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SIXTY CENTS

Thomas Walsh, Latest Westfielder Joins County's Superior Court

By THOMAS FORTUNATO and PAUL J. PEYTON

WESTFIELD — Westfield resident Thomas Walsh was sworn in Friday afternoon as the newest judge of the state Superior Court in Elizabeth. Mr. Walsh was sworn in by Union County Assignment Judge Karen Cassidy in her chambers on the second floor of the county courthouse. He joins James Hely and Robert Kirsch as recent Westfield additions to the county bench.

Aside from Mr. Walsh's family, friends, and partners of his nowformer law firm Triarsi, Betancourt

and Wukovits in Cranford, there was a large turnout of various lawyers, elected officials and judges from across the region.

"I'm thrilled to be back in public service to try and help people now by equitably applying the law," Judge Walsh told *The Westfield Leader*.

Judge Walsh has more than 20 years of legal experience. He started his career as an assistant prosecutor in Union County before moving on to private practice.

The state Senate confirmed Mr. Walsh's nomination to the bench on January 11. His appointment fills the vacancy created by the retirement of

Judge Edwin Alley. Judges in the state courts are mandated to retire when they reach the age of 70.

At Friday's ceremony, Assemblyman Jon Bramnick (LD-21, Westfield) said Judge Walsh would bring a "compassion and warmth that is so desperately needed" on the Union County

Judge Walsh's former law partner, Joseph Triarsi, a relative of former Union County Superior Court Judge John Triarsi, further emphasized Judge Walsh's strength of character and devotion to the hectic job of be-

ing a private attorney.
"He knows what it's like to be in Union at nine [a.m.], Essex at eleven [a.m.] and Camden at two [p.m.]," Mr. Triarsi said.

Former Union County manager and ex-New Jersey Turnpike Authority executive director, Michael Lapolla of Westfield, worked with Judge Walsh 15 years ago in the county prosecutor's office.

"He is a lawyer's lawyer and a

gentleman," Mr. Lapolla said. A longtime family friend, Mr. Lapolla noted that back when Judge Walsh was an assistant prosecutor in Union County, he tried the first bias crime case in the state. The case involved three black high school girls who were repeatedly tormented and called racial slurs by a white man who would drive by their school every afternoon. Upon the man's conviction, the girls and their families were not only satisfied with Judge Walsh's devotion to upholding justice, but also believed that justice had been served, Mr. Lapolla said.

"He (Walsh) made sure they wouldn't become victims twice," Mr. Lapolla told *The Leader*. "He did an outstanding job and got a conviction" in what Mr. Lapolla described as an "extraordinary, difficult case."

Carol Jeney, president of the Union County Bar Association, said Judge Walsh is "going to be a great asset to the bench.

"Union County is lucky to have Judge Walsh filling one of the vacancies (on the Union County bench)," Ms. Jeney said. "He is a great lawyer. He is well respected by everyone." She also described him as "very personable" and "enthusiastic."

Senator Tom Kean, Jr. (LD-21, Westfield), the Senate minority leader in Trenton, said he was happy to support Mr. Walsh's nomination and, now, his "elevation to the bench."

"New Jersey's judicial system is touted as one of the best in the country and I am quite certain that Tom will follow in this fine tradition and will be a tremendous asset to the Union County Superior Court system," Senator Kean said in a statement.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

E-Alert System; COAH Discussed Group, Inc., of Morristown, to serve as an on-call traffic safety and engineering services consultant. The con-

tract is not to exceed \$14,000. The RBA Group's data collection was needed to further the new four-way stop at Boulevard and Park Street, which Ms. Neylan called a success. The group will now focus its attention at the interFourth Avenue, near Gumbert Park. The council passed a resolution for final payment of the Sid Fay/Houlihan Municipal Park project. The artificial-turfed Sid Fay/ Houlihan fields, used primarily for soccer and lacrosse, are located at the corner of Rahway Avenue and Lamberts Mill Road,

across from St. Helen's Church.



PROUD OF WIN NUMBER 500...Fans, including Westfield Mayor Andy Skibitsky, who is holding up the "5", celebrate January 30 after the Westfield High School wrestling team defeated Elizabeth, 45-22, in Elizabeth, to record the 500th win in the history of the program and the 100th win for head coach Glen Kurz.

Westfield Council Promotes

Mr. Cummings Resigns After 20 Years on FW Planning Bd.

Thomas Fortunato for The Westfield Leader JOINING THE BENCH...Judge John Walsh of Westfield, the newest member of

the state Superior Court, Union County bench, makes comments to his fellow

judges, elected officials, family, friends and colleagues following his swearing-in ceremony last Friday at the Union County Courthouse in Elizabeth.

By SUZETTE F. STALKER

FANWOOD – After 20 years of service on the Fanwood Planning Board, 17 of those years at the head of the dais as chairman, Greg Cummings resigned from the ninemember body last month.

'I'd been there for many, many years and I thought it was time to move on," Mr. Cummings told

The Westfield Leader in an interview last Friday. "I thought it was time to turn it over to other people." Mr. Cummings

stepped down January 19, during the planning board's annual reorganization meeting. Former board vicechairman, Jack Molenaar, who Mr. Cummings nominated to succeed him, is the new chairman. Dale Flowers is now vice-

chairman. The board usually meets twice monthly, on the third Monday and fourth Wednesday, in the council

chambers at Fanwood Borough Hall. A Fanwood resident for 21 years, Mr. Cummings retired for the second time last July after a 35-year career in sales and marketing. He was first drawn to community service in the borough while still a new resident successfully working to save a historic local home from demolition. The house, known as "The Burton Hall Home," still stands on North Avenue opposite the Fanwood train station.

A developer was seeking to raze the

home in order to pave the way for a 20unit townhouse complex. Such action was permitted under Council on Affordable Housing (COAH) regulations superceding local zoning ordinances - so long as 20 percent of the new housing units were earmarked for lowand moderate-income housing.

Mr. Cummings organized a citizens group of some 70 people whose

efforts, with the support of elected officials from the municipal to the state level, led to passage of legislation that became known as the Fanwood Bill. An amendment to the Fair Housing Act of 1985, it prevents developers from destroying sound housing on lots of two acres or less for the purpose of increasing density by designating 20 percent for low- and

Greg Cummings

moderate-income housing.

While his role on the planning board involved many volunteer hours throughout the years, Mr. Cummings



CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



FUTURE PARKLAND...Union County has purchased the property at 370 Madison Hill Road in Clark, pictured above, currently occupied by a single-family home. The property, acquired for \$600,000, is located adjacent to St. Agnes Parish of Clark, and is earmarked for additional parkland.

one-year contract with The RBA **Union County Acquires** Clark Property for \$600,000

By PAUL J. PEYTON

ELIZABETH — The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders has continued its purchase of land along Madison Hill Road in Clark with the \$600,000 acquisition of a single-family home located next to St. Agnes Parish of Clark. The county is not expected to close on the deal for several months.

Vicki Drake Durbin, open space coordinator for the county, told The Westfield Leader that the .8 acre of land is surrounded by the St. Agnes and county-owned properties.

"The house is old, to say the least," she said. "The assumption was that two building lots would be approved for the lot," said Mrs. Durbin, noting that the house will be demolished.

Mrs. Durbin said the home's owner recently died. According to online records operated by the New Jersey Tax Assessors Association, the property was owned by Eric C. Miller and was assessed at \$124,300 and garnered \$8,700 in property taxes.

She said two appraisals were completed on the property by the county, along with a third by the state's Green Acres program, with the average appraisal coming in at \$700,000.

"It (the purchase) completes the St. Agnes property [purchase] for the county," she stated. The county purchased 13 acres of undeveloped land behind St. Agnes Parish for \$8 million in 2007.

Mrs. Durbin said the county is currently in its "due diligence" phase and completing the required environmental reports on the property, which is under contract for purchase.

By MICHAEL J. POLLACK

WESTFIELD-Public Safety Com-

mittee Chairwoman JoAnn Neylan

said Tuesday at the town council meeting that the town must promote

its Instant E-Alert system, for which

Whether it is to alert people to a

rash of burglaries in a given area or to

provide safety tips, the system, simi-

lar to the board of education's alert

program, she said, would be used on

"Public safety will be my top prior-

Third Ward Councilman Mark

ity," she said, repeating her sentiment

Ciarrocca suggested the town employ

the E-Alert system to notify Memorial

Pool members about 2010 signups.

Recreation Commission Director Bruce

Kaufmann gave a public service an-

nouncement in which he said all 2009

members should have received infor-

mation about signups. Registration is

ongoing through April 15. After that

date, any available slots will be offered

to those on a waiting list. Online signup

All crossing-guard posts have been

renewed going forward, Ms. Neylan

said. In the spring, police will collect

data that will aid the committee in

recommending where possible relo-

In addition, Westfield renewed a

cations or additions should occur.

will again be offered.

a regular basis to give updates.

from last week.

800 people have so far signed up.

In addition to the St. Agnes property, the county has acquired numerous properties in recent years including the 4.25acre Schwarz Farm on Old Raritan Road in Clark and Westfield for \$3.6 million in 2007; the 142-acre Clark Reservoir from Clark Township for a dollar; the \$6.25-million purchase of a 14-acre parcel of land from Hazelwood Cemetery in Rahway, and the \$2.9million acquisition of the 13-acre Esposito Farm property on Madison Hill Road in Clark. The county already owned Milton Lake Park and the dam in Rahway, and also acquired the 4,600-square-foot Hungarian Citizens Club property for \$625,000 in 2008.

Mrs. Durbin said a number of other property acquisitions are under contract with closings pending. These acquisitions, which total \$1.74 million, include the \$212,500 acquisition of 951-959 Leland Avenue in Plainfield, located next to the sixacre Peterson Farm property; a 1.49acre property at 675 Madison Hill Road next to the Esposito property for \$330,000, and a 2.54-acre horse farm at 537 Bramhall Road in Rahway for \$1.2 million.

All purchases are funded through the county's Open Space, Recreation and Historic Trust Fund, which is funded through a tax, approved by Union County voters in 2000, and assesses a tax levy of 1.5 cents per \$100 of total equalized real property valuation for a period of 20 years. The county collects \$11.8 million annually in open space taxes.

section of South Chestnut Street and **Westfield Foundation Posts Newest Grant Recipients**

WESTFIELD – The Westfield Foundation, a nonprofit foundation dedicated to promoting the betterment of Westfield and its surrounding communities, has announced its fourth-quarter grants and final yearend review. The Foundation granted more than \$247,000 to 36 programs and projects benefiting all segments of Westfield and neighboring communities in 2009.

The fourth-quarter grants totaled \$21,850. These grants will be used for such projects as after-school counseling for children, summer theater camp, wellness education programs and musical performances in Westfield. Recipients included Youth and Family Counseling Service, New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra, Premier Stages (Kean University), Trinitas Health Foundation, Westfield

Area "Y" and Furniture Assist. The Westfield Foundation favors grants for programs or projects that focus primarily on the community of Westfield or groups serving the Westfield community. The areas of focus include education; the arts and other cultural activities; civic, health and human services; community development, and the conservation and preservation of historical resources. Recipients for the year 2009 included The Alzheimer's Association, Autism Family Tours, CONTACT We Care, Emmanuel Cancer Foundation, Habitat for Humanity, Home First,

Jewish Family Services, Liam's Room, Occupational Center of Union County, Our House, Inc., Rahway River Association, Summer Youth Employment, SAGE Eldercare and the Westfield

Neighborhood Council. The board of trustees supports a diverse group of area organizations that are effective in preserving and protecting what makes living in Westfield and its surrounding communities unique. Grants awarded to these various organizations enhance and enrich the community. The Foundation strongly supports organizations that address positive community

change in a constructive way. The Westfield Foundation started with an initial donation of \$2,000 more than 35 years ago. The Foundation fund is professionally invested and the income generated is granted to carefully screened applicants throughout the year. The Foundation has distributed more than \$4 million since its inception. Tax-deductible donations made by local residents allow the Foundation to keep supporting organizations that directly benefit Westfield.

For more information about the Westfield Foundation or for those interested in making a contribution, contact Betsy Chance, executive di-

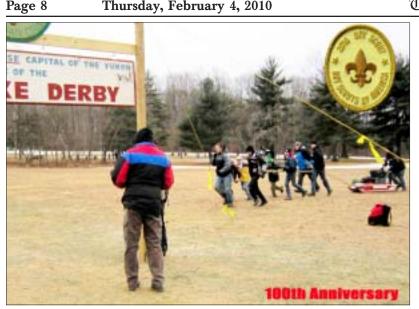
foundation@westfieldnj.com or (908) 233-9787. Information about the Foundation can be viewed online at thewestfieldfoundation.com.



PAST AND PRESENT...The Westfield Foundation, a nonprofit foundation whose mission is to promote the betterment of Westfield and its surrounding communities, has announced its fourth quarter grants and final year-end review. The foundation granted more than \$247,000 to 36 programs. The current and former presidents of the Westfield Foundation were present at the annual Cornerstone Breakfast held recently at the Echo Lake Country Club. Pictured, from left to right, are: front row, current president, Charles Kroloff; previous presidents, David Owens, Gail Cassidy, Michele Picou and Barbara Doyle Frantz; back row, Lee Hale and Gerry Glasser.

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The Mextfield Leader and The Scotch Plains - Fanwood TIMES



Greg Ryan for The Westfield Leader 100TH ANNIVERSARY...Last Saturday, district Boy Scouts held their 55th Annual Klondike Derby at the Watchung Reservation. Troop 104 of Scotch Plains had the fastest time, as well as a 99 out of 100 score. Troop 73 Senior sled from Westfield was also a winner. In honor of the 100th Anniversary of Boy Scouts in America this week, the Semaphore Flag Signaling was brought back.

Deer Cull Occurs in Ash Brook Through Feb. 13

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Union County Department of Parks and Community Renewal will begin its Ash Brook Reservation Deer Management Program this week and continue through Saturday,

This program is intended to reduce the white-tailed deer population in the Ash Brook Reservation and Golf Course. Eight licensed hunters and members of the Cranford Rod and Gun Club have volunteered to participate in this program and completed a marksmanship test and orientation program, officials said.

Weather permitting, hunters may be in the Ash Brook Reservation from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day except Sunday. Shooting may only occur during daylight hours.

The public should note that the Ash Brook Reservation and the Ash Brook Golf Course will not be closed during the deer management program. Park users and neighbors are encouraged to stay out of the wooded areas during that time period, and to keep pets restrained on a

For further information, contact the Union County Department of Parks and Community Renewal at (908) 789-3682.

Westfield PD to Enforce Underage Alcohol Buys

WESTFIELD - This weekend, on Saturday and Sunday, February 6 and 7, law enforcement officers from the Westfield Police Department will join with local retail establishments volunteering to deter the sale of alcoholic beverages to underage individuals and to stop adults from attempting to purchase alcoholic beverages for people under the legal age of 21.

The Westfield Police Department conducts this program through funding received from the State of New Jersey Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control: Enforcing the Underage Drinking Laws



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Public Open House Saturday, February 6th 1-4 pm



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POLICE BLOTTER

Westfield

Monday, January 25, Theodore Acosta, 22, of South Amboy was arrested on an outstanding Sayreville traffic warrant in the amount of \$170 pursuant to a motor vehicle stop at the intersection of Kimball and Mountain Avenues. He was transported to Westfield police headquarters, processed and released after posting bail.

Patrick A. Schiazza, 22, of Fanwood, a passenger in the vehicle, was arrested on multiple outstanding traffic warrants. The warrants included two from Westfield, in the amount of \$250 each, and one from Scotch Plains, in the amount of \$1,000. Schiazza was transported to Westfield police headquarters, processed and released after posting \$1,500 bail.

Monday, January 25, Lawrence T. Thomas, Jr., 52, of Cranford was arrested on an outstanding Keyport Boro traffic warrant in the amount of \$156 pursuant to a motor vehicle stop at the intersection of West South and Summit Avenues. He posted bail and was released.

Wednesday, January 27, John Nunez, 47, of Plainfield was arrested at Plainfield police headquarters on an outstanding Westfield criminal warrant in the amount of \$313. He was unable to post bail.

Thursday, January 28, a resident of the 500 block of Cumberland Street reported being the victim of a fraudulently issued check in her name. The victim received the check from a medical company in Michigan. When she inquired as to why she received it, the company told her it was a fraudulent check.

Thursday, January 28, a merchant on the 200 block of East Broad Street reported being the victim of fraud after an individual attempted to pass a fraudulent doctor's prescription for Oxycodone.

Thursday, January 28, Damon Carter, 34, of Roselle was arrested on four outstanding warrants as the result of a motor vehicle stop at Central Avenue and Sussex Street. They included a no-bail Union County Sheriff's Office warrant, plus warrants from Newark, in the amount of \$250, and Cranford, in the amount of \$1,000. He was transported to the Union County jail.

Thursday, January 28, Frederick Smith, 35, of Jersey City was arrested on the 100 block of West North Avenue on an outstanding Newark criminal warrant in the amount of \$250. He was released after posting bail.

Friday, January 29, Michael Cislo, 42, of South Amboy was arrested during a motor vehicle stop at East South and Central Avenues on a Savreville warrant. He was held in lieu of \$215 bail.

Friday, January 29, Sheila Troutman. 21, of Dunellen and Nyeesha Coleman, 20, of Plainfield were arrested on outstanding warrants on the 600 block of West South Avenue. Troutman posted \$125 bail on a Newark warrant. Coleman posted \$440 bail on two warrants from Fanwood and \$149 bail on a warrant from Berkeley Heights.

Friday, January 29, Robert McCrea, 18, of Westfield was arrested on an outstanding Roselle warrant pursuant to a motor vehicle stop in the area of the 100 block of Elm Street. He posted \$100 bail and was released.

Saturday, January 30, Damien Rodriguez, 34, of Union was arrested at Westfield police headquarters on an active Cranbury warrant in the amount of \$279. He was released after posting bail.

Saturday, January 30, Angela Alston-Boccia, 45, of Montclair was arrested in the area of Central and Park Avenues and charged with driving while intoxicated (DWI). She was processed and released. Saturday, January 30, Kenneth Avery, 53, of South Plainfield was arrested in the

area of Central Avenue and Clifton Street and charged with DWI. He was processed and released. Sunday, January 31, Amon Wilkerson, 35, of Westfield was arrested on an out-

standing Summit warrant pursuant to a motor vehicle stop at Ripley Place and Cacciola Place. Wilkerson was transported to Westfield police headquarters, processed and released after posting \$114 bail.

Sunday, January 31, a burglary was reported at a Michael Drive residence, which the homeowner said occurred between 7:15 and 8:15 p.m. that evening. According to police, someone forcibly entered the home and removed a pocketbook valued at \$300, plus \$180 in cash, before exiting the premises.

Sunday, January 31, a burglary was reported at a Woodbrook Circle residence in which two laptop computers and currency were taken. The total value of the theft was \$5,199.

Monday, February 1, Theodore Chletsos, 32, of Edison was arrested and charged with DWI following a motor vehicle stop at Central Avenue and Starlight Court. He was released to a responsible individual.

Scotch Plains

Monday, January 25, Sydmouth Berwick, 24, of Irvington was arrested following a motor vehicle stop for an outstanding warrant. He was processed and released.

Tuesday, January 26, David Mason, 45, of Plainfield was arrested following a motor vehicle stop for an outstanding warrant. He was processed and released.

Tuesday, January 26, a resident of Prospect Street reported that someone cashed a fraudulent check from his business account in the amount of \$1,976. According to police, the victim does not recognize the name on the check.

Tuesday, January 26, a student at the Union County Vocational Technical Schools reported that someone removed his iPod valued at \$225 from his work

Friday, January 29, a manager at a Route 22 restaurant reported an act of criminal mischief after someone carved letters in a bathroom mirror causing approximately \$100 worth of damage.

Saturday, January 30, a resident of Tanglewood Lane reported that someone entered his vehicle while it was parked on Maple Hill Road. According to police, once the suspect was in the vehicle they damaged the rear view mirror but nothing was taken.

Saturday, January 30, Edwin Estevez. 26, of Princeton was arrested following a motor vehicle stop for an outstanding warrant. He was processed and released.

Saturday, January 30, a resident of Springfield reported that she parked her vehicle in a Route 22 restaurant parking lot and while she was eating, someone smashed the rear window and removed a computer and iPod valued at approxi-

mately \$1,200. Saturday, January 30, the manager of a

Route 22 store reported that two suspects removed approximately \$360 worth of

games and fled the store. Saturday, January 30, a resident of Aberdeen Road reported that she received a call from an unknown suspect that her grandson was in trouble in Canada and to send money. According to police, the victim called her grandson and realized it was a hoax and notified the police.

Mountainside Wednesday, January 27, Adrian Solis, 25, of Bound Brook was arrested following a motor vehicle stop for driving without a license.

Wednesday, January 27, Chevonne Miller, 27, of Union was arrested following a motor vehicle stop for driving with a suspended license. She was processed and released at the scene with a court date of February 10, 2010.

Wednesday, January 27, Maritza Perdoma, 49, of Newark was arrested following a motor vehicle stop for driving without a license. According to police, she was also charged with driving with a suspended license and an outstanding warrant

out of Newark in the amount of \$400. Thursday, January 28, a resident of Derby Lane reported that she received several phone call from a male with a heavy Nigerian accent informing her that she had won a large sum of money in a sweepstakes, but in order to claim the money she needed to send him a modest sum of money. According to police, the victim obtained the number the suspect was calling from and when authorities called the man he stated he worked in the claims department of a sweepstakes company. When the officer identified himself as a police officer, the suspect abruptly hung up the phone, authorities reported.

Thursday, January 29, Richard C. Pfarr, 58, of Union was arrested for an outstanding Union warrant in the amount of \$500 after a motor vehicle stop for an expired inspection sticker.

Thursday, January 29, Jeremiah A. Carter, 27, of Newark was picked up at the Matawan Police Department and charged with an outstanding warrant in the amount of \$409.

Thursday, January 29, an officer responded to a Route 22 business on the report of a possible assault. According to police, the victim stated that his older brother pushed him down. The suspect told police that the victim was not to be on the premises and that he was cursing at the employees who work in the building. The suspect told police he escorted the victim off the premises but did not strike or push him, authorities reported. The victim then changed his statement to police stating that his brother did not strike him, but that he stumbled and fell, police said. The victim was advised that he was not permitted on the premises and would be arrested for trespassing if he came back, authorities reported.

Sunday, January 31, Fredy Ali Cruz Lima, 29, of Bound Brook was arrested and charged with driving under the influence (DUI) after being involved in a onecar motor vehicle accident on Route 22. According to police, an officer noticed debris in the roadway and tire marks in the grass next to the curb in the roadway. Upon following the trail of debris, mud and grass, the officer found Lima's vehicle disabled in the left shoulder, police said. When the officer approached the vehicle he observed that it was leaking a large amount of transmission fluid, the left rear and left front tires were flat and the bumper and lower portion of the vehicle were damaged, authorities reported. According to police, Lima told the officer that he did not have and accident but had pulled over because he thought he had a flat tire. The officer smelled the odor of alcohol and performed several field sobriety tests, which Lima failed. He was transported to headquarters where he was processed and released to a responsible adult.

Sunday, January 31, a resident of Globe Avenue reported that someone broke into his Snap-on-Tool truck by breaking a window and removed a large amount of tools valued at approximately \$50,000. According to police, the suspect unsuccessfully attempted to steal the truck along with the tools causing damage to the steering column. The incident is under investigation.

Sunday, January 31, Klaus Kronsteiner, 45, of Scotch Plains was arrested and charged with DWI following a motor vehicle accident on Route 22 East. According to police, Kronsteiner told the officer he was coming from Jersey City and was heading home when he struck the rear of a vehicle driving in front of him. The officer told Kronsteiner he was heading in the opposite direction from his home and when he asked him how much he had to drink Kronsteiner responded "too much." The suspect was given several field sobriety tests, which he failed, authorities reported. He was transported to headquarters where he was processed and released to a responsible adult.

Fanwood Wednesday, January 27, Jameen Murphy, 26, of Asbury Park was arrested following a motor vehicle stop on South Avenue for an outstanding warrant out of Asbury Park. He was transported, processed and released after posting bail.

Wednesday, January 27, a resident in the 30 block of Stewart Place reported that sometime between Saturday, January 23, and Tuesday, January 26, someone damaged the locking mechanism of her back door while trying to gain entrance to the residence. According to police, entrance was not gained and the incident is under investigation.

Friday, January 29, Gary Garvin, 41, of Jersey City was arrested following a motor vehicle stop in the 200 block of South Avenue for an outstanding Jersey City warrant. Sean Oliver, 44, of Jersey City, a passenger in the vehicle, was also arrested for an outstanding warrant out for West Orange. Both men were processed and released after posting bail.

Friday, January 29, a convenience store in the 500 block of South Avenue reported an incident of shoplifting after a male juvenile put a bag of potato chips valued at \$4 in his backpack and left the store without paying. According to police, a search of the area did not yield the suspect and the incident is under investigation.

Monday, February 1, Michael Delmonte, 49, of Plainfield was arrested after a field investigation in the 100 block of South Avenue for outstanding warrants out of Fanwood, Piscataway and East Brunswick. He was processed and turned over to the Union County jail for

Westfield Council

The project involved paving and striping in the parking lot, as well as the addition of Westfield High School senior William Foltz's new lightning shelter, which he completed as part of his Boy Scout Eagle Project.

After the meeting, Code Review Committee Chairman Jim Foerst spoke to The Westfield Leader about Senate Bill S-1, sponsored by Senators Raymond Lesniak (D-Union) and Christopher Bateman (R-Somerville), which would abolish the Council on Affordable Housing (COAH). The bill, in its current form, would remove state-imposed calculations of affordable-housing needs; in its place, the government would allow municipalities to determine their own needs.

The State Planning Commission would assist a town, such as Westfield, in facilitating opportunities for affordable housing. Westfield, and all other municipalities, would have to prove that they have complied with their obligations under the Fair Housing Act. If not, a mechanism would still exist to stipulate that developers may set aside 20 percent of a given project for low- or moderate-income housing.

Mr. Foerst said the difficulty with COAH is that it has been historically a "moving target," with each subsequent round of rules more onerous and different than the previous. Despite this, Westfield, he said, has "satisfied the requirements, under the [state] Constitution, to provide a reasonable opportunity for growth of affordable housing."

In the past, a town with limited amounts of developable land would take part in regional contribution agreements (RCAs), which would help provide affordable housing in neighboring communities. Under the current configuration of Bill S-1, prior RCAs that were thrown out in the third round could return. It is unclear at present whether new RCAs would be permissible or not.

Regardless of what the affordablehousing landscape eventually looks like, Mr. Foerst said a town such as Westfield could make use of "any additional tool" to provide affordable housing, including the return of

"It needs to be viewed as a regional [commitment]. A lot of people work in Westfield and live in Scotch Plains, Cranford, Rahway, Clark," he said.

What towns cannot handle, he said, would be any mandate from Trenton that would force municipalities to propose an additional tax on residents. At present, Westfield does not fund affordable housing through taxpayer dollars. The town has mechanisms in place to place the burden of providing

such housing on developers. In neighboring Cranford, COAH-

This Saturday

WESTFIELD - The Westfield Regional Health Department will hold an H1N1 clinic this Saturday, February 6, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Westfield Municipal Building, Community Room, East Broad Street entrance, located at 425 East Broad Street in Westfield.

The vaccine to be distributed is the inactivated vaccine ("swine flu shot") and the live attenuated vaccine (nasal

H1N1 ("swine flu") vaccinations will be available at these clinics for all individuals who are interested in receiving it. regardless of medical history, age or town residency.

For more information about this clinic, call (908) 789-4070.

Cummings

said he derived "great satisfaction serving the community" in this capacity and genuinely enjoyed some of the applications that came before the board over the past two decades.

Mr. Cummings said witnessing the beginning of downtown redevelopment in Fanwood was the most rewarding aspect of his years of service on the board, as well as the most significant issue with which the entity has dealt in recent years. He noted that the planning board's rulings on applications were challenged only twice in two decades and both times its rulings were upheld in State Superior Court. One involved the placement of Verizon Wireless antennas on an existing borough utility tower, which the board had approved, while the other involved a property subdivision it had denied.

Mr. Cummings said members of the planning board must put aside their personal feelings when ruling on an application. "You weigh the facts that are presented, pro and con, on any issue," he said.

He maintained that although the state of the economy has slowed down investment in commercial property at present, the borough's downtown remains a vibrant and viable location for businesses. "It's a great opportunity for a lot of small businesses to move to Fanwood," he said. "It's got a great consumer base."

While no longer on the planning board, Mr. Cummings said he would continue to serve the borough as a volunteer through participation on the Earth Day Committee. Over the years, he also has served on various other municipal committees, including the Clean Communities Committee (19 years), the Holiday Celebration Committee (chairman for three years), the fundraising committee for redeveloping LaGrande Park, from 1994 to 1996, and last year as a member of the Mayor's Budget Advisory Committee.

related concerns have cropped up recently after court-appointed experts informed the town that it must allow two large-density projects to proceed on South and Birchwood Avenues. Cranford, just as Westfield, was served two builder's-remedy lawsuits.

In 2005, Cranford chose not to pursue certification from COAH.

"This is an example of what can happen when you don't have the right certification... You end up in a very uncomfortable situation," Cranford Mayor Mark Smith told The Leader Tuesday night.

Asked about his feelings on Bill S-1, Mr. Smith said he was discouraged to read that despite Governor Chris Christie's attempts at "gutting" COAH, builder's-remedy lawsuits could remain a reality faced by municipalities.

"My feeling has always been that there has to be a better way of enforcing the mandate," he said. "I've always had a problem with [these lawsuits] as an enforcement mechanism. It's a rouse for a developer to basically ask for a development that otherwise [would not be permissible]."

While he said he breathed a "sigh of relief" at the initial mention of Bill S-1, he said he sees many deficien-

cies with the proposal. "The more I read about it, the more it seems still to have a dagger pointed at the heart of any municipality that doesn't actually conform to whatever the regulations are... It still basically leaves the hammer in the hands of the developer, which I don't think any municipality takes comfort in," Mayor Smith said. "These lawsuits are expensive; they're disruptive to a town, just in terms of the time it takes to defend them. It just seems to me that there's a better way than letting a developer enforce your law."

WF Woman Indicted For Injuring Pedestrian

WESTFIELD—AWestfieldwoman has been inducted on two counts of assault following an August 2009 acci-

dent that seriously injured a pedestrian. According to Union County Prosecutor Ted Romankow, Leslie D. Boughner, 56, was indicted on two counts of second and third degree assault by auto following an August 5, 2009 accident that severely injured a

25-year-old woman. According to the investigation, Boughner was driving East on North Avenue in Westfield when she ignored illuminated pedestrian warning lights at the crosswalk near the Lord & Taylor department store. The victim, who lives in Clark, was in the crosswalk when she

was struck around noon. As reported in The Westfield Leader, Gina Marotta sustained a broken leg and a head injury. The prosecutor's office said the woman was hospitalized for an extended period of time. Authorities said the investigation further revealed that Boughner had a blood alcohol content level higher than the legal limit of .08 percent.

Mr. Romankow said Boughner faces up to 10 years in prison if convicted on the charges. She was released on \$20,000 bail and will be arraigned in State Superior Court in Elizabeth in the coming days.

Judge Walsh

Judge Walsh spoke about his family, including his brother, James Walsh, who was killed in the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center. He said he became an attorney to serve the public. In his first job as an assistant prosecutor, he said he was committed to help crime victims and trying to make sure justice was served.

Judge Walsh's wife, Diane Curcio Walsh, is a former Star-Ledger reporter and currently chief of staff to Assemblyman Jon Bramnick (LD-21, Westfield).

A dinner reception followed the ceremony at Solar Do Minho banquet hall in Roselle Park.





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OUR 51st YEAR - ISSUE NO. 05-2010

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SIXTY CENTS

Scotch Plains-Fanwood School Bd. Investigates Student Non-Residency

By JESSICA E. JASKULA

SCOTCH PLAINS — Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education (BOE) officials conducted 22 residency investigations of students over the past three months, resulting in four students being removed from the school system, according to Director of Special Services Thomas Beese's report to the school board last Thursday night.

The investigations, conducted between November 2009 and January 2010, also determined that 10 students were residents of the district

while eight other cases are still ongoing, pending further investigation. "I will be reporting out [to the

"I will be reporting out [to the public] quarterly as the public has expressed concern regarding residency," Mr. Beese said. This was his first public reporting of these investigations.

In other business, board members approved the proposed 2010-2011 school calendar. School will begin on Tuesday, September 7, and end Wednesday, June 22, 2011. Three snow days are included, with students in school for 182 days.

During a public comment portion



LIFE LESSONS...The Mini-Leadership Training Conference (LTC) program, Many Stars – One Universe, was held last Saturday at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School. Middle school students were taught public speaking, effective communication and leadership, team building and problem solving through collaboration. More than 100 middle school students from Park and Terrill schools attended.

Mr. Cummings Resigns After 20 Years on FW Planning Bd.

By SUZETTE F. STALKER
cially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood

FANWOOD – After 20 years of service on the Fanwood Planning Board, 17 of those years at the head of the dais as chairman, Greg Cummings resigned from the nine-member body last month.

"I'd been there for many, many years and I thought it was time to

move on," Mr. Cummings told *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* in an interview last Friday. "I thought it was time to turn it over to other people."

Mr. Cummings stepped down January 19, during the planning board's annual reorganization meeting. Former board vice-chairman, Jack Molenaar, who Mr. Cummings nominated to succeed him, is the

new chairman. Dale Flowers is now vice-chairman. The board usually meets twice monthly, on the third Monday and fourth Wednesday, in the council chambers at Fanwood Borough Hall.

A Fanwood resident for 21 years, Mr. Cummings retired for the second time last July after a 35-year career in sales and marketing. He was first drawn to community service in the borough while still a new resident – successfully working to save a historic local home from demolition. The house, known as "The Burton Hall Home," still stands on North Avenue opposite the Fanwood train station.

A developer was seeking to raze the home in order to pave the way for a 20-unit townhouse complex. Such action was permitted under Council on Affordable Housing (COAH) regulations – superceding local zoning ordinances – so long as 20 percent of the new housing units were earmarked for lowand moderate-income housing.

Mr. Cummings organized a citizens group of some 70

zens group of some 70 people whose efforts, with the support of elected officials from the municipal to the state level, led to passage of legislation that became known as the Fanwood Bill. An amendment to the Fair Housing Act of 1985, it prevents developers from destroying sound housing on lots of two acres or less for the purpose of increasing density by designating

Greg Cummings

20 percent for low- and moderate-income housing.

"It was a great win for New Jersey," said Mr. Cummings, who noted the group was not against affordable housing but simply advocating responsible development. He also had coordinated a coalition of grass-roots efforts involving other New Jersey communities, among them Westfield and Scotch Plains, in support of the Fanwood Bill. Then-Mayor Patricia Kuran appointed him to the planning board following conclusion of the campaign to have this legislation passed.

While his role on the planning board involved many volunteer hours CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



Suzette F. Stalker for *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* FUTURE PARKLAND...Union County has purchased the property at 370 Madison Hill Road in Clark, pictured above, currently occupied by a single-family home. The property, acquired for \$600,000, is located adjacent to St. Agnes Parish of Clark, and is earmarked for additional parkland.

of Thursday's meeting, a Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School (SPFHS) student, who commented during a December board meeting that there was some confusion in his classroom during a safety drill, asked Superintendent of Schools Margaret Hayes if there were any updates on previous comments.

Superintendent Hayes said she followed up with SPFHS Principal David Heisey, who informed her that he has made staff aware and that they are working together so that they are clear on what to do and how to handle similar situations in the future.

In addition, Rona Goldberg of Scotch Plains came before the board to comment on a foreign language survey that was recently sent out to parents and guardians who have children in World Language classes.

dren in World Language classes.

"It was fabulous," Ms. Goldberg said of the survey. "We're really moving in the right direction and I hope that everyone takes advantage [of being able to take the survey]."

The survey, BOE President Norman "Trip" Whitehouse explained, asks parents questions on their experience with the foreign language program. Standard questions are asked, and then parents are directed to a series of questions that are appropriate for the grade level their child is in. The foreign language survey was a result of the strategic planning process, he added. "We're also going to be surveying our students," he said.

Later in the meeting, Mr. Whitehouse said the PTA Council has chosen the Ronald McDonald House charities as one of its fundraisers for this year. "This will be one of the large fundraising efforts this year for the PTA Council," he said. He added that additional information would be going around soon via fliers, for example.

During committee reports, Board Vice-President Nancy Bauer said the Garden State Coalition of Schools would hold an open membership meeting on Wednesday, February 24, at Summit High School.

The new commissioner of education, Bret Schundler, has been invited to the event, which is meant to be an "open dialogue," with the new commissioner and those in attendance, Ms. Bauer said. Others in attendance will be members of the PTA Council, members of the legislature, board of education members and superintendents, she said.

Board members also adopted on Thursday a resolution proclaiming February 2010 as "Black History Awareness Month."

Additionally on Thursday, board Business Administrator Anthony Del Sordi told *The Scotch Plains-*CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

ELIZABETH — The Union

County Board of Chosen Freeholders

has continued its purchase of land

along Madison Hill Road in Clark

with the \$600,000 acquisition of a

single-family home located next to

St. Agnes Parish of Clark. The county

is not expected to close on the deal for

Vicki Drake Durbin, open space coordinator for the county, told *The*

Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times that the

.8 acre of land is surrounded by the St.

Agnes and county-owned properties.

she said. "The assumption was that

two building lots would be approved for the lot," said Mrs. Durbin, noting

that the house will be demolished.

Mrs. Durbin said the home's owner recently died. According to online

records operated by the New Jersey

Tax Assessors Association, the prop-

erty was owned by Eric C. Miller and

was assessed at \$124,300 and gar-

She said two appraisals were com-

pleted on the property by the county,

along with a third by the state's Green Acres program, with the average ap-

"It (the purchase) completes the St.

Agnes property [purchase] for the

county," Mrs. Durbin said. The county

purchased 13 acres of undeveloped land behind St. Agnes Parish for \$8

Mrs. Durbin said the county is cur-

rently in its "due diligence" phase

and completing the required environ-

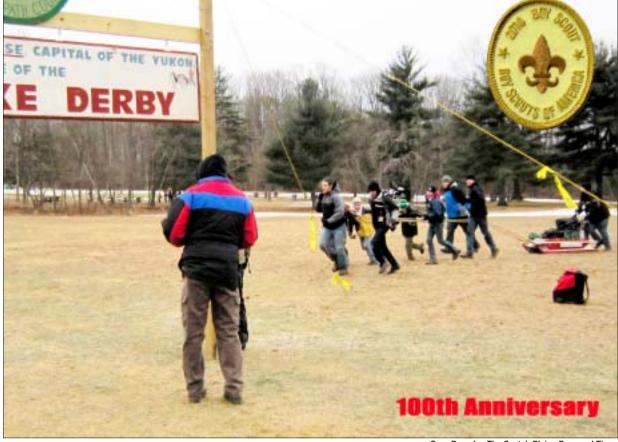
nered \$8,700 in property taxes.

praisal coming in at \$700,000.

million in 2007.

'The house is old, to say the least,"

several months.



Greg Ryan for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times 100TH ANNIVERSARY...Last Saturday, district Boy Scouts held their 55th Annual Klondike Derby at the Watchung Reservation. Troop 104 of Scotch Plains had the fastest time, as well as a 99 out of 100 score. Troop 73 Senior sled from Westfield was also a winner. This week marks the 100th Anniversary of Boy Scouts in America.

Scotch Plains Council Disputes SID Hiring; Forewarns Action

business revitalization efforts (see

related story). Mayor Malool said the

approximately \$44,000 being ex-

By FRED T. ROSSI

SCOTCH PLAINS — The township council will meet with officials from the Scotch Plains Management Corp. (SPMC) later this month to discuss possible changes to the ordinance that created the special improvement district two years ago and also to hear from SPMC board members about last week's hiring of two managers to oversee the business dis-

At Tuesday's conference meeting, Mayor Nancy Malool said some changes to the ordinance are needed for several reasons, including a change in the official tax-exempt designation of the entity, other fine-tuning to ensure the SPMC's by-laws accurately reflect the ordinance, and the ability to have fewer members serving on the SPMC's board of directors. This is necessary, she said, because the present 13-member board often lacks a quorum and is "unmanageable" as presently constituted. She also feels the council, not the board itself, should have reappointment power for board members.

The bulk of the council's discussion, however, centered around the SPMC board's decision last week to hire a consultant and a township resident to serve as co-managers of the

mental reports on the property, which

In addition to the St. Agnes prop-

erty, the county has acquired numer-

ous properties in recent years, includ-

ing the 4.25-acre Schwarz Farm on

Old Raritan Road in Clark and

Westfield for \$3.6 million in 2007; the

142-acre Clark Reservoir from Clark

Township for a dollar; the \$6.25-mil-

lion purchase of a 14-acre parcel of

land from Hazelwood Cemetery in

Rahway, and the \$2.9-million acqui-

sition of the 13-acre Esposito Farm

property on Madison Hill Road in

Clark. The county already owned

Milton Lake Park and the dam in

Rahway. The county also acquired the 4,600-square-foot Hungarian Citizens

Club property for \$625,000 in 2008.

tract with closings pending. These ac-

quisitions, which total \$1.74 million,

include the \$212,500 acquisition of

951-959 Leland Avenue in Plainfield,

located next to the six-acre Peterson

Farm property; a 1.49-acre property at

675 Madison Hill Road next to the Esposito property for \$330,000, and a

2.54-acre horse farm at 537 Bramhall

All purchases are funded through the county's Open Space, Recreation

and Historic Trust Fund, which is

funded through a tax, approved by

Union County voters in 2000, and

assesses a tax levy of 1.5 cents per

\$100 of total equalized real property

valuation for a period of 20 years.

The county collects \$11.8 million

annually in open space taxes.

Road in Rahway for \$1.2 million.

Mrs. Durbin said a number of other property acquisitions are under con-

is under contract for purchase.

County Acquires Clark

Property for \$600,000

pended on salaries, fees and other administrative costs for FirsTEAManagement and for Lisa Schiller represented more than two-

thirds of the SPMC's \$64,000 annual budget. She said FirsTEAM was willing to do the entire job of managing the SPMC's efforts for \$22,000 a year. "The board was hell-bent on giving [Mrs. Schiller] a job and

SPMC Hires Two Managers To Oversee Business District

By FRED T. ROSSI Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fa

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Scotch Plains Management Corp. (SPMC) last week hired a professional consultant and a township resident to serve as joint managers of the commercial business district.

The 13-member board's decision to retain two managers was not unanimous, with Mayor Nancy Malool and Dominic Verdic opposing the move. FirsTEAManagement, with offices in Plainfield and East Orange, will "help us from the corporate side," explained SPMC Board Vice-Chairman Jeff Kowalczyk. He said the firm, which is involved in managing several business improvement districts in Union, Essex and Hudson Counties, will assist in day-to-day administration of the township's special improvement district (SID), which was enacted in 2008 and formally

began operations early last year.

Meanwhile, Lisa Schiller, who coordinated much of the Memorial Day 2009 Music Festival that was the SPMC's maiden effort, will serve as the organization's "face on the street," Mr. Kowalczyk told *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*. "It'll be helpful having somebody with a face that people know, walking around. Lisa has proven herself; she has tons of energy."

He added that FirsTEAManagement Founder David Biagini has "lots of knowledge and lots of expertise" in commercial district management, adding that the company is familiar with various costsaving programs that can be offered to Scotch Plains businesses to help them save some money. In addition, Mr. Kowalczyk said Mrs. Schiller "will be getting valuable training" from the FirsTEAManagement group. "Eventually, it will probably make sense for us to have our own manager," Mr. Kowalczyk said, although he added that it will also be beneficial to retain the services of a consultant such as FirsTEAManagement for various needs.

SPMC Board Chairman Jim Watson told *The Times* the board opted for two managers instead of one because "we get the expertise [of FirsTEAManagement] at a much reduced rate as well as a local person out on the street who knows people." Neither Mr. Watson nor Mr. Kowalczyk provided salary figures for Mrs. Schiller, but Mr. Kowalczyk

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Demolition Set
To Begin at Two
Downtown
Fanwood
Properties
See Fanwood Council Story
On Page 2



A GOOD USE...The former Terry Lou Zoo property in Scotch Plains, owned by the township, is put to good use with an obstacle course for training and exercise of its police K-9 units.

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The Mextfield Leader and The Scotch Plains - Fanwood TIMES

Scotch Plains Council

doesn't care how much taxpayers' money was spent," said the mayor, who opposed the board's move.

Deputy Mayor Dominick Bratti noted that the council had expressed its concern with Mrs. Schiller's hiring, given that her husband sits on the SPMC board and is the organization's treasurer. Calling the board's action "ridiculous" and "reprehensible," Mr. Bratti suggested that a resolution be drafted for the council's approval that would put a stop to the SPMC's hiring decisions until the governing body can look further into it and also make changes to the ordinance.

Councilman Kevin Glover noted that the council two years ago had vowed to the local business community that the council would make sure the new entity spent money wisely and also provide oversight. "I applaud you, mayor," Mr. Glover told Mrs. Malool, "for not forgetting this vow."

Mr. Bratti again returned to the idea of a resolution, saying he didn't "want another dime spent" by the SPMC until the council's concerns were fully addressed. "Dissolve it if that's what's necessary," he said at one point, although his colleagues were not supportive of that idea.

Councilman Jeffrey Strauss—who had attended last week's SPMC board meeting in Mayor Malool's stead and at Tuesday's meeting had initially provided a very positive report about the board, its members and their enthusiasm before his colleagues began their criticisms — urged the council to "find out the facts before we act." He said the Tuesday, February 16, meeting with the SPMC board should be conducted with the aim of trying to improve the organization. "It doesn't mean throwing out the baby with the bath water," he said.

Mr. Glover reminded the council that it had been in agreement during the SPMC's hiring effort, when Mrs. Schiller's name was being proposed, that it did not agree with the move. "They need to come here and tell us why they wanted to do it," he said. Later, he added that the council's "opinions [on the hirings] fell on deaf ears.'

But the mayor said, "There is nothing they can say to me to convince me that it was not irresponsible to spend 70 to 75 percent" of their budget on salaries and "that there was not a conflict" in Mrs. Schiller's hiring.

Councilwoman Mary DePaola said the hiring smacked of "favoritism,"

which she said "doesn't look good" for the SPMC or the township. She asked that the matter be put on the "front burner," calling it an "immedi-

ate problem that needs to be resolved." Near the end of the discussion, Mayor Malool said she was concerned that the SPMC's 2009 budget adoption had not been done legally due to lack of public notice or a public hearing. She said the council will consult with the legal department to see if the governing body has the means to withhold funds from the SPMC or prevent it from expending funds for a period of time. In the meantime, the mayor said her goal is to "get the SPMC back on track." Saying she is "still optimistic," she said the ordinance needed to be amended "to make [the improvement district] the most effective it can be."

SP SID

said FirsTEAManagement will be paid \$1,500 per month for its efforts. "What has happened here is that

the board decided to spend 70 to 75 percent of its annual budget on salaries and administration," Mayor Malool told The Times. She said she utilizing FirsTEAManagement only for about \$22,000 per year, equivalent to about

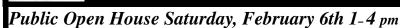
a third of the budget "This is taxpayers' money, and the board doesn't see that," she added. While praising Mrs. Schiller for doing "a great job" with last year's Memorial Day music festival, the mayor said the dual hiring was "irresponsible to do," adding that Mrs. Schiller also has

a conflict of interest since her husband

is an SPMC board member. The mayor also noted the opposition of Mr. Verdic, who heads Westfield's SID, which Mrs. Malool said is "arguably the most successful one in the state." She said Mr. Verdic's opposition to the twin hiring "speaks volumes because he knows how a

successful SID operates.' Mrs. Schiller told *The Times* she is opening an office next week at the CEO Executive Suites at 1812 Front Street for "business owners to come to with questions and suggestions." She will also coordinate programs and interact with SPMC members. Office hours will be Mondays and Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

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POLICE BLOTTER

Westfield

Monday, January 25, Theodore Acosta, 22, of South Amboy was arrested on an outstanding Sayreville traffic warrant in the amount of \$170 pursuant to a motor vehicle stop at the intersection of Kimball and Mountain Avenues. He was transported to Westfield police headquarters, processed and released after posting bail.

Patrick A. Schiazza, 22, of Fanwood, a passenger in the vehicle, was arrested on multiple outstanding traffic warrants. The warrants included two from Westfield, in the amount of \$250 each, and one from Scotch Plains, in the amount of \$1,000. Schiazza was transported to Westfield police headquarters, processed and released after posting \$1,500 bail.

Monday, January 25, Lawrence T. Thomas, Jr., 52, of Cranford was arrested on an outstanding Keyport Boro traffic warrant in the amount of \$156 pursuant to a motor vehicle stop at the intersection of West South and Summit Avenues. He posted bail and was released.

Wednesday, January 27, John Nunez, 47, of Plainfield was arrested at Plainfield police headquarters on an outstanding Westfield criminal warrant in the amount of \$313. He was unable to post bail.

Thursday, January 28, a resident of the 500 block of Cumberland Street reported being the victim of a fraudulently issued check in her name. The victim received the check from a medical company in Michigan. When she inquired as to why she received it, the company told her it was a fraudulent check.

Thursday, January 28, a merchant on the 200 block of East Broad Street reported being the victim of fraud after an individual attempted to pass a fraudulent doctor's prescription for Oxycodone.

Thursday, January 28, Damon Carter, 34, of Roselle was arrested on four outstanding warrants as the result of a motor vehicle stop at Central Avenue and Sussex Street. They included a no-bail Union County Sheriff's Office warrant, plus warrants from Newark, in the amount of \$250, and Cranford, in the amount of \$1,000. He was transported to the Union County jail.

Thursday, January 28, Frederick Smith, 35, of Jersey City was arrested on the 100 block of West North Avenue on an outstanding Newark criminal warrant in the amount of \$250. He was released after posting bail.

Friday, January 29, Michael Cislo, 42, of South Amboy was arrested during a motor vehicle stop at East South and Central Avenues on a Sayreville warrant. He was held in lieu of \$215 bail.

Friday, January 29, Sheila Troutman, 21, of Dunellen and Nyeesha Coleman, 20, of Plainfield were arrested on outstanding warrants on the 600 block of West South Avenue. Troutman posted \$125 bail on a Newark warrant. Coleman posted \$440 bail on two warrants from Fanwood and \$149 bail on a warrant from Berkeley Heights.

Friday, January 29, Robert McCrea, 18, of Westfield was arrested on an outstanding Roselle warrant pursuant to a motor vehicle stop in the area of the 100 block of Elm Street. He posted \$100 bail and was released.

Saturday, January 30, Damien Rodriguez, 34, of Union was arrested at Westfield police headquarters on an ac-

\$279. He was released after posting bail. Saturday, January 30, Angela Alston-Boccia, 45, of Montclair was arrested in the area of Central and Park Avenues and charged with driving while intoxicated (DWI). She was processed and released.

Saturday, January 30, Kenneth Avery, 53, of South Plainfield was arrested in the area of Central Avenue and Clifton Street and charged with DWI. He was processed and released.

Sunday, January 31, Amon Wilkerson, 35, of Westfield was arrested on an outstanding Summit warrant pursuant to a motor vehicle stop at Ripley Place and Cacciola Place. Wilkerson was transported to Westfield police headquarters, processed and released after posting \$114 bail.

Sunday, January 31, a burglary was reported at a Michael Drive residence, which the homeowner said occurred between 7:15 and 8:15 p.m. that evening. According to police, someone forcibly entered the home and removed a pocketbook valued at \$300, plus \$180 in cash, before exiting the premises.

Sunday, January 31, a burglary was reported at a Woodbrook Circle residence in which two laptop computers and currency were taken. The total value of the theft was \$5,199.

Monday, February 1, Theodore Chletsos, 32, of Edison was arrested and charged with DWI following a motor vehicle stop at Central Avenue and Starlight Court. He was released to a responsible individual.

Scotch Plains

Monday, January 25, Sydmouth Berwick, 24, of Irvington was arrested following a motor vehicle stop for an outstanding warrant. He was processed and released.

Tuesday, January 26, David Mason, 45, of Plainfield was arrested following a motor vehicle stop for an outstanding warrant. He was processed and released.

Tuesday, January 26, a resident of Prospect Street reported that someone cashed a fraudulent check from his business account in the amount of \$1,976. According to police, the victim does not recognize the name on the check

Tuesday, January 26, a student at the Union County Vocational Technical Schools reported that someone removed his iPod valued at \$225 from his work

Friday, January 29, a manager at a Route 22 restaurant reported an act of criminal mischief after someone carved letters in a bathroom mirror causing approximately \$100 worth of damage.

Saturday, January 30, a resident of Tanglewood Lane reported that someone entered his vehicle while it was parked on Maple Hill Road. According to police, once the suspect was in the vehicle they damaged the rear view mirror but nothing was taken.

Saturday, January 30, Edwin Estevez, 26, of Princeton was arrested following a motor vehicle stop for an outstanding warrant. He was processed and released.

Saturday, January 30, a resident of Springfield reported that she parked her vehicle in a Route 22 restaurant parking lot and while she was eating, someone smashed the rear window and removed a computer and iPod valued at approximately \$1,200.

Saturday, January 30, the manager of a

Route 22 store reported that two suspects removed approximately \$360 worth of games and fled the store.

Saturday, January 30, a resident of Aberdeen Road reported that she received a call from an unknown suspect that her grandson was in trouble in Canada and to send money. According to police, the victim called her grandson and realized it was a hoax and notified the police

Mountainside Wednesday, January 27, Adrian Solis, 25, of Bound Brook was arrested following a motor vehicle stop for driving without a license.

Wednesday, January 27, Chevonne Miller, 27, of Union was arrested following a motor vehicle stop for driving with a suspended license. She was processed and released at the scene with a court date of February 10, 2010.

Wednesday, January 27, Maritza Perdoma, 49, of Newark was arrested following a motor vehicle stop for driving without a license. According to police, she was also charged with driving with a suspended license and an outstanding warrant out of Newark in the amount of \$400.

Thursday, January 28, a resident of Derby Lane reported that she received several phone call from a male with a heavy Nigerian accent informing her that she had won a large sum of money in a sweepstakes, but in order to claim the money she needed to send him a modest sum of money. According to police, the victim obtained the number the suspect was calling from and when authorities called the man he stated he worked in the claims department of a sweepstakes company. When the officer identified himself as a police officer, the suspect abruptly hung up the phone, authorities reported.

Thursday, January 29, Richard C. Pfarr, 58, of Union was arrested for an outstanding Union warrant in the amount of \$500 after a motor vehicle stop for an expired inspection sticker.

Thursday, January 29, Jeremiah A. Carter, 27, of Newark was picked up at the Matawan Police Department and charged with an outstanding warrant in the amount of \$409.

Thursday, January 29, an officer responded to a Route 22 business on the report of a possible assault. According to police, the victim stated that his older brother pushed him down. The suspect told police that the victim was not to be on the premises and that he was cursing at the employees who work in the building. The suspect told police he escorted the victim off the premises but did not strike or push him, authorities reported. The victim then changed his statement to police stating that his brother did not strike him, but that he stumbled and fell, police said. The victim was advised that he was not permitted on the premises and would be arrested for trespassing if he came back, authorities reported.

Sunday, January 31, Fredy Ali Cruz Lima, 29, of Bound Brook was arrested and charged with driving under the influence (DUI) after being involved in a onecar motor vehicle accident on Route 22. According to police, an officer noticed debris in the roadway and tire marks in the grass next to the curb in the roadway. Upon following the trail of debris, mud and grass, the officer found Lima's vehicle When the officer approached the vehicle he observed that it was leaking a large amount of transmission fluid, the left rear and left front tires were flat and the bumper and lower portion of the vehicle were damaged, authorities reported. According to police, Lima told the officer that he did not have and accident but had pulled over because he thought he had a flat tire. The officer smelled the odor of alcohol and performed several field sobriety tests, which Lima failed. He was transported to headquarters where he was processed and

released to a responsible adult. Sunday, January 31, a resident of Globe Avenue reported that someone broke into his Snap-on-Tool truck by breaking a window and removed a large amount of tools valued at approximately \$50,000. According to police, the suspect unsuccessfully attempted to steal the truck along with the tools causing damage to the steering col-

umn. The incident is under investigation. Sunday, January 31, Klaus Kronsteiner, 45, of Scotch Plains was arrested and charged with DWI following a motor vehicle accident on Route 22 East. According to police, Kronsteiner told the officer he was coming from Jersey City and was heading home when he struck the rear of a vehicle driving in front of him. The officer told Kronsteiner he was heading in the opposite direction from his home and when he asked him how much he had to drink Kronsteiner responded "too much." The suspect was given several field sobriety tests, which he failed, authorities reported. He was transported to headquarters where he was processed and released to a responsible adult.

Fanwood Wednesday, January 27, Jameen Murphy, 26, of Asbury Park was arrested following a motor vehicle stop on South Avenue for an outstanding warrant out of Asbury Park. He was transported, processed and released after posting bail.

Wednesday, January 27, a resident in the 30 block of Stewart Place reported that sometime between Saturday, January 23, and Tuesday, January 26, someone damaged the locking mechanism of her back door while trying to gain entrance to the residence. According to police, entrance was not gained and the incident is under investigation.

Friday, January 29, Gary Garvin, 41, of Jersey City was arrested following a motor vehicle stop in the 200 block of South Avenue for an outstanding Jersey City warrant. Sean Oliver, 44, of Jersey City, a passenger in the vehicle, was also arrested for an outstanding warrant out for West Orange. Both men were processed and released after posting bail.

Friday, January 29, a convenience store in the 500 block of South Avenue reported an incident of shoplifting after a male juvenile put a bag of potato chips valued at \$4 in his backpack and left the store without paying. According to police, a search of the area did not yield the suspect and the incident is under investi-

Monday, February 1, Michael Delmonte, 49, of Plainfield was arrested after a field investigation in the 100 block of South Avenue for outstanding warrants out of Fanwood, Piscataway and East Brunswick. He was processed and turned over to the Union County jail for failure to post bail.



Thomas Fortunato for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Time JOINING THE BENCH...The newest member of the state Superior Court in Elizabeth, John Walsh of Westfield, addresses his fellow judges, elected officials, family, friends and colleagues following his swearing-in ceremony last Friday at the Union County Courthouse in Elizabeth.

Judge Thomas Walsh Joins State Superior Court in Elizabeth

By THOMAS FORTUNATO and PAUL J. PEYTON

COUNTY - Westfield resident Thomas Walsh was sworn in Friday afternoon as the newest judge of the state Superior Court in Elizabeth. Mr. Walsh was sworn in by Union County Assignment Judge Karen Cassidy in her chambers on the second floor of the county courthouse. He joins James Hely and Robert Kirsch as recent Westfield additions to the county bench.

Aside from Mr. Walsh's family, friends, and partners of his now-former law firm Triarsi, Betancourt and Wukovits in Cranford, there was a large turnout of various lawyers, elected officials and judges from across the region.

"I'm thrilled to be back in public service to try and help people now by equitably applying the law," Judge Walsh told The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times.

Judge Walsh has more than 20 years of legal experience. He started his career as an assistant prosecutor in Union County before moving on to private practice.

The state Senate confirmed Mr. Walsh's nomination to the bench on January 11. His appointment fills the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Edwin Alley. Judges in the state courts are mandated to retire when they reach the age of 70.

At Friday's ceremony, Assemblyman Jon Bramnick (LD-21, Westfield) said Judge Walsh would bring a "compassion and warmth that is so desperately needed" on the Union County bench.

Cummings CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Judge Walsh's former law partner, Jo-

throughout the years, Mr. Cummings said he derived "great satisfaction serving the community" in this capacity and genuinely enjoyed some of the applications that came before

the board over the past two decades. Mr. Cummings said witnessing the beginning of downtown redevelopment in Fanwood was the most rewarding aspect of his years of service on the board, as well as the most significant issue with which the entity has dealt in recent years. He noted that the planning board's rulings on applications were challenged only twice in two decades and both times its rulings were upheld in State Superior Court. One involved the placement of Verizon Wireless antennas on an existing borough utility tower, which the board had approved, while the other involved a property subdivision it had denied.

Mr. Cummings said members of the planning board must put aside their personal feelings when ruling on an application. "You weigh the facts that are presented, pro and con, on any issue," he said.

He maintained that although the state of the economy has slowed down investment in commercial property at present, the borough's downtown remains a vibrant and viable location for businesses. "It's a great opportunity for a lot of small businesses to move to Fanwood," he said. "It's got a great consumer base.'

While no longer on the planning board, Mr. Cummings said he would continue to serve the borough as a volunteer through participation on the Earth Day Committee. Over the years, he also has served on various other municipal committees, including the Clean Communities Committee (19 years), the Holiday Celebration Committee (chairman for three years), the fundraising committee for redeveloping LaGrande Park, from 1994 to 1996, and last year as a member of the Mayor's Budget Advisory Committee.

Deer Cull In Ash Brook On Through Feb. 13

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Union County Department of Parks and Community Renewal will begin its Ash Brook Reservation Deer Management Program this week and continue through Saturday, February 13.

This program is intended to reduce the white-tailed deer population in the Ash Brook Reservation and Golf Course. Eight licensed hunters and members of the Cranford Rod and Gun Club have volunteered to participate in this program and completed a marksmanship test and orientation program, officials said.

Weather permitting, hunters may be in the Ash Brook Reservation from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day except Sunday. Shooting may only occur during daylight hours.

The public should note that the Ash Brook Reservation and the Ash Brook Golf Course will not be closed during the deer management program. Park users and neighbors are encouraged to stay out of the wooded areas during that time period, and to keep pets restrained on a leash.

For further information, contact the Union County Department of Parks and Community Renewal at (908) 789-3682.

seph Triarsi, a relative of former Union County Superior Court Judge John Triarsi, further emphasized Judge Walsh's strength of character and devotion to the hectic job of being a private attorney

"He knows what it's like to be in Union at nine [a.m.], Essex at eleven [a.m.] and Camden at two [p.m.]," Mr. Triarsi said. Former Union County manager and ex-New Jersey Turnpike Authority executive director, Michael Lapolla of Westfield worked with Judge Walsh 15 years ago in

the county prosecutor's office. "He is a lawyer's lawyer and a gentleman," Mr. Lapolla said.

A longtime family friend, Mr. Lapolla noted that back when Judge Walsh was an assistant prosecutor in Union County, he tried the first bias crime case in the state. The case involved three black high school girls who were repeatedly tormented and called racial slurs by a white man who would drive by their school every afternoon. Upon the man's conviction, the girls and their families were not only satisfied with Judge Walsh's devotion to upholding justice, but also believed that justice had been served, Mr. Lapolla said

"He (Walsh) made sure they wouldn't become victims twice," Mr. Lapolla told The Times. "He did an outstanding job and got a conviction" in what Mr. Lapolla described as an "extraordinary, difficult case."

Carol Jeney, president of the Union County Bar Association, said Judge Walsh is "going to be a great asset to the bench."
"Union County is lucky to have Judge Walsh filling one of the vacancies (on the Union County bench)," Ms. Jeney said.

by everyone." She also described him as "very personable" and "enthusiastic." Senator Tom Kean, Jr. (LD-21, Westfield), the Senate minority leader in Trenton, said he was happy to support Mr. Walsh's nomination and, now, his "el-

"He is a great lawyer. He is well respected

evation to the bench. "New Jersey's judicial system is touted as one of the best in the country and I am quite certain that Tom will follow in this fine tradition and will be a tremendous asset to the Union County Superior Court

Senator Kean said i Judge Walsh spoke about his family, including his brother, James Walsh, who was killed in the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center. He said he became an attorney to serve the public. In his first job as an assistant prosecutor, he said he was committed to help crime victims and

trying to make sure justice was served. Judge Walsh's wife, Diane Curcio Walsh, is a former *Star-Ledger* reporter and currently chief of staff to Assembly-

man Jon Bramnick (LD-21, Westfield). A dinner reception followed the ceremony at Solar Do Minho banquet hall in Roselle Park.

SPF BOE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Fanwood Times that the negotiations teams for the Scotch Plains-Fanwood BOE and the Scotch-Plains Fanwood Education Association (SPFEA) did not reach an agreement at their January 25 formal hearing with a fact finder. Next, he said, there will be a second meeting with the fact finder at the end of February, when the fact finder will present a preliminary re-

The BOE will meet next on Thursday, February 18, for an open agenda meeting and again on Thursday, February 25, for a regular public meeting.



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Peyton's Peek at the Week **In Politics**

Change Order Granted by SDA Governor Chris Christie has vetoed a \$1.267-million change order approved on January 6 by the board of the Schools Development Authority for construction of a new addition to the Burlington City High School

in the Burlington School District. Total change orders for the project total \$18.825 million. The original contract price was \$28.7 million, and had the latest change order gone through, the project would have increased by 66 percent to \$47.5 million, according to published reports.

Linden OKs \$2.5-Million Deal For Coal-Fueled Power Plant

The Linden City Council has approved a \$2.5-million deal to bring a controversial coal-fueled power plant on a 106-acre parcel of land on the banks of the Arthur Kill, the Star-Ledger has reported. Under a partnership called PurGen, PurGen may now apply for permits to construct a \$5-

billion, 500-megawatt electrical plant. For supporting the project, Linden will receive payments, beginning with \$350,000 this year, and amounting to \$2.5 million over the next five years. The city also will be funded for the cost of hiring private consultants to monitor the plant.

Christie Skips Annual Train Trip to Washington, D.C.

The 73rd annual New Jersey Chamber of Commerce "Chamber Train" to Washington, D.C. went on last week though without Governor Chris Christie, who called the trip an un-"use productive administration's time.

"I don't know that it helps the state business climate for the governor to have an adversarial relationship (with the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce)," said Assemblyman John Wisniewski (D-Middlesex), the new state Democratic Committee chairman.

Lee Solomon Named Head **To Board of Public Utilities**

Governor Chris Christie has appointed Camden Superior Court Judge Lee Solomon as the state's next head of the Board of Public

According newjerseynewsroom.com, Mr. Solomon headed the South Jersey U.S. Attorney's office when Mr. Christie was New Jersey U.S. attorney. He is also a former Camden

By Paul Peyton of The Leader/Times County prosecutor, was a Republican Assemblyman from 1991 to 1995, a

unsuccessfully for Congress in 1994. Senate President Stephen Sweeney (D-Gloucester) praised the appointment. "He simply is a hands-down outstanding pick... "Governor Christie also deserves to be congratulated for adding such a tremendous individual to his Cabinet," he said.

Camden County freeholder, and ran

Trial Begins for JC Dep. Mayor **Charged With Accepting Bribe**

The corruption trial of Jersey City Deputy Mayor Leona Beldini, 74, has begun. Beldini was one of 45 persons arrested in the largest FBI sting in New Jersey history. She is charged with accepting \$20,000 from a government informant posing as a corrupt developer. According to the Star-Ledger, Beldini had agreed to help the informant secure building permits.

Five rabbis, three mayors and two state legislators were among those charged in the FBI sting, although Beldini is the first to go to trial, according to the *Star-Ledger*.

Sewerage Authority Director's Salary Ripped by Governor

Governor Chris Christie criticized the Passaic Valley Sewerage Authority for paying its executive director, Bryan Christiansen, \$313,000, making him the highest-paid employee in the state's pension system, according to *The Record*.

"If I look envious it's because I am. That's significantly more than I'm making to do this job," said Mr. Christie, who is paid \$175,000 as governor.

A transition report issued for the governor has recommended that pay and benefits at the sewerage authorities follow that of the structured compensation system of state government, the paper reported.

Obama Cuts NASA Funding for Shuttle Replacement Program

President Barack Obama's proposed federal budget eliminates NASA's Constellation program that aimed to return humans to the moon by 2020 with the creation of Ares I rocket and Ares V cargo rocket, according to plhysorg.com.

"The White House wants NASA to concentrate on Earth-science projects such as monitoring climate change and on a new technology research and development program that will one day make human exploration of asteroids and the inner solar system possible," the website reports



The Mestfield Leader and The Scotch Plains - Fanwood TIMES

MAKING THE GRADE...This photo of the First United Methodist Church in Westfield under construction is believed to be a superior of the First United Methodist Church in Westfield under construction is believed to be a superior of the First United Methodist Church in Westfield under construction is believed to be a superior of the First United Methodist Church in Westfield under construction is believed to be a superior of the First United Methodist Church in Westfield under construction is believed to be a superior of the First United Methodist Church in Westfield under construction is believed to be a superior of the First United Methodist Church in Westfield under construction is believed to be a superior of the First United Methodist Church in Westfield under construction is believed to be a superior of the First United Methodist Church in Westfield under construction is believed to be a superior of the First United Methodist Church in Westfield under construction is believed to be a superior of the First United Methodist Church in Westfield under construction is believed to be a superior of the First United Methodist Church in Westfield under construction is believed to be a superior of the First United Methodist Church in Westfield under construction in the superior of the first United Methodist Church in the superior of the superio Westfield under construction is believed to have been taken in 1911. Also standing to the left at the time was the second church, in which the Town Clock originally resided. The clock and bell were removed and hoisted into the new tower using either horse or mule power, pictured at left. The second church, standing on what is now the parking lot, was demolished once the new building was completed. At the time, East Broad Street was at grade level. In later years, an underpass was built to carry the Central Railroad of New Jersey tracks overhead. So, East Broad Street was lowered by several feet to allow passage under the bridge. Thus, the church was elevated to an even higher point, where it rests today on the circle.

Lance Reacts to President's State of the Union Address

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WASHINGTON, D.C. - Rep. Leonard Lance (N.J.-7th) issued the following statement in response to President Barack Obama's State of the Union.

"I appreciate that the President's speech focused on the economy. However, freezing federal spending at last year's spending levels – the nation's highest levels in history – is simply not enough to get our fiscal house in order.

Class Shows Fun Ways To Eat Fruits, Veggies

WESTFIELD - Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County is holding a free class titled "13 Ways to Eat More Fruits and Veggies for Better Health," on Thursday, February 25, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Union County offices in Westfield, 300 North Avenue East.

The class will be taught by Karen Ensle, a Rutgers nutrition expert who is the department head of the Union County Extension office. The class covers topics like fun salads and other "stoveless meals," and new combinations of fruit and vegetables.

The class is free but pre-registration is required by contacting Digna Torres at (908) 654-9854 or dtorres@ucnj.org

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"It's certainly a step in the right direction, but I'm deeply concerned that the President's spending freeze isn't strong enough. This is especially concerning given the fact that last year the non-defense federal spending increased by an unprecedented 22 percent – which totaled more than \$513 billion and doesn't even include the massive stimulus package.

"Regarding nuclear power, I appreciated the President's call for America to rely more heavily on nuclear power as an important clean energy alternative. I hope the President's words calling for more nuclear power will be matched with action.

In the House, Mr. Lance said his main area of focus has been addressing the economy and, especially, the area of debt reduction. Mr. Lance has introduced a package of bills designed to control federal spending and limit the growing national debt and deficits. Mr. Lance also said he opposes raising the debt ceiling without what he described as "meaningful action on reducing federal spending.'

He said he has led the effort in the House calling for an up-or-down vote on congressional action to raise the debt limit.

Demolition Set to Begin at Two Downtown Fanwood Properties

By TED RITTER

FANWOOD - Construction crews are expected to start demolition this month in downtown Fanwood, despite the February weather.

Mayor Colleen Mahr, at the borough council's monthly agenda meeting Tuesday night, reported that demolition of the Sovereign Bank building at 246 South Avenue is expected to take place "in the next two weeks...so, that's good news.

The borough is eager to incorporate this property into other existing and planned redevelopment ventures. Also pursuant to downtown rede-

velopment, Borough Engineer Joseph Pryor said the asbestos at the Livingston Wilbor site, adjacent to Sovereign Bank, has been safely re-

Mr. Pryor said the Fanwood Fire Department plans to use the remaining building at the site for training within the next few days, with demolition work set to begin on Monday. "It should take about a week," he said.

The borough owns the Livingston-Wilbor site and plans to sell it to a developer. Both the Livingston-Wilbor and Sovereign Bank properties are seen as key pieces in the redevelopment of downtown, given their proximity to the train station and other new development.

In administrative business, the governing body discussed a review of borough fees to compare Fanwood's fee levels to those in Scotch Plains and limits set by the state's Department of Community Affairs.

Borough Clerk/Administrator Eleanor McGovern said the last full fees increase came in 2001. She believes Fanwood fees for permits, licenses, and other approvals are less than what Scotch Plains charges and well below state limits.

Officials talked about whether or not higher fees would discourage permit applications, and if they could support fee increases. "That's something you have to look at," said Borough Attorney Dennis Estis.

Councilwoman Joan Wheeler requested that the borough engineer conduct a "survey" of the borough hall complex, which includes the po-

lice headquarters. 'There is a need to look at, I believe, all of the major building systems," she said.

Councilwoman Wheeler pointed to a series of "issues" with the building including plumbing problems, leaky heating and air conditioning systems, and other problems, especially in the police department's facilities.

"What we need is a five-year plan," said Councilwoman Katherine Mitchell, adding that such a plan would help address the most severe problems first.

Councilman Mike Szuch also suggested "this might be a good time to consider going green with the building" if major upgrades are required.

Mr. Pryor, who will begin a survey, noted the borough hall complex dates to about 1978, and he said most of the building's systems "are at the end" of their useful life.

Mayor Mahr said the council this month plans to reauthorize its contract with Jersey Professional Services, which is the borough's shared services coordinator with Scotch Plains. She said the firm reduced this year's contracts by one-third from last year due to the budget hardships faced by municipalities. Scotch Plains will split the \$2,200 contract.

"It's money well spent there," said Mayor Mahr, who has made it a priority to seek out shared services op-

Bagger: New Jersey Can Again Be A Home to Growth

ELIZABETH - Richard Bagger of Westfield, chief of staff to Governor Chris Christie, told the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce last week that the administration is committed to reducing the size of state government, implementing fiscal restraint and restoring common sense to the regulatory environment that greatly impacts the state's business com-

Mr. Bagger was the keynote speaker at the chamber's 98th Annual Dinner held January 26 at the Renaissance Newark Airport Hotel. He offered the crowd of 400 business professionals a promise of an improved business climate for New Jersey under the Christie Administration.

He said the Christie Administration is committed to reducing the size of state government, implementing fiscal restraint and restoring common sense to the regulatory environment that greatly impacts the state's business community.

'New Jersey can again become to growth," he said. "Restoring fiscal sanity is an important step. Another important step is introducing regulatory reform...New Jersey's problems weren't created in a day but we don't have a day to waste in getting New Jersey back on track in making (the state) a home for

Prior to serving 11 years in the state

Legislature, Mr. Bagger was a town councilman and later mayor of Westfield.

The chamber recognized three businesses at its annual dinner. Enterprise Rent-A-Car was named the Large Company of the Year; AmeriHealth New Jersev earned Medium Company of the Year honors, and Villani Bus Company was recognized as Small Company of the Year.

Enterprise Rent-A-Car rents more than one milion cars annually and operates 7,000 offices through the United States and Europe, yet prides itself on being a local, community-minded company, according to Woody Erhardt, regional vice president

AmeriHealth New Jersey provides health insurance coverage to employers and individuals throughout New Jersey through one of the largest provider networks in the state and earned top ratings for customer service and quality of care as part of the state's recent health plan perormance report.

Villani Bus Company was founded in 1920 as a jitney service for local laborers in Linden and soon established the 44-bus line between the Linden and Elizabeth railroad stations that still runs today.

The Gateway Chamber comprises 13 regional and local chambers, including the Route 22, Kenilworth and Roselle Park chambers.



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Sheriff's Officers, Marshals **Arrest Abdullah Associate**

Sheriff's Officers and U.S. Marshals on Friday arrested a city man suspected of being a member of a drug ring run by wanted felon Luqman Abdullah, Union County Sheriff Ralph Froehlich said. Hamid Holloway, 30, was arrested without incident in Newark on a no-bail

'Taste of Cranford' to **Benefit Response Fund**

CRANFORD - United Way of Greater Union County and the Cranford Community Council will host a "Taste of Cranford" on Sunday, February 21, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Cranford Community Center, 220 Walnut Avenue in Cranford.

Attendees will be offered a varied selection of appetizers, entrees, desserts and wines. Advance tickets are \$25, and \$30 at the door.

Proceeds from this event will benefit United Way of Greater Union County's Special Response Fund. The 2010 designee will be Cranford Family Care.

Tickets are available at the following locations: Cranford Family Care, 61 Myrtle Street; Cranford Public Library; Milk Money, 6 Eastman Street; Peri-winkles, 17 North Union Avenue, and Rockin' Joe, 5 Eastman Street.

Tickets can also be purchased online at brownpapertickets.com/event/95612.For questions or more information, contact Jackie Park Albaum at (908) 353-7171, no. jackie.albaum@uwguc.org, or visit

uwguc.org/tasteofcranford.

warrant for conspiracy to distribute drugs and racketeering, according to authori-

Holloway's capture was the most recent in a series of arrests resulting from an investigation into Abdullah's drug ring, dubbed Operation Red Zone. On January 14, Union County Sheriff's Officers arrested Lamont Harris, another Abdullah associate wanted on drug and racketeer-

ing charges.

Abdullah, 27, is an alleged Bloods gang member who is believed to have led a violent drug ring that operated in Essex and Union Counties. He has been at large since April 2009.

According to authorities, Abdullah rose to prominence when he allegedly participated in the shooting of a rival drug dealer in the transle of his correspond to the his correspond to the transle of his correspond to the his correspo in the trunk of his car, assisted by three other men, including twin brothers Naim and Hamid Holloway.

All four were convicted for their roles in the shooting. Following this, Abdullah gained a bloody stranglehold on the cocaine trade in that area of Elizabeth and later expanded into portions of Newark. Anyone who sold cocaine on Abdullah's turf had to purchase it from him or face

violent retaliation, authorities said.

On April 23, 2009, police attempted to arrest Abdullah in the parking lot of a mall in Edison. Abdullah, a former Elizabeth high school track stor and college. beth high school track star and college football player, led the police on a footchase through the parking lot, across six lanes of traffic and into an apartment complex, where he disappeared in the night amidst dozens of buildings.



AWARDS NIGHT...Rep. Leonard Lance (R-7th) recently participated in the second annual Kenilworth Awards Night sponsored by VFW Post 2230. Pictured, from left to right, are: Veteran Edward Miller of Kenilworth, Kenilworth Mayor Kathi Fiamingo, Rep. Lance, Former Cranford Mayor Barbara Bilger, Kenilworth Fire Chief Lewis Giordino, and Kenilworth Police Officer and Veteran Daniel Sims.

Lance to Hold Town Meeting, Feb. 6

BRANCHBURG — Rep. Leonard Lance (R-7th) will hold a Town Hall meeting on Saturday, February 6, at 11 a.m. at the Raritan Valley Community College Conference Center, located at 118 Lamington Road in Branchburg. All Seventh Congressional District residents are invited to attend. The district includes towns in Hunterdon, Somerset, Middlesex and Union Counties.

Mr. Lance will take questions on the issues including the economy, health care, federal spending and out-of-control debt, and share his views. Additionally, members of Mr. Lance's staff will be available to assist residents who are experiencing difficulties with federal agencies, such as the IRS, Social Security Administration, Veterans' Affairs, the State Department.

For directions see raritanval.edu/about/ directions.html. Seating may be limited. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call (908) 788-

State Revenue Falls \$1.2 Billion Short in Current Budget

continue to be less than the amounts estimated, according the Christie Administration. Most significantly is the revenue shortfall of its sales and corporate business taxes of \$442 million and \$180 million, respectively. The State expects its estimate of realty transfer and insurance premium taxes to be short by \$200 million. The state projects an aggregate net revenue shortfall of \$1.2 billion for Fiscal Year 2010, which ends June 30. Also a funding shortage and additional spending

needs is projected to total \$2.2 billion.
"We have a commitment to anyone with a vested interest in New Jersey taxpayers, investors and entrepreneurs to be transparent about our fiscal and economic conditions," Governor Chris Christie said. "It is a priority of this Administration to be open and forthcoming not only in the realities of the challenges we currently face, but the process with which we aim to close the budget gap, restructure spending and prepare for next year's budget. We owe the people of New Jersey nothing less."

In order to address the shortfall, the Governor's Office \$260 million in savings is under consideration, including a requirement to have school districts offset state school aid payments with their accumulated surplus balances. Another \$20 million will come from the implementation of Powerball, and \$150 million in additional federal Recovery Act

payments to offset costs from the Earned

Income Tax Credit program. Due to deteriorating economic conditions, the state unemployment rate reached 10.1 percent in December. The state's Unemployment Compensation Fund is at \$3.3 billion in unemployment benefits. The Fund has been depleted and the state has borrowed approximately \$1.1 billion from the U.S. Department of Labor to provide for benefits.

"Because the Fund is in deficit, the current law provides for an increase in the employer tax rate. It is expected that the employer tax rate to be calculated for Fiscal Year 2011 will be significantly higher than the present rate, resulting in a total estimated increase of approximately \$1 billion. However, no change in the employee rate is anticipated," according to the Governor's Office.

Estrada Serving on Immigration Panel

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Union County Freeholder Angel Estrada is serving on an Immigration Reform Task Force created

by the National Association of Counties. The panel briefed congressional staffers on January 13 on the role counties play in providing public safety and health to persons residing in their boundaries, regardless of citizenship status.

Mr. Estrada emigrated from Cuba 44 years ago as a 10-year-old refugee.

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There Was a Time When Our Nation Had 'The Right Stuff'

Many young people today probably don't realize it, but there was a time when our nation had "the right stuff." Some young people believe that the United States landing on the moon was actually produced behind a Hollywood stage.

And how corny, "Ask not what your nation can do for you, but ask what you can do for your nation." (President John F. Kennedy's 1961 Inaugural Ad-

The fastest jet airplane ever was flown in December 22, 1964. The Blackbird achieved 2,293 mph. The X-15, at 4,520 mph, holds the world speed record as the fastest manned aircraft - and of the highest flying. It was dropped from the belly of a B52 on June 8, 1959.

Ever wonder why today's workhorse, the B52 is called the B52? – It's because that's when it first flew

Useful engineering breakthroughs occurred regularly — ion exchange and reverse osmosis were developed that made drinking water from seawater. There was a company called Bell Labs in Murray Hill making discoveries daily, ranging from laser beams to fiber optics.

There was another company in New Jersey called Esso Research and Engineering that led the world with refinery technology.

Do you remember Firestone, the world's second largest tire manufacturer behind Goodyear? They helped out the fledgling Japanese tire industry. The company is now called Bridgestone - owned by the Japanese.

The French company Alcatel now owns Bell Labs. They no longer discover things.

Who can forget the ultimate muscle car, the 1970 Pontiac GTO? There is no Pontiac anymore and there is no General Motors Corp. There is Government Motors Corp.

People were educated and could do math in their head. They could make change at the supermarket. One had to work hard to get a 600 score in their college boards. Just showing up now garners a student a 480 score. Calculators weren't permitted in the classrooms – even in engineering schools.

Being on the honor roll was limited to the top 10 percent of the class. If a student didn't pass, they failed. This motivated one to learn.

Today we have No Child Left Behind. Few care or are inspired. Greater than 50 percent of students make the honor roll and grades are so inflated that no one has any idea of their knowledge level.

Many receive high school diplomas but are illiterate in English. Regrettably, the European and Asian kids are kicking our kids' Derrières.

"Politically Correct" is sinking us. This is not a good thing and certainly is not the "right stuff."

The "Right Stuff" got this nation to the moon – the last time being 1973. We didn't have a budget deficit or a trade deficit.

So nearly 40 years later, President Barack Obama proposes to cut NASA programs, almost assuredly delaying progress in space and engineering for another 40 years. Granted, the nation has many budget problems and pressing priorities - but we'll never advance, solve our finances and lift everyone up without the "Right Stuff."

Our leaders in Washington, could they be any more

Do Trenton Legislators Represent 'The People' or Special Interests?

State lawmakers are elected to represent the people of our state, not their own political or business interests. But, unfortunately, that is not the case in

One big piece of legislation before Trenton this week would eliminate the Council on Affordable Housing (COAH) and give local towns more say on housing decisions under the guidelines of the existing Planning Commission. While this seems like a good piece of legislation on the surface, we are cautious given that the two primary sponsors of this bill, Senators Ray Lesniak (D-Elizabeth) and Kip Bateman (R-Somerset), are attorneys with two of the most politically influential law firms in New

Mr. Lesniak is a partner with Weiner-Lesniak. Their website states: "Our clients range from small local developers to large international companies engaging in real estate development." The law firm currently is counsel to the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority. Mr. Lesniak is well-known as a political powerbroker in this state.

Mr. Bateman is a partner with DiFrancesco, Bateman, Coley, Yospin, Kunzman, Davis & Lehrer. Donald DiFranceso was a long-time state senator, senate president and became governor when Christine Todd Whitman resigned.

"Our practice is in touch with state, county and local attitudes and requirements with respect to land use issues, environmental and regulatory concerns, public infrastructure construction and related matters," according to the DiFrancesco, Bateman website. It lists "Mt. Laurel development litigation" and "development review matters" among its specialties. Mr. Bateman, a municipal prosecutor in Bridgewater, has served as a planning board attorney. The firm represented ShopRite in the 1990s case before the Westfield and Garwood planning boards. The store eventually was built in Garwood.

When Sens. Lesniak and Bateman are talking about changing how the state addresses affordable housing, are they looking out at what is best for the people and taxpayers of this state or their clients and their firm's legal fees?

In our review, legislators should not have connections to businesses or government in their professional life whether it is representing a local planning board, serving on staff at a labor union or being employed in the insurance industry. Come to think of it, that doesn't leave too many lawmakers left. In fact, by our count, out of the 120 lawmakers in the Legislature there are 30 attorneys, seven union officials, 11 government employees (full-time employment) and three persons employed in the insurance business. About a quarter of our lawmakers list the Legislature as there full-time employment.

New Jersey needs to ensure that new rules banning legislators from holding other elected posts extend to these employment areas. We will not have a Legislature of the people if we continue to elect those individuals who represent special interest groups, i.e., unions and developers.





www.westfieldareachamber.com

Networking for Success

The many reasons that people join the Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce (WACC) and other organizations include making new business connections and discovering new business opportunities. In the last 10 years this has become known as "networking." It is the new 21st century's buzzword for developing business.

Most of us aren't taught how to effectively network. It's a skill, like everything else that we do, and it can be learned. It's tempting to believe that if we just show up at a networking event we'll meet others who want to do business with us. It could happen that quickly and easily, but it would be a rare occurrence. Networking is about building relationships and then getting referrals. It takes time and energy.

We all want to be valued advisors to

our clients, patients, or customers. When we make referrals, our reputations are on the line. We all want to be able to make referrals to people whom we can trust to provide quality services and who have integrity. Attending as many networking events as possible creates opportunities to get to know more about each other, what we have to offer, and that we can be trusted. Everyone attends these events for the same reason. Meeting more people at networking events helps to successfully build a file of resources to help our clients, customers and patients solve problems and meet a variety of needs. As a result of networking, referrals can be then made with confidence.

It is an important part of the job of the

WACC to provide as many as possible networking events. Not everyone can make a morning meeting, or a lunch meeting, or an evening event. That is why we are developing many different types of events. That is also why we are asking you to respond to the Needs Assessment that you will receive soon via e-mail or that is available on the WACC website www.westfieldareachamber.com. We need to know what you need.

Here are two ways to start 2010 off networking successfully. First: Meet The Members Breakfast on Wednesday, February 3, 8 a.m. at the WACC office at 173 Elm Street in Westfield. This is a free, WACC member's only, event.

Second: The Big Event on Wednesday, February 17, 6 to 8 p.m. The Mattress Factory, 35 South Avenue in Fanwood, will host it. The Big Event is a joint networking event of the WACC, The Fanwood Professional and Business Association, and the Scotch Plains Business Association. These three organizations have 500 members between them right here in your area. Be sure to come to this one to see a lot of new faces.

Please call us at (908) 233.3021 or email info@westfieldareachamber.comfor more information on these and other events so that you can network more successfully. See you there!

If you are a WACC member and would like an individual, personalized consultation on your networking efforts, contact Neil Pinkman, WACC Executive Direc-

Letters to the Editor

Police Lt. Moore is Example Of Westfield's 'Very Best'

On Thursday, January 28, Westfield was caught off guard by a surprise snowstorm during school rush hour. While driving my six-year-old twins to Franklin, I momentarily lost my breaks on the corner of Prospect Street and Coperthwaite. By a stroke of luck, no cars were coming as I slid through the stop sign.

I was shaken and unsure of how to proceed. I called the Westfield Police Department. In moments, I was taken under the firm and friendly care of Lt. Gary Moore.
Within minutes he had my car safely

parked and gave my children quite a thrill when he moved their booster seats into his Dare Truck and escorted them to first

Lt. Moore then helped me back to my home and waited while I called AAA. His warm and confident manner had both me and the children feeling at ease after a stressful and potentially dangerous ride

This officer is an example of the very best Westfield has to offer. He went above and beyond the call of duty and made me feel that I could indeed count on the department in a time of need. The force would do well to use him as an example of what the rookies should strive for in the way of serving the community

Thank you Lt. Moore and the Westfield Police Department.

Mr. President, Seventh District Residents Are Not 'Super Rich'

Editor's note: The following is a copy of a letter sent by Rep. Leonard Lance (R-7) to President Barack Obama. The letter was dated January 29, 2010.

Dear Mr. President: I hope that the State of the Union address to the Nation is the beginning of a

new direction in Washington. Following years of runaway spending and record deficits and debt I believe we must immediately begin to work together and make tough and common-sense decisions that will help strengthen our

economy and put people back to work. I ask that you consider the following concerning health care reform, taxes and

HEALTHCARE

During your State of the Union you said, "...if anyone from either party has a better approach that will bring down premiums, bring down the deficit, cover the uninsured, strengthen Medicare for seniors, and stop insurance company abuses, let me know.

Mr. President, Republicans in Congress do have a better approach. The "Medical Rights and Reform Act" introduced by Rep. Kirk (II.) and me is fiscally responsible legislation that reduces costs and expands insurance coverage without raising taxes, cutting Medicare or putting the

government between patient and doctor. Our legislation puts forth commonsense reforms, like letting families and businesses buy health insurance policies across state lines, letting small businesses pool together and ending frivolous lawsuits against doctors and hospitals that drive up the cost of healthcare. And our bill allows young adults to remain on their parents' health plan.

I urge you and your staff to work with Republicans toward passage of the Medical Rights and Reform Act.

While I support your call to "eliminate all capital gains taxes on small business investment; and provide a tax incentive for all businesses, large and small, to invest in new plants and equipment," I ask that you strongly reconsider your call for higher taxes for families making more than \$250,000 a year.

In New Jersey, this policy would have a disastrous effect on our fragile economy. Garden State residents have one of the highest costs of living in the country -

including skyrocketing federal, state and

Specifically in New Jersey's Seventh Congressional District constituents are not "super rich." They are hard-working, middle-class families whose household higher taxes and rising interest payments on their debt.

The Administration and Congress should extend the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts for all taxpayers.

And you should strongly reconsider the so-called "bank tax" that will stunt economic growth and job creation, impose a huge burden on consumers and hurt American competitiveness.

Our economy will be strengthened greatly by these actions

SPENDING and DEBT I certainly appreciate your call to freeze government spending for three years beginning in 2011. However, freezing federal spending at last year's spending levels - the nation's highest levels in history - is simply not enough to get our fiscal

house in order. In addition to your spending freeze I call on the Administration to work with Congress to pass a legislative package of bills I have introduced to control runaway federal spending and limit our Nation's

ever-growing debt and deficits. The "Pay It Back Act" would apply unspent funds from the federal stimulus law as well as the TARP directly to debt reduction. We must not use TARP for

additional federal spending. The "Deficit Reduction Act" would apply fiscally responsible caps on annual congressional spending and debt.

Finally, we must not raise the debt ceiling without first achieving meaningful action on reducing federal spending. Let us work together to identify wasteful and duplicative federal spending and show the American people that we can make tough fiscal decisions necessary to stay

within the debt ceiling. House Republicans are ready to work with you on the economic challenges facing our country. For the sake of our children's future, let us begin to get our fiscal house in order. Best personal wishes.

Leonard Lance Member of Congress Seventh District, N.J.

Are Rahway Residents the **Canaries in the Money Pit?**

The Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority (RVSA) serves almost half of Union County's municipalities. These towns are Rahway, Clark, Mountainside, Westfield, Scotch Plains, Cranford, Garwood, Springfield, Kenilworth and Roselle Park. The subject of privatization has come up more than once and the commissioners are divided as to the benefits.

The City of Rahway approved its spending plan for the year. Some fancy footwork in regard to the billing and payment of funds to the RVSA was contained in the budget. Residents of other municipalities in Union County would do well to keep an eye on Rahway as they lead the charge against the sewer authority. Clark, Woodbridge and Rahway are demanding an audit and investigation. However, following in the footsteps of Rahway could ultimately give their residents the short

If a municipality billed the taxpavers for sewer costs directly and that amount was more than necessary to cover the fees

due to the authority, then the overpayments should go back to the residents— and not just be dumped into the city's general fund

In a letter sent to Rahway residents just 24 months ago, Mayor Kennedy stated that collecting sewer fees separately from property taxes would be necessary to "plug high sewer costs" and "would save taxpayers money." Now, according to city budget documents, which show almost \$2 million dollars in surplus collections, it is apparent that Rahway's homeowners and small business' are being overcharged.

While Mayor Kennedy blames the Rahway Valley Sewage Authority for breaking the city's budget, this year he will collect enough money to pay the RSVA \$3.2 million in sewer assessments for Rahway, and still have \$1.9 million left over to again go toward funding city

Patricia Quattrocchi



Below are four arcane words, each with four definitions – only one is correct. The others are made up. Are you sharp enough to discern this deception of dic-

If you can guess one correctly – good guess. If you get two - well-read individual. If you get three – word expert. If you get all four - you must have a lot of

All words and correct definitions come from the board game Diction

Answers to last week's arcane words.

1. Jadish – Tired, mean or worn out 2. Posnet – A little basin or saucepan

3. Pathetist – A hypnotist 4. Peba – A small armadillo found from Texas to South America

SAKEEN

1. A nectarine 2. A grain plant of Abyssinia from

which flour is made 3. A wild goat of the Himalayas

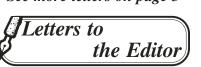
4. Discolored or blackened **TENTATION** 1. Experimental adjustment

2. The shattering effect of a sudden burst of energy, as in an explosion 3. Spontaneous subdivision

4. Temporary loss of memory TEMULENTIVE

- 1. Somewhat intoxicated
- 2. Distressing; perplexing
- 3. Stern; grim 4. Tenative; timid
- MIFF
- 1. To take offense or quarrel 2. Utter dismay; astonishment
- 3. To beat or slap 4. To ignore or overlook

See more letters on page 5



Battle: 'Individual Americans' vs. 'Elitists'

"Do you know what is right for you?" One will get this question in his or her lifetime possibly about 50 to 60 times, in my estimation. The response, naturally, will be by an individual "Yes, I do." When it comes to those who serve in government, in the press, in the universities and in business, however, their reply will always be "No, you don't." Herein lies the problem.

In the United States, possibly unconscious to all, there is a battle that is going on. The battle is between the right of individual Americans to decide what is best for them, their families, their businesses, their livelihoods and more, and the small elite in Washington, D.C., in the Northeast and in Malibu who believe that they have the right to plan and run your life better than you can. A majority of progressives, liberals, "moderates," and even some conservatives side with the elites, while others (i.e., classical liberals, libertarians, traditional conservatives and

independents) side with the individual. Recently, this was in full display to me hen I was watching clips of journalists Andrea Mitchell of MSNBC News and Cokie Roberts of ABC News during the Health Care debate. Roberts was stating that though Americans opposed the Health Care Bill overwhelmingly, if passed, they will learn to "love it." Andrea Mitchell was more direct when she stated on her MSNBC show that the "American people do not know what is good for them." Sheer condescension, yet not surprising, considering that the press in this country always try to penetrate into the minds of Americans on a daily basis that they are "too stupid" and "too dumb" to under-

stand their "wisdom." Recently, journalist Joe Klein remarked that the American people are "too stupid to see that the stimulus law signed by law by President Obama worked," even though we have a 10 percent unemployment rate nationwide. Who are you going

to believe, Joe Klein or your own eyes? It is the arrogance of these elitists that should be verbally beaten into humility. It is freedom that made the United States a beacon in the world and not elitists in academia, government, and business, or in the press. Once I thought that being an elitist meant that you were educated and the biggest thing since sliced bread. Today, I believe that is the opposite. Elitists live in a bubble and they are the dumbest and insecure of persons in the world. They deserve all the serious psychological help they can get. I hope they get it

Alex Pugliese Kenilworth

Your State Legislators ---LD-21---

Sen. Thomas Kean, Jr. (R) 425 North Avenue E. Westfield, N.J. 07090 (908) 232-3673 Asm. Jon Bramnick (R)

251 North Ave. West Westfield, N.J. 07090 (908) 232-2073 Asm. Nancy Munoz (R) 57 Union Place, Suite 310 Summit, N.J. 07901

(908) 918-0414 ---LD-22---Sen. Nicholas Scutari (D) 1514 E. Saint Georges Ave.

(908) 587-0404 Asw. Linda Stender (D) 1801 East Second St. Scotch Plains, N.J. 07076 (908) 668-1900 Asm. Jerry Green (D) 17 Watchung Ave. Plainfield, N.J. 07060

Linden, N.J. 07036

(908) 561-5757 7th Congressional District Representative Leonard Lance 425 North Avenue E. Westfield, N.J. 07090

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may be in the crosshairs to be demolished for a bigger field house as part of the new recreation complex.

The gazebo is considered a heritage structure by some since it was hand-built with donated materials by the Lions Club members in 1978. There has been no transparency from the boro in having the people aware that this is being considered. This info luckily trickled out to the public by a local newsletter. In September 2009, members of the Lions Club came to a council meeting to express extreme displeasure over any intentions to demolish this heritage structure.

In the mayor's state of the boro address, he said that hopefully ground will be broken for the recreation complex this year. In last week's council meeting, a member of the public stated that the mayor and council have no rights to single handedly decide to demolish a heritage asset such as the gazebo. Subsequently, it was said that there are no revised finalized plans created yet for the project, and that there are only sketches at this time that include the demo of the gazebo; but the tainted fill problem at the site sud-denly arose and this was put on the back burner. This seems odd since ground may be broken this year with no plans yet.

Ouestions arise: 1) who gave the committee the right to even consider the demo of the heritage gazebo structure? If in the council Standing Recreation Committee, the members suggested to the design ar-chitect that the field house should be

Pool Registration for Westfield Residents

WESTFIELD - Registration information has been mailed to all 2009 pool members. Members can register online, through the mail, or in person through

Once pre-registration of current 2009 members is completed for the 2010 season on April 15, if there are still openings, the Recreation Department will start contacting those on the wait list - starting with #1 and continuing until all openings

Remember, for those who are interested in joining the pool, and are not a 2009 member, they must be on the wait list at the Westfield Recreation Department. Wait List applications are available online at westfieldnj.gov/recreation or can be picked up in the Recreation Department at 425 E. Broad Street. Call (908) 789-4080.

footprint to increase the house size, someone on the recreation committee should

have at least said: "Stop!. 2) In so doing, with now tacit consent, did the Standing Recreation Committee then reach out to the Lions Club to tell them their direction? The answer is no. A person who belong(ed) to the Lions Club spoke at a council meeting mid last year saying any plans are good for the town and its children, but he preceded that statement that he was speaking only as a resident and not as a Lions club representative. He also later said he was not aware of the gazebo destruction.

3) September 2009 had members of the Lions Club come out to the mayor and council and stated their displeasure. This is the only public input to date that says "no" to the gazebo demolition. Why are the sketches still being considered, unless

there is an ulterior motivation? 4) On the boro website are the plans and costs of the original recreation complex from two years ago. If the complex is being revised and sketches are in existence, aren't these website plans misleading? Shouldn't there be a statement that these are being readdressed? With the ground now planned on being broken this year, there would be a rush for design, internal approval, then introduction to the public. Then a go ahead and finally going out for bids and voting to award. All this will be in the next seven months? The plans including the destruction of the gazebo obviously would then be formalized and, guaranteed it would now be past the point of no return. That is the utter shame of how this government works with their agenda without transparency.

In last week's council meeting, on a separate issue, two councilmen noted that the people should not perceive the council as top-ended, making decisions without the public's input. This gazebo issue disproves that, unless the council comes to their senses and readjusts their agenda to be more resident friendly.

There is still time to be transparent. Indeed, maybe 98 percent of the town wants to see the gazebo demolished for a bigger field house. Maybe the field house can be expanded or relocated. Yet, right now 98 percent of the town doesn't even know what is transpiring with the gazebo and field house, until the plans are in front of the council to finally vote on and too late. The only public input to date was "no" and is it being ignored? This is a travesty in the making

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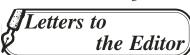
Bruce Paterson Garwood

Groundhogs Disagree on The Weather

Punxsutawney Phil from www.groundhog.org

PUNXSUTAWNEY, PA. Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow Tuesday (groundhog.org), meaning there will be six more weeks of winter. Of 10 other groundhogs reporting in from around the country, six disagreed with Punx sutawney Phil (Wikipedia). Local newcomer, Staten Island Chuck, at the Staten Island Zoo

said "early spring."
From Wikipedia: "Groundhog Day is a holiday celebrated on February 2. It is held in the United States and Canada. According to folklore, if a groundhog emerging from its burrow on this day fails to see its shadow, it will leave the burrow, signifying that winter will soon end. If on the other hand, the groundhog sees its shadow, the groundhog will supposedly retreat into its burrow, and winter will continue for six more weeks. The holiday, which began as a Pennsylvania German custom in southeastern and central Pennsylvania in the 18th and 19th centuries, has its origins in ancient European weather lore, wherein a badger or sacred



Thanks for Cell Phone Donations for Soldiers

I would like to thank Westfield for all of the donations of cell phones that you left at the library for Cell Phones for Soldiers. Overall, in January we collected over 150 cell phones. Your donations will help U.S. soldiers overseas call home. Thank you for all your help.

I would also like to thank the Westfield Memorial Library for making space available for the collection.

Westfield

bear is the prognosticator as opposed to a groundhog. The holiday also bears some similarities to the medieval Catholic holiday of Candlemas. It also bears similarities to the Pagan festival of Imbolc, the seasonal turning point of the Celtic calendar, which is celebrated on February 1 and also involves weather prognostica-

Swift Action Needed For Geese Problem

I am glad to see that someone is finally talking about the Canada geese problem – but we need to take action about these unwelcome invaders.

These geese are not only a danger to airplanes, and ruining municipal parks, they make any pond their summer home and leave their filthy mark on surrounding lawns and walkways.

I believe that a few years ago, Cranford gassed its geese - why can't that be done in Westfield and elsewhere in New Jer-

Ms. Renna, we don't need "scientific evidence" to get rid of these pests - we need a quick, and not a long-term, solu-

If municipalities do not want to get involved (and they should), let Union County do the job of ridding us of these

> Kitty Branton Westfield

Free

E-File

COMING SOON THIS IS WESTFIELD 38th Annual Edition goleader.com/tiw

Letters to the Editor

Request to State Gov. 'That **NJPIES Be Left Intact'**

Governor Christie has proposed closing the New Jersey Poison Control Center (New Jersey Poison Information Education System) in an effort to decrease spending. I have worked at New Jersey Poison Information Education System (NJPIES) for 12 years and can only wonder what savings will actually be achieved. We are a 24/7 hotline, staffed by nurses, physicians and pharmacists. NJPIES receives approximately 80,000 calls a year from hospitals, pharmacists, school nurses, and, most importantly, the New Jersey public, dealing with poisonings, over-dosing of medications, environmental and medical concerns, and drug information. We are an integral part of the health care team, whether the patient is on life support in intensive care or a child is at home with Rolaids ingestion. We offer recommendations on care and treatment of drug overdoses to hospitals, as well as emotional support, guidance and education to parents. Should this service be eliminated, how will the New Jersey public, particularly the uninsured, be served in a professional and cost effective manner? Without NJPIES as a viable resource, the only recourse left to many New Jersey residents would be to travel, perhaps unnecessarily, to the local emergency rooms, many of which are already overwhelmed and under-funded. Contact your legislators and governor, requesting that NJPIES be left intact.

> Diantha Clark South Plainfield

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Dental Update

by Kenneth W. Arida, D.D.S. Family & Cosmetic Dentistry

CLEANING DENTURES Dentures may be "false teeth," but they

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Local Boy Scouts to Present

Centennial Events Monday

America (BSA) will celebrate its

100th anniversary on Monday, Feb-

ruary 8. To commemorate the centen-

nial, all Cub Scout packs, Boy Scout

troops, Venture Crews and Explorer Posts in Westfield will congregate at

Westfield High School that day for

take place on the high school's front

steps on Dorian Road from 7 to 7:30

p.m. State Senator Tom Kean, Jr.,

Assemblyman Jon Bramnick, Assem-

blywoman Nancy Munoz, Westfield

Councilman Mark Ciarrocca and

Westfield Mayor Andrew Skibitsky

are all expected to attend. The mayor

Preceding and following the event,

attendees will have an opportunity to

view an indoor display of scouting

memorabilia courtesy of the Westfield

Historical Society and the personal

collection of Stan Lipson, and to par-

As part of Scouting's commitment

to service and community, the scouts

also will collect items to make care

packages to send to disaster victims

in Haiti, as well as monetary dona-

tions to cover shipping and aid to

Haiti. Scouts and attendees will work

together to assemble the packages.

the Town of Westfield are very, very

proud of. It has been a labor of love for

"This is an event that the 13 units in

ticipate in scouting activities.

will present a proclamation.

indoor and outdoor festivities. An outdoor lighting ceremony will

WESTFIELD – The Boy Scouts of the leaders of each unit who have met

every week planning this event, and it is

an event that encompasses the meaning

of Scouting and the heritage and tradi-

tions of Scouting: citizenship, community, and service," said Lucia Perpina, coordinator for Westfield's 100th An-

The idea for the Boy Scouts of

America began in 1909, when Will-

iam D. Boyce, an American business-

man, was lost in a London fog. A

young boy found Mr. Boyce and led

him to his destination. Mr. Boyce

offered to tip the young man for his

service, but he refused, saying he was

a scout and could not accept payment

The businessman later asked the

boy to introduce him to Lord Baden-

Powell, the founder of Scouting in

England and publisher of the hand-

book "Scouting for Boys." Mr. Boyce

established the Boy Scouts of America

on February 8, 1910, with the help of

Since its inception, the Boy Scouts

of America has become one of the

nation's premier youth development

organizations, with more than 100

million people participating on adult

and youth levels. For more informa-

tion on how to join Scouting, visit

beascout.org. For more information

on Westfield's 100th Anniversary Cel-

ebration, contact Lucia Perpina at

LPerpina@yahoo.com.

Lord Baden-Powell and others.

for a "good turn."

niversary of Scouting celebration.

Miller-Cory to Celebrate Valentine's Day Sunday

WESTFIELD – All are welcome to celebrate Valentine's Day at the Miller-Cory House Museum this Sunday, February 7, from 2 to 4 p.m. at a program entitled "Children's Valentine Display." The museum is located at 614 Mountain Avenue in Westfield.

The custom of sending Valentine's Day cards to one another was widely practiced in Colonial America. Eventually, an American company decided to expand its line of valentine cards to children, starting a new era in Valentine greetings.

Jean Groszmann of Fanwood will share her collection of children's valentines featuring animals as part of the program. Children also will have an opportunity to make a craft and listen to a valentine story. Light refreshments will be served. Admission is \$2.50 for adults, \$1 for students and free for children under

Upcoming Sunday events at the Miller-Cory House Museum include "The Art of Quilting" on February 21, "Maple Sugar Sunday" on March 7 and "A Spot of Tea – The History of Tea" on March 14.

The museum is available for tours for school groups during the week, as well as for scout troops after school on weekdays. Special programs also may be arranged on site for schools and other community groups. For more information, call the museum office weekday mornings at (908) 232-1776. The museum's e-mail address is millercorymuseum@gmail.com website millercoryhouse.org.

AzureMasada Lodge **To Host Open House**

CRANFORD - AzureMasada Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of New Jersey, located at 478 South Avenue, East, in Cranford, will hold an open house on Monday, February 8, from 6 to 9 p.m. The event will give the public an opportunity to discover the history of Freema-

Visitors will be able to tour the Lodge Building, which has been located at the corner of South Avenue and Thomas Street for nearly 80 years. Members of the Masonic Lodge will be available to answer questions about the Lodge, Masonic origins, regalia and practices, and the organization's community charitable involvement. Light refreshments will be provided. For more information, call (908) 789-0813 or e-mail pad57@comcast.net.

Author to Spotlight Events Behind On the Waterfront

SCOTCH PLAINS - The Scotch Plains Public Library will host a lecture and book signing by James T. Fisher on Wednesday, February 10, at 7:30 p.m. A professor of Theology and American Studies at Fordham University, he will speak about the events he chronicles in his recent book, "On the Irish Waterfront: The Crusader, the Movie, and the Soul of the Port of New York."

Professor Fisher will discuss the real-life stories of the lives lived, the fortunes made and the crime that was rampant on the docks of New York in the century spanning the Civil War through the 1940s. He will recount the hardworking lives of dockworkers, their exploitation by Tammany Hall politicians and mobsters, and the crusading struggle of Father John M. "Pete" Corridan. Jesuit priest and master tactician, to clean up the docks.

His talk will include the backstory to Elia Kazan's groundbreaking 1954 film On the Waterfront, garnered from

his years researching both the New York and Hollywood threads of the tale. The author will answer questions and sign books after his lecture. Books will be available for purchase.

This program is free and open to all. Attendees are encouraged to register online at scotlib.org, by calling (908) 322-5007, extension no. 204, or by e-mailing library@scotlib.org. The library is located at 1927 Bartle Avenue, one block from Park Avenue in the center of the township.

Suburban Vegetarians Plan Valentine Dinner

AREA - Suburban Vegetarians will hold its 10th annual Valentine's Day dinner on Sunday, February 14, from 8 to 11 p.m. at Winberie's Restaurant, located at the corner of Springfield Avenue and Kent Place Boulevard in Summit. People need not be vegetarians to attend. All are welcome. For more information, contact (908) 277-1833 or burbveg@comcast.net

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The Mestfield Leader and The Scotch Plains - Fanwood TIMES

Ms. Sara K. Pankratz and Nicholas J. Bresani

Ms. Sara Kathleen Pankratz To Wed Nicholas J. Bresani

Mr. and Mrs. John Pankratz of Westfield happily have announced the engagement of their daughter, Ms. Sara Kathleen Pankratz, to Nicholas J. Bresani. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Bresani of Southampton.

A 2002 graduate of the Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child in Summit, the bride-to-be graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Villanova University in Villanova, Pa. in 2006. She worked as a NICU nurse for three years at St. Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston.

Ms. Pankratz currently is a full-

Birthday Party on Tap Tomorrow at Temple

WESTFIELD – Temple Emanu-El, located at 756 East Broad Street in Westfield, will begin the celebration of its 60th anniversary this year with a birthday party tomorrow, Friday, February 5, at 7:45 p.m. at the

Following Shabbat Hallelu, a joyous service in song, the temple will hold a birthday party-themed oneg Shabbat with cake and balloons. In the spirit of tzedakah (giving), the temple is asking everyone to bring a new book for children in kindergarten through grade 6 to help the Clinton Elementary School in

For more information, contact Carolyn Shane, executive director, at (908) 232-6770, extension no. 114. or cshane@tewni.org. or visit the temple website: tewnj.org.

time graduate student at Drexel University in Philadelphia, Pa., where she will receive a master's degree in Library and Information Science with a concentration in health care informatics in June of 2010.

The future bridegroom graduated from Woodbury High School in Woodbury in 1999 and from Rutgers University in New Brunswick in 2006 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science. He is a computer engineer for Lockheed Martin Corp. in Mount Laurel and a candidate for a master's degree in Computer Engineering from Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken.

The couple will be married in August of 2010.

Seniors Club to Hold Valentine Luncheon

MOUNTAINSIDE - The Senior Citizen Club of Mountainside will host its annual Valentine's Day luncheon on Friday, February 12, at 12:15 p.m. at the Spanish Tavern restaurant, located on Route 22, East, in Mountainside. The luncheon menu will consist of chicken, fish, beef or paella, soup of the day, coffee, tea, soda, wine and sangria, plus a choice

and \$30 for non-members. Checks should be made payable to the Senior Citizen Club of Mountainside and mailed to: Eve Vitale, 286 Ravenswood, Mountainside, N.J. 07092. For more information, call Eve Vitale at (908) 789-8568. All are welcome.

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of three desserts. The cost is \$26 for club members

GREAT SCOTTIES...Rake and Hoe Garden Club members Faten Mahran, left, Clare Minick, second from right, and Susan D'Arecca, right, present Laura Del Duca, principal of The Jardine Academy, a school for children with multiple disabilities, with a book about Scottie dogs after adorning the Academy's Christmas tree with Scottie dog decorations, candy canes and ribbons. Each year, the club decorates the school's tree and donates a book reflecting the theme of the decorations.

Library Invites Community To 'Fabulously Frugal'

GARWOOD - Professional organizers and home stagers Jean Fitzpatrick and Ann Marie Ryan will present "Fabulously Frugal" on Wednesday, February 10, at 7 p.m. at the Garwood Public Library During this program, they will demonstrate how individuals can add new life to their home by utilizing the "stuff" they already have.

The women will provide organizing tips and ideas on how to create attractive and functional living spaces in one's home while remaining on a budget, and repurposing and re-arranging existing pieces in the home for a whole new look.

Registration is required for this event and may be done by calling the library at (908) 789-1670, signing up in person at the library's circulation desk or registering online at the Garwood Library website's interactive calendar page found at

youseemore.com/garwood. The Garwood Public Library is located at the corner of Third Avenue and Walnut Street, at the back of the Lincoln School complex. Hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Friday and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday. The e-mail address for the library is garwoodlibrary@gmail.com.

Garage Sale to Help **Haiti Relief Efforts**

WESTFIELD - A garage sale will be held as part of the Haiti Earthquake Relief Fundraising Program coordinated by the Hands on Network, a non-profit organization that seeks to inspire, equip and mobilize people to take action that changes the world.

The garage sale will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, February 6 (rain date is Sunday, February 7), at 261 South Scotch Plains Avenue in Westfield. All of the proceeds will go to the Clemenza Foundation, which sends packages and necessities to Haiti.

If interested in donating items for the garage sale, or volunteering to help, call (908) 317-4730 or e-mail jenprincipato@yahoo.com. Items can be dropped off at the sale address.

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Eve. & Sat. Appointments



of Mardi Gras in New Orleans seem

far from a Christian celebration of

God's love for humanity in Jesus

Christ, we can reclaim those reli-

gious roots and enjoy the rich mu-

sical traditions of jazz, gospel and

spirituals that give voice to our

faith," said Willow Grove Pastor

Concurrent childcare and

children's classes will be provided,

but children also will be welcome

to remain in the worship service.

will be invited to stay for a light

brunch featuring the traditional egg

dish, bagels and fruit. Also served

will be King's Cakes, made to honor

the Magi. Each cake will be deco-

rated in the traditional Mardi Gras

colors and will contain a small doll,

symbolizing the baby Jesus. People

search for the baby Jesus in the cake, remembering the three Wise

Men who looked for Jesus after his

birth. Finding the baby Jesus will

If possible, interested persons are

asked to make reservations by

Thursday, February 11, through the

church office at (908) 232-5678 or

e-mail info@willowgrovechurch.org.

The Willow Grove Presbyterian

Church is located at 1961 Raritan

Road in Scotch Plains, opposite

Singer-Songwriter Due

win participants a prize.

After the service, worshippers

Cynthia Cochran-Carney.

Library Friends to Present Love Letters February 14

FANWOOD – The Friends of the Fanwood Memorial Library will sponsor a benefit Valentine's Day presentation of A.R. Gurney's popular Pulitzer Prize-nominated play Love Letters on Sunday, February 14.

There will be two performances, at 1 and 5 p.m. They will take place in the public reception rooms at The Chelsea at Fanwood, located at 295 South Avenue. Ann and Leslie Minski will star as Melissa Gardner and Andrew Makepeace Ladd, III, childhood friends who exchange letters over a lifetime. Through 50 years of correspondence, both what is written and hinted at between the lines, the audience finds out what has kept them together...and apart.

The Minskis have their own theater love story, having met during callbacks for a production of Guys and Dolls. Their meeting has led to a 27year friendship and marriage, daughters Katherine and Elizabeth, and a home for 16 years in Fanwood.

Mrs. Minski has served as co-director of the Fanwood Memorial Library's Summer Drama Club for 11 years and as a library trustee. She is now a fourth-grade teacher at McKinley Elementary School in

WESTFIELD - In honor of Black

History Month, the First Congre-

gational Church's "Cinema Circle"

group will host a screening and

discussion of Meeting David Wil-

son on Thursday, February 11, at 7

p.m. in the church's Coe fellow-

ship room. The church is located at

125 Elmer Street in Westfield. Ad-

mission will be free and the public

A feature-length 2008 documen-

tary, Meeting David Wilson is about

the enduring legacy of slavery in

today's young black society. David

Wilson, a 28-year-old African-

American, travels into his family's

past to find answers about

America's racial divide. Along the

way, he learns of a plantation in

North Carolina where his family

is invited to attend.

Westfield.

Mr. Minski has continued in professional theater, appearing in productions from Maine to New York City to New Orleans. He also has directed various productions locally.

Following each performance, patrons will have an opportunity to meet the Minskis, perhaps win a door prize and enjoy refreshments.

The Friends organization hopes to help fund a growing list of programs, materials, projects and improvements in all aspects of library service.

One program now in development is Museum Pass, a special program jointly sponsored by both the Friends of the Fanwood and Scotch Plains libraries to provide free passes to more than 10 area museums.

Tickets to Love Letters are on sale only at the Fanwood Memorial Library, located at North Avenue and Tillotson Road. The cost is \$15 for members of Friends of the Fanwood and Scotch Plains Libraries and those age 65 and older. General admission is \$18. The play is not suitable for young children and seating is very limited. For more information or to obtain tickets, e-mail fanwoodbooks@gmail.com or call Nancy at (908) 322-6559.

Mr. Wilson discovers that the

owner of the plantation is a 62-

year-old white man, a direct de-

scendant of his family's slave mas-

ter, who also is named David Wil-

son. This discovery leads to a mo-

mentous encounter between these

two men who share a name, but

whose ancestors were on the oppo-

site sides of freedom. The film

touches on many issues such as

slavery and reparation, but is ulti-

mately about reconciliation and

Cinema Circle meets on the sec-

ond Thursday of each month at 7

p.m. to view and discuss movies as

a group. Those who would prefer

can watch the film ahead of time

and arrive later for the discussion.

For more information, call Ed or



hats and headdresses from around the world during a general meeting of the Woman's Club of Westfield at the Masonic Lodge in Westfield. She has a collection of 1,000 hats, representing over 100 countries and an array of cultures, tribes and ethnic groups. Joining her are WCW Program Chairman Jean Murphy, left, and Finance Trustee Marjorie Wieseman. All are wearing collected headpieces.

Lady of Lourdes Announces Chapel Anniversary Event

MOUNTAINSIDE - The parish community of the Our Lady of Lourdes Roman Catholic Church will celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and the 10th anniversary of the church's Perpetual Adoration Chapel on Thurs-

day, February 11, at 7:30 p.m. The chapel first opened on February 11,2000. Adorers visit with the Blessed Sacrament 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Adorers are always present while the Holy Eucharist is exposed. Hundreds of people from within the parish and other parishes devotedly keep their scheduled hour every week, according to the parish. "An hour spent in the chapel is the best spent hour in the week," said Irene Ciccarino, the chapel's coordinator for the past 10 years.

The celebration will take place at the church, located at 300 Central Avenue in Mountainside. All past, present and future adorers and their families are welcome to attend this Celebration of Evening Prayer and Benediction. Bishop Manuel Cruz, Regional Bishop of Union County, will preside. Light refreshments will follow in Pollard Hall. Those interested in attending or seeking more information are asked to call the parish office at (908) 232-1162.

Scheduled adorers are always needed and welcome. Anyone interat (732) 574-0064.

Library Program to Address Starting One's Own Business

WESTFIELD - Individuals interested in starting their own business with little or no money can learn how to do so on Wednesday, February 10, at 7 p.m. at the Westfield Memorial Library. The library is located at 550 East Broad Street.

A representative from the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) will present a 90-minute program designed to debunk the myth that businesses can only be started with a great deal of money.

Buck Buchanan, a veteran SCORE counselor who has started two successful businesses, will discuss the characteristics of people who succeed in business compared to the characteristics of those who fail. He also will discuss the five steps absolutely necessary for success and how successful companies differ from unsuccessful companies.

SCORE is a non-profit association dedicated to educating entrepreneurs and to the formation, growth and success of small business nationwide. It also is a resource partner with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). This program is open to Westfield Memorial Library and MURAL cardholders. To register, visit wmlnj.org and click on Online Calendar, or call (908) 789-4090, extension no. 4140.

St. John the Apostle **Posts Healing Mass**

AREA - A Healing Mass will take place on Wednesday, February 10, at 7:45 p.m. at St. John the Apostle Roman Catholic Church, located at 1805 Penbrook Terrace in Clark/Linden (on Valley Road in Clark, off Stiles Street in Linden).

All who are in need of physical, emotional, relational and spiritual healing are invited. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Individual Eucharistic Blessing and Benediction will be included. Refreshments will follow Benediction. For directions to the church, access signinet or call (908) 486-6363.

ested in volunteering an hour a week as a regularly scheduled adorer, including sharing an hour with a partner, is invited to call Irene Ciccarino

the Scotch Plains Southside trip coordinator, will discuss trips being planned for 2010. During Firehouse and near the corner of the meeting, members will be ad-South Martine Avenue. All of its vised about club by-laws, and a facilities are handicap-accessible. discussion will follow.

Thursday, February 4, 2010

SCOTCH PLAINS - On Sunday,

February 14, the Willow Grove

Presbyterian Church will hold its

fourth annual Mardi Gras Jazz

Worship Service and Brunch be-

ginning at 10 a.m. at the church. The community is invited to at-

This year's event will feature the

Dixie Mix Jazz Band, which has

been performing since 1995

throughout Central New Jersey,

New York and Pennsylvania. The

quintet consists of Hank D'Angelo

of Woodbridge on tenor sax, Rod

Anderson of Princeton on clarinet,

Doug Rollender (director) of

Bridgewater on trombone, David

Grego of Hoboken on tuba and Wil-

low Grove Church's Director of

Music Paul DiDario of South

"Although the current traditions

Seniors to Meet Today

At Garwood Firehouse

of the Garwood Senior Citizens

Club will be held at noon today,

Thursday, February 4, at the

Garwood Firehouse on South Av-

After welcoming all members,

the club president will call for com-

mittee reports. Walter Maszczak,

Continuing activities for

Garwood senior citizens include

Roman Catholic Church Hall.

11, at 10 a.m. at the firehouse.

Individuals must pre-register five

days ahead by calling Rosemary at

(908) 272-1705. A ceramics class

will be held on Thursday, February

25, from 10 to 11 a.m. at the

firehouse. Participants must pre-

register five days in advance by calling (908) 276-1090.

Birthdays celebrated during

January included those of Walter

Maszczak, Madeline Pevarnik, Ann

Romano, Jack Washleski and Sonia

Washleski. February birthday cel-

ebrants are Dolores Cielinski, Flo-

GARWOOD - The next meeting

Plainfield on piano.

Willow Grove Welcomes All

To Mardi Gras Jazz Service

At Library February 9 line dancing at the firehouse on MOUNTAINSIDE - The Mondays from 9 to 10 a.m., bowl-Mountainside Public Library will ing on Tuesdays at 1 p.m. at Garwood Lanes and an exercise host acoustic guitarist Kenny class from 9 to 10 a.m. at St. Anne's Cunningham in a free concert on Tuesday, February 9, from 7:30 to Additionally, a craft class will take place on Thursday, February 8:30 p.m.

Originally from Liverpool, England, Mr. Cunningham is a singersongwriter who covers songs from the 1960s and 1970s and also performs original music. Attendees are expected to hear the influence of various artists in his repertoire, ranging from The Beatles to Simon and Garfunkel.

Admission is free but space is limited, so interested persons are asked to call the library at (908) 233-0115 to reserve a seat. The Mountainside Public Library is located on Constitution Plaza. For more information about the library and its programs, mountainsidelibrary.org.

ORNATE HEADPIECES...Stacey Miller, center, recently presented a program on

Debbie Saridaki at (908) 889-4719. **Forum on Housing Solutions** To Take Place This Sunday SCOTCH PLAINS – A program education and advocacy. This minentitled "Housing Solutions, Preventing Foreclosures: Know Your Rights and Options" will take place this Sunday, February 7, at the Wilfrom anywhere in New Jersey. The Adult Forum will begin at

healing.

FCC Group Plans Screening

Of Meeting David Wilson

low Grove Presbyterian Church. Patrice Simms, a housing counselor with the Central Jersey Community Development Corporation's Housing Assistance Recovery Program (HARP), will lead a discussion on what New Jersey families facing foreclosure can do. This in-

formational session is designed to make people aware of their options in case they or people close to them find themselves in foreclosure. HARP's mission is to rebuild communities by finding permanent solutions that stabilize neighbor-

hoods through prevention, housing

assistance and recovery, financial

istry of the First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens, based in Somerset, is available to families

11:30 a.m., following the 10 a.m. worship service. Childcare and children's programs will be available. For more information, call the church office Monday through Friday at (908) 232-5678, send an e-

info@willowgrovechurch.org or visit the church website, willowgrovechurch.org.

The Willow Grove Presbyterian Church is located at 1961 Raritan Road in Scotch Plains, across from the Scotch Plains Southside Firehouse and near the corner of South Martine Avenue.

Social Security Seminar to Be Held

Wells Fargo Advisors and Stewart Ritter will present an Educational seminar on Social Security. Stewart A. Ritter, Senior Vice President -Investments for the Westfield office of Wells Fargo Advisor will host a complimentary, informational seminar on Social Security.
The guest speaker will be Jack Root,

Regional Vice President of Prudential Annuities. The presentation will be held Tuesday, February 9, at 7 p.m. at The Westwood in Garwood. Refreshments will be served. Stewart A. Ritter is Senior Vice

President - Investments with Wells Fargo Advisors in Westfield, New Jersey. He also conducts investment presentations for local civic groups, clubs, and organizations.

The Social Security seminar is free, but space is limited! For your complimentary tickets, please call Stewart Ritter's office at Wells Fargo Advisors in Westfield, at (908) 789-

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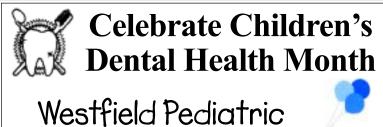
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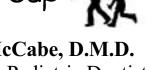
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EEK IN SPORTS

Sports Section Pages 9-12

DEVILS, RAIDER BOYS, GIRLS BREAK MEET RECORDS

Blue Devil Boys, Girls Sweep **Union County Swim Tourney**

Westfield vs. Scotch Plains-Fanwood (SP-F)! Does the sport even matter? When the two teams get together, whether it's on a field, a pitch, a court, a diamond, a track, a course or a pool, sparks are going to fly.

And so it was again on January 30, when the schools' swim teams joined the rest of the county for the Union County Swimming Championships at Rutgers' fast-as-heck pool. When the smoke had cleared, two things were very obvious: 1) Westfield had again swept the team titles, giving the girls 18 in-a-row and the boys 11 straight (53 out of 54), and 2) SP-F is going to be a very difficult team for any team to beat in the state tournament later this month, especially its boys team.

The girls meet was first, and no less than seven meet records fell, with SP-F starting the record-smashing with

Caitlin English, Kelsey Rossi, Becca Dunn and Hannah Markey hitting the pads in 1:52.19 to win the medley relay. It would be the Raiders' lone first place, although senior Rossi had a couple of strong swims, a 54.36 in the 100-free for fourth, and a 1:07.22 in the 100-breast, which bettered the meet record but was second to Governor Livingston's Abby Pires.

Both freestyle relay marks fell. New Providence won the 200-free relay in 1:38.25, just ahead of Westfield's Anna Fetter, Emily Budnick, Meredith Smith and Suzanne Lemberg, whose second place 1:39.25 was a school record.

And the Westfield High School (WHS) girls brought down the house in the final event, with Becky DeLaFuente, Fetter, Smith and Lemberg clocking 3:34.86, a school record, six seconds faster than the old meet record, and one of the fastest times in state history

DeLaFuente rebroke her school record in the 100-fly with a 58.41, although touched out by a New Providence freshman, then won the 500free in a lifetime best 5:07.83 and did another lifetime best 54.25 leading off the last relay. Fetter had a crazyfast day, going 2:12.59 in the 200 IM (a three-second drop) and 1:00.38 in the fly, both lifetime bests, and swimming on both free relays. Lemberg had four season-best swims, and Smith had three, with her 200 just a fraction from her best.

But all the performances contributed to WHS's 418 points (SP-F had 354 for second). Emily Budnick had best times, and so did Jess Cronin, Kelsey Wilson, Meg Kavaney (a foursecond drop in the 100 breast) and Meg Myers, whose three-second drop in the breast got her onto the Top 15

"It was just about the individual CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



Blue Devils Nab 500th Career Mat Victory - See next page

WORKING ON AN ESCAPE...Blue Devil Erik Gozdieski, pictured front, attempts to escape the grasp of Cougar Connor Londregan in the 152-lb bout on January 29. Gozdieski won, 6-3.

SLIFER, HENRY PIN; CLINE WINS MAJOR DECISION

Cougar Matmen Hold Down Westfield Blue Devils, 42-22

By DAVID B. CORBIN

Many key match-ups had to go its way if the Westfield High School wrestling team wanted to pull a mild upset over the strong Cranford Cougars in Westfield on January 29. Both teams' head coaches juggled their bouts like a chess match, and in the end, the 12-4 Cougars came up with a 42-22 victory.

The Cougars were awarded forfeits in the first and final scheduled weight classes with heavyweight Joe Brady and Julian Campo at 215 lbs, respectively, but the 3-7 Blue Devils won the first head-to-head bout when Austin Slifer converted a slick duckunder takedown to a half nelson to pin

Diego Castro in 1:47 at 103 lbs. The big upset of the evening came in the next bout at 112 lbs. Blue Devil Mike Kalimtzis, who had just became the Union County Tournament (UCT) 103-lb champion, scored a double-leg, spin-around takedown on Mike Helmstetter, who then escaped and added an alert lateral drop takedown with three seconds left in the first period. Helmstetter gained three points with a Saturday Night Ride nearfall, but Kalimtzis escaped and added a duck-under takedown. In the third period, Kalimtzis dropped under for a double-leg takedown attempt, but Helmstetter hipped forward with a walkover to a front double

grapevine pin in 4:13. You got to give that kid credit.

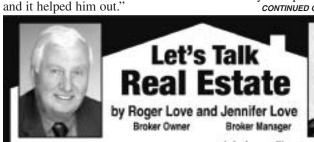
Probitas Verus Honos

Mike didn't clear his arm on his shot, and he took advantage," Blue Devil Head Coach Glen Kurz said.

"People don't know about Mike, because he is behind Ian (Henry) and Joe (Giaccio) in the lineup. He's like our best-kept secret. Maybe after this, people will know who he is," Cougar Head Coach Darren Torsone said. "He is a smart wrestler. He's great with his hips. In that match, he used his hips two times in key moments,

Leading 4-0, Cougar Ian Henry hit Anthony Aldana with a barrel roll takedown and added a Jimmy John nearfall to grab a 9-1, majority decision at 119 lbs.

The next key bout arrived when Cougar Joe Giaccio, the UCT 112-lb champ, jumped up to 125 lbs to meet Troy Skibitsky. Giaccio scored a lowsingle takedown and an escape to carry a 3-0 lead into the third period. Skibitsky escaped and attempted a CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



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GOING UP FOR THE JUMP SHOT...Blue Devil Charlotte Lorentzen, right, takes a jump shot in the game against Plainfield on January 28 in Westfield. Lorentzen finished with five points, four rebounds and an assist.

VENEZIA NETS 19 PTS, MARKOWSKI 6 ASSTS, 4 STEALS

Lady Blue Devils De-feather Cardinal Basketballers, 46-31

By DAVID B. CORBIN

Shooting percentage may have taken a nosedive in the first and second quarters, however the Westfield High School girls basketball team still dominated the Plainfield Lady Cardinals throughout en route to a 46-31 victory

in Westfield on January 28. The 6-7 Lady Blue Devils controlled the boards in the first quarter and had many opportunities to score from close range and blow the game wide open, but the shots were not falling. The Blue Devils did, however, win the

Markowski, who finished with nine points, including a 3-pointer, led the mini charge with four points.

"We recognized the first couple of minutes that we really needed to step it up in the second quarter. We kind of bounced out of it," Markowski said. "Maybe it was because we were practicing guarding number 2 [senior guard Chanel Johnson], who is their main player, but she ended up not playing. I don't want to give that as an excuse, but we picked it up in the

may have lowered the bar mentally for the Blue Devils.

"It could! It's good that we realized then to pick up our game and don't let our level to go down," Markowski said.

"That could have been a possibility, but we were just not making our shots. We missed a lot of easy shots inside. We didn't play up to par. That's for sure! It was almost like they let their guard down today," Blue Devil Head Coach Joe Marino said. "They did not have the fire they usually do

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

second quarter." when they come out." Perhaps the absence of Johnson, Markowski, who led her team with quarter, 10-5, and senior guard Amanda the Cardinals' most athletic player, OLDWELL BA

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One decade. Ten years. That's how

When the 1999 season ended, this

long it's been since the WHS boys

swim team came back from the brink.

is where things stood: the 42-year

reign as county champs was over, ended by archrival SP-F, which had

also won the last four dual meets

against WHS; and the Devils hadn't

And then, to top it off, on Dec. 21,

1999, Shawnee's powerhouse team

came north and handed WHS a 116-

54 loss, the worst dunking in school

history. After that meet, the Westfield

coach had stood on the lane 1 starting

block and told his beleaguered club,

"Next time we see them, in state

Eight weeks later, everything had,

indeed, turned completely around. The

county meet of 2000, which could have been a second straight loss to

another SP-F powerhouse, turned into

a 64-point blowout (despite WHS win-

ning just one event). The Devils went

on to end the season with a 10-meet

win streak. Included was a 105-65 rout

of SP-F in the sectional final, an 86-84

victory over Bridgewater in the state

semifinals, and an 89½-80½ victory in

the state final over Cherry Hill East,

which had upset Shawnee in the South

Jersey final. Those last two victories,

against teams that were clearly supe-

rior in talent, propelled the WHS boys

to six state titles (with two state run-

ner-up finishes and two heartbreaking

sectional final losses) in the next 10

years, its best decade since the legend-

ary teams of the 1960s won 10 in a row.

different if the 2000 team hadn't done

a complete 180 in January and Febru-

ary. It was a team that didn't have

superior talent but definitely was at

the top in one key, often unrecog-

Westfield Matmen Top

SPF Raiders, 42-33

tling team defeated Scotch Plains-

Fanwood High School, 42-33, in

BOUT SEQUENCE: 103: — Mike Kalimtzis (W) p Lucas

112: — Dan Cardoza (S) p Pat Currie, 1:46 119: — Devin Ausbon (S) p Anthony

Aldana, 1:45 125: — Tristan Bundy (S) p Keith

130: — Troy Skibitsky (W) p Dion Natale,

135: — Ryan Jennings (W) p Dom Pigna,

140: - Mike Steinfield (S) d Ellis Opoku,

145: — Christian Barber (W) md Josh

152: — Brian Henry (W) tf Luke Vuono,

15-0, 5:13 160: — Chris Tomasso (W) md John

Devia, 10-1

171: — Bill Kim (W) won forfeit

189: — Kieran Cline (W) p Jack
Bouchakian, 1:45

215: — Andrew Jacobs (S) p Tom

Hwt: — Anthony Tufaro (S) won forfeit

Elizabeth on January 30.

Cinafonte, :35

Peterson, :58

Foote, 15-5

The Westfield High School wres-

When the captains were voted on

nized category: senior leadership.

How much of that would have been

finals, we will kick their (tails)."

won a state title in three years.



For What It's Worth, It Was Worth All the While

By BRUCE JOHNSON

Devil of the Week Troy Skibitsky Wrestling



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times FROM PAL PALS TO COACHES...Linden Head Coach Anthony Reinoso, pictured left, congratulates Glen Kurz on his 100th win as the Blue Devils' Head Coach after Westfield defeated Elizabeth, 45-22, on January 30. The two friends have known each other since their PAL youth wrestling days.

KURZ WINS 100TH AS HEAD COACH

Blue Devils Grab 500th Varsity Mat Triumph

By DAVID B. CORBIN

Westfield High School (WHS) wrestling history was tapped twice when the Blue Devils defeated Elizabeth, 45-22, in the first match of a quad meet in Elizabeth on January 30. The victory made it the 500th win for the program, and Glen Kurz recorded his 100th career victory as the Blue Devils' Head Coach.

After the final bout with the Minutemen, a crowd of Blue Devils fans, which included Westfield Mayor Andy Skibitsky, raised numerical balloons indicating the numbers 500

The match with the Minutemen began at the 215-lb class where Jeremy Portillo nipped Blue Devil Tom Snyder, 3-2. The Minutemen took a 9-0, team lead when Carlos Cardenas pinned Kyle Kania in 1:59, but Mike Kalimtzis got the Blue Devils on the scoreboard with a 1:19 pin over James Thevenin with an arm bar. At 112 lbs, Blue Devil Pat Currie caught Carlos Herrera in a reverse cradle then switched to a half nelson to pin him in

At 119 lbs, Blue Devil Anthony Aldana got taken down in overtime by Mateo Perez to lose, 8-6, but the Blue Devils took an 18-12 team lead when Troy Skibitsky pinned his opponent in 43 seconds with a stack arm bar. Minuteman Ralph Stadler knotted the score when he pinned Kevin Cascillo in 2:33.

Blue Devil Ryan Jennings claimed a 3-1 victory over Jah Guillermo at 135 lbs, and Christian Barber used an arm bar to settle Jose Arias in 3:08 at 140 lbs. Brian Henry head-smothered George Travinsky in 3:45 at 145 lbs to up Westfield's lead to 33-18 then at 152-lbs Erik Gozdieski clinched the match when he earned a

12-5 decision over Erick Ventura. Blue Devil Chris Tomasso added

Rabatin at 160 lbs. Sophomore Kieran Cline threw another cushion onto the pile with a 10-6 victory over Ezekiel . Villafana at 171 lbs. Billy Kim jumped up to 189 lbs to face Minuteman Maurice McCullers, who placed second in the county at that weight, but he became the victim of an 8-0, majority decision.

After the victory, Linden Tiger Head Coach Anthony Reinoso came over to congratulate coach Kurz on his 100th victory. The two have been friends since their PAL youth wres-

The Blue Devils went on to defeat Scotch Plains-Fanwood, 42-33, and Linden, 39-30, to up their season record to 6-7.

WF Blue Devils Top Linden Tigers, 39-27

The Westfield High School wrestling team defeated the Linden Tigers, 39-30*, during a quad match in Elizabeth on January 30. Blue Devil Erik Gozdieski fought off a shoulder injury to pin Danny Castro in overtime at 160 lbs. *(According to the printout, Linden had 30 team points.)

BOUT SEQUENCE: Hwt: — Austin Frank (L) won forfeit 103: — Mike Kalimtzis (W) won forfeit 112: — Dan Tibere (L) d Pat Currie, 5-3 119: — Adrian Betancourt (L) p Anthony Aldana 2:21 thony Aldana, 3:21

Dorsely, :48 130: — Troy Skibitsky (W) p Lamar Coo-Felipe Ramerez (L) d Ryan

- Keith Peterson (W) p Steve

Jennings, 9-7 140: — Ellis Opoku (W) d Carl Holley, 5-0 145: — Christian Barber (W) p Mosa

- Travis Foster (L) p Brian Henry, 160: — Gozdieski (W) p Castro, 7:09 OT 171: — Bill Kim (W) p Rob Clark, 3:07 189: — Nick Currea (L) d Kieran Cline, 8-2 215: — Keron Smith (L) d Tom Snyder,

the year before announced the year before, it was one of the toughest votes in a while. There were seven key returning seniors: Matt Cahill, Chris Driscoll, Ray Encarnacion, Scott Kautzmann, Paul Kolterjahn, Kyle McCloskey and Turner Yevich. Some were very talented, some very loud, all potentially good captains. The team voted for Cahill, Kautzmann and McCloskey, the three quietest members. If you attended practice, you saw every senior in the water every day, even the club swimmers.

They were possessed. Kolterjahn became a legend for his miraculous 500 victory in the semifinal upset of Bridgewater. Kautzmann won the sprint freestyles in the state final against sprint-heavy Cherry Hill East. Driscoll, McCloskey and Yevich had many clutch swims in that final week, while Encarnacion had a great 100 back in the state final.

But the guy who quietly made the team a success was Matt Cahill. Some people had wondered if he was a good choice as captain. But when his senior year came around, Cahill became a clone of Steve Kapucinski and Tim Romano, the captains in 1997, his freshman year.

"Remember those guys as freshmen," Cahill's mom Cathy said last week. "They had to be the worst looking, least talented freshmen in school history. And four years later, they were outstanding young men. It was an amazing transformation."

Cahill had starting improving as a junior and his senior year was thrown into the breach, anchoring key relays, swimming important 50 and 100 freestyles, occasionally a 100 breaststroke. And, amazingly, his times really started to improve. In practice he became a workaholic, getting out of the pool daily with his face turned various shades of purple from the

In state finals, with members of the SP-F and Bridgewater teams cheering them on in the stands, WHS rose to the occasion. Cahill finished third in the 50 free, swam on the second

Online Cougar Exclusive; Union County Wrestling:

For Cranford High School sports, check out the Online Exclusive Cougar pages at - www.goleader.com -Go to bottom of main page – Click Cougar Pages. Union County Wrestling results will be on the following page.

Online Exclusive Cougar pages can also be accessed by clicking

Additional photos of events covered by Dave Corbin and Fred Lecomte can be seen by clicking "photo library" on upper right then click "photos" on top. Scroll to appropriate list.

place sprint relay and then was involved in one of the wildest finishes ever. Going into the final event, WHS had a 79½-76½ lead, and could win the meet with either a first place (unlikely, since CH East had the state's fastest time coming in, and it was 10 seconds faster than WHS's best) or by going 2-3. Swimming on one relay was fresh-

man Zack Coppa, Yevich, McCloskey and Kautzmann. The other relay had freshman Sean Baran, Devin Power, Kolterjahn and ... Cahill, whose lifetime best 100 at that point was a 56. All the WHS swimmers dropped

times, CH East had "off" swims and a shocking 1-3 finish (nearly a 1-2) by the Devils gave them the hard-toimagine championship. And, perhaps fittingly, the three fastest splits on the A and B relays were Kautzmann (51.01), McCloskey (51.22) and Cahill (51.83), the three captains.

The video of that meet is played more at my house than Citizen Kane $or Apocalypse \, Now \, or \, Animal \, House.$ It's really hard not to wonder what might've happened to the state's No. 1 public school swimming program if that 2000 team hadn't rebounded from the string of setbacks over the previous year and produced that amazing turnaround season.

And I've thought about it a lot more since last Friday night, when the word spread over e-mails, Facebook and phone calls that Matt Cahill had passed away in California earlier that day, on his 28th birthday. During that magical 2000 season, one song had played constantly on the car CD player of Matt's coach. Again last weekend the coach couldn't stop playing the haunting Green Day song. It reminded me of Matt, my man:

Another turning point, a fork stuck in the road Time grabs you by the wrist, directs you where to go So make the best of this test, and don't ask why It's not a question, but a lesson learned in time

It's something unpredictable, but in the end it's right. I hope you had the time of your life. So take the photographs, and still frames in your mind Hang it on a shelf in good health and good time Tattoos of memories and dead skin on trial For what it's worth it was worth all the while

It's something unpredictable, but in the end it's right. I hope you had the time of your life.

MEMORABLE DAY

When the first WHS wrestling team took the mat at Roosevelt Junior High School for its first practice under coach Harper Adams in December 1939, the big story in that week's *The* Westfield Leader was about Capt. Frank Doetterl coming out of retirement to score six goals and lead the Westfield Polo Club to an 18-12 victory over the Ramapo Polo Club at the Armory (Westfield led 11-5 after two chukkers, by the way.)

The Jan. 11, 1940 issue of The Leader reported that "about 40 boys were bouncing around" on the team's new wrestling mat - which weighed 1,000 pounds and was 20 feet square. Interest in the team was called "high."

Although they were a club team and only wrestled two dual meets,

Westfield was the host school for the "regional qualifier" (i.e., District 3) tournament at Roosevelt's old gym behind the auditorium stage. Westfield finished fourth out of five schools, with George Breitfeller (115), Roger Cornell (135), Bob Hohenstein (145), Bert Silberg (155) and Irv Hartvigsen (165) competing. Other team members were: Harry Johnson (95), Russ Briant (105), Bill Gutknecht (125), Bob Peden (135), Bill Willoughby (145), Ted Conover (175) and heavyweight Tom Mannino.

The sport became varsity the following year, but struggled in the dual meet season with losses to Roselle Park, Somerville, Washington (twice), Regional (Dayton), Union and Bound Brook. The lineup: Schuyler Livingston (95), Johnson (105), Breitfeller (115), Walt Nichols (125), Angelo Bavosa (135), Hohenstein (145), Bob Lowe (155), Tom Wyckoff (165), Bob Allen (175) and Conover at heavyweight. Wrestling in two matches that year was Gene Hohenstein, who went on to become an outstanding doctor.

(For those who were wondering, the first varsity individual win was by Johnson and the first pin by Bob Hohenstein, both against Somerville.)

The program was dropped the following year, mostly because of World War II. Adams enlisted into the service and there were government-enforced restrictions on money and travel. Wrestling didn't return at WHS until 1957-58, when Gary Kehler brought it back as a club team. The next year it went varsity and picked up its first win on Dec. 19, 1958 when it downed Cranford 22-19. The tiny one-column headline in The Leader said "HS Wrestlers Win Opener." WHS's winning wrestlers that night were Charlie Wistar (pin), captain Jack Fish, Dennis Powers, Dave Zaparanick, Bob Maltbie and Dave Martin (pin), with heavyweight Gene Barron earning a meetclinching 2-2 draw.

The regular lineup that year was: Ken Simms (98-106), Doug Wight (98), Wister (106), Fish (115), Bill Phelps (123), Powers (130), Ron Viglianti and Mike Petrucione (136), Zaparnick (141), Bob Mueller (148), Rich Bales (157), Gerry Luebeck and Maltbie (168), Martin (178) and Barron.

Now, more than 50 years from those timid beginnings, WHS is celebrating the 500th win in school history (and also the 100th win for coach Glen Kurz), picked up last Saturday during a quad meet sweep of Elizabeth, Linden and SP-F. Only around two dozen schools in state history have reached that total.

DEVIL OF THE WEEK

This week's winner of a free sub from Westfield Subs (261 South Avenue East) is Troy Skibitsky. The sophomore wrestler had three pins as WHS swept a quad meet, including the 500th win in school history, and the 100th for coach Glen Kurz.

The Devil's Den appears Thursday in The Westfield Leader during the school year. Contact me with comments, complaints and suggestions at bi1019@aol.com. Win or not, **WHS4EVR!**

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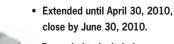
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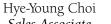
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TUFARO PINS SCHIELKE, BUNDY CRADLES McELROY

No. 7 Brearley Bears Defeat SP-F Raider Matmen, 67-12

By DAVID B. CORBIN

Written for The Westfield Leader and

Raider Head Coach John Scholz knew what to expect when the seventh-ranked Brearley Bears wrestling team lumbered into Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School on January 27.

"It's one of those matches, we are realists, if we can put up a couple of points on the board. I told every single kid I wanted them to wrestle tough, go aggressively, just like we have been," coach Scholz said. "We won three in a row. We are doing a great job gelling as a team. The kids are working really hard in practice. I wanted them to go out there, bang heads, try to get a score if you can, get a takedown, get an escape. Work something that is going to be a positive going into our next matches in the future on Friday and our quad (matches) on the weekend. That's what we will focus on."

With six champions, three secondplace finishers and one fourth-place finisher at the Union County Tournament (UCT), the Bears, who have won five straight UCT titles, had few weak spots and proved it with a 67-12

Two Raiders emerged with victories. The first was freshman Anthony Tufaro, who broke a scoreless tie in his heavyweight bout with Rob Schielke by scoring an escape and finishing with a takedown to a headlock to record a fall in 5:22. Schielke did injure his left ankle but opted to

complete the bout. "I don't think they expected Tufaro to beat Schielke," coach Scholz said. "He got hurt, but still, if the coach is going to keep him out there, you got to take advantage of it, and he did. Tufaro is a freshman. He's a tough

kid. He's learning and he is strong."
An expected victory came from Raider senior Tristan Bundy, the 125lb. UCT champion. In his bout with Nick McElroy, he began with a spinaround takedown and ended it in 1:22 with a cradle.

"Tristan! What can I say? He took care of things. Being a county champ, I am really proud of him. He's on his way to get 100 (wins)," coach Scholz

At 103 lbs., Brearley's Dylan Oliva recorded four takedowns and an escape to claim a 9-1, majority decision over Lucas Cimafonte. Anthony

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#1 Realtor Coldwell Banker's Westfield office ~ Buyer Controlled Sales 2007 & 2008 #2 REALTOR COLDWELL BANKER'S WESTFIELD OFFICE ~ OVERALL PRODUCTION 2007 & 2008

4 BURGESS COURT, WESTFIELD

New stately Colonial built in 2005 boasts 5 Bedrooms and 5.5 baths on a quiet Westfield cul-de-sac. This fine home boasts endless upgrades including a cherry Kitchen with center island, hardwood floors accented by walnut inlay, first floor Office, Second floor laundry, finished basement with Offered for \$1,399,000 Recreation Room, Playroom, wet bar and wine cellar.



651 SHADOWLAWN DRIVE, WESTFIELD

Prestigious Shadowlawn Drive is the backdrop for this magnificent 5BR Tudor built in 1928 with exceptional craftsmanship and architectural integrity. Archways, original ceiling & wall beams, leaded glass & dentil molding add to the distinctive style of this home. **Offered for \$949,000**



527 WYCHWOOD ROAD, WESTFIELD

This impeccably maintained, quaint Colonial in the charming Wychwood section boasts a newer EIK with granite counters and separate dining area, adjacent Family Room with vaulted ceiling, Formal Dining and Living Room w/fireplace, hardwood floors, central air, 2 car attached garage and a deck overlooking serene setting of the professionally landscaped, private rear yard.

Offered for \$869,000



255 MUNSEE WAY, WESTFIELD

One of the original Indian Forest Gems has been held off the market for one third of a century & now awaits a most discerning buyer! This extensively renovated 11 room Georgian Colonial may not again be available in your lifetime. Quality craftsmanship and exquisite appointments abound in this exceptional Westfield residence beautifully combining classic charm with modern convenience Offered for \$2,750,000 and luxury.

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Westfield Icemen Hit Stride With 3-Game Win Streak

The Westfield High School hockey team improved its record to 12-4-2 with three wins in a row against nonconference opponents last week. The winning streak capped a strong month for the Blue Devils, who won eight of 11 games during January, giving the team momentum heading into the final two weeks of the regular season.

The highlight of the streak was a 5-4, come-from-behind win over 14th ranked Hopewell Valley Bulldogs on January 28 at Woodbridge Arena. Westfield followed with a 4-2 comefrom-behind win over Mountain Lakes on January 31 after launching its winning streak with a 5-3 win over Park Regional on January 26.

The Blue Devils actually came from behind three times to defeat the Bulldogs. After Gabe DeLisa staked Hopewell to an early lead, Westfield junior forward Nick Attanasio countered on a pass from linemate Henry O'Brien to knot the score at 1-1. Two Hopewell tallies in the middle of the first period put Westfield on its heels, but a shrewd timeout by Head Coach Dennis Doherty allowed the Blue Devils began to regain their momentum.

O'Brien cut the lead to 3-2 early in the second period on a pass from senior defenseman Dylan Moran. Early in the third period, freshman Jon Macik crashed the net picking up senior Matt Wronski's rebound to tie the game. After Hopewell regained the lead with five minutes remaining, freshman Sam Meyer tipped in a pass from Joe Kramkowski to tie the score, setting the stage for Attansio's game winning goal off a pass from junior CJ Meyer with 2:48 remaining. The final few minutes provided some scintillating action, with Morgan Bungerz making sterling saves and defensemen Moran and Kramkowski steadfastly protecting the lead.

Westfield scored three unanswered goals in the third period to erase a 2deficit against Mountain Lakes. Wronski stole the puck in the neutral zone and fired a shot to the top corner of the net with 5:06 remaining for the game winner. O'Brien notched an insurance market with just over two minutes to play on a pass from Attansio. Bungerz and the Westfield defense withstood a flurry of pressure in the final minute. CJ Meyer started the third-period rally with an unassisted tally taking advantage of a turnover created by O'Brien's tenacious forechecking. Sam Meyer had the other goal assisted by Macik at 10:01 of the second period

Against Park Regional, Westfield struck first on a goal by Attanasio off a feed from senior defenseman Kramkowski. Less than a minute later, junior defenseman Colin Fitzhenry fed junior CJ Meyer, creating a 2-on-

1, which was finished by Henry O'Brien. Westfield carried the play for most of the opening period, with solid scoring chances from sophomores Oliver Bevan and Matt Lee

Attanasio picked up his second goal on passes from CJ Meyer and O'Brien before the Blue Devils took a commanding 4-0 lead as CJ Meyer scored on a rebound, assisted by Attanasio and freshman defenseman Liam Devin. CJ Meyer rounded out the scoring with 23 seconds remaining and finished as the game's top scorer with two goals and two assists. Bungerz stopped 23 shots, while carrying a shutout into the middle of the third period.

point in a 6-0 Westfield win over the Dayton Bulldogs on January 17.

CJ Meyer scored his 100th career

to claim an 11-1, majority decision over John Devia at 160 lbs. Anthony Tancs pinned Raider Brian Laspe with an under-half nelson in 1:58 at 171 and senior Zander Maslow. 2:49 at 189 lbs.

lbs. Bear Greg Rice stopped Raider Jon Boucharkian with an arm bar in **BOUT SEQUENCE:** - Khusen Taramov (B) won forfeit - Tufaro (S) p Shielke, 5:22 103: — Oliva (B) md Cimafonte, 9-1 112: — Madonia (B) p Cardoza, 1:39 119: — Rice (B) p Ausbon, :22

Madonia hit a double-leg takedown

and followed with a Turk to a half

nelson to pin Raider Danny Cardoza in 1:39 at 112 lbs. UCT champ An-

thony Rice used a front double-arm

bar to stop Raider Devin Ausbon in

Record Correction:

In the January 28 Edition of The

Leader and The Times story of the

Union County Wrestling Tourna-

ment, it had been indicated that

Tristan Bundy's record entering the 2009-2010 season was 71-32.

It was found that Bundy's three-

year varsity record was actually

75-32, which puts his career vic-

tory record at 92 wins with his 17-

1 record after the Brearley match.

Andrew Scarillo pinned Raider

Dion Natale in 1:40 with a pull back

cradle at 130 lbs. At 135 lbs., Allen

Phillips converted a hammerlock to

an arm bar to pin Vic Zanowicz in

3:13. UCT champ Dan Ries cradled

Raider Mike Steinfeld in 27 sec-

onds at 140 lbs. UCT champ Devin

Geoghegan stopped Josh Foote in 5:10 with an arm bar, half nelson at

145 lbs. Bear John Balboni tallied a series of takedowns and tilts to tech Luke Vuono, 17-2, in 4:18 at 152

UCT champ Dillon Geoghegan used barrel rolls, a single-leg

takedown and a fireman's takedown

22 seconds at 119 lbs.

119: — Rice (B) p Ausbon, :22 125: — Bundy (S) p McElroy, 1:22 130: — Scarillo (B) p Natale, 1:40 135: — Phillips (B) p Zanowicz, 3:13 140: — Ries (B) p Steinfeld, :27 145: — Geoghegan (B) p Foote, 5:10 152: — Balboni (B) tf Vuono, 17-2, 4:18

160: — Gorghegan (B) md Devia, 11-1 171: — Tancs (B) p Laspe, 1:58 189: — Rice (B) p Boucharkian, 2:49 DLDWELL

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Business 908.233.5555 209 Central Avenue, Westfield, NJ 07090



ence Budnick for The Westfield Leader and The Times UNION COUNTY CHAMPIONS...The Westfield Blue Devil swim girls assemble after capturing the Union County Championship at Rutgers University Campus in Piscataway on January 30.

Blue Devil Boys, Girls Sweep UC Swim Tourney

superstars," third-year coach Brooke Smith said. "Sure, the top kids all swam some great times, but it came down to the team as a whole. We only had one individual win and one relay win. All three girls in each event had to step up for us to win the meet, and that's what they did.'

"As a coach, you can't ask for better swims. Out of 24 individual races, 21 were season-bests, and nine were lifetime bests. I wouldn't say I was surprised to see how fast the girls swam. But to see them achieve times they didn't know they were capable of, that's what makes me proud to be their coach. I love new records.'

Westfield, which faced top-ranked Immaculate Heart on Tuesday (the boys faced Christian Brothers), will begin its state-title quest next week. The WHS girls have won 11 state titles, the most recent being in 2007 and '08. Last year they fell to West Windsor-Plainsboro South on the final relay.

"The girls are confident about the road ahead," Smith said. "They know they're going to stay focused through this month, but I think seeing results like they had, it makes their goal seem a lot more attainable.'

The boys' meet didn't have seven meet records, but the swims were seemingly just as fast, with WHS piling up 442 points, to 411.5 by SP-F and 320 by third-place Summit.

"This should be a good springboard to our main goal, which is to be state champions," WHS boys coach Jeff Knight said. "And I really think Scotch Plains can win (Public) B. (Five-time defending state B champion) Mountain Lakes is obviously a really good team. They both beat us in December. But I think Scotch Plains may have too many good swimmers for them. It should be a great meet."

The two time defending state Public A champion Blue Devils showed

PUBLIC NOTICE TOWN OF WESTFIELD **BOARD OF EDUCATION NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

Sealed proposals will be received by the Board of Education of the Westfield School District, Union County, New Jersey, at the Board of Education, 302 Elm Street, Westfield, New Jersey, for the following supplies, equipment or services:

BID FOR: B 11-01 INDUSTRIAL ART SUPPLIES FOR THE 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR **BIDS DUE:**

MARCH 3, 2010 AT 1:00 PM The bids will be received at the Admin-

istration Building, 302 Elm Street, Westfield New Jersey 07090 on the date and at the time indicated, and then publicly opened and read aloud.

Bids must be in strict compliance with specifications. Specifications may be secured from, Purchasing Office 302 Elm Street, Westfield, New Jersey 07090 (908) 789-4407. Bids must be made on the proposal forms in the manner designated. Proposals must be endorsed on the outside of the sealed envelope, with the name of the bidder, the bidder's address and the name of the supplies, equipment, or services for which the bid is submitted. It is understood and agreed that proposals may be delivered before the time or at the place specified for opening. The Board of Education assumes no responsibility for bids mailed or misdirected in delivery. No bids shall be received after the time desig-

Bidding shall be in conformance with the requirements applicable N.J.S.A.18A:18A-1 et.seq., pertaining to

the "Public School Contracts Law". The Board of Education of the Town of Westfield, in Union County, New Jersey, reserves the right to reject any or all bids pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2(s), (t), (x), (y), 18A:18A-4(a), 18A:18A-22, and to waive any informalities. The Board further reserves the right to take such alternates as they deem appropriate, and in any order that the Board feels may be in the best interest of the Westfield Public School

All bidders are required to comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et. seq., Affirmative Action Against Discrimi-

nation and N.J.A.C. 17:27 et. seg. Corporate bidders are required by law (Chapter 33, Laws of 1977) to submit a list of names and addresses of all stockhold-

ers owning 10% or more of their stock. A Non-Collusion Affidavit and a Contractor Questionnaire/Certification also must be filed with the bid. The bid package will also include other documents that must be completed and returned with the bid. Failure to comply with Instructions to Bidders and to complete and submit all re-

cation and rejection of the bid. All bidders shall submit with their bid package a copy of the New Jersey Business Registration Certificate as issued by the Department of Treasury of the State of New Jersey (N.J.S.A. 52:32-44)

quired forms, may be cause for disqualifi-

BIDDERS NOTE: Each bid shall be accompanied by a bid bond, cashier's check or certified check made payable to the Westfield Board of Education, for ten percent (10%) of the amount of the total

bid. however, not to exceed \$20,000. By order of the Town of Westfield Board of Education, Union County, New Jersey.

Robert A. Berman **Board Secretary** Fee: \$70.89 1 T - 2/4/10, The Leader

they will be tough to dethrone. With expected solid performances from seniors Matt Meserole, Mike Oster and John Taylor, and juniors Larry Zhang, Nicky Boyle and Jack Lorentzen, Knight was absolutely beaming about the efforts of sophomores Alex Bond, Brennan Haley and Matt Trinkle, and freshmen Matt Daniel, Connor Moore, Max Shin and Tim Walsh.

"The state tournament is all about depth, and I'd say we have a lot more depth after (Saturday) than we did coming in," he said. "All the guys put up some great times. And they're only going to keep getting faster."

Having lost the medley relay by .03 of a second in the December loss to SP-F, WHS rearranged its order, with Meserole leading off, Lorentzen doing breast, Zhang fly and Oster free. The result was a meet record 1:38.66. And when Summit anchored, Colin Terwelp touched out the SP-F anchor for second, Meserole went over and congratulated his Westfield "Y" teammate. It figured to be that close of a meet, where every place was key.

WHS got firsts from Lorentzen in the 50-free (22.56), Meserole in the 100-free (48.08) and 100-back (53.17) - his fourth straight title, tying WHS Hall of Famer Darren Hertell (IM, back), '04 grad Ryan Bartholomew (50) and '09 grad Chris DeLaFuente (fly) as four-time champions - and the 200 free relay, where Knight made a switch that produced the victory.

SP-F didn't use Dan Napolitano or Joe Dunn on the medley relay, as in the dual meet, so that meant they would both be on the "sprint relay," likely with Mike Napolitano and Mike Rizzo, figuring WHS wouldn't load that race. And, to be sure, Knight hadn't "loaded" the 4x50. But when he saw who had swum in the medley, the coach switched Lorentzen and Meserole onto the sprint foursome, with Boyle and Walsh, and the result was a season-best 1:29.75.

The most outrageous swim of the day for Knight's team was in the 200 IM, where Zhang gave SP-F standout Greg Baliko all he could handle. The Raider sophomore finished in 1:57.41, breaking Hertell's old mark, with Zhang coming in at 1:58.83, fifth best in WHS history. Zhang trailed by just .24 of a second until the final 50. But it was times like Bond's 1:08.49

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF WESTFIELD ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT COUNTY OF UNION STATE OF NEW JERSEY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that MetroPCS New York, LLC ("Applicant") has filed an application for a use variance, height variance, variance to allow for no screening of antennas and for preliminary and final site plan approval with the Town of Westfield Zoning Board of Adjustment seeking permission to place six (6) telecommunications antennas and one GPS antenna on the roof of an existing building and to also place its related equipment in the basement of the building. The property which is the subject of this application is located at 900 South Avenue West, Westfield, New Jersev which is located in the GB-3 Zoning District and is designated on the Tax Maps as Block 2606, Lot 19 ("Property"). Applicant is seeking the following approvals:

* Use variance Height variance

Variance to allow for no screening of

* Preliminary and Final Site Plan ap-

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Applicant also seeks such other approvals, waivers and variances from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance as may be deemed necessary or required by the Town of Westfield Zoning Board of Adjustment at the hearing in this matter

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Town of Westfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will meet at 7:30 p.m. prevailing time, Wednesday, February 24, 2010 in the Council Chambers. Town of Westfield Municipal Building, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey at which time opportunity will be given to all those in interest to be heard and at which time the Board may approve, modify or deny the application. Any interested party may appear at the aforesaid hearing, either in person, or by their attorney, and be given the opportunity to be heard with respect to

the aforesaid application. TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the application for development and all supporting maps, site plans and documents are on file in the Westfield Engineering Office, located at 959 North Avenue, West, Westfield, New Jersey and are available for public inspection Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:30 am to 4:30

This notice is given pursuant to N.J.S.A.

40:55D-1 et seq.

MetroPCS New York, LLC DAY PITNEY LLP Judith A. Babinski, Esq. P.O. Box 1945 Morristown, New Jersey 07962-1945 (973) 966-8253 Attorneys for the Applicant 1 T - 2/4/10, The Leader Fee: \$57.63 in the breast, Moore's 1:07.81 in the breast, Daniel's 51.90 in the 100free, Haley's 57.22 in the fly and 5:10.25 in the 500, Shin's 2:11.37 in the IM and 57.33 in the back, Walsh's Boyle's 22.89 in the 50 and 50.5 in

(4:52.13). Baliko added the 100-breast (1:00.22) to his IM win, while Dunn was second in the 50. SP-F also won the 400-free relay with Dan Nap,

Rizzo and Dan Pesin had great performances. They finished 3-4 in the IM with a 2:04.93 and a 2:05.02, surreal drops of 5.52 and 4.41 seconds, respectively. Rizzo also had a best 55.40 for fourth in the fly. Pesin also was third in the 100-back at 56.75. Senior Mike Henkels was eighth in the 100-back, with a threesecond drop to 57.86. And sophomore Nick Sorace came down almost three seconds to a 1:07.75 for seventh in the 100-breast.

two of the state's best programs.

"Nobody should be too surprised if both schools win state titles this year,'

22.87 in the 50 and 52.80 in the 100free, Trinkle's 5:23.46 in the 500, and the 100 that got Knight thinking positively about a possible three-peat. For SP-F, Dan Napolitano won the 200-free (1:45.31) and gave Meserole a great race in the 100 before taking second in 48.48. Brother Mike won the 100-fly (53.09) and 500-free

Dunn, Mike Rizzo and Baliko.

All in all, quite a performance for

And the best – a state championship trophy, or two, or three, maybe even four – is yet to come.

Knight said.



BASKETBALL CHAMPS...The Westfield sixth grade Blue team won the New Year's Kean University Tournament in early January by defeating a squad from Basking Ridge. Westfield Blue, over its three-year history, is 26-1 in tournament play. Pictured, left to right, are: front row, Nick Mele, Owen Murray, Tyler Roth, Chris Rinaldi, Billy Fitzpatrick and Chris Boutsikaris; second row, Coach Daniel Murray, Coach Gary Roth, Mitchell Bryk, Andrejs Rumpeters, Justin Lin, Owen Colwell, Parker Hess, Matt McIlroy, Coach Mark Cleere and Coach Dave Hess.

See it all on the web in color . . . www.goleader.com

PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Invitations are extended to qualified Bid-

ders to bid for the following Project: THE PURCHASE OF SEED, CHEMICALS, AND SUPPLIES FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS

Bids will be accepted only by mail or in person to the Office of the Township Clerk, Scotch Plains Municipal Building, 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains 07076 (attn: Barary 17, 2010 at 11:00 a m.

The Township of Scotch Plains (hereinafter "Township") shall not be responsible for any bid mailed which is lost in transit or delivered late by the Postal Service. At the above time, the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. All bids must be presented in sealed envelopes, which are clearly marked, THE PURCHASE OF SEED, CHEMICALS, AND SUPPLIES, for the Maintenance of the Township of Scotch Plains, 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076. No bid will be

received after the time and date specified. After receipt of bids, no bid may be withdrawn within (60) days after the date of the bid opening except if provided for herein. The bid of any bidder who consents to an extension may be held for consideration for a longer period of time as may be agreed upon between bidder and the Township.

All bids must be on the bid forms provided by the Township of Scotch Plains ir the bid package. Specification and bid forms may be obtained at the Office of Recreation, Room 113, 430 Park Avenue Scotch Plains, between the hours of 9:00 am and 3:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

Bid proposals and all required documents must be completed and submitted by the date as set forth above. All documents in the enclosed bid package must accompany the bid proposal.

In addition to the above documents, a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond issued by a responsible bank, trust company or insurance company, payable to the Township of Scotch Plains shall be submitted with each bid as a guaranty that if a contract is awarded the bidder shall

The bid security shall be in the amount of

The Township reserves the right to re ject any or all bids, and to waive immaterial

Cougar Matmen Hold Down Blue Devils, 42-22

takedown, but Giaccio countered with

a walk-around takedown to win, 5-1. "We were looking for that matchup. We thought he could get him again. It ended up being the right move for the team," coach Torsone said.

At 130 lbs, Cougar Carmine Pellino amassed four takedowns, an escape and three nearfalls to seize a 16-1, 5:12, technical fall over Kevin Cascillo. Cougar Kyle Markovitch, last year's 119-lb District 11 champ who had been out all season due to a wrist injury, managed to make his second bout of the season worthwhile, recording three takedowns and an escape to defeat Ryan Jennings, 7-0, at 135 lbs.

"He has been working a lot on his own, which helps him get through the

Lady Blue Devils De-feather Cardinal Basketballers, 46-31

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

six assists, found success setting up senior forward Diana Venezia, who bucketed seven of her game-leading 19 points in the second quarter that the Blue Devils won, 18-12. Markowski put in five points, junior Katie Ponce (2 assists) sank four of her six points, and guard Danielle Miller (4 points, rebound, assist) added two points in the quarter.

Venezia, who had 10 rebounds, sank eight of the Blue Devils' 10 points, including her second 3-pointer, in the third quarter to make the score, 38-20. Ponce, who had 11 rebounds, began the quarter by sinking a pair of free throws.

What was prevalent, however, was the Blue Devils' ability to commit numerous acts of theft, and Markowski and Miller were the chief thieves with four steals each. Ponce and Venezia each had two steals, while Jess Mondon (2 assists, 2 rebounds, 1 point) and Nikki Aronson each had one theft.

"Sometimes, especially today,

when I am not on offensively, I try to step it up defensively. That is one of my main things, try to stay on my toes and get any balls that are coming my way," Markowski said.

Blue Devil Charlotte Lorentzen finished with five points, four rebounds and an assist. Krista Embrett had two points and three rebounds. Christina Scaglione, Nicole Bilica, Sara Nelson and Gabby Cerami each contributed a rebound. Brittany Sutton led the 5-9 Cardinals with 12 points, and Danielle Hooks sank eight points, while Tiffany Frazier put in five points.

"You got to give credit to Plainfield. They are a nice little team. Those girls are good inside," coach Marino said. Plainfield 5 12 3 11 31 10 18 10 8 46 Westfield

The Blue Devil girls defeated the Raiders, 45-36 on February 2. See story in the February 11 edition.

Park/Terrill Matmen Stop Farmers, Chiefs, Tigers

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood (SPF) Park/Terrill Middle School - Little Raiders wrestling team shut out Union, 33-0, on January 26, and Piscataway, 43-0, on January 27, then edged South Plainfield, 27-22, on January 28, to boost its record to 9-0. Against the Union Little Farmers, SPF won all six contested bouts, five

JT Bierne (S) p Frank Brewer, 3:06 Dominic Natale (S) p Mantino Pierre,

Matt Ridge (S) p T. Charles-Saint, 1:35

Brian Robinson (S) p P. Howard, 0:59
Alex Mirabella (S) d Chiz Mbagwu, 8-6
Sam McQuoid (S) p Alex Santana, 1:44
Against the Piscataway Chiefs, SPF recorded 5 pins, a major decision and

informalities or to accept any bid which, in

the opinion of the Township of Scotch

Plains, will be in the best interest of the

Township all in accordance with the New

Jersey Local Public Contracts Law N.J.S.A.

40A:11-1 et seq. The Township shall award

the bid to the bidders which, in the

Township's sole discretion, best serves,

The Township also reserves the right to

reject any and all bids if sufficient funds are

not available and/or appropriated. The

Township also reserves the right to not

utilize these services if they are not neces-

sary.
The selected Bidders, will, within seven

days (7) of award of the bid, enter into an

All bidders must comply with P.L. 1975,

Chapter 127 entitled "An Act Relating to

Affirmative Action in Relation to discrimi-

nation in connections with Certain Public

Contracts and supplementing the Law

Against Discrimination approved April 16.

1945 (P.L. 1945, Chapter 169)" N.J.A.C.

17:27, as amended from time to time, and

All bidders are required to comply with

All bidders must be registered with the

New Jersey Department of Labor to en-

gage in public work as defined in the re-

quirements listed under N.J.S.A. 34:11-

5661 through 56.55, as well as N.J.A.C.

12:62-1.1 and must submit a Business

Registration Certificate with the Bid Docu-

Where applicable, prevailing wage rate

All Bidders must submit, with their

bid, a copy of their and their contrac-

tors and sub-contractors BUSINESS

REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE, regard-

less of whether a Business Registra-

tion Certificate may have previously

been filed with the Township or Depart-

ment of Parks and Recreation in the

is MANDATORY and a bid without a

Business Registration Certificate en-

closed MUST be rejected.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWNSHIP OF

SCOTCH PLAINS OF THE COUNTY OF

Director Of Parks and Recreation

Township Of Scotch Plains 430 Park Ave 07076

Barbara Riepe, Town Clerk

Rav Poerio

Fee: \$99.96

UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

1 T - 2/4/10, The Times

ast with a prior bid. This requirement

shall be paid to all workers on the job as per

the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et

the Americans With Disability Act.

seg. and N.J.A.C. 17:27.

N.J.A.C. 34:11-56,25 et seq

appropriate contract with the Township.

the interest of the Township.

Tom Cunningham d D. Scannell, 5-0 Bierne d J. Cooke, 4-2, overtime Brian Lapham md H. Nazeer, 16-3 Mike Lettieri p C. Neiper, 1:20 Tyler Kovacs p A. Guitierrez, :59 Ridge p E. Gaffi, 1:35 Natale p D. Brooking, 3:07 Mirabella p C. Hopkins, :51 McQuoid d A. Cruz, 5-2 Against the South Plainfield Little

Tigers, SPF's middle lineup rallied with four straight pins to secure the victory. Ryan Walsh (SoP) p Will Hochman, 2:03

Desmond Santos (SoP) Cunningham, 11-3 Dan Hedden (SoP) d Bierne, 6-2 Lapham (SPF) d CJ Masczak, 4-0 Lettieri (SPF) p Christian Gonzalez, 1:22 Kovacs (SPF) p Dom Penevolpe, 3:22 Natale (SPF) p Matt Hurst, 1:59 Ridge (SPF) p Jordan Handwerger, 3:59 Colin Lynch (SoP) d Mirabella, 9-2 Lou Gerandi (SoP) p McQuoid, 3:55 matches, but we are looking for him to get in better condition over the next couple of weeks to get ready for districts," coach Torsone said of Markovitch.

The third key bout came at 140 lbs. Blue Devil Christian Barber recorded a single-leg trip takedown in the first period on Matt DiGiovanni, escaped and added a single-leg, pry-back takedown in the second period, then performed a head-and-arm takedown in the third period to claim a 7-2 victory, narrowing the Cougars' lead to 27-9.

Blue Devil Brian Henry racked up five takedowns of varying styles, a nearfall and a reversal before pinning Eric Knight with a half nelson in 5:22 at 145 lbs.

Brian wrestled well as he always does. Win or lose, you know you have six good minutes of Brian Henry," coach Kurz said.

Blue Devil Erik Gozdieski grabbed a 6-3 decision over Connor Londregan at 152 lbs to tighten the team score to 27-18, but Cougar JP Christiano used a grapevine and an arm bar to pin

Chris Tomasso in 1:14 at 160 lbs. At 171 lbs, Blue Devil sophomore Kieran Cline recorded a takedown and a three-point, head-smother nearfall in the first period of his bout with Chris Keim. He added an escape, a short-arm drag takedown and a double-leg takedown to earn a 10-0,

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"He can do some good things for us. We've got to get him in more of a wrestling frame of mind. I think once we do that, he will be, hopefully in our lineup regularly," coach Kurz said

of Cline. In the final head-to-head bout, Blue Devil Bill Kim jumped up to 189 lbs to face Errol Petgrave but dropped a 3-1 decision.

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140: — Barber (W) p Keight 5:2

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171: — Cline (W) md Keim, 10-0 189: — Petgrave (C) d Kim, 3-1 215: — Campo (C) won forfeit Blue Devils Lose Squeaker

The Westfield High School girls basketball team battled back from an 11-point deficit only to lose a 44-42 squeaker to the Summit Hilltoppers in Westfield on January 26. On January 30, the Lady Blue Devils got on the high side of another thriller to defeat the Linden Tigers, 43-39, in Linden.

The Blue Devils trailed 36-25, late in third quarter but closed out the quarter with a pair of baskets to cut lead to 36-29 against the 11-1 Hilltoppers. With 3:30 remaining, Westfield trialed 42-33, but a furious rally highlighted by Katie Ponce's long jumper evened the score at 42 with 10 seconds to go, but Emily Cristaldi hit a driving lay-up at buzzer

PUBLIC NOTICE TOWN OF WESTFIELD

COUNTY OF UNION

PUBLIC AUCTION TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to Resolution adopted by the Town Council of Westfield, New Jersey on February 2, 2010 that the undersigned will expose for sale at Public Auction in accordance with 39:10A-1, at the time and location specified below, the following motor vehicles which came into possession of the Westfield Police Department through abandonment or failure of owners to claim

All the vehicles on the following list are offered in strictly "as is" condition, with no representation as to condition or fitness for any particular purpose. Bids will start at outstanding balances owed on these vehicles for towing and storage fees.

Purchase must be made by cash or certified check. A 10% deposit must be given at the time of auction. Balance must be paid by 4:00 pm the same day. The public auction shall be held on Wednesday, February 17, 2010 in accor-

Jersey pertaining thereto. The following vehicles may be examined at AM Auto, 401-413 S. Elmer Street. Westfield, New Jersey at 9:00 am. The

dance with the laws of the State of New

public auction will commence at 9:15 am. MAKE: Jeep Gran Cherokee YEAR: 1995

1J4GZ58SXSC766790 MILEAGE: Start Bid: \$7.377.85 MAKE Volkswagen Golf YEAR: VIN# 3VWKB81HXVM026600 MILEAGE: 107143 \$6,965.80 Start Bid: Chevrolet S10

YEAR: 1GCCT19Z3M8252571 VIN# MILEAGE \$23,834.35 Start Bid: MAKE: Plymouth Voyager YEAR:

2P4GP453XTR615052 MILEAGE: \$14.241.80 Start Bid: MAKE: YEAR: 2002 VIN#: MILEAGE:

Start Bid:

Chevrolet Express Van 1GCFG15W021209793 85997 \$40,071.60 1 T - 2/4/10, The Leader Fee: \$49.98

To Summit, Nip Lady Tigers to win the game for Summit.

> Diana Venezia netted 17 points, nine rebounds and four blocks for the Blue Devils. Ponce scored 11 points and had seven rebounds, three assists and four steals. Amanda Markowski sank eight points and had four rebounds, three steals and two assists. Charlotte Lorentzen had six points, 11 rebounds, an assist and a steal. Cristaldi finished with 19 points, Kate Martino had eight, Nicole Johnson had seven and Kelly Osmulski had six points for the Hilltoppers.

Against the 9-6 Lady Tigers, Danielle Miller hit a free throw to tie the game at 39-39 with 25 seconds remaining. Lorentzen added a 2pointer then Venezia pulled down one of her game-high 13 rebounds and

was fouled. She sank both free throws. Markowski led the 7-7 Blue Devils with 12 points and seven acts of theft. Venezia (2 assists, 2 blocks) and Ponce (4 rebounds, 5 steals, 2 assists) had 8 points each. Lorentzen had 7 points, 11 rebounds, two blocks and an assist. Miller finished with 4 points, a rebound, an assist, a block and a steal. Nicole Bilica had four points. Shannon Wheeler led the Tigers with 12 points, and Atiya Gleaton had 8 points, while Ebony Jennings and Tamara Todd both netted 7 points.

15 8 13 8 44 9 8 12 13 42 Summit Westfield 7 14 10 12 43 9 10 6 14 39 Westfield

St. Bart's Softball **League Fees Set**

St. Bartholomew Oldtimers Softball league veterans should submit their \$110 fee for the 2010 season by February 19. After that date, available spots may be filled from the waiting list. Applications are available at Sideline Sports in Scotch Plains and Family Investors in Fanwood. An application can also downloaded from the league website at www.stbartssoftball.com.

Some leadership changes have been made. Tom Kucin has been named commissioner. New captains with their team names are Harry Semple (St. Kilian), Jack Ley (St. Rocco) and Jim Killeen (St. James). The league would like to thank outgoing captains Howard Bialos, Luke Fugett and Jack Kennedy for their contributions.

Donations are still being accepted for the Dom Lawrence Memorial Fund, which honors the man who led the league for 30 years. Checks should be made out to "The Dom Lawrence Brookside Park Fund" and mailed to the Scotch Plains Recreation Department, 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, NJ 07076.

CRANFORD COUGAR HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS



HELMSTETTER, GIACCIO, PETGRAVE WIN KEY BOUTS

Cougar Matmen Hold Down Westfield Blue Devils, 42-22

By DAVID B. CORBIN

Many key match-ups had to go their way if the Westfield High School wrestling team wanted to pull a mild upset over the strong Cranford Cougars in Westfield on January 29. Both teams' head coaches juggled their bouts like a chess match, and in the end, the 12-4 Cougars came up with a 42-22 victory. The Cougars were awarded for-

feits in the first and final scheduled weight classes with heavyweight Joe Brady and Julian Campo at 215 lbs, respectively, but the 3-7 Blue Devils won the first head-to-head bout when Austin Slifer converted a slick duckunder takedown to a half nelson to pin Diego Castro in 1:47 at 103 lbs.

The big upset of the evening came in the next bout at 112 lbs. Blue Devil

Mike Kalimtzis, who had just became the Union County Tournament (UCT) 103-lb champion, scored a double-leg, spin-around takedown on Mike Helmstetter, who then escaped and added an alert lateral drop takedown with three seconds left in the first period. Helmstetter gained three points with a Saturday Night Ride nearfall, but Kalimtzis escaped and added a duck-under takedown. In the third period, Kalimtzis dropped under for a double-leg takedown attempt, but Helmstetter hipped forward with a walkover to a front double grapevine pin in 4:13.

You got to give that kid credit. Mike didn't clear his arm on his shot, and he took advantage," Blue Devil Head Coach Glen Kurz said.

"People don't know about Mike, because he is behind Ian (Henry) and Joe (Giaccio) in the lineup. He's like our best-kept secret. Maybe after this, people will know who he is," Cougar Head Coach Darren Torsone said. "He is a smart wrestler. He's great with his hips. In that match, he used his hips two times in key moments, and it helped him out."

Leading 4-0, Cougar Ian Henry hit Anthony Aldana with a barrel roll takedown and added a Jimmy John nearfall to grab a 9-1, majority decision at 119 lbs.

The next key bout arrived when Cougar Joe Giaccio, the UCT 112-lb champ, jumped up to 125 lbs to meet Troy Škibitsky. Giaccio scored a lowsingle takedown and an escape to carry a 3-0 lead into the third period. Skibitsky escaped and attempted a takedown, but Giaccio countered with CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



David B. Corbin for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times* MAKING HIS MOVE TO THE BASKET...Cougar senior guard Nick Pace, No. 10, drives to the basket and sinks the gamewinning lay-up at the buzzer. The Cougars defeated the Hillside Comets 56-54 on January 26.

PACE SINKS WINNER AT BUZZER, GROSS NETS 21 PTS

Cougar Basketball Boys Ice Comets at the Buzzer, 56-54

By DAVID B. CORBIN

Senior guard Nick Pace made the right decision and drove to the basket to roll in a lay-up at the buzzer, giving the Cranford High School boys basketball team a 56-54 victory over the Hillside Comets in Cranford on January 26.

Thievery was the name of the game, however, as both teams posted double figures in steals. The 8-3 Cougars committed 18 acts of theft, and junior guard Sean Trotter reaped a career-high six steals, while scoring six points, including a 3-pointer, dishing out six assists and making one block. Pace, who bucketed seven points, in-

Probitas Verus Honos

cluding a 3-pointer, had a pair of steals himself.

"We knew that, if we put pressure on them, we could steal the ball from them and get some turnovers. We kept on trying to pressure them and trapping them in the corner, and it worked," said Pace, who also had three assists and two rebounds.

Sophomore forward Chris Gross led all scorers with 21 points. He hit eight of 16 from the field and all five of his free throws. Additionally, Gross had two offensive rebounds, an as-

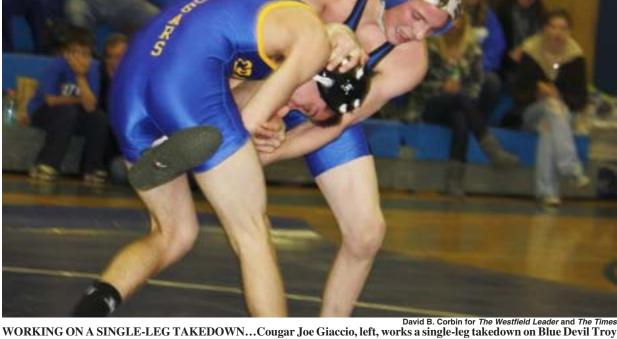
sist, a blocked shot and four thefts. "He has been playing well the last couple of weeks. He has been stepping up big for us. We need him to score every game to win, and he did today," Pace said.

The Cougars scored the first four

points of the game, but the Comets went on a 14-0 streak until senior center Will Green got the Cougars out of the wicked skid by drawing a foul, hitting both free throws and following with a lay-up. Next, Trotter drove to the basket, scored the lay-up, drew the foul and sank the free throw, but the Comets won the quarter, 18-13. Green finished the game with 10 points, seven rebounds, two steals and an assist. Senior guard Greg Goode, who finished with two assists and two steals, hit a jumper in the

The 6-8 Comets also won the second quarter, 11-9, to take a 29-22, halftime lead. Green sank a pair of free throws and a lay-up, Gross rolled

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Skibitsky. Giaccio jumped up to the 125-lb class and defeated Skibitsky, 5-1.

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Dental Update

by Kenneth W. Arida, D.D.S. Family & Cosmetic Dentistry

CLEANING DENTURES

denture-cleaning solutions may be to cleaning dentures.

still must be cleaned the same way that than 2,000 years, and today these natural teeth are. As with real teeth, substitutes for missing natural teeth dentures are subject to buildups of sticky have never been more effective, easy plaque, which poses the threat of to use, comfortable, and appealing infection and inflammation for gums. However, you still need to take care of With this in mind, denture wearers are them as well as your oral hygiene with strongly urged to either brush their regular professional checkups and prosthetic teeth or soak them in cleaning scrupulous home care. We offer solution. Arguably, the best cleaning complete dental care for all members method is brushing with toothpaste. of your family, and we utilize only the However, for those who experience latest in dental technology for your care difficulty brushing their dentures and comfort. Office hours are by effectively, soaking can remove as much appointment at 131 South Euclid plaque as brushing. For a short soak of Avenue, Westfield. Call 908-654-6262 about 15 minutes, enzymatic and effer- Major credit cards welcome. We accept vescent solutions are probably equally dental insurance and file it for you effective at removing plaque. For longer P.S. Ultrasonic cleaning is about as soaks (up to eight hours), enzyme effective as brushing when it comes



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David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times SOON TO PULL OFF A BIG UPSET...Cougar Mike Helmstetter, bottom, later countered a double-leg takedown attempt by hipping forward with a walkover to a front double grapevine pin Blue Devil Mike Kalimtzis, the Union County Tournament 103-lb champion, in 4:13 at 112 lbs.

Cougar Matmen Hold Down Blue Devils, 42-22

a walk-around takedown to win, 5-1.

We were looking for that matchup. We thought he could get him again. It ended up being the right move for the team," coach Torsone

At 130 lbs, Cougar Carmine Pellino amassed four takedowns, an escape and three nearfalls to seize a 16-1, 5:12, technical fall over Kevin Cascillo. Cougar Kyle Markovitch, last year's 119-lb District 11 champ who had been out all season due to a wrist injury, managed to make his second bout of the season worth while, recording three takedowns and an escape to defeat Ryan Jennings, 7-0, at 135 lbs.

"He has been working a lot on his own, which helps him get through the matches, but we are looking for him to get in better condition over the next couple of weeks to get ready for districts," coach Torsone said of Markovitch.

The third key bout came at 140 lbs. Blue Devil Christian Barber recorded a single-leg trip takedown in the first period on Matt DiGiovanni, escaped

and added a single-leg, pry-back takedown in the second period, then performed a head-and-arm takedown in the third period to claim a 7-2 victory, narrowing the Cougars' lead

Blue Devil Brian Henry racked up five takedowns of varying styles, a nearfall and a reversal before pinning Eric Knight with a half nelson in 5:22 at 145 lbs.

"Brian wrestled well as he always does. Win or lose, you know you have six good minutes of Brian Henry," coach Kurz said.

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To make this weekly page a success, help

is needed from the coaches, a stat person

and/or a designated parent, who follows

a to the point, factual account of the event.

Any good photos of the event may also be

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of Cline. Devil Bill Kim jumped up to 189 lbs to face Errol Petgrave but dropped a 3-1 decision.

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145: — Henry (W) p Knight, 5:22 152: — Gozdieski (W) d Londregan, 6-3 160: — Christiano (C) p Tomasso, 1:14 171: — Cline (W) md Keim, 10-0 189: — Petgrave (C) d Kim, 3-1 215: — Campo (C) won forfeit

In the final head-to-head bout, Blue

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Cougar Cagers Ice Comets at the Buzzer, 56-54

CONTINUED FROM PAGE

timeout, Pace fed Trotter, who in a lay-up and senior guard Kendall Grier banged a 3-pointer. During the swished his 3-pointer to extend the first half, the Cougars were getting lead, but the Comets answered quickly to tie the score, 45-45, with 5:30 on into a one shot and out mode as the Comets were controlling the boards. the clock. Two minutes later, the Com-Each team traded point-for-point ets snatched a 49-48 lead then jumped to a 53-50 lead with a minute remaining. Gross hit a 2-pointer, and Green

in the third quarter until Grier hit a jumper and Gross sank two from the charity line to help the Cougars win the quarter 13-10. Grier finished with 10 points, an assist and a steal. Pace sank a 2-pointer at the begin-

hit a free throw to knot the score with 12 second remaining. Cougar Head Coach Ryan Huber called a timeout. When the action ning of the fourth quarter, Green added a lay-up then Pace nailed a 3-pointer resumed, Pace had the ball in the to give the Cougars a 42-41 lead with Comets' court. He sized up the situa-6:40 remaining. After a Hillside tion and with five second on the clock

sank two free throws, but the Comets

made his drive to the basket between a pair of Comet defenders and made the lay-up as the buzzer blared.

"We wanted to set up Will (Green) down low to get the one-on-one play, but I knew when I did the crossover I had the lane, and I knew if I drove I had it, so I just took it," Pace explained.

Junior guard Keith Burgess finished with 18 points, senior forward Anthony Johnson sank eight points and forward Shakill Copland put in seven points for Hillside.

18 11 10 15 54 13 9 13 21 56 Hillside



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times MAKING SOME KEY PLAYS...Kendall Grier sank a key 3-pointer and a key jumper to help the Cougars ice the Comets, 56-54, in Cranford on January 26. Grier finished with 10 points, an assist and a steal.

Online Cougar Exclusive; **Union County Wrestling:**

For Cranford High School sports, check out the Online Exclusive Cougar pages at - www.goleader.com -Go to bottom of main page – Click Cougar Pages. Union County Wrestling results will be on the following page.

Online Exclusive Cougar pages can also be accessed by clicking on "Archives"

Additional photos of events covered by Dave Corbin and Fred Lecomte can be seen by clicking 'photo library" on upper right then click "photos" on top.

Scroll to appropriate list.

Cougar Snacks:

Cougar Boys Place 4th, Girls 7th at UCT Swim

In a very competitive Union County Tournament, dominated almost exclusively every year by the Westfield High School boys' and girls' teams, and sometimes by Scotch Plains-Fanwood, the Cranford High School boys swim team placed fourth and the Cougar girls placed seventh at the Sonny Werblin Recreation Center on the Rutgers University campus in Piscataway on January 30.

Once again, the Blue Devil boys and girls took top honors with 442 points and 418 points, respectively, followed by the Raider boys at 411.5 and girls at 354. The Cougar boys totaled 173 behind the Summit Hilltoppers, who finished third with a 320 total. New Providence at 246, Kent Place at 219, Summit at 208 and Governor Livingston at 161.5 also finished ahead of the Cougar girls,

Cougar Boys Hold Off Indian Cagers, 68-67

The Cranford High School boys basketball team dodged the bullet by holding off the 5-8 Rahway Indians, 68-67, in Cranford on January 29. Sophomore forward Chris Gross pumped in a career-high 28 points, pulled 11 rebounds, had five blocks, two steals and an assist for the 9-3 Cougars.

Senior Will Green bucketed 18 points, sinking six of seven from the line, and added eight rebounds (2 offensive), two steals, two assists and a block. Point guard Sean Trotter hit four of seven from the field, including two 3-pointers, and 1-for-2 from the line for 11 points. He also had five assists, three rebounds and a pair of thefts. Senior Kendall Grier sank five points, had six assists, made a steal and grabbed two rebounds. Nick Pace had four assists and four points, while Greg Goode had two points, an assist, a rebound and a theft.

Rahway Cranford 13 15 6 19 67 14 10 15 16 68 who totaled 118.5.

Cougar Brian Woo touched second in the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 1:48.87 and teammate Nicholas Kalafatis touched sixth at 1:56.5. Woo also finished second in the 500freestyle with a time of 4:54.61. Eric Walano finished fifth in the 50freestyle with a time of 23.46. The Cougar boys placed fourth in the 200freestyle relay at 1:34.54 and fifth in the 200-medley relay at 1:51.04.

Allison Schneider brought the Cougar girls a third place in the 500also touched sixth in the 200-individual medley with a time of 2:18.23. The Cougars girls placed sixth in the 200-freestyle relay at 1:51.49 and sixth in the 200-medley relay at 2:05.12.

The girls broke seven meet records and the boys broke two. Blue Devils Matt Meserole, Jack Lorentzen, Larry Zhang and Mike Oster broke the record in the 200-yard medley relay with a time of 1:38.66. The old record of 1:39.75 was set by Westfield in 1978. Raider Greg Baliko broke the 200-yard individual medley record of 1:58.09, set by Westfield's Darren Hertell in 1993 with a time of 1:57.41.

SPF Raiders Caitlin English, Kelsey Rossi, Becca Dunn and Hannah Markey set a meet record in the 200medley relay with a time of 1:52.19. Julia Kudryashova of New Providence broke meet records in the 50-freestyle at 24.09 and the 100-freestyle at 52.27. She teamed with Kim Kaller, Kim Closs and Kelly Carroll to break the meet record in the 200-freestyle relay with a time of 1:38.25. Carroll broke the meet record in the 100-butterfly with a time of 57.84. Westfield Blue Devils Becky DeLaFuente, Anna Fetter, Meredith Smith and Suzanne Lemberg broke the meet record in the 400-freestyle relay at 3:34.88. Governor Livingston's Abby Pires broke the meet record in the 100-breaststroke with a time of 1:06.29.



COUGAR ATHLETE OF THE WEEK...Sophomore Tim Coda, in his first year on the bowling team, rolled a 200+ game and finished with a three-game series over 500 at the Union County Tournament this past weekend.

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COUGAR PRIDE

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No Goalie to Watch your Back! No Pads to Soften your Fall! No Helmets, No Bats, No Sticks! So How is a Winner Determined? We Wrestle!

What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us

Cougar Matmen Crush No. Plainfield, 64-12

The Cranford High School wrestling team improved to 14-4 with a 64-12 crushing of North Plainfield on January 30.

103: Frank Aleman (NP) p Diego Castro,

112: Mike Helmstetter (C) d Carrlos Aleman, 16-14 119: Ian Henry (C) won forfeit 125: Joe Giaccio (C) tf Ishmail Taylor,

130: Mario Herrera (NP) p Carmine

135: Kyle Markovitch (C) p Luis Orosco,

140: Matt DiGiovanni (C) p Mark Comayagua, 3:29 145: Eric Knight (C) d Max Torres, 5-4 152: Connor Londregan (C) p Jon

160: JP Christiano (C) p Victor Solis,

171: Chris Keim (C) won forfeit 189: Errol Petgrave (C) p Brian Tabares,

215: Julian Campo (C) won forfeit 285: Joe Brady (C) p Nelson Alegria,

Blue Devils Reject ALJ Matmen, 55-18

The Westfield High School wrestling team defeated AL Johnson, 55-18, in Clark on January 27.

BOUT SEQUENCE: 103: — Mike Kalimtzis (W) p Tom Mercurio, 1:33 112: — Pat Currie (W) won forfeit

119: — Anthony Aldana (W) d James Kobryn, 8-2 125: — Troy Skibitsky (W) won forfeit 130: — Keith Peterson (W) won forfeit 135: — Ryan Jennings (W) won foffeit 140: — Brandon Santos (J) won forfeit

145: — Brian Bulger`(W) d Kyle Mogensen, 8-2 152: — Brian Henry (W) md Jason Dent,

160: — Chris Tomasso (W) p Mark Vinegra, 1:39 171: — Keiran Cline (W) d Dennis Funk,

189: — Bill Kim (W) p Lou Bove, :51 215: — Matt Golias (J) p Tom Snyder, Hwt: — Ed Olenick (J) p Kyle Kania, 3:36

Cougar Matmen Rout J.P. Stevens, 62-12

103: Darshiit Mehta (S) p Diego Castro, 3:58 112: Mike Helmstetter (C) won for-119: Joe Giaccio (C) p Pete Byun,

125: Brian Buontempo (C) p Luis Fabionar, 3:01 130: Carmine Pellino (C) p Ethan

135: Kyle Markovitch (C) d Mike 140: Matt DiGiovanni (C) md Anthony Rovito, 15-2 145: Eric Knight (C) md Anthony

152: Connor Londregan (C) won for-160: JP Christiano (C) d Chris Miehe,

171: Rob Delmonaco (S) p Chris Keim, 3:26

189: Errol Petgrave (C) won forfeit 215: Julian Campo (C) p Ryan 285: Joe Brady (C) won forfeit

Cougar Matmen Jar Plainfield, 68-7

The Cranford High School wrestling team defeated Plainfield, 68-7, on January 27.

103: Diego Castro (C) won forfeit 112: Mike Helmstetter (C) p Yelsin Varela, 3:58

119: Ian Henry (C) won forfeit 125: Brian Buontempo (C) won forfeit 130: Kyle Markovitch (C) p Miguel Nunez, :22 135: Matt DiGiovanni (C) p Saeed

Nelson, 1:45 140: Eric Knight (C) tf Chukwuma Nwadike, 5:39 145: Jim Dwyer (C) p Antonio Cruz, 4:40 152: JP Christiano (C) p Nigel

McPleasant, 1:35 160: Chris Keim (C) won forfeit 171: Rob Kessler (C) p Greg Price, 2:29 189: Martin Moodie (P) d Errol Petgrave,

215: Dawud Hicks (P) md Julian Campo, 285: Joe Brady (C) d Tiaquan Womack, 6-2

Westfield Matmen Top SPF Raiders, 42-33

The Westfield High School wrestling team defeated Scotch Plains-Fanwood, 42-33, in Elizabeth on January 30.

BOUT SEQUENCE:

– Mike Kalimtzis (W) p Lucas Cinafonte, :35 112: — Dan Cardoza (S) p Pat Currie, 1:46 119: — Devin Ausbon (S) p Anthony

Aldana, 1:45 125: - Tristan Bundy (S) p Keith 130: - Troy Skibitsky (W) p Dion Natale, 135: - Ryan Jennings (W) p Dom Pigna,

140: - Mike Steinfield (S) d Ellis Opoku, 145: — Christian Barber (W) md Josh Foote, 15-5 152: — Brian Henry (W) tf Luke Vuono,

15-0, 5:13 160: — Chris Tomasso (W) md John 171: — Bill Kim (W) won forfeit 189: — Kieran Cline (W) p Jack Bouchakian, 1:45 215: — Andrew Jacobs (S) p Tom Snyder, 2:40 Hwt: — Anthony Tufaro (S) won forfeit

GL Highlanders Stop Union Farmers, 54-18

BOUT SEQUENCE: 171: - Omar Shehaiber (U) d Zach Hessler, 4-2 189: — Frank Colder (G) p Rashaan Richardson, 1:23 215: — Nick Gaglione (U) p Matt O'Sullivan, 2:40 Hwt: — Kyle Crowley (U) d Anthony Manganiello, 4-0 103: — Jon Mele (G) p Bryan Villacres,

112: — Anthony Defranco (G) p Isaiah 119: — Ryne Morrison (G) won forfeit 125: - John Bohrer (G) à Chris Dorvius,

- Mike Stepien (G) p Mike Zuena, 130:

135: — Joe Hoy (G) p Beve Julien, :51 140: — Pat Rangel (U) won forfeit 145: — Pat Eichner (G) won disqualifi-cation over Wymid Whitted

152: — Brian Śobol (G) d John Sedillo, 160: — Steve Schaumberg (G) won forfeit

FROM PAL PALS TO COACHES...Linden Head Coach Anthony Reinoso, left, congratulates Glen Kurz on his 100th win as the Blue Devils' Head Coach after Westfield defeated Elizabeth, 45-22, on January 30. The two friends have known each other since their PAL youth wrestling days.

KURZ WINS 100TH AS HEAD COACH

Blue Devils Grab 500th Varsity Mat Triumph

By DAVID B. CORBIN

Westfield High School (WHS) wrestling history was tapped twice when the Blue Devils defeated Elizabeth, 45-22, in the first match of a quad meet in Elizabeth on January 30. The victory made it the 500th win for the program, and Glen Kurz recorded his 100th career victory as the Blue Devils' Head Coach.

After the final bout with the Minutemen, a crowd of Blue Devils fans, which included Westfield Mayor Andy Skibitsky, raised numerical balloons indicating the numbers 500 and 100.

The match with the Minutemen began at the 215-lb class where Jeremy Portillo nipped Blue Devil Tom Snyder, 3-2. The Minutemen took a 9-0, team lead when Carlos Cardenas pinned Kyle Kania in 1:59, but Mike Kalimtzis got the Blue Devils on the scoreboard with a 1:19 pin over James Thevenin with an arm bar. At 112 lbs, Blue Devil Pat Currie caught Carlos Herrera in a reverse cradle then switched to a half nelson to pin him in

At 119 lbs, Blue Devil Anthony Aldana got taken down in overtime by Mateo Perez to lose, 8-6, but the Blue Devils took an 18-12 team lead when Troy Skibitsky pinned his opponent in 43 seconds with a stack arm bar. Minuteman Ralph Stadler knotted the score when he pinned Kevin Cascillo in 2:33.

Blue Devil Ryan Jennings claimed a 3-1 victory over Jah Guillermo at 135 lbs, and Christian Barber used an arm bar to settle Jose Arias in 3:08 at 140 lbs. Brian Henry head-smothered George Travinsky in 3:45 at 145 lbs to up Westfield's lead to 33-18 then at 152 lbs Erik Gozdieski clinched the match when he earned a 12-5 decision over Erick Ventura.

Blue Devil Chris Tomasso added some cushion with a 4:31 pin of Mike Rabatin at 160 lbs. Sophomore Kieran Cline threw another cushion onto the pile with a 10-6 victory over Ezekiel Villafana at 171 lbs. Billy Kim jumped up to 189 lbs to face Minuteman Maurice McCullers, who placed second in the county at that weight, but he became the victim of an 8-0, majority decision.

After the victory, Linden Tiger Head Coach Anthony Reinoso came over to congratulate coach Kurz on his 100th victory. The two have been friends since their PAL youth wres-

The Blue Devils went on to defeat Scotch Plains-Fanwood, 42-33, and record to 6-7.

Probitas Verus Honos



Brearley Bears Beat Highlanders, 42-21

In a battle of Union County Tournament (UCT) champions, Highlander Frank Colder, the UCT 189-lb champ, edged Khusen Taramov, the UCT 215-lb champ, 13-11.

BOUT SEQUENCE: 160: — Dillon Geoghegan (B) p Steve Shaumberg, 5:29 171: — Zach Hessler (G) d Anthony Tancs, 6-3

189: — Colder (G) d Taramov, 13-11 215: — Greg Rice (B) md Matt O'Sullivan,

Hwt: — Wayne Hanns(B) d Tony Manganiello, 4-3 103: — Jon Mele (G) p Dylan Oliva, 1:53 112: — Matt Disko (B) p Anthony Defranco, 2:58 119: — Anthony Rice (B) p Ryne

Morrison, 1:36 125: — Andrew Scarillo (B) md John Bohrer, 10-0 130: — Mike Stepien (G) d Allen Phillips,

135: — Nick Lospinoso (B) md Joe Hoy 140: — Dan Ries (B) won injury default 145: — Devin Geoghegan (B) d Pat

152: — Shane Haddad (G) p Sean Spillane, 5:05

Roselle Park Defeats Montgomery, 53-22

WEIGHT SEQUENCE: Leonard Bird (M) p John Devito,

112: — Erik Biago (M) md Brendan Leary, 13-5 119: — Jovanni Rameriz (RP) p Lucas Peterhans, 1:41 125: — Tyler Bobal (M) d Dan Pisauro,

130: — David Bergida (M) d Enrique Soriano, 5-0 135: — Nick Longo (RP) p Tyler Ajamian,

140: - Matt Krynicki (RP) p John Moyle, 145: — Rich Weslock (RP) p Yang Yeh,

152: - Russ Benner (RP) tf Matt Cassar, 160: — Dennis Carroll (RP) p Luke

Meisenbacher, :51 171: — Vic Pozsonyi (RP) p Alex Rook, 189: — Frank Yuro (RP) p Mike Boyer,

215: — John Canelao (RP) p Moustafa Ramadan, 1:21 Hwt: — Kevin Lisanti (M) p Lou Medina,

Elizabeth Matmen Rap **Scotch Plains-Fanwood**

The Elizabeth High School wrestling team defeated the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Raiders, 46-24, in Elizabeth on January 30. WEIGHT SEQUENCE:

- Carlos Cardenas (E) d Anthony 103: — James Thevenin (E) md Lucas Cinafonte, 16-3 arlos Herrera (E) p Dan Cardoza, 3:25

119: — Devin Ausbon (S) p Mateo Perez, 125: — Tristan Bundy (S) won forfeit 130: — Ralph Stadler (E) p Dion Natale,

2:24
135: — Jah Giullermo (E) p Dom Pigna, :32
140: — Mike Steinfeld (S) d Jose Arias, 9-2
145: — Josh Foote (S) p George
Travinsky, 3:43
152: — Elijah Greene (E) d Luke Vuono, 160: — Mike Rabatin (E) p John Devia,

171: — Ezekiel Villafana (E) p Brian

Laspe, :57 189: — Maurice McCullers (E) p Jon Boucharkian, :36 215: — Andrew Jacobs (S) Jeremy Portillo, 6-3

Linden Tigers Beat Raider Matmen, 49-18

Page E-3

The Linden High School wrestling team defeated the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Raiders, 49-18, in the first match of a quad meet in Elizabeth on January 30.

BOUT SEQUENCE: 215: — Andrew Jacobs (S) d Keron Smith, 6-3 Hwt: — Austin Frank (L) d Anthony Tufaro, 6-0 103: — Josh Sheehy (L) d Lucas Cimafonte, 4-2 112: — Dan Tibere (L) p Dan Cardoza, 119: — Adrian Betancourt (L) tf Devin

Ausbon, 15-0, 3:10 125: — Tristan Bundy (S) p Steve Dorcely, :39 (cradle) Lamar Cooper (L) md Dion Natale 14-1 135: — Felipe Ramirez (L) p Dom Pigna,

140: — Mike Steinfeld (S) d Carl Holley, 145: — Josh Foote (S) p Mosa Diab, 4:42 (Pancake)

Travis Foster (L) p Luke Vuono, 160: - Dan Castro (L) d John Devia, 8-

171: - Rob Clark (L) p Brian Laspe, 189: — Aziz Sarbashhev (L) p Jach Bouchakian, 2:35

WF Blue Devils Top Linden Tigers, 39-27

The Westfield High School wrestling team defeated the Linden Tigers, 39-30*, during a quad match in Elizabeth on January 30. *(According to the printout, Linden had 30 team points)

BOUT SEQUENCE: Austin Frank (L) won forfeit 103: — Mike Kalimtzis (W) won forfeit 112: — Dan Tibere (L) d Pat Currie, 5-3 119: — Adrian Betancourt (L) p Anthony Aldana, 3:21 125: — Keith Peterson (W) p Steve

Dorsely, :48
130: — Troy Skibitsky (W) p Lamar Cooper, 4:12
135: — Felipe Ramerez (L) d Ryan Jennings, 9-7 140: — Ellis Opoku (W) d Carl Holley, 5-0

145: — Christian Barber (W) p Mosa Diab, 1:31 152: — Travis Foster (L) p Brian Henry, 160: - Erik Gozdieski (W) p Dan Castro, 7:09 OT

171: — Bill Kim (W) p Rob Clark, 3:07 189: — Nick Currea (L) d Kieran Cline, 8-2 215: — Keron Smith (L) d Tom Snyder, 3-2 **Elizabeth Matmen Top**

Linden Tigers, 40-27 WEIGHT SEQUENCE:

103: — James Thevenin (E) tf J. Sheehy, 21-4 5:36 112: — Carlos Herrera (E) p Donell McMillan, 1:03 eve Rosario (E) md Danie Tibere, 15-6 125: — Ralph Stadler (E) md Adrian Betancourt, 15-6 130: — Lamar Cooper (L) d Jah Giullermo, 4-3 135: — D'ondre Floyd (E) d Felipe Ramirez, 5-1 140: — Carl Holley (L) p Jose Arias, 2:16 145: — George Travinsky (E) p Mosa Diab, 3:12 152: — Dan Castro (L) p Elijah Greene, 3:10 160: — Travis Foster (L) d Erick Ventura, 171: — Ezekiel Villafana (E) p Robert Clark, 3:07 189: — Maurice McCullers (E) p Keron Smith, 5:18 215: - Nick Currea (L) d Jeremy Portillo, Hwt: — Austin Frank (L) won forfeit



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By CYNTHIA LAM

I have a confession to make: I have a

drinking problem. And so does half the

school. The truth is, we have a serious

teen drinking problem on our hands.

steaming mugs of freshly brewed cof-

fee, cafeteria espresso, Starbucks

Frappuccinos and Dunkin' Donuts iced-

As the fastest growing coffee-drink-

ing group, teenagers are starting to drink

caffeine at a progressively younger age.

According to the National Coffee As-

sociation, the number of teenage coffee

drinkers has increased 25 percent in the

For many students, drinking coffee

has become a daily ritual, since it wakes us up early in the morning and keeps us

awake late at night. However, these

unhealthy consumption habits can lead

to caffeine addiction and kidney prob-

Association, teenagers can experience

nervousness, insomnia and high blood

pressure from too much caffeine, which

can also cause mood swings and physi-

of having stale "coffee breath" and

nine times the amount of caffeine in a

We are also exchanging our classic

cream and sugar cup o'joe for much

more complicated and decadent coffee

beverages, which are often full of extra

For example, a Dunkin' Donuts cof-

fee coolatta contains a whopping 14

grams of saturated fat and 340 calories

- the equivalent of a McDonald's

cheeseburger. As a result, these con-

sumption habits greatly contribute to

Every time we drink a cup of coffee,

we are giving up an opportunity to

enjoy a healthier beverage, like water

sive coffee-drinking also has heavy

economic repercussions; it often re-

quires a whole new source of revenue to

fund these habits. Consider paying \$2

every day for a cup of coffee; over the

course of one year, you'll be paying

\$712 for coffee alone. Now that's one

This money could be used to fund

While coffee provides an instant

more productive and beneficial goals,

like supporting Haiti reconstruction.

Aside from these health risks, exten-

sweeteners and unhealthy fats.

our national obesity epidemic.

stained teeth after drinking a 16-ounce Starbucks coffee, which has more than

As always, there is the dreaded fear

According to the American Dietetic

Nowadays, we see students carrying

That is, caffeine drinking.

lattes everywhere we look.

past year alone.

cal dependence.

can of Coke.

or juice.

expensive drink!

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morning boost, the best way to wake up

naturally is by getting enough sleep.

Since our busy schedules make it diffi-

cult to sleep nine hours, we can take a

quick shower or face wash in the morn-

These alternatives are still better than

drinking coffee, which keeps us awake

late at night, so that we cannot sleep

even if we want to, thus disrupting our

natural sleep pattern. It's no wonder

more and more teenagers are suffering

Afterwards, when we do fall asleep,

we end up feeling groggy and exhausted

in the morning, making it even more

difficult to concentrate throughout the

day.
This endless cycle can only stop when

we give up extensive coffee-drinking.

By entering "caffeine rehab" to fight

this addiction, we can slowly cut back

on the amount of caffeine we consume

each day. While it is fine to indulge

once in a while, since caffeine does

offer health benefits, we have become

At this age, our brains are still devel-

oping, and too much caffeine can dis-

rupt its growth. By addressing this prob-

lem while we are still young, we can

develop lifelong healthy habits to ben-

Cynthia is a junior at Westfield High

too dependent on this chemical.

efit future generations.

ing to feel immediately alert.

from sleep disorders!

THE STUDENT VIEW

The weekly column written by local high school students

Caffeine Nation

SCOTCHPLAINS-Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Principal David Heisey announced the school's

first marking period honor roll. To make the high honor roll, a student must earn straight A's if he or she is taking four or five subjects, or at least five A's and a maximum of

To make the honor roll, a student must earn no mark less than a B and at least three A's.

Freshmen High Honor Roll Zachary Brencsons, Abigail Bridge, Kaitlyn Budis, Brian Burns, Julie Busch, Anna Cannone, Dana Cappiccille, Christopher Ciccarino, Andrew Citera, Nathan Clark, Jackson Cochran-Carney, Kathleen Colonna, Nasim Dariani, Matthew Debiasse, Sari Dorn, Colleen Farrell, Scott Flanzman, Ryan Gajdzisz, Allison Geissler, Alexa Gelfand, Jason Gerstenfeld, Victoria Giamboi, Kerri Gilman, Paige Goldner, Justin Grambor, Emma Guidi, Emily Ho, Danielle Karacsony, Marianne Khalil, Jessica Klein, Nicole Lamastra, David Leavitt, Andrew Leischner, Christie Leist, Elsa Leistikow, Thomas Magelinski, Maxim Maltsev, Maxine Marvosa, Kelsey Meisch, Gabrielle Mendes, Julia Mendes, Olivia Mendes, Jonathan Miksis, Tessa Mitterhoff, Christine Monroy, Mitchell Naveh, Olivia Nelson, Kristen Northrup, Benjamin Oster, Alex Ozdamar, Jesse Ozdamar, Tara Palkoski, Ariana Paradiso, Meredith Parker, Savvas Petridis, Carly Prowe, Amanda Raphael, Carly Redfield, Lyndsay Reed, Chandler Reeson, Michael Rempter, Bridget Reynolds, Amanda Rimpici, Elise Ringel, Anna Rivero, Karla Rizzi, Leah Salituro, Kristen Schiavo, Hailee Sciara, Leila Shevins, Tristan Sizemore,

Andrew Wheeler, Michael White, Lindsey Wilkinson, Caitlin Worthey, Amy Zhuang Freshmen Honor Roll

Jeremy Sonpar, Alexandra Sullivan, Taylor Swaak, Tara Sweeney, Justine Valdes, Mary

Van Natta, Nicholas Verdiramo, Joanna Walker,

Aashay Anjaria, Stephanie Araneo, Robert Barone, Brynne Bartiromo, Jeremy Berkowitz, Jordan Bernstein, Vincenzo Bianco, Emily Boruch, Adam Bransky, Glenisha Brown, Mary Ellen Cagnassola, Benjamin Caldora, William Castore, Connor Cheney, Zachary Ciabattari, Luke Crawford, Nicholas Demmel, Maria Didario, Amanda Espinoza, Jason Fortunato. Sarah Freeman, Alicia Fung-A-Fat, Kayla Giordanella, Julie Glover, Haley Goeller, Alyssa Hartstein, Eryn Hopkins, Hadley Jones, Victoria Karakis, Jacob Kennedy, Jason Klee, Lauren Koederitz, Madeline Krema, Kelly Lapham, Caroline Leahy, George Leavitt, Jason Leong, Alyssa Leyden, Zachary Lisojo, Briana Lolo, Patricia Magnus, Kiril Makarenko, Paige Mankin, Maxwell Mansilla, Jacob Margulies, Tyler Martin, Morris May, Ryan McAnulty, Danielle McDuffie, Christine Miklas, Emily Miller, Gabriele Miller, Enovi Molina-Chevez, Jav Morris, Aurora Morton, Rae Moses, Rachel Naugle, Hannah Nizri, Kelly O'Leary, Renee Oliver, Lee Ann Orenczak, Kelly Peck, Steven Pedersen, Alexandra Peluso, Megan Phelan, Annabelle Ponterdolph, Nikell Porter, Aidan Racaniello, Kevin Raszka, Jamie Rauch, Haley Regan, Corentin Rejaud, Samantha Renfree, Dein Rice, Kathryn Rodriguez, Jacqueline Roiz, Marc Louis Rosario, Michael Rosenheck, Nadia Samman, Dylan Sands, Amanda Schroder, Andrew Schwartz, Alexander Segulin, Kimberly Shaw, Deirdre Sheridan, Joshua Simon, Molly Solomon, Kayla Spector, Zoe-Nicole Stein, Christopher Stone, Jo Venice Uriarte, Nathaniel Woerner, Tal Zaksenberg

Sophomore High Honor Roll

Alyssa Apuzzio, Rachel Armus, Lisa Awaitey, William Babis, Elizabeth Baldwin, Elijahu Ben-Michael, Dominika Blach, Kelsey Boyea, Emma Budiansky, Christopher Burke, Feresa Cannone, Laura Cappelli, Daniela Caro-Esposito, Emma Cavaliere, Krystel Charles, Olivia Checchio, Ara Cho, Jacqueline Cirincione, Isabel Crystal, Russell Davis, Alivia Demaria, Jennifer Denman, Rosalie DePaola, Madelyne Dhaliwal, Margaret Diaz, Sama Diaz, John DiBattista, Joseph Dunn, Ramona Dunning, Lauren Eckert, Destinee Edwards, Alexandra Ehrenthal, Luke Emnas, Kori Fleischman, Jaclyn Friedman, Jillian Gardner, Molly Gechtman, Joshua Getman, Brenda Ho, Stephanie Holmes, Joshua Knechtel, Anthony Krajcsik, Alyssa Laki, Alexandra Loop, EdwardLopez, Evan Lubranski, Brigid Mcgovern, Jake Metsky, Matthew Monroy, Varshini Narayanan, Daniel Nizolak, Margaret O'Brien, Raushan Paleiwala, Dhruvi Patel, Delanev Reimers, Margot Rejaud, Cassandra Segulin, Abigail Slaugh, Daniel Slegowski, Tracy Staeudle, Nicholas Stawicki, Emily Stefanik Michael Steinfeld, Chayakorn Triamarit, An-

Sophomore Honor Roll

Raphael Abella, Meghan Allen, Andrew Alonzo, Omar Amer, Donna Amore, Dara Baliatico, Allazandra Bass, Allison Begalman, Sean Bozkurt, Dominique Bray, Samuel Brown, Adam Carabba, Daniel Carabba, Zachary Carow, Jessica Cepparulo, Alec Chabus, Grant Crandall, Jordan Dagostaro, Taylor Dashiell, Francis Degnan, Erin Dempsey, Louis Dodge, Nicholas Donatelli, Casey Dugan, Katherine Fletcher, Noelle Giacona, Craig Gorbunoff, Allison Grimm, Sara Heiden, Kevin Hesson, Taylor Hoblitzell, Ian Johnston, Courtney Kaadi, Christina Karnel, Melissa Keiser, Sara Killeen, Ezra Klein, Hanaa Lakhani, Kristen Lee, Victoria Lesce, Robert Lockatell, Michael Mannino, James Marvosa, Anna McGuinness, Daniel

Local Student Named To Hamilton Dean's List

WESTFIELD - Katherine Meylor, daughter of Edward and Maureen Meylor of Westfield, has been named to the dean's list at Hamilton College for the 2009 fall semester.

A student must achieve a grade point average of 90 or above during the term to be placed on the dean's list.

Katherine, a sophomore, is a graduate of Westfield High School.

Black History Month Observed by UCC, Feb. 10

CRANFORD - On Wednesday, February 10, in observation of Black History Month, Union County College (UCC) will host a day of events, including a lecture on freedom, soul food, an African-American market and ending with an evening of music from the Newark Boys Chorus and the North Jersey Philharmonic Glee Club, during the 7th Annual Frederick

Douglass Birthday Celebration. All events will be held on the college's Cranford campus at 1033 Springfield Avenue and are open to the public.

The day will begin with a lecture at 10:15 a.m. in the Roy Smith Theater by a renowned scholar of slavery, Peter Kolchin, professor of History at the University of Delaware.

He will present "What Kind of Freedom? The Abolition of American Slavery and Russian Serfdom." Mr. Kolchin specializes in 19th-century U.S. history, the South, slavery, emancipation and comparative history.

At 11:30 a.m. in the Roy Smith

Theater, UCC students will participate in the 21st National African American Read In. Students will read excerpts from various works of literature and poetry.

Soul food will be served in the cafeteria, right off the Richel Commons, with a large selection of menu choices from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and cafeteria prices will apply.

The highlight of the evening, the Annual Dolores Collins Benjamin Memorial Concert, will begin at 7 p.m. when The Newark Boys Chorus gathers with North Jersey Philharmonic Glee Club to perform songs such as "This Little Light of Mine" and "Let There Be Music."

From 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the Victor M. Richel Student Commons will be an African-American Market, including vendors selling all types of products. For those interested in having a vendor table, contact Loren Ventrice at (908) 709-7579 or e-mail ventrice@ucc.edu

SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

First Marking Period

McMillan, Joseph McOuoid, Mariel Mital, Siddharth Nirmal, Chioma Onwuanaegbule, Marisol Pacaja, Emily Palmer, Sara Payne, Emma Pearson, Daniel Pesin, Bertram Peters, Bertram Peters, Kaitlin Picone, Erin Pierce, Mark Prowe, Melissa Quarto, Brandon Rodriguez, Carlie Roessle, Kathryn Romagnano, Annabelle Rosen, Benjamin Rosi, Benjamin Ross, Valerie Rovner, Olaa Said, Jose Sanchez, Justin Scholar, Jennifer Schwarz. Eli Silverstein, Andrew Skoog, Allison Speck, Taylor Sprague, Christine Szpond, Megha Tailor, Cynthia Timko, Erica Tropp, Marissa Visci, Callum Wayman, Sarah Weber, Jaime Weisbrot, Keira Wiggins, Kristina Zekunde

Junior High Honor Roll

Brie Adamczyk, Betsy Appel, Bria Barnes, Ellesse Bartosik, Emily Becker, Sam Bhakuni, Kyle Birnbaum, Erin Brown, Laura Bruce, Santino Butler, Toni-Ann Capece, Joanna Carroll, Marianna Caruso-Gilbert, Charles Centinaro, Hayley Cornwell, Matthew D'Apuzzo, Osazenoriuwa Ebose, Gregory Favreau, Amanda Ho, Peter Huether, Emma Kelly, Steven Klee, Ezra Klemow, Alison Koransky, Richard Krema, Anita Kwashie, Kenneth Lee, Katie Levitt, Alexa Levy, Conor Lockier, Hannah Markey, Shannon Mcgovern, Nathalia Montoya, Emily Nagourney, Jonah Offitzer, Benjamin Parisi, Alexander Parker, Michael Pesin, Christina Reiman, Michael Rizzo, Eve Rosenheck, James Sweeney, Georgeann Wallden, Amanda White, Caresse

Junior Honor Roll

Kimberley Agbo, Laura Arasin, Julia Babis, Emily Bayard, Tori Berman, Elle Bernardo, Celeste Bilkerdyk, Christina Bobyack, Lauren Buckley, Cassie Caminiti, Christopher Cerchio, Moussa Channaoui, Rebecca Chavan, Theresa Chrystal, Theresa Chrystal, Bret Coffey, Zachary Cohen, Evan Cole, Rahid Cornejo, Paige Della Badia, Stefanie Devizio, Jessica DiGiacomo, Jessica DiGiacomo, Madeline Dillon, Jalynn Farmer, Tessa Felegy, Frederick Feller, Anya Frolova, Hayley Geller, Christopher Gilman, Michael Goldstein, Yale Gordon, Richard Gorski, Elena Haggan, Emily Horowitz, John Howarth, John Howarth, Victoria Ingato, Julia Ingram, Briianna Irvin, Priyanka Kamath, Matthew Kersey, Rebecca Kreyer, Sarah Lazarus, Jillian Leahy, James Leitner, Christopher Lettera, Christina Lewis, Eric Leyden, Haley Lindenberg, Isabel Lopez, Raymond Lowrey, Brianna Mahoney, Kyle Mahoney, Jeffrey Marks, Taylor Marshall, Jessica Moore, Michael Napolitano, Michael Napolitano, Michael Parada, Hyun-Jin Park, Akshay Patel, Linsey Phelan, Annahelena Pimenta, Carrie Port, Stephanie Robak, Amanda Rodriguez, Anne Rubin, Jacob Schaffer, Danielle Schweizer, Charles Sciara, Jason Shaub, David Sherman, Evan Shlissel, Bryce Smith, Bartosz Stawicki, Sarah-Elisabeth Stein, Elizabeth Stranzenbach, Elizabeth Tenzer, Rose Thompson, Charles Timko, Gabrielle Vacca, Andrew Vaslas, Hollis Wang, Ryan Wheeler, Norman Whitehouse, Lauren Williams, Jessica Yorkovich, Kelly Yutz, Sharon Yutz, Courtney Zyla

Senior High Honor Roll

Matthew Alfano, Stephanie Baier, Stephanie Baliko, Lauren Belfer, Steven Berkowitz, Marissa Berlant, Danielle Bernstein, Hagop Bouchakjian, Karolyn Buckridee, Christopher Buldo, Jeremy Busch, Sarah Canfield, Graceann Caramico, Timothy Carroll, Sophie Chou, Cyril Collantes, Victoria Dalessandro, Alexander Davis, Jacqueline Depew, Vangelis Dimopoulos, Marisa Dolan, Lyndsey Douglas, Brian Dunn. Luke Durett. Zachary Flanzman, Christopher Fortunato, Matthew Glassett, Melissa Goldberg, Samantha Goldner, Alexander Graham, Matthew Harris, Noorene Helm, Samantha Henderson, Michael Henkels, Lauren Hirschhorn, Caitlin Hoynes-O'Connor. Maxim Kachalov, William Kaiserman, Jeffrey Kranz, Leigh Kwasny Michelene Lambros, Evan Levine, Kyle

Mattson, John Maxwell, Ryan Mcternan, Sruthi Narayanan, Daniel Nizri, Adam Offitzer, Neha Pannuri, Gina Pelosi, Kerry Pierce, Alexandra Price, Dante Purdue, Ryan Reeson, Dena Rice, Traci Rigano, Lindsay Robinson, Lara Rosato, Troy Sacks, Carrie Salem, Matthew Sawchuk, Stephen Scannell, Maria Seidel, Mackenzie Sizemore, Vanessa Stanback, Gregory Stein, Thomas Strowe, Aleksandra Szczuka, Tracy Toffolo, Andrew Van Haasteren, Emily Weinstock, Brandon Wheeler, Erica Wise

Senior Honor Roll

Stephen Allen, Mohammed Alzoobaee, Michael Baliatico, Alecia Battle, Jordan Bayroff, Charles Beelitz, Steven Bello, Rachel Blom, Rebecca Brand, Amelia Brause, Alessandri Bubnov, Tristan Bundy, Lauren Casserly, Indranath Chattopadhyay, Bianca Chaves, Jessica Colineri, Kaitlynn Colligan, Zaria Combs, Shanise Crawley, Charles Cummings, Devon Daly, Joseph D'Annunzio, Michael Demmel, Brian Dempsey, Meghan Denman, Francesca DiCataldo, Kathryn Dinizo, Rebecca Dunn, Corey Fields, Kathryn Foley, Joshua Foote, Robert Frazee, Christopher Freeman, Kelly Gajdzisz, Katrina Gans, Toni Ann Gattozzi, Jennifer Geoghegan, Adriana Gerritsen, Carly Goldner, Matthew Goor, Samantha Hanciles, Michael Harrison, Edward Heavey, Johan Hernandez, Sarah Hoffman, Nicholas Jastrzebski, Alexandra Joy, Brian Kahn, Hershita Kaushik, Zachary Koch, Amy Kocot, David Kreps, Agatha Kuza, Agatha Kuza, Stephanie Leon, Alyson Linsenberg, Blake Lyons, Morgan Maisel, Kimberly Many, Louis Mazzella, William McColly, Delia McGee, Todd Morling, Timothy Nering, Amanda Nguyen, Katarina Nier, Nicole Ostrowski, Kamisha Patillo, Alfredo Pawid, Jason Pearl, Alexis Pigna, Allison Prestridge, Morgan Puleo, Robert Purdon, Christopher Reade, Shannon Reimers, Michael Riesenberg, Monica Rodriguez, Jorge Rodriguez-Larrain, Jenna Romaine, Julia Ross, Kelsey Rossi, Laura Ruesch, Alanna Salituro, Perry Sandrock, Eddie Sangern, Taylor Schon, Jessica Schroder, Devon Sepe, Victoria Shack, Claire Shashaty, Christopher Shea, Sean Shukla, Theres Sigona, Courtney Smeltzer, Courtney Smeltzer, Christopher Smith, Valerie Smith, Lauren Steinbeck, Amy Rose Stephen, Sarah Strong, Justin Terry, Laura Toffolo, Devra Traiman, Benjamin Ungar, David Van Wert, Katie Vaughn, Siwei Wang, Kevin Welch, Kimberly Wenson, Cassandra Zito



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Richard Swicker, 79, Witness to History **During Long Career In Broadcast TV**

Richard Swicker

Richard "Swick" Kerwin Swicker, 79, of Westfield, N.J. died on Thursday, January 28, at Kindred Hospital of Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in Rahway after a long ill-

ness. He was born in West Chester, Pa. in 1930, the son of Lester and Eileen Swicker, and grew up in Ridgewood and Bernardsville, N.J.

Swick graduated from Bernards High in Bernardsville, N.J. in 1948 and from Dartmouth College, Class of '52. He served in the Army from 1952 to 1954. His long career in

broadcast television began with NBC as a unit manager in the News and Entertainment division. Later, he worked as a freelance unit manager for all the major networks, as well as for PBS.

His assignments took him all over the world, the most special of which found him in East Africa filming an ABC documentary called "Africa." It was televised in 1966 as a four-hour broadcast without interruption, a "first" at that time. Swick was a witness to history in the coverage of the March on Selma, as well as the funeral of President John F. Kennedy and the Gemini space missions for NASA.

During his NBC years, he was proud to have been involved in the Kraft Theatre production of Walter Lord's "A Night to Remember," about the sinking of the *Titanic*. NBC had constructed a model of the main saloon and staircase in the Brooklyn

studios, and the drama was broadcast live, there being no videotaping in those days. In his last years before retirement, after returning to NBC, he worked on "The Cosby Show,"

> where the kitchen set featured a mortar and pestle on the kitchen counter that had been hand-turned by

After retirement, he went to England to train in the art of woodturning, and later opened a workshop in Westfield specializing in that art.

Swick is survived by his wife of 55 years, Laura Annesley Chase Swicker, and four children, Captain Charles "Chip" Swicker, USN and his wife, Gayle,

of Vienna, Va., Bruce R. Swicker of New York City, Peter C. Swicker and his wife, Violy, of El Paso, Tex., and Laura A. Barber of Westfield. Also surviving are two grandchildren, Sydney Chase Barber of Westfield and Isaac Thomas Swicker of El Paso, Tex.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, February 6, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Westfield, where he and his wife have been members for over 50 years. Interment will be in the church Garth, after which all are invited to a lunch reception in the Parish Hall.

Arrangements are by the Gray Funeral Home, 318 East Broad Street in Westfield.

The family asks that in lieu of flowers, contributions be made in his memory to St. Paul's Church or to the Salvation Army (Haiti Relief).

Herbert Blevins, 93, Merck Executive; **Active In Church and Fanwood Lions**

Herbert H. Blevins, 93, died on Wednesday, January 27, at Fellowship Village in Basking Ridge.

Born in Kansas to Walter and Hazel Blevins, he had lived in Fanwood before moving to Scotch Plains in 1955. He resided at Fellowship Village since 2001 and also maintained a residence in Key Biscayne, Fla. for 10 years.

Mr. Blevins graduated from Kansas State University. After graduation, he joined Lybrand, Ross Bros. and Montgomery before entering the United States Air Force. He served in the Air Force from 1941 to 1946, rising to the rank of lieutenant colonel. Upon leaving the service, he was employed by Merck & Co., Inc. in Rahway for 32 years, retiring in 1979 as Vice President of Management Information Sys-

He was a charter member of the Fanwood Lions Club and a longtime member of the Fanwood Presbyterian Church, where he served as an elder and trustee for the church. Additionally, Mr. Blevins served as a trustee for Union

County College and its foundation for 20 years and as a member, president and chairman of the Financial Executives Institute.

His wife of 65 years, Neva Payne Blevins, and his daughter, Dixie Lee Blevins, predeceased him.

Surviving are his son, Robert L. Blevins, D.M.D., and his wife, Susan, of Exton, Pa.; his daughter, Patti Baird, and her husband, Edward, of Scotch Plains, and three grandchildren, Scott Blevins, Rebecca Blevins Sellers and Kristen Baird.

Services were held on Saturday, January 30, at the Memorial Funeral Home, 155 South Avenue in Fanwood. Interment followed at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield.

Those who wish may make memorial contributions to the Kansas State University Foundation for the Herbert and Neva Blevins Scholarship Fund, 2323 Anderson Avenue, Manhattan, Kan. 66502. For additional information or to express condolences, please visit www.fanwoodmemorial.com.





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Gray Memorial Funeral Home 12 Springfield Ave. Cranford, NJ 07016 Dale R. Schoustra Mgr. NJ Lic. Number 3707 (908)-276-0092

Charles J. Tombs NJ Lic. Number 4006 Director

www.grayfuneralhomes.com

Obituaries

The Mestfield Leader and The Scotch Plains - Fanwood TIMES

William Geary, 90, U.S. Navy Veteran; Was Active Volunteer and Family Man

William Russell Geary, 90, of Scotch Plains passed away on Mon-

Bill (Brud) was born to James and Lillian Geary of Lyndhurst, N.J. on April 10, 1919. He spent his growing up years in Lyndhurst with his late

rounded by a loving family and friends.

the Battle of Leyte Gulf involving

the Knights of Columbus 1711.

Bill loved his faith and lived it well as a loving son, husband and father. A very special and caring man, affectionately called "Grumpies" by his grandchildren, Bill leaves behind his loving wife of 64 years, Fran; his six daughters, Patricia Norton and her husband, William, Kathleen Van Horn and her husband, Robert, Maureen Brosnan, wife of the late Ted, Ellen Geary, Jean McCloskey and her husband, Sterling, and Marybeth Bedrosian and her husband, Jack; his

SHERIFF'S SALE

SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-10000199 SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY UNION COUNTY

Plaintiff: LSF6 MERCURY REO INVEST-MENTS, LLC

VS.
Defendant: ANTHONY T DAVIS AND NICOLE
YS. OTATE OF NEW JERSEY; Defendant: ANTHONYT DAVIS AND NICOLE DAVIS, HIS WIFE; STATE OF NEW JERSEY; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; BURLINGTON COUNTY WELFARE BOARD; CHARLOTTE SEDITA; CARE ONE AT MERCER L; SYNERGY BANK F/K/A FIRST BANK OF CENTRAL NEW JERSEY; WORLDWIDE ASSET PURCHASHING LLC, ASSIGNEE OF DIRECT MERCHANT BANK NA; NU SUN FINANCIAL SEDVICES LLC.

MERCHANT BANK NA; NU SUN FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC
Sale Date: 02/24/2010
Writ of Execution: 12/02/2009
By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETH-TOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, New Jersey on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.

The judgment amount is: ***Four Hundred One Thousand Thirty Six and 32/100*** \$401,036.32.

\$401 036 32

The property to be sold is located in the BOR-OUGH of FANWOOD, County of UNION, State

OUGH of FANWOOD, County of UNION, State of New Jersey.

Tax LOT 73 BLOCK 116
COMMONLY KNOWN AS 15 TRENTON AVENUE, FANWOOD, NEW JERSEY 07023
Dimensions of the Lot are (Approximately)
REFER TO SCHEDULE A
Total Upset: ***Four Hundred Seventy Thousand One Hundred Twenty Nine and 97/100***
\$470,129.53 together with lawful interest and costs.

costs.

The sale is subject to unpaid taxes and assessments, tax, water and sewer liens and other municipal assessments. The amount due can be obtained from the local taxing authority. Pursuant to NJSA 46:8B-21 the sale may also be subject to the limited lien priority of any condominium/homeowner association liens which may exist

exist.

Surplus Money: If after the sale and satisfaction of the mortgage debt, including costs and expenses, there remains any surplus money, the money will be deposited into the Superior Court Trust Fund and any person claiming the surplus, or any part thereof, may file a motion pursuant to Court Rules 4:64-3 and 4:57-2 stating the nature and extent of that person's claim and asking for an order directing payment of the surplus money. The Sheriff or other person conducting the sale will have information regarding the surplus, if any.

any.

There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office.

The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale for any length of time without further advertisement.

Ralph Froehlich Attorney: SHAPIRO & PEREZ, LLP - ATTORNEYS 14000COMMERCE PARKWAY

SUITE B MOUNT LAUREL, NEW JERSEY 08054 (856) 793-3080 4 T - 1/28, 2/4, 2/11 & 2/18/10



William R. Geary

enue in Fanwood.

15 grandchildren, William Jr. and his

wife, Stephanie, Christopher and his

wife, Beth, Lauren and her husband,

Jared, Kelly and her husband, Glen,

Erin, Tim and his wife, Dee, Kayti,

Patrick, Drew, Evan, Brendan, Adam,

Jack, Alyssa and Peter, and his nine

great-grandchildren,

Audrey, Will, Sarah,

James, William, Aidan,

Thea Clare, Francie

A Funeral Mass was

offered on Saturday,

January 30, at the Im-

maculate Heart of Mary

Church. Interment fol-

lowed at Fairview Cem-

Arrangements were

under the direction of

the Memorial Funeral

Home, 155 South Av-

etery in Westfield.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be

made to Center for Hope Hospice,

1900 Raritan Road, Scotch Plains, N.J.

07076 or to the Scotch Plains Rescue

Squad, P.O. Box 325, Scotch Plains,

N.J. 07076. For additional informa-

tion or to express condolences, please

Genevieve Trojanowski

River died on Wednesday, January 27,

at her daughter's home in Fanwood.

was a longtime resident of Toms River.

Genevieve Trojanowski, 89, of Toms

Born and raised in Elizabeth, she

Mrs. Trojanowski had been em-

ployed with the Township of Toms

River at the Winding River Skating

Her husband, Walter, predeceased

Surviving are her daughter, Kathy

Kapner and her husband, George; two

granddaughters, Diane Connelly and

her husband, Chris, and Danielle

Kapner; her great-grandson, William

Walter Connelly; two sisters,

Catherine Gill and Wanda Redzinak,

The funeral was held on Monday,

February 1, from the Memorial Fu-

neral Home, 155 South Avenue in

Fanwood. A Funeral Mass followed

at St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church

in Westfield. Interment took place at

For additional information or to

express condolences, please visit

February 4, 2010

www.fanwoodmemorial.com.

St. Gertrude Cemetery in Colonia.

and her brother, Edward Stefanik.

Rink before retiring last year.

visit www.fanwoodmemorial.com.

Maré and Delaney.

day, January 25, at his home.

brother, James, sur-

community of extended In 1939 Bill enlisted

in the 7th Battalion United States Navy Reserve and then served in World War II aboard the USS Borie (destroyer) and the USS Darter (submarine). Bill was a machinist in the engine room of this submarine, which played a pivotal role in

32 Japanese warships.

After the war ended in 1945, Bill married the love of his life, Frances Fitzgerald. They first settled in Bloomfield, N.J. and then moved to Scotch Plains in 1953, where they raised their six daughters. Bill and Fran were very involved in Cana and CYO at St. Bartholomew the Apostle Roman Catholic Church in Scotch Plains when their family was young. He worked for Blocker Corporation and then as a steamfitter with Local 475 before retiring. Once retired, Bill volunteered for many years at Children's Specialized Hospital of Mountainside, as well as at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Roman Catholic Church in Scotch Plains, where he was an usher, a member of the Holy Name Society and a volunteer in the Food Pantry. He also was a member of

Bill enjoyed traveling, attending his Naval reunions, golf, dancing and anything Notre Dame. At the age of 80, Bill fulfilled his dream of traveling to Ireland with his family.

SHERIFF'S SALE

SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-10000189
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
CHANCERY DIVISION
UNION COUNTY
DOCKET NO. F-47425-08
Plaintiff: DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL
TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR GSAMP
2006-FM1
VS.

2006-FM1
VS.
Defendant: EDUARDO ZUNIGA; CAROLINA
ZUNIGA; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.
Sale Date: 02/24/2010
Writ of Execution: 12/10/2009
By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution
to me directed I shall expose for sale by public
vendue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETHTOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, New Jersey on
WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of
said day. All successful bidders must have 20%
of their bid available in cash or certified check at
the conclusion of the sales.
The judgment amount is: ***Three Hundred
Sixty Seven Thousand Three Hundred Eighty
Eight and 45/100*** \$367,388.45.
Property to be sold is located in the Township
of Scotch Plains, County of Union, State of New
Jersey.

Premises commonly known as: 2089 LYDE PLACE, SCOTCHPLAINS, NEWJERSEY 07076 BEING KNOWN as LOT 20, BLOCK 2703, on the Official Tax Map of the Township of Scotch Plains

the official Tax Map of the Township of Scotch Plains
Dimensions: 125.00 feet x 50.00 feet x 125.00 feet x 50.00 feet x 50.00 feet x 125.00 feet x 125.0

any.
There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office.
The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale for any length of time without further advertisement

Attorney:
PHELAN HALLINAN & SCHMIEG, PC
400 FELLOWSHIP ROAD
SUITE 100
MOUNT LAUREL, NEW JERSEY 08054
(856) 813-5500
4 T - 1/28, 2/4, 2/11
& 2/18/10
Fee: \$1





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Elizabeth 'Betty' Ryan, 65, Teacher; Realtor With The Alan Johnston Co.

Elizabeth "Betty" Ryan, 65, of Bluffton, S.C., formerly of Westfield, died on Thursday, January 28, at home.

A graduate of Kean University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education, Betty taught third grade at the Morton Street School in Newark and Frank K. Hehnly School in Clark. She also was a longtime Westfield resident and a realtor with The

Alan Johnston Co. in Mountainside. Betty was a member of The Presbyterian Church in Westfield and The Lowcountry Presbyterian Church in Bluffton. She enjoyed membership and residence at Colleton River Plantation in Bluffton and membership at Echo Lake Country Club in Westfield. Betty loved being with her grand-

SHERIFF'S SALE

SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-10000163 SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION UNION COUNTY
DOCKET NO. F-31107-07
Plaintiff: ROMA BANK

VS.
Defendant: 218 PARK AVENUE ASSOCIATES, LLC, ET ALS
Sale Date: 02/17/2010
Writ of Execution: 09/09/2009
By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETHTOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, New Jersey on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at

the conclusion of the sales.
The judgment amount is: ***Six Hundred Twenty Five Thousand Three Hundred Eighty One and 81/100*** \$625,381.81. 219park.roma Property Schedule A

Schedule A
County of Union
State of New Jersey
Township of Scotch Plains
BLOCK 1802 LOT 13
219 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey
Lot Size: 63 x 164
Nearest Cross Street: Sunset Place
Total Upset: ****Six Hundred Ninety Three
Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Eight and 25/
100*** \$693,268.25 together with lawful interest
and costs.

Surplus Money: If after the sale and satisfacsolution of the mortgage debt, including costs and expenses, their remains any surplus money, the money will be deposited into the Superior Court Trust Fund and any person claiming the surplus, or any part thereof, may file a motion pursuant to Court Rules 4:64-3 and 4:57-2 stating the nature and extent of that person's claim and asking for an order directing payment of the surplus money. The Sheriff or other person conducting the sale will have information regarding the surplus, i

any.

There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office.

The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale for any length of time without further advertisement. Ralph Froehlich Sheriff

Attorney:
RUDOLPH A. PALOMBI, JR., ESQUIRE
1300 KUSER ROAD, 2ND FLOOR
HAMILTON, NEW JERSEY 08619
(609) 581-1721
4 T - 1/21, 1/28, 2/4
8 2/11/10 Fee: \$1

SHERIFF'S SALE SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-09007023 SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION UNION COUNTY

DOCKET NO. F-44521-08
Plaintiff: INDYMAC FEDERAL BANK, FSB

Defendant: CLAUDIA DUPLAA AND GABRIEL Sale Date: 02/10/2010

Writ of Execution: 11/09/2009
By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, IST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETH-TOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, New Jersey on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.

The judgment amount is: ***Six Hundred Six Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Eight and 06/100*** \$606,568.06.

100*** \$606,568.06.
Property to be sold is located in: Township of Scotch Plains, County of Union, in the State of

Scotich Plains, County of Union, in the State of New Jersey. Premises commonly known as: 1118 Lincoln Avenue, Scotich Plains, New Jersey 07076 Tax Lot: 10; Block: 8703 Approximate Dimensions: 000.172 AC Neares Cross Street: Evelyn Street Taxes: 4th Quarter Taxes 2009 (Base Amount) \$2.529.32*

\$2,529.32"
Sewer: (Base Amount) \$250.00*
"Plus interest on these figures through date of payoff and any and all subsequest taxes, water and sewer amounts.
Total Upset: ""Six Hundred Seventy One Thousand Seven Hundred Forty and 00/100***
\$671,740.00 together with lawful interest and costs.

costs.

Surplus Money: If after the sale and satisfaction of the mortgage debt, including costs and expenses, there remains any surplus money, the money will be deposited into the Superior Court Trust Fund and any person claiming the surplus, or any part thereof, may file a motion pursuant to Court Rules 4:64-3 and 4:57-2 stating the nature and extent of that person's claim and asking for an order directing payment of the surplus money. The Sheriff or other person conducting the sale will have information regarding the surplus, if any

any.

There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office.

The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale for any length of time without further adversage.

Ralph Froehlich Attorney:
PARKER MC CAY - ATTORNEYS
7001 LINCOLN DRIVE WEST
THREE GREENTREE CENTRE - PO BOX 974

MARLTON, NEW JERSEY 08053-097 MARLION, NEV. CE. (856) 596-8900 4 T - 1/14, 1/21, 1/28 Fee: \$169.32

SHERIFF'S SALE

SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-10000028 SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION UNION COUNTY DOCKET NO. F-9564-08 Plaintiff: AURORA LOAN SERVICES, LLC

Plaintiff: AURORA LOAN SERVICES, LLC VS.
Defendant: DANIEL U. OVIEDO, MRS.
OVIEDO, WIFE OF DANIEL U. OVIEDO, MRS.
FOR FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION
Sale Date: 02/17/2010
Writ of Execution: 11/18/2009
By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETH-TOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, New Jersey on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.
The judgment amount is: ***Six Hundred Eighty Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Seventeen and 97/100*** \$688,717.97.
MUNICIPALITY: Mountainside Borough, COUNTY: Union, STATE OF New Jersey.
STREET AND STREET NO. 1413 Wipporwill Way, TAX BLOCK AND LOT: Block 3.F, Lot 4 DIMENSIONS OF LOT: 122.71 feet x 6 feet NEAREST CROSS STREET: New Providence Road
SUPERIOR INTERESTS (if any): NONE

Road
SUPERIOR INTERESTS (if any): NONE
Total Upset: ***Seven Hundred Sixty Four
Thousand Two Hundred Seventy Five and 29/
100***\$764,275.29 together with lawful interest 100*** \$764,275.29 together with lawful interest and costs.
Surplus Money: If after the sale and satisfaction of the mortgage debt, including costs and expenses, there remains any surplus money, the money will be deposited into the Superior Court Trust Fund and any person claiming the surplus, or any part thereof, may file a motion pursuant to Court Rules 4:64-3 and 4:57-2 stating the nature and extent of that person's claim and asking for an order directing payment of the surplus money. The Sheriff or other person conducting the sale will have information regarding the surplus, if any.

any.

There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office.

The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale for any length of time without further advertisement.

Ralph Froehlich Sheriff Attorney:
POWERS KIRN - COUNSELORS
728 MARINE HIGHWAY
PO BOX 848 - SUITE 200
MOORESTOWN, NEW JERSEY 08057
(856) 802-1000
4 T - 1/21, 1/28, 2/4
8 2/11/10
Fee: \$

Fee: \$157.08

children and had a passion for bridge and the game of Sudoku.

Surviving are her husband of 42 wonderful years, Peter Ryan, and her younger daughter, Allison Gaffney of Monmouth Beach, her husband, Brian, and their two children, Brendan and Matthew. She also is survived by her sister, Maryann Campanella of Linden. Her older daughter, Jennifer, predeceased her.

Elizabeth Ryan Services will be held on Wednesday, February 10, at 11 a.m. at The Presbyterian Church in Westfield. Burial will follow in the church's Revolutionary War Cemetery. A memorial service will be held on Thursday, February 18, at 1:30 p.m. at The Lowcountry Presbyterian Church in Bluffton, S.C.

Sauls Funeral Home of Bluffton, S.C. is assisting the family with their arrangements (www.saulsfh.com).

Charlotte Pfeiffer

Charlotte Pfeiffer of Westfield passed away on Wednesday, January 27, at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in Rahway.

Born in New York City, she resided in Westfield for many years. Ms. Pfeiffer was employed by Whalen's Garage in Westfield as a secretary for several years.

Surviving are her nephew, Edward Murray, and nieces, Denise Connors and Debbie Connors-Sorrentino.

Visitation will take place from 7 to 9 p.m. today, Thursday, February 4, at the Dooley Colonial Home, 556 Westfield Avenue in Westfield.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 10 a.m. tomorrow, Friday, February 5, at the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church in Westfield. Interment will follow at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield.

Donations in her memory may be made to Holy Trinity School, 336 First Street, Westfield, N.J. 07090.

SHERIFF'S SALE SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-10000493 SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION

DOCKET NO. F-47370-08
Plaintiff: INDYMAC BANK, FSB VS.
Defendant: ROBIN V BROWN
Sale Date: 03/03/2010
Writ of Execution: 12/17/2009
By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution

to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETHTOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, New Jersey on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of seit due. said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at

The judgment amount is: ***Four Hundred Eighty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Five and 74/100*** \$489,505.74.
The property to scale in the second The property to be sold is located in the Township of Scotch plains, County of Union and State

Commonly known as: 516 Rolling Peaks Way, Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076. Tax Lot No. 12 in Block No. 6001. Dimension of Lot Approximately: .310 AC Nearest Cross Street: Madison Avenue

Being known and designated as lot 23 in block 157 as shown on map entitled, "Map of Rolling Peaks" duly filed in Union County Clerk's Office on September 23, 1969 as Filed Map No. 851-A. Prior Liens/Encumbrances
Taxes \$2,311.22, Sewer + Penalty \$250.00
Total as of January 4, 2010: \$2,561.222
Total Upset: ***Five Hundred Forty Five Thousand Nine Nundred Ninety One and 68/100***
\$545,991.68 together with lawful interest and

Surplus Money: If after the sale and satisfacsupplies woney. If after the saie and satisfaction of the mortgage debt, including costs and expenses, there remains any surplus money, the money will be deposited into the Superior Court Trust Fund and any person claiming the surplus, or any part thereof, may file a motion pursuant to Court Rules 4:64-3 and 4:57-2 stating the nature and extent of that person's claim and asking for an order directing payment of the surplus money. The Sheriff or other person conducting the sale

will have information regarding the surplus, it any.

There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office.

The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale for any length of time without further adver-Ralph Froehlich

Attorney: FEIN, SUCH, KAHN & SHEPARD, PC 7 CENTURY DRIVE SUITE 201 PARSIPPANY, NEW JERSEY 07054

(973) 538-4700 4 T - 2/4, 2/11, 2/18 Fee: \$169.32

SHERIFF'S SALE SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-09006969 SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION UNION COUNTY DOCKET NO. F-34667-08 Plaintiff: CHASE HOME FINANCE LLC

Plaintiff: CHASE HOME FINANCE LLC VS.
Defendant: THOMAS ANDREW BECKER, SUMMIT BANK, FIA CARD SERVICES, N.A. Sale Date: 02/03/2010
Writ of Execution: 11/20/2009
By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETH-TOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, New Jersey on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.
The judgment amount is: ***One Hundred Twenty Thousand Nine Hundred Two and 19/100*** \$120,902.19.
The property to be sold is located in the Town of Westfield, County of Union and State of New Jersey.

of Westfield, County of Union and State of New Jersey.
Premises commonly known as: 410 Springfield Avenue, Westfield, New Jersey 07090.
Being Known as Lot 26, Block 1905, on the official Tax Map of the Town of Westfield Dimensions: 50.51 feet x 422.13 feet x 50.000 feet x 415.00 feet
Nearest Cross Street: Nomahegan Drive Total Upset: **Tone Hundred Forty One Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Four and 69/100**** \$141,384.69 together with lawful interest and costs.

sand Three Hundred Eighty Four and 69/100-15
\$141,384.69 together with lawful interest and costs.

Subject to any unpaid taxes, municipal liens or other charges, and any such taxes, charges, liens, insurance premiums or other advances made by plaintiff prior to this sale. All interested parties are to conduct and rely upon their own independent investigation to ascertain whether or not any outstanding interest remain of record and/or have priority over the lien being fore-closed and, if so the current amount due thereon. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagor's attorney.

Surplus Money: If after the sale and satisfaction of the mortgage debt, including costs and expenses, there remains any surplus money, the money will be deposited into the Superior Court Trust Fund and any person claiming the surplus, or any part thereof, may file a motion pursuant to Court Rules 4:64-3 and 4:57-2 stating the nature and extent of that person's claim and asking for an order directing payment of the surplus money. The Sheriff or other person conducting the sale will have information regarding the surplus, if any.

There is a full legal description on file in the

any.

There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office.

The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale for any length of time without further advertisement.

Ralph Froehlich

Attorney:
PHELAN HALLINAN & SCHMIEG, PC
400 FELLOWSHIP ROAD, SUITE 100
MOUNT LAUREL, NEW JERSEY 08054
(856) 813-5500
4 T - 1/14, 1/21, 1/28
& 2/4/10
Fee: \$1

Fee: \$189.72

Kent Place Ethics Institute Presents Free Lecture

SUMMIT – The Ethics Institute at Kent Place School will present bestselling author and renowned speaker Chris Lowney on Wednesday, February 10, at 7:30 p.m. in the Great Room of the new Academic Center on the Kent Place campus.

His talk, "Heroic Living: Discover Your Purpose and Change the World," is free and open to the public.

"Chris will challenge our assumptions about leadership, and invite us to embrace our leadership role and potential regardless of our position and walk of life. He will highlight the imperative for principled leadership in a complex, fast-changing 21st century," said Karen Rezach, director of the Ethics Institute at Kent Place, as well as director of the middle school.

Mr. Lowney is a one-time Jesuit seminarian who later served as a managing director for JP Morgan and Company on three continents. His first book, "Heroic Leadership: Best Practices from a 450-Year-Old Company that Changed the World," was the number-one-ranked bestseller of the CBPA (Catholic Book Publishers Association) and was named a finalist for a 2003 Book of the Year Award from ForeWord magazine.

The recently published "Heroic Living: Discover Your Purpose and Change the World" is a life strategy that marries age-old spiritual wisdom to the best modern management ideas.

In 2006, Mr. Lowney undertook a 250-mile walking pilgrimage along medieval routes toward Santiago de Compostela to raise money for "Pilgrimage for Our Children's Future," a nonprofit organization (pocf.org), which has enabled education opportunities for heroic young children such as AIDS orphans in Nairobi slums and children raised in the shadow of the Philippines' largest garbage dump.

The first-of-its-kind at the elementary and secondary school levels, the Ethics Institute at Kent Place's mission is to provide opportunities for ethical education to not only students, but also to educators, parents and the greater community.

The institute envisions a world in which people can call upon their values to make ethically sound decisions, to understand the value system that informs their decisions and to realize that in a global world, one may have to live with the tension of not coming to the same decisions on issues that help shape our world.

For further information, visit kentplace.org/ethics_institute. Kent Place is located at 42 Norwood Avenue in Summit.

Percussionists Perform February 6 at SPFHS

SCOTCH PLAINS — World-renowned percussionists will take center stage performing and teaching their various techniques for the community and music students from New Jersey at the annual Day of Percussion this Saturday, February 6, at

Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School. High school and college percussion ensembles from Randolph, Metuchen, Rahway, North Brunswick and Scotch Plains-Fanwood will perform from 10 a.m. until noon. Professional clinics begin at noon with Rolando Morales-Matos, an acclaimed world percussionist for Broadway's Lion King. Tommy Igoe, described by Modern Drummer Magazine as "a new drumming power,

breathtaking, inventive and disarmingly strong," plays at 1:30 p.m.

Greg Giannascoli, a concert percussionist and coordinator of percussion at Jersey City University, takes the stage at 3:30 p.m., followed at 4:30 p.m. by Thom Hannum, a Drum Corp. International Hall of Fame honoree and renowned percussion educator and arranger.

Prizes, giveaways, raffles, vendor merchandise and refreshments will be available throughout the day. The event starts at 10 a.m. and ends at 6 p.m. Admission is \$3 for children under 12 and \$5 for everyone aged 12 and older. Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School is located at 667 Westfield Road in Scotch Plains.

SPFHS Grad Pens Book About Battle of Saratoga

SCOTCHPLAINS-ScotchPlains-Fanwood High School (SPFHS) graduate Dan Lynch's newest book,

"The Thunder of Captains," has been released by Three Lakes Publishing and is now available through bookstores, amazon.com and

forpeoplewhothink.com. The book, Mr. Lynch's 11th, tells

the true, untold story of the Battle of Saratoga, the most momentous clash of the American Revolution and, in the view of many historians, "the military clash of the millennium."

In the aftermath of Saratoga, the first major victory by rebel forces, the French king agreed to finance the colonial rebellion. Mr. Lynch's book reveals that the outcome of the battle was shaped by a determined, compelling woman whose illicit love affair with the commanding English general, John Burgoyne, set in motion a bizarre sequence of events that resulted in the birth of a great nation. The "Thunder of Captains" is a story of courage, conviction, foolhardiness and doomed love set against a backdrop of personal and military

conflict, dark intrigue and international politics. With a compel-

ling case of characters - including the dashing Gentleman Johnny Burgoyne, Benedict Arnold and Benjamin Franidin — "The Thunder of Captains" tells a captivating story known to far too

few Americans. Mr. Lynch, who graduated from SPFHS in 1964 and graduated from Temple University, is an

award-winning print and broadcast journalist whose long-time Albany Times Union column was distributed nationally by the New York Times News Service and whose daily drivetime talk radio program now airs on Albany's WGDJ-AM Talk 1300 in Albany.

Mr. Lynch also has written and coproduced three documentary films, which are also available on forpeoplewhothink.com.

Liberty Hall Museum at Kean **Hosts Events in February**

Dan Lynch

UNION — Liberty Hall Museum at Kean University will host several activities for children and visitors of

all ages throughout February. A new traveling exhibit, Oh Freedom! will be on display in the Carriage House at Liberty Hall from now through March 31. Oh Freedom! includes documents from the New Jersey State Library and Archives, as well as other sources, and takes a look into the reasons African-Americans fought, their contributions to each side and what happened to them in the war's aftermath. The exhibit is free and open to the public during regular museum hours.

The "Will You Be Mine?" Hearts and Crafts Workshop will be held on Saturday, February 6, from 10 a.m. to noon. Children will create an oldfashioned Valentine craft to give to a special someone. Admission is \$10 per child with one adult free and includes all workshop materials. Reservations are required. An adult must accompany children.

A Valentine's Day "Afternoon Tea" is scheduled for Šunday, February 14, from noon to 2 p.m. Participants are invited to bring a special someone and enjoy a special Valentine's menu, while learning about the history and traditions of Valentine's Day. Cost is \$50 per couple. Reservations are re-

The "Sweetheart-Valentine's Afternoon Tea" is served every Wednesday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in February. Set in the glass-enclosed porch, guests enjoy a selection of sandwiches, pastries, scones and clotted cream, jams and choice of two teas. Cost is \$33 per person and includes a house tour. Reservations are required.

Liberty Hall Museum at Kean University chronicles more than 200 years of American history. Built in 1772, by William Livingston, New Jersey's first elected governor, the Victorian style mansion is a treasure trove of historic riches. Along with forgotten letters from Thomas Jefferson, Liberty Hall also houses extensive collections of antique furniture, ceramics, textiles, toys and tools owned by seven generations of the Livingston and Kean families. The Firehouse is the latest addition to the museum's complex, which houses two antique fire engines and a collection of fire memorabilia.

Liberty Hall is located at 1003 Morris Avenue in Union. It is open to the public Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information or to make reservations, call (908) 527-0400, email libertyhall@kean.edu or visit kean.edu/libertyhall.



Mary Olive Smith's "A Walk to Beautiful," which reveals the medical condition obstetric

M.O. Smith's 'Walk' Sheds Light On Women's Plight in Ethiopia

By MARYLOU MORANO

FANWOOD - "A Walk to Beautiful," the Emmy-award winning documentary that details how five Ethiopian women deal with the condition of obstetric fistula, will be shown at the Fanwood Memorial Library (FML) on Wednesday, February 10, at 7 p.m.

The film was produced and directed by Mary Olive Smith, the wife of FML director Dan Weiss.

Ms. Smith was also the documentary's cinematographer.

Obstetric fistula is a medical condition in which a hole forms between a woman's reproductive organs and the digestive and urinary tracts.

The condition results from prolonged labor or other complications of childbirth and often causes a woman to lose control of her bodily functions. Afflicted women are often shunned by

their families and marginalized by society. The film tells the story of five such women and their search for the only avail-

able treatment: surgery.

Ms. Smith, who traveled to Ethiopia several times during the filming, was touched by the women's plight. "[S]itting on the ground sharing the

women's most intimate stories reminded me of how similar we all are at a very human level," she explained.

"I have always felt lucky to be born in a wealthy society, but now I remind myself every day that even the book on my coffee table is a luxury that I should be grateful for," she said.

"A Walk to Beautiful" marks Ms. Smith's debut as a feature length direc-

She has produced and directed other documentaries that have aired on Discovery Channel, National Geographic, PBS and the History Channel. In addition to an Emmy for "Outstand-

ing Informational Programming, "A Walk to Beautiful" has received the Best Documentary of the Year award from the International Documentary Association, as well as other recognitions.

The accolades and awards drive home the message that Ms. Smith would like others to receive from the movie.

"No woman should die or be left with a traumatic injury while giving life. It is preventable with low-tech solutions and enough international political will," she

Ms. Smith was on location in Haiti working on the documentary, "Saving

Haiti's Mothers," for the Bureau for International Reporting when the recent earthquake hit Port-au-Prince.

At the time of the earthquake, Ms. Smith was in Jeremie, about 100 miles from the earthquake's epicenter.

"I was standing in a lovely inn after a day shooting... In the middle of our conversation, the building began to shake violently. I looked up and saw the walls and dishes swaying side to side.

"Someone yelled, 'earthquake! Run!" And we headed for the door. The shaking continued for another 20 seconds or so. "A wall fell at the house next door, and I remember thinking that any minute the

ground would open up. "If the quake was that strong where I was, and no one was killed, I can't imagine what it felt like in Port-au-Prince," she

Calling the aftermath of the earthquake a "major humanitarian crisis," Ms. Smith likens it to being in New York City after 9/

"Everyone [in Haiti] was weighted down with grief and desperation, not knowing

who was alive and who wasn't," she said. Fortunately, Ms. Smith made it home unscathed, and because of the timeliness of the story, PBS moved the airing of "Saving Haiti's Mothers" ahead to Friday,

January 29. The film aired on the newsmagazine series "Now on PBS."

The documentary is also available online at pbs.org/now/shows/605/index.html Currently, Ms. Smith is shooting an independent documentary about a

cheerleading squad in Lyndhurst called the "Sparks." 'All the girls on the squad have mental

disabilities. Their determination and joy are inspiring," she said.

Ms. Smith also recently worked with

Children's Specialized Hospital in Mountainside on an autism-awareness Shot at the Rialto Theater in Westfield.

the video encourages businesses to be more accommodating to autistic people. Ms. Smith finds working in the documentary genre fulfilling.

To document, I go inside of people's lives," she said.

"It gives me an entrée into the human experience.' For more information on the February 10 screening of "A Walk to Beautiful," contact the FML at (908) 322-6400.

Additional information on Mary Olive Smith can be found at maryolives mith.com.





By MICHAEL S. GOLDBERGER

In first-time director Scott Cooper's Crazy Heart, a tuneful, down-home lament about an aging country western singer on the skids, Jeff Bridges etches his latest Oscar-worthy depiction. But, when he finally snatches the statuette this go-round for breathing new life into an old cliché, tacitly it'll be for an entire career of such subtly informed portray-

Bad Blake's devil-may-care lifestyle has relegated him to a dizzying circuit of one-night stands in gin mills throughout the Southwest. He has been cruising for a bruising longer than he can remember. Along the way he has lost favor with four wives and never once seen his son. Add a few stanzas and he is the personification of a country western song.

But of course he's a bit more complicated than that. Thus a catalyst is interjected to peel the layers of rationalization and showbiz bravado from our tarnished star. She is Maggie Gyllenhaal's Jeanne Craddock, a young reporter seeking an interview for her small newspaper. Come hither, says the spider. We fear for the fly. The interaction surprises.

We are skeptical of love's chances, and wonder if Bad Blake is even capable of a conventional relationship. Down and out or not, drunk or sober, he is wrapped in an aura of celebrity that has evinced itself at every major musical venue. What's more, fans who show up to hear him at the abysmal honkytonks he now plays are happy to enable him.

There's almost always someone who wants to be able to say they bought a drink for Bad Blake. And there's a limitless supply of damaged prom queens who, unable to lasso the icon in his salad days, are now willing to settle for the older model. All of which makes Jeanne so appealing. Seeing himself in her eyes, he fantasizes promise if not redemption.

In other words, Bad, who won't tell us his real first name, seeks the magically romantic way to temporal salvation...the way it happens on the jukebox. Never mind that he stubbornly passes up a particular business opportunity and refuses to get sober. Then there's his puzzling relationship with current megastar Tommy Sweet (Colin Farrell).

At the initial interview with Jeanne, a brilliantly uncomfortable, understated scene in his shabby motel room, Bad says there are two things he won't discuss: his son, and Tommy Sweet. All we know at the outset is that he taught Tommy everything he knows. The who, what, where, when and why that led to their fallout remains a mystery of interest.

In fact, much of the film has us surmising. Expect no big action. It's about mood, character and motivation. Possessing the temper of a French film by way of lonesome tumbleweeds and an awful achin' heart, simple dialogue speaks volumes with nary a drum roll divulgence. Mr. Bridges's heretofore unsung singing talent provides fluidity.
I don't know how Lloyd Bridge's taller

son would do on "American Idol," but he's convincing enough here. Standing on a jerry-rigged bandstand, usually backed by a pickup band of local hopefuls, he suddenly enlivens the room with the distinctive real thing. Often in his cups yet managing to keep from toppling, he melodically spews the ballad of his survival.

There, under the smudged lights, he is simultaneously what once was, what apparently is, and, in plaintive tones, what will hopefully be on some fine, faraway day. It is what he's come to expect and pretty much accept...fair comeuppance for the hard drinking existence he has led. It means no regrets. But alas, there is a

Yes sirree, cowboy. Just as there's always room for Jell-O, no dance to perdition with the Devil can't be turned into a joyful Virginia reel. That is, if love hangs in the balance. It is a traditional plot dispensation, a pass we humans allow ourselves, authorized under the larger umbrella statute, Love Conquers All. Crazy Heart invokes it rather well.

Miss Gyllenhaal's Jeanne, who rushes to the rescue with her little boy in tow, does the angelic stereotype with unique freshness. Also of note, in a stint only a bit larger than a cameo, is the always-wonderful Robert Duvall as Wayne, Bad's best friend/favorite bartender. And Colin Farrell is credible as Tommy, Bad's younger generation prodigy.

But the main reason to relinquish the comfort of your couch is Jeff Bridges. His presence fully fills the screen, establishing a warming ambiance that truly makes us care about this fellow human being, foibles and all. He is a likable metaphor for the life experience. For while few of us are country singers, we all know what it is to have a *Crazy Heart*.

Crazy Heart, rated R, is a Fox Searchlight Pictures release directed by Scott Cooper and stars Jeff Bridges, Maggie Gyllenhaal and Colin Farrell. Running time: 112 minutes.

Student Zhang to Perform In Carnegie Hall Recital

Thursday, February 4, 2010

WESTFIELD — Amanda Zhang, student at the Paul Nazzaro Music Studio, has been invited to perform at

a recital Carnegie Hall in

February. Amanda studies under Galina Zisk and was recently selected as the recipient of the National Music Certificate Program's New Jersey Certificate of Excellence for Preparatory B Piano. Amanda scored one of the highest grades for her level in New Jersey.

Amanda has been invited to perform at a winners' recital at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, New York City, on February 28. At that time, she will be presented with a State Certificate of Excellence.

Amanda is in fourth grade at Wilson Elementary School in Westfield; she has been a student at the Paul Nazzaro Music Studio and has studied piano with Ms. Zisk for two years.

"I feel excited and nervous because it is such an honor to play at Carnegie Hall. I've never played in front of so many people before, but I am looking forward to it. I hope I play well at this very special concert," Amanda said.

For the examination, Amanda was tested on performance of repertoire, etudes, technique and level-appropriate sight-reading and ear-training skills, as well as music theory, analysis, music history and standard reper-

toire from the Baroque, Classical, Romantic and 20th-century style periods.

The National Music Certificate Program awards State Achievement Certificates each academic year to the candidates in Preparatory A, Preparatory B and Grades 1 to 10 who have obtained the highest marks in each grade in their respective state.

To qualify for these awards, candidates must have obtained at least 80 percent in the practical examination and have completed the co-requisite theory examinations for their respective grades, where required.

Her teacher, Ms. Zisk, is no stranger to Carnegie Hall herself. She has performed at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall, the Juilliard School and Steinway Hall, as well as throughout North America and Europe as a concerto soloist, chamber musician and in solo recital.

Amanda has recorded her first CD at the Nazzaro Music Studio this past spring, and many of her pieces can be heard at nazzaromusic.com. For more information about the National Music Certificate Program, visit nationalmusiccertificate.org.

Musical Program Features Bernstein, von Weber, Etc.

WESTFIELD – The Musical Club of Westfield will present a program of vocal and instrumental music of Bernstein, Vaughan Williams, von Weber and others on Wednesday, February 10, at 1 p.m. in the First Baptist Church, located at 170 Elm Street in Westfield.

Suzanne Beeny-Jones, soprano, will perform songs of Leonard Bernstein, including selections from "Mass," "Kid Songs for Soprano,"
"Chichester Psalms" and "West Side
Story." Pianist Mary Beth McFall will accompany her. These selections demonstrate Bernstein's versatility in a range of styles, including sacred, popular and Broadway.

Clarinetist George Toenes, accompanied by Beverly Thomson Shea, will perform the Concertino, Op. 26, by Carl Maria von Weber, and "Variations Sur Un Air du PaysD'Oc," arranged by Louis Cahuzac, a French clarinetist and composer. Cahuzac was one of the few clarinetists who made a career as a soloist in the first part of the 20th century.

Glen Crane, bass baritone, will perform selections from "Songs of Travel" by Ralph Vaughan Williams, based on texts by Robert Louis Stevenson. Ms. McFall will also be Mr. Crane's accompanist. Vaughan Williams is considered a quintessential British composer because of his extensive use of English folk songs in his works.

A piano-organ duet – comprised of Marie-Danièle Mercier, piano, and Rives Cassel, organ - will perform "Serenade" and "Marche Nuptiale" by French organist and composer Charles-Marie Widor, Widor, who succeeded Cesar Franck as professor of organ at the Paris Conservatory, is best known for his organ sympho-

The program is free and open to the public. A reception featuring light refreshments will follow the performance. All are welcome to stay and meet the performers.

The Musical Club of Westfield, in

its 94th season, is comprised of performing and associate (non-performing) members who share a common interest in music. The club provides scholarships for promising young musicians to pursue their musical education. New members are welcome. For membership information, call (908) 232-2173 or visit westfieldnj.com/mcw.





JUXTAPOSE GALLERY

Saturday, February 27, 2010 10 am to 5 pm



Master Silhouettest Ms. Ruth Grabner will be at Juxtapose Gallery to create a silhouette of your child



For Appointment: 908-232-3278

Serving The Community for 32 Years 58 Elm Street • Westfield www.juxtaposegallery.com



Washington School's 62nd Annual Show Is One in a 'Million(aire)'

By CHRISTIE STORMS

WESTFIELD — If you ever questioned how knowledge attained while growing up in Westfield might be put to good use one day, the Washington School Players' 62nd annual show, Believe, provided the answer. Actually, many answers, as this past weekend's performance employed a quiz-showstyle format to tell the fictitious story of a brave Westfield High School (WHS)

Writer Julie Shanebrook's clever script focused on the plight of Abigail Rhoades and her efforts to prevent a smarmy real-estate developer (played by Ms. Shanebrook's husband, Joshua Wein) from converting Mindowaskin Park into a gated active-adult commu-

From the moment the Westfield mayor (Rich Elbert) announced the impending park closure and was subsequently bombarded with questions by a "Westfield Leader reporter" (Kip Brindle), it was apparent Abigail (Lani Lipkind) had moxie. She quickly hatched a plan to raise enough money to stop the real-estate transaction by becoming a contestant on "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?"

"I was inspired by [the movie] Slumdog Millionaire," Ms. Shanebrook said of her self-proclaimed "rookie"

(Jonathan Fishman), "Flashback Abigail" (portrayed by the scriptwriter herself) revisited memories that included Westfield firefighters, the Memorial Pool and the WHS prom.

The "Millionaire" producer and stage manager (Mark Parmelee and Ralph Venturino) sought to undermine and disqualify Abigail, but her family and friends provided constant support and faith in her, which ultimately lead to her

Lively musical numbers incorporated by music director Mitch Slater highlighted the fast-paced show, including a spirited version of "Don't Stop Believin" inspired by the television



series, "Glee."

Mozart-style wigs to the delight of students in the audience during the rous-

Performers often danced into the auditorium's aisles and additionally tossed neon Glo-sticks and inflatable balls into the crowd. Washington School Principal Andrew Perry and teachers donned



A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS...The Washington School Players donned Beatles-inspired attire to perform "With a Little Help from My Friends" during the 62nd annual show fundraiser, Believe. The story centered around a Westfield High School student who becomes a contestant on "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?" to raise money to save Mindowaskin Park. The faith and support of her family and friends help make her a winner.

attempt at scriptwriting. "It's the whole concept of having a contestant on a game show generate answers through

flashbacks of real-life experiences." So, while present-day Abigail sweated it out against the devious (and, ing rendition of Falco's "Rock Me, Amadeus.'

The choreography of blank-faced "zombies" to Michael Jackson's "Thriller" and precision hip-hop dance moves during Flo Rida's "Right Round"

But it was the show's traditional men's number that received the most shouts of "Encore!" on Friday night. This year, students' dads donned black tank tops and silver sequined mini-skirts to sashay to Beyonce's "Single Ladies (Put a Ring on It)."

And no Washington School Show would be complete without its trademark "muck and mire" quotes, this year exchanged in a cameo by codirectors Charlie Bowman and Janet

This was Ms. Sarkos first experience directing and her last of nine years with the show, which has served as the school's largest fundraiser since 1948.

Parents handled every aspect from writing, directing, producing and performing to choreography, instrumental music and set design for the event held annually at Roosevelt School.

Carl Pansini, who co-produced with Joe Ascione, Linda Habgood and Mary Claire Givelbar, said the majority of profits are turned over to the Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) to fund assemblies and student activities as well as purchase items such as Smart Boards and laptops for the school.

He said planning for the annual January production begins as early as February. They select a script in the spring and later perform an entertaining sample scene during the PTO's Fall Social to entice fellow parents to join in the fun.

This was Mr. Pansini's first year with the show, and he also performed in the couples' dance to the B52's "Love Shack" with his wife, Suzanne.

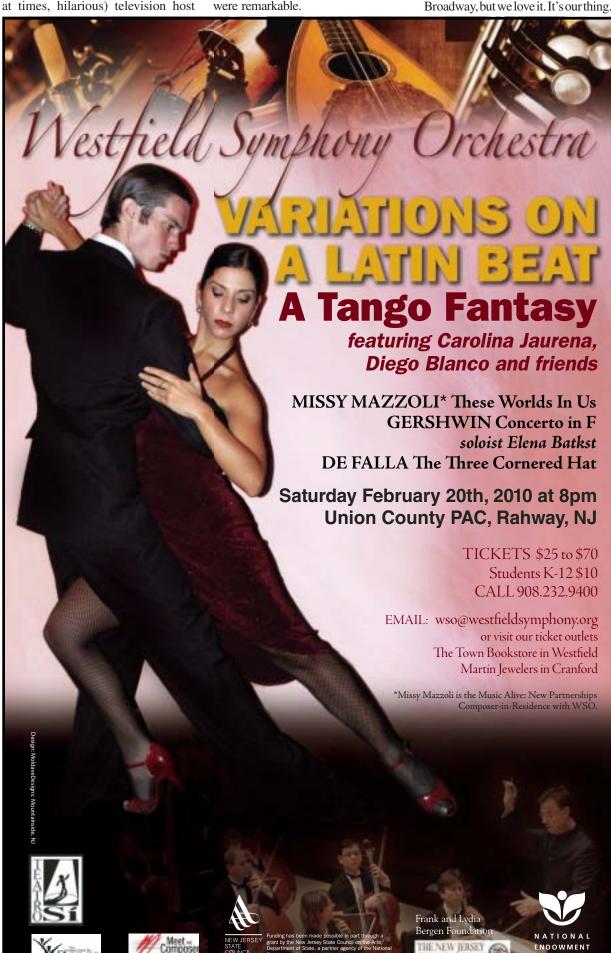
Ms. Shanebrook, Ms. Sarkos and Mr. Pansini all expressed their appreciation for the incredible hard work and cooperation from nearly 175 volun-

As an added twist this year, the entire cast and crew took the stage after the final curtain to perform the "Jai Ho" dance from Slumdog Millionaire. Students in the audience stood up to join in as their enthusiastic teachers had taught them the dance steps during lunch hours the past few weeks.

"I think everybody wants a piece of it," Ms. Shanebrook said. "Whether you're on stage or selling t-shirts or tickets...to be involved is gold."

Ms. Sarkos reflected that the most "striking thing" she and her husband, George, who has been stage manager the past seven years, noticed throughout the decade is how little the show has

"Different personalities may create a little bit of a different feel each year, but it is what it is," Ms. Sarkos said. "It isn't Broadway, but we love it. It's our thing."



Author Helps Get

To The Heart of Anger BERKELEY HEIGHTS - Author

Janet Pfeiffer will hold a book signing on Wednesday, February 10, at 7 p.m. at the Berkeley Heights Public Library, located at 290 Plainfield Avenue in Berkeley Heights.

Ms. Pfeiffer will be available to sign copies of her anger-management book, "The Secret Side of Anger: The Quickest and Easiest Guide (Ever!) to Managing Anger.'

Ms. Pfeiffer reveals in the book that anger itself is not the real issue. It is triggered by underlying emotions and problems that need to be addressed first.

Employing a sarcastic, lighthearted approach, she provides simple, yet effective, techniques that anyone can use to confront and release angry feelings that might be on the verge of destroying lives.

For more information, contact Jim Miller at (888) 361-9473 or jim@tatepublishing.com.

Paulo Pinho Performs At First Friday Series

WESTFIELD - The New First Friday Music Series at Galeria West Art Gallery welcomes Paulo Pinho and Friends on Friday, February 5, at 7

Mr. Pinho and Friends will present the romantic bossa nova and samba from Brazil. This music genre from Brazil has been popular throughout the world since the late 1950's to the present.

Proceeds from each event benefit theatrical programming efforts at TEATRO Sí, a 501(c) 3 New Jersey nonprofit corporation. For reservations and information, call the TEATRO Sí box office at (908) 301-9496. For more information, visit the events page at TeatroSi.com.

MOUNTAINSIDE - Starting Feb-

ruary 22, the 20th Anniversary Film-

makers Symposium Spring Series will

run for 12 weeks at two New Jersey

theatres: AMC Loews, Mountainside

and AMC Loews, Monmouth Mall.

The series has hosted 1,361 movie

premieres, with 901 live guest appearances, over the past 19 years.

Aiello, Alan Arkin, James Cromwell,

Ethan Hawke, Viggo Mortensen,

Chazz Palminteri and David

Strathairn have joined Famke Janssen,

Joseph Gordon-Levitt, David Morse,

Joe Pantoliano and Kevin Smith as

guest speakers who have come to

share their insights with Symposium

"The program will always be flex-

ible in order to take advantage of

opportunities as they arise," said Sym-

posium Director Chuck Rose. "Won-

derful surprises and fantastic celebri-

ties can pop up out of nowhere, so I

try to keep the schedule as fluid as

In the past two years, the series has

premiered 65 films that later earned a total of 17 Oscar, 25 Spirit, 17 British Academy and 27 European Film

Confirmed films and those under

consideration for the upcoming se-

ries include City Island with Andy

Garcia, Julianna Margulies, director

Raymond de Felitta; \$5 A Day with

Christopher Walken, Alessandro

Nivola, director Nigel Cole; The Good

Heart with Brian Cox, Paul Dano,

director Dagur Kari; Jack Goes Boat-

ing with Philip Seymour Hoffman,

Amy Ryan, director Philip Seymour

Hoffman; L'Affaire Farewell with Emir Kusturica, Willem Dafoe, di-

rector Christian Carion; Last Night

with Keira Knightley, Sam

participants.

possible.'

Award nominations.

Oscar winners and nominees Danny

Filmmakers Symposium

Celebrates 20th Anniversary

TELLING A TALE...Local celebrity of the racetrack "Champagne" Charlie (David Christopher) entertains his daughter, Mary, (Barbara Guidi) with another of his wildly exaggerated tales.

The Stakes Are High **At Alliance Repertory Theater**

By SUSAN MYRILL DOUGHERTY

RAHWAY - There's a legend at Monmouth Racetrack that a man nicknamed "Paper Bag Pete" appears at the track once a week, places a single bet, wins a bundle and takes home his winnings in a paper sack.

There's no "Paper Bag Pete" at Alliance Repertory Theater in Union County Performing Arts Center (UCPAC), but there is someone just as colorful in The Champagne Charlie Stakes. Charlie is a lovable chap at the racetrack who's the engine that pushes the Bruce Graham two-act play about relationships, secrets and reality.

Charlie – wearing a bone-colored straw hat, a Hawaiian shirt, plaid pants, a beige jacket and socks with his sandals – is a man who dreams. Sometimes, his dreams are based on sheer fantasy, and sometimes, they caress possibility. "Charlie multiplies

Worthington, director Massy

Tadjedin; Margaret with Anna

Paquin, Matt Damon, director Ken-

neth Lonergan; Mother with Bin Won,

Hye-ja Kim, director Joon-ho Bong;

Ondine with Colin Farrell, Stephen

Rea, director Neil Jordan; Tree of Life

with Brad Pitt, Sean Penn, director

Terrence Malick; and The Yellow

Handkerchief with William Hurt,

Kristen Stewart, director Udayuan

The series is open to anyone, but

seating is limited, so early enrollment

is advised. Subscription is \$171 for

six weeks or \$309 for 12 weeks. Dis-

counts will be available for early reg-

Also being offered is a "Bring Your

Friends" special: for each friend who

signs up, an existing subscriber gets

\$50 off his or her subscription for 12

weeks (or \$25 off for six weeks); or a

subscriber can bring four friends and

Spending time on both coasts, Mr.

Rose has authored 24 screenplays,

directed Vietnam Vets starring Danny

Aiello, worked in the story depart-

ment at Orion Pictures, served as a

contributing editor at "Movies USA"

and written feature articles on the

film industry for The Hollywood Re-

He has held faculty positions at

Seton Hall University, Adelphi Uni-

versity and New School University,

where he developed a program in

Film Script Analysis adopted by ex-

ecutives at HBO, ABC and many

independent production companies.

War II drama, Changing My Reli-

gion, under development.

PrivateScreenings.org.

(800) 531-9416 or

Currently, Mr. Rose has a World

For information or to register, call

his or her subscription is free.

everything," says his wife, "except his age." He exaggerates, prevaricates slightly and then smiles enigmatically about his stories.

"They love me," Charlie tells his family one afternoon at the racetrack. And they do. "Champagne Charlie," as his friends and acquaintances call him, is in for a day that he will long remember.

His wife, in a wheelchair because of an impending hip replacement, wants to make it his perfect day at the races. His friend and bookie middle man Jackie (John Correll) has arranged for the sixth race to be named after Charlie.

In celebration of that event, Charlie totes his private bottle of champagne, enters the "Best Body" contest for senior citizens and plays host for his wife Mary Lee (Noreen Farley), their adult daughter Mary (Barbara Guidi) and her boyfriend Paul (Chess Lankford).

With a roll of Benjamin Franklins in his pocket and a race boasting his name, Charlie is riding high.

He places \$2 bets in the first few races, losing every one. As the sixth race - his race - approaches, however, Charlie feels especially lucky and wants to bet his entire pocketful of money that he's been squirreling away for years.

The monumental bet he's about to make, he tells Jackie, is "a sure thing" because the horse's name is "Charlie's B.Q." He's positive it stands for "beauty queen," a reference to his daughter, Mary, who was a runner-up in a beauty contest. When he tells his wife that he's

about to bet the "whole shebang" on the underdog, she encourages him to get their daughter's blessing on his foolhardy plan. The storyline isn't particularly im-

pressive. The characterization, direction and acting are. It's the relationships of the charac-

ters that bring poignancy to the show. Mr. Correll's Jackie, complete with brow-mopping, everyday mannerisms, rings true to life. With precise timing and his signature deadpan delivery, Mr. Correll knows how to milk each of the comedic lines he's been handed by the playwright. Yet, when he speaks to Charlie and Mary about their longtime friendship, the rough

edges around this guy turn to mush. Noreen Farley handles the role of the mother with her characteristic finesse. The private moments, when Charlie dances with Mary Lee in the wheelchair and when he kneels down to whisper a truth in her ear, Ms. Farley and Mr. Christopher reveal depth and understanding of those characters that have lived together as one for 53 years.

Well known to local and regional theater, David Christopher in the role of Charlie slips into this - and any character he plays – like he's slipping into a comfortable pair of well-worn

Effortlessly, Mr. Christopher's portrayal of the title character is both paradoxically comic and tragic. His Charlie is the optimistic underdog of the sixth race of life who is sure this time he'll be the winner. We're rooting for him all the way and hope that "the fix" isn't in this time.

Rounding out the cast are Barbara Guidi and Chess Lankford, whose honest moments together echo the need for all people to feel a sense of belonging.

Director Michael Driscoll has given the small black box theater of Alliance Repertory Theater three staging areas, utilizing the intimate space wisely for this production. He has exacted performances from his actors that make a forgettable play worth remembering.

The show runs weekends through February 13, at 8 p.m. with 3 p.m. Sunday matinees.



the 20th year of Filmmakers Symposium in the spring 2010 series, beginning in February at AMC Loews Mountainside and AMC Loews Monmouth Mall.

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