

## F-SP Service League Seeks Scholarship Applicants

FANWOOD/SCOTCH PLAINS — The Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League is accepting scholarship applications from Fanwood and Scotch Plains resident high-school seniors who will graduate in 2020, and those residents currently attending college or post-high-school institutions.

Applications can be obtained from the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School guidance office. Submissions must be postmarked by Saturday, February 15, 2020.

Recipients are selected with particular emphasis on demonstrated commitment to volunteerism and community service in high school and post-high-school institutions. Financial need, outside employment and demonstrated ability to succeed at post-high-school studies also are included in the decision-making process.

The Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization, which through its thrift shop at 1741 East 2nd Street, Scotch Plains, has served the local communities since 1974. Since its founding, the League has donated more than \$1.3 million for local causes.

Anyone interested in learning more about the League or membership is invited to call (908) 322-5420, visit the League's website at [scotchplainsfrthrifshop.weebly.com](http://scotchplainsfrthrifshop.weebly.com) or speak to any of the volunteers at the thrift shop. Interested persons also are

encouraged to check out the organization's Facebook page, "Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League," and give the League a "Like." Thrift shop hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Parking is available on the street and in the rear of the building. Visitors may enter the parking lot via Willow Avenue.

### AARP Chapter Slates Monday Meeting

WESTFIELD AREA — The first meeting of the 2020 year of the Westfield Area AARP Chapter 4137 will be on Monday, January 6, at 1 p.m. It will take place at Shady Rest at the Scotch Hills Country Club, located at Jerusalem Road and Plainfield Avenue, Scotch Plains.

Because it is the giving season, the chapter asks that each person attending this meeting bring a non-perishable food item. These items will be donated to the Westfield Food Pantry, which services all of Union County.

The program for this meeting will be a speaker representative from the state AARP office, who will hold a discussion on the advantages of belonging to one's local AARP chapter. The chapter's business meeting will follow the program, with refreshments and fellowship afterward. Anyone with questions is invited to call Ilse Heinemeyer at (908) 322-1788.



Luba Diakoff Schnable and Harry (Skip) Ungar

## Luba Schnable Marries Harry (Skip) Ungar

Luba Diakoff Schnable and Harry (Skip) Ungar were married on Saturday, December 28, 2019, at home in front of the fireplace. Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr performed the ceremony.

Luba, 91, a graduate of Syracuse University, worked as a social worker in Schenectady, N.Y., before obtaining her Master of Science in Microbiology at Rutgers University and working at Merck. She studied music at Juilliard and still performs in community orchestras and plays chamber music. For 50 consecutive years, her Woodland String Quartet has performed annually at the Scotch Plains Public Library.

Skip, 90, a graduate of Dartmouth College, was the third generation to take over his family's manufacturing business, Alexander Ungar Inc. Since retirement, he has returned to music, playwriting, and has self-published two books of puns.

The bride's late husband, Donald Schnable, was a Captain in the U.S.

Air Force and a veteran of World War II and the Korean War. Their daughter, Lu Ann Schnable Kaldor, her husband, Steffen, their sons, Sebastian and Alexander, and the bride's brother, Harry Diakoff, were in attendance.

The groom's late wife, Manya, was the National PTA President. Their children, Paul and Michael, his wife, Maren, and grandsons, Ben, Sam, Cole and Myles, were in attendance.

Luba and Skip were 85 years old when he joined her two-table bridge group. Time spent at the bridge table turned out to be great practice for a life together.

The couple is active at the YMCA and performs together and separately at local senior citizen centers and libraries several times a month. Following the ceremony, the house was filled with love and with music.

When applying for their marriage license, Skip asked for a Senior Citizens discount.

## Voices of Valor Is Hosting All-Female Vet Groups

SCOTCH PLAINS — Voices of Valor, an award-winning, innovative song-writing initiative for veterans, was founded eight years ago by Music For All Seasons Co-Directors Brian Dallow and Rena Fruchter. The organization is based in Scotch Plains.

The program hosts veterans in a small-group setting, as they collaborate with a healing process that includes writing a song that reflects on their military experiences. Since 2012, Voices of Valor has benefited hundreds of veterans in the tri-state area.

Now, for the first time, Voices of Valor is hosting sessions specifically for all-female veterans groups. Supported by the Jewish Women's Foundation of New Jersey, the program is open to all female veterans, regardless of time of service or of religious background.

Participants do not need to have any previous musical experience. The group meets weekly for approximately 10 sessions guided by professional musicians and mental health professionals. The sessions culminate in a finished song, a recording session in a professional studio, and a CD release party attended by all the participants, friends and families.

The first of three sessions, held at Lyons Veterans Administration Medical Center in Somerset County, has produced the song "Women of Valor," composed by the women with coaching provided by professional musicians Jennifer Lampert and Ron Haney.

According to Ms. Lampert,

"Women make up a small percentage of our military; however, their voices are strong, proud, and focused. This was a very special session for all of us!"

"The Jewish Women's Foundation of New Jersey (JWFNJ) has a long history of supporting female veterans. The Voices of Valor program continues our very important work in this space of providing females an opportunity to heal and reflect on their military experiences," said Laura Alpert, co-chair of JWFNJ.

In 2020, Voices of Valor will present two more all-female sessions, to be held at Lyons Hospital and another location to be announced. Veterans interested in participating are encouraged to contact the program at (908) 322-6300 or [info@voicesofvalor.org](mailto:info@voicesofvalor.org).

A selection of songs composed by Voices of Valor participants is available at [voicesofvalor.org](http://voicesofvalor.org).

### Singles Group Lists February Meetings

WESTFIELD — The Sunday Morning Singles Discussion Group will meet on February 2, 9, 16 and 23, from 9 to 10 a.m., on the lower level of the First Baptist Church of Westfield.

This nondenominational group of people, age 55-plus, enjoys a continental breakfast followed by conversation. The church is located at 170 Elm Street. A \$2 donation is requested. For more information, call (908) 686-0563.



Photo courtesy of Susan M. Dougherty

TELLING THE CHRISTMAS STORY...Gordana Harris, portraying the angel Gabriel, explains her role in Christmas to Sunday school children who attended a special presentation during the 10 a.m. service on December 15 at The Presbyterian Church in Westfield. Under the direction of Faith Formation Coordinator Christine Treger, costumed adults played the roles of a Wiseman, Mary, a star, a donkey and other important characters on the night of Jesus Christ's birth.

## Library Invites Kids For Cooking, 'Unquiet' Fun

CRANFORD — The Cranford Public Library will welcome children for fun activities during January and February.

Youngsters in grades 2 to 4 can come to the library for "Books and Cooks," a fun cooking class, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month. Winter classes are scheduled for January 14 and February 11. Registration is required. To reserve a spot for their child, parents can call the library at (908) 709-7272. All of the recipes are nut-free. Participants are asked to notify the library of any other allergies at the time of registration.

Students in grades 4 to 6 are invited to "Unquiet Library," an ongoing program for tweens held on several Mondays. Each session will provide participants with an opportunity to socialize while completing a fun activity.

Youngsters will make DIY Pop Sockets and some fun book art on January 13. On February 10, they will share their favorite YouTube videos. On February 24, participants will play games on the Nintendo Switch. All sessions are from 4 to 5 p.m. Supplies may be limited and are made available on a first-come, first-served basis. Advance registration is not required.

The Cranford Public Library is located at 224 Walnut Avenue, Cranford. Information on all library programs is available online at [cranfordlibrary.org](http://cranfordlibrary.org).

### Library Announces Literary Café Dates

CRANFORD — The Literary Café, the book chat group of the Cranford Public Library, has scheduled its upcoming 2020 sessions for Saturday, January 11, and Saturday, February 8, at 10:15 a.m., in the library's Raddin Room. The library is located at 224 Walnut Avenue, Cranford.

The program format is simple. Participants just bring a few of their favorite books and tell the other members of the group what they like about them. The books can be new or old, fiction or non-fiction, classic or contemporary. Sessions are one hour in length.

There is no required reading, and attendees will have the opportunity to learn about books recommended by other group members. Refreshments will be served, courtesy of the Friends of the Cranford Public Library. Registration is not required. To see what else is coming up at the library, visit the library web page at [cranfordlibrary.org](http://cranfordlibrary.org).

## Scotch Plains Library Posts January Book Club Options

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Scotch Plains Public Library invites members of the community to participate in its multiple book club options during January.

On Monday, January 6, at 10 a.m., the library will host Bagels & Books, where book lovers share their recent reading experiences with other bibliophiles and pick up suggestions for future reading. Light refreshments will be served. Registration is required.

The Evening Book Club will meet the following Monday, January 13, at 7 p.m., to discuss "We Were the Mulvaney's" by Joyce Carol Oates.

The Afternoon Book Club will meet on Tuesday, January 21, at 1 p.m., for a discussion of "The Library Book" by Susan Orlean.

No registration is required for the Afternoon or Evening Book Clubs and new members are al-

ways welcome.

For more information or to register when required, go to [scotplib.org](http://scotplib.org), email [library@scotplib.org](mailto:library@scotplib.org), call (908) 322-5007, extension no. 204, or stop by the Reference Desk. The Scotch Plains Public Library is located at 1927 Bartle Avenue, one block from Park Avenue, in the center of the township.

### Cranford Jaycees To Sponsor Blood Drive

CRANFORD — The Cranford Jaycees will sponsor a Cranford Community Blood Drive on Saturday, January 11, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. It will take place at the Cranford Community Center, located at 220 Walnut Avenue, Cranford.

The blood drive was announced by New Jersey Blood Services, a division of the New York Blood Center (NYBC). All donors at NYBC January drives will be entered into a sweepstakes for a trip for two to Cancun.

Participants are asked to eat and drink before donating and to bring their Donor Identification or identification with their name and photograph.

Appointments are appreciated. To schedule an appointment, go to <http://tinyurl.com/GiveBloodNJBS>, sponsor code 16077. Walk-ins also will be welcome. Further information is available by calling 1-(800) 933-BLOOD or at [nybc.org](http://nybc.org).

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LET'S HAVE A PARADE...Lenore Scurry of Westfield, left, recently celebrated her 50th year volunteering with the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Ms. Scurry started her career as a clown make-up artist. She is pictured with Susan Tercero, executive producer of the parade.

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