

Alice E. Brookman, Devoted to Family; Was Active Volunteer and Parishioner

Alice E. Brookman, formerly of Westfield, died on Sunday, March 30, 2014, at Atria Senior Living in Rocky Hill, Conn. Alice was born in Paterson, N.J. on December 16, 1920 to John and Elizabeth Hauserman. She moved to Westfield with her family in 1956, living in the same house that she loved until moving to Connecticut in December 2008.

Alice was a devoted wife and mother. She volunteered at the Westfield Youth Employment Service for 18 years and was very active in the work and worship of The Presbyterian Church in Westfield.

Alice was preceded in death by her loving husband of 52 years, P. Robert Brookman (1994), and by her beloved grandson, Sean G. Brookman (1995).

She is survived by her sons, Dr. Richard R. Brookman (Barbara) of Glen Allen, Va. and Edward T. Brookman (Linda) of Marlborough, Conn.; her granddaughters, Lara N. Westbrook (Mark) and Mandi P. Kinney (Michael); her great-grandchildren, Lexi and Zachary Westbrook, and her brother, Robert J. Hauserman of Oxford, Conn.

She will be interred next to her husband in the Colonial Cemetery of The Presbyterian Church in Westfield in a private ceremony. Donations may be made in Alice's name to the American Cancer Society or to any charity of choice that helps children or animals.

April 17, 2014

Obituaries

Norman Goldstein, 89, CPA; Was Army Veteran and Temple Member

Norman Goldstein, 89, of Westfield, N.J. died on Friday, April 4, 2014, at Manor Care in New Providence, N.J.

Mr. Goldstein was a self-employed Certified Public Accountant and previously served as a CPA for Gilbert Sunshine in Jersey City for many years before retiring.

A member of Temple Emanu-El of Westfield, he served in the U.S. Army in Germany during World War II. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from Rutgers University in Newark.

Born in Newark, he had lived in Union before moving to Westfield in 1959.

He and his wife, Edith (née Moskowitz), celebrated their 61st

wedding anniversary on December 25, 2013.

In addition to his wife, Edith, he is survived by his daughters, Carol Nussbaum and her husband, Steven, and Joyce Sowa and her husband, Steven; his sister, Janet Chernus, and her husband, Aaron; his grandchildren, Sasha, Tyler and Lacey, and his nieces and nephews.

Services were held at Workmen's Circle Cemetery Branch No. 13 in Elmwood Park, N.J. on Monday, April 7, 2014. Arrangements were by the Menorah Chapels at Millburn of Union, N.J.

Donations in his memory may be made to the American Heart Association or to the Parkinson's Foundation.

April 17, 2014

Civil War Exhibition Due At Scotch Plains Library

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Scotch Plains Public Library is among 50 libraries nationwide selected to host the "Civil War 150" exhibition, to be displayed in the library's gallery space from April 28 to May 17, 2014. Utilizing letters, personal accounts and images drawn from the Gilder Lehrman Collection, this exhibition traces major events during the Civil War through the eyes of soldiers, presidents, freedmen and families. Visitors will learn how people dealt with the end of slavery, the nature of democracy and citizenship, the human toll of civil war and the role of a president in wartime.

Developed by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History in partnership with The Library of America, this exhibition was made possible through a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

In addition to the exhibit, the library will host speakers and authors on topics of Civil War history, illuminating the theme of "conflicted times." The schedule is as follows:

Wednesday, April 30, at 6:30 p.m. — Opening Reception.

Thursday, May 1, at 7 p.m. — Linda Caldwell Epps will present a

program examining the changing role of women in society as a result of the Civil War.

Saturday, May 3, at 2 p.m. — Musicians Chuck Winch and Lisa Wilkins will present authentic Civil War-era songs.

Thursday, May 8, at 7 p.m. — Craig L. Symonds, Professor Emeritus at the U.S. Naval Academy, will speak on naval engagements during the Civil War.

Saturday, May 10, at 1 p.m. — Catherine Medich and members of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society will speak on tracing Civil War-era ancestors.

Monday, May 12, at 7 p.m. — Author Elizabeth Brown Pryor will discuss "Robert E. Lee: Conflicted Confederate."

Thursday, May 15, at 7 p.m. — Author Robert John Andrews will present a program entitled "The Meanwhile Men: Non-Combatants in the Civil War."

All Scotch Plains Public Library programs are free and open to the public. Advanced registration is encouraged by visiting scotplib.org, calling (908) 322-5007, extension no. 204, or e-mailing library@scotplib.org. The library is located at 1927 Bartle Avenue.



ROCKIN' FOR A CAUSE...The New Jersey Workshop for the Arts Rock Performance Program consists of two groups that will perform at a fundraiser on Saturday, April 26, for Furniture Assist, Inc.: The Fang Thang and Wrong Direction. The members, pictured left to right, are: Front row, Ebony Payne, Alan Fang, Matt Latowsky and Jasmine McMorran; second row, William Rehwinkel, Conor Krueger, Jonathan Henkel and Ben Tipton, and last row, Directors Glen Brown and John Bryan and Philip Rehwinkel. Not pictured is Aidan Pine, who plays guitar.

Town Seeking Volunteers For 'Westfield Earth Day'

WESTFIELD — In honor of Earth Day, Mayor Andrew Skibitsky, the Town Council and the Green Team have teamed up to plan for the Third Annual "Westfield Earth Day" cleanup event at select locations in town on Saturday, April 26, from 10 a.m. to noon, with a rain date of Sunday, April 27.

Volunteers who are willing to give a little time to celebrate Earth Day in this way are asked to bring a pair of gloves and a rake, if possible, to one of the following locations where a member of the Town Council or Green Team will coordinate cleanup activities:

Brightwood Park, Gumbert Park,

next to the basketball courts along North Avenue; Grove Street at Grandview Avenue; Memorial Park; the Tamaques Park picnic area, and Mindowaskin Park, in partnership with the Friends of Mindowaskin Park.

Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops in need of fulfilling community service requirements are welcome. All minors need to be supervised by a parent or adult guardian.

Interested persons are asked to register by sending their name and the location where they plan to help via e-mail to Mayor@westfieldnj.gov, so that the organizers know how many volunteers to anticipate. However, drop-ins will be welcome as well.

Library Features Art Exhibit, Easter Eggs, Embroidery

WESTFIELD — The paintings of Westfield artist Mary Sue Veerkamp-Schwab will be on exhibit at the Westfield Memorial Library through May. The library is located at 550 East Broad Street.

The exhibit features commissioned portraits of some Westfield homes, families and their pets, as well as several familiar New Jersey scenes. It also includes selected works from the artist's extensive Mission series, which are commissioned pieces that hang in the Franciscan Renewal Center of Scottsdale, Ariz.

Ms. Veerkamp-Schwab has worked as a graphic designer, art instructor and storyboard artist. Her formal training includes classical techniques at the Art Academy of Cincinnati and Edgcliffe College, as well as San Francisco-based workshops. She works in varying media that include oils, watercol-

ors and pastels.

Visitors to the library also are invited to stop by the display case in the front entrance as well as the side display case near the New Fiction section. The front display case features the work of the Embroiderers' Guild of America, Garden State Chapter. The embroiderers have used nearly invisible stitches coupled with specialty threads to adorn jewel box lids, tiny book covers, wall hangings, boxes and samplers.

The side case showcases the Ukrainian Easter Egg collection of Westfield residents Mary Ann Kereleja Dolling and her husband, Ulf Dolling. This collection is the work of Catherine Kotyk-Kereleja, Mrs. Dolling's mother.

The embroidery and Easter Egg collections will be on display through Wednesday, April 30, and along with the art exhibit, can be seen anytime the library is open: Monday through Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m. The library will be closed tomorrow, April 18, for Good Friday and Sunday, April 20, for Easter.

For more information, call (908) 789-4090, visit the library's website at wmlnj.org or stop by the library for a copy of its award-winning, quarterly newsletter, "Take Note."

Internet Assistance Available at Library

FANWOOD — The Fanwood Memorial Library, located at North Avenue and Tillotson Road, will offer "Become Internet Savvy...One-on-One" on Mondays from 3 to 6 p.m. and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. through May 8.

Jessica Zhang, a 2012 graduate of the Union County Magnet High School and a Duke University freshman, will be at the library to answer questions, guide participants in using the Internet and help them feel confident in using their computer and their skills. She can help with web-searching, photos, e-mail, attachments, creating word documents or any other computer-related issues.

These one-on-one sessions are offered on a first-come, first-served basis, with registration in half-hour sessions. To reserve a time, call the library at (908) 322-6400.

Novena To St. Clare

Ask St. Clare for 3 favors, 1 business, 2 impossible. Say 9 Hail Mary's for 9 days with lighted candles. Pray whether you believe or not. Publish on the 9th day. May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, adored and glorified today and every day. Request will be granted no matter how impossible it seems. St. Clare, St. Jude, St. Therese infant of Prague, St. Ann and St. Joseph, St. Peregrini, St. Anthony, St. Lucy, St. Michael the Archangel, pray for us, so that each and every priest will repeatedly say yes to the call he has received, remain constant in practicing the gospel message and be faithful forever as a companion of our Lord Jesus Christ. John Paul II D.K.

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Benefit For Furniture Assist To Offer Music, Food, Fun

By C. DAWSON YEOMANS (Founder and President) and PEGGY A. ROTHBAUM, Ph.D. (Westfield volunteer)

Join Furniture Assist, Inc. on Saturday, April 26, 2014, from 7 to 10 p.m. at Jay's Cycle Center in Westfield, as we team up for a FUNdraiser! We will have live music starting with Lauren Shub, jazz singer, www.laurenshub.com, and Ilya Maslov. Lauren has appeared on Broadway and in regional theater, including the McCarter Theatre in Princeton. As a singer she has appeared with a range of jazz musicians in New York City and New Jersey.

Later, we are pleased to have The Fang Thang and Wrong Direction from the New Jersey Workshop for the Arts, njworkshopforthearts.com, performing. The members are Ebony Payne, Alan Fang, Matt Latowsky, Jasmine McMorran, William Rehwinkel, Conor Krueger, Jonathan Henkel, Ben Tipton, Philip Rehwinkel and Aidan Pine. They are directed by Glen Brown and John Bryan.

The FUNdraiser will also have games, a silent auction and some surprises! And don't forget the free food and cash bar. Join us to see friends, meet new people, network, and have a lot of fun! Admission is

\$20 for adults, \$10 for children under 12; game tickets are three for \$5.

Furniture Assist, Inc. was formed officially as a New Jersey non-profit corporation, 501(c)3 on January 4, 2006. We accept donations from those who have items to give to those in need. In addition to the civilian community we are deeply involved in helping members of our armed forces. Furniture Assist provides clothing, household items and furniture to over 100 veterans and their families each year. Furniture Assist is seeking sponsors and supporters of all types and at all levels. For more information, please send an e-mail to faatjayscyclecenterfundraiser@gmail.com or visit our website, www.furnitureassist.com.

Ms. Rajoppi to Speak To Historical Society

SCOTCH PLAINS — Union County Clerk Joanne Hamilton Rajoppi will discuss her new book, "New Brunswick and the Civil War: The Brunswick Boys Rebellion," at the Tuesday, April 22 meeting of the Historical Society of Scotch Plains and Fanwood. The book recently won an Honorable Mention in the North Jersey Civil War Roundtable Book Contest.

A lifelong resident of New Jersey and a history aficionado, Ms. Rajoppi serves as trustee of the Union County Historical Society. She also currently chairs the county's Civil War Sesquicentennial Exhibit and is the author of several pamphlets and calendars detailing the history of the region.

Free and open to everyone, the meeting will begin at 8 p.m. at the Scotch Hills Country Club, located at Plainfield Avenue and Jerusalem Road in Scotch Plains. Fellowship and refreshments will follow the meeting.

Single Jewish Friends Plan Lunch Outing

AREA — The Circle of Single Jewish Friends 49+ will hold a Meet and Eat Lunch on Sunday, April 27, at noon at Champs Americana Restaurant, located at 55 Parsonage Road in the Menlo Park Mall in Edison. The cost is the price of a meal off the menu and tip plus \$3. To respond, call Roberta at (908) 668-8450 or e-mail roger678@optonline.net.

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IN SESSION

Helping Kids Experiencing Mental Health Issues

By Carol Pedro, Exec. Dir. Youth & Family Counseling Service

The number of children experiencing anxiety and depression is staggering. My office receives approximately 30 percent of requests for treatment for children under the age of 13. Parents are trying but they are overwhelmed and frustrated, not knowing where to turn. After an exhaustive effort on their own, problems with their child continue. These parents will often call our agency.

One mother called recently, after trying to find help for her 11-year-old, and explained her frustration having difficulty navigating the maze of services and coordinating with school schedules, other activities, etc. Many offices do not see children or have extensive waiting lists. My heart goes out to these families! My advice to this mother — treat mental illness with the same veracity as you would a physical illness. This thinking will help in making decisions, making adjustments and accepting your particular situation. Advocate for your child, ask questions and do your research. You may have to forego work and school activities or adjust schedules. Depending on the circumstances, the consequences of not getting into treatment could be tragic.

We have all heard the expression, "it takes a village." I don't know if it

takes the whole village, but I do know it starts at home. Oftentimes seeing a child regularly for therapy that is not supported with follow-through at home does not produce the best outcomes. Parent involvement is crucial in the success of therapy for children. As a parent, showing your child the importance of treatment and being committed to the process yourself helps strengthen their belief, commitment and hope of getting better. "It's not only children who grow. Parents do, too. As much as we watch to see what our children do with their lives, they are watching us to see what we do with ours. I can't tell my children to reach for the sun. All I can do is reach for it myself." — Joyce Maynard.

There are free and low-cost programs to help parents in our community. I urge families to take advantage of these opportunities. Check out local organizations, county resources and community activities. NAMI Union County is a great alliance (namiunioncounty@yahoo.com).

Carol M. Pedro is a licensed therapist at Youth and Family Counseling Service, 233 Prospect Street, Westfield, N.J., (908) 233-2042. Website: yfcnsnj.org.