (908) 322-8266 or visit fsprotary.org.

Synagogue to Present Film Covering Munich Tragedy

WESTFIELD AREA - The Academy Award-winning documentary *One Day In September*, featuring Michael Douglas, will be shown on Thursday, September 25, at 7:30 p.m. at Temple Beth O'r/Beth Torah, located at 111 Valley Road in Clark.

The film recounts how heavily armed Palestinian terrorists stormed the Olympic Village in Munich, Germany before dawn on September 5, 1972 and took hostage 11 Israeli athletes, and the events leading to the failed rescue operation that ended with the deaths of all the Israeli hostages.

Actual footage from the time is woven together with interviews of the wives of some of the athletes and an interview with the lone surviving terrorist. The film also includes television broadcasts of the events by Jim McKay and Peter Jennings, as

well as other interviews with German and Israeli officials.

This event is part of the Israel Documentary Film Festival organized by the Community Israel Support Committee (with members from Congregation Beth Israel of Scotch Plains, Temple Beth O'r/Beth Torah of Clark, Temple Beth-El/Mekor Chayim of Cranford and Temple Emanu-El of Westfield). The film festival is among multiple events being held to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the State of Israel this year.

The screening of the documentary is open to the public. Admission is \$3 per person and \$5 for two people. Students may attend for free. Refreshments will be included. For more information or reservations, call Julia at (732) 381-8403 or Janice at (732) 381-4724.



ANYONE CAN WIN...The Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club kicks off its Mega 50/50 Community Share Raffle. Prizes will be drawn at the club's meeting on Wednesday, December 10, including a first prize of \$6,000. Tickets may be purchased from any Rotary Club member. Pictured, Tom Cusmano, raffle chairman, and Club President Janet Strunk show the kickoff poster to fellow Rotarians at their September 3 meeting.

FCC to Welcome Visitors At Open House on Sunday

WESTFIELD - The First Congregational Church will host an open house this Sunday, September 21, at 10 a.m. to welcome visitors and prospective members. All individuals and families who are seeking a new faith community are invited to attend.

The event will afford visitors an opportunity to experience a traditional Congregational worship, led by Senior Minister Mark Boyea. Church school and childcare are provided during the service for children of all ages.

Youngsters in preschool through middle school are led to their classrooms following the children's sermon; infant care is provided in the crib room. Directly after the service, a coffee hour will be held in the church's Patton Auditorium. Members of the church's Education, Outreach and Christian Invitation boards will be available to answer questions. Tours of the church buildings also will be offered.

The First Congregational Church is a member of the United Church of Christ. Its membership includes a broad mix of denominational backgrounds, including Roman Catholic, Presbyterian, Baptist, Episcopal, Lutheran and Quaker.

Located at 125 Elmer Street in Westfield, the church is accessible by a wheelchair ramp. Infrared listening devices are available for the hearing impaired. For further information, call the church office at (908) 233-2494 or visit fccofwestfield.org.

Newcomers' Activities Get Underway Today
MOUNTAINSIDE - The Mountainside Newcomers Club has announced a series of activities, beginning today, Thursday, September 18, when the book group will discuss "The Last Lecture" by Randy Pausch. Next Thursday, September 25, members will have a private exercise class at the Bar Method in Summit. On Sunday, October 5, members and their families will get together for the second annual Family Fun Day.

All new residents of Mountainside and all established residents who have experienced a change in lifestyle (such as the birth or adoption of a baby, change in employment or change in marital status) are invited to join the club.

The club is a social organization that hosts various social activities to help attendees make connections with fellow residents and the community. For more information about the club or how to join, contact Berri Duswalt at (908) 654-0974 or gduwalt@aol.com. Further information on club activities is available at mountainsidewcomers.org.

Fanny Wood Day Festival To Take Place This Sunday

By SUZETTE F. STALKER
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

FANWOOD - For the 13th year this Sunday, September 21, the Borough of Fanwood will celebrate its past and present at Fanny Wood Day, to be held from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on South and Martine Avenues in the community's downtown.

Named for a folklore figure depicted as a fashionable Victorian woman, the annual festival has become an autumn tradition in Fanwood, offering a potpourri of activities for residents and visitors of all ages.

A classic car show will get underway at 11 a.m., and vendors will open their booths for business. Additionally, registration will begin at 11:15 a.m. for the Parade on Wheels, in which children from preschool to age 12 are invited to decorate their bicycles, wagons or other non-motorized modes of transportation. The line will form at LaGrande and Martine Avenues, with the parade kicking off at 11:45 a.m.

Opening ceremonies will commence at noon, with the Union County Sheriff's Color Guard and Union County Police, Fire and Pipe and Drum

Blood Drive to Be Held At Fanwood Festival

FANWOOD - Robert Sommerich of Fanwood will chair an annual blood drive for New Jersey Blood Services (NJBS) this Sunday, September 21, during the Fanny Wood Day festival in Fanwood.

The festival will take place from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at South and Martine Avenues. There will be an NJBS bloodmobile parked by the Fanwood train station from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Now 93, Mr. Sommerich has for many years recruited blood donors for NJBS, the blood center that supplies blood products and services to 60 hospitals throughout the state. He cites blood donations with having saved his life during heart surgery five years ago.

Persons with questions about medical eligibility may call NJBS at 1-(800) 933-BLOOD (2566). Organizations or businesses interested in sponsoring a blood drive may call (732) 220-7000 or access nybloodcenter.org.

Corp. leading the Parade on Wheels. At 12:15 p.m., longtime borough residents Dyke and Cena Pollitt will be introduced as this year's Mr. and Mrs. Fanwood. Additionally, the children's amusement area will open at this time.

Shortly afterwards, at 12:30 p.m., the winners of the parade will be announced, plus judging will take place of a pie-baking contest sponsored by Panetone's. Pies must be delivered by 11:30 a.m. that morning in a round pie dish at least nine inches in diameter to Panetone's, located at 42-A South Martine Avenue in Fanwood, with a five-inch by seven-inch index card bearing the recipe.

The pies must contain fresh, frozen or canned fruit as a primary ingredient and have a "dough" bottom crust, with any type top. Pies must be made entirely by one contestant. This contest is open to all Union County residents, and pies will be auctioned at 3:30 p.m. to benefit the Fanwood Rescue Squad. For more information, call Tricia Nering at (908) 322-5206.

Additional activities throughout the day will include a concert by Full Count Band at 1:15 p.m., the awarding of classic car show prizes at 2:15 p.m., and an ice cream-eating contest sponsored by the Double Dipper Café. This contest will be held in front of Double Dipper, located at 38-A South Martine Avenue in Fanwood.

Rounding out the festivities, at 4:30 p.m., will be the judging of the second annual "Build-a-Birdhouse Contest," sponsored by the Fanwood Environmental Commission and open to all ages. Birdhouses must be hand-made with bird-friendly materials, should be able to withstand weather conditions for at least a year, and be equipped with a suitable mounting mechanism. Two prizes will be awarded, one in the category for those under age 13, and one in the general category for ages 13 and up.

Contest entries should be dropped off with the registration form by 3 p.m. tomorrow, Friday, September 19, at the Fanwood Memorial Library during regular library hours.

Registration forms are available online at fanwoodec.org. They also may be obtained at the Fanwood Memorial Library, the Scotch Plains Public Library and Fanwood Borough Hall.

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