

# The PRIDE of North Plainfield



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ISSUE 36 • JUNE 2015

## North Plainfield SENIOR CITIZENS GROUP meets

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## NORTH PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL WINTER GUARD

The NPHS Winter Guard entered the first round of championships in the MAIN\* circuit ranked 7th in the

State and were thrilled to bring home a bronze medal. TIA\* circuit asked if NPHS would host the next round of championships at North Plainfield. The NP Music Parents took on the task of arranging the many details involved in running a championship in the school and were not the only ones successful that day; the NPHS Winter Guard won their class and became the 2015 TIA Indoor Scholastic Chapter 10 Champions.

The Guard headed to Wildwood/Cape May for the All Chapter Championships ranked 9th overall. Their goal: making the finals. They did more than meet their goal. They swept the preliminaries, swept the semi-finals and finals, coming home the TIA Atlantic Conference Intermediate Class Champions; placing

first out of 23 teams from the Mid-Atlantic region in the final competition. \*MAIN: Mid Atlantic Indoor Network \*TIA: Tournament Indoor Association



*(right, front, l-r) Margarita Manzano and Vanessa Mejia (holding banner), Audrey Urmaza, Natasha Forbes, Emekey Alphonse. (back, l-r): Leslie Mereida, Abigail Martinez, Samantha Jeannot (slightly hidden), Olivia Molenaar, Kanira White and Kalin Barrett*

## NPF RECEIVES NATIONAL BEST PRACTICE DESIGNATION

The North Plainfield School District has been selected to receive a 2015 Promising Practice designation from Character.org. We received this award because of our implementation of a unique, specific and effective character education strategy that other schools may learn from and even replicate. Character.org will honor the 2015 Promising Practices recipients at their annual conference in October 2015 which will be held in Atlanta, GA.

Our Practice, Rebirth, Resilience, Respect: Avenue of Flags in North Plainfield is a year round program that includes members of our student NJ ROTC, along with their peers, staff members and residents coming together for eight outdoor ceremonies where we remember and honor those who have given their lives in service to our country, those who are veterans and those who will be serving our country. We have implemented this program through the use of sharing oral recollections, guest speakers, read alouds, discussions, showcase displays, songs, activities such as making quilts for and then delivering those to veterans, learning American Sign Language to perform

our National Anthem at Fort McHenry, to learning about the importance of the K9 squad, to collecting and donating cans of pet food to service animals, to hand making wish wreaths for display throughout the schools and borough offices, to assemblies recognizing staff members who took the oath of citizenship, to participating alongside of community groups in local parades. Our committee has created activities that can be used on a month by month basis to educate students and adults. We have purposefully incorporated interdisciplinary connections from the Fine and Performing Arts to Physical Education, from Science to English Language Arts have been planned to facilitate awareness of the upstander and the bystander in our lessons and assemblies.

Practice, Rebirth, Resilience, Respect: Avenue of Flags in North Plainfield was first envisioned by Dr. Hope Blecher, English/Language Arts Supervisor and retired teacher, Ms. Marybeth Winsor. ForAction Fellows currently supporting this project include Dr. Blecher, Michael Mulry, Suzanne Sapega, Susan Feibush and Michele Armento, along with NJROTC Chief Michael DeJean and Lt. Colonel Eric Hansen. The music staff of NPMS/HS take turns participating as singers or musicians with the support of Tom Mazur, performing arts supervisor.

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# The PRIDE of North Plainfield

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## FIRE DEPARTMENT PROMOTIONS AND NEW HIRE

*Submitted by Fire Chief Eaton*

On May 1st the fire department promoted six of its members and hired a new firefighter. The promotions included 2 firefighters to the rank of Captain, 4 to the rank of Lieutenant and one of our volunteer callforce firefighters was sworn in as a full-time career firefighter. The Honorable Mayor Michael Giordano presided over the ceremony reading the oath of office to each member as they were sworn in. These

promotions and new hire come as a result of two retirements, Captain's Randy Sadlon and Jeffrey Firling, as well as a change in the department's table of organization. Those who were promoted/hired were: Captain James DiPaolo, Captain Richard Connolly, Lieutenant Brian Martin, Lieutenant Daniel Lawson, Lieutenant Steven Dill, Lieutenant James Reedman and Probationary FF/EMT Chad Makowski.

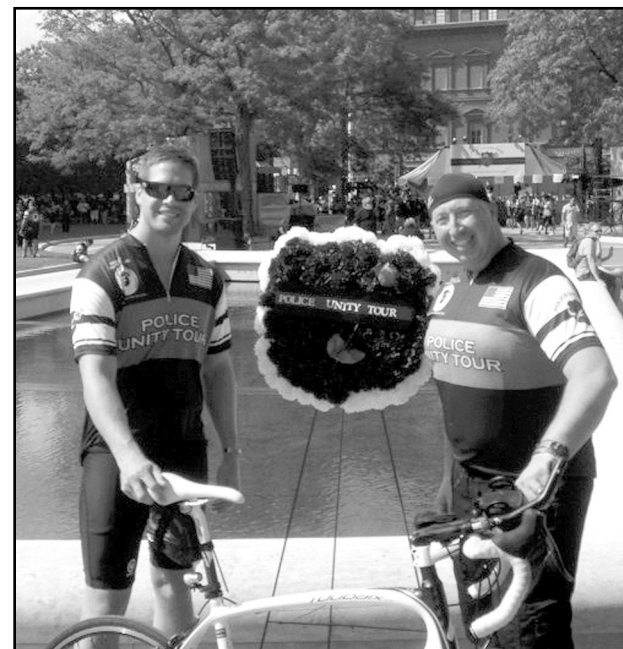


## POLICE OFFICERS RIDE FOR THOSE WHO DIED

*Submitted by Police Chief Parenti*

Chief William Parenti announced that two North Plainfield Police Officers rode to support the Police Unity tour. The primary purpose of the Police Unity Tour is to raise awareness of Law Enforcement Officers who have died in the line of duty. In late 2005, the Police Unity Tour pledged \$5 Million in support of the National Law Enforcement Museum. Inspired by their commitment and motto, "WE RIDE FOR THOSE WHO DIED" the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund has selected the Unity Tour to be the sponsor of the Museum's Hall of Remembrance.

Officers Marcus Steinhauser and Robert Kropewnicki have once again completed the Police Unity Tour. A bicycle ride from NJ to Washington DC to cap off Police Week. Both officers had to raise a minimum of \$1850 for the 3 day ride which started in Somerset, NJ. The funds raised all go to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund.



(above, l-r): Officer Marcus Steinhauser and Officer Robert Kropewnicki

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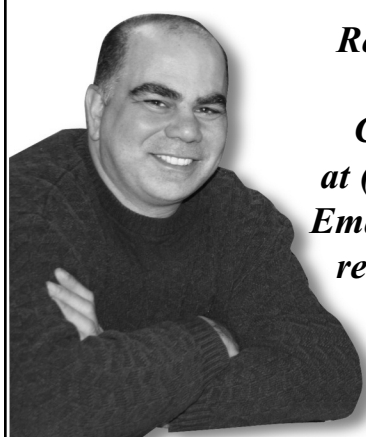
Community service organizations and sports teams are encouraged to submit news of upcoming events or highlights and photos on recent events.

Organizations  
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## CROSS GRADE COOPERATIVE LEARNING



On Friday, May 15th fourth grade students from Miss McFadden's East End School class took a field trip to North Plainfield Middle School. The students collaborated with their eighth grade English Honors buddies from Miss Colonel's class. The fourth graders are currently working on a biography unit and went to the middle school to peer edit their rough drafts. The children sat side by side on the grass with their buddy and edited their work. Prior to the trip, the fourth graders wrote a letter to their buddy introducing the person that they were researching. They were ecstatic when they received a letter back. Dr. McLaughlin, Ms. Vella, Dr. Blecher, and Ms. Cruz also attended the event. The eighth graders will be invited to East End at the end of the month when the biography books are complete.

## NEXT GENERATION SCIENCE LEADER

As provided by Raritan Valley Community College



Heather Morgan,  
fourth grade teacher  
at West End

West End School's fourth grade teacher, Heather Morgan, has been chosen to be a Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Teacher Leader. The Teacher Leader Program prepares educators to take a leadership role in New Jersey's implementation of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Teacher Leaders co-facilitate a series of workshops focused on supporting their

colleagues as they begin to bring the new national standards into their classrooms. The program provides opportunities for K-12 classroom teachers to deepen their understanding of all aspects of the NGSS while developing collaborative and leadership skills, with the ultimate goal of sharing their expertise with their district colleagues. The program was developed in response to the adoption of the NGSS as New Jersey's state science standards and the need to support local school districts in preparing for and implementing these new standards. The program is part of a Higher-Ed consortium consisting of the Science Education Institute at Raritan Valley Community College (RVCC), the Rider University Science Education and Literacy Center (SELECT), and the Princeton University Teacher Preparation Program.

## HOLY CROSS OFFERS ITS EVENT SPACE

In its continuing effort to reach out to its neighbors near and far, The Church of the Holy Cross (40 Mercer Ave., No. Plfd.) offers an event space for all kinds of occasions from parties to meetings. Embury Hall is tastefully decorated, providing a lovely palette for any kind of decoration. It is air conditioned with a full service kitchen and a supply of tables and chairs.

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And, of course, Holy Cross continues to offer lunch to its neighbors on the last Sunday of each month. Betty's Basement, a growing local legend, is a thrift shop that offers everything

from clothing to bedding at bargain prices. The Men's Breakfast on the second Sunday of each month, after the 8 AM service, offers an opportunity for great food, conversation, and laughter.

And don't forget the annual Holiday Boutique in November, attracting artisans and crafters from all over NJ.

Holy Cross continues its tradition of an open door and open heart policy, welcoming all neighbors, near and far. Tie a ribbon on the Tree of Hope. Weave a hope on the Prayer Loom. Or just come and enjoy the fellowship, the music, the feasting, and the laughter.

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# NORTH PLAINFIELD STUDENT WINS FIRST PLACE IN DISTRICT ORATORICAL CONTEST

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Submitted Susan Durick



(above) Noran Zaher

On March 30, 2015 the North Plainfield Optimist Club hosted the annual Oratorical contest at the Vermule Center in North Plainfield. The program was facilitated by Mr. Andrew Risoli from North Plainfield High School. Students were asked to present for 5 minutes, on the topic "How Optimism Will Help Me Press on to Greater Achievements of the Future"

There were 7 students that competed. From the female competitors, Noran Zaher, (North Plainfield) was the 1st place winner, Jaqueline

Lee, (Watchung) 2nd place, Radha Patel (North Plainfield) 3rd place. From the male side, Andre Eason was the 1st place winner, Ramy Hosny, 2nd place and Jordon Grundy, 3rd place. Also participating was Fiona Chen.

The two first place winners went on to Reading, PA on May 2nd to compete in the Optimist International Oratorical District wide competition where the North Plainfield Representative, Noran Zahar was the 1st place winner for the girls and was presented with a \$2500.00 scholarship. Andre Eason also did very well and made it to the final round in the boys competition.

Congratulations to all the students who have participated in both the Essay and Oratorical contests sponsored by the North Plainfield Optimist Club.

## MEET LIBRARY BRANCH MANAGER

(right, l-r) Melissa Banks, Peapack & Gladstone Library branch manager; Cindy Mangel, Bound Brook Memorial Library branch manager; Carolyn Della Sala, North Plainfield Memorial Library branch manager; Doug Poswencyk, Somerville Library branch manager; Hannah Kerwin, Watchung Library branch manager; Nanette Peterson, Manville Library branch manager; and Rebecca Crawford, Mary Jacobs Memorial Library branch manager.



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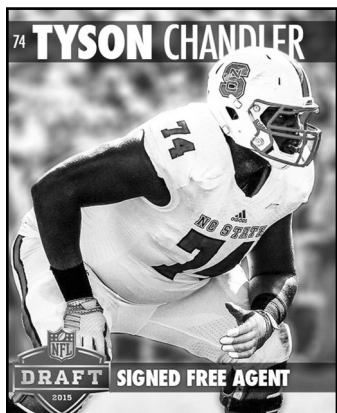
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## NORTH PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI SIGNS NFL CONTRACT

Submitted by North Plainfield Schools



Tyson Chandler, NPHS Class of 2009, signed a professional contract yesterday with the NFL Buffalo Bills. Tyson and his family -father, Willie, mother, Charmane and sister, Ashley-

moved from Irvington to North Plainfield during Tyson's freshman year of high school. Tyson graduated in 2009 after earning All-Conference, All-County, All-Area and All-State honors. He spent one semester at Fork Union Military Academy before accepting a full scholarship to attend North Carolina State University. At NC State, Tyson was a three-year starter at offensive tackle and played in 3 bowl games. Tyson graduated with a BS in Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Management in May of 2014. This past fall, he took graduate courses while he played out his final year of eligibility at NC State. On May 2, 2015, he agreed to sign a contract with the Buffalo Bills as an undrafted free agent.

The North Plainfield Schools congratulates Tyson Chandler on this extraordinary achievement.

## EAST END ALUMNUS MAKES A SPECIAL DONATION

Recently, East End School was thrilled to receive a special gift from Mr. Edison Torres, assistant principal of North Plainfield Middle School and alumni of East End School. Mr. Torres graciously purchased a beautiful sculpture of a mustang horse to adorn the school's showcase. Said Mr. Torres, "As a former student of the Home of the Mustangs, I thought it would be fitting for students to view the artwork and remember what the mascot represents: A mustang is a mythic symbol of

determination, courage, and heroism. I know these are values that our students can emulate." On hand to receive the gift, East End principal John Ferguson stated, "What a wonderful sentiment from Mr. Torres. I know our current and future students will enjoy it and coming from a former student of our school who has risen to become a school leader is really inspiring. Invited to attend the presentation, were four current honor middle school students, who also attended East End.



(above, l-r): Sabriya Zafar, Zamaleena Rehmatullah, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Torres, Amaya Womack and Troi Ford

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# ROTARY CLUB RECEIVES DISTRICT AWARDS

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Area clubs in Rotary District 7510 gathered for their annual conference May 1-3 in Atlantic City. In addition to keynote addresses on service to others, displays of club service projects, and presentations by young college-age members of Rotaract clubs, the conference included recognition of how clubs promote their public image.

District Governor Mel Kevoe of the Rotary Club of Springfield had asked each of the thirty-nine clubs to submit their club's newsletters, social media presence, and website URLs for committee review. Clubs were grouped as either small, medium, or large clubs based on membership.

The Rotary Club of Plainfield-North Plainfield swept the competition and received first place awards for Club Website, Club Newsletter, and Public Image for small clubs.

"I was scheduled to make the presentations of these awards," said Michael Townley, a member of the local club who is also District 7510 Secretary and editor of the district's TEAM Rotary newsletter. "When I looked through the certificates and saw our club would receive all three awards, I asked District Governor Mel to make the presentations."

"We work hard on promoting Rotary in our communities and the surrounding area," said Mary Forbes, club president. "We have an up-to-date website, a Facebook page, and a newsletter highlighting our club's activities that goes out to a list of friends of the club. We appreciate the awards, but we mostly want people to know all of the good things that they can support or participate in when we serve others."

The club also received an award for their recent Senior Citizen Pancake Breakfast. "This was a free breakfast for seniors," said Mike Castoral, chair of the event. "We wanted to do something special for our Rotary District's Day of Hunger. Offering this free breakfast was a great service project that we plan to make an annual event."

For more information about the Rotary Club of Plainfield-North Plainfield, visit their website at [www.RotaryPNP.org](http://www.RotaryPNP.org) or their Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/RotaryPNP](http://www.facebook.com/RotaryPNP). The club meets every Wednesday at 12:15 PM at Giovanna's Restaurant, 1462 South Avenue in Plainfield. Anyone interested in learning more about Rotary and the club is invited to attend a meeting as a guest of the Club.



(above, l-r) Michael Townley and District Governor Mel Kevoe pose with the F. S. Mathewson Rotarian of the Year Award presented to Mr. Townley on May 2 at the District 7510 Conference.

## NORTH PLAINFIELD SENIORS

The North Plainfield Seniors Club has an express bus to the Golden Nugget Casino in Atlantic City the second Wednesday of each month. The bus will leave the parking lot of Saint Luke's Church 300 Clinton Ave. promptly at 10:00 A.M. and returns to North Plainfield around 8:00 P.M. The cost is \$28.00. You will receive \$20.00 in credit to play and a \$5.00 food voucher. All are welcome on this trip. For more information call Elsie at 908-755-9347

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Watermelon  
Time!!**

### FRESH FRUIT OR VEGETABLE PLATTERS

Platters over stuffed with the best the season has to offer.

- 14 inch 24.99
- 16 inch 29.99
- 18 inch 39.99

**Perfect for Special Occasions!**



#### COUPON

### FRESH SHRIMP

**\$9<sup>99</sup>** <sup>NPF6</sup>  
**lb** 16/20 size

By the pound only. Limit 1 lb per customer per coupon per day. Not to be combined with other offer. Offers good thru 7/15/15.



### FRESH FISH

**Available Thursday  
to Sunday**

*Filleted, Steaked,  
Cleaned to your liking!*

#### COUPON

### FRESH TILAPIA FILLET

**\$4<sup>99</sup>** <sup>NPF6</sup>  
**lb**

By the pound only. Limit 1 lb per customer per coupon per day. Not to be combined with other offer. Offers good thru 7/15/15.



#### COUPON

### Boar's Head Oven Gold Turkey Breast

**\$6<sup>99</sup>** <sup>NPF6</sup>  
**lb**

Must purchase 1 lb. Limit 1 lb. per coupon. Coupon may not be combined with other offers. Limit 1 offer and coupon per day. Offer expires 7/15/15.



#### COUPON

### Land o Lakes American Cheese

**\$4<sup>99</sup>** <sup>NPF6</sup>  
**lb**

Must purchase 1 lb. Limit 1 lb. per coupon. Coupon may not be combined with other offers. Limit 1 offer and coupon per day. Offer expires 7/15/15.



#### COUPON

### \$1.00 OFF your purchase of \$20.00 OR MORE



Excludes garden center and fish purchases. Limit 1 offer per customer per day. Not to be combined with other offer. Offer expires 7/15/15.

## GARDEN CENTER NOW OPEN

**ANNUALS PERENNIALS • HERBS • VEGETABLES • PLANTS • TREES AND SHRUBS...**

## Fresh Fruit Arrangements & Chocolate Covered Strawberries



**Fruitful  
Creations**  
By Somerset Farms

**PERFECT GIFT FOR**  
• Birthdays • Thank You  
• Get Well  
• Deepest Sympathy  
• I Love You  
• Centerpieces  
**PERFECT DESSERT ADD ON**  
**Available For  
Pick Up Or Delivery**

**Call Today To Order!**

**908-757-7730**

**950 Route 22 East**

**North Plainfield**

Open 7 Days Daily 9am-7pm

Sunday 9am-5pm

**Strawberry  
Summer  
Special**

**\$5 OFF**

**YOUR  
FRUITFUL  
CREATION  
\$39.99  
OR MORE**



<sup>NPF6</sup> Offer expires 7/15/15



*June Special*  
**Chocolate Covered  
Strawberries**



**\$24.99  
BOX OF 12**