

# The PRIDE of North Plainfield



North Plainfield's Hometown Newspaper

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## WORLD THINKING DAY: GIRL SCOUTS "TOUR" THE GLOBE

What do North Plainfield Girl Scouts, Jamaica, Thailand, Argentina, Spain, Nigeria and other countries around the globe and February 22nd have in common?

World Thinking Day...celebrated March 11, 2017 this year, just one day shy of when Girl Scout Day was founded, March 12 (1912) and the date of Juliette Low's first troop's first meeting.

The day is a reminder of the connection with Girl Scouts and Girl Guides at home and everywhere. "It is a day to celebrate friendships with others from around the world. This year we chose five different countries from five different continents, some of their food, games and crafts to learn about," said Ginny Mayer-Brown, event coordinator.

The two-hour "tour" of the globe had the "tourist" girls and leaders "visiting" the five countries. They viewed various displays, tasted some of each culture's foods, experienced hands-on activities and crafts, did puzzles, word finds and coloring pages and earned World Thinking Day badges.

First stop: Jamaica. Where Jerk Chicken with Rice and Peas was served and cultural word searches featuring food, games and weather words indicative of Jamaica were explored.

Second stop: Thailand. Where Pad Thai, a chicken with noodles, carrots and peanut sauce dish was served and E Keb (throwing and catching rocks) and Dod Nang Yang (jumping and rubber band rope) were played.

Third stop: Argentina. Where Chimichurri Sauce was tasted and Football (U.S. Soccer) was played.

Fourth stop: Spain. Where Gazpacho (cold tomato and peppers-based soup) was eaten and bracelets were made.

Last stop: Nigeria. Where Jollof Rice (spicy rice) was sampled and Ayo (a game of capturing seeds) was played.

"This day is significant to our troop as we are a first-year multi-level troop. World Thinking Day gave us the opportunity to work together to present different aspects of cultures to the entire North Plainfield Girl Scout community," said Hope Mitchell, Troop 65942 leader.

Co-leaders of Troop 65012 Chris Coop and Carlie Dougherty said, "We contacted someone in Argentina. It made it so much more real. We learned it is amazing that the Girl Scout premise is the same: attention to sisterhood, community, nature and environment; yet, the specifics are different. Badges, uniforms, levels and specific wording of Girl Scout law is different."

Girl Scout Junior Grace Klikus said, "It was fun to learn about many cultures and Girl Scouts and Girl Guides across the world."

Donations from the event are designated for the Juliette Low World Friendship Fund.

The event, held at the North Plainfield Vermuele Community Center, hosted nine North Plainfield troops and 80 North Plainfield Girl Scouts of all ages.

According to the World Association of Girl Scouts and Girl Guides, there are millions of Girl Scouts worldwide, with the United States having the largest number-and growing!



(above) Tameka Lewis, Troop 65212 parent and Girl Scout Daisies "visit" Nigeria, play Ayo (collecting seeds game) and sample Jollof Rice (spicy rice) during North Plainfield Girl Scout World Thinking Day.



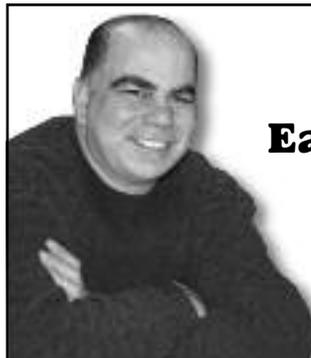
(above) North Plainfield Cadets and Brownies "visit" Spain and made bracelets.

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# The PRIDE of North Plainfield

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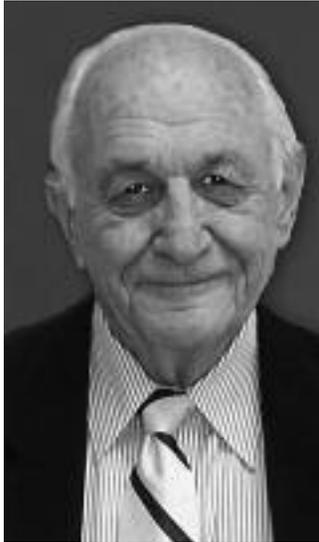
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## BILL VINCE OPENS \$5,999 CAR LOT TO CELEBRATES 93RD BIRTHDAY



Bill Vince, President of Bridgewater Acura in Bridgewater and V.I.P. Honda in North Plainfield, is venturing into a new market selling vehicles beginning at \$5,999 and under. The new "Buy Here, Pay Here" location will be at the former leasing building (green house) on

Route 22 West, directly across from the V.I.P. Honda New Car Showroom. This is a new feat for the business owner, a successful dealership owner for over 54 years and with over 50 million satisfied customers and growing.

"Unfortunately, there are a great many people that can't afford a later model or new car, particularly those who are on a fixed income, budget, have credit issues or non-established credit," Vince states. "The new department will cater to those who are experiencing hardship and need a car, which is something you need to do just about anything these days. We realize the financial circumstances that individuals can face and we believe everyone deserves a safe, reliable vehicle that they can afford."

Vince will allow customers to purchase or finance vehicles at the facility, provided they have employment or someone who will make the payments on their behalf. "I did a survey to

determine if anyone specialized in cars \$5,999 and under, and there weren't many." Vince said. "Unfortunately, most dealers charge exorbitant interest rates, making it difficult to make the vehicle payments, which results in late charges and giving the customer a difficult time to establish good credit."

The new operation opened on March 15th to commiserate Vince's 93rd birthday which is March 17th. Though many of his peers and family tell him to just retire and enjoy the fruits of his labors, Vince continues to build what he's worked so hard for. He may not be the first to arrive in the morning and last to leave the office in the evening like he did when he first became a part of the car business in his early days as a salesperson for Ranson Pontiac in Plainfield, but he is still active with all operations of his dealers and oversees all affairs.

With the new 'Buy Here, Pay Here' endeavor, Vince will carry over his creed of commitment to his customers for satisfaction before, during and even after the sale—a motto that he's lived by for all his years in the industry and has been proven effective with the several dealerships he's owned over the years, winning several awards for customer service. It is also a way for him to help out the local community. Vince is an advocate of giving back, donating and working with several of the communities' departments and schools, and sees this as yet another way to do so. The customer and their needs are always Vince's number one priority, and this new operation will take that one step further by assisting those in need to obtain a vehicle.

### PROMOTE YOUR EVENT

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

Organizations who are interested in submitting content can email [editor@rennamedia.com](mailto:editor@rennamedia.com) or call 908-418-5586

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# LIBRARY OFFERS PROGRAMS FOR LOCAL BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS

Somerset County Library System of New Jersey has announced programs for local business professionals.

LinkedIn Marketing will be held on May 2, 7-8:30 p.m. at SCLSNJ's Hillsborough Library branch, located at 379 South Branch Rd. in Hillsborough.

John Biancamano, chairman of the Princeton chapter of SCORE, will teach you how to use LinkedIn to expand your business network, make your expertise available to others, and prospect in a low key way.

Teen Tycoons: An Entrepreneurial Competition will be held on May 19, 7-10 p.m. at SCLSNJ's Bridgewater Library branch, located at 1 Vogt Dr. in Bridgewater.

In celebration of Small Business week, SCLSNJ is hosting a competition for aspiring teen entrepreneurs based on the popular entrepreneurial television show called Shark Tank. The contest is open to all students in grades 7-12 eligible for an SCLSNJ library card. The judges are looking for original business concepts and/or new variations on an existing business concept. The business can be a brand new business or an already existing business. Groups up to a maximum of 3 people are allowed to enter the competition but only one member of the group will present. The participants will not be allowed extensions, PowerPoint slides or props of any kind. The 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place winners will receive prizes. Space is limited. Applications to participate will be accepted beginning March 1, 2017. For more information email Cathy DeBerry, cdeberry@sclbnj.org. Please register early as space is limited.

Business Builders Breakfast will be held on

June 6, 8:30-10 a.m. at SCLSNJ's Bridgewater Library branch, located at 1 Vogt Dr. in Bridgewater.

SCLSNJ business librarians will share library services and resources available to business professionals in cooperation with the Somerset County Business Partnership (SCBP). Topics to be discussed include online business resources such as Reference USA and the Small Business Resource Center, the digital Wall Street Journal, Business Kits, and the Business Center at SCLSNJ's Warren Township Library branch. There is a fee to attend this event. For more information and to register, visit SCBP.org.

Registration is required to attend these programs. To register, visit SCLSNJ.org or

contact your local SCLSNJ library branch.

About Somerset County Library System of New Jersey

Somerset County Library System of New Jersey (SCLSNJ) partners with you to connect, to explore, to share and to discover. Together we enrich lives, expand knowledge and strengthen communities. SCLSNJ branches can be found in Bridgewater, Bound Brook, Hillsborough, Manville, North Plainfield, Peapack & Gladstone, Rocky Hill at Mary Jacobs Memorial Library, Somerville, Warren Township, and Watchung. Additionally, there are two SCLSNJ reading stations in Branchburg and Washington Valley. Visit SCLSNJ.org for further information about library services offered at SCLSNJ.

## NORTH PLAINFIELD MEMORIAL LIBRARY

6 Rockview Avenue, North Plainfield, NJ 07060 • 908-755-7909 • SCLSNJ.org

### FAMILY PROGRAM

**Dads & Donuts:** April 15, 1-11 a.m.  
**Meet the Artist! Student Art Show:** April 22, 2-4 p.m.

### CHILDREN, TWEEN, & TEENS

**Teen Game Day:** April 10, 17, & 24, 3:30-5 p.m.  
(grades 6-12)

**Moving Kiddos:** April 11, 10-10:30 a.m.  
(6 months - 2 years old)

**Teen Cooking:** You Pick the Meal on  
April 11, & 18, 3:30-5 p.m.  
(tweens & teens)

**Rhyme Time & Play Storytime:** April 12, 10-11 a.m.  
(2-4 years old)

**Lego Club:** April 20, 3:30-4:30 p.m.  
(grades K-5)

**Kids Cook:** April 25, 3:30-4:30 p.m.  
(grades 3-5)

### ADULT PROGRAMS

**Citizenship Class**  
April 13, 6-8:30 p.m.

**Book Discussion**  
"Glory Over Everything: Beyond the Kitchen House"  
by Kathleen Grissom on April 13, 1-2 p.m.  
& call for title  
on April 20, 7:15-8:30 p.m.

**Morning Knitting & Crochet Meetup**  
April 11 & 25, 10 a.m. - noon.

**Poetry & Parfaits**  
April 15, 3-4:30 p.m.

**English Conversation Group**  
April 24, 7-8:30 p.m.

**Friends of the North Plainfield Library Meeting**  
April 26, 7-8:30 p.m.

**Vegan Cooking: Refrigerator Pickles**  
April 27, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

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**FRIDAY - SATURDAY**

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QUESTIONS?  
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 Pete Eddy 908-256-1273;  
 or Danny Dominguez 908-447-2468  
 (Spanish version available from Mr. Dominguez)

## NORTH PLAINFIELD CITIZENS FOR COMMUNITY RIGHTS MEETING SET FOR MAY 4TH

The next meeting of the North Plainfield Citizens for Community Rights (NPCCR) will be Thursday, May 4th, 7:00 p.m. at the North Plainfield Community Center 614 Greenbrook Rd., North Plainfield. This is a free event. All are welcome, no registration is required.

Our guest speaker will be Dennis Passe, North Plainfield's Director of Recreation. Among other things Dennis will talk about the summer program, how and when people can register for recreation events, etc. The recreation office can be reached at 908-403-9752. If you have any questions about our recreation program, bring them to this meeting. NPCCR posts the current police reports and council meetings on our site. You can view them by going to [www.npccr.org](http://www.npccr.org).

## NORTH PLAINFIELD BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

The March meeting for the North Plainfield Business Association was held on Tuesday March 28th, 2017 at the International Sports Club at 403 Somerset Street in town. The meeting was sponsored by Avis/Budget Rent-a-Car, with Eddy's Kitchen providing the food and refreshments. The guest speaker was Val Waterman, Principle with Answers Design Group. She discussed how to present yourself and your business to prospective customers.

The next North Plainfield Business Association meeting will be at the International

Sports Club on Tuesday April 25th. Chris Yim from AFLAC will be the guest speaker.

Please visit the facebook page for updates at: [www.facebook.com/NPBusinessAssociation](http://www.facebook.com/NPBusinessAssociation).

Finally, NPBA membership remains free, so tell your friends.

There are elevated membership levels of \$100 - \$300 annually that include benefits and sponsorship opportunities. Anyone interested in the NPBA can speak to Pete Eddy 908-256-1273, Danny Dominguez 908-447-2468, or Bruce Heyman 908-755-4700.

## LIONS CLUB PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The North Plainfield Lions Club will have a Pancake Breakfast on Palm Sunday, April 9, 2017 from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. New location: St. Luke's R.C. Church, 300 Clinton Ave., North Plainfield (Church hall entrance in rear of church).

The cost is Adults \$6, Seniors \$4, and Children \$3. Tickets can be purchased at the door or from any club member.



(above) Bruce Heyman, Fabricland and Val Waterman, Answers Design Group presenter at the March meeting of the NPBA.

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# GRANT AWARDED TO MOMS HELPING MOMS

Moms Helping Moms Foundation, the community-based not-for-profit organization that distributes diapers to babies living in low-wage families in New Jersey, has been selected as one of 24 national recipients of a 2017 Funds for Change grant awarded by the National Diaper Bank Network (NDBN).

“NDBN’s Funds for Change grants help diaper banks reach more families by investing in organizations that we recognize as growing community assets and strengthening that investment with technical support for nonprofit organizations through our national network,” said Susan Van Ness, NDBN chief of programs. “NDBN is very pleased to present Moms Helping Moms Foundation with a \$2,500 grant to further its mission to serve struggling families in NJ.

According Bridget Cutler, President of Moms Helping Moms Foundation, the grant will be used to expand their volunteer program. ‘We are so proud and excited to be a 2017 Funds for Change grant recipient once again. We are so thankful for the National Diaper Bank Network’s ongoing support of organizations like ours across the country.’

Moms Helping Moms Foundation is a NJ Non-profit dedicated to providing babies from low income families with the essentials that they need for a healthy and happy start. Established in 2011 by a group of like-minded mothers, the group collects donations of essential baby items from families who no longer need them and passes them onto families that do. Providing these items

to low income families eases those families’ mental and financial stress and promotes the health and safety of their children. Additionally, the organization is recycling items that might otherwise end up in the trash. To date they have helped provide more than 175,000 diapers to thousands of families living in NJ.

For more information on how to help or volunteer with Moms Helping Moms Foundation go to [www.momshelpingmomsfoundation.org](http://www.momshelpingmomsfoundation.org).



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Rain date will be April 30th, 2017 at 2 pm.

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## HONORING OUR PAST, INSPIRING OUR FUTURE

On Feb. 19 nearly 300 residents from North Plainfield and surrounding communities gathered at the North Plainfield Community Center for a 'Celebration of Black History.' The Black History Month program was organized by Councilwoman Keiona Miller and was hosted by radio show personality Marc A. Medley, the Host of Brave New Radio- The Reading Circle.

The program kicked off with a flag ceremony by North Plainfield Girls Scouts Troop 65942 under the direction of Mrs. Hope Mitchell, convocation by Joel Biggers, Pastor of Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church, and opening statements by North Plainfield Police Chief William Parent and North Plainfield Mayor Michael Giordano.

The three-hour long event featured oratorical, dance and musical performances by 10-year old orator Rhyann Brown, Royal Priesthood of the North Stelton AME Liturgical Dance Ministries, pianist Quinn DeGeneste, soloist Erika Staley-Williams, the Central Jersey Community Chorale, the North Plainfield High School (NPHS) Choir, under the direction of Mrs Amy Six; and the NPHS Step Team, led by Mrs Nicole Hawker-Daniel.

The Keynote address was delivered by U.S. Congressman Donald M. Payne, Jr., Other special guest speakers included Dr. Jerard Stephenson, North Plainfield High School Principal; Richeleen Dashield, Dean of multicultural affairs at the Paul Robeson Institute, and Shanel-Pullings-Robbinson, Franklin Township Councilwoman.

A main highlight of the program was a special tribute made to Dr. Willa Cofield in honor of her

achievements as a social justice activist. The presentation was made by Lytanda Zellner, former North Plainfield Rec. Coach.

Willa Cofield is a retired educator who has devoted her life to community upliftment and social justice. She has deep roots in North Carolina where she taught at Inborden High School, Enfield, North Carolina. She now resides in Plainfield, New Jersey.

The program themed 'Honoring Our Past, Inspiring Our Future' successfully incorporated participation from many area youths, and insights and education from elders and various community leaders.

Other local community groups that supported the program included Rev. Ursula Cargill and congregants of Agape House. Rev. Jeremiah and Yvonne Heath and congregants of The New Testament Church of God, Healing & Deliverance Ministries, Pastor Neville Copeland and congregants of Glad Tidings Church of God of Prophecy, Frank D'Amore Sr. and the North Plainfield Citizens for Community Rights (NPCCR), the North Plainfield Optimist Club, members of the Somerset County Democratic Committee Black Caucus, and members of the North Plainfield-chartered Beta Alpha Rho Zeta chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority.

"I am most proud of the willing participation of so many of our young people. And I'm very grateful for the overwhelming support that I received from North Plainfield residents, the school district and local clergy groups. I wish to extend sincerest thank you to everyone who attended, and participated and supported this event," Miller Said.



(above l-r) Lytanda Zellner, Dr. Willa Cofield, and Councilwoman Keiona Miller.



(above) Joel Biggers, Pastor of Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church





(above) North Plainfield High School Choir, under the direction of Mrs Amy Six.



(above) North Plainfield High School Step Team, led by Mrs Nicole Hawker-Daniel.

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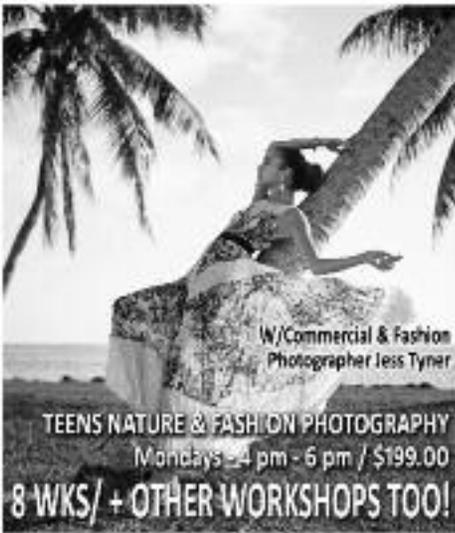
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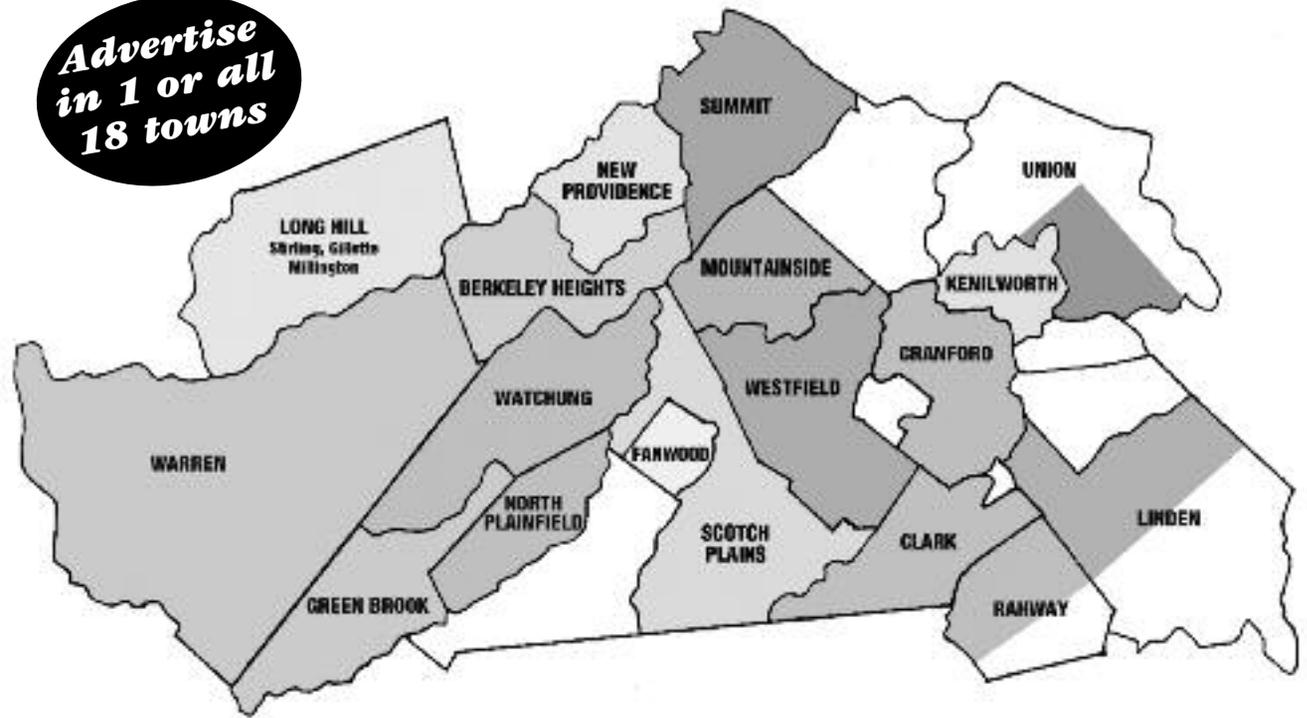
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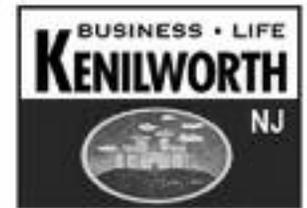
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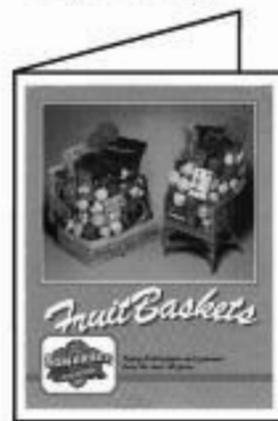
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**C**

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TRI-FOLD**

3 3/4" x 8 1/2"  
Finish size



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**D**

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