

# Fanwood Post NJ

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Issue 7 • April 2016

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## ROCKIN' FOR AUTISM KICKS OFF MUSIC FESTIVAL

*All-Day Festival Will Feature Musical Acts, Food Trucks, Local Vendors, Autism Workshops, Raffles, Inflatables and the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Youth Baseball Opening Day Ceremony*

To commemorate Autism Awareness Month, and raise awareness of and funds for autism research, the Town of Fanwood will be hosting its first annual Rockin' For Autism Music Festival on Saturday, April 16, 2016, from 10:00am to 5:00pm at LaGrande Park. The all-day festival will feature a variety of local musical acts, food trucks, local vendors, autism workshops and clinics, raffles and inflatables, and will coincide with the Scotch Plains Fanwood Youth Baseball Association Opening Day Ceremony.

All proceeds will be donated to Autism NJ, the largest statewide network of parents and professionals dedicated to improving lives of individuals with autism spectrum disorders.

The festival is the brainchild of 14-year-old Fanwood resident Mallory Banks, who since 2011 has raised more than \$10,000 for Autism NJ in honor of her brother Ethan (16) and all those affected by autism spectrum disorder. Miss. Banks, an Autism Awareness Junior Ambassador, ranks among the top kids in New Jersey who raised money for Autism Awareness Month.

"For the past few years, I've had a lot of success in raising funds for autism awareness by hosting bake sales and raffles. This year I wanted to do something bigger and better, and get more of the community involved," said Mallory, who conceived of the festival while recovering from spinal surgery last year. "The Rockin' For Autism music festival is like a dream come true, and I am so excited that our mayor and so many local bands and businesses have committed to helping me raise funds for autism awareness."

In 2015, Mallory approached Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr during the town's annual Fannywood Day celebration and pitched her idea for hosting a music festival in La Grande Park. Since then, Mayor Mahr has been working closely with Mallory; her parents, Jeff and Gina Banks; and local government agencies to help facilitate the event. In 2014, the Fanwood Borough Council honored then 12-year-old Mallory for raising \$3,500 for autism awareness, and proclaimed June 17 to be Mallory Banks Day.

"Mallory Banks is an extraordinary girl, whose passion for raising awareness for autism is truly inspirational and sets an example for others to follow. I am honored to be able to support her efforts and applaud her deep commitment to community advocacy," said Mayor Mahr. "With Everything that the Rockin' For Autism has to offer, I am confident that the annual festival will exceed expectations in terms of raising awareness

and funds, and will have a long-lasting, positive benefit for Fanwood as well."

Among the many musical acts scheduled perform include Goodworks, Three-Piece Nugget, Broadcaster, Leave the Gun, Strung at Heart, The Jeff Birns Band and Eric Harrison's Crash Course. The event will be MC'd by Main Source DJs.

Many local businesses and organizations have also pledged to support the festival, including: Nick's Pizza & Deli, Fanwood Bagels & Deli and Frank's Auto Repair in Fanwood; GrillStone, Rich Tric Photography, Temple Sholom and The JCC of Central NJ in Scotch Plains; The MAX Challenge and Cesar Kai Academy in Cranford; Cindy Smith Dance Studio in Garwood; Main Source DJs in Woodbridge; and New Jersey American Water in Voorhees.

The festival will also coincide with the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Youth Baseball Association's annual opening day ceremony. Fanwood Mayor Coleen Mahr will throw the ceremonial first pitch to commence the 2016 SPFYBA baseball season. In addition, the Wolves Basketball Academy will also run clinics on the basketball courts, and the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Soccer Association will organize impromptu games during the event.

The event will also feature a variety of autism clinics, including workshops by Jammin' Jenn, which has been using music therapy to connect with special needs children and adults since 2009. Autism New Jersey and Children's Specialized Hospital will also partake in spreading awareness.

### ABOUT ROCKIN' FOR AUTISM

Rockin' For Autism is an annual music festival dedicated to raising awareness and funds for AutismNJ. Founded in 2016, the festival is the brainchild of 14-year-old Fanwood resident Mallory Banks, who since 2011 has raised more than \$10,000 for Autism NJ in honor of her brother Ethan (16) and all those affected by autism spectrum disorder. Miss. Banks, an Autism Awareness Junior Ambassador, ranks among the top kids in New Jersey who raised money for Autism Awareness Month. To volunteer, sponsor or exhibit at the event, please contact Jeff Banks at 973-464-5477.



Mallory Banks

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## PROMOTE YOUR COMMUNITY EVENT

*Community service organizations, schools and sports teams are encouraged to submit news of upcoming events or highlights and photos from recent events.*

**Organizations who are interested in submitting content, please email Lori Theiss at [lori@rennamedia.com](mailto:lori@rennamedia.com)**

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FANWOOD PRESENTS

# Rockin' For Autism 2016

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Please come and support Autism Awareness Month and the opening day of SPF Baseball. There will be live music & performances, special needs sport clinics, food, baked goods, merchant raffles, activities and more. All donations go to 

**DATE & HOURS**  
Saturday April 16th • 10am - 5pm  
Rain Date - May 7

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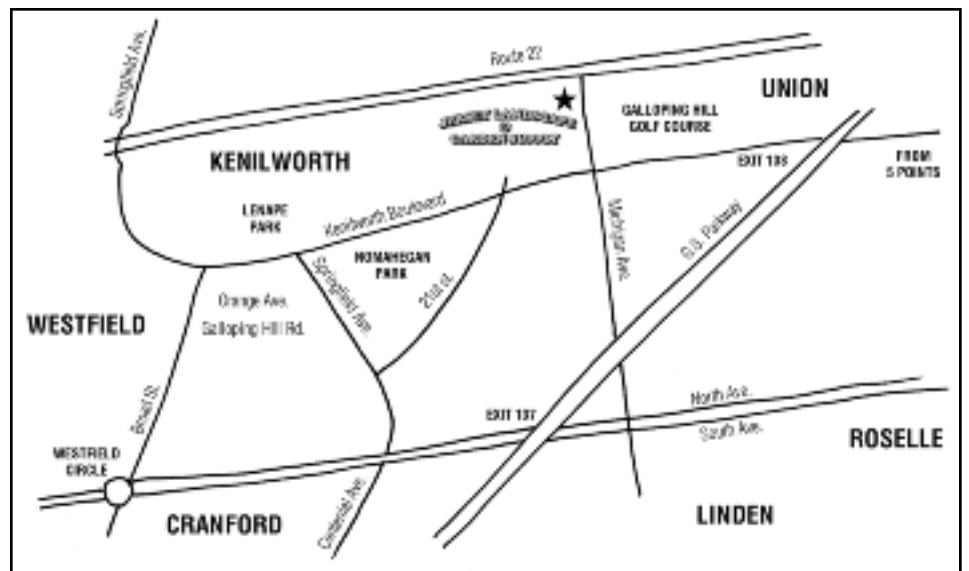
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## CIVIL AIR PATROL (CAP) CADET PROGRAM

CAP was founded in 1941. It is a volunteer civilian auxiliary of the United States Air Force ("non combatant volunteers"). CAP is a national benevolent nonprofit organization with over 60,000 members, including over 26,000 cadets and nearly 35,000 adult members.

The Civil Air Patrol (CAP) offers a "Cadet Program" for the youth of Scotch Plains and adjacent towns. The program is open to teenagers from 12 to 18 years old. The Cadet Program promotes the use of aerospace themes to help educators excite and motivate their students to excel in science, math, technology, language arts, social studies, and other traditional subjects. In addition, cadets receive Aerospace Education, Flight Orientations, STEM education, and more.

CAP promotes strong character in its cadets, which is reflected in the CAP Core Values: Integrity, Volunteer Service, Excellence, and Respect. Cadets learn how to lead through formal classroom instruction and hands-on experience where they apply leadership principles to real-world challenges within the cadet corps.

Through a graduated curriculum, cadets first learn to follow, then to lead small groups, and ultimately experience command and executive-level leadership, earning grade and honors along the way. Topics include how to think critically, communicate effectively, make decisions, motivate, and manage conflict. Self-discipline and teamwork are emphasized. Physical Activities are also part of the Cadet Program in order to encourage a healthy life style.

CAP has summer programs for cadets that they can attend in different parts of the nation and outside of the USA. Furthermore, CAP provides scholarships, career exploration activities, and opportunities to fly.

**Military Commitment:** Although the Air Force provides most of CAP's funding, cadets are not obligated to join the military. However, 10% of the cadets at the U.S. Air Force Academy get their start in CAP.

CAP still actively performs search and rescue missions within the United States (a program tailored to adults and older cadets). After the September 11, 2001 attacks, Civil Air Patrol aircraft provided the first aerial pictures of the World Trade Center site, "Ground Zero," and also flew transport missions bringing donated blood to New York City. CAP members responded by the thousands to help out in the aftermath of hurricanes Rita and Katrina in 2005, both on the air and on the ground – helping with search missions, disaster relief and aerial survey flights.

For more information:

Please call Mary Romany at 732-424-6484

Email: [mary.romany@njwg.cap.gov](mailto:mary.romany@njwg.cap.gov)

Meetings:

Every Tuesday from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM (currently at Chatham High School- room L10)  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=PBdsDRSzbAG](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PBdsDRSzbAG)  
[www.capmembers.com/cadet\\_programs/](http://www.capmembers.com/cadet_programs/)  
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## NJ FOUNDATION FOR OPEN GOVERNMENT

TO PRESENT

**FREE SEMINAR**  
**Tuesday, April 26**  
**6:30 – 8:30 PM**



**The Cranford Community Center**  
 220 Walnut Ave. • Cranford, NJ  
 Community Room  
 Located on the First Floor

Join the New Jersey Foundation for Open Government (NJFOG) the evening of April 26, 2016 for a discussion of the state's open public records and meetings laws.

Don't miss this opportunity to learn about the laws that provide public access to government meetings and documents and that allow citizens greater insight into the operations of state and local governments in New Jersey.

The seminar is free and open to everyone, so please help us spread the word and feel free to bring your questions on April 26. Handouts and light refreshments will be provided.

**Please let us know you will be attending by registering via email to [info@njfog.org](mailto:info@njfog.org).**



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## CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL TO HOLD BLOOD DRIVE SUNDAY, APRIL 10

The Men's Club of Congregation Beth Israel will hold a Blood Drive on Sunday, April 10, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Scotch Plains synagogue.

Run by Community Blood Services of New Jersey, the drive is open to anyone in the community, 18 years or older, who is medically eligible to donate blood. No pre-registration is required. A continental breakfast will be served to all donors.

The Men's Club of Congregation Beth Israel hosts a winter and spring blood drive annually.

Congregation Beth Israel is located at 18 Shalom Way (corner of Martine Ave.), Scotch Plains, NJ. For more information, contact the synagogue office at (908) 889-1830 or Walter Chinoy, Blood Drive Chair, at (908) 230-0062.

## FANWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH BLOOD DRIVE SATURDAY, APRIL 9

Fanwood Presbyterian Church is sponsoring a Blood Drive on Saturday, April 9, 2016, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the NY Blood Services Donor Center, 22279 South Ave. in Scotch Plains.

Donors age 16 or older are urgently needed. Set in motion a chain reaction of giving of a life force and love to humanity by taking an hour out of the day to donate.

Relax in a comfortable recliner, watch a little TV, and enjoy snacks and juice after donation.

Donors must satisfy weight criteria, be in generally good health, and have a valid photo I.D., 16-years-olds must furnish a signed parental consent from and persons age 76 and older must furnish medical clearance. No appointments needed.

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## FANWOOD POLICE HELP TURN GIRL SCOUTS' COOKIE CLASH INTO SUCCESS

Selling Girl Scout cookies on their own street in Scotch Plains turned ugly for two little girls in February. Angelina Skolar, 9, and her sister Natalie, 12, now have boxes and boxes of Girl Scout cookies in their dining room, the result of a windfall of orders from a community that reached out after hearing that the girls were verbally abused while going door to door.

"A woman appeared in the street and started yelling at them," said Sandy Crespo, the girls' mother. After posting about the incident on

Facebook, Ms. Crespo was contacted by Dianne Howarth, Administrative Assistant to Fanwood Police Chief Richard Trigo. Dianne started passing around an order form at Police Headquarters and Borough Hall and in no time, there were orders for 250 boxes of cookies from officers and employees.

"I couldn't be prouder of Dianne and our police officers," said Fanwood Chief Trigo. "It's further proof that our officers are invested in our community."



## DECA TRAVEL TO CHERRY HILL COMPETITION

On February 21, 2016 over 60 Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School DECA students attended the 55th State Career Development Conference in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. Students competed over two days in various business events. Events bring competitors together to test how well they can perform in their areas of Marketing, Hospitality and Tourism, Finance and Business Management and Administration.

The following students received recognition at the Conference.

- Maggie DiVirgilio- 2nd Place in Hospitality and Tourism Professional Selling
- Max Mazursky- 3rd Place in Marketing Management Series
- Peter Yarem- 3rd Place in Quick Serve Restaurant Management
- Angie Saleh and Maggie DiVirgilio- 1st Place in Public Relations Project
- Matt Fox and Max Ross- 3rd Place in Learn and Earn Project
- Niva Patel- 1st Place in Start-up Business Plan
- Noah Bernstein- 2nd Place in Business Finance Series
- Max Mazursky and David Walker-2nd Place in Creative Marketing Project

- Darya Ganzha and Rachel Gudowitz- 2nd Place in International Business Plan
- Ari Rosenzweig- 2nd Place in Principles of Finance

Finalists include: Robbie Viglione in Quick Service Restaurant, Karl Wirth, Eliza Kuperschmid and Darya Ghanza in Full Service Restaurant, Isha Kamdar in Hotel and Lodging, Ava Steele in Sports Promotion Plan, Caitlin Bourke in Marketing Management, Maddie Sassoon in Apparel and Accessories Merchandising, Peter Warren in Retail Merchandising, Jessica Riporti in Business Innovation Plan, Molly Pritchett in Principles of Hospitality, Samantha Broders in Professional Selling, Madison Banker in Hospitality Professional Selling, Katherine Seeney and Kate Musso in Marketing Communications, Avery Greenberg in Principles of Marketing, Ewan Jones and Ryan Cleary in Principles of Finance.

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood DECA chapter was also recognized for raising over \$650 for Operation Shoebox. Twenty-four students will be representing SPFHS and the state of New Jersey at the International Career Development conference in Nashville, Tennessee in April.

## THE EDUCATION ENRICHMENT FOUNDATION OF SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD 4TH ANNUAL MUSICFEST SUNDAY, APRIL 24TH, 2016

On Sunday, April 24 at 5 to 8 p.m. the SPF Educational Enrichment Foundation will host its fourth annual Musicfest at the Crossroads Music Club and Restaurant in Garwood. The evening will feature musical performances by SPF students, parents and teachers to benefit a worthy cause. Performers in all styles of music are welcome.

Student performers must be in seventh grade or older. All students, teachers and parents interested in performing, whether as a soloist or as a group, should send an email to [eefmusicfest2016@gmail.com](mailto:eefmusicfest2016@gmail.com) with your name, grade, contact information, and a sample performance on audio or video if available.

The EEF of SPF is a volunteer fundraising organization in our community that provides

grant opportunities for all educators in the SPF school district, supporting unique innovative educational experiences in our schools. We work to enrich the quality of education in the Scotch Plains-Fanwood school district by focusing on student achievement, student leadership, innovation in the classroom, and enhanced learning through technology and innovation.

In addition to our hallmark educator grant program, the EEF offers an annual Student Leadership Training Conference called the LTC 100, which provides leadership training to over 100 middle school students annually. The EEF also sponsored cohorts of students for the Students 2 Science program, as part of our mission to fund and initiate new innovative programs.

## JEWES AND BASEBALL WITH RON KAPLAN SUNDAY, APRIL 17TH 2016 AT 7:00PM

April is the beginning of baseball season. It's also a great time to learn some history of Jews and baseball. Baseball is a uniquely American sport. It served both as entertainment and part of immigrants' assimilation in America. Ron Kaplan, Sports and Features Editor of the New Jersey Jewish News is presenting a discussion on the history of Jews and baseball.

Ron Kaplan is an award-winning journalist for the New Jersey Jewish News, where he's been on staff since 2004. He is currently the sports and features editor and also handles the world news and commentary departments.

He blogs at "Kaplan's Korner on Jews and Sports," which was named by the New Jersey Press Association as the best blog of 2014. He also blogs about baseball literature and pop culture at Ron Kaplan's Baseball Bookshelf where he has interviewed dozens of authors, artists, filmmakers, and musicians regarding their work about the national pastime.

In 2013, Kaplan published 501 Baseball Books Fans Must Read before They Die and his new book The Jewish Olympics: The History of the Maccabiah Games, was released by Skyhorse Publishing in July, 2015. He is currently at work on a book about Hank Greenberg.

Admission is free thanks to a grant from the Ruth Rutenberg fund at Temple Sholom.

Please keep this fund in mind when



considering future charitable giving. Light refreshments will be served.

### ABOUT TEMPLE SHOLOM

Founded in 1913, Temple Sholom is a Reform Jewish congregation led by Rabbi Joel N. Abraham and Cantor Darcie Sharlein. The temple and its religious school are home to about 250 families from the greater Scotch Plains-Fanwood area. Temple Sholom is a member of the Union for Reform Judaism. Temple Sholom is located at 1925 Lake Avenue, Scotch Plains, NJ 07076. For more information about the Temple or joining the congregation, please call 908-889-4900, e-mail [sholom@sholomnj.org](mailto:sholom@sholomnj.org) or visit <http://www.sholomnj.org/>

## MINDFULNESS-BASED STRESS REDUCTION

Monday April 18, 7:30-8:30 pm



The College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains welcomes Dr. Diane Handlin, the Founder and Executive Director of the Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) Center of NJ in Metuchen, NJ along with her husband Dr. Jim Handlin, Founding member and Educational consultant for the center. They will share their knowledge about this powerful method to reduce stress and improve overall health and well-being.

Published research has shown that meditation and relaxation training can be significant and effective adjuncts to the conventional medical treatment of many disorders as well as a powerful means of reducing stress and pain and heightening well-being. Come and learn about techniques to help us manage stress in our everyday life.

The program is free and open to the public. The College Club's mission is to support education of our youth and local community. The program will be held at The Chelsea located at 295 South Ave, Fanwood, NJ. Refreshments will begin at 7:30 pm with the program to start at 7:45pm.



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## COUNCIL MEETING HAPPENINGS FROM MARCH 21ST

Photos by Brian Horton



(above) Fanwood Fire Dept. Chief John Piccola, second from right, was honored by the Scotch Plains Volunteer Firefighters Association with the group's 2015 outstanding service award at a the March 21, 2016 Fanwood council meeting. With Piccola are Scotch Plains Fire Dept. Capt. Joe Rodrigues, left, Battalion Chief Skip Paal, second from left, and Captain Dennis Hercel, right, who made the presentation. Piccola was honored for his many years of leadership and fostering of cooperation between the Fanwood and Scotch Plains departments.



(above) Eileen Morris, left, accepts a framed print of Fanwood's historic north side train station from Council President Kathy Mitchell after being named as the borough's volunteer of the month at a borough council meeting in Fanwood, NJ, March 21, 2016. Morris is the longtime leader of the group that oversees and maintains the many floral planters in the borough's downtown area.

## EDUCATION ENRICHMENT FOUNDATION MUSICFEST

On Sunday, April 24 at 5 to 8 p.m. the SPF Educational Enrichment Foundation will host its fourth annual Musicfest at the Crossroads Music Club and Restaurant in Garwood. The evening will feature musical performances by SPF students, parents and teachers to benefit a worthy cause. Performers in all styles of music are welcome.

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(above) Scotch Plains Fanwood Scholarship Foundation president Mary Cappio, along with several members, thanks Fanwood Council after the group was honored on the occasion of it's 50th anniversary. The foundation awarded more than \$2.7 million in scholarships to 2,741 students from Fanwood and Scotch Plains over the years. Cappio also reminded residents that the foundation's fund drive is coming up the weekend of April 9-10, when students will go door-to-door in the borough and the township seeking donations.

## NEEDLE NITERS UNITE

The Needle Niters of Fanwood Presbyterian Church invite all to visit our display and demonstration on April 2nd at the Harvest Quilters show at Willow Gove Presbyterian Church, 1961 Raritan Rd. in Scotch Plains from 8am to 4:30pm.

The monthly Needle Nite at Fanwood Presbyterian Church is scheduled for Friday, April 8th (note that this is the second Friday) at 7:30pm in Westminster Hall. Enter from Marian Avenue.

The quilters will work on this year's quilt pattern called "9Patchtastic". The knitters and those who crochet will work on the projects they make for charity.

All are welcome to come and see what is being done and to join the group.

If fabric, batting or yarn is needed, Needle Niters may e-mail their request to [needlenite@fanwoodpc.org](mailto:needlenite@fanwoodpc.org). The donated materials used end up in many forms usable by the charities that receive them. The Needle Nite Participants then take their newly learned skills for their use at home.

For further information about these projects or

directions to Fanwood Presbyterian Church please call the office at 908-889-8891 or e-mail [admin@fanwoodpc.org](mailto:admin@fanwoodpc.org) or check the web [www.fanwoodpc.org](http://www.fanwoodpc.org). with your name, grade, contact information, and a sample performance on audio or video if available.

The EEF of SPF is a volunteer fundraising organization in our community that provides grant opportunities for all educators in the SPF school district, supporting unique innovative educational experiences in our schools. We work to enrich the quality of education in the Scotch Plains- Fanwood school district by focusing on student achievement, student leadership, innovation in the classroom, and enhanced learning through technology and innovation.

In addition to our hallmark educator grant program, the EEF offers an annual Student Leadership Training Conference called the LTC 100, which provides leadership training to over 100 middle school students annually. The EEF also sponsored cohorts of students for the Students 2 Science program, as part of our mission to fund and initiate new innovative programs.



(above) Nancy Bassman, co-chair of Needle Nite shows one of the 9Patchtastic quilt patterns at the March meeting.

# FANWOOD'S EGG-CEPTIONAL EASTER HUNT WELL ATTENDED

Under sunny skies with just a little chill in the air, Fanwood's annual Easter Egg Hunt was an egg-cellent adventure for a big crowd Saturday, March 19 at Fanwood's Forest Road Park.

Children 10 and under got to gather prize eggs, meet the Easter Bunny and have a morning of fun. More than 2,000 eggs filled with all sorts of goodies, including hundreds of prize tickets, were

hidden around the park.

In addition to the egg hunts, which were done in age groups, kids also got to guess the number of jelly beans and the number of chocolate eggs and take part in a bunny drawing contest and an egg decorating contest. The morning of fun was put on by the Fanwood Recreation Commission.

Photos by Brian Horto



(above) With some help from the adults, the under-2 group of youngsters go for the prize eggs.



(above) A group of happy youngsters pose for a photo.



(above) Dylan, left, and Ayden Darrow of Scotch Plains collect some prize eggs.



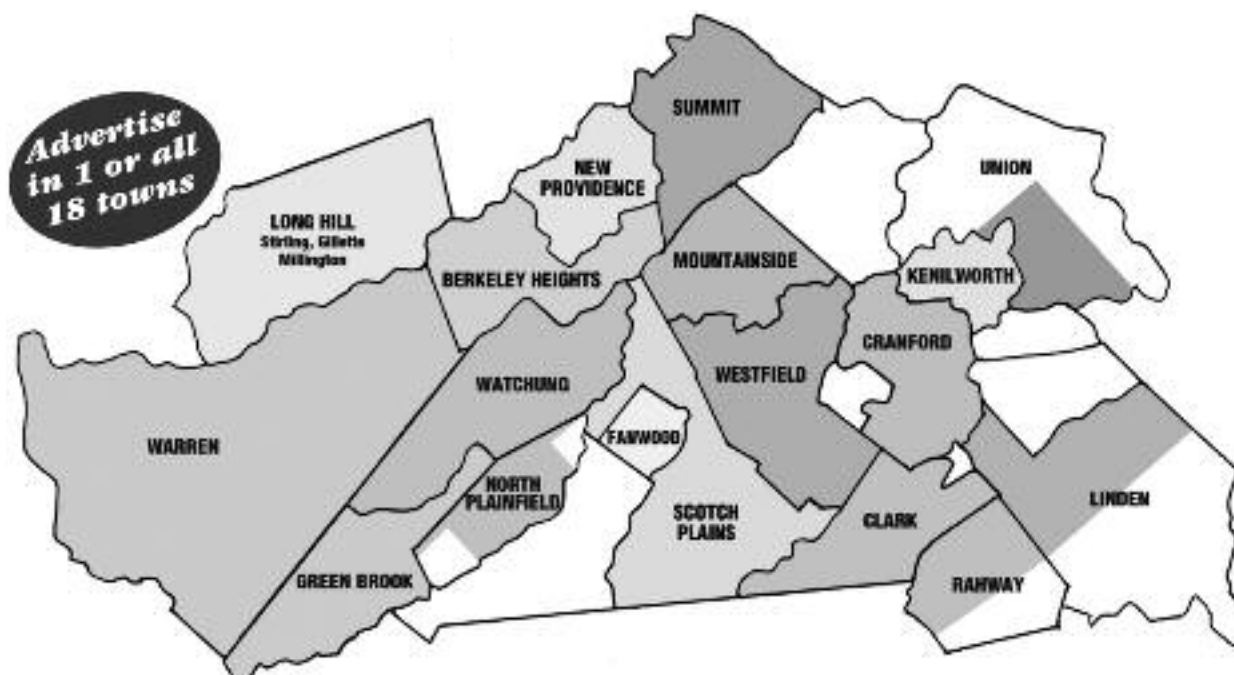
(above) Kids reach for the prizes at the annual Easter Egg Hunt.



(above) Sporting her own set of bunny ears, three-year-old Colette Maynard of Fanwood poses for a photo with the Easter Bunny

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Friday, May 6th

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