

‘Nothing Works Without the Tool Kit’ ~ Mayor Mahr

## Mayors Supportive of Cap But Urge Reforms to Lower Spending

By PAUL J. PEYTON  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — New Jersey residents pay the highest property taxes in the nation. With that in mind, Governor Chris Christie and Senate President Stephen Sweeney (LD-3, West Deptford) came to an agreement on Saturday on a 2-percent cap on local government spending, with four exceptions, as a compromise to a 2.5-percent Constitutional “hard cap” sought by the governor and Mr. Sweeney’s proposed 2.9-percent statutory cap with exceptions.

The 2-percent plan includes exceptions for government capital spending and debt, health insurance premiums

and pensions, rising school enrollments and states of emergencies.

While the Governor has called it “astonishing” that taxes have jumped 70 percent between 1990 and 2009 from \$26.5 billion to approximately \$44.7 billion this year, Democrats say a 4-percent cap instituted in 2007 has kept average property tax increases statewide at an average of 3.3 percent. The 2.9-percent cap bill was conditionally vetoed by the Governor Tuesday as per his agreement with Mr. Sweeney.

“If the current (4 percent) cap can contain property taxes to their lowest increases in a decade, then a tighter cap can definitely push increases well

below the Governor’s magic 2.5-percent goal,” Mr. Sweeney said earlier last week.

According to Governor Christie’s office, taxes in Union County, specifically Cranford, Fanwood, Scotch Plains and Westfield, have averaged an annual tax hike of 6 percent.

“It’s time that we finally put the power to control property taxes in the hands of those who are paying the bills - New Jersey’s overburdened taxpayers,” the Governor said. The Christie administration said, had a 2.5 percent cap been in place in 1999, Fanwood residents would be paying an average of \$6,840 in taxes, a reduction of \$2,900; Garwood residents would be at \$6,300, \$1,490 less than they are paying; Mountainside, \$6,627, \$2,140 less, and Westfield, \$9,100, \$3,627 under what residents currently pay.

Senate Minority Leader Tom Kean, Jr. (LD-21, Westfield), Republican Leader in the upper house, said the 2-percent agreement “is good news for New Jersey residents who have been routinely subject to more than 7-percent property-tax increases over the past decade.”

Prior to the agreement, *The Westfield Leader* reached out to local mayors for comment. Among those supporting the governor’s original plan was Westfield Mayor Andrew Skibitsky.

“I know, in the short-term, we could have some real challenges living under a two-and-half-a-percent cap,” Mayor Skibitsky told *The Leader* on Friday. “Honestly, I think the two-and-a-half-percent -cap is going to make it tough for towns that are efficient and well run, but I think it’s got to be done at the state level. I think it’s good for the long-term health of the state — which would be good for the Town of Westfield.” He said Westfield struggled this year to come under the current 4-percent cap, even with \$600,000 in spending cuts, because revenues were down \$2 million.

He said salaries and wages are the town’s biggest expense. In that regard, he favors changing the state’s binding-arbitration law to make arbitrators “live within a two and half percent cap” and requiring arbitrators to “take into effect what it (contract settlements) does for local property taxes.”

“Salaries and wages are our biggest expenses, [but] with binding arbitration, it’s very hard to control that,” Mayor Skibitsky said. “With binding arbitration, the arbitrator just goes in and looks at the arguments...and sees what is happening in surrounding towns and other towns in the county and then tells you what you are going to pay.”

When asked if a hard cap could result in municipal-worker layoffs, Mayor Skibitsky said, “We hope not...We are hoping the economy turns around and our revenues start picking up.”

The mayor said Westfield’s municipal salaries and wages are down \$300,000 since 2007, “because we’ve been doing the things (such as eliminating some positions) that I think have to be done [in] other municipalities and other levels of government throughout the state — which I don’t think is being done.”

He pointed to the amount of income tax that Westfield residents pay into Trenton’s coffers. “I think it’s easy for government entities to spend

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### Special BOE Meeting Was Cancelled

WESTFIELD — The special meeting of the Westfield Board of Education to be held at Lincoln School on Wednesday evening, July 7, was cancelled. According to the BOE, the parties are meeting to work out a resolution. Tamaques Elementary School teacher Matthew Kravetsky and supporters are contesting his termination.



Paul Lachenauer for The Westfield Leader

THE BIG BANG...County residents celebrate America’s 234th birthday on Sunday, July 4. Fireworks are shown above in a nighttime collage from Cranford at Nomahegan Park.

## Mirabelli Focused on Keeping Taxes Down in Mountainside

By PAUL J. PEYTON  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

MOUNTAINSIDE — It has been a busy eight months for borough Mayor Paul Mirabelli since taking over the mayor’s office following the death of Robert Vigilanti, who held the office for 22 years.

“He trained us,” the new mayor said. “Bob was the type of guy who could see the future for Mountainside.” He noted that the late mayor, along with himself and Councilman Keith Turner, recently received an award at the Mountainside Youth Baseball dinner for their work over the years, including lighting the borough’s ballfields.

“They (Mayor Vigilanti and Mr. Turner) started with the Little League field and then we went on to Borough Hall, the softball field and the soccer field...[and] the Minor League field,” Mayor Mirabelli said. “The last piece of the puzzle was a couple of lights over near the Pony League field.” The leagues are billed individually for their usage of the lights.

“He (Mayor Vigilanti) saw that it would be a great thing for Mountainside to get these fields lit,” the mayor said.

Mayor Mirabelli, a Mountainside resident since 1990, said the borough has focused on expanding recreation programs and maintaining the borough’s infrastructure.

The borough issued a general obligation bond seven years ago to fund improvements to municipal roads, including adding Belgium block curbs. In addition to the bond, Mayor Mirabelli said the borough receives \$200,000 to \$300,000 annually in state Department of Transportation grants for road improvements.

He said the borough opted to issue a new bond when a previous bond was paid off. “All we did was use the bond payment that was already in the budget to get a new bond, so it didn’t raise taxes because the money was already there,” he said. In addition, he said the borough took advantage of unused funds in some capital project accounts and used the money to repave the Borough Hall parking lot. The borough collects revenue by selling commuter permits at the borough hall lot and a second lot near the municipal library.

Mayor Mirabelli said the borough also collects \$200,000 annually in revenue for its cell tower behind the municipal building, which is utilized by multiple carriers including AT&T, Verizon and Mobile One.

“That’s the way we were able to keep the taxes down. We have some

good revenue streams that are going to be around for a long time,” he said.

The mayor said the borough has instituted registration fees in its recreation department to cover costs. Among those is the borough’s summer playground program, for which the borough has instituted a \$35 per-child fee for the 300 or so kids who participate. He said the fee would cover the \$10,000 cost of salaries for counselors for the eight-week program, which runs weekday mornings.

In addition to recreation, Mayor Mirabelli said the borough raised construction permit fees for the first time in 15 years. “We were like the lowest fees in the county. It wasn’t even covering our costs,” he said.

He said the borough would not be able to run its many recreation programs without the many volunteers, including the coaches for Mountainside Youth Baseball, Mountainside Softball Association and Mountainside PAL. He said fees charged cover the cost of uniforms and the entrance fees. “None of these organizations are running a profit. They run fundraisers to supplement the [programs].”

The annual Independence Day fireworks are sponsored by the borough, which pays half the costs, with the PAL and the volunteer fire department each paying 25 percent.

The mayor said 2010 has been a challenging year, as the borough’s state aid was cut by \$230,000 from a municipal budget of around \$8 mil-

lion. To address the aid cut, all municipal department budgets were slashed by 5 percent, and taxes “were raised a little bit,” noting that municipal taxes will rise on average by \$195 for homeowners.

“We didn’t cut any programs. We are not anticipating any furloughs. We are just going to tighten our belt and ride it out,” Mayor Mirabelli said. “And we are trying to make it up with increased revenues and being creative.”

“When I first started meeting about the budget and the reduction in state aid, my philosophy was it has to be shared among all segments of the population. Taxpayers have to pay a little more taxes; departments have to run a little bit leaner; people that want certain programs are going to have to pay for them,” the mayor said.

The mayor said he and the all-Republican borough council “almost always come to some consensus.”

“I can’t remember the last time someone (on council) voted ‘No’ on something, because it’s easy, it’s common sense. It’s not like we have these controversial issues that are going to divide the council,” Mayor Mirabelli said. “We had our budget hearing and not one person showed up...people are just not that interested because it (the borough) is run pretty well.”

The mayor said he has always lived by one principle when it comes to the day-to-day operations of the borough — “I’ve always said you have to do what’s right for Mountainside,” the mayor said.



Courtesy of Nancy Stabler

JUMPING FOR JOY...A playful mood overtook pre-prom formality for these elegantly dressed Westfield High School seniors. Pictured, from left to right, are: Mary McKevitt, Chloe Rothenberg, Grace MacKenzie and Darla Stabler.

## Area Residents to Cycle for Cancer in PMC Challenge

By CHRISTINA M. HINKE  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — Two teams out of Westfield will join some 5,000 other cyclists in Massachusetts on August 7 and 8 for the massive two-day bike-a-thon, the Pan-Massachusetts Challenge (PMC), which raises money for cancer research and treatment at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

For 12 years, Ed Gallagher, 52, of Belvidere Avenue has ridden in the two-day cycling event and raised about \$400,000 to benefit cancer research and treatment at Dana-Farber. He and with his team, ConvergeEX, are made up of friends from outside the region and Westfield-area residents, Ed Carr of Mountainside, Anthony Cook of Lenox Avenue and Mark Otto, a Westfield native who now resides in Red Bank, who ride regularly in a cycling club run out of Jay’s Cycle Shop on North Avenue, where, for the last three years, they have held a charity auction to raise money for Dana-Farber.

One hundred percent of the money raised by riders during the PMC is given to the Jimmy Fund, which pro-

vides the main source of funding to Dana-Farber, the discoveries of which reach worldwide. All of the services offered during the event are fully donated and staffed by some 3,000 volunteers, with Mr. Gallagher’s two daughters among them.

Helping the institute fund its research and treatment that has helped save lives for over 50 years hits close to home for Mr. Gallagher, whose sister, Eileen, was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1999, and five years ago, at the age of 52, Eileen succumbed to the disease. “She was in remission for a while and it came back and spread to her liver and lymph nodes,” he said. “She lived in Brooklyn. She left two boys, who are college-age now, and a husband.”

“She was a big supporter of the Jimmy Fund,” Mr. Gallagher said of his sister. “She always felt they had the best research.”

“My mom had to go through a radical mastectomy. Today many women don’t have to go through that with new treatment,” said 37-year-old Mr. Carr. Today, his mom has

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Paul Lachenauer for The Westfield Leader

“THE SOUND OF MUSIC”...Dr. Thomas Connors conducts the Westfield Community Concert Band last Thursday night at Mindowaskin Park.



Horace Corbin for The Westfield Leader

BOROUGH PRIDE...Mountainside Mayor Paul Mirabelli discusses issues of the borough and the borough's budget provided by past Mayor Robert Vigilanti.

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RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE







REST STOP...The Fortunato family of Scotch Plains brought along some good summer reading on a tour of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Virginia and North Carolina.

## Mayors on Property-Tax Cap

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

other people’s money. [Look at] how much money goes out of Westfield into Trenton [before] it gets dispersed around the state — virtually none of it coming back to Westfield,” Mayor Skibitsky said. “I think those municipalities need a cap, and I think it’s going to help us in the long run.”

“If you’re a municipality, and you’re spending a lot of money that comes in from the state, where is the control there to make sure you are spending it efficiently?” Mayor Skibitsky questioned. “Do local residents really care if you are spending other towns’ money? I don’t think so.” He said New Jersey’s income tax was established in the 1970s for property tax relief. “We get almost none of it back now,” Mayor Skibitsky stated (in noting the state-aid reduction this years).

Mountainside Mayor Paul Mirabelli said, “In theory, I support it (2.5-percent cap).”

“First of all, Mountainside doesn’t need [a 2.5-percent cap]. We have the lowest taxes in the county. To force a two-a-half percent cap on Mountainside — former mayor (Viglianti) did that before anyone talked about two-a-half percent,” Mayor Mirabelli said. He said his concern, however, is in areas such as pensions, utilities and health care costs which are out of direct control of the borough and could “eat away at the rest of the budget if we have a hard cap.” He also opposes part of the proposal that would require towns that need to exceed the cap to put a referendum on the election ballot – which, if Mountainside needed to take such an action, he said, which cost the bor-

ough \$10,000, “and it delays the adoption of the budget because it takes 60 days to get a referendum out.”

Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr, former president of New Jersey Conference of Mayors, said she was not taking a position on the 2 percent cap until she sees the details. She said the cap should be done “statutorily” by legislation rather than constitutionally. She also said the state needs to stop “balancing the pensions on the backs of municipalities” and instead either fund the system or reduce this benefit to lower the costs for towns.

“The number of a cap (2 or 2.5 percent) is arbitrary because towns have [already] been dealing with caps for decades, and it has been working out,” she said, noting that the 4 percent has been in place since 2007. “It is nothing new for mayors.”

She said the Fanwood Borough Council only has control over 20 percent of the average \$10,000 property tax bill in her town, or \$2,000, which is spent on a “lot of valuable services” such as the police and public works. Mayor Mahr said while she supports the exceptions to the 2 percent cap proposal, she urges the legislature to get to work on approving the “tool kit.” She said the kit needs to include arbitration reform, and it needs to get to mayors this summer, as towns are already well into the budget process by the time the fall arrives — the time when Senator Sweeney said he expected these reforms to be approved.

“They [legislature] should deal with the tool kit now. We need something more than a promise [to discuss the issue],” she said. “Nothing works without the tool kit.”



by Paul Lachenauer  
Cranford Independence Day

## Salvatore Caruana Appointed to Overlook Hospital Foundation Board

SUMMIT – The Overlook Hospital Foundation Board of Trustees has appointed Salvatore Caruana, of Westfield to serve a three-year term on the foundation board. The election was held at the board’s annual meeting at Baltusrol Golf Club on June 8.

“We are delighted to welcome Mr. Caruana to the foundation board,” commented Foundation Chairman Gerald Glasser of Westfield. “His background in finance and his extensive community service expertise will be an asset to our fundraising efforts on behalf of Overlook Hospital.”

Mr. Caruana is the president and director of Foster Capital Corporation in New York City. Previously, he was a senior vice-president at Lehman Brothers from 1976 to 1991. Earlier, he was with Merrill Lynch.

He has been a member of the Columbus Citizens Foundation since 1984, which provides college scholarships for needy and deserving students. Mr. Caruana has been a director of the Foundation of Binghamton University (1991 to 1997) and has endowed the Salvatore P. Caruana Scholarship Fund there to assist students with financial hardship. He is a volunteer advisor to the New York City Child Abuse Prevention Program.

Mr. Caruana served two terms on the Westfield Town Council. He was chairman of the town’s Code Review and Property Committee and was chairman of the town’s Parking and Traffic Safety Committee. In 2008, as finance chairman for the town, Mr. Caruana led efforts to improve municipal finances during a period of economic recession.



Sal Caruana

He served a three-year term as a director of the Downtown Westfield Corporation, was director of the Westfield Symphony Orchestra and served on the board of directors of the Westfield United Fund. As a trustee of the College Men’s Club of Westfield, Mr. Caruana helped raise tens

of thousands of dollars of scholarship funds for needy Westfield high school graduates and initiated a program to provide funds for SAT preparation for economically disadvantaged high school students. In 2002, Mr. Caruana founded Westfield Cares, a program that assists September 11 families. In 2010, Mr. Caruana was elected to the Board of Directors of the Westfield Foundation, where he has senior vice-president at Lehman Brothers from 1976 to 1991. Earlier, he was with Merrill Lynch.

Over the years, Mr. Caruana has been a frequent contributor to *The Westfield Leader* and in January 2010 became a weekly contributor to the column, “Planet Westfield,” which discusses local politics and the state’s financial and educational crises.

Mr. Caruana received his bachelor of arts from the State University of New York at Binghamton. He and his wife, Darleen, have two daughters.

The Overlook Hospital Foundation raises funds to help Overlook remain on the forefront of medical care. All gifts to the foundation are tax deductible and remain at Overlook. For further information on how to become a friend of Overlook Hospital, contact the foundation at (908) 522-2840 or see [overlookfoundation.org](http://overlookfoundation.org).

## Biking Team Challenge

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

fully recovered from the breast cancer she was diagnosed with in 1992.

His teammate, Mr. Cook, 46, has suffered the loss of his father, friends and in-laws to cancer, so when he decided last year to ride in PMC, he said, “My opportunity to do something about it is very minor — to sit on a bicycle for two days and 200 miles.” A 1981 alum of Westfield High School and president of the Westfield Foundation, Mr. Cook has raised about \$8,000 for the cause.

“My father succumbed to lung cancer at 59. He hadn’t smoked in nine years. The doctors said smoking wasn’t the cause of cancer, but I believe it was,” he said.

“I feel like cycling saved my life. I was overweight and smoking. After 9/11, I was told by a psychologist to do something to burn off the adrenaline. I took up cycling and weight lifting. I hadn’t exercised in 20 years. I developed a much healthier attitude and lifestyle,” Mr. Cook said.

John Coyle, 37, and Nicole Coyle, 36, and their friend, Greg Janaczek, make up part of the team, Matthew’s Ducks, that will ride in the bike event on behalf of Matthew Bove, the son of Mr. Coyle’s high school friend. At only 18 months old, Matthew was diagnosed with a rare form of liver cancer and was treated at Dana-Farber, where 70 percent of his liver was removed. “It is somewhat of a miracle. They thought it had spread to the brain. They did an MRI and it was completely gone,” Mrs. Coyle said.

This is the first year Mrs. Coyle and Mr. Janaczek will participate in the ride. Last year, Mrs. Coyle and her daughter and sister went to support her husband and the team on the sidelines. “You see the kids and their

families, and it is really moving. It’s not a race, it’s a ride,” she said.

“For 200 miles, you are cheered along the route — cow bells, cheerleaders doing flips, bands playing. . . .” said Mr. Gallagher. “Every 100 yards, there is someone and once in the city it is 15 to 20 people deep. They are cheering and whooping it up. When you arrive in Provincetown at the finish line with people cheering, you can’t help but cry. . . . It’s a tremendous feel-good weekend that you can’t put into words.”

For Matthew’s parents, that encouragement has helped them get through the difficulties they have faced since their son’s diagnosis as an infant. “The amount of support they get is tremendous. They feel they couldn’t have done this without all of the support,” Mrs. Coyle said.

“It’s a great cause,” said Mr. Janaczek, whose grandmother was diagnosed with lung cancer about 15 years ago. “It’s a great way to stay active and a great way to donate to a good organization,” he said. He said his goal is to “finish with a decent time.”

“I remember last year riding and seeing a woman standing at the top of a hill gasping for breath. She said, ‘I’m going to make it!’,” said Mr. Gallagher. “For many people, it’s a heroic effort.” And that sentiment of heroism extends to not only the riders but also those battling the disease and those who survived.

To, donate to the cause, go to Matthew’s Ducks page: [pmc.org/egifts/NC0074](http://pmc.org/egifts/NC0074) or drop off a check to Jay’s Cycle Shop made out to Jimmy Fund, with Mr. Gallagher and Mr. Cook’s name on it or go to [pmc.org](http://pmc.org) and search for ConvergeX or TC0135.



Steven Kasich for The Westfield Leader

TROUBLE...The Scotch Plains Fire Department extinguishes a house fire, last Wednesday, on Westfield Road Circle. See story below.

## Electrical Fire Heavily Damages Scotch Plains Home

By PAUL J. PEYTON  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Union County Arson Squad has ruled a fire that heavily damaged a home on Westfield Road Circle on June 30 was electrical in nature.

According to Scotch Plains Fire Chief Jonathan Ellis, the 4:43 p.m. blaze began in a family room of a one-story addition behind the garage of the two-and-a-half-story frame structure. The fire was in the vicinity of Green Forest Park.

“When we got there, the fire was out the front window and the breeze-way and was actually extending itself up the second floor,” Chief Ellis told *The Westfield Leader*.

The chief said when the fire started, which was reported by the family, the grandmother and her therapist were home but were out of the house when firefighters arrived. He said the heat was so intense it melted the siding on a neighbor’s home.

Scotch Plains Police Detective Lieutenant Brian Donnelly added that, “It turned into a three-alarm,” noting that in addition to Scotch Plains, firefighters from Fanwood, Westfield, Garwood, Clark and Plainfield responded to the scene along with the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad. Meanwhile, Chief Ellis said, the Berkeley Heights, New Providence and Kenilworth fire departments covered the Scotch Plains’ fire headquarters while the township’s firefighters were at the scene.

“It (the fire) was under control in about an hour,” Chief Ellis said.

The Tri-County Chapter of the American Red Cross provided assis-

tance in relocating the family, which included three generations of the Enard family: the grandmother and mother, both Mary Enard, and daughter, Catie Carr.

“The home faced extensive damage and is uninhabitable,” according to Corinna Krauskopf, development and marketing officer for the Red Cross chapter. She said the family is staying with relatives. The Red Cross provided food and clothing assistance and two cots with bedding to help the family in their temporary home.

Chief Ellis said the fire damage was “limited” to the one-story addition, although the rest of the home sustained smoke and heat damage. He said gas, electric and water service to the home were turned off.



Paul Lachenauer for The Westfield Leader

OUR COUNTRY...Westfield Town Councilman David Haas addresses the crowd during the Westfield Community Band’s Annual Independence Day Celebration on July 1.



by Paul Lachenauer  
Cranford Independence Day

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# Willow Grove Cell Tower Hearing To Resume at Sept. Zoning Meeting

**By FRED T. ROSSI**  
*Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*

SCOTCH PLAINS — The zoning board of adjustment will continue its hearing in September on a new application to erect a cellular antenna tower at the Willow Grove Swim Club on Roosevelt Avenue.

T-Mobile is seeking permission to build a 117-foot monopole at the site; three years ago, a similar application was made to the zoning board, but T-Mobile eventually was forced to withdraw it in late 2007 after the board turned down repeated requests for extensions of that hearing.

The board's initial hearing last

Thursday was attended by several dozen neighborhood residents, some with their young children in tow, who listened to and then questioned the evening's sole witness for T-Mobile, Dan Collins, a radio frequency expert who testified that any radio frequency emissions from the tower would fall within federal safety guidelines "by an extremely healthy margin" — and that the emissions levels would even fall well within New Jersey's own less-strict guidelines.

Ronald Graiff, the board's hired expert in this field, reminded residents that the 1996 federal telecommunications act forbids a land use

board from considering radio frequency emissions as a reason to deny an application. Mr. Graiff did say, however, that it was important for neighborhood residents to be "fully informed" about the "maximum possible effect" of the proposed tower.

There were questions from Mr. Graiff and several residents about the potential emissions, with Mr. Collins agreeing to perform calculations to confirm no increased threats or hazards even if the antennas on the monopole were tilted or angled slightly to effect better phone reception for T-Mobile users.

The next hearing on the application, which Board Chairman Ken Anderson warned could stretch out for several months, will be on Wednesday, September 15.

The zoning board is also expected to attempt to complete its work later this month on an application by T-Mobile and Verizon Wireless to install a cellular antenna tower in Hillside Cemetery. The proposal calls for a 125-foot-high monopole that would house nine T-Mobile antennas and 12 Verizon antennas on a pole to be situated at the end of Frank Street off Raritan Road, at the southern end of the 129-acre cemetery. Hearings began in March, and the board hopes to vote on the application at a special meeting on Monday, July 19.



**THE BIG BANG...**County residents celebrate America's 234th birthday on July 4. Fireworks are shown above in a nighttime collage from Cranford at Nomahegan Park.

## FW Looks to Collaborate With Labor Union

**By JEFF MARKS**  
*Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*

FANWOOD — Cooperation between the borough's public works department and the Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA) is an action "that the borough should pursue," said Mayor Colleen Mahr at Tuesday night's monthly council agenda meeting.

Mayor Mahr received the council's full support, authorizing her to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with LIUNA, a construction union that represents public service employees. The non-binding agreement would allow for qualified laborers to work on small capital projects, and, as Mayor Mahr said, it would "augment or supplement our public works department on an as-needed basis."

Instead of hiring full-time workers for temporary positions and assignments, public works would be able to hire LIUNA employees, some of whom are Fanwood residents. They would be available to complete both short-term and emergency jobs, such as snow plowing, leaf collection and individual sidewalk and curb improvement.

Councilman Anthony Parenti sees the concept as a "very excellent oppor-

tunity," and proposed that the union workers, as a test run, be assigned to road repairs, such as those on King Street discussed by Borough Engineer Joseph Pryor.

While labor unions have been plagued with high unemployment, budget cuts have further diminished the size and capability of local government. As a result, "local government has to be more creative in their thinking," Mayor Mahr said. "We don't want our public works department to ever languish as a result of [budget] cuts. [LIUNA] is not meant to take the place of the public works department. We're trying to figure out the most cost effective manner."

"I applaud this, as a union boy myself," said Councilman Michael Szuch, speaking of the collaboration effort.

Councilwoman Katherine Mitchell assured that, "we will tell the union workers what we need, and they will supply us." Ms. Mitchell further suggested that Fanwood workers, especially those unemployed but skilled, be given preference over others.

In other business, Recreation Director Bob Budiansky presented the submissions for the 2010 Union County

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



**UNDERSTANDING MOUNTAINSIDE...**Borough Mayor Paul Mirabelli meets with Times editor Paul Peyton to discuss his first eight months on the job following the death of Mayor Robert Vigilanti.



**SUMMER'S HERE...**Residents stroll through the Farmers Market, dressed comfortably for the hot summer day, last Saturday in Scotch Plains on Park Avenue. Plenty of delicious and healthy goods were on sale for the shoppers.

*'Nothing Works Without the Tool Kit' ~ Mayor Mahr*

## Mayors Supportive of Cap But Urge Reforms to Lower Spending

**By PAUL J. PEYTON**  
*Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*

WESTFIELD — New Jersey residents pay the highest the property taxes in the nation. With that in mind, Governor

Chris Christie and Senate President Stephen Sweeney (LD-3, West Deptford) came to an agreement on Saturday on a 2-percent cap on local government spending, with four exceptions, as a compromise to a 2.5-percent Constitutional "hard cap" sought by the governor and Mr. Sweeney's 2.9-percent statutory cap with exceptions.

The 2-percent plan includes exceptions for government capital spending and debt, health insurance premiums and pensions, rising school enrollments and states of emergencies.

While the Governor has called it "astounding" that taxes have jumped 70 percent between 1990 and 2009, from \$26.5 billion to approximately \$44.7 billion this year, Democrats say a 4-percent cap instituted in 2007 has kept average property tax increases statewide at an average of 3.3 percent. The 2.9-percent cap had passed both houses of the Legislature (44-33 in the Assembly and 23-17 in the Senate), but was conditionally vetoed by the Governor Tuesday as per his agreement with Mr. Sweeney.

"If the current (4-percent) cap can contain property taxes to their lowest increases in a decade, then a tighter cap can definitely push increases well below the Governor's magic 2.5-percent goal," Mr. Sweeney said earlier last week. "But we need to be smart. A rush to chisel a hard cap into the constitution would inevitably lead to a situation where a town has to close its police department because the price of gas spiked."

According to Governor Christie's office, taxes in Union County, specifically Cranford, Fanwood, Scotch Plains and Westfield, have averaged an annual

tax hike of 6 percent.

"It's time that we finally put the power to control property taxes in the hands of those who are paying the bills - New Jersey's overburdened taxpayers," the Governor said. The Christie administration said, had a 2.5-percent cap been in place in 1999, Fanwood residents would be paying an average of \$6,840 in taxes, a reduction of \$2,900; Garwood residents would be at \$6,300, \$1,490 less than they are paying; Mountainside, \$6,627, \$2,140 less, and Westfield, \$9,100, \$3,627 under what residents currently pay.

Senate Minority Leader Tom Kean, Jr. (LD-21, Westfield), Republican Leader in the upper house, said the 2-percent agreement "is good news for New Jersey residents who have been routinely subject to more than 7 percent property-tax increases over the past decade."

Prior to the agreement, *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* reached out to local mayors for comment. Among those supporting the governor's original plan is Westfield Mayor Andrew Skibitsky.

"I know, in the short-term, we could have some real challenges living under a two-and-a-half-percent cap," Mayor Skibitsky told *The Times* on Friday. "Honestly, I think the two-and-a-half-percent cap is going to make it tough for towns that are efficient and well run, but I think it's got to be done at the state level. I think it's good for the long-term health of the state — which would be good for the Town of Westfield!" He said Westfield struggled this year to come under the current 4-percent cap, even with \$600,000 in spending cuts, because revenues were down \$2 million.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

## SP Council Okays Budget; Municipal Taxes Up \$740,185

**By FRED T. ROSSI**  
*Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*

SCOTCH PLAINS — The township council gave its approval on Tuesday night to a 2010 municipal budget that a majority of members said was the best result possible given the large cut in state aid and large increases in non-discretionary spending.

By a 4-1 vote, with Councilman Kevin Glover voting no, the governing body approved the \$22.9-million spending plan three weeks after a public hearing. The formal vote was delayed because the state Division of Local Government Services, which oversees municipal governments, had not yet reviewed the township budget.

The average assessed home of \$122,400 will see a \$91.80 increase in the municipal portion of their tax bill. The budget will be financed via \$15.09 million in property taxes, up \$740,185 from last year; \$2.5 million from miscellaneous revenues; nearly \$800,000 from delinquent taxes and grants and \$2.227 million from state aid, which was cut 22 percent this year, or \$626,455.

Councilman Jeffrey Strauss on Tuesday said on the expenditure side of the ledger, salaries and wages were being reduced by \$278,000 this year, adding that there were no layoffs planned for what he termed a "bare bones staff" at the municipal building.

Describing the 2010 budget as "very, very, very tight," Mr. Strauss said township revenues — state aid and investment income, for instance — were weak and were at the root of the municipal financial problems. "We're not spending too much," Mr. Strauss said. "We are earning too little."

In addition, the municipal government is facing significant increases in group health insurance premiums (5

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

## Electrical Fire Heavily Damages Scotch Plains Home

**By PAUL J. PEYTON**  
*Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Union County Arson Squad has ruled a fire that heavily damaged a home on Westfield Road Circle on June 30 was electrical in nature.

According to Scotch Plains Fire Chief Jonathan Ellis, the 4:43 p.m. blaze began in a family room of a one-story addition behind the garage of the two-and-a-half-story frame structure. The fire was in the vicinity of Green Forest Park.

"When we got there, the fire was out the front window and the breezeway and was actually extending itself up the second floor," Chief Ellis told *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*.

The chief said when the fire started, which was reported by the family, the grandmother and her therapist were home but were out of the house when firefighters arrived. He said the heat was so intense it melted the siding on a neighbor's home.

Scotch Plains Police Detective Lieutenant Brian Donnelly added that, "It turned into a three-alarm," noting that in addition to Scotch Plains, firefighters from Fanwood, Westfield, Garwood, Clark and

Plainfield responded to the scene along with the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad. Meanwhile, Chief Ellis said, the Berkeley Heights, New Providence and Kenilworth fire departments covered Scotch Plains' fire headquarters while the township's firefighters were at the scene.

"It (the fire) was under control in about an hour," Chief Ellis said.

The Tri-County Chapter of the American Red Cross provided assistance in relocating the family, which included three generations of the Enard family: the grandmother and mother, both Mary Enard, and daughter, Catie Carr.

"The home faced extensive damage and is uninhabitable," according to Corinna Krauskopf, development and marketing officer for the Red Cross chapter. She said the family is staying with relatives. The Red Cross provided food and clothing assistance and two cots with bedding to help the family in their temporary home.

Chief Ellis said the fire damage was "limited" to the one-story addition, although the rest of the home sustained smoke and heat damage. He said gas, electric and water service to the home were turned off.



**TROUBLE...**The Scotch Plains Fire Department extinguishes a house fire on June 30 on Westfield Road Circle. See story on this page.

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Courtesy of Nancy Stabler  
**JUMPING FOR JOY...**A playful mood overtook pre-prom formality for these elegantly dressed Westfield High School seniors. From left to right are Mary McKevitt, Chloe Rothenberg, Grace MacKenzie and Darla Stabler.

## Owner of Sports Place in Fanwood Closes Business

FANWOOD—In a letter forwarded by the Fanwood Business and Professional Association, Sports Place on South Avenue announced it is closing for business.

“As of July 2010, Sports Place, as you know it, will be closing its doors. Thank you for all of your support over the past three years. It has been a very rewarding and challenging experience, and I am proud of the programs and events that we have implemented.

I am happy to announce that Scott Matthews of Intensive Therapeutics, Inc. will be taking over the location as of September 1, 2010. Scott has been a big part of the special-needs sports programs that we ran in conjunction

with the [Borough] of Fanwood. I will continue to work with Scott on projects and will continue to collaborate on programs and events. The facility will remain. We will still be available for groups and camps, as well as therapy services. Beginning in September, Music Together will also be offering classes. If you have any questions about Intensive Therapeutics and their programs, feel free to call Scott at: (973) 771-1582.

Once again, thank you! We look forward to the exciting changes and hope that you will continue to be a part of all of the great programs coming this fall.”

Maria Wester  
Owner

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## Scotch Plains - Fanwood Times only

The Westfield Leader and The Scotch Plains - Fanwood TIMES

## Area Residents Cycle for Cancer

By CHRISTINA M. HINKE  
Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

WESTFIELD — Two teams out of Westfield will join some 5,000 other cyclists in Massachusetts on August 7 and 8 for the massive two-day bike-a-thon, the Pan-Massachusetts Challenge (PMC), which raises money for cancer research and treatment at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

For 12 years, Ed Gallagher, 52, of Belvidere Avenue has ridden in the two-day cycling event and raised about \$400,000 to benefit cancer research and treatment at Dana-Farber. He and his team, ConvergeEx, are made up of friends from outside the region and Westfield-area residents, Ed Carr of Mountaintopside, Anthony Cook of Lenox Avenue and Mark Otto, a Westfield native who now resides in Red Bank, who ride regularly in a cycling club run out of Jay's Cycle Shop on North Avenue, where, for the last three years, they have held a charity auction to raise money for Dana-Farber.

One hundred percent of the money raised by riders during the PMC is given to the Jimmy Fund, which provides the main source of funding to Dana-Farber, whose discoveries reach worldwide. All of the services offered during the event are fully donated and staffed by some 3,000 volunteers, with Mr. Gallagher's two daughters among them.

Helping the institute fund its research and treatment that has helped save lives for over 50 years hits close to home for Mr. Gallagher, whose sister Eileen was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1999, and five years ago, at the age of 52, Eileen succumbed to the disease. “She was in remission for a while, and it came back and spread to her liver and lymph nodes,” he said. “She lived in Brooklyn. She left two boys, who are college age now, and a husband.”

“She was a big supporter of the Jimmy Fund,” Mr. Gallagher said of his sister. “She always felt they had the best research.”

“My mom had to go through a radical mastectomy. Today, many women don't have to go through that with new treatment,” said 37-year-old Mr. Carr. Today, his mom has fully recovered from the breast cancer she was diagnosed with in 1992.

His teammate, Mr. Cook, 46, has suffered the loss of his father, friends and in-laws to cancer, so when he decided last year to ride in PMC, he said, “My opportunity to do something about it is very minor — to sit on a bicycle for two days and 200 miles.” A 1981 alum of Westfield High School and president of the Westfield Foundation, Mr. Cook has raised about \$8,000 for the cause.

“My father succumbed to lung cancer at 59. He hadn't smoked in nine years. The doctors said smoking wasn't the cause of cancer, but I believe it was,” he said.

“I feel like cycling saved my life. I was

overweight and smoking. After 9/11, I was told by a psychologist to do something to burn off the adrenaline. I took up cycling and weight lifting. I hadn't exercised in 20 years. I developed a much healthier attitude and lifestyle,” Mr. Cook said.

John Coyle, 37, and Nicole Coyle, 36, and their friend, Greg Janaczek, make up part of the team, Matthew's Ducks, that will ride in the bike event on behalf of Matthew Bove, the son of Mr. Coyle's high school friend. At only 18 months old, Matthew was diagnosed with a rare form of liver cancer and was treated at Dana-Farber, where 70 percent of his liver was removed.

“It is somewhat of a miracle. They thought it had spread to the brain. They did an MRI, and it was completely gone,” Mrs. Coyle said.

This is the first year Mrs. Coyle and Mr. Janaczek will participate in the ride, with Mrs. Coyle riding a 47-mile loop on Sunday and Mr. Janaczek gearing up for the two-day Wellsley to Bourne 84-mile route and then the Wellsley to Wellsley route with Mr. Coyle.

Last year, Mrs. Coyle and her daughter and sister went to support her husband and the team on the sidelines. “You see the kids and their families, and it is really moving. It's not a race, it's a ride,” she said.

“For 200 miles, you are cheered along the route — cow bells, cheerleaders doing flips, bands playing...” said Mr. Gallagher. “Every 100 yards, there is someone and once you're in the city, it is 15 to 20-people deep. They are cheering and whooping it up. When you arrive in Provincetown at the finish line with people cheering, you can't help but cry. ... It's a tremendous feel-good weekend that you can't put into words.”

For Matthew's parents, that encouragement has helped them get through the difficulties they have faced since their son's diagnosis as an infant. “The amount of support they get is tremendous. They feel they couldn't have done this without all of the support,” Mrs. Coyle said.

“It's a great cause,” said Mr. Janaczek, whose grandmother was diagnosed with lung cancer about 15 years ago.

“It's a great way to stay active and a great way to donate to a good organization,” he said. He said his goal is to “finish with a decent time.”

“I remember last year riding and seeing a woman standing at the top of a hill gasping for breath. She said, ‘I'm going to make it!’” said Mr. Gallagher. “For many people, it's a heroic effort.” And that sentiment of heroism extends to not only the riders but also those battling the disease and those who survived.

To donate to the cause, go to Matthew's Ducks page: [www.pmc.org/egifts/NC0074](http://www.pmc.org/egifts/NC0074) or drop off a check to Jay's Cycle Shop made out to Jimmy Fund, with Mr. Gallagher and Mr. Cook's name on it or go to [pmc.org](http://pmc.org) and search for ConvergeEx or TC0135.

## SP Council Okays Budget

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

percent), as well as mandated contributions to the state's police and fire pension funds (11.1 percent) and public employees pension fund (14.8 percent).

Deputy Mayor Dominick Bratti said the \$91.80 municipal property-tax increase “is \$91.80 too much,” but said that under the circumstances, the 2010 spending plan was “the most fiscally responsible” budget the council could have crafted.

Councilwoman Mary DePaola agreed, calling it a “responsible budget” and the “best that we can do.”

As he did in 2007, 2008 and 2009, Councilman Glover voted against the budget, repeating his annual exhortation that “we can do better.”

He criticized this and previous councils for not giving consideration to his past suggestions for reducing the township's telephone costs by what he claimed would have been \$25,000 per year.

He also said the year-long shared services study with Fanwood, which was completed earlier this year, had not been acted upon in an effort to identify possible savings. Mr.

Glover said he could “guarantee” that if the public were asked to vote on this year's budget, they would reject it.

Mayor Nancy Malool said the council had “made really hard decisions last year” that resulted in this year's budget not including large tax hikes, layoffs or service cutbacks.

She lauded the efforts of Township Manager Chris Marion, who, she said, had required all municipal departments to reduce their spending this year. Looking ahead to 2011, she said the likely 2-percent property-tax cap to be mandated by the state is “going to be very hard to meet.” She warned of the possibility of “severe cutbacks” next year, but said this year's budget “is the best we can do.”

The mayor, responding to Mr. Glover's criticisms about the shared services study, said that even if all the study's recommendations were implemented, the savings to the average household would be about \$100 per year. “It's not the slam dunk” or “the answer that everyone's looking for,” she said.



Tom Fortunato for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times  
**REST STOP...**The Fortunato family of Scotch Plains brought along some good summer reading on their tour of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Virginia and North Carolina last month.

## Property Tax Cap Opinions

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

lion.

He said salaries and wages are the town's biggest expense. In that regard, he favors changing the state's binding arbitration law to make arbitrators “live within a two-and-a-half-percent cap” and requiring arbitrators to “take into effect what it (contract settlement) does for local property taxes.”

“Salaries and wages are our biggest expenses, [but] with binding arbitration, it's very hard to control that,” Mayor Skibitsky said. “With binding arbitration, the arbitrator just goes in and looks at the arguments... and sees what is happening in surrounding towns and other towns in the county and then tells you what you are going to pay.”

When asked if a hard 2.5-percent cap could result in municipal-worker layoffs, Mayor Skibitsky said, “We hope not. ... We are hoping the economy turns around and our revenues start picking up.”

The mayor said Westfield's municipal salaries and wages are down \$300,000 since 2007 “because we've been doing the things (such as eliminating some positions) that I think have to be done [in] other municipalities and other levels of government throughout the state — which I don't think is being done.”

He pointed to the amount of income taxes that Westfield residents pay into Trenton's coffers. “I think it's easy for government entities to spend other people's money. [Look at] how much money goes out of Westfield into Trenton [before] it gets dispersed around the state — virtually none of it coming back to Westfield,” Mayor Skibitsky said. “I think those municipalities need a cap, and I think it's going to help us in the long run.”

“If you're a municipality, and you're spending a lot of money that comes in from the state, where is the control there to make sure you are spending it efficiently?” Mayor Skibitsky questioned. “Do local residents really care if you are spending other towns' money? I don't think so.”

He said New Jersey's income tax was established in the 1970s for property tax relief. “We get almost none of it back now,” Mayor Skibitsky stated (in noting the state-aid reduction this years).

Mountaintopside Mayor Paul Mirabelli said, “In theory I support it (2.5-percent cap).”

“First of all, Mountaintopside doesn't need [a 2.5-percent cap]. We have the lowest taxes in the county. To force a two-a-half-percent cap on Mountaintopside — former mayor (Viglianti) did that before anyone talked about two-a-half percent,” Mayor Mirabelli said. He said his concern, however, is in areas such

as pensions, utilities and health care costs, which are out of direct control of the borough and could “eat away at the rest of the budget if we have a hard cap.”

He also opposes part of the proposal that would require towns that need to exceed the cap to put a referendum on the election ballot — which, if Mountaintopside needed to take such an action, he said, would cost the borough \$10,000, “and it delays the adoption of the budget because it takes 60 days to get a referendum out.”

Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr, former president of New Jersey Conference of Mayors, said she was not taking a position on the 2 percent cap until she sees the details. She said the cap should be done “statutorily” by legislation rather than constitutionally. She also said the state needs to stop “balancing the pensions on the backs of municipalities” and instead either fund the system or reduce this benefit to lower the costs for towns.

“The number of a cap (2 or 2.5 percent) is arbitrary because towns have [already] been dealing with caps for decades, and it has been working out,” she said, noting that the 4 percent has been in place since 2007. “It is nothing new for mayors.”

She said the Fanwood Borough Council only has control over 20 percent of the average \$10,000 property tax bill in her town, or \$2,000, which is spent on a “lot of valuable services” such as the police and public works.

Mayor Mahr said while she supports the exceptions to the 2-percent-cap proposal, she urges the legislature to get to work on approving the “tool kit.”

She said the kit needs to include arbitration reform, and it needs to get to mayors this summer, as towns are already well into the budget process by the time the fall arrives — the time when Senator Sweeney said he expected these reforms to be approved.

“They (legislature) should deal with the tool kit now. We need something more than a promise [to discuss the issue],” she said. “Nothing works without the tool kit.”

## Fanwood

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Kids Recreation Grant. A large percent of the money granted, which as of now stands at a total of \$171,000, is covered by donations from local organizations. Mr. Budiansky outlined plans that include a pavilion, a new basketball court and tennis court repairs at LaGrande Park.

The council suggested that, if granted, LIUNA employees with the necessary qualifications could perhaps engage in the LaGrande renovations.

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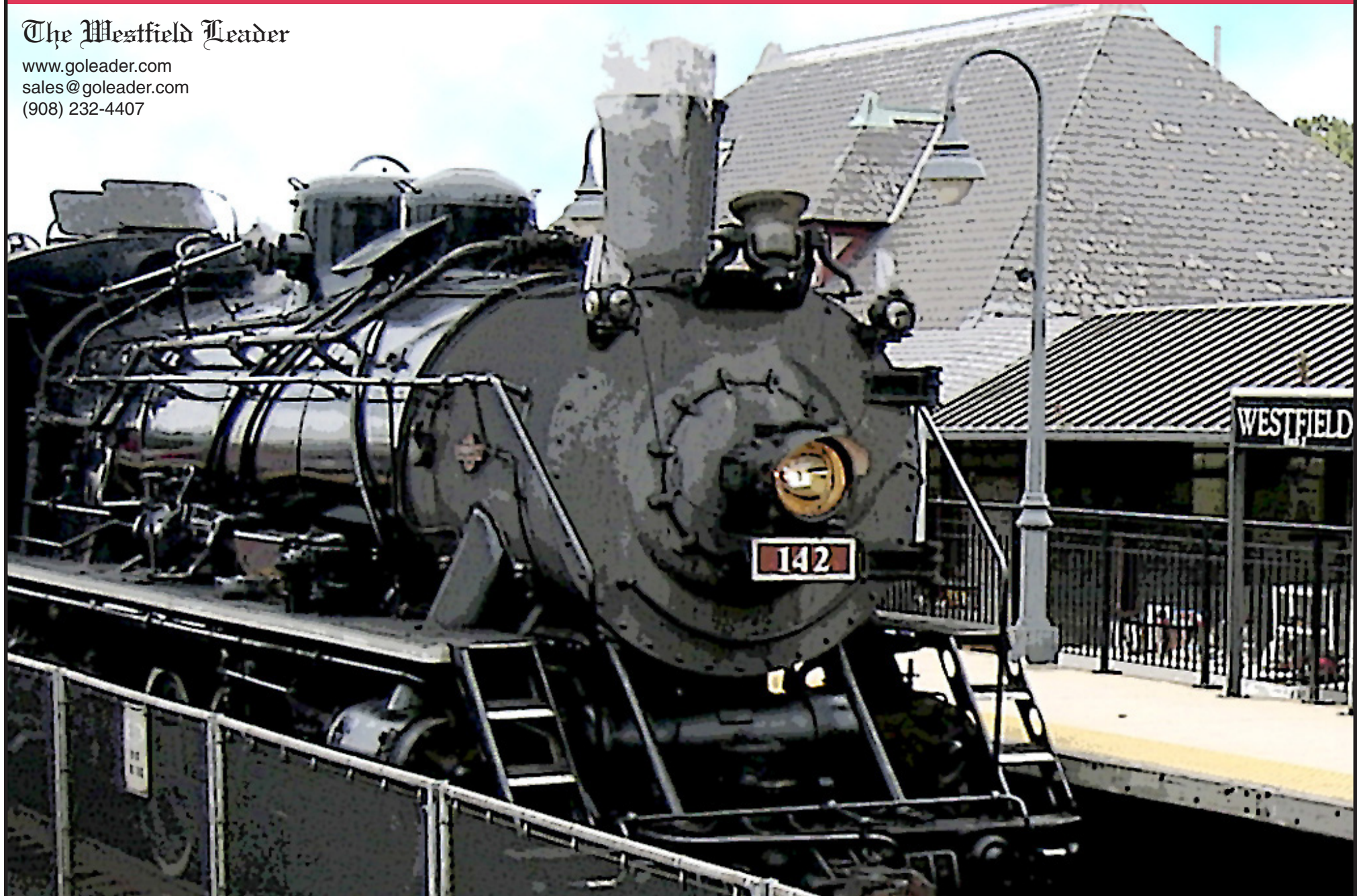
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HEADED TO ENGLAND...Major Joseph Boscia, the son of Joseph and Susan Boscia of Westfield, and his family are headed to Chatham, England, where the major has been selected as an exchange instructor at the British Royal Engineer School.

## Major Boscia to Be Instructor At British Royal Engineer School

WESTFIELD — Major Joseph Boscia has returned from his tour in Afghanistan because he was due for his permanent change of station – his next duty assignment. His Brigade Combat Team of the 101st Airborne Division remains in the country until the end of the year.

Major Boscia has been selected to be an exchange instructor at the British Royal Engineer School in Chatham, England, about an hour southeast of London. A U. S. Army engineer himself, Major Boscia holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering and a Master of Science degree in Engineering Management. He will

spend two years teaching British officers.

The major's wife, Nancy, and children, Alexis and Joseph William, will accompany him to England. Their children will attend Gads Hill School, which at one time was the summer home of Charles Dickens.

Major Boscia currently is attending a two-week course at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo., the U. S. Army's engineer school, prior to moving to England this month.

Major Boscia and family visited his parents, Joe and Sue Boscia, in Westfield over the Memorial Day holiday.

## WF 5K, Pizza Extravaganza Set for July 21 in Downtown

WESTFIELD — The ninth annual Downtown Westfield 5K and Pizza Extravaganza will be held Wednesday, July 21, with a start time of 7 p.m. This year, for the first time, the race will be pre-registration only by Saturday, July 17. All online registrations close at midnight on July 17, and all mailed entries must be post-marked by Thursday, July 15. T-shirts and d-tags can be picked up as early as 5 p.m. on race day. The event attracted over 2,500 runners and over 6,000 spectators last year.

According to Sherry Cronin, executive director of the Downtown Westfield Corporation, "While one-third of the runners last year were from Westfield, we had runners from one-half of all the towns in the State of New Jersey – a testament that this event draws people from a wide geographic area."

Trinitas Regional Medical Center is the 2010 Platinum Sponsor of the event. Stop & Shop and Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey are silver sponsorships. UBS Financial Services and Huntington Learning Centers will be new bronze sponsors. Williams Nursery, Shop-Rite, Drew-Rogers, Overlook Hospital, Westfield Pediatric Dental Group, and Greco Steam Carpet Cleaning have returned with bronze sponsorships. PSE&G and State Farm Insurance Christine Consenza Agency are contributing

sponsors. Capital One and Creative Dental Care have returned with supporting sponsorships.

The race will be held on the USATF certified course for the following route: Starting on East Broad Street, left onto North Euclid Avenue, left onto Park Drive through Mindowaskin Park, cross Mountain Avenue, right onto Lawrence Avenue, left onto Sylvania Place, right onto Elm Street, left onto Newton Place, right onto Prospect Street, left onto Brightwood Avenue, left onto Embree Crescent, left onto Eaglecroft Road, right onto Clark Street, left onto West Dudley Avenue, right onto Elm Street, and finishing just past East Broad Street. Pizza and dessert will be provided to all registered runners.

Entertainment will be provided by the Michael Craig Band, with an awards ceremony immediately following the race. Register by mail or online at [www.PracticeHard.com](http://www.PracticeHard.com).

To find out more about the Downtown Westfield 5K and Pizza Extravaganza and other events, contact Sherry Cronin or Beth Brenner at the Downtown Westfield Corporation at 105 Elm Street, Westfield, N.J., call or visit [WestfieldToday.com](http://WestfieldToday.com).

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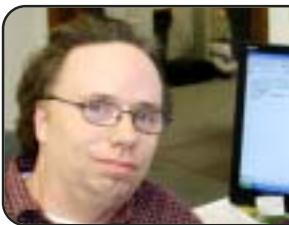


**Dental Update**

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

**DISPLAYING SENSITIVITY**  
If you have sensitive teeth, you are hardly alone. It is estimated that 40 million Americans share your discomfort. Fortunately, the cause of most cases of tooth sensitivity has been identified, and the cure may be as easy as modifying your tooth-brushing technique. According to a nationwide survey of 700 dentists, aggressive brushing and acidic foods and beverages are the leading culprits when it comes to tooth sensitivity, which results from nerve irritation. Other contributing factors include the use of certain toothpastes, mouthwashes, and tooth-whitening products, as well as cracked teeth, bulimia, and acid reflux disease. A switch to a desensitizing toothpaste and a toothbrush with softer bristles usually helps relieve the problem. Brushing may take the lead in the fight

against food and plaque build-up—the main causes of decay and gum disease—but it is important to do it correctly for maximum results, especially for those who have sensitive teeth. We'd be happy to show you the most effective way to brush and floss your teeth when you visit us for a cleaning. Remember, a sure investment in your future is a visit to your dentist today. New patients are always welcome at our centrally located office in Westfield at 131 South Euclid Ave. Office hours are by appointment, please call 908-654-6262. We accept major credit cards and dental insurance.  
*P.S. If you drink acidic soft drinks and fruit juices, avoid brushing your teeth immediately after drinking, when enamel is most vulnerable.* [www.drarida.com](http://www.drarida.com)



## Peyton's Peek at the Week In Politics

By Paul Peyton of *The Leader/Times*

### Christie, Senate Agree to 2 Percent Cap With Exceptions

Governor Chris Christie, Senate President Stephen Sweeney (LD-3, a Democrat from West Deptford) and Senator Tom Kean, Jr. (LD-21, Westfield), the Republican Leader, have agreed on a 2-percent property-tax cap (please see story on front page). Four exceptions to the cap would be included: capital spending and debt, health insurance and pension costs, school enrollment hikes and states of emergencies.

The Senate is expected to vote this week on amendments to S-29, Senator Sweeney's original 2.9-percent cap legislation. The General Assembly was expected to review the legislation beginning July 7. The Senate will also soon begin discussions on the Governor's 33-bill package, referred to as his "tool kit," which includes proposals such as arbitration reform to assist local governments in addressing collective bargaining in light of the lower property-tax cap.

Towns and school boards would have to seek voter approval to exceed the 2 percent cap beyond the exceptions.

### Bill Would Allow Libs. to Move Surpluses to Aid Town Budgets

The Senate and the General Assembly have granted final legislative approval to a measure sponsored by Senator Nicholas Sacco (LD-32, North Bergen) to enable public libraries with budget surpluses to aid their municipalities that are struggling with a decline in non-taxable revenues.

The bill, A-2911 and S-2070, would require a free municipal library to transfer any budget surplus amount that exceeds 20 percent of its audited operating expenditures for the previous year to the municipality in which it resides, excluding funds designated

for capital improvements or grants. Currently, municipal libraries may transfer any portion of surpluses over 125 percent of its current operating budget to the municipality upon approval by the State Librarian, excluding funds restricted for capital projects and grants.

### NJTA Executive Dir. Retires; MTA VP Assume Post

Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti has announced her retirement as executive director of the New Jersey Turnpike Authority (NJTA) effective August 31 after 31 years with the NJTA. She will be replaced by Veronique G. Hakim, senior vice-president for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (MTA) capital construction agency, according to the *Asbury Park Press*.

Transportation Commissioner James Simpson has denied that Ms. Gutierrez-Scaccetti was forced out. She was appointed executive director in September 2008.

### Freehold BOE Cuts 74 Positions As Part of \$2.65-Mil. Reduction

The Freehold Regional High School Board of Education has voted to cut its \$118.25 million tax levy by \$2.65 million, an amount determined by Education Commissioner Bret Schundler. The decision went to the commissioner after the eight towns that compose the district failed to come up with an amount to cut from the spending plan following its defeat by voters in April.

School officials have said the cut would mean the elimination of 66 teaching and media specialist positions, seven academic specialist jobs, and one administrative supervisor who are retiring. Another 76 full-time and five part-time jobs were eliminated in the district's originally proposed budget.

## Christie Applauds Purchase Of Bayonne Terminal Land

TRENTON — Calling it central to growing New Jersey's economy and creating meaningful jobs, Governor Chris Christie has commended the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey for their efforts to expand port operations with the acquisition of 130 acres at Marine Ocean Terminal at Bayonne (MOTBY) and the 98-acre Global Marine Terminal on Port Jersey.

"Generating nearly \$29 billion in commerce annually and supporting thousands of jobs, New Jersey's ports are one of our greatest resources to facilitate long-term growth and prosperity for the state," Governor Christie said. "The series of acquisitions and commitments recently made by the Port Authority will ensure the economic vitality of the ports and help make New Jersey a home for growth."

The purchase of land at the Marine Ocean Terminal at Bayonne encompasses nearly one-third of the industrially zoned peninsula and will increase the Port Authority's total acreage by approximately 4.5 percent, an enhancement for future maritime development. The Global Marine Terminal purchase will provide additional opportunities for cargo growth along the Port Jersey peninsula.

Earlier, the Port Authority signaled its priority commitment to repairing the Bayonne Bridge by announcing a

fast-track comprehensive review that will focus on providing best practices for fixing the bridge. The alterations must be made to accommodate larger vessels that will use the port after the Panama Canal widening is completed by mid-decade.

"The Port Authority began in 1921 with the mission of improving port facilities in New Jersey and New York and improving cooperation between the states," said former New Jersey state senator Bill Baroni, the Port Authority's deputy executive director. "This effort to expand the region's port facilities is the latest evidence of how well the port region has been served these past nine decades. When combined with our firm commitment to addressing the Bayonne Bridge clearance issue and protecting Port Elizabeth and Port Newark, I can say with certainty that the Port Authority is passionately pursuing its mission."

In addition, the Port Authority recently purchased for redevelopment the century-old Greenville Yards in Jersey City. When operational in 2013, the new barge-to-rail facility is expected to play a major role in eliminating 15 million vehicle miles traveled in New Jersey, cut down on the cost of highway maintenance and significantly reduce harmful air pollutants.



FUND TRANSFER...New Westfield United Fund President John Schmidt, left, receives the gavel from outgoing president David Foltz at the organization's Annual Meeting in May. Since its founding in 1937, the Westfield United Fund has raised more than \$25 million for local human services agencies like the Westfield Area "Y," The Arc of Union County, CONTACT We Care and the American Red Cross. For information on volunteer opportunities, contact [westfieldunitedfund.org](http://westfieldunitedfund.org).

## Higher Passport Fees Take Effect Tuesday, July 13

WESTFIELD—Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi is urging county residents who are planning to visit a foreign country in the next few months to apply for their passports as soon as possible before higher federal fees for passports take effect on Tuesday, July 13.

On that day, new fees for the U.S. Passport Book, the Passport Card, and other passport services will take effect. The new federal fee for an adult passport book (age 16 and older) will be \$110, an increase of \$35 over the current price. Passport books for children under age 16 will be \$80, an increase of \$20. The new fee for an adult passport card will be \$30, an increase of \$10. Passport cards for children will be \$15, an increase of \$5 over the current price. Each passport transaction includes a \$25 facility fee payable to Union County. This fee is not being increased.

Passport application forms may be obtained at the county clerk's main office in the Union County Courthouse at 2 Broad Street in Elizabeth or at the County Clerk's office annex at 300 North Avenue, East, in Westfield. Applications for passports and related information also can be found online at [ucnj.org/ctyclerk/passport.html](http://ucnj.org/ctyclerk/passport.html).

The Elizabeth office opens at 7:30

a.m. weekdays and has English and Spanish-speaking staff. The Westfield office has Saturday hours and evening hours during the week. The Westfield Annex, the only County Clerk's office in the state that is open during evening hours, is open 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays; 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays. The telephone number at the Westfield Annex is (908) 654-9859.

The Elizabeth office is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The telephone number in Elizabeth is (908) 527-4966. Clients are asked to arrive at least 15 minutes prior to closing time to allow for staff assistance with the passport process.

Travelers to Canada, Mexico, Bermuda and countries in the Caribbean also must have a valid passport to enter or depart from the United States.

"Even if your passport is still valid, some countries require passports to be valid for an additional six months after your visit," Ms. Rajoppi added. "This is an entry requirement in some countries, so it is important to call the country's embassy or check their website to look for specific passport expiration requirements before you travel."

For more information about obtaining a U.S. passport, call (908) 527-4966.

## N.J. Averts 'Devastating' Tax Hike In Unemployment Fund

TRENTON — Governor Chris Christie has signed S-1813 into law, which reform the state's Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund.

The governor said the legislation "protects New Jersey small businesses by preventing a devastating tax hike of up to \$683 per employee for employers who fund the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund."

The bill maintains revisions made by Governor Christie in his June 24 conditional veto of the legislation.

"There is no question that such an onerous tax hike right now on New Jersey's job creators would seriously damage our economy and derail our recovery," Governor Christie said. "I am thankful to the Legislature and the bill's sponsors for coming together to mitigate the financial impact on our state's small businesses, while taking the necessary steps to begin restoring solvency to the system."

The bill, as signed into law, averts an automatic, per-employee tax increase, that was to go into effect July 1, of up to \$683 that would have been needed to fund an insolvent Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund. Instead, the average increase will be reduced to \$130 per employee.

"The action taken by Governor Christie is great news for New Jersey's small businesses," said state Labor Commissioner Hal Wirths.

Additionally, S-1813 includes reforms to unemployment insurance benefits for employees who lose their jobs due to misconduct – reforms which will result in estimated annual savings of between \$150 and \$175 million, which the governor's office

said will help restore the trust fund's solvency over time. A three-tiered structure is now established (misconduct, severe misconduct and gross misconduct) which either prohibit payment of unemployment benefits or extend the waiting period before benefits can be paid.

The Governor's June 24 conditional veto of S-1813 also provided for the creation of an Unemployment Insurance Fund Task Force to study and assess, among other things, the current unemployment insurance crisis and recommend how the state can restore the trust fund to solvency. The task force will replace the Employment Security Council, a group that has not met in over five years.

The newly established task force will conduct a comprehensive review of all eligibility standards, benefit levels, definitions in the unemployment compensation law, statutory payroll tax triggers, contributions and experience rating tables and more.

The UI fund ran out of cash in March 2009, forcing New Jersey to borrow, to date, \$1.75 billion from the federal government to pay unemployment claims.

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LESSON IN GOVERNMENT...Chris Malley and Maxwell Lehnert, third-graders at Franklin School, recently interviewed Westfield Mayor Andy Skibitsky for a class project on local government.

## SP GOP Campaign Release: Trifiro, Patti, Vastine Scotch Plains GOP Slate Endorses Christie 2.5 Cap

*Editor's note: The following release was issued prior to Saturday's 2 percent cap agreement.*

Sal Trifiro, Tony Patti, and William "Bo" Vastine, Republican candidates for the Scotch Plains township council, have announced their support of the Governor's 2.5 cap initiative, which has become the centerpiece of the Christie administration's effort to rein in escalating property taxes throughout New Jersey.

"We are all in agreement that the property tax crisis is the number one issue on the minds of not only Scotch Plains residents but all citizens of New Jersey," Mr. Vastine said. "With our new governor's leadership, we are finally seeing an acknowledgement that it is state government that must provide the tools to municipal officials necessary to deal with rising property taxes. The constitutional amendment limiting annual property tax increases to 2.5 percent in addition to a series of other legislative proposals will, in fact, give governing bodies, like the Scotch Plains township council, the ability to stem the tide of ever-escalating property taxes."

Mr. Trifiro added, "As with any new course of action coming from state government, the debate will be tainted with politics, and we are already starting to see that happen."

"Democrats in Trenton are now touting their own 2.9 percent annual property tax cap but our residents need

to understand a clear difference between the Republican and Democrat plans. The Democrats are proposing changes that will be accomplished solely by legislative action. We have seen this before from them. New laws for property tax relief, most fraught with loopholes, were enacted only to be disregarded or abandoned by future legislators. It's like Charlie Brown attempting to kick the football only to be suckered again and again by Lucy.

"Our citizens are fed up with politics as usual in Trenton and should be relieved to see that the Republican plan will actually amend our constitution to limit property tax increases. Scotch Plains, and others like us, will finally get the protection it needs from the whims of future state legislators and an activist Supreme Court."

Mr. Patti concluded, "And speaking of our Supreme Court, it is time for our Governor and Legislature to stand up to the activism of past Supreme Court decisions, which have been a prime factor in the scourge of rising property taxes in suburban communities like Scotch Plains. If Trenton would only provide a more equitable formula for state funding of municipalities and, especially, school districts, property taxes could return to levels that would attract residents and businesses instead of chasing them off to more tax-friendly states."

## Stender Seeks to Reverse Christie Family Services Cut

TRENTON – Legislation sponsored by Assemblywomen Linda Stender (LD-22, Fanwood) that would reverse the Christie administration's decision to cut family planning in the proposed budget, restoring \$7.5 million in for the programs, has been released by a 5-4 vote by an Assembly panel. The Assembly Democratic lawmaker said she was disturbed not only by the administration's proposed budget cuts for family planning, but by the administration's decision to withdraw an application that could have brought federal money into New Jersey to provide family planning for those who otherwise would not be eligible.

The state's Department of Human Services has also withdrawn an application that would have extended Medicaid coverage for family planning. The federal government reimburses New Jersey Medicaid expenditures for fam-

ily planning at the rate of 90 percent.

"Refusing federal funding for essential health care services is the height of fiscal irresponsibility," said Asw. Stender, a vocal opponent of Governor Christie's plan to cut family planning services. "Restoring the funding will save lives and money and will keep New Jerseyans – especially women – from needlessly dying from diseases that can be treated with proper screening." The legislation, A-3019, calls upon the state human services commissioner to submit an application to the federal government to expand Medicaid's coverage so that individuals with incomes of up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level can receive family planning services from Medicaid. Current law requires recipients to make no more than 100 percent of the federal poverty level.

By expanding Medicaid, New Jersey would receive \$9 in federal aid for every \$1 spent in Medicaid funding. More than 136,000 patients were served by family planning in New Jersey last year, helping prevent 40,000 pregnancies and 19,000 abortions and saving the state more than \$150 million. Family planning services involve contraception; gynecological exams; high blood pressure, anemia and diabetes screenings; breast and cervical cancer screenings and education; screenings and treatment for sexually-transmitted infections; HIV testing and counseling, pre-pregnancy counseling and education; pregnancy testing and confirmation and prenatal care.

### Panel to Address School Funding Issue

TRENTON — Senator Michael Doherty (LD-23, Washington), a member of the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee, expressed optimism that the inequities in the state school funding formula will be addressed during the special summer session on property taxes. "This is good news for every property owner in the state...its [our] constitutional duty to provide fair and reasonable state funding for schools," Mr. Doherty said.

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## Medical Marijuana Act Deadline Moving to Oct. 1

TRENTON – The state Senate has given the Christie administration an additional 90 days to implement the state's new medical marijuana law, the New Jersey Compassionate Use Medical Marijuana Act, sponsored by Senator Nick Scutari (LD-22, Linden). The extension bill, which also passed in the Assembly, heads to Governor Chris Christie for consideration.

The medical marijuana law authorizes the Department of Health and Senior Services to issue registry identification cards to qualifying patients who have been diagnosed by a licensed physician with whom they have an existing relationship, as having a "debilitating medical condition" to use medical marijuana.

The registry card will contain the name, address and date of birth of the patient, the date of issuance and expiration of the card, photo identification of the cardholder, and other information that the Commissioner of Health specifies by regulation. A patient who possesses a registry card will not be subject to arrest, prosecution or penalty by state or local authorities for the medical use of marijuana.

The bill would also allow for the establishment, registration and administration of alternative treatment centers and entities, which would acquire, possess, cultivate, manufacture, deliver or dispense marijuana or related supplies and educational materials to registered qualifying patients.

The new deadline to implement the medical marijuana law is October 1. The Senate passed the extension by a vote of 27-5.

"While I believe this program should have been ready for implementation as originally scheduled, I agreed to grant the administration additional time out of respect for a genuine effort on their part to ensure it's done right," Sen. Scutari said.



Darragh Valli

### Vali Promoted to VP At Family Investors

FANWOOD — Fred J. Chemidlin, Jr., chief executive officer, and Peter Chemidlin, president, of Family Investors in Fanwood, have announced that Darragh Valli has been named vice-president of operations.

Ms. Darragh joined the company in 2000 as operations manager after a career at Lord Abbett & Co. as the director of sales support. She lives in Scotch Plains with her husband, Peter, and their children, Sean and Micaela.

### Brian Foley Joins Matheny Board

WESTFIELD — Brian Foley of Westfield has joined the Board of Trustees of the Matheny Medical and Educational Center in Peapack, a hospital for children and adults with medically complex developmental disabilities. Mr. Foley is a partner at Schenck, Price, Smith, and King, a Morristown-based law firm focusing on healthcare law and representing clients that include healthcare systems, hospitals and physicians.

Prior to that Mr. Foley was vice-president and general counsel for Cathedral Healthcare System in Newark. He has a Bachelor of Arts in Economics, cum laude, from Villanova University and a Juris Doctorate degree, cum laude, from the Seton Hall University School of Law.

"This was not an easy decision, as thousands of sick and dying residents are in desperate need of the relief provided by the medicinal use of marijuana."

"Further, this law was signed in January, giving the administration six months to sort out questions concerning growth and distribution," Senator Scutari said.

"While the governor's office requested up to a year delay, another 90 days is a reasonable compromise. But let me be clear, I expect the administration to move expeditiously to complete its work by the new deadline. Too many people suffering with severe and debilitating illnesses, some of them terminal, have already waited too long," the Senator said.

Under the law debilitating medical conditions which would permit the prescription of medical marijuana include: cancer, glaucoma, positive HIV/AIDS status or other chronic, debilitating diseases or medical conditions that produce, or the treatment of which produces, wasting syndrome, severe or chronic pain, severe nausea, seizures, or severe and persistent muscle spasms.

The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services would have the authority to include other medical conditions as it sees fit. The bill was signed into law January 18, one day before Governor Jon Corzine left office.

### Kean: Budget Is 'Blue Print for Fiscal Sanity'

TRENTON — Senate Republican Leader Tom Kean, Jr. (LD-21, Westfield) issued the following statement on the passage and signing of the Fiscal Year 2011 budget:

"This year's state budget was drafted in the most demanding fiscal environment in decades. The Legislature had to close an opening \$11-billion shortfall, the largest per capita deficit in the nation.

"The common-sense budget that Governor Christie signed [June 29] is a fiscally responsible, honest and forthright budget that will begin to return New Jersey to prosperity. The Governor's blue print for fiscal sanity will be a model for many states dealing with budget shortfalls. We only need to look to our neighbor, New York, to see Democrat leaders embracing the same spending restraint that is the lynchpin of Governor Christie's plan."

### Seminar to Be Held On Divorce Issues

AREA – MASH, a support group for singles that meets on Monday evenings at St. Luke's Elementary School in North Plainfield, will welcome Andrew Economos of Dughi and Hewit P.C. on July 19.

Mr. Economos will present an overview of the divorce process. He will address alimony, child support and custody, parenting time, division of property, divorce mediation, misconceptions about the divorce process and more during this seminar.

Doors will open at 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$3. St. Luke's School is located at 300 Clinton Avenue. Refreshments will be available. For more information, call Roberta at (908) 889-7243.



Courtesy of Ben DeMarzo

TACKLING TRENTON TAXES...New Jersey Governor Chris Christie thanks Assembly Republican Leader Alex DeCrose (LD-26, Morris Plains) and Assembly Republican Conference Leader Jon Bramnick (LD-21, Westfield) on July 3 during the special legislative session called by the Governor to develop a property tax cap bill.

## DeCrose and Bramnick Talk on 2.5 Percent Cap

TRENTON — *Editor's note: The following release was issued prior to Saturday's 2 percent cap agreement.*

Following Governor Christie's address to a Special Joint Legislative Session on Thursday, Assembly Republican Leader Alex DeCrose (LD-26, Morris Plains) and Conference Leader Jon Bramnick (LD-21, Westfield) said they hoped Democrats would come on board with either the original constitutional 2.5 cap legislation or the governor's new proposal that offers a statutory solution.

"The Assembly Republicans would prefer a constitutional amendment capping spending at 2.5 percent, but we are willing to work with the governor and Democrats on the 2.5 statutory compromise he outlined in his (July 1) address," Asm. DeCrose said. "The governor has offered an opportunity for compromise, but it is essential the core principles contained in the concurrent resolutions (ACR 130 and 131) remain intact. We are resolved to fixing a problem that has

plagued taxpayers for decades and are committed to providing sustained and real relief. We hope the majority party will join us in that effort."

The governor told the Legislature he would be willing to consider a fix by way of statute, but key pieces of the cap bill must remain, including letting voters have a say on exceeding the cap, and only permitting debt payments as the exception to the cap. Governor Christie also said existing collective bargaining agreements would be honored, but the new law would then be applied to any future contract agreements.

"The governor made a fair and reasonable offer to the other side of the aisle," commented Asm. Bramnick. "The bottom line is this Legislature must be willing to do whatever is necessary to make sure we provide real and permanent property tax reform for taxpayers. If that means staying here all summer, so be it."

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Interactions of the Enterprise: Spending, Taxes, Debt and Priorities

By HORACE CORBIN  
For The Westfield Leader and The Times

Since March, this column has been analyzing the fiscal emergency using Westfield as a model — More than two-dozen articles have been published. See goleader.com/planet. Former Westfield Councilman Sal Caruana contributed substantially to the effort.

The discussion can be extrapolated for neighboring towns, considering: municipal and county governments, public schools and sewer authorities (RVSA). Planet Westfield is about a \$175 million-a-year enterprise. The school system is \$90 million; municipal government is \$40 million, and \$45 million is attributable to Union County. The enterprise grows at 4 to 8 percent per year. At a 6-percent compounded growth rate, the enterprise doubles in size every 12 years.

Taxpayer liability for unfunded pension accounts totals about \$50 billion in the state. Westfield’s share of the state pension debt is about \$180 million, or \$18,000 per household. Other debt (bonds) of about \$100 million includes \$28 million from the school system, \$28 million from the county, \$18 million from the municipality and about \$28 million from RVSA.

As determined by the state for tax assessing, Westfield’s property is valued at about \$5 billion. The state values the total county property at about \$50 billion. Westfield, with 6 percent of the county population of 515,000, pays 10 percent of the county taxes. By comparison, Elizabeth, with a population of about 120,000 (23 percent), also pays about 10 percent of the county taxes.

Where Are We Now?

The state legislature agreed on a tax cap this past weekend, hailed by them as a victory for the taxpayer. We hope it is not a “save-face political agreement.” They said that the 14 “Swiss Cheese” holes of past caps were reduced to only four. But, with the holes that are left, one can drive a Mack Truck through them.

We hope their action is not a “Trojan Horse,” where they offer an apparent “gift” to the taxpayer in one hand while, at the same time, anchoring the existing malfeasance — such as when they legislated that dual-office holding is no longer legal, except for those already doing it — aka State Senate President Stephen Sweeney.

It appears that they may have wiped their hands of the problems, kept all the money and passed the problems on to the local level. Is the state telling residents if you want a police force, crossing guards or public works, then a separate vote for another tax is required? Conspicuously absent since the beginning of the debates is any dialogue about county taxes.

The State of New Jersey passed a \$29-billion budget in June, described as austerity. We’ve been told that about 60 percent of this, one way or the other, goes to education. If so, about \$15 to \$17 billion of state money is earmarked to education. \$10 billion in income tax, \$8 billion in sales tax, \$2 billion in corporate tax, \$1 billion from the federal government and \$8 billion in other taxes and fees fund the state budget.

Property taxes amount to another \$40 billion or so; of this, 60 to 65 percent goes to education — about \$25 billion? The numbers from the state are a little unclear.

The above numbers don’t address pension-system obligations, an issue of great magnitude. The courts and the legislature have found it appropriate, or essential, to defer this reality.

Given the above assessment, it is clear why there is such a battle over the taxpay-

ers’ education dollars between Governor Chris Christie and the New Jersey Education Association (NJEA, the teachers union). The Governor wants the union’s books audited. He wants the public to know where \$140,000,000 in dues are going — \$700 per year for each of the 200,000 members. The union claims it is a private organization and is not subject to disclosure. Maybe so, we say, but try to get a teacher’s job in this state without paying the dues. We understand that the NJEA has many partners in this battle, such as insurance and health care lobbyists. There is a long list of special interest groups.

Fait Accompli, The NJEA

In March, the Westfield Board of Education approved a three-year contract with the teachers’ union, giving pay increases of 4 percent for each of the next three years in spite of the fact that the contract was not set to expire until June 30, 2010 — and that state-aid numbers were not yet known. State aid turned out to be \$4 million less than expected. BOE officials received criticism, as they and the public were well aware of the Governor’s desperate need to bring finances in order.

After a bitter and highly publicized dispute between the NJEA and the Governor, the public defeated 60 percent (an historic high) of local school budgets throughout the state. The Westfield school budget, a 4-percent increase over the previous year, passed — though an incumbent seeking reelection to the BOE was soundly defeated.

Defeated school budgets, such as Scotch Plains-Fanwood, were turned over to their respective town councils for decision. Councils made trivial cuts to budgets, and school taxes increased by 4 to 6 percent throughout the state.

In Westfield’s case, with the loss of \$4 million in state aid, coupled with 4-percent raises given, layoffs are occurring to those not protected by the union.

The Westfield School District is successful compared to others throughout the state. Its cost to educate a student is about \$16,000 per year. In comparison, Union City, which receives massive state aid and performs poorly in educating its students, spends about \$23,000 per year, per student.

A retired school superintendent of Newark lamented to this newspaper that the school system there was merely an “employment agency,” having little to do with educating the kids despite being given hundreds of millions of dollars in state aid. Before a packed theatre in Westfield, *Cartel The Movie* stunned the audience in highlighting these issues.

In irony, Plainfield residents defeated their school budget, though the spending plan is nearly completely funded with state aid. Plainfield residents are embittered by the bleak education results of their kids. Their system and management appear dysfunctional. Two years ago, their BOE hired an uncertified superintendent at \$200,000 per year — Steve Gallon from Miami—who, in turn, brought with him uncertified assistants. Mr. Gallon is now on administrative leave, being paid, we understand, while he faces fraud charges on other matters.

The Plainfield City Council passed its defeated school budget, as it realized others are paying it for — not from property taxes from residences. It makes one wonder. If the citizens of the state are paying for the schools in Plainfield and other such cities, why are the local BOEs and councils given the authority to handle

continued above



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AMERICA...Union County Freeholders Alexander Mirabella and Bette Jane Kowalski hand out American flags to the crowds at the 87th Annual Central Jersey Fourth of July Parade in Plainfield.



Cranford’s Great Canoe Race July 4th

Planet Westfield continued

the money and issue contracts? Clearly, by this example, there is no accountability — no education of the youth — and a drain on every taxpayer’s money.

In an epilogue to Plainfield’s woes, the city has been searching for a chief financial officer for months. They’ve been unsuccessful in finding a person, as it seems no one wants to apply for the job.

There are some school systems in which the public gets no vote or say on how matters are run and funded. The County of Union funds and operates five high schools, as example. Another “no voting or no public oversight” example is the Morris-Union School District, in which superintendent Kim Coleman earns \$237,000 a year (2008 data). The Governor wants to pass a law that no public employee salary shall exceed that of the Governor (\$175,000 maximum). We understand why.

It begs the question: “Why bother to vote on school budgets?” The situation is fait accompli.

Following Up

We have invited our state leaders and town mayors to discuss these subjects during this summer. We will publish their views. We ask for your comments.



By Paul Lachenauer  
HEAR YE, HEAR YE...Lowell Schantz, Westfield’s town crier, gives attendees to the Westfield Community Band’s Independence Day Celebration reports on the news of the day.

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Letters to the Editor

Willow Grove Pool Has Done Nothing Wrong on Cell Tower Issue

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

The first amendment of the United States Constitution guarantees that everyone is entitled to express his or her opinion without fear of retribution. In no way, shape or form does this statement allow an individual or group to represent his or her beliefs in an illegal, immoral or inaccurate way. Yet, in the months since word of a possible cell tower at Willow Grove Swim Club made its way into the public, I personally have received threatening — anonymous — e-mails, have had illegally distributed propaganda — filled with inaccurate misinformation — placed in my mailbox, anonymously; I’ve been accosted at my place of worship and have read many disparaging, anonymous, letters about myself and my family.

I am a former member of both the McGinn PTA board and the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education — neither of which have ever had any involvement whatsoever in the cell tower issue; because it involves *private property*. I am not now, nor have I ever been, a member of the board of the Willow Grove Swim Club, as has been erroneously reported on numerous occasions; I am, however, a voting member, as is everyone who belongs to the pool.

That said, I would like to make clear the actual responsibilities of such elected officials. When an individual is elected to serve on a board, it is not so he or she can agree with the personal opinions of his friends and neighbors. Rather, the ultimate goal of a board is to examine all sides of an issue and make the best decision for the most people, based on facts.

The damage that has been caused to a once-very-pleasant neighborhood by the “fight the cell tower” group is absolutely disgraceful. For months, they tried arguing about fear for their families’ health, posting lots of hysterical misinformation on anonymous blogs. When at some point the need for actual facts was realized, it was finally revealed that the real fear was about property values. Really? This is 2010; we live in a wireless world. Who do you think wants to buy a house with no cell service and scattered WiFi connectivity?

Unlike nearly all of the surrounding towns, Scotch Plains does not have a municipal pool, nor does it appear that there are plans to create one any time soon. Instead, we rely on a few small, member-run, private pools to provide some family summer fun. Such pools have had their share of challenges, particularly in recent years, and have had to resort to creative measures to keep their heads above water, both literally and figuratively. Why, then, are the members of Willow Grove being vilified for trying to preserve the sense of community we have created there? Why, for once, shouldn’t

several hundred families from Scotch Plains and Fanwood have a say in how some of this creative funding should be spent?

Unlike the anti-cell tower group, Willow Grove Pool has done absolutely nothing wrong; the pool was approached with the idea or erecting the tower, and all appropriate avenues have been followed to determine the prudence of this possibility.

The fact that neighbors not fighting against this tower are now uncomfortable walking their pets in the street, and Willow Grove Board members are not willing to make public statements for fear of harassment, is reprehensible. Perhaps more so is the fact that this group has now taken their hysteria to a new level, calling the police on a regular basis to complain about children enjoying themselves at the pool, because they are “making too much noise!”

Noise ordinances are in place for a reason — largely so that we don’t have to listen to lawnmowers and construction work at 6 a.m. on a Saturday morning. Why, then, are the Scotch Plains police feeding this frenzy by responding to such calls at 4:30 in the afternoon on Sunday, the 4th of July, or at 7:30 p.m. during an annual swim meet? These events are well within compliance of the ordinance, so why is the pool, once again, being vilified?

I am horrified to be surrounded by such ignorance. Harassment, slander, propaganda, unfounded complaints — at what point is enough, enough? Every morning, I wake up hoping that what I will see out my windows and in place of the “stop the cell tower signs” that have been so carefully angled to my front door, there are a few “For Sale” signs. One can dream.

Jane Costello  
Scotch Plains

Bramnick Calls Tax Agreement ‘Historic’

TRENTON — Assemblyman Jon Bramnick (R - Westfield), released the following statement in response to the property tax reform agreement on July 3:

“This is a historic day for the State of New Jersey and its taxpayers. A determined Governor Christie and Assembly Republicans were able to prevail in our quest to put New Jersey taxpayers first and give them a reform plan that will finally bring government spending and property taxes under control and put that control in the hands of taxpayers, who will now have the power to determine their own taxes.

“The governor and the Republican caucus understand the hardships our State’s crushing property tax burden causes our citizens, and that’s why Governor Christie and Assembly Republicans continued to work this holiday weekend on behalf of all our residents to achieve this tough plan that will finally harness the State’s escalating property taxes.”

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## Live Outdoor Plays to Take Place at Borough Library

MOUNTAINSIDE – An annual tradition will return to the Mountainside Public Library this month with outdoor evening performances of two British comedies. The library is located on Constitution Plaza in Mountainside.

The Next Stage Ensemble of the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey will perform William Shakespeare's *As You Like It* and Ahpra Behn's *The Rover* in front of the library. *As You Like It* will be performed at 7 p.m. on Friday, July 16. *The Rover* will be performed at 7 p.m. on Friday, July 30.

*As You Like It* tells the tale of Rosalind, banished by her cruel uncle, who must disguise herself as a boy and flee to the Forest of Arden. Surrounded by courtiers and fools, shepherds and outlaws, the plucky heroine becomes a catalyst for change, bringing about laughter, love and reconciliation. Abigail Isaac, an alumna of The Shakespeare Theatre's professional training program, is the director.



Dinah Dunn

### Author Dunn to Read Ghostly Tales July 16

GARWOOD – Author Dinah Dunn will present an afternoon of ghostly tales at the Garwood Public Library on Friday, July 16, at 2 p.m. These stories are suggested for children ages 7 to 12, but may be too intense for those younger than 7.

Ms. Dunn is the author of "Haunted Houses" and "Spooky Cemeteries," which won the 2009 Children's Choice Book Award. She will read selections from these books. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to stay with the children during the program.

Registration is required and can be done in person at the library, by calling (908) 789-1670 or at the library's interactive calendar website: [youseomore.com/Garwood](http://youseomore.com/Garwood).

The Garwood Public Library is located at the corner of Third Avenue and Walnut Street, at the back of the Lincoln School complex. Summer hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The library is closed on Saturdays during the summer.

## Westfield Rotary Reveals Program Topics For July

WESTFIELD – The Rotary Club of Westfield has announced its program topics for July. Founded in 1921, the club is a non-denominational service organization of professional women and men who live or work in the Westfield area.

"Pure Water Update on Haiti" will be the program for July 13. Byron Miller, Rotary Club of Westfield member, Assistant District Governor and Rotary International Service Above Self Award recipient, will be the featured speaker.

Mr. Miller spearheads the district's efforts in supporting clean water initiatives through Pure Water for the World. He recently traveled to Haiti, where the organization has been instrumental in implementing clean water programs.

"Making Your Presentations Engaging, Memorable and Profitable" will be the July 20 topic. Certified speaking coach and award-winning speaker Lewis Roth will be the presenter. He has helped hundreds of professionals to improve their public-speaking and communication skills. For more information, visit [hightouchspeaking.com](http://hightouchspeaking.com).

The Westfield Rotary Club Assembly will take place on July 27. Club assemblies are an opportunity for the club leadership to engage members by discussing issues and reviewing goals and processes.

As Rotary International begins a new year, this Club Assembly will

An often-overlooked classic of 17th-century theater, *The Rover* is full of action, swashbuckling adventure and true – and false – love. Through a series of intrigues and mistaken identities, the play's young heroine uses her wit and imagination to prevail in a man's world. Longtime Shakespeare Theatre company member Doug West is the director.

Admission will be free and open to the public. Both performances are made possible by support from the Friends of the Mountainside Library.

This year marks the Next Stage Ensemble's 18th year. "We're really excited about bringing the NSE back to Mountainside for another year," said Library Director Mike Banick. "The 'Plays in the Parking Lot,' as we like to call them, are very popular summer programs."

The performances will run about an hour each, with time at the end of each show for audience feedback and questions-and-answers. Attendees are asked to bring a blanket or lawn chair and to try to arrive early. Parking will be available until 6:45 p.m., and the shows will start promptly at 7 p.m.

In the event of rain, performances will be held in the Mountainside Borough Hall Community Room, located at 1385 Route 22, East. For more information, visit the library's website, [mountainsidelibrary.org](http://mountainsidelibrary.org), or call the library at (908) 233-0115.

### Biblical Oils Program Is Set For Tomorrow

WESTFIELD – "Essential Oils from Biblical Times" will be the topic of a program hosted by the First Congregational Church tomorrow, Friday, July 9, from 7 to 9 p.m. It will be free and open to the public.

Organized by the church's Women's Fellowship, "Essential Oils" will explore the biblical tradition of using oils to protect and anoint, as well as modern-day uses for health and healing.

Participants will learn why frankincense was regarded as holy, why Mary of Bethany used spikenard on Jesus' feet before the last supper, and what spice traders knew about using oils to survive plagues.

Led by Lisa Thornton, a certified clinical aromatherapist, the program will offer participants an opportunity to experience firsthand these and other essential oils and learn how they are still used in everyday life.

This program will be held in the church's Coe Fellowship Room, which can be entered from the rear of the church. The First Congregational Church is located at 125 Elmer Street in Westfield. Pre-registration is encouraged. To register, e-mail [akm8387@yahoo.com](mailto:akm8387@yahoo.com) or call the church office at (908) 233-2494.

focus on the guidelines and criteria used for the annual awards the Westfield club distributes locally and abroad. Chairpersons of the Community Grants, Scholarship and Philhower Award committees will offer insight into their decision-making process.

Rotary Club members are volunteers who work locally, regionally and internationally to provide service to others, to promote high ethical standards and to advance world understanding, goodwill and peace through its fellowship of business, professional and community leaders.

One of 33,000 clubs in 160 countries worldwide that make up Rotary International, the Rotary Club of Westfield is the largest provider of scholarships to Westfield students and a major contributor to community grants as well as multiple international projects.

Westfield Rotary meets 50 weeks per year on Tuesdays, from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m., for lunch and a program in the second-floor Kellogg Room at the Westfield Area "Y," located at 220 Clark Street in Westfield. Guests are welcome at any weekly club meetings.

Anyone interested in attending a program or learning more about the Rotary Club of Westfield may contact Ray Kostyack, president, at (908) 789-7834 or [raymond.kostyack@wachoviasec.com](mailto:raymond.kostyack@wachoviasec.com), or visit [westfieldrotary.com](http://westfieldrotary.com).



SILVER SHABBAT...Congregation Beth Israel in Scotch Plains held its second annual "Silver Anniversary Shabbat" on the evening of May 14. Congregants who have belonged to the synagogue for 25 years or more were honored at a special Shabbat service and dessert reception afterwards. More than 140 congregants have earned this distinction. Congregation Beth Israel plans to hold this event every year, as additional members achieve this milestone.

## Opportunities Available To Be 4-H Club Leader

WESTFIELD – Area residents who have a hobby, interest or passion they would like to share with youngsters are invited to lead a Union County 4-H club. No previous experience in working with children is required.

Trained 4-H staffers will provide guidance and supplies, and another adult will provide supervision for the children. 4-H Club meetings generally take place once a month, from September to June. They are held at the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Office, located at 300 North Avenue in Westfield. All clubs are small, with a limit of 10 children or less.

The clubs are formed based on the interests of 4-H members, who range in age from kindergarten through high school. This year, club leaders with an interest in cooking,



4-H FUN...Melissa Stryker, a 4-H volunteer, helps 4-H Club member Ben Kuperschmid of Scotch Plains with a project. The Union County 4-H Club is seeking individuals willing to share their hobbies or interests with children.

## Service League Announces Recipients of 2010 Grants

SCOTCH PLAINS – At the May Banquet of the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League, Carol Marquardt, Gifts and Donations chairwoman, announced the recipients of the 2010 grants awarded to 19 charitable organizations by the league.

The \$23,000 donation was generated through the league's thrift shop at 1730 East Second Street in Scotch Plains. All profits realized from the store are donated back into the surrounding communities.

Organizations receiving donations include Children's Specialized Hospital, \$1,000; CONTACT We Care, \$1,100; Fanwood Arts Council, \$300; Fanwood Memorial Library, \$600; Fanwood Rescue Squad, \$1,000; Fanwood-Scotch Plains Girl Scouts, \$400; Flintlocks – Boy Scouts of America, \$400; Homefirst, \$1,500; Literacy Volunteers of Union County, Inc., \$400; Master Gardeners of Union County, \$500; Mobile Meals of Westfield, \$500; Resolve Community Counseling Center, \$1,500; Scotch Plains-Fanwood Preschool Program (Jump Start), \$700; Scotch Plains-Fanwood Scholarship Foundation, \$9,000; Scotch Plains Public Library, \$600; Scotch Plains Rescue Squad, \$1,000; Trailside Nature and Science Center, \$700; YMCA of Fanwood and Scotch Plains, \$1,000, and YWCA of Eastern Union County, \$800.

dog obedience training, horse care, acting, pet care and anime are in particular demand.

For more information, interested persons may contact 4-H Agent James Nichnadowicz at (908) 654-9854 or [jnichnadowicz@ucnj.org](mailto:jnichnadowicz@ucnj.org).

4-H is a program of Rutgers Cooperative Extension, supported in part by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders. Its mission is to provide the community with science-based information on nutrition, food safety, home environmental health, family wellbeing, agriculture and 4-H youth development.

### Oasis' 'Fanatic' Series To Continue Sunday

MOUNTAINSIDE – Oasis-Church-NJ.com will present the second week of its series "Fanatic" this Sunday, July 11, at the 11 a.m. worship service. Services are held at 1180 Spruce Drive in Mountainside. All are welcome. David Butler is lead pastor.

This series invites people to ask themselves the question, "What do I worship?" It focuses on whether individuals devote the same level of time and energy toward God as they do to such activities as sporting events and concerts.

Oasis-Church-NJ.com services incorporate a blend of relevant Biblical messages for 21st-century life, contemporary Christian music, safe children's programs, food and opportunities for fellowship. For more information, visit Oasis-Church-NJ.com or call (732) 406-7821.

## Library to Join 'One Book' With Native American Tale

WESTFIELD – The Westfield Memorial Library, located at 550 East Broad Street, has announced that its Youth Services Department will participate in the One Book New Jersey program this summer.

One Book New Jersey is a program sponsored by the New Jersey Library Association with support from the New Jersey State Library. The goal of the program is to bring people together by encouraging them to read and participate in discussions and other events about the same book.

The teen selection is "The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian" by Sherman Alexie, which tells the tale of Junior, a Native American boy who wants to be more than a stereotype. He convinces his parents to let him attend a public school outside the reservation, where the only other Indian is the school mascot.

Copies of the book currently are available at the library. The discussion will take place on Monday, August 16, at 6 p.m. Afterwards, the movie *Smoke Signals* (based on another Sherman Alexie book) will be shown, and pizza will be provided. Advance registration is required.

Sherman Alexie grew up on the Spokane Indian Reservation in Wellpinit, Wash. He overcame challenges in his early life, including brain surgery at the age of six months, seizures and predictions of mental retardation. Proving the doctors wrong, he began reading at the age of three. This led to a new round of problems, as he was soon ostracized by his peers.

Like Junior, Mr. Alexie attended high school off the reservation and became a talented basketball player. Although he planned to become a doctor, he kept fainting in class and switched his studies to poetry.

Mr. Alexie has written adult novels, poetry and screenplays. He has received the PEN/Hemingway Award for Best First Book of Fiction; a Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Writers' Award; the Before Columbus Foundation's American Book Award and the Murray Morgan Prize. Additionally, he has garnered multiple awards for "The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian." For more information, call the library at (908) 789-4090, extension no. 3.



NEW TRUSTEES...The Westfield United Fund welcomed five new trustees at its Annual Meeting in May. Trustees are chosen from among residents who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to the Westfield community. Pictured, from left to right, are: Gwyneth Cote, Colleen McDonald Maz, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Jeffrey Becker and Bernadette Houston. For additional information on the Westfield United Fund, access [westfieldunitedfund.org](http://westfieldunitedfund.org).

## Actor-Director Les Minski To Lead Class at Library

FANWOOD – Actor, director and Broadway performer Les Minski will lead a scene study/monologue class in the Fanwood Memorial Library's Fanwood Room from 7:15 to 8:45 p.m. every Tuesday from July 13 to August 17. The library is located at North Avenue and Tillotson Road.

Participants will work on audition pieces (monologues), to tackle problem roles or moments they have wanted a second shot at; to cut to the bone and give scenes (and performances) more impact, and to have a place to push their limits.

While no fee is involved, individuals will need to spend some time working outside the class. Participants need to be at least 18 years old and are invited to bring scenes and scripts with them.

A Fanwood resident, Mr. Minski performed for the library this past Valentine's Day with his wife, Ann, in A.R. Gurney's *Love Letters*. He also has directed *A View From The Bridge* and *Social Security* at the Carriage House in Fanwood. Additionally, he directed well-received productions of *The Sisters*

*Rosensweig*, *Sly Fox* and *The Guys* at Circle Players in Piscataway.

Mr. Minski has acted on stages from Maine to Florida and west to Chicago. He counts roles as diverse as Jamie Tyrone, Billy Bigelow and Daddy Warbucks on his résumé.

He created the role of the Marquis St. Evremonde for both the world premiere and Broadway productions of Jill Santoriello's *A Tale of Two Cities, the Musical*.

### Pet Adoptions Set For This Sunday

AREA – A pet adoption event will take place this Sunday, July 11, from 1 to 5 p.m. at Elizabeth Ann Kennels, located at 1103 Valley Road in Stirling.

Two rescue groups will be in attendance: Best Friend and All Star Pet Rescue. Both cats and dogs will be featured. Snacks and knickknacks also will be available. The rain date will be the following Sunday, July 18.

More information is available at [bestfriend.petfinder.com](http://bestfriend.petfinder.com) and [allstar.petfinder.com](http://allstar.petfinder.com). For parking, take Valley Road, turn onto Poplar Drive, then make a left onto Bay Street.



Les Minski

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THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Sports Section  
Pages 9-13

SCALFARO SCORES WINNER ON HAGGERTY'S DOUBLE

D'Angelo Tosses One-Hitter  
In 1-0 Raider Win over Union

By FRED LECOMTE  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Perfection was just a lazy ground ball away from James D'Angelo, who fired a 64-pitch, one-hit, no-walk shutout and struck out six en route to a 1-0 Scotch Plains-Fanwood Senior Legion victory over the visiting Union Farmers baseball team on July 1.

D'Angelo's perfect game was extinguished in the first inning on Jake Fohner's single. He then retired the

next 19 batters he faced and maintained superb control throughout, using his fastball and a very effective curveball that stifled the Farmer batters.

"I just took my time, didn't want to rush myself, but at the same time, I still wanted to work in and out, inside high and low, use my four-seam, two-seam fastball and the curveball," D'Angelo said. "At the end, I was trying to give Marcus (Rivera) the

ground ball for the final out but I couldn't. The guy did a good job fouling it off and almost made good contact, but let me tell you, I was real happy tonight, quite a good accomplishment."

"James mixed his pitches up well, threw his fastball, used curveball, threw slider for strikes and really kept them off balance. They did not get any real hard-hit balls. Everything was at the end of the bat, so he did a good job mixing and moving the ball around the plate," Raider Head Coach Tom Baylock said. "As far as our defense, we played very well. Marcus (Rivera) at short, Kevin (Raszka) at third, they made a lot of nice plays, and right field, Ryan Haggerty, made a couple of nice plays."

Farmer Josh Manjo was also very effective on the mound and limited the Raiders to four hits, while striking out eight and walking two. He got out of jams in the third and sixth innings and yielded the game's only run in the bottom of the first. The Farmers threatened to get on the board first in the top of the first inning, when Kevin Zimmarman worked a walk and Manjo hopped a two-out ground single that third baseman Raszka knocked down. From that point, D'Angelo struck out the next batter and retired all remaining Farmer batters the rest of the game.

In the bottom of the first, leadoff hitter Anthony Scalfaro, who went 2-for 2, provided what turned out to be the winning run when he ripped a single to right field, advanced to second on a wild throw and scored when Haggerty hammered an outside fastball to right field for a stand-up

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



Fred Lecomte for The Westfield Leader and The Times

HAVING A GREAT EVENING ON THE MOUND...Right-handed pitcher James D'Angelo tossed a one-hit shutout, walked only one and fanned six in the Raiders' 1-0 victory over Union on July 1.

XAIO DOUBLES, SCORES; HALL WHACKS RBI SINGLE

Summit Hilltoppers Hold off  
WF White Baseball 11s, 3-1

By FRED LECOMTE  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Quality pitching and quality fielding resulted in a low scoring, 3-1, victory by the Summit Hilltoppers over the Westfield White 11-year old baseball team at Gumbert Field in Westfield on July 2.

Between the two very competitive teams, only nine hits were yielded. Westfield starting pitcher James Friel struck out three Hilltoppers in his two innings on the mound, while allowing three hits, no walks and no earned runs. Reliever Zack Rabinowitz recorded three strikeouts and allowed no free passes or runs, while ceding one single in his three innings. Matt LaCorte pitched the final inning and allowed no runs, hits or walks.

Strong pitching by Hilltopper starter Grant Douglas and relief pitchers Bennie Lim and Trevor Donatacci kept the Westfield offense off-balance. Arthur Xaio, Jack Neiswenter, Pat Chirichella, Jack Hall and Rabinowitz accounted for Westfield White's five hits.

"They did a great job today for 11-year-olds I think. This is a team built on defense. We just did not get a big hit today. We did get some hits; we just did not get that timely hit," Westfield White coach Paul Friel said. "We had runners who got on base any way they could. We had guys work out walks out of the bottom of our lineup, but then Summit's pitching was very good. They simply shut us down when we needed the big hit."

In the top of the second inning, after Friel struck out the Summit batter for the second out, Donatacci slapped with a chopper to center,

rounded the bases and scored on a misguided throw. Sean Crotty followed with a single and swiped two bases, but Friel retired the next batter to end any additional scoring. In the fifth inning, Hilltopper Grant Douglas hacked a slick, leadoff single to left field and Zack Keller reached at first. Both runners advanced and

scored on back-to-back fielding miscues.

Down 3-0, Westfield struck with one run in the sixth inning. Xaio hammered a two-out double to right field and scored on Hall's single to center.

Despite the miscues, the Westfield

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



Fred Lecomte for The Westfield Leader and The Times

CHIEF THIEF...Westfield White 11s' Zach Rabinowitz, left, singled to right field, then swiped second and third base against the Summit Hilltoppers on July 2.

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David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times

OUT AFTER A RUNDOWN...Westfield Blue's Rowen Oberman, right, gets tagged out sliding into second base by Harrison Pryor in the Cal Ripken District 12 semifinals game at Gumbert Field in Westfield on July 4.

BARMAKIAN DBLS, SCORES; LIN DBL, HESS GETS RBI

Villagers Oust WF Blue, 6-1,  
In Cal Ripken Tourney Semi

By DAVID B. CORBIN  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Left-hander Jesse Evans used his deceptive pickoff move to keep the Westfield Blue runners in check and consistently found the strike zone to propel the South Orange-Maplewood Villagers into the championship game with a 6-1 victory in the 12-year-old Cal Ripken District 12 Tournament semifinals at Gumbert 2 Field in Westfield on Independence Day. The Villagers were to face Westfield White, 7-4 winners over Warren, on July 6.

"He has an amazing move! He has been picking kids off all year," Villager Head Coach Mike Paradis said. "He threw lots of strikes, kept the pitch count down very low to 75 pitches."

"Baseball is a game where good pitching will beat good hitting, and that kid came out and threw a gem for them. He did a great job of hitting his spots and making us hit the ball his way and not our way," Westfield Blue Head Coach Mike Murray said. "He throws a fastball on the outside corner. He gets it [strike call]. His catcher would move three inches off the corner, and he would try to push the ump for another one. Total command of everything he did, and that pickoff move, we didn't attempt a stolen base all day. He is a very polished 12-year-old."

The Villagers' defense was reacting in high gear also. Shortstop Julian Henry made a pair of diving grabs in the first inning. Third baseman

Malcolm Stern made an outstanding catch in foul territory in the third inning and added two more fine plays in the fourth and fifth innings. The right side of the infield completed a successful rundown play in the fifth inning, and second baseman Harrison Pryor squashed Westfield's hopes in the sixth with a diving snag, followed by a toss to first for a double play.

"Malcolm Stern made great plays at third, Harrison Pryor at second, that

double play was huge," coach Paradis said. "Just good solid baseball!"

"Our Westfield program here produces very good teams. You don't beat our team unless you play well. Their defense made great plays," coach Murray said. "We hit the ball hard some times. They did everything they needed to do to take advantage of the few mistakes we made and get themselves into the champion-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

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# St. Aloysius Staves off Anne's Comeback in St. Bart Ball, 8-6

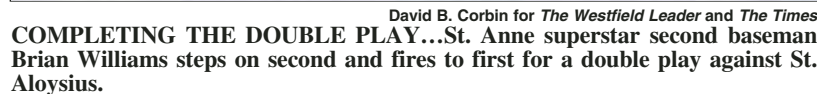
St. Anne	000 001 5	6
St. Aloysius	150 200 x	8



## KANE HITS, SCORES; BRAWLEY HITS; NORTON SCORES

# Warren 12s Startle Cougars In Ripken Quarterfinal, 7-2

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 11**



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## VICTORIAN

*C*ranford. 5 Bedroom, 2.5 Bath Victorian with wrap-around porch & deck on oversized corner property. Foyer with new powder room, French Doors to porch from large LR, FDR w/gas fireplace stunning new kitchen with French doors leading to deck overlooking landscaped gardens, cozy den w/faux wood burning stove(gas fired). CAC on 1st & 2nd floor! Newly remodeled 3rd floor with storage and 2 Bedrooms. Oversized two car garage (original barn) with loft, Koi pond, brick walkways, brick driveway and car park.

## OPEN HOUSE SUN., JULY 11TH 1-5PM

*C*ranford. Wonderfully restored 4 Bedroom, 2.5 Bath Federal Style Colonial on a beautiful naturally landscaped corner property close to town & train. Gleaming hardwood floors, top-of-line kitchen with Uba Tuba granite, center aisle cook top & eating area. Lots of storage, pantry, powder room, 1st floor laundry, Family room, sitting room & open porch completes first floor. 4 BR, sleeping porch & 2 baths on 2nd floor. Tree house with canoe storage, garden shed & two car garage. Directions: North to Springfield to North Union Ave #304.

## OPEN HOUSE SUN., JULY 11TH 1-5PM

*W*estfield. Gracious 4 Bedroom, 3.2 Bath Center Hall Colonial with classic architecture that conveys elegance that transcends the whims of time. The hall is flanked by the Formal Dining Room with coffered ceiling, custom wainscoting and charming window seat. The Formal Living Room has a wood burning fireplace, custom surround, recessed lighting and pocket doors. Entertain in the custom kitchen with hardwood floors, Center Island, granite and SS appliances. The basement provides added living space with a powder room. Directions: East Broad St to St Paul to St Marks Ave #408.

## ELEGANT HOMES BY RALPH RAPUANO

*W*estfield. New homes to be built in New Subdivision. Many options available. Very deep properties that are close to Franklin School and Center of Town. Work with builder and customize plans to create your perfect home. 4 Bedrooms 3.5 Baths prestigious Center Hall Colonials are planned. Hardwood floors throughout, custom millwork, & spa like retreat Master bath are a given. Intercom, central vac, & stereo system are just a few of the many appointments included in this gem.

## OPEN HOUSE SUN., JULY 11TH 1-5PM

*S*cotch Plains. Large custom built 5 Bedroom, 3.5 Bath home, Park like setting, just over 1 acre with In-Ground swimming pool, Custom paver parking, driveway and 2 car attached garage. Hardwood floors, Gourmet Eat-In-Kitchen, 3 new custom baths, finished basement, Formal Dining Room, Family Room with built in wet bar and Living Room with fireplace. Directions: Raritan to Blackbrich to Marion #8.

## CUSTOM COLONIAL AT ROLLING HILLS ESTATE

*S*cotch Plains. Wonderful 5 Bedroom, 4.5 Bath Custom built Colonial on a cul-de-sac. Eat-In-Kitchen with Center Island Granite counters, Central Air Conditioning - 2 Zone, Jacuzzi tub and shower in Master bath, solid oak hardwood floors, gas fireplaces in Family Room and Master Bedroom, In-Law Suite with a Bedroom and Full Bath, open staircase to attic, built-in 3 car garage, sits on 1.1 acres.

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Villager 12s Oust  
WF Blue 12s, 6-1

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

ship game.”

The Villagers totaled eight hits, and three of them came in the four-run first inning. Leadoff batter Chris Paradis walked and stole second. Pryor drilled an RBI double and Scott Harvey walked. Brian Miller (2-for-3, double) slashed an RBI single. Colin Smith’s grounder added a run, and Evans (2-for-3) poked an RBI single. Westfield Blue’s George Murray tapped a single in the second but had no opportunity to score.

Harvey blasted a solo home run over the centerfield fence in the top of the third inning, but Westfield Blue answered with a run in the bottom of the inning. Steve Barmakian lined a double to center, and Parker Hess punched an RBI single to right. Justin Lin added a two-out double, but Villager right fielder Jihad Freeman caught a fly ball for the third out.

Westfield centerfielder Owen Murray made a diving catch, and shortstop Tyler Roth absorbed a line shot in the fourth. Second baseman Daniel Criscuolo stayed in front of a sharp grounder to make a putout at first in the fifth inning.

In the bottom of the fifth, Rowen Oberman singled sharply to left but later got caught in a rundown between first and second. Villager Alex Knoll lined an RBI single in the sixth, and Westfield Blue batter Michael Jeffrey yanked a single in the bottom of the inning after Pryor’s double play. Stern relieved Evans and got the final Westfield batter to line out to first.

“The most important thing was coming out early to get some runs on the board, so we could relax,” coach Paradis said. “The kids came to play. I hope they keep going.”

So-Or-Maplewood	401	001	6
Westfield Blue	000	100	1

Westfield White 12s Nip  
So. Orange-Maplewood  
For Cal Ripken Title  
See story next week

See more photos on  
Cranford Online page 3  
Also Westfield/So. Orange  
10jul4-wf-somap-12s  
Cranford/Warren  
10jul3-cr-war-12s

Warren Tops Cougars

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

third gave Warren a 4-1 lead. Third baseman Ball made a great catch and centerfielder Jon Catania added another to hold Cranford scoreless in the third.

Knight yielded a leadoff double to Stefurak in the fourth and an RBI double to Matt Mastrobattista. Savino relieved and yielded an RBI single to Marino to make the score 6-1. In the fifth, Rica walked, stole a base and scored on Ball’s grounder to up the score to 7-1. In the bottom of the inning, Cougar Joe Norton reached base on an error, swiped a pair of bases and scored on a passed ball. Josh Cucuzzella and Savino drew walks, but Warren added two more fine defensive plays to prevent further scoring.

Warren second baseman Mastrobattista added the defensive icing with a diving grab in the sixth inning.

“They made every single play. At this level, if you don’t walk people and you make every play, you have a real good chance of winning the game,” coach Norton said.

Warren	031	210	7
Cranford	010	010	2



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
GETTING THE THROW A LITTLE LATE... Westfield Blue third baseman George Murray gets the throw a little too late to nab Summit base runner Kyle Kanaley at Gumbert Field in Westfield on July 2.

BARMAKIAN WHACKS WALK-OFF HOME RUN IN SIXTH

WF Blue 12s Topple Summit  
In Central Jersey League, 9-8

By DAVID B. CORBIN  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Steve Barmakian whacked a walk-off solo home run in the bottom of the sixth inning to tip the balance in favor of the Westfield Blue 12-year-old baseball team in a 9-8, seesaw victory over Summit in Central Jersey League play at Gumbert 2 Field in Westfield on July 2.

On several occasions, both teams showed remarkable resilience their ability to come back from a deficit to either tie the game or take the lead.

“The kids did really, really well the whole way through. What a way to win, with a walk-off home run! Westfield did a fantastic job,” Summit coach Rick Kanaley said.

Both teams managed to put the bat on the ball and few strikeouts were recorded. Westfield had only one strikeout, while Summit had just three. In the meantime, Summit totaled 10 hits, which included a pair of doubles, and Westfield had eight hits, including the home run and a double.

Kyle Kanaley had the big stick for Summit, going 3-for-3 with a two-run double, an RBI single and two runs scored. Brady Wilson (double) and Michael Acitelli each went 2-for-3 with a runs scored and an RBI. Matt Norman (run scored), Jeremy O’Flynn (RBI) and Alex Ingberman each had a hit. Evan Kulpan scored twice and Anthony Gavilanes had an RBI.

Cameron Bremer inflicted damage on Summit with a two-run, ground-rule double and an RBI single, while scoring once. JD Marner went 1-for-1 with two RBI and two runs scored, and Owen Brancatella went 1-for-1 with two RBI and a run scored. Justin Lin singled and scored, Parker Hess scored twice, and George Murray scored once.

“Their first pitcher threw the ball hard. We didn’t have good at-bats early, but we came back. Cameron Bremer banged a big double for us. Owen Brancatella had a big hit for us. Don’t let the size fool you with that kid! He gets big time hits for us,” Westfield Blue Head Coach Mike Murray said.

Both teams also displayed aggressiveness on the base paths as Summit

recorded seven stolen bases and took advantage of four passed balls and a wild pitch, while Westfield had six stolen bases and also advanced on a pair of bad throws.

“We have great team speed. We want to put pressure on the other team. We want to get guys into scoring position,” coach Murray said. “We do a good job of putting the ball in

D’Angelo, Raiders  
Beat Union, 1-0

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

double.

“He, (Manjo) was throwing a little harder today, so I figured I’d go with him and see what I could do. I just waited on it, drove it the other way and it worked. It was a real good feeling,” said Haggerty.

The Raiders, looking for a bit of insurance, were denied that opportunity in the fourth inning. Haggerty rapped a double to deep right field and D’Angelo worked a free pass. Manjo, however, escaped damage striking out the next batter.

“I just wanted to throw strikes, get ahead of the batters and that’s what you have to do to be successful. I relied mostly on my fastball, curveballs and mixed in a couple of change-ups here and there. I believe I had them off-balance a little bit. Unfortunately in the first inning I left the pitch too far off across the plate and the kid put a pretty good swing on it. There’s nothing I can do about that, he just executed,” said Manjo after the game.

“One of the things we stress all summer is we need to pitch, and we need to play defense. If we can do those two things, we’ll be able to muster some runs here and there,” coach Baylock said. “We’ll be in every game and have an opportunity to win. We’re 7-6 right now and all six losses have been by one run. Offensively, we put together a couple of hits here and there, got a run and that was the difference in the game.”

Union	000	000	0	0
Sc. Pl.-Fanwood	100	000	x	1

play, so if we get a guy on early in the game, with one out or no outs, we want to get him into scoring position, so that a ground ball can score him, and that sacrifice fly can score him.”

“We spend a lot of time reading a pitcher, on his delivery, where his foot is, where he is going to go with the ball. If we pick it up early, that’s what gives a kid a good jump,” coach Kanaley said. “We teach that to get them ready for the higher levels. If they learn that here, they are better off at the high school level.”

Norman tapped a leadoff single in the top of the first, stole two bases and scored on a passed ball to give Summit a 1-0 lead. O’Flynn lashed an RBI single in the second to up the score to 2-0, but Westfield took advantage of a pair of hit batters, a walk, Lin’s single, Bremer’s two-run double and Brancatella’s RBI sac fly to seize a 4-2 lead.

Kanaley and Acitelli ripped RBI singles in the third to tie the score, but Westfield Blue burst ahead 8-4 with four in the fourth. In the fifth, Kanaley blasted his two-run double, Gavilanes lofted an RBI sac fly and Wilson tied the score with an RBI double.

Westfield Blue brought in left-handed reliever Rowen Oberman with two outs in the fifth. With his deceptive moves, he kept runners close to base for the remainder of the game, while striking out the first batter he faced and recording two more strikeouts in the sixth.

“Rowen is the best 12-year-old you will find, keeping the guy close to the base. He’s got three different moves, and he makes the guy think, so we get the guy kind of leaning back toward first. They started the inning with a guy on first and they ended the inning with a guy on first. Their potential winning run never got into scoring position, because we were able to have a pitcher hold them close,” coach Murray said.

Barmakian sealed the victory with his walk-off homer.

“We have been struggling a little bit, and they came back today. I am proud of them,” coach Kanaley said.

Summit	112	040	8
Westfield Blue	040	401	9

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Open House: Sunday, June 11<sup>TH</sup> • 1-4PM



104 Winchester Way, Westfield \$780,000

Spacious home nestled on just under ½ acre of property in Indian Forest. Nicely appointed w/sunken Living Room w/fplc and cathedral ceiling; library offers built in cabinetry, window seat, cathedral ceiling and hardwood floors; Formal Dining Room; Kitchen w/access to yard; Family Room w/diamond paned window and a Master Bedroom w/2 double closets and full bath. Enjoyable backyard setting.



725 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Westfield \$899,900

Another quality Colonial to be built by Michael Mahoney! Set on a nice deep lot this home offers a spacious floor plan with beautiful hardwood floors throughout. Foyer leading to Living Room; Formal Dining Room, Eat-in-Kitchen, with granite countertops and beautiful cabinetry, opens to Family Room with fireplace; powder room and mud room complete the first floor. The second floor boasts 4 Bedrooms including a large master suite with full bath and walk-in-closet. A finished basement and attached 2 car garage completes this amazing residence.

Open House: Sunday, July 11<sup>TH</sup> • 1-4PM



1914 Grandview Avenue, Westfield \$629,000

Airy new front porch Colonial nicely appointed thru out with open floor plan including a Living Room; Formal Dining Room; gourmet EIK w/granite counters & center island open to Family Room with fireplace; 4 Bedrooms; 3.5 baths & a finished basement. Great opportunity to own new in Westfield!

Open House: Sunday, July 11<sup>TH</sup> • 1-4PM



824 Dorian Road, Westfield \$884,000

Fabulous 4 Bdrm 2 1/2 bath Colonial recently renovated to offer open floor plan perfect for entertaining boasts a lovely LR w/fplc; FDR w/wet bar/butlers pantry, a beautiful Kitchen w/cherry cabinetry, granite countertops, and stainless steel appliances, opening to a comfortable family room. A walk-in pantry closet w/laundry hookup, mud room and powder room complete the first floor. The second floor offers four bedrooms, including the MBR addition w/gorgeous bath and walk-in closet. And with all of this comes a finished basement w/ large recreation room and office. 3 zone heat and CAC.....must see!



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OPEN HOUSE: Sunday, 7/11 1-4PM • 9 Ditzel Farm Ct.



Scotch Plains...Over 1 acre on a cul-de-sac. Spacious 8 room, 4 BR, 2 1/2 BTH colonial. New eat-in KIT w/ granite counters, antiqued custom cabinetry, adjacent laundry and powder rm. Entrance foyer opens to LR and gracious formal DR. Step down FR with Frplc and sliders to fabulous pool, patio and deep, private yard. MBR w/ wlk-in closet and BTH, 3 additional BRS & BTH. Enormous RR, 2 ZN HT & CAC, HWFLRS, and more. \$775,000.

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# Union County Senior 50+ Softball League Standings:

50+ A DIVISION (as of July 4):			
TEAM	W	L	
Renda Roads	17	0	
SMC	14	5	
Brew Crew	10	8	
Liberty Lighting	9	9	
Awnings Galore	8	9	
Molly Maguire's	7	12	
50+ B DIVISION:			
TEAM	W	L	
Contact Lens & Vision	10	7	
Driftwood Bar & Grill II	10	8	
Driftwood Bar & Grill I	9	9	
Magnolia Auto Service	7	11	
D&K Associates	4	14	
Sun Tavern	3	16	
SUPER SENIORS DIVISION:			
TEAM	W	L	
TLC	14	2	
Kilkenny House	13	2	
Creative Industries	12	4	
Nicolina Pizza	4	12	
The Office	2	13	
Associated Auto	2	14	

**Linda's Driftwood I 14, Awnings 9**  
Jack Helfrich (3-for-4, 2 HRs), Joe Sarica, Keith McDede and Richie Krov (all 3-for-4) and Mac Kowaleski, John Esposito, Ron Horinko and Andy Holup (2 hits each) led Linda's. Awnings' Bob Grausam and Charlie Babela each had three hits.

**Liberty 15, Magnolia Auto 12**  
Thomas MacDermant, Willie Jackson and Dennis Quigley led Liberty.

**Brew Crew 16, Contact 7**  
Pete Byer, Ed Quinn and Vic Dudash (each with multiple hits) led Contact. Terry Franklin (3-for-3), Ron Kulik (3-for-4) and Neil Iaccarino (2-for-2) sparked the Crew.

**SMC 21, D&K 6**  
Ed Kushner (4-for-4), Jeff Baier (3-for-3, HR, double), John Amato, Dennis Valvano and Paul Levenberg (all with multiple hits) led SMC.

**Linda's II 18, Molly Maguire's 13**  
Mike DiRienzo (4 hits, HR), winning pitcher Jim Sydlo (HR), and Mike Butler, Joe Mitarotonda, Chas Geiger, Joe Menza, Jeff Villani and Lenny Ladislav led Linda's. Keenan Phelan (3 hits, double) and Dave Drechsel (walk, 2 doubles, 2 runs scored, 2 RBI) led Molly's.

**Renda Roads 19, Sun Tavern 4**  
Gary Pence (3-for-3), Joe Massimino and Dave LaVelle, with homers, and Lou Balstriere and Tom Baldowski, with triples, led Renda.

**Linda's II 17, Linda's I 15**  
Linda's I Steve Adase, Joseph Adase, Mac Kowaleski, Jack Helfrich, Keith McDede and Ron Horinko had multiple hits.

**SMC 12, Brew Crew 4**  
Jim McCullough and Paul Levenberg (2 hits each), and Ed Lubas, Walt Serafyn, John Amato and Jeff Baier led SMC. Brewers Bob D'Meo, Dave Ball, Greg Hartnett, Neil Iaccarino and Don Montefusco each went 2-for-3.

**D&K 15, Sun Tavern 12**  
Rich Polonitza (4-for-4, HR, triple), Jim Price and Ed McColgan (3 hits each) led the Sun Tavern.

**Renda 25, Molly Maguire's 8**  
Joe Massimino (3 hits, HR), Tom Straniero, Ed Belford, Tony Williams, Gary Pence and Tom Baldowski (3 hits each) led Renda. Maguire's Charlie Wischusen, Keenan Phelan and Rich Goski contributed two hits each.

**Contact 5, Magnolia Auto 4**  
George Merlo and the Lensmen prevailed thanks to timely hitting from Brian McDermott and Billy Early.

**Awnings 14, Liberty Lighting 8**  
Frank D'Antico, Ray Meigs and Neil Granstrand (4 hits each) and Bruce Crawford (3 hits) led Awnings.

**Creative 12, Nicolina Pizza 10**  
Creative pitcher Larry Berra (hit, RBI) picked up the victory and Rich Vitaliano homered.

**TLC 9, Kilkenny House 8**  
Tom Colandro homered in fourth to put TLC back ahead, 8-7. Speedster Richie Traub added an insurance run in the sixth, while Oscar Harrison, Pete Osborn and Richie Traub went 3-for-3.

**Associated 16, The Office 8**  
Paul Brody (3-3, HR), Pat LoPiccola and Alan Schachman (each 3-3), Bo Bodine (4 RBI), and Phil Fink, Robert Maley and Dave Levine with multi-hit games led Associated. Brian McDermott (5 hits, 3 triples) and George Merlo (3 hits) led The Office.

**TLC 19, Nicolina Pizza 4**  
Pizzaman Walt Serafyn tripled. Rich Polonitza (3 triples, 5 RBI), Bob Lorincz and Bruce Symon (3 hits, triple each), Oscar Harrison (3 hits, 2 doubles), Richie Traub (HR) and Wayne Michael (2 doubles) led TLC.

**Kilkenny House 17, Associated 1**  
Associated's Donny White hit a solo HR.

**Creative 19, The Office 10**  
Pitcher Art Kopacz (3 hits, 4 RBI), Demo Cervelli (3 hits), and Bill Dougherty (HR) and Bob Failla (HR) led Creative. George Merlo (4 hits, 4 RBI, 2 runs scored) led The Office.



Westfield Black third-grade baseball pitcher Sandy Miller

# WF 3rd-Grade Black Sinks Green Brook in NPGL, 13-9

On June 28 the Westfield Black third-grade baseball team improved to 3-2 in the New Providence Green League with a 13-9 win over Green Brook.

Westfield Head Coach Jeff Gerris said, "It was one of the most exciting games I've had the honor to coach. The boys played with skill and determination."

Westfield took a 3-0 lead in the top of the first, sparked by back-to-back singles from Christian Kreusser and Matt Leone. Joe Hickey walked to load the bases, and Brendan Cox drew an RBI walk. Tim McGann brought Leone and Hickey home with a two-run double to left.

Green Brook took a 6-3 lead into the fifth, however, Westfield stormed back to grab a 7-6 lead. Michael Charlton and Kyle Wynne singled, Nick Manganello and Sebastian Ferrero worked walks, and Sandy Miller drilled three-run triple into left center.

Green Brook tied it in the fifth, but Westfield scored six runs in the sixth. Leone walked, Hickey bunted his way to first and McGann was hit by a pitch. Andrew Zanfagna smoked a three-run double. Jack Gerris and Wynne walked to load, Manganello ripped an RBI single and Ferrero

lashed a two-run single. Green Brook scored two runs in the sixth.

Westfield also received strong pitching and defense. On the mound, Ferrero held Green Brook to four runs over the first two innings. Miller followed and allowed just two runs, while striking out four. Wynne closed it out, yielding three runs in the fifth and sixth and striking out two. Westfield catchers Gerris and Cox kept steals to a minimum. In the first inning, Leone snagged two liners at third.

## WTA Open Masters Tennis Ladder Results:

Peter Lee topped the ladder beating Janice Honymar, 8-3. Janice also played Joe Donnolo with an 8-6 win and a 6-8 loss. The next reporting period ends on July 18.

**Peter Lee (6\*)**  
**Janice Honymar (5)\***  
**Joe Donnolo (5)\***  
**John Mancini (1)**  
**Don Dohm (2)**  
**Mike McGlynn (2)**  
**Nancy Freundlich**  
**(#) matches played in period**  
**(\*) match played in period**

**MATCH PLAY:**  
**6/23 Donnolo 8 vs Honymar 6**  
**6/29 Honymar 8 vs Donnolo 6**  
**7/4 Lee 8 vs Honymar 3**



**MUSTANG LEAGUE CHAMPS...**The Braves won the Westfield Baseball Association's Age 13-14 Mustang League Championship with a 14-7 victory over the Phillies on June 24. Pictured, left to right, are: front row, Matt Fitzgerald, Andrew Dumont, Aram Barnakian, Stephen Della Fera and Chris Dattilo; back row, Coach Joe Dazzo, Ben Herbster, Andrew Gorczyca, Mike Dazzo, Head Coach Jeff Dattilo, Mike Lapolla, Coach Joe Barnakian, Mike Reddy, Connor Brennan, Sam Krause and Coach Roger Dumont. Missing from the picture are AJ Gold and Alex Schneider.

# St. Bart's Oldtimers Men's Softball League Standings:

ANGELS DIVISION:			
(As of July 2):			
TEAM	W	L	Pct
St. Aloysius	5	2	.715
St. Kilian	4	4	.500
St. Matthew	2	6	.333
St. Anthony	3	7	.300
St. Jude	2	8	.200
SAINTS DIVISION:			
TEAM	W	L	Pct
St. Rocco	8	2	.800
St. David	6	2	.750
St. Anne	6	4	.600
St. James	5	4	.555
St. Joseph	3	5	.375

**St. David 15, St. Anne 13**  
Jack Kennedy (3 hits, 5 RBI), Walt Patrylo (3 hits) and Brian Williams (4 hits) led the Annies. Bryan Munoz (2 HRs, 4 RBI), Russ Voorhees, Howard Bialos and Jason Fiore (3 hits apiece) and Marty Bernstein (4 hits) led David.

**St. Kilian 15, St. Jude 9**  
St. Jude plated six runs in the fourth. Ulichny (4 hits), Rich Banasiak and Anthony Blasi (3 hits each) led the Judges. Jason Semple, Paul Leso and Scott Curtis (each with 4 hits), and Scott Friedrichs (5 hits) led Kilian.

**St. Aloysius 8, St. Anne 6**  
**See exclusive story.**

**St. James 16, St. Joseph 3**  
Robbie Stratton and Gerry Riepe, both with three hits and two RBI, led the James Gang. Marty Marks and Michael Surburg led the Joes.

**St. Anthony 22, St. Matthew 7**  
Ron Labin, Tony Perconte, Phil Applebaum each with four hits led Anthony. James Barba, John Chupko and Ed Marchelitis led the Matts.

**St. Rocco 21, St. David 17**  
Gus Alvarez and John DeProspero (4 hits each), Dave Hill, John Deitch and Mike Cuccurullo (3 hits each) led Rocco. Marty Bernstein (4 hits) Captain Dave Rothenberg, Varojuan Baboomian and Corey Woodring (3

hits each) led the Daves.

**St. Anthony 13, St. Aloysius 9**  
St. Anthony's plated seven in the third inning. Captain Tony Perconte, Bruce Logan, Louis Balestriere and Tom Baldowski, all with three hits, led Anthony. Joe Negley (3 hits) and Marty Garcia and Craig Burfeindt (2 RBI each) led the Als.

**St. Anne 10, St. Joseph 7**  
The Annies scored eight runs in the first. Chris Giordano (3 hits), Walt Patrylo and Damon Roth (2 hits each) led the Annies. Marty Marks (3 hits) and Kevin Spellmans (3 RBI) led Joeseeph.

**St. Kilian 17, St. Rocco 14**  
The winners were led by Dan Nigro (5 RBI), Harry Semple (3 hits) and Mike Walch (3 hits, 3 RBI) led Kilian. Gus Alvarez (3 hits, 4 RBI) and Mike Cuccurullo (3 hits) led Rocco.

**St. David 8, St. James 4**  
Marty Bernsteins (2 hits, 3 RBI) and Dave Rothenberg and Pete Costello (3 hits apiece) led David. Robbie Stratton and Keth Gibbon each had two hits for James Gang II.

**St. Jude 19, St. Matthew 10**  
Joe DeChiario, Tom Ulichny, Bob Guy and Chris Paterek led the Judges. Dan Margolis (3 RBI) and Tom Staniero (4 hits, 3 RBI) led Matt.

## WTA Mixed Singles Tennis Ladder Told:

The fourth reporting period had 25 matches played. Michael Conte claimed the top spot with wins over Joshua Suri (6-2, 6-1), Robert Errazo (6-2, 6-0) and Andrew Federbusch (6-1, 6-2), who dropped to the second position. Tom Bauer grabbed the third spot with wins over Andrew Skalkin (6-3, 6-4), Weldon Chin (6-3, 6-2) and Tuyen Diep (6-4, 6-2). Skalkin seized fourth with a 7-5, 3-6 (10-8) win over Conte before his loss to Bauer. Errazo dropped to fifth with his loss to Conte. Diep and Suri tied for the lead in the most active category with 17 matches. The fifth reporting period ends on July 18. Please report all match activity to Richard Pardo at rsardo531@msn.com.

1. Mike Conte(13)*	23. Steven Lee(3)*
2. Federbusch(4)*	24. Chris Farella(5)
3. Tom Bauer (4)*	25. Nate Weiss(8)*
4. Andy Skalkin(4)*	26. D Loffredo (3)
5. Rob Errazo (5)*	27. Andy Ross(3)*
6. Tuyen Diep(17)*	28. E.Bronander(1)
7. Joe Buda (5)*	29. Roh Saigal (1)*
8. I Bouchouev(4)*	30. Nate Suri (4)*
9. Rich Pardo (8)*	31. P Magierski(1)
10. Weldon Chin(5)*	32. Mike Muroff(2)*
11. Josh Suri (17)*	33. G Steinfeld(4)
12. David Ferio (7)*	34. R-Lafemina(6)
13. T Bigosinski(6)*	35. M. Mankin(1)*
14. M Rappoport(4)*	36. Mike Gonella
15. Chris Bonn (6)	37. Sravan Emany
16. F Adriaens (5)	38. Brett Zweiback
17. Daniel Ives (5)*	39. Don Beal
18. Mike Manders(6)*	40. Don Dohm
19. Jeff Brinker (6)*	41. Joe Donnolo
20. Chris Miller (8)*	42. Manny Erlich
21. Olga Yee (4)*	43. David Basile
22. Scott Berman(3)*	44. Frank Franco

( ) cumulative matches played  
\*match played in reporting period

## Summit 11s Edge Westfield White, 3-1

White's defense did exhibit some fine fielding plays.

"Defensively, we did make several excellent plays. Chirichella; he's got a canon behind the plate and Owen Bartok made a great catch and tag at second in the fifth inning. It was a little bit off the base; he made a great catch and sweet tag on a fast runner," said coach Friel. "LaCorte had three outs in a row in the third inning. Neiswenter made a real nice catch on third base then made a tremendous catch for the third out of the game with a running catch. The defense played very well. Xaio made a great snag in the sixth inning. Defensively, I don't have a problem with this game. If you limit it to one or two mistakes, we're okay with that as coaches."

Summit	010	200	3
Westfield	000	001	1

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**FANWOOD**  
**NEW LISTING!** Move in ready. Cul-de-sac locn. Many upgrds; EIK, hwd flrs, new A/C '10, pvt fenced & prof. Indspcd yard. Home Warr. incl. **DIR:** Martine to Saville Row.  
**MLS: 2784932**

**SCOTCH PLAINS**  
**NEW LISTING!** Lovely 4BR 2.5BA Col. w/many recent updts. New roof, Furnace, CAC, sparkling new kitchen with stainless appliances, new 200 amp service, new flrs & more! Fab locn close to all.  
**MLS: 2782527**

**SCOTCH PLAINS**  
**NEW CONSTRUCTION!** Magnificent 3,335 sqft home under construction on north side of Scotch Plains. 9 rms w/4BR 3.1BA, 2-gas fplc in fam rm & Master, att. 2-car gar, fin. bsm, open fir plan. Expected compl. Sep'10.  
**MLS: 2769490**

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**MLS: 2774206**

**MOUNTAINSIDE**  
Lovely expanded brick Ranch w/center hall & spacious rooms, newly painted interior, LR w/fpl, FDR, EIK w/door to encl porch, Rec Rm w/Fbth, 2 car garage, 4th BR used as Den.  
**MLS: 2781007**

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RUNNERS-UP, CHAMPS...Pictured, left to right, Francisco Franco and Sal Nadel placed second to Tuyen Diep and Melvin Diep for the WTA Doubles Tournament championship at Tamaques Park in Westfield.

## Tuyen Diep, Melvin Diep Win WTA Doubles Tournament

The father and son team of Melvin and Tuyen Diep defeated Francisco Franco and Sal Nadel, 6-3, 6-1, for the annual Westfield Tennis Association (WTA) doubles tennis tournament championship on the weekend of June 26 and 27 at Tamaques Park. Seven teams participated in a timed round-robin format with three rounds of eight game pro sets to determine who would vie for the championship.

The Dieps came through the preliminary rounds with the best overall record, beating Chris Farella and Joshua Suri, 8-6, Weldon Chin and Richard Pardo, 8-4, and Don Dohm and Peter Lee, 8-2. Franco and Nadel defeated John Mancini and Jim Oslislo, 8-3, Farella and Suri, 8-5, and Chin and Pardo, 7-5. Franco and Nadel grabbed a quick break and hold of service for a 2-0 lead. However, the Diep family won the next four games to go up 4-2. The teams traded holds of service with Melvin securing the set 6-3 in a close service game.

The Diep duo won the first two games of the second set. Nadel fought

### WTA Mixed Doubles Tennis Ladder Results:

Two matches were played in the fourth reporting period. Joe Armstrong and Dave Capiello captured the top spot with two wins (8-5 and 8-5) over Weldon Chin and Richard Pardo. The next reporting period ends on July 18. Please report all match activity to Richard Pardo at rspardo531@msn.com.

1. Joe Armstrong/Dave Capiello(2)\*
  2. Weldon Chin/Richard Pardo (4)\*
  3. Chris Farella/Joshua Suri (5)
  4. Manny Erlich/Michael Muroff (2)
  5. Peter Lyons/Yun Won Cho (1)
  6. John Mancini / Jim Oslislo
  7. Irondi Aliche/Michael McGlynn
- ( ) cumulative matches played  
\* match played in reporting period

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

##### TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at the regular meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Scotch Plains held on July 6, 2010 the 2010 LOCAL MUNICIPAL BUDGET OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS was duly passed on second and final reading.

Barbara Riepe  
Township Clerk  
Fee: \$10.71

1 T - 7/8/10, The Times

back with a service winner to secure the third game. The Diep duo won the next tightly contested games to lead, 5-1. Down 0-40 in his service, Franco staved off two match points, but on the third, Tuyen secured the match with a crosscourt volley.

Chin and Pardo squared off with Dohm and Lee in the third place match, consisting of a 10-game pro set and won convincingly, 10-1.

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF BERKELEY  
IN THE FAMILY COURT OF THE  
NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
DOCKET NO: 08-DR-08-728

##### SUMMONS

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES,  
PLAINTIFF, VS. CARRIE  
PAULSEN; SCOTT WADE;  
CHARLES MAHAN;  
CLIFFORD CASE; RICHARD  
WHITLOCK; DARLENE  
WHITLOCK; DEFENDANTS.  
IN THE INTEREST OF:  
ASHLEIGH MAHAN 11-10-98;  
JULIAN MAHAN 07-06-04;  
GAGE CASE 04-03-06 MINORS UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YRS.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF BERKELEY  
IN THE FAMILY COURT OF THE  
NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
DOCKET NO: 09-DR-08-1899

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES,  
PLAINTIFF, VS. CARRIE  
PAULSEN; SCOTT WADE;  
CHARLES MAHAN;  
CLIFFORD CASE AND IN THE  
INTEREST OF: ASHLEIGH  
MAHAN 11-10-98; JULIAN  
MAHAN 07-06-04; GAGE  
CASE 04-03-06, DEFENDANTS.

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:  
You are hereby Summoned and required to answer the Summons and Complaint for abuse and neglect filed April 23, 2008, and Termination of Parental Rights filed October 6, 2009. Upon proof of interest a copy of the Summons and Complaint will be delivered to you upon request from the Clerk of Court in Berkeley and you must serve a copy of your Answer to the Attorney, the Legal Department of the Berkeley County Department of Social Services at 2 Belt Drive, Moncks Corner, South Carolina 29461, within thirty days of the publication. If you fail to answer within the time set for the above, the Plaintiff will proceed to seek relief from the court.

3 T - 7/1/10, 7/8/10  
& 7/15/10, The Leader

Fee: \$139.23

## Warren Nips WF White, 10-9, In District Tourney Semifinal

The Westfield White 8-year-old baseball team posted a 3-0 record in their bracket of the District 12 8U Tournament by beating South Orange-Maplewood, Springfield and Mountainside to face Warren in the semifinals on June 30. Westfield White took a 9-5 lead into the fifth inning, but came up on the losing end, 10-9.

Warren plated three runs in the top of the first inning, but White scratched together two runs on hits by Danny Kohler and Declan McCauley in the bottom half of the inning.

White added five runs to grab an 8-3 lead in the third inning, highlighted by a towering grand slam to deep right field by Griffin Rooney to drive home Jack Riley, Nick Russo and Kohler

who reached on walks. White added one more run on an infield single by Danny Varano, scoring Jack Riley.

Warren evened the score, 9-9, in the fifth with a three-run home run then added the eventual winning run in the sixth.

White received strong pitching from Riley, Rooney and Russo, who each threw two innings. Colin Elliott was strong behind the plate. Matt Korth, Grayson Shovlin, Brendan Hiltz, Dillon O'Connor and Jack Musho were solid in the field and John Eric Tilyou added a single.

Warren advanced to play the winner of the Cranford/Springfield semifinal game that was to be played on July 1. Westfield White's loss brought its season record to 4-2.

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

##### TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS BOND ORDINANCE STATEMENT AND SUMMARY

The bond ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, has been finally adopted by the Township Council of the Township of Scotch Plains, in the County of Union, State of New Jersey on July 6, 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's office for members of the general public who request the same. The summary of the terms of such bond ordinance follows:

**TITLE: BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF NEW COMMUNICATION AND SIGNAL SYSTEMS EQUIPMENT IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$1,035,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.**

The purposes, appropriations and bonds/notes authorized in this multipurpose bond ordinance are as follows:

##### SCHEDULE OF IMPROVEMENTS, PURPOSES AND AMOUNTS

A. Undertaking of the following improvements: (i) a traffic study in connection with future improvements to the intersection of Raritan Road and Rahway Road and (ii) the 2010 Road Improvement Program at various locations, as set forth on a list on file with the Township Clerk and hereby approved and incorporated herein by this reference thereto. Depending upon the contract price and other exigent circumstances, and upon approval by the Township Council, there may be additions to or deletions from the list referred to in clause (ii) of the preceding sentence. It is hereby determined and stated that the roads being improved are of "Class B" or equivalent construction as defined in Section 22 of the Local Bond Law (Chapter 2 of Title 40A of the New Jersey Statutes Annotated, as amended; the "Local Bond Law").

Appropriation and Estimated Cost	\$ 735,000
Down Payment Appropriated	\$ 35,000
Bonds and Notes Authorized	\$ 700,000
Period of Usefulness	10 years

B. Undertaking of the 2010 Stormwater Drainage Improvement Program at various locations, as set forth on a list on file with the Township Clerk and hereby approved and incorporated herein by this reference thereto. Depending upon the contract price and other exigent circumstances, and upon approval by the Township Council, there may be additions to or deletions from the aforesaid list.

Appropriation and Estimated Cost	\$ 200,000
Down Payment Appropriated	\$ 10,000
Bonds and Notes Authorized	\$ 190,000
Period of Usefulness	40 years

C. Acquisition of new communication and signal systems equipment consisting of a new telephone system for municipal facilities.

Appropriation and Estimated Cost	\$ 100,000
Down Payment Appropriated	\$ 5,000
Bonds and Notes Authorized	\$ 95,000
Period of Usefulness	10 years

Aggregate Appropriation and Estimated Cost	\$1,035,000
Aggregate Down Payment Appropriated	\$ 50,000
Aggregate Amount of Bonds and Notes Authorized	\$ 985,000

**Grants (if any) Appropriated: \$ -0-**  
**Section 20 Costs: \$105,000**  
**Useful Life: 15.78 years**

Barbara Riepe  
Township Clerk  
Township of Scotch Plains  
County of Union  
State of New Jersey  
Fee: \$114.24

1 T - 7/8/10, The Times



Courtesy of Steve Cuttler for The Westfield Leader and The Times

**SPANKTOWN CHAMPS...**Pictured, left to right, are: bottom row, Adam Holtzman, Nicholas Bencivenga, Matthew Pindilli, Drew Glassman and Copper Prieto; top row, Nathan Gotz, Thomas DeRosa, Nicky Murray, Joe DeCicco, Michael Kane, Jesse Katz and coaches Jake Fox and Mike Lessner. Not pictured: Mason Hickman and Tucker Siegel.

### WF 9U Silver Captures 'Spanktown' Crown

The Westfield Silver 9U baseball team won the Rahway Battle at Spanktown Tournament with a 9-3 victory over Rahway in the championship game on July 1. Westfield Silver went 4-1-1 overall in the tournament.

Against Rahway, starting pitcher Adam Holtzman allowed only three runs over four innings. Reliever Joe DeCicco closed out the final two innings without surrendering a hit. Drew Glassman, Jesse Katz, Nicky Murray and Nicholas Bencivenga provided key offense. Strong defense was a

huge factor throughout the tournament, with strong plays from Nathan Gotz, Michael Kane, Cooper Prieto and Tucker Siegel. Matt Pindilli exercised strong leadership, along with a strong arm behind plate. Mason Hickman helped Westfield Silver advance to the finals with key hits and great defense. Thomas DeRosa, whose arm is still healing, supported his team at each and every game.

Jake Fox, Mike Lessner and Joe DeRosa not only provided great coaching and commitment, but also were role models for the whole team.



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Sales Associate

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E-mail: jaynebernstein@aol.com



### Open House: Sunday, July 11<sup>th</sup> 1-4PM



#### 245 Throwbridge Drive, Scotch Plains \$730,000

Located in Heather Glen, a 55+ community with clubhouse and pool - conveniently close to downtown Westfield. This exquisite 3 year, 3000 sq. ft. home features 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths and is decorated to the nines! With \$98,000 of upgrades, which include a gourmet kitchen with granite countertops, top of the line stainless steel appliances, wine cooler, and glass tiled backsplash, which opens to a wonderful family room, perfect for entertaining with cathedral ceilings and a wood-burning fireplace. A large first floor Master bedroom has wonderful closet space with wood built-ins and beautiful Master bath. A living room, dining room, powder room and laundry room complete the first floor. The second floor features 3 more bedrooms, bath with open loft space. The finished basement is being utilized as an exercise room with plenty of additional storage space. This home is situated on a prime private lot. DIR: Prospect Street left on Madison Ave. and left into Heather Glen Community to Throwbridge Drive.

#### COLDWELL BANKER RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

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### OPEN HOUSE: Sunday, July 11<sup>th</sup> 1-4PM

#### 47 Mohican Drive, Westfield



This pristine, renovated CHC features gleaming hardwood floors, a gorgeous gourmet kitchen with top stainless steel appliances and granite counters, and spacious living and family rooms with a brick FP and a 20x20 bonus room. The 4 bedrooms include a master suite offering a walk-in closet, a jetted tub and enormous shower. The finished basement boasts a playroom, gym, office & wine cellar. 2 car attached garage. Storage abounds. All situated on a cul de sac with private fenced lot surrounded by parks. **\$949,900.** Directions: Broad St. to (L) Springfield Ave. (R) onto Mohican Dr. # 47.



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### Open House: Sunday, 7/11 1-4PM

#### 77 Barchester Way, Westfield



Set in the prestigious Indian Forest section of Westfield, this elegant Colonial Split Level home provides an open, gracious floorplan with superior features throughout - from the dentil crown moldings to the hardwood floors, from the spacious family room with wood burning fireplace, to the step down living room to ground level media room - this home provides comfort and quality and has been lovingly maintained and thoughtfully updated. The large kitchen opens to a sunny Florida room, which provides exciting expansion opportunities. The exterior space provides a vacation at home - the heated pool is the centerpiece of the rear of the property and is beautifully surrounded by a deck, shady seating area, a wooden playset and lots of open space for gardening and privacy. Move right into this lovely home and enjoy all that Westfield has to offer - excellent schools, vibrant town, culture, parks, convenient transportation, and the friendly, hospitable community, which makes it so special. **\$899,900.** Please stop by the open house on Sunday or call me for a private viewing.



#### Maryalice Ryan, MBA, ABR, SRES, ASP

Sales Associate

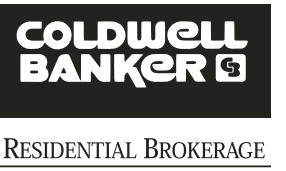
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WESTFIELD EAST OFFICE 209 CENTRAL AVENUE 908-233-5555



# CRANFORD COUGAR HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

The Cranford/Warren Cal Ripken District Tournament Game is also in the printed *Westfield Leader* newspaper

**KANE HITS, SCORES; BRAWLEY HITS; NORTON SCORES**

## Warren 12s Startle Cougars In Ripken Quarterfinal, 7-2

By DAVID B. CORBIN  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Warren starting pitcher Jack Stefurak and reliever Mark Ball, with the assistance of extremely fine defensive plays, combined to limit a strong-hitting Cranford team to just two singles and three walks en route to a 7-2 victory in the quarterfinal round of the 12-year-old Cal Ripken District 12 Tournament at Gumbert 2 Field in Westfield on July 3.

"Stefurak and Ball are gamers. They don't put a lot of guys on base. They throw strikes, and the defense supported them today," Warren Head Coach Glenn Mastrobattista said.

Cranford starting pitcher Pat Knight, who had tossed a gem of a game in a 12-2 victory over Westfield Silver earlier in the tournament, had trouble finding the strike zone, and once the Warren boys realized that, they did not offer any help. Knight issued five free passes and allowed four hits, which included two straight doubles early in the fourth inning, while striking out three, before Steve Savino came in to relieve.

"Patrick had a rare off day. He is usually one of our more polished pitchers. He was sick and didn't play last night. He had the flu. I didn't know if that was bugging him or not," Cougar Head Coach Joe Norton said. "Today, he had a little trouble finding the strike zone, but he gave it his all. He was gutsy. At this level, just like in the

major leagues, you can't give too many guys free passes. Walks are going to come back to kill you every time, and that is what happened today."

"We can be disciplined but not all the time. A lot of times we will go after those high pitches. Today, we were disciplined, and we didn't help them out. We put some runners on base, and we made them pay in the end," coach Mastrobattista said.

The theme of the game began in the bottom of the first inning. Cougar Jamie Brawley singled and darted toward second on a hit-and-run play, but Warren right fielder Dave Giegerich grabbed the line drive and fired to first to complete a double play (DP). More of the same occurred in the second inning. After Cougar Brendan Kane singled, stole two bases and scored on a passed ball, shortstop Anthony Marino snagged a line drive on a hit-and-run and fired to first to record a second DP.

"We live by the sword, and we die by the sword. We are aggressive. We like to hit-and-run. Occasionally, we are

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

### Summer Sports:

**Look for Summer Men's Softball and Youth Baseball on the Cougar Online Exclusive Pages:**

**Cranford Coaches who want their teams covered, please call Assistant Publisher/Sports Editor Dave Corbin at (908) 232-4407 or e-mail dcorbin@goleader.com**



GETTING BACK TO FIRST IN TIME...Mustang Joey Stone dives back to first before Cougar Greg Matlosz can turn around to make a tag in the first inning in Cranford.

**ZABORSKY RIPS 2-RUN SINGLE, McGOVERN RBI SINGLE**

## Cougars Tie Mustangs, 4-4, In HS Summertime Baseball

By DAVID B. CORBIN  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Seven innings of high school-level competition between the Iselin-Kennedy Mustangs and the Cranford Cougars resulted in a 4-4 tie in a non-league summertime baseball game at Memorial Field in Cranford on June 30. While the Mustangs stuck with their starting lineup throughout the game, the Cougars mixed their lineup, so that everyone on the squad would

get an opportunity to compete.

"That is what the summer program is about. It's trying to get as many kids an opportunity to display their abilities and see what they can do. It's getting as many kids on the mound. It's also trying to get the kids to understand the philosophy of the program, trying to play as a team, and trying to play every game with 100 percent of your ability," Cougar Head Coach Dennis McCaffrey said.

Both teams totaled eight hits, but no one on the Cougars' team struck out. In his three at-bats, shortstop

Sean Trotter doubled and singled. Brian Zaborsky rapped a two-run single and scored once, and Sean McGovern punched an RBI single and scored once. Greg Matlosz, Danny Scherer (run scored) and Chris Fulinusz each singled, and Bob Gaeta drilled a double.

Cougar starting pitcher Justin Van Ostenbridge had a rocky start, yielding three runs on four hits and a hit batter in the first inning, but he smoothed out over the next four innings to allow just one run on three hits.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



SWIPING SECOND BASE...Warren's Jack Stefurak steals second base and creates a cloud of dust as Cougar Jack Leahey attempts to make a tag in the fourth inning.



COUGAR CORALLING A MUSTANG...Cougar first baseman Greg Matlosz catches a Mustang in a rundown between first and second base.

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## Cougars Tie Mustangs in Summer Baseball, 4-4

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“He threw strikes. Justin hasn’t been on the mound in a couple of weeks, so we were glad to get him back out there,” coach McCaffrey said. “He did a nice job. Justin always is around the plate, throwing strikes, and he gives you an opportunity to win.”

Fulinusz, who will enter his sophomore year this fall, left his catching position to relieve in the sixth inning and finished the game, allowing only one hit and no runs, while walking none and striking out one. In a previous non-league game against Scotch Plains-Fanwood, he demonstrated his offensive proficiency with three hits in three at-bats.

“Chris is a very good athlete. He can do a lot of things well on the baseball field. He can hit, he can pitch, he can catch, he can play first

base, so we are very excited about his career,” coach McCaffrey said.

In the top of the first inning, Mustang leadoff batter Zach Buchold singled to center, and Eric Giordano was hit-by-a-pitch. Anthony Tortorcella loaded the bases with an infield single and centerfielder Chad Barrall ripped a two-run single to center. Joey Stone made the score, 3-0, with an RBI single to right.

Barrall made a fine catch in the first inning, one in the second and another in the third to stifle potential Cougar rallies. Trotter thumped a leadoff double in the fourth but was stranded. Finally in the fifth, the Cougars strung together five hits and a walk to plate four runs. Scherer singled and Gaeta plopped a double to right. Zaborsky slashed his two-run single to right then stole a base.

McGovern bounced an RBI single, stole second, moved to third on Trotter’s single and scored when the Mustang catcher unsuccessfully attempted to gun down Trotter, who stole second. Trotter stole third and attempted to score the go-ahead run on an outfield fly ball, but he was gunned down at the plate.

Throughout the game, the Cougars did test several of their aggressive base-running skills, along with a few hit-and-run plays.

“It’s still a learning curve. We have a long way to go, a lot of things we need to work on to get ready for next year. Hopefully, we will have a group of kids, who are focused, ready to go and will be a hardworking group,” coach McCaffrey said.

Iselin-Kennedy	300	100	0	4
Cranford	000	040	0	4



NOT QUITE GETTING HOME ON TIME....Cougar Sean Trotter attempts to score but is tagged out by the Iselin-Kennedy Mustang catcher in the fifth inning at Memorial Field in Cranford.



PLOWING INTO THIRD BASE...Cougar Brendon Kane plows into third base with his second stolen base as Warren third baseman Mark Ball waits for the ball in the second inning of the Cal Ripken District 12 quarterfinal game in Westfield.

## Warren 12s Startle Cugars in Ripken Quarters

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

going to run ourselves out of an inning with a line drive and a double play. It’s worked for us a bunch of times, and when we play next week, we will do it again,” coach Norton said.

“Double plays at 50-70 [distance between bases were set at 70 feet] are not often, and that was a backbreaker. They had some injuries, but we weren’t taking them lightly. They have some good players,” coach Mastrobattista said. “Our defense is what keeps us in games.”

Warren plated three runs in the top of the second. Knight issued three straight walks. One runner scored on a wild pitch, then Frank Rica bounced

a two-run ground-rule double over the right field fence. Two more walks and Nick Ugarte’s RBI single in the third gave Warren a 4-1 lead. Third baseman Ball made a great catch and centerfielder Jon Catania added another to hold Cranford scoreless in the third.

Knight yielded a leadoff double to Stefurak in the fourth and an RBI double to Matt Mastrobattista. Savino relieved and yielded an RBI single to Marino to make the score 6-1. In the fifth, Rica walked, stole a base and scored on Ball’s grounder to up the score to 7-1. In the bottom of the inning, Cougar Joe Norton reached

base on an error, swiped a pair of bases and scored on a passed ball. Josh Cucuzzella and Savino drew walks, but Warren added two more fine defensive plays to prevent further scoring.

Warren second baseman Mastrobattista added the defensive icing with a diving grab in the sixth inning.

“They made every single play. At this level, if you don’t walk people and you make every play, you have a real good chance of winning the game,” coach Norton said.

Warren	031	210	7
Cranford	010	010	2



AVOIDING THE PICKOFF ATTEMPT...Cougar Jamie Brawley quickly gets back to first to avoid being picked off by Warren pitcher Jack Stefurak and tagged by Mike Colantuolo, No. 99.

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South Orange-Maplewood Defeated Westfield Blue, 6-1, in Cal Ripken District 12 Semifinal on Independence Day



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
QUICKLY DIVING BACK TO FIRST BASE...Westfield Blue's Owen Brancatella quickly dives back to first base to avoid being tagged out by Villager first baseman Scott Harvey in the fourth inning.



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
HOOKING OUT OF THE BASE LINE...In his effort to avoid being tagged out by Westfield Blue third baseman Steve Barmakian, Villager Brian Miller is called out for leaving the base line.

Westfield Blue 12s Defeated Summit, 9-8, with Steve Barmakian's 6th Inning Solo Blast in Central Jersey League



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
SUCCESSFULLY SWIPING SECOND...Westfield Blue's Tyler Roth steals second base in the third inning as Summit shortstop Paul Flanagan waits for a throw.



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
UNLEASHING HIS POWER...Slugger Steve Barmakian blasted a solo home run in the bottom of the sixth to give the Westfield Blue a 9-8 victory over Summit.

St. Aloysius Held Off St. Anne, 8-6, in St. Bart's Oldtimers Men's Softball League Action in Scotch Plains – June 30



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
KEEPING ST. ANNE IN CHECK...St. Aloysius pitcher Tom Rutkowski kept the St. Anne offensive machine in check en route to an 8-6 victory in Fanwood.



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
READY TO POUND A BIG ONE...St. Aloysius slugger Brian Glod pounded a three-run home run to spark a five-run second inning against St. Anne.

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## SPFHS Club’s Dodge-Ball Event Aids March of Dimes

SCOTCH PLAINS – The Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) chapter at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School (SPFHS) hosted its 4th Annual March of Dimes Dodge Ball Tournament earlier this year.

The SPFHS gym was packed with students rooting for their favorite dodge-ball team. This year, nearly 30 teams, made up of eight students each, entered the event to support the March of Dimes charity, to compete for the coveted winning trophy and to have bragging rights for the entire next year.

Brian Drzyzga, chairman of the Middlesex-Somerset County March for Babies Committee, and Melissa Gass, regional director of March of Dimes, were on hand to show their personal commitment to this cause.

Mr. Drzyzga presented to the crowd an overview of the charity, which captivated the entire audience.

Sam Bhakuni, SPFHS FBLA chapter president, told the crowd, “This fundraising event gives hope to the more than half a million babies born prematurely each year.”

Through this event, SPFHS FBLA was able to present \$1,500 to the

### Area Students Receive Quinniapiac Degrees

AREA – The following area students received degrees from Quinniapiac University during its undergraduate commencement ceremony on May 16:

Leigh-Ann Megan Bartsch of Berkeley Heights, Bachelor of Arts degree in interactive digital design; Brendan Cline of Westfield, Bachelor of Arts degree in LIND; Kristen Fortino of Westfield, Bachelor of Arts degree in public relations; Jeffrey Haymaker of Berkeley Heights, Bachelor of Science degree in veterinary technology; Michael Manders of Westfield, Bachelor of Science degree in finance; Nikki Todaro of Berkeley Heights, Bachelor of Arts degree in history; Kayla Vandervort of Westfield, Bachelor of Science in marketing, and Megan Vandervort of Westfield, Bachelor of Arts degree in public relations.

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

##### TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS

NOTICE IS hereby given that at a meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Scotch Plains, held on Tuesday, July 6, 2010 the following ordinance entitled:

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 23 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED, “AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FEES (COAH THIRD ROUND RULES)” BY REPEALING AND REPLACING EXISTING SECTIONS 8.1 THROUGH 8.10 IN THEIR ENTIRETY.**

was adopted on second and final reading.

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS  
Barbara Riepe  
Township Clerk  
1 T - 7/8/10, The Times Fee: \$20.40

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

##### TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,** that on **JULY 19, 2010, at 7:30 pm** in the Municipal Building, 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, the Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a Special Meeting in the first floor Council Chambers for the continuation of the public hearing for T. Moble, Northeast, LLC/New York SMSA db/a Verizon Wireless for a Use Variance and height variance to install a 125 feet Monopole at the Hillside Cemetery, 1401-1545 Woodland Avenue, Block 16501, Lot 1.

All interested persons may be present and be heard.

The file pertaining to this application is in the Office of the Zoning Board of Adjustment, 430 Park Avenue, 2nd Floor, Scotch Plains and is available for public inspection during regular office hours.

Barbara Horev, Secretary  
Zoning Board of Adjustment  
1 T - 7/8/10, The Times Fee: \$21.42

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## EDISON INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

### Fourth Marking Period

WESTFIELD – Edison Intermediate School Principal Cheryl O’Brien announced the school’s fourth marking period honor roll. It reads as follows:

#### Grade 7 Distinguished Honor Roll

Sophie Bass, Valeria Bouchoueva, Samantha Bromberg, Stephen Bubniak, Katrina Carlin, Paige Carlin, Dillon Carrier, Emma Chen, Amanda Cheung, Grace Cook, Lauren D’Amico, Emily Forcht, John Fuller, Matthew Gaudin, Hannah Goldring, James Hunter, Leah Iosif, Katherine Ko, Alison Krakauer, Jorge Ledesma, Ryan Lipschutz, Jason Liu, Maria Lizzo, Marisa Lombardi, Michael Maguire, Jameson Maher, Johanna Mermer, Erica Millwater, Daniel Mitchell, Ariel Moise Kleinman, Megan Mondon, Rita Murphy, Melanie Nettler, Autumn Patterson, Christopher Romano, Noelle Rosa, Jack Rose, Samuel Saiberg, Logan Schwartz, Emily Serafin, Alison Serpico, Caryn Sherbet, Juliette Smith, Anastasia Smolenski, Melanie Snyder, Lindsey Strauss, Hermes Suen, Nicholas Tarantino, Dhruv Tikku, Kristen Toth, Dominique Vo, Isabel Wayne, Amy West, Eli Wirtshafter, Andrew Zale

#### Grade 7 Honor Roll

Sabra Anderson, Brittany Ballard, Tyler Banský, Alexander Bennett, John Birle, Kelly Bohall, Miranda Bonina, Julie Brownstone, James Brucia, Michael Bruno, Theo Brunson, Bianca Buecklers, Jessica Bungezer, Lisa Calexio, Christopher Caminito, Sabrina Cavanagh, Alyssa Cox, Connor Cutinello, Benjamin Cymbala, Liam Datwani, Bianca De Vito, Miranda Depalma, Erin Dugan, Amanda Durante, Brennan Erickson, Shelby Estevez, Samantha Francisco, Matthew Friedman, Gregory Gao, Lyman Gilman, Harry Glasser-Baker, Sarah Gohl, Jaime Gunchar, Andrew Harting-Smith, Kaelyn Heard, Austin Hong, Isabelle Ick, Kevin Irving, Bryan Jackler, Ansh Jhaveri, Bryn Johnston, Margot Johnston, Matthew Kaczynski, Connor Krueger, Jack Lee, Zachary Levan, Jian Hong Liu, Rachel Logan, Angel Lopez, Natalie Marcotullio, Leandra Margolies, Julian Mone, Maya Moritz, Christopher Nicholls, Leah Pensenson, Brooke Prais, Amanda Pinho, Timothy Plump, Christopher Reilly, Samantha Riley, Kyle Rittendale, Jenna Rizkalla, Michela Sabella, Caitlyn Serafin, Jack Siegel, Lisa Simon, Kaelyn Smith, Bobbi Snyder, Kevin Sokol, Christopher Sullivan,

**Last week’s honor roll should have been listed as Roosevelt’s Fourth Marking Period Honor Roll**

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

##### BOROUGH OF FANWOOD PLANNING BOARD

Please take notice that on July 19, 2010 at 7:30 PM at the Fanwood Borough Hall, located at 75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey, the Planning Board will hold a hearing on the application of the undersigned. The property in question is located at: 128 Second Street, Fanwood, New Jersey, also known as Block 85 Lot 13, as shown on the Fanwood Tax Map, owned by Michael and Elizabeth Hogan.

The applicant requests a covered side entryway which is in violation of: Section 184-110E of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: Side Yard Setback; Permitted: 9 feet; Present: 9 feet 4 inches; Proposed: 7 feet 10 inches.

The applicant will also seek such other relief as may be determined necessary at the public hearing based upon review of the application or amendment(s) to the application.

The file pertaining to this application is available for public inspection during normal business hours (8 AM - 4 PM, Monday through Friday) from the Secretary of the Planning Board at the Administration Office of the Borough of Fanwood at 75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey.

Any interested party may appear at said hearing and participate therein in accordance with the rules of the Fanwood Planning Board.

Applicant: Michael Hogan  
305 North Avenue  
128 Second Street  
Fanwood, New Jersey 07023  
1 T - 7/8/10, The Times Fee: \$33.15

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

##### BOROUGH OF FANWOOD PLANNING BOARD

Please take notice that on July 19, 2010 at 7:30 PM at the Fanwood Borough Hall, located at 75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey, the Planning Board will hold a hearing on the application of the undersigned. The property in question is located at: 188 Farley Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey, also known as Block 27 Lot 65, as shown on the Fanwood Tax Map, owned by David Bell.

The applicant requests A rear deck to be built, which is in violation of: Section 184-115 of the Fanwood Land Use Code. Variance Requested: Side Yard Setback; Permitted: 8 Feet ; Present: 5 Feet; Proposed: 6 Feet.

The applicant will also seek such other relief as may be determined necessary at the public hearing based upon review of the application or amendment(s) to the application.

The file pertaining to this application is available for public inspection during normal business hours (8 AM - 4 PM, Monday through Friday) from the Secretary of the Planning Board at the Administration Office of the Borough of Fanwood at 75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey.

Any interested party may appear at said hearing and participate therein in accordance with the rules of the Fanwood Planning Board.

Applicant: David Bell  
188 Farley Avenue  
Fanwood, New Jersey 07023  
1 T - 7/8/10, The Times Fee: \$33.15



**BRONZE MEDALIST...** Westfield High School 10th grader Emily Bailey earned a bronze medal in the Congressional Awards program, which recognizes volunteer public service, personal development and physical fitness of young Americans. Emily has volunteered for two years at the Westfield Community Center and at an historical museum. During this timeframe, Emily developed responsibility and learned how to care for children as a babysitter for a handicapped child.

## WHS Students Receive Honors at Awards Night

WESTFIELD – At Westfield High School’s annual Awards Night, held this past spring, two teachers, a paraprofessional and 103 students were recognized for outstanding achievement during the 2009-10 academic year.

Presentations to staff included: The Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award – James T. Rowan, teacher of Latin; Robert and Linda Foose Memorial Award for Excellence in Education – Terri Martins, paraprofessional; PTSO’s Outstanding Teacher Award – Lauren Durante, teacher of Italian.

The following students received awards:

Mary Jane Ajodah, J. Isabella Dodds Award; Calvin Antoniewicz, Gail W. Trimble Memorial Award; Zachary Bakhtin, National Merit Scholarship Award - commended; Carough Ball, Westfield Jaycees Scholarship; Carough Ball, Westfield Education Association Scholarship; Carough Ball, Liesja Tortorello “Carpe Diem” Award; Carough Ball, Social Studies Department Award; Leslie Bartsch, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Zachary Bowman, Douglas J. Odenkirk Memorial Award; Zachary Bowman, Environmental Science Award; Katie Brennan, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Katie Brennan, Social and Gift Spirit Award; Abigail Burton, National Merit Scholarship Award, Semifinalist; Abigail Burton, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Abigail Burton, National Merit Scholarship Award, Finalist; Abigail Burton, Most Outstanding Foreign Language Student Award; Abigail Burton, German Outstanding Achievement Award; Amanda Centrella, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Victoria Cheung, Westfield Jaycees Scholarship; Kevin Clancy, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Kevin Clancy, AP Statistics Award; Danielle Coffone, Italian Club Achievement Award; Andrew Cordeiro, National Merit Scholarship Award - commended; Samantha Cruz, John S. and Helen Bell McMartin Award; Tyler Cusick, National Merit Scholarship Award - commended; Tyler Cusick, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Tyler Cusick, Excellence in History Award; Monica D’Amico, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Brett DeNicola, Westfield Chapter UNICO National Award; Andrew Deutchman, Calculus AB Award; Adam DiBattista, English Department Book Lover’s Award; Adam DiBattista, Model United Nations Award and Youth and Government Award; Brandon Dietz, Westfield Education Association Scholarship; Michael Eilbacher National Merit Scholarship Award - commended; Michael Eilbacher, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Michael Eilbacher, Laura Meirehans Memorial Scholarship; Jonathan Erman Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Benjamin Fine, National Merit Scholarship Award - commended; Benjamin Fine, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; David Fishman, New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants; Kevin Furlong, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Kevin Furlong, Latinitas Award; Shelley Fussman, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Trent Gabriel, Dr. Sheldon Glickman Award; Andrew Gates, National Merit Scholarship Award, Winner; Sarah Glickstein, Model United Nations Award and Youth and Government Award; Sarah Glickstein, Andrew and Helen Bogert Scholarships; Sophie Greene, National Merit Scholarship Award, Semifinalist; Sophie Greene, McCoy Matching through Westfield Foundation; Sophie Greene, J. Isabella Dodds Award; Emily Ann Harris, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Emily Ann Harris, Model United Nations Award and Youth and Government Award; Zachary Helfand, National Merit Scholarship Award - commended; Zachary Helfand, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Zachary Helfand, Noel and Thelma Taylor Memorial Award; Kyle Higgins, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Leslie Holt, French Elan Award; Danielle Hopkins, Dr. Martin L. King, Jr./Dorothy Kirkley Memorial Scholarship; Miles Hsu, National Merit Scholarship Award - commended; Miles Hsu, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Meghan Ince, David M. Hart Science Award; David Kabakow, Sylvia Cummin Outstanding Business Student Award; Rebecca Kape, Katherine E. Cuthbertson Memorial Scholarship; Michael Kaufhold National Merit Scholarship Award - commended; Michael Kaufhold German Achievement Award; Michael Kaufhold Mandeville-Rentrop Scholarship; Casey Kerhof, Andrew and Helen Bogert Scholarships; Anne Knisely, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Anne Knisely, Chemistry 2 AP Award; Daniel Krack, National Merit Scholarship Award - commended; Joseph Kramkowski, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Zachary LaPorta, National Merit Scholarship Award - commended; Melissa Littman, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Kamil Lupicki, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Dalton Mack, National Merit Scholarship Award - commended; Jessica Margolies, National Merit Scholarship Award, Semifinalist; Jessica Margolies, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Jessica Margolies, National Merit Scholarship Award, Finalist; Andrew Marino, National Merit Scholarship Award, Semifinalist; Andrew Marino, National Merit Scholarship Award, Finalist; Andrew Marino, Col. & Mrs. Henry Bayard McCoy; Mary McKeivitt, Edmund K. Faltermeyer Journalism Scholarship; Gregory Mitchell, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Jessica Mondon, National Merit Scholarship Award - commended; Kevin Monroe, Dr. Martin L. King, Jr./Dorothy Kirkley Memorial Scholarship; Kevin Monroe, Douglas C. Yearley Memorial Scholarship; Marisa Mormile, Class of 1959 Scholarship Award; Samuel Mumford, National Merit Scholarship Award - commended; Samuel Mumford, Ed-

ward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Samuel Mumford, Physics 2 AP-C Award; Grace Mustard, Environmental Science Award; Hugo Nolasco, Westfield Welcome Club Scholarship; Kathleen O’Donnell-Pickert, State Farm “Good Neighbor” Scholarship; Kathleen O’Donnell-Pickert, Westfield Chapter UNICO National Award; Michael Oster, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Jill Pate, Katherine E. Cuthbertson Memorial Scholarship; Joshua Perlman, National Merit Scholarship Award - commended; Lauren Posluszny, Joel Langholz Memorial Award; Anna Powell, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Anna Powell, Model United Nations Award and Youth and Government Award; Kevin Purdy, Waldron W. Holck Memorial Award; Megan Ramage, National Merit Scholarship Award - commended; Adam Reich, National Merit Scholarship Award - commended; Adam Reich, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Megan Reilly, National Merit Scholarship Award - commended; Megan Reilly, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Alison Ricardo, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Melissa Riegel, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Jenna Rodrigues, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Amy Roggenburg, Margaret Dietrich Award; Amy Roggenburg, McCoy Matching through Westfield Foundation; Amy Roggenburg, Model United Nations Award and Youth and Government Award; Diana Rogut, Joseph E. Rood Memorial Award; Rebecca Romano, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Amy Rosenfeld, French Excellence Award; Justin Rosin Lisa K., Monteleone Teaching Scholarship; Michael Ruschmann, Fundamentals of Calculus Award; Kevin Russell, Dr. John P. Burns Television Achievement Award; Michal Sagal, National Merit Scholarship Award - commended; Michal Sagal, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Michal Sagal, Mark Hardy Latin Memorial Scholarship; Michal Sagal, The Charles E. Brown Prize in History; Christopher Salemm, Army ROTC Scholarship; Christopher Salemm, Westfield Republican Committee Public Service Award; Andrew Sauerwein, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Drew Schapow, Wil..Power Scholarship; Vishal Shah, AP Computer Science Award; Kenneth Sipe, National Merit Scholarship Award - commended; Kenneth Sipe, Dr. John P. Burns Television Achievement Award; Justin Snyder, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Joshua Solomon, Broadcast Journalism Award; Julia Spiridigliozzi, Westfield Chapter UNICO National Award; Sarah Spitz, Biology 2 AP Award; Darla Stabler, Gail W. Trimble Memorial Award; Graeme Stahl, National Merit Scholarship Award - commended; Graeme Stahl, Calculus BC Award; Claire Stevens-Haas, Westfield Democratic Committee Public Service Awards; Kelly Sullivan, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Kelly Sullivan, Spanish Club Academic Achievement Award; Kelly Sullivan, Westfield Women’s Spanish Club Award; Sarah Szollar, Italian Club Achievement Award; Matthew Teese, Westfield Jaycees Scholarship; Matthew Teese, Westfield Association of Administrators and Supervisors Scholarship; Matthew Teese, William E. Wyman Memorial Award; Rosalba Vasquez, Katherine E. Cuthbertson Memorial Scholarship; Rosalba Vasquez, Megan Beck Memorial Scholarship; Rosalba Vasquez, Justina V. Taylor Memorial Award; Rosalba Vasquez, Spanish Club Service Award; Rosalba Vasquez, Douglas C. Yearley Memorial Scholarship; Katherine Venezia, Katherine E. Cuthbertson Memorial Scholarship; Peter Waddell, French Achievement Award; Yixiao Wang, National Merit Scholarship Award, Semifinalist; Yixiao Wang, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Yixiao Wang, National Merit Scholarship Award, Finalist; Yixiao Wang, National Merit Scholarship Award Winner; Yixiao Wang, Albert R. Bobal Social Studies Award; Yixiao Wang, Westfield High School Distinguished Student Award; Yixiao Wang, Physics 2 AP-C Award; Austin Wentta, Westfield Jaycees Scholarship; Austin Wentta, Peggy H. and Jeremiah A. Lott Scholarship Fund Award; Siyu Xiao, National Merit Scholarship Award - commended; Siyu Xiao, Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar; Siyu Xiao, English Department Award; Siyu Xiao, Seifeldin Ashmawy Peace Award; Siyu Xiao, Biology 2 AP Award; Jason Yang, Douglas C. Yearley Memorial Scholarship; Caroline Yeager, The Gregg C. Clynne Memorial Foundation Scholarship; Mei-Dong You, Laurence F. Greene Achievement Award; Mei-Dong You, Douglas C. Yearley Memorial Scholarship.

### Simcox of WF Receives Master’s Degree

WESTFIELD – Jeanette Simcox of Westfield participated in the 160th commencement ceremonies at Baldwin-Wallace College. Ms. Simcox earned a Master of Business Administration degree.

### Spanish Honor Society Welcomes WF Students

WESTFIELD – Fourteen Westfield High School students were inducted into the school’s chapter of the National Spanish Honor Society on May 4. In order to be inducted, students must be juniors or seniors, active Spanish club members and maintain an “A” average in Spanish over the course of two semesters. The students include:

Taylor Anderson, Adrian Bizzarro, Emily Chan, Andrew Deutchman, Justin Erickson, Catalina Gaglioti, Rachel Gross, Evan Rae Hindes, Cynthia Lam, Michael Levidy, Diana Mason, Jenna Rodrigues, Gabriella Tanji and Caroline Yeager.





**MAKING NOISE...**Co-founder of the Traveling Guitar Foundation, guitarist and songwriter Damon Marks of Scotch Plains, above, is teaming with Yamaha to help provide guitar kits and digital keyboards to local schools.

## Yamaha, SP Fdn. Partner To Better Music Programs

SCOTCH PLAINS – For 50 years, Yamaha has been a strong supporter of music education in the United States. In its latest educational initiative, the company has announced a working relationship with the Traveling Guitar Foundation—whose founder hails from Union County – pledging to provide low-cost Gigmaker Electric Guitar kits and digital keyboards that the foundation will donate to worthy schools.

“We are always seeking ways to put instruments into the hands of students because the value of active music-making in a child’s life is incalculable,” said Rick Young, senior vice president of the Yamaha Corporation of America.

Gigmaker Electric Guitar kits include everything a beginner guitarist needs to get started, including a Pacifica PAC012 guitar, an amplifier and a host of other accessories. Yamaha makes a range of keyboards that offer unparalleled quality and value for keyboard players at every level of proficiency.

Co-founder of the Traveling Guitar Foundation, guitarist and songwriter Damon Marks of Scotch Plains, has performed and recorded with top names in the music business, but he also enjoys giving back. His foundation, based also in Scotch Plains, provides musical instruments for schools that lack well-developed music programs.

“Yamaha is a legendary company that helps bring strength and expertise to the Traveling Guitar Foundation,” said Mr. Marks. “Guitars and keyboards

are the two hottest instruments of choice for students, and Yamaha makes some of the best guitars and keyboards in the world.”

The Traveling Guitar Foundation’s name derives from two custom guitars that are constructed each year by foundation co-founder Keith Ballurio of Ballurio Guitars in Manassas, Va.

These guitars are placed in the hands of famous guitarists, who play and sign them. The guitars are auctioned off after a year of travel, and the proceeds help the foundation fulfill its mission.

Thanks to extensive media coverage, Mr. Marks’ foundation is functioning as a “well-oiled machine,” he said, and there is no shortage of schools seeking him out for musical equipment.

When he visits a school, he tries to bring along well-known music personalities to help deliver the message and the goods, including Darryl McDaniels of Run-DMC, music producer Kasseem (Swizz Beatz) Dean and producer Conrad Robinson of MBK Entertainment.

Sponsoring artists include renowned guitarists Eric Johnson, Bruce Kulick and Steve Lukather.

The new relationship with Yamaha “lets us continue to grow, so now we can increase our presence and bring the value of music education to a bigger audience,” said Mr. Marks.

Learn more about the foundation at [travelingguitar.org/](http://travelingguitar.org/).



### POPCORN™

## Joan Rivers: A Piece Of Work – Oh, Please...See It

One Popcorn, Poor • Two Popcorns, Fair • Three Popcorns, Good • Four Popcorns, Excellent

By **MICHAEL S. GOLDBERGER**  
*3 popcorns*

“Can we talk!?” Thus has comedienne and showbiz icon Joan Rivers asked for most of her storied career. It’s an invitation to dish the dirt, solely entre nous, as if you were both sitting at the kitchen table. Unsinkable and as well-worn as your favorite jammies, she is now evocatively deconstructed in the documentary *Joan Rivers: A Piece of Work*.

Consider it the back-story, the extra-added content chronicling her latest reinvention. Directors Ricki Stern and Anne Sundberg enticingly put a face on the stand-up dynamo behind the Guinness-worthy series of plastic surgeries. Scathingly objective and warmly subjective via interview and narrative, it is bittersweet, eye-opening entertainment.

Point of disclosure: I like the lady and agree with her perhaps vainglorious contention that, in the royal succession of stand-up comedienness, she reigns just after Moms Mabley and Phyllis Diller. The signature, cutting-edge look at people, places and things that has comprised her act was one of the signals in the 1960s that the times they were a-changin’.

Here, battle scarred but no less vituperative and still instinctively compassionate despite the image, she lets us peek at the propelling self-doubt and bravado behind her practically surreal mask. She’s forthcoming, engaging and vulnerable. But, like a coquette schooled by Dickens’ Mrs. Havesham, she reserves the right to keep us enthusiastically guessing.

True, we don’t know how much say Miss Rivers wielded behind filmmakers Stern and Sundberg’s lens. But the inviting, hopeful style of candor allows she is at once prey and predator. Steady as she goes, carving her destiny in full, survival of the fittest mode, it occurs that she is the entertainment industry’s version of both Aesop and Darwin’s turtle.

Indeed, there’s enough Pagliacci-sized heartache to fill a steamer trunk bound for New Haven, from why Johnny Carson virtually blackballed our girl to her husband Edgar’s shocking suicide. There are no jokes on said subjects. Otherwise, it’s stiff upper lip, self-effacing and filled with textural detail. Balancing all the heavy stuff, it’s also very funny.

The documentarians give the doings a latest hurrah aura. Aware that the cameras are on, Rivers occasionally plays to them, but is then seemingly oblivious as she fights the good fight with agents and potential employers. The hunt for bookings is the be all, end

all. She is a peddler, a high-pressure saleswoman promising a legend and her bag of shtick.

Surrounded by her coterie and celebrating a lifestyle epitomized by an apartment she describes as “how Marie Antoinette would have lived if she had money,” she divulges her proclivity for expensive trappings. She also notes the many people she supports, as if all these factors might explain her boundless zeal and workaholic ethic. But that’s not it.

While made official here, it’s no surprise that Joan Rivers has an addiction common to most performers whose fame spans several generations. It’s a passion for success, an undying dedication to the craft, and that relentless need for the roar of the greasepaint and the smell of the crowd. Taken into this confidence, you’re soon rooting for her triumph.

That is, unless you just plain don’t like her. Undeniably, when she is not tearing herself apart and second-guessing her talent, she is brazen, opinionated, arrogant and rude. While others hide their fiercer appetites beneath a cuddly façade, she informs that at least she’s honest about it. It’s all a matter of whether or not you buy in and allow her dispensation.

At points, the act seems not a modus operandi, but an obstreperous character flaw...the vehement need, nay, the demand, to receive love and approbation, especially from those you treat unfairly. What that’s about, perhaps only Dr. Freud knows. But if you’ll allow me, Doc, I’d say it’s an egoistic, near delusional need to be seen on a pantheonic level.

Or, it could just be a function of that famous, career-driving insecurity that has motivated the success of countless celebrities. In either case, Rivers leaves nothing to chance, her pounding mantra an obsessive caution that talent without ambition is a ticket to failure and the poorhouse. We pause to consider the hard work that goes into the magic of fame.

Miss Rivers’ travail is displayed as a microcosm of the human comedy, from familial happiness to defining one’s role in society. And even though, by the very nature of her occupation, the example is one of high relief, sympathetic viewers will nonetheless find hilariously validating the labor of love deliberated in *Joan Rivers: A Piece of Work*.

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*Joan Rivers: A Piece of Work*, rated R, is an IFC release directed by Ricki Stern and Anne Sundberg, and features Joan Rivers, Melissa Rivers and Billy Sammeth. Running time: 84 minutes.

## WESTFIELD FOOD 4 THOUGHT



### Summertime Salmon

By **JAYNE BOOK SALOMON**  
*Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times*

Salmon may be consumed all year long, but during the summer, it just seems to be particularly more enjoyable. After all, it tastes great poached and served at room temperature, cooked on the grill or chopped with mayonnaise and served with mixed greens.

Salmon hasn’t always been en vogue. As a matter of fact, I don’t remember it being a popular cuisine in the ‘60s and ‘70s. But for the last 20 years or so, there is hardly a Continental, American, Japanese or Italian restaurant that doesn’t offer some type of salmon dish on the menu. It is almost as much a staple in our diet these days as chicken.

Americans love salmon. And not surprisingly so; it is nutritious, high in omega 3, low in calories, high in flavor and easy to find and prepare. Back in the day, it was only canned salmon that found its way into the kitchens of modern food enthusiasts, but it could never hold a candle to the almighty canned tuna.

Today, salmon is more popular as a



**Fresh Salmon Salad**

dinner item than its friend tuna, but still lags behind in the lunchtime arena. Salmon salad, prepared from fresh cooked salmon, resembles the taste of canned salmon, but as far as quality, freshness and taste go, there simply is no comparison.

Using the leftover salmon from last night’s dinner to create a delicious salad is a good idea on warm summer afternoons. I usually cook more than is necessary in anticipation of tomorrow’s lunch.

Poaching salmon is very easy, and although this dish is not seasonal, poached salmon seems more appropriate in the summer. Probably because its preparation does not include turning on a hot oven in the heat of the day, and it is often served at room temperature or chilled.

Additionally, the sauces that accompany a good poached salmon are generally made from cool ingredients like yogurt, sour cream and cucumbers.

This poached salmon recipe is accompanied by a cool yogurt-based dressing that doesn’t include cucumbers but does include other fresh ingredients. It is a little different than an ordinary cucumber/dill sauce; different is more exciting and, in this case, tastier as well.

The remaining two recipes are for salmon salads that are also a little different; both short on work but long on flavor. My philosophy is: simple is best, especially during the lazy, hot days of summer. These recipes are simply deliciously easy!

### POACHED SALMON IN WHITE WINE

**INGREDIENTS**  
2 ½ cups white wine (e.g. Chardonnay)  
2 ½ cups club soda (lemon-lime or unflavored)  
1 tablespoon butter  
1 to 1 ¼ pound salmon fillet, skinless

**PROCEDURE**  
Boil the liquid. Reduce to medium and add the salmon, making sure the liquid covers the salmon. Poach uncovered for 10 minutes or until the salmon is cooked through. Carefully remove the salmon from the pan. Serve warm, at room temperature or cold.

*\*Note: For a nice fall dinner, poach the salmon in 5 cups of sparkling apple cider with 1 cinnamon stick.*

### FRESH SALMON SALAD WITH RELISH

**INGREDIENTS**  
1 – 1 ¼ pound salmon fillet, poached or 1 can (14.7 ounce) salmon  
3-4 tablespoons mayonnaise (or to taste)  
3 tablespoons relish  
1 scallion, diced  
Salt and Pepper to taste

**PROCEDURE**  
Finely chop the salmon. Add the mayonnaise, relish, scallion, salt and pepper. Mix well.

### Rick Cantor Band Returns to Garwood

WESTFIELD – The Rick Cantor Band will premiere its new album, “Upstairs At Graceland,” as well as a selection of classic-rock covers, at The Crossroads in Garwood on Saturday, July 17. The band will appear from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.

Members include Travis Hudelson (drums) and Rick Cantor (bass) from Westfield, as well as Mike “Bubba” Bange (guitar, vocals) of Cranford, Brett Levine (keyboards) of Berkeley Heights and Jim Sampson (guitar, vocals) of Short Hills.

All have played for more than 30 years. Their material started as a collection of covers and has now evolved to include their own material.

Recorded in a few days in Memphis, “Upstairs At Graceland” is a tapestry encompassing anthems, haunting acoustic/electric pop, Southern rock and the particular angst of America in the 21st century.

### SALMON SALAD WITH HARDBOILED EGGS

**INGREDIENTS**  
1 can (7 ounces) salmon  
3 tablespoons mayonnaise  
3 hardboiled eggs  
7 scallions, tops removed and diced  
1 teaspoon Dijon mustard

**PROCEDURE**  
In a mixing bowl, finely mash the salmon. Blend in the mayonnaise. Finely chop in the eggs. Add the scallions and mustard and blend until smooth. Serve with crackers or atop a bed of mixed greens, a bed of lettuce, on a sandwich or stuff tomatoes with the salmon salad.

### COOL DIJON YOGURT SAUCE

**INGREDIENTS**  
1 cup plain yogurt  
1 ½ teaspoons Dijon mustard  
2 teaspoons fresh chives, snipped  
1 teaspoon sugar  
¼ teaspoon paprika  
2 scallions, finely diced

**PROCEDURE**  
Combine all ingredients in a bowl and chill for at least 30 minutes.

### Summer Alphorn Series to Continue

WESTFIELD – The International Alphorn Ensemble, a division of the New Jersey Workshop for the Arts (NJWA), will perform an outdoor concert series this summer at various locations throughout Westfield.

Directed by Ted Schlosberg, the ensemble will play a range of music, including solo, duet, trio and quartet. The concerts, which begin at 7:30 p.m., are free and open to the public. The series began with a performance at the First Baptist Church on June 30. The schedule for the remainder of the series is as follows:

July 14 – First Congregational Church; July 28 – First United Methodist Church; August 4 – Redeemer Lutheran Church and August 11 – The Presbyterian Church in Westfield.

Lawn chairs are suggested. In the event of rain, the concert will be cancelled.

For additional information on the NJWA, call (908) 789-9696 or log on to [njworkshopforthearts.com](http://njworkshopforthearts.com).



**THAR SHE BLOWS...**Members of the International Alphorn Ensemble, a division of the New Jersey Workshop for the Arts, will perform a series of free outdoor concerts this summer at various locations throughout Westfield.

## Premiere Stages Literally Puts Audience in the Jury Box

UNION – Premiere Stages, celebrating its sixth year as the professional theatre-in-residence at Kean University, has announced the premiere of *The Good Counselor*, by Kathryn Grant.

*The Good Counselor* is a new drama about a chosen son’s quest for truth. A bright, young public defender, hounded by his community and haunted by his past, struggles to defend two neglectful mothers: one his client, the other his own. A thought-provoking and beautifully written play, *The Good Counselor* literally prompts the audience to serve as the jury in determining what it means to be a good parent.

The play opens Thursday, July 15, in the Zella Fry Theatre and continues through Sunday, August 1. The cast features Edward O’Blenis, Erik LaRay Harvey, Susan Louise O’Connor, Socorro Santiago and Geany Masai.

A jury box has been incorporated into the audience seating, and patrons who arrive early have the opportunity to sit as jurors to hear Vincent, the young defender, deliver his opening and closing arguments directly to them. It is a fun way for audiences to feel like they are part of the action while watching and considering the unique events surrounding the case.

*The Good Counselor* is the winner of the 2010 Premiere Stages Play Festival and was selected from more than 300 submissions. The festival features “a uniquely accelerated process” in which the region’s most promising new plays are developed and fully produced within a year of submission. Playwrights also are afforded the opportunity to retain the coveted “world premiere” brand.

“In many professional theaters, the time span between meeting a writer, staging a reading and producing the play

can be years,” noted artistic director John Wooten. “When we discover a dramatist we believe in, our play-festival process allows Premiere Stages to fully commit the time, talent and resources necessary to share that writer’s work with a broad regional audience.”

Standard tickets are \$25, with special rates for seniors, students, Kean alumni and groups. The Premiere Package (a new subscription series) saves patrons up to \$30 and includes discounts on restaurants and free admission to staged readings and other special events. For reservations (highly recommended) or to receive a brochure, call the Kean University Box Office at (908) 737-SHOW (7469), or visit Premiere Stages online at [kean.edu/premierestages](http://kean.edu/premierestages).

All performances take place on the Kean University campus, located at 1000 Morris Avenue in Union, in the Zella Fry Theatre of the Vaughn Eames Building. Saturday and Sunday matinee performances begin at 3 p.m.; Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening performances begin at 8 p.m.

Premiere Stages provides free or discounted tickets to patrons with disabilities. All Premiere Stages facilities are fully accessible spaces. Please call the box office for a list of sign-interpreted, audio-described or open-captioned performances. Assistive listening devices and large-print programs are available upon request. Publications are available with advanced notice in alternate formats.

For information about special events and Premiere Packages, call Erica Nagel at (908) 737-4092. For group and dinner theater packages, call Paul Whelihan at (908) 737-4077.

To learn more, contact Mr. Wooten at [jwooten@kean.edu](mailto:jwooten@kean.edu) or (908) 737-4360.



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**MERRY MELODIES...**Both vocal and instrumental-music students, of all ages and ability levels, can enroll in the various courses offered by the music department of the 2010 Westfield Summer Workshop (WSW), a division of the New Jersey Workshop for the Arts. Fiddlin' Fun, Guitar, Kids on Keys, Music Sampler, Musical Theater Chorus, Songs of Stage and Screen and Workshop Band are among the selections of the WSW, which will be held at Roosevelt Intermediate School, until July 30. To learn more, call (908) 789-9696.

### Echo Lake Offers Free Reggae Concert

COUNTY – The Union County Summer Arts Festival 2010 concert series continues on Wednesday, July 14, with the Bob Marley Tribute Show at Echo Lake Park.

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders invited the public to attend this free concert of reggae music, which begins at 7:30 p.m. on the border of Mountainside and Westfield.

The Summer Arts Festival concerts continue throughout July and August on Wednesdays beginning at 7:30 p.m. The next two concerts will be held at Echo Lake Park on the Mountainside-Westfield border, and the remaining five concerts will be held at Oak Ridge Park in Clark. Lawn chairs, blankets and picnic baskets are encouraged. Refreshments and snacks will be available from vendors.

In case of rain, call the Union County Department of Parks and Community Renewal at (908) 558-4079 after 3 p.m. or visit [ucnj.org/parks/summerarts.html](http://ucnj.org/parks/summerarts.html).

Franklin School's garden evolved from simple plantings that filled a vacant area during the building's 2001 addition to the 45-foot by 45-foot habitat garden it is today ~ Courtesy of Christie Storms



## Family Flix Film Series Continues Tues., July 13

COUNTY – The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Department of Parks and Community Renewal announced that the “Family Flix” summer film series will continue on Tuesday evening, July 13, in Warinanco Park.

“Family Flix begin at dusk, but come early to the park to enjoy interesting preview activities at 7:15 p.m. that are fun for the whole family,” said Freeholder Vice-Chairman Deborah Scanlon, liaison to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. “Bring a blanket or beach chair to claim your spot on the lawn or save a seat in the bleachers – either way, the early birds are sure to like the preview activity before each movie.”

The next film this summer will be the 2008 animated adventure, *The Tale of Despereaux*, about a mouse with oversized ears who befriends a princess and learns to read. *The Tales of Despereaux* will be shown outdoors, free of charge, at Warinanco Park on the border of Roselle and Elizabeth on Tuesday, July 13.

There will be a display by the 4-H Small Animals Club at 7:15 p.m.,

# Arts & Entertainment

## WF Elementary Schools’ Gardens Grow Beyond Beautifying Grounds

By CHRISTIE STORMS  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

WESTFIELD — In recent years, Westfield elementary-school staff, students and their families have taken steps to “go green,” with such environmentally friendly measures as recycling, sending school correspondence via e-mail instead of hard copy, packing “litter-less” lunches and using reusable water bottles in lieu of disposable plastic containers.

And while many schools have had small gardens for some time, there’s been a recent resurgence in expanding and transforming the old as well as planting brand new ones.

These gardens go far beyond simply beautifying school grounds. They help replenish the environment, serve as natural habitats and provide students with endless opportunities for hands-on outdoor-learning experiences.

At the forefront of these endeavors is Franklin School, whose garden evolved from simple plantings that filled a vacant area during the building’s 2001 addition to the 45-foot by 45-foot habitat garden it is today.

It features a sensory garden with four in-ground planting boxes labeled “sight,” “smell,” “taste” and “touch,” a butterfly habitat, a weather station, two composts, countless shrubs and perennials, as well as a vegetable garden.

Liz Miller, who co-chairs the Franklin PTO’s Habitat Garden Committee with Kristin Bartok, said much of the garden’s dramatic progress has taken

place over the past three years, including the large undertaking of replacing the rocky soil.

Ms. Miller stated that a Boy Scout further beautified the space with a winding paver path, and Franklin families have additionally donated a sprinkler system and benches. A new arbor provides a welcoming entrance, and the garden has been “wild life habitat-certified.”

They also have a habitat club, where students can get involved in all aspects – from planting to weeding to creating the artistic mosaic signs.

“The children are so proud of their flowers and vegetables,” Ms. Miller said. “It’s amazing how more willing they are to try something they had a part in growing themselves.”

The positive impact the garden has had on the Franklin community inspired a similar one at the Lincoln School Early-Childhood Learning Center. Franklin parents who had younger students at Lincoln got together to till a “multi-purpose garden” there.

Katie Barlett, who chaired the Lincoln PTO’s new committee, said they tied in the kindergarten curriculum as much as possible. In addition to butterfly and sensory areas, there is a “symmetry” garden, where everything is planted in symmetry around a tree.

Another feature is an entire row of variegated leaf plants to reinforce the kindergarteners’ study of patterns.

She added that the garden would not have been possible without the tremendous efforts of Annaliah DeRojas, a Westfield High School student who took on the project to help her pursue the prestigious Girl Scout Gold Award. Annaliah also personally oversaw the donation and installation of a paver path.

Both Franklin and Lincoln plan to enter their gardens into the upcoming “Westfield in Bloom” contest.

At Washington School, volunteer Lorraine Mormile created an “outdoor classroom” this past year. She saw it as an opportunity to “get kids playing in the dirt while learning all of the lessons a garden can teach.”

Students have planted wildflowers, herbs and “food crops.” There is even a “pizza garden,” which includes Rutgers tomatoes, Italian oregano and sweet basil.

“The children have been having a great time being ‘Soil Scientists’ and digging for earth worms,” Ms. Mormile said.

Students additionally learned about various gardening roles such as entomologist, botanist, pathologist and designer.

Ms. Mormile said they have also been busy tilling “Starbucks Coffee grinds” to feed the earthworms and to

learn about composting.

Suzanne Weigand, who chairs the Jefferson PTO’s Beautification Committee, reported the start of a new perennial garden at the school’s front entrance.

The committee has been “reworking” the existing butterfly garden. There’s also a newer area behind the school, called “Geier’s Grove,” which a former principal started as a way to commemorate teacher retirements with new plantings.

Because weeds were an issue, the committee devised an environmentally friendly solution. They collect newspapers from neighbors on recycling days and place thick layers underneath the mulch.

“The roots underneath can’t come up, and it makes it easier to pull weeds from the top because they can’t grow down,” Ms. Weigand said.

Claudia Andreski, retiring principal, reported that McKinley School has three garden areas.

The first was planted in honor of Megan Beck, who passed away at the age of 20. She had attended McKinley and later returned as a counselor. It consists of an ornamental cherry tree, various perennials and a seating area.

A Centennial Garden was planted to commemorate the school’s 100th anniversary last year, and a new reading garden was just completed to honor Mrs. Andreski’s retirement.

Donna Audino, a Tamaques PTO volunteer, reported the school’s second graders harvest a vegetable garden each year. There is also a commemorative garden planted in memory of a beloved teacher, Teddi Ritter, marked by a charming statue of a girl reading among lush plantings at the front corner of the school.

The gardens sprouting up at Westfield’s elementary schools have begun to unite the whole community’s efforts to “go green” and further beautify the town, while also providing educational enrichment for students.

All those involved wished to thank the many local residents and businesses who generously donated their goods and their time.

### 1992 WHS Graduate Films Documentary

WESTFIELD – The world premiere of JL Aronson’s documentary, “Last Summer at Coney Island,” will be held August 9 at the Brooklyn Academy of Music.

There will be a question-and-answer period, following the 7:50 p.m. showing. Mr. Aronson, a 1992 graduate of Westfield High School, is an independent filmmaker. He is the son of Lynn and Hal Aronson of Somerset.

## Musical Club Announces 2010-2011 Award Winners

WESTFIELD – The Musical Club of Westfield has announced the winners of the 2010-2011 scholarship awards. Michael Rosin, a graduating senior from Westfield High School, is a pianist, flutist and composer. Michael will receive the Janet Grimler Gleason Memorial Scholarship.

He has been recognized for his achievement in music at Westfield High School, recently earning the Music Director’s Music Major Award, the Madeline Bristol Award and the Marc Hardy Scholarship for Excellence in Theatrical Commitment.

He has been a member of the Westfield High School Concert Band, Wind Ensemble, Concert Choir, Chorus and Choraleers. He won first place in the 2010 NJMEA (New Jersey Music Educators Association) Composition Contest.

He earned first place in the 2009 NJ Harmonium Choral Composition Competition and had his compositions performed and recorded. He also received the Lillian Rosenthal Award from the NJMEA for Outstanding Piano Auditions during seven consecutive years.

The Westminster Community Or-

chestra performed and recorded the first movement of Michael’s String Suite. Michael also recently gave the pre-concert lecture for the Westfield Symphony Orchestra’s May 8 concert of Beethoven’s 9th Symphony.

Michael will attend Montclair State University as a music major.

The Musical Club of Westfield will continue its financial support of Juilliard School of Music students Ben Baron and Nathanael Udell, a bassoonist and French hornist, respectively.

Melvin Diep, a University of Michigan piano-performance major, and Laura Schwab, a vocal performance arts major at Catholic University, will also receive continuing support.

The newly endowed John Heim Scholarship will be awarded for the first time this 2010-2011 school year to violinist Alexandra Jenkins, a senior at SUNY Purchase.

Those interested in making a tax-deductible donation to the scholarship fund can contact Clarissa Nolde at [cnoldestudio@hotmail.com](mailto:cnoldestudio@hotmail.com). The Musical Club of Westfield is a non-profit organization dedicated to the encouraging and fostering of good music.



Michael Rosin

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Courtesy of Lorraine Mormile

**HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW...?** At Washington Elementary School, volunteer Lorraine Mormile created an “outdoor classroom” this past year. She saw it as an opportunity to “get kids playing in the dirt while learning all of the lessons a garden can teach.”

## Guy Mendilow Band Takes ‘Conscience’ Across Globe

By ERIC NIERSTEDT  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

WESTFIELD — On a Saturday night last month, Westfield’s First Methodist Church was filled with the sounds and languages of peoples all across the world, as the eclectic Guy Mendilow Band (GMB) performed the final date of Coffee With Conscience (CWC).

A 10-year-old series, CWC offers accomplished musical acts and coffee to attendees, with all proceeds going to a charity. This evening’s charity was the Community Food Bank of New Jersey.

After introductions by host and organizer Ahrrre Maros, and Laura Sando of the Community Food Bank of New Jersey, the GMB took the stage. Formed by lead singer/guitarist/musical bow player Guy Mendilow, the band’s music reflects the long-traveled life of its namesake, who was born in Israel and has lived in various countries, including South Africa, Brazil, Mexico and the United States.

He has since settled in Boston and came to Westfield because of the show’s charitable aspects. “I don’t look at my music as mixing cultures. It’s simply who I am and where I’ve been,” Mr. Mendilow said of his band’s unique approach. “Music is a natural language. People just speak with different dialects.”

The band demonstrated that aspect right off the bat, with an instrumental



Guy Mendilow

### Art on Display at SP’s NJ Blood Center

SCOTCH PLAINS – The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders announced that the 2010 Teen Arts Traveling Exhibit is on display at the New Jersey Blood Services, located at Scotch Plains Donor Center on 2279 South Avenue, from now through August 10, during regular office hours.

The exhibit consists of 55 pieces of art selected from more than 700 visual artworks shown at the 2010 Union County Teen Arts Festival, held in March at Union County College in Cranford.

The exhibiting students include: Mountainside: Deerfield Middle School’s Jodie Zheng; Scotch Plains: Union County Vo-Tech’s Esha Lezama; Westfield: Edison Intermediate School’s Lucia Liu and Roosevelt Intermediate School’s Anna Centrella.

For more information about the Teen Arts program, call (908) 558-2550.



“Music is a natural language. People just speak with different dialects.”  
~The Guy Mendilow Band