

Scout Alexander Yorkovich Honored With Eagle Award

FANWOOD - Alexander Yorkovich of Fanwood's Boy Scout Troop 33 recently achieved Eagle Scout status - the highest rank bestowed by the Boy Scouts of America. He received his Eagle Award during a special Court of Honor ceremony November 25 at the Fanwood Presbyterian Church.

For his Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project, Fanwood resident Alex organized and led members, families and friends of Troop 33 in making much-needed improvements to the Fanwood Recycling Center located on North Avenue in Fanwood.

Logging a total of 214 hours, Alex and his crews repaired, prepped and painted the center's bins and sheds - not just making them more attractive, but safer as well, for the volunteers who work there every week.

Alex thanked his parents, Ron and Peggy Yorkovich, for their support and his project advisor, Dave Northrup, for his guidance. He also expressed appreciation to several area businesses, including Young's Paint, Home Depot and Lowe's Home Improvement, for donating all needed supplies.

Calling the project "impressive," Recycling Center Site Manager Alan

Ebersole said, "the citizens of all the towns using the Recycling Center will benefit from Alex's efforts."

Alex has been involved in scouting since elementary school and a member of Troop 33 since 2002. Since joining Troop 33, he has served as troop quartermaster, assistant patrol leader and patrol leader. He also has been Den Chief with a local Cub Scout den for the past two years and has coordinated the Anheuser Busch Brewery BIC (Because I Care) book collection drive for four years - helping to collect more than 4,000 books for Newark schoolchildren in the past year alone.

In addition to his service project, an Eagle candidate must advance through five scout ranks, demonstrating increasing skills, leadership and responsibility, while earning 21 merit badges. Besides the 12 required badges, Alex pursued personal interests through badges in aviation, computers and reading. A student at the Academy for Information Technology in Scotch Plains, he hopes to pursue a career in computers.

Troop 33 meets each Monday night during the school year at the Fanwood Presbyterian Church. New members ages 11 to 17 are welcome throughout the year. More information is available at <http://bsatroup33.com> or by calling Scoutmaster Tom Loop at (908) 755-7634.



Alexander Yorkovich



CHAMPION FOR CHILDREN...Donald Sheldon, seated at center, is honored upon his retirement from the Tiny Tim Fund board of trustees. Joining him, pictured left to right, are: Seated, his wife, Alice, and Flavia Blechinger, and standing, Mari McDevitt, Barbara Anilo, Lorraine Chaillet, Tuula Ruhlandt and the Reverend John Neilson.

Rotary Club Announces Winners of Benefit Raffle

FANWOOD - The Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club held the drawing for its Community Share Mega 50/50 Raffle on December 13 at the club's annual holiday dinner meeting at Pantagis Renaissance restaurant in Scotch Plains.

This annual event was a sellout this year and raised \$20,000, with half the proceeds to be awarded to several local organizations. These organizations include CONTACT We Care, the David Ringle Scholarship Fund, the Fanwood Community Foundation, the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Frazee House, Inc., Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA, Resolve Community Counseling Center and the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Student Leadership Conference.

Andy Calamaras, chairman of the Community Share Raffle Commit-

tee, announced the winners. They are as follows:

Mitch Portno of Berkeley Heights won the first prize of \$6,000. Dr. Jim Checchio sold the ticket. Steve Schmitz of Scotch Plains won the second prize of \$2,000, with a ticket purchased at the Rotary Club's luminary candle sale. Buontempo Homes of Westfield won the third prize of \$1,000, with a ticket sold by Bob Kraus. Karen Kraus and Kathy Bolks of Scotch Plains won the fourth prize of \$1,000, with a ticket sold by Bob Kraus.

The Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club congratulated the winners and thanked members of the community for their support.

Consignment Shop Set To Accept Spring Items

WESTFIELD - The Westfield Service League has announced that its thrift and consignment shops, located at 114 Elmer Street in Westfield, will reopen for business on Tuesday, January 2, at 9 a.m. after being closed from December 23 through January 1 for the holidays.

The consignment shop will accept spring merchandise beginning January 2. Located upstairs, the consignment shop offers varied merchandise for the entire family, including clothing, shoes, jewelry, household items and bric-a-brac. The thrift shop, situated on the main floor of the building, also is stocked with merchandise for the entire family. Both shops are open Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

A non-profit organization, the Westfield Service League has donated over \$2 million to more than 45 community organizations through the years. For more information, please call the thrift shop at (908) 233-2530 or the consignment shop at (908) 232-1223.

Donald Sheldon Winds Up Tenure on Tiny Tim Board

SCOTCH PLAINS - Donald Sheldon recently retired from the board of trustees of the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Tiny Tim Fund after more than 20 years of service. A dinner in his honor was held at the Plainfield Country Club in Edison to commemorate his dedication and long-time commitment to children in the community.

Dr. Sheldon began the non-profit Tiny Tim Fund in 1983 to provide financial assistance to children in Scotch Plains and Fanwood who are in need of medical or dental care and cannot afford it. It also provides funds for psychological testing, prescriptions and medical supplies and equipment.

Donations to benefit the fund are received from members of the community during the organization's annual Carol Night. Local children and neighborhood adult groups sing Christmas carols and Chanukah songs throughout the neighborhoods of Scotch Plains and Fanwood.

A volunteer trustee board comprised of Fanwood and Scotch Plains residents runs the fund. Trustees have backgrounds in fields such as education, medicine, religion, social work and business. Some board members have been volunteers since the fund's inception.

During his tenure with the Tiny

Tim Fund, Dr. Sheldon served as president many times and also was in charge of case management, in which he coordinated medical services between children and local physicians. He also held numerous positions on the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education, including president.

Depending on the extent of care needed and other circumstances, even families with health insurance coverage may be eligible for assistance from the Tiny Tim Fund.

An application is available by writing to: The Tiny Tim Fund, P.O. Box 181, Fanwood, N.J. 07023. For more details about financial assistance, volunteering for a carol group or making a donation, please call Tiny Tim President Barbara Anilo at (908) 322-4472 or write to the Tiny Tim Fund at the above address.

Labyrinth Walk Slated For New Year's Eve

AREA - Members of the public are invited to walk the labyrinth in Mercy Hall at Mount Saint Mary in Watchung from 1 to 3 p.m. on Sunday, December 31. Mount Saint Mary is located at 1645 Route 22, West, opposite Sears. For more information, please call (908) 756-0994, extension no. 4018, Monday through Friday during the day.

Calvary Lutheran Church Names New Music Director

CRANFORD - The Calvary Lutheran Church, located at 108 Eastman Street in Cranford, recently welcomed F. Paul Dickey as its new music director for the congregation.

Mr. Dickey holds a Master of Sacred Music degree from Union Theological Seminary in New York City and has over 30 years of conducting, teaching and performing experience in organ, hand bells and choral music.

His career has been dedicated to church service, including having held the position of music director at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Bogota and the Basking Ridge Presbyterian Church. He came to Calvary Lutheran from the United Reformed Church in Somerville.

Mr. Dickey now serves as organist for all Calvary's worship services and leads the adult, youth and children's music programs. Calvary has choirs for adults, young and elementary-age children, a hand bell choir and a teen performing group known as SPIRYT

(Singers, Players, Instrumentalists, Ringers Youth Team).

"I'm very grateful to have a person with Paul's many years of experience join our Music Department," said the Reverend Carol Lindsay, Calvary's pastor, in welcoming the new music director.

"Having served in different faith traditions, he brings a wealth of experience, both musically and liturgically. And his skill in building a strong musical program that involves all - young and old, of various ages and stages of life - fits well within the spirit of the Calvary congregation," she added.

Besides his church duties, Mr. Dickey is available for private music lessons in piano, theory, ear training and sight singing. He may be reached by calling the church office at (908) 276-2418.

The Calvary Lutheran Church is a member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and has served the Cranford-Westfield area and surrounding communities for 78 years.



F. Paul Dickey

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Rescue Squad to Host Blood Drive Dec. 29

FANWOOD - The Fanwood Rescue Squad and New Jersey Blood Services will sponsor a blood drive on Friday, December 29, from 3 to 8:30 p.m. Open to the entire community, it will be held at the squad facility at 123 Watson Road in Fanwood.

Blood donors must be over 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds and be in generally good health. All donors will receive a free mini-exam including a review of their pulse rate, blood pressure, iron count (hemoglobin) and temperature.

Donors will need to present a photo or signature identification and know their Social Security number. Those who are not sure if they are eligible to donate may call (800) 688-0900. Walk-ins are welcome and refreshments will be provided.

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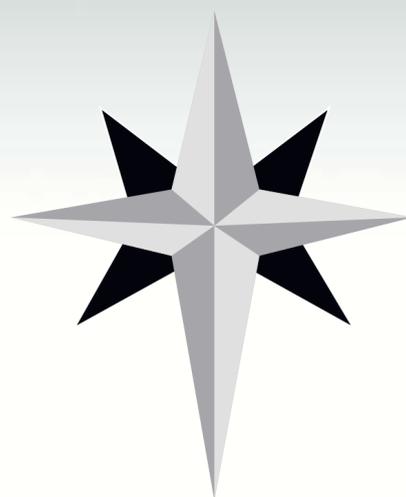
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Residency: General Dentistry, Jersey Shore Medical Center, Neptune, NJ

May the light of this holy season fill our hearts with love and our world with peace . . .



The Parish Community of Saint Helen
Westfield