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SIXTY CENTS

Christie Unveils Plan to Cut Deficit; Districts Deny 'Excess' Surpluses

By PAUL J. PEYTON

AREA — Reaction has been swift to Governor Chris Christie's plan to eliminate a \$2.3-billion budget hole by withholding \$475 million in aid to 500 school districts, while slashing \$62 million in aid to state colleges and universities and \$32.7 million to NJ Transit. In addition, \$12.6 million charity care payments to hospitals has been cut by the government, who also announced the elimination of the Public Advocate's Office, effective April 1, to save another \$600,000.

The irresponsible budgeting of the past, coupled with failed tax policies, which lie like a heavy, wet blanket

suffocating tax revenues and job growth, have required these extraordinary steps," the governor told a joint session of the state Legislature last Thursday.

Reaction to Governor Christie's plan was swift. Assembly Majority Leader Joseph Cryan (D-20, Union) said, "Many aspects of Governor Christie's proposal will lead to sharp and sudden property-tax increases and will hurt small businesses amid a recession."

Senate Majority Leader Stephen Sweeney (D-Gloucester) said, "So much for a handshake," a reference to the handshake gesture by Governor Christie to Sen. Sweeney and Assem-

SUPER FROSTY...This nine-foot snowman was built by a Westfield resident during the February 10 snowstorm that dropped 17.5 inches of snow on the

Garwood BOE Searches for 2010-2011 Budget Solutions

LAUREN S. BARR

GARWOOD — At Tuesday night's meeting, the board of education (BOE) discussed the deficit in its proposed budget for the 2010-2011 school year. The board discussed balancing the budget by re-opening salary negotiations, laying off staff, closing Wash-

ington School and reducing supplies. Finance Committee Chairwoman Susan Groning said that Garwood schools face a deficit of approximately \$380,000 in the proposed budget. Regulations put forth by Governor Chris Christie, cost increases and an anticipated reduction in state aid were cited among the reasons.

Mrs. Groning stated that last year when the discussion arose of closing Washington School, residents came out and said they were willing to pay extra tax dollars to keep it open. This year, the board is considering asking residents that question on the ballot during school elections.

Board Secretary William Muzzio said that Garwood currently receives approximately \$600,000 a year in state aid and is required to keep its tax levy within a 4-percent increase over the previous year. He said he is hearing that state aid may be cut by as much as 20 percent and that school districts may only be able to raise their tax levies by 2 percent.

Board President Adele Lewis said the board sent a letter to the Garwood Education Association (GEA), the teachers' union, asking that it re-open its contract negotiations to discuss the rising costs of health benefits.

GEA President Dana Parkhill, a resident and a parent, addressed the letter. saying that cutting staff is outside the scope of contract negotiation talks. "You're going to cut staff no matter what," she said, adding that the GEA

was not willing to reopen its contract.

Ms. Parkhill told the board that over 40 percent of the district's teachers are Garwood residents and that they are all aware of the current budget crisis. She said that the GEA "may be being used as a scapegoat" and that the union is willing to work with the board in areas that are not included in the contract. She suggested that the board ask for parent volunteers, raise activity fees and charge for musical instrument rentals.

Several residents asked what the board could do to appeal to the state to prevent further cuts. Mr. Muzzio suggested that residents contact their legislators, and said that he would look into a joint resolution with the borough council to urge the governor not to cut the district's funding.

The board will set dates for two public meetings to discuss the proposed budget. A workshop meeting will be held in March for the entire board to discuss the budget and then a public hearing on the budget will be held sometime between March 26 and April 3.

Garwood voters last year rejected the \$8.96-million school budget proposed by the BOE that contained a property tax levy of \$6.3 million. The matter was sent to the borough council, which approved the school budget reduced by \$37,400 on May 12, 2009.



CELEBRATING HIS 100TH VICTORY...The Westfield High School girls basketball team flocks around Joe Marino, who just reached his 100th win as head coach with a 43-26 victory over Cranford in Cranford on Tuesday. See a complete story of the game in The Westfield Leader's February 25 sports section

bly Speaker Sheila Oliver at last month's inauguration.

"Governing by executive order and keeping plans secret until the last minute is not bipartisanship. Sure, these cuts will close the budget gap, but they do so in an irresponsible manner," Mr. Sweeney said. "Voters sent a clear message last November that they want smaller, more responsible government that is focused on its core responsibilities. These cuts don't even begin that job."

The Assembly Budget Committee, chaired by Assemblyman Lou Greenwald (D-Camden), was to have convened yesterday at press deadline to discuss what Mr. Greenwald labeled as Mr. Christie's "ill-advised plan" that he said would lead to "property-tax increases, potential hospital closures and the possibility of higher tuition and transit fares.'

"It also kills job creation. On top of all that, Governor Christie kept his plan secret and executed it without any public discussion. This is undemocratic and an affront to residents and businesses alike," Asm. Greenwald said.

On the other side of the aisle, Senate Republican Leader Tom Kean, Jr. of Westfield, said the governor's plan is absent of "tax increases, furloughs or disruption of our state's schools."

"It's also worth noting that his plan for balancing the budget, unlike proposals by other governors over the last eight years (under Democrats), contains no unconstitutional borrowing, tax increases or irresponsible accounting gimmicks," Senator Kean said. "No other governor over the last eight years has proposed such a responsible and fiscally sound plan for closing a deficit."

"The governor's critics should either come forward with a real, honest plan for cutting this budget, or stop with the transparently partisan attacks and join with our governor in making New Jersey the kind of state its residents deserve," Senator Kean

Westfield Councilman Frank Arena, a Republican, said for too long New Jersey was on an "unsustainable path."

"Bravo to Governor Christie for these actions. And let's all hope President Obama steals this page from our

Mountainside Owes \$529,184 **More In Tuition to GLHS**

By SONIA OWCHARIW

MOUNTAINSIDE – The board of education has been told it must make up \$529,184 in tuition undercharges over the past three years to the Berkeley Heights Board of Education for borough students attending Governor Livingston High School (GLHS).

During the Mountainside board's February 9 meeting, Chief School Administrator Jeannette Baubles told the board that the Berkeley Heights Board of Education has determined that Mountainside owes an additional \$807 per student for 266.7 students sent to GLHS in 2006-2007, \$164 for each of the 248.9 students sent in 2007-2008, and \$1,032 per student for 246.5 students the district sent to

GLHS in 2008-2009. The district paid \$11,593 to Berkeley Heights in 2006-2007, and \$12,500 each year for 2007-2008 and 2008-2009.

"How are you off by \$1,000 per pupil?" Board President Mary Beth Schaumberg questioned in reference to the 2008-2009 school year, when per-pupil costs jumped from \$12,500

Other board members shared similar sentiments looking at the numbers presented by Ms. Baubles.

"What are we, like the cash cow (for Berkeley Heights)? Maybe there are other competitive school districts with other neighboring towns. There are less students going to GLHS, but (we are paying a) higher bill," board member Carmine Venes said.

Meanwhile, Ms. Baubles said for the 2010-2011 school year, tuition for 238 Mountainside students will see another significant jump.

"Berkeley Heights has informed Mountainside that it has estimated the 2010-2011 per-pupil GLHS tuition to be \$13,500, an increase of \$900 or 7.1 percent more per pupil than the current year's tuition," Ms. Baubles said.

She said the 2010-2011 tuition of

\$3,213,000 represents an increase of \$214,200 from last year, while the net adjustment due to Berkeley Heights for 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 tuition totals \$218,388. In addition, Berkeley Heights has informed Mountainside that it intends to charge Mountainside for a portion of its total K-12 costs for resource room services estimated at \$233,350 for 2010-2011. In sum, the total increase to Berkeley Heights over 2009-2010

would be \$665,938. The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) has advised all districts that after the fiscal year has been completed and the per-pupil costs have been audited, districts must make adjustments for any variances between the budgeted amounts and the actual costs.

Instead of making these adjustments every third year, districts must now make them every other year, which means that Mountainside must make adjustments for 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 in the 2010-2011 budget, according to NJDOE's Office of School Funding.

"What happened to (4-percent) caps? In these recession times, these are excessive," Mr. Venes commented.

At the local level, officials said Mountainside's \$3,100,467 special education budget would include services for 102 students between the ages of 3 and 21 who are in-district, with another 17 receiving out-of-district services.

In other news, teachers are preparing students in grades 3 to 8 for the NJASK test, which will be administered in April and May. Parents can work with their children by going to studyisland.com. Study Island provides tests on mathematics, reading and writing, and parents can chart their child's weekly progress.

"Study Island has helped our students to be prepared for NJASK – a good reference for parents to use with their children," Ms. Schaumberg



Lance Kicks Off Re-election Bid, Faces Challenge from WF's Baker

By PAUL J. PEYTON

WESTFIELD — Rep. Leonard Lance (R-7th) kicked off his re-election campaign Tuesday for a second term representing the Seventh Congressional District, which includes parts of Union County including Westfield, Scotch Plains, Fanwood, Cranford, Mountainside and Garwood.

Mr. Lance, a former 18-year state lawmaker, faces a Primary Election challenge from Oldwick businessman David Larsen and Westfield resident and businessman Bruce Baker. Democrat Ed Potosnak, a former staffer for Rep. Mike Honda (D-Calif.) and an ex-high school chemistry teacher, has also announced his candidacy.

"I run on my record of fiscal responsibility and of fiscal conservatism," Mr. Lance said. "A lot of people

in America talk the talk [but do not walk the walk] – this is both Republicans and Democrats... I think that's why we (GOP) lost our way and lost the majority in 2006."

The Congressman said he predicts

the GOP will gain the 40 necessary seats to take the majority in the House of Representatives come November, noting that his party is now again focused "on returning [the country] to fiscal responsibility. He said he is running for re-elec-

tion "because Congress needs more fiscal conservatives in both the House and the Senate." Mr. Lance touted his legislation, while a state lawmaker, that requires the state to gain voter approval before borrowing money. Mr. Lance said the annual federal

deficit was \$1.4 trillion in 2009, "the highest annual deficit of the percentage of Gross Domestic Product since 1945." He added that Congress has raised the debt ceiling to \$14 trillion "over my strong objections."

Mr. Baker, in a press release issued Tuesday, criticized Mr. Lance for his vote in support of the cap-and-trade bill last summer.

"It took Lance less than six months as a member of Congress to pile more debt on his constituents by voting for the cap-and-trade bill. This bill will be one of the most punitive and costly tax hikes in U.S. history," Mr. Baker

The congressman said he would no longer support the bill because President Barack Obama has been unable to get China and India to support capand-trade.

said.

"We cannot engage in this alone," Mr. Lance said. "We need an energy strategy in this country," to include alternative energy sources such as clean nuclear energy, clean coal as well as wind and solar power, he said.

Mr. Potosnak ripped Mr. Lance for his vote against the healthcare bill in Congress. "I am hopeful that Leonard Lance did not intend for insurance companies to rake in these record profits when he voted against the healthcare bill," Mr. Potosnak stated. However, he has not introduced one piece of legislation in Congress to stop the excess of insurance companies, Wall Street and big bankers after taxpavers bailed them out while taking in tens of thousands of specialinterest campaign contributions."

Rep. Lance said it is not that he and other Republicans are against healthcare reform, "but the question is what kind of healthcare reform." He is opposed to a federal government takeover of the nation's healthcare system. Mr. Lance said the House Republican plan, of which he is a sponsor, includes medical malpractice insurance reform, the purchase of insurance policies across state lines, and the non-denial of health insurance due to pre-existing condi-

Among the supporters turning out for Mr. Lance's campaign kickoff was former Rep. Mike Ferguson. "When it comes to the taxpayers of New Jersey we could have no better champion in Washington, D.C. than Leonard Lance," Mr. Ferguson said. He also said Mr. Lance has "done an extraordinary job of building a reputation of someone who listens, as someone who is connected to the people of our district."



SNOW DAY...On February 9, when 17.5 inches of snow fell on Westfield, Christina, William, Sara and Anna of Franklin Elementary School built a sixfoot-tall igloo in the backyard and flew the Franklin School pennant. It was fun and a good life lesson on ingenuity due to necessity.

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Fred Rossi for *The Westfield Leader* MERGER TALK...Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr welcomes about 100 residents to the Scotch Plains Public Library last Thursday, when a proposal was unveiled to merge the Scotch Plains and Fanwood libraries. The plan hinges on finding \$26 million to expand the Scotch Plains Public Library.

The Governor's Plan

ment process now underway," she said.

Transit's budget, Tri-State Transpor-

tation Campaign Executive Director

Kate Slevin said the governor is "send-

ing the wrong message for the state's

transportation priorities by penalizing

Transit riders, while refusing to con-

sider an increase in the gas tax or other

driver fees. Transit fare increases are

State Assembly Transportation

Committee Chairman John Wisniewski (D-Middlesex), the head

of the state's Democratic Committee,

said the transportation panel will hear

testimony today, February 18, on the

potential impact of the budget cuts to

NJ Transit. The hearing is scheduled

for 10 a.m. in Committee Room 11 on

the fourth floor of the State House

a wide-ranging negative impact and

may well equate to a hefty tax increase

on lower- and middle-class New

Jerseyans who have no other choice

but to rely on NJ Transit to get to

New Jersey Taxpayers Association

President Jerry Cantrell said the

governor's plan has been a long time

by past failures to act prudently and

understand that we are all in for a

prolonged period of sacrifice," Mr.

COAH Continued

Editor's Note: Last week, the follow-

ing ending to the front-page story on

COAH was inadvertently left out. We

Continuation: "I've always had a

problem with the [builder's remedy] as

an enforcement mechanism. It's a ruse

for a developer to basically ask for a

development that otherwise [would not

be permissible], "Cranford Mayor Mark

He described the [S1] legislation as

"[The legislation] still basically

"a dagger pointed at the heart of a

municipality that doesn't actually con-

leaves the hammer in the hands of the

developer, which I don't think any

municipality takes comfort in... It just

seems to me that there's a better way

than letting a developer enforce your

law [through builder's remedy law-

Springfield Mayor Ziad Andrew

I am glad the state Legislature is

Shehady, a Republican, said he is in

finally realizing the burden of COAH

on municipalities and the state budget,"

Mayor Shehady said. "The current af-

fordable-housing laws are broken, and

we need reform... S-1 is a welcomed

In testimony before the Senate Eco-

nomic Growth Committee on February

1, Democratic Fanwood Mayor Col-

leen Mahr said she supports the bill,

noting, "The state should be prevented

from calculating prospective need for

affordable housing, which has been

right thing for towns and cities through-

out New Jersey [by bringing] about

manageable smart growth with an eye

towards providing a variety of housing

Also supporting the legislation is the

New Jersey League of Municipalities

(NJLOM). "To us, the key issue is the

formulation of the criteria for deter-

mining whether a municipality has com-

plied with their obligations under the

Fair Housing Act," according to NJLOM's testimony. The league said it

is looking for "a simple solution to

affordable-housing issues and lessen-

GOP State Assemblyman Jon

Bramnick (LD-21, Westfield) told The

Westfield Leader he favors having the

state intervene in some Mount Laurel

affordable-housing cases brought by

builders that are currently pending in

the state courts by bringing these cases

before the New Jersey Supreme Court.

the answer," Mr. Bramnick said. "We

have to get back to the drawing board

GOP Assemblywoman Nancy

Munoz (LD-21, Summit) said she also

favors turning the affordable-housing

"COAH is so unpopular. It is such a

huge bureaucracy," Mrs. Munoz said.

"But the last thing I think we need is

issue back over to the courts.

another commission.'

and the courts."

"This (Lesniak-Bateman bill) is not

ing the cost of compliance."

"I believe the time is now to do the

passed on to local governments.

options," Mayor Mahr said.

support of the Lesniak-Bateman bill.

form to the regulations.

suits]," Mayor Smith said.

step in the right direction.'

'Let's accept the pain necessitated

work," Mr. Wisniewski said.

"Governor Christie's plan will have

tax increases.'

Annex in Trenton.

Cantrell said.

regret the error.

Smith said.

Reacting to the slashing of NJ

brave new governor's playbook," Mr. Arena said.

Likewise, Rep. Leonard Lance (R-7), a former state lawmaker, said, "Continued runaway spending is inappropriate given the state of our economy both nationally and here in New Jersey.

Explaining his school aid cuts, the governor said that, "many school districts...have surpluses that were not a part of their fiscal year 2010 budgets," which is labeled as "excess surpluses" or were placed in a reserve account.

"I am reducing school aid in a way that ensures that no district will have aid withheld in an amount that is greater than its surpluses," the governor said.

In response, New Jersey Education Association (NJEA) President Barbara Keshishian said many districts "use the excess surplus funds from one budget year as revenue to support programs or property-tax reductions the following year.'

"With this order, the burden is on the governor to ensure that he has adequate funding in his FY2011 budget to fund the public schools of New Jersey," she said. "We are also distressed that the governor has announced his intention to continue the destructive practice of not funding the state's pension funds. It is precisely that failure by prior governors and prior legislatures that has led to the under-funding of the pension system. Teachers and school employees have contributed billions of dollars to that system in the past 15 years, while the state has consistently failed to contribute its fair share. It is outrageous that our new governor would openly encourage the Legislature to continue the fiscally irresponsible practices that have brought us to this point."

Of the \$475 million withheld from public school payments, \$23.6 million is withheld from Union County school districts. Locally, Westfield will lose \$196,419;, Scotch Plains-Fanwood, \$167,667; Garwood, \$28,011; Cranford, \$139,834; Berkeley Heights, \$700,000, and Mountainside, \$273,000.

Westfield Superintendent of Schools Margaret Dolan said the district is determining "how this impacts our budget this year and next year.'

"We receive less than 6 percent of our budget from the state. Ninety percent of the budget is paid for by Westfield taxpayers," Ms. Dolan said. "Recognizing that we are not immune from the downturn in the economy, this year the Westfield Public Schools has reduced spending on items such as utilities and technology. Our administrators and non-aligned staff have made voluntary givebacks to help the district budget.'

She said the district has eliminated 24 full-time positions and over 40 after-school positions.

"We have no excess surplus, no maintenance reserve and no emergency reserve. The state recommends that districts keep a fund balance of 2 percent. We were not able to put aside that much for this year's budget," Ms. Dolan stated.

Scotch Plains-Fanwood (SP-F) Board of Education President Norman "Trip" Whitehouse said the \$167,000 cut by the governor to the district is "not coming from excess surplus, but from capital and maintenance re-

"This past year, we did not generate excess surplus above the 2 percent allowable by the state. Since the money being withheld from SP-F is from expected capital spending, the impact to the district will be seen from the facilities side," Mr. Whitehouse said. "These reserves were set aside for capital projects to be done this summer. We'll be evaluating the district's

capital priority list and, most likely, will not get as far down the list as originally planned. The projects that are currently underway are not being

"Where we will see any additional impacts will be dependent on what the governor announces in his March 16 speech related to next year's aid fig-

ures," Mr. Whitehouse noted. Mountainside Chief School Administrator Jeanette Baubles said in a statement that Governor Christie is "clearly transitioning at a very, very difficult

"Given the anticipated reduction in state aid, members of the Mountainside schooldistrict's Finance Committee will be working extremely hard to address this with the budget develop-

County Appoints Andrew Moran As Public Safety Director

COUNTY - Andrew Moran, a retired Berkeley Heights Police Captain with 25 years of law enforcement experience, has been appointed County Public Safety Director effective Tuesday by County Man-

ager George Devanney.
"Andy Moran brings experience and new energy to the department as our director," Mr. Devanney said. "Having worked on a strategic plan about the department for the past six months, he will be able to hit the ground running in his new position.

Mr. Moran, 45, had been working with the county since August on the strategic plan addressing police department accreditation, a shared radio services system. a consolidated 9-1-1 dispatch center and EMS system.

Mr. Moran said he was humbled by his appointment, and grateful to be serving the residents of Union County in his new

"I look forward to leading a group of

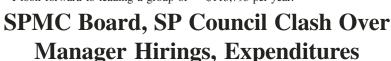
determined and dedicated public servants in providing for the safety and protection of our citizens as well those who may work or visit here," Mr. Moran said. "I am grateful to the county manager for his support, and I look forward to working with our Board of Chosen

Freeholders.' Mr. Moran said that he would emphasize the pursuit of shared services, and pointed to his report in part as a blue print for his upcoming initiatives.

"I am looking forward to continuing the progress on these items, as well as exploring continued savings through shared services," Mr. Moran said.

"Public Safety is one of our highest priorities, and we have found someone who will

be able to lead the department into an era with new challenges," Freeholder Board Chairman Dan Sullivan said. "We look forward to working with Director Moran." Mr. Moran's salary for the position is \$113,793 per year.



Andrew Moran

By FRED T. ROSSI

SCOTCH PLAINS — Board members from the Scotch Plains Management Corp. (SPMC) on Tuesday night defended their hiring of two managers to oversee commercial district revitalization. Mayor Nancy Malool and township council members questioned the hirings and, specifically, the hiring of a board member's spouse, as well as the amount of money being paid to the two managers.

The bulk of Tuesday evening's threehour public council meeting consisted of the council's rationale for, and the public's reaction to, a resolution, voted by the council 3-1 to approve, urging the SPMC to halt further expenditures pending a council review of the ordinance that created it two years ago. Most of those sentiments were previewed during a contentious meeting prior to the public session in which Deputy Mayor Dominick Bratti engaged in arguments with SPMC officials over its hiring last month of Lisa Schiller as co-manager.

At the conference meeting, attended by more than half the SPMC board members and Mrs. Schiller, Mr. Bratti said Mrs. Schiller's hiring created a conflict of interest, given that her husband, Ted Schiller, is a board member and the group's treasurer.

"You should have seen the conflict," Mr. Bratti said, "but you chose to ignore it." The deputy mayor said, "perception is very important to the business community," noting that a large number of business and property owners had opposed the creation of the special improvement district in 2008.

At the outset of the meeting, SPMC Board Chairman Jim Watson implored council members to "be cautious" in their remarks about the SPMC, pointing to some negative comments about the hirings that appeared in local news outlets two weeks ago. "Don't make comments until you have all the information," Mr. Watson said, adding that the salary figures that had been put forth by council members regarding Mrs. FirsTEAManagement of Plainfield, were

"just not true. In first speaking about the resolution asking the SPMC to cease expenditures, Mayor Nancy Malool, who is also a board member, told Mr. Watson that during the process to hire a manager, "everything I've said has fallen on deaf ears. It's been me versus you.'

Mr. Watson said during the council's consideration of the SPMC's 2009 budget last summer, about \$44,000 had been earmarked to pay a manager and for related administrative costs. He said on Tuesday that Mrs. Schiller's annual salary will be \$20,800 and FirsTEAManagement will be paid \$15,000 annually. Adding in just under \$4,000 for office space and other administrative expenses, the total cost adds up to slightly more than \$38,600. Another \$4,800 is budgeted for workers compensation coverage and taxes for Mrs. Schiller, Mr. Watson said the board was spending what it had budgeted for last year. "I don't understand why all of a sudden these are bad numbers,"

Mayor Malool FirsTEAManagement had proposed acting as the sole manager for \$22,000 per year, and repeated her assertion from two weeks ago that the board was spending too high a percentage of its \$64,000 budget on salaries and administrative costs

Board member Tom Cusamano said having both FirsTEAManagement and Mrs. Schiller as managers meant getting "the best of both worlds," FirsTEAManagement's management and administrative experience and Mrs. Schiller's status as a township resident who would be a visible day-to-day presence in the commercial district.

When the relationship between the Schillers was raised, Mr. Schiller said he would resign from the board if it would clear up any perceived conflicts. When Mr. Bratti questioned why Mrs. Schiller was being hired as an employee instead of an independent contractor, Board Vice-Chairman Jeff Kowalczyk asked, "What is your problem with us?" and accused Mr. Bratti of being "very confrontational."

Mr. Bratti responded that the board had exercised "poor business judgment" in hiring Mrs. Schiller. "I don't want to see

money going down a rat hole," he added. Later, after Mr. Bratti criticized the method in which Mrs. Schiller was paid a small fee for her efforts last year, Mr. Schiller called him "misinformed and uninformed" and then loudly accused the mayor of taking actions against the SPMC board because "you're not getting what you want." Mr. Schiller said the mayor seemed to believe the board was "not capable of making these

decisions, so you need to make them for us.' In response, Mayor Malool accused Mr. Schiller of "threatening me" regarding his wife's hiring. That led to another loud backand-forth between Mr. Schiller and Mr. Bratti before the meeting wound down with an agreement on further meetings between

the two sides in the coming weeks. Later, at the regular meeting, the council was considering a resolution "strongly urging" the SPMC board to cease expenditures "for the time being," as Mr. Bratti put it. He again said Mrs. Schiller's hiring "creates an appearance of impropriety," and said the council needs "to fix the problem before it becomes a bigger problem." He repeated his earlier assertion that "something doesn't

smell right" regarding the hiring. Councilman Jeff Strauss opposed the resolution, stating the council was "encroaching upon authority" given to the

SPMC. He criticized his colleagues for "sticking our nose in" to the management corporation's business. "When we criticize them, we demean them," he said. "And we do ourselves a tremendous disservice." Mr. Strauss said "scolding" the board in the press instead of "talking to them" would lead to a destruction of morale and a loss of Councilman Kevin Glover, who during

the earlier session had urged both sides "to work together to make this work," said the council "has an inherent responsibility" to make the SPMC work. He said much of the problems between the council and the SPMC was due to "a failure to communicate," and said he was voting for the resolution "to get that communication started."

Mayor Malool said the special improvement district "is not going in the direction we want," and repeated her assertion from earlier that the two sides need to work together as partners. She said spending about two-thirds of the SPMC budget on salaries and administration "just seems like too

After the council voted 3-1 to approve the resolution, a dozen residents, business owners and SPMC board members came forth to publicly praise Mrs. Schiller's efforts over the past year, specifically her work in putting together last year's Memorial Day Music Festival that was attended by several thousand people.

Board member Steve Goldberg said he was concerned the resolution will put a stop to the SPMC's efforts and that it will be difficult to get the momentum back.'

Mr. Watson, the board chairman, expressed similar sentiments, saying that if the SPMC fails, "you're dooming Scotch Plains business for a generation.'

Near the end of the meeting, Mayor Malool asked property and business owners to contact council members with their input on the hirings and the council's actions. She also said, with some frustration in her voice, that the conflict had "turned into Nancy Malool vs. Lisa Schiller, and that's not what this is all about."

And during the telephone call-in segment prior to adjournment, board member Tom Britt called to express his frustration at the council's move. Bill Mariani of Rossi Funeral Home telephoned to say he was 'very disappointed in everything I watched" during the televised meeting, and accused the council of wanting to "micromanage" the SPMC's activities.

SP Replaces Attorneys Levine and Woodruff

By FRED T. ROSSI

SCOTCH PLAINS — Township Attorney Brian Levine and Assistant Attorney Lawrence Woodruff were replaced this week in a move by the township council to, according to Mayor Nancy Malool, "restructure our legal department this year.'

The new township attorney is Jeffrey Lehrer, who was most recently the township planning board attorney and is a member of the Warren-based law firm of DiFrancesco, Bateman, which is headed by former Scotch Plains resident and state Senate President Donald DiFrancesco, who served as township attorney in the 1980s and 1990s and was acting governor in 2001. Mr. DiFrancesco's 2001 gubernatorial campaign was derailed by allegations regarding his involvement as township attorney in real estate transactions in Scotch Plains that involved his brother.

The move, Mayor Malool told The Westfield Leader after Tuesday's meeting, "is no reflection on the quality of Brian's work." She did not give a reason for the change other than to say that "a majority of the council was in favor" of bringing in Mr. Lehrer.

Councilman Kevin Glovertold The Leader on Tuesday that the mayor is entitled to bring in her own team and that it was time for "fresh blood" in the legal department.

During the council's public session on Tuesday, Mayor Malool called Mr. Levine, who was named to his position four years ago this week, a "hard-working, dedicated, reliable attorney," and also praised Mr. Woodruff, who has been in his position since 2002. She called the council's action "one of the hardest decisions" the governing body has had to make.

Councilman Jeff Strauss told Mr. Levine he "will be very sorely missed." Former township manager, Thomas Atkins, who retired in late 2008 after a 28-year tenure, called Mr. Levine "the best township attorney I ever worked with" and lauded Mr. Woodruff for his work, pointing especially to his earlier work as planning board attorney.

Attorney Eric Harrison, who was cocounsel with Mr. Levine in a recent litigation filed by a township employee, lauded Mr. Levine's "dedication to the case even when his status [with the township] was in limbo" in late 2009 and early this year.

Mr. Levine assumed the attorney's position in early 2006 after the sudden death in late 2005 of former township attorney. Douglas Hansen. He was recently hired by the Mount Olive municipal council as the town's municipal judge.



VALENTINE VETS...Several dozen Scotch Plains veterans were feted last Friday evening at the second annual "Valentine's Day With A Veteran" at Evangel Church. The dinner was coordinated by the mayor's Community Relations Committee. Twenty-four local businesses donated goods for the event.

POLICE BLOTTER

Westfield

Tuesday, February 9, Archeley Prophete, 24, of Linden was arrested on outstanding warrants after a motor vehicle stop at South Avenue and Crossway Place, including two warrants from Roselle with a total of \$254 bail and a Carteret warrant with \$79 bail. He

was released after posting bail. Tuesday, February 9, Robert Blescia, 28, of West Chester, Pa. was arrested in the area of East North Avenue and South Chestnut Street on an outstanding Westfield traffic warrant. He was transported to Westfield police headquarters, processed and released after posting \$250 bail.

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Saturday, February 13, Ronald R. Dismuke, Jr., 22, of Easton, Pa. was arrested at the New Jersey State Police Perryville Barracks on a Westfield contempt of court warrant. He was transported to Westfield police headquarters, processed

and released after posting \$196 bail. Saturday, February 13, Takiba Jackson, 29. of Garwood was arrested at Westfield police headquarters on an outstanding Westfield traffic warrant for \$99 after being stopped by New Jersey State Police, who turned Jackson over to Westfield authori-

Saturday, February 13, Kevin Morrison, 48, of Scotch Plains was arrested and charged with DWI pursuant to a motor vehicle investigation at Lamberts Mill and Raritan Roads. He was transported to Westfield police headquarters, processed and released

on his own recognizance with summonses. However, he remained in police custody after being unable to arrange for transportation home. Saturday, February 13, an attempted burglary was reported at a residence on the 800 block of West North Avenue. The homeowner heard a loud noise at the front door and, upon investigating the cause of it, observed signs of force. The incident oc-

curred around 7:42 p.m. Entry was not gained and the matter is under investiga-Sunday, February 14, Lynde Jules, 20, of Westfield was arrested during a motor ve-

hicle stop in the area of West North Avenue and Tuttle Parkway. She was charged with possession of CDS (marijuana); possession of drug paraphernalia; possession of CDS with intent to distribute, and possession of CDS with intent to distribute in a school zone. Jules was transported to Westfield police headquarters, processed and released without bail. She is to appear in Union County Superior Court on the charges. Sunday, February 14, Li Martinez, 39, of

Cranford was arrested following a motor vehicle stop at East Grove Street and Boynton Avenue on an outstanding Linden warrant. Martinez was released after posting \$140 bail. Monday, February 15, Angellica Will-

iams, 25, and April Williams, 18, both of Rahway, were arrested in the area of East South and Windsor Avenues during a motor vehicle stop. Each was charged with hindering apprehension of self for allegedly providing police with false names during the investigation. Both were transported to Westfield police headquarters, processed and released without bail. The driver. Angellica Williams, also was issued a traffic summons for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license.

Mountainside $Tuesday, February\,9, an officer responded$ to a bank on Mountain Avenue on a report of disorderly conduct. According to authorities, the bank manager told police that a male suspect became unruly when he was given information about his bank account. The manager asked the suspect to leave the premises, at which time he threatened her,

authorities reported.
Saturday, February 13, Antoinne R.
Christ, 33, of Plainfield was picked up at the
Somerset County jail and charged with an outstanding warrant out of Mountainside.

Sunday, February 14, Adelio Martinez-Velazq, 32, of Elizabeth was arrested following a motor vehicle stop on Route 22 for allegedly driving without a license. He was transported to police headquarters, processed and released.

Sunday, February 14, a resident of Creek Bed Road reported that her former husband had been making harassing phone calls and had sent her harassing text messages earlier in the day

Scotch Plains

Monday, February 8, Kashira Slaughter, 24, of Fanwood was arrested and charged with possession of suspected marijuana following a motor vehicle stop. According to police, the suspect was stopped for a motor vehicle violation, at which time the officer smelled the odor of burnt marijuana. Slaughter was transported to police headquarters, processed and released.

Monday, February 8, a resident of Rhoda Place reported that someone entered her residence through a rear window and, once inside, removed approximately \$4,000 worth of jewelry.

Wednesday, February 10, Stacy Reidinger, 27, of Gillette was arrested on an outstanding warrant after a motor vehicle stop. She was transported to police headquarters, processed and released.

Wednesday, February 10, the manager of a Park Avenue store reported that an unidentified male left the store with a pair of gloves, valued at \$15, without paying for the merchandise.

Wednesday, February 10, a resident of Nicole Court reported that she has been receiving harassing text messages from an

unknown suspect. Friday, February 12, Malcolm Shell, 22. of Scotch Plains was arrested and charged with possession of suspected marijuana after a motor vehicle stop. According to police the suspect was stopped for vehicle violation, at which time the officer smelled the odor of marijuana. Shell was transported to police headquarters, processed and released

Saturday, February 13, a resident of Raritan Road reported that someone smashed his mailbox, valued at approximately \$100.

Saturday, February 13, a resident of Route 22 reported that someone broke the window of her motor vehicle while it was parked in the lot of her apartment building.

Sunday, February 14, a patron of a Lamberts Mill Road office reported that he left his jacket on a bench at the office and someone removed it.

County to Add Bunkers At Galloping Hill Course

By SONIA OWCHARIW

ELIZABETH - The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders last Thursday introduced an ordinance authorizing the construction of additional bunkers at Galloping Hill Golf Course in the amount of \$200,000

The county has already built a driving range and an education center at Galloping Hill in an effort to attract younger players and increase revenue.

Cranford resident Jim Buettner questioned the board on the expenditure, stating, "You closed Oak Ridge Golf Course, but you're spending \$200,000 to build a bunker at Galloping Hill?"

The 169-acre, 18-hole golf range in Clark was closed last year over what the county claimed was a \$400,000 operating deficit at the 80-year-old course

The county has instead focused on making Galloping Hill in Kenilworth and Ashbrook Golf Course in Scotch Plains profitable. KemperSports was hired to run the clubhouse operations at these facilities.

Tina Renna, president of the Union County Watchdog Association, commented that, "There needs to be more transparency on your website about the golf course, contracts listed and projects.'

"You should be proud of what you're doing, but it seems more shady. I shouldn't have to go fishing to find things about the golf course on your website," Mrs. Renna

In other business, the board approved an agreement with First Tee of America's Raritan Valley Chapter of New Brunswick to develop community-outreach programs for Union County's youth at no cost to the

"It's nice to see something going back to the community for our youth and the First Tee is a good start," said James Poland of Plainfield.

The board also approved a resolution to enter into a \$55,000 contract with Ken Tesler, Mad Dog Presents, LLC of Jersey City "to plan, promote and produce the 2010 Union Summer Arts Festival," which will run from June 30 through August 25 at the alternating locations of Oak Ridge and Echo Lake parks.

On another matter, Joseph Graziano, director of engineering and public works, said the county had 80 snow plows on its roadways during last week's snow storm. He said the crews plowed 177 miles of roadways over the course of the 27-hour storm.



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SPMC Board, Council Clash Over Manager Hirings, Expenditures

By FRED T. ROSSI

SCOTCH PLAINS — Board members from the Scotch Plains Management Corp. (SPMC) on Tuesday night defended their hiring of two managers to oversee commercial district revitalization. Mayor Nancy Malool and township council members questioned the hirings and, specifically, the hiring of a board member's spouse, as well as the amount of money being paid to the two managers.

The bulk of Tuesday evening's three-hour public council meeting consisted of the council's rationale for, and the public's reaction to, a resolution, voted by the council 3-1 to approve, urging the SPMC to halt

contentious meeting prior to the public session where Deputy Mayor Dominick Bratti engaged in several loud arguments with SPMC officials over its hiring last month of Lisa Schiller as co-manager

At the council's conference meeting, attended by more than half of the SPMC board members and Mrs. Schiller, Mr. Bratti said Mrs. Schiller's hiring created a conflict of interest, given that her husband, Ted Schiller, is a board member and the group's treasurer.

"You should have seen the conflict," Mr. Bratti said, "but you chose to ignore it." The deputy mayor said, "perception is very important to the business community," noting that a

Schiller's hiring.
At the outset of the meeting, SPMC Board Chairman Jim Watson implored council members to "be cautious" in their remarks about the SPMC, pointing to some negative comments about the hirings that appeared in local news outlets two weeks ago. "Don't make comments until you have all the information," Mr. Watson said, adding that the salary figures that had been put forth by council members regarding Mrs. Schiller and the other manager, FirsTEAManagement of Plainfield, were "just not true."

In first speaking about the resolution asking the SPMC to cease expenditures, Mayor Nancy Malool, who is also a board member, told Mr. Watson that during the process to hire a manager, "everything I've said has fallen on deaf ears. It's been me versus you."

Mr. Watson said during the council's consideration of the SPMC's 2009 budget last summer, about \$44,000 had been earmarked to pay a manager and for related administrative costs. He said on Tuesday that Mrs. Schiller's annual salary will be \$20,800 and FirsTEAManagement will be paid \$15,000 annually. Office space and other administrative expensescomes in at just under \$4,000. Another \$4,800 is budgeted for workers compensation coverage and taxes for Mrs. Schiller. Mr. Watson said the board was spending what it had budgeted for last year. "I don't understand why all of a sudden these are bad numbers," he said.

Malool Mayor FirsTEAManagement had proposed acting as the sole manager for \$22,000 per year, and repeated her assertion from two weeks ago that the board was spending too high a percentage of its \$64,000 budget on salaries and administrative costs.

Board member Tom Cusamano said having both FirsTEAManagement and Mrs. Schiller as managers meant getting "the best of both worlds," given FirsTEAManagement's management and administrative experience and Mrs. Schiller's status as a township resident who would be a visible day-to-day presence in the

commercial district. When the relationship between the Schillers was raised, Mr. Schiller said he would resign from the board if it would clear up any perceived conflicts. When Mr. Bratti questioned why Mrs. Schiller was being hired as an employee instead of an independent contractor, Board Vice-Chairman Jeff Kowalczyk asked, "What is your problem with us?" and accused Mr. Bratti of being "very confrontational."

Mr. Bratti responded that the board CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



MERGER TALK...Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr welcomed about 100 residents to the Scotch Plains Public Library last Thursday, when a proposal was unveiled to merge the Scotch Plains and Fanwood libraries. The plan hinges on finding \$26 million to expand the existing Scotch Plains Public Library by making it a joint facility.

Library Merger Presentation Seeks \$26.5 Million for New Joint Facility

By FRED T. ROSSI

SCOTCH PLAINS — Concerns about adequate parking dominated the question-and-answer segment of last Thursday's formal presentation of a proposal to merge the Scotch Plains and Fanwood libraries and then expand the present Scotch Plains Library on Bartle Avenue into a \$26.5million state-of-the-art joint facility that would serve both towns.

During a 90-minute session that was attended by nearly 100 residents, members of the boards of trustees from both libraries, Scotch Plains Mayor Nancy Malool and Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr, council members and Scotch Plains business owners, details of the proposed merger and new facility were presented by consultant Leslie Burger and architect Joseph Rizzo.

Ms. Burger, who led a series of focus groups and then the feasibility study resulting from those groups, said the proposals being presented "reflect a lot of listening" over the past 18 months from members of both towns. She noted that one of the themes heard in focus groups during the past 18 months was a belief that the library "should be a community gathering place." Ms. Burger emphasized that the proposed new facility is "not a done deal," but rather a concept design.

Plans call for the existing library to house additional meeting rooms and an expanded children's section, with

a new 37,368-sq. ft. multi-story wing to be built on the site of the existing parking lot in front of the library. The newly constructed building would house two floors of adult and teen services, along with administrative

offices, a business center and a café. While some attendees last week asked questions about how the project would be financed, most of the questions and comments concerned the proposed new parking lot, which would be located on the north side of the facility and have about 20 percent fewer parking spaces than the existing lot. With Ms. Burger projecting a 20- to 30-percent increase in visitors to the a larger library, concerns were raised not only about the adequacy of the new lot for the library, but also about how downtown shoppers would be affected. "To double the size of this facility and think we can reduce parking is just not acceptable," Scotch Plains Councilman Kevin Glover said.

A Park Avenue business owner said he was concerned about where downtown shoppers would park if a new parking lot was filled with library CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

Lance Kicks Off Re-election, **Faces Primary Challenge**

By PAUL J. PEYTON

WESTFIELD — Rep. Leonard Lance (R-7th) kicked off his re-election campaign Tuesday for a second term representing the Seventh Congressional District, which includes parts of Union County including Westfield, Scotch Plains, Fanwood, Cranford, Mountainside and

Mr. Lance, a former 18-year state lawmaker, faces a Primary Election challenge from Oldwick businessman David Larsen and Westfield resident and businessman Bruce Baker. Democrat Ed Potosnak, a former staffer for Rep. Mike Honda (D-Calif.) and an ex-high school chemistry teacher, has also announced his candidacy.

"I run on my record of fiscal responsibility and of fiscal conservatism," Mr. Lance said. "A lot of people in America talk the talk [but do not walk the walk] - this is both Republicans and Democrats... I think that's why we (GOP) lost our way and lost the majority in 2006.'

The Congressman said he predicts the GOP will gain the 40 necessary seats to take the majority in the House of Representatives come November, noting that his party is now again focused "on returning [the country] to fiscal responsibility.

He said he is running for re-election "because Congress needs more fiscal conservatives in both the House and the Senate." Mr. Lance touted his legislation, while a state lawmaker, that requires the state to gain voter approval before borrowing money.

Mr. Lance said the annual federal deficit was \$1.4 trillion in 2009, "the highest annual deficit of the percentage of Gross Domestic Product since 1945." He added that Congress has raised the debt ceiling to \$14 trillion 'over my strong objections.'

Mr. Baker, in a press release issued Tuesday, criticized Mr. Lance for his vote in support of the cap-and-trade bill last summer.

"It took Lance less than six months as a member of Congress to pile more debt on his constituents by voting for the cap-and-trade bill. This bill will be one of the most punitive and costly tax hikes in U.S. history," Mr. Baker said.

The congressman said he would no longer support the bill because President Barack Obama has been unable to get China and India to support capand-trade.

"We cannot engage in this alone," Mr. Lance said. "We need an energy strategy in this country," to include alternative energy sources such as **CONTINUED ON PAGE 10**



Benjamin B. Corbin for The Scotch Plains-Far CAMPAIGN BEGINS...Several dozen supporters of Rep. Leonard Lance (R-7th) are present Tuesday afternoon at the Westfield Train Station as he officially announces his campaign for re-election to New Jersey's Seventh Congressional District. Pictured, left to right, are: former Scotch Plains Mayor Martin Marks, Mr. Lance, former Rep. Mike Ferguson, Mr. Lance's wife, Heidi, and Assemblywoman Nancy Munoz (LD-21, Summit).

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PITCHING IN...During last Wednesday's snowstorm, Scotch Plains Director of Publc Works Kevin Ward manned a snowplow in an effort to keep streets clear.

Christie's Plan for Deficit; Districts Deny 'Excess'

By PAUL J. PEYTON

AREA — Reaction has been swift to Governor Chris Christie's plan to eliminate a \$2.3-billion budget hole by withholding \$475 million in aid to 500 school districts, while slashing \$62 million in aid to state colleges and universities and \$32.7 million to

NJ Transit. In addition, \$12.6 million charity care payments to hospitals has been cut by the governor, who also announced the elimination of the Public Advocate's Office, effective April 1, in an effort to save another \$600,000.

"The irresponsible budgeting of the past, coupled with failed tax policies, which lie like a heavy, wet blanket suffocating tax revenues and job growth, have required these extraordinary steps," the governor told a joint session of the state Legislature last Thursday.

Reaction to Governor Christie's plan was swift. Assembly Majority Leader Joseph Cryan (D-20, Union) said, "Many aspects of Governor Christie's proposal will lead to sharp and sudden property-tax increases and will hurt small businesses amid a recession.

Senate Majority Leader Stephen Sweeney (D-Gloucester) said, "So much for a handshake," a reference to the handshake gesture by Governor Christie to Mr. Sweeney and Assembly Speaker Sheila Öliver at last month's inauguration.

"Governing by executive order and keeping plans secret until the last minute is not bipartisanship. Sure, these cuts will close the budget gap, but they do so in an irresponsible

manner," Mr. Sweeney said. "Voters sent a clear message last November that they want smaller, more responsible government that is focused on its core responsibilities. These cuts don't even begin that job."

The Assembly Budget Committee, chaired by Assemblyman Lou Greenwald (D-Camden), was to have convened yesterday at press deadline to discuss what Mr. Greenwald labeled as Mr. Christie's "ill-advised plan" that he said would lead to "property-tax increases, potential hospital closures and the possibility of higher tuition and transit fares.'

'It also kills job creation. On top of all that, Governor Christie kept his plan secret and executed it without any public discussion. This is undemocratic and an affront to residents and businesses alike," Asm. Greenwald said.

On the other side of the aisle, Senate Republican Leader Tom Kean, Jr. of Westfield, said the governor's plan is absent of "tax increases, furloughs or disruption of our state's schools."

"It's also worth noting that his plan for balancing the budget, unlike proposals by other governors over the last eight years (under Democrats), contains no unconstitutional borrowing, tax increases or irresponsible accounting gimmicks," Senator Kean said. "No other governor over the last eight years has proposed such a responsible and fiscally sound plan for closing a deficit."

"The governor's critics should either come forward with a real, honest plan for cutting this budget, or stop with the transparently partisan at-**CONTINUED ON PAGE 10**



VALENTINE VETS...Several dozen Scotch Plains veterans were feted last Friday evening at the second annual "Valentine's Day With A Veteran" at Evangel Church. Twenty-four local businesses donated goods for the dinner,

which was coordinated by the mayor's Community Relations Committee.

SP Changes Town Attorney; Lehrer Named to the Spot

By FRED T. ROSSI

SCOTCH PLAINS — Township Attorney Brian Levine and Assistant Attorney Lawrence Woodruff were replaced this week in a move by the council to, according to Mayor Nancy Malool, "restructure our legal department this year." The announcement was made at Tuesday's council meeting during which former township officials and others heaped praise on

Mr. Levine and Mr. Woodruff. The new township attorney is Jeffrey Lehrer, who was most recently the township planning board attorney and is a member of the Warren-based law firm of DiFrancesco, Bateman, which is headed by former Scotch Plains resident and state Senate President Donald DiFrancesco, who served as township attorney in the 1980s and 1990s and was acting governor in 2001. Mr. DiFrancesco's 2001 gubernatorial campaign was derailed by allegations regarding his involvement as township attorney in real estate transactions in Scotch Plains that involved his brother.

The move, Mayor Malool told *The* Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times after Tuesday's meeting, "is no reflection on the quality of Brian's work." She did not give a reason for the change other than to say that "a majority of the council was in favor" of bringing in Mr. Lehrer.

the legal department.

Councilman Kevin Glover told The *Times* on Tuesday that the mayor is entitled to bring in her own team and that it was time for "fresh blood" in

During the council's public session on Tuesday, Mayor Malool called Mr. Levine, who was named to his position four years ago this week, a "hardworking, dedicated, reliable attorney," and also praised Mr. Woodruff, who has been in his position since 2002. She called the council's action "one of the hardest decisions" the govern-

ing body has had to make. Councilman Jeff Strauss told Mr. Levine he "will be very sorely missed." Former township manager, Thomas Atkins, who retired in late 2008 after a 28-year tenure, called Mr. Levine "the best township attorney I ever worked with" and lauded Mr. Woodruff for his work, pointing especially to his earlier work as planning board attorney.

Attorney Eric Harrison, who was co-counsel with Mr. Levine in a recent litigation filed by a township employee, lauded Mr. Levine's "dedication to the case even when his status [with the township] was in limbo" in late 2009 and early this year.

Former council members Frank Rossi, William McClintock, Paulette Coronato and Joan Papen also came forward to praise Mr. Levine and Mr. Woodruff. Former mayor Martin Marks, who has been friends with Mr. Levine since boyhood, said he had been "a very quick study" upon assuming the attorney's position in early 2006 after the untimely death in late 2005 of former township attorney, Douglas Hansen.

Mr. Marks noted that Mr. Levine had been recently hired by the Mount Olive municipal council as the town's municipal judge and said he "commended [that council's] wisdom before concluding by wishing the Scotch Plains council "profound comfort in your restructured legal department."

The Mestfield Leader and The Scotch Plains - Fanwood TIMES

David B. Corbin for *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* EARNING HIS 100TH CAREER WIN...Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School

senior Tristan Bundy, pictured left, receives a plaque from Wrestling Head Coach

John Scholz for winning his 100th career varsity bout after defeating Christian Brother Academy's Mike Matlaga, 7-5, at 125 lbs during a quad meet at Watchung Hills High School on February 13.

Scotch Plains

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SUPER FROSTY...This nine-foot snowman was built by a Westfield resident during the February 10 snowstorm that dropped 17.5 inches of snow on the community.

The Governor's Plan

She said the district has eliminated

"We have no excess surplus, no

24 full-time positions and over 40

maintenance reserve and no emer-

gency reserve. The state recommends

that districts keep a fund balance of 2

percent. We were not able to put aside

that much for this year's budget," Ms.

Scotch Plains-Fanwood (SP-F)

Board of Education President Norman

"Trip" Whitehouse said the \$167,000

cut by the governor to the district is

"not coming from excess surplus, but

from capital and maintenance re-

ate excess surplus above the 2 per-

cent allowable by the state. Since the

money being withheld from SP-F is

from expected capital spending, the

impact to the district will be seen from the facilities side," Mr. Whitehouse said. "These reserves

were set aside for capital projects to

be done this summer. We'll be evalu-

ating the district's capital priority

list and, most likely, will not get as

far down the list as originally

planned. The projects that are cur-

rently underway are not being af-

"Where we will see any additional

impacts will be dependent on what

the governor announces in his March

16 speech related to next year's aid

Mountainside Chief School Admin-

istrator Jeanette Baubles said in a

statement that Governor Christie is

'clearly transitioning at a very, very

state aid, members of the

Mountainside school district's Fi-

nance Committee will be working

extremely hard to address this with

the budget development process now

Reacting to the slashing of NJ

Transit's budget, Tri-State Transpor-

tation Campaign Executive Director

Kate Slevin said Governor Christie is

"sending the wrong message for the

state's transportation priorities by

penalizing Transit riders, while re-

fusing to consider an increase in the

gas tax or other driver fees. Transit

Committee Chairman John

Wisniewski (D-Middlesex), the head

of the state's Democratic Committee,

said the transportation panel will hear

testimony today, February 18, on the

potential impact of the budget cuts to

NJ Transit. The hearing is scheduled

for 10 a.m. in Committee Room 11 on

"Governor Christie's plan will

the fourth floor of the State House

have a wide-ranging negative im-

pact and may well equate to a hefty

tax increase on lower- and middle-

class New Jerseyans who have no

other choice but to rely on NJ Tran-

sit to get to work," Mr. Wisniewski

New Jersey Taxpayers Association

President Jerry Cantrell said the

governor's plan has been a long time

by past failures to act prudently and

understand that we are all in for a

prolonged period of sacrifice," Mr.

"Let's accept the pain necessitated

Annex in Trenton.

State Assembly Transportation

fare increases are tax increases."

'Given the anticipated reduction in

figures," Mr. Whitehouse noted.

"This past year, we did not gener-

after-school positions.

Dolan stated.

serves.'

fected.

difficult time.

underway," she said.

tacks and join with our governor in making New Jersey the kind of state its residents deserve," Senator Kean said.

Westfield Councilman Frank Arena, a Republican, said for too long New Jersey was on an "unsustainable path.'

"Bravo to Governor Christie for these actions. And let's all hope President Obama steals this page from our brave new governor's playbook," Mr. Arena said.

Likewise, Rep. Leonard Lance (R-7), a former state lawmaker, said, "Continued runaway spending is inappropriate given the state of our economy both nationally and here in New Jersey.

Explaining his school aid cuts, the governor said that, "many school districts...have surpluses that were not a part of their fiscal year 2010 budgets," which is labeled as "excess surpluses" or were placed in a reserve account.

"I am reducing school aid in a way that ensures that no district will have aid withheld in an amount that is greater than its surpluses," the governor said.

In response, New Jersey Education Association (NJEA) President Barbara Keshishian said many districts "use the excess surplus funds from one budget year as revenue to support programs or property-tax reductions the following year.'

"With this order, the burden is on the governor to ensure that he has adequate funding in his FY2011 budget to fund the public schools of New Jersey," she said.

"We are also distressed that the governor has announced his intention to continue the destructive practice of not funding the state's pension funds. It is precisely that failure by prior governors and prior legislatures that has led to the under-funding of the pension system. Teachers and school employees have contributed billions of dollars to that system in the past 15 years, while the state has consistently failed to contribute its fair share. It is outrageous that our new governor would openly encourage the Legislature to continue the fiscally irresponsible practices that have brought us to this point," Ms. Keshishian said.

Of the \$475 million withheld from public school payments, \$23.6 million is withheld from Union County school districts. Locally, Westfield will lose \$196,419; Scotch Plains-Fanwood, \$167,667; Garwood, \$28,011; Cranford, \$139,834; Berkeley Heights, \$700,000, and Mountainside, \$273,000.

Westfield Superintendent of Schools Margaret Dolan said the district is determining "how this impacts our budget this year and next

"We receive less than 6 percent of our budget from the state. Ninety percent of the budget is paid for by Westfield taxpayers," Ms. Dolan

"Recognizing that we are not immune from the downturn in the economy, this year the Westfield Public Schools has reduced spending on items such as utilities and technology. Our administrators and nonaligned staff have made voluntary givebacks to help the district budget," the Westfield Superintendent

Garwood BOE Searches for 2010-2011 Budget Solutions

LAUREN S. BARR

GARWOOD — At Tuesday night's meeting, the board of education (BOE) discussed the deficit in its budget for the 2010-2011 school year. The board discussed balancing the budget by re-opening salary negotiations, laying off staff, closing Washington School and reducing

Finance Committee Chairwoman Susan Groning said that Garwood schools face a deficit of approximately \$380,000 in the proposed budget. Regulations put forth by Governor Chris Christie, cost increases and an anticipated reduction in state aid were cited among the reasons.

Mrs. Groning stated that last year when the discussion arose of closing Washington School, residents came out and said they were willing to pay extra tax dollars to keep it open. This year, the board is considering asking residents that question on the ballot during the school elections.

Board Secretary William Muzzio said that Garwood currently receives approximately \$600,000 a year in state aid and is required to keep its tax levy within a 4percent increase over the previous year. He said he is hearing that state aid may be cut by as much as 20 percent and that school districts may only be able to raise their tax levies by 2 percent.

Board President Adele Lewis said the board sent a letter to the Garwood Education Association (GEA), the teachers' union, asking that it re-open its contract negotiations to discuss the rising costs of

GEA President Dana Parkhill, a resident and a parent, addressed the letter, saying that cutting staff is outside the scope of contract negotiations. "You're going to cut staff no matter what," she said, adding that the GEA was not willing to re-open its contract talks.

Ms. Parkhill told the board that over 40 percent of the teachers are Garwood residents and that they are all aware of the current budget crisis. She said that the GEA "may be being used as a scapegoat" and that the union is willing to work with the board in areas that are not included in the contract. She suggested that the board ask for parent volunteers, raise activity fees and charge for musical instrument

Several residents asked what the board could do to appeal to the state to prevent further cuts. Mr. Muzzio suggested that residents contact their legislators, and said that he would look into a joint resolution with the borough council to urge the governor not to cut the district's funding.

The board will set dates for two public meetings to discuss the proposed budget. A workshop meeting will be held in March for the entire board to discuss the budget and then a public hearing on the budget will be held sometime between March 26 and April 3.

Garwood voters last year rejected the \$8.96-million school budget proposed by the BOE that contained a property tax levy of \$6.3 million. The matter was sent to the borough council, which approved the school budget reduced by \$37,400 on May 12, 2009.

Devanney Appoints Andrew Moran to Head Public Safety Department

COUNTY - Andrew Moran, a retired Berkeley Heights Police Captain, has been appointed County Public Safety Director effective Tuesday by County Manager George Devanney.

"Andy Moran brings experience and new energy to the department as our director," Mr. Devanney said. "Having worked on a strategic plan about the department for the past six months, he will be able to hit the ground running in his new position.

Mr. Moran, 45, had been employed by the county since August as a public safety specialist where he was working on a strategic plan addressing county police department accreditation, a shared radio services system, a consolidated 9-1-1 dispatch center and

EMS system. Mr. Moran said he was grateful to be serving the residents of Union County in

his new capacity. "I look forward to leading a group of determined and dedicated

public servants in providing for the safety and protection of our citizens as well those who may work or visit here," Mr. Moran said. "I am grateful to the county manager for his support, and I look for-

ward to working with our Board of Chosen Freehold-Mr. Moran said that he would emphasize the pursuit of shared services, and

pointed to his report in part as a blue print for his upcoming initiatives.
"I am looking forward to

continuing the progress on these items, as well as exploring continued savings through shared services,' Mr. Moran said.

"Public Safety is one of our highest priorities, and we have found someone who will be able to lead the department into an era with new challenges," Freeholder Chairman Dan Sullivan said. "We look forward to

Andrew Moran

working with Director Moran."
Mr. Moran's salary for the position is

\$113,793 per year.

SP Council, SPMC Clash

had exercised "poor business judgment" in hiring Mrs. Schiller. "I don't want to see money going down a rat hole," he added.

Later, after Mr. Bratti criticized the method in which Mrs. Schiller was paid a small fee for her efforts last year, Mr. Schiller called him "misinformed and uninformed" and then loudly accused the mayor of taking actions against the SPMC board because "you're not getting what you want." Mr. Schiller said the mayor seemed to believe the board was "not capable of making these decisions, so you need to make them for us.'

In response, Mayor Malool accused Mr. Schiller of "threatening me" regarding his wife's hiring. That led to another loud back-and-forth between Mr. Schiller and Mr. Bratti before the meeting wound down with an agreement on further meetings between the two sides in the coming weeks.

Later, at the regular council meeting, where the council was considering the resolution "strongly urging" the SPMC board to cease expenditures "for the time being," as Mr. Bratti put it. He again said Mrs. Schiller's hiring "creates an appearance of impropriety," and said the council needs "to fix the problem before it becomes a bigger problem." He repeated his assertion from the earlier meeting that "something doesn't smell right" regarding the hiring.

Councilman Jeff Strauss opposed the resolution, stating the council was "encroaching upon authority" given to the SPMC. He criticized his colleagues for "sticking our nose in" to the management corporation's business. "When we criticize them, we demean them," he said. "And we do ourselves a tremendous disservice." Mr. Strauss said "scolding" the board in the press instead of "talking to them" would lead to a destruction of morale and a loss of volunteers.

Councilman Kevin Glover, who during the earlier session had urged both sides "to work together to make this work," said the council "has an inherent responsibility" to make the SPMC work. He said much of the problems between the council and the SPMC was due to "a failure to communicate," and said he was voting for the resolution "to get that communication started.'

Mayor Malool said the special improvement district "is not going in the direction we want," and repeated her assertion from earlier that the two sides need to work together as partners. She said spending about twothirds of the SPMC budget on salaries and administration "just seems like too much.'

After the council voted 3-1 to approve the resolution, a dozen residents, business owners and SPMC board members came forth to publicly praise Mrs. Schiller's efforts over the past year, specifically her work in putting together last year's Memorial

Day Music Festival that was attended

by several thousand people. Board member Steve Goldberg said he was concerned the resolution will put a stop to the SPMC's efforts and that it will be "difficult to get the momentum back."

Mr. Watson, the board chairman, expressed similar sentiments, saying that if the SPMC fails, "you're dooming Scotch Plains business for a generation.'

Near the end of the meeting, Mayor Malool asked property and business owners to contact council members with their input on the hirings and the council's actions. She also said, with some frustration in her voice, that the conflict had "turned into Nancy Malool versus Lisa Schiller, and that's not what this is all about.'

And during the telephone call-in segment prior to adjournment, board member Tom Britt called to express his frustration at the council's move. Bill Mariani of Rossi Funeral Home telephoned to say he was "very disappointed in everything I watched" during the televised meeting, and accused the council of wanting to "micromanage" the SPMC's activities.

Libraries

patrons. Scotch Plains resident Elsie LeStrange raised the possibility of the new lot being filled with cars of high school students visiting the library after school.

"There are a number of concerns we need to address regarding parking," Ms. Burger said. She raised the possibility of a parking deck and said the parking lot configuration presented was not a final design. "There's still many details to be worked out."

Another resident asked why the existing parking lot was being used as the site for the new library wing. In response, Mr. Rizzo, the architect, said the new wing "worked well" with the existing building when situated there versus to the north alongside Forest Road. He said there would still be available parking in the municipal lot across Bartle Avenue, and noted that additional library patrons would translate into "increased foot traffic in the downtown" for businesses.

Ms. Burger said the next steps in the process will be for the Scotch Plains and Fanwood to authorize a public referendum on the November ballot asking residents if they support the dissolution of their respective library boards of trustees and the creation of a new joint library entity. She financing options available include local and county bonding, funding from the state Department of Community Affairs, library construction bonds, federal funding, grant money and private donations via a capital campaign. More information is available at thejointlibrary.org.



Saturday, February 13, Kevin Morrison, 48, of Scotch Plains was arrested and charged with DWI pursuant to a motor vehicle investigation at Lamberts Mill and Raritan Roads. He was transported to Westfield police headquarters, processed and released on his own recognizance with summonses. However, he remained in police custody after being

unable to arrange for transportation home. Saturday, February 13, an attempted burglary was reported at a residence on the 800 block of West North Avenue. The homeowner heard a loud noise at the front door and, upon investigating the cause of it, observed signs of force. The incident occurred around 7:42 p.m. Entry was not gained and the matter is under investiga-

Sunday, February 14, Lynde Jules, 20, of Westfield was arrested during a motor vehicle stop in the area of West North Avenue and Tuttle Parkway. She was charged with possession of CDS (marijuana); possession of drug paraphernalia; possession of CDS with intent to distribute, and possession of CDS with intent to distribute in a school zone. Jules was transported to Westfield police headquarters, processed and released without bail. She is to appear in Union County Supe-

rior Court on the charges. Sunday, February 14, Li Martinez, 39, of Cranford was arrested following a motor vehicle stop at East Grove Street and Boynton Avenue on an outstanding Linden warrant. Martinez was released after posting \$140 bail.

Monday, February 15, Angellica Williams, 25, and April Williams, 18, both of Rahway, were arrested in the area of East South and Windsor Avenues during a motor vehicle stop. Each was charged with hindering apprehension of self for allegedly providing police with false names during the investigation. Both were transported to Westfield police headquarters, processed and released without bail. The driver, Angellica Williams, also was issued a traffic summons for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended driver's

Mountainside

Tuesday, February 9, an officer responded to a bank on Mountain Avenue on a report of disorderly conduct. According to authorities, the bank manager told police that a male suspect became unruly when he was given information about his bank account. The manager asked the suspect to leave the premises, at which time he threatened her, authorities

reported. Saturday, February 13, Antoinne R. Christ, 33, of Plainfield was picked up at the Somerset County jail and charged with an outstanding warrant out of Mountainside.

Sunday, February 14, Adelio Martinez-Velazq, 32, of Elizabeth was arrested following a motor vehicle stop on Route 22 for allegedly driving without a license. He was transported to police headquar-

ters, processed and released. Sunday, February 14, a resident of Creek Bed Road reported that her former husband had been making harassing phone calls and had sent her harassing text messages earlier in the day.

Lance

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

clean nuclear energy, clean coal as well as wind and solar power, he said. Mr. Potosnak ripped Mr. Lance for his vote against the healthcare bill in Congress. "I am hopeful that Leonard Lance did not intend for insurance companies to rake in these record profits when he voted against the healthcare bill," Mr. Potosnak stated. "However, he has not introduced one piece of legislation in Congress to stop the excess of insurance companies, Wall Street and big bankers after taxpayers bailed them out while taking in tens of thousands of specialinterest campaign contributions."

Rep. Lance said it is not that he and other Republicans are against healthcare reform, "but the question is what kind of healthcare reform.' He is opposed to a federal government takeover of the nation's healthcare system. He said the House Republican plan, of which he is a sponsor, includes medical malpractice insurance reform, purchase of insurance policies across state lines, and non-denial of health insurance due to pre-existing conditions.

Among the supporters turning out for Mr. Lance's campaign kickoff was former Rep. Mike Ferguson. "When it comes to the taxpayers of New Jersey we could have no better champion in Washington, D.C. than Leonard Lance," Mr. Ferguson said. He also said Mr. Lance has "done an extraordinary job of building a reputation of someone who listens, as someone who is connected to the people of our district.'

PAYING TOO MUCH IN PROPERTY TAXES?

Cantrell said.

Home Values have dropped. Shouldn't your property taxes? Is a property tax for right In the last three years, home values in Union County have dropped on average by more than 15 percent.

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State Has Lost \$70 Billion In Wealth Since 2004

TRENTON — A study by Boston College's (BC) Center on Wealth and Philanthropy shows that from 2004 through 2008, \$70 billion in wealth left New Jersey while the state's charitable capacity declined by \$1.13 bil-

The study was commissioned by the Community Foundation of New Jersey and the Enterprise Trust at the New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce and looked at New Jersey's household wealth migration over the past decade, from 1999 through 2008.

John Havens, associate director at BC's Center on Wealth and Philansaid, "The migration of wealth out of New Jersey is substantial and significant."

From 1999 through 2003, New Jersey saw an in-migration of wealth of \$98 billion and, in the same period, charitable capacity increased by \$881 million. From 2004 through 2009, the complete reversal of that trend occurred, which amounted to a total decline in charitable capacity of approximately \$2 billion.

"What we are seeing here is that

wealth – and those who hold it – are not only leaving New Jersey, but they are also not being replaced at the same rate," said Hans Dekker, president of the Community Foundation of New Jersey.

Wealth began to leave New Jersey around the time when a series of changes to the state's tax structure made it less competitive for charitable families compared to neighboring states. New Jersey's state income taxes have risen to levels above New York, Pennsylvania and Connecticut, and there is not a deduction on state income taxes for charitable giving.

"This discussion is about one thing and one thing only - the critical need to create permanent, quality jobs for the middle class of New Jersey," State Senator Joseph Kyrillos (LD-13, Middletown) said in response to the study. "It's the entrepreneurs and small business owners that generate the stable, high-paying jobs we need to recruit and retain in New Jersey to build a new foundation for a strong economic recovery.'

Legislation Prohibits Tax Funds for Terrorist Trials

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Rep. Leonard Lance (R-7th) is an original sponsor of bipartisan legislation (H.R. 4556) that would prohibit funding for the trials of the 9/11 conspirators in civilian court.

"This legislation takes the right steps to ensure that terrorists are tried by military tribunals, not our civilian court system," Mr. Lance said. "It is also a fiscally responsible measure as it protects the American taxpayer from spending an additional \$250 million or more per year on a trial just blocks from Ground Zero." The legislation was introduced in response to the Obama Administration's plans to try 9/11 mastermind Khalid Sheik Mohammed and his co-conspirators in a civilian court in New York City. Mr. Lance supports trying terrorists in a military commis-

More than 700 New Jersey residents perished on 9/11/01 including 81 from the Seventh Congressional District. The legislation, authored by Rep. Frank Wolf (R-Va.), is co-sponsored by 49 members of Congress including Mr. Lance, Reps. Scott Garrett (R-5), Chris Smith (R-4) and Peter King (R-N.Y.). Of the 49 cosponsors, 46 are Republicans and three are Democrats. The legislation

would allow known terrorists to receive a military commission trial at either Guantanamo Bay or on secure

military bases in the United States. The bill has been referred to the

NFIB: Christie Taking Right Steps to Fix NJ

House Committee on the Judiciary.

TRENTON - Laurie Ehlbeck, state director of the National Federation of Independent Business/New Jersey, issued the following statement in response to the budget cuts unveiled by Governor Chris Christie.

"Reforming our state's budget process to address New Jersey's reckless spending habits is the only way out of the mess we are in today. One-time gimmicks and fiscal shell games designed to temporarily patch our problems have brought us to the brink of an \$11-billion hole. New Jersey's struggling small business community has been waiting a long time for Trenton to get its fiscal house in order, and today's announcement is welcome news... Many of the upcoming budget decisions will be uncomfortable, but they are a necessary evil for a state that has taxed and spent its way into the poor house.

Peek at the Week

By Paul Peyton of The Leader/Times

Freeholder Boards Withholding

The Mestfield Leader and The Scotch Plains - Fanwood TIMES

Dues to Association of Counties County freeholder boards are withholding dues to the New Jersey Association of Counties (NJAC) over what they say is an excessive salary and benefits package paid to executive director Celeste Carpiano, the Star-*Ledger* has reported.

Ms. Carpiano currently is paid \$205,000 annually, but that number has jumped \$72,000 or 54 percent from \$133,000 seven years ago. She also is given a luxury car that she leases. The Morris County freeholders passed a resolution to withhold the county's \$10,000 in dues pending an independent audit of the agency. Sussex and Warren Counties freeholder boards are also intending to withhold NJAC dues, while Cumberland County officials have been critical of NJAC.

Twenty counties pay a collective \$200,000 to NJAC in membership dues. Hunterdon County withdrew its membership last year. Some of NJAC's six employees are enrolled in the state's pension system.

Rumana Considers Bill to Have State Takeover Sewerage Comm.

Assemblyman Scott Rumana (LD-40, Wayne) is considering introducing legislation to allow the state to take over the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission following news that its executive director, Bryan Christiansen, is paid \$313,000, according to nj.com. State Sen. Loretta Weinberg (LD-37, Teaneck) has introduced a bill that would compel all state authorities to comply with the state Open Public Meetings Act and to post minutes, agendas and schedules on the Internet.

Beldini Convicted of Accepting Illegal Camp. Contributions

Jersey City Deputy Mayor Leona Beldini has been convicted of two of six counts in the first corruption trial stemming from last summer's FBI sting, according to the Star-Ledger. She was found guilty of two bribery accounts for accepting \$20,000 in illegal campaign contributions in support of Jersey City Mayor Jerramiah Healy. Beldini was acquitted on one conspiracy count, two attempted extortion charges and one bribery count, according to newspaper accounts.

Beldini faces a maximum of 20 years in jail. Her attorney has said he plans to file an appeal to dismiss the

Peyton's In Politics

Christie Keeps Fuentes as

State Police Superintendent

Governor Chris Christie has announced that he will keep the State Police Superintendent, Colonel Rick Fuentes. In addition, Janet Rosenzweig was nominated as commissioner of Children and Families after previously serving as executive director of Prevent Child Abuse in New Jersey, a nonprofit advocacy group.

Raymond Martinez was named to head the Motor Vehicle Commission. He previously worked for the U.S. Department of State and is a former commissioner for the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles

Karrow to Head Panel Looking Into Affordable Housing

Governor Chris Christie has signed an executive order instituting a 90day freeze on the enforcement of New Jersey's affordable-housing regulations. The order bars the state Council on Affordable Housing (COAH) from taking any further action to implement housing rules, and establishes a five-member task force to review the effectiveness of COAH and the law that created it.

The governor named former state Senator Marcia Karrow (R-Hunterdon) to chair the newly formed

Housing Opportunity Task Force. Two Bills Aimed at Helping

Laid-Off Police and Firefighters

Two State Assembly bills to help laid-off police and firefighters are advancing toward law. The first bill (A-207) would allow county sheriffs to hire - without having to go through any Civil Service list of eligible employees – law enforcement officers that have been laid off by other law enforcement agencies for economic

The other bill (A-2031) would permit municipal fire departments to hire a laid off firefighter without utilizing a Civil Service list provided, in part, that the termination occurred within 60 months before appointment with the new fire department.

Under current law, a firefighter who was laid off for reasons of the economy may be appointed to a new position with another municipality within 36 months of the termination without utilizing any Civil Service lists. This bill extends that time period to 60 months to be consistent with the current reemployment policy for laid-off police officers, Assembly Democrats said.

Kean Makes Pitch for N.J. to Host Super Bowl

TRENTON — Senate Republican Leader Tom Kean, Jr. (LD-21, Westfield) has introduced a Senate resolution (SR-35) urging the NFL to select New Jersey as the location for the Super Bowl XLVIII in 2014. The NFL owners' Super Bowl Advisory Committee allowed the Meadowlands Stadium Co. to place a bid, waiving the traditional requirement that host stadiums have a minimum outdoor temperature of 50 degrees or an indoor stadium.

"New Jersey offers the best venue for the Super Bowl, period," Mr. Kean stated. "We have the image, logistics and ambiance that is unparalleled in the world and the millions of diehard fans in this region would do everything in their power to make Super Bowl XLVII the biggest, most talked about game in the history of the NFL."

Mr. Kean congratulated the NFL for refusing to make climate the main criteria for selecting a Super Bowl location.

"The NFL championship of 1958 is known as the 'Greatest Game Ever Played' and it was decided at Yankee Stadium (in the Bronx, N.Y)," Mr. Kean pointed out. "It's time to bring the game of American football back to its roots in the Northeast."

The Senator urged his colleagues to support the Meadowlands bid, and to commit to doing what it takes to win the game for New Jersey.

"New Jersey has a new state-ofthe-art stadium, easy access to airports, and thousands of hotel rooms, restaurants and other attractions near and in New York City, the most renowned and admired city in the world," Mr. Kean said.

"Having the Super Bowl in New Jersey would not only be great for the league but it would be great for the region," Mr. Kean continued. "The Super Bowl would provide a unique promotional opportunity for our state's tourism industry and help spur the regional economy. Studies have shown that cities who host the Super Bowl experience a significant economic impact into the hundreds of millions of dollars."

The bill is also sponsored by Senator Paul Sarlo (LD-26, Wood-Ridge), a Democrat whose district includes the Meadowlands. The New Meadowlands Stadium Company has to submit a preliminary proposal to the NFL by April 1. The winning bid is expected to be announced at the end of May.

Lonegan Calls For Probe Into Bailout Donors

BOGOTA - Americans for Prosperity (AFP) State Director Steve Lonegan has called on the New Jersey Legislature to form a committee to investigate the relationship between political donations from "interested parties" in the Morgan Stanley Casino in Atlantic City and state lawmakers.

'[U.S.] Senator [Robert] Menendez and Trenton lawmakers continue to show complete contempt for New Jersey taxpayers. Instead of looking to provide tax relief for the people of New Jersey, they are more interested in bailing out their politically connected friends with hundreds of millions of our tax dollars," Mr. Lonegan said. "New Jersey taxpayers are tired of bailouts and deserve to know all the facts before the state forks over \$350 million to Morgan Stanley."

Mr. Lonegan pointed to what he said are a number of contributions from Cooper Levenson, attorneys for the Revel Casino project. He said Division of Elections (ELEC) reports show that Cooper Levenson has donated "tens of thousands of dollars to Republican and Democratic candidates in Trenton and in Atlantic County, among them Senator Stephen Sweeney (LD-3, Gloucester), the bill's sponsor, and Senator Jim Whelan (D-2, Atlantic), the bill's co-sponsor."

Panel to Review Impact Of Campaign Finance Ruling

in elections."

TRENTON – The Assembly Judiciary Committee on Thursday will hear testimony from campaign finance and legal experts on the how the recent U.S. Supreme Court campaign finance decision will impact New Jersey's pay-to-play

In a 5-4 ruling in January, the Court made lessened restrictions on corporations and unions to contribute more to political campaigns.

"This ruling could have far-reaching impacts on our efforts here in New Jersey to keep money out of politics," said Assemblywoman Linda Greenstein (D-Mercer), the committee chairwoman. "We've devoted a lot of time and effort to finding ways to reduce the role of special interests wake," she said.

The hearing will be held at 10 a.m. today, February 18, in Committee Room 12 in the State House Annex. "I'm worried about the direction of this ruling and its potentially devastating impact on campaign finance

"We still have work to do to reduce the role of money in politics, yet here we have the U.S. Supreme Court issuing a ruling that could give even more influence to powerful lobbyists," she said.

reform efforts," Asw. Greenstein

"My hope is that this hearing will be a bipartisan look ahead at how we will be handling campaign finance reform in our state in this ruling's



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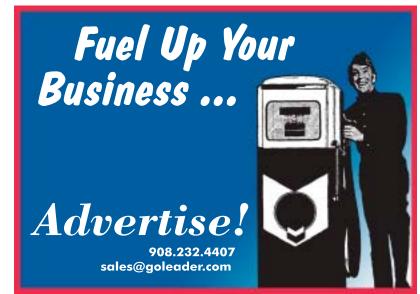
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County to Hold Meeting For Trail Volunteers

 $MOUNTAINSIDE-Union\ County$ will hold an Adopt-A-Trail (AAT) orientation and general meeting on Saturday, February 27, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. for those interested in volunteering to improve the trails in the Watchung Reservation, Union County's 2,060acre park. Both meetings will be held at Trailside Nature and Science Center on New Providence Road.

Potential trail stewards will be introduced to the AAT Program and may obtain a trail assignment. AAT participants are required to adopt their trail for a period of at least two years. Immediately following the orientation meeting for new participants, the general meeting for all trail stewards will be held from 10:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. Topics to be discussed will include: Watchung Reservation Historical Snapshots; Invasive Plant Management; Maintenance "How-To's"; Updates on Trail Projects, and other subjects of interest.

Trail stewards are expected to re-

Asm. Bramnick **Sponsors Food Drive**

WESTFIELD — Assemblyman Jon Bramnick (LD-21, Westfield) is sponsoring his second annual food drive at his legislative office to benefit local food pantries. Donations of non-perishable foodstuffs, such as cereals and canned goods, can be dropped off at the District 21 office at 251 North Avenue in Westfield.

Mr. Bramnick encourages donations, explaining local pantries provide food to many emergency shelters and needy residents. Often during the winter months the shelves of the food pantries become empty, he said. Along with cereals and canned goods, other items needed by the pantries are: rice, pasta, coffee, tea, peanut butter, jelly, meals in a can, and powdered milk

Last year, residents from throughout the district contributed more than 600 pounds of food to the drive.

Donations will be accepted through March 22, at the office, which is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call e-mail (908) 232-2073 or asmbramnick@njleg.org.

move litter, do minor pruning, clear drainage pipes of debris and re-mark trails as needed. All AAT participants must attend an orientation meeting and a general meeting each year, as well as complete and submit quarterly report forms.

The AAT program was implemented to complement the county's existing monthly trail maintenance program. There are approximately 26 miles of bridle trails and over 13 miles of marked hiking trails that require attention. Interested persons and trail users who are not able to make a two-year AAT commitment are encouraged to attend one of the monthly trail work days, usually held the first Saturday of the month from 9:30 a.m. to noon (except in January and February). No experience is necessary to help out. The next Saturday Trail Work date is March 6.

Pre-registration for the orientation and general AAT meetings and Saturday Trail Work days is required. To register or obtain additional information, call (908) 789-3683.

Roughneen Prepares For Deployment to Iraq

MOUNTAINSIDE—Army Reserve Maj. Thomas Roughneen has been mobilized and activated at Fort Dix in preparation for deployment to serve in support of either Operations Iraqi Freedom or Enduring Freedom. The soldier is a member of the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate based at Fort Dix.

He is the son of Bridget Roughneen of Mountainside and Joe Roughneen of Union. The soldiers are normally activated from Army Reserve or Army National Guard units from throughout the United States. They go through a series of in-processing procedures and training classes that prepare them for skills and situations they may face in their deployed environment.

Maj. Roughneen, a judge advocate general, has served in the military for 21 years. His wife, Alice, is the daughter of Dr. Sun and Chaw Tzeng of Paramus. The major graduated in 1987 from Jonathon Dayton High School in Springfield and 1991 from Rutgers University. He earned a law degree in 1995 from Seton Hall.

LET THERE BE PEACE...Westfield Seventh-Grader Jennifer Frega's poster was selected as the winner from numerous entries submitted by Roosevelt Intermediate School (RIS) students. Her poster competed with 33 other entries from Lions clubs in Union, Morris and Essex Counties, where she placed 3rd. She received a Certificate of Appreciation from Lions District 16E, plaque and a \$50 United States Savings Bond. Pictured, from left to right, are: RIS Principal Stewart Carey, Jennifer Frega, art instructor Anne Cohen, Westfield Lions Club Secretary and Peace Poster chairman Douglas Schembs, Jr.

County to Resurface 12 Mi. Of Roadway Starting in May

COUNTY — Union County will resurface 12 miles of roadway, including Terrill Road in Scotch Plains and Mountain Avenue in Westfield, beginning in May as part of a \$5.6-million New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJĎOT) funded project.

The following roadways will be resurfaced as part of the NJDOT project: Summit Avenue in Summit, from

Springfield Avenue to Route 124; South Springfield Avenue in Springfield, from Mountain Avenue to Meisel Avenue; Mountain Avenue in Springfield, from Hillside Avenue to 660 feet north of Sheffield Street; South Springfield Avenue in Springfield, from Lynn Drive to Meisel Avenue; Mountain Avenue in Westfield, from Mount View Road to East Broad Street; Terrill Road in Scotch Plains, from King Street to Raritan Road; Brant Avenue in Clark, from the ParkwayExit 135 circle to Westfield Avenue; Oak Ridge Road in Clark, from Lake Avenue to County Line; and Valley Road in Clark, from the Parkway 135 Circle to Walnut Avenue.

In addition American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) funded projects, scheduled to start in April, include roads in Summit, Springfield, Scotch Plains, Kenilworth, Union Township, Linden, Rahway, Roselle Park and Elizabeth.

SHOP SMART. do qoo

Law Overhauls Higher Ed. Structure, Fiscal Mgmt.

Thursday, February 18, 2010

TRENTON – The structure, financing and fiscal management of New Jersey's higher education system would be improved under a new law.

The law implements many recommendations contained in an October 2007 report by the State Commission of Investigation (SCI) entitled "Vulnerable to Abuse: The Importance of Restoring Accountability, Transparency and Oversight to Public Higher Education Governance." The report noted multiple instances where public money was "vulnerable to waste, abuse and violations of the public trust."

The law – signed January 18 – also includes numerous provisions to improve the capacity of the Commission on Higher Education to aid in the planning and development of higher education in New Jersey.

"New Jersey students who attend our public colleges and universities deserve the absolute best governance," said Assembly Majority Leader Joseph Cryan (LD-20, Union). "It's the students who ultimately pay for the lack of oversight at our state schools."

The law establishes effective and efficient state oversight of public higher education; strengthens state college and university governing boards; implements style standards

'Bump Key' Bill **Clears Committee**

TRENTON - A measure sponsored by Senator Nick Scutari (LD-22, Linden), which would create penalties for using a "bump key," a manufactured or modified key used to pick cylinder locks, to commit a burglary has been approved by the Senate Law and Public Safety Committo improve public higher education fiscal accountability, and enacts con-

trols on higher education lobbying. The law also provides for the creation of a Secretary of Higher Education, who will be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the state Senate and who will serve as executive director of the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education.

Union County Opens Account on Twitter

ELIZABETH—Union County residents have a new way to get news and information by following Freeholder Chairman Dan Sullivan on Twitter. The account can be accessed at twitter.com/ freeholderdan.

"Numerous local, state and federal governments now use Twitter to help keep their constituents informed," Mr. Sullivan said. "By providing another vehicle for outreach, we can help more citizens engage in civic affairs, get the best out of the programs and services we offer, and learn about events and activities throughout the area.'

Mr. Sullivan plans to use Twitter to help keep Union County residents informed about civic meetings, community activities and other public events that he attends, in addition to county news and information of particular interest.

The Twitter account will also help raise awareness about events that have become popular Union County traditions such as the free Summer Arts outdoor concert series, Family Flix outdoor movies, and the annual two-day MusicFest.

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All In this Country Should Recognize These Portraits

George Washington

What we call the Presidents' Day holiday is really not that. It's actually the holiday celebrating George Washington's birth in 1732, accord-

ing to the United States Office of Personnel Management. Granted too, there's some argument about what calendar was in use during that time. Although it's popularly thought that Presidents' Day is the combination of Washington's and Abraham Lincoln's birthday, Lincoln's birthday on February 12, 1809, never became a federal holiday; but it did become a legal holiday in several states, such as New Jersey.

In 1968, legislation moved sevfederal holidays. Washington's Birthday holiday of February 22 was moved to the

third Monday in February each year. Since resolve that these dead shall not have died in taking effect in 1971, it was intended to simplify the calendar and give government workers threeday weekends.

The fact that there are threeday weekends now seems the important feature of most holidays today — such as Presidents' Day, Memorial Day and Labor Day. It's hard to remember the real reasons for the holidays. The reasons seem to be passed over in the news and neglected in the classrooms. Are there more pressing, "politically correct" issues to espouse on the air and to teach in the schools? Is shopping, vacationing and appealing to the lowest common denominator now more in vogue?

One could question the significance of a general who hardly

won a battle, except for his last one - or a statesman who hardly won an election, except for his last one.

George Washington was the great general with few victories. He's called the "Father of Our Country" and most of us know that he was the first President of the United States.

Abraham Lincoln was the great statesman that hardly won an election. Considered one of the greatest Presidents, he was the sixteenth Presi-

dent of the United States and was assassinated in office at the start of his second term in 1865.

Which of the two above said "Associate yourself with men of good quality if you esteem your own reputation; for 'tis better to be alone than in bad company.' or "Government is not reason. Government is not eloquence. It is force. And, like fire, it is a dangerous servant and a fearful master."

These are quotes of George Washington.

And then you would know that Abraham Lincoln said at Gettysburg: "that we here highly

new birth of freedom — and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the

vain — that this nation, under God, shall have a

earth.' His quote inscribed on one wall of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. is, "With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we

are in; to bind up the nation's wounds...." We think it is important for our children to know of these great men of perilous times, of their character and sacrifice, of their

contribution to country and man-**Abraham Lincoln** We hope society, the media and the schools reverse their trend of overlook-

ing them. If not, will our good fortune overlook

These are men of great character – a trait desperately needed in the world today. Try an experiment. Ask your children to identify these photographs.



New Jersey Governor Chris Christie must ties fairly to evenly distribute the coming sacribalance the budget by reducing taxes and by reducing expenditures. There is no other choice. Raising taxes will not increase revenue as is evident from the people and businesses that are fleeing the state.

The governor must crush the crooks, wipe out the abuses and brush aside the greedy. We believe he intends to do that.

Then, the governor must treat all sincere par-

fices. We believe he intends to do that.

The governor must elicit wisdom from his staff and all others to impart permanent structural changes to the state's finances. We believe he intends to do that.

The governor must have the tenacity to fend off the critics and those self-serving. We believe he intends to do that.

Now, what do you intend to do?



Letters to the Editor

'There Is No Cell Tower Going Up At Runnells'

Tina Renna's letter to the editor ("Berkeley Heights is getting a Cell Tower at Runnells Hospital" February, 11, 2010) is yet another installment in the ongoing campaign of deceit and smears by this author against her former client, the County of Union.

Had this self-appointed "watcher" actually lived up to her own hype, and done her homework instead of choosing deliberate inaccuracy, she would have learned that there is no cell tower going up at Runnells Hospital.

The item she is referring to is a public bid that would, in essence, renew a contract for cellular transmitting and receiving equipment that has existed on the roof of Runnells Hospital since 1991. It is basically a box containing the cellular equipment that does not extend over the ledge of the roof. When the previous lease expired, the county conducted an open public bid to comply with law.

Ms. Renna could have easily requested the bid documentation and the old lease and learned this, but chose not to. She already took the convenient short cut around the truth to continue her smear campaign.

> Sebastian D'Elia **Communications Director** County of Union

Reagan Freed Tens of Millions, Where Is His Nobel Peace Prize?

Recently, the Free World celebrated the anniversary of the end of the Cold War. Ronald Reagan was directly involved in this historic event (see *Time*, February 24, 1992), which freed tens of millions of people in Eastern Europe.
Where was the Nobel Peace Prize Com-

mittee? Ronald Reagan freed tens of millions; instead they awarded Jimmy Carter who couldn't free 49 Americans illegally imprisoned for 444 days in Iran.

Tom Barth

Letter About Church Sign: Bigotry or Anti-Advertising?

In reading the recent letter from Scotch Plains resident, Marion Monteverdi Roberts, regarding the signs at St. Helen's Church, one wonders what the writer's motivation is: anti-advertising or anti-Catholic Church.

If it is anti-advertising, then the writer is being disingenuous and a bit hypocritical since so many of the street signs in Scotch Plains "Towne Center" have been redone and sponsored by local businesses. If the motivation is the latter, then as citizens, we must be more diligent than ever in our efforts to stop bigotry in all its forms. Bigotry cannot be allowed to be the arbitrator between freedom of religion and freedom of speech.

Elizabeth Blanchard

Country's Current Economy Is a Mixed Economy

With a straight face, socialists seek to blame free-market capitalism for this nation's housing-related economic challenges. They must think Americans are stupid, because it doesn't take much sense to realize that our country's current economy is far from a free market - it's actually a mixed economy, with some capitalist (good) elements and some socialist/fascist (bad) elements.

In a truly capitalist economy, politicians like Congressman Barney Frank would have no power over the economy. But in today's mixed economy, Frank can proclaim (as he did on September 25, 2003), "I want to roll the dice a little bit more in this situation towards subsidized housing," and then go about (as he did) using the iron fist of government to get housing in the hands of people who couldn't afford housing. And Frank was far from the only harmful leftist politician

Another example is Andrew Cuomo, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) from 1997-2001. On the HUD website today, is a mention of the "accomplishments under the leadership of Secretary Andrew Cuomo, who took

office in January 1997." What accomplishments? According to the website, in 1999, "Secretary Cuomo established new Affordable Housing Goals requiring Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac - two government-sponsored enterprises involved in housing finance – to buy \$2.4 trillion in mortgages in the next 10 years. This will mean new affordable housing for about 28.1 million low- and moderate-income families." Translation: Andrew Cuomo used the iron fist of government to force lenders to place mortgages in the hands of millions of folks, many of who couldn't afford (or could only barely afford) mort-

All of this reminds me of one of my favorite Ayn Rand quotes: "Every dictatorship or potential dictatorship needs some minority group as a scapegoat, which it can blame for the nation's troubles and use as a justification of its own demands for dictatorial powers. In Soviet Russia, the scapegoat was the bourgeoisie; in Nazi Germany it was the Jewish people; in America it is the businessman

Mark Kalinowski, Clifton North New Jersey Tea Party Group

Party Democracy Act Is A 'Useless Document'

[I have] been reviewing the Party Democracy Act of October of last year and thought, what in the blazes? Sen. Loretta Weinberg was the sponsor of this rather useless document. I gather she had a problem a few years ago getting the list of Democratic County Committee people from the clerk in Bergen County during a primary. She assumed that this was state-

wide and decided to punish everyone. Part of the excitement for municipal chairman is that they and the county chair will be elected every year instead of the previous biennial system. Added to this is a rather organized structure for documenting the assumption to the post. Now, that annual local reorganization has to have the outgoing committee attend plus the committee-elect. And with all this, the chairman to be elected doesn't have to be an elected committee person! For me as a local chair, I add this to my yearly to-do list with the recruitment of poll workers

 and this lead to an epiphany Going over our horribly inaccurate voter rolls with even worst phone number information, I noticed the unevenness of the number of pages per district. This is the number of registered voters still on the rolls. And in some municipalities these districts add up to wards.

Districts were established on some balance between population and geography for polling stations. Yet, even in a small" borough such as Roselle, these districts are no longer attached to sites nearest the voters' homes. Nor, may they be reflective of the number of actual enumerated by census persons in the district (rule of thumb: half the population is eligible to vote and half register to vote).

This may not be highly relevant for elections in general, since no official serving on a municipal level is elected from them. Generally, a ward is the small group, and that only in bodies incorporated for that system (many towns are townwide posts). Yet, the representations for the county committees of either party are not held to even any fairness principle.

Poll workers I can place anywhere as long as I follow the limit of two per station. They don't even have to be town residents (county, yes)

Recruiting committee people is another issue. They have to be a resident in that district, and that is the rub. I have districts that range from eight Republicans to 71. Yet, they all carry equal weight in Title

---LD-21---

Sen. Thomas Kean, Jr. (R)

Westfield, N.J. 07090

Asm. Jon Bramnick (R)

251 North Ave. West

Westfield, N.J. 07090

Asm. Nancy Munoz (R)

57 Union Place, Suite 310 Summit, N.J. 07901

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(908) 232-2073

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XIX voting events for candidates and replacements. The Party Democracy Act doesn't even discuss this

Also not addressed is the rather arbitrary allotment of districts per municipality. Elizabeth with 120,000 people has 72, while Union Township has 50 for 54,000. One 21,000 town has 19 districts and another has 13.

With all the ado with congressional and legislative reapportionment, maybe it should carry the principle of equal representation to both parties.

Roger Stryeski Roselle GOP Committee Chairman

Thank You, **American Legion**

Editor's note: This letter was forwarded from the American Legion.

Just a quick line or two as things have been crazy here. I wanted to thank you [Aunt Irene and Uncle John] and the Martin Wallberg Post No. 3 for the boxes! They came at a great time. The PX here ran out of a lot of stuff and getting a resupply out here in the boonies is tough. Anyhow, I will be taking advantage of joining the American Legion.

My time here is winding down so anything after the 1st of March, I will never see. Five boxes was crazy anyhow since I only have a very small team and we operate by ourselves. We will use what we can and the rest we will leave in place. Again, I thank you all so very much for

keeping me and my men in your thoughts and prayers — and of course for the boxes. We will never forget that kindness of few Americans who support what we do and why we do it. We are truly blessed to have such great Americans who support the men in Special Operations and our great military.

Many forget that this is an all volunteer military and we do it not only for our country, our Flag and our patriotism but also because of the love for our freedom and the great country we live in.

Thank you all from the men of Civil Affairs Team 623 and for everything you do for the men and women in uniform.

Andrew Weist

B-96th Civil Affairs Team Sergeant

Your State Legislators

Sen. Nicholas Scutari (D) Linden, N.J. 07036 (908) 587-0404

17 Watchung Ave. Plainfield, N.J. 07060 (908) 561-5757

7th Congressional District Representative Leonard Lance, 425 North Avenue E., Westfield, NJ 07090 (908) 518-7733

If you can guess one correctly - good

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-

ABCDICTIONOPQRSTDECEPTIONUVWXYZ

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. Surphul – To bathe with medicated

2. Peccadillo - A petty fault or minor

3. Idoneous – Suitable; proper 4. Tormina – Severe gripping pains in the bowels

IMPALPABLE

1. That which cannot be felt

2. Not subject to corruption

3. Motionless; inert 4. Of little or no consequence

SICCATIVE 1. Slow-moving; sluggish

2. Disgraceful; cheap 3. Snarly; tangled 4. Causing to dry

PUNGAR 1. A horsefly

2. A crab 3. Literary works

4. A fencing master

1. In music, a skip 2. Muscular power

3. Very small amount; a pinch 4. With great speed

On Energy Policy And Employment

Editor's note: This letter was sent to Congressman Leonard Lance and copied to the newspaper.

In the past, I have written about my objection to your "Yes" vote on the capand-trade bill. I have a problem with its technical feasibility, commercial viability and its impact on employment. We now see that our national unemployment is near 10 percent, with almost 17 percent underemployed, and uncounted numbers who simply gave up looking for work. The benefit from the additional "Green

Jobs" simply has not materialized. On Sunday, February 7, 2010, the Star-Ledger published a column from the Tribune Washington Bureau. The following was mentioned and I added a few com-

ments of my own: 1. Wind turbine employment actually

2. Only blue-collar jobs were men-

3. While running for President, Senator Obama promised to create some 5 million new green jobs. We now can see that this was overly optimistic at best. In fact, one can see that the Stimulus Package generated very little if any jobs. Presently we see the claim has been changed from "New Jobs" to "New and Saved Jobs". What is a saved job - selling a CFL bulb in Pathmark? The President even in his State of the Union address reinforced this job creation.

4. Development of any energy work, per analysts and energy company leaders, is being hampered by the uncertainties of government policy.

5. Alternate energy production is heavily dependent on government subsidiaries. With out them, it becomes questionable if they will ever produce a profit.

6. Job losses last year in both wind and solar industries were prevented by the Stimulus Package. Does this provide any comfort to those that lost their jobs at Valero's Delaware City Plant, Sunoco's Eagle Point Refinery or their various sup-

7. The American Wind Energy Association estimated that the Stimulus Bill saved 40,000 factory, installation and maintenance jobs. Notice it did not say created, but saved. However, wind manufactures actually suffered a net job loss.

It was also mentioned that until demand increases, this employment situation will not improve. In the meantime, we are suffering job losses in industries that have a proven track record, rather than ones supported by an inexperienced charismatic President, his party and the

When it comes to the President's proposed budget, the Department of Energy ssued a memo where nuclear power was indicated as being funded along with the support of solar, wind and geothermal. Solar and wind have little likelihood of producing any significant jobs. Nuclear power does, but is years away, especially when you consider that we don't really need the power at this point in It appears that this budget does not

including any funding for clean coal. This shows a total lack of understanding on how many jobs are dependent on coal and ignores development of clean technologies. With coal being one of our country's vast resources, it is unbelievable the White House and Congress are unable to see that we can maintain and create jobs with existing natural resources with mostly established technologies rather than ones deemed technically and financially viable by a lawyer.

Unless you and the rest of Congress state that cap-and-trade is dead, we will not see any energy employment improvement until 2013 at the earliest. I am concerned that I will be joining the unemployed this year as a result

Albert Muller

---LD-22---1514 E. Saint Georges Ave.

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Plainfield, Clark and Linden.

LD-21 includes Westfield, Mountainside,

LD-22 includes Scotch Plains, Fanwood,

Garwood, Summit and Cranford.

asmbramnick@njleg.org aswmunoz@njleg.org asmgreen@njleg.org

Commentary

Freeholders Should Withdraw From the Association of Counties

A number of counties around the state are not happy with the financial practices of the New Jersey Association of Counties (NJAC). Hunterdon County dropped its membership last year after its request for additional financial information on NJAC's budget was not released. Now Morris County plans to withhold its \$10,000 membership dues. Freeholders in Warren and Sussex County also are leaning in this direction.

The NJAC is a lobbying group and the taxpayers are funding their employees' pensions and health care. This is absurd.

We ask that our Union County Freeholders withdraw from the NJAC. Granted, \$10,000 in dues is not a major item in the county's \$443-million budget. But dropping the NJAC lobbyists sends an important signal that these abuses are not going unchallenged. In addition to the membership dues collected from 20 counties, there are obviously significant funds spent annually on conventions, travel expenses and related costs for NJAC officials, as well as for county officials.

The NJAC's budget is not published on its website. Why not? On its website, NJAC describes itself as an "advocacy group for county governments and their tax-payers" that "promotes federal and state legislative initiatives that advance county interests, fosters cooperation and coordination" among the state's counties and "aids county officials in providing efficient and effective ser-

vice to their constituencies." Do we really need a lobbying group with a fat budget paid for by taxes to do that?

Freeholders should work with their state and federal

Freeholders should work with their state and federal representatives. How many layers of government and lobbyists do we really need?

Those freeholders pulling their NJAC memberships are upset over the NJAC Executive Director Celeste Carpiano's \$205,000 salary, a \$72,000 bump from what she made seven years ago. Also, some of the lobbying group's six employees are enrolled in the state pension system. Why are the taxpayers paying for lobbying groups' employees pensions?

But it is not just the NJAC. Towns pay dues to the New Jersey League of Municipalities. Boards of educations are required to pay for membership in the state's School Boards Association where taxpayers also fund their pensions and health care. Shouldn't these practices be ended as well?

And of course there are the numerous sewerage, bridge and highway authorities. These groups simply are not accountable to anyone. The latest scandal at the Passaic Valley Sewerage Authority, where the executive director was being paid over \$300,000 a year, is another example from a long list.

With all these lobbying groups, commissions and authorities out there milking the public, we have to ask, who is lobbying for the best interests of the taxpayers?

Board's Variance at Cowperthwaite Should Be Overridden by Westfield

Editor's note: This letter was sent to Mayor Andrew Skibitsky and the town council, and copied to this newspaper.

I am writing to express my shock, dismay and frustration regarding the Board of adjustment's decision on Monday, February 8, to approve the 37 Cowperthwaite Place project. It is not solely because I disagree with the decision that I register this complaint; I also strongly disagree with the standards by which the approval was granted.

The applicant, Charles Piganowski (Charles Construction Co.), proposed a three-story, two-family structure to replace the existing vacant single family home. The applicant was seeking two "d" variances: one for maximum floor area ratio (allowed – 40 percent; proposed – 118 percent) and one for allowance of the least restrictive use permitted when different zone standards apply (permitted is a one-family residence; proposed was a two-family residence). He was also seeking relief for nine "c" variances to include a parking waiver.

The lot on which this proposed structure is to be built measures 50 feet by 50 feet. The building has been vacant since November 2004 and has been allowed to dilapidate, necessitating property maintenance code enforcement by the town. The residents in the immediate neighborhood have supported a single-family dwelling on this site using the same footprint as the existing building, which the applicant is aware of from previous meetings.

aware of from previous meetings.

To grant a "d" variance, an applicant must demonstrate "hardship" according to the Municipal Land Use Law, showing that the denial of the variance would result in an "undue hardship" for the applicant. In this case, the applicant argued his "hardship" was that the "lot was undersized" and should be granted relief. The applicant was aware of the lot size at the time of purchase many years ago and

knew the limits of development.

Obviously, these factors limit the use of the land, and in effect define the desirability and value of the land. If the applicant does not agree with the limitations of a 50x50 [foot] lot and single-family dwelling, why in fact did he purchase the land

in the first place?

It does not take much reasoning to determine that a builder can dramatically increase his profit by systematically purchasing low-value, restricted land in high-value districts, seek variances to increase the utility and the value of the land, devel-

oping and selling the now higher-valued

property. It would appear that in this and

others, developers are manipulating the system, at the expense of the board, the town and the residents of Westfield.

I am concerned that by granting this "d" variance it may set a precedent inviting similar "relief" and infill in other areas. The Land Use Task Force commissioned by you and the council two years ago reviewed issues contributing to over-

development including revision of the

floor area ratio ordinance.

The applicant argued that the two-family dwelling would be more in keeping with the neighboring Westfield Arms apartment building and the condominiums across the street. These multi-family dwellings are on larger lots that support their size. It is questionable if the denial of this variance would create an undue hardship for the applicant. Now the neighbor's house next door will be the only single-family dwelling.

family dwelling.

The proposed structure includes two grade level garages at the street. The garage itself will serve as the parking space as there is insufficient room to park a car in front of the garage. A waiver for parking was granted for a third space but the board may have not considered the number of on-street parking spaces lost to

this project. Currently, on-street parking is at maximum capacity each day.

Safety issues can result from the high volume of traffic and parking on the street. Backing out onto the street will be dangerous due to an inability to see around parked cars and traffic from the intersection of Prospect and Cowperthwaite, which is close by. This is also a heavily trafficked area that is a direct route for students attending Roosevelt Intermediate School.

It was further argued that "anything" would be better on this lot than what is presently there, suggesting a strategy of demolition by neglect. The applicant is solely responsible for the current condition of the property. Continued enforcement of property maintenance codes are needed to deter such arguments in future applications. As this application was carried over eight times, it would appear a strategy is in place to deliberately delay in order to wear down and deter neighbor's opposition to the project. It is unfortunate that after so many had attended meetings for so long, that only one was available to speak in opposition when the case was finally heard.

This project should have been denied by the board based on the requested "d" variances. A single-family dwelling should have been recommended. This would have been supported by the neighborhood. I would like to discuss this with you by appointment. Thank you.

Sharon Stockwell Westfield



ATTEND A FREE SEMINAR EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT DIVORCE

The Law Firm of Dughi & Hewit, P.C. is pleased to announce that Mario C. Gurrieri, Esq., Chair of its Family Law Department, Richard A. Outhwaite, Esq., Kristin M. Capalbo, Esq. and Andrew J. Economos, Esq. will present to the public a free seminar entitled "Everything You Need to Know about Divorce" on Thursday, February 25th, 2010 at Ferraro's South in Westfield, New Jersey and Saturday, February 27th, 2010 at The Grand Summit Hotel in Summit, New Jersey. Mr. Gurrieri, who has specialized in matrimonial law for over 37 years, and his group of other well-experienced attorneys, will review the law, explain the legal process and answer your questions concerning premarital agreements, separation, divorce, custody and parenting time, division of assets, alimony, child support, domestic violence, post-divorce Court review of changed financial and child related circumstances, how the current economic climate will impact divorce and post-divorce matters, as well as the law governing civil unions.

<u>Information will also be provided on Divorce Mediation</u>, an alternative to the traditional contested proceeding. Divorce Mediation offers the potential for significant financial savings, while assuring that your rights are fully protected by avoiding the expense, stress and delay involved in Court proceedings.

If you are experiencing marital difficulties and contemplating divorce, or if you are simply curious about your rights in a separation or divorce, this free Seminar will be of value to you. If you are already divorced, the Seminar may be of value in explaining post divorce rights and obligations of former spouses.

A Free Personal Consultation will be offered to All Attendees.

Reservations Required (no names needed)
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BIRD'S EYE VIEW...Gene Jannotti of Garwood takes a break last week from his assignment in Hong Kong to visit The Great Wall of China while reading his favorite newspaper.

Les Marmitons Plan Chef Ubhaus Dinner

CRANFORD – Les Marmitons of Cranford will welcome Chef Robert Ubhaus, the chef/owner of Rob's Bistro in Madison.

The chef will guide members and guests through the preparation and enjoyment of a five-course meal paired with wines.

The menu includes fennel-scented vichyssoise; seared "La Belle Farms" foie gras; tartiflette – Yukon gold potatoes, lardons, caramelized onions and Les Freres cheese; choucroute garnie – sauerkraut with pork loin, bacon and pork sausages; and white-and dark-chocolate mousse coupe with fresh raspberries.

The Les Marmitons of Cranford cooking event will be held at The Kenilworth VFW on 21st Street in Kenilworth at 5:30 p.m. on March 8. The event is open to members and guests.

Les Marmitons is an international culinary and social club of gentlemen who share a common interest in friendship shared in preparation, understanding and enjoyment of fine food, wine and culinary arts.

Les Marmitons of Cranford meet on the second Monday of each month, from September through May. For more information on Les Marmitons of Cranford, see lesmarmitons.org and select the Cranford Chapter, or email Richard Dreher, president, at rdreher@cranfordmarmitons.org.

Letters to the Editor

Leaders Who Have Done So Much To Make America Great

during their free periods.

birthday noted.

February 12 was Lincoln's birthday.

Abraham Lincoln, the Great Emanci-

pator, held this country together dur-

ing it's most troubled time. Unfortu-

nately, Abraham Lincoln's birthday

wasn't celebrated, nor were his ac-

complishments noted in my children's

schools on February 12. His birthday isn't noted on the Westfield public

school calendar, nor is Washington's

 $Sometimes, the {\it Pledge of Allegiance}$

isn't recited daily in classrooms as

required by Board of Education policy.

While it is important that our children

are given a strong foundation in "read-

ing, writing and 'rithmatic," it is also

important that they are given a strong

understanding of our nation's history

and the leaders who have done so

much to make America great.

My children attend Westfield public schools. They have benefited from many of their teachers who readily make themselves available for extra help before school, after school and

Volunteer EMS Crews Help During Snow It's been said volunteer EMS is like

It's been said volunteer EMS is like oxygen: most people don't realize they need it until they don't have it.

Unless they required medical assistance during the last three snowstorms, most New Jerseyans likely were blissfully unaware their local volunteer ambulance crews remained staffed and ready to respond to calls. Foregoing warm beds and lazy snow days with their families, countless volunteer EMTs throughout the state slept at their squad buildings during the storms to make sure calls were answered without delay. When calls came in, these volunteers gladly braved the elements to help neighbors and strangers alike – free of charge.

The next time Mother Nature throws New Jersey a curve ball, think about the EMS volunteers donating their time to help you, even if you never have the occasion to call them.

Barbara Aras, President New Jersey State First Aid Council



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Contact Caren Goldberg, Membership Director, at 908-889-8800 ext. 236 or cgoldberg@jccnj.org or visit www.jccnj.org for more information.



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Ladies Auxiliary to Host Annual Spaghetti Dinner

WESTFIELD – The Ladies Auxiliary of Martin Wallberg Post No. 3 American Legion will hold its third annual Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, February 27, from 4 to 8 p.m. It will take place at the post, located at 1003 North Avenue, West, in Westfield.

The menu will include a spaghetti entrée, salad, bread and dessert, all homemade, plus soda. Admission will be \$8 for adults and \$5 for children

Historical Society Posts Program About Hats

SCOTCH PLAINS - The Historical Society of Scotch Plains and Fanwood will feature "History Housed In Hats" at its monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 23, at 8 p.m. at the Scotch Hills Country Club, located at Plainfield Avenue and Jerusalem Road in Scotch Plains.

Historical Society members Renate Maroney and Darlene Palombo will present a program on how hats can teach local Scotch Plains and Fanwood history. Developed by Historical Society members Marie Leppert and Betty Eves more than 20 years ago for school children, this program has been kept alive by Ms. Maroney and Ms. Palombo.

Light refreshments and fellowship will follow the program. Everyone is invited and admission is free. For further information, call Richard Bousquet, president, at (908) 232age 12 and under. The event will be open to the public.

Proceeds will benefit the group's multiple veterans programs, including hospital visits, luncheons at Post No. 3 and bingo parties, among others, and additional auxiliary activities. Some of these include sponsorship of an outstanding Westfield senior student in the National Girls State Program (for young women interested in politics and government); a nursing scholarship; an annual clothing drive (this year's event will take place on Saturday, April 17); a Memorial Day picnic open to the public; flag sales during the Memorial Day Parade, and placing flags on the graves of all veterans in Fairview Cemetery each year.

The Ladies Auxiliary also works closely with American Legion and Sons of American Legion members on other community and youth programs. A key endeavor at the Westfield American Legion is the "Support Our Troops" initiative, in which donations and items for care packages are shipped to U.S. troops serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. In the last two years, Post No. 3 has made 25 shipments overseas. Most recently, post members participated in the "Welcome Home" celebration for American troops at the Westfield Armory.

For additional details on the spaghetti dinner or general information regarding American Legion Post No. 3 and its various programs, call Angie at (908) 358-7963.

Miller-Cory to Celebrate 'Art of Quilting' Sunday

WESTFIELD – The Miller-Cory House Museum, located at 614 Mountain Avenue in Westfield, will present "The Art of Quilting" this Sunday, February 21, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Quilting, or the stitching together of layers of padding and fabric, may date back to ancient Egypt, according to the museum. The program will include a display of handmade quilts, including many baby quilts. Laurie Mills will discuss what makes a quilt, such as its parts and the various patterns that have been developed by quilters. Additionally, volunteers in authentic period costume will be available to guide visitors through

the pre-Revolutionary farmhouse. The museum's gift shop, which carries a selection of Colonial toys, crafts, cookbooks and educational materials, also will be open. Admission to the museum and its grounds is \$2.50 for adults, \$1 for students and free to children under age 4.

Upcoming Sunday events at the museum include "Maple Sugar Sunday" on March 7, "A Spot of Tea – The History of Tea" on March 14, "Spiders and Salamanders - 18th Century Kitchen Gadgets" on March 21 and "Silhouette Craft for Children" on March 28. Open-hearth cooking demonstrations at the museum will resume in March.

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 and its website is millercoryhouse.org.



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The Mestfield Leader and The Scotch Plains - Fanwood TIMES

LET'S DANCE...One hundred and sixty Fanwood-Scotch Plains Daisy Girl Scouts and their fathers or father figures gathered for a "Me and My Guy" Dance at the St. Bartholomew Interparochial School gymnasium in Scotch Plains February 6. Cadette Girl Scout Kayla Kocha planned the event as a final project for her Silver Award. She organized other members of Cadette Troop 40618 to make corsages, decorations and refreshments for the event. Two more "Me and My Guy" dances will be held during March for older Fanwood-Scotch Plains Girl Scouts.

Fiction Book Club to Begin At Library on February 24

WESTFIELD – The Westfield Memorial Library will hold the first meeting of its Fiction Book Club on Wednesday, February 24, at 7 p.m. The club will continue to meet every other month.

The first book the group will discuss is "The Help" by Kathryn Stockett, set in the author's native Jackson, Miss. in the early 1960s. According to the Library Journal Review, "This first novel adopts the complicated theme of blacks and whites living in a segregated South. A century after the Emancipation Proclamation, black maids raised white children and ran households but were paid poorly, often had to use separate toilets from the family, and watched the children they cared for commit bigotry.

"In Stockett's narrative, Miss Skeeter, a young white woman, is a naive, aspiring writer who wants to create a series of interviews with local black maids. Even if they're published anonymously, the risk is

Fanwood Presbyterian Plans Lenten Activities

FANWOOD - The Fanwood Presbyterian Church will hold a Lenten Series of Soup and Devotion evenings on Wednesdays through Lent, from February 24 through March 24.

These events will consist of a light dinner of homemade soup and bread at 6:30 p.m., followed by a half-hour devotional program in the dining room at 7 p.m. The theme for these devotions will be the various witnesses of the crucifixion. Five area ministers from the presbytery

will speak on different evenings. Regular Sunday services will be for children at 10:20 a.m. The pub-

lic is welcome to all these events. The Fanwood Presbyterian Church is located at Martine and LaGrande Avenues. For further information or directions to the church, call (908) 889-8891 or email fanwoodpress@erols.com.

rik722@aol.com

great; still, Aibileen and Minny agree to participate. Tension pervades the novel as its events are told by these three memorable women."

The library is located at 550 East Broad Street. This program is open to Westfield Memorial Library and MURAL cardholders. Interested persons may register by visiting wmlnj.org and clicking on Online Calendar, or calling (908) 789-4090, extension no. 4140.

FCC Open House Set For Sunday Morning

WESTFIELD - The First Congregational Church will welcome visitors and prospective members to an open house event this Sunday, February 21, at 10 a.m. All individuals and families who are seeking a new faith community are invited to attend.

Visitors will have the opportunity to experience a traditional Congregational worship service, led by the Reverend Dr. Mark Boyea, senior minister. Church school and childcare will be provided during the service for children of all ages. Infant care will be available in the crib room.

A coffee hour will be held in the church's Patton Auditorium directly after the service. Representatives from the church's various boards will be available to provide information about opportunities for service, education and fellowship.

The First Congregational Church is a member of the United Church of Christ. The church's membership comprises a broad mix of denominational backgrounds, including Roman Catholic, Presbyterian, Baptist, Episcopal, Lutheran and

Located at 125 Elmer Street in Westfield, the church is accessible by a wheelchair ramp. Infrared listening devices are available for the hearing impaired. For further information, call the church office at (908) 233-2494 or visit the church website, fccofwestfield.org.

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Optimists Seek Nominations For Youth Volunteer Award

WESTFIELD - For the 14th consecutive year, the Optimist Club of Westfield is seeking nominations for its annual Karyn Oros Youth Volunteer Award.

The award is given to a junior or senior high school student living in Westfield who has distinguished himself or herself through volunteer service in the community.

"As an organization that is itself founded on the principles of volunteerism, the Optimist Club is pleased to recognize young men and women who have embraced these values at an early age," said Youth Volunteer Award Co-Chairman Trudy Silverman. The award includes a cash grant and, if the winner is a Westfield High School student, it will be presented at the "Awards Night" ceremony at the high school on Thursday, May 27.

Anyone interested in nominating a student for the Youth Volunteer Award is asked to contact Trudy Silverman at (908) 654-0825 or trudysilverman@verizon.net for a nomination form. Nominations are due by Friday, March 26.

The Optimist Club of Westfield is a not-for-profit community service organization founded in 1989. Its mission is to enhance the overall quality of life in Westfield by developing, initiating and maintaining projects and programs that primarily benefit youth and families of the community.

The club works closely with

schools, public agencies and other civic-minded organizations in Westfield to support other endeavors that are in concert with its primary objectives. The Optimist Club of Westfield meets monthly and encourages like-minded men and women to attend its meetings. For more information, call Membership Chairman Mike Walsh at (908) 654-3144.

Captain to Address Hadassah on Safety

WESTFIELD - A general meeting of the Westfield Chapter of Hadassah will take place on Monday, February 22, beginning at 11:45 a.m. at Temple Emanu-El. Captain David Wayman, operations captain for the Westfield Police Department, will speak promptly at noon.

During his talk, entitled "Safety First, at Home and Away," he will share 20 years of professional experience dealing with crime prevention, car burglaries and personal safety.

Captain Wayman has been on the Westfield police force since 1988 and was an original member of the Union County SWAT Team. He also has served as the department's Narcotics Officer. His current responsibilities include the daily operations of multiple departments, as well as being Emergency Service Unit commander.

Temple Emanu-El is located at 756 East Broad Street in Westfield. Refreshments will be served.

College Club to Welcome Resolve Presenters Monday

FANWOOD - The College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains will hold its monthly meeting on Monday, February 22, at 7:30 p.m. at The Chelsea at Fanwood, located at 295 South Avenue in Fanwood.

After a short business meeting, representatives of the Resolve Community Counseling Center will present an informational program about the center. This program is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be provided.

Located in the historic Hamilton House at 1830 Front Street in Scotch Plains, the Resolve Community Counseling Center is a non-profit mental health agency that serves Scotch Plains, Fanwood and neighboring communities in Union County.

Resolve offers counseling services and educational programs to children, adults and families. The agency provides weekly classroom lessons and

Church Thrift Shop Reveals Sale Date

FANWOOD - The Fanwood Presbyterian Church Thrift Shop will hold a special sale on Wednesday, February 24, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. All items will be offered at halfprice, except for books and cards.

Everyone is welcome. The sale will include all clothing, jewelry, household articles and decorative items, among other merchandise. The Fanwood Presbyterian Church is located at the corner of Martine and LaGrande Avenues. Ample parking is available on McDermott Place. All the shop workers are volunteers. Sale proceeds will benefit local charities.

counseling services to all elementary schools in the Scotch Plains-Fanwood school district.

Presenters will include Judith Dillon, president of the board of directors of Resolve; Dr. Lidia Abrams, executive director, and Mary Ball Cappio, immediate past president of the board of directors. They will show a short film, describe the work of Resolve and explain its impact on the local community.

For more information about the College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains, visit the website collegeclubfsp.org. Membership information is available by calling Meril at (908) 889-4942.

Temple Welcomes All To Purim Carnival

CRANFORD - Temple Beth-El Mekor Chayim will hold its Purim Carnival this Sunday, February 21, beginning at noon. The temple is located at 338 Walnut Avenue in Cranford.

The family festivities will include new games and decorations, as well as food and various prizes. Youngsters are invited to come dressed up in costume for the event, which is open to the entire community.

Purim commemorates how the intervention of Queen Esther delivered the Jews in Persia from extermination. It is one of the most joyous holidays on the Jewish calendar.

See it all on the Web! www.goleader.com



Dental Update

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

WHAT YOUR SMILE SAYS ABOUT YOU

Few aspects of your appearance say more about the "inner you" than your smile. Think of the difference in the reception you get when you smile at people as compared with those times when you withhold your smile. In fact, people often ask 'What's wrong?" when a person does not smile. Although it may not be intentional, that is the reaction that people elicit when they withhold a smile because they are embarrassed about the condition of their teeth. If you find yourself raising your hand to your mouth in a selfconscious effort to cover up your smile, you are needlessly depriving yourself of the attention you deserve from others. If so, cosmetic dentistry may help.

It's simple, really. When you look good, you feel good. If your smile is not becoming to you, you should be coming to us for dentistry tailored specifically to your needs. Aren't you curious how today's cosmetic dentistry procedures can virtually change your life? We'd be glad to tell you about the many ways we can help make your smile a dazzling one. Just call us at 908-654-6262 Centrally located in Westfield at 131 South Euclid Avenue, our family dental practice is geared to your complete oral health and to longterm patient satisfaction.

P.S. A national survey from the American Dental Association shows that a smile outranked eyes, hair, and the body as the most attractive physical feature. www.drarida.com

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Greek Orthodox Church Announces Quilt-a-thon

WESTFIELD – The 17th Annual Babies Quilt-a-thon will be held on Saturday, February 27, from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, located at 250 Gallows Hill Road in Westfield. All ages are invited to participate in this event, which is free and open to the public.

Connie Wygera of Tewksbury Township is chairman of the event, which will be funded by the Ladies Philoptochos Society. Individuals may

Church Reschedules Wilson For Tonight

WESTFIELD - Due to last week's snowstorm, the screening and discussion of Meeting David Wilson, originally planned for February 11, has been rescheduled for tonight, Thursday, February 18, at 7 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, located at 125 Elmer Street in Westfield. Admission is free and the

public is invited to attend. Meeting David Wilson is a feature-length 2008 documentary about the enduring legacy of slavery in today's young black society. The film touches on issues of reparation, reconciliation and healing. For more information, call Ed or Debbie Saridaki at (908) 889-4719.

come for an hour or two or stay all day. Father Peter Delvizis will bless the quilts on Sunday, February 28.

The church hosts the quilt-a-thon, benefiting at-risk babies, as a oneday Lenten project. It is coordinated through ABC Quilts, a national nonprofit organization. Materials are provided free, but volunteers can bring baby products such as baby food, wipes, disposable diapers and other necessities. These will be given to St. Clare's Home in Elizabeth. The quilts are for the tiniest victims of AIDS and other serious diseases.

Volunteers assemble the quilts – iron, cut, measure and knot - and a team of sewers sew them on sewing machines. Adults and youth can tie and sew, while pre-school children also are encouraged to participate by coloring blank squares to insert in the quilts. Participants are asked to bring their scissors and a snack or lunch.

The quilts will be distributed to infants in eight hospitals and transitional homes - University of Medicine and Dentistry, Beth Israel Hospital, Columbus Hospital Pediatric Services, FXB Pediatric Center and The Family Place, all of Newark; Trinitas Hospital and St. Clare's Home in Elizabeth, and John F. Kennedy Medical Center of Edison.

Spaghetti Dinner and Show To Be Held This Saturday

WESTFIELD – A spaghetti supper and talent show fundraiser hosted by youth of the First Congregational Church will be held this Saturday, February 20, at 6 p.m. in the church auditorium. The church is located at 125 Elmer Street in Westfield. All proceeds will benefit two mission

trips involving the church's youth. Following a full dinner of salad, spaghetti, bread, drinks and dessert will be a 7 p.m. talent show featuring adult and youth participants. With the Reverend Dr. Mark Boyea, senior minister, serving as emcee, the acts will include singing, comedy, instrumentalists and a performance by First Congregational Church's own cabaret pianist, Joe Regan.

Proceeds from this benefit evening will help send members of the church's middle and senior high fellowship to Camp Sunshine, a Maine camp for families of children with terminal illnesses, and to a summer camp for underprivileged children at the Washington United Church of Christ in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Tickets are \$11 for adults, \$7 for children ages 6 to 12, and \$3 for children ages 4 and 5. Those ages 3 and under may attend for free. Tickets may be purchased at the door. For further information, call the church office at (908) 233-2494 or visit fccofwestfield.org.

Willow Grove to Spotlight 'Narnia' at Adult Forum

SCOTCH PLAINS – The Willow Grove Presbyterian Church invites members of the community to "Visit Narnia" from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. on consecutive Sundays, February 21 and 28, during the Adult Forum in the church lounge.

Attendees will have an opportunity to learn more about the allegorical Chronicles of Narnia, written in the 1950s by C.S. Lewis, one of the great theologians of the 20th century. The most famous book of the series, "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe," was made into a motion picture in 2007, as was "Prince Caspian" in 2008. "The Voyage of the Dawn Treader" will be released in late 2010.

There are seven chronicles in all, which reveal the central tenets of Christianity when studied at a deeper level than the children's fantasy that the stories are on the surface. This portrayal of Christian beliefs is accomplished through an array of characters. They include young people transported from England to the enchanted world of Narnia and talking animals that join the young humans in fighting evil.

Lou Jung will lead this discussion of Narnia, with a focus on his favorite two Chronicles – "The Voyage of the Dawn Treader" and "The Last Battle."

The Adult Forum follows the 10 a.m. worship service. Childcare and children's programs are available. For more information about Willow Grove, call the church office Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at (908) 232-5678. Individuals also may e-mail info@willowgrovechurch.org or access the church website, willowgrovechurch.org.

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



COLORFUL COSTUMES...Temple Sholom of Fanwood/Scotch Plains will hold Purim festivities on Saturday and Sunday, February 27 and 28, including a Purim Carnival that Sunday from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Union Catholic High School in Scotch Plains. Members of the community are welcome to all events. Pictured are youngsters at last year's carnival.

Torah Center Announces Purim Celebration Events

WESTFIELD - The Union County Torah Center, located at 509 Central Avenue in Westfield, will present a Family Purim Celebration on Satur-

day, February 27, at 7 p.m.

A Megillah reading will take place, followed by refreshments. The Megillah relates the Purim story in which Queen Esther was instrumental in the deliverance of the Jewish people from the threat of annihilation at the hands of Haman and the inhabitants of the Persian Empire 23 centuries ago.

Children are invited to participate in a masquerade contest. All children dressed in costume will receive a prize, and one special grand prize will be awarded for the best costume. There will be no charge for this program (reservations are preferred but not required).

On Sunday, February 28, at 8:30 a.m., the Torah Center will have an-

other Megillah reading, as it is a mitzvah to hear it being read on Purim day as well.

At 5 p.m. on Sunday, the Torah Center will host a Community Purim dinner, as it is a mitzvah to celebrate Purim with a special festive meal on Purim day. A catered meal and entertainment will be provided.

There also will be a separate children's program with special Purim crafts. All children in attendance will be entered in a raffle for an iPod. There will be another Megillah reading at 4:15 p.m. prior to the dinner. The cost will be \$20 per adult, \$10 per child and \$100 for sponsorships.

All the programs will be open to the public and everyone is welcome. For more information and to respond for the dinner, call the center at (908) 789-5252

info@torahcenter.org.

Oasis-Church-NJ.com Plans **Gathering For February 28**

MOUNTAINSIDE-Oasis-Church-NJ.com, a newly forming contemporary Christian church, will hold its next monthly Sunday morning gathering on February 28 at 11 a.m. at 1180 Spruce Drive in Mountainside.

Employing an online survey to discover the beliefs, worries and needs of singles and young families, Oasis-Church-NJ.com has collated the results to tailor relevant church services for those who do not regularly attend.

According to David Butler, lead pastor, Oasis-Church-NJ.com began as an online relationship and spiritual advice blog. "You wouldn't believe the number of hurting people who come online and write about all their personal (issues), but feel like they can't share it with their own churches and friends for fear of being judged. How sad!" he

Library Trustees To Meet Tonight

SCOTCH PLAINS - The board of trustees of the Scotch Plains Public Library will hold its agenda and regular meeting tonight, Thursday, February 18, at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will take place at the library, located at 1927 Bartle Avenue. Any actions taken will arise from the agenda, as prepared by the library director.

said. "So, as traffic kept increasing, I got the idea, 'Hey, why not start a church right here in person that meets people where they're at, and offers practical living advice from the Bible without all that 'churchy jargon' some churches use?'

In January 2010, Pastor Butler made the decision to leave his \$82,000-ayear state job as a mediator and parent education teacher, five years before qualifying for a full pension, to devote himself full time to Oasis Church. "I knew it would be a risk, but people have great spiritual needs and I want to help make a difference," he said.

For more information about the Oasis Church, or for directions, go to Oasis-Church-NJ.com or call (732) 406-7821.

Temple Sholom to Conduct Festivities Honoring Purim

FANWOOD – Temple Sholom of Fanwood/Scotch Plains invites members of the community to join the congregation in a Purim celebration beginning on Saturday, February 27, at 6 p.m. with a Havdalah service and potluck supper. Interested persons are asked to respond by calling (908) 889-4900 and stating if they would like to bring a salad, side dish or main dish that serves eight.

At 7 p.m., the festivities will continue with prayer, a Megillah reading and a family-friendly Purim spiel. Costumes will be welcome. Temple Sholom is located at Martine and LaGrande Avenues in Fanwood.

On Sunday, February 28, Temple Sholom will host its annual Purim Carnival from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Union Catholic High School, located at 1600 Martine Avenue in Scotch Plains. The carnival will feature the telling of the Purim story followed by games, crafts, face painting, raffles, a costume contest, prizes and food. Admission will be free. The cost for game tickets and food will vary.

In the spirit of Purim, the carnival booths will be run by SPANCY (Scotch Plains and Nearby Community Youth) to raise funds for the group, which is made up of students in grades 8 through 12. A portion of the funds raised also will be donated to the relief effort in Haiti via the Union for Reform

Additionally, Temple Sholom asks that people bring individually wrapped, child-friendly, healthy snack foods or juice boxes to be donated to children in the afterschool programs of the YMCA of Plainfield.

Food and beverages for sale at the carnival will be sponsored, prepared and served by the Temple Sholom Men's Club. Included will be hot dogs, chicken fingers and Hamantashen, the traditional, triangle-shaped filled pastries of

This year, Purim will begin on the evening of February 27 and continue until sundown on February 28. One of the most joyous holidays on the Jewish calendar, Purim commemorates a time when the Jews in Persia were saved from extermination through the intervention of Queen Esther.

Library to Kick Off **Travel Series Tonight**

SCOTCH PLAINS - The Scotch Plains Public Library invites area residents to tour the world from the comfort of the library's Community Room through its travel series entitled "Around the World in 80 Days.'

The series will begin tonight, Thursday, February 18, at 7 p.m. in the Community Room. Exploritas Ambassador Joe Viviani will speak about the Exploritas (new name for Elderhostel) network of educational travel opportunities in the United States and more than 90 countries.

Over the next several months, travel agents, travel writers and bloggers will speak about various aspects of travel, both near and far. Notices will be posted on the library's website, scotlib.org, in advance of each event.

In tandem with the travel series, the library has recently updated and augmented its collection of guidebooks. All programs at the library are free and open to everyone. The Scotch Plains Public Library is located at 1927 Bartle Avenue, one block from Park Avenue in the center of the township.
For further information or direc-

tions, call the library at (908) 322-5007. Interested individuals can register at scotlib.org, by calling the library e-mailing library@scotlib.org.



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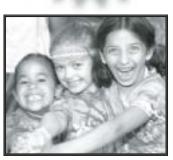
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Visit www.jccnj.org for more information & summer 2010 registration. * \$100 savings/child offer based on 8-wk registration. \$50 savings/child applied to 4-wk registration. Offer expires March 25, 2010.

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Roberta Burns, 78, Speech Pathologist; Worked With Children With Disabilities

from New Jersey.

Roberta C. Burns, 78, of Jupiter, Fla. passed away on Thursday, February 4, in the Jupiter Medical Center.

Born in New York City, Bobbi was a graduate of City College and held a master's degree in speech pathology from Kean University. She was a longtime resident of Westfield.

Bobbi had worked for 25 years as a speech pathologist as part of a child study

team with Union County Regional District 1. She worked with children with disabilities in the schools of Kenilworth, Springfield, Berkeley Heights, Mountainside and Clark. Bobbi moved to Florida 12 years ago



Roberta Burns

John Burns; her daughter, Carolyn Betheil; her son, Jonathan Cohen; her stepdaughters. Kathleen Rittwage

She is survived by her husband,

and Lisa Burns; her stepson, John Burns, Jr.; her grandchildren, Kyra, William, Thomas, Rachel and Tracy, and her brother, Martin Wexler, and his wife, June.

A memorial service was held on Sunday, February 7, at the Aycock Funeral Home in Jupiter.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Lung Association, 6852 Belfort Oaks Place, Jacksonville, Fla. 32216 or www.lungfla.org/.

Phyllis Corwin, 79, Was Travel Agent; Singer, Sculptress and Local Volunteer

Phyllis Berger Corwin, 79, of Pompton Plains, formerly of Basking Ridge and Westfield, died on Friday, February 12.

Born at Beth Israel Hospital in Newark, she was the daughter of the late Herman and Minna Berger. After graduating from Hillside High School, Phyllis earned her degree in home economics from Cornell University, where she met her husband-to-be, Stanley Corwin.

After their marriage in 1952, the couple built a home in Westfield. While raising her three sons, Phyllis found time to be a Cub Scout den mother, an active member of the Brightwood Association and a contestant in (and winner of) the Mrs. Shackamaxon beauty pageant.

An accomplished singer, Phyllis sang with the Chansonettes, the Temple Emanu-El choir and in several musical productions. She enjoyed playing the piano and guitar, bird watching and gardening. In her later years, she became a prolific sculptress.

Her passion for adventure led Phyllis to work as a travel agent for Fischer Brothers in Springfield for many years. In retirement, Phyllis and Stan explored the world by air, rail, skis and motor home. With the Richmond Yacht

Club as their base, they sailed the Aquarius throughout the Eastern Sea-

Over the years, Phyllis regularly volunteered at the Westfield Community Center, Children's Specialized Hospital, Morristown Memorial Hospital and the Basking Ridge Library.

board and the Caribbean.

She is lovingly survived by her husband, Stanley, and their sons, David, Steven and Jim; their daughters-in-law, Susan Barth (Jim) and Beth Klarreich (Steven); their grandchildren, Michael and his fiancée, Julie Ames, Deborah, Benjamin, Julie, Spencer and Buddy, and her sister, Sheila Sugerman of South Orange.

A private burial was held on Sunday, February 14, at Mount Lebanon Cemetery in Iselin. A shiva/memorial service followed at the Cedar Crest Chapel in Pompton Plains.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Cancer Society or The Jewish Federation (www.jfedshaw.org).

The M. John Scanlan Funeral Home in Pompton Plains was in charge of the arrangements. For more information, please www.scanlanfuneralhome.com.

James Sabbagh, 76, Was Local Teacher; U.S. Army Lt. and Harvard Graduate

James N. Sabbagh, 76, of Westfield and Erwinna, Pa. passed away on Saturday, February 13, at the Haven Hospice at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Born in Revere, Mass., he had resided in the Boston area until moving to Westfield in 1958.

Mr. Sabbagh was a graduate of Boston Latin School, Bowdoin College and Harvard University. He also attended Rutgers, Boston College and Hofstra University.

James was a veteran of the United States Army and attained the rank of



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He was a teacher at Roosevelt Junior High School in Westfield and later was associated with Amsco School Publications, Inc. in New York City for many years, retiring in February of 2001.

Surviving are his wife, Anna Jane Sabbagh, and his children, James G. and Victoria Menna and her husdeeply missed by his grandchildren, Jacqueline, Rachel and Raymond.

A gathering of family and friends will be held on Saturday, February 20, from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Dooley Colonial Home, 556 Westfield Avenue in Westfield. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to one's favorite charity in Mr. Sabbagh's memory.

Prayer to St. Jude

Oh Holy St. Jude, apostle and martyr, great in virtue and rich in miracles, near kinsman of Jesus Christ, faithful intercessor of all who invoke your special patron- age in time of need, to you I have recourse from the depth of my heart and humbly beg to whom God has given such great power to come to my assistance. Help me in my present urgent petition. In return I promise to make your name known and cause you to be invoked. (Say three Our Fathers, three Hail Marys, and three Glorias.) St. Jude, pray for us all who invoke your aid. Amen. Publication must be promised. This novena has never known to been fail.

M.C.

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Charles J. Tombs NJ Lic. Number 4006 Director

www.grayfuneralhomes.com

Obituaries

Karen M. Hinds, 61, Office Manager For *Leader* and *Times* Newspapers

Karen M. Hinds (Miller), 61, died on Monday, February 15, 2010. Born in Summit, she lived in Westfield for the past 26

Mrs. Hinds was an office manager for *The* Westfield Leader and The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times newspapers.

She was predeceased by her father, Kenneth V. Miller; her stepfather, Peter Kandrat, and her nephew, Aaron Potious.

Mrs. Hinds is survived by her husband, Donald Hinds; her son, James T.

Rossiter, Jr.; her daughter, Susan M. Hinds; her mother, Cecile D. Kandrat; her three sisters, Linda Potious, Ellen Ambrosio and her husband, Neil, and Gail Miller; her brother, Kenneth V. Miller, Jr., and his wife, Carol; her



Karen M. Hinds

In lieu of flowers, contributions to the Cancer Center at Saint Barnabas Medical Center, 94 Old Short Hills Road, Livingston, N.J. 07039 would be appreciated.

privately.

brother-in-law, David Hinds, and his

and nephews and one grand-niece.

wife, Carol, as well as many nieces

Relatives

friends are invited to

attend the funeral

service on Saturday,

February 20, at 11

a.m. at the Higgins

and Bonner Echo

Lake Funeral Home,

582 Springfield Av-

enue in Westfield. In-

terment will be held

place tomorrow, Fri-

day, February 19, from

2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. at

the funeral home.

Visitation will take

Walter Christoffers, Was Electrician; **Enjoyed Horticulture and Cooking**

Walter "Dutch" Christoffers of Vero Beach, Fla. died peacefully at home on Tuesday, February 9.

Walter is survived by his wife of 61 years, Ruth. Also surviving are his older brother. William H. Christoffers of Rancho Mirage, Calif.; his daughter, Lisa Yano (Makoto) of Tokyo, Japan; his son, Kurt (Fiona) of Mountainside, and five grandchildren, Ariana, Amelia, Liam, Toshiyuki and Miyuki.

Walter and Ruth moved to Vero Beach, Fla. from Mountainside in June of 2004. They had lived in Mountainside for 49 years, where Walter was active in civic affairs, serving on the borough zoning board and as a member of the Jaycees.

Walter was an Electrician's Mate

SHERIFF'S SALE

SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-10000718 SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
CHANCERY DIVISION
UNION COUNTY
DOCKET NO. F-21088-08
Plaintiff: CITIBANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR
THE HOLDERS OF STRUCTURED ASSET
MORTGAGE INVESTMENTS II TRUST 2007AR3, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-AR3 CATES, SERIES 2007-AR3 VS.

CATES, SERIES 2007-AR3
VS.
Defendant: VICTOR M, JARAMILLO, MORT-GAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYS-TEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR F, 188 KEARNY AVENUE, LLC
Sale Date: 03/17/2010
Writ of Execution: 12/23/2009
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 Twenty Five Thousand Five Hundred Eighteen and 12/100*** \$625,518.23.

and 12/100*** \$625,518.23

nd 12/100*** \$625,518.23.

Municipality: Westfield Town
County: Union
State of New Jersey
Street and Street No: 310 Springfield Avenue
Tax Block and Lot: Block: 3905, Lot: 33
Dimensions of Lot: 122.75 feet by 105 feet
Nearest Cross Street: Michael Drive
Street: Michael Drive

Superior Interests (If any): None
Total Upset: ***Six Hundred Ninety Three
Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Two and 27/
100***\$693,382.27 together with lawful interest

nd costs. Surplus Money: If after the sale and satisfac 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: POWERS KIRN - COUNSELORS POWEHS KIRN - COUNSELORS
728 MARINE HIGHWAY
PO BOX 848 - SUITE 200
MOORSETOWN, NEW JERSEY 08057
(856) 802-1000
4 T - 2049 - 2075

- 2/18, 2/25, 3/4

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
Deremices commonly known as: 2829 LVDE

Jersey.
Premises commonly known as: 2089 LYDE
PLACE, SCOTCH PLAINS, NEW JERSEY 07076
BEING KNOWN as LOT 20, BLOCK 2703, on
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
Nearest Cross Street: Cook Avenue
Total Upset: ***Four Hundred Six Thousand
One Hundred Sixteen and 97/100*** \$406,116.97
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

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 foreclosed 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.

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

(856) 813-5500 4 T - 1/28, 2/4, 2/11 & 2/18/10

Attorney: PHELAN HALLINAN & SCHMIEG, PC 400 FELLOWSHIP ROAD SUITE 100 MOUNT LAUREL, NEW JERSEY 08054 (9ES) 813 5500

Fee: \$197.88

in the United States Navy from 1944 to 1947 and served in World War II. He worked for many years as an electrician, retiring as vice president of Lessner Electrical Construction Company, based in Elizabeth

An avid horticultural hobbyist, Walter served as president of both the Westfield Men's Garden Club and the New Jersey State Chrysanthemum Society. Following his retirement, Walter joined his wife at Christoffers Inc., a retail flower, plant and gift business she established in Mountainside. Walter also was an accomplished cook, having studied with Jean-Georges Vongerichten and other renowned chefs in New York.

There will be a celebration of Walter's life at a later date.

February 18, 2010

SHERIFF'S SALE

SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-10000699 SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY UNION COUNTY
DOCKET NO. F-40581-08
Plaintiff: CHASE HOME FINANCE LLC

Plaintiff: CHASE HOME FINANCE LLC VS.
Defendant: VICTOR DADILLA
Sale Date: 03/17/2010
Writ of Execution: 12/01/2009
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 Twenty Five Thousand Four Hundred Sixty Three and 07/100*** \$325,463.07.
The property to be sold is located in the Borough of Garwood, County of Union and State of New Jersey.
Commonly known as: 269 4th Avenue,

. Ilv known as: 269 4th Aven

Garwood, New Jersey 07027. Tax Lot No. 3 in Block No. 203 Tax Lot No. 3 in Blóck No. 203
Dimension of Lot Approximately: 50 x 100
Nearest Cross Street: Cedar Street
Beginning at a point in the Southerly line of
Fourth Avenue distant 100:00 feet easterly along
said side of Fourth Avenue from its Intersection
with the Easterly side of Cedar Street; thence
Prior Liens/Encumbrances
Total as of December 22, 2009: \$0.00
Total Upset: ***Three Hundred Sixty Four
Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Seven and 76/
100*** \$364,437.76 together with lawful interest
and costs.

Surplus Money: If after the sale and satisfac-Surplus Money: If after the sale and satisfac-tion 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 Union County Sheriff's Office.

The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sheriff reserves the right to adjourn the sheriff reserves the right to adjourn the sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sheriff reserves the right reserves 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 - 2/18, 2/25, 3/4

Fee: \$165.24 SHERIFF'S SALE

SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-10000199
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
CHANCERY DIVISION
UNION COUNTY
DOCKET NO. F-42939-08
Plaintiff: LSF6 MERCURY REO INVESTMENTS, LLC
VS.

MENTS, LLC
VS.
Defendant: ANTHONY T 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
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 ELIZABETHTOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, New Jersey on
WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the aftermoon 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.
The property to be sold is located in the BOR-

\$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 asmine sale is subject to diplaid 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 wint.

Surplus Money: If after the sale and satisfac-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: 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 Fee: \$195.84

Rosamond Frye Smith, 90, Had Passion For Birds, Genealogy and Traveling

Rosamond Frye Smith, 90, of North Andover, Mass. died on Friday, January 1, 2010, at the Edgewood Retirement Community in North Andover. She was the beloved wife of the late M. Ritchie Smith.

Born in Wollaston, Mass. on May 8, 1919, she was the daughter of the late John Howard Frye and Anne Tweeddale Frye. Her three siblings, Joan Frye Harriman, Augustus Tweeddale Frye and John Howard Frye, Jr., predeceased her.

She grew up in Westfield, N.J., graduated from Westfield High School and lived there until 2001, when she moved to North Andover.

Rosamond lived her life with grace and generosity and always addressed life with a positive attitude. She was an avid birder with a Life List of more than 500 sightings worldwide. Additionally, she had a passionate interest in genealogy and traced family roots back to the 1400s in England.

Rosamond and her husband traveled the world extensively as part of his business endeavors with Exxon Corporation. She and her family spent summer vacations for several generations at Silver Bay Association, a YMCA Christian Conference Center in Silver Bay, N.Y., where her ashes will be laid.

She is survived by her two daughters, Barbara Sheffield of Port Townsend, Wash. and Alison Seavey of Topsfield, Mass.; her four grandchildren, Alison Sheffield, David Seavey, Greg Seavey and Sean Ferguson, and her sister-in-law, Claire Frve.

A memorial service was held on

Saturday, January 16, at the Edgewood

Retirement Community. Donations in Rosamond's memory may be made to Silver Bay Association, 87 Silver Bay Road, Silver Bay, N.Y. 12874 or to Merrimack Valley Hospice, 360 Merrimack Street, Lawrence, Mass. 01843. To leave online condolences, please visit www.contefuneralhomes.com.

Evan Williams, Jr., 73

Evan T. Williams, Jr., 73, of Westfield passed away on Thursday, February 11, at home.

Born in Cranford, Mr. Williams had resided at the Jersey shore for most of his life. He was a graduate of Westfield High School.

Evan was the owner of Williams Lamps in Westfield for many years. Surviving are his loving daughter, Dawn Nardone, her husband, Joe, and their children, Craig, Tyler, Evan and Nicko, who, along with his greatgranddaughter, Paige, brought him so much joy and fond memories. He

sister, Margaret Gianonne. He additionally is survived by many who remained dear to his heart through friendship, including his former wives, Shirley Wolfe and Lucy Williams and her children, Debi, Don, Bobby, Diane and Tommy, and grandchildren, Derek, Lindsay, Matthew, Tom Jr., Jessica, Nick and Samantha.

also will be deeply missed by his

Services were held on Sunday, February 14, at the Dooley Colonial Home, 556 Westfield Avenue in Westfield. Interment was private.

Daniel A. Bracuto, U.S. Army Veteran; **Was Beloved Father and Grandfather**

Daniel Anthony Bracuto of Brick passed away on Saturday, February

Born in Plainfield on July 22, 1915, he was the son of the late Cesare and Maria Theresa Bracuto of Westfield. He was one of 10 children and is survived by his sisters, Olympia, Theresa and Marguerite.

Dan attended Westfield High School. Before military duty, he worked at Foster Wheeler in Carteret as a fabricator and later owned DB Disposal in Westfield. He was a member of the Epiphany Roman Catholic Church in Brick.

excellent athlete and once tried out for the New York Yankees. Daniel Bracuto was the beloved husband of Annette Rose Bracuto. He also was the proud father of Daniel

of Brick and Chester of Fairfax, Va.

In addition to his family, he loved

all sports, especially baseball and golf,

and was an avid reader. He was an

and the late Gail. He was the cherished grandfather of Daniel and Mat-

His family plans to welcome friends and family today, Thursday, February 18, from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. at the Dooley Colonial Home, 556 Westfield Avenue in Westfield. A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered tomorrow, Friday, February 19, at 10 a.m. at the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church in Westfield. Interment will follow at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield.

In lieu of flowers, his family has requested that contributions in Daniel's name go to the Wounded Warriors Project. He was an amputee and would have been very happy to have them receive any form of help. Daniel served in the United States Army from September of 1942 to December of 1945 and was very proud to serve his country.
February 18, 2010

as director of the Family-to-Family

Joyce Benz, director of Intensive

Family Support Services for the

Union County Mental Health Asso-

ciation, will update attendees on ser-

vices available in this area. Geri

Mueller, secretary of NAMI-Union

County, will describe how she and

her family cope with the problems

they face and how NAMI has helped.

Gloria Badgely, past president, chairperson of children's issues and

a member of the NAMI-NJ board,

will talk about what is going on at

the state level and discuss what the

group has accomplished, as well as

There is no charge to attend this

meeting. Refreshments will be

served. For more information, or in

the event of inclement weather, call

(908) 233-1628 or e-mail

nami.union.nj@nami.org. Informa-

tion on NAMI also is available at

SHERIFF'S SALE

SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-10000493 SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION UNION COUNTY DOCKET NO. F-47370-08 Plaintiff: INDYMAC BANK, FSB VS

Defendant: ROBIN V BROWN

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 ADMINISTRA-TION 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 Eighty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Five and 74/100*** \$489,505.74.
The property to be sold is located in the Township of Scotch plains, County of Union and State of New Jersey.
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***
\$445,991.68 together with lawful interest and costs.

Surplus Money: If after the sale and satisfac-

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.

its future goals.

nami-nj-uc.org.

NAMI 'Circle of Friends' To Gather Tuesday Night

program.

WESTFIELD-The Union County chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) will present a program entitled "Circle of Friends" on Tuesday, February 23, at 7:30 p.m. It will take place at Martin Wallberg Post No. 3 American Legion, located at 1003 North

Avenue, West, in Westfield. The event will be a free, informal evening of discussion and an opportunity to learn about the services, programs and techniques available to help families who are coping with

the mental illness of a loved one. Pat Roman will explain what the Family-to-Family education program, run twice a year by NAMI, is all about. She will share her experience and knowledge from both the perspective of a family member and

SHERIFF'S SALE SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-10000644
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
CHANCERY DIVISION
UNION COUNTY
DOCKET NO. F-33313-07
Plaintiff: U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE BENEFIT OF
CITIGROUP MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST INC.
ASSET-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES SEIES 2007-AHL2
VS.

CATES SEIES 2007-AHL2
VS.
Defendant: KENNETH J. WICHOCKI; BAR-BARA A. WICHOSKI
Sale Date: 03/10/2010
Writ of Execution: 12/07/2009
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 Eighty Two Thousand Five Hundred Forty Two and 35/100*** \$482,542.35.
The property to be sold is located in the Town of Westfield in the County of Union, State of New Jersey.

Jersey.
Commonly known as: 532 Cumberland Street,

Commonly known as: 532 Cumberland Street, Westfield, New Jersey 07090
Tax Lot No.: 19 in Block 2706
Dimensions of Lot: (Approximately)
Nearest Cross Street:
Subject to any open taxes, water/sewer, municipal or tax liens that may be due.
Tax and Prior lien info: At the time of publication taxes/sewer/water information was not available. You must check with the tax collector for exact amounts due.

exact amounts due.

The plaintiff has obtained a letter of indemnifi-The plantiff has obtained a letter of intermindation which will insure the successful bidder at sale in respect to: Mortgage recorded 04/27/2006, in the amount of \$125,000.00

Total Upset: ***Five Hundred Fifty Five Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy and 53/100***
\$555,870.53 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 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 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

(908) 233-8500 FileNo.: XCZ-94879 4 T - 2/11, 2/18, 2/25 & 3/4/10

Fee: \$189.72

Attorney:
ZUCKER, GOLDBERG & ACKERMAN, LLC
200 SHEFFIELD STREET
SUITE 301
MOUNTAINSIDE, NEW JERSEY 07092
(009) 232 8500

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: FEIN, SUCH, KAHN & SHEPARD, PC 7 CENTURY DRIVE / CENTURY DHIVE SUITE 201 PARSIPPANY, NEW JERSEY 07054 (973) 538-4700 4 T - 2/4, 2/11, 2/18 & 2/25/10 Fee:

Fee: \$169.32

Ralph Froehlich



THE GREAT KAPOK TREE...Mary Ann Harmer's fourth grade class at Holy Trinity Interparochial School presented The Great Kapok Tree, a tale of the Amazon rain forest, by Lynne Cherry. It is about a man who goes into the rainforest to cut down the trees, and when he falls asleep, the animals speak to him and convince him to preserve the Rainforest by not cutting down the trees. The play was presented to parents and students from grades K-3, including those visiting from the school's Mountainside campus, as part of the fourth grade's literature unit. This interdisciplinary unit concludes with students researching the rainforests and constructing dioramas.

SP-F VFW Announces Essay Contest Winners

SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 10122 of Scotch Plains-Fanwood recently sponsored the local VFW Patriot's Pen Essay Writing Contest for sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade students. This year's theme was "When Is The Right Time To Honor Our Military Heroes?" Students were required to write an original essay between 300 and 400 words.

Chairman Joe McCourt has announced Post 10122's winners. They are: First Place: Paige Crandall, Terrill Middle School/sixth grade; Second Place: Sara Sikora, Terrill Middle School/seventh grade; Third Place: Ian Cappelli, Park Middle School/ eighth grade.

Each winner will be presented with a U.S. Savings Bond, a Medal and a Certificate of Merit at awards ceremonies to be conducted at their

schools in the spring. The three students' essays were entered in the VFW District 5 (Union County) level of competition. Ian captured first place while Sara garnered second place. Ian and Sara will be honored at a VFW District 5 awards program in March.

In recognition of his first-place achievement in the District 5 judging, Ian, along with his family, attended an awards dinner at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Cherry Hill on January 30. Sponsored by the VFW Department of New Jersey, this event honored the first-place winners from each of the 21 counties in New Jersey.

Chairman McCourt observed that the overall quality of the essays was excellent. He extends his congratulations to the winning students and expresses his appreciation to all the pupils who submitted an essay.

Mr. McCourt also thanks the teachers and staff for their support of this year's Patriot's Pen Essay Writing Contest.

Prystupa Captures First In WF Scholastic Chess Open

WESTFIELD - At the Westfield Area "Y" on January 24, Westfield Chess Club member Sasha Prystupa

of Westfield came in first place in the open section of the Westfield Scholastic by winning three games ahead of nine other play-

Sasha plays often at the Westfield Chess Club, and on January 31, he also move his United Rishi Rajendran and Sasha Prystupa. the University of States Chess Fed-

eration rating up to 1,600, which would place him 45th in the country in the 10-year-old category for the February supplement.

WF's Baum Earns Deans Award at Colgate

WESTFIELD - Chelsea Baum. daughter of Jeanine and Jon Baum of Westfield, is a recipient of the Dean's Award for academic excellence during the fall 2009 semester at Colgate University, where she is a member of

the Class of 2012. To be eligible for the Dean's Award, a Colgate student must achieve a 3.30 or higher average while carrying a full course load of four courses per

semester. A 2008 graduate of Kent Place School, Chelsea is concentrating in Peace and Conflicts Studies at Colgate. She is also a member of the

Living in Westfield, Sasha said he plays often and actually has played in 25 events at the Westfield Chess Club

in the last year. Sasha's rating has moved up from 1,272 to 1,600 in the last year.

Two Westfield Chess Club players from New Jersey won chess scholarships this year, Andrew Ng and Victor Shen. tied for first in his Westfield Scholastic open section chess 15-year-old Ansection in the winners pictured, left to right, are: Ro- drew won a four-Westfield Ouads to man Rychkov, Praveen Balakrishnan, year scholarship to

> Maryland (UMBC), worth approximately \$69,760 out of state while 16-year-old Victor won a four-year scholarship to Tennessee Tech, worth \$20,000.

Todd Lunna directed the Westfield Scholastic for the Westfield Chess

2009 SPFHS Grad **Makes Elon Dean's List**

SCOTCH PLAINS - Caitlin Campbell, daughter of Jeff and Jerilyn Campbell of Scotch Plains, has been named to the dean's list for the 2009 fall semester at Elon University.

The dean's list is comprised of students with no grade below a B minus and a grade point average of at least 3.50 in

Caitlin is currently a freshman at Elon and is a 2009 graduate from Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School. She is double majoring in Elementary Education and Special Education.

UCC to Host Workshop **On Veterans Health Issues**

CRANFORD - On Friday, February 26, the Union County College Office of Admissions, Records and Registration, in partnership with the New Jersey Department of Veteran Affairs Health Care System, will be hosting a workshop titled "Veterans Health Issues" from noon to 2 p.m. in the Executive Education Center, located on the second floor of the Campus Center on the Cranford campus.

This workshop is for any veteran who may be suffering from a physical or mental illness, or who needs

Three Local Students Earn Academic Honors

AREA – Three area students were lauded for their academic achievements at Washington and Lee Uni-

Westfield residents Katherine Roberts and Claire Moryan, both sophomores, earned dean's list status for the recently ended fall term.

Dean's list status at Washington and Lee represents a term grade-average of at least 3.4 on a 4.0 scale. Katherine is the daughter of Reverend and Mrs. Raymond Roberts.

Claire is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Moryan. Scotch Plains resident Colin Campbell, a junior, has earned honor roll status for the recently ended fall

Honor roll status at Washington and Lee represents a term grade-average of at least 3.75 on a 4.0 scale. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Campbell of Scotch Plains.

Learning for Life Term Begins March 8

PLAINFIELD - Learning for Life, a senior-citizen educational program, has operated in the Plainfield area for 39 years. Over a 10-week period, starting March 8, it will offer a choice of two courses on Monday mornings at 10 and 11 a.m.

People can select from Tai Chi, drawing and sketching, music, gardening, issues and answers, knitting and crocheting, trips without tickets, and "Our American Story - Remember the Alamo."

Registration for the classes will be March 1, from 9:30 to 11 a.m., at the rear office entrance of the United Presbyterian Church, located at 525 East Front Street in Plainfield. The registration fee for the courses is \$20 for the 10-week term.

Following a bag lunch at noon, with coffee or tea provided, a lecture is presented, starting at 12:45 p.m. The initial lecture on March 8 is "Lenape Culture: An Introduction to American Indian Life in New Jer-It is funded by the Horizon Speakers Bureau of the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, and thus,

assistance but does not know how the Department of Veteran Affairs can help.

On site that day will be medical and mental health professionals from the Department of Veteran Affairs treatment centers in Lyons and East Orange who will present information on resources available to help veterans in need. The workshop will also cover how the Veteran Affairs benefits may be able to help a veteran take classes at Union County College.

The college's Cranford campus is located at 1033 Springfield Avenue. Seating is limited for this free workshop. Those planning to attend should call (908) 709-7518 or email reception@ucc.edu to register.

As well, if a veteran planning to attend is in need of special accommodations due to a disability, contact Heather Keith, coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities, at (908) 709-7164.

Park Middle School **Helps Haiti Relief**

SCOTCH PLAINS - When the earthquake devastated Haiti earlier this year, Park Middle School students, staff and families stepped up to help. The students, especially in the French classes, who were studying Haiti wanted to do something.



Sacha Batra and Jan Townley, organized a school-wide fundraiser.

From January 19 through 22, student volunteers collected change in two large canisters during each grade's lunch period. In addition, students were encouraged to bring donations

To the school's surprise, an anonymous parent contacted the school to say that they would match the students' donations up to \$1,000. When the students raised almost \$4,000 on their own, the family, in appreciation of the efforts, increased their anonymous donation to \$1,500.



provided me with sufficient time to observe. The students looked happy as they strolled about campus and everyone seemed to be traveling in groups while talking to one

The epitome of such a term can be defined by the staged-room college tour guides will show you when you visit their campus.



STAFF V. STUDENTS...Speech-Language Specialist Karen Walters and her student, Elizabeth Chaung, both from Westfield, get ready for the Staff vs. Students basketball game at the Midland School in North Branch. Midland serves students with special needs from school districts throughout central and northern New Jersey.

THE STUDENT VIEW The weekly column written by local high school students

A True Taste of College Life

By ALEXA ZEPKA

I'm not going to lie - I'm the most renowned homebody that I know. This statement is so true that I'm guaranteed I would have stolen Dorothy's famous line, "there's no place like home," for my senior quote (if I wasn't such an avid Garth Brooks fan).

Out of all my college-bound friends, I'm the only one who applied to schools with a maximum driving distance of two hours and a minimum driving distance of 40 minutes. Life without the comfort of my own bed and my mom's home-cooked meals seemed unfathomable...until I spent three days living in a dorm at Fairfield University for Magis Scholars weekend.

On the drive up to Connecticut, I pressed my head against the back seat window of my mom's van and gazed at the cars zipping down the parkway. With my iPod buds practically glued to my ears, I listened to Josh Groban's melodic voice and internally questioned whether or not venturing away would be the best decision for me, even for just a short period of time.

The following thoughts were erupting within my head like a volcano: I'm not going to know anybody, I'll have to sleep on a stranger's floor, I'm going to attend intimidating classes with real college students, and I'm going to eat...well, college food (insert displeasing adjective here).

To my great surprise, as soon as I arrived on campus, I immediately felt welcome. I sat on a couch in the campus center with my parents and waited to meet my host. She turned out to be a kindhearted, perky freshman with a passionate love for learning and a devotion to honors-level studies. One look at her assured me that our personalities would be ironically compatible

When we began the journey to her dorm where I would be staying for the next few days, I lugged my sleeping bag, suitcase and plaid pillow down the gravel path and paid close attention to my surroundings.

The campus was decent-sized, lined with sandy-colored brick buildings, lush green fields and jubilant red Fairfield University flags draped from colonial lampposts. I heard through the grapevine that the most important question one must ask in assessing his or her potential college choice is the following: can I see myself here?

Luckily, the walk was rather long, which

By simply evaluating student mannerisms, I was able to gain a sense of familial closeness that was prevalent at this university. I made a mental note-to-self: Does this place have peppy-looking, friendly students?

Although my potential peers looked reassuring, I knew that the scariest part of my experience (which was actually seeing the inside of the dorms) was coming next. Sure, I've done quite a few campus tours already, but thanks to "The Catcher in the Rye," I have been well versed in phoniness for a few years now.

It's the one room decorated by Bed Bath and Beyond with that college's name ironed onto the perfectly-made bed, that college's flag hanging from the ceiling and a stuffed animal of that college's mascot sitting on top of the dresser.

This weekend, however, I was preparing to enter a realm of truth - to see how college students actually live. When my host unlocked her door, I was relieved that I did not have to jump in shock or conjure up some excuse about why I suddenly needed to return home to Jersey.

Although the room was not luxurious by any means, there was something rather quaint about it; the two girls I was living with had corkboards with pictures of themselves and their families, in addition to all sorts of Fairfield knick-knacks.

Their beds were not perfectly made and their clothes were not neatly folded or colorcoordinated in their dressers, yet I appreciated the fact that the room was a realistic depiction of college life.

Of course, watching college students and living in a dorm gave me tremendous insight into the school, but the most rewarding part of my visit was attending the classes. A few weeks before I embarked on my

journey, I was sent a list of possible course selections in the mail. The ones I decided on were Spanish civilization and culture, contemporary English literature and Art his-

I was enlightened to find that every class was unique and intriguing, and I was surprised by how the professors knew everybody's name. If I didn't have the chance to sit in on these classes, I may not have seen the true effectiveness of a small student to teacher ratio.

After staying at Fairfield University, I have come to the conclusion that college is an entirely different (and much more exciting) ball game than high school. My ability to live in a dorm and spend adequate time at the university enabled me to feel united with a college community while enhancing my knowledge about its various programs and opportunities.

More universities should offer this overnight experience to accepted students, for it can truly make all the difference in helping high school seniors solidify their college decisions. My personal time spent at Fairfield has assisted me tremendously by opening my eyes to what I'd like to gain from four years of college.

While it is great to be back home, I do miss spending time with 20-year-olds who order mozzarella sticks to their dorm rooms

Alexa is a college-bound senior at Westfield High School.

Gundrum of WF Earns Dean's List Recognition

WESTFIELD - Ryan Gundrum of Westfield, a senior at the University of Maryland, attained placement on the dean's list and earned a 3.75 GPA in the 2009 fall semester. Ryan, a 2006 Westfield High School graduate, is an Economics major. He will graduate in May 2010. He is the son of Monica and Bill Gundrum.





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Discovering New Worlds The Wardlaw-Hartridge School

HONOREES...The Bloustein Scholars pictured, left to right, are: row one, Devra Traiman, Lindsay Robinson, Jeremy Busch, Lauren Steinbeck, Mackenzie

Sizemore, Sruthi Narayanan and Lyndsey Douglas; row two, Sarah Canfield,

Kelsey Rossi, Timothy Carroll, Matthew Alfano, Stephen Scannell, Alanna

Salituro and Aleksandra Szczuka; row three, Sophie Chou, Geri Flood, Neha

Pannuri, Caitlin Hoynes-O'Connor, Victoria Dalessandro, Lauren Hirschhorn

and Melissa Goldberg. Not pictured are Alyson Linsenberg, Adam Offitzer,

Samantha Goldner, Samantha Henderson, Daniel Nizri, Jason Pearl and Andrew

1295 Inman Avenue, Edison, NJ 08820 Wardlaw-Hartridge, an independent co-educational PreK - 12

college-preparatory school, develops students who are ready



ADMISSION INFORMATION SESSIONS:

February 24, 2010 9 a.m.

April 14, 2010 9 a.m.

For more information or to schedule a tour, visit www.whschool.org or call (908) 754-1882, Ext. 155





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Philip P. Graye, Jr. D.D.S.

Julie Jong D.M.D. Board Certified in Pediatric Dentistry

Dr. Julianne Kane D.M.D. Board Certified in Pediatric Dentistry

Dr. Bryan Graye, D.M.D., MS Laser Dentistry

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Westfield Coach Marino Gets Win No. 100 – Story Next Week

VEEK IN SPORTS

Sports Section Pages 11-14

MESEROLE, DANIEL, LORENTZEN, HALY LEAD SWEEPS

Blue Devil Swim Boys Douse S. Brunswick Boys, 126-44

Aware of far more difficult challenges to come in the next several days, the Westfield High School boys swim team seized the opportunity to mix its lineup against South Brunswick in the first round of the North 2, Public A Tournament at Wallace Pool in Westfield on February 12. The result was an overwhelming, 126-44 victory, in which the Blue

Devils took first in every event, except the breaststroke, and included four sweeps.

"In a meet like this, we want to see where some guys can go forward. In a meet like this, it is not necessarily about the top guys in each event, it's about the second and third guys and what they can prove come, say, the sectional semifinals and sectional finals," Blue Devil Head Coach Jeff Knight said. "That is how a good

team wins a championship. Putting them in some spots today and seeing really good results gets the good feeling going forward.

Matt Meserole led the first sweep, touching first in the second event, 200-freestyle, with a time of 1:48.9, followed by Max Shin at 2:01.82 and Andrew Cordeiro at 2:04.93. Matt Daniel at 59.55 led the sweep in the 100-butterfly, with John Taylor tak-



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times HAVING A GOOD AFTERNOON IN THE POOL...Blue Devil Matt Daniel, who won the 100-butterfly, swam on the winning 400-free relay team and on the third-place 200-medley relay team on February 12.

FOOTE PINS; JACOBS, CANNON, GAINES GRAB WINS

Raider Bundy Wins No. 100 In Wrestling Bout with CBA

By DAVID B. CORBIN

Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School senior Tristan Bundy became only the sixth wrestler in Raider history to record 100 career varsity wins with a 7-5 decision over Mike Matlaga during a quad meet with Christian Brothers Academy (CBA) at Watchung Hills High School on February 13. The CBA Colts defeated the Raiders, 39-25.

Bundy improved his season record to 25-1, but his bout with CBA's Matlaga was no pushover. Bundy recorded a slip-around, back-trip takedown in the first period, then added an escape and a duck-under takedown in the second period before Matlaga escaped to make the score, 5-1. In the third period, Matlaga pulled off a reversal to a two-point nearfall, but Bundy quickly added a reversal to grab the 7-5 win.

"Nobody wants to be somebody's 100th win. I was actually somebody's 100th win [Brearley's Kenny Knapp - third in the NJSIAA Tournament at 130 lbs in 2009], but he was very, very good," Bundy said. "He [Matlaga] wrestled a good match. Hopefully my teammates, by looking at the match it will show them that we wrestled for six minutes. You go out there with your heart on your sleeve, and you can come away with a vic-

With his 100th win, Bundy joins Derek Francavilla (SPF 2004 – 111-

18), Steve Mineo (SPF 2005 - 116-17), Pat Mineo (SPF 2007 – 125-19), Sal Gano (SPF 2007 - 110-29) and Mike Ferrara (SPF 2009 – 101-42).

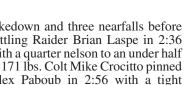
"Coming into my freshman year, I didn't think I would be able to get 100 wins. I have wrestled with three guys, who have 100 wins, Pat Mineo, Sal Gano and Mike Ferrara, and they are all great wrestlers," Bundy said. "I had hopes of a good four years in high school, but this is a good honor to have. What you put into the sport, you absolutely get out of it. Hard work equals success. I was talking to Pat Mineo last night. I keep in touch with him and Sal. They told me when they watched me my freshman year that they had a feeling that I would be where I am at right now. That means

The match with the Colts began in the 140-lb class where Pat Cunningham clamped Raider Mike Steinfeld with a cradle in 3:16. At 145 lbs, Josh Foote recorded a bulldog takedown and an arm bar stack nearfall in the first period and followed up with an escape and an arm hook to pin Colt Ramon Torres in 2:51. A very talented Vinnie Favia recorded four takedowns, a reversal and a nearfall before pinning Raider Luke Vuono with an under hook, arm bar maneuver in 3:38 at 152 lbs.

At 160 lbs, Colt Mike Whelan scored a takedown and a reversal to grab a 4-1 decision over John Devia. Hayden Hrymack recorded a

takedown and three nearfalls before settling Raider Brian Laspe in 2:36 with a quarter nelson to an under half at 171 lbs. Colt Mike Crocitto pinned Alex Paboub in 2:56 with a tight

Raider Andrew Jacobs cut the Colts' team lead to 27-10 with a 13-3, majority decision over Mike Stillitano at 215 lbs. Jacobs recorded a slip behind, slip around, back-trip and singleleg takedowns to go with a nice shoul-



waist and half nelson at 189 lbs. CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



Ana Falcon Broker/Sales Associate

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Westfield Baseball League **Spring Tryouts 2010 Major & Pony Leagues Only**

Majors: (5th & 6th grades)

Date	<u>Time</u>	Event	Location
3/13	10-12	Fielding	Sid Fey field
3/14	9-11	Hitting	The Ballpark
3/20	10-12	Fielding	Sid Fey field
3/21	9-11	Hitting	The Ballpark

Players (5th & 6th graders) who were on a Majors team last year do not need to tryout again. You will automatically be placed on a team.

Ponys: (7th thru 10th grades)

Date	Time	Event	Location
3/13	10-12	Fielding	Houlihan field
3/14	11:30-1	Hitting	The Ballpark
3/20	10-12	Fielding	Houlihan field
3/21	11:30-1	Hitting	The Ballpark

Players who were on a Pony League team last year and all 9th & 10th graders do not need to tryout again. You will automatically be placed on a team.

If you do not wish to try out for a Major or Pony team you will be automatically placed on either an International or Mustang team.

The Ballpark is located at 1 Silver Ct., Springfield NJ. 973-376-9295



LEMBERG WINS BREAST, ANCHORS WINNING 400-FR

Lady Blue Devils Use Depth To Outlast Swim Bears, 92-78

By DAVID B. CORBIN

No intentions of breaking school records were in the cards, but the Westfield High School girls swim team utilized its team depth to defeat the East Brunswick Bears, 92-78, in the first round of the North 2, Public A Tournament at Wallace Pool in Westfield on February 12. The Blue Devils grabbed first in two relays and only one individual event, but they literally gobbled up the vast majority of second, third and fourth places.

"They (Bears) have some really fast first girls. We knew that coming in, and we wanted to see what we could do," Blue Devil Head Coach Brooke Smith said. "We changed things around a little bit. Some girls were swimming different events today. Some of the girls, who were in, swam some best times, so that was great to see. At the end, it was a challenge to get the points.

The Blue Devils jumped to a nice 12-2 lead by taking 1-2-4 in the 200medley relay. Amy Rose, Meg Kaveney, Becky DeLaFuente and Anna Fetter touched first with a time of 1:55.49, while Meredith Smith, Kate Heffernan, Elaine Anderson and Suzanne Lemberg touched second with a time of 1:57.8. Jess Cronin, Krysta

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Huber, Meg Myers and Loren Ball touched fourth with a time of 2:04.05. Lemberg won the Blue Devils' only

individual event when she touched the wall at 1:15.56 in the 100-breaststroke. Ball finished fourth at 1:20.64. Lemberg also swam the anchor leg on the winning of the 400-free relay foursome, which included Meredith Smith, Emily Budnick and Catherine Kerr. The Bears' anchor, Omer Hillel, hit the water first before Lemberg began her dive, but her glide was so smooth that the two emerged at the

same time. From there, Lemberg took over and touched first in 3:51.07, while Hillel touched the wall at 3:53.4. Kyle Higgins, Kaitlyn Maloney, Kelsey Wilson and Ellie Reinhardt touched third in 4:02.05. "Suzanne is very competitive like

that. I feel good about having her on the end of any relay, because she will go after it," coach Smith said. Reinhardt and Budnick touched 2-3 in the 200-freestyle with respective

times of 2:08.97 and 2:09.59. In the

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Lady Blue Devils Use Depth To Outlast Swim Bears, 92-78

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

third event, the 200-individual medley, Becky Zhang at 2:26.53, Kylie Bangs at 2:26.66 and Emily Smith at 2:33.4, touched 2-3-4. Wilson and Kerr with respective times of 27.53 and 27.55 touched 2-3 in the 50-free to give the Blue Devils a 36-26 lead at the break.

The Blue Devils took 2-3-4 in the 100-butterfly with Charlotte Murthishow at 1:10.72, Courtney Han at 1:11.11 and Higgins at 1:12.53. Kaveney at 58.79, Rose at 1:00.27 and Kyla Gargiulo at 1:02.26 placed 2-3-4 in the 100-free. Margaux Fleischer at 6:11.87 and Emily Clauss at 6:16.52 touched 2-3 in the 500-free to give the Blue Devils a 62-48 lead entering the 200-free relay event, where Zhang, Kerr, Gargiulo and Bangs at 1:52.13 touched second, followed by Olivia Scrofani, Mady Conone, Fleischer and Han at 1:56.64, and Lauren Hughes, Michaela

Cavanaugh, Kelly Kalis and Emily Smith at 1:58.17. Myers at 1:09.82 and Hughes at 1:11.81 took 2-4 in the 100-backstroke.

The top-seeded Blue Devils girls were to face a tough, fifth-seeded Montgomery team in the semifinal round on February 15 before advancing to the finals today, February 18.

"We have a couple of real tough ones coming up," coach Smith commented.

Westfield 92, E. Brunswick 78 200 medley relay: W (Rose, Kaveney, DeLaFuente, Fetter) 1:55.49 200 free: Hillel (B) 2:05.56 200 free: Hillel (B) 2:05.50 200 IM: Melissa Co (B) 2:20.71 50 free: Bridgette Malervert (B) 26.89 100 fly: Co (E) 1:02.03 100 free: Hillel (E) 57.66 500 free: Kylie Suydam (E) 5:45.59 200 free relay: E (Malavert, Shannon Carney, Erika Sha, Hillel) 1:51.67 100 back: Carney (E) 1:07.49 100 breast: Lemberg (W) 1:15.56 400 free relay: W (Meredith Smith, Budnick, Kerr, Lemberg) 3:51.07

Blue Devil Swim Boys Douse S. Brunswick Boys, 126-44

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

ing second at 1:00.6 and Matt Trinkle touching third at 1:03.8. Jack Lorentzen with a time of 5:30.66 led a sweep in the 500-free followed by Lawrence Keating at 5:41.22 and Trent Gabriel at 6:07.88. Brennan Haly led the final sweep, touching first in the 100-backstroke with a time of 59.16, followed by Ryan Hobson at 1:00.36 and Connor Moore

Tim Walsh touched first in the 100free with a time of 52.37, while Yixao Wang touched second at 56.21 and Tim York finished fourth at 57.22. Nick Boyle at 2:15.68 and Haly at 2:16.06 touched 1-2 in the 200-individual medley, while Mike Oster at 23.7 and Taylor at 24.27 touched 1-2 in the 50-free.

"Tim Walsh, in the 100-free, is building upon where he was at the county games. Ryan Hobson has been continually dropping time in whatever event we put him. Brennan Haly the same! He is doing very well. He dropped a significant amount of time in the 100-back today. So there's, across the board, a lot of guys who swam very well today, [including] Matt Daniel in the 100-fly, so I'm really pleased with the effort they put in," coach Knight said.

The Blue Devils also cleaned up in

the opening event, the 200-medlev relay, to grab a 10-4 lead. Larry Zhang, Moore, Lorentzen and Mike Oster finished first with a time of 1:46.94, while Daniel, Alex Bond, Trinkle and Kevin Oster placed third at 1:51.78. Hobson, Gabriel, York and Mike

Blutfield took fourth at 1:56.43. Meserole, Walsh, Kevin Oster and Taylor touched first in the 200-free relay with a time of 1:35.51, while Shin, York, Bond and Wang touched third at 1:42.24. Keating, Daniel, Wang and Walsh took first in the 400free relay with a time of 3:40.25, while Shin, Trinkle, Bond and Boyle finished second at 3:41.82.

South Brunswick Viking Lincoln Harris touched first in the 100-breast at 1:09.73, followed by Mike Oster at 1:09.86, Bluefield at 1:13.52 and Cordiero at 1:17.69.

Westfield 126, S. Brunswick 44 200 medley relay: W (Zhang, Moore, Lorentzen, Mike Oster) 1:46.94
200 free: Meserole (W) 1:48.9
200 IM: Boyle (W) 2:15.68
50 free: Mike Oster (W) 23.7 50 free: Mike Oster (W) 23.7
100 fly: Daniel (W) 59.55
100 free: Walsh (W) 52.37
500 free: Lorentzen (W) 5:30.66
200 free relay: W (Meserole, Walsh, Kevin Oster, Taylor) 1:35.51
100 back: Haly (W) 59.16
100 breast: Harris (SB) 1:09.73
400 free relay: W (Keating Daniel Wang 400 free relay: W (Keating, Daniel, Wang, Walsh) 3:40.25

See it all on the web in color www.goleader.com Devil's Den

WHS to Host District 11; **Swimmers Face Bridgewater**

By BRUCE JOHNSON
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Time.

C.J. Meyer **Ice Hockey**

Once upon a time, in the sleepy little town of Westfield, in western Union County, winning district wrestling championships was seemingly a birthright. From 1963 to 1983, there were only three years when the local high school did not win a district title

- 1964, 1981 and 1982. Some years - such as 1967, 1973 and 1975 - wrestlers from Westfield High School (WHS) were so dominant that they won nine of the 12 weight classes.

WHS will have 25 district championship years – the most recent being in 2009 – on display on the wrestling banner in the gym when it hosts this year's District 11 Tournament on Saturday. But, barring the unexpected, Kenilworth's Brearley High School, a newcomer to District 11, but one of the state's top teams in recent years, will be the team champion. Besides Brearley and WHS, the teams coming to the Devils' Den this weekend are: Newark Central, Cranford, Elizabeth, Linden, Rahway, Scotch Plains-Fanwood (SP-F) and Newark Shabazz.

WHS junior Christian Barber will seek his third district title, and he could be involved in the day's marquee match-up. Figuring Barber and Brearley's Danny Ries both are in the 140-lb class and reach the final, Barber will be up against Ries, who won two earlier meetings this winter.

If Barber wins his third title, he will become the 12th WHS wrestler to be

Somerville Matmen Top Blue Devils, 37-27

The Somerville High School Pioneers wrestling team defeated Westfield, 37-27, in Somerville on February 13. The Blue Devils wound up on the short side of two very close decisions that decided which team would be the winner.

Blue Devil Christian Barber jumped up to 145 lbs to face Micah Blair but dropped a 3-2 decision. At 140 lbs, Pioneer Alex Holderbaum nipped Ellis Opoku, 4-2, but the Blue Devils did get on the good side of a close decision when Ryan Jennings edged Vin Triozzi, 1-0.

At 152 lbs, Brian Henry pinned Cory Snearowski in 4:18, and Chris Tomasso followed at 160 lbs with an 8-4 decision over Steve Bouziotis. Billy Kim pinned Matt Bruskin in 3:17 at 171 lbs, and Luke Gibbons pinned Tony Ardon in 2:58 at 189 lbs. Tom Snyder won his 215-lb bout with Armando Munguia, 7-4.

a three-time district king; only WHS Hall of Famer Cory Posey (1993-96) is a four-time winner.

The other three-time champs are: the Adelaar brothers, Pete (1967-69) and Rick (1968-70), Bill Kenny (1967-69). Frank Jackson (1968-70). Dave Brown (1973-75), Jerry Gottlick (1974-76), Joe Birmingham (1975-77), Mark Giacone (1984-86), Paco Gonzalez (1990-92) and Onur Tezucar (1997-99)

"I enjoyed the dual meets more than the tournaments," Rick Adelaar said last week. "I was very fortunate to have wrestled under coach (Gary) Kehler, who instilled in all of us the team concept. Our teams were a group of guys who had been together in Westfield sports since we were in Little League, right up through high school.

"Me and my brother Pete tangled all the time, but I was usually on the losing end of those bouts. Thinking back on those days, I was very lucky to have teammates like Frank Jackson, Keith Grabel, Jay Kalbacher and the other guys that helped form some great teams throughout our high school years."

Adelaar posted a 42-11-1 varsity record. Older brother Pete was 43-8-1 and oldest brother Bob ('62) was 20-4 in two years. That's 105 wins, 23 losses and two ties for the Adelaar brothers. And, just as important, their teams went a combined 59-10-3 during that time.

The district tournament I remember most was my sophomore year," Adelaar said. "I wasn't even expected to make it to the finals (where he upset top-seeded Pat Smith of Linden, 2-1). It was such an honor, to stand with Pete and Bill Kenny and the others in the winners' circle, after helping Westfield win the team title.

SWIMMING UPDATE

The WHS and Bridgewater-Raritan (B-R) swim teams are quite used to squaring off late in the State Team Tournament every year. When they meet again today in the Public A North 2 final at the Raritan Bay YMCA facility in Perth Amboy (boys at 3:30 p.m. and girls at 5:30 p.m.), it will be the seventh straight meeting in the sectional final for the boys teams, and the third straight year for the girls (and sixth in seven years).

Since 2000, the WHS and B-R boys' teams have met eight times in states and the girls' teams six times, with the WHS boys winning six times and the WHS girls with a 6-0 mark. And even the two losses by the WHS boys were nearly shocking upsets.

In 2005, B-R posted a 100-70 regu-

lar-season victory, then won the sectional title on a tiebreaker (power points) after an 85-85 tie. The following year, B-R coasted, 98-72, in the regular season, but found itself with a slim, 781/2-77½ lead heading into the final relay, where it went 1-3 to win the sectional title, 88½-81½. Two meets later they were state champions.

Last Monday, the WHS teams swept into tonight's meets by both knocking off Montgomery. The boys' 36point victory margin was surprising to some, since Montgomery had beaten Bridgewater in a dual meet and at their conference meet, while B-R owns a win over WHS back in early December.

In the boys sectional opener, Matt Meserole came within .06 of a second of making the Top 15 List in the 200 freestyle, which would've given him a record seven (out of a possible eight) events. Mezz's 1:48.90 was just off the 1:48.84 by Tim Romano in 1997. In Monday's meet, Mezz went 51.74 in the 100 fly and 51.17 in the 100 back, both No. 2 all-time.

BASKETBALL UPDATE

The WHS boys team just missed qualifying for the state tournament but got a fifth seed in the Union County Tournament (UCT) and was to play Dayton in its first-round game on Tuesday. With a win, WHS would likely play fourth-seeded Union in the quarterfinals, on Saturday at 6 p.m. at Roselle Catholic.

The girls earned a seventh seed in the UCT and beat No. 10 Governor Livingston 49-41 on Monday. They'll play second-seed Summit tonight in the quarterfinals. The girls also qualified for the state tournament and will open on Tuesday, March 2, at Edison.

Coach Marino wins 100th Westfield 43, Cranford 26 **Full Story Next Week**

MURRAY HONORED

Mike Murray (WHS, '06) was the co-winner of the Chris Zusi Memorial Award at last Sunday's 74th Union County Hot Stove League dinner at L'Affaire in Mountainside.

Murray, who was honored in 2007 as the Most Valuable Scholastic Baseball Player, won the Zusi as the Outstanding Male Athlete in Union County. The two time all-state catcher will soon start his fourth season as the varsity catcher at Wake Forest University.

Co-winner of the Zusi Award was Mike Seamon of Rahway, a soccer standout at Villanova University, and a three-sport (soccer, basketball, baseball) star at Union Catholic High School.

Devil of the Week

The award is named for the former sports editor of the Elizabeth Daily Journal

RECORD BREAKER

Word is that Mark (Mongo) Ankudovich recently broke the record for eating hot dogs at Charlie's Pool Room in Alpha. Big Mark, an Alpha local, downed 20 dogs, with sauce, in one hour and 27 minutes; the old mark was by Brandon Petrillo, 18 dogs in one hour, 44 minutes. It was such big news that a photo of the event made the front page of the Easton (Pa.) Express Times!

IN PASSING

We were saddened to hear from Faithful Reader Pete Love (WHS, '61) in Mesa, Ariz., of the January 24 passing of Bob Haines ('59) at the age of 68 in Vero Beach, Fla. Haines was a 6foot-7-inch basketball star at WHS in the late 1950s and later at the University of Connecticut.

In 1959, he helped WHS post a 24-3 record and win the school's first UCT championship, beating Edison Tech, Dayton, SP-F and Cranford; the last two avenged regular-season losses. The Devils then knocked off Irvington and Kearny in states before losing to Weequahic in the sectional championship game.

Fifty-one years later, those 24 victories are still the school record for one season; the 1973 team also won 24, including the first 21 of the season, while losing just two - to Linden in the UCT semis and Weequahic in the sectional final.

Haines (school record 404 points, 328 rebounds) was far from a oneman team. Teammates Tom Gilson (371 pts), captain Ken Hite (297 pts), Ray Bailey (274 pts, school record 341 rebounds), Jerry Dick (120 pts), Tom Dudley (101 pts), Charlie Hoppin (79 pts) and Larry Ritchie (51 pts) provided plenty of assistance. Reed Littlefield and Jim Hackett rounded out the bench for coach John Lay.

DEVIL OF THE WEEK

This week's winner of a free sub from Westfield Subs (261 South Avenue East) is C.J. Meyer. The junior ice hockey forward assisted on all three goals as WHS battled B-R to a 3-3 tie.

The Devil's Den appears Thursday in The Westfield Leader during the school year. Contact me with comments, complaints and suggestions at bj1019@aol.com. Win or not, **WHS4EVR!**

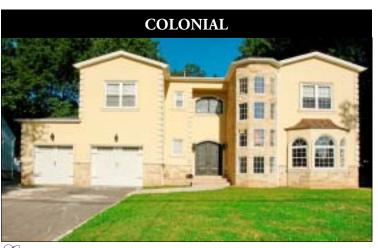
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District 11 Wrestling Will Be More Competitive with Bears

By DAVID B. CORBIN

Competition and excitement, as compared to several of the previous years, will skyrocket in the upcoming District 11 Wrestling Tournament scheduled this Friday and Saturday, February 19 and 20, at the Westfield High School gym. The reason will be the addition of David Brearley, one of the top teams in the state and the reigning Union County Tournament

(UCT) champs.

The Bears won its fifth straight UCT title in style, claiming six champions and three runners-up. The six champions were: Anthony Rice (119 lbs), Nick Lospinoso (135 lbs), Danny Ries (140 lbs), Devin Geoghegan (145

lbs), Dillon Geoghegan (160 lbs) and Khusen Taramov (215 lbs). The runners-up were Anthony Madonia (112 lbs), Allen Phillips (130 lbs) and John Balboni (152 lbs). All but Madonia could possibly receive the top seed for the district tournament.

Last year, the Westfield Blue Devils, featuring a senior-heavy squad, won its first District 11 crown since 1994. The Blue Devils claimed three individual champions and advanced 11 matmen to the Region 3 Tournament. They amassed 173 team points, ahead of the Cranford Cougars with 140.5, the Rahway Indians with 133 and Scotch Plains-Fanwood with

The sole returning Blue Devil



David B. Corbin for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times* PREPING FOR THE DISTRICTS...Raider Josh Foote, top, hopes to place in the top-three at 145 lbs in the upcoming District 11 Tournament in Westfield.

champion, junior Christian Barber, a two-time district champ, will have his hands full this time with Ries, who defeated him in a tiebreaker in a regular-season match and 5-1 for the UCT title. However, sophomore Mike Kalimtzis the UCT 103-lb champ, should receive the top seed, but Elizabeth's Steve Rosario, last year's district champ, may get the nod if he makes weight. The remainder of the class is thinly sliced.

The Cougars claimed four champs last year and returned three – who are expected to be in contention – juniors Joe Giaccio (112) and Kyle Markovitch (119), and heavyweight (Hwt) Joe Brady. Giaccio's only real competition may come from Madonia, whom he pinned in 38 seconds for the UCT title. The rest of the 112-lb class is up for grabs.

Markovitch has jumped up to 130 lbs and may draw the second seed, behind Phillips, and Raider Sean Cannon may get the third seed. Brady will receive the top seed, and he will get his stiffest competition from Linden's Austin Frank, whom he defeated 3-2 in last year's district final. Raider Anthony Tufaro, Bear Rob Schielke and Minuteman Carlos Cardenas may be in the hunt for third place at heavyweight. Cougar JP Christiano, most likely, would get the second seed at 152 lbs, behind Bear Balboni, with Linden's Travis Foster and Blue Devil Erick Gozdieski battling for third place.

"I feel over the last couple of years

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times

David B. Corbin for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times* EARNING HIS 100TH CAREER WIN...Raider senior Tristan Bundy, top, had a battle with Christian Brother Academy's Mike Matlaga, but he pulled out a 7-5 victory in his 125-lb bout to grab his 100th career win on February 13.

Raider Bundy Wins No. 100 in Bout with CBA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

der roll to a three-point nearfall.

Raider freshman heavyweight Anthony Tufaro dropped a heartbreaker to Sean Herliny via a 4-3, four-overtime tiebreaker. Raider Lucas Cimafonte yielded only a takedown in a 2-0 loss to Tom Paronich at 103 lbs. Raider Matt McDuffie received a forfeit at 112 lbs, and Colt Frank Lurch used a figure-four of the head to pin Devon Ausbon in 3:33 at 119

p pin Devon Ausbon in 3:33 at 119 as. After Bundy's bout with Matlaga, Raider Sean Cannon erased a 2-1 deficit with an escape and a barrel roll to a three-point nearfall to defeat Steve Gironda, 7-2, at 130 lbs. Raider Jawan Gaines followed at 135 lbs, with four takedowns and an escape to record a 9-2 decision over Brendan Davey.

"Right now, it's tune-up matches, keeping up the conditioning and going after them to get ready for the district tournament," Raider Head Coach John Scholz said.

Captivating Condo in Scotch Plains

140: — Cunningham (C) p Steinfeld, 3:16
145: — Foote (S) p Torres, 2:51
152: — Favia (C) p Vuono, 3:38
160: — Whelan (C) d Devia, 4-1
171: — Hrymack (C) p Laspe, 2:36
189: — Crocitto (C) p Paboub, 2:56
215: — Jacobs (S) md Stillitano, 13-3
Hwt: — Herliny (C) d Tufaro, 4-3 OT TB
103: — Paronich (C) d Cimafonte, 2-0
112: — McDuffe (S) won forfeit
119: — Lurch (C) p Ausbon, 3:33
125: — Bundy (S) d Matlaga, 7-5
130: — Cannon (S) d Gironda, 7-2
135: — Gaines (S) d Davey, 9-2

Raiders, Westfield Boys, Girls Advance to Swimming Finals

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School and the Westfield High School girls and boys swim teams advanced to the championships in their respective sectional tournaments on February 15.

The Raider girls pushed past Morristown, 90-80, in the North Jersey, Section 2 Public B semifinals and won six of the 11 events, which included two relays. In the opening event, the 200-yard medley relay, Raiders Caitlin English, Kelsey Rossi, Becca Dunn and Hannah Markey touched first with a time of 1:56.32. English touched first in the next event, the 200-freestyle, with a time of 2:04.25. She also touched first in the 500-free at 5:51.07. Dunn won the 200-butterfly at 1:04.96 and Rossi won the 100-free at 56.19. Rossi, Jodie Thompson, Steph Baliko and Ana Bogdanovski won the 200-free relay with a time of 1:54.

Morristown's Emily Ashton won the 50-free and the 100-breaststroke with respective times of 25.77 and 1:13.21. Kelly Hall touched first in the 200-individual medley (IM) at 2:19.38, and Kim Hall won the 100-backstroke with a time of 1:08.86. Kelly Hall, Shannon Beston, Kim Hall and Ashton won the 400-free relay at 4:04.94.

The Raider boys advanced to the North Jersey, Section 2, Public B finals with a 97-73 win over Chatham. Mike Henkels, Greg Baliko, Mike Napolitano and Joe Dunn got things going by touching first in the 200-medley relay with a time of 1:42.97. Dan Napolitano followed by winning the 200-free at 1:53.92, and Baliko won the 200-IM with a time of 2:10.45

Mike Napolitano touched first in the 100-fly and the 500-free with respective times of 54.55 and 5:10.17. Baliko, Mike Rizzo, Dunn and Dan Napolitano won the 200-free relay at 1:37.45. Nick Sorace won the 100-breast at 1:10.05. Chatham's Mike Strand won the 50-free at 22.17 and the 100-free at 48.74. Adam Weinbrom won the 100-backstroke at 55.78. Paul Bender, Kevin Greener, Weinbrom and Strand won the 400-free relay with a time of 3:29.41.

The Blue Devil girls obliterated Montgomery, 119-51, in the North Jersey, Section 2, Public A meet. Jessica Cronin, Megan Kaveney, Becky DeLaFuente and Suzanne Lemberg won the 200-medley relay with a time of 1:55.28. DeLaFuente won the 200-free at 2:00.89 and the 100-fly at 1:01.62.

Kyle Higgins touched first in the 500-free with a time of 5:24.36. Cronin won the 100-back at 1:06.87. Meredith Smith won the 200-IM at 2:17.7. Kaveney, Emily Budnick, Meredith Smith and Lemberg won the 200-free relay at 1:44.57. Budnick, M. Smith, Kelsey Wilson and Maeve Maloney won the 400-free relay in 3:56.36. Montgomery's Megan Lydzinski won the 50-free at 25.34 and the 100-free at 52.98. Anna Marshall won the 100-breast at 1:10.65.

The Blue Devil boys sank Montgomery, 103-67, in the North Jersey, Section 2, Public A meet. Matt Meserole, Larry Zhang, Nick Boyle and Tim Walsh got things rolling by winning the 200-medley relay in 1:38.75. Zhang won the 200-IM at 2:00.73 and the 100-breast at 1:02.87. Meserole won the 100-fly at 51.74 and the 100-back at 51.17.

Mike Oster won the 100-free with a time of 50.68. Boyle, Jack Lorentzen, Walsh and Mike Oster won the 200-free relay at 1:31.85. Montgomery's Scott Heil won the 200-free at 1:47.45 and the 50 free at 22.29. Mike Leddy won the 500-free at 5:02.18. Paul Shafer, Leddy, Adam Caldwell and Heil won the 400-free relay at 3:24.77.



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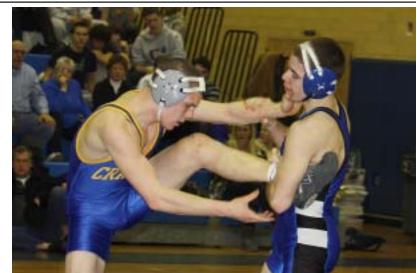
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David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times HOPING FOR A GOOD SEED...Raider Sean Cannon, top, hopes to receive a good seed at 130 lbs for the District 11 Tournament.



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times LOOKING FORWARD TO THE CHALLENGE...Blue Devil Troy Skibitsky, top, may have a real challenge at 125 lbs.



David B. Corbin for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times* WANTING THREE TO BE A CHARM...Blue Devil Christian Barber, right, will seek his third title at the District 11 Tournament.

District 11 Wrestling Tournament Will Be Much More Competitive with David Brearley Bears

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

MORAN SCORES WINNER AGAINST GL

Blue Devil Icemen Poised

For Run at County Title

that a couple of teams have been making some comebacks. Our district has been getting stronger, and with the addition of Brearley, it is going to be very tough. So, we are going from being one of the weaker districts to being a very competitive district," Cougar Head Coach Darren Torsone said. "They are going to get

Blue Devil Boys Beat Bernards Cagers, 56-37

The Westfield High School boys basketball team defeated Bernards, 56-37, in Westfield on February 13.

Senior center Pat Sabatino dropped in 24 points and junior Ryan Hess sank 10 points for the 8-11 Blue Devils. Hugo Nolasco scored 8 points, including a pair of 3-pointers and Jaraad Rogers added 7 points. Mark Kolb had 23 points for Bernards.

6 8 16 7 37 16 11 9 20 56 Bernards

Bait/Fly Club to Host Youth Fishing Seminar

The Newark Bait & Fly Casting Club will host a Youth Fishing Seminar on Tuesday, March 2, at 7:00 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Jeanette Avenue in Union.

The seminar will cover such topics as bait and tackle, fishing techniques for fresh and salt water fish, etc. Greg Kucharewski, Youth Director of the Jersey Coast Anglers Association, will present a special program designed specifically for young anglers.

The Newark Bait & Fly Casting Club has been presenting such programs for almost 100 years. Members are also certified as instructors in the Hooked on Fishing – Not on Drugs Program.

Prizes will be awarded to the winners of various contests. Refreshments will be served. All individuals and youth groups are welcomed to attend the seminar.

For further information, call Frank Stack, president, at (908) 245-9070, or Glenn Rosivack, treasurer, at (908) 233-8251.

a lot of top seeds. A lot of kids are going to be fighting for second and third seed. Linden has come on very strong. They have some tough kids, and the coach has been doing a nice job. Westfield is stronger than everyone thought. That's nice to see. They are having a good year. It will be fun this year!

The Indians have two returning champs in Diego Chavez (145 lbs) and Urayoan Garcia (215 lbs). Chavez should receive the second seed at 145 lbs, behind Bear Devin Geoghegan, who pinned him in 3:59 for the UCT title. Blue Devil Brian Henry and Raider Josh Foote will also battle for a region-qualifying position. With Khusen Taramov at first seed, Garcia may get the nod for the second seed at 215 lbs, even though he defeated Cougar Julian Campo during a regular-season bout but lost to him, 11-6,

Lady Blue Devils Stop Highlanders in UCT

Solid defense in the second and third quarters propelled the seventhseeded Westfield High School girls basketball team to a 49-41 victory over 10th-seeded Governor Livingston in the first round of the Union County Tournament in Scotch Plains on February 15.

Senior Diana Venezia scored 8 of her game-high 18 points in the third quarter, which led to a 39-21 lead entering the fourth quarter. She finished with three 3-pointers, nine rebounds and a pair of steals. Katie Ponce put up 10 points, while adding four rebounds, two assists and two steals for the 11-7 Blue Devils. Charlotte Lorentzen had 7 points and six rebounds. Amanda Markowski had 6 points, five assists, two steals and two rebounds, while Anne Knisely put up 6 points and pulled down five rebounds. Danielle Miller had 2 points, two assists, a block and a rebound. Alyssa Polimenti led the 9-8 Highlanders with 18 points, including three 3-pointers. She also hit five free

Gov. Livingston

12 4 5 20 41 12 15 12 10 49 in the UCT semis. Raider Andrew Jacobs has an outside chance to

Raider Tristan Bundy, the UCT 125lb champ and the 2008 district champ, will receive the top seed, with Blue Devil Troy Skibitsky drawing the second seed and Cougar Brian Buontempo getting the third seed. Rahway's Jabari Shults may likely get the second seed at 119 lbs, behind Bear Rice, and Cougar Ian Henry

With the Union County playoffs set to begin on Monday, February 22,

the Westfield High School varsity

hockey team appears ready to take a run at the title. The Blue Devils im-

proved their season record to 13-4-4

on February 13 with a 2-0 shutout

over the Governor Livingston High-

landers at Union Ice Arena. The vic-

tory extended Westfield's unbeaten

Senior defenseman Dylan Moran

scored the winning goal at 7:18 of the

second period after completing an

end-to-end rush with a low shot that

eluded the Highlanders netminder.

The goal highlighted a second period

rally during which the Blue Devils held a wide edge in shots on goal and

received solid support between the

pipes from junior goaltender Morgan

Bungerz, who turned aside 17 shots

Westfield clung to its 1-0 lead

throughout the final period but faced

its biggest challenge in the final

minute when senior defenseman Joe

Kramkowski was penalized for rough-

ing. With 50 seconds remaining, Gov-

ernor Livingston pulled its goaltender

for a sixth attacker in the Westfield

end. The two-man advantage back-

tral zone to forward CJ Meyer, who

fired when freshman defenseman Liam Devin cleared the puck to neu-

streak to six games.

to register the shutout.

may receive the third seed. Cougar Matt DiGiovanni could receive the second seed at 135 lbs, behind Bear Lospinoso, with Rahway's Danny Walsh and Blue Devil Ryan Jennings battling it out for third.

"We are excited to have Brearley in," Raider Head Coach John Scholz said. "It's going to make our district so much better. We knew over the years it was missing something like that team. Even though our competi-

banked a shot off the boards and into

the open net for the insurance goal.

Junior forward Nick Attanasio pro-

vided the heroics in helping the Blue

Devils salvage a 3-3 tie with

Bridgewater-Raritan Panthers on Feb-

ruary 8 at Warinanco Arena in Roselle.

Attanasio converted passes from CJ

Meyer and Kramkowski with 15 sec-

onds remaining to erase a 3-2 deficit.

Kramkowski and junior forward

Henry O'Brien scored the other goals

for Westfield, while offensive stal-

wart CJ Meyer registered assists on

Westfield concluded its regular

season schedule with games against

the Jonathan Dayton Bulldogs on

February 15 and the Summit

Hilltoppers on February 17. The

outcome of those games will deter-

mine the seedings for the second

annual Union County playoffs, which

will conclude on February 27 with

the championship final at Warinanco

Arena. Clark's A.L. Johnson Cru-

saders captured the inaugural Union

County title in 2009, but can expect

stiff competition from Westfield,

Summit and Governor Livingston

Following the Union County play-

offs, Westfield will make its sixth

consecutive visit to the state champi-

onships beginning in early March.

this time around.

all three Blue Devil goals.

tion with Westfield, Elizabeth, Cranford, Linden and Rahway, and everyone has been doing a great job, but now having that top-10 team in our district, that is going to make everyone that much more hungry. We know it's going to be harder to get our guys through. Most of Brearley's guys will probably be in the finals.'

Elizabeth's Maurice McCullers, who placed second in the UCT, may receive the top seed at 171-lbs. Blue Devil Billy Kim and Bear Anthony Tancs may get the second and third seeds, respectively. Bear Khasan Taramov looks to be the best bet for the top seed at 189 lbs. Cougar Errol Petgrave and Linden Tiger Nick Currea could scoop up the second and third seeds. Behind Bear Dillon Geoghegan at 160 lbs, Rahway's TJ Disney, Linden's Danny Castro and Blue Devil Chris Tomasso could be battling for second and third.

Some of the competitors, especially second, third or fourth seeds, may shift up or down a weight class to get a better shot at qualifying for the Region 3 Tournament.

PAST 3 YEAR CHAMPIONSHIPS:

2009 TEAM TOTALS: 1. Westfield (W) 173, 2. Cranford (C) 140.5, 3. Rahway (R) 133, 4. Scotch Plains-Fanwood (S) 93.5, 5. Linden (L) 90, 6. Elizabeth (E) 85, 7. Weequahic (We) 27, 8. Newark Central (NC) 18, 9. Shabazz (MX) 0

2009 CHAMPIONSHIP: 125: — Nick DeFreitas (W) d Cannon

(S), 3-2 130: — John Barnes (W) tf Wesley Morrison (S), 19-3, 4:00 135: — Christian Barber (W) d Matt

135: — Christian Barber (W) d Matt DiGiovanni (C), 7-5
140: — Octavio Bent (R) d Joe Panarese (W), 5-2
145: — Chavez (R) md Henry, 10-0
152: — Mike Ferrara (S) d Al-Khalif Thompson (We), 3-1
160: — Caleb Taylor (R) md Rob Granstrand (W), 12-4
171: — Connor Leahy (C) p James Caldwell (R), 4:17
189: — Adas Anjukstis (L) d Gabe 189: — Àdas Aniukstis (L) d Gabe

Evangelista (R), 8-5 215: — Garcia (R) p Campo (C), 4:15 Hwt: — Brady (C) d Frank (L), 3-2 103: — Steve Rosario (E) d Kalimtzis 112: — Joe Giaccio (C) d Troy Skibitsky (W), 7-5 OT 119: - Kyle Markovich (C) md Rochelle

Hinton (R), 11-0 2008 TEAM TOTALS:

Scotch Plains-Fanwood (S) 195, 2. Cranford 156.5, 3. Rahway 155, 4. Westfield 141.5, 5. Elizabeth 69, 6. Linden (L) 40.5, 7. Newark Central (NC) 34, 8. Shabazz (MX) 21, 9. Weequahic (Wq) 8

2008 CHAMPIONSHIPS: 103: — Giaccio (C) p Shults (R), 3:04 112: — Markovitch (C) tf Roshelle Hinton

119: — Bundy (S) d Nick DeFreitas (W), 125: — Barnes (W) tf DiGiovanni (C), 16-

130: — Barber (W) d Ozcan (C), 5-1 135: — Sam Reichbach (W) d Dan Gore

140: — Bent (R) d Ferrara (S), 6-2 OT 145: — Mike Ridge (S) p Pryor (E), 4:42 152: — Trevor Cannon (S) p Shaffer (W), 160: — James Caldwell (R) p Yanis Uribe (E), 1:30

171: — Sebolao (S) p Negron (E), 4:33 189: — Jacobs (S) d Pyrus (R), 10-3 215: — Campo (C) d Jamaal McKinney,

Hwt: -Joe Blaes (S) d Joe Kania, 3-2 **2007 TEAM TOTALS:**

1. Scotch Plains-Fanwood (S) 208, 2. Rahway (R) 135, 3. Cranford (C) 103.5, 4. Westfield (W) 91.5, 5. Elizabeth (E) 64, 6. Newark Central (N) 47, 7. Weequahic (We) 28, 8. Linden (L), Shabazz (X) 24 2007 CHAMPIONSHIP BOUTS:

103: — Nate St. Elme (R) p Brian Buontempo (C), :33 112: — Herrera (R) d Bundy (S), 4-3 119: — John Barnes (W) tf Hynes (C),

17-1, 4:00

17-1, 4:00

125: — Gano (S) p Minaya (R), 2:54

130: — MacKay (W) d Ferrara (S), 7-2

135: — Olsson (S) p Bent (R), 2:51

140: — Dennis (C) p Ridge (S), 1:49

145: — Mineo (S) p Carbajal (R), 3:56

152: — Trevor Cannon (S) d Andrew Castrorao (W), 7-2

160: — Boyd (W) p DeNichilo (S), 5:34

171: — Cook (C) d Bachi (S), 7-5

189: — McLean (N) d Jacobs (S), 7-5

215: — Rich Tabor (E) d Manzini (R),

Hwt: — Joe Blaes (S) p Hunt (R), 3:12

Full stories of the past three years of the District 11 Tournament can be found in The Westfield Leader archives - www.goleader.com.



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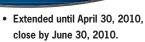
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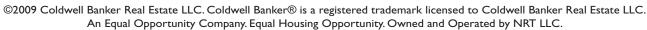


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TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS...The Westfield White seventh grade travel team won the 11th Annual Great Green Brook President's Weekend Basketball Tournament on February 15. Pictured, left to right, are: kneeling, Jonathan Friedlander, Chris Sullivan and Rob Noonan; back row, Head Coach Carl Figueroa, Dave LaVelle, Mitchell Figueroa, Logan Klier, Neilan Dolan, Nathan Budashewitz, Koryn Kraemer, Michael Prosuk, Lillian Scott and Assistant Coach Stephen Noonan. Not pictured is Brennan Erickson.

WF White 7th Boys Capture **Green Brook Hoops Crown**

The Westfield White seventh grade boys Travel Basketball Team won the Seventh Grade Boys Championship Game at the 11th Annual Great Green Brook President's Weekend Basketball Tournament in Green Brook on February 15.

The Westfield White boys had initially defeated the Tewksbury travel team, 50-37. The victory pitted the Westfield White in the Championship Game against the Green Brook Travel Team, which they defeated,

At the conclusion of the Championship Game, Michael Prosuk, who had the most points scored for each team with 18, was named the Most Valuable Player (MVP) and was granted a scholarship to attend a Hoop Group Basketball Camp in the Poconos, N.Y. or Neptune, N.J. In addition, Prosuk and his teammate, Lillian Scott, were both named to the All-Tournament Team.

The following is a list of names of the players on the Westfield White team who all helped contribute towards winning this championship game, which is the second tournament that the team has won in this season:

Nathan Budashewitz, Neilan

Dolan, Brennan Erickson, Mitchell Figueroa, Jonathan Friedlander, Logan Klier, Koryn Kramer, Dave LaVelle, Rob Noonan, Michael Prosuk, Lilly Scott and Chris Sullivan. Head Coach Carl Figueroa and Assistant Coach Stephen Noonan ran the

Park/Terrill Matmen Top Summit, Plainfield

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Park/ Terrill Middle School wrestling team defeated Summit on February 8 and Maxon/Plainfield on February 9 in Scotch Plains to improve to 13-0.

Against Summit, Mike Lettieri, Dominic Natale, Alex Mirabella and Sam McQuoid recorded falls. JT Bierne posted a 10-1, majority decision. Brian Lapham won 7-0 and Tommy Cunningham won 5-1.

Against the Plainfield Little Cardinals, Cunningham pinned Molly Kosso in 36 seconds. Bierne defeated Haseem Clark, 9-4. Lapham pinned Neojoe Lucas in 3:58. Lettieri pinned Rohan Phillip in 3:35, and Tyler Kovacs showed Steve Supe the lights in 1:32. Natale decked Flaudio Carrera in 12 seconds, and Matt Ridge decisioned Derrick Washington, 4-0.

The Mestfield Leader and The Scotch Plains - Fanwood TIMES

Page E-1



CRANFORD COUGAR HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS



LOOK FOR BARBER/RIES, BRADY/FRANK MATCH-UPS

District 11 Wrestling Will Be **More Competitive with Bears**

By DAVID B. CORBIN

Competition and excitement, as compared to several of the previous years, will skyrocket in the upcoming District 11 Wrestling Tournament scheduled this Friday and Saturday, February 19 and 20, at the Westfield High School gym. The reason will be the addition of David Brearley, one of the top teams in the state and the reigning Union County Tournament

(UCT) champs. The Bears won their fifth straight UCT title in style, claiming six champions and three runners-up. The six champions were: Anthony Rice (119 lbs), Nick Lospinoso (135 lbs), Danny Ries (140 lbs), Devin Geoghegan (145 lbs), Dillon Geoghegan (160 lbs) and Khusen Taramov (215 lbs). The runners-up were Anthony Madonia (112 lbs), Allen Phillips (130 lbs) and John Balboni (152 lbs). All but Madonia could possibly receive the top seed for the district tournament.

Last year, the Westfield Blue Devils, featuring a senior-heavy squad, won its first District 11 crown since 1994. The Blue Devils claimed three individual champions and advanced

11 matmen to the Region 3 Tournament. They amassed 173 team points, ahead of the Cranford Cougars with 140.5, the Rahway Indians with 133 and Scotch Plains-Fanwood with

The sole returning Blue Devil champion, junior Christian Barber, a two-time district champ, will have his hands full this time with Bear Ries, who defeated him in a tiebreaker in a regular-season match and 5-1 for the UCT title. However, sophomore Mike Kalimtzis the UCT 103-lb champ, should receive the top seed, but Elizabeth's Steve Rosario, last year's district champ, may get the nod if he makes weight. The remainder of the class is thinly sliced.

The Cougars claimed four champs last year and return three, who are expected to be in contention, juniors Joe Giaccio (112) and Kyle Markovitch (119), and heavyweight (Hwt) Joe Brady. Giaccio's only real competition may come from Bear Madonia, whom he pinned in 38 seconds for the UCT title. The rest of the

Probitas Verus Honos

112-lb class is up for grabs.

Markovitch has jumped up to 130 lbs and may draw the second seed, behind Bear Phillips, and Raider Sean Cannon may get the third seed. Brady will receive the top seed, and he will get his stiffest competition from Linden's Austin Frank, whom he defeated 3-2 in last year's district final. Raider Anthony Tufaro, Bear Rob Schielke and Minuteman Carlos Cardenas may be in the hunt for third place at heavyweight. Cougar JP Christiano, most likely, would get the second seed at 152 lbs, behind Bear Balboni, with Linden's Travis Foster and Blue Devil Erick Gozdieski battling for third place.

"I feel over the last couple of years that a couple of teams have been making some comebacks. Our district has been getting stronger, and with the addition of Brearley, it is going to be very tough. So we are going from being one of the weaker districts to being a very competitive district," Cougar Head Coach Darren Torsone said. "They are going to get a lot of top seeds. A lot of kids are going to be fighting for second and CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



PUTTING A RED DEVIL IN DOUBLE JEOPARDY... Cougar Matt DiGiovanni relaxes after he locks Red Devil Zack Bond in a walkover double arm bar stack in his 140-lb bout. DiGiovanni pinned Bond in 4:49.

PELLINO RECORDS 26-SECOND, JIMMY JOHN FALL

Cougar Matmen Rout Ridge Red Devil Wrestlers, 66-8

By DAVID B. CORBIN

Finishing out the regular season in high gear is certainly what the Cranford High School wrestling team did when the Cougars routed the Ridge Red Devils, 66-8, and followed up with a 54-12 thrashing of Belleville in a tri-match in Cranford on February 13 to finish with a 19-4 record.

Wasting absolutely no time, Cougar Carmine Pellino began the match with the Red Devils by pinning Jay Bassin in 26 seconds, using a Jimmy John corkscrew at 135 lbs. Cougar Matt DiGiovanni bumped up a weight

class and pushed around Zack Bond at 140 lbs. DiGiovanni began with a takedown, added a reversal to a twopoint tilt and tacked on a three-point double arm bar nearfall and a threepoint arm bar head clamp to seize a 12-0 lead entering the third period when he decided to pin Bond with a walkover arm bar.

"That was a match-up we wanted to get, to get him a better match at 140. He did a nice job with that kid. He has been working that double arm bar, along with Eric Knight the entire year. They are getting good with it," Cougar Head Coach Darren Torsone

Knight arrived in the 145-lb bout and used a double arm bar walkover to sedate Tyler Ord in 51 seconds. At 152 lbs, Cougar Connor Londregan scored a second-period escape to defeat Dean Rice, 1-0. JP Christiano got medieval with Red Devil Andrew Duvall at 160 lbs. He began with a back-trip takedown and added a threepoint arm bar, chin hook nearfall. Next, he used a half nelson, leg-to-leg clamp stack to pin Duvall in 1:27.

After Cougar Chris Keim received a forfeit at 171 lbs. Red Devil team **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times COUGAR ATHLETES OF THE WEEK...The Cougar boys' varsity basketball team recently clinched the Union County Conference Mountain Division Title. This is the first boys' basketball conference title since 1970.





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STRUGGLING TO GET THE UPPER HAND...Cougar Jess McCoy, right, struggles with Blue Devil Amanda Markowski for possession of the ball on February 16 in Cranford. This time Westfield got the upper hand with a 43-26 victory. See full story and photos in the next Cougar Online Exclusive - February 25 edition.

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Cougar Cagers Out-Shoot ALJ Crusader Boys, 85-60

Prepared By DAVID B. CORBIN

Defense played a very little role in the Cranford High School boys basketball team's, 85-60, victory over the Arthur L. Johnson Crusaders in Cranford on February 9. Senior guard Kendall Grier had the sizzling hand with a career-high 24 points, hitting all nine of his shots from the field, including four from three-point range. He also had eight rebounds, including a career-tying four offensive boards, an assist and a steal.

The 12-5 Cougars shot out to a 38-20, halftime lead, but the 4-14 Crusaders made it interesting by winning the wild third quarter, 26-19, to narrow the score to 57-46. The Cougars erupted to win the final quarter, 28-

Senior center Will Green pushed in 18 points, sinking 8-for-11 from the field and 2-for-3 from the line. He also pulled 12 rebounds (2 offensive) had a block and made a steal. Sopho-

more Chris Gross sank 6-for-11 from the field and 2-for-2 from the line for 14 points and added eight rebounds (3 offensive) and a block. Senior point guard Sean Trotter bucketed 10 points. which included a 3-pointer and 5-for-5 from the charity line. He had five assists, a rebound and two thefts.

Greg Goode, who had six points, made good on a career-high three blocks and a career-high five assists. He also had a steal. Nick Pace put up five points and had five assists and two rebounds. In two minutes of action, Reggie Green had four rebounds (3 offensive) and four points (both career highs). Mark Osofsky scored three points, senior Spenser Freiri had one rebound, one point and one block, and Bryan Fitzsimmons had a pair of rebounds, while Sean Babos added a rebound a an assist, and Joey Papandrea had an assist.

Phil Engel provided the stats.

Johnson Cranford 13 11 26 10 60 18 20 19 28 85

Cougar Snacks:

Hillside Comet Cagers Burn Cranford Cougar Boys, 52-48

Multitudes of turnovers threw the Cranford High School boys basketball team off its rhythm in a 52-48 loss to the Hillside Comets in Hill-

side on February 12. The 12-6 Cougars iced the 9-10 Comets, 13-1, in the first quarter, but the chill turned suddenly in Cranford's direction in the second quarter when Hillside went on a 20-7 run to grasp a 21-20 lead at the half. Senior Will Green led the Cougars with 19 points, hitting eight of 14 from the field and 3for-7 from the free throw line. He also pulled 11 rebounds (3 offensive), had two assists and made three blocks.

Sophomore Chris Gross put up 14

Lady Cougars Take Out Farmers, 50-43, in UCT

Trailing 39-34, the fourth-seeded Cranford High School girls basketball team erupted with a 16-4, fourthquarter run to defeat the 13th-seeded Ûnion Farmers, 50-43, in Roselle on February 15. Senior Jamie Webb pumped in 17 points, which included sinking nine free throws, to lead the 15-5 Lady Cougars.

Senior center Danielle Gross rolled in 12 points, including four from the free throw line, and senior forward Taylor D'Antico bucketed 11 points, including a pair of 3-pointers and five free throws. Sara Gugliucci and Jess McCoy each had four points, while Morgan Miller had two points. Kyarah Foushee scored 11 points for the 9-12 Lady Farmers.

Union Cranford

207 CENTER STREET, GARWOOD

points, sinking six for 15 from the field and two of four from the line, but he tied a career high with 14 rebounds, including five offensive, while adding three blocks, a steal and an assist. Senior Sean Trotter became the chief thief with five steals. He also banged three 3-pointers for nine points, while adding three rebounds

(2 offensive), two assists and a block. Senior guard Kendall Grier hit a 3pointer and a 2-pointer for five points. He had three rebounds (2 offensive), three assists, a steal and a block. Senior guard Nick Pace dished out five assists and added a steal, but he had the slippery hands with seven turnovers

Cranford Hillside

R.C. Lady Lions Beat Cougar Cagers, 42-33

13 7 18 10 48 1 20 13 18 52

The No. 15 ranked Roselle Catholic High School girls basketball team got a quick first-quarter jump on the Cranford Cougars and maintained it en route to a 42-33 victory in Cranford on February 13. Allison Škrec pushed in 16 points to lead the 18-2 Lady Lions, and Jamie Webb led the 14-5 Cougars with 12 points, including three 3-pointers.

Meghan Faughnan banged a pair of 3-pointer to help the Lions take a 10-3, first-quarter lead. Morgan Miller sank 10 points, while Kate McGovern and Jess McCoy each bucketed four points for the Cougars.

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Cougars Obliterate Belleville, 54-12

Right after silencing the Ridge Red Devils 66-8, the Cranford High School wrestling team concluded its season with a 54-12 victory over Belleville in Cranford on February 13 to finish with a 19-4 record.

BOUT SEQUENCE: 140: Matt DiGiovanni (C) p Sean Carey,

145: Eric Knight (C) d Mark Corino, 5-2 152: Joe Anello (B) d Connor Londregan, 160: JP Christiano (C) p Nick Fruncillo,

171: Chris Keim (C) d Mike Laboy, 2-0 189: Errol Petgrave (C) md Chris Colon,

12-3 215: Julian Campo (C) p Chase Hamilton, 3:14 285: Joe Brady (C) p Joe Davis, 1:27 103: Oscar Cabrera (B) p Diego Castro,

1105 112: Chris Colon (B) d Joe Giaccio, 8-3 119: Ian Henry (C) won forfeit 125: Brian Buontempo (C) d Ricky Gencarelli, 4-1 130: Carmine Pellino (C) p John Rossi,

135: Kyle Markovitch (C) tf Anthony Avino, Anthony, 19-0, 2:50

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 can be seen by clicking "photo library" on upper right - then click "photos" on top.

For Cranford/Ridge Wrestling Scroll to - 10feb13-cr-rdg-wres

David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times

KEEPING CONTROL FOR THE WIN...Cougar Brian Buontempo, front, controls Ridge's Brian Woolford in his 125-lb

Cougar Matmen Rout Ridge Red Devils, 66-8

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

captain Cameron Radinovic scored a Brian Buontempo had a battle with reversal and a four-point nearfall -Brian Woolford, but he recorded a added a point for and injury – to claim low single-leg takedown, a back-trip takedown and a single-to-double-leg a 6-0 decision over Errol Petgrave at 189 lbs. At 215 lbs, Cougar Julian takedown to go with his two escapes to earn an 8-5 decision. Campo did what does best when he "Buontempo held that kid off. He clamped Darius Vaziri with a cradle in 1:33. Cougar heavyweight Joe Brady, 103-lb Diego Castro and 112-

lb Joe Giaccio each received forfeits.

five-point lateral throw, a takedown,

three nearfalls and a reversal to claim

a 17-2, 4:53, technical fall over Ian

Henry at 119 lbs. At 125 lbs, Cougar

Red Devil Shane Gong recorded a

is still under the weather, but he held on today. Carmine [Pellino] continues to pin his opponents. He made a huge turnaround this year. He has been coming up with huge bonus

points for us," coach Torsone said. Kyle Markovitch added the finishing touches at 130 lbs, using a grape-

vine and a power half nelson to pin Nick Kleinert in 1:47.

Nick Kleinert in 1:47.

BOUT SEQUENCE:
135: Pellino (C) p Bassin, Jay :26
140: DiGiovanni (C) p Bond, 4:49
145: Knight (C) p Ord, :51
152: Londregan (C) d Rice, 1-0
160: Christiano (C) p Duvall, 1:28
171: Keim (C) won forfeit
189: Radinovic (R) d Petgrave, 6-0
215: Campo (C) p Vaziri, 1:33
285: Brady (C) won forfeit
103: Castro (C) won forfeit
112: Giaccio (C) won forfeit
119: Gong (R) tf Henry, 17-2
125: Buontempo (C) d Woolford, 8-5
130: Markovitch (C) p Kleinert, 1:47



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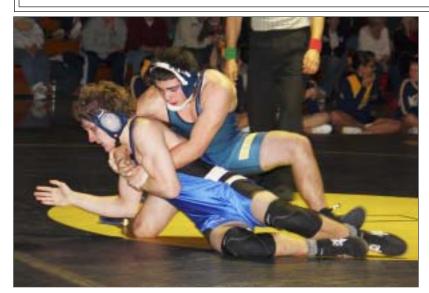
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The Mestfield Leader and The Scotch Plains - Fanwood TIMES

What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us



STRONG CONTENDER AT 152 LBS...Brearley's John Balboni, top, placed second in the Union County Tournament at 152 lbs. He will be a strong bet to receive the top seed for the District 11 Tournament.



David B. Corbin (Union County Tournament) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times* BEST BET FOR TOP SEED AT 160 LBS...Brearley Bear Dillon Geoghegan defeated Roselle Park's Dennis Carroll for the county 160-lb title. Geoghegan most likely will receive the top seed for the District 11 Tournament.



CLASSIC CAMPO CRADLE...Cougar Julian Campo clamps Ridge Red Devil Darius Vaziri with a cradle to record a fall in 1:33 at 215 lbs. Campo hopes to win another District 11 215-lb crown.

District 11 Wrestling Tournament Will Be Much More Competitive with Brearley Bears

third seed. Linden has come on very strong. They have some tough kids, and the coach has been doing a nice job. Westfield is stronger than everyone thought. That's nice to see. They are having a good year. It will be fun this year!

The Indians have two returning champs in Diego Chavez (145) and Urayoan Garcia (215). Chavez should receive the second seed at 145 lbs,

PUBLIC NOTICE

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS ORDINANCE NO:700-2010 FINAL READING: 2/11/2010

Was introduced and passed on first reading by the Board of Chosen Freeholders at a REGULAR MEETING on January 21st 2010, and said Ordinance has been published with Notice of Introduction thereof and of the time and place fixed for its further consideration and the Board has duly held a hearing thereof and has given all persons interested an opportunity to be heard. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RE-SOLVED, by the Board of Chosen Free-holders that said Ordinance be and the same hereby is finally passed and adopted, and be it FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Ordinance published herewith has been finally adopted on February 11th 2010, and the 20 day period of limitations within which a suit, action or proceeding questioning the validity of such Ordinance can be commenced has begun to run from the date of first publication of this statement.

A copy of this ordinance has been posted on the Bulletin Board upon which public notices are customarily posted in the Administration Building of the County, and a copy is available up to and including the time of such meeting to the members of the general public of the County who Shall request such copies, at the office of the Clerk of the Board in said County Administration Building in Elizabeth, New Jer-

Nicole L. DiRado, Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders

CAPITAL ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF UNION. **NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING** THE MAKING OF VARIOUS ROAD, BRIDGE AND CUL-VERT IMPROVEMENTS IN, BY AND FOR THE COUNTY, APPROPRIATING THERE-FOR THE SUM OF \$13,453,380 AND PROVIDING THAT SUCH SUM SO APPROPRIATED SHALL BE RAISED FROM VARIOUS GRANTS.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Union. New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. The County of Union, New Jersey (the "County") is hereby authorized to make the following road, bridge and culvert improvements in, by and for the County, including all work, materials and appurtenances necessary and suitable

Department of Engineering, Public Works and Facilities, Division of Engineering

 A. Rehabilitation or replacement of the following bridges: (i) South Front Street Bridge in Elizabeth; (ii) Sanford Avenue Bridge in Plainfield: and (iii) Monroe Street Bridge in Rahway.

B. Undertaking of various road, bridge and culvert improvement projects.

C. Undertaking of various road resur-Section 2. The sum of \$13,453,380 is hereby appropriated to the payment of the cost of the improvements authorized and described in Section 1 hereof (hereinafter referred to as "purpose"). Said appropriation shall be raised from various grants, as hereinafter provided. The sum of \$3,000,000, received or to be received as grants from the New Jersey Department of Transportation (Local Bridge Program), is hereby appropriated to the payment of the cost of the bridge improvements authorized in Section 1.A above. The sum of \$4,600,000, received or to be received as a grant from the New Jersey Department of Transportation (County Aid Program). is hereby appropriated to the payment o the cost of the road, bridge and culvert improvements authorized in Section 1.B above. The sum of \$5,853,380, received or to be received as a Federal grant pursuant to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), is hereby appropriated to the payment of the cost of the road resurfacing improvements autho-

rized in Section 1.C above. Section 3. Said improvements are lawful capital improvements of the County having a period of usefulness of at least five (5) years. Said improvements shall be made as general improvements, no part of the cost of which shall be assessed against property specially benefited.

Section 4. The capital budget is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this capital ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency therewith and the resolutions promul-gated by the Local Finance Board showing full detail of the amended capital budget and capital program as approved by the Director, Division of Local Government Services, is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders and is available for public inspection.

Section 5. This ordinance shall take effect at the time and in the manner pro-

1 T - 2/18/10, The Leader Fee: \$0.00

behind Bear Devin Geoghegan, who pinned him in 3:59 for the UCT title. Blue Devil Brian Henry and Raider Josh Foote will also battle for a region-qualifying position. With Khusen Taramov at first seed, Garcia may get the nod for the second seed at 215 lbs, even though he defeated Cougar Julian Campo during a regular-season bout but lost to him, 11-6, in the UCT semis. Raider Andrew Jacobs has an outside chance to

qualify. Raider Tristan Bundy, the UCT 125lb champ and the 2008 district champ, will receive the top seed, with Blue Devil Troy Skibitsky drawing the second seed and Cougar Brian Buontempo getting the third seed. Rahway's Jabari Shults may likely



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PUBLIC NOTICE

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS ORDINANCE NO: 702-2010 FIRST READING: 2/11/2010

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following proposed ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a meeting of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Union, State of New Jersey, held on the 11th day of February, 2010, and that said ordinance will be taken up for further consideration for final passage at the meeting of said Board of Chosen Freeholders to be held at its meeting room in the County Administration Building, Elizabethtown Plaza, Elizabeth, New Jersey on the 25th day of February, 2010, at 7:00 P.M., or as soon thereafter as said matter can be reached, at which time and place all persons who may be interested therein will be given an opportunity to be

heard concerning the same. A copy of this ordinance has been posted on the Bulletin Board upon which public notices are customarily posted in the Administration Building of the County, and a copy is available up to and including the time of such meeting to the members of the general public of the County who shall request such copies, at the office of the Clerk of the Board in said County Administration Building in Elizabeth, New Jer-

Nicole L. DiRado, RMC, MPA, Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders

CAPITAL ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF UNION. **NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING** THE CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL BUNKERS AT GALLOPING HILL GOLF COURSE IN, BY AND FOR THE COUNTY, APPROPRIAT-ING THEREFOR THE SUM OF \$200,000 AND PROVIDING THAT SUCH SUM SO APPRO-PRIATED SHALL BE RAISED FROM CAPITAL SURPLUS OF THE COUNTY.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Union,

New Jersey, as follows: Section 1. The County of Union, New Jersey (the "County") is hereby authorized to construct additional bunkers at Galloping Hill Golf Course in, by and for the County. Said improvement shall include all work, materials and appurtenances necessary and suitable therefor.

Section 2. The sum of \$200,000 is hereby appropriated to the payment of the cost of the improvement authorized and described in Section 1 hereof (hereinafter referred to as "purpose"). Said appropriation shall be raised from Capital Surplus of the County. The sum of \$200,000 is hereby appropriated from Capital Surplus of the County to the payment of the cost of said purpose

Section 3. Said improvement is a lawful capital improvement of the County having a period of usefulness of at least five (5) years. Said improvement shall be made as a general improvement, no part of the cost of which shall be assessed against property specially benefited.

Section 4. The capital budget is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this capital ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency therewith and the resolutions promul-gated by the Local Finance Board showing full detail of the amended capital budget and capital program as approved by the Director, Division of Local Government Services, is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders and is available for public inspection. Section 5. This ordinance shall take

effect at the time and in the manner provided by law. 1 T - 2/18/10, The Leader Fee: \$0.00

get the second seed at 119 lbs, behind Bear Rice, and Cougar Ian Henry may receive the third seed. Cougar Matt DiGiovanni could receive the second seed at 135 lbs, behind Bear Lospinoso, with Rahway's Danny Walsh and Blue Devil Ryan Jennings battling it out for third.

"We are excited to have Brearley in," Raider Head Coach John Scholz said. "It's going to make our district so much better. We knew over the years it was missing something like that team. Even though our competition with Westfield, Elizabeth, Cranford, Linden and Rahway, and everyone has been doing a great job, but now having that top-10 team in

North Section 2, Group 2 Quarterfinal Match: Brearley 51, Hanover Pk. 21

130: Allen Phillps (B) won by inj. def. over Nick Giordano 135: Nick Lospinoso (B) p. Frank Bursese, 3:36. 140: Danny Ries (B) md. Anthony

Johnstone, 9-145: Devin Geoghegan (B) md. John Stark, 10-1

152: John Balboni (B) p. Alfonse Scala, 5:33. 160: Dillon Geoghegan (B) md. Dan

Glinko, 10-1 171: Mike Lomio (H) p. Anthony 189: J. Cassamerto (B) p. Connor

215: Greg Rice (B) md. John Franciosa, 12-1 285: Giuseppe Ottaiano (H), won by disqual. over Rob Schielke, 1:30 103: Gennaro Cuccolo (H) p. Dylan

Olvia, 3:03 112: Anthony Madonia (B) p. Adam Sabo, 2:41 119: Anthony Rice (B) p. Anthony

Forlenza, :44 125: Anthony Sorisi (H) d. Andrew Scarillo, 8-3

PUBLIC NOTICE

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS BOND ORDINANCE STATEMENT AND SUMMARY **ORDINANCE NO: 699-2010** FINAL READING: 2/11/2010

The bond ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, has been finally adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Union, State of New Jersey on February 11, 2010 and the 20-day period of limitation within which a suit, action or proceeding questioning the validity of such ordinance can be commenced, as provided in the Local Bond Law, has begun to run from the date of the first publication of this statement. Copies of the full ordinance are available at no cost and during regular business hours, at the Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders' office for members of the general public who request the same. The summary of the terms of such bond ordinance

> TITLE: BOND ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTIONS 4.E AND 6 OF THE BOND ORDINANCE (ORD. NO. 687-2009) ENTITLED: "BOND ORDI-NANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUB-LIC IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF NEW ADDITIONAL OR REPLACE-MENT EQUIPMENT AND MA-CHINERY, NEW AUTOMO-TIVE VEHICLES, INCLUDING **ORIGINAL APPARATUS AND** EQUIPMENT, NEW ADDI-TIONAL FURNISHINGS, NEW COMMUNICATION AND SIG-NAL SYSTEMS EQUIPMENT AND NEW INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND TELE-COMMUNICATIONS EQUIP-MENT IN. BY AND FOR THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPRO-PRIATE THE SUM OF \$43,371,808 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO APPRO-PRIATE A STATE GRANT, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSU-ANCE OF BONDS TO FI-NANCE SUCH APPROPRIA-TION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSU-ANCE OF SUCH BONDS. ADOPTED ON JULY 30, 2009.

Purpose(s): To make the following amendments to Bond Ordinance No. 687-

2009 adopted on July 30, 2009: 1. Amend Section 4.E to change the improvement authorized from the resurfacing of various roads to the undertaking of various road, bridge and culvert improvement projects

2. Amend Section 6 to change the purpose for which the State grant is appropriated from road resurfacing to various road, bridge and culvert improvement projects. This Notice is published pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:2-17

Nicole L. DiRado, RMC, MPA Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders 1 T - 2/18/10, The Leader Fee: \$0.00 our district, that is going to make everyone that much more hungry. We know it's going to be harder to get our guys through. Most of Brearley's guys will probably be in the finals."

Elizabeth's Maurice McCullers, who placed second in the UCT, may receive the top seed at 171-lbs. Blue Devil Billy Kim and Bear Anthony Tancs may get the second and third seeds, respectively. Bear Khasan Taramov looks to be the best bet for

W. Milford Defeats Raider Matmen, 40-22

The West Milford High School wrestling team defeated Scotch Plains-Fanwood, 40-22, during a quad meet at Watchung Hills High School

on February 13.

BOUT SEQUENCE:

103: — Dillon Guarin (W) d Lucas Sinafonte, 6-0 112: — Ryan Murphy (W) p Matt McDuffy,

119: — Josh Love (W) p Devin Ausbon,

125: — Tristan Bundy (S) won forfeit 130: — Sean Cannon (S) d Kyle Juchnewich, 10-6 135: — Evan Poole (W) tf Jawan Gaines,

140: — Mike Steinfeld (S) d Cody Bergan, 145: — Josh Foote (S) md Pat VanDuyne,

152: — Rich Dizanzo (W) p Luke Vuono, 160: - Matt Berry (W) md John Devia, 171: — Zach Panzarella (W) p Brian

Laspe, 2:48 189: — Conor Bickman (W) md Alex Daboub, 13-3 215: — Andrew Jacobs (S) d James Bednarsky, 3-1 Hwt: — Andrew Tufaro (S) d Andrew

North Group 2, Group 2 **Semifinal Match:**

West Deptford 36, Brearley 31 160 lbs: Dillon Geoghegan (B) d. Dan Eckley, 8-3.

171 lbs: Rory Bonner (W) d. Khasan Taramov, 4-3 189 lbs: Jimmy Owens (W) p. Greg Rice. 3:41

215 lbs: Khusen Taramov (B) p. Frankie Willerton, 1:12.

HWT: Mike Pacitti (W) p. Robert Schielke, 2:43 103 lbs: Tyler Kaminski (W) p. Dylan

Olvia. 1:22. 112 lbs: Anthony Madonia (B) d. Evan Zuzulock, 8-1. 119 lbs: David Parker (W) p. An-

thony Rice, 5:12 125 lbs: Donald Dennis (W) p. Andrew Scarillo, 3:50.

130 lbs: Allen Phillps (B) p. Josh Gilliano, 4:29 135 lbs: Drew Spector (W) d. Nick Lospinoso, 7-4 140 lbs: Danny Ries (B) md. Sean

Bonner, 13-1 145 lbs: Devin Geoghegan (B) p. Nick Iraldi, 1:50 152 lbs: John Balboni (B) d. James

PUBLIC NOTICE

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS ORDINANCE NO: 701-2010 FINAL READING: 2/11/2010

Was introduced and passed on first reading by the Board of Chosen Freeholders at a REGULAR MEETING on January, 21st 2010, and said Ordinance has been published with Notice of Introduction thereof and of the time and place fixed for its further consideration and the Board has duly held a hearing thereof and has given all persons interested an opportunity to be heard. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RE-SOLVED, by the Board of Chosen Freeholders that said Ordinance be and the same hereby is finally passed and adopted, and be it FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Ordinance published herewith has been finally adopted on February 11th 2010, and the 20 day period of limitations within which a suit, action or proceeding guestioning the validity of such Ordinance can be commenced has begun to run from the date of first publication of this statement.

A copy of this ordinance has been posted on the Bulletin Board upon which public notices are customarily posted in the Administration Building of the County, and a copy is available up to and including the time of such meeting to the members of the general public of the County who Shall request such copies, at the office of the Clerk of the Board in said County Administration Building in Elizabeth, New Jer-

Nicole I DiBado Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND "THE LAWS OF UNION COUNTY: ADMINISTRATIVE CODE AND POLICIES AND **GENERAL LEGISLATION" BY** AMENDING CHAPTER 2-107ARTICLE IV- FEES FOR RECREATION FACILITIES

1 T - 2/18/10, The Leader Fee: \$0.00

the top seed at 189 lbs. Cougar Errol Petgrave and Linden Tiger Nick Currea could scoop up the second and third seeds. Behind Bear Dillon Geoghegan at 160 lbs, Rahway's TJ Disney, Linden's Danny Castro and Blue Devil Chris Tomasso could be battling for second and third.

Some of the competitors, especially second, third or fourth seeds, may shift up or down a weight class to get a better shot at qualifying for the Region 3 Tournament.

PAST 3 YEAR CHAMPIONSHIPS:
2009 TEAM TOTALS:
1. Westfield (W) 173, 2. Cranford (C)
140.5, 3. Rahway (R) 133, 4. Scotch
Plains-Fanwood (S) 93.5, 5. Linden (L)
90, 6. Elizabeth (E) 85, 7. Weequahic
(We) 27, 8. Newark Central (NC) 18, 9.
Shabazz (MX) 0

2009 CHAMPIONSHIP: 125: — Nick DeFreitas (W) d Cannon

(S), 3-2 130: — John Barnes (W) tf Wesley Morrison (S), 19-3, 4:00 135: — Barber (W) d DiGiovanni (C), 7-อ 140: — Octavio Bent (R) d Joe Panarese

(W), 5-2 145: — Chavez (R) md Henry, 10-0 152: — Mike Ferrara (S) d Al-Khalif Th-

ompson (We), 3-1 160: — Caleb Taylor (R) md Rob Granstrand (W), 12-4 171: — Connor Leahy (C) p James

Westfield Matmen Nip Monroe Matmen, 37-34

The Westfield High School wrestling team nipped Monroe, 37-34, on February 13 **BOUT SEQUENCE:**

103: — Mike Kalimtzis (W) p Trevor Santa Lucia, 1:18 112: — Jay Vignola (M) p Pat Surrie, 119: — Dan Marchese (M) p Anthony

Aldana, 5:02 125: — Troy Skibitsky (W) won forfeit 130: — Keith Peterson (W) p Jared Warren, 5:12 135: — Ryan Jennings (W) md Lucas

140: — Sam Emburgia (M) d Christian Barber, 1-0 145: — Brian Henry (W) d Mike Billitz, 8-

152: — David Saley (M) p Ross Work-

160: — Chris Tomasso (W) p Kyle Ball, - Hunter Pipala (M) d Bill Kim, 2-1 189: — Luke Gibbons (W) won forfeit

215: — Marc Tyson (M) md Tom Snyder, Hwt: - Morgan Klag (M) p Kyle Kania,

North Group 1, Section 2: **Quarterfinal Match:** Roselle Park 51, Madison 19

145: Christian Mazzocchi (M) d. Rich Weslock, 10-9 152: Russell Benner (R) p. Ryan Colwell, 160: Dennis Carroll (R) d. Anthony

Costa. 6-3 171: Ed Carr (M) p. Vic Pozsonyi, 5:10 189: Conor Gabriel (R) p. Matt Welter, 215: Frank Yuro (R) p. Tom Tracy, 1:42

285: Mike Boardman (M) p. Louis Medina, 2:25 103: John Devito (R) p. John Costa,

112: Patsy Davis (M) md. Giovanni Ramirez, 13-3 119: Brendan Leary (R) md. Colin Gooby, 11-1 125: Dan Pisauro (R) p. Max Gotsch, 0:36

130: Nick Longo (R) tf. Peter Willis, 15-135: Jón Acosta (R) d. Eamon Epstein, 140: Matt Krynicki (R) p. John McAuliffe,

North Group 1, Section 2: Semifinal Match: Paulsboro 37, Roselle Park 21 140 lbs: Matt Krynicki (R) d. Tyree Ellis,

145 lbs: Rich Weslock (R) d. Anthony

Dawson, 7-6. 152 lbs: Russell Benner (R) d. Bruce 160 lbs: Dennis Carroll (R) p. Tyler Burlingame, 3:31 171 lbs: Matt Cosgrove (P) d. Vic Pozsonyi, 8-5. 189 lbs: Jamar Bussey (P) d. Conor

Gabriel, 9-5 215 lbs: Zach Greenwald (P) tf. Frank Yuro, 25-10 (4:59) HWT: Nick Curl (P) p. Louis Medina,

103 lbs: Cody Croce (P) md. John Devito, 112 lbs: Mike Zold (P) d. Brendan Leary, 119 Ibs: Sean DiEmma (P) d. Dan

Pisauro, 7-2 125 lbs: Joe Duca (P) p. Giovanni Ramirez, 1:32 130 lbs: Dymere Rappa (P) md. Nick Longo, 13-5 135 lbs: Jon Acosta (R) p. Nick Knauer,

Caldwell (R), 4:17 189: — Adas Aniukstis (L) d Gabe

189: — Adas Alliursus (L) d Gabe Evangelista (R), 8-5 215: — Garcia (R) p Campo (C), 4:15 Hwt: — Brady (C) d Frank (L), 3-2 103: — Steve Rosario (E) d Kalimtzis 112: — Giaccio (C) d Skibitsky (W), 7-5

119: - Markovich (C) md Rochelle Hinton (R), 11-0

2008 TEAM TOTALS: 1. Scotch Plains-Fanwood (S) 195, 2. Cranford 156.5, 3. Rahway 155, 4. Westfield 141.5, 5. Elizabeth 69, 6. Linden (L) 40.5, 7. Newark Central (NC) 34,

8. Shabazz (MX) 21, 9. Weequahic (Wq) 8 2008 CHAMPIONSHIPS: 103: — Giaccio (C) p Shults (R), 3:04 112: — Markovitch (C) tf Roshelle Hinton (R), 21-4, 4:00 119: — Bundy (S) d DeFreitas (W), 7-5

- Barnes (W) tf DiGiovanni (C), 16-

1. 4:25 130: — Barber (W) d Ozcan (C), 5-1 135: — Sam Reichbach (W) d Dan Gore

140: — Bent (R) d Ferrara (S), 6-2 OT 145: — Mike Ridge (S) p Pryor (E), 4:42 152: — Trevor Cannon (S) p Shaffer (W), James Caldwell (R) p Yanis

160: — James Caldine. (1), F Uribe (E), 1:30 171: — Sebolao (S) p Negron (E), 4:33 189: — Jacobs (S) d Pyrus (R), 10-3 215: — Campo (C) d Jamaal McKinney,

Hwt: —Joe Blaes (S) d Joe Kania, 3-2 OT TB 2007 TEAM TOTALS: 1. Scotch Plains-Fanwood (S) 208, 2. Rahway (R) 135, 3. Cranford (C) 103.5, 4. Westfield (W) 91.5, 5. Elizabeth (E) 64, 6. Newark Central (N) 47, 7. Weequahic

(We) 28, 8. Linden (L), Shabazz (X) 24 2007 CHAMPIONSHIP BOUTS: 103: - Nate St. Elme (R) p Brian

Buontempo (C), :33 112: — Herrèra (R) d Bundy (S), 4-3 119: — Barnes (W) tf Hynes (C), 17-1,

125: — Gano (S) p Minaya (R), 2:54 130: — MacKay (W) d Ferrara (S), 7-2 135: — Olsson (S) p Bent (R), 2:51 - Dennis (C) p Ridge (Ś), 1:49 145: — Mineo (S) p Carbajal (R), 3:56 152: — Cannon (S) d Castrorao (W), 7-

160: — Boyd (W) p DeNichilo (S), 5:34 171: — Cook (C) d Bachi (S), 7-5 189: — McLean (N) d Jacobs (S), 7-5 215: — Rich Tabor (E) d Manzini (R), 8-

Hwt: — Blaes (S) p Hunt (R), 3:12 Full stories of the past three or

more years of the District 11 Tournament can be found in The Westfield Leader archives - www.goleader.com

W. H. Warriors Beat Raider Matmen, 42-18

The Watchung Hills High School wrestling team defeated Scotch Plains-Fanwood, 42-18, during a quad meet at Watchung Hills High School on February 13.

BOUT SEQUENCE: Parth Patel (W) p Lucas Cimafonte, 1:05 112: — Anthony DaRosa (W) p Matt McDuffie. :31 119: — Matt Coppola (W) p Devin Ausbon, :52 125: - Tristan Bundy (S) d Mike Carroccia, 7-1 130: — Mike DeVito (W) d Sean Cannon,

135: - Matt Mandel (W) d Jawan Gaines, 140: — Mike Steinfeld (S) d Kyle Murray,

145: — Chris Gardner (W) d Josh Foote, 152: — Greg Kaye (W) d Luke Vuono, 5-4 160: — Alex Fornelos (W) p Jon Devia,

171: - Mickey Gall (W) d Brian Laspe, 189: — Alex Daboub (S) won forfeit 215: — Dom Urso (W) d Andrew Jacobs,

Hwt: — Anthony Tufaro (S) p Frank Smith, 3:53

Governor Livingston 54, Morristown 12 WEIGHT SEQUENCE:

- Jon Mele (G) d Frank Crippe, 2-1 112: — Anthony Défranco (G) p Myles Mislafsky, 1:55 119: — Ryan Morrison (G) p Matt Will-

125: — Chris Forte (M) won forfeit 130: — Mike Dtepien (G) p Sam Bensley,

135: — Joe Hoy d Desmond Towns, 9-2 140: — Aaron Valasquez (M) d Victor

145: — Pat Eichner (G) won forfeit 152: — Brian Sobol (G) p Darren Prado, 160: — Pat Murphy (M) d Rich Quandt, 3-2 171: — Zach Heissler (G) p Ryan Flynn,

189: - Frank Colder (G) d Darren Dungee, 4-2 — Matt O'Sullivan (G) p Xavier Rivera, 1:42 Hwt: — Anthony Manganiello (G) d Doug



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~Michael Scott, Branch Manager

OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST 1-4 PM



426 Union Avenue, Scotch Plains

\$729,900

Quality built & beautifully appointed 4 Bdrm, 2 ½ Bath Colonial features a Foyer leading to Living Rm. & Formal Dining Rm.; Eat-In Kitchen w/center island, stainless steel appliances & granite counters open to Family Rm. w/fireplace & sliders to patio. MBR suite w/W-I closets & full bath; 2nd floor laundry rm. Nice moldings & hdwd flooring thru out.



175 North Cottage Place, Westfield \$635,000

Spread out in this spacious 8 room, 4 Bedroom, 4 Bath Colonial with open floorplan & major addition/renovation in 1999. Featuring a Living Room with fireplace; Formal Dining Room; Eat-In Kitchen; large Master Suite includes a sitting area, full bath and walk in closet. A finished basement & 1 car attached garage completes this home. Conveniently located to Jefferson Elementary School!



873 Fairacres Avenue, Westfield

\$929,000

Spacious 4 Bedroom 2 ½ Bath Center Hall Colonial with numerous updates featuring a Foyer flanked by formal Living and Dining Rooms; Eat In Kitchen with access to Mud/Laundry Room; first floor Family Room w/fireplace; nice sized Bedrooms including a Master Suite with full bath. Large basement and 2 car Garage for storage. Nicely landscaped yard with hot tub.



OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST 1-4 PM



13 Burrington Gorge, Westfield

\$899,900

Sophisticated 5 BR, 3. 1 Bath home is elegantly appointed thru out. Spacious floor plan features a Foyer leading to a gracious FDR; sunken Liv Rm w/gas fplc; 1st floor Fam Rm w/fplc; EIK w/ss appliances open to glass enclosed solarium. The MBR Suite includes a sitting area, excellent closet space & bath. The LL offers a Bdrm/Office & a Rec Rm. Many updates!



1914 Grandview Avenue, Westfield

\$699,900

Newly constructed front porch Colonial with open floor plan including a Living Room; Formal Dining Room; gourmet EIK w/granite counters, center island and spacious pantry, open to Family Room w/fireplace. The second floor offers 4 Bedrooms including Master Bedroom. The finished basement with full bath completes this very comfortable home. Great opportunity to own new in Westfield!



11 Karen Terrace, Westfield

\$999,900

New Mahoney built Colonial nestled on a cul-de-sac in the Wilson School district, offering a spacious floor plan w/beautiful hdwd throughout. Foyer leading to LR; FDR, EIK, w/granite counters opening to FR w/fplc; powder rm & mud rm complete the 1st flr. The 2nd flr boasts 4 Bdrms including a large MBR w/full bath & walk-in-closet. Attached 2 car garage completes this amazing residence. Don't miss out – come see!

OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST 1-4 PM



1163 Lawrence Avenue, Westfield

\$1,575,000

This stunning, custom 6 BR, 4.1 bath CH Col features a grand Foyer w/magnificent staircase; LR/Library w/built-in's & fplc; FDR; gourmet EIK w/professional grade appliances, sitting area & fplc; sunken FR w/soaring cathedral ceilings & fplc; 1st flr MBR w/access to conservatory; plus a 1st flr guest wing & Laundry. Nestled on a .77 acre lot on a private lane w/3 car garage, deck, patio & more!



642 Glen Avenue, Westfield

\$699,900

Nestled on a nice lot with private fenced rear yard, this immaculate 4 Bedroom 2 ½ bath Colonial with beautiful hardwood floors features a Formal Living and Dining Room, Eat-in-Kitchen with granite countertops, and Den/Office. The second floor offers 4 Bedrooms, including Master Bedroom w/ full bath. A nicely updated Recreation Room in the basement adds to this move in condition home!



705 Lenape Trail, Westfield

\$1,699,900

Stately 11 room, 4 BR, 3.2 Bath Colonial on .7 acre with gracious entertaining rooms, including a grand 30' LR, Family Room w/gallery of windows; EIK w/granite island, Sunroom leading to private rear deck, wood-paneled Library, 4 fireplaces, finished Basement. Located amongst towering oaks, that is a trademark of this desirable Indian Forest location, this home is situated near top-ranked Westfield schools.

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RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE







HOW SWEET THE SOUND...To begin the celebration of Black History Month, Franklin students recently enjoyed a powerful performance by award-winning storytellers Rochel Coleman and Valerie Tutson. Amazing Grace told the story of Martin Luther King, Jr. and brought history to life with portrayals of civil rights activists such as Rosa Parks, Joe McNeil and Andy Young. Pictured on the Franklin stage is Rochel Coleman, who also spoke with students after the show.

County Teen Arts Exhibit On Display Through March 12

UNION – The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders announced that the 2009 Teen Arts Traveling Exhibit is on display at the Les Malamut Art Gallery in the Township of Union through March 12.

The exhibit consists of 55 pieces of art selected from more than 600 visual art works shown at the 2009 Union County Teen Arts Festival held in March at Union County College in Cranford. The annual event is administered by the Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs in the Department of Parks & Community Renewal.

The exhibiting students include: Berkeley Heights' Governor Livingston High School's Linda Hu and Columbia Middle School's Kat Tischenko; Mountainside's Deerfield School's Isabelle Perrin; Scotch Plains' Union County Vo-Tech's Veronica Tolentino. Emily Aschenbach and Brian Fischer, as well as Hillcrest Academy's Louis Rodriquez and Westfield's Lamberts Mill Academy's Gabby Aragona and Edison Intermediate School's Julia

"The artwork submitted by the students is exceptional," said Freeholder Chairman Daniel Sullivan. "I encourage everyone to get out and see this impressive exhibit as it travels throughout Union County."

The Les Malamut Art Gallery is located on the lower level of the Union Public Library at 1980 Morris Avenue. The gallery is handicapped accessible, free and open to the public during regular library hours. For further information, call (908) 851-5450 or visit lesmalamutartgallery.web.officelive.com

For information about the Teen Arts program, call (908) 558-2550. NJ Relay service users should call 711 or email culturalinfo@ucnj.org.

Kelly Frazee Makes Muhlenberg Dean's List

SCOTCH PLAINS - Muhlenberg College has announced its dean's list for the fall 2009 semester. Students must earn a minimum of a 3.5 grade point average (4.0-scale) to attain dean's-list status.

Honoree Kelly Frazee, a member of the class of 2011, is a history major from Scotch Plains. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Frazee and a graduate of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School.

Recent Home Sales

\$350,000. Westfield: Scott and Noreen P. Singer to Jason

D. and Robin S. Ehrick, 536 Forest Ave, \$645,000. Augustine A. and Doreen

DiGiacomo to Javier M. Perez and Dana M. Brodow Perez, 585 Highland Avenue, \$1,585,000.

Cynthia L. Foulke to Carlos R. and Anne P. Lundt, 334 Dudley Avenue, East, \$830,000

Robert Gilmore and Rosalyn Alexander to Michael and Karen Mueller, 721 Belvidere Avenue,

Peter and Amy Anderson to Michael and Angela Kurze, 531 Wychwood Road, \$1,250,000.

Guardian Square Assocuates, LLC to Evan and Amanda Rosen, 885 East Broad Street, \$1,465,000.

John M. and Joanne C. Hone to Thomas W. and Stacey Shepherd, 440

Topping Hill Road, \$932,500. Mark D. Hines and Marianne Rose to David Del Vecchio and Jennifer

Bogush, 445 Topping Hill Road, \$1,350,000. Richard and Susan Bennet to Jacob and Lisa Muchow, 625 Drake Place,

\$519,000. Steven R. and Kara L. Samet to Leeann Louise Angel, 511 Hort Street,

Raymond J. and Dorothy A. Novak to Jeffrey M. Ortelli and Stephanie R. Mahon, 434 Codding Road, \$445,000. Susan J. Turkheimer to Lori Cieckiewicz, 532 Edgar Road,

John R. Hillard and Stephanie A. Smith to Andrew and Heather A. Stillufsen, 667 Fourth Avenue,

Jonathan D. and Cynthia Root to Todd and Marlene Belis, 824 Coolidge Street, \$590,000.

Brian P. Murphy and Michelle Belardi Murphy to Clifford W. and Annette N. Ross, 600 Salter Place, \$525,900.

Michael and Karen Mueller to Blake and Kristen Sonnek-Schmelz, 738 Castleman Drive, \$730,000.

Fred L. and Christina Healy to Jeffrey and Jessica Lasota, 744 St. Marks Avenue, \$600,000. Jean Feng to Guanghui Hu and

Shuguang Wang, 52 Manitou Circle, \$540,000 Nayan and Grace Kothari to Anita K. Walsh, 754 Carleton Road,

Ronald R. and Julie Kropp to David B. and Carly R. Edelson, 642 Summit Avenue, \$675,000.

Marianne Williams to Michael S. Greene, 844 Carleton Road, 410,000. Werner and Lois Glass to Steven R. and Kara L. Samet, 913 Boulevard,

Stephen Johnson and Leslie Quinn Johnson to Daniel Arzewski and Cheryl Margulis, 164 Landsdowne Avenue, \$646,500.

David M. and Katherine D. Brown to Justin C. and Nancy N. Maurer, 958 Prospect Street, \$1,675,000. Kurtis E. and Sarah A. Conrad to

Thomas A. Chiodo and Denise Rizzolo, 310 Woods End Avenue, \$750,000

Albert J. Shaffer and Jocelyne Holden to Michael and Maria Wyse, 633 North Chestnut Street, \$685,000. Martha C. Vendetti to Linda Reddy

and Donna Adamoli, 521 Sherwood

Parkway, \$930,000. Dorset Hill Four, LLC to John T. and Andrea J. Delmauro, 4 Dorset Hill Road, \$1,787,500.

Joseph Penyak to Ralph Prunty, 121 Cacciola Place, \$150,000.

Daniel P. and Lee Ann Verderese to Henry V. Stout and Margaret E. McCann, 785 Hyslip Avenue,

Edward F. Laczynski and Kathleen D. Collins to Kevin and Brook McGeehan, 906 Summit Avenue, \$669,000.

James C. and Patricia Heimlich to David N. and Dawn M. Perry, 235 Massachusetts Street, \$600,000.

SP Resident Earns Dean's List Honors

SCOTCH PLAINS - Scotch Plains resident Brian Flood was among a select group of students to be recognized recently with deans' list honors at Bloomfield College for the fall 2009 semester. Brian, a June 2009 graduate of Scotch Plains Fanwood High School, is a freshman majoring in Creative Arts and Technology at the Bloomfield College campus in Bloomfield.

Brian is interested in pursuing a career in animation. Commercial animation is a diverse field with work available in various fields including: television, the Internet, feature films, industrial video, product design, architecture, judicial system, and interior design to name a few.

WF Student Makes Seton Hall Dean's List

WESTFIELD – Jarret Przybylski, a finance major from Westfield, earned a place on the dean's list as a Stillman School of Business student at Seton Hall University for the fall 2009 semester.



OLE!... The Wardlaw-Hartridge School in Edison celebrated the Spanish, French, Latin, Italian, and Chinese languages during World Language Week, February 1 - 8. The school's foreign language teachers and students entertained and educated the school community with PowerPoint presentations, performances and videos. Pictured above, Liban Ahmed of Scotch Plains, a sophomore, performs a song while classmate Devin Batts and Jonathan Belfer, a freshman from Scotch Plains, perform a Mexican dance.

F-SP Service League Reveals **Upcoming Thrift Shop Sales**

SCOTCH PLAINS - During the last two weeks of February and the first week of March, the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League Thrift Shop will hold its semi-annual halfprice and bag sale days. For two weeks everything in the shop will be half price. The shop is located at 1730 East Second Street in Scotch Plains.

The sale will include all clothing, shoes, purses, household items, artwork, linens, toys and books. Bag sales will begin on Saturday, February 27, and continue until Saturday, March 6. Supermarket-sized shopping bags will be provided to customers when they enter the store, which they may fill completely for \$5 per bag. Customers may fill as many bags as they

wish. Items that do not fit in the bag may be purchased for half price.

This will be the thrift shop's endof-the-winter season event prior to being stocked with spring merchandise. The spring opening will take place on Tuesday, March 9, at 10 a.m.

The store's operating hours are 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Individuals may call the shop at (908) 322-5420 when open for more information or directions.

Through the efforts of the volunteers who manage the store, \$32,000 was donated back into the local communities in 2009. Patrons may view a list of the recipients at the shop upon request.

Mountainside Student Makes 'Who's Who'

MOUNTAINSIDE - A senior at Davidson College, Linnea Buttermore has been inducted into the Who's Who national honors program. She is the daughter of Glenn Buttermore and Christina McCrea, and is a 2006 graduate of Governor Livingston High School in Berkeley Heights.

"Who's Who" is one of the most highly regarded and longstanding honors programs in the nation. Selections to "Who's Who" are made each fall by individual schools by nominating committees composed of representatives from the faculty, admin-

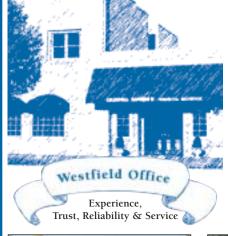
istration and student body. Nominees are selected based on

their achievements in academic work, participation and leadership in college and extracurricular activities and perception of future leadership abil-Linnea is a sociology major. She

holds a Van Dellen Scholarship and has been named the 2008 Rising Leader of the Year and the 2009 Patterson Court Woman of the Year. She is a member of the Order of

Omega Honor Society, the varsity women's swimming and diving team and Warner Hall eating house.

She has been involved with dance ensemble and serves as the senior class gift chair.



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young, 3800 sq. ft. extensive

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molding, SS kitchen

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WESTFIELD \$889,000 5 years young, 4BR, 2.1bth CH Col w/9' ceilings. Hrdwd flrs thruout, custom kit w/granite & center island, Viking appls.



WESTFIELD

\$789,000 WESTFIELD 4BR, 2.5bth Col, FR w/brick fpl,huge kit, fin New 5BR, 2.5bth Colonial cor osmt, wet bar, CAC, new roof & windows & park. EIK opens to FR w/fpl, MBR suite & 3rd MLS 2740071



WESTFIELD FANWOOD \$439,900 \$349,000 Custom built brick Ranch, excellent condition Move-in condition, close to schools & park Open LR & DR, EIK, 3 or 4BRs, FR to patio quiet street, close to town/schools/NYC train hrdwd floors & CAC. MLS 2743932



wall fpl, FR & EIK

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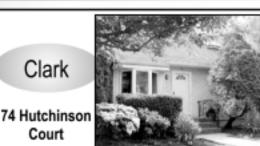
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"LAST CALL" Homebuyers Seminar



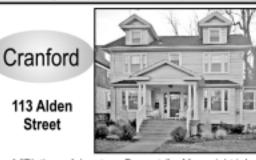
If you are in the market for a new home, you still have time to take advantage of the extended

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SPFHS Announces Bloustein Scholars

SCOTCH PLAINS - Twentyeight Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School students have been recognized as Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars.

The Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESAA), an independent agency of the State of New Jersey, administers the Garden State Scholarship Program, which includes the Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar and Urban Scholar awards.

More than 7,000 students statewide receive scholarships in recognition of their high level of academic achievement each year. Students may use these awards to continue their education at New Jersey institutions of higher edu-

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Westfield, Northside - Lovely 2 BR Townhouse close to town and trans. Includes Garage, CAC, DW, W/D, Hardwood Firs. \$1700 per month. NO FEE. Call (908) 568-1217

NANNY WANTED

Seeking experienced nanny for kids 5,7&9. Must have valid NJ driver's license, clean record, own car. Will attend to all of kids' needs (driving,cooking,shopping, etc). 40-50+ hrs/wk. Must have strong references. Call (917) 854-3796.







827 Grandview Avenue, Westfield

Come in from the cold and see this beautiful 9 year young Colonial home in the heart of Westfield. If you love to entertain, this is the home for you. The open floor plan on the first floor leads to a deck that overlooks the impeccably landscaped vard. Enjoy time with the family in the custom country kitchen or relaxing in front of the fireplace in the family room. Upstairs are four bedrooms and two full baths, all with plenty of closet space. Just minutes from downtown and NYC transportation! Offered at \$699,000



436 South Avenue, Westfield (908) 654-6666

www.century21taylorlove.com



401 Tremont Avenue, Westfield

Elegant and beautifully appointed Dutch Colonial Home. Wonderful exposed brick detail, hardwood floors and crown molding. Gracious living room with fireplace adjacent to light filled sun room. Formal dining room and custom kitchen with granite counters. Cozy family room allows access to the sprawling backyard and stone patio. Spacious master bedroom with dressing area. All the charm of vesterday with all the amenities of today's living. Close to charming downtown Westfield and train to Manhattan. Move right into this special home! Offered at \$799,000



Roger Love, Broker /Owner Jennifer Love, Broker /Manager



140 Helen Street, Fanwood

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emplifies a student who is thriving

and working diligently to develop to

the best of his abilities. Tanner is the

son of Mitch and Heidi Bell of Edison.

awards, The Arc's Candlelight Ball is

an opportunity for individuals, fami-

lies and the community to come to-

gether to support and celebrate the

successes of all individuals with dis-

abilities. The Ball will feature cock-

tails, fine dining, a silent auction,

music and dancing. Tickets are avail-

able for purchase online at

arcunioncandlelight2010.eventbrite.com/

vestors Savings Bank, Trinitas Re-

gional Medical Center and Principle

Advisors. Limited other sponsorships

are still available, while monetary

and/or auction item donations are also

welcome. For more information, call

Natalie Krauser McCarthy at (973)

315-0020. Online donations to The

Arc may be made via the above

Founded in 1949, The Arc of Union

County is a nonprofit organization

that serves more than 1,000 children

and adults with developmental dis-

abilities and their families. In New

Jersey, The Arc provides an array of

programs and services enabling indi-

viduals with disabilities and their

families to realize full, productive

For more information about The

Arc or to volunteer, call Debbie Dreher

Eventbrite address.

and enhanced lives.

at (973) 315-0060.

Sponsors this year will include In-

In addition to presentation of the

The Arc to Present Honors

During Candlelight Ball

MOUNTAINSIDE - The Arc of

Union County will recognize three

individuals and one local business for

their accomplishments and contribu-

tions to the community at The Arc's

The honorees will receive their

awards at the ball, to be held on Sat-

urday, April 17, beginning at 6 p.m. at

L'Affaire in Mountainside. This will

mark the The Arc's 46th such

John Nietzel, senior vice president

at Investors Savings Bank and the

2010 Ball chairman, has revealed the

Lapp USA will receive the Com-

munity Corporate Champion Award,

which recognizes a meaningful and ongoing partnership providing all

Beverly Rivkees will be presented

with the Betty McGhee Spirit of The

Arc Award, which recognizes a vol-

unteer who serves with dedication.

enthusiasm and tireless commitment

to improve the quality of life of per-

sons with developmental disabilities.

Florence M. Levine Achievement

Award, which recognizes an indi-

vidual who has shown personal and

social growth while living and work-

ing within the Union County Arc com-

Finally, Tanner Bell will serve as

the ball's Ambassador of Goodwill.

Tanner attends The Arc's Kohler

School in Mountainside, and he ex-

SCOTCH PLAINS - The Willow

Shelter Boxes are 49-gallon boxes

that contain a tent that will shelter 10

members of an extended family, plus

other essentials like water-purification

tablets, a cook stove, bedding, mos-

quito nets and children's school sup-

ethnic specialties, including Italian,

Danish, German, Irish, Greek, Korean,

Scottish, English, West Indian and Pol-

ish fare. Complementing the cuisine

will be a performance by the Chinese

American Music Ensemble (CAME)

Adult/Chamber Chorus, Young

People's Chorus and Children's Cho-

rus, as well as the Music from China

Youth Orchestra. Both groups hold their

weekly rehearsals at the Willow Grove

are in need is central to our faith, so

each year we raise money for organiza-

"Helping neighbors near and far who

The dinner will feature an array of

earthquake victims there.

Gary Johnson will be given the

names of the award recipients:

aspects of support to The Arc.

2010 Candlelight Ball.

celebratory event.

Updated Book Is Available On Mountainside History

MOUNTAINSIDE

MOUNTAINSIDE The Mountainside Historic Preservation Committee has announced that an up-

dated history of the borough, entitled "The History of Mountainside 1945-2007 – It Was Only Yesterday," is ready for sale.

In this new book, published by The History Press of Charleston, S.C., author and Mountainside resident Connie McNamara shares her fellow residents' recollections of such pivotal events as

the 1987 tornado, the 1995 centennial celebration and the day in 1985 when the historic Hetfield House was moved down Route 22

Those interested in pre-ordering copies may do so for \$17.99 each until Monday, March 1. There is a threecopy limit at the pre-order price. Checks should be made payable to: Mountainside Restoration Committee and mailed to: Mountainside Historic

Holy Trinity Offers All You Can Read

MOUNTAINSIDE - Holy Trinity Interparochial School will hold its annual Scholastic Book Fair. The theme for this year's book fair is "The Book Fair Diner: All You Can Read!"

Books will be available for all ages, including adults. All sales will contribute to expanding the library and, perhaps, earning a "Smartboard."

The book fair takes place on the following dates: Saturday, February 20, after 5 p.m. Mass; Sunday, February 21, after 9:30 a.m. Mass; Monday, February 22, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and Tuesday, February 23, from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

The book fair will be held in Pollard Hall, located in Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church at 304 Central Avenue in Mountainside.

SOUTH ORANGE - This May,

the Walsh Gallery at Seton Hall

University will host a solo exhibi-

tion of new work by artist Wahala

Temi. The show, which is curated

by Jeanne Brasile, will feature Ms.

Zamarelli Named to

Emory's Dean's List

of Westfield, daughter of Joseph

Zamarelli and Maria Curatolo, was

named to the dean's list of Emory

College, the undergraduate, liberal arts

college of Emory University in At-

lanta, Ga., for the 2009 fall semester.

percent of Emory College or have

approximately a 3.850 grade point

average or higher to be named to the

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF WESTFIELD

INVITATION TO BID

Town of Westfield in the Council Cham-

bers at the Municipal Building, 425 East

Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey, at

10:00 AM prevailing time on March 16.

2010, for the "2010 IMPROVEMENT OF

KNOLLWOOD TERRACE and BOULE-

VARD. IN THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD.

the furnishing of all labor, materials and

equipment necessary to complete the work

as shown on the Contract Drawings and

such Drawings and Specifications and the

The major items of work under this con-

385 tons of 4 inch thick Superpave Hot

730 tons of 2 inch thick Superpave Hot

4,735 square yards of Milling, 2 inch

285 cubic yards of roadway excavation,

2.070 linear feet of granite block curbing

All bidders must submit with their bid

a copy of their New Jersey Business

Registration Certificate. Failure to sub-

mit proof of registration will disqualify

Proposals shall be in writing on the forms

furnished and must be delivered at the

place and before the hour above men-

tioned, and must be accompanied by a

certified check or bid bond payable to the

Town of Westfield in an amount equal to at

least ten percent (10%) of the base amount

of the bid, but not less than \$500.00 nor

more than \$20,000.00. (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-

21) Each bid must also be accompanied

by a Surety Company Certificate stating

that said Surety company will provide the

bidder with the required Performance bond

in the full amount of the Contract (N.J.S.A.

40A:11-22), by a Non-Collusion Affidavit

and a Contractor's Qualification Statement.

Statement of Ownership, on the forms included in and explained in the contract

Bidders are required to comply with the

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

and N.J.A.C. 17:27 and must pay work-

men the prevailing wage rates promul-

gated by the New Jersey State Depart-

ment of Labor and Industry for this project

copies of which are on file in the Office of

procured at the office of the Town Engi-

neer, Public Works Center, 959 North

Avenue West, Westfield, New Jersey, The

non-refundable cost of contract documents is (\$25.00) made payable to the Town of

Westfield, which must be paid in cash or

certified check. The Mayor and Council

reserve the right to reject any bid, and to

waive any informality in any bid, if in the

interest of the Town, it is deemed advis-

1 T - 2/18/10, The Leader Fee: \$64.26

Kris J. McAloon

Town Engineer

Plans and specifications may be seen or

the Town engineer.

tract include, but are not limited to, the

terms proposed in the Contract.

following in estimated quantities:

Mix Asphalt Base Course

thickness

unclassified

Mix Asphalt Surface Course

described in the Contract Specifications and Proposals shall be in accordance with

The work under this Proposal includes

Sealed proposals will be received by the

dean's list.

Students must be in the top 20

WESTFIELD—Danielle Zamarelli

Seton Hall Gallery Hosts

Exhibit on African Women

Preservation Committee, Borough of Mountainside, 1385 U.S. Hwy 22, West, Mountainside, N.J. 07092.

Orders must be postmarked no later than March to qualify for the pre-order price. Pre-ordered books may be picked up at an author book signing planned for Saturday, March 13, from 2 to 3 p.m. at the Mountainside Public Library on Constitution Plaza or at the adjacent Hetfield House on Sunday, March 21, from 1 to 3 p.m.

Regular sales of the book from the Mountainside Historic Preservation Committee and through selected retail outlets will follow at the price of \$19.99. For further information, call (908) 789-

Scotch Plains Residents Earn Honor Roll Status

EDISON - Rhona Eserner, Upper School Head at The Wardlaw-Hartridge School in Edison, has announced that four Scotch Plains students were named to the Honor Roll, and three were named to the Honor Roll with Distinction.

High Honor Roll students include: Billy Buchbinder (a sophomore), Brian Downing (a sophomore and the son of Mr. Jeffrey and Mrs. Julia Downing) and Katie Buchbinder (a freshman). Billy and Katie are the son and daughter of Dr. Howard Buchbinder and Dr. Mary Flanagan.

Honor Roll students include: Catherine Badalamenti (a sophomore and the daughter of Mr. Salvatore and Mrs. Jean Badalamenti); Jessica Clarke (a sophomore and the daughter of Mr. Michael Clarke and Reverend Sheelagh Clarke); David Monte (a sophomore and the son of Mr. Ralph and Mrs. Barbara Monte); and Haley Needle (a freshman and the daughter of Mr. Steven and Mrs. Erica Needle).



B-I-N-G-O...Everyone was a winner during Family Game Night at Wilson Elementary School in Westfield. The gym was packed with students and their families, enjoying snacks, refreshments and lively games of BINGO.

Volunteers Needed for Teen Arts Festival, March 18-19

COUNTY - The Union County Teen Arts Festival provides an opportunity for volunteers to get involved.

The Union County Teen Arts Festival, sponsored by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs in the Department of Parks and Community Renewal, is a two-day celebration of the arts held annually at Union County College in Cranford.

The event, scheduled for March 18 and 19, is open to all students from public, private and parochial middle and high schools in Union County.

"Nearly 3,000 students participate in performances, critiquing seminars, master classes and workshops with a staff of 50 professional artists in every discipline - visual art, music, creative writing, theater and dance," said Freeholder Chairman Daniel

"Volunteers are needed to assist artists with workshops, manage performance sites and staff information stations. We appreciate the invaluable assistance of our county residents with this exciting program," he

Those interested in any of these activities should contact the Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs at 633 Pearl Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07202 or call (908) 558-2550; relay users can call (800) 852-7899 e-mail culturalinfo@ucnj.org.

United Way's AALC To Host Fundraising Event

ELIZABETH - United Way of Greater Union County's African American Leadership Committee will host its signature event: "Making a Mark" on Friday, February 26, at The Burney Manor, located at 1127 Watchung Avenue in Plainfield. The event will celebrate the achievements, leadership and contributions of African-Americans in the community. Advance tickets are \$50 and can be purchased online

brownpapertickets.com/event/95854. Attendees will enjoy an evening of cocktails and networking. On sale will be art by featured artist and Plainfield native, Indira Bailey. Guests will also have the opportunity to participate in a silent auction.

The African American Leadership

bilize the caring power of the African-American community to improve African-American lives in Union County. The purpose of the event is to enhance awareness of AALI and gather community-minded individuals with the hopes of inspiring them to join the effort towards addressing community needs by becoming mem-

Proceeds from "Making a Mark" will be used towards programs and initiatives that advance the well being of African-Americans in Union County. Gold Sponsor for the evening will be AGL/ Elizabethtown Gas.

For questions or more information, contact Debbie-Ann Anderson at (908) 353-7171, extension no. 106. or debbieann.anderson@uwguc.org, or go online at uwguc.org/makingamark.

Initiative's (AALI) mission is to mo-**Registration Now Available For Spring Riding Lessons**

MOUNTAINSIDE - Area residents are invited to register for spring horseback riding lessons at Union County's Watchung Stable. Registration is underway and will continue until classes are full.

"Horseback riding in the Watchung Reservation is a real treat," said Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski, liaison to the Union County Department of Parks and Community Renewal.

"Our lesson program at Watchung Stable is a great way to learn how to ride," she added. "The riding program has been in existence since 1935, and I am proud to say that more than 40,000 girls and boys have participated in this wonderful activ-

All applicants for riding lessons must be age 9 or older. Class and troop assignments are based upon riding ability as determined by the Stable management. Applicants with previous experience may be asked to demonstrate their riding ability in order to be placed in the appropriate

Classes will be held Tuesdays through Saturdays. The Spring Troop program will last for 10 weeks, beginning on Friday, March 19, and will culminate with the Spring Troop Horse Show.

Watchung Stable also will offer adult lessons, for people age 18 and older, beginning the week of Sunday, March 21. Classes for adults are available on Sundays at 12:45 p.m. and on Tuesdays at 10 a.m.

The cost to participate begins at \$210 for 10 classes, and varies with Union County residency status and troop assignment. Uniforms and helmets are required and must be provided at the rider's expense. Forms, fees and proof of age for new riders must be submitted in person at the Watchung Stable, located at 1160 Summit Lane in Mountainside. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

For further information and to obtain registration materials, call (908) 789-3665 e-mail or stablequestions@ucnj.org.

WF's Garfinkel Makes **Dean's List at Duke**

WESTFIELD-Amanda Garfinkel, a freshman at the Trinity College of Arts and Sciences at Duke University, received word that she has made the Dean's List with Distinction for the fall semester.

Trinity College recognizes students who, in a program of four or more course credits, have placed in the highest 10 percent of its undergraduates for that semester.

The Westfield resident graduated Westfield High School in 2009.

International Dinner to Help Local Needy and Haiti Relief tions that provide basic needs of food, shelter and disaster relief," said the

Grove Presbyterian Church will hold its International Dinner on Saturday, Reverend Cynthia Cochran-Carney, March 6, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the church. pastor of the Willow Grove Church. Of the money raised, 25 percent will be Admission will be \$12 for adults and donated to the Scotch Plains Food Bank, teens, \$6 for children ages 6 to 12, and while the remainder will be used to free for children age 5 and under. There send Shelter Boxes to Haiti for the will be a family maximum cost of \$35.

Seating is limited. Interested persons are encouraged to purchase tickets in advance, if possible, by Monday, March 1. To arrange for purchase of tickets, call the church office at (908) 232-5678, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Depending on advance sales, there may or may

not be tickets available at the door. Those unable to attend but who would like to make a donation are asked to call August Ruggiero at (908) 889-5948 or Paul DiDario at (908) 769-5742.

The Willow Grove Presbyterian Church is located at 1961 Raritan Road in Scotch Plains, opposite the Scotch Plains Southside Firehouse and near the corner of South Martine Avenue. All church facilities are handicap-accessible. For more information about Willow Grove Church, call (908) 232 5678,

info@willowgrovechurch.orgoraccess willowgrovechurch.org.

Register for Winter Sessions at NJ Workshop

WESTFIELD – The New Jersey Workshop for the Arts (NJWA), located at 150-152 East Broad Street in Westfield, offers a variety of programs to assist students of all ages.

At the Music Studio, a staff of more than 30 professional music educators teaches vocal and instrumental music lessons, for both children and adults. Private instruction is given daily at in a 30-,45-or60-minute format. The Music Studio includes lessons in voice, strings, guitar, woodwinds, brass, percussion and piano.

Children ages 4 and older can learn the fundamentals of playing the piano in a group program called Kids on Keys. This unique class uses Musique Rapide, an easy-to-understand system that provides students with a take-home kit that includes a keyboard and game board.

The NJWA Music Studio also offers other group lessons for the young musician. Group Guitar and Young Voices are specifically designed for children ages 5 to 7.

Kids 'n' Arts, an art, music and theater craft experience for children ages 3 to 5, will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. or 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. In this 15-week drop-off course, children create arts and crafts, explore music and express themselves through acting, theater games, creative movement, puppetry and pantomime.

In addition to its instructional courses, art gallery, music store and outreach programs, The Music Studio also offers many opportunities for area musicians to play in its performing ensembles, bands and orchestras. Among these are the NJWA Concert Band, the Training Chamber Orchestra, the Rockin' Jazz Band, Simply Strings, the International/American Alphorn Society Ensemble, the Bravura Quintet, the Chamber Orchestra and the NJWA Summer Symphony.

For information or brochures on anv program of the NJWA, call (908) 789log on or njworkshopforthearts.com.

Coffey of Cranford Named to Dean's List

CRANFORD — Catrina Coffey of Cranford, a Music Education major, has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2009 semester at the Westminster College of Arts of Rider

University. **PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE**

FEDERAL STIMULUS PROJECT FUNDED BY ARRA NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT, BUREAU OF CONSTRUCTION SERVICES 1035 PARKWAY AVENUE, PO BOX 605 **TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625**

Notice is hereby given that bid proposals will be received via the Internet until 10:00:59 A.M. on 3/9/10, downloaded, and publicly opened and read, from Bidders classified under N.J.S.A. 27:7-35.1 et seq.; in the CONFERENCE ROOM-A, 1st Floor F & A Building, New Jersey Department of Transportation, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Trenton, New Jersey 08625; for:

Route 22 Liberty Ave & Conrail Bridge, From East to Bloy St to West of Harding Terrace, Contract No. 057009080, Bridge Replacement, Paving, Grading and Drainage, Hillside Township, Union County

Federal Project No: FS-0040(168) UPC NO: 009080, DP No: 09154 This is American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (AARA) Funded Project Subject to Legislative Approval.

Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127 N.J.A.C 17:27. For Federal projects, Bidders must register with both the New Jersey Department of Treasury, Division of Revenue pursuant to N.J.S.A 52:32-44 AND the "Public Works" Contractor Registration Act", N.J.S.A. 34:11-56.48 et seq. (P.L.2003, c. 91) prior to contract execution. Appropriate proof of these registrations should be provided to NJDOT as soon as possible.

The Department, in accordance with Title VI Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252 U.S.C., 49 C.F.R., Parts 21 and 23 issued pursuant to such Act, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 will afford minority business enterprises full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not discriminate against any bidder on the grounds of race, color, sex, national origin, or handicap in the project award.

Plans, specifications, and bidding information for the proposed work are available at Bid Express website www.bidx.com. You must subscribe to use this service. To subscribe follow the instructions on the website. Fees apply to downloading documents and plans and bidding access. The fee schedule is available on the web site. All fees are directly payable to Bid Express. Plans, specifications, and bidding information may be inspected (BUT NOT OBTAINED) by contracting organizations at our Design Field Offices at the following locations:

200 Stierli Court Route 79 and Daniels Way 1 Executive Campus Rt 70W Mt Arlington N.I. Freehold, NJ Cherry Hill, NJ 973-770-5141 732-308-4025 3 T - 2/11/10, 2/18/10 and 2/25/10, The Leader Fee: \$189.72

Temi's current body of work in various media, including painting, sculpture and installation.

Ms. Temi's current artistic output is an expression of her experiences of having lived in both Brooklyn and Lagos, Nigeria during her formative years. The results are a body of work that critiques contemporary life in the West and elsewhere, touching upon themes of abuse, power, beauty, control/submission and pain/sacrifice

of African women in particular. Ms. Brasile said of the wor "Both artist and art act as catalyzing agents for dialogues about cultural practices, consumerism, technology, mechanization and

body image. The "Body Work" exhibition is a two-part show. Part one first appeared at The Lower Eastside Girls Club in Manhattan. Part two, on view at the Walsh Gallery, will encompass more than 2,000 square feet and will consist primarily of large-scale work and installation that have yet to be seen publicly.

The gallery is located at 400 South Orange Avenue and is free to the public from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on weekdays.

PUBLIC NOTICE

BOROUGH OF FANWOOD

NOTICE is hereby given by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Fanwood that an auction for the leasing of a portion of Borough Property for overnight parking of a single trailer cab and attached trailer or similar type truck ("Portion") shall be conducted. The location of the property is identified as a portion of Block 64, Lot 4 in the Borough of Fanwood, and more fully described in Ordinance 09-17-R. The lease shall be entered into by the Borough with the highest responsible bidder, based upon the submission of sealed bids. The Portion can be leased for parking of a single trailer cab and attached trailer only, ("Truck") for overnight parking of the Truck, i.e. 6 p.m.

The Mayor and Council has fixed as the minimum monthly rental \$150.00 and has reserved the right to reject all bids where the highest bid is not accepted.

The Mayor and Council sets out the following restrictions, conditions and limitations upon the tenancy ("restrictions"): Tenant is prohibited from littering, making repairs to the Truck, changing fluids, spills, hazardous or explosive materials, having

more than one cab and trailer, etc. The auction will be held on March 2, 2010 at 7:30 pm. Fanwood Borough Hall. Mayor and Council Chambers (in the back of the Municipal Building), 75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey. In order to be eligible to bid, you must submit with your sealed bid a certified or bank check made payable to the Borough in the amount of the aggregate of the first month's rent proposed by the bidder and the amount of the security deposit representing one month's rent as well. All sealed bids are to be submitted on or before Noon, Thursday, February 25, 2010 at the following

Fanwood Borough Hall Attention Eleanor McGovern, Borough Clerk 75 North Martine Avenue Fanwood, New Jersey 07023

The bids must be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the name and address of the bidder, addressed to the Borough Clerk of Fanwood, with the words "BID FOR THE LEASE OF A PORTION OF BOROUGH PROPERTY" placed on the outside of the envelope in the lower lefthand corner. No fax or e-mail responses will be accepted.

The right is reserved by Fanwood to reject any or all bids if deemed to be in the interest of Fanwood to do so, to waive any informalities in the bids received and to accept the highest responsible bid.

Eleanor McGovern Borough Clerk Borough of Fanwood 2 T - 2/11 & 2/18/10, TimesFee: \$109.14 **PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT, BUREAU OF CONSTRUCTION SERVICES 1035 PARKWAY AVENUE, PO BOX 605 **TRENTON. NEW JERSEY 08625** Notice is hereby given that bid proposals will be received via the Internet until 10:00:59

A.M. on 3/4/10, downloaded, and publicly opened and read, from Bidders classified under N.J.S.A. 27:7-35.1 et seq.; in the CONFERENCE ROOM-A, 1st Floor F & A Building, New Jersey Department of Transportation, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Trenton, New Jersey 08625; for: Underground Electrical Structures North 2010: Counties of Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Morris, Passaic, Sussex, Union, and Warren; 100% State; DP No: 10413

Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127 N.J.A.C 17:27. The awarded bidder must provide a completed Contractor Certification and Disclosure of Political Contribution Form(s) according to both P.L 2205, C.51 and Executive Order No. 117 within fourteen (14) days from the award date. Executive Order No: 117 is effective on November 15, 2008. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:32-44, all bidders must be registered with the New Jersey Department of Treasury, Division of Revenue, Business Registration, as of the date of bids. The awarded bidder must provide proof of valid business registration within fourteen (14) days from the award date. Pursuant to the "Public Works Contractor Registration Act", N.J.S.A. 34:11-56.48 et seq. (P.L. 2003, c. 91), all bidders must be registered with the New Jersey Department of Labor, Division of Wage and Hour Compliance, at the time of bid. The awarded bidder must provide proof of PWCR within fourteen (14) days from the award date.

The Department, in accordance with Title VI Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252 U.S.C., 49 C.F.R., Parts 21 and 23 issued pursuant to such Act, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 will afford minority business enterprises full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not discriminate against any bidder on the grounds of race, color, sex, national origin, or handicap in the project award.

Plans, specifications, and bidding information for the proposed work are available at Bid Express website www.bidx.com. You must subscribe to use this service. To subscribe follow the instructions on the website. Fees apply to downloading documents and plans and bidding access. The fee schedule is available on the web site. All fees are directly payable to Bid Express. Plans, specifications, and bidding information may be inspected (BUT NOT OBTAINED) by contracting organizations at our Design Field Offices at the following locations:

200 Stierli Court Route 79 and Daniels Way 1 Executive Campus Rt 70W Freehold, NJ

Mt. Arlington, NJ 973-770-5141 732-308-4025 3 T - 2/11/10, 2/18/10 and 2/25/10, The Leader

Cherry Hill, NJ 856-486-6624

Fee: \$195.84

SP's Alex Malao to Serve As Featured Clarinet Soloist

MOUNTAINSIDE - On Sunday, February 21, at 2 p.m., the New Jersey Workshop for the Arts (NJWA) Concert Band, under the direction of conductor Howard Toplansky, will perform a fall concert at Our Lady of

Lourdes Church, located at 300 Central Avenue in Mountainside.

This is the third of a five-concert series for the 2009-2010 concert season. The event is open to the public, and admission is \$10 per person.

"We are delighted to be invited back to play at Our Lady of Lourdes Church. Our musical selections are geared to please a variety of musical tastes and range from Re-

naissance to Ragtime favorites," said Mr. Toplansky.

The featured soloist for this concert is Alexander Malao of Scotch Plains. Clarinetist Alex will perform the

"Polonaise for Clarinet and Band" by Richard Hofmann. Alex is in the sixth grade at Terrill Middle School and studies clarinet at the N.J. Workshop for the Arts in Westfield. He has been a member of the Concert Band for one and a half years.

The "Poet and Peasant Overture," by composer Franz von Suppe, will be the main selection on the first half of the program. "Violets Waltz" by Emile Waldteufel will also be a featured selection on this concert. Waldteufel became famous in the late 1800s when

he was discovered in 1874 by the Prince of Wales, who contracted the composer to perform many of his works throughout England. His most famous compositions were often played Buckingham palace for Queen Victoria.

John Ondrey, the organist and adult choir director at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, as well as band director Kenilworth's

David Brearley **Alexander Malao of Scotch Plains** High School, will

be featured as guest conductor while the Concert Band performs "Rhapsodic Episode" by the American band composer Charles Carter.

Rounding out this concert will be "Prelude and Fugue in F minor" by Bach, "Windmills of Your Mind," Harmony Rag and Joseph Olivadoti's march "Hall of Fame."

For further information about the concert or to learn how to become a member of the NJWA Concert Band, call (908) 964-1793 or e-mail at njwaband@att.net.

Pianist Jade Simmons To Perform in Plainfield

POPCORN[™]

One Popcorn, Poor • Two Popcorns, Fair • Three Popcorns, Good • Four Popcorns, Excellent

From Paris with Love:

Strictly from Hunger

PLAINFIELD - Pianist Jade Simmons, who has been described by The Washington Post as "a clear, powerful pianist with a magnetic personality...worth seeing anytime," will be featured Sunday afternoon, February 21, at 3 p.m. in the Gothic stone sanctuary of the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church, located at the corner of East Seventh Street and Crescent Avenue in Plainfield.

The concert is the fifth in this season's Crescent Concerts Series. Simmons' program, which is entitled "Russian Ruminations," will feature music by Scriabin, Rachmaninoff, Prokofiev and Shostakovich.

She is known for innovative programs such as "Hearing Colors, Seeing Sounds," which focuses on links between the creative arts, and "The Rhythm Project," an exploration of percussive piano playing.

By MICHAEL S. GOLDBERGER

making of a bad movie is a trifling

pursuit at best. Director Pierre Morel's

nearly awful From Paris with Love

raises the question more than most.

Like others of its ilk, how everything

went so wrong is inevitably more inter-

esting than the story. Add a name brand

Here, the central curiosity is John

Travolta as Charlie Wax, CIA killer

crazy man extraordinaire. Having come

to Paris to wreak havoc whilst stopping

terrorists from spoiling an important

summit, for the plot's purposes, Wax

has really arrived to mentor neophyte

James Reece, his buttoned-down an-

tithesis attached to the U.S. Embassy. Call it a variation on Training Day

(2001), wherein the unorthodox loose

cannon abashes to no end his by-the-

book junior partner. Jonathan Rhys Meyers as young Reece, the

ambassador's personal operative, is sent

into a tizzy of disbelief. He's been

bucking for a promotion, but the trial by

fire that ensues is not how he had planned

more than a classified gofer, switch-

ing license plates in dim, subterranean parking lots and planting bugs

in the ally's inner sanctums. Save for

regularly besting Ambassador

Bennington (Richard Durden) at

chess, his most intriguing activity has

been an affaire de coeur with fashion

designer Caroline (Kasia Smutniak).

and-dagger dude is that big kid your

mother didn't want you to play with,

and rightfully so. Thriving on danger,

perennially laughing in Death's face,

Max's influence isn't what's going to

get you into one of the Ivy League

schools and a promising spot at Amal-

gamated Consolidated. He is Peter

While there are several actors who

could give this bad-boy fantasy a run

for its money, few could top Mr.

Travolta's puckish zeal. Just as 007

has a license to kill, Mr. Kotter's main

Sweathog has a license to ham. He

raises the bar for unashamed, overthe-top histrionics. Oh that the stars

had been aligned more suitably for

Still, all else pales in comparison. The tale is a bore, surprising only in that

it doesn't veer from predictability. And while Meyers's novitiate is decently

acted considering the inherent distrac-

tion, other portrayals are lacklustre.

What is surprising is that Mr. Morel,

Pan with a gun.

his operatic effort.

Essentially, then, Travolta's cloak-

Heretofore he has acted as little

to achieve it.

star to the mix and it ups the ante.

Trying to figure what went into the

In her 2009 debut CD, Ms. Simmons included music ranging from the classics to the cutting edge, including sonatas by Samuel Barber and John Corigliano, as well as works by Russell Pinkston ("Tale Spin") and Daniel Bernard Roumain ("Hip Hop Studies and Etudes").

In the 2008-2009 season, Ms. Simmons' tour of the United States included 25 cities in 15 states. Highlights were The National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C., the University of Washington World Series in Seattle and the Detroit Institute of Arts.

General admission tickets at the door will be \$20, \$15 for seniors and \$5 for students. Large-print programs will be available. The church and sanctuary are handicap accessible. For information, call the church office daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at (908) 756-2468.

who cut his filmic teeth as a cinematog-

rapher, has created such a drab looking

Surely there's a better way to induce

mood and suspense of the secret agent

kind without relegating us to a con-

tinual squint. The ubiquitous shadows

only inform that the film doesn't have

much to show us. If there's a Paris

under all those dark filters, then let's at

least get an appealing eyeful. It's not

like some great plot mystery will be

Instead, the light afforded is mostly

used in stroboscopic fashion to high-

light Charlie Wax's wholesale killing

of bad guys. While at first astonished

and caused to utter faint protest, Reece

is harshly reprimanded by his assassi-

nating partner: "You want to just change

license plates the rest of your life?"

Thus the quandary, to kill or not to kill?

be killed, presents itself. And what do

you know? Literally earning his red

badge of courage when an evildoer's

blood splashes him in the face, it turns

out the kid can kill with the best of 'em.

Nonetheless, he questions the good of

it. "You're alive and he's dead," comes

Wax's contribution to the pungent dia-

Hmm...maybe he even likes it a little

bit. He has come of age, a realist, and a

doer. In any case, his tutor is sure proud

of him. Now firing from both barrels,

full buddy-film sensibilities are exuded.

Thus it only follows that a woman

might spoil what looks like the begin-

ning of a beautiful friendship. Wax

casts aspersions concerning Caroline. Impossible! He had her fully

checked out by the Agency. "You've

just never been in love," says Reece.

Au contraire, Wax assures. Struck by

Cupid's arrows on several occasions,

he proceeds to name the locales of

said direct hits, explaining how in

each instance it almost meant his de-

mise. We are left to wonder if Caroline

Otherwise, aside from trying to fig-

ure what compelled you to see this movie, the only thing left to ponder is

why Mr. Travolta made it in the first

place. It couldn't be the script. While

he doubtlessly had some fun with the

role, his cynical Charlie Wax would

affirm that From Paris with Love might

more aptly be titled From Paris with

From Paris with Love, rated R, is a

Lionsgate release directed by Pierre

Morel and stars John Travolta, Jonathan

Rhys Meyers and Kasia Smutniak.

Running time: 92 minutes.

is a Mata Hari.

It is answered when the axiom, kill or



AUTHENTIC TANGO...Argentinean tango masters Carolina Jaurena and Diego

Blanco will be joined, Saturday, by their team of professional Tango dance masters,

including Colombian stage Tango world championship finalists Adriana Neira and

Orlando Ibarra and Argentinian bandoneon star Hector del Curto, pictured above.

They will partner with Maestro David Wroe and the Westfield Symphony Orches-

No Lie: Topper's '29 Jobs'

Relives Life in Her Twenties

tra in a unique visual and musical collaboration. See article on page 20.

By MARYLOU MORANO

from graduating college, Jennifer Topper had held 29 jobs.

jumping."

her book

part

book,

Part memoir,

and a Million

Lies" is also a fun

self-help

"20 Jobs

The author takes walks down

memory lane and examines just about

every job she has ever had, including

a few unpaid internships that she

It's an exercise in introspection

"I actually quantified the jobs and

realized...that they were quite en-

own liberation. Yes, I realize the

contradiction there, but that's what

being in your 20s is all about these

days – contradictions," she contin-

"The 'lies' are all the lies I told

myself while serially job-jumping.

Each tale is true, even though I wish

some weren't," said Ms. Topper.

refers to as real-life tryouts.

tertaining," said the author.

that turns out to be fun.

And the lies?

WESTFIELD-Ten vears removed

BY JENNIFER TOPPER she said.

"It still makes my skin crawl," she added. Each chapter in "29 Jobs and a

of an industrial video, to working on

a soundstage for the television show,

"New York Law and Order," to cook-

ing as a chef for both good and bad

restaurants, "29 Jobs and a Million

Lies" is a trip through New York City

While working

"I had to bribe a

burglar to break

into the apartment

before the kettle of

tea I put on burned the place down,"

Million Lies" concentrates on one of Ms. Topper's jobs. The chapters are well written in

clear and compelling prose that transforms each professional foray into its own stand-alone adventure. "Anyone with a sense of humor

[will] enjoy reading the tales. From an experience perspective, people who were in and around their 20s in the 1990s can truly relate to the jobjumping and how ridiculous some of the jobs were," she said.

These days, Ms. Topper holds

In addition to writing – her next book, a novel, will be out late spring - she also works as business-development manager for a large law firm. For more information on Ms. Topper's book signing, contact The

cess, and large-print programs will

be available. For more information

or to join the orchestra, visit njio.org

or contact Elizabeth Nowik at

info@njio.org or at (908) 603-7691.

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& The Gift House

"I enjoy telling stories, true or otherwise, and these 29 stories encapsulate so much about a generation [...that was] paralyzed by our

down two jobs simultaneously.

Town Bookstore at (908) 233-3535.

From assisting in the production **Intergenerational Orchestra** To Feature Quintet, Sunday

MADISON — The New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra (NJIO), which drew a standing-room-only audience at its November concert in Summit, will present a Winter Concert in

Madison on Sunday, February 21. The free event, open to the general public, will feature a string quintet performing Antonio Vivaldi's Concerto for Four Violins and Cello in B

will be NJIO's Music Director Joe Gluck, Concertmaster Kathleen Derbyshire, Larisa Spitzer, teen violinist Daphne Jiang and NJIO's principal cellist Martin Steinberg.

The quintet features three generations of teachers and students. Mr. Gluck was Ms. Derbyshire's private violin teacher for many years before she studied at New England Conservatory of Music. Daphne is a student at Madison Junior School and has performed under the baton of Ms. Derbyshire, who is now a music teacher and director of that school's Junior Orchestra.

Mr. Gluck is a former member of the New Jersey Symphony, the Detroit Symphony and the St. Louis Symphony. He currently serves as concertmaster for numerous New Jersey organizations and conductor

NJIO's Winter Concert starts at 3 p.m. and will be held at the Madison Junior School, located at 160 Main Street (Route 124), in Madison. It will honor the music educators in Madison and the city's public school music education programs.

Donations will be accepted at this free concert and will go to support both NJIO and the public school mu-

Correll of Westfield Community Players (WCP) is holding open auditions for Ray Cooney's comedy Caught in the Net on Monday, February 22, and Wednesday, February 24, at 7 p.m. in the WCP theater at 1000 North Avenue, West. For copies of the script, call (908) 232-

WESTFIELD - Director John

Play rehearsals will start in March for performances on May 8, 16, 21 and 22 at 8 p.m., with a Sunday matinee on May 16 at 3 p.m.

This follow-up to the successful Run for Your Wife again tells the tale of London cab driver, and bigamist, John Smith. Mr. Smith owns his own car, sets his own hours and lives a very ordinary life, with the exception of his two wives, Mary and Barbara. In Caught in the Net, Mr. Smith is frantically trying to keep his children from his two families separate. It seems they have met on the Internet and, struck by the similarities of their families, are anxious to meet.

Cast requirements are as follows:

WCP Holds Auditions For Caught in the Net John Smith: A somewhat ordi-

nary, but cheery, man in his 40's. The actor must be able to handle a lot of physical comedy; Stanley Gardner: A more ordinary man in his 40s. A "good soul" but not very bright. The actor must

comedy; Barbara Smith: John's wife, very lovely looking woman, 40s;

be able to handle a lot of physical

Mary Smith: Also John's wife, very lovely looking woman, 40s; Gavin Smith: John and Barbara's son, a good-looking young man, about 16 years old;

Vicki Smith: John and Mary's daughter, a good-looking young woman of about 15 years old;

Dad: Stanley 's father, fluctuates between being senile, alert and or-

All actors must be able to handle at least some physical comedy, have good comic timing and be able to affect a British accent.

Visit westfieldcommunityplayers.org for additional details about the season

Free Art Lecture Series Examines Propaganda

CRANFORD - "The Art of Propaganda," the first in a series of three free art lectures, will be offered by Jersey Central Art Studios (JCAS), a nonprofit arts organization in Cranford, on Wednesday, February 24, at 7:30 p.m. at the Cranford Community Center.

This is JCAS's second year offering art lectures to Cranford residents and surrounding communities. Andrea Karanik will be conducting all three

Ms. Karanik is a Masters graduate of Rutgers College, Rutgers University and the Rutgers Graduate School of Education; she teaches AP art history at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High

For the February lecture, Ms. Karanik will discuss "The Art of Propaganda" from the Egyptian Pharaohs to the Kings of France, Mesoamerica and Benin. This talk will explore the creation of arts in support of empires and their leaders.

From large building programs to diminutive necklaces, the session will trace the different types of art created and their intended impact on viewers. Attendees will be encouraged to engage in the discussion and to voice their observations and questions.

In addition to the lecture, registered attendees will be invited to enjoy refreshments before each event. "We're offering some time to get to meet other art lovers in the community," said Deb Leber, president of JCAS.

Registration is now available online at jcas.org or by e-mailing dleber@comcast.net or calling (908) 272-3743. Lectures are held at the Cranford Community Center, located at 220 Walnut Avenue.

Book Store Hosts Author Jennifer Topper

WESTFIELD - The Town Book Store in Westfield will host a meet and greet for Jennifer Topper, author of "29 Jobs and A Million Lies," on Saturday, February 20, from 2 to 4 p.m. See article at left to learn more.

Ms. Topper's work is written in the fashion of Sarah Vowell, Chuck Klosterman and Dave Eggers.

The Town Book Store is located at 270 East Broad Street in Westfield. To learn more, call (908) 233-3535.

Pearl Street Showcases Photos of Cranford's Occi

ELIZABETH - The Union County photographic technique reveals intri-Board of Chosen Freeholders will present an exhibit of photographs by Jim Occi of Cranford in the gallery space at the Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, located at 633 Pearl Street in Elizabeth.

A selection of his photographs, titled "Natural Textures," is on display at the Pearl Street Gallery until April 1. Gallery hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

"The talent and diversity of our

county artists ensure an inspiring and interesting variety of exhibitions at the Pearl Street Gallery," said Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski, liaison to the Union County Cultural and Heritage Advisory Board.

Mr. Occi's exhibit of images, titled "Natural Textures," explores nature's patterns - whether they are from animal, mineral or vegetable origin. His cate details of items we see every day, yet often fail to appreciate.

Mr. Occi has taken photos with a 35 mm camera since the 1970s. As a scientist with advanced degrees in the biological sciences, he entered the world

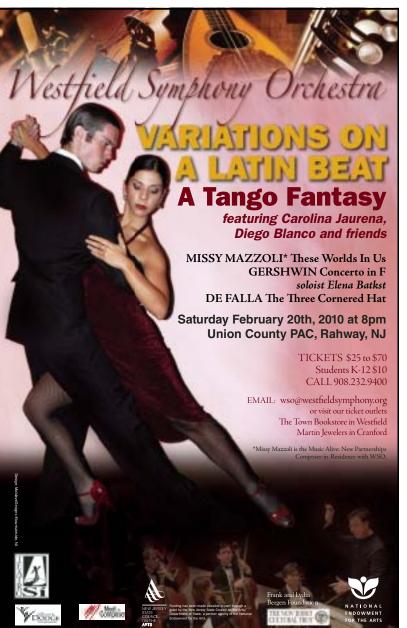
of professional photography by photographing ticks for a master's thesis on Lyme dis-

Later, he became the preeminent tick photographer for many tick and

Lyme disease re-

searchers and organizations. He entered the realm of conventional photography (sports, cityscapes, weddings) and is now a primary freelance photographer for a weekly newspaper, covering mostly athletic events.

His work may be seen at jimocci.com. To learn more, call (908) 558-2550 send an e-mail to culturalinfo@ucnj.org.



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ntertainment

Local Poets' Passion for Writing Unites Disparate Topics in Exit 13

By MARYLOU MORANO
Written for The Westfield Leader and T

FANWOOD - Almost every year for the last 21, Fanwood resident Tom Plante has edited and published Exit 13 Magazine, an anthology of poetry containing the work of poets from

near and far. This year's edition, the 16th, contains poems contributed by 51 poets, 24 of whom are from New Jersey. The contributors range in age from 19 to

Subtitled "The Crossroads of Poetry Since 1988," Exit 13 Magazine is constantly evolving in terms of poetic content.

There's always something different in the magazine," said Mr. Plante. "In this issue, there is a poem about a wrestling match in Mongolia and another one about oil rigs near the mouth of the Congo River," he said. Exit 13 Magazine is a veritable pot-

pourri of creativity and inspiration. Ed Orr's "The Long and Short of It" is about a cemetery called Southpost.

The poem details a short list of cradle-to-grave dates as seen on tombstones then ends with a punchy: "Hell, I don't know anyone here. Never did and never will.'

In "South Philly 1935," Ed Galing writes of innocence lost working in a

According to Mr. Plante, the seemingly disparate topics addressed by the poetry in Exit 13 Magazine are actually connected by the passion of the poets.

"What [the contributors] have in common is that they all write down their ideas, and they appreciate the printed word on paper," he explained.

Mr. Plante receives between 500 and 1,000 submissions for Exit 13 Magazine each year. Since the magazine is an annual, sometimes the timelessness of the subject matter is slightly compromised.

However, instead of viewing this as a negative, Mr. Plante sees this "lag time" as adding another dimension to the anthology.

"It's interesting to look beyond current events to see bigger issues, [and] more universal subject matter, even in the simple acts of daily living," he

In addition to Mr. Plante, Fanwood contributors to the 16th edition of Exit 13 Magazine include Liza Katz,

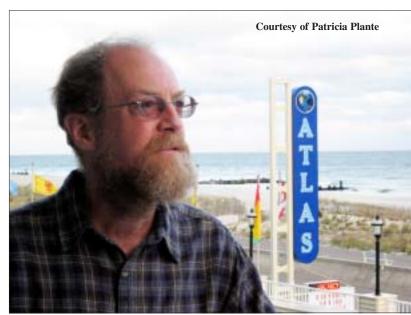
Gary Szelc and Adele Kenny. The anthology takes its name from the New Jersey Turnpike Elizabeth

As in previous issues, the current Exit 13 Magazine is punctuated with photos of Exit 13 road signs from

Mr. Plante works as a public relations officer for Union County. He is also the co-director, along with Ms. Kenny, of the Fanwood Arts Council.

Exit 13 Magazine is available for \$8 and can be purchased by writing to P.O. Box 423, Fanwood, N.J. 07023.

Additional information can also be obtained by writing to Mr. Plante at exit13magazine@yahoo.com.



LUCKY NUMBER 13... Exit 13 Magazine publisher and Fanwood resident Tom Plante said, "It's interesting to look beyond current events to see bigger issues, [and] more universal subject matter, even in the simple acts of daily living."

Cohen, Gabrielian To Perform at Musicales

WESTFIELD – The First Congregational Church of Westfield, located at 125 Elmer Street, will present violinist Diana Cohen and pianist Tanya Gabrielian on Wednesday, February 24, as part of its acclaimed Mid-Day Musicales series. The program will feature works of Bach and Beethoven.

These free, half-hour noon concerts are followed by an optional \$7 soup-and-sandwich luncheon in the church's social hall.

Violinist Ms. Cohen was appointed concertmaster of the Kalamazoo



Violinist Diana Cohen will perform at the Mid-Day Musicales series at The First Congregational Church of Westfield on Wednesday, February 24.

Symphony Orchestra in 2007. Previously, she served as concertmaster of the Charleston Symphony, a position she held for three seasons. In that time, she performed as a soloist with the symphony on 10 occasions with works from Mozart to John Corigliano.

Ms. Cohen was concertmaster of the Cleveland Institute of Music Orchestra, principal second of the New York String Orchestra at Carnegie Hall and has been rotating principal of the Iris Chamber orchestra since its inaugural season.

Ms. Gabrielian's international successes include first prizes in both the 2004 Scottish International Piano Competition and the 2003 Aram Khachaturyan International Piano Competition. She has performed in renowned concert halls throughout North America, Europe and Asia, and was featured on the cover of the November 2007 issue of the magazine Clavier.

Recent and upcoming performances include recitals in the Myra Hess Concert Series in Chicago, Carnegie Hall and Alice Tully Hall in New York, Wigmore Hall in London and Salle Cortot in Paris, as well as live radio broadcasts from KCSN in Los Angeles, WGBH in Boston, WFMT in Chicago and NPR.

To learn more, call (908) 233-



WSO Concert Will Offer 'Variations on a Latin Beat'

By GREG WAXBERG

WESTFIELD — The passion and energy of Latin-based music are the foundation of this Saturday's Westfield Symphony Orchestra (WSO) concert, "Variations on a Latin Beat," which begins at 8 p.m. at the Union County Performing Arts

Center in Rahway.

Music Director David Wroe will conduct a suite of Spanish ballet music, a choreographed symphonic tango fantasy, a new piece by a younger American composer and an American piano concerto with roots in South America.

Following the second suite of dances from Manuel de Falla's ballet "The Three-Cornered Hat," tango masters Carolina Jaurena and Diego Blanco and their company of dancers will take the stage for a multifaceted "Tango Fantasy."

According to Mr. Wroe, the world of tango, in general, consists of traditional and modern music. This fantasy reflects that contrast by beginning with the traditional tango "La Comparsita" by Gerardo Matos Rodriguez (used in the movie Some Like It Hot) and continuing with selections by Astor Piazzolla, whom Mr. Wroe refers to as "the undisputable master of modern tango."

Piazzolla is represented with the slow ballad "Oblivion" and the more dramatic "Lo Que Vendra" and "Adios Nonino." The fantasy concludes in an upbeat, festive mood with a traditional Milonga called "La Punalada" by Pintin Castellanos.

"[This fantasy is] a marriage of Argentinean folk music and sym-

phonic sound, which we believe is enticing for our audience, and it's an example of an artistic offering that we, the symphony, could not present by ourselves," Mr. Wroe said, referring to the WSO's efforts to bring classical music to a wider audience by partnering with other arts organi-

Another significant partnership that will figure in the concert is the appearance of Composer-in-Residence Missy Mazzoli, executive director of the MATA (Music at the Anthology) Festival of New Music, an organization dedicated to commissioning and promoting new works by young com-

Her residency in Westfield, including a school visit, is made possible through Music Alive: New Partnerships, a residency program of the League of American Orchestras and Meet the Composer.

This national program is designed to establish new relationships between composers and orchestras, help orchestras present new music to the public and build support for new music within their institutions.

Leadership funding for Music Alive is provided by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, with additional support from The Aaron Copland Fund for Music and The ASCAP Foundation Joseph and Rosalie Meyer Fund.

Mr. Wroe said the WSO feels enormously privileged to be one of the few orchestras across the country that has received this residency grant, and Ms. Mazzoli said she is grateful for the opportunity.

"It's rare for a composer to have experience working with an orches-

tra, and it's hard to work your way into that world [because] it's hard to get your music in front of conductors. They're inundated with scores," she said.

Ms. Mazzoli composed the one-movement work "These Worlds in Us" for the Yale Philharmonia in 2006 while pursuing a master's degree at the Yale School of Music. The piece is dedicated to her father, who served as a soldier in Vietnam, and the text is taken from James Tate's poem "The Lost Pilot," written about Tate's father, a pilot who lost his life while serving in World War II.

"I wanted to create an emotional world that reflected my father's emotional world," Ms. Mazzoli said. The title comes from the poem's final "you...unwilling to tell me...that it was a mistake that placed you in that world, and me in this; or that misfortune placed these worlds

Mr. Wroe believes the WSO audience will be immediately attracted to the piece. "It's a moving, reflective, well-crafted piece that shows great maturity and warmth," he said.

Concluding the program is George Gershwin's Concerto in F with Elena Baksht, a Russian pianist and poet, and a member of the piano faculty at the College of Music at Michigan State University, at the keyboard.

Although the concerto was composed by an American, Mr. Wroe said it is loosely connected to the concert's theme because of manipulations of rhythm. "I argue that certain aspects of jazz are based, to a certain extent, on the South American beat," he said.

For tickets to Saturday's concert, call (908) 232-9400.

'Silhouette Lady' **Returns to Juxtapose**

WESTFIELD - The lost art of silhouette cutting is headed for a revival when Westfield's Juxtapose Gallery hosts Ruth Grabner, one of the few professional silhouette cutters in the United States, on Saturday, February

The silhouette – a profile of a person, animal or thing that is cut from black paper and placed against a white background – dates back to the days before the camera.

Silhouette cutting originated in Europe and became especially popular in France during the 18th and 19th centuries.

Known as the "Silhouette Lady," Mrs. Grabner has been cutting silhouettes of people and pets for 30 years.

After drawing a preliminary sketch to assure herself that the dimensions are correct, she cuts out the image on black paper and glues it to a white background. Each silhouette takes approximately 15 minutes to complete.

Repertory Theatre students rehearse *Curtains*. **Calling All SPFHS Repertory Theatre Alumni**

COULD BE CURTAINS FOR YOU...All alumni of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High

School's Repertory Theatre are invited to join this year's cast and crew of

Curtains (The Musical Comedy Whodunit) at a reception directly following the 3

p.m. matinee on Sunday, March 14. (See article on page 20). Above, current

SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD -All alumni of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School's Repertory Theatre are invited to join this year's cast and crew of Curtains (The Musical Comedy Whodunit) at a reception directly following the 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday, March 14.

Guests are welcome, and food and drink will be served. The reception will last one hour, and cast members will join the former performers for the first 30 minutes, giving everyone the opportunity to reminisce about 36 years of Rep Theatre productions.

Performances of Curtains will be held on Friday, March 12, at 8 p.m., Saturday, March 13, at 8 p.m., Sunday, March 14, at 3 p.m., Thursday, March 18, at 7 p.m. (new time), Friday, March 19, at 8 p.m. and Saturday, March 20, at 8 p.m. All take place at the Manya Ungar Memorial Auditorium at Scotch PlainsFanwood High School, located at 667 Westfield Road in Scotch Plains.

Tickets can be purchased by emailing reptix@comcast.net. Prices are \$12 for adults, \$8 for seniors (age 60 and up) and \$8 for students. Please include performance dates, number and type of tickets and total amount

Payment can be made by cash or check, made out to Scotch Plains-Fanwood Repertory Theatre. Payment may be mailed with ticket order or made at the time of ticket pick-up, in the front lobby of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School on Monday or Wednesday evenings from 7-8 p.m. beginning Wednesday, February $\hat{3}$ (no

pick up on Monday, February 15). For questions, call Randi Traiman at (908) 322-6533. Questions about the reception and RSVPs can be directed to Grace Cheney at (908) 889-6436.



Ms. Grabner will be at Juxtapose Gallery to create children's silhouettes from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Febru-

For appointments, call (908) 232-3278.

Juxtapose Gallery is located at 58 Elm Street in Westfield.

> # Theresa's 233,9133

> > 301,0100

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Downtown Westfield RESTAURANT WEEK Winter 2010 February 21 - 27, 2010

Two-Course Dinner \$20 Two-Course Lunch \$10

A random drawing for a \$20 Gift Certificate to each restaurant & a bonus drawing for a \$10 Parking Card will be held at the end of Restaurant Week. Entrants from each restaurant are eligible to win.

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For more information visit www.WestfieldToday.com. Reserve your table by calling the restaurants directly.

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