

The PRIDE of North Plainfield



FREE

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NPBA

North Plainfield's Hometown Newspaper

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ISSUE 16 • SEPTEMBER 2013

**SENIOR
PICNIC**
Saturday
SEPT 28th
12:00 – 4:00 PM
**VERMEULE
COMMUNITY
CENTER**
Open to all
North Plainfield
Residents
Age 55 and Older

FROM SERVING PIZZA TO SERVING OUR COUNTRY *By Mollie Helck*

Spc. Ny'Riq King and Spc. Roberto A. Roman, had never met before they began working at La Strada Ristorante and Pizza, located on Somerset Street. They began working a few years ago while finishing high school and navigating the life of a post high school graduate. While working together these boys learned of a shared interest of joining the army, with a strong focus on the Military Police.

Spc. King, a 2011 graduate from North Plainfield High School, participated in ROTC during his Sophomore and Junior years. Spc. King signed his contract for service in 2010, and after graduating left for basic training in December of 2011 with the intention of training for Military Police. "I've always wanted to join the service, and becoming involved in the Military Police seemed like something I would enjoy," said Spc. King.

Spc. Roman is a 2006 graduate of Plainfield High School. He enlisted in January of 2011 and left for basic training that December, also having plans to train for the Military Police. "I joined the service because I wanted to open more doors for my future," said Spc. Roman. "I wanted to be a police officer but also wanted to be in the military, so I figured what better way to kill two birds with one stone than to become part of the Military Police."

Spc. King and Spc. Roman ended up being placed in the same unit. They completed basic training and Advanced Individual Training (AIT) together where they trained for their job as Military Police. They then had the same deployment to Afghanistan. They both came home on leave this past August and are currently on reserve leave, enjoying their time home with family and friends.

Owner of La Strada, Joe, Spc. King and Spc. Roman's former boss and friend is extremely proud of what they have accomplished. "These boys



*(above, l-r) Ny'Riq King
and Roberto A. Roman.*

are great workers and have done such a great thing by joining the Army," said Joe. "I want them to be recognized for the service they have provided our country by enlisting."

AGAPE HOUSE OF NJ FIGHTS CHILDHOOD OBESITY

More than 47 runners and walkers came out early Saturday morning on September 7th to support the Agape House of NJ first annual 5K walk/run! Baby strollers, a wheelchair, children, young adults, seasoned runners and numerous walkers all assembled at Trinity Reformed Church on Greenbrook Road at West End Avenue to hear Mayor Michael Giordano, Jr., Pastor Scott Harris and Rev. Dr. Ursula Cargill welcome all participants to this initiative to fight childhood obesity. And what a beautiful day it was – not too hot and not too cold.

This year's 5K walk/run event was co-sponsored by the Synod Foundation of the Regional Synod of the Mid-Atlantics, Trinity Reformed Church, and the New Brunswick Classis of the Reformed Church in America. "Next year's 5K walk/run to fight childhood obesity will be even bigger!" promises Burton and Cargill. More children and more families will participate and again the streets will be blocked and

monitored by the North Plainfield Police Department and supported by North Plainfield Fire Department. Following the 5K walk/run, Agape House hosted its annual community bazaar with games, vendors, food and entertainment.



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The PRIDE of North Plainfield

The Pride of North Plainfield is published by Renna Media. 6,500 newspapers are printed monthly and are mailed to businesses and homes in North Plainfield, NJ and are distributed for free pick-up throughout town.

Although great care has been taken to ensure the information contained within is accurate, Renna Media assumes no liability for errors or omissions.

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Inquiries concerning advertising and submissions of press releases can be made to Renna Media LLC via phone, fax or email to:

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 Email: joerenna@rennamedia.com
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Message from the President SEPTEMBER CHAMBER EVENT AT SUPER BUY RITE LIQUORS

On Thursday September 12th, The NPBA held it's 3rd successful business card meet and greet meeting. It was hosted by Super Buy Rite Liquors on Rt 22 West. Owner Peter Patel showed us his newly expanded beer room of 1200 sq. ft. and hundreds of domestic and imported beers, as well as micro brews and a tasting bar. They also have a large cigar humidor. And yes they carry many wines and liquors. Also in attendance was David Brothman representing Artisanal Premium Cheese, which can be found at ArtisanalCheese.com. He paired his company's cheeses with wines from Portugal, France and Spain.

I would like to thank Joe and Dawn, owners of La Strada Ristorante and Pizza 908-561-7676. They donated two Sicilian pies and a tray of amazing sausage and peppers. Linda Persichino, manager of Valley National Bank brought pinwheel wraps and P & E Plastics made tortellini and a cheese and meat tray.

Selwa Shamy from NP Public Library spoke of the many services they have to offer. I hope that my place, Eddy's Kitchen, will be open as our 4th meeting place in November.

I would like to welcome Mollie Helck to the Renna Media staff. She will be a big help to myself and North Plainfield businesses with the newspaper.

Thank you,

Peter Eddy

President

Contact NPBA c/o P&E Plastic Fabrication Co.,
 24 Craig Place, North Plainfield, NJ 07060

The NPBA's mission is to promote the economic, professional and civic welfare of North Plainfield. It will provide an opportunity for all types of local businesses to band together and promote commerce in our town. The Business Association will work closely with North Plainfield's government (and with trade organizations throughout Somerset County and NJ) to ensure our local business interests are protected. There is strength in numbers: member businesses will take advantage of shared marketing costs, as well as a rich community of neighbors to help them network and get their brand out in the market.

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Reserve space in the next issue.
 Call Mollie today at 908-858-4012 or email info@rennamedia.com

North Plainfield Business Association
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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Company _____ Website _____

Contact _____ Type of business _____

Address _____

Membership: \$45 ___ Check ___ Cash

Phone _____ Date of Application _____

Fax _____ Pay to the order of NPBA

Email: _____ Mail to: NPBA c/o P&E Plastic Fabrication Co.
 24 Craig Place, North Plainfield, NJ 07060
 Contact Peter Eddy at 908-757-1909

BACK TO SCHOOL WITH THE LIONS CLUB

Recently, the North Plainfield Lions Club awarded two scholarships to graduating seniors from North Plainfield High School's class of 2013. The members of the Lions Club welcomed the scholarship recipients along with their families to the awards dinner. Later, Scholarship Committee Chairman, Brian Schwartz, gave the club members some background on the scholarship winners and explained why this year's winners had been selected.

Every year the North Plainfield Lions award two \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors from North Plainfield High School. The club's "Memorial Scholarship" is given primarily

based upon academics and the "Fran Vitelli Scholarship" is awarded to a scholar-athlete. Giovanna Rodriguez was awarded this year's Memorial Scholarship and Victoria Eppler earned the Fran Vitelli Scholarship.

The students who benefit from these annual scholarships are examples of the Lions' mission to help others better their lives and by doing so, better their communities. For more information on the North Plainfield Lions Club, including: meeting schedule, charitable endeavors, making a donation and becoming a Lions Club member, please call Skip Stabile at: (908) 756-8456.

JOIN US IN THE FIGHT TO CURE BREAST CANCER!

The North Plainfield High School cheerleaders are hosting their annual "Pink out" home games. We urge you to attend our varsity game on October 11th, and our Junior Varsity Game on October 28th! Please wear your favorite shade of pink and join both our football and cheer teams in showing our dedication to honoring breast cancer awareness month. All of October, the Canuck Cheerleaders will be hosting several fundraisers in which proceeds will be donated to Breast Cancer Research funds. We look forward to seeing you at the games! Go Canucks!

SENIOR BUS SCHEDULE

To arrange to ride the bus and for more information, call 908-753-0707.

The following is the bus schedule:

Monday: Shop Rite

Tuesday: North Plainfield

Senior Citizens Club

Wednesday: Stop and Shop & Wal Mart

Friday: Sears and Somerset Farms

The bus starts picking up passengers at about 9:00 A.M. Please call at least 24 hours before you need the bus.

COSTCO JOB FAIR & MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

If you haven't already noticed the huge construction site on east bound Route 22, here's some news, Costco is coming to North Plainfield, possibly as soon as late fall. Costco is a membership warehouse club known for its discount prices on a wide variety of brand-name merchandise. The North Plainfield Library is teaming up with Costco by hosting a job fair on Thursday, October 10 from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. The job titles that will need to be filled number over 34 and include bakers, food service assistants, forklift drivers, licensed and non-licensed hearing aid attendants, payroll clerks, pharmacists, photo lab clerks and stockers. Representatives from the new store will be available to discuss these job opportunities. Library staff will be on hand to assist with online applications. Community members who buy new memberships will receive bonus cash cards to use at the store.

The library is part of the Somerset County Library System and is located at 6 Rockview Ave. in North Plainfield. Hours are Monday through Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 9:00 pm., Friday and Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The phone number is 908-755-7909 and website, www.sclsnj.org.

DO YOU KNOW WHERE THE PARKS AND RECREATION OFFICE IS LOCATED?

The Parks and Recreation office has moved! The office is now located at 93 Greenbrook Road, next to Stony Brook Field. There is a black mailbox on the front porch with a maroon and white plastic sign that reads North Plainfield Parks and Recreation. This mail box maybe used to drop off registration forms and other Parks and Recreation mail.

2013 SOCCER SEASON OPENER IS ON SEPT. 28TH AND 29TH

All soccer players should hear from their respective coaches' by September 22, 2013. Soccer games begin on Saturday September 28th. On Sunday September 29th, the Red Bulls Skills Challenge Road Show Clinic will be held at Upper Krausche Field. Session 1 will be 1-2:30 and Session 2 will be 3-4:30.

North Plainfield Recreation is bringing our soccer community together for a day of fun and fundamentals. Players will participate with their team in a soccer clinic run by The New York Red Bulls Trainers and NPHS Varsity Players. Every player will receive a Skills Challenge Scorecard and a rating at each station. Hot dogs, chips, and water will be served at the Hut. Additional items can be purchased with proceeds going to the NPHS Music Parents Group. NO FOOD OR DRINK ALLOWED ON THE TURF FIELD. WATER ONLY!

More information, including inclement weather and other changes, will be available via the coaches, the website (Np-Recreation.com) and Facebook.

HALLOWEEN PARADE

The annual North Plainfield Halloween Parade will be on Sunday October 27, 2013. Registration will be from 12-1 and the Parade will kickoff at 1:00. This event will begin at West End and end at Vermuele Community Center. More Details to follow and available on the website and Facebook.

SENIOR CITIZENS HAPPENINGS

The North Plainfield

Senior Citizens group meets every Tuesday at 10:30 am

at the Community Center

located at 614 Greenbrook Road, North Plainfield.

The Group also sponsors a bus trip to the Golden Nugget Casino in Atlantic City the second Wednesday of each month. For reservations call Elsie at 908-755-9347.

For more information regarding membership and transportation call Frank 908-757-6353.

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TIMOTHY D'ARMIENTO AND KYLE FINNEGAN RECEIVE EAGLE SCOUT RANK



(above, l-r) Eagle Scouts Kyle Finnegan & Timothy D'Armiento.



On Sunday August 18th, 2013 North Plainfield BSA Troop 235 chartered by the West End School PTA, held an Eagle Court of Honor in Saint Luke's Church hall to recognize two members who received the Eagle Scout Rank – Timothy D'Armiento and Kyle Finnegan.

Both Timothy and Kyle joined Cub Scout Pack #135, in North Plainfield, as first graders in September 2001 as a Tiger Cub Scout; advancing to Webelos, where they were awarded the Arrow of Light in March 2006 before crossing over to Boy Scout Troop #235 in North Plainfield.

Timothy D'Armiento completed his advancement from Tenderfoot to Eagle Scout rank on April 26, 2013 having earned 29 merit badges and having served as Patrol Leader, Troop Guide and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader. During this time he attended North Plainfield High School, where he graduated this past June, and was involved in a variety of activities such as; National Honor Society, Italian Honor Society, track, varsity baseball, varsity football, Mentoring and religious education teacher.

For his Eagle Project, Timothy consulted with Father Lancelot McGrath, Pastor of Saint Luke's R.C. Church and decided on a plan to beautify and enhance the area that surrounds a statue of Saint Luke's. The statue was donated by a family in the parish and is located to the left of the church. The improvements focus on welcoming the community and providing an area in which to sit.

Timothy lead other Scouts and volunteers in the creation of a memorial garden with landscaping, including flowers, installation of two benches, and construction of a 22 foot x 5.5 foot long walkway consisting of small decorative yellow stones and edging. Planting along the installed edging included various small bushes and flowers. After successfully securing all of the material and supply donations, he completed the project with the help of many Scout volunteers and friends in

February 2013.

Kyle Finnegan completed his advancement from Tenderfoot to Eagle Scout rank on July 25, 2013 having earned 28 merit badges and having served as Assistant Patrol Leader, Troop Guide and Senior Patrol Leader. During this time he attended North Plainfield High School, where he also graduated this past June, and was involved in a variety of activities such as; National Honor Society, Italian Honor Society, marching and jazz bands, golf team, varsity track, Mentoring program and religious education teacher.

For his Eagle Project Kyle consulted with Lauren Ryan, Director of the North Plainfield Library and together decided to completely renovate, repair, restore and beautify the front grounds of the North Plainfield Library. This area is adjacent to the World War II memorial which was damaged by foot traffic and shade from a tree that was recently cut down which hindered the growth of vegetation.

Kyle lead other Scouts and volunteers in the re-grading of the dirt area by tilling the existing soil with compost and top soil to improve the quality which allows grass and other vegetation to grow. He also constructed a fence at the corner of the building to stop undesirable foot traffic, planted butterfly bushes and azaleas between existing benches, installed two limestone pathways from the benches to the sidewalk and planted new bushes in place of existing overgrown junipers and yews in front of the building. After successfully raising over \$600 thru monetary donations and supplies, he completed the project with the help of many Scout volunteers and friends in May 2013 before Memorial Day.

Timothy and Kyle are the 63rd & 64th Eagle Scouts from Troop 235 which is in its 53rd year of developing leadership in "A Proud Community". This fall both are attending college, Timothy is a freshman at The College of New Jersey and Kyle is a freshman at George Mason.

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Hosted by Cadette Girl Scout Troop 65937

NORTH PLAINFIELD GIRL SCOUTS OPEN HOUSE

AN INVITATION TO ALL GIRLS AND PARENTS K TO 5TH GRADES

UNA INVITACIÓN A TODAS LAS NIÑAS Y PADRES

Interested in being a Girl Scout,
becoming a Leader or Volunteering?
Come join at the Fantastic Fall Festival of Fun!

Who: Girls K – 5th grade & Parents

Location: Vermeule Community Center
(corner of Clinton Ave)

Date: Saturday, October 19, 2013

Time: 12:00 – 3:00 pm

Contact: Jana Lattimore

908-917-0775 or jitslattimore@verizon.net

There will be bingo, games, and snacks.

Parents can get information on becoming a Girl Scout,
starting a troop, and volunteering.

Hosted by Cadette Girl Scout Troop 65937

North Plainfield Girl Scouts

¿Está interesado (a) en unirse a las Girl Scouts?

¿Convertirse en un, líder o voluntario (a)?

¡Venga y únase a la diversión

en el Fantástico Festival de Otoño!

Quiénes: Niñas y Padres de Kinder a 5to Grado

Lugar: Vermeule Community Center

(corner of Clinton Ave)

Fecha: Saturday, October 19, 2013

Hora: 12:00 – 3:00 pm

Contacto: Lourdes Hernandez

908-518-4422 o LHernandez@gshnj.org

Habrà bingo, juegos a cargo, y bocadillos.

Los padres podrán obtener información sobre cómo
unirse a Girl Scouts, formar una tropa, y voluntariado.

Patrocinado por Cadette Girl Scout Troop 65937

NORTH PLAINFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY

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Hours: Mon, Tues, Wed and Thurs: 9:30-9,

Fri and Sat: 9:30-5

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

MORNING PLAYDATE (Ages 18 months to 3 years)

Wednesday, September 4 at 10—10:30 a.m.

Bring your child to the library for a play-date! There will be toys, along with games to play and books to read!

Caregivers must be present. No Registration

CAMOUFLAGE FOR KIDS (Grades 3-5)

Tuesday, September 10 at 3:30—4:30 p.m.

Come and learn how butterflies use camouflage to hide from predators. Then get ready to camouflage your own and play a game! Registration begins August 27.

SINGIN' WITH MISS JESSIE (Suggested for ages up to 4)

Saturday, September 14 at 11—11:30 a.m.

Registration begins August 31.

Join Miss Jessie for some toe-tapping fun songs!

LEGO CLUB (Grades K-5)

Thursday, September 19 at 3:30—4:45 p.m.

Build your own crazy Lego creation! No registration.

TEEN PROGRAMS

MAKE YOUR OWN SNACK (Grades 6-12)

Wednesday, October 2 at 3:30- 5:00 pm

Registration begins September 18.

MARIO KART TOURNAMENT (Grades 6-12)

Wednesday, October 9 at 3:30-5:00 pm

Registration begins September 25

DRUM MAKING WORKSHOP (Grades 6-12)

Wednesday, October 16 at 3:30-5:00 pm

Registration begins October 2.

HALLOWEEN PARTY (Grades 6-12)

Wednesday, October 30 at 3:30-5:00 pm

Registration begins October 16.

POETRY ZINE WORKSHOPS WITH CHRIS ROCKWELL

(Grades 6-12)

Fridays October 4, 11, 18 & 25 at 3:30-5:00

No registration required.

ADULT PROGRAMS

September-October 2013

MICROSOFT EXCEL (IN SPANISH)

Tuesday, September 24th @ 7:00-8:30pm

Wednesday, September 25th @ 10:00am-12:00pm

COOKING WITH PAUL

Wednesday, September 25th @ 6:30pm

Adults and children ages 12 and up with an adult.

BASIC YOGA

Thursday, September 26th @ 7:00-8:00pm

Adults and children ages 12 and up with an adult.

INTRODUCTION TO QIGONG AND MEDITATIVE PRACTICES

Wednesday, October 2 @ 6:30-8:30pm.

Adults and children ages 12 and up with an adult.

PERUVIAN CUISINE

Saturday, October 5 @ 11:00am-12:30pm

INTERNET BASICS

Monday, October 7th and 17th @ 7:00pm

QIGONG: PART 2

Wednesday, October 9th @ 6:30-8:30pm

Adults and children ages 12 and up with an adult.

BOOK DISCUSSION

Thursday, October 10th @ 1:00pm

Join the group for tea, cookies and a lively discussion of
The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry by Rachel Joyce.

AFRO-PERUVIAN DANCE – FESTEJO

Saturday, October 12th @ 2:30-4:00pm

BOOK DISCUSSION

Thursday, October 24th @ 7:00pm

Title to be announced.

NORTH PLAINFIELD IN A WALK TO WIN PROGRAM

Dana Biggs, Wellness Coordinator



North Plainfield is one of 16 New Jersey municipalities participating in the Walk to Win wellness incentive sponsored by the Garden State Municipal Joint Insurance Fund (GSMJIF). This incentive is open to all Borough employees, of which 26 are participating.

Participants have put together 5 teams of up to 5 people with each team having a name and a captain. They all received a free pedometer from GSMJIF so they can measure their daily progress toward 10,000 steps a day. There are employees from all borough departments participating. Employees must track of their

daily steps and turn their totals into their team captain each Friday. The program runs for 4 weeks, starting on 9/6/13 and ending on 10/4/13.

Mayor Michael Giordano, himself a participant said, "It's a healthy competition among Borough employees, and will build a healthy lifestyle as well." The GSMJIF is giving out VISA gift cards as prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place team winners in the municipality and the entire GSMJIF participating municipalities.

Soon participants will be walking more and seeing the benefits of short but consistent physical activity throughout the day.

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or Jumbo Pizza

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or promotions. Expires 10/31/13.

**Paisano's
Specials**

RENNA MEDIA GROWS TO 11 MONTHLY PAPERS

Renna Media has added the Long Hill Leader, Green Brook Gazette and Dunellen Express to its family of newspapers. The husband and wife team of Joe and Tina Renna now publish eleven monthly newspapers along with the bi-monthly Around About Peterstown, Elizabeth newspaper.

The publications are "hyper-local" in nature in that they contain information that is focused on the town where they are distributed. The newspapers are mailed for free to residents and businesses, and dropped for free pick-up at distribution points.

The concept of being a hyper-local newspaper is to give local businesses an inexpensive venue to promote their services. News from the school district and each department of the town's administration is also accommodated.

Community service organizations and sports teams are encouraged to submit news of upcoming events or reports on recent events for publication.

Residents and organizations get a free connection to their hometown readers, a win-win for everyone.

The hyper-local design gives businesses the highest value for their advertising dollars. The newspapers are designed (black ink on newsprint) to keep the cost of an advertisement to as low as \$50. A discount is also applied for those businesses involved in their local Chamber of Commerce.

Regional businesses can take advantage of one low rate for placement in three or more publications.

Call Mollie Helck at 908-858-4012 for information about placing an ad.



Qty: 6,000
Mailed to every household and business in Warren.



Qty: 3,000
Mailed to every household and business in Watchung.



Qty: 3,500
Mailed to every household and business in Gillette, Millington and Stirling.



Qty: 6,500
Mailed to every household and business in North Plainfield 07060 zip code.



Qty: 3,000
Mailed to every household and business in Green Brook.



Qty: 3,000
Mailed to every household and business in Dunellen.



Qty: 6,000
4,000 mailed to homes and businesses. 2,000 dropped at distribution points.



Qty: 4,000
3,000 mailed to homes and businesses. 1,000 dropped at distribution points.



Qty: 3,500
Mailed to every household (2,710) and business (720) in Kenilworth.



Qty: 5,000
4,000 mailed to homes & businesses. 1,000 dropped at distribution points.



Qty: 6,500
Mailed to every household (5,700) and business (500) in Clark.



Qty: 10,000
Printed by-monthly. Dropped at pick-up points throughout Union County.

Back cover and front page banner reserved on first come first served basis. Current advertiser has first right of refusal.

Units	Size	RATE FOR SINGLE NEWSPAPER		RATE FOR ANY 3 NEWSPAPERS	RATE FOR ANY 6 NEWSPAPERS
		Non-Members	Chamber Members		
1 BUSINESS CARD	3 1/4" x 2"	\$60	\$50	\$150	\$300
2 Units	3.25" x 4"	\$100	\$90	\$250	\$500
4 Units	6.5" x 4"	\$180	\$160	\$450	\$800
6 Units	10" x 4"	\$240	\$210	\$600	\$1000
9 HALF PAGE	10" x 6"	\$320	\$280	\$750	\$1200
12 Units	10" x 8"	\$360	\$320	\$900	\$1400
18 FULL PAGE	10" x 13.5"	\$400	\$350	\$1000	\$1600
Back Cover	10" x 13.5"	\$600	\$500		

FRONT PAGE BANNER 8.25" x 2" \$400.

Artwork included in price.

PAY FOR 6 MONTHS AND GET 1 FREE

*Discount for members • Warren Chamber of Commerce • North Plainfield Business Association

DRIVE SAFELY, SCHOOL IS IN SESSION!

Submitted by North Plainfield Police Department

Chief Parenti wishes to remind all residents and motorists: Drive Safely, School is in Session! The North Plainfield School District resumed classes on Monday, September 9. Chief Parenti wants to remind all residents and motorists to obey all traffic laws especially in school zones. Additional patrols will be in school zones at starting and dismissal times, to

ensure the student's safety. The recommended walking routes with crossing guard locations and schedules is available on the North Plainfield Borough web site, NorthPlainfield.org., under the Police, Patrol section.

Questions can be directed to the Traffic Safety Bureau.



(above) North Plainfield Police Department Traffic Safety Unit Corporal Dennis Kardos and Officer Michael Weber, along with the North Plainfield Crossing Guards at a breakfast held in their honor at Stony Brook School this spring. The breakfast was sponsored by Somerset County Ride, facilitator of safe and sustainable passage to school.

NORTH PLAINFIELD ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE INVENTORY NEARLY COMPLETE

The North Plainfield Environmental Commission (NPEC) secured a 2012 Sustainable Land Use Planning Grant from ANJEC (Association of NJ Environmental Commissions) to prepare an Environmental Resource Inventory (ERI) for the borough. Mr. Harry Strano of Amy S. Greene (ASG) Environmental Consultants has prepared a final draft of the ERI and has submitted it for review by NPEC. It is now in the hands of the review team, which includes the Green Team, the Shade Tree Committee, the Planning Board, and the Library.

Established under the Municipal Land Use Act, the ERI is a compilation of information about the natural resources and environmental features of the Borough. It describes the vegetation, soils, topography, geology, hydrogeology, surface water hydrology, storm water management, contaminated sites, climate and cultural resources of the area, existing man-made structures or features and the probable impact of a proposed development on the environmental attributes of the site Borough. It discusses how these resources have changed and how they are likely to change due to human activities and natural forces. The ERI also presents local history from pre-Columbian to the present. The ERI is an important tool for environmental commissions, planning boards and boards of adjustment. It can provide the

foundation and documentation for developing resource protection ordinances and resource-based land use planning. It is a valuable reference for students and others interested in doing research into the Borough.

Public input was requested in October 2012 and at several open meetings since then. An announcement and request for input also was made at the Memorial Day Celebration at Monument Park in May of 2013. Progress on the ERI was made over the spring and summer as various sections of text and draft maps were delivered and reviewed. Two site visits by ASG yielded local information on wildlife habitats, invasive plants, and other observations which were not part of the State databases. These materials have been incorporated into the final draft ERI. There are sections of the History and Introduction sections which are still being worked on, with a particular need for input from residents with local knowledge they would like to share.

Under the conditions of the ANJEC Grant, the ERI was to be completed by June 30, 2013. We anticipate finalization in October 2013. The next Environmental Commission Meeting will be held at the Vermeule Community Center.

For more information, please contact Dr. Harry Allen, NPEC Chair, at harryallen3@gmail.com.

PREVENTION WEEK

William F. Eaton, Fire Chief/Director
North Plainfield Fire Dept.

This past month our department proudly participated and assisted in coordinating the annual 9/11 ceremony for the Borough. In cooperation with the NPPD, our departments jointly commemorated this important date with a silent procession down Somerset Street which included our emergency vehicles and marchers. Mayor Giordano joined in the march, which was followed by a short gathering and reflection by all Borough employees, as well as the students and staff from Somerset School.

On another note, please be reminded that next month, during the week of October 6th through 12th, it is Fire Prevention week. The theme this year is "Prevent Kitchen Fires." We will be making a number of visits to the local schools where we will be spreading the word that more fires start in the kitchen than in any other part of the home—and we'll help teach people how to keep cooking fires from starting in the first place. Our annual Open House will be on Saturday, October 6th from 10:00am-2:00pm at the firehouse, 8 Lincoln Place.

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