# The PRIDE of North Plainfield

North Plainfield's Hometown Newspaper

Published by Renna Media, LLC. On-line at ThePrideofNorthPlainfield.com

**ISSUE 6 • OCTOBER 2012** 

**Tri-County Chamber of Commerce MONTHLY MEETING** WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 24th 7:30 PM **30 SOUTH** PLAINFIELD AVE. **SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NJ** 

All members and non-members are invited to attend. For more information please call Jack at (888) 900-5344 or visit tricountycoc .iconosites.com

## **GET OUT AND VOTE NOV 6TH ELECTION DAY INFORMATION**

Election Day is almost here, and residents are encouraged to perform their civic duty of casting their vote. In addition to the Presidential Race, North Plainfield residents this year will be voting for School Board members, as well as the Mayor and Council. This is the first time in recent New Jersey history that School Board candidates will appear on the General Election ballot in November.

By State mandate, the Borough of North Plainfield is divided into twelve (12) voting districts. Residents' district number and polling place will appear on a sample ballot which will arrive via US Mail. For any questions about your registration status, call the Somerset County Election Board at 908-231-7084. Anyone who is interested in Vote-By-Mail should call the County Clerk at 908-231-7504, or visit www.co.somerset.nj.us/elections.

The absolute voter registration deadline is October 16, 2012. North Plainfield's twelve districts are served by four polling places which, in many cases, are located within walking distance of residents' homes. The polls will be open on November 6th – the first Tuesday after the first Monday from 6:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

**Districts Served Polling Place** 

1, 9 Church of the Holy Cross 40 Mercer Avenue

2, 4, 10, 12 East End School 170 Oneida Avenue

> 3, 5, 8 Stony Brook School 269 Grove Street

6, 7, 11 West End School 447 Greenbrook Road

# **HALLOWEEN PARADE SET FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28**

North Plainfield's Annual Halloween Parade will be held on Sunday, October 28, 2012. The parade has a new route this year. It will begin at West End School and will march on to the Vermuele Community Center.

Registration is at noon and the Parade will begin at 1:00 PM. All North Plainfield residents are invited to participate in the annual youth Halloween parade and festivities.

Partcipants will dress-up in their costumes on the Sunday afternoon before Halloween.

Awards will be presented to kids for the following categories:

Individual: • Most Original

Scariest,

• Funniest

• Cutest,

• Best Superhero Prettiest

Group: • Most Original

In case of inclement weather, please check

www.np-recreation.com or the North Plainfield Recreation Facebook page for updates.

## **NORTH PLAINFIELD SENIOR PICNIC 2012**

The Mayor's 34th Annual Senior Citizens Picnic was held on Saturday, September 29th at the Senior Citizens Community Center on Greenbrook Road.

A picnic-style buffet was served to North Plainfield residents 55 and older by Mayor Giordano and members of the Council.









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# The PRIDE of North Plainfield

# On-line at ThePrideofNorthPlainfield.com

The Pride of North Plainfield is published by Renna Media. 5,000 newspapers are printed monthly, 4,500 are mailed to businesses and homes in North Plainfield, NJ and 500 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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Phone: 908-447-1295
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#### **BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD**

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#### **BOROUGH DIRECTORY**

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Borough Clerk	769-2910
Construction Department	769-2918
Court	769-2265
Finance Department	769-2908
Fire Non-Emergency	769-2935
Health Department	769-2907
Mayor & Business Administrator.	769-2902
Police Non-Emergency	769-2937
Property Maintenance	769-2917
Public Works	
Tax Assessor	769-2906
Zoning/Planning Department	769-2915

#### **HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS**

Library	755-7909
Public Schools	
Recreation	756-0247
Phone numbers utilize the	908 exchange.

# SENIOR BUS TRIP TO GOLDEN NUGGET CASINO

The North Plainfield Seniors conduct a bus trip to the Golden Nugget Casino the second Wednesday of each month. The bus leaves the parking lot of Saint Luke's Church 300 Clinton Ave. promptly at 10:00 A.M.

The cost is \$26.00 of which \$20.00 is returned to you at the casino as a casino card to be used for the games, and you are given a \$5.00 certificate to be used toward a meal. For more information call Elsie at 908-755-9347 or Edie at 908-753-6812.

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9:00PM

**NEW LOCATION!** 

#### FREE RABIES CLINIC

Saturday, November 10, 2012 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon North Plainfield Fire Headquarters 8 Lincoln Place

Please have dogs on a leash and cats in a carrier. Animals must be supervised by an adult. For further information or questions please contact 908 769-2907.

## **SENIOR BUS SCHEDULE**

The North Plainfield Senior Citizen Bus is available to all North Plainfield Seniors. To arrange to ride the bus and for more information, please call 908-753-0707.

The following is the bus schedule:

Monday: Shop Rite

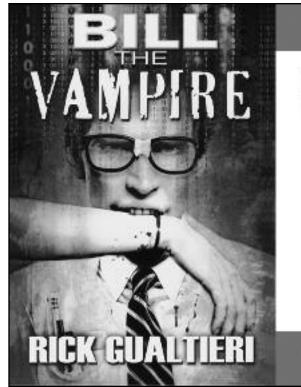
Tuesday: North Plainfield Senior Citizens Club Wednesday: Stop and Shop & Wal Mart Friday: Sears and Somerset Farms

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

# PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY PLANNED FOR FALL

before you need the bus.

Join Fr. George Farrell and parishioners and friends of St. Joseph's Parish, North Plainfield, November 5, 2012 on a 12-day adventure through Italy! Our trip will showcase the "Italian Treasures" of Milan, Tuscany, Florence, Padua, Assisi and Rome, with visits to the tombs of Saints Anthony and Francis, and St. Mark's Cathedral. We end in Rome with a stop at the Spanish Steps and a Papal Audience. All airfare, transfers and hotels are included, as well as full daily breakfast and most dinners (20 meals total) for only \$2898 per person, double occupancy. For a copy of the complete brochure, please contact Mary Foy, events coordinator at St. Joseph's, 908-756-3383, Extension 13 or at sinp.events@yahoo.com. For all other info, please contact Nuovo Tours at 973-882-0021.



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#### **HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS**

Submitted by Police Chief William Parenti

Halloween is always an enjoyable day for children in our community. But, the excitement of Halloween can often overpower children's safety habits, thus making them more likely to dart out into the street or cross at mid-block.

While preparing for Halloween festivities parents should take the time to remind children of the dangers that may accompany the event. Even though Halloween is an exciting and enjoyable time for them, contaminated treats, falls, auto mishaps or even robbery can ruin their fun. Even though incidents of receiving contaminated treats are declining, we should never relax our guard.

This year, when reviewing your children's Halloween plans, consider the age and maturity level of your children when deciding what activity you will allow them to participate in. Obviously young children need to be accompanied by an adult, but so should pre-teens and less mature teenagers. If you do allow a teen to participate in Halloween fun without you, make sure you know whom he or she will be with.

Only the most mature, responsible teens should ever be allowed to trick or treat without an adult present. Impress upon your children to be careful crossing streets, particularly if their costume obscures vision or they wear dark clothing. They should use sidewalks wherever possible and walk facing traffic where there are no sidewalks. Raised or sunken sidewalks, rope, string, chain or other items on or across

sidewalks also can cause falls. Use light colored costumes short enough to prevent tripping and add reflectorized materials for an extra margin of safety.

Map out a route for your children to follow and set times for checking in with you, and for returning home. They should not trick or treat outside your immediate neighborhood and should only visit homes you know. If a child fails to check in within a reasonable time or you cannot locate the child, immediately call the police.

Children should treat everyone as a stranger, particularly anyone in costume, and refuse rides or walking with someone they don't know. If a stranger frightens a child, he should go to the nearest house and request a call be made to the police, but the child should not enter the strange house.

Around your own home make sure there is adequate lighting so that all children can see where they are walking. Accidents happen, and traditional Jack-O-Lanterns are especially dangerous. Candles present very real fire risks, especially around children; consider low voltage lighting instead. Never invite an unknown child into your house unless they are in need of emergency assistance. While there are healthy alternatives to candy, consider only giving out something that is sealed and can be easily determined to be tamper free. Use common sense; exercise prudence and caution; and make the safety of our youth the number one priority this Halloween!

## FIRE PREVENTION **'OPEN HOUSE'**

Submitted by William F. Eaton, Fire Chief

The North Plainfield Fire Department hosted its annual Open House on Saturday October 6th. The Open House coincided with the borough's Fire Prevention month. It was a successful, wellattended event, and many local residents stopped by to learn about their town's fire department.

The event included video presentations of fire safety materials, and a montage of North Plainfield Fire Department activities, as well as guided tours of Engine Four, Truck One and Rescue Two. Attendees were also given complimentary blood pressure screenings, as well as plastic fireman hats, coloring books, and pamphlets for children.

Throughout the month, the Fire Department has hosted about six different firehouse tours for various schools and day care groups. There are an additional six to ten tours scheduled. On-duty firefighting crews have also visited many of the local schools and provided fire safety presentations. By the end of the month, the Fire Department will have visited all of the schools in town. It is our hope that the children of all ages – as well as their parents -- are gaining valuable fire safety information from these visits and tours and that they will always use this knowledge to stay safe.

Anyone looking for additional information can call the Fire Department at 908) 769-2935. A link to the North Plainfield Fire Department can be found at www.northplainfield.org.



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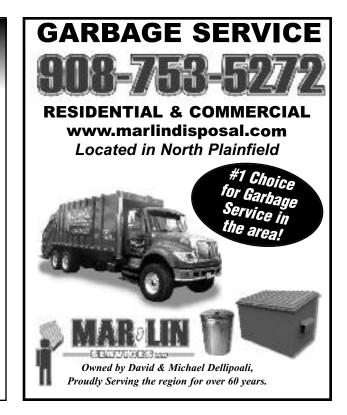
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## **CAR NUTZ CAR OF THE MONTH OCTOBER 2012**



Car Nutz Treasurer Al Graziano owns this 1974 Dodge Challenger. The Challenger is alloriginal, with a 340 engine.



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## **NORTH PLAINFIELD CELEBRATES "SOCCER DAY"**

Submitted by Kimberly Carter, North Plainfield Recreation

Soccer Club, and the NPHS Men's & Women's Varsity Soccer squads teamed up to kick-off the soccer season on September 22nd, 2012.

A record breaking number of registered players were trained by Zizo's Soccer Program on the Upper and Lower Krausche fields. Over 32 NPHS players assisted the professional trainers and mentored the participants, all while donating their time for community service.

Over 400 soccer players were taught dribbling, passing, turning, striking, defending -

North Plainfield Recreation, North Plainfield - and, most importantly, sportsmanship -- before marking the end of the day with a traditional treat from Lou's Hot Dog Xpress. Some brave parents even enjoyed a little Zumba while their children were attending the soccer clinic.

> North Plainfield's very own Andrea Wright sang the Star Spangled Banner to make this event an American tradition in North Plainfield.

> The North Plainfield Recreation Department would like to thank the over one hundred volunteers who helped make this memorable day possible.

#### RECREATION WINTER SPORTS

Submitted by Elizabeth Brumbaugh

Winter Sports signups will be here soon! Basketball and Wrestling signups will be on October 24-26th, October 30, and November 1-2nd. The signups will be held at the Vermeule Community Center from 7-9 PM. basketball season runs from December 2012 until March 2013. Boys and girls from 1st grade to 8th grade are eligible to play. Registration for Basketball costs \$30. Wrestling season is from November 2012 until March 2013. Girls and boys from K-6th grade are eligible to play.

During the week of November 5-9, North Plainfield Parks and Recreation will hold a Fall Camp. This program is open to all K-8th graders, boys and girls. Some scheduled activities include "Unearth and Reconstruct a Dinosaur with Somerset County 4-H", "Map the Ring of Fire", "Recreate Fossils in Amber", "Create a Pangea Puzzle", "Meet Blue, Elizabeth, Sticks and Serena – the common ancestors of the Great Reptiles, with Bill from Snakes and Scales", "Go on a Scavenger Hunt at the Rutgers Geological Museum", "Spend a day in our New Jersey Jurassic Park at "Field Station Dinosaurs" and much more.

The cost for the week is \$150 per child. This will include care from 8-6, all trips, and all activities. We must have a minimum of 35 paid participants to run the program, 50 maximum. Multiple child discounts will be available. Recreation reserves the right to modify the program or cancel the program if the minimum participation is not met. Campers must pack their own lunch and snacks unless otherwise noted. We are a peanut free facility.

For any questions, please contact Miss Q at askmissq@aol.com or 908-872-7470 or 908-756-0247.



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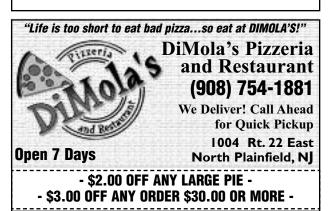
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## **SUPPORT FOR "GREAT EXPECTATIONS CENTER"**

Mayor Michael Giordano declared Friday October 26th to be "Great Expectations Center Day" in North Plainfield. An identical proclamation was made by Watchung Mayor Gerald Mobus, and other communities throughout Somerset County.

The goal of the proclamation is to bring attention to the Center for Great Expectations, a Somerset County organization that strives to "help young and adult women and their children through homelessness, pregnancy, and addiction recovery." Both North Plainfield and Watchung hope other municipalities in Somerset County will show their support for this organization.

A driving force behind the effort was North Plainfield Borough's Administrative Assistant Gail Kaufman Cain. Ms. Cain and Watchung Borough Clerk Michelle DeRocco are classmates in the 2012 Leadership Somerset Class. Leadership Somerset is a 12-month program in Somerset County where citizens work to understand issues affecting their neighborhoods, and strive to become leaders.

The North Plainfield and Watchung proclamations are part of a broader effort by Leadership Somerset to raise awareness of the Center for Great Expectations and all of the

organization's efforts in Somerset County. For more information on the center, visit www.thecenterforgreatexpectations.org, or call (732) 247-7003.

Adults who live or work in Somerset County are invited to join Leadership Somerset.

For more information call (908) 231-7040, or visit www.leadershipsomerset.org.



(above, l-r) NP Mayor Michael Giordano, NP Administrative Assistant Gail Cain, Diane Cawley of Leadership Somerset, Watchung Borough Clerk Michelle DeRocco, Watchung Mayor Gerald Mobus Mayor Giordano's Proclamation.



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## **NPMS CELEBRATES** "WEEK OF RESPECT"

North Plainfield Middle School Anti-Bullying Specialist Dana Smith and Assistant Principal John Ferguson rolled out the first of many yearlong activities to raise awareness of antibullying concerns. All NPMS students were asked to sign an anti-bullying "peace pledge." Students who signed the voluntary pledge have promised not to tease, insult or threaten their peers, and to try to help students who are being mistreated.

The effort is part of a New Jersey state-wide program called the "Week of Respect." Ms. Smith says that the pledges allow the students to develop an awareness of bullying and more specifically, an awareness of behaviors that negatively impact a student's emotional and social well-being. The student pledges are displayed prominently next to the NPMS "Say No to Bullying" banner on the "Wall of Respect," as a reminder of their anti-bullying promise to each other.



(above) The Peace Pledges hang on the Wall of Respect at NPMS.

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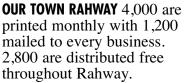
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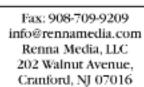
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newspapers and strives for them to be a source for local-interest stories, announcements for upcoming events, and important municipal information. The newspapers feature press

Renna Media publishes eight community releases and announcements from local government, schools, community service groups, recreation department, and non-profit organizations. Circulation is free, made possible by advertisers.

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Qty: 8,000

Over 7,000 mailed

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### LOCAL CHURCH HOSTS FREE BENEFIT CONCERT

A concert to benefit the International Justice Mission will be held at Stonecrest Community Church in Warren NJ, on Saturday, November 10 at 7 p.m. "Luminosity: Shedding Light on the Human Trafficking Situation" features recording artist Joey Monteleone and dancer Elissa J. Loubet (North Plainfield High School Class of 2001), as well as local singers, dancers and actors.

Ms. Loubet, who organized the event, says "Anyone who is interested in defending the rights of human trafficking victims must attend this event. The entertainment will be uplifting, and Debbie Wright will deliver a message about IJM's vital work."

Come enjoy music, theater and dance! The event is free to the public. Childcare provided for ages 6 & under. Monetary donations will be taken to aid the organization in its worldwide defense of human rights. For directions visit www.stonecrestchurch.com. For more information call Cornerstone Dance Conservatory at 908-397-4567.

> (right) Organizer & Dancer Elissa J. Loubet and Joey Monteleone, musician, songwriter and recording artist.



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The website features past issues of the Watchung Post newspapers, thoto albums, events calendar and advertising opportunities.



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