

Scotch Plains NJ

WHAT'S HAPPENING MONTHLY

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NJ SHARING NETWORK AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

The NJ Sharing Network Foundation

Twelve New Jersey high school students, including Gabrielle Johnson of Scotch Plains, were awarded scholarships from the Sharing Network Foundation for their passion and dedication to raising awareness of organ and tissue donation and transplantation. The 2025 graduates were presented with their scholarship awards at NJ Sharing Network's headquarters in New Providence.

Gabrielle Johnson (Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School), received a scholarship from the Daniel S. Buckiewicz Scholarship Fund. She will attend the University of California - Santa Barbara. Gabrielle's connection to organ and tissue donation began through a deeply personal family loss when her mother passed suddenly from a brain aneurysm. Since 2013, Gabrielle and her family have been active supporters of NJ Sharing Network, participating annually in the 5K Celebration of Life as Team One Love. Gabrielle has also volunteered at events since 2018 and made it her mission to raise awareness about the impact of donation. In 2021, Gabrielle had the honor of attending the Donate Life Rose Parade® float presentation in Pasadena,

California, where her mother's floragraph was featured. Motivated by this experience, she plans to study psychology in college, following in her mother's footsteps, with a goal to help others heal and thrive.

The Sharing Network Foundation's scholarships are made possible thanks to several of the organization's family and partner funds:

Daniel S. Buckiewicz Scholarship Fund - created in memory of organ and tissue donor Dan Buckiewicz to encourage students to have conversations about donation with their families and friends.

Hearts for Emma Partner Fund - created in celebration of Emma Rothman's lifesaving heart transplant to support high school education and donation advocacy efforts.

Jim Rhatican Scholarship Fund - created in memory of Jim Rhatican, NJ Sharing Network Volunteer, liver transplant recipient, and retired teacher and coach of 35 years.

Missy's Miracle Scholarship Fund - created in celebration of Missy Rodriguez's lifesaving liver transplant to follow her passion as a college counselor through scholarships for high school students.

(Continued on page 2)

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(above) Recipients of the 2025 Sharing Network Foundation High School Scholarships, alongside representatives from the Sharing Network Foundation and its partner funds, gathered at NJ Sharing Network headquarters in New Providence to celebrate their commitment to organ and tissue donation advocacy.

Photo Courtesy of NJ Sharing Network



in times of need, we're here for our community

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Scotch Plains NJ

WHAT'S HAPPENING MONTHLY

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SHARING NETWORK (continued from page 1)

The Sharing Network

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Missy's Miracle Scholarship Fund - created in celebration of Missy Rodriguez's lifesaving liver transplant to follow her passion as a college counselor through scholarships for high school students.

Riley's Path - created in memory of organ donor Riley Kogen to provide financial assistance to transplant patients in times of crisis, and to award scholarships to high school students and advocacy heroes.

The Sharing Network Foundation's high school scholarship program provides an opportunity to recognize and award graduating high school seniors whose lives have been touched by organ and tissue donation and transplantation. Applicants were measured on academic achievement, community and volunteer efforts, extracurricular activities, and advocacy

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NJ FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA: CANDLELIGHT CONCERT AND TENORS RETURN

Step into an evening of sophistication and charm as the New Jersey Festival Orchestra presents its first-ever candlelight concert, *Romance in the Mansion*, on Saturday, November 15 at 6:30 PM at the James Ward Mansion in Westfield.

Under the baton of Music Director and Maestro David Wroe, a string quartet of NJFO musicians — Bradley Bosenbeck (Violin I), Théo

Payen (Violin II), Gregory Williams (Viola), and Ansel Cohen (Cello) — will perform an intimate program that blends the romance of Broadway, the emotion of cinematic scores, and the allure of contemporary classics. Audiences will be swept away by lush arrangements from beloved artists such as ABBA, Coldplay, George Gershwin, and more — all illuminated by the warm glow of candlelight in one of Westfield’s most elegant settings.

Guests can indulge in complimentary wine and small plates as they enjoy this unique fusion of artistry and atmosphere. With its golden décor, intimate seating, and unforgettable musical program, *Romance in the Mansion* promises to be a highlight of the NJFO season.

NJFO gratefully acknowledges the Ward family for generously sharing their beautiful space to support this fundraising event. Proceeds will help bring notable soloists to future NJFO concerts and fund community initiatives such as the orchestra’s Listening is Healing music therapy program. Earlier this season, NJFO musicians Yifei Xu and Matthew Armbruster shared the gift of music with patients at Overlook Hospital in Summit, NJ, an inspiring example of the impact programs like Listening is Healing bring to the community.

“We are thrilled to present this intimate concert experience and deeply grateful for the generosity that allows us to continue sharing music both on stage and beyond,” said Maestro Wroe.

Following *Romance in the Mansion*, NJFO rings in the festive season with one of its most anticipated events — *The Return of the Holiday Tenors*.

Back by popular demand, this symphonic spectacular will fill the concert hall with the magic of the holidays, featuring award-winning tenors John Kun Park, Luke Norvell, and Michael DeShield alongside guest choruses and the full New Jersey Festival Orchestra. Together, they’ll perform an uplifting program of holiday classics, Broadway-style showstoppers, and beloved seasonal songs that capture the joy and wonder of the season.

Under Maestro Wroe’s direction, this festive performance blends grand symphonic arrangements with soaring vocals and heartwarming moments, making it a beloved tradition for families across New Jersey.

Performances take place on Saturday, December 6, at 7:00 PM at the Presbyterian Church in Westfield, and on Sunday, December 7, at 3:00 PM at The Concert Hall at Drew University in Madison.

From the candlelit elegance of *Romance in the Mansion* to the jubilant voices of *The Return of the Holiday Tenors*, NJFO’s 2025 season offers something truly special for every music lover.

Tickets are available at njfestivalorchestra.org or by calling the NJFO office at (908) 232-9400 during operational hours. Seating is limited, and early reservations are encouraged.

**NEW JERSEY
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MUSIC DIRECTOR DAVID WROE

Romance in the Mansion
 **Sat, November 15, 6:30 pm**
The James Ward Mansion,
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Return of the Holiday Tenors
Sat, December 6, 7:00 pm
The Presbyterian Church, Westfield
Sun, December 7, 3:00 pm
The Concert Hall at
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UPS, DOWNS AND AROUNDS - NOV. 25TH

Historical Society of Scotch Plains and Fanwood

Join The Historical Society of Scotch Plains and Fanwood to enjoy, learn and smile together as we watch America’s history and facts about yesterday and today’s roller coasters and carousels through pictures, narrations and music. On November 25th at 7:30 p.m. Dan Koslowski, an avid roller coaster enthusiast, will give us an eye opening journey from the people who invented these unique rides, to one of America’s favorite pastimes, the amusement park.

Koslowski was 6 years old when he rode his first roller coaster and has no plans of stopping. He has been on over 100 roller coaster and has never been sick on any one of them. He loves the speed, the excitement and going fast. He is an active member with the “American Roller Coaster Enthusiasts” and the “National Carousel Club.” He is a retired instrumental music teacher at elementary schools in Linden and now gives

private music lessons. Besides riding, researching and presenting about roller coasters, Koslowski builds and designs original scratch-built working model roller coasters. His 5th, named the “Torpedo”, delighted everyone at the 1994 Greenberg Train and Toy Show at Fairleigh Dickinson U. In Hackensack and won first place for being the most original and unique scratch-built model. It took him 17 months and more than 1,400 hours to build and design and model. It was sold to a collector. To make roller coasters takes patience, dedication, commitment, endurance and research. Koslowski says there is “a renaissance of roller coasters due to new materials, ideas and inventions that are coming into play.”

Come, Learn and Enjoy this free program presented by the Historical Society of Scotch

Plains and Fanwood at our Thanksgiving meeting on Tuesday evening November 25th. Feel free to bring friends and relatives to this free and open to the public meeting. Delight in seeing many of the most famous carousels and roller coaster from the past to today’s present, including those from Bowcraft Amusement Park. Koslowski aims to educate the public to preserve our heritage, American history, our folk lore and encourage community preservation. The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. and will be held at the historic Shady Rest Country Club, 820 Jerusalem Road (at the corner of Plainfield Avenue) in Scotch Plains. Refreshments and fellowship follow the presentation. (And for this special presentation, Dan will provide a TIP jar.)

For further information, contact
 Connie Klock at 908-337-7735.



Courtesy Photo

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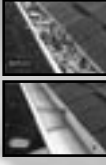
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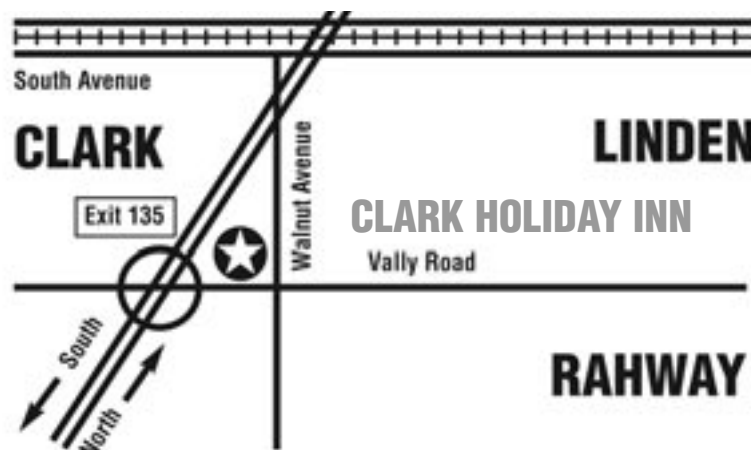
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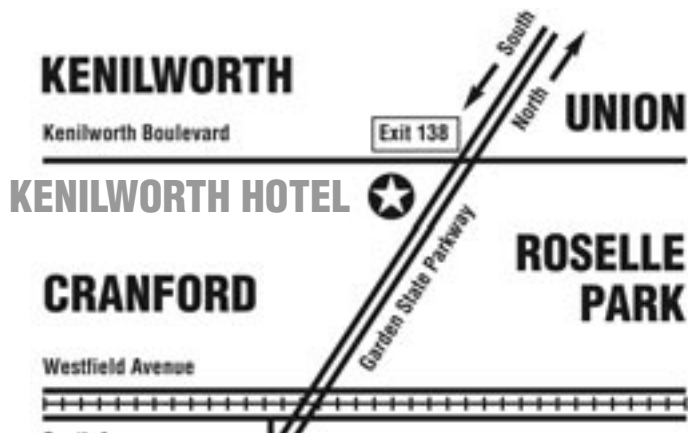


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(above) Annual Doll and Toy event at the non-profit Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League Thrift Shop kicks off Tuesday, November 4.

Courtesy Photo

SAFETY TALK - CYBERSECURITY AND SCAMS - NOV., 17

Please join us on Monday, November 17th at Mira Vie (295 South Avenue in Fanwood) to learn about Safety Updates-Cybersecurity and Scams. Lt. Dan Kranz of the Fanwood Police Department will give an informative talk on safety.

This event is free and open to the public, and refreshments will be provided after the talk. This event is sponsored by the College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains. Please visit our website at: fspcollegeclub.org to learn more, join, or donate!

CALLING ALL VETERANS JOIN THE ROTARY CLUB FOR LUNCH

Every year, the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club hosts a Veterans Appreciation lunch in honor of Veteran’s Day. This year’s luncheon will be held during their meeting on Wednesday, November 12, 2025 at 12:15 p.m. at the Stage House Restaurant in Scotch Plains. They’ll honor veterans in the club as well as veterans in the local community. The Rotary Club is very grateful to all men and women who served the United States Armed Forces and will pay tribute to those who served, those who continue to serve and those who made the ultimate sacrifice. Veterans in the towns of Fanwood and Scotch Plains are invited to attend, free of charge, but should register in advance because space is limited. To register for the event, Veterans can contact Curt Brand at 908-723-5746.

For more information about the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary club, you can visit their website at fsprotary.org

ANNUAL DOLLS AND TOYS EVENT

Service League Thrift Shop in Scotch Plains

The annual Doll and Toy event at the non-profit Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League Thrift Shop kicks off Tuesday, November 4 - just in time for holiday gift-giving. It’s a perfect way to purchase gifts for all of the children in your life, with smart shoppers finding great options at reasonable prices for infants through teens.

Thanks to our generous donors, doll lovers can choose from gorgeous, original American Girl dolls, New Generation dolls, Barbie dolls, vintage dolls, baby dolls and a wide range of doll accessories. Savvy buyers will find an incredible Melissa and Doug easel, along with wooden puzzle sets this brand is famous for. The shop will boast a huge display of Thomas the Train toys, including a train depot and accessories, as well as Lego sets and an assortment of toys from famous brands like Fisher Price and Mattel. You can also fulfill your holiday buying needs with board games, crafts, trucks and cars, stuffed animals, books, and puzzles that are 100 percent complete. All items are either brand new or in excellent condition.

Also available on November 4 will be a fantastic array of holiday bric-a-brac and decorations to fill your house with the spirit of the season. Make sure you shop early for the best selection.

Patronizing the Thrift Shop is a great way to stretch your holiday budget while knowing that

the money collected from the purchases you make is going to benefit the local community. The merchandise for sale is donated to the store by the public and sorted, priced and sold by Service League volunteers. All profits outside of store overhead are distributed annually via grants to worthwhile organizations or through college scholarships. It is a great way to celebrate the annual season of giving!

The Thrift Shop is located at 1741 East Second Street in Scotch Plains. For questions, call the store at 908-322-5420 anytime during business hours: Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 A.M. to 2:30 P.M., and Saturday 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

Please note that the Thrift Shop will be closed Thanksgiving week from November 24 through November 28, re-opening on Saturday, November 29 for “Small Business Saturday.”





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THE PATRICK'S DOWNTOWN RACE TO SUMMER

Scotch Plains Township

The Patrick's Downtown Race to Summer 5K committee recently presented a check to Beth Hornstein, a member of the Play for P.I.N.K. National Advisory Board, for the \$700 raised during Patrick's Downtown Race to Summer event held this June in Scotch Plains.

Play for P.I.N.K. strives to raise \$4.5 million annually on behalf of the Breast Cancer Research Foundation. At its Tuesday meeting, the council also issued a proclamation officially recognizing October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

In the proclamation, Scotch Plains urged all citizens, health care providers, community

groups, businesses and organizations to:

- Increase public awareness of breast cancer risk factors, signs and symptoms, and screening recommendations
- Encourage and facilitate breast cancer screening and diagnostic services, especially for underserved populations
- Support local non-profit organizations, cancer centers, and advocacy groups offering patient support, education, and research funding
- Honor breast cancer survivors, remember those lost to the disease, and provide support for patients and caregivers.



(above) The Patrick's Downtown Race to Summer 5K committee presented a check from funds raised during the June 2025 Race.

Courtesy Photo

UGLY HOMES WANTED FOR TELEVISION PROGRAM IN THIS AREA

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Ask for TV Project Department, for job evaluation and estimate of cost and compensations!

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BREAKFAST WITH SANTA AT TWIN MAPLES

The entire family is invited to one of the areas loveliest historic homes, Twin Maples in Summit, on Saturday or Sunday, December 6 and 7 to join Santa for food and fun. The weekend event is hosted by the Fortnightly Club of Summit to benefit historic preservation. Festivities begin at 9:15 a.m. each day with a delicious Holiday 'Breakfast with Santa' served in the beautifully decorated ballroom with catering by 'What a Dish.' For those who can't make it for breakfast, 'Brunch with Santa' will be served each day at 11:15 a.m. All seatings include a children's buffet, adult served meal, photos with Santa, live music and more. This year's beautiful holiday décor features a 'Nutcracker' theme, so don't be surprised to see Clara, the Sugar Plum Fairies and some really naughty mice. Tickets to Santa at Twin Maples can be purchased at <https://www.fortnightlyclub.org> or through Eventbrite. Seating is limited. Pricing for

Breakfast with Santa is \$45 for adults and \$20 for children under 12. Please bring booster seats for children. Highchairs are not available.

The weekend event benefits the preservation of Twin Maples, 214 Springfield Avenue, Summit, a property on the New Jersey and National Historic Registers. The house was designed and built by New York architect Alfred F. Norris in the Colonial Revival style in 1908 and resembles the White House. The Fortnightly Club purchased the property in 1949. Today, Twin Maples serves as a clubhouse and hosts many community events and fundraisers. The Fortnightly Club of Summit, a non-profit organization founded in 1893, offers women camaraderie and a full calendar of interesting events and volunteer opportunities. The Club supports the preservation of Twin Maples, education, the arts and humanitarian efforts. For over thirty-years the Club has awarded annual scholarships to deserving young, local women. Fortnightly Club's 104 members are from Summit and many neighboring towns. To join or for more information, visit the Club's website at www.fortnightlyclub.org.



The Fortnightly Club of Summit
presents
SANTA
at Twin Maples

214 SPRINGFIELD AVE, SUMMIT NJ
Breakfast • Brunch with Santa
Photos with Santa • Live Music • Nutcracker Theme

Sat. Dec. 6 9:15 or 11:15
Sun. Dec. 7 9:15 or 11:15
\$45 Adults \$20 Children (under 12)

Tickets
www.fortnightlyclub.com
and Eventbrite.com – or ➔




(above) Santa visits with children at Twin Maples beside the Club's Annual Mitten Tree

STUTTERING AWARENESS DAY

Borough of Fanwood

Mayor Colleen Mahr and the Borough Council issued a proclamation recognizing International Stuttering Awareness Day at the Monday, October 6th Council agenda meeting. First observed in 1998, International Stuttering Awareness Day, on October 22, celebrates people around the world who stutter and brings awareness of stuttering acceptance. The Mayor presented the proclamation to speech pathologist Emily Root of Westfield and the Stanley family of Fanwood. Stuttering affects more than 70 million people worldwide, and three million Americans. Root said she is "proud daughter of a mother who stutters and I've dedicated my career to working with people who stutter." She urged the community to get to know someone with a stutter by listening to them and becoming better communication partners.



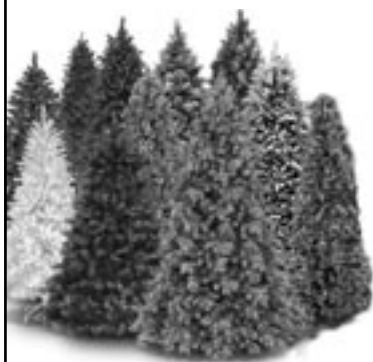
(above) Mayor Colleen Mahr with Emily Root of Westfield and the Stanley family of Fanwood after issuing a proclamation for International Stuttering Awareness Day.

Photo by Paul Peyton

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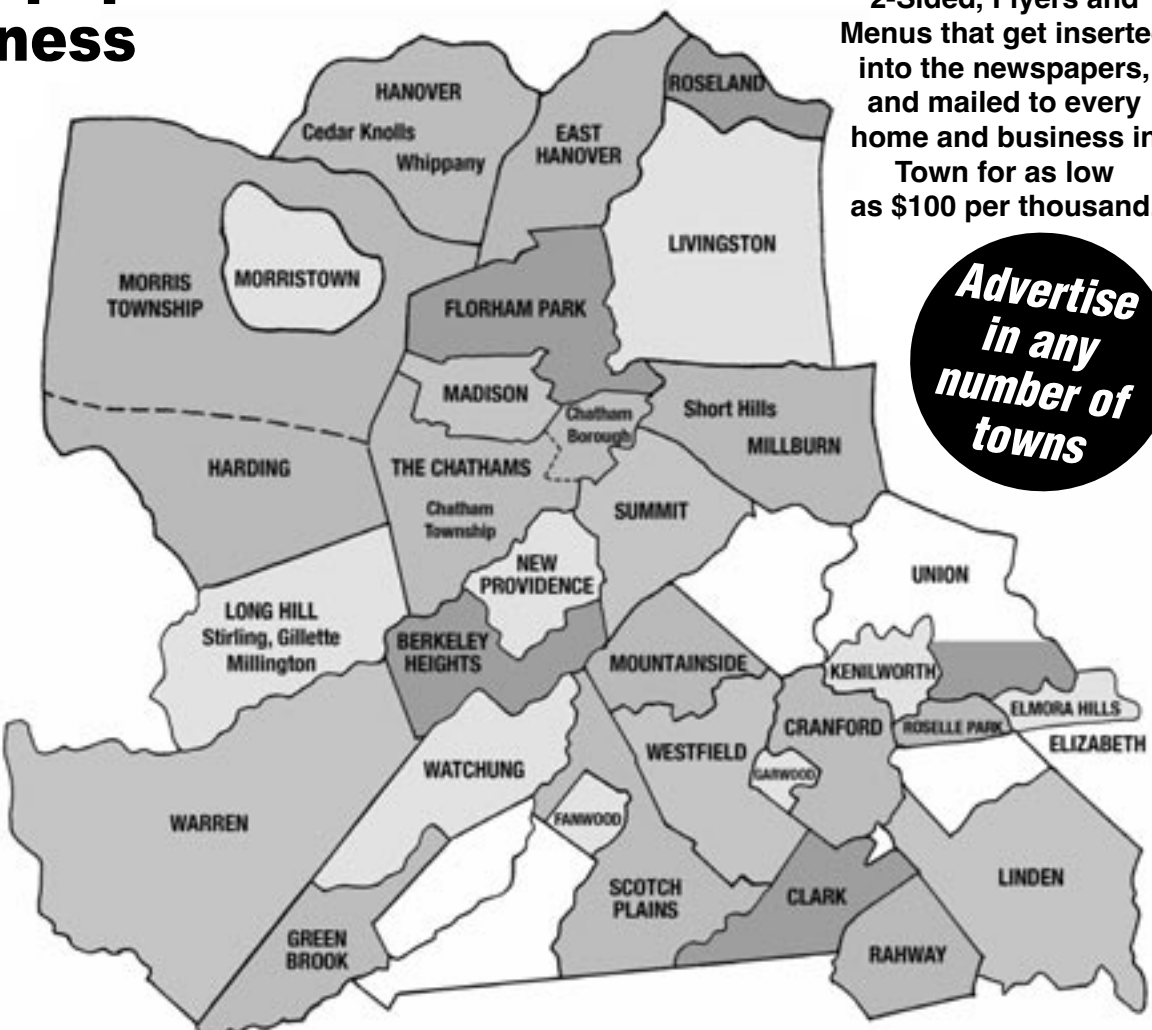
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Long Hill LEADER NJ Qty: 3,500 Zips: 07933, 07946, 07980	MADISON MONTHLY NJ Qty: 6,300 Zip: 07940	Short Hills MILLBURN MONTHLY NJ Qty: 8,200 Zips: 07041, 07078	MORRIS TOWNSHIP TIMES NJ Qty: 13,500 Zip: 07960, Harding 07976	MORRISTOWN MONTHLY NJ Qty: 7,000 Zip: 07960	MOUNTAINVIEW NJ Qty: 3,000 Zip: 07092	New Providence NEWS NJ Qty: 5,100 Zip: 07974	OUR TOWN Rahway, NJ Qty: 13,100 Zip: 07065
Life in Roseland NJ Qty: 3,000 Zip: 07068	ROSELLE PARK MONTHLY Qty: 5,600 Zip: 07204	Scotch Plains NJ WHAT'S HAPPENING MONTHLY Qty: 9,600 Zip: 07076	Summit Times NJ Qty: 9,600 Zip: 07901	Spirit of UNION NJ Qty: 7,800 Zip: 07083 (partial)	WARREN MONTHLY NJ Qty: 6,500 Zip: 07059	Watchung Post NJ Qty: 2,700 Zip: 07069	Westfield MONTHLY NJ Qty: 12,000 Zip: 07090

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2 Units	6.5"x2" or 3.25"x4"	150	360	560	600	700	800	900	1000	1100	1200	1300
4 Units	3.25"x8" or 6.5"x4"	240	560	900	1000	1300	1600	1700	1800	1900	2000	2100
6 Units	6.5"x6.25" or 10"x4"	320	760	1200	1400	1600	1800	2000	2200	2400	2600	2800
9 HALF PAGE	6.5"x9" or 10"x7"	360	860	1300	1600	1900	2200	2400	2600	2800	3000	3200
12 Units	6.5"x14"	400	960	1400	1800	2100	2400	2700	3000	3300	3600	3900
18 FULL PAGE	10"x14"	500	1200	1800	2200	2500	2800	3000	3300	3600	3900	4300
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SP-F HS PRESENTS METAMORPHOSES NOV 21, 22 & 23, 2025

Scotch Plains - Fanwood High School is proud to present a unique theatrical event this fall:

Metamorphoses by Mary Zimmerman. A Tony Award-winning play, Metamorphoses reimagines Greek myths, such as "Orpheus and Eurydice" and "King Midas," through poetic storytelling and stunning visual design.

Tickets are on sale at spfhsrep.com.

Unlike anything ever staged at SPFHS, Metamorphoses will unfold in and around a real pool of water onstage, immersing the audience in a mythical world of love, loss, and transformation. The auditorium will be reconfigured into an intimate black box theater with audience seating on three sides, allowing spectators to look down into the water and feel

part of the action.

"Metamorphoses is a one-of-a-kind theatrical experience," said Director Morgan Knight. "The live presence of water, the bold visuals, and the urgent storytelling make this production unlike anything our community has seen."

Metamorphoses is beautiful, funny, haunting, and unforgettable."

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:

Friday, Nov. 21 at 7:00 p.m.;

Saturday, Nov. 22 at 2:00 & 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 23 at 2:00 p.m.

All performances will be held in Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School's Many Ungar Memorial Auditorium (667 Westfield Rd, Scotch Plains, NJ). The play runs approximately 90 minutes without intermission and contains some mature references drawn from classical mythology.

Metamorphoses involves over 75 students – cast and crew – and is guided by a creative team including:

Morgan Knight (Director),

Kelly Ruggieri (Producer),

Joseph Napolitano (Set Designer),

Evan Perrotta (Technical Director),

Christian Confalone (Lighting Designer),

and Joanne Sprague (Costume Designer).

TICKETS PRICES:

\$18 (adults), \$16 (students & seniors).

Tickets can be purchased at spfhsrep.com.

FOR TICKETING INQUIRIES

contact Rosa Estevez at

SPFHSPayTickets@gmail.com

or 908-935-7796.

SPFHS is committed to accessibility. Accessible seating is available for patrons with mobility needs (please contact Rosa Estevez in advance at SPFHSPayTickets@gmail.com).

Handicap parking is located near Door 1 and is first-come, first-served for vehicles displaying official placards or license plates. In select cases, early seating accommodations can be arranged.





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