

The Westfield Leader

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FIFTY CENTS



David B. Corbin for *The Westfield Leader*
FINAL TOUCHES...Construction workers prepare to hang a sign to indicate the direction of the new elevator and pedestrian tunnel at the Westfield railroad station.



David B. Corbin for *The Westfield Leader*
READY FOR COMMUTERS...The new pedestrian tunnel at the Westfield railroad station will be open to town residents this week. The tunnel is on the far left side of the station. The old tunnel will be permanently shut down.

NEW ELEVATOR ALSO TO BE UNVEILED

Pedestrian Tunnel, Platforms to Open At Railroad Station

About 1,400 Raritan Valley Line riders who use the Westfield railroad station will soon find it easier to board NJ Transit trains when a section of the new high-level platforms is opened next week.

The easterly half of the 625-foot long, high-level platforms, on both the inbound and outbound sides, is scheduled to open next week. This will allow passengers to get on and off trains without having to climb up and down stairs, enabling trains to handle a larger passenger volume faster.

The two new platforms are shielded by canopies to protect passengers from inclement weather; a new pedestrian tunnel — with an elevator on each side — also will open next week, bringing the station into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, according to NJ Transit spokesman Steve Coleman, by providing easy access to wheelchair riders.

The existing pedestrian tunnel will be closed permanently once the new underground passageway opens.

The new high-level platforms are part of a \$6.1 million station rehabilitation project that began in December of 1996. In addition to the high-level platforms and the pedestrian tunnel, the project includes

upgrades to the station building, including renovations to the restrooms, the expansion of doorways and the creation of a low-level writing surface near the ticket window.

Work will begin the week of January 19 on the remaining half of high-level platforms at the westerly half of the station and on the station building renovations.

During this work, the doorways leading from the station building to the inbound platform will be closed. Passengers can use the front entrance to access the waiting room and ticket area.

During this phase of construction, passengers approaching the station from the western end will have to pass by the construction area to access the new high-level platform boarding areas, the spokesman explained. The entire project is scheduled for completion in April.

In the spring, 18 photographic tile murals depicting the history of Westfield will be installed in the new pedestrian tunnel. The murals, which will focus primarily on the late 19th and 20th centuries, are being designed by Westfield native Stacey

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Planning Unit Elects New Officers for 1998; Marc A. McCabe and Todd Evans Join Board

By JASMINE VASAVADA
Specially Written for *The Westfield Leader*

Just one year after being appointed as an alternate member by Mayor Thomas C. Jardim, Martin Robins was chosen Monday night as the Chairman of the Planning Board, replacing Douglas Schwarz, who is no longer on the board.

Mr. Schwarz served for the past five years as the board's leader.

Mr. Robins was appointed to the 1998 board as a full member by Mayor Jardim. The nominating committee, consisting of board members Mark Boyd, Garry Hall, and Town Engi-

neer Kenneth B. Marsh, chose Mr. Robins to chair the board.

Mr. Robins has worked in the field of transportation planning and policy for almost 25 years. Most recently, he has been involved in the Access to the Region's Core Project, studying and advocating improvements in rail transportation in the greater Metropolitan Area.

Newly appointed to the board this year by Mayor Jardim are Marc A. McCabe, as a full board member, and Todd Evans, as an alternate. They replace Mr. Schwarz and Vic Trzesniowski, respectively.

Mr. McCabe ran unsuccessfully against Gregory S. McDermott for the First Ward seat on the Town Council last year. Mr. Evans serves on the Historic Preservation Commission.

Last year's Vice Chairman, Robert L. Newell, was re-appointed this year as an alternate member.

Mr. Robbins and the new Vice Chairman, Mr. Hall, have a busy year ahead of them. The first item on the agenda:

finishing up old business — over the next few months, the board will complete the Master Plan update for Westfield which was begun in 1997.

State law requires that towns up-

date their master plans every six years. This process involves a review of a variety of topics, ranging from community facilities, the central business district, residential zoning, and traffic and circulation.

The board is expecting an evaluation of the Master Plan from the town's professional planner, Blaise Brancheau, by the end of the month.

At the next board meeting, to be held Monday, February 2, the Planning Board will focus on the Cross Acceptance Process, in which the state, Union County and town master plans are coordinated.

Mr. Mannino Retains Zoning Chairmanship As Board Organizes

By SUSAN M. DYCKMAN
Specially Written for *The Westfield Leader*

The January 12 meeting of Westfield's Board of Adjustment saw Lawrence J. Mannino re-named Chairman for 1998 as the board organized Monday night for the new year.

Mr. Mannino's former colleagues, Thomas C. Phelan and G. Graden Curtis, were replaced by William Heinbackel, a new appointee, and Glenn deBrueys, who served as the alternate member last year. Zoning board members are appointed by the Mayor with approval required by the Town Council.

Local realtor Frank Isoldi was named alternate for 1998.

Other board members include Doris M. Molowa, Vincent Wilt, Henry Kelly, Dave Haas, Bill Palatucci and Jerry O'Neil. Robert W. Cockren serves as board attorney. During business conducted by the

board, a request from Thomas Lincoln Mercury, owned by Rosanne G. Potter, to erect a free-standing sign on the property at 369 South Avenue East was postponed until the board's February 11 meeting.

In another matter, Clorinda Megaro received permission to erect an addition to the second story of her home at 342 First Street, which will enable her to convert the structure from a single-family home to a two-family residence. The house stands in a two-family zone.

Ms. Megaro plans to expand two bedrooms on the second floor, "pushing out the rooms to be flush with the addition on the first floor."

The effect, she said, "is to build a box on top of a box."

Mr. Mannino observed that two-family structures are "characteristic of the neighborhood," while board member Vincent Wilt said the plan to build up "looks cleaner" than some of the "off-to-the-side" structures added to other homes in the area.

Ms. Megaro's appeal was accepted by the board as presented.

In another case, an appeal from Barbara and Richard Wilson of 604 Shackamaxon Drive to erect a one-story, angled addition to the rear of their home was carried over to the February meeting.

While the local ordinance requires a minimum street sideyard of 20 feet, the Wilson's application proposed a five-foot side yard. Their property sits at the corner of Shackamaxon and Rahway Road.

Architect Maria DeCosma explained there were numerous "external and internal considerations" in designing the plans for the Wilson's family/breakfast room. These include the lot's proximity to "high traffic" Rahway Avenue and the Wilson's desire to be able to observe their children in the backyard from the interior of the house.

"We designed the addition as sensitive and accepting to the non-consistent lot as best we can," Ms. DeCosma said. "It's of modest proportion, with a sloped roof and an open plan so the rooms flow."

The shared concerns expressed by the board included the angle of the addition and the five-foot sideyard. These caused Mr. Mannino to ask Ms. DeCosma "to make some changes" in the design, which might

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ON EXHIBIT...Roselle artist Michael Sileo stands next to one of his southwestern Native American-themed acrylic paintings, which will be on exhibit for two weeks at The Westfield Art Gallery beginning this Sunday, January 18. Please see a story on Page 16.

Superintendent Releases Drafts Of School District's Strategic Plan

By RUSSELL R. WATKINS
Specially Written for *The Westfield Leader*

Westfield Superintendent of Schools, Dr. William J. Foley, released drafts of new school district strategies and beliefs developed by the Board of Education's Strategic Planning Council, at the board's Tuesday night meeting.

The council, composed of 36 volunteers including students, teachers, parents and other business and community members, developed the goals and strategies at a weekend retreat in early December. The documents were drafted following reports by the State of the Community and State of the Schools committees.

Board of Education Long Range Planning Chairwoman Annmarie Puleio, who served on the Strategic Planning Council, reminded the board that the planning process was not complete and issued a call for more volunteers to serve on seven new Action Plan Committees.

These new committees, composed of 8 to 10 volunteers, will seek practical ways to implement the goals and strategies developed by the Strategic Planning Council.

They will meet approximately once a week for about two months and will report their recommendations to the Strategic Planning Council which will then harmonize the committee's recommendations with the council's goals.

Superintendent Foley will then submit the entire package for the board's approval. Interested persons can obtain a sign-up sheet at any

Westfield public school, the Westfield Memorial Library, or the Board of Education Building.

A copy of the Strategic Planning Council's goals and strategies for the district is available at Westfield's worldwide website: www.westfieldnj.com.

Dr. Foley noted that the new Action Plan Committees will "put flesh on the skeleton" of the Strategic Planning Council's proposals by addressing the "nuts and bolts" of various issues.

He also expressed his hope that the Westfield web site would encourage, "an electronic community dialogue" on this and other issues.

The board also unanimously approved a modified resolution rescinding the board's April 23, 1997 action which gave the nod for construction of an Interactive Television (ITV) Classroom/Computer Lab at Westfield High School.

The resolution also canceled agreements with Bell Atlantic New Jersey and Tele-Measurements, Inc. for installation of equipment to support an ITV lab at Westfield High School.

Dr. Foley said he was, "not prepared at this time, because of expense, to recommend an ITV studio at Westfield High School."

The resolution did authorize Dr. Foley to negotiate an agreement with the Union County Educational Services Commission (UCESC) to share the use of their ITV Classroom/Computer Lab at Westlake School.

The board also heard a report from Westfield High School Principal Dr.

Mrs. Nixon's Removal From Rec. Commission Draws Ire of Mr. Carr

By PAUL J. PEYTON
Specially Written for *The Westfield Leader*

The Westfield Town Council's decision not to reappoint Melba Nixon, long active in the Westfield community, to the Westfield Recreation Commission did not sit well with former Councilman Donnell Carr.

Originally appointed by former Republican Mayor Allen Chin in 1982, Mrs. Nixon, a Democrat, was re-appointed for three-year terms up until this year. Mrs. Nixon also served many years on the town's school

board and is active with the Friends of the Westfield Memorial Library.

Also not re-appointed this year was Daniel M. Schwebel, who had served since 1988. Mr. Schwebel was appointed as an alternate that year and as a full member the following year.

Mr. Carr, in addressing the council Tuesday night, said he was "surprised and disappointed" to read through a newspaper report that Mrs. Nixon was not re-appointed to the commission.

Mayor Thomas C. Jardim, after going through the defeat of his candidate for Municipal Judge, Jeffrey Gechtman, by the Republican majority just last month, said he did not want to put forward names which he felt would be rejected by the Republicans.

Republicans have a 6-3 majority on the council this year.

Although noting he could have put Mrs. Nixon in place of Maureen Regan, who was named as an alternate, Mayor Jardim said he originally wanted to appoint Ms. Regan to the commission last year.

Republican Third Ward Councilman Neil F. Sullivan, Jr. said Mrs. Nixon's name was not on any list of proposed appointments submitted by Mayor Jardim. Recreation Commission appointments require council consent.

Noting Mrs. Nixon's "invaluable and vital presence" in the town, Mr. Carr said she has been "chiefly responsible for transforming the image that many had of the Recreation Commission from one of ugliness to one far more pleasant to accept.

"Who in this town has more passionately spoken for the handicapped, the aged and the lower income citizens than Melba?" asked Mr. Carr, observing that Mrs. Nixon has also been the voice for the "underprivileged and under-served."

The former councilman asked the governing body to consider, in the future, the impact appointments have on the community.

"Do not hurt any one sector for the purpose of satisfying the quota of a political party," he told the council.

Fourth Ward Councilwoman Janis Weinstein, a current member of the Recreation Commission, who narrowly defeated Mr. Carr in the November election, promised to "follow in the footsteps" of Mrs. Nixon

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Deadlines Told For Submittals To The Leader

Those persons preparing press releases for submission to *The Leader* are reminded that copy should be e-mailed or faxed by 4 p.m. on the Friday prior to publication. *The Leader's* e-mail address is press@goleader.com. The fax number is 232-0473.

Releases, pictures and letters to the editor can also be dropped off at our office located at 50 Elm Street or through our mail slot. To ensure that submittals reach our office prior to deadline, we encourage e-mail or faxed materials.

Sports stories which occur prior to the weekend must be in by the Friday deadline. Weekend sports events must be submitted by noon on the Monday prior to the publication date. Obituaries will be accepted up to 5 p.m. on Tuesdays.

All copy must be typed, double-spaced, upper and lower case, no more than 500 words in length, and include a daytime telephone number where the submitter can be reached.

For events which are planned months in advance, we encourage submission of stories as early as possible prior to the event.

Please note that in addition to making our deadlines, the publication of submittals may be delayed due to space considerations. All submittals are subject to being cut due to length, edited for style and clarification at the discretion of the editor.



SCOTCH PLAINS

THE TIMES

of



FANWOOD

Scotch Plains – Fanwood

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HOLDING COURT... Judge R. Benjamin Cohen of the Superior Court of New Jersey spoke to Rita Selesner's and Judy Lasher's seventh-grade history classes on December 22 at Terrill Middle School in Scotch Plains. Judge Cohen explained the workings of the legal system and his experiences presiding in a Newark courtroom. He illustrated some points by using excerpts from the movie *My Cousin Vinny*, and answered students' questions about the judicial system. Pictured, left to right, are: back row, Mrs. Selesner, Ali Rosloff, Andrew Machrone, Tim Voelker, Jennifer Greenbaum, Judge Cohen, Mrs. Lasher, Travis Kelley and Caitlin Yergalonis. In front is Jorge Valladares.

School Bd. to Get Budget Overview Jan. 22; Officials Asked to Avoid Duplication of Costs

By SUSAN M. DYCKMAN
Specially Written for The Times

Topping the business agenda during the regular meeting of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education on January 22 will be an overview presentation from the Superintendent of Schools and Business Administrator on the 1998-1999 school budget. During the board's January 8 agenda meeting, Superintendent Dr. Carol B. Choye briefed members on the budget preparation process being undertaken by budget managers, which include curriculum supervisors and school principals. "We've asked them to anticipate (expenditures) line by line," she said, "to cut down on the need for adjustments and transfers later on. (We've asked) 'where do you really need the money?'"

Budget managers were also asked to watch for duplication of expenditures among themselves.

Following the January 22 presentation, the following schedule is in place for budget discussions:

- Thursday, January 29 — Special Education by Eleanor McClymont, Interim Director of Pupil Services.
- Tuesday, and Thursdays, February 10 and 12 — Instructional by Dr. John Crews, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum.
- Thursday, February 19, non-instructional by Matthew A. Clarke, Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

These meetings are open to the public.

A public budget hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, February 24. Dr. Choye said the board could adopt the "bottom line total" of a tentative budget that evening if it chooses to do so.

Board members are looking forward to a more comprehensive report from the business office on the district's anticipated appropriations for the 1998-1999 school year, as

well as a thorough review of the approved budgets versus actual expenditures by the district over the past four years.

Finance Chairman Edward J. Saridaki, Jr.'s characterization of the new report structure as "exciting" drew good-natured laughter from board members and the audience.

He said, "This format will be far more useful in helping us evaluate how the district is performing financially."

Looking ahead, voters in Scotch Plains and Fanwood may be asked to consider a "second question" on the school budget when they go to the polls in April.

Any proposed board expenditure beyond what is needed to satisfy the "thorough and efficient education" needs of the district as defined by the state, or one which exceeds the state spending cap, must be approved by local voters.

"We're looking at things like elevators (for students with special needs), our fields and team benches, and musical instruments," said Dr. Choye.

Concerned about the delay in getting the six modular classrooms in place at School One, Coles and Evergreen Elementary Schools, the superintendent also said the district needs to know what it would cost to move

Mr. DiFRANCESCO RETURNS AS SENATE PRESIDENT

Council Names Committee To Determine if Zoo Site Should Become Public Park

By JEANNE WHITNEY
Specially Written for The Times

On Tuesday, Scotch Plains Township Attorney and State Senator Donald T. DiFrancesco was sworn in for an unprecedented fourth term as State Senate President.

Mayor Joan Papan, Deputy Mayor William F. McClintock, Jr., and council members Irene T. Schmidt, Robert E. Johnston and Dr. Martin Marks attended the event at the State House in Trenton.

Also at the state level, Former township Mayor and State Assemblyman Alan M. Augustine was named Chairman of the State Gov-

ernment Committee.

In other matters, a committee appointed by the Scotch Plains Township Council on Tuesday was given 45 days to determine whether the township should attempt to turn the former Scotch Plains Zoo property on Raritan Road into a public park.

The 6.5-acre site currently belongs to Warren Township developer Mitchell Berlant, who bought it from former owners Harold and Debra Kafka for \$338,000 last June and paid off a \$355,000 mortgage on the property in September.

The zoo, which had stood on the site for more than 40 years under two different ownerships, was ordered closed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife last May after the Kafkas failed to submit a plan for relocating the animals at the facility by the state's appointed deadline.

The couple was asked to present the report after they withdrew their appeal May 13 of the state's decision last January not to renew their operating permits, based on concerns over public safety and animal welfare.

It is not known at this time whether Mr. Berlant has indicated if he will sell the property. A recent appraisal of the acreage put its value at \$510,000, according to Councilwoman Schmidt.

In naming the committee, the council cited the township's Master Plan analysis that "the township is currently deficient in its open space and recreation needs."

Council members have noted the

"Aunt Betsy Frazee House" on the zoo property for potential historic preservation.

Those named to the Zoo Park Study Committee include former Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders Clerk of the Board Lucille Masciale as Chairwoman, Dr. Robert Spellman, Edward Zazzali of the Recreation Commission, Marcia Anderson of the Environmental Commission, Betty Lindner of the Historical Preservation Committee and George Tomkin, who is a member of the Planning Board.

Mayor Papan said council members will rotate attendance on the committee since its schedule will be "intense," she said. "It will meet a couple times a week."

The committee is expected to report to the council by the end of February.

On a separate matter, the council moved ahead to fund the automation of the township library, and introduced a \$142,000 bond issue ordinance. Over the next year and a half, the project will seek to log records of all books and materials onto a computer system and add an estimated 18 computer terminals to the library. The library will be connected to the Internet through the system.

Deputy Mayor McClintock, the council's Liaison to the Library Board, called it a "very exciting project." He added "We'll talk more about it at the public hearing on January 27."

The Borough of Fanwood asked the township to join the automation project for its own library and it is estimated the move would save Scotch Plains about \$10,000.

In other business, the council appointed a task force to implement measures to revitalize the downtown business district. Last year, the Downtown Development Committee made recommendations to identify the downtown as "Towne Centre," rename East Second Street "Centre Boulevard" and create a logo and banners to that effect.

Another suggestion included commercial development of the sliver of town property on Park Avenue in front of the Municipal Building parking lot.

The addition of sidewalk benches is another recommendation.

The task force will be headed by

Gail Iammatteo Named Chairwoman, Mr. Barth Vice Chairman of Township Board of Adjustment

By MARIA R. CICCARELLA
Specially Written for The Times

Members of the Scotch Plains Zoning Board of Adjustment are prepared to take on a new year of township variance applications after their reorganization meeting on January 8.

At the meeting, seven board members and two alternate members elected Gail Iammatteo as Chairwoman, and Thomas Barth as Vice-Chairman for 1998. Both Ms. Iammatteo and Mr. Barth are veterans on the board.

Mr. Barth served as Chairman last year, with Alice Agran as Vice Chairwoman.

Ken Anderson, Paulette Coronato, Timothy Livolsi, Jane Lorber and Thomas Perrucci are also returning as regular members. The only new member to join the board, James Fawcett, will act as the second alternate member, along with returning alternate member, Frank Rossi.

The board also appointed Anthony D. Rinaldo, Jr. as Board Attorney, marking the 23rd year he has served in that role. Mr. Rinaldo said he was thrilled to continue as the board attorney, and added that he has seen many important changes in his years of service.

"There have certainly been a lot of changes since I've been here. We

amended the zoning ordinance and updated it to conform to the changing conditions in the township," he said.

In addition, members of the board were appointed to special committees. Serving on the Site Plan/Subdivision "A" Committee is Ms. Coronato, Chairwoman, and board members Mr. Anderson and Mr. Perrucci. Mr. Fawcett will act as the alternate member to this committee.

Ms. Lorber will become the Chairwoman to the Site Plan/Subdivision

"B" Committee, along with members Mr. Barth and Mr. Livolsi. Mr. Rossi is an alternate.

Ms. Iammatteo and Mr. Barth were appointed to the board's Budget and Finance Committee, while Ms. Lorber will chair the Personnel Committee, consisting of only one other member, Mr. Rossi.

The Rules and Procedures Committee will be chaired by Ms. Coronato and will include Mr. Perrucci and Mr. Livolsi. Mr. Rossi will serve as an

Fanwood Borough Council Receives Update From Consultant on Redevelopment Grants

By SUZETTE STALKER
Specially Written for The Times

The Fanwood Borough Council, during its first agenda session of the new year on January 7, reviewed a progress report by grantsman Charles C. Nathanson concerning possible funding sources.

Mr. Nathanson, head of Charles C. Nathanson and Associates, a Trenton consulting firm specializing in planning, development and grantsmanship, addressed the governing body for about 45 minutes prior to the

agenda meeting.

Mr. Nathanson was retained by the borough last year to investigate various redevelopment grants for which the community may be eligible.

He told officials last week that he had recently wrapped up a six-month survey with all commissions and agencies in the borough, as well as local officials, volunteer groups and others, in order to obtain a "wish list" to guide him in pursuing funding for projects.

Mr. Nathanson said he felt the

borough's best course of action for obtaining redevelopment grants would be to concentrate on several major areas, and to establish objectives which are "doable."

He said that during his interviews with Fanwoodians concerning the things they want for their hometown, he found historic preservation to be a "recurring theme."

Mr. Nathanson, who said he consulted with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the state's Historic Preservation Office, recommended that the borough apply to the State Certified Local Government Program.

He described it as an umbrella program under which municipalities are given serious consideration for historic preservation grants.

Mr. Nathanson stated that a community's chances for receiving historic preservation funds are reduced if they are not part of this program.

He explained that the state, when considering a community for admittance into the program, evaluates whether a historic element exists in the town's Master Plan; if there is a Historic Preservation Commission which meets regularly, and if local ordinances comply with state guidelines.

The consultant acknowledged that Fanwood is up to date on much of the documentation generally required when pursuing such grants, including the Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance.

He noted that the borough also has an active Historic Preservation Com-

mission and last year established a Community Assessment Committee responsible for developing strategies for improvements to the borough through the year 2000.

Mr. Nathanson went on to discuss the Community Development Block Grant Program — in which the borough currently participates — whereby federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funds are funneled down to local communities through the county.

Community Development Block Grant funds may be obtained for such projects as outfitting a building to meet requirements under the federal Americans With Disabilities Act, or for a senior citizens center.

He said the borough could also look into funding through the Small Cities Program, in which HUD funds are channeled to local municipalities through the state. Mr. Nathanson observed, however, that a community cannot participate in both programs simultaneously in a single year.

He also addressed open space, parks and recreation, noting that the borough has never applied for funding under the Green Acres program, which he said normally involves a 20-year loan with a 2 percent interest rate.

Mr. Nathanson also proposed development of a pocket park in the borough. The deadline for applying for funding for the park is Saturday, October 31, he told the council.

Concerning downtown revitalization, Mr. Nathanson conceded that

Mayor Confirms Intention to Run For Congress Against Mr. Franks

By SUZETTE STALKER
Specially Written for The Times

Mayor Maryanne S. Connelly of Fanwood confirmed on Monday that she will challenge three-term Congressman Bob Franks this year for his Seventh District seat, which Republicans have held for decades.

Mrs. Connelly, who is only the third woman and the third Democrat to serve as Mayor of Fanwood, is expected to formally announce her intention to run for Congress at the end of this month.

She said she also plans to retire next month from her job as a human resources executive with AT&T in order to concentrate on her campaign, for which she hopes to raise \$1 million. She said she is also in the process of forming a campaign staff.

The Times learned two weeks ago that Mayor Connelly was seriously considering running against Congressman Franks, a former state Assemblyman, who has served in the House of Representatives since 1992.

The Seventh District includes parts of Union, Somerset, Middlesex and Essex Counties. Fanwood and Scotch Plains are among 17 Union County communities within the district.

Mrs. Connelly recently acknowledged that challenging an incumbent in a district which has long been a GOP stronghold would not be easy. She pointed to her success on the local level, however, noting that she would have to prove herself to voters once again.

Mrs. Connelly, who served for eight

years as a Fanwood Councilwoman prior to being elected Mayor in 1995, said she felt her dual experience in politics and business would be an asset as a Congresswoman. She has been employed with AT&T for 28 years.

She said that while conducting her Congressional campaign, she will continue to serve as Mayor of Fanwood, adding that she expects to have more time to concentrate on borough business once she retires from AT&T.

"The people of Fanwood are still first with regards to my responsibilities," commented Mrs. Connelly, who has lived in the borough for 18 years.

Union County Democratic Chairwoman Charlotte DeFilippo said

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New Law Protects Railroads From Trespassers' Lawsuits

Legislation sponsored by Assemblyman Alan M. Augustine that grants railroads immunity from liability for injuries sustained by trespassers on railroad property was signed into law on January 8 by Governor Christine Todd Whitman.

Assemblyman Augustine represents the 22nd Legislative District, which includes Fanwood, Scotch

Plains, Westfield and Mountainside.

Under the new law, any adult who is injured by railroad equipment while attempting to commit suicide, while under the influence of non-medically prescribed drugs or alcohol, or while engaging in unreasonable conduct, would be unable to recover any damages from the company owning or operating the railroad.

Certificate Program In Materials Mgmt. Available at College

Union County College will provide basic knowledge leading to a career in materials management through a non-credit certificate program. Three of seven required courses are available during the spring semester.

Students can tailor their course schedule to fit their personal routine. Job-seeking assistance is provided upon successful program completion.

Courses for the materials management certificate program include "Materials Management," "Procurement Practices and Principles," "Dynamics of Inventory Management," "Quality Improvement," "Physical Distribution Systems," "Systems Management" and "Materials Management Issues and Implications."

"Dynamics of Inventory Management" will be available during the spring semester. Through this course, students will learn to manage materials in a changing business environment.

The course will be held from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Mondays, March 2 through May 4.

Students can also take "Materials Management," which will be held from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, March 3 through May 5.

The college will also offer "Materials Management Issues and Implications" during the spring semester. It will be held from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Wednesdays, March 4 through May 6.

All courses will be offered at the Cranford campus.

Those interested in further information should call the college's Division of Continuing Education and Community Services at (908) 709-7600.

Unreasonable conduct would include attempting to board or disembark from a moving train, according to the Assemblyman's office.

Assemblyman Augustine said he was prompted to sponsor the Railroad Immunity Act because "taxpayers were paying exorbitant amounts to settle cases brought against the railroads by trespassers."

In one incident, a Princeton University student, under the influence of alcohol, was injured when he climbed atop a transit engine and came into contact with high voltage equipment.

Even though the student was a trespasser who went into an area that was properly isolated by a fence, he sued the railroad company and NJ Transit was forced to pay him a \$3.6 million settlement.

"Cases such as the one involving the Princeton student have been increasing over the years," Assemblyman Augustine said, "and it was time we held people accountable for their actions."

Since 1987, NJ Transit has paid \$24 million to settle more than 300 claims. According to Shirley DeLiberio, NJ Transit Executive Director, claims have included those made by motorists who were injured when they ignored crossing gates and tried to beat a train, bicyclists struck while peddling on the tracks, people hit in a losing game of "chicken," and the relatives of people who intentionally stepped in front of a train.

Assemblyman Augustine's bill does not affect passengers injured in train wrecks, such as the 1996 NJ Transit crash near Secaucus that killed three people.

"The measure also does not absolve the railroads from their responsibility in terms of safety precautions," the Assemblyman added.



TAKING A TOUR...The Princeton Museum was the site of a recent visit by 80 students from the Westfield and Plainfield public schools, who attend the Plainfield/Westfield Latin Program, now in its sixth year. Fifth-grader Stephanie McRae from Plainfield, Westfielders Katie Rae Mulvey, Megan Fowler and Marie-Clair Hausseguy, and Plainfield student Monica Young, left to right, stroll on the grounds of the museum after visiting its Greek and Roman gallery. The trip supplements the students' regular Saturday morning classes, which are rotated between Westfield and Plainfield public schools.

Acting Governor DiFrancesco Signs Laws on Drunk Driving

State Senate President Donald T. DiFrancesco, serving as Acting Governor December 30, signed two pieces of legislation.

Senator DiFrancesco enacted a law that allows for stiffer penalties for repeat drunk driving offenders with out-of-state records, and created a 15-member panel to select the New Jersey state commemorative coin design.

The Senate President signed A-932, sponsored by Assembly Members Paul Kramer and Barbara Wright, Republicans representing Mercer and Middlesex Counties, respectively, and

Musical Club to Hold Auditions on Feb. 4

The Musical Club of Westfield will hold auditions for men and women on Wednesday, February 4.

Interested individuals may call Ruth Boyer at (908) 233-5847.

The purpose of the Musical Club is to provide opportunities for performers and to give college scholarships to music majors.

Senator Joseph Bubba, a Republican representing Essex and Passaic Counties. The law recognizes all out-of-state driving while intoxicated (DWI) convictions as prior convictions for penalty computation purposes.

The law will enable New Jersey courts to impose stiffer penalties on repeat DWI offenders who have been previously convicted on DWI charges in other states.

Senator DiFrancesco also signed AJR-68, sponsored by Assembly member Kip Bateman, representing Morris and Somerset Counties, and Senator DiFrancesco, which creates a commission to select the proposed design for the New Jersey State coin as part of the federal 50 States Coin Program.

The 15-member commission will consist of members of the public, five each appointed by the Governor, Senate President, and Assembly Speaker.

"The federal Commemorative Coin Program offers New Jersey a unique opportunity to showcase and honor a part of our culture, folklore and history, while at the same time educate America's youth about the diversity and geography of the 50 states."

"I am proud to have sponsored the initiative that supports this effort and look forward to the proposed design set forth by the newly-created Commemorative Coin Design Commission," said Senator DiFrancesco.

The commission will submit its proposed design to the Governor and the Legislature for transmittal to the Secretary of the United States Treasury within 120 days of the commission's first meeting.

Local Students Nominated For Admission to Academies

Congressman Bob Franks has announced that two Westfield and two Scotch Plains residents have been nominated for admission to United States service academies.

Sage Ruth Stefuk and Daniel Todd are the nominees from Westfield, and Christopher DeSantis and Andrea Maggi are the candidates from Scotch Plains.



Sage R. Stefuk

They were among 24 students to be nominated by the Congressman this year for admission to one or more of the four United States service academies—Air Force, Naval, Military and Merchant Marine.

The nominations were based on the candidate's academic excellence and strength as a community leader. The nominees also underwent a rigorous review and interview process from Congressman Franks' Academy Review Board.



Daniel Todd

This board, composed of community leaders from the Seventh Congressional District, helps the Congressman nominate up to 10 students for admission to each of the four service academies.

Congressman Franks represents the Seventh District, which includes

Assemblyman to Discuss Drug-Free Workplace Bills

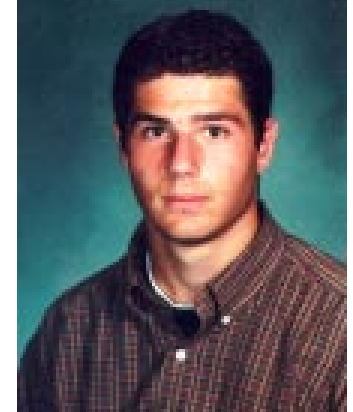
The Union County Coalition for the Prevention of Substance Abuse, led by its Business Task Force, will host an information session with Assemblyman Richard H. Bagger on Wednesday, January 21, at 9 a.m. to discuss two bills, A-2500 and

Westfield, Scotch Plains, Fanwood and Mountainside.

The Congressman nominated Sage for admission to the United States Naval Academy, and Daniel to the Military Academy.

Both students are seniors at Westfield High School. Sage is a member of the varsity soccer and track and field teams, as well as a member of the Environmental and Spanish Clubs.

Daniel is a varsity soccer player, wrestler and lacrosse player. He also volunteers at Children's Specialized Hospital and works as a kennel assistant at the



Christopher DeSantis

Scotch Plains Animal Hospital.

Christopher and Andrea, both seniors, are students at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School. Christopher plays for the varsity soccer team and is an active member of the high school's DECA, an association of marketing students.

Andrea runs varsity track and field, cross country and serves as president of the school's Bible Club.

The achievement of the Congressional nomination is but one step in the admissions process. The admissions decision now rests with each individual service academy.



Andrea Maggi

MARIA'S
2X3

HAIR
1X2

SEALFONS
3X9

WESTFIELD REVIEW
2X2

GREENBAUM
2X7

SAT
1X2

FANWOOD
BOOK
1X4



TOGETHER IN EDUCATION... Dr. Philip Arbolino, Associate Director of the Advanced Placement Program of the College Board, recently gave Westfield High School (WHS) administrators, teachers and others an update on AP programs. Pictured, left to right, are: Dr. Robert G. Petix, Principal; Advanced Placement English teacher Bev Geddis; Parent Teacher Organization President Carolyn Fleder; Advanced Placement Computer Science teacher Fran Trees and Dr. Arbolino.

AP Program Representative Spotlights Scores at WHS

Dr. Philip Arbolino, Associate Director of the Advanced Placement Program of the College Board, recently visited Westfield High School (WHS) for a full school day at the invitation of the high school principal, Dr. Robert G. Petix.

During his visit to WHS, Dr. Arbolino made a series of presentations on the College Board's Advanced Placement

Mr. Paspalas to Speak About Greek Heritage At Genealogy Meeting

Andrew George Paspalas will speak at the next meeting of the Genealogical Society of the West Fields (GSWF) on Saturday, January 17, at 10 a.m. in the Program Room of the Westfield Memorial Library.

"Greek-American Genealogy" will be the subject of Mr. Paspalas' lecture. His presentation will include slides and handouts. There will be general information on the Greek immigrant experience in the United States, especially in the New York/New Jersey area, as well as tracing Greek roots.

Through interest in his own family genealogy, Mr. Paspalas, a second-generation Greek-American, became involved in the New York City Greek American Documentation Project and the Greek Association of Family History and Tradition.

The public is invited to attend the meeting at no charge, and refreshments will be served. Additional information about this meeting, or the GSWF may be obtained from Fred Bollinger, President, at (908) 232-6419.

program, commonly referred to as "AP," and met with staff members individually and in group roundtable discussion sessions.

In the evening, Dr. Arbolino was the featured speaker at the Parent Teacher Organization meeting.

In his presentations to high school guidance counselors, administrators, departmental supervisors and teachers of AP courses during the school day and to parents in the evening, Dr. Arbolino updated all courses in the AP program and provided an historical analysis of all AP exam scores in every academic area ever taken at WHS.

Dr. Arbolino's analysis confirmed that WHS students continue to excel in the rigorous AP program nationwide, according to a spokesman for the high school.

In the 1997 AP exams, for example, 89.9 percent of the exams taken by WHS students were scored at levels 3, 4 or 5 — levels necessary for advanced standing or credit in college. The national average is 64 percent.

WHS offers 14 AP courses, including Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Computer Science, English Language, English Literature, French Literature, Spanish Literature, United States History, European History, Psychology and American Government and Politics.

Referring to WHS as "an anchor in the AP program," Dr. Arbolino said, "The percentages of AP test takers (at WHS) achieving scores of 3, 4 and 5 continue to be skewed well above national and state levels and represent a record of achievement for Westfield to be proud of."

Pancake Breakfast Planned at Center To Honor Dr. King

The Westfield Community Center will sponsor its annual Martin Luther King Pancake Breakfast on Monday, January 19, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.

The Community Center is located at 558 West Broad Street. Donations of \$5 for adults and \$4 for senior citizens and children will be accepted.

For additional information, please call (908) 232-4759.

The Westfield Community Center is a member of the United Fund of Westfield.

Blood Drive Slated Jan. 28 in Westfield

The Blood Center of New Jersey has announced that a blood drive will be held Wednesday, January 28, at the Westfield/Mountainside Chapter of the American Red Cross, located at 321 Elm Street in Westfield. The drive will be held from 2:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Healthy adults are asked to call and sign up to donate blood.

"We have been struggling to meet the demand of local hospitals," said Judy Daniels, a Blood Center of New Jersey spokeswoman.

"We have not yet recovered from the very low turnout of donors over the holiday season. In addition, we have had to turn away a significant number of potential donors due to cold and flu symptoms," she added.

President Bill Clinton has declared January as National Blood Donor Month because shortages traditionally occur nationwide throughout the month. In the proclamation, President Clinton urged Americans to consider donating blood, noting "our participation in this compassionate crusade can help to prolong and save lives, giving hope to thousands of individuals and their families."

"For millions of people across the country, the generosity of a volunteer blood donor means the difference between life and death," President Clinton said.

Donors must be 18 years of age. Seventeen-year-olds may donate with parental permission. There is no upper age limit for donors provided they have donated within the last two years, or have a doctor's note. Donors should know their Social Security number and bring a signed form of identification.

People with cold or flu symptoms should wait until they are feeling better before donating, and there is a 72-hour deferral for dental work, including routine teeth cleaning, Ms. Daniels noted.

For those persons who have traveled outside of the United States recently, please call the blood center for eligibility criteria. For more information or to sign up for a blood drive, please call the blood center at (800)-BLOOD-NJ.

Mountainside Council Looking To Alleviate Sony Traffic Woes

By MARK YABLONSKY
Specially Written for The Leader and The Times

Can the Borough of Mountainside alleviate an aggravating traffic problem in and around the Sony Theatre property without the solution causing still another problem? That's what Mayor Robert F. Vigilanti and the six council members began discussing at Tuesday night's work session of the governing body.

For many years, a small exit on the Sony property's western borders was largely unknown to many, since it was at least partly hidden by the former Jacobs Engineering building, which along with the Echo Bowling complex and nearby Towers Steak House was demolished in September 1995 to make room for the theater that now occupies the site.

Even then, however, the small egress never lost its designation for "Emergency Vehicles Only."

But with the popular theater site now accommodating a larger customer base, the exit is being used by many moviegoers seeking to avoid traffic backups in the parking lot exit onto Route No. 22, East, after the final curtain falls.

That has residents of nearby side streets, including Glen Street, Mill Lane, Sunrise Parkway and Rutgers Road, unhappy with the added traffic and noise which occurs late at night, particularly on Fridays and Saturdays.

And the borough, which has paid roughly \$165 for four sets of anchored pylons blocking the western exit, wants to correct the problem by amending the ordinance to instead open the driveway for right-hand turns only, thus steering the heavy traffic flow back onto Route 22.

"Rarely did anyone know it was there," explained Mayor Vigilanti, who

moved to Mountainside in 1966, during which time the bowling facility was approaching its height of popularity.

"(But) people literally drive over them (the pylons.) And I'm getting complaints from some of the residents who don't want to see the increase in residential traffic."

"If you go there Saturday night and *Titanic's* playing, (the parking lot) is full all the way," the Mayor added. "There wasn't a ticket available. So we're getting a volume there that never existed in the Echo Bowling Lane days."

Currently, under terms of an agreement between Sony management and the borough, two off-duty Mountainside police officers work the site on weekends to handle the traffic flow. They are paid by Sony, the borough adds.

But Mayor Vigilanti wonders, what happens during Monday through Thursday evenings, when no officers are there to handle traffic flow?

"Sony has been extremely cooperative," Mayor Vigilanti commented. "This would not only help the town but Sony, too, if all the ducks fall in line." Council members agreed Tuesday night that they were hopeful of finding a solution soon.

"Well sure, we're going to cooperate with Sony and ascertain the problem, and correct it as soon as we can," Councilman Thomas Perrotta said.

In other business, the council rearranged its agenda to discuss a growing concern over the borough's tax collection computer system and its current carrier, Vital Computer Resources, Inc. of Trenton.

Presently, the borough has been receiving software service from Vital for financing, tax assessing and tax

collection, explained the borough's Tax Collector, Patricia Scherer, who met with the Mayor and council.

The borough has wanted to renew another agreement with Vital, but officials said they have not received any specific numbers from the company. Mrs. Scherer said she is particularly concerned over an offer from the Trenton firm to handle "tax levy balancing."

That aspect was also questioned by Mayor Vigilanti, who said "I want it in writing" regarding any such offer.

In accordance with tax law, Mrs. Scherer explained, the town's tax levy must be balanced at the end of each calendar year, which is usually done after assessments and tax rates are figured out, before calculating senior citizens and veterans deductions, in order to arrive at the final sum.

But the offer from Vital to do this seems confusing to Mrs. Scherer, who used the term "scary" to describe it at the present time.

"I'm trying to figure out what that is," said Mrs. Scherer, who also handles tax collection duties for Garwood.

"How can you automatically do that? I have no idea of what they mean by automatic. Are they trying to tell me they're going to do all that work?"

"If I'm responsible, I want to be the one doing it," she added emphatically.

The borough is still using all three Vital systems under previous terms. Because the governing body feels that Vital has been, in the words of Mrs. Scherer, "a little evasive" to date, it will explore other alternatives and costs before making its decision.

"There are a lot of nice systems out there that do nice things," Mrs. Scherer concluded. "So we're going to get ideas and costs."

J&M
3X10 1/2

KEN MASON
3X3

J&M
3X7

COMCAST
3X3

John Rutter's Works on Tap For Choral Society Concert



Andi Curtin

The Choral Art Society of New Jersey will present a concert of John Rutter's works, *Psalms* and *The Sprig of Thyme* at 8 p.m. this Saturday, January 17.

The concert will be held at The Presbyterian Church in Westfield, located at the corner of Broad Street and Mountain Avenue. Newly appointed as Director of the society, Kathleen Healy-Wedworth will conduct the Choral Art Society and its chamber orchestra in the Rutter works. James S. Little will provide organ accompaniment.

Soloists for the *Psalms* are soprano Andi Curtin and tenor Cameron Cahoon. In addition, the Westfield High School Chorale, conducted by William Mathews and accompanied by Kristine Smith Morasso, will perform excerpts from the Vivaldi *Gloria*.

Ms. Healy-Wedworth is known in New Jersey as a recitalist, accompanist and conductor, and is the Minister of Music at United Reformed Church in Somerville, where she oversees a ministry of five singing choirs, five handball choirs and a choir chime group.

The performance will also feature the talents of Mr. Little on organ. He has been the organist and Choirmaster of Calvary Episcopal Church in Summit since 1993, where he conducts several choirs. For 21 years, Mr.

Little was the director of the Men's Glee Club at The Pingry School.

The first performance of *Psalms* was given in 1993. The nine movements of the work were written over a period of 20 years and seven of them have been published separately as anthems, according to spokeswoman Ann DeCamp.

Soloists for the *Psalms* are Ms. Curtin, soprano, and Mr. Cahoon, tenor.

Mr. Cahoon is a professional tenor with the Calvary Chorale, most recently appearing as a soloist in Handel's *Messiah*. A native of Utah, he has performed since age 7 and toured Europe as a soloist with the Mormon Youth Symphony.

Ms. Curtin is also a professional soloist with the Calvary Chorale and is a volunteer member and soloist with the Summit Chorale. She has received critical acclaim for her solo performances in Mozart's *Requiem*, Handel's *Messiah*, Faure's *Requiem* and Orff's *Carmina Burana*. She also has starred in several musicals, including *Carousel*, *Once Upon a Mattress* and *Irene*.

"*The Sprig of Thyme* was published in 1994 and demonstrates John Rutter's gift for transforming preexisting tunes into delightful choral arrangements. A cycle of English, Irish and Scottish folk-song settings for mixed choir with chamber ensemble, the work shows Rutter's creativity in reflecting texts with musical language," said Ms. DeCamp.

Solos voice parts in *The Sprig of Thyme* will be performed by Choral Society members Suzanne Beeny-Jones, Elsa Hahn, Virginia Toenes, Maryann Dolling, Peggy Williamson and Helen Armstrong.

The Choral Art Society of New Jersey, Inc. is a non-profit, community chorus of about 70 singers which perform great choral works. Mary Beth McFall is the rehearsal accompanist for the group. The chorus performs two to three concerts each year in Westfield.

Admission to the January 17 concert is \$15; \$10 for seniors and students, at the door. For further information, please call (908) 232-2455.

Scouts, Music Studio Host Neighborhood Council Party

The holiday spirit was in full swing this year at the Westfield Neighborhood Council. Westfield Cub Scout Pack No. 171 and the Paul Nazzaro Music Studio sponsored a holiday party on December 19 for the children who participate in the Neighborhood Council's after-school program.

About 27 students ages 6 through 12 enjoyed many activities planned for them by the scouts and the music studio. The party was led by Ludy Betancourt, a Den mother in Cub Scout Pack No. 171. Esella Johnson, Director of the Westfield Neighborhood Council, and Paul Nazzaro, from his piano studio in Westfield.

The party helped the scouts demonstrate the giving spirit for their achievement badge "Ways We Worship." Scouts who participated were Scott Dyer, Ian and William Schwartz, Troy Johnson, Julian Betancourt, and their parents.

The scouts brought gifts donated by the employees of Kay-Bee Toys in Westfield. Sylvia Dias, a store manager, set up a toy drive, and she and her staff personally donated gifts.

Gifts were also donated by other friends and parents of the Cub Scout pack. The scouts additionally provided refreshments for all those involved.

Mr. Nazzaro brought the studio's digital keyboard and provided music for the duration of the party, as well as leading the students in singing Ha-

nukkah and Christmas songs.

One of Mr. Nazzaro's students, Julian Betancourt, also provided entertainment by playing a few holiday songs. A holiday trivia game was also led by Mr. Nazzaro.

The Westfield Neighborhood Council has been a non-profit organization since 1969 and is part of the United Fund of Westfield.

The Westfield Neighborhood Council services youth ages 6 through 12, as well as teenagers and the adult community of Westfield.

It offers programs such as the student tutorial enrichment program, an evening teenage program and classes in bridge.

For more information about getting involved with the Westfield Neighborhood Council, please call (908) 233-2772.

Fourth Graders Hold Harvest Luncheon

Fourth graders at Elementary School One in Scotch Plains recently celebrated the completion of their study of the Northeastern United States with a harvest luncheon featuring foods from each of the states they studied.

In the weeks leading up to the luncheon, the students had done extensive research projects about the history of the individual northeastern states.

In preparation for the feast, the students created decorative place mats and centerpiece. Some of the foods sampled by the students and teachers at the feast included shrimp, macaroni and cheese, cranberry bread, hot pretzels, and blueberry and pumpkin pies.



HOLIDAY TRIVIA...Paul Nazzaro leads a trivia game with adults and children during a recent holiday party sponsored by Westfield Cub Scout Pack No. 171 and the Paul Nazzaro Music Studio in Westfield. The scouts brought gifts, which were collected and donated by Kay-Bee Toys in Westfield. Partygoers also enjoyed activities and refreshments, and sang Hanukkah and Christmas songs.



NORTHEAST FEAST...Students from Carol Rosner's fourth-grade class at Elementary School One in Scotch Plains sample a feast of foods from the northeast, after completing extensive research projects about the northeastern states. The Northeast Festival has become an annual event for the fourth-grade classes at School One. Pictured, left to right, are: Laura Percoco, Nicholas Hall Billsback, Patrina Hillman, Eboni Gonzales and Chris Cooper.

The Leader on the Internet

www.goleader.com

WESTFIELD TOWN BANK
4X14

RAGGINI
2X 5 1/2

VALLEY FURNITURE
2X7 1/2

Community Invited to Coffee With Superintendent Choye

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Parent-Teacher Association Council will host a coffee hour with Scotch Plains-Fanwood Superintendent of Schools Dr. Carol B. Choye.

Members of the community are invited to bring their questions, concerns and compliments to this informal gathering which will be held at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, January 21, in the Media Center of Park Middle School, located on Park Avenue in Scotch Plains.

"This is an excellent opportunity for everyone to meet Dr. Choye, who has been honored by two separate organizations," said Cathy Cvetovich, Vice President of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Parent-Teacher Association Council.

The Educational Media Association has named Dr. Choye "Adminis-

trator of the Year" and the New Jersey Association of School Administrators has named her "Superintendent of the Year."

"Not only is Dr. Choye the first woman to ever achieve the latter honor, but, as a result, her name has been placed in contention for National Superintendent of the Year," said Ms. Cvetovich.

Dr. Choye's accomplishments in leading the district have led, in part, to Scotch Plains-Fanwood School District receiving the "What Parents Want" Award from School Match, the nation's largest school selection consulting firm.

All interested community members are invited to join Dr. Choye for coffee and conversation during this Coffee Hour.

Music Studio to Kick Off Year by Adding Vocalist

The Music Studio Jazz Band, a division of The New Jersey Workshop for the Arts, kicked off 1998 with a new addition to its lineup—the inclusion of a jazz vocalist. The Jazz Band's concert, which took place at St. Paul's Episcopal Church during Westfield's annual New Year's Eve "First Night" celebration, boasted by a standing-room-only audience.

The vocalist, Elyn Trilby, was joined by pianist Tom Lyman and drummer Andy Demos, members of the Jazz Band, on four songs during the band's two sets, including "Rock-A-Bye" by Jean Schwartz, and Billy Holiday's "God Bless the Child."

Ms. Trilby has been singing professionally since the age of 9. She studied at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts and the Manhattan School of Music, and is currently a student of Diane McCloskey at the workshop. In addition to lending her voice in performances at local community events, Ms. Trilby has also performed in New York at both Carnegie Hall and Radio City Music Hall, as well as at the Stardust Lounge in Las Vegas.

Dr. Theodore Schlosberg, Executive Director of The New Jersey Workshop for the Arts, said he plans to feature vocalists with The Music Studio Jazz Band on an ongoing basis, and recently announced plans to organize a Jazz/Pop choral ensemble. Rehearsals will take place on Mondays from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. All interested parties should call the workshop at (908) 789-9696 to schedule an audition.

In addition to the songs performed with Ms. Trilby, the band, comprised of both adults and children, played 15 additional numbers ranging from jazz, Broadway shows and popular music, including "Stormy Weather" by Harold Arlen and "Memory" by Andrew Lloyd Weber from the musical

Cats, and "YMCA," the 1970s anthem made popular by The Village People.

During the interim between the two performances, Dr. Schlosberg played melodies on the Alphon, a 12-foot horn from Switzerland.

Also saxophone players in the band are Lauren Falk, Matthew Velderman, Tryan Leonard, Geoff Grow, Dan Perez, Lynn McCabe and George Grow.

On trumpet are Andy Lyman, Chris Velderman, Howard Toplansky and Tomo Gibson. Trombone players are Al Gonzales, D.J. Klimowicz, Janet Lyman and Dan Lyman.

Rounding out the band are Tom Lyman on piano, Andy Demos on drums, Alison McCabe on string bass, Reid Leonard on electric guitar and vocalist Ms. Trilby.

Newcomers Set Date For Coffee Program

The Newcomers Club of Westfield has invited individuals who are interested in getting more involved in the community to attend an informational coffee meeting on Thursday, January 29, at 8 p.m.

The coffee will be held at a member's home in Westfield. The goal of the meeting is for newcomers to learn more about the club, the various committees and activities sponsored by the Newcomers.

All newcomers are welcome, as well as Westfield residents who have had a recent change in lifestyle such as a marriage, the birth or adoption of a child, job or career change, or a move within Westfield.

The purpose of the Newcomers Club is to foster friendships and a sense of community for the residents of Westfield, according to a spokeswoman. The club has been in town since 1944.

Anyone interested in attending the coffee on January 29 or who would like more information about the club may call Erica Webber at (908) 233-4561.



MR. AND MRS. PETER MICHAEL BLAZEY
(She is the former Miss Audra Beth Heatly)

*Miss Audra B. Heatly
Weds Peter M. Blazeay*

Miss Audra Beth Heatly, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James E. Heatly of Gillette, formerly of Westfield, was married on Saturday, July 19, to Peter Michael Blazeay. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Leon W. Blazeay, Jr. of Bethesda, Maryland.

The afternoon ceremony took place at St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church in Westfield, with the Reverend William T. Morris officiating. A reception was held at the Primavera in Stirling.

The bride, who was escorted down the aisle by her father, wore a silk organza and lace gown by Bianchi. It featured an illusion neckline and a chapel-length train. She carried a bouquet of white roses, stephanotis, freesia and ivy.

Miss Kendra Owings of Cranford, a cousin of the bride, served as the maid of honor. The bridal attendants included Miss Heather Heatly of Dunellen and Miss Christa Heatly of Gillette, the sisters of the bride, and Miss Lauren Selfridge of Watchung, a cousin of the bride.

The maid of honor and the bridal attendants wore sleeveless, floor-length gowns in a soft pastel, multi-colored floral print. They carried bouquets of summer garden flowers.

C. Bradley Skinker of Gaithersburg, Maryland, a friend of the bridegroom, was the best man. The ushers were Jay Wilkinson of Granger, Indiana, the brother-in-law of the bridegroom, and Tad Seabrook of Jacksonville, Florida, a friend of the bridegroom.

The wedding ceremony featured vocal selections by Rosanna Picini, Music Director at St. Helen's Church, and Les Minski of Fanwood, a friend of the bride's family.

Mrs. Nancy Selfridge, the bride's aunt, William Owings, the bride's uncle, and Leon Blazeay, Jr., the bridegroom's father, read passages from Scripture.

The bride is a 1992 graduate of

Westfield High School and earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Elementary Education from Elon College in North Carolina in 1996. She is employed as a teacher in Tampa, Florida.

Her husband graduated from St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Bethesda in 1992. He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Broadcast Communications from Elon College. Mr. Blazeay is employed as a producer at WEDU television station in Tampa.

A rehearsal party was hosted by the parents of the bridegroom at the Short Hills Hilton Hotel, and a shower for the bride was hosted by the bridal attendants and aunts of the bride at the bride's parents' home in Gillette.

The couple, who took a wedding trip to Williamsburg, Virginia, now reside in Tampa.

*Ryan Theodore
Born to Lewises*

Michael and Barbara Lewis of Westfield have announced the birth of their son, Ryan Theodore Lewis, on Thursday, December 11, at Overlook Hospital in Summit.

Ryan Theodore weighed 9 pounds and 5 ounces and measured 21 inches in length at birth.

The baby's maternal grandparents are John and Nancy Yingling of Berkeley Heights.

His paternal grandparents are Don and Rosemary Lewis of Plaistow, New Hampshire.

*Stacey Peterson Among
Students on Dean's List*

Stacey Peterson of Scotch Plains has made the Dean's List at the University of Delaware, where she is majoring in Elementary and Special Education.

Stacey attended Bishop Ahr High School in Edison and graduated in 1996.

Oscar Brand Set to Perform In Library Friends' Program



Oscar Brand

Oscar Brand, a folk singer, writer, composer and historian, will appear in a program presented by the Friends of the Westfield Memorial Library tomorrow, Friday, January 16, at the library beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Brand will present a slice of American history featuring Revolutionary War songs, songs about American life and humorous songs.

Born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, Mr. Brand now resides in Great Neck with his wife, Karen. After graduation from Brooklyn College, he joined the United States Army and served during World War II.

In 1945, he began presenting what is now the oldest continuous radio show in history, the award winning "Folk-song Festival" on New York public radio.

He has worked on 75 documentary films, won awards for television shows and has scripted and scored ballets and commercials and composed songs for films. Mr. Brand also co-wrote lyrics and music for Broadway shows, among other achievements.

Mr. Brand is the Curator of the Songwriters' Hall of Fame, author of seven books, has made recordings and written songs for Doris Day, Ella Fitzgerald, Harry Belafonte, The Smothers Brothers, and The Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

He has been on the faculty of The New School, New York University and Hofstra University. He has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Psychology from Brooklyn College, a laureate from Fairfield University and an honorary doctorate from the University of Winnipeg.

Free tickets may be obtained at the circulation desk of the Westfield Memorial Library.

Selected local nursery schools will present their programs, philosophies, and enrollment procedures at a "Preschool Sampler" workshop on Thursday, January 22, at 8 p.m. at the Scotch Plains Public Library, located at 1927 Bartle Avenue.

All parents considering fall enrollment for their preschool children are invited to attend this program, which

Parents Invited to Learn About Local Preschools

is being sponsored by the Mothers' Center of Central New Jersey.

The Mothers' Center is a non-profit, non-sectarian organization founded in 1978 by mothers to help mothers.

"The group aims to take the stress out of parenting by offering discussion groups, day and evening workshops, guest speakers, social activities, library resources, and playgroups," said Mothers' Center spokeswoman Julie Murphy.

On-site child care is available for participants in most daytime activities. New members are welcome at any time, Ms. Murphy said. For more information, please call (908) 561-1751.

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"The group aims to take the stress out of parenting by offering discussion groups, day and evening workshops, guest speakers, social activities, library resources, and playgroups," said Mothers' Center spokeswoman Julie Murphy.

On-site child care is available for participants in most daytime activities. New members are welcome at any time, Ms. Murphy said. For more information, please call (908) 561-1751.

*Zachary David
Born to Kellys*

David and Karen Kelly have announced the birth of their son, Zachary David, on Tuesday, November 11, at 4:03 a.m. at Overlook Hospital in Summit.

Zachary David weighed seven pounds and three ounces and measured 19 1/2 inches in length at birth.

He joins his brother, Jonathan, 2.

Zachary David's maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. John Majeski of Wakefield, Massachusetts.

His paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Kelly of Westfield.

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WEDDING PAGE

FOLD

ABBOTT
2X3

DUDICK
2X3

LANCASTERS
2X5

WOMEN'S CLUB
2X3

VALLEY FURNITURE
2X7

Empty box

Empty box

Empty box



GETTING WARMED UP...Westfield Mayor Thomas C. Jardim, "First Night" Steering Committee member Barbara Karp and Perry Zettersten of Trader Joe's specialty grocery store warm up on New Year's Eve at Westfield's annual "First Night" celebration. Trader Joe's donated free cookies and hot chocolate for those attending the evening which featured a Grand Procession, a wide variety of entertainment with over 50 performers and a Grand Finale at midnight for the whole family and for all ages.

Westfield's Downtown Turned Into Artistic Ctr. by 'First Night'

Once again this past New Year's Eve, downtown Westfield was turned into a musical, theatrical and artistic center, a place to see a vast array of entertainers, from the Westfield Symphony Orchestra's Strings Orchestra, to bluegrass, jazz, Klezmer and chamber music; from Irish or African dancers to a master hypnotist, from current trends in comedy to the classic drama of Shakespeare.

The entertainers performed in schools and churches, as well as the Westfield "Y," the National Guard Armory and the Westfield Municipal Building.

"Organizers estimate that over 4,000 persons attended the successful and well-organized evening in spite of the second year of bitter cold," said Jill Sitzer, who is in charge of publicity for "First Night."

However, attendees stayed warm because most of the entertainment was indoors and participants could see several different acts in one location.

"For one low admission price, there were over 50 performers to choose from, in 13 sites grouped in three general areas near the downtown. Driving from one site to another was possible and parking was not difficult," she explained.

The day began with afternoon entertainment and crafts for children age 4 to 12 in the Armory and at Westfield High School (WHS). The children were treated to a stilt walker, bounce, a giant twister game, a balloon artist, clowns, dancing, singing and a chance to make a hat for the Grand Procession, "First Night's" traditional kickoff parade around town.

The Grand Procession began at 6

p.m. and was attended by nearly 200 warmly-dressed revelers in costume or decorated hats, some carrying banners or giant puppets, and led by the WHS percussion band.

At 7 p.m., the music, entertainers and dancers and singers all began their evening of performances in multiple locations around town.

Children were entertained by the puppetry of Preston Foerder or the interactive songfest of Jeanne DePodwin. Classical music enthusiasts enjoyed the symphony and the Paul Somers Quartet, while dance lovers chose from country and western line dancing, ballroom dancing, or swinging with the King's Road Swing Band featuring Cynthia Merrill, Alice Miller and Kate Zogg.

The mind-reading feats of Marc Sky were said to be extraordinary and the magic of Anthony Masi amazed and mystified the crowd.

The Westfield Optimist Club took charge of the Grand Finale, a count-down-to-midnight ball drop, which took place at Quimby and Elm Streets. A crowd of about 300 attended the finale and rang in the new year, despite the cold weather.

Organizers are already beginning to plan "First Night," Westfield '99. This year's celebration of the arts was bigger and better than the first, and the Steering Committee said it intends to add other sites and additional entertainment next year.

Anyone who would like to take part in the fundraising, planning or organizing for the event is asked to call the Westfield "Y" at (908) 233-2700, and ask for Julia Black, Steering Committee Chairwoman, to discuss how they might help.

Youth and Family Counseling Slates Annual Benefit Concert

The Youth and Family Counseling Service will hold its Eighth Annual Benefit concert on Saturday, March 21, at 8 p.m. in St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church in Westfield.

The Counseling Service provides professional counseling to the towns of Berkeley Heights, Clark, Cranford,

Garwood, Mountainside, Rahway, Scotch Plains and Westfield.

The Orchestra of St. Peter by the Sea, under the direction of Reverend Alphonse Stephenson, will perform again.

For more information, please call the office at (908) 233-2042.

Alliance for Arts Education Head To Speak Before Westfield Group

Marete Wester, Executive Director for the Alliance for Arts Education/New Jersey, will speak at the next meeting of the Westfield Coalition for the Arts on Wednesday, January 21, at 7:45 p.m. in Room No. 121 (choral room) at Westfield High School. The public is invited to attend.

Ms. Wester's topic will be art advocacy and core curriculum standards for the arts.

The Alliance is a statewide advocacy and service organization whose primary mission is to strengthen and promote arts education in New Jersey. Executive Director since 1991, Ms. Wester has led the agency's transition from a largely volunteer-driven association to a professionally-managed non-profit organization.

In 1992, the Alliance launched, in partnership with the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and New Jersey Network, a major arts education awareness campaign, Arts for Everykid.

As part of the campaign, Ms. Wester developed workshops and training programs, and designed information and ongoing resources to help build coalitions for arts education locally and at the state level. She also serves



Marete Wester

on the New Jersey Core Curriculum Frameworks in the Arts Overview Committee.

The Westfield Coalition for the Arts was organized in 1996 to act as an advocate for fine and performing arts in education. It's goal is to preserve and enhance the music, drama and art programs in Westfield schools. For more information, please call Catherine Marchant, President, at (908) 654-1540.



SHOW TIME...Chorus leaders, pictured left to right, Elizabeth Scollon, Mary Anne Markowski and Judy Gale, get ready for the 50th annual Grant-Washington School Show, "The Big Five 0," which will open on Friday, February 6, at 8 p.m., will also be presented on Saturday, February 7, at 2 and 8 p.m. at Roosevelt Intermediate School.

Grant-Washington School Gearing Up for 50th Show

The 50th annual production of the Grant-Washington School Show will be held on Friday, February 6, at 8 p.m. and on Saturday, February 7, at 2 and 8 p.m. at Roosevelt Intermediate School, 302 Clark Street in Westfield.

This year's show, "The Big Five 0," was written by Alice Barbieri. Tickets are available at Burgdorff Realtors, 600 North Avenue, or by calling (908) 233-6557.

Admission is \$6 for the matinee and \$7 for the evening performances. Tickets may also be purchased at the door.

Among the alumni performing in the musical comedy are former Mayor Bud Boothe, Anna Lanam, David Owens and Ellen Albino.

Leading the chorus this year are Judy Gale, Mary Anne Markowski and Elizabeth Scollon, under the musical direction of Ed Warner. This year's choreographers are Pat Baeder and Dianne Mroz.

Mrs. Markowski, Mrs. Scollon and Mrs. Mroz are also among the cast members. Also appearing will be Valerie Rodriguez, Lisa Alonge-Greenfield, Greg Gradel, Lauren Flast and Tom Ganley.

Other cast members include Tom Tresnan, Lary Seitz, Nancy Lau, Jackie Costello, Rob Swadosh, Bill Ludlum, John Fietkiewicz, Linda Thayer, Laurie

Goldsmith Heitner, Bruce Vasel and Roger Hayden.

This annual show is the school's major fundraiser, with the net proceeds making up the total budget for the following year.

It is comprised of an all-volunteer cast and crew of more than 200 parents, alumni, teachers and school Principals, Connie Odell.

Erin Kathleen Zupkus Named to Dean's List At Stockton for Fall

Erin Kathleen Zupkus, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David McNelis of Scotch Plains, has been named to the Dean's list at Richard Stockton State College in Pomona for the fall semester.

Erin, who is a freshman at Stockton, earned a 3.50 grade point average, and is a pre-physical therapy major. She is a 1997 graduate of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School.



A BRAND NEW YEAR...Old Guard officers for 1998, pictured left to right, are: front row, Charles Bilics, Recording Secretary, and Richard Weiss, Corresponding Secretary; back row, Thomas Splaine, Assistant Treasurer; Robert Broadwell, Treasurer, and Jack McHugh, Vice Director. Missing is Everett Yacker, Director.

New Officers Are Sworn In During Old Guard Meeting

New officers of the Old Guard of Westfield were sworn in on January 8 during the group's first meeting of 1998.

The officers are as follows: Everett Yacker, Director (Cranford); Jack McHugh, Vice Director (Westfield); Charles Bilics, Recording Secretary (Garwood); Richard Weiss, Corresponding Secretary (Westfield); Robert Broadwell, Treasurer (Westfield); and Thomas Splaine, Assistant Treasurer (Westfield).

The Old Guard of Westfield is a social club for retired men of Westfield and the surrounding vicinity and is the second oldest of 26 Old Guard

groups in New Jersey.

The group meets each Thursday at the Westfield YMCA starting at 9:30 a.m. for refreshments and socializing, with meeting at 10 a.m. and an entertainment or information presentation about 11 a.m.

Activities of the Old Guard include golf, bowling, shuffleboard, bridge and the Merry-men Chorus, plus trips and luncheons which members can attend with their wives.

Retired men are invited to attend the Old Guard's Thursday activities to learn more about the organization. For more information, please call Harold Hitchcox at (908) 233-1638.

Mother Seton Regional H.S. To Hold Informal Open House

Mother Seton Regional High School, located on Valley Road in Clark, will hold an informal open house on Wednesday, January 28, from 7:30 to 9 p.m. for all sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade girls and their parents.

The program will be informational for girls who are planning to enter high school in the near future.

The evening is designed primarily for parents and for students who are interested in attending Mother Seton Regional High School or in exploring some of the high school options available to them, a school spokesman explained.

Parents and students will have an opportunity to tour the school, examine the curricular and co-curricular programs, investigate transportation and meet with administration, guidance and faculty members. Parents or

students are invited to come alone if the evening is not convenient for both.

An informal social will follow at which parents and daughters may mingle with faculty and students of the school.

Maureen E. Zupkus Named to Dean's List Rowan in Glassboro

Maureen Elizabeth Zupkus, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David McNelis of Scotch Plains, has been named to the Dean's List at Rowan University in Glassboro, for the 1997 fall semester.

Maureen, who is a sophomore at Rowan, earned a 3.50 grade point average and is a graphic design major. She is a 1996 graduate of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School.

FOLD

LITTLE TREASURES
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AMONG THE REVELERS... Among the thousands of revelers at "First Night," Westfield on New Year's Eve were Westfield "Y." Executive Director Stan Kaslusky and his wife, Anne, shown enjoying the talents of mime, Craig Babcock. Over 50 entertainers of all kinds made for a memorable New Year's Eve celebration of the arts and entertainment at Westfield's successful second annual "First Night," a family event for people of all ages and interests. Please see a story on Page 7.



Having fun at "First Night." Pictured clockwise are: left, "The Stiltwalker;" above, children at the arts and craft table preparing noise makers for the opening parade, and, below, children enjoying the giant parachute toss. "First Night" was attended by approximately 4,000 people.



Education Association Offering Scholarship to '98 WHS Seniors

The Westfield Education Association (WEA) has announced it will offer a \$1,000 scholarship to a member of the 1998 graduating class of Westfield High School.

In awarding the scholarship, consideration will be given to: academic achievement, participation in school activities and a commitment to community service. Applications are available from the Westfield High School Guidance Office.

Completed applications must be received by the WEA Scholarship Committee no later than Monday, March 30.

Lawrence Mannino Retains Chairmanship of Board

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

include moving the addition back three feet to square it up with the back of the house.

Mr. Cockren added, "You're seeking a significant variance, and a variance on a five-foot sideyard is not realistic. Given the design, you will have to give something up."

Also carried to next month was Jeffrey Deets and Louis Garcia's request to erect a temporary, wooden storage shed on the commercial property at 196 Ross Place (a.k.a. 201 South Avenue).

Mr. Deets said he intends to use the storage for tires, parts and equipment in an effort "to clean up the yard" in front of his establishment, Jeff's Car & Truck Repairs.

Mr. Mannino expressed concern about the temporary nature of the pre-fabricated shed, and the "barn door" that might be opened if like businesses in Westfield sought similar constructions on their properties.

Mr. Cockren asked Mr. Deets if he had considered making a permanent addition to the existing structure in

lieu of the pre-fabricated structure. Mr. Deets said he did not believe there was enough room on the property for a permanent addition.

"If you can erect a 10-foot-by-20-foot temporary structure," replied Mr. Cockren, "you could erect a permanent one of the same size."

Mr. O'Neil pointed out that Ross Place is one of only two or three streets in Westfield that offers a 100-foot right-of-way, making it "highly unlikely" that the street would ever need to be widened.

"In this particular case," he said, "a permanent addition would work out well."

Not ready to dismiss completely the idea of a temporary shed, Mr. Wilt suggested Mr. Deets supply the board with a better picture of the proposed storage shed.

In addressing Mr. Mannino's concerns about the aesthetics of the structure, he said, "It might not be as ugly as you think."

Mr. Deets plans to return to the board with additional information.

Former Councilman Concerned Over Mrs. Nixon's Removal

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

by speaking for those members of the community the now former commission member was particularly concerned about.

Third Ward Councilman John J. Walsh, council liaison to the commission, said Mrs. Nixon did a "a very fine job" on the board.

"I'm very sorry not to see her as part of this government (in 1998)," he said, adding he hopes the council will consider another appointment for Mrs. Nixon in the future.

Mayor Jardim said he has a "great deal of respect" for Mrs. Nixon and that she should have been able to continue to serve on the commission.

Councilman Walsh, who served on a bipartisan committee during last year's troublesome appointment process, said it was his understanding that Republicans had a list of appointments they wanted confirmed, including those for the Recreation Commission, with little room for negotiation.

He said Republicans did not put any demands on Mayoral appointments, such as those to the Planning Board, which do not require council approval.

In Westfield, the Mayor proposes appointments to the Recreation Commission, which then go before the full Town Council for its consent.

Appointed in place of Mrs. Nixon and Mr. Schwabel were Dr. William Bonsall and Thomas Cusimano, as full members, and Ms. Regan as an alternate.

Seymour Koslowsky was reappointed to the commission and once again is serving as Chairman. Councilman Sullivan indicated that Republicans were glad to be able to get this appointment approved.

Dr. Bonsall, a chiropractor in town, served as an alternate to the commission last year. He is active in numerous organizations locally.

Ms. Regan, who Mayor Jardim said he wanted to appoint last year, has children in parochial school in town and is a paralegal at the law firm of former Democratic Councilman James Hely.

Mr. Cusimano, who is said to have been active in the fall campaign for the Republicans, is active in sports — running in many of the road races held throughout the state.

During a pre-conference meeting before the regular council session, Mayor Jardim announced that the

council would hold a retreat on Saturday, January 24, in the Community Room of the Westfield Municipal Building, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Mayor Jardim agreed to work with an agenda prepared by Councilman Sullivan. Also, a report is being worked on by Mayor Jardim as a working piece from recommendations prepared by the Westfield Expenditure Review Commission, a group created by the Mayor to provide input on the town's budget process.

However, Second Ward Councilman Matthew P. Albano, whose wife, Michelle, is expecting their third child any day, and Second Ward Councilman James J. Gruba, have indicated they will not be able to attend.

Mr. Sullivan said he could not attend the following Saturday, January 31, if the retreat was postponed. He said the session should not be held until all nine council members can attend.

Mayor Jardim has said the goal of the session is aimed at giving the council an opportunity to look at goals and objectives for the new year as well as long-range planning.

Tunnel, Train Platforms To Open at Town Station

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Parley, who now lives in Garrison, New York.

NJ Transit held a customer forum this week to answer questions about the ongoing project. The project is one of the improvements included in Transportation Commissioner and NJ Transit Board Chairman John J. Haley Jr.'s declaration that 1998 is "the year of the Raritan Valley Line," during which he has committed to upgrade service and facilities along the line.

A report issued by the Westfield Raritan Valley Commuter Line Commission, a group created by Westfield Mayor Thomas C. Jardim in 1997, listed a number of objectives they would like to see made by NJ Transit to improve train service for the estimated 7,500 daily riders on the line. Westfield, with 1,400 riders, is the largest station on the train line, which covers three counties.

WESTFIELD POLICE BLOTTER

- THURSDAY, JANUARY 8**
- Daniel Babcock, 27, of Piscataway was charged with burglary and theft in connection with a robbery which occurred at a South Avenue, West delicatessen on October 31, according to police.
 - The suspect was charged at Westfield police headquarters, where he was being held on a warrant out of Andover Township, authorities said. Bail was set at \$5,000 for the Westfield charge. Andover had set bail at \$750.
- FRIDAY, JANUARY 9**
- The owner of a Westfield Avenue business reported that someone drove an automobile across the front lawn of the establishment, damaging shrubbery and a lamppost, according to police.
 - A representative of a decorating store on South Avenue, West reported that someone bounced a check at the company.
 - Anthony Ball, 41, of East Orange and John Roane, 36, of Cranford were charged with possession of heroin and cocaine at Cacciola Place, according to police. Ball was held on \$2,000 bail, while Roane was held on \$1,000 bail, authorities said.
 - A male, 15-year-old Westfield youth and a male, 16-year-old Plainfield youth were charged in connection with the theft of a video game and several cartridges. The incident took place in the 300 block of South Avenue, East in December.
 - The Westfield youth was charged with burglary and theft, while the Plainfield teenager was charged with possession of stolen property, according to police. They were released to their parents' custody.
- SATURDAY, JANUARY 10**
- Kevin Monroe, 39, of Westfield was arrested and charged with possession of heroin and less than 50 grams of marijuana at the Westfield train station, according to police. The suspect was released on \$1,250 bond.
- SUNDAY, JANUARY 11**
- Rose Perez, 23, of Westfield was arrested and charged with shoplifting for allegedly attempting to steal a bottle of wine from an South Avenue, East liquor store, according to police. She was released on \$260 bail.
 - Paul Wojtowicz, 40, of Rahway was charged with theft by deception, according to police. The suspect allegedly accepted money to install French doors on a residence in 1996 but never performed the work, authorities said.

WESTFIELD FIRE BLOTTER

- TUESDAY, JANUARY 6**
- One hundred block of Clifton Street — system malfunction.
 - Three hundred block of Clark Street — unintentional alarm.
- WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7**
- Eleven hundred block of Central Avenue — carbon monoxide detector activation.
 - Fifteen hundred block of Lamberts Mill Road — unintentional alarm.
 - Four hundred block of East Broad Street — power line down.
 - Windsor Avenue and South Avenue — hazardous condition investigation.
 - Nine hundred block of Wyandotte Trail — carbon monoxide detector activation.
 - Seven hundred block of Prospect Street — system malfunction.
- THURSDAY, JANUARY 8**
- Two hundred block of Springfield Avenue — smoke scare.
 - Six hundred block of Stirling Place — system malfunction.
 - Three hundred block of Linden Avenue — system malfunction.
 - Seven hundred block of Boulevard — system malfunction.
 - Eight hundred block of Standish Avenue — smoke scare.
- FRIDAY, JANUARY 9**
- Thirteen hundred block of Central Avenue — false call.
 - One hundred block of Mountain Avenue — unintentional alarm.
 - Five hundred block of Washington Street — good intent call.
- SATURDAY, JANUARY 10**
- Five hundred block of Dorian Road — unintentional alarm.
- SUNDAY, JANUARY 11**
- Four hundred block of Wychwood Road — smoke scare.
 - Four hundred block of North Avenue, West — emergency medical call.
 - One hundred block of Park Street — vehicle fire.

Strategic Plan Drafts Released by Dr. Foley

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cultural emphasis on individual creativity.

In other business, the Board of Education noted that three seats will be open for the next board election on Tuesday, April 21.

Those wishing to be a candidate may obtain a petition at the Board of Education offices, 302 Elm Street, and must return it by 4 p.m. on Monday, March 2.

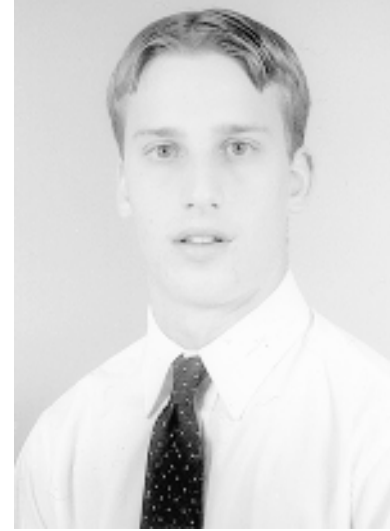
David L. Osborn Inducted To Honor Society Chapter

David L. Osborn, the son of Peter and Claudia Osborn of Westfield and a graduate of Westfield High School, has been inducted into Alfred State College's Alpha Sigma Mu Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa.

David, who is majoring in mechanical engineering technology/internal combustion engines, is also Vice President of the student chapter of the Society of Automotive Engineers and on the Dean's List.

To qualify for Alfred State's Alpha Sigma Mu Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa—the sole international honor society serving two-year colleges—students must have earned an index of 3.5 (based on a scale in which 4.0 equals straight A's.)

Also, candidates must have accumulated at least 24 credit hours at Alfred State, must be of good character, and must possess recognized qualities of citizenship, according to



David L. Osborn

Forum to Discuss Improving Teaching of State's History

Do you care about New Jersey's history—its historic sites and museums, scholarship, collections and resources, and how our state's history is taught in schools?

A regional public meeting on Saturday, January 17, will provide the opportunity for county residents to learn about the recommendations proposed by the Task Force on New Jersey History.

The forum, which is free, will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Elizabethtown Gas Company in Union. The program is being sponsored by the Advocates for New Jersey History, the statewide history advocacy group, the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, Department of Economic Development.

Governor Christine Todd Whitman and the state legislature established the Task Force on New Jersey History to study how history services are provided to the public and recommend improvements. After 18 months of work, the Task Force presented its four-volume report to the Governor and the legislature last June.

"The members of the task force worked diligently to complete their enormous task," stated Daniel P. Sullivan, the new Chairman of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

"The Board of Chosen Freeholders urges members of preservation commissions, historical societies, government history agencies, historical museum staff and volunteers, history teachers, genealogists, librarians, archivists, parents, students and all interested residents to take advantage of this special opportunity to discuss the task force report," he added.

The report contains 36 recommendations for improving the field of New Jersey history including increasing funds for preserving structures and collections; providing better management and interpretation of historic sites; requiring New Jersey history training for teachers and supporting teachers with a broad variety of curriculum materials; increasing support for scholarship and publication, and providing additional grant assistance for historical organizations and museums.

At the forum, representatives of the task force and the advocates will discuss these recommendations and plans for implementing them.

In addition, staff from the Union County Division of Policy and Planning will describe how the History Task Force recommendations can impact the cross-acceptance process that is currently underway prior to the re-adoption of the New Jersey State Master Plan.

Additional forums are being held around the state during January and February. To register for the January 17 event and for directions or information about other dates and sites, please call (908) 558-2550. Hearing-impaired persons should call (800) 852-7899. In the event of a snow postponement, the forum will take place on Saturday, January 31, at the Plainfield Public Library, Park Avenue at West 8th Street.



TAKING THE SHOT...Raider Katie Feighner, second from right, takes a shot while Vikings Kathryn Rooney, No. 30, and Devin McDonald, right, await the rebound. Raider Christine Bowers, in front of Rooney, also awaits.

BRITTON BAGS 12; ROONEY, 10

Viking Girls "D"stroy Raider Cagers, 42-20

By DAVID B. CORBIN
Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times
Strong defense and timely shooting was the proper formula for the creation of another victory for the Union Catholic High School girls' basketball team, as they served Scotch Plains-Fanwood a 42-20 defeat in Scotch Plains on January 6.

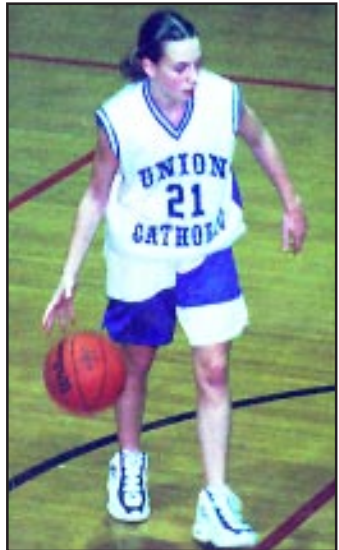
ruler in the final quarter for the Vikings. The Raiders could not find an opening nor could they find the net. The Vikings created several turnovers and converted them into points. When the quarter ended, the Vikings had outscored the Raiders, 13-0. Rooney totaled 10 points; Santo hit for nine; Devin McDonald and Shrita Smith sank four points each; Lisa Lott had two, and Brenda Kaus added one point for the Vikings which upped their record to 4-0.

Raider Boys Squeeze Past Vikings, 51-46

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys' basketball team spread the wealth as four members hit for double figures, but had to put the squeeze on a fourth-quarter rally by the Viking boys to preserve a 51-46 victory in Scotch Plains on January 6.

The Viking offense was led by junior Carlos Jefferson who led all scoring with 16 points. Seniors Quentin Jordan nailed 12 points, Anthony Darrell sank eight, Edwin Hilton hit for six and Khalif Smith added two while junior Frantzuo Simon contributed two points.

Table with 2 columns: Team, Points, Rebounds, Assists, Steals, Blocks, Fouls. Union Catholic: 11 10 7 18 46. Sc Plains-Fnwd: 17 10 15 9 51.



THE DRIBBLE...Viking Jessica Ballweg dribbles the basketball in the game against the Blue Devils.



THE GUARD...Viking Junior Simone Mays, No. 43, with her hands in the air, effectively guards a Blue Devil player.

BRITTON HITS 15, REBOUNDS SIX

Unbeaten Vikings Roar Past Devil Girls, 48-32

By DAVID B. CORBIN
Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times
The Union Catholic High School girls' basketball team defended their 20th ranking by The Star-Ledger by stopping the Westfield High School girls, 48-32, on January 8 in Scotch Plains.

while the offense added 12. Afterwards, with a 20-point lead entering the final period, all the Vikings had to do was slow the pace of the game down somewhat.

Other Watching Conference Girls Basketball Scores:

Table of basketball scores for various teams including Irvington, Cranford, and Linden.

SPF PAL Matmen Open Season

January 2 marked the opening of the wrestling season for the Suburban Wrestling League. The Scotch Plains-Fanwood wrestlers, led by coaches Chuck Silber and Bill Bowman, opened their season matching up against a Madison squad.

Kashlak, 5 Devils Make Ice Hockey Leader List

Westfield High School junior Ronnie Kashlak increased his lead as New Jersey's top scoring ace in ice hockey. Kashlak upped his total to 58 by scoring 39 goals and adding 19 assists.

Raider Boys Edge Hillside, 41-38

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys' basketball team dodged the bullet and came up with a 41-38 victory over Hillside on January 10 in Hillside.

PUBLIC NOTICE

SHERIFF'S SALE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY, CHANCERY DIVISION, UNION COUNTY, DOCKET NO. F-20223-91. AMERICA'S MORTGAGE SERVICING, INC., PLAINTIFF vs. HAFEEZA RASUL AKWA DENISE STANFORD, ET AL., DEFENDANT.

PUBLIC NOTICE

SHERIFF'S SALE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY, CHANCERY DIVISION, UNION COUNTY, DOCKET NO. F-18208-96. NEW JERSEY HOUSING AND MORTGAGE FINANCE AGENCY, PLAINTIFF vs. FERNANDO SIERRA AND MARIA G. SIERRA, HIS WIFE, 432 OWNERS, INC.; ET AL., DEFENDANT.

PUBLIC NOTICE

SHERIFF'S SALE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY, CHANCERY DIVISION, UNION COUNTY, DOCKET NO. F-2832-97. BENEFICIAL NEW JERSEY, INC. DBA BENEFICIAL MORTGAGE CO., PLAINTIFF vs. JORGE RODRIGUEZ AND ADDIA RODRIGUEZ, DEFENDANT.



THORNE IN HIS SIDE...Tom Robina of Governor Livingston feels the pain applied by Raider senior Frank Thorne in the 215-pound weight class. Thorne was sharp as he pinned Robina in 4:17.

Raiders Scale the Mountain; Topple Highlanders, 54-21

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

Another exciting bout came at 152 when junior Josh Ricca beat Highlander Jeremy Ferguson, 9-4. Ricca scored three takedowns, two escapes and a penalty point to gain the victory.

103: — David Loewinger (SPF) won by forfeit. 112: — Brett Vanderveer (GL) p. Mike Loewinger, 1:56. 119: — Charlie Triplet (SPF) p. Tom Ehrhardt, 2:52. 125: — A. J. Romeo (SPF) p. Kevin Nadowski, 2:45. 130: — Mike Triplet (SPF) p. Dennis Hunchar, 2:40. 135: — Tony Melendez (SPF) d. Kris Lecomte, 6-2. 140: — Mike Grabel (SPF) p. Dan Reichard, 3:31. 145: — Tim Marcantonio (GL) d. Luke Cerchio, 14-9. 152: — Josh Ricca (SPF) d. Jeremy Ferguson, 9-4. 160: — Ben Bakas (GL) p. Matt Oley, 1:25. 171: — Fred Williams (GL) p. Gary Cousar, 3:00. 189: — Tony Zardecki (SPF) p. Mike Farrell, 1:03. 215: — Frank Thorne (SPF) p. Tom Robina, 4:17. Hwt: — Jim Feeley (SPF) won by forfeit.

WEIGHTBREAKDOWN:

103: — Dave Loewinger (SPF) d. Augusto Pinto, 5-0. 112: — Mike Loewinger (SPF) p. Justin Torres, :48. 119: — Charlie Triplet (SPF) d. Pedro Santos, 3-0. 125: — A. J. Romeo (SPF) p. Joseph Hernandez, 1:12. 130: — Tony Melendez (SPF) p. Rodrigo DaSilva, 2:54. 135: — Mike Natale (SPF) md. Alfredo Stocum, 10-2. 140: — Mike Grabel (SPF) p. Frederico Bararieta, 3:48. 145: — Luke Cerchio (SPF) won by injury default over Israel Estrella, 3:55. Was ahead 12-1. 152: — Josh Ricca (SPF) p. Fernando Lama, 1:42. 160: — Chris Stiglitz (SPF) p. Rich Torres, :26. 171: — Wayne Pestano (E) d. Doug Keeton, 10-8 OT. 189: — Tony Zardecki (SPF) won by forfeit. 215: — Frank Thorne (SPF) p. Renaldo Negron, 3:25. Hwt: — Jim Feeley (SPF) p. Kevin Fillan, 1:42.



HIGH-RIDING RICCA...Raider junior Josh Ricca, top, is a bit out of position with his half-nelson, but does get behind Jeremy Ferguson of Governor Livingston and wins 9-4 in the 152-pound class.

Raider Wrestlers Demolish Irvington Matmen, 57-23

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School wrestling team won its second straight match by saddening the Blue Knights, 57-23, in Scotch Plains on January 7. Sophomores Dave and Mike Loewinger led the Raider attack, and junior Tony Melendez eradicated Newark East, 70-3, on January 9 in Newark.

continued his winning ways. Dave Loewinger, competing at 103, annihilated his opponent Harold Volcy in 1:00, and Mike, competing at 112, nullified Ninnette Diogene in 1:38 to give the Raiders a 12-0 lead. Melendez made easy work of Alfredo Rodriguez, showing him the lights in 2:21.

Raiders Eradicate East Side, 70-3

Dave Loewinger, Tony Melendez, Luke Cerchio, Josh Ricca and Jim Feeley continued their winning ways as the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School wrestling team seized its third straight victory by eradicating Newark East, 70-3, on January 9 in Newark.

The Raiders improved to 3-2, while Newark East fell to 1-3. WEIGHT BREAKDOWN: 103: — Dave Loewinger (SPF) d. Augusto Pinto, 5-0. 112: — Mike Loewinger (SPF) p. Justin Torres, :48. 119: — Charlie Triplet (SPF) d. Pedro Santos, 3-0. 125: — A. J. Romeo (SPF) p. Joseph Hernandez, 1:12. 130: — Tony Melendez (SPF) p. Rodrigo DaSilva, 2:54. 135: — Mike Natale (SPF) md. Alfredo Stocum, 10-2. 140: — Mike Grabel (SPF) p. Frederico Bararieta, 3:48. 145: — Luke Cerchio (SPF) won by injury default over Israel Estrella, 3:55. Was ahead 12-1. 152: — Josh Ricca (SPF) p. Fernando Lama, 1:42. 160: — Chris Stiglitz (SPF) p. Rich Torres, :26. 171: — Wayne Pestano (E) d. Doug Keeton, 10-8 OT. 189: — Tony Zardecki (SPF) won by forfeit. 215: — Frank Thorne (SPF) p. Renaldo Negron, 3:25. Hwt: — Jim Feeley (SPF) p. Kevin Fillan, 1:42.

PUBLIC NOTICE

1998 REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS. In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, regular meetings of the Zoning Board of Adjustment of the Township of Scotch Plains, Union County, New Jersey, will be held in Council Chambers, First Floor, Municipal Building, 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey, at 7:30 p.m. on the following Thursdays in 1998:

PUBLIC NOTICE

All interested parties may be present and heard. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person that might require special needs should be in touch with the Board Office during normal business hours so that their needs may be addressed (visually or hearing-impaired, wheelchair-bound, etc.) Linda M. Lies Secretary to the Zoning Board of Adjustment Township of Scotch Plains Fee: \$51.00

FOLD

College to Offer Two Credit Courses on Global Economy

Union County College is responding to the growing trend of employers doing business internationally by offering two credit courses dealing with the global economy. They will be presented during the spring semester beginning on Wednesday, January 21, and continuing through mid-May.

Parent Orientation Jan. 15 for Incoming Ninth-Grade Class

Parents of Westfield eighth-grade students, in both public and private schools who will attend Westfield High School in September, are invited to attend a curriculum orientation meeting on Thursday, January 15, at 7:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium. At the meeting, guidance counselors will lead group information sessions for parents focusing on the course selection process, graduation requirements, college admission standards, school policy on course loads and elective offerings.

Department chairmen and other high school representatives will be on hand to meet with parents on January 15, after the sessions with the guidance counselors.

The program of studies booklet, which lists all courses offered at the high school, will be distributed to eighth-grade students in small group information sessions at Edison and Roosevelt Intermediate Schools prior to the parent meeting this Thursday.

The eighth graders have already been assigned their high school counselor who will meet with the students and their parents during February to select high school courses.

Both courses will be conducted at the college's Cranford campus.

"Introduction to Global Business," a three-credit course, will introduce students to the theory and practice of international business. The course will cover the theory of international trade, international investment and monetary systems, and international marketing, management, and finance.

Additional topics will include foreign exchange markets, importing, exporting trade agreements, NAFTA, GATT, trade barriers and the European Union.

Course content will prepare students with a broader global focus through instruction on the impact of cultural, economic and political environments on international business.

Students can choose to take the course either from 9 to 9:50 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, or from 7:20 to 10 p.m. on Tuesdays.

"Marketing and the Global Environment," also a three-credit course, will examine the historical foundation of cultural, political and economic diversity and its effect on marketing.

The course will discuss forces related to the emergence of the global marketplace trade liberalization, including advances in communication, the role of mass media in introducing ideas and lifestyles of other cultures, and transport technology.

Students can choose to take the course either from 8:25 to 10:40 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, or from 7:20 to 10 p.m. on Thursdays.

Those interested in further information should call either Dr. Toby Grodner, a senior professor of business, at (908) 709-7565 or the college's Admissions Office at (908) 709-7500.

Astronomers to Discuss Eclipse Which Will Occur in February

Union County College will host a presentation by Phil Harrington, an avid amateur astronomer and author of several books on astronomy, at 8 p.m. on Friday, January 16, in the Roy W. Smith Theater, located in the Campus Center at the college's Cranford campus.

The presentation will follow the regular monthly meeting of Amateur Astronomers, Inc., (AAI) based at the college's Sperry Observatory.

Mr. Harrington will review some notable eclipses of the past and give

a preview of great eclipses to come, all in anticipation of a total solar eclipse to occur in Aruba this February. AAI is sponsoring both air and cruise trips to Aruba for participants to view the eclipse at its point of totality.

After the presentation, visitors are invited to cross the campus to the observatory, where they can view celestial phenomena through two, high-powered telescopes.

Those interested in further information should call either (908) 709-7520 or (908) 276-STAR.

Miller-Cory to Present Knitting Demonstration

The Miller-Cory House Museum, 614 Mountain Avenue in Westfield, will feature a knitting demonstration and tours of the historic farmhouse on Sunday, January 18, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Barbara Flexner of West Orange will demonstrate early knitting techniques to visitors to the museum. Mrs. Flexner is an accomplished spinner and knitter, and has demonstrated her skills at many of the museum's functions such as their sheep-to-shawl festival.

The gift shop offers a wide variety of Colonial reproductions, teas, cookbooks, crafts and reading material.

Admission to the museum is \$2 for adults, 50 cents for students. Children under six years of age are admitted free. On Sunday, January 25, the museum will celebrate Indian lore.

For information about the museum and its schedule of events, please call the museum office at (908) 232-1776.

OH, HOLY NIGHT...All parish children from the Immaculate Heart of Mary Roman Catholic Church in Scotch Plains were invited to participate in the Nativity Pageant held at the special Children's Mass held on Christmas Eve, December 24. Pictured are the children in costume portraying the Holy Family, angels and shepherds.

Klondike Derby Jan. 24th In Watchung Reservation

Boy Scouts of the Patriot District of the Watchung Area Council will hold their 42nd Klondike Derby sled race and scout-skill contest at the picnic area above Surprise Lake in the Watchung Reservation in Mountaintop at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, January 24.

The public is welcome to visit throughout the day until the award ceremony about 3 p.m. Tom Bruening of Berkeley Heights will serve as Derby Governor, and about 100 adult leaders and volunteers from various scout troops will assist in conducting the event.

The Patriot District includes towns and troops in the area between Westfield, Millington, North Plainfield and Scotch Plains.

On Derby day, the reservation will be transformed into the Klondike region of the Yukon Territory, and

the spots where different skill events occur will take on the names of Klondike towns.

Scout patrols, in two different age groups, will use compass directions to map out their routes and pull closely-specified Eskimo-style sleds between the towns, where they will be graded on their performance of different scout-skill problems, such as first aid, lashings and knots, measuring, and fire-building.

If there is too little snow for sleds, the patrols will use back-packs loaded with the required equipment to hike around the course. Winners will be determined by a combination of test scores and elapsed time, with each team timed from its start in a six-team wave to its return to the finish line, where a score-board will show the status of each team as it moves around the course.

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS...Second-grade Brownie Troop No. 640 from McGinn Elementary School in Scotch Plains recently spread some holiday cheer at the Chelsea in Fanwood, an assisted-living facility which opened a year ago on South Avenue. Troop leader Cathy Smith led the girls in holiday songs while encouraging the residents to join in. Assistant leader Lynda Meehan then read "The Polar Express" to the group. Residents and scouts all received a silver bell representing the magic of the season for both young and old. Pictured are several Troop 640 members and residents of the Chelsea.

Exhibit of Southwestern Acrylic Paintings to Open Sunday at Town Gallery

The Westfield Art Gallery, a division of The New Jersey Workshop for the Arts, will welcome the work of local artist Michael Sileo with a reception on Sunday, January 18, from 2 to 4 p.m. at their 152 East Broad Street location.

The opening reception, which marks the beginning of a two-week exhibit of Mr. Sileo's southwestern and Native-American acrylic paintings, presents an exciting opportunity to meet the artist while viewing his work.

Mr. Sileo, a resident of Roselle, has had his work exhibited in many local shows and galleries, including the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts in Summit, the Mountain Art Show in Bernardsville and the Kenilworth Art Show, where he won the "First Place Non-Pro Varied" award two years consecutively.

Most recently, Mr. Sileo won the Caldwell Progress Award at the West Essex Art Association of Caldwell College and had his work displayed at the Les Malmut Art Gallery in the Union Township Library, his first exhibition as a sole artist.

Mr. Sileo has studied at the San Francisco Art Institute in San Francisco, as well as closer to home at the School of Visual Arts and the Art Students League in New York.

The subjects of Mr. Sileo's paintings are southwestern in theme, and feature Native Americans. His interest in western art stems from his appreciation of the work of Fritz Shoulder, an artist who depicted Native Americans and southwestern stylings long before it became a popular trend.

To get ideas for his paintings, Mr. Sileo said he relies on the combination of his imagination and books he's read on the myths, beliefs and dances of Native Americans. As he explained, "The beauty and energies of the native peoples refresh and center me. They are the inspiration for my work."

The Westfield Art Gallery is open to the public on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and on selected Sundays by appointment only. Michael Sileo's paintings will be on display through Friday, February 6. The Workshop for the Arts, estab-

lished in 1972 by Dr. Theodore K. Schlosberg, is located at 150-152 East Broad Street in Westfield. Other divisions include Kids "N" Arts, Tots "N" Arts, The Westfield Fencing Club, The Westfield Summer Workshop, The Music Studio Summer Band/Orchestra Workshop and The Drawing Workshop.

Woman's Club Sponsoring Trip To Dinner Theater

Members of the Woman's Club of Fanwood and their guests are inviting the public to join them for dinner at noon with entertainment at the Hunterdon Hills Dinner Theatre in Hampton on Wednesday, January 21.

Club members and guests will view Garson Kanin's play, *Born Yesterday*. The cost of the program is \$37 per person, payable to the Woman's Club of Fanwood.

For more information, please contact Barbara Couphos, (908) 322-7892.

Chelsea Flower Show Topic of Woman's Club

Joanne Sullebarger, Past President of The Garden Club of Westfield, presented a program entitled "The Chelsea Flower Show" at the club's meeting on January 13.

The show is one of the world's most celebrated garden shows held every year since 1913 on the grounds of London's Royal Hospital, explained Lecia C. DeHaven, head of publicity for the club. Britain's top garden designers are showcased at Chelsea as well as floral exhibits and the latest garden products.

Hostess Chairwoman was Barbara Peek who was assisted by Ruth Metz, Alice Salvato, Mary Evelyn Miner and Connie Muirhead.

Flowers were placed in the Westfield Memorial Library during January by Ms. Metz, Lucille Finter, Jean Sawtelle and Charlotte Baker.

Girl Scout Council To Hold Meeting January 24 in Union

The Annual Meeting of Washington Rock Girl Scout Council will be held at Elizabethtown Gas Company, located at 1 Elizabeth Plaza in Union, on Saturday, January 24, from 9 a.m. until noon. The deadline to register is today, Thursday, January 15, by calling (908) 232-3236. In case of snow, the meeting will be held Saturday, January 31.

The meeting will open with a traditional Girl Scout flag ceremony. Dolores Kresge, President of the Board of Directors, will chair the meeting. Items on the agenda include the approval of a new treasurer, incoming members (members at large) and Nominating Committee members.)

The Washington Rock Girl Scout Council is a United Way member and serves 10,676 members comprised of 7,656 girls and 3,020 adults in a 24-town jurisdiction.

All delegates are reminded to attend and guests are invited. Registration and coffee begin at 9 a.m., with the meeting to follow from 9:30 a.m. until noon.

Registration and directions are available by calling the council office at (908) 232-3236.

Guest Speaker to Give Families Information On Special Education

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Learning Disability Association will present a program on the Academic Journey Through Special Education tonight, Thursday, January 15, at 7:30 p.m. at Elementary School One on Willow Avenue in Scotch Plains. The snow date is Monday, January 26.

The speaker will be Suzanne Flannery, Supervisor, Office of Pupil Services in Scotch Plains-Fanwood Special Education.

She will discuss referral and the classification process in special education, as well as services from pre-Kindergarten through high school.

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Learning Disability Association is a support and resource group for families with children who have learning disabilities.

The group is currently running a membership drive. The annual membership fee of \$10 helps defray the costs of newsletters and handouts, while enabling the organization to present speakers.

For more information, please call Debbie Littman at (908) 754-7575 or Bernadette Lopez at (908) 322-7261.

CELEBRATING THE ARTS...Members of Westfield Community Players recently received a grant from Union County in recognition of the theater group's cultural contributions. Pictured, left to right, are: Letty Hudak, Membership Director of Westfield Community Players; Conrad Person, Vice Chairman of the Union County Cultural and Heritage Programs Advisory Board; Cynthia Smyth, President of the Westfield Community Players, and Victor Cenci, Publicity Director of the theater group.

Community Players Receive Grant From Union County

At a ceremony hosted by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, special recognition was given to Westfield Community Players as a contributor to the Union County cultural scene.

For their efforts in bringing live theater to the local level, Westfield Community Players was awarded a grant of \$2,400 to be used for the

organization's current 1997-1998 theatrical season.

Funding for the grant has been made possible in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, Department of State, through a grant administered by the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs.

In part, the resolution made by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders "...recognizes the profound impact of the arts and humanities on the economic vitality of our communities and on the quality of life of the residents of Union County and...commends the cultural organizations and individual artists who provide a host of diverse cultural experiences for the residents of Union County."

The President of Westfield Community Players, Cynthia Smyth of Scotch Plains, noted that the troupe was very pleased to be awarded the grant and that it will be used to defray costs associated with the operation of the theater.

Remaining productions for the season are Fred Carmichael's *Out of Sight - Out of Murder* this month, Herb Gardner's *I'm Not Rappaport* in March and the musical *Romance, Romance* by Barry Harman and Keith Herrmann in May.

Westfield Community Players, founded in 1934, presents all productions in their own 150-seat theater on the corner of Edgewood Avenue and North Avenue, West, in Westfield. For membership information, please call the box office at (908) 232-1221.

4-H Cat Club for Children To Begin On January 23

Children in grades 3 through 5 are invited to join the 4-H Cat Club sponsored by Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County.

At each meeting members will do a hands-on activity about cats, such as a cat anatomy game called "Pin the Tail" or a cat care game called "The Cat Pyramid."

The group will also do a craft activity and cook a snack.

The club's first meeting will be on Friday, January 23, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the 4-H office, 300 North Avenue, in Westfield.

The cost to join the club is \$10 until July, and parental help is needed to make the club a success, according to a spokesman.

For more information about the Cat Club, please call the 4-H office at (908) 654-9854.

The Rutgers Cooperative Extension 4-H Program of Union County is fully insured and is affiliated with Rutgers University and the County of Union.

Rutgers Cooperative Extension provides information and educational services to all people without regard to sex, race, color, national origin, disability or handicap, or age.

Mount St. Mary Lists Honor Roll Students

The following Westfield students achieved Honor Roll status for the first trimester at Mount Saint Mary Academy in Watchung:

Principal's Honor Roll:

Megan A. Brunhofer and Erin O'Brien.

Regular Honor Roll:

Margaret K. Blendulf, Alana L. Goszewski, Catherine M. Kuza, Mary Kathleen Lechner, Aimee E. Lombard, Christine A. Martucci, Maria C. McGinley, Eileen McKeever, Jessica L. Orleanski, Erin E. Scanlon and Patricia M. Yudd.

I have noticed that the people who are late are often so much jollier than the people who have to wait for them.

— E. V. Lucas, from *365 Days and One More*

DIRECTORY & CLASS.