

Westfield BOE Defies State Mandate To Void School Super's Contract

By MICHAEL J. POLLACK
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD – In response to the county superintendent's office and the state Department of Education (DOE) failing to approve the Westfield Board of Education's multi-year contract extension with Superintendent Margaret Dolan, the board voted unanimously on Tuesday to petition the DOE to recognize that the contract was "duly approved under the law" or to "give the county superintendent, Carmen Centuolo, the authority to acknowledge her prior approval of the contract."

On November 9, the BOE voted unanimously to extend Ms. Dolan's contract – which was set to expire on

June 30, 2011 – through the 2014-2015 school year.

Ms. Dolan, who has been employed in the education field for more than 30 years, currently earns \$195,718, a salary she would have continued to receive for the 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 school years under the terms of the now-rejected contract. That contract also would have bumped up her salary 2 percent for the 2012-2013 year, to \$199,632. In 2013-2014, following another year-over-year increase, the salary would have reached \$203,625. Her maximum salary, in the 2014-2015 school year, would reach \$207,700.

While the board was approving the superintendent's contract in early

November, Governor Chris Christie was announcing a superintendent-pay edict that would put caps on a superintendent's salary; one's pay would be relative to the size of one's school district.

In the most up-to-date numbers, issued in early November from the governor's office, Westfield would slot in at the second-highest enrollment tier, for districts of between 3,001 and 6,500 students. The new limit for a Westfield superintendent's pay would now be \$167,500 (\$165,000 plus \$2,500 added for districts that contain high schools), in addition to merit pay of up to 15 percent. If the 15-percent figure was earned, the salary could reach \$192,625, as BOE President Julia Walker told *The Westfield Leader* last week in a sit-down interview.

As Mrs. Walker said in that interview, not only did she feel that Westfield's superintendent-contract figures were "in the ballpark" of the pay cap, she also understood that Mrs. Centuolo had given verbal approval of the contract in November before disapproving of the measure in December. In the words of BOE Vice-President Ann Cary, last week, Mrs. Centuolo did "an about-face."

Also, under the newest superintendent-cap proposal, the merit bonuses are not factored into one's pension; according to Ms. Cary, this provision impacted Ms. Dolan's decision on whether to return to the district. In fact, Mrs. Walker said on Tuesday that Ms. Dolan would retire "if she were forced into the salary caps."

Citing the continuity of leadership and the high cost of undergoing a search for a new superintendent, the board believed it had sufficient reasoning to bring back Ms. Dolan.

Legally, as BOE attorney Phil Stern explained to the board, the BOE must "exhaust" all administrative possibili-

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Susan Dougherty for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD OR BETHLEHEM?...Members of The Presbyterian Church in Westfield, dressed for the Live Nativity presentation of Sunday, December 5, gather on the lawn of the historic church. The Reverend Dr. Ray Roberts welcomed a large crowd at 4 p.m., while the costumed characters presented a tableau of the nativity scene. A petting zoo featured sheep, a goat, donkey, cow and llama. Lending to the feel of an old-fashioned town, choir members joined the audience to sing Christmas carols and warmed themselves with hot chocolate and cookies.

BOE Adopts Redistricting Plan, Apologizes to Washington Parents

By KIMBERLY A. BROADWELL
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — In a 6-3 vote Tuesday night, the Westfield Board of Education approved, upon its second reading, an attendance-zone policy that requires some Washington School children to be re-zoned to attend Edison Intermediate School instead of Roosevelt Intermediate School.

According to Board of Education President Julia Walker, the policy, which was first passed in 2009, must go through the adoption process again

because of a ruling through the courts ordered by the New Jersey Acting Education Commissioner Rochelle Hendricks after a state administrative judge found that the BOE violated its own by-laws by having the second reading of the policy read only three weeks after the first reading. BOE by-laws require four weeks as the mandatory period of time allotted between readings of district policies.

Last month, Superintendent of Schools Margaret Dolan addressed the audience, stating that having the redistricting in place since 2009 has saved the town almost \$100,000 in additional salaries that would have been needed to pay for additional Roosevelt teachers.

Board of education member Richard Mattessich, who voted against the ordinance, said he felt the BOE should re-open the discussion so that the public knows why this particular area was targeted for redistricting. He said, "In the 2011-2012 school year, why burden an already-broken system on a targeted group of 10-year-old boys and girls?" He said he wanted to see the discussion re-opened to make sure the board is "going forward on a decision that makes economic sense."

He added that he has no analysis of information to refer to as to why this particular area was targeted. "I am simply advocating that we know why we are doing what we are doing," he

said.

Board member David Finn, who also voted against the ordinance, said that he did not agree with Ms. Dolan's statement made at the November 16 meeting that the redistricting is already saving Westfield money. Mr. Finn said he also wanted some time to study the cost effect of the redistricting. He noted, "We as a board have the power of the benefit of time."

He also stated, "I am proud to be part of the Washington School community." He concluded that he wanted to amend the redistricting ordinance by ending the redistricting at the conclusion of the 2010-2011 school year and then analyzing the document before moving forward for future years. The amended policy was not passed, as the only "yes" votes came from Mr. Mattessich, Mr. Finn and board member Mitchell Slater.

Board member Gary McCready said he was not sure what some board members "level of proof" was that the redistricting was not the right choice for the district. He said he has had "many years of helping to decide what to do and that there is not one particular right solution." He said the work and analysis had already been done by the administration and that it was not the board's job to "micro-manage" them.

Mr. McCready also stated, "We can-

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Thomas S. Fortunato for The Westfield Leader

HERE COMES SANTA CLAUS... The Children's Specialized Hospital held a small Christmas celebration last Friday for children in the care of the hospital's Pediatric Medical Day Care Program in Roselle Park. See story on page 2.

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Michael Pollack for The Westfield Leader and The Times

"YOU HAVE A FINITE AMOUNT OF MONEY"...Westfield resident John Blake, right, addresses the superintendent-contract situation at Tuesday night's board of education meeting, held at Westfield High School's Cafeteria B. Mr. Blake questioned why the board deemed Superintendent Margaret Dolan, second from left, "so important" that it defied the superintendent-pay cap, to be instituted next February by Governor Chris Christie. Board member Mitch Slater looks on at left.

Westfield Council Hears Multiple Applications

By THOMAS S. FORTUNATO
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD – During the governing body's regular meeting Tuesday, Mayor Andy Skibitsky and the town council addressed, among other matters, five advertised resolutions to be voted upon.

These included an application funding \$12,000 of building improvements to the Westfield Community Center; an application to set the community center coordinator's salary at \$17,000 a year; an ordinance to amend Chapter 13 of the town code regarding right turns at controlled intersections; an ordinance to retrofit existing storm drains in the town, and an ordinance mandating that all dumpsters and outdoor garbage cans be covered to prevent rainwater from causing the containers to overflow.

Specifically, the ordinance amending Chapter 13 of the town code now prohibits right turns on red between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the following intersections: Central Avenue and Grove Street, Central Avenue and Park Street, Central Avenue and Cacciola Place, and Central Avenue and Sycamore Street and Clifton Street.

In addition, the ordinance adds a stop sign on Topping Hill Road to be installed at the intersection of Kimball Avenue.

All five of the applications were passed without any comment from the public.

The board additionally passed resolutions, including awarding a contract to purchase four new Crown Victorias for the police department; approving the transfer of a liquor license for a business expanding its premises; approving final acceptance for the improvement of Knollwood Terrace, Boulevard and South Avenue, and lastly a resolution authorizing the town attorney to "engage the services of an authorized professional to assist in determining the value of the land and improvements located at Block 4901, Lot 30."

Also at the meeting, Mayor Skibitsky presented the 2010 Westfield High School Girls' Tennis team with an award for its successful season and exceptional performance, as well as Westfield resident Jonathan James with an award for his 25 years of service to the town and to the Westfield Memorial Pool.



Greg Ryan for The Westfield Leader

NORTH POLE TO WESTFIELD...Hundreds wait along the Westfield train-station platform last Saturday for the Santa Train, sponsored by the Jersey Central Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society. Santa and Mrs. Claus led adults and children in holiday activities during the two-hour excursion.

Improvements to Westfield's Downtown on Hold for Now

By MANDY L. RUSSELL
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — The South Avenue development improvements have been a success in Westfield's downtown economic development plan, according to the Downtown Westfield Corporation (DWC) officials.

"Streetscape," as the plan was called by the DWC design committee, has more phases yet to go in completion of the entire plan, but South Avenue is ready for a grand reopening and a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The question of when to do this was tossed around at Monday night's DWC board of directors meeting.

"It would seem during the holiday season would be the best time to do it, with all the wreaths and decorations up," suggested DWC Chairman Dominick Verdic. "Although, it is a busy time of year and may not be the best time to do it."

Sherry Cronin, DWC executive director, suggested they try and hold the reopening the week between Christmas and New Year's Day. No date was set; the board will revisit the subject at a later time.

Ms. Cronin informed the board that business owners on South Avenue were pleased with the new look and that she had received little to no complaints. The new light posts, amongst other renovations the street was primed with, give South Avenue that "old Westfield coined look," she said.

Ms. Cronin coined the first night she drove down South Avenue after the project was complete, the night "South Avenue was illuminated."

Phase two of the plan to revamp downtown Westfield will include the area of lower Elm Street to the train station.

DWC treasurer Lee Hale said he wanted to get the next phase in the

economic development rolling. Ms. Cronin suggested that going forward, their negotiations with the town should not be to match 50 percent on phase two's cost, but rather to present them with a financial number.

Mr. Verdic said the DWC would need the town council to allow them six to eight months to work with engineers to have a better idea on a price. "We need an engineering plan," Mr. Verdic said.

"We should have the amount of linear footage of sidewalk, materials, and lights all priced out so we can present it to the council," Mr. Verdic added.

DWC officials said the town council is not set to address its capital budget until 2013, as town council members are expecting further cuts in aid from Governor Chris Christie. This has made it a tough time for the DWC to move further with phase two of the streetscape plan.

"We don't want to put any more burdens on the taxpayers," Mr. Verdic said.

Mr. Hale recommended that the board revisit this matter before January to come up with a way to approach the town on funding for phase two.

In other news, the board recognized Robert Newell, a member of DWC's design committee.

"We want to recognize you and let you know how much we appreciate you stepping up to the plate to improve Westfield's downtown," Ms. Cronin said. "You do your job with such passion and dedication."

Mr. Verdic presented Mr. Newell with the Joseph A. Spector award, also known as the 2010 Westfield Service Award.

Mr. Newell thanked the committee. "I feel honored to receive this,

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Tracy Devine
Regional Vice President
Broker/Manager



Suzette F. Stalker for *The Westfield Leader*
DELIGHTFUL DISPLAY...Santa will have no trouble finding this Rahway Avenue home Christmas Eve with its festive array of outdoor decorations.

Garwood Bids Farewell to Mayor and Two Councilmen

By MANDY L. RUSSELL
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

GARWOOD—At Tuesday night's council meeting, the last meeting of the year, departing Mayor Dennis McCarthy, along with Councilmen Steve Napolitano and Anthony Sytko, were recognized for their service to the borough. The council also swore in new policeman Philip Lewis.

Councilman Jonathan Linken said that hiring Mr. Lewis was a positive move for Garwood and the community. "It is both positive in a financial realm and exuding extraordinary service to the [Borough] of Garwood," Mr. Linken said. Officer Lewis promised his dedication to the town. He will serve a one-year probationary period. Mayor McCarthy called Council President Napolitano to the floor to honor him for his three years of public service to the town and "faithful" service as a Garwood council member. Mr. Napolitano began his service in January 2008.

"This will be Steve's last meeting," Mayor McCarthy said, "and we publicly acknowledge him and wish him the best." Mr. Napolitano explained that he had gotten into office and politics seven years ago, starting out in the recreation committee.

"I learned a lot about municipal budgets and accounts in my years of service to this council," Mr. Napolitano said.

He expressed his gratitude to the council and to his family. "It has been a pleasure serving with you guys, and I couldn't have done this without my family," Mr. Napolitano said.

Mr. Napolitano said he had high hopes for his son, who was starting to get into politics, and expressed that this was probably his "biggest accomplishment." He hopes there will be a future for his son in politics.

Also leaving the board and recognized by Mayor McCarthy was Councilman Sytko. Mayor McCarthy thanked him for his time, hard work and dedication to the council and offered his "best wishes." Mr. Sytko expressed his gratitude to the council and the Mayor. He joked that for all the talking he does, he found it difficult to put into words what he wanted to say.

Mr. Sytko expressed his gratitude to the council and the Mayor. He joked that for all the talking he does, he found it difficult to put into words what he wanted to say.

Hudak to Fill Vacancy On Freeholder Board

By PAUL J. PEYTON
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

ELIZABETH — The Union County Democratic Committee (UCDC) has selected Linden City Democratic Chairman Chris Hudak to fill a vacancy on the Board of Chosen Freeholders left by the resignation of Rick Proctor, who was elected Rahway mayor last month.

Mr. Hudak was most recently manager of the Rahway Motor Vehicle Commission office.

"It's an honor to have been selected to represent the people of Union County as a Freeholder," Mr. Hudak said. "I look forward to working with my colleagues in improving the lives of all our residents and running a county government that is efficient and responsive to their needs."

No biographical information was available at press time on Mr. Hudak, UCDC Executive Director Ryan Kuber told *The Westfield Leader*. A press release from the UCDC said the incoming freeholder "brings a decade of governmental and non-profit experience to the board."

He will be sworn in at the Union County freeholder meeting on Wednesday, December 22, at 7 p.m. in the Union County Administration Building in Elizabeth.

"We congratulate Chris Hudak, and we look forward to working with him in maintaining the right priorities for all our residents in County Government," UCDC Chairwoman Charlotte DeFilippo said. "Chris is a bright and talented young man who will bring both enthusiasm and managerial experience to the board."

Mr. Proctor's term expires at the end of next year. Mr. Hudak was not challenged for the nomination, although *The Leader* has learned that Westfield Councilman Dave Haas had support from delegates from Westfield, Mountainside, Summit and Clark, but

DWC

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and I promise you I will continue on," Mr. Newell said.

The board approved a grant for a new sign in an old car-wash building in Westfield.

Home Economics is located in the rear of the building and requested a small grant from the DWC to replace its sign. The owner of the company is also the owner of the building. He is looking to improve the look of the building, which, in turn, he hopes will improve his business.

Westfield Leader only

Westfield Board of Education

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not let Roosevelt become even more overcrowded. If we adopt just a temporary solution, I don't know what the judge will think of us about having a policy for just a few months."

Mr. Slater, who also voted against redistricting, said, "This is not just a board of policy, but a board of the people," advocating a stronger sense of compassion.

Board member Jane Clancy stated, "I don't know what to say. I have spent six years on this topic and have no predetermination on how I am going to vote until it happens. I come to these meetings open-minded, and I feel that I have been very compassionate. I have had many sleepless nights about this subject."

Mrs. Walker added, "The issue of redistricting is very upsetting and passionately debated throughout the history of Westfield. It is understandable that we as citizens identify with our neighborhoods, places of worship and

Superintendent's Contract

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ties "before any other actions can be taken." Under that premise, the BOE president and vice-president paid a visit to Ms. Centuolo last Friday, requesting that she withdraw her directive that the board vote to rescind Ms. Dolan's contract.

"Dr. Centuolo clearly stated," Mrs. Walker read in her prepared remarks, "that she did not have the authority to approve Dr. Dolan's contract. She had been instructed by the [DOE] to not approve any superintendent contracts until after February 7 (when the cap takes full effect)."

The next step in "exhausting" the board's administrative remedies is petitioning. The BOE's petition is three-pronged; it asks the DOE to withdraw the county superintendent's December 2 directive to rescind the contract. It also asks for the DOE's approval of the contract or for the department to grant authority to Ms. Centuolo to approve the contract.

"Dr. Dolan's contract is not in violation of any law or regulation currently in effect," Mrs. Walker read Tuesday night. "Dr. Centuolo made sure that the contract was approvable (in November) by recommending changes to the contract that mirrored the statutes and then, in fact, approved the agreement."

She added, "It is the board's position that this contract was approved and that in any event, approval cannot be arbitrarily withheld waiting for a change in the law."

Westfield resident John Blake, the only member of the public who spoke at Tuesday's meeting on the superintendent's contract, asked the board if the instructions to its attorney were "merely limited to a petition to the state DOE, or does it include a lawsuit?"

Mrs. Walker replied, "No, sir. Those instructions [to file a lawsuit] are not in this resolution."

Mr. Blake has objected to the manner in which the board has gone about the contract situation. He took issue with the board's position that it had to inform the superintendent this past June of its intention to keep her, calling it "spin." As Mr. Blake read the state statute, he said the board needed to inform Ms. Dolan only if it intended not to renew her contract. "If you did absolutely nothing, her contract continued as it was," he said.

"What you're doing is not some benevolence of having a contract where there is no raise for the first two years; you're doing what the public has roundly objected to with other public employees – packing the last three

RESOLUTION

Westfield Board of Education, December 14, 2010

Executive Union County Superintendent of Schools for approval on October 18, 2010; and

WHEREAS, on October 20, 2010, the Executive Union County Superintendent of Schools returned the proposed Employment Contract to the Board with recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the Board incorporated the written recommendations of the Executive Union County Superintendent of Schools into the proposed Employment Contract; and

WHEREAS, following the written recommendations and based upon communications between the Board's Counsel and the Executive Union County Superintendent of Schools, the Board believed that it had received the approval of the proposed Employment Contract by the Executive Union County Superintendent of Schools, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1, and was therefore authorized to ratify the proposed Employment Contract; and

WHEREAS, based upon communications with Board Counsel and in reliance upon the Executive Union County Superintendent of School's approval, on November 9, 2010, the Board ratified the Employment Contract with Dr. Dolan; and

WHEREAS, on November 15, 2010, the Acting Commissioner of Education transmitted a memorandum to all Executive County Superintendents of Schools, directing, in part, that "...given pending regulations with respect to Superintendent contracts that will be effective the date those regulations are approved, contracts expiring subsequent to February 7, 2011 should not be renegotiated or extended prior to the effective date of the new regulations."; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the November 15, 2010, memorandum from the

schools. To have other people make decisions about where our kids go to school brings out heartfelt opinions." She noted that the board takes a lot of time and effort to attend meetings and make educated decisions.

After the ordinance passed, Mr. Finn asked that the board adopt a resolution to apologize to Washington School parents. He felt that in the future, the policy committee could look at and entertain a "better, well-organized and thoughtful process" for such concerns. Mr. Finn said an apology was needed for the district to "turn the page" and help bring a feeling of "good will" back to the Washington School parents.

The resolution was passed by a tally of 5-4. Voting against the apology were Ginny Leiz, Mr. McCready, Alice Honeycutt and Mrs. Walker. The "yes" votes came from Mr. Slater, Mr. Mattessich, Mr. Finn, Ms. Clancy, and board Vice-President Ann Cary.

years with as much hours as possible to get the biggest pension," he said. "And while it may be legal, it has roundly been declared by the public as being certainly in bad taste, if not immoral."

Mr. Blake also said that in other industries, if presented with a similar situation—in which an employee stated that he or she would leave unless certain salary parameters are met – a company would most likely say, "That's a shame. Goodbye."

Referring to the board's 2009-2010 audit report, discussed earlier in the evening—in which it was revealed that there was only \$800 in the school district's "capital funds"—Mr. Blake marveled at how Ms. Dolan could be "so important" that the board could "sit back and spend money which the state says you're not supposed to."

Mr. Blake asked, citing numbers that were banded about by board members, "How many teachers are going to have to be fired because you are \$2.5 to \$3 million over your budget now? I think you have to realize that you have a finite amount of money."

He concluded his remarks by saying to the board, "I think you were misleading. I think this entire matter has been very distasteful."

Mrs. Walker responded, "I did not mean to mislead you in any way, Mr. Blake. The statute required us (BOE) to notify her (Ms. Dolan) of a non-renewal...from there, this board began to negotiate. Your research is correct. Had we done absolutely nothing, the contract would have stayed in place."

It is Mrs. Walker's contention, however, that the "rollover contract would have cost the district more than the negotiated contract."

She explained her reasoning as follows: "There is, inherent in your remarks, a belief that Dr. Dolan could easily be replaced at \$167,500. This board does not buy into that particular assumption—that the pool of candidates [is] as deep as you seem to think it might be."

She also said Mr. Blake's analysis "leaves out the cost of looking" for another superintendent, should the board seek to go in that direction. She estimated that cost at more than \$20,000.

"We simply chose a path that [addressed] the circumstances that were presented to us, taking all the conditions into consideration, not just the salary cap. I believe that's where our greatest disagreement is [with your remarks]," she concluded.

Acting Commissioner of Education, on December 2, 2010, the Executive Union County Superintendent of Schools transmitted a letter to the Board, directing it to rescind its November 9, 2010, resolution, ratifying the Employment Contract with Dr. Dolan, asserting that the Executive Union County Superintendent of Schools had not approved said Employment Contract; and

WHEREAS, the December 2, 2010, directive to the Board gave the Board until December 15, 2010, to rescind the Employment Contract with Dr. Dolan; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1(f) states that "any actions by the Executive County Superintendent undertaken pursuant to this subchapter may be appealed to the Commissioner pursuant to the procedures set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:3; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes in good faith that its action of November 9, 2010 was legally compliant and wholly consistent with existing law and regulation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED ON THIS FOURTEENTH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2010, AS FOLLOWS:

The Board hereby directs the Board Counsel to take all action necessary in order to appeal the directive of the Executive Union County Superintendent of Schools set forth in her December 2, 2010, letter to the Board, to the Acting Commissioner of Education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1(f), seeking an Order from the Acting Commissioner of Education:

1. Finding that the Employment Contract between Dr. Dolan and the Board is approved; and

2. Directing the Union County Executive County Superintendent of Schools to approve the Employment Contract between Dr. Dolan and the Board.



Courtesy of James Ward
SEASONS GREETINGS...The Westfield GOP Holiday Party found local officials exchanging good cheer at the James Ward Mansion. Pictured, from left to right, are: Assemblyman Jon Bramnick (LD-21, Westfield), Councilman Mark Ciarrocca, Councilwoman JoAnn Neylan and Councilman Keith Loughlin.

Cranford Repeals Sewer Law As Residents Rip Democrats

By FRED T. ROSSI
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

CRANFORD — Seven months after enacting an ordinance creating a separate sewer utility, the township committee passed an ordinance on Tuesday repealing the earlier law and restoring the previous system where sewer fees are a line item in the municipal budget.

The committee voted 3-0 to repeal the ordinance, which charged residents for water usage based on the value of their property, after a 45-minute public hearing during which several residents castigated Democratic commissioners-elect Ed O'Malley and Kevin Campbell for campaigning against the separate sewer fee and then speaking in opposition to the ordinance repeal.

One resident said voters had been "duped" by the Democrats, while another apologized to Republican mayor Mark Smith for having voted for the Democrats. The resident turned to Mr. Campbell, who was seated in the audience, and told him he had earned the "flip of the decade award" for supporting and then opposing the repeal.

Democratic Commissioner Daniel Aschenbach, who will become mayor in 2011, voted to repeal but said next year's township committee "will have to grapple" with the budget and related issues such as spending and property-tax caps, meaning

County Moving Forward on \$28.6-Million Solar Program

By PAUL J. PEYTON
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

ELIZABETH — Union County is moving ahead with awarding a contract to California-based Tioga Energy to run the county's new solar-energy program. Tioga was selected last year to lead Morris County's program.

Jonathan Williams, an attorney representing the Union County Improvement Authority (UCIA), said at last Wednesday's county freeholders meeting that the program will include 46 solar-panel installations on rooftops of county, municipal and school buildings.

Sixteen government entities are taking part in the program. They include the towns of Cranford, Hillside, Linden, Plainfield, Rahway, Roselle and Springfield, as well as the Garwood, Hillside, Winfield, New Providence, Roselle Park and Roselle boards of education. In addition, the Union County Arts Center in Rahway, county administration building in Elizabeth, Union County College in Cranford and Morris-Union Jointure in New Providence are included.

Cranford will put installations on its community center as well as the municipal library and parking lot, while Springfield will have solar panels installed on its municipal building, department of public works garage, library and recreation center.

Towns and school boards will sign 15-year contracts with the county to join the program. The installation costs will be paid by Tioga Energy.

Mr. Williams said the solar installations are expected to be completed within a year. He said the financing for the project includes a county guarantee of 70 percent of the costs in the event Tioga defaults on its agreement. Tioga will be required to post the remaining 30 percent of the costs.

At Wednesday's meeting, the freeholders introduced on first reading an ordinance

NJDOE News Email

Received by *The Westfield Leader*,

December 2, 2010

www.state.nj.us/education/news/2010/1202stop.htm

For More Information Contact the Public Information Office: Allison Kobus Alan Guenther, Director 609-292-1126

For Immediate Release: December 2, 2010

Department of Education Stops Another Superintendent Contract; Westfield Board of Education Ordered to Void Improper Approval

In correspondence released today from Union Executive County Superintendent Carmen Centuolo to the Westfield Board of Education, the Department of Education made clear that a contract extension for the Westfield Superintendent of Schools has not been approved. The Board was ordered to void the contract no later than Dec. 15, 2010. The action is similar to the Department's cancellation of a similar improper contract agreement approved by the Parsippany school board last month.

Acting Commissioner of Education Rochelle R. Hendricks has directed all Executive County Superintendents to conduct a comprehensive review of all superintendent contracts. Until such a review is completed, no contracts or contract extensions will be approved, and no contracts that expire after February 7, 2011, when proposed pay cap regulations will take effect, will be authorized unless they comply with the proposed regulations.

The letter from the Union Executive County Superintendent to the Westfield Board of Education can be found here: www.state.nj.us/education/news/2010/LettertoWestfield.pdf

December 2, 2010
Julia R. Walker, President
Westfield Board of Education
302 Elm Street
Westfield, NJ 07090

Mr. Robert Berman
Westfield Board Secretary
302 Elm Street
Westfield, NJ 07090

Dear President Walker and Secretary Berman:

This is to advise that my office has not approved the proposed contract between the Westfield Board of Education and Superintendent Margaret Dolan that was the subject of a vote by the Board on November 9, 2010.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7-8Cj) and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1(c), the review and approval of the proposed contract by my office must occur prior to the board approval and execution of the contract. Accordingly, since the Executive County Superintendent has not approved the proposed contract, the Board improperly approved and executed the proposed contract on November 9, 2010.

I hereby direct the parties to void the agreement no later than December 15, 2010, and to advise me in writing when the proposed contract has been made void.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,
Carmen M. Centuolo, Ed.D.
Executive County Superintendent of Schools

Cc: Rochelle R. Hendricks
Aaron Graham
Gregg Edwards
Pam Castellanos
Margaret Dolan

SPF BOE Defies State Mandate To Reduce School Super’s Salary

By KIMBERLY A. BROADWELL
Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

SCOTCH PLAINS – During the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education meeting last Thursday evening, board members unanimously passed a resolution to reject an edict by Governor Chris Christie and the Department of Education to cut Superintendent Margaret Hayes’ salary by approximately \$14,000 if they wish to renew her contract. Board members were in support of keeping the superintendent for another five

years at her current salary. According to board member Donald Parisi, the board had previously voted to keep Superintendent Hayes from 2011 until June 30, 2015, at her current salary of \$189,000. He noted her contract renewal was rejected by the state, which is putting a cap at \$175,000 for her and other superintendent positions in districts with a similar number of students. The new salary caps are set to take effect February 7.

In his address to the audience, Mr.

Parisi noted that the state is dictating that Superintendent Hayes “take a significant pay cut or retire.” He stated, “New Jersey needs to figure out who is making the decisions on who will be the superintendents for our schools. I believe these decisions should be local decisions. I have a problem when these types of decisions do not come from our local towns.”

He also noted that, “before government changes a rule, usually a proposal is made and the people get to talk about it, before it is mandated.”

Mr. Parisi concluded, “It takes a life’s work to become a superintendent.”

Board of Education member Betty Anne Woerner echoed Mr. Parisi’s sentiments, saying that Mr. Parisi stated his argument “passionately and eloquently.” She also stated that the state edict regarding the contract was “outrageous.”

Fanwood resident Michael Lewis made a comment regarding Mr. Parisi’s remarks, saying that, “for every Dr. Hayes, there are others who run into trouble.” He also stated, “not every school board is as conscientious as you are.”

In other business, members of the board passed a resolution honoring the young women who make up the Girls Varsity Soccer team at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School. The team, which won its fifth county title in six years, had a season of 14 wins and two losses. The team was led by its coach of seven years, Kevin Ewing.

Board of Education President Trip Whitehouse stated, “You beat Westfield three times in one year. Just beating any team three times in one season is impressive.” He added, “Scotch Plains and Fanwood have been known as a soccer community for the last 15 to 20 years. As of late,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



Courtesy of Nancy Lama/Evergreen School

GIVING TOYS A SECOND CHANCE...Evergreen School in Scotch Plains teamed up with Second Chance Toys, a non-profit organization that recycles gently used plastic toys to give to children in need, to teach students about the importance of giving to others while at the same time keeping non-biodegradable plastics out of landfills. In an hour’s time, 520 good-as-new toys were collected to be donated to organizations in Union County. Pictured above are students getting ready to load up the truck, which 1800GotJunk? offered for delivery of the toys. From left to right are: Jessica Yu, Angel Pena, Justin Walsh, Tim Lamberta, Señora Bronna Lipton, Haley Birch, Bianca Young and Zachary Zimmerman.

Fanwood Council Puts Nail Salon Business Restrictions on Hold

By TED RITTER
Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

FANWOOD – At Tuesday night’s meeting, the Fanwood Borough Council tabled an ordinance amendment that would have prohibited new nail salons from opening up in the downtown redevelopment area.

Resident Harry McNally, during public comments, asked, “If you’re going to limit [nail salons], what else are you going to be limiting?”

“We are fortunate enough to have four nail salons within a very small area,” responded Mayor Colleen Mahr. However, the mayor noted, the salons are “cannibalizing” each other in the competition for business.

The amended ordinance was intended to ensure a variety of businesses in the downtown and prevent too many nail salons from existing in the designated downtown zone.

But the mayor acknowledged Tuesday night that the “list” of the types of businesses currently prohibited in the downtown “may no longer be accurate,” and then indicated that the measure would be put on hold.

“We want to get this right,” said Mayor Mahr.

“This is our opportunity to take a look at our ordinances [regarding] what is permitted,” she said.

The unanimous vote to put the measure (which had been scheduled for second reading) on hold “for further review and discussion” came during Tuesday night’s regular council meeting – the last of the calendar year.

Prior to the vote, downtown business and property owner Helen Ling spoke about the need to “have this issue in perspective” and to “strike a balance.”

“If not nail salons, what kinds of businesses do you want to have...and how do you get them?” she asked.

Mrs. Ling also asked the governing body to appoint an official liaison

to “have ongoing communications with downtown business owners.”

Mrs. Ling further emphasized the importance of local businesses to the community and the economic impact of shopping locally.

“What you said is right on the money,” responded Mayor Mahr, adding, “[This] motivates me to work a little harder to advance the goals we have set forth for redevelopment.”

Mayor Mahr noted that, “it’s a different world out there right now” compared to five or six years ago when the borough began its ongoing redevelopment efforts.

The mayor indicated that the borough may need to develop a marketing plan, in addition to a downtown business liaison, to lure businesses into the redevelopment area.

“We need to go find them...and bring them here,” said Mayor Mahr.

Councilman Robert Manduca agreed that, “local merchants contribute to the tax base of our community,” and added, “you’re very much acting in your own interests” when shopping locally.

Councilman Mike Szuch said he would be interested in serving as a liaison to work with downtown businesses.

In later public comments, resident Michael Lewis applauded the governing body’s decision to table the amendment.

“It’s good you’re taking another

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



ROTARY RAFFLE...The Rotary Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains is holding its annual 50-50 raffle, with winning tickets worth up to \$6,000, \$2,000 or \$1,000 to each of four lucky winners. The drawing will be held on Wednesday, January 5. Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary supports various causes and local college scholarships. Tickets are available from Rotarians or by calling (908) 233-9194. Pictured are Janet Strunk, chairwoman of the 50-50 project, and Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary President John Crisafulli.

LaCosta Prepares for RVSA As New Scotch Plains Rep.

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

SCOTCH PLAINS — When Robert LaCosta takes over as the township’s new representative to the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority (RVSA) in February, he says he will “go in with eyes wide open and take things a day at a time.”

“I have a big pair of shoes to fill,” Mr. LaCosta told *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* this week. The township zoning officer for nearly 34 years, Mr. LaCosta was appointed RVSA commissioner last week by the township council and will replace Joan Papen, who has served since 1995. He said he plans to speak with Mrs. Papen to discuss the various issues facing the utility, which has had some operational and financing issues that have been reported in the media in recent months, including problems with the facility’s new co-generation plant. “It will be interesting and be a challenge,” he added.

The five-member township council was initially split on the appointment during a conference meeting discussion last Tuesday, with Mayor Nancy Malool and Councilman Jeff Strauss favoring Mrs. Papen’s reappointment and Deputy Mayor Dominick Bratti, Councilwoman

Mary DePaola and Councilman Kevin Glover backing Mr. LaCosta. Later, during a formal roll-call vote at the council’s regular meeting, all five members backed Mr. LaCosta’s appointment, which will run for four years. RVSA commissioners’ terms are for five years, but Mrs. Papen has served since February as an interim appointee for the current term.

Speaking to *The Times* this week, Mrs. Papen wished Mr. LaCosta well, noting that the post is a “busy, busy position.” She said she was concerned that the utility, which serves more than 300,000 residents and 3,500 industrial and commercial customers in central New Jersey, was at a renewed risk of privatization, a move she had strongly opposed, especially in recent years as discussions of the idea heated up. She said the private company that has been under consideration to operate the RVSA has been similarly involved in other towns and has had “some problems.”

She also had some concerns about meetings held between the mayors of some of the RVSA towns, including Mayor Malool, concerning what Mrs. Papen called “different ideas” for how the RVSA should be operated. Mrs. Papen said the RVSA is “autonomous and not dictated by the mayors.”



Greg Ryan for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

ALL ABOARD...Hundreds board the Santa Train on Saturday in Westfield.



Suzette F. Stalker for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

DELIGHTFUL DISPLAY...Santa will have no trouble finding this Rahway Avenue home Christmas Eve with its festive array of outdoor decorations.

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Tracy Devine
Regional Vice President
Broker/Manager



Susan Dougherty for *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*
BETHLEHEM?...Members of The Presbyterian Church in Westfield, dressed for the Live Nativity presentation of last Sunday, December 5, gather on the lawn of the historic church. The Reverend Dr. Ray Roberts welcomed a large crowd at 4 p.m., while the costumed characters presented a tableau of the nativity scene. A petting zoo featured sheep, a goat, donkey, cow and llama. Lending to the feel of an old-fashioned town, choir members joined the audience to sing Christmas carols and warmed themselves with hot chocolate and cookies.

Chris Hudak of Linden Picked by Dems to Fill Freeholder Vacancy

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

ELIZABETH — The Union County Democratic Committee (UCDC) has selected Linden City Democratic Chairman Chris Hudak to fill a vacancy on the Board of Chosen Freeholders left by the resignation of Rick Proctor, who was elected Rahway mayor last month.

Mr. Hudak was most recently manager of the Rahway Motor Vehicle Commission office.

“It’s an honor to have been selected to represent the people of Union County as a Freeholder,” Mr. Hudak said. “I look forward to working with my colleagues in improving the lives of all our residents and running a county government that is efficient and responsive to their needs.”

No biographical information was available at press time on Mr. Hudak, UCDC Executive Director Ryan Kubertold *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*. A press release from the UCDC said the incoming freeholder “brings a decade of governmental and non-profit experience to the board.”

He will be sworn in at the Union County freeholder meeting on Wednesday, December 22, at 7 p.m. in the Union County Administration Building in Elizabeth.

“We congratulate Chris Hudak, and we look forward to working with him

in maintaining the right priorities for all our residents in County Government.” UCDC Chairwoman Charlotte DeFilippo said. “Chris is a bright and talented young man who will bring both enthusiasm and managerial experience to the board.”

Mr. Proctor’s term expires at the end of next year. Mr. Hudak was not challenged for the nomination, although *The Times* has learned Westfield Councilman Dave Haas had support from delegates from Westfield, Mountainside, Summit and Clark, but not enough to challenge the party contingent east of the Garden State Parkway. Thus, Mr. Haas opted not to challenge Mr. Hudak’s nomination.

Several hundred delegates attended the meeting, which was held at Galloping Hill Caterers in Union.

With the addition of Mr. Hudak, the at-large freeholder board of which Democrats hold a 9-0 majority, will now have representatives from Elizabeth, Plainfield, Linden, Union, Cranford, Fanwood, and Westfield.

Freeholder-elect Linda Carter will replace Rayland Van Blake, both Plainfield residents, at the board’s reorganization meeting at noon on Sunday, January 9, in the Union County Courthouse chambers of Superior Court Judge Karen Cassidy, the assignment judge for the county.

Garwood Bids Farewell to Mayor and Two Councilmen

By MANDY L. RUSSELL
Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

GARWOOD – At Tuesday night’s council meeting, the last meeting of the year, departing Mayor Dennis McCarthy along with Councilmen Steve Napolitano and Anthony Sytko were recognized for their service to the borough. The council also swore in new policeman Philip Lewis.

Councilman Jonathan Linken said that hiring Mr. Lewis was a positive move for Garwood and the community. “It is both positive in a financial realm and exuding extraordinary service to the borough of Garwood,” Mr. Linken said. Officer Lewis promised his dedication to the town. He will serve a one-year probationary period.

Mayor McCarthy called Council President Napolitano to the floor to honor him for his three years of public service to the town and “faithful” service as a Garwood council member. Mr. Napolitano began his service in January 2008.

“This will be Steve’s last meeting,” Mayor McCarthy said, “and we publicly acknowledge him and wish him the best.”

Mr. Napolitano explained that he had gotten into office and politics seven years ago, starting out in the recreation committee.

“I learned a lot about municipal budgets and accounts in my years of service to this council,” Mr. Napolitano said.

He expressed his gratitude to the council and to his family. “It has been a pleasure serving with you guys and I couldn’t have done this without my family,” Mr. Napolitano said.

Mr. Napolitano said he had high hopes for his son, who was starting to get into politics and expressed that this was probably his “biggest accomplishment.” He hopes there will be a future for his son in politics.

Also leaving the board and recognized by Mayor McCarthy was Councilman Sytko. Mayor McCarthy thanked him for his time, hard work and dedication to the council and offered his “best wishes.”

Mr. Sytko expressed his gratitude to the council and the Mayor. He joked that for all the talking he does he found it difficult to put into words what he wanted to say.

“I am truly honored and I consider this the greatest achievement in my life,” Mr. Sytko said.

Mr. Sytko continued by thanking the Mayor for his years of dedication to the town, to him and to the council and also thanked the Garwood Republican organization for taking a chance on him when he was just a 21-year-old “youngster.”

“They let me come back over and over again,” Mr. Sytko joked. He ended by thanking his family for making him the man he is today.

The last farewell and service award was presented to Mayor McCarthy. Mayor McCarthy served on the governing body since 1987, and as mayor since February 2003.

The mayor was defeated in his reelection bid in November by incoming Mayor Patricia Quattrocchi.

The room was solemn and tears were

shed as the mayor addressed the council, his family and residents in attendance.

He said, “The bonds I made with my friends and people of the community in the years I have served is something I will never forget.”

He thanked the residents of Garwood for giving him the opportunity to serve them and also the Garwood Police Department and staff for making Garwood the borough that it is.

Mayor McCarthy tearfully thanked Borough Clerk Christina Ariemma and the other administrators for their hard work and for, “always being there with answers and guidance.”

Mayor McCarthy ended with, “My advice to the incoming council is to listen to your professionals, because they know a thing or two. To my wife, thank you for being there and supporting me through good times and tough times. You have always been my First Lady and my biggest supporter.”

Resident Karen Resetar expressed her gratitude for the mayor’s years of service. “I want to thank you on behalf of the residents of Garwood for your dedication and for keeping us involved. You will have time on your hands now, but know that the people will miss you.”

WHEREAS, the Westfield Board of Education (“Board”) is committed to continuing the tradition of educational excellence for its students that is the hallmark of the Westfield Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that the continuity of such educational excellence will directly benefit from the continuing leadership of its Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Margaret Dolan (“Dr. Dolan”); and

WHEREAS, the Board is committed to pursuing policies that demonstrate fiscal responsibility on behalf of its taxpayers and courses of action that demonstrate legal compliance – the results of which have been consistently demonstrated by high student achievement and in the substantially below state average per student expense; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dolan’s previous employment contract would have expired at the conclusion of the 2010-2011 school year; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that in order to continue its tradition of educational excellence for its students, demonstrate fiscal responsibility and ensure legal compliance, it must continue its professional relationship with Dr. Dolan; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-19, the Board is legislatively empowered to fix the salary of its Superintendent of Schools; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1(e) requires that the Union County Executive County Superintendent of Schools review and approve proposed Superintendent of Schools contracts; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dolan’s proposed Employment Contract was sent to the

WF BOE Defies Mandate to Void School Super Contract

By MICHAEL J. POLLACK
Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

WESTFIELD – In response to the county superintendent’s office and the state Department of Education (DOE) failing to approve the Westfield Board of Education’s multi-year contract extension with Superintendent Margaret Dolan, the board voted unanimously on Tuesday to petition the DOE to recognize that the contract was “duly approved under the law” or to “give the county superintendent, Carmen Centuolo, the authority to acknowledge her prior approval of the contract.”

On November 9, the BOE voted unanimously to extend Ms. Dolan’s contract – which was set to expire on June 30, 2011 – through the 2014-2015 school year.

Ms. Dolan, who has been employed in the education field for more than 30 years, currently earns \$195,718, a salary she would have continued to receive for the 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 school years under the terms of the now-rejected contract. That contract also would have bumped up her salary 2 percent for the 2012-2013 year, to \$199,632. In 2013-2014, following another year-over-year increase, the salary would have reached \$203,625. Her maximum salary, in the 2014-2015 school year, would have reached \$207,700.

While the board was approving the superintendent’s contract in early November, Governor Chris Christie was announcing a superintendent-pay edict that would put caps on a superintendent’s salary; one’s pay would be relative to the size of one’s school district.

In the most up-to-date numbers, issued in early November from the governor’s office, Westfield would slot in at the second-highest enrollment tier, for districts of between 3,001 and 6,500 students. The new limit for a Westfield superintendent’s pay would now be \$167,500 (\$165,000 plus \$2,500 added for districts that contain high schools), in addition to merit pay of up to 15 percent. If the 15-percent figure was earned, the salary could reach \$192,625, as BOE President Julia Walker told *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* last week in a sit-down interview.

As Mrs. Walker said in that interview, not only did she feel that Westfield’s superintendent-contract figures were “in the ballpark” of the pay cap, she also understood that Mrs. Centuolo had given verbal approval of the contract in November before disapproving of the measure in December. In the words of BOE Vice-President Ann Cary, last week, Mrs. Centuolo did “an about-face.”

Also, under the newest superintendent-cap proposal, the merit bonuses are not factored into one’s pension; according to Ms. Cary, this provision impacted Ms. Dolan’s decision on whether to return to the district. In fact, Mrs. Walker said on Tuesday that Ms. Dolan would retire “if she were forced into the salary caps.”

Citing the continuity of leadership and the high cost of undergoing a search for a new superintendent, the board believed it had sufficient reasoning to bring back Ms. Dolan.

Legally, as BOE attorney Phil Stern explained to the board, the BOE must “exhaust” all administrative possibilities “before any other actions can be taken.” Under that premise, the BOE president and vice-president paid a visit to Ms. Centuolo last Friday, requesting that she withdraw her directive that the board vote to rescind Ms. Dolan’s contract.

“Dr. Centuolo clearly stated,” Mrs. Walker read in her prepared remarks, “that she did not have the authority to approve Dr. Dolan’s contract. She had been instructed by the [DOE] to not approve any superintendent contracts until after February 7 (when the cap takes full effect).”

The next step in “exhausting” the board’s administrative remedies is petitioning. The BOE’s petition is three-pronged; it asks the DOE to withdraw the county superintendent’s December 2 directive to rescind the contract. It also asks for the DOE’s approval of the contract or for the department to grant

authority to Ms. Centuolo to approve the contract.

“Dr. Dolan’s contract is not in violation of any law or regulation currently in effect,” Mrs. Walker read Tuesday night. “Dr. Centuolo made sure that the contract was approvable (in November) by recommending changes to the contract that mirrored the statutes and then, in fact, approved the agreement.”

She added, “It is the board’s position that this contract was approved and that in any event, approval cannot be arbitrarily withheld waiting for a change in the law.”

Westfield resident John Blake, the only member of the public who spoke at Tuesday’s meeting on the superintendent’s contract, asked the board if the instructions to its attorney were “merely limited to a petition to the state DOE, or does it include a lawsuit?”

Mrs. Walker replied, “No, sir. Those instructions (to file a lawsuit) are not in this resolution.”

Mr. Blake has objected to the manner in which the board has gone about the contract situation. He took issue with the board’s position that it had to inform the superintendent this past June of its intention to keep her, calling it “spin.” As Mr. Blake read the state statute, he said the board needed to inform Ms. Dolan only if it intended not to renew her contract. “If you did absolutely nothing, her contract continued as it was,” he said.

“What you’re doing is not some benevolence of having a contract where there is no raise for the first two years; you’re doing what the public has roundly objected to with other public employees – packing the last three years with as much hours as possible to get the biggest pension,” he said. “And while it may be legal, it has roundly been declared by the public as being certainly in bad taste, if not immoral.”

Mr. Blake also said that in other industries, if presented with a similar situation – in which an employee stated that he or she would leave unless certain salary parameters are met – a company would most likely say, “That’s a shame. Goodbye.”

Referring to the board’s 2009-2010 audit report, discussed earlier in the evening – in which it was revealed that there was only \$800 in the school district’s “capital funds” – Mr. Blake marveled at how Ms. Dolan could be “so important” that the board could “sit back and spend money which the state says you’re not supposed to.”

Mr. Blake asked, citing numbers that were bandied about by board members, “How many teachers are going to have to be fired because you are \$2.5 to \$3 million over your budget now? I think you have to realize that you have a finite amount of money.”

He concluded his remarks by saying to the board, “I think you were misleading. I think this entire matter has been very distasteful.”

Mrs. Walker responded, “I did not mean to mislead you in any way, Mr. Blake. The statute required us (BOE) to notify her (Ms. Dolan) of a non-renewal...from there, this board began to negotiate. Your research is correct. Had we done absolutely nothing, the contract would have stayed in place.”

It is Mrs. Walker’s contention, however, that the “rollover contract would have cost the district more than the negotiated contract.”

She explained her reasoning as follows: “There is, inherent in your remarks, a belief that Dr. Dolan could easily be replaced at \$167,500. This board does not buy into that particular assumption – that the pool of candidates is as deep as you seem to think it might be.”

She also said Mr. Blake’s analysis “leaves out the cost of looking” for another superintendent, should the board seek to go in that direction. She estimated that cost at more than \$20,000.

“We simply chose a path that [addressed] the circumstances that were presented to us, taking all the conditions into consideration, not just the salary cap. I believe that’s where our greatest disagreement is [with your remarks],” she concluded.

RESOLUTION

Westfield Board of Education, December 14, 2010

Executive Union County Superintendent of Schools for approval on October 18, 2010; and

WHEREAS, on October 20, 2010, the Executive Union County Superintendent of Schools returned the proposed Employment Contract to the Board with recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the Board incorporated the written recommendations of the Executive Union County Superintendent of Schools into the proposed Employment Contract; and

WHEREAS, following the written recommendations and based upon communications between the Board’s Counsel and the Executive Union County Superintendent of Schools, the Board believed that it had received the approval of the proposed Employment Contract by the Executive Union County Superintendent of Schools, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1, and was therefore authorized to ratify the proposed Employment Contract; and

WHEREAS, based upon communications with Board Counsel and in reliance upon the Executive Union County Superintendent of School’s approval, on November 9, 2010, the Board ratified the Employment Contract with Dr. Dolan; and

WHEREAS, on November 15, 2010, the Acting Commissioner of Education transmitted a memorandum to all Executive County Superintendents of Schools, directing, in part, that “...giving pending regulations with respect to Superintendent contracts that will be effective the date those regulations are approved, contracts expiring subsequent to February 7, 2011 should not be renegotiated or extended prior to the effective date of the new regulations.”; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the November 15, 2010, memorandum from the Acting Commissioner of Education, on

December 2, 2010, the Executive Union County Superintendent of Schools transmitted a letter to the Board, directing it to rescind its November 9, 2010, resolution, ratifying the Employment Contract with Dr. Dolan, asserting that the Executive Union County Superintendent of Schools had not approved said Employment Contract; and

WHEREAS, the December 2, 2010, directive to the Board gave the Board until December 15, 2010, to rescind the Employment Contract with Dr. Dolan; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1(f) states that “any actions by the Executive County Superintendent undertaken pursuant to this subchapter may be appealed to the Commissioner pursuant to the procedures set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:3; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes in good faith that its action of November 9, 2010 was legally compliant and wholly consistent with existing law and regulation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED ON THIS FOURTEENTH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2010, AS FOLLOWS:

The Board hereby directs the Board Counsel to take all action necessary in order to appeal the directive of the Executive Union County Superintendent of Schools set forth in her December 2, 2010, letter to the Board, to the Acting Commissioner of Education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1(f), seeking an Order from the Acting Commissioner of Education:

1. Finding that the Employment Contract between Dr. Dolan and the Board is approved; and

2. Directing the Union County Executive County Superintendent of Schools to approve the Employment Contract between Dr. Dolan and the Board.



Thomas S. Fortunato for *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*
HERE COMES SANTA CLAUS... The Children’s Specialized Hospital held a small Christmas celebration on Friday December 10 for children in the care of the hospital’s Pediatric Medical Day Care Program in Roselle Park. See more on page 2.

Cranford Repeals Sewer Law As Residents Rip Democrats

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

CRANFORD — Seven months after enacting an ordinance creating a separate sewer utility, the township committee passed an ordinance on Tuesday repealing the earlier law and restoring the previous system where sewer fees are a line item in the municipal budget.

The committee voted 3-0 to repeal the ordinance, which charged residents for water usage based on the value of their property, after a 45-minute public hearing during which several residents castigated Democratic commissioners-elect Ed O’Malley and Kevin Campbell for campaigning against the separate sewer fee and then speaking in opposition to the ordinance repeal.

One resident said voters had been “duped” by the Democrats, while another apologized to Republican mayor Mark Smith for having voted for the Democrats. The resident turned to Mr. Campbell, who was seated in the audience, and told him he had earned the “flip of the decade award” for supporting and then opposing the repeal.

Democratic Commissioner Daniel Aschenbach, who will become mayor in 2011, voted to repeal but said next year’s township committee “will have to grapple” with the budget and related issues such as spending and property-tax

caps, meaning the sewer fee may be addressed again in the next year. Commissioner Mark Dugan said the repeal was being undertaken because voters “have indicated loudly” that they opposed the separate sewer fee.

One resident opposed the repeal, telling the committee that sewer charges should have been based on usage rather than property value. He told the governing body it should “not cut off your nose to spite your face,” and questioned how the 2011 budget would be kept under the state-mandated caps given that the nearly \$1.7 million sewer bill will be a part of the municipal budget.

In other business, the committee voted to designate as open space the Orange Avenue property that formerly was the site of the Solomon Schechter Day School. The township government bought the four-acre tract earlier this year using proceeds from a nearly \$2-million bond to finance the purchase, which was done, according to the four committee members who backed the move, to prevent the property from being developed.

Tuesday night’s meeting was the committee’s final one of the year, with Mayor Smith and Deputy Mayor Marcia Garcia bidding farewell and with the Republicans’ 4-1 majority also to end as Democrats assume their seats and regain control of the governing body in January.

Fanwood Council

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

look at the picture,” he said.

In other business Tuesday night, the governing body approved daytime parking restrictions on Cecilia Place, Paterson Road, Farley Avenue and Willoughby Road.

Councilwoman Katherine Mitchell said, “Some of the genesis of this was complaints from residents.”

Bus and rail commuters parking along local roads have become an increasing problem in many neighborhoods.

But Councilwoman Mitchell also noted a “safety issue” when cars are parked all day on narrow roads, leaving little room for emergency vehicles or two-way traffic to get through.

Speaking during public comments, Mr. Lewis asked whether A&P’s recent bankruptcy filing would “have any tax or cash flow implications” for the borough, given the A&P store on South Avenue on a property zoned for light industrial use.

Borough Attorney Dennis Estis noted that A&P’s filing allows it to reorganize and keep operating.

“You don’t know what might come out of the bankruptcy...it’s Chapter 11; if it was Chapter 7, we’d be in trouble...we’ll have to wait and see,” he said.

Also Tuesday night, Union County Freeholder Alexander Mirabella, a Fanwood resident, presented a resolution “on behalf of the 500,000 residents of Union County” to a local resident who is mourning the recent

death of her daughter.

During council reports, Councilman Anthony Parenti said letters have been sent out to all borough department heads asking them to meet with the Administration and Finance Committee to review their budgets.

Mr. Parenti said the committee wants to “get some idea what 2011 is going to look like” as the governing body prepares to begin the municipal budget process.

Also looking ahead, Mayor Mahr said downtown redevelopment and meeting the state’s 2-percent budget cap while maintaining local services will be top priorities for 2011.

The governing body’s annual reorganization meeting is set for noon on Sunday, January 2, 2011 at Borough Hall.

SPF-BOE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

we are known as a girls’ soccer community.”

Mr. Parisi added, “There wasn’t one game where the other team scored more than one goal on our team. That is amazing!”

The next board of education meeting is scheduled for tonight, December 16, at 7:30 p.m.

December 2, 2010
Julia R. Walker, President
Westfield Board of Education
302 Elm Street
Westfield, NJ 07090

Mr. Robert Berman
Westfield Board Secretary
302 Elm Street
Westfield, NJ 07090

Dear President Walker and Secretary Berman:

This is to advise that my office has not approved the proposed contract between the Westfield Board of Education and Superintendent Margaret Dolan that was the subject of a vote by the Board on November 9, 2010. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7-8Cj) and N.3.A.C. 6A23A-3.1(c), the review and approval of the proposed contract by my office must occur prior to the board approval and execution of the contract. Accordingly, since the Executive County Superintendent has not approved the proposed contract, the Board improperly approved and executed the proposed contract on November 9, 2010.

I hereby direct the parties to void the agreement no later than December 15, 2010, and to advise me in writing when the proposed contract has been made void.

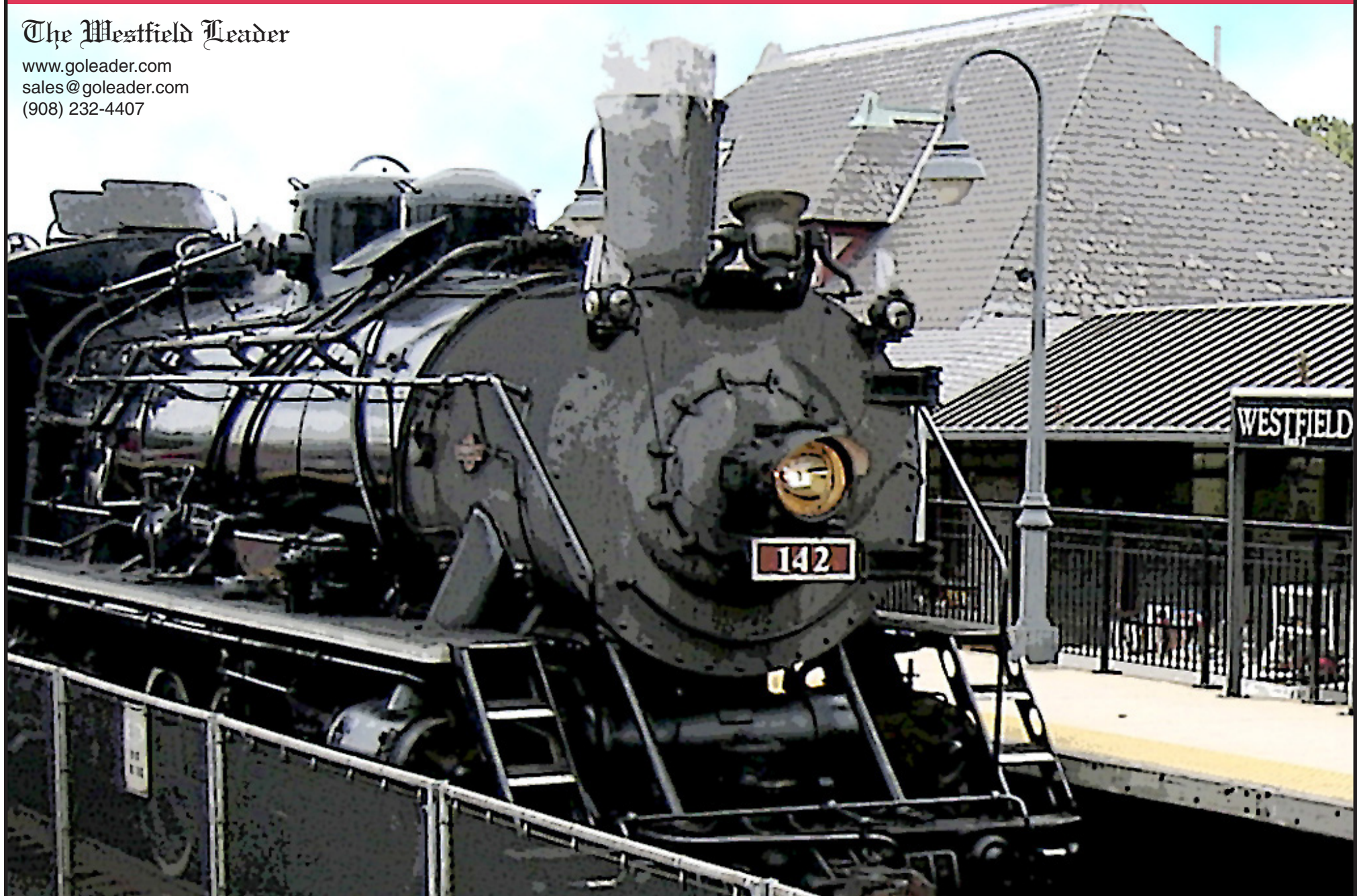
Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,
Carmen M. Centuolo, Ed.D.
Executive County Superintendent of Schools
Cc: Rochelle R. Hendricks
Aaron Graham
Gregg Edwards
Pam Castellanos
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Scutari Calls on Rivera-Soto To Resign From Court

TRENTON – State Senator Nicholas Scutari (D-Linden), chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, has joined Senate President Stephen Sweeney in seeking the resignation of New Jersey Supreme Court Associate Justice Roberto A. Rivera-Soto.

Senator Scutari’s statement follows comments by Justice Rivera-Soto that he will abstain from cases before the court as long as a temporary judge, Chief Appellate Judge Edwin Stern, is serving on the court. Chief Justice Stuart Rabner appointed Justice Stern after Senator Sweeney refused to hold hearings for any of Governor Chris Christie’s appointments after the governor opted not to reappoint Justice John Wallace.

“Justice Rivera-Soto’s outright refusal to perform his judicial duties demonstrates a complete disregard for the position he holds and for the residents of this state,” Mr. Scutari said. “The timing of his move is suspect. With his reappointment after seven years on the court around the corner, this smacks of a desperate

attempt to distract from his ethical lapses and grab the attention of right-wing pundits who share a disdain for the court.”

“This is an act of true arrogance. He is making an absolute mockery of the judiciary, and is clearly no longer fit to serve on the court. He should immediately step down,” Mr. Scutari said.

According to *The New York Times*, an advisory panel found in 2007 that Justice Rivera-Soto violated judicial rules when he interceded in a dispute between his son and a high school football teammate. The court determined the judge handed out business cards listing his position to a police official investigating the matter and called the prosecutor, assignment judge and another judge.

Justice Rivera-Soto was nominated by Governor James McGreevey and was sworn in in 2004. Justices come up for reappointment seven years after their initial appointment and serve until the state’s mandatory retirement age of 70.

Christie Vetoes Racing Schedules at N.J. Tracks

TRENTON – Governor Chris Christie has vetoed the New Jersey Racing Commission’s establishment of a full standardbred and thoroughbred racing schedule for Monmouth Park and the Meadowlands. The governor cited his administration’s efforts to end annual taxpayer subsidies for the New Jersey horse-racing industry and make it self-sustaining.

“The racing commission’s action at its November 10 meeting establishing a full race schedule for 2011 conflicts with the primary recommendation contained in a supplemental report under review by the administration to substantially reduce the number of live racing days at Monmouth Park and the Meadowlands Racetrack for next year,” according a press release from the governor’s office. “At the November 10 meeting, the Racing Commission approved a request from the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority (NJSEA) to establish the full race meeting schedule for next year.”

Governor Chris Christie has said

his administration is considering scaled-down race meets among possible solutions for making the horse racing industry self-sustaining. He said the veto was necessary, pending a legislative resolution on horse-racing recommendations and solutions.

“While the recommendation is being reviewed, it would be inappropriate to approve the NJSEA’s request to race 141 thoroughbred races dates at Monmouth Park and 141 Standardbred races dates at the Meadowlands Racetrack particularly in light of the taxpayer subsidies required to sustain such a lengthy race calendar,” Governor Christie said in his veto letter.

“An appropriate solution for the state-owned racetracks, which does not unduly burden the taxpayers of this state, must be reached before a schedule for the 2011 racing season can be approved,” the Governor wrote.

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Thomas Fortunato for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*
MERRY CHRISTMAS...Santa Claus, portrayed by Matt Costello, and Children’s Specialized Hospital (CSH) Chief Executive Officer Amy Mansue, dressed as “Holly the Elf,” meet Kaia Foddrell of Orange during the CSH Daycare Center’s Christmas Party last week in Roselle Park.

CSH Holds Christmas Party For Kids at Daycare Center

By THOMAS FORTUNATO
Specialty Written for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

ROSELLE PARK — The Children’s Specialized Hospital (CSH), an affiliate of the Robert Wood Johnson Health System, staged a small Christmas celebration on Friday for children in the care of the hospital’s Pediatric Medical Day Care Program in Roselle Park.

The daycare provided is designed for children up to age 5 living with complicated and advanced medical conditions requiring intensive skilled nursing care such as Ajahnae Graham of East Orange and Kaia Foddrell of Orange. Ajahnae suffers from dysphagia, a congenital swallowing disorder requiring her to use a feeding tube. Kaia suffers from Denys–Drash syndrome and recently received a kidney transplant from her mother.

Because of these girls’ conditions, regular daycare centers are not equipped to adequately take care of them. The CSH makes it possible for working-class families with disabled children to keep their kids at a daycare while the parents work, until the children are healthy enough that they do not require as intensive day-to-day care.

Present at the Christmas celebration were Westfield residents Matt Costello and Amy Jester, dressed up as Santa Claus and “Holly the Elf,” respectively. Also in attendance was Westfield Fire Chief Dan Kelly. The Westfield Fire Department and the Westfield Knights of Columbus are among the list of

donors who help keep the daycare facility operating.

Mr. Costello and Ms. Jester, who have volunteered their time and efforts at the daycare center for many years now, were presented with awards “in recognition of [their] compassion and commitment to [the] babies,” as was inscribed.

“We take a lot of pride in not taking anything for any of this, and this [award] means a lot,” Mr. Costello remarked, and then jokingly added, “of course, I do have a tip jar out back!”

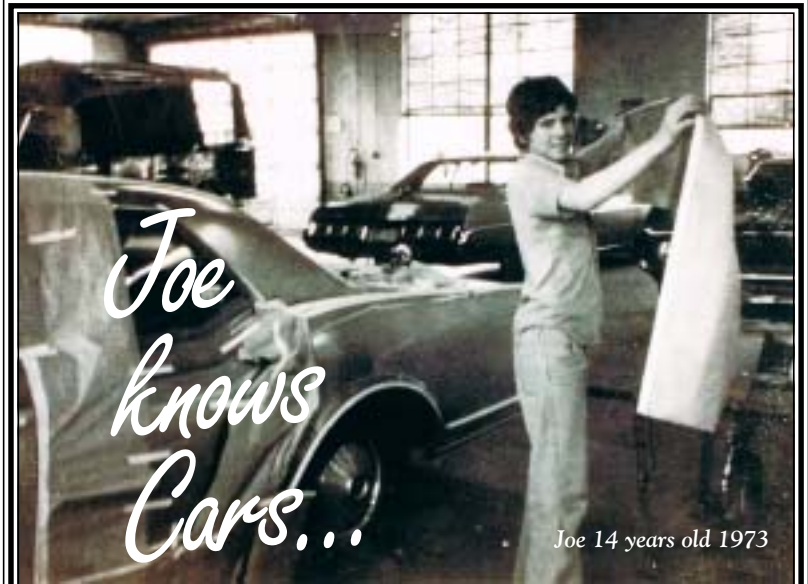
Ms. Jester continued Mr. Costello’s levity, jesting (pun intended), “I just want a Lexus.”

Dr.Sharon Burke, director of the infant rehabilitation program, said she, along with Amy Mansue, president and chief executive officer of CSH, and Phil Salerno, president of the Foundation, said they were appreciative of the donations from the local community, which will go towards the purchase of equipment such as strollers, car seats and other items for these children.

“It is a wonderful feeling to collaborate with members of the community who understand the challenges faced by our children as well as share the many success stories of these children and their families,” Dr. Burkesaid.

CSH is the largest pediatric rehabilitation hospital in the country, with inpatient and outpatient programs for children from birth to 21 years.

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County Cancels Purchase Of Home Near Nomahegan

By PAUL J. PEYTON
Specialty for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

ELIZABETH — Union County has cancelled an agreement to purchase a Cranford home that abuts Nomahegan Park after the seller’s bank wanted a higher purchase price. The county had come to an agreement to purchase the half-acre lot at 112 Park Drive for \$495,000 this past spring.

At last Wednesday’s freeholder meeting, County Manager George Devanney said the county “offered what we believed to be fair market value.” He said the bank did not indicate how much more it wanted for the property.

“It just came to the [price] of the property. It had nothing to do with whether or not it was valuable to our park system,” he said. “We thought the property would be an asset to our parks system.”

As previously reported by *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*, the property was purchased by Robert and Diane Rebimbas in 2006 for \$875,000. A total of \$11,458 in taxes was paid on the property last year.

The county had intended to close off the end of Park Drive and extend the park so that bikers, joggers and walkers no longer have to enter the roadway before reentering the Nomahegan Park.

The freeholders also approved a resolution to officially cancel an agreement with New Providence to take over ownership of Oakwood Park. The resolution follows the defeat by borough voters of a referendum in November asking residents to approve the transaction. In return, the county had agreed to finance a \$3.5-million sports complex, including two football/soccer fields, two baseball diamonds and a 50-car parking area.

In other business, the board passed a resolution supporting a petition seeking an apology from county Republican candidates regarding election-night comments attributed to them in a *Leader/Times* article published on November 4.

“I don’t know what you guys are doing here,” Garwood resident Bruce Paterson said, calling the resolution “political.”

Kenilworth resident John Bury said the online Apologize Now in Union County petition is seeking 1,000 signatures to be sent to county GOP Chairman Phil Morin. “Last [time] I looked, there were 56 (as of December 8),” he said. “I don’t think it is really that serious...It’s a site that nobody is going to...I think we have more important things to focus on.”

Freeholder Mohamed Jalloh said those persons “who don’t think these statements were overt or purposeful, I think it’s because they are not realizing that this is embedded so deeply in a thought process of the individuals [who] made these statements. I urge them to reexamine their thinking because this type of deviousness is not going to get us anywhere.”

Elizabeth Mayor Chris Bollwage said he signed a letter with other officials seeking an apology because, “I thought it (comments attributed to GOP candidates) was political. And as the mayor, I am a politician...And my answer was political.”

“I think they (Democratic voters)

knew what they were doing in Elizabeth. I think they knew what they were doing in Westfield, those Democrats who voted with us and those Democrats who voted with us in Summit, in New Providence. I think they clearly saw that the Republican Party has chosen the very wealthy...over those [who have] struggled,” the mayor said.

The board approved a resolution to enter into a “use and maintenance agreement” with Scotch Plains for the Ponderosa Farm Park development project. According to Victoria Durbin Drake, the administrator of the county’s Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund, the county would design the park, which will include two soccer fields, a playground, water park, restrooms and walking trails. “They (Scotch Plains) will maintain the property once it is completed,” she said.

The county purchased the 23-acre property in 2003 for \$10 million from Norman “Dutch” Seville. It was originally going to be a children’s petting zoo, but that proposal drew strong opposition from residents and the township. She said the cost of the project would not be known until it goes out to bid.

The board also approved a resolution consenting to the issuance of recovery zone facility bonds by the Union County Improvement Authority for the Wakefern warehouse-expansion project in Elizabeth. The total of the bonds has been increased by \$25 million to \$44.5 million to finance the project. The additional funding, officials said, became available from the state for economic development projects.

The board also passed, on first reading, an ordinance to issue \$43.9 million in bonds for capital purchases, including \$9.3 million for a new clubhouse at Galloping Hill Golf Course in Kenilworth and \$3.6 million for synthetic-turf athletic fields, as well as for the dredging of ponds at Meisel, Briant, Rahway and Nomahegan lakes and/or ponds.

During the public-comment section of the meeting, Elizabeth resident Joseph Doherty said the efforts “to replace the ruling party (on Election day) fell short of the mark.” “Their votes were trumped by party loyalists and power brokers, who succeeded in maintaining the status quo,” Mr. Doherty said. He said he supports changing from an at-large board to one in which freeholders would be voted by districts.

“This would level the playing field and allow all areas of the county to have an equal say without being overruled by [city strongholds], which, in reality, negates all opposition,” Mr. Doherty said.

Garwood Sets Reorganization Date

GARWOOD — The annual Reorganization Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Garwood for 2011 will be held on Sunday, January 2, at 3 p.m., in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Building, located at 403 South Avenue. The public is encouraged to attend. For information, call (908) 789-0710.



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Dental Update

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

BRIDGE BUILDING

A “bridge” is a fixed dental restoration that is commonly used to replace no more than four adjacent front teeth or two side teeth. Much like a highway bridge, it is supported by two abutments, which are structurally healthy teeth on either side of the gap. The span, or “pontic,” is a metal framework attached to the abutments at each end with the necessary number of attached artificial teeth. When properly crafted, the artificial teeth and abutment crowns should match the contour and color of natural teeth and appear to be growing out of the gums. However, the pontic should barely touch the gums because exerting unnecessary pressure on the gums and underlying bone can damage them.

If one or more of your teeth have been lost to damage or decay, prompt attention with bridges, partials, implants, or other methods of repair will prevent additional, perhaps bigger and more painful problems later on. Visit your dentist on a regular basis, and practice good home oral hygiene. It will pay off in the long run. If you don’t have a family dentist at this time, we invite you to join our list of smiling patients. Centrally located in Westfield at 131 South Euclid Avenue, we have convenient office hours by appointment. Call 908-654-6262.

P.S. There should be sufficient space on the underside of the pontic of a dental bridge so that dental floss can be passed beneath it to keep it clean.

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Anti-Phishing Act Clears Committee

WESTFIELD – Assemblyman Jon Bramnick (LD-21, Westfield) and his colleagues on the Assembly Consumer Affairs Committee have unanimously passed the “Anti-Phishing Act,” A-2538, which is aimed at protecting millions of New Jerseyans from identity theft on the Internet.

“The Anti-Phishing Act will punish those who try to get our credit card numbers, passwords and other account information on the internet,” Mr. Bramnick said. “The act will make the Internet a safer environment for our residents and raise awareness of these unlawful practices. This bill is an important step towards keeping our families and businesses safe from criminals on the Internet.”

Phishing, which occurs when Internet users are lured into giving sensitive information such as credit card numbers and passwords through e-mail solicitation, has become one of the most widespread forms of identity theft on the internet. The “Anti-Phishing Act” would prohibit any fraudulent activity where personal information is exchanged to an entity that is disguised as a trustworthy business.

Mr. Bramnick is one of the sponsors of the legislation.

Safeguards Sought On Shale Gas-Drilling

TRENTON – Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Commissioner Bob Martin has reaffirmed the state’s position that “clear and stringent standards” must be put in place to protect the resources of the Delaware River before natural-gas drilling in a geologic formation known as marcellus shale is allowed to move ahead.

Commissioner Martin urged the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) to enact and implement strict standards to protect the river – which provides a quarter of New Jersey’s drinking water – from the hydraulic gas-extraction process until New York and Pennsylvania implement their own standards.

“New Jersey continues to oppose any drilling of fracking wells in the Delaware River Basin until appropriate regulations and standards are in place,” Commissioner Martin wrote to DRBC Executive Director Carol Collier. “Strong safeguards to protect public water supplies and ensure that the wastes generated are properly managed and treated must be established before drilling.”

The DRBC is a commission that is managing a river system shared by New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Delaware. The DRBC is poised to release draft regulations to establish operating standards for the development of natural-gas wells and management in the basin.

“New Jersey does not aim to unnecessarily delay another state’s development; we want only to ensure that any drilling proceeds in an environmentally safe manner,” Mr. Martin said.

While no drilling would occur in New Jersey, the commissioner expressed concern that expansion of drilling in New York and Pennsylvania could have significant impacts on the Delaware River. As many as 10,000 wells could be drilled in portions of the basin in those states, according to the DEP.

County Crime Stoppers Now On Internet

COUNTY — Crime Stoppers of Union County has announced that it has added two additional ways that members of the public can anonymously report crimes to police.

For the last 25 years, residents of the county were able to call their tips into the Crime Stoppers hotline at (908) 654-TIPS. Now, residents may send tips via uctip.org or by texting “UCTIP” plus the message to 274637 (CRIMES). ”

Crime Stoppers offers anonymous cash rewards up to \$5,000 for information that leads to the arrest and indictment of criminal suspects. More than 1,000 indictable crimes have been solved since the program was created in 1984.

One of the key aspects of Crime Stoppers is its anonymity and Union County Police Chief Daniel Vaniska reaffirmed that the Crime Stoppers program does not want anyone’s name, only their information.

“When someone sends a tip in, it goes to a third party, who forwards it to us and the appropriate police department,” Chief Vaniska said. “We do not have access to find out who they are and we do not want to. We are only interested in their information.”

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lb. REG. 18.99 lb.

DaVinci Gouda with Herbs & Olives
8⁴⁹
lb. REG. 9.99 lb.

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Whether it is for your guests or a gift for your hostess, bring the gift that keeps on giving... a tray of hand cut artisanal cheeses.

Delice De France Herb is a rich, creamy brie style camembert cheese with a rounded buttery finish and a delicate addition of herbs. A true delight for the palette.

Dolice de France Herb
12⁹⁹
lb. REG. 14.99 lb.

Swiss Emmenthal: Mild in flavor, with a soft creamy texture, this cheese is loved by kids. Great for snacking, in sandwiches or melting for fondue.

Emmenthaler
11⁹⁹
lb. REG. 12.99 lb.

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Knob Creek Small Batch Bourbon 30⁹⁹

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•Frangelico 750 ML
•Licor 43 750 ML
•Di Saronno Amaretto 750 ML
•Stock Limonce Limoncello L

Your Choice! 19⁹⁹

•B&B Liqueur
•Drambuie

Your Choice! 28⁹⁹ 750 ML

Irish Mist 22⁹⁹ 750 ML

Romano Sambuca 21⁹⁹ 750 ML

•Bailey's IRISH CREAM
•Kahlua

Your Choice! 18⁹⁹ 750 ML

Grand Marnier 31⁹⁹ 750 ML

Chambord 26⁹⁹ 750 ML

Cognacs & Brandies

Remy Martin

•XO 99⁹⁹ 750 ML
•1738 ROYAL ACCORD 49⁹⁹ 750 ML
•VSOP 35⁹⁹ 750 ML

Hennessy VSOP 39⁹⁹ 750 ML

E&J VSOP 10⁹⁹ 750 ML

E&J Brandy 9⁹⁹ 750 ML

Mirassou ALL TYPES 8⁹⁹ 750 ML

Toasted Head CABERNET, CHARDONNAY, MERLOT 9⁹⁹ 750 ML

Santa Margherita PINOT GRIGIO 19⁹⁹ 750 ML

Columbia Crest GRAND ESTATES ALL TYPES 9⁹⁹ 750 ML

Beringer WHITE ZINFANDEL 4⁹⁹ 750 ML

Barefoot Cellars ALL TYPES 9⁹⁹ 1.5 L

Ruffino ALL 750 ML

•Ducale Gold CHIANTI RISERVA 29⁹⁹ 750 ML
•Ducale Tan CHIANTI RISERVA 19⁹⁹ 750 ML
•Modus 19⁹⁹ 750 ML

Mondavi Private Selection ALL TYPES 9⁹⁹ 750 ML

Chateau Ste. Michelle

•CABERNET MERLOT 12⁹⁹ 750 ML
•CHARDONNAY SAUV. BLANC 9⁹⁹ 750 ML
•RIESLING 8⁹⁹ 750 ML

Woodbridge

•CABERNET •SHIRAZ
•CHARDONNAY •MERLOT
•PINOT GRIGIO
•PINOT NOIR
•RIESLING
•ZINFANDEL
•SAUVIGNON BLANC 11⁹⁹ 1.5 L
•WHITE ZINFANDEL 9⁹⁹ 1.5 L

Kendall Jackson VINTNER'S RESERVE

•CABERNET
•MERLOT
•PINOT NOIR 14⁹⁹ 750 ML
•CHARD. •SYRAH
•ZIN •MERITAGE 11⁹⁹ 750 ML
•SAUVIGNON BLANC
•RIESLING 9⁹⁹ 750 ML

Little Penguin ALL TYPES 10⁹⁹ 1.5 L

Almaden ALL 5 L BOXES

HERITAGE SERIES 15⁹⁹

MOUNTAIN SERIES 13⁹⁹

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Moet & Chandon Dom Perignon 133⁹⁹ 750 ML

Veuve Clicquot BRUT YELLOW LABEL CHAMPAGNE 37⁹⁹ 750 ML

Perrier Jouet GRAN BRUT NV 34⁹⁹ 750 ML

Moet & Chandon IMPERIAL NV 29⁹⁹ 750 ML

Domaine Chandon •BRUT •BLANC DE NOIR 14⁹⁹ 750 ML

Korbel •BRUT •X-DRY •BRUT ROSE 11⁹⁹ 750 ML

La Marca PROSECCO 10⁹⁹ 750 ML

M&R Asti 11⁹⁹ 750 ML

Domaine Ste. Michelle SPARKLING WINES ALL TYPES 9⁹⁹ 750 ML

Freixenet CORDON NEGRO 8⁹⁹ 750 ML

Andre SPARKLING WINE 4⁹⁹ 750 ML

Dessert Wines

Cockburn Ports

SPECIAL RESERVE 13⁹⁹ 750 ML

•FINE RUBY •FINE TAWNY 10⁹⁹ 750 ML

Inniskillin ICE WINE 42⁹⁹ 750 ML

Dry Sack SHERRY 12⁹⁹ 750 ML

Harvey's Bristol Cream 12⁹⁹ 750 ML

Louis Jadot

•POUILLY FUISSE 19⁹⁹ 750 ML
•PINOT NOIR 16⁹⁹ 750 ML
•CHARDONNAY 14⁹⁹ 750 ML
•MACON VILLAGES 10⁹⁹ 750 ML
•BEAUJOLAIS VILLAGES 9⁹⁹ 750 ML

Mondavi Napa ALL 750 ML

•PINOT NOIR 19⁹⁹
•CABERNET 19⁹⁹
•MERLOT 15⁹⁹
•CHARDONNAY 14⁹⁹
•FUME BLANC 13⁹⁹

Ketel One REG. OR FLAVORS 39⁹⁹ 1.75 L

Absolut Vodka REG. OR FLAVORS 29⁹⁹ 1.75 L

VODKA

Stolichnaya REGULAR, 80° OR FLAVORS 34⁹⁹ 1.75 L

Belvedere 29⁹⁹ 750 ML

Van Gogh EXCEPT BLUE 24⁹⁹ 750 ML

Sobieski ALL TYPES 17⁹⁹ 1.75 L

Smirnoff REG. OR FLAVORS 19⁹⁹ 1.75 L

Wolfschmidt 15⁹⁹ 1.75 L

BOURBON

Jim Beam WHITE LABEL 28⁹⁹ 750 ML

Knob Creek 31⁹⁹ 750 ML

Maker's Mark 24⁹⁹ 750 ML

Seagram's 7 Crown 18⁹⁹ 1.75 L

Bacardi Rum LIGHT DARK OR SELECT 19⁹⁹ 1.75 L

SCOTCH

Macallan 12 YEAR OLD SINGLE MALT 43⁹⁹ 750 ML

Chivas Regal 18-YEAR OLD 64⁹⁹ 750 ML

Glenlivet Nadurra 54⁹⁹ 750 ML

Glenlivet FRENCH OAK 15-YEAR OLD 46⁹⁹ 750 ML

Glenlivet 12-YEAR OLD 35⁹⁹ 750 ML

Clan MacGregor 18⁹⁹ 1.75 L

RUM

Sailor Jerry 92 PROOF 28⁹⁹ 1.75 L

Pyrat XO RESERVE 24⁹⁹ 750 ML

Chivas Regal 12 YR. OLD SCOTCH 29⁹⁹ 750 ML 49⁹⁹ 1.75 L

José Cuervo TRADICIONAL REPOSADO 26⁹⁹ 750 ML

TEQUILA

José Cuervo TRADICIONAL SILVER 24⁹⁹ 750 ML

Patron ALL 750 ML

SILVER 37⁹⁹
REPOSADO 41⁹⁹
AÑEJO 44⁹⁹

WHISKEY

Jameson IRISH WHISKEY 43⁹⁹ 1.75 L

Jameson 12-YEAR OLD IRISH WHISKEY 36⁹⁹ 750 ML

Black Bush IRISH WHISKEY 29⁹⁹ 750 ML

Crown Royal 24⁹⁹ 750 ML

Canadian Club 19⁹⁹ 1.75 L

Patron Silver 79⁹⁹ 1.75 L

Jack Daniels 39⁹⁹ 1.75 L

GIN

Tanqueray 36⁹⁹ 1.75 L

Hendrick's 29⁹⁹ 750 ML

New Amsterdam 19⁹⁹ 1.75 L

Johnnie Walker
Family of Scotches

BLACK 12-YR. OLD 32⁹⁹ 750 ML 59⁹⁹ 1.75 L

RED LABEL 29⁹⁹ 1.75 L

BLUE LABEL 169⁹⁹ 750 ML

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Superintendent Salary Caps Could Save N.J. Taxpayers \$9.8 Million

TRENTON – Governor Chris Christie and acting Education Commissioner Rochelle Hendricks have said the administration’s new salary caps will have an impact by reducing and permanently capping the pay of more than 360 school superintendents after their current contracts expire, resulting in savings of nearly \$10 million to taxpayers.

According to the administration, 80 school superintendents are making more than \$200,000 while the median pay for superintendents has risen 46 percent since 2001.

“In these hard economic times, superintendent salaries in New Jersey are costing taxpayers more than \$100 million per year,” according to a press release from the governor’s office. “And some districts, like Parsippany and Westfield, are even attempting to circumvent the caps by pursuing contract extensions to lock in these expensive superintendent contracts and reject the savings it would bring to taxpayers for years.”

The executive county superintendents of Morris and Union counties, respectively, directed the Parsippany and Westfield Boards of Education to rescind those unapproved contract extensions.

Ms. Hendricks has directed the executive county superintendents statewide not to approve any contract extensions for superintendents whose current contracts expire after February 7, 2011 unless they are consistent with the salary cap that will take effect on that date.

The caps, based on the number of students in a district, are as follows: up to 250 students, \$125,000; 251-750, \$135,000; 751-1,500, \$145,000; 1,501-3,000, \$155,000; 3,001-6,500, \$165,000; 6,501-10,000, \$175,000; and 10,000 students and over, \$175,000. Districts over 10,000 can apply for a waiver.

According to salary information provided by executive county superintendents, the caps will result in \$9.8 million in savings as 70 percent of superintendents currently earn above the proposed salary caps.

Glimpse of the Legislature

Urban Farming

TRENTON – The Assembly Budget Committee passed a proposed Urban Farming Bill. A-2859 authorizes the sale and lease of unneeded public property to certain nonprofits for gardening and urban farming and exempts such urban farms from property taxation.

Assemblywoman Annette Quijano (LD-20, Union) stated, “The main goal of the urban farming bill is to encourage the creation of urban gardens that will benefit the community and provide fresh, healthy produce where it is not readily accessible. It is especially important during these difficult times, when food shelters are overburdened with an influx of underprivileged residents who desperately need a helping hand. Too often, municipalities accumulate older vacant lots, which they cannot sell, and so they remain unused and uncultivated. Current law allows for the lease of these municipal-owned lots for non-profit use, however, provisions set forth in this bill will now allow these lots to be sold for the purpose of urban farming.”

Abolish COAH

Assemblyman Jerry Green (D-20, Plainfield) proposed legislation approved by the Assembly on Monday, December 13, to:

Provide a decrease in municipal housing obligations compared to the ones required by the Council on Affordable Housing (COAH).

Exempt 71 municipalities from housing obligations – municipalities that have more than 50 percent of their children participating in free or reduced school lunch programs.

Require municipalities with 20 to 50 percent of their children on free and reduce lunch to ensure 8 percent of their housing is for low- and moderate-income families.

Require municipalities with less than 20 percent of their children on free and reduced lunch to ensure 10 percent of their housing is for low- and moderate-income families.

Eliminate the 2.5 percent fee on commercial development.

Subject residential development that does not include low-income housing to a 1.5 percent development fee.

Asm. Green said, “We’re giving municipalities clear and realistic standards and relief to those that already have a healthy housing mix. This is a smarter approach that will mean a better New Jersey for residents and businesses alike.”

Asm. Green chairs the Assembly Housing and Local Government Committee.

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Letters to the Editor

County Welfare Directors’ Assoc. Streamlines Food Stamps in State

Food Stamp Program.

People can now apply for Food Stamps online. Interviews are now being conducted over the telephone. Office hours have been expanded. The number of times that a customer is required to visit the county agency to determine continued eligibility has been reduced. With the support of the Governor, the New Jersey Department of Human Services expanded eligibility by increasing the maximum income to 185 percent of the state’s poverty level.

For certain households there is no longer a burdensome resource examination. A single application for all public assistance programs has been developed.

These are some of the steps we have already successfully put into action. They have helped us deliver benefits to eligible applicants as quickly as possible. It has been an enormous challenge to handle the soaring demand for services when austere budgets have prevented the ability to hire or allocate additional staff.

County governments across the state are looking for ways to cut costs while trying to maintain services to residents during this difficult economy. Since many people may soon experience the end of their unemployment benefits, county agencies are bracing for a new spike in applications for public assistance programs. The fact is more streamlining is desperately needed to cope with the number of applicants and customers.

The 21 members of the County Welfare Directors Association of New Jersey have provided a series of recommendations to policy makers. Unfortunately, Food Stamps is a federal program with limited flexibility. Rest assured, we will continue to fight for common-sense program improvements. We appreciate the public’s support and patience as we continue to develop and propose new methods and innovations to deliver timely service during these extremely challenging times.

Dan Boas, President
Cty Welfare Directors Assoc. of N.J.
Mount Holly

Objections Noted on COAH Bill

Assemblyman Anthony Bucco (R-25, Randolph) issued the following statement regarding the passage of an affordable housing bill (S-1/A-3447) in the General Assembly that passed along a party-line vote:

“Based on the bill that was approved today, the residents of New Jersey would have been better served if we stayed with the current affordable housing law. This legislation does nothing to help municipalities, and does more harm than good.

“Eliminating the Council on Affordable Housing is a small part of the policy changes that need to be made in order to address the housing issue. The high zoning density requirement will force an unwanted change on the landscape of a town and will result in infrastructure costs that taxpayers cannot absorb. The proposed fee on residential developments does not foster economic development, which the Democrats have said should be a focus of the Legislature. Instead of working towards making New Jersey a more affordable place to live and work, this legislation achieves the exact opposite.”

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Shared Services Consultant Demands Payment From Scotch Plains for Study

This letter was sent to Scotch Plains Mayor and Township Council and copied to the newspaper.

Please reconsider paying the \$2,500 invoice based upon the following facts:

1. Most Important of All — This is not an amendment to last year’s contract. That study was completed on time, on budget, and our original flat fee was paid in full, and that is the end of that 2009 work.

2. Fanwood has agreed to pay their \$2,500, which bolsters our position that this is a valid invoice.

3. This \$2,500 is for work completed in 2010, through June 30, 2010, which included extensive consulting time for implementation assistance, including nine meetings, significant research and analysis, preparation for meetings, numerous memos and telephone responses to inquiries for additional information from the two towns, two mayors, SSSC members, manager, administrator, and department heads, such as chiefs of police, CFO, etc.

4. A very significant item — (A) In March, I sent a detailed memorandum (dated March 17, 2010) explaining this matter, indicating clearly that payment must be made or I could not and would not be able to continue doing any more consulting work after April 15, 2010. (B) The two mayors and the SSSC members agreed this \$5,000 should be paid (even though I requested \$10,000 for work through June 30, 2010). I was told an effort would also be made to have the other \$5,000 approved some time in the future. (C) Based upon that assurance of payment, I continued working past the April 15, 2010 date. (D) Not until some time in June 2010 was I informed that Scotch Plains had not approved this payment. (F) This is completely unfair, as I hope you will agree based upon the above, well-known facts.

5. Finally, to clear up any misunderstanding about my participating in the public forums, please note I had agreed during the same meeting in March to participate in two public forums, “provided they took place prior to June 30, 2010.” These forums were scheduled, and postponed or cancelled, twice. When they were rescheduled for September and November, I voluntarily agreed to participate in the September forum, not wanting to create any issue prior to the November election.

Only after the election was over did I indicate I could not participate in a second forum. Also note that this second forum was scheduled after the agreed to deadline of June 30, 2010.

Based upon all of the above, I respectfully request that you reconsider your decision, and approve payment of this \$2,500 invoice. Respectfully submitted,

Dan Mason
Shared Services Consultant
Cranford

New Law for Bio-Fuel Purchase

TRENTON – A new law (A-1052) requires the state to purchase and use biofuels in place of fossil fuels if the cost is the same or less, and if the purchase and use of biofuels is deemed to be reasonable, prudent and cost effective.

Assemblywoman Annette Quijano (D-Union) stated, “Reducing our fossil-fuel dependence by using more renewable resources, such as biofuel has the potential to significantly improve local air quality, reduce the state’s dependence on foreign oil and reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions.”

“It’s in everyone’s best interest for the state, when it makes sense to do so, to advance biofuel technologies by fostering the production and purchase of biofuels,” said Asm. Joe Cryan (D-Union).

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Trinity Invites All Saturday To ‘Poe For the Holidays’

CRANFORD – The Trinity Episcopal Church and Strike Line Media will present The Whistling Room: Cabaret For A Cause this Saturday, December 18, at 8 p.m. Entitled “Poe for the Holidays,” the program will be held in the church’s Witherington Hall, located at the corner of North and Forest Avenues in Cranford.

Cranford singer/songwriter Shayfer James, following an extensive performance schedule across the northeast, will return to host the event. Actors, actresses, literati and poets from throughout New Jersey will read select works by Edgar Allen Poe alongside Mr. James’ live music performance and special musical guest Double Breasted.

Partial proceeds from the event will go to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS), a voluntary health organization dedicated to funding blood cancer research, edu-

cation and patient services. The mission of the LLS is to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin’s disease and myeloma, and to improve the quality of life of patients and their families.

Mr. James incorporates folk, pop/rock and dark cabaret into a musical genre of his own. The evening will feature Poe readings by familiar faces from Trinity’s own Driftwood Players. All ages are welcome and free snacks will be available. Admission will be \$5.

The Trinity Episcopal Church recently debuted its new church building following a \$2-million renovation project and in January will open the Trinity Episcopal Day School for children ages 2½ to 6.

For more information about Trinity, call (908) 276-4047 or visit trinitycranford.org. Information on the performers for the event Saturday is available at shayferjames.com, doublebreastedmusic.com/ and thewhistlingroom.com.



Shayfer James



DISTRICT GOVERNOR VISITS...Rotary District Governor Ahmed Azmy addressed the Rotary Club of Westfield November 30, where he encouraged growth through increased membership, activities, publicity, service projects to help local communities and promotion of international understanding and peace. Pictured, from left to right, are: Past District Governor Dr. Michael Hart, Westfield Rotary Club President Ray Kostyack, Mr. Azmy and Assistant District Governor Joe Steiner.

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OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS...In the tradition of the holidays, the Downtown Westfield Corporation is sponsoring the “Dickens” inspired Yuletide Carolers, who will stroll through downtown Westfield again this Saturday, December 18, from 1 to 2 p.m.

Borough Historical Society Offers Gifts and Activities

KENILWORTH – A commemorative coverlet (throw) featuring many of Kenilworth’s prominent historic sites; a commemorative engraved paver in the “Kenilworth Heritage Walkway” at the Oswald J. Nitschke House, and a gift certificate for a paver or for any 2011 Kenilworth Historical Society event are available from the Kenilworth Historical Society for holiday gift-giving needs.

Proceeds will benefit the historical society’s ongoing project to restore the 19th-century Nitschke House and transform it into a “living history” museum and cultural arts center.

The Kenilworth Commemorative Coverlet features a 48-inch by 68-inch colored woven design that was created in honor of Kenilworth’s 2007 Centennial Celebration. It bears the borough’s official centennial logo and highlights such familiar sites as the Kenilworth Municipal Building (1962); Sayre-Shallcross House; Kenilworth Boulevard and trolley (early 1900s); New York and New Orange Railroad Station (circa 1903); Upsala College (circa 1898); McKinley School (circa 1903); Kenilworth Public Library (circa 1936); Shallcross Pond (Black Brook Park); Kenilworth Police and Fire/Rescue; Kenilworth Inn (circa 1903)

and James Arthur residence (circa 1910). The cost is \$60.

The “Kenilworth Heritage Walkway” offers residents, businesses, organizations and others an opportunity to preserve their names in engraved brick pavers leading to the entrances of the historic Nitschke House. The cost of an engraved, six-inch-by-nine-inch paver is \$100. Paver gift certificates also are available. Each gift certificate comes with a note card describing the Nitschke House/Kenilworth Heritage Walkway and an order form to be completed by the gift certificate recipient. Order forms for pavers and gift certificates are available at the Kenilworth Borough Clerk’s Office at Borough Hall, the Kenilworth Public Library and Especially Yours Florist, located at 13 North 20th Street in Kenilworth.

Gift certificates also are available for 2011 Kenilworth Historical Society bus trips and other events. Thus far, the organization has planned a Saturday, February 26 bus trip to Mohegan Sun Casino in Uncasville, Conn. (\$49 per person) and a Thursday, April 14 bus trip to Rockvale Shopping Outlets in Lancaster, Pa. (\$39 per person.)

For further information, call (908) 709-0434, (908) 709-0391 or (908) 245-1467.

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POLICE BLOTTER

Westfield
Saturday, December 4, Alfie T. Spooner, 37, of Westfield was arrested at North Plainfield police headquarters on an outstanding Westfield traffic warrant in the amount of \$805. He also was processed on an outstanding Plainfield traffic warrant in the amount of \$250. Spooner was unable to post bail and was committed to the Union County jail.

Monday, December 6, Tedwick Theodore, 26, of Scotch Plains was arrested at the New Jersey State Police Barracks in Newark on an outstanding Westfield traffic warrant. He was transported to Westfield police headquarters, processed and released after posting \$114 bail.

Tuesday, December 7, Robert E. Berk, 54, of Fanwood was arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated (DWI) following a motor vehicle accident investigation on the 900 block of West North Avenue. He was released to a responsible adult.

Wednesday, December 8, Robert Evers, 75, of Cranford was arrested at his residence and charged with DWI and with leaving the scene of an accident. According to police, no injuries were reported as a result of the two-car accident, which occurred at North and Central Avenues. Evers was arrested a short time later and subsequently released to a responsible adult.

Friday, December 10, Shaun C. Scott, 24, of Westfield was arrested on outstanding warrants from Long Branch, for \$750, and Watchung, for \$500, following an investigation on the 100 block of Elm Street. Scott was unable to post bail and was released to the Long Branch Police Department.

Sunday, December 12, Ahjahnia Hall, 33, of Philadelphia, Pa. was arrested at the Middlesex County jail on an active Westfield traffic warrant in the amount of \$500. She was transported to Westfield police headquarters and processed. Hall was unable to post bail and committed to the Union County jail pending a court appearance in Westfield Municipal Court.

Scotch Plains
Monday, December 6, a resident of Tisbury Village reported that she received a telephone call from an individual, claiming to be from her bank, who requested personal information from her. According to police, the victim became suspicious and hung up before offering any information.

Monday, December 6, a resident of Front Street reported that someone removed his unlocked bicycle, valued at approximately \$190, from the side of his house.

Monday, December 6, a resident of Cooper Road reported that someone she met at a party had been harassing her by sending her approximately 25 text messages.

Tuesday, December 7, a resident of Radley Road reported that someone cloned his phone number and made approximately \$240 worth of unauthorized calls.

Tuesday, December 7, a resident of Spruce Mill Lane reported that someone has been harassing her by calling her and then hanging up without saying anything.

Wednesday, December 8, the owner of a Route 22 gas station reported that, sometime overnight, someone spray painted the back of the building in an act of criminal mischief.

Wednesday, December 8, the Post Master of the Scotch Plains Post Office reported that he received a call from a resident who wanted to know where his mail was and then threatened to come into the post office and cause a problem.

Thursday, December 9, the manager of a Route 22 gas station reported that a patron ordered \$40 worth of gas and claimed to only have \$20 with him, but said he would return with the rest of the cash. According to police, the individual has not yet returned.

Thursday, December 9, a resident of Elizabeth Avenue reported that he received a call from a car company to let him know his loan was approved. According to police, the victim never applied for the loan and does not know how his information was obtained.

Friday, December 10, Elijah Ivey, 23, of Hillside was arrested

and charged with obstruction of justice after a motor vehicle stop, at which time he allegedly gave the officer a false name. He was transported to police headquarters, processed and released.

Saturday, December 11, Daniel Furnari, 23, of Scotch Plains was arrested and charged with possession of suspected marijuana after an officer on routine patrol observed Furnari sitting in his vehicle in the early morning hours. According to police, upon approaching the vehicle, the officer could smell the strong odor of burnt marijuana. Furnari was placed under arrest, transported to police headquarters, processed and released.

Mountainside
Thursday, December 9, an individual came into police headquarters to report he was working at a business on Sheffield Street, at which time he placed his cell phone on a cart in order to record some number. According to police, when he returned approximately 30 seconds later, the phone was missing. A delivery man, described as a tall, black male, wearing a dark blue jacket and pants, was seen in the vicinity at the time when the phone went missing, but left the scene before the victim noticed the phone was missing, authorities reported. The phone is described as a black, T-Mobile My Touch 4G, valued at approximately \$500, police said.

Friday, December 10, an employee of a Globe Avenue business reported that, on two separate occasions, she was made aware of someone presenting a check endorsed by her company being used in a fraudulent manner. The checks have the company name and address on them but do not resemble the company’s actual check, police reported.

Friday, December 10, Andrew V. Chretien, 23, of Mountainside was arrested following a motor vehicle accident on Route 22 at New Providence Road on an outstanding warrant out of Fanwood. He was transported to police headquarters, processed and released.

Sunday, December 12, Jackson L. Pittman, 30, of Plainfield was arrested and charged with theft of services after he allegedly left a Route 22 business without paying for his purchases. According to police, Pittman was found walking along Route 22, brought back to the restaurant by police and positively identified. He was transported to police headquarters, processed and released.

Monday, December 13, Adriano Dasilva, 42, of Kearny was arrested on an outstanding Bloomfield warrant after a motor vehicle stop on Route 22. He was transported to police headquarters, processed and released after posting bail.

Fanwood
Wednesday, December 8, Wilfred Villanueva, 21, of Plainfield was arrested following a motor vehicle stop on the 100 block of South Avenue on an outstanding Scotch Plains warrant. He was transported to police headquarters, processed and released.

Wednesday, December 8, Belkis Ramirez, 41, of Clifton was arrested on an outstanding Hanover warrant after a motor vehicle stop on Terrill Road. She was transported to police headquarters, processed and released.

Friday, December 10, a resident of Beech Road reported that while he was sleeping, someone threw a rock through a bedroom window of his residence. According to police, the bedroom was unoccupied and no one was injured.

Friday, December 10, Jesson Cabrera, 25, of Linden was arrested on an outstanding Fanwood warrant after a motor vehicle stop on Watson Road. He was transported to police headquarters, processed and released.

Sunday, December 12, Kyle Mihansky, 20, of Scotch Plains was arrested following a motor vehicle accident on South Terrill Road and charged with driving while intoxicated (DWI). According to police, an officer investigating the accident detected the strong odor of alcohol coming from Mihansky and administered multiple field sobriety tests, which he failed. He was transported to police headquarters, processed and released to a responsible adult.

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All Saints’ Church to Offer Christmas Worship Services

SCOTCHPLAINS—The All Saints’ Episcopal Church has three worship services, of different styles, planned for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

On Christmas Eve, Friday, December 24, at 5 p.m., the church’s Family Service will be a “Service of Lessons and Carols.” The Christmas Story will be reenacted as Bible readings alternate with traditional Christmas music, featuring carols for the whole congregation to sing. Shepherds and angels, wise men and kings will be represented. The Youth Choir will lead the congregation in song and Holy Eucharist will be celebrated.

The Festival Service, to be held at 8 p.m. that evening, will include music from the All Saints’ Choir, a sermon by the rector, Holy Eucharist and the singing of “Silent Night” by candlelight.

Christmas Day will be celebrated on Saturday, December 25, at 10 a.m. with a quiet service of Holy Eucharist and a sermon by the rector.

The All Saints’ Episcopal Church is located at 559 Park Avenue in Scotch Plains, across from Park Middle School. Parking is available

behind the church, accessible via Church Avenue to School Place. Sohyun Ahn is All Saints’ organist and choirmaster. The Reverend Jane Rockman is rector. For more information, call (908) 322-8047 or visit the church website: allsaints-spnj.org.

Scariatis Welcome Son, Jonah Christian

James and Lindsay Scariati of Trumbull, Conn. have announced the birth of their son, Jonah Christian Scariati, on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, at 2:41 p.m. at Bridgeport Hospital in Bridgeport, Conn.

Jonah weighed 8 pounds and 5 ounces and measured 22 inches in length at birth.

The baby’s maternal grandparents are Frank and Sharon Furman of Westerly, R.I. Carl and Marjorie Scariati of Westfield are his paternal grandparents.

Jonah’s paternal great-grandparents are Edward and Helaine Alan of Delray Beach, Fla. and Carl and Rose Scariati of Lodi.

Presbyterian Church Plans Choir Concert and Services

WESTFIELD – A Chancel Choir Concert and three services on Christmas Eve will complete the holiday season at The Presbyterian Church in Westfield.

A holiday tradition, the annual Candlelight Carols Service will be held on Sunday, December 19, at 4 p.m. The Chancel Choir, which leads the regular Sunday worship services, will present Conrad Susa’s “Carols and Lullabies,” in addition to traditional holiday classics. Joining the Chancel Choir will be congregational singing led by organ, oboe and harp.

On Thursday, December 24, three Christmas Eve services will be held, beginning with the Family Worship Service at 5 p.m. featuring the children as actors recreating the nativity scene in Bethlehem.

At the 8 and 11 p.m. Candlelight Services, led by the Reverend Dr.

Ray Roberts, senior pastor, the Chancel Choir will be accompanied by organ, guitar and string quartet under the direction of Jason Klein, director of Music.

All events will be held in the historic church sanctuary, located at 140 Mountain Avenue in Westfield. All of these services and the concert will be free and open to the public. For more information on these or any other events and services during the Christmas season, call the church office at (908) 233-0301 or visit the church website: westfieldpc.org.

Oasis to Continue ‘Simply Christmas’

MOUNTAINSIDE – Oasis-Church-NJ.com will continue its “Simply Christmas” series this Sunday, December 19, by taking a deeper look at some of the main characters in the Christmas story and exploring how God desires to lift people’s spirits not just during Advent/Christmas but throughout their lives.

To highlight this theme, Oasis will use some favorite seasonal Christmas movies and shows as touch points. Oasis meets on Sundays at 11 a.m. at 1180 Spruce Drive in Mountainside.

Oasis partners with multiple charitable organizations in the area that help the poor and less fortunate. During the next few weeks, attendees are asked to bring along to church non-perishable food items that can be distributed to those in need. There will be collection points near the welcome table at the back of the church.



Aaron James Clement and Miss Kelly Amanda Seib

Miss Kelly A. Seib To Wed Aaron J. Clement

Scott and Susan Seib of Westfield and Point Pleasant Beach, N.J. have announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Kelly Amanda Seib, to Aaron James Clement. He is the son of Joseph and Pamela Clement of Holden Beach, N.C., formerly of Westfield.

The bride-to-be is a 2005 graduate of Westfield High School and has since earned her real estate license. She currently is head office administrator of RE/MAX Achievers in Chatham.

A 2004 graduate of Westfield High

School, the future bridegroom completed his plumbing apprenticeship through Middlesex County Vocational and Technical School. Currently a service mechanic with Scott Seib Plumbing and Heating in Westfield, Mr. Clement is working towards his Master Plumber’s License.

The couple plans a June 2011 wedding in Westfield.

Mobile Meals Seeks Volunteer Drivers

AREA – Mobile Meals, Inc. is in need of volunteer drivers for its local routes. A non-profit organization, Mobile Meals delivers meals to the elderly and homebound.

Routes are available Monday through Friday between 10:30 a.m. and noon. The towns include Cranford, Clark and Westfield. Interested persons are asked to call Ed Murphy at (908) 233-1581.

Temple Pray and Play To Be Held Saturday

FANWOOD – Temple Sholom of Fanwood/Scotch Plains invites families with children ages 4 and under to a Shabbat Pray and Play event this Saturday, December 18, featuring music, maracas, puppets and parachutes.

The 30-minute interactive service, led by Student Cantor Vicky Glikin, will begin at 10 a.m. and will be followed by a free bagel brunch in the temple playground. Older siblings are welcome.

“This isn’t your ordinary children’s service,” said Temple Sholom Director of Education Michelle Shapiro Abraham, who came up with the idea for an interactive Shabbat program when her own very active children were in preschool.

“It’s like where Shabbat meets Gymboree. The kids are encouraged to jump up, dance, sing and play along.”

Temple Sholom is located within the Fanwood Presbyterian Church, at the corner of Martine and LaGrande Avenues in Fanwood. Its chapel is around the corner off Marian Avenue. Attendees are asked to enter through the door on Marian Avenue marked “Temple Sholom.” For more information, call (908) 889-4900, e-mail sholom@sholomnj.org or visit sholomnj.org.

Library Features Art Work, Local Residents’ Collections

WESTFIELD – Throughout this month and January, the pen-and-ink sketches of local artist Linnea Rhodes will be displayed in the Internet Lounge of the Westfield Memorial Library, located at 550 East Broad Street.

Entitled “Places: Near and Far,” the exhibit showcases local scenes and destinations to which Ms. Rhodes has traveled. Some of her delicate, watercolor pen-and-ink sketches depict sites in downtown Westfield, Cranford and Summit while others focus on trips to New Hampshire, Fire Island, Rome and Provence.

Ms. Rhodes, who majored in art at Douglass College with a concentration in printmaking, has been sketching in ink for most of her life. She took up painting in oil in 2000 and has been working in watercolor pen and inks for the past four years.

“The immediacy of my watercolor pen and inks enable me to combine my love for intricate detail with a freer, more gestural feeling,” said Ms. Rhodes. “My goal is to capture both the look and feel of a favorite place.”

Ms. Rhodes started showing and selling her work in 2005 when she joined the Contemporary Art Group, a group of currently producing artists from Central New Jersey. She also has had solo shows in New York, Massachusetts and in five New Jersey venues.

Through December, the two display cases, in the front entrance of the library and by the New Fiction section, are housing the snow globe collection of Spencer Beals, a student at Roosevelt Middle School, and the “Christmas Cowboy” collection of Bill Masciola, also of Westfield.

The snow globes represent locations from around the United States and the world. Among the collection are tiny recreations of the Eiffel Tower of Paris, onion domed buildings from Moscow and the Capitol building in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Masciola’s collection features Santa Claus figures composed of plaster, porcelain and fabric and sporting Western cowboy themes.

The art exhibit and the display cases can be viewed anytime the library is open: Monday through Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m.

Individuals who would like to display their artwork and collections at the library are asked to call Jen Schulze, head of Adult Services, at (908) 789-4090, extension no. 4140.

‘Celtic Christmas’ On Tap Tomorrow

WESTFIELD – A Celtic Christmas Concert will take place tomorrow, Friday, December 17, from 7:30 to 10 p.m. in Assembly Hall at The Presbyterian Church in Westfield, located at 140 Mountain Avenue in Westfield.

This evening of Christmas and traditional Irish music will be geared to families and individuals of all ages.

Featured will be the musical stylings of Doug Barr (concertina), Rich Brautigam (tenor banjo and mandolin), Frank Curran (tin whistle and flute), Iris Nevins (Irish harp and guitar), Tom Dunne (fiddle and button accordion), Jennifer Mylod (fiddle and vocals) and Phil Mylod (uilleann pipes, flute and whistle).

The price is \$10 for individuals and \$20 for families. Interested persons are asked to call (908) 654-0200 or e-mail rjb351@aol.com.

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Happy Birthday, Fred

Love,
Mom & Dad



SERVICE WITH A SMILE...Founded in 1941, Mobile Meals of Westfield currently provides hot meals five days a week to its 65 homebound clients. Even with the help of over 60 volunteers who shop, pack and deliver meals, cost increases will necessitate a price rise in January. Contributions from the Westfield United Fund help offset the overall cost of programs run by Mobile Meals and 18 other social services agencies serving the Westfield community. To make a year-end gift to the annual campaign, visit westfieldunitedfund.org. Pictured, a volunteer readies meals for delivery.



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Best wishes for a happy and healthy 2011

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Celebrate Christmas

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Sunday, December 19 at 10:00 A.M.

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Friday, December 24 at 4:00 P.M.

with St. Paul’s Primary & Junior Choirs

CHRISTMAS EVE CHORAL EUCHARIST

Friday, December 24 at 10:00 P.M.

Carol Sing at 9:45 P.M.

with St. Paul’s Treble & Parish Choirs

Brass Quintet & Percussion

Works of Sweelinck, Schubert & Nestor

CHRISTMAS DAY EUCHARIST

Saturday, December 25 at 10:00 A.M.

with Homily & Carols

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The Rev’d Susan R. Ironside, *curate*

Charles M. Banks, *director of music & organist*

St. Paul’s Episcopal Church

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(across from Town Hall)

Information: 908-232-8506, EXT. 10 or www.stpaulswestfield.org

at St. Paul’s

Dr. Mira Stotland Joins Team At Advanced Dermatology

WESTFIELD – Advanced Dermatology, Mohs and Laser Surgery Center is pleased to announce the arrival of Dr. Mira Stotland. Dr Stotland is a board certified dermatologist who specializes in general dermatology for adults and children, skin cancer and cosmetic dermatology. She has received extensive training in laser treatments for hair removal, acne and scars, chemical peels, Botox treatments and filler injections including Restylane and Juvederm.

After completing her undergraduate education at the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Stotland graduated summa cum laude from the State University of New York (SUNY), Downstate Medical Center, in Brooklyn. She completed her internal medicine internship at St. Vincent’s Medical Center in New York and then returned to SUNY Downstate to complete her residency in dermatology, where she was named Chief Resident in Dermatology in her final year of training.

Dr. Stotland has published on various topics including acne treatments, sunscreen safety and laser treatments. She is an active member of the American Academy of Dermatology and of Alpha Omega Alpha, the prestigious national medical honor society.

She joins the practice of Dr. Sabatino Ciatti, Dr. Susan McFalls and Rachel Cittone, P.A.-C. Dr. Ciatti

is a board certified dermatologist and fellowship trained Mohs Surgeon who specializes in the removal of skin cancer, plastic reconstructions, dermatologic surgery, laser procedures and cosmetic dermatology. Dr. McFalls is a board certified dermatologist specializing in general der-



Mira Stotland

matology for adults and adolescents. Rachel Cittone, P.A.-C is a certified Physician Assistant who specializes in dermatology. Advanced Dermatology, Mohs and Laser Surgery Center is a comprehensive dermatology center providing patients with a wide range of medical and cosmetic services. Apart from skin screenings, general dermatology and surgical der-

matology, we offer laser treatments for hair removal, acne, nail fungus, tattoo removal, spider veins and broken blood vessels, dark and age spots. We perform chemical peels, microdermabrasion, Botox and Dysport and dermal fillers like Restylane and Juvederm. Our practice offers extended hours on Tuesday evenings, Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings. We participate with Medicare and many other insurance plans. Our office is located at 240 East Grove Street in Westfield, N.J. Call today to schedule an appointment: (908) 232-6446.

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Union County’s biggest mattress

Size Doesn’t Matter When Meeting Mattress Needs

FANWOOD – The Mattress Factory has been building and selling mattresses in your community for over 30 years. They build their inner spring mattresses two sided so they can be flipped, and have a wide range of mattresses to meet any support and comfort need you might have.

But in addition to offering the best standard mattress for the money, they can provide you with a mattress that is “outside the box,” if that is what you need. There is no mattress need too big or too small for them to handle. “We’ve made mattresses of all shapes and sizes. We build mattresses to fit many antique beds, which are not even close to standard sizes.” The

Mattress Factory can custom-build a mattress for you at a price much less than that of the national name brands.

Over the years, they have built several round mattresses over seven feet in diameter; they have built a variety of custom mattresses for their customers’ best friends, the four-legged ones, and yes, they have even built heart-shaped mattresses. Recently, they built a mattress for a customer that is the size of two king-size beds. So, if you think your request is strange, no worries, odds are they have heard it, and probably even built it before.

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cal peels.

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Utopia Salon and Day Spa is located at 349 South Avenue, East, Westfield, N.J. 07090. Please call (908) 928-0008.

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Local Attorney Douglas Pine Will Address Adoption Issues

MOUNTAINSIDE — Local resident, attorney Douglas M. Pine, is scheduled to speak in the coming months throughout New Jersey on, “Adoption: The Legal Process,” beginning with a talk at 7 p.m. Tuesday, January 11, at Camden County Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS), 4 Echelon Plaza, 201 Laurel Road, Voorhees.

A Union County stop is on Pine’s schedule for 6 p.m. Thursday, March 24, at the Plainfield YMCA, 518 Watchung Ave.

Pine will conduct additional pro bono informational sessions in eight more counties through April 2011 under the auspices of Foster and Adoptive Family Services (FAFS), a non-profit agency based in Monmouth Junction and with chapters in each New Jersey county. For a full listing of Pine’s talks, visit www.douglasPine.com

The target audience for these talks are people who are ready to adopt, foster parents, and others who are considering adoption, including relatives of children in the foster care system and gay and lesbian couples or individuals. Each session will end with a Q & A period. There is no fee to attend and registration is not required.

Pine’s agenda will include, “How the Adoption Process Works,” “Errors Often Made During the Adoption Process” and “The Rights of Adoptive Parents Following Adoption.” Some of the misinformation that continuously circulates about adoption proceedings also will be addressed.

Pine, who grew up in Livingston and has offices in Bloomfield, has been practicing law for 13 years. He began to handle private adoptions, as well as those through DYFS, when he became dissatisfied with family and divorce law. He said, “Clients often were unhappy at the conclusion of family and divorce cases, and many left the courtroom in tears. I found it

very stressful to watch such scenarios on a regular basis. There are very few segments of the legal profession where people are actually happy when a case is over. Adoption is one of them. Now when I see a client crying, it cheers me to know that their tears are from joy, not sadness.”

About the first steps in finding an adoption attorney, he said, “The adoption attorney that someone decides to hire should be the one who makes them feel most comfortable and confident.

“If someone is adopting through a licensed adoption agency or a foster care agency, that agency may provide a list of attorneys who have worked with the agency in the past. You do not need to use one of the adoption attorneys that the agency suggests, but it is often a good place to start.

“If you know other adoptive parents, you can ask them for recommendations. You also can contact local foster parents’ support groups. If you have received satisfactory representation from an attorney in another field on a previous occasion, you may wish to contact that attorney and ask for a referral.”

Pine is president of the board of trustees of Hudson County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) (www.casaojn.org).

He graduated from Fairleigh Dickinson University in 1992 with a Bachelor of Arts degree, and from Yeshiva University, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law with a juris doctor degree in 1996.

For more information about Pine, visit www.douglasPine.com. To contact him, call (973) 748-8887 or e-mail Doug@DouglasPine.com

For more information about FAFS, go to www.fafsonline.org or call (609) 520-1500 or (800) 222-0047. For more information on DYFS, visit <http://www.state.nj.us/dcf/contact/local.html>

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Mountainside resident and adoption attorney Douglas Pine will be speaking about adoption throughout New Jersey in the coming months.

Area Students Make Honor Rolls at Oratory

SUMMIT — The Guidance Office of Oratory Prep School in Summit has announced the first quarter honor rolls. Local students have made one of the three honor rolls.

High Honors requires at least an average of 90 with no grade below 85. The following boys achieved this academic status.

Grade 7: Jonathan Batista of Mountainside; Grade 9: David Batista of Mountainside; Grade 12: Mac Dolan of Westfield, Daniel Fitzpatrick of Westfield, Ryan Murray of Westfield, Raymond Thek of Scotch

Plains.

Honors designation requires at least an 85 average with no grade below 80. The following students made the Honor Roll:

Grade 10: Timothy Esteves of Cranford, David Marzano of Scotch Plains, Alex McDonald of Mountainside; Grade 11: Kenneth Mika of Cranford; Grade 12: Gus Exarhakos of Cranford.

Oratory Prep School is Roman Catholic college preparatory school that has been educating boys in grades 7 – 12 for more than 100 years.

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REMEMBER RYAN...John Halligan, right, whose son committed suicide at age 13, is greeted by Roosevelt Assistant Principal Derrick Nelson. Mr. Halligan gave a personal account of the harsh effects that bullying can have on the victim and the victim's family. His presentation was held at both Roosevelt and Edison Intermediate Schools in Westfield.

WF Students Learn How Bullying Can Cause Tragedy

WESTFIELD – Students at both Edison and Roosevelt Intermediate Schools in Westfield listened intently to guest speaker John Halligan explain how the effects of bullying resulted in his son Ryan’s suicide at age 13. Mr. Halligan was invited by the principals of both schools to speak at assemblies on November 19.

Mr. Halligan’s story, or Ryan’s Story, as it is called, began with a video showing photos of Ryan, who began life with developmental challenges. Mr. Halligan explained that Ryan was a victim of bullying since fifth grade and cyberbullying when a cruel rumor spread over the Internet the summer between seventh and eighth grade.

Mr. Halligan spoke for about 90 minutes and answered students’ questions. He reminded students that they

are on the front line and in the best position to turn bullying around by telling friends to stop. He told them, “Don’t be a bystander. Be a hero.”

“All of you are loved beyond belief,” he told the students. “Don’t ever believe that no one will miss you when you are gone. Don’t take that for granted.”

Both schools are distributing wristbands to the student body, imprinted with the words, “Remember Ryan” as a reminder of the importance of respect. Both Edison’s and Roosevelt’s PTSOs sponsored the assemblies. Parents were in attendance.

Following the morning assembly at Roosevelt, Principal Stewart Carey spoke to the sixth, seventh and eighth graders, saying, “I implore all of you to take to heart this message.”

UCC Offers Free Workforce-Skills Training

CRANFORD – Union County College (UCC) will offer free courses in basic-skills training for the employees of local businesses through a partnership of the New Jersey Business and Industry Association (NJBIA), the New Jersey Community College Consortium and the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

Through the grant-funded NJBIA Project, employees can be trained at one of UCC’s campuses in Elizabeth or Cranford, or on-site at the participating business facility.

Training is available in the following areas: Computer Applications (Windows, Outlook, Excel, Word), Mathematics and Measurement, Communications (verbal, written and customer relations) and English as a Second Language.

Open-enrollment classes are available from January through June at UCC Elizabeth and Cranford campuses. The classes are one-day sessions held from

8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. For a complete schedule, call (908) 965-2359.

Companies may also arrange classes for their employees at a time and location for their convenience, either at one of UCC’s campus locations or at the business facility.

Although these classes are provided at no charge to the company, employers must pay their employees the customary hourly wage while in training. Companies are not required to provide a minimum number of employees for training, pay for class tuition, fill out complicated paperwork or disclose financial statements.

Anyone interested in learning more about the NJBIA Project program or reserving classes for a company should contact Lisa Raudelunas Hiscano at (908) 965-2358 or e-mail her at Hiscano@ucc.edu and include contact information. Anyone e-mailing should include “NJBIA Project” in the subject line. For more information, visit ucc.edu.



SELF-DEFENSIVE-MINDED...During a self-defense class, Mary Jane O'Connor of Westfield, left, grabs Julia Lorenzo from behind. Julia eye-gouges to free herself, as Rhea Barghash, right, makes suggestions.

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Deerfield School Announces its Honor Roll

MOUNTAINSIDE – Deerfield School of Mountainside announced the following students as members of the high honor roll. Students receiving this honor earned no lower than an A- in all subjects in the first marking period.

8th Grade

Allison Alexander, Kyle Bandics, Ryan Bonk, Connor Briggs, Claire Hultburt, Morgan Kelleher, Michael Kretschman, Avery Lau, Elizabeth Leick, Isha Mehrotra, Shree Mehrotra, Samantha Mimoso, Melissa Mirabelli, Sophia Morong, Aidan O’Keefe, Luke Pluta-Ehlers, Kelly Rice, Jake Robbins, Matthew Sepe, Bryan Shum, Joseph Sichel, Max Sichel, Christopher Yang

7th Grade

Bruno Avritzer, Jeremy Berlinski, Matthew Bruno, Christina Celona, Michelle Ciepiela, Kelsey Cogan, Margaret DenBleyker, John Felitto, Ryan Healy, Frances Hisgen, Jakob Janiak, Hannah LaTourette, Katherine Parker, Daniel Pattathil, Nicole Ramos, Lia Sartorio, Anna Song, Caitlyn Splaine, Kristen Splaine, Taylor Tango, Judy Wong, Jack Young, Saverio Zipeto

6th Grade

Jenna Attanasio, Emma Bearison, Avni Bhandari, Isabella DiCosmo, Alec Duswalt, Abby Erasmus, Michelle Haramoto, Thomas Jakositz, Olivia Jennings, Eileen Li, Courtney Maier, Jessica Perotta, Cole Schneider, Jake Schneider, Connor Sottosanti, Nicole Trezza, Jason Wong

Deerfield School also announced the following students as members of the honor roll. Students receiving this honor earned no lower than a B in all subjects in the first marking period.

8th Grade

Matthew Bacho, Megan Compton, Morgan DiPalma, Evan DiPietro, Alexandra Foley, Jasmine Fong, Vincent Guerrizio, Kona Haramoto, Taylor Hendrzak, Aziza Khalfani, Jacob Khan, Mackenzie Lane, Katherine Matlin, Rachel Matterna, Emily McLaughlin, Claire Mirvis, Abigail Morrow, Maria Paparatto, Cassandra Quaglia, Matthew Schkolnick, James Streeter, Celeste Teodosio, Emily Tinnirella, Harrison Zorain

7th Grade

Logan Boenning, Angela Chong, Theodore Cole, Connor DeFranzo, Elizabeth Delano, Stephen Disko, Deiona Endaz, Austin Fong, Justin Giannone, Jacqueline Goldbeck, Ryan

WF Student Becomes Hokie Ambassador

WESTFIELD – Kathryn Abruzzo, a sophomore from Westfield majoring in mechanical engineering in the College of Engineering at Virginia Tech University, is now a central part of the university’s community, serving as a Hokie Ambassador.

Hokie Ambassadors dedicate themselves to helping others. Primarily, they provide the tours for prospective undergraduate students. The Hokie Ambassadors exemplify what it means to be a Hokie through their strong sense of dedication, service and community.

They are committed to highlighting the best qualities of Virginia Tech to future university hopefuls. The job of the Hokie Ambassadors is to learn more about Virginia Tech than the average student and be the face of the school.

Hernandez, Nadia Jlelaty, Kirk Karapetrov, Ashley Knudsen, William Lane, Julia Martelli, Georgia Minks, Griffin Morris, Emma Nordstrom, Abby Perasso, Javon Reis-Wilson, Nicole Sforza, Kelsea Siter, Colin Stevenson, Hailey Tosato, Jordan Tyler

6th Grade

Michael Balmann, Nicholas Brancatella, Emily Broda, Veronica Cardiellos, Michelle Cisneros, John Colendenski, Stefano Cotugno, Shannon Cunningham, Charles DeAngelis, Katelynn Debbie, Christopher Ferragamo, Ethan Fong, Alex Friedenberg, Zachary Goldman, Jack Grossi, Sean Hess, Matthew Hoy, Jonathan Longo, David Lun, Kaitlyn Mahon, Ava Manganiello, Isabelle Matlin, Rory McQuillan, Devin Milligan, Patrick Murphy, William Nicholson, Hannah Penington, Colette Pluta-Ehlers, Stephanie Rhodes, Trevor Rittman, Leah Saifi, Hailey Senkarik, Matthew Sylvester, Alexandra Waller, Alexander Woo, Kevin Young, Isabella Zurla

Sharks Bite at Lego Qualifying Event

WESTFIELD – The Westfield Lego Sharks, a neighborhood group of six, recently competed in the FIRST LEGO League (FLL) qualifying event at Montclair High School.

FLL is a robotics program for 9- to 14-year-olds, which is designed to get children excited about science and technology, and teach them valuable employment and life skills.

Under the direction of Brian Duggan and with program support from Matt Walker, the LEGO Sharks secured a second-place finish in the teamwork division among 24 teams, making them eligible for the state championship competition on December 11 at Mount Olive High School.

This year, the theme for FLL’s com-




SHARK ATTACK...The Westfield Lego Sharks recently competed in the FIRST LEGO League (FLL) qualifying event at Montclair High School. The Westfield Lego Sharks, pictured left to right, are Frank Duggan, Nick Walker, Jacob Saxon, Philip Touhey, Daniel Scalia and Anthony Scalia.

petition is Body Forward and is based on biomedical engineering. The teams’ robotics and research projects explored the world of biomedical engineering with the aim to “discover innovative ways to repair injuries, overcome genetic predispositions, and maximize the body’s potential, with the intended purpose of leading happier and healthier lives.”

Anyone interested in learning more about this organization or forming an FLL team of their own should visit firstlegoleague.org.

The Westfield Memorial Library presents



Harpist Merynda Adams

Tuesday, December 21
12 – 2 pm

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REACHING OUT TO THOSE IN NEED...Middle School students at The Wardlaw-Hartridge School in North Edison collected nearly 1,400 donations of non-perishable and canned good items to be sent to Starfish Food Pantry, Inc. of Plainfield at Covenant United Methodist Church for those in need. Pictured above, are: Lara Albrechtski of Linden, Charlotte Sweeney of Cranford, Anuva Goel of Piscataway, Samantha Anastasiou of Scotch Plains, Alexandra Garces of North Brunswick, Carlin Schildge of Westfield, Whitney Porter of North Plainfield, Jonathan Trilleras of Plainfield, Amaan Bhojani of Avenel and Claude Djan of Scotch Plains.

Holy Trinity Invited To Apply for Blue Ribbon

WESTFIELD/MOUNTAINSIDE – Holy Trinity Interparochial School has been notified by the Archdiocese of Newark’s Schools Office that the school has qualified to apply for the U.S. Department of Education’s National Blue Ribbon School designation.

The Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public, charter and private schools whose students achieve at very high academic levels and also schools that achieve significant progress in narrowing the achievement gaps of their students.

Holy Trinity’s aggregate scores on the 2010 TerraNova test administered to all students in grades 1-8 placed the school in the top 15 percent of schools in the nation in Reading and Mathematics. This achievement qualifies the school to apply for consideration as a Blue Ribbon school.

After the school submits its application, the Department of Education will review it and subsequently award this coveted status to 50 private and parochial schools throughout the United States. Schools included in this group will be given their awards in September of 2011.

All Holy Trinity faculty members contributed to the preparation of the application for Holy Trinity. Sister Maureen Fichner, principal, said: “All curriculum areas, statistics and five years of TerraNova testing scores fed

into the application. We are delighted to be recognized for the achievements of our students and faculty.”

Holy Trinity Interparochial School has been serving Westfield, Mountainside, and some 13 surrounding communities since 1916. The school’s Mountainside Campus houses children in Pre-K 2.5 years through Kindergarten, and the Westfield Campus serves children in grades 1-8.

Students Receive Self-Defense Instruction

WESTFIELD – On November 11, Mount Saint Mary Academy invited Joseph Conti to teach self-defense to junior students. Mr. Conti has a dojo (martial arts academy) in Dunellen.

Students received suggestions for making themselves less vulnerable to attack as well as what to do when threatened.

The majority of the program featured the demonstration of what to do if physically attacked. Students then practiced the strategies with each other. Although awkward at first, students soon enjoyed the role-playing.

The 11th graders learned several basic self-defense techniques, such as back kicks, punches, knee strikes and blocks. A response was practiced for every kind of attack the students suggested.

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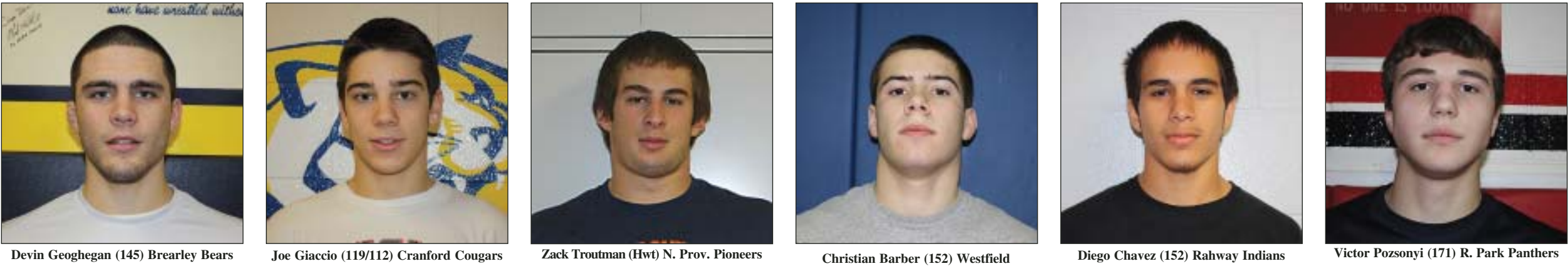
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THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Sports Section
Pages 11-15



Bears Return 3 AC Qualifiers, Highlanders Stepping Higher; Panthers Showing Strength in Union County Wrestling Scene

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

Expect “the usual suspects” to be at the top of the wrestling list for the Union County Tournament (UCT), but with a few adjustments. The Brearley Bears will be growing once again with the Governor Livingston Highlanders and the Roselle Park Panthers prowling in the background. The Cranford Cougars will still be tough, but the Westfield Blue Devils and the Rahway Indians have been stirring up their masses.

Brearley Bears:
The Bears may have graduated some strength from last year, but return three AC qualifiers and three who were knocking loudly on the door – two who placed fourth and a top-seeded wrestler who was disqualified in the semifinals. One could say they are “loaded for Bear” this year.

“We have 37 guys on the roster, with a couple of guys hurt, so we are going to be holding 35-40 on the roster this season,” Bear Head Coach Scot Weaver said. “I have a pretty good knowledge of what they have produced over the years and the talent level that is in the room. We are looking to come after it from the beginning, compete in the open tournaments in Maryland and the Beast of the East in Delaware. We are looking to win [the] states and challenge for that No. 1 spot.”



Dillon Geoghegan (171) Brearley Bears

Anthony Madonia (sr – 112): Second in UCT and District 11 at 112, fourth Region 3. Finished 29-8. UCT and district champ in 2009.

“Not only is he a quality wrestler, but he is one of the leaders of this team. He being 112 again, I think he is a problem for a lot of guys. I am curious to see how he fares against that guy from South Plainfield, Ashnault!”



Anthony Rice (119) Brearley Bears

Anthony Rice (so – 119): UCT and District 11 champ at 119. Fourth in Region 3. Finished 31-7.

“Anthony is one of the more talented kids on the team. He is very motivated this year.”

Nick Lospinoso (jr – 140): UCT champ and second in District 11 at 135. Finished 20-9.

“I am excited to see how Nicky goes after it this year. He is really motivated. He kind of ran the table at the Cornell competition camp. He beat a couple of state champs in upstate New York.”

Dan Ries (sr – 135/40): UCT, District 11 and Region 3 champ at 140. Placed eighth at AC. Finished 35-6. UCT and district champ in 2009.

“Danny is a competitor. I feel that he fell short of his potential last year.



Nick Lospinoso (140) Brearley Bears

He has beaten a lot of really good kids in the off-season and competed in a lot of big tournaments.”

Devin Geoghegan (sr – 145): UCT and District 11 champ at 145. Second in Region 3. DQed at AC. Finished 36-4. UCT champ in 2009.

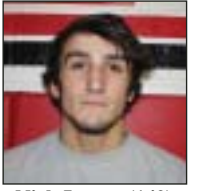
John Balboni (so – 160): Second in UCT, District 11 champ and third in Region 3 (AC qualifier) at 152. Finished 31-8.

Dillon Geoghegan (sr – 171): UCT and District 11 champ at 160. DQed in Region 3 semis. Finished 29-5. District champ in 2009.

Keep eye on Anthony Tancs (189)

Roselle Park:
The Panthers won the District 10 title and the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 1 title and finished with a 21-3 record. RP’s Wrestlers fill all the weight classes and several strong veterans return in the mix of 40 kids.

“We had a productive off-season, wrestled about 30 duals [and] competed throughout the state. Our guys did a very nice job. After losing the kids we did to graduation from last year’s team, we think the off-season enabled us to hit the ground running this season. We will be competitive. We have very good team chemistry. We definitely have a relentless pursuit of excellence,” Panther Head Coach John Ranieri said.



Nick Longo (140) R. Park Panthers

Probitas Verus Honos

John DeVito (so – 112): Third in district. Finished 22-13.

Dan Pisauro (sr – 125): Second in UCT at 125. District champ and second in Region 3 (AC qualifier) at 119. Finished 30-10.

Nick Longo (sr – 140): Qualified for Region 3 at 135. Finished 25-13.

Victor Pozsonyi (jr – 171): District champ, third in UCT and third in Region 3 at 171. Finished 32-8 at AC.

Connor Gabriel (sr – 189): Qualified for Region 3 at 189. Finished 22-6.

Keep an eye on Brandon Leary (jr – 130): Third in district. Finished 23-13. Jon Acosta (sr – 152) Third in UCT at 130. Jovanni Ramirez (sr – 119).

Westfield Blue Devils:
The Blue Devils have 35 wrestlers in the room with only two seniors, but the outlook is expected to be even better.

“Based on what we have coming back from a 9-8 season, you would think we would be OK, but I think we are going to be much better than that,” Blue Devil Head Coach Glen Kurz said. “These kids put in some time in the off-season. I think they put themselves in a position to overachieve. It’s going to be fun.”



John DeVito (112) R. Park Panthers



Troy Skibitsky (145) Westfield Blue Devils

Christian Barber (sr – 152): Second in UCT, second in District 11 and third in Region 3 (AC qualifier) at 140. Finished 24-8. District 11 champ his freshman and sophomore seasons.

“The confidence has got to be sky high after placing fifth in the Super 32, a national level tournament. He beat state champs from other states. He has beaten place winners from Jersey. It’s time for Westfield to have another state medalist.”

Mike Kalimtzis (jr – 103): UCT and District 11 champ at 103. Finished 23-7. Has a 44-16 varsity record in two years.

Troy Skibitsky (jr – 145): Second in District 11 and fourth in Region 3 at 125. Finished 20-10. Second in district his freshman season. Has a 45-19 varsity record.

“Our veterans, the guys who have been around like Christian and Mike and Troy, it’s going to be fun to watch how far they go.”

Keep eye on Ellis Opoku (jr – 152), Kieran Cline (jr – 171), Luke Gibbons (jr – 189)

Scotch Plains-Fanwood:
The Raiders have relaxed their schedule to give their younger wrestlers a chance to develop.

“We have about 40 kids in the room. All the kids are working hard.



Sean Cannon (145) SPF Raiders

They want to be there. We are working on all the fine-tuning of the moves. They are doing everything we are asking them,” Raider Head Coach John Scholz said.

Sean Cannon (jr – 145): Fourth in UCT at 130. Finished 16-12.

“He’s putting in the work, putting in the road time, and he’s looking sharp in the room.”

Mike Steinfeld (jr – 140): Third in District 11 and fifth in UCT at 140. Finished 23-14.

“This year, he is going to be the kid [others will say], ‘ah man! I am going to have to wrestle Mike Steinfeld.’”

Anthony Tufaro (so – hwt): Fourth in District 11. Finished 10-17.

“He put on a lot of muscle mass. He is biting at the bit. He wrestled all summer. He went to camp, and he has done everything that he needs to do.”

Governor Livingston:
The Highlanders are a senior-laden team with a good percentage of juniors. According to Head Coach Rick Iacono, “We feel pretty comfortable with the group and depth that we have. This is becoming a program with a good nucleus of kids. The work ethic



Anthony Tufaro (Hwt) SPF Raiders



Pat Eichner (160) GL Highlanders

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David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times

BLUE DEVIL SENIOR LEADERSHIP...The Lady Blue Devils basketball team will look to five seniors for leadership. Pictured, left to right, are: front row, Krista Embrett and Danielle Miller; back row, Martina Landeka, Katie Ponce and Charlotte Lorentzen.

MILLER, LORENTZEN SELECTED TEAM CO-CAPTAINS

Lady Blue Devils ‘Hang Hat’ On Defense for Hoop Success

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

Five seniors will head a group of multi-sport athletes that make up this year's Westfield High School girls basketball team.

"They are a good group of girls. I am really enjoying working with them. They are fast. We are really hanging our hat on defense more than ever, based on the fact that we have girls who do play other sports," Blue Devil Head Coach Joe Marino said.

Last year, the Lady Blue Devils, who finished 15-9, had a pair of standout seniors, who stole the spotlight offensively and defensively. Diana Venezia, a forward, led the team in scoring (411 points) and highlighted the season with a career-high 31 points and 17 rebounds in a win over Cranford that gave Coach Marino his 100th career victory. Amanda Markowski was outstanding across the board with 282 points and 78 assists, but she established the reputation of being the

"chief thief" with 94 steals. "We don't have one person on this team who is going to stand out as well as we have had in the past. We have a group of girls who are going to stand out. Everyone of them has the ability to score, and everyone of them has the ability to be a chief thief," Coach Marino pointed out.

Seniors Danielle Miller and Charlotte Lorentzen have been selected team captains. Miller is expected to be the starting point guard.

"Dan sees the court very well. She gives us good defense up on the defensive top. Danielle can also shoot a high percentage shot," Coach Marino said.

Lorentzen came on strong at the center position toward the end of last year.

"Charlotte plays very well inside and has the ability to score many points from the inside," Coach Marino noted.

Coach Marino is hoping that senior guard Katie Ponce will soon recover from an injury that prevented

her from playing soccer this past fall. Ponce has been known for her defense and explosive movements toward the opponents' basket.

"Katie has a lot of speed. When she comes back, she will definitely make a big difference in our defense, as well as offense, based on her ability to get to places where she is tough to cover," Coach Marino said.

Another multi-sport athlete, senior Martina Landeka will play the No. 2 guard position.

"Martina gives us some speed as well on the perimeter, she's a good little shooter, and she's a good rebounder," Coach Marino said.

Senior forward Krista Embrett will also add some zest.

"Krista is very feisty on defense and offense. She has a nose for the ball. She will find a way to get us rebounds," Coach Marino said.

Several girls from last year's successful JV team are expected to step

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



Devil's Den

Time to Get Ready For Winter Season

By **BRUCE JOHNSON**
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

There are always plenty of good reasons to take in the winter sports teams at WHS, and this season is no exception. Here are just a couple of them:

Boys swimming: The WHS vs. SP-F boys swim meet, which will be held Tuesday, 2:45 p.m., at the Westfield Y. While coach Jeff Knight's guys face a daunting schedule that also includes Bridgewater-Raritan, St. Joseph, Christian Brothers and the Delbarton School, the Raiders have their strongest team since 1999, the year they ended WHS's 42-year streak of Union County championships. In fact, this is probably the strongest SP-F in their history. WHS has won the last 11 county titles.

Knight's team, which travels to Bridgewater-Raritan tomorrow to face the defending state champs, will lean heavily on seniors Nick Boyle, Jack Lorentzen and Larry Zhang. All three are battle-tested from the state champion teams in 2008 and '09, and last year's near-state champs. Brennan Haley heads a junior class whose ability to reach past their potential will likely determine how the season plays out, guys like Alex Bond, Ryan Hobson, Larry Keating, Kevin Oster, Matt Trinkle and Tim York. Sophomores Matt Daniel, Connor Moore and Max Shin were all key members in '10. Look for freshmen Tyler Lessner, Luke McGrory and Dan Myers to contribute big time.

Mark your calendar: Thursday, Feb. 17. That's the sectional final, most likely vs. Bridgewater-Raritan, with the winner being the favorite to win the state Public A title.

Girls swimming: The girls have been in the past six state Public A championship finals (winning three); in fact, WHS has been in 12 of the last 13 state finals, missing only in 2004. Knight will take over for a team that should keep that amazing streak alive. The girls have won 18 straight county titles, including a co-title in '05 with SP-F.

Becky DeLaFuenta, who holds school records in the 200 IM and 100 fly (and should add the 100, 200 and 500 free this winter) heads an eight-girl senior class that features Kylie Bangs, Anna Fetter, Margaux Fleschler, Meg Kaveney, Charlotte Murtishaw, Alli Rose and Olivia Scrofani. Juniors Loren Ball, Jess

Cronin, Krysta Huber, Maeve Maloney and Megan Meyer, and sophs Ellie Reinhardt, Catherine Kerr and Becky Zhang have all been through the February madness. Freshmen Sarah Cronin, Caroline Baldwin, Erika Daniel and Allie McBrearty will be instant contributors.

Mark your calendar: Thursday, Feb. 17. That's the sectional final, most likely vs. Bridgewater-Raritan, and, as with the boys, the winner is the team to beat in state Public A.

Wrestling: Christian Barber is a legitimate threat for a long weekend visit to Atlantic City this march. But the 152-pounder is far from the only reason coach Glen Kurz is expecting a good year. There are returning lettermen Mike Kalimtzi (103), Ellis Opoku (140), Troy Skibitsky (145), Eric Gozdieski (161-70), Mike DeLouisa (160-71) and Kieran Cline (189-215).

Anthony Aldana (119), Pat Currie (125), Keith Peterson (130), Kevin Castillo (135), Luke Gibbons (189-215) and Kyle Kania (heavyweight) all saw some varsity action last year. And freshman Nick Velez (112) and sophomore Nick Rotondo (135) are two up-and-comers.

Boys basketball: Ryan Hess has been a regular since late in his freshman year. He comes into his senior season with 528 career points, No. 34 all-time; No. 35 (Jim Kane) and 33 (Dicky Myers) are Hall of Famer, and HOfer Brian Ciemniecki is only 42 points ahead at No. 30. Hess averaged 14 points a game last year. Guard Tim Younger also returns and will give coach Kevin Everly two extremely athletic captains.

Girls basketball: Diana Venezia and Amanda Markowski were two of the top players in school history, and they were joined at June's graduation by six other major contributors. But coach Joe Marino has a solid senior group returning, although Katie Ponce (312 points) may miss the season due to her ACL injury. But Danni Miller and Charlotte Lorentzen are veterans, and Martina Landeka's return after a year of soccer-only will definitely help. Krista Embrett and Christina Scaglioni saw extended action in 2009-10.

Ice hockey: The team features one of the best lines in school history – seniors C.J. Meyer, Nick Attanasio and Henry O'Brien. Last year Meyer had 26 goals and 32 assists (he's has 57 goals, 73 assists in his career), Attanasio had 33-23 and O'Brien 18-25. That's 77 goals and 80 assists combined. Senior Morgan Bunker (9-3-1), junior Steve Wronski (5-3-1) and soph Joe Fleschler (3-1-2) shared goalie chores in '10.

Last year's team was 17-7-4, the most wins and fewest losses in school history. Dennis Doherty moved up the

coaching ladder and returned to his New England roots; former WHS captain Brendan Hickey takes over this winter.

Bowling: Junior Lucas Cruz is the top returnee for veteran coach Mike Tirone, whose team had a so-so 13-8 mark last winter. Senior Kevin Scheurer, and juniors Adam Firestone, Eric Saunders and Theresa Carlino all won letters last winter.

BREWSTER FIELD
In memory of one of Westfield's all-time greatest fans and followers, the board of Education last week approved the naming of the baseball field behind Edison Intermediate School in memory of the late Robert E. (Bob) Brewster.

Brewster, who passed away at age 81 on Easter Sunday, April 4, 2010, was the husband of Marge and the father of four WHS athletes – Bob ('68), Brad ('70), Daryl ('75) and Roger ('83). He was also a long-time member and past president of the Westfield School Boosters Club and an original committee member of the Westfield Athletic Hall of Fame.

And he could be found watching WHS football, basketball and baseball games for the better part of the past 50 years, including his famous spot in a beach chair along the leftfield line at Edison. When not at a WHS game, he could be found in Mendham, Hopewell Valley or Mountain Brook, Ala., following his grandkids' teams.

His oldest son Bob became the WHS varsity baseball coach in 1983 and will start his 28th year in April with 474 career wins.

A dedication ceremony will be held either April 16 or 23, hopefully against Cranford or Scotch Plains-Fanwood. If you're a former WHS baseballer, or someone who was either coached by Bob Sr. or knew him, make plans to be there. Bring your own beach chair and Panama hat.

FOOTBALL FUN FACT
Seven times a WHS running back has scored five touchdowns in one football game. The first to do it was Lee Waring, against Bound Brook in 1930. Pump Vella accomplished the feat twice in 1936, against Madison and then on Thanksgiving Day against previously unbeaten and unscored upon Haverstraw, N.Y.

Then it was 30 years before Doug Murphy turned the trick up in Berkeley Heights against Gov. Livingston. Glen Kehler did it in 1973 against Middletown, and Butch Woolfolk matched it against Livingston in 1977.

The final Devil to get five TDs in a game was Paul Leifer, in 1981 against Scotch Plains-Fanwood.

Seventeen WHSers have scored four times in a game, the most recent being Brian Ciemniecki in 1994 against Kearny and A.J. Murray this fall against Watchung Hills.

HARD TO BELIEVE
The WHS girls soccer team has won 18 county championships in the 31-year history of the tournament ... but the last outright title was back in 2001 (there were co-championships in 2002 and 2006). That 2001 team had just a 10-8-1 record, but swept through the UCT with four straight wins.

IN THE GENES
It's a busy, but happy time for Jeff Kole (WHS, '76). His daughter Emily is a redshirt freshman on the North Carolina field hockey team that lost in double overtime to top-ranked Maryland in the NCAA finals. And his son JB is a 6-foot-3 right-hander up at Ridge High School who has signed to play at Villanova. (No word on whether father or son brings it harder.)

IN PASSING
Glenn Whitmore (WHS '67) died on November 11 in Pelham Manor, N.Y. Glenn was the captain and leading scorer (14.4 ppg) on the 1967 basketball team, the last one coached by Bob Sanislow. He averaged 9.0 as a junior.

Ruth (Feely) Merrill (WHS '34) passed on December 8 in New Hampshire. She was the wife of the late H. Douglas Merrill, a longtime coach in the Westfield Boys Baseball League and former board of education president, and the mother of eight children, six of whom were WHS graduates before the family moved to Hunterdon County.

DEN'S TOP FIVE
As promised last time, here's my top five sports movies of all-time. (Note: Haven't seen *Raging Bull*, so can't rate it.) Sorry to *Friday Night Lights*, *Million Dollar Baby*, *Remember the Titans*, *The Natural*, *Bang the Drum Slowly* and *Field of Dreams*, among others:

5. *A League of Their Own* (Madonna in center field, and wearing Joe D's No. 5?)

4. *Eight Men Out* (they shoulda banned the commissioner, not Shoeless Joe!)

3. *Bull Durham* (Nuke LaLoosh rocks ... and Susan Sarandon too!)

2. *Hooiers* (love Dennis Hopper's character, Shooter)

1. *Phar Lap* (watch it and see if you keep from crying) (Next time: beers.)

The Devil's Den appears in *The Westfield Leader* on the first and third (and fifth) Thursday of each month during the school year. Contact us with comments, complaints and suggestions at bj1019@aol.com. And remember, win or not, Whs4evr!



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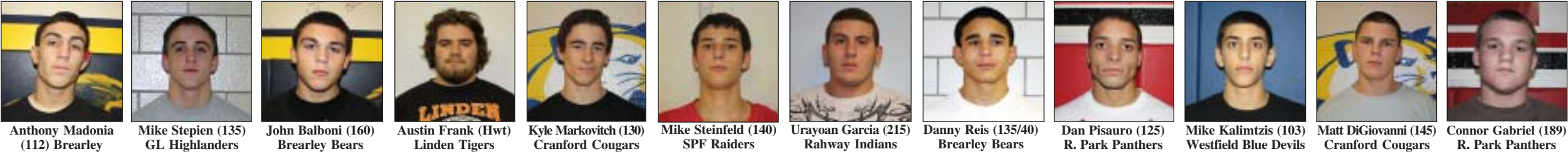


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Bears Return 3 AC Qualifiers, GL is Stepping Higher; Panthers Showing Strength in UC Wrestling

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

is terrific; it's gotten real good, really strong and we're big on loyalty. People ask me who our toughest opponent is, I tell them Governor Livingston; because it is the enemy within that defeats any program, and I'm a big believer in that."



Mike Stepien (sr. – 135): UCT champ, second in District 12 and fourth in Region 3 at 130. Finished 33-5 UCT champ in 2008, second in 2009.

Anthony DeFranco (sr. – 119): Fourth in UCT at 112. Second in UCT and district in 2009.

Pat Eicher (sr. – 160): Third in UCT, second in District 12 at 145 and finished 26-11 Second District 12 at 135 in 2009.

Joe Hoy (sr. – 140): Second in UCT, second in District 12 and finished 27-10 at 135.

Jonathan Mele (so – 103): Undersized last year, he was second in District 12 at 103. Finished 26-9. Not undersized this year.

Shane Haddad (so – 171): Third in District 12, fourth in UCT at 152 and finished 18-13

Keep an eye on 260-lb. Tony Manganiello (jr.).

New Providence:
The Pioneers are very young but will be able to fill the weight classes. "It's a very weird mix of kids. We're very young; with the bulk of our team being freshman and sophomores, but we also have experience. I cannot quite get a handle on what we will be able to do this year, but I am hoping for a .500 record," Head Coach Gary Bremer said.

Zach Troutman (sr. – Hwt): UCT champ, second in District 12, third in



Tim Terrezza (119) N. Prov. Pioneers

in District 12 in 2009.

David Dinerman (11 – 125): Third in UCT.

Cranford Cougars:
The Cougars have 36 wrestlers in the room with a good mix of upperclassmen with underclassmen.

Joe Giaccio (sr – 112): UCT, District 11 and Region 3 champ at 112 (AC qualifier). Finished 32-4. Won district title in freshman and sophomore seasons and UCT title in sophomore season. Looking to break 100 career wins and his fourth

district title.
Kyle Markovich (sr – 130): District 11 champ at 130. Finished 14-3. Won districts in freshman and sophomore seasons. Looking to win his fourth district crown and break 100 career victories.

"Joe Giaccio and Kyle Markovich should have a shot at being a four-time district champion," Head Coach Darren Torsone said.

Matt DiGiovanni (sr – 145): District 11 champ at 135. Finished 30-7.

"Matt not only had a great season last year, he had a breakout season last year, and he continued with it this summer, beating a lot of tough kids."

J.P. Christiano (jr – 160): Third in UCT and second

in District 12 at 152. Finished 28-5. Second in UCT in 2009.

"JP has battled through a couple of tough injuries. Last wrestling season, he couldn't continue on in the regions. He is excited about wrestling season, and he's improved a lot."

Keep an eye on Ian Henry (jr – 125): Took third in UCT at 119. Eric Knight (140).

Rahway Indians:
The Indians have about 50 wrestlers in the room and can fill all the weight classes.

"On the varsity, I have seven good wrestlers, and I have seven good athletes," Rahway Head Coach Fred Stueber said. "If the athletes produce as the season goes on, we should have a pretty nice team."

"The conference is stacked. We have Cranford, Linden, Elizabeth, Kenilworth, Roselle Park. I am hoping we can hold our heads up and hang with most of them."

Urayoan Garcia (sr. – 215): Third in UCT, second in District 11, second in Region 3 (AC qualifier) and finished 24-6. District 11 champ and fourth in Region 3 in 2009.

Diego Chavez (sr. – 152): Second in UCT, second in District 11, third in Region 3 and eighth at AC at 145. Finished 26-8. District 11 champ at 145 in 2009.

"Diego and Urayoan went to the Freestyle Greco nationals. They wrestled all summer, hit the weights and they are looking to have a good season."

Laziak Jones (Hwt): Second in District 11. Fourth in region. Finished 16-9.

"Small heavyweight! At the region, he was picking up 270-lb. people and putting them on their back. He got a lot of heart, good strength and great technique for a big guy."

Justin Becker (so – 140): Third in District 11.
Danny Walsh (sr. – 135): Finished 15-11.

"He's had a good off-season. I think he is going to have a good year."

Brian Pyrus (sr. – 160): Placed third in District 11.

Keep an eye on Franco Mejia (145) and Isaac Valentin (112).

According to Coach Stueber, "They are going to shock somebody."

A. L. Johnson Crusaders:
The Crusaders, under Head Coach Rick Ortega, have a small room of about 16 wrestlers, most with two or less years experience.

Brandon Santos (sr. – 152): Fourth in UCT at 145 and third in District 12 at 140 last year.

Linden Tigers:
The Tigers finished 10-7 last year and will be able to fill all the weight classes, but two of their major wrestlers have moved out of town.

"The kids put in a little more time in the off-season this year than they did last year. I feel we are on target to have another successful season," Tiger Head Coach Anthony Reinoso said.

Austin Frank (sr. – Hwt): Third in UCT, third in District 11 and finished 28-7 at heavyweight. Second in District 11, fourth in Region 3 in 2009.

"He's going into this season with over 75 career wins. He's going to be the first 100-match winner in Linden history. That is his personal goal this

year, along with qualifying for the state tournament."

Travis Foster (jr – 160): Second in District 11, fourth in UCT at 160. Finished 24-10.



Travis Foster (160) Linden Tigers

"Travis [has] over 50 wins and a ton of pins. He's really cleaned up his wrestling, as far as becoming more of a technical wrestler. He is ready to make his mark. His goal is to make it to Atlantic City as well."

Josh Sheehy (so – 112): Second in District 11.

Danny Tibere (so – 119): Third in District 11 at 112. Finished 20-8.

"He came out of nowhere!"

Keep an eye on Bobby Clark (jr. – 189) and Aziz Sarvasher (sr. – 171).
"It's his first year in this country. He wrestled freestyle in his homeland, Kyrgyzstan. He put in a lot of time in the spring and summer, and it looks like he's on track for a breakout year," Coach Reinoso said of Sarvasher.

Union Farmers:
Head Coach Dino DeBellonia has a nucleus of 60 young and competitive wrestlers.

According to Coach DeBellonia, "There is a light at the end of the tunnel."

Plainfield Cardinals:
Year in and year out, the Cardinals have few wrestlers to work with, but one in particular works quite well.

Dawud Hicks (Sr. – 171/189): First in UCT, first in District 12, second in Region 3 and sixth in NJSIAA at AC at 171. Finished 41-4. Placed second in the UCT and third in Region 3 in 2009.

Elizabeth Minutemen:
The Minutemen had one very good

wrestler, and another who qualified for the Region 3 tournament last year.

Maurice McCullers (sr. – 171/189): District 11 champ, second in UCT and fourth in Region 3 at 171. Finished 25-6.

Dondre Floyd (Jr. – 135/140): Third in District 11 and finished 20-8 at 135.

Summit Hilltoppers:
After nearly two decades in absence, the Hilltoppers will compete at the varsity level.

"This is developing into a big program as Summit now features two recreation programs and a middle school program. All is organized and paid for by the Booster Program headed by A.D. Mr. Sandor," said Head Coach Eric Wachtel.

Some notable Hilltoppers are: **130 Nick Abbott (so)** Won 20 plus JV matches UCT champ – 5-2 varsity; **135 Luis Barquero (so), 140 Andre Zeledon (so), 145 Daniel Kennedy (so), 152 Chris Chaves (jr)** Won 20 plus JV matches – 5-2 varsity, **160 Zachery Tolles (so), 171 Anthony Iarussi (so)** Eclipse club – Placed 3rd UC-

JV tournament- Great all-around athlete; rushed 900-plus yards including 10 TD's in football, **189 Manny Naves (11).**

Fred Lecomte contributed the information on Governor Livingston, New Providence and Summit.

Weight Class Certifications:
Due to certification, some wrestlers may compete in a higher weight class. The coaches suggested the weight classes that were given.

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PETERSON, KLOTZ SELECTED RAIDER CO-CAPTAINS

Lady Basketball Raiders Add Experience, Increased Speed

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

Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School girls basketball Head Coach Jen Ryan inherited a team that had no returning starters, no seniors and only two girls who had varsity experience last year. The very young Raiders took their lumps, but all have returned with plenty of experience.

Last year as juniors, Aysia Peterson and Evie Klotz, assumed responsibility as team captains. Peterson, a forward, went down with an injury early in the season then later in the season Klotz, the point guard, was sidelined, forcing Coach Ryan to reorganize her team.

"There were times when we just didn't have enough bodies to go into the game without the fear of getting hurt, because everybody had to play out of position," Coach Ryan said.

This season, Peterson and Klotz, as team captains, not only will be working the synchronization with the returning veterans, but they will also be working three talented freshmen into

the varsity lineup.

"Aysia didn't play most of the season. It's been about a year since she played with me being the coach and practicing. It has to come back to her also. With three freshmen, working them in and trying to get them into the program, it's a little bit tougher than we had expected," Coach Ryan said. "From the scrimmages that we have had so far, we still have some tweaking to do, which we knew about, but through time with the captains that we have, Aysia and Evie, I think they are going to rise to the top, and they are going to bring everybody with them."

Eight girls will be working the guard position. Klotz, at point guard, and sophomore Taylor Sebolao will be the primary ball handlers. Seniors Rebecca Kreyer and Linsey Phelan, along with sophomores Christine Monroy and Kelsey Meisch will add varsity experience, while freshmen Katie Harper and Madison Maisel will bring speed to the program.

"Evie and Taylor are my main ball

handlers. When either one of those two are out of the game, we have to be able to maintain our composure. I have to have some people, who can come off the bench and handle the ball, realize their responsibility and do it with some experience," Coach Ryan said. "We have some other kids, who are ball handlers. We are guard heavy for a reason."

"Katie [Harper] is very fast. Katie is going to be really helpful on offense this year. We still have a lot of young girls, but hopefully they will be able to step up, and we will be fine," Klotz said.

"Our guards are actually very quick and can run the ball very well," Peterson added. "I think we are a strong team this year. We have some freshmen, who could help. We are young, but we know what we are doing and we have a coach to help us."

Taking a lesson from last year, Coach Ryan said, "We have to step up our game on the defensive end. We tried to play mostly man-to-man in our scrimmages. Last year, we couldn't guard people. We want to be aggressive, and we want to make turnovers happen."

The next step would be revving up the offense and getting the ball inside to the forwards, Peterson, junior Liz Gallo, sophomores Tara Sweeney and Renee Oliver, and freshman Alyssa Ripoti.

"I believe Aysia can score on anybody. She has to be our number one option for us to be successful. She has to stay healthy, and she has to have the ball in her hands. She is figuring things out," Coach Ryan said.

"Sweeney, Renee and I all have the stuff that it takes to get inside. We are working hard in there and our guards look for us when we are open," Peterson said.

"Aysia and I like to run down the floor. Usually I like to get her the ball, because not many people can guard her under the basket," Klotz said.

"People ask, 'how good are you going to be?' You have to have a little bit of luck and stay healthy," concluded Coach Ryan.

The Lady Raiders will test their luck when they host Governor Livingston tomorrow, Friday, December 17, at 7 p.m.



Jim O'Connor (njSPORTpics.com) for The Westfield Leader and The Times

MAKING THE BIG TIME...Los Angeles Laker Derrick Caracter, No. 45, formerly of Scotch Plains, battles a New Jersey Net for position under the board.

SPF Raider Icemen Chill Governor Livingston, 4-3

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School ice hockey team held on to nip the Governor Livingston Highlanders, 4-3, on December 10 before a large crowd at the Union Sports Arena.

The Raiders had a 4-1 lead in the third period, built on two goals by junior Alex Markovits and goals by junior Andrew Skoog and freshman Tyler Hardgrove. Governor Livingston ratcheted their intensity up a notch in the waning minutes and staged a furious comeback by scoring two unanswered goals. The Highlanders pulled their goalie with less than a minute remaining, but the Raiders were able to fight them off with some brilliant saves by sophomore goalie Jason Breit and solid defense work by senior Captain Terence White and junior Kevin Lewis. Freshmen Michael Rothman and Brian Rubin did a nice job filling in for injured seniors Ed Logie, (assistant captain) and John Foti.

The Raiders are a misleading 1-4 on the season with hard losses to

county rivals Westfield (4-2) and Johnson (5-4 in the Cron Tournament) after building leads in each game. It looks like the Raiders are learning how to hold on for the win, though, and could be a contender this year in the tough Union County Ice Hockey League. The Raiders stand at 1-1 in league play.

The Raiders continued play in the annual Cron Tournament, held at Warinanco Park rink, with a game on December 14 against Parsippany. Their next league game is Saturday, December 18 against Summit at Union Sports Arena at 6:20 p.m.

Lakeland Hills ‘Y’ Relays Past FSPY Swim Girls Black Team

Three relay victories broke open a close meet for the Lakeland Hills "Y" swim team as they defeated the Fanwood-Scotch Plains "Y" (FSPY) girls black team.

In the freestyle, Erika Frazier (9-10), Sarah Cronin (13-14) and Jessica Colucci (15-18) finished first, while Macie Schaper (9-10) and Sarah Davis (11-12) took third place. Savannah Llewellyn (13-14) and Molly Gaynor (15-18) won their butterfly events, while Davis, Colucci, and Frazier each placed second.

Scoring in the individual medley were Monika Burzynski (first, 9-10), Jodie Thompson (second, 13-14), Maggie O'Connell (third, 11-12) and Hannah Markey (third, 15-18). Breaststrokers Gina Bratti (9-10), Annemarie Kearns (11-12) and Thompson each touched second, while Caroline Warren and Shannon Pyle took thirds. In Backstroke, Katy Comer (15-18), O'Connell (11-12) and Cronin each took second, while Sydney VonOehsen placed third for the 9-10s. In the final event, the 15-18 medley relay of Comer, Markey, Gaynor and Ana Bogdanovski finished first.

FSPY Head Coach Chris Karelus was encouraged by his team's continued improvement and competitive spirit against such a formidable opponent. In addition to the many events they won, the swimmers posted 26 personal-best times during the meet. Karelus was also pleased with the continued development of FSPY's youngest competitors. In the 8U age group, top three finishes were earned by Abigail DiGiorgio (first in breast, second in fly), Martha Lewand (first in free, third in breast), Grace Cull (third in back) and Nicole Kenny (third in fly).

S.P.'s Leischner Helps Mules Soccer Team

ALLENTOWN, PA. – Junior Tim Leischner of Scotch Plains helped the Muhlenberg College men's soccer team finish among the nation's elite. Leischner played in 21 of 22 games and made five starts at midfield for the Mules. His five assists were good for third on an offense that led the Centennial Conference with 52 goals.



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times

LADY RAIDER CO-CAPTAINS...Seniors Evie Klotz, left, and Aysia Peterson have been selected Co-Captains of the Raider girls basketball team.

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FSPY Boys Swimmers Fall To Wyckoff Swim Boys

The Fanwood-Scotch Plains "Y" (FSPY) boys "black" swim team fell to 1-2 with a recent to the Wyckoff "Y."

FSPY found themselves down 24 points after the first event, the Individual Medley, as 11-12 Nolan Kearns touched second, but his teammates from the other age groups finished no higher than third place. Freestyle saw some stronger results as 11-12 Eric Chang won the 100-free, 13-14 Alex Skoog had a best-time 200 to take third, and 15-18 Will Brown and Dan Napolitano touched 1-2.

In Breaststroke, 11-12s John Baron and Kearns touched 1-2 in the 50, while in the 13-14 100-breast, Tyler Lessner finished first. Greg Baliko

(15-18) notched first place as well, so FSPY entered the backstroke events still within 26 points. Ellis Sartorio (9-10) and Matt Auda (11-12) touched second in the 50-back, while in the 100-back, 15-18 Alex Burzynski touched first.

In butterfly, 9-10 Kyle Foster took first, and 11-12 Auda and Chang finished 1-2 in the 50-fly. Lessner took second in the 13-14 100-fly, and 15-18s Brown and Mike Napolitano touched 2-3, respectively.

In the 200-medley relays, Skoog, Lessner, Jeff Peart and Joseph Baron were first for the 13-14s, and for the 15-18s, Burzynski, Baliko, M. Napolitano, and Brown closed out the meet with a win.

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WESTFIELD DEJOHN U17 BOYS CHAMPS...Pictured, left to right, are: seated, Justin Williams, and standing, Leo Kleiman-Lynch, John Towey, Harry McCarthy, Sam Binetti, Pat McCusker, Neil Radley (trainer), Jyoron Cogdell, Eric Sokol, Dan Luzzi, Owen Browne, Patrick Terry, Sam DeJohn, Mark Eisenhauer, Matthew Boyle, Alex Schiffer, Ryan Morse, Dan Cetlin, Chris Stivala and Christian Menares-Brown. Missing from photo: Farris Dwyer.

WF U17 Team DeJohn Stops Scotch Plains for Soccer Title

Westfield Team DeJohn capped off an impressive Fall InterCounty soccer season with a shootout victory over Scotch Plains Team Pacaja to capture the U17 Boys championship. Westfield completed an 8-0 regular season and outscored their opponents 42-10.

Westfield blanked Edison, 3-0, in the opening round with John Towey scoring twice and Christian Menares-Brown tallying once. Keeper Justin Williams kept Edison off the board. The team advanced into the finals with a 7-0 defeat of Scotch Plains' McDermott. Striker Ryan Morse had a hat trick, while Towey, Menares-Brown, Dan Cetlin and Pat McCusker all added goals. Williams led a hang tough defense in throwing the shut-out.

Scotch Plains dominated the first 20 minutes of the championship game and Westfield owned the next 20 minutes in a scoreless first half. Leo Kleiman-Lynch notched a second-effort goal to give Westfield a 1-0 lead early in the second half, but a Scotch Plains striker got behind the

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PUBLIC NOTICE

BOROUGH OF FANWOOD
Notice is hereby given that **ORDINANCE NO. 10-22-R**

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A REVISION TO THE REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE BLOCK BOUNDED BY SOUTH AVENUE, MARTINE AVENUE, LAGRANDE AVENUE AND SECOND STREET IN THE BOROUGH OF FANWOOD, NEW JERSEY PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1, ET SEQ.

was passed and adopted on the second and final reading at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Fanwood held on December 14, 2010.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately after final passage and publication as required by law.

Eleanor McGovern
Borough Clerk

1 T - 12/16/10, The Times Fee: \$22.95

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA FAMILY DIVISION
NO: FD 04-009154-006

TRACEE CRAWFORD, Plaintiff,
v.
DONALD CALVIN CRAWFORD, Defendant

NOTICE

If you wish to deny any of the statements set forth in this affidavit, you must file a counter-affidavit within twenty days after this affidavit has been served on you or the statements will be deemed.

PLAINTIFF'S AFFIDAVIT UNDER § 3301(d) OF THE DIVORCE CODE

1. The parties to this action separated on or about April 2004, and have continued to live separate and apart for a period of at least 2 years.

2. The marriage of Plaintiff and Defendant is irretrievably broken.

3. I understand that I may lose rights concerning alimony, division of property, lawyer's fees or expenses if I do not claim them before the divorce is granted.

I verify that the statements made in this affidavit are true and correct. I understand that false statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

DATE: October 10, 2010

/s/ Tracee Crawford

Tracee Crawford, Plaintiff

Contact: Attorney for Plaintiff
Diane E. Clark, Esquire
DELTA LAW GROUP

4099 William Penn Highway
Monroeville, Pennsylvania 15146
(412) 963-8857

1 T - 12/16/10, The Leader Fee: \$37.23

Westfield defense and scored on the breakaway to send the game to overtime. A scoreless overtime resulted in a shootout.

Morse nailed the first penalty kick, then Williams made a diving save to keep the score 1-0. Eric Sokol scored next but so did Scotch Plains. Towey's shot was stopped, but Williams added another diving save and the score remained 2-1. McCusker nailed his shot to give Westfield a 3-1 lead. The next Scotch Plains shooter missed wide left to give Westfield the victory.

PUBLIC NOTICE

BOROUGH OF FANWOOD

Notice is hereby given that **ORDINANCE NO. 10-21-R**

ORDINANCE AMENDING §§1-9, 67-25, AND 184-36 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF FANWOOD TO REVISE THE CHARGE FOR COPYING OF GOVERNMENT RECORDS MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT REPORTS AND CERTAIN LAND USE RECORDS

was passed and adopted on the second and final reading at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Fanwood held on December 14, 2010.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately after final passage and publication as required by law.

Eleanor McGovern
Borough Clerk

1 T - 12/16/10, The Times Fee: \$19.89

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS RECREATION COMMISSION RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975) requires that the Recreation Commission of the Township of Scotch Plains post and maintain posted throughout the year, a schedule of its regular meetings and;

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act (c. 231, P.L. 1975) also requires that the Recreation Commission of the Township of Scotch Plains post and maintain posted throughout the year, the schedule of caucus meetings;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Recreation Commission of the Township of Scotch Plains, Union County, adopts the schedule of regular and caucus meetings listed below, pursuant to said act;

2011 REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION

8:00 P.M. SCOTCH HILLS COUNTRY CLUB
820 Jerusalem Road, Scotch Plains, New Jersey

Jan. 10	July 11
Feb. 21 (Caucus & Public)	August 8
March 14	Sept. 12
April 11	Oct. 10
May 9	Nov. 14
June 13	Dec. 5

2011 CAUCUS MEETINGS OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION

7:30 P.M. ROOM 202 MUNICIPAL BUILDING
430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey

Jan. 24	Sept. 26
March 28	Oct. 24
April 25	Nov. 28
May 23	Dec. 12
June 27	

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Recreation Commission will prohibit public attendance at any caucus meeting when items enumerated in C:10-4-12 of the Open Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975) are to be discussed;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, a copy of the schedule of regular and caucus meetings will be posted in the officially-established bulletin board in the Municipal Building Lobby, 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains.

ROBERT GIORDANELLA, CHAIRMAN
Scotch Plains Recreation Commission
Dated:

I certify that the above is a true and exact copy of resolution adopted by the Recreation Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on December 6, 2010.

ROBERT GIORDANELLA, CHAIRMAN
Scotch Plains Recreation Commission
Dated:

1 T - 12/16/10, The Times Fee: \$55.59

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WF's Nolasco Finishes College Grid Season

GETTYSBURG, PA. – Cornerback Hugo Nolasco of Westfield recently completed his freshman football season at Gettysburg College. Nolasco played in all 10 games for the Bullets and started six times. He tied for eighth on the team with 29 tackles (18 solo) and tied for second on the squad with two interceptions. Nolasco also had three pass breakups.

Gettysburg won five of its last six games to finish the season 6-4, and the Bullets tied for fifth in the Centennial Conference, going 5-4 in conference play.



GOING FOR THE BALL....Members of the UMASS and Michigan State teams of the Westfield Basketball Association reach for the ball in a recent game.

WBA Intown Fourth Grade Girls Basketball Results:

The UMASS "FireBreathers" faced the Michigan State Spartans on December 11. The "FireBreathers" received outstanding defensive performances from Rachel Bowman, Maggie Kelly, Julia Rickert, Nicole Murray, Olivia Shields and Anna Ronk. Offensively, Emily Wistner, Anna Bowman, Kendall Robertson, Nora Brindle and Sophia Vera scored baskets.

The Spartan offense delivered a balanced scoring attack. Maddy Covington and Mary McHugh displayed the ball control and precise passing necessary to allow Caitlin Amman to produce accurate outside shooting. Ireland Applegarth displayed excellent defense and added a smooth controlled layup. Genevieve Howell added a number of stolen passes and rebounds. Lily Maz delivered a 1-2 punch with long-range shooting and hard-driving lay-ups.

In Game 2, Notre Dame battled Cincinnati. Julia Romano and Anne Friel led Notre Dame offensively, with points also contributed by Cait Haviland, Julia Salvato and Lauren Triarsi. Brianna Hatch, Laura Jean Calcagno, Briana Whitman and Ellie Curry contributed tough defense and timely rebounds.

The Cincinnati Bearcats focused on developing basic dribbling and passing fundamentals, along with introducing a few plays. Erin McDonald produced the Bearcats' first points only seconds into the game. Nicole Sheuermann, Mara Rao and Ava Maurillo forced key turnovers. Sarah Landriau and Daley Brown showed off their dribbling skills and scored in the paint. Grace Gruters and Olivia

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BY THE BOROUGH OF FANWOOD

RESOLUTION 10-12-160

CONTRACTOR: T & M Associates; Eleven Tindall Road, Middletown, New Jersey 07748

NATURE OF SERVICE: Engineering Services, Caboose Restoration Project
DURATION: Period ending November 30, 2011

AMOUNT: Not to exceed \$5,000.00 (Interim Fee)

A copy of this resolution and contract relating to the services are on file and available for public inspection in the Municipal Clerk's office.

Eleanor McGovern,
Borough Clerk

1 T - 12/16/10, The Times Fee: \$18.36

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS PLANNING BOARD

WHEREAS, Article 4:05(A) Land Use Ordinance of the Borough of Fanwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey required the Planning Board to determine the date, time and locations of the monthly meetings through January of the next year when it organizes in January.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Planning Board of The Borough of Fanwood that it will meet at 7:30 PM, in the lower level meeting room of the Borough Hall, 75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey on the following dates:

2011

AGENDA MEETINGS

* January 18
** February 14
March 14
April 18
May 16
June 13
No Agenda Meeting
No Agenda Meeting
September 19
October 17
No Agenda Meeting
No Agenda Meeting
January 17, 2012

REGULAR MEETINGS

January 26
February 23
March 23
April 27
May 25
June 22
* July 27
August 24
September 28
October 26
* November 14
* December 19
January 25, 2012

and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be prominently posted on the bulletin board in the Borough Hall, mailed to The Times and The Courier News, filed with the Borough Clerk and mailed to any person requesting same in accordance with the requirements of the Open Meetings Act.

* No Agenda Meeting this month. Regular Meeting scheduled for Monday
** Due to conflict with legal holiday, this Agenda Meeting scheduled for Tuesday.
1 T - 12/16/10, The Times Fee: \$55.08

CLASSIFIEDS

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Experienced College Student w/car available days, nights, weekends to babysit. Available 12/20/10 - 1/21/11. Call (908) 447-1172. Refs available

FSPY 30+ Men's Hoops Holds Second Annual Draft Night

The Fanwood-Scotch Plains "Y" (FSPY) 30+ Men's Basketball League held its second annual draft night on November 30 and conducted its pre-season scrimmages on December 5.

The league utilized a unique hybrid franchise-player and blind-draft selection process. The process continues the league's effort to establish parity and keep players rotating through the league and playing with a variety of teammates to promote collegiality and sportsmanship.

The five teams with 40 players represented a 20-percent growth over the League's inaugural season. In the pre-season scrimmages, all five teams had the opportunity to play three or four 15-minute mini games. The regular season was slated to open on December 12.

ember 12.

Late registrations are still being accepted on a first-come, first-served basis and added to a wait list. Forms can be obtained at the Fanwood-Scotch Plains "Y," located at 1340 Martine Avenue in Scotch Plains.

Last season, the league played a nine-game regular-season schedule with a single-elimination playoff. This season, the league will play a 12-game regular season followed by playoffs.

Games are scheduled for the FSPY's Martine Avenue facility Sunday mornings before "Y" youth games are played. Games will be 40 minutes running time, with two 20-minute halves. For more information about the league, please call the Fanwood-Scotch Plains "Y" at (908) 889-8880.



UNDEFEATED...The MountainSide U10 Mustangs finished the regular season with a 10-0 record and capped off the playoffs with a 16-2 victory over the South Plainfield Bombers in the championship game. The Central Jersey Amateur Baseball League is comprised of both Town and Club teams locally. Town teams were South Plainfield, Basking Ridge, Westfield, Long Hill and Cranford, while area Club teams were the Bulldogs, Gators and The Zone.

PUBLIC NOTICE

BOROUGH OF FANWOOD

Notice is hereby given that **ORDINANCE NO. 10-17-R**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 325 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF FANWOOD TO FURTHER REGULATE RECYCLING IN THE BOROUGH

was passed and adopted on the second and final reading at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Fanwood held on December 14, 2010.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately after final passage and publication as required by law.

Eleanor McGovern
Borough Clerk

1 T - 12/16/10, The Times Fee: \$17.34

PUBLIC NOTICE

BOROUGH OF FANWOOD

Notice is hereby given that **ORDINANCE NO. 10-19-R**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE RECREATION COMMISSION TO CONDUCT AN ANNUAL PUBLIC AUCTION TO PERMIT THE LEASE ON AN HOURLY BASIS OR DAILY BASIS OF A PORTION OF THE BOROUGH PROPERTY I.E., THE RECREATION BUILDINGS IN FOREST ROAD PARK AND LAGRANDE PARK

was passed and adopted on the second and final reading at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Fanwood held on December 14, 2010.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately after final passage and publication as required by law.

Eleanor McGovern
Borough Clerk

1 T - 12/16/10, The Times Fee: \$21.93

PUBLIC NOTICE

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT, BUREAU OF CONSTRUCTION SERVICES 1035 PARKWAY AVENUE, PO BOX 605 TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

Notice is hereby given that bid proposals will be received via the Internet until 10:00:59 A.M. on 1/4/11, downloaded, and publicly opened and read, from Bidders classified under N.J.S.A. 27:7-35.1 et seq.; in the CONFERENCE ROOM-A, 1st Floor F & A Building, New Jersey Department of Transportation, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Trenton, New Jersey 08625; for:

Maintenance Regional Milling Contract, North - 2011, Various Location in the Counties of Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Morris, Passaic, Sussex, Union, and Warren (including and North of Route57); 100% State; DP NO: 10486

Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127 N.J.A.C 17:27. The awarded bidder must provide a completed Contractor Certification and Disclosure of Political Contribution Form(s) according to both P.L. 2205, C.51 and Executive Order No. 117 within fourteen (14) days from the award date. Executive Order No: 117 is effective on November 15, 2008. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:32-44, all bidders must be registered with the New Jersey Department of Treasury, Division of Revenue, Business Registration, as of the date of bids. The awarded bidder must provide proof of valid business registration within fourteen (14) days from the award date. Pursuant to the "Public Works Contractor Registration Act", N.J.S.A. 34:11-56.48 et seq. (P.L. 2003, c. 91), all bidders must be registered with the New Jersey Department of Labor, Division of Wage and Hour Compliance, at the time of bid. The awarded bidder must provide proof of PWCR within fourteen (14) days from the award date.

The Department, in accordance with Title VI Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252 U.S.C., 49 C.F.R., Parts 21 and 23 issued pursuant to such Act, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 will afford minority business enterprises full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not discriminate against any bidder on the grounds of race, color, sex, national origin, or handicap in the project award.

Plans, specifications, and bidding information for the proposed work are available at Bid Express website www.bids.com. You must subscribe to use this service. To subscribe follow the instructions on the website. Fees apply to downloading documents and plans and bidding access. The fee schedule is available on the web site. All fees are directly payable to Bid Express. Plans, specifications, and bidding information may be inspected (BUT NOT OBTAINED) by contracting organizations at our Design Field Offices at the following locations:

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CRANFORD COUGAR HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

TROTTER, PAPANDREA SELECTED TEAM CAPTAINS

Cranford Cougar Boys Inherit Beefed Up Schedule in B’ball

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

Outstanding achievement had its upside when last year’s Cranford High School (CHS) boys basketball team tapped into the CHS all-time record list.

In 1970, the Kansas City Chiefs won Super Bowl IV, the Weatherman organization planted a bomb that killed three members at a New Jersey military dance, the Beatles disbanded, Apollo 13 made a miraculous emergency return from the moon, the Ohio National Guard killed four student protesters at Kent State University, President Nixon lowered the voting age to 18, the Baltimore Orioles won the World Series and the Cranford High School boys basketball team won a conference title.

Forty years later, in 2010, the Cougar boys nudged through many very close games, winning some and los-

ing some, but battled to become the Union County Conference Mountain Division champions, finishing their season with a 13-9 record.

But the downside of such an outstanding achievements has been that the Cougars have been catapulted into an intensely competitive conference.

“That’s the decision that the people up above made and, mathematically, they felt like we belonged. We are going to have to play the schedule we have,” Cougar Head Coach Ryan Huber said. “We can’t worry about why we are playing this team, why we are playing that team. We are going to go at everybody. We are going to give it our best shot.”

The Cougars graduated four seniors in Will Green, Kendall Grier, Nick Pace and Greg Goode, who spent a majority of their time on the court, and return only one starter in senior

Sean Trotter.

“We only return one starter in Sean Trotter. Unfortunately right now, he’s banged up a little bit, coming off some injuries during football season. Hopefully, he will get back before the season starts. We returned a couple of guys, who played last year, gave us some minutes. Joey Papandrea, Ryan Fitzsimmons, Mark Osofsky! So we are looking for our seniors to be leaders this year,” Coach Huber said.

Trotter, Papandrea and Osofsky will be at the guard positions, while Fitzsimmons is expected to be a forward. Trotter and Papandrea have been selected as team captains.

“They have been great leaders, but really, every senior have been great for us. We have expectations of what a Cranford basketball player should be, and we are getting there,” Coach Huber said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
LOOKING FOR SENIOR LEADERSHIP...Cranford boys basketball Head Coach Ryan Huber is looking to his seniors for team leadership. Pictured, left to right, are: seniors Sean Trotter, Joey Papandrea, Mark Osofsky and Bryan Fitzsimmons.

Boys Winter Track will be in the December 23 issue



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
READY FOR ANOTHER GREAT SEASON...The Cougar girls are ready for another great season in winter track. Pictured, left to right, are some of the veterans plus a rookie: front row; Rebecca Shimonov, Bridget Miller, Natalie Englese, Ronnie Miller and Gillian Burke; back row, Ana DiGiovanni, Kate Evans, Megan Schetelich, Megan Byrnes, Kristen VanBenschoten and Devon Cacchione.

ENGLESE, GRANT, & OTHERS WILL BE WORKHORSES

Lady Cougars Show Strength In all Areas of Winter Track

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

Contagiousness, the good type, has spread throughout the entire Cranford High School girls winter track team. The athletes are getting better and more and more youth have been drawn to the program, which boasts nearly 100 competitors in the combined girls and boys teams.

The Lady Cougars are expected to be strong across the board, but especially in the sprints, hurdles and mid-

distance events, and leading several of those events will be senior Natalie Englese, last year’s sectional and group champion in the 400 meters, who will compete in a variety of events, including the 200 and 800. During the fall, instead of playing soccer, she ran cross-country.

“She has dedicated herself by doing cross-country in the fall. Her goal is to be the fastest girl in New Jersey, indoor and outdoor, in the 400. She wants to win the Meet of Champions,” Cougar Head Coach Peter Kane said. “When the occasional 200s come up, she will run the 200. It’s not

contested at the state level [indoor]. She will also be a part of the 4x4 and the sprint medley. And we are going to stick her in a bunch of 800s too. That will build stamina and increase her strength.”

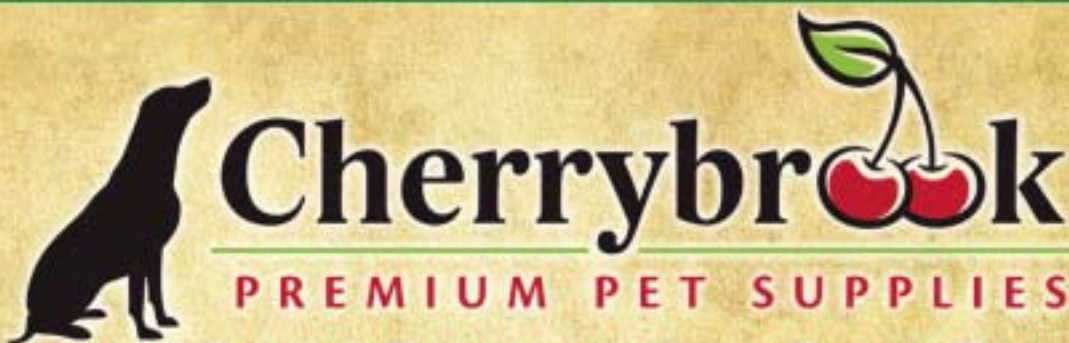
Kelly Burke, a multi-event athlete who an All-American in the triple jump and a state champion in the pole vault, has graduated, but there still remains plenty a depth that would like to fill her shoes.

“We lost our only senior in Kelly [Burke]. It is a big void, but we have a lot of people, who are stepping into

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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David B. Corbin (December 2009 files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*
LOOKING FOR AN OPEN TEAMMATE.... Cougar junior Bryan Fitzsimmons, who had a rebound, a steal and a blocked shot, looks for an open teammate in the game against Governor Livingston (December 2009).

Cougar Boys Inherit Beefed Up Hoops Schedule

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Trotter's ability to hit from the outside made him an especially dangerous shooter and his catlike quickness enabled him to be a chief thief, which included a career-high six steals in one game. Offensively, his best game came in the Union County Tournament when he banged in a career-high 22 points against Rahway. However, he has been in the process of shaking off shoulder injuries sustained from football season.

"Once he becomes healthy, he's a gamer. He will run through the wall if that means us winning a game," Coach Huber said of Trotter.

Team height, especially in such a jacked-up conference, could put the Cougars at a disadvantage.

"I told the kids that we are going to have to come out. We can't take punches. We've got to deliver

punches," Coach Huber added. "We are strong for here [Cranford], but this year stepping up, we have to be a little bit stronger with Plainfield and Linden and St. Patrick's, Union, Elizabeth, Westfield. There's no day off."

The Cougars may not dazzle their opponents with their inside shooting, so another strategy may be necessary.

"We are going to be mostly a perimeter team. Everybody can shoot the ball from the perimeter. That's really what we have been working on," said Coach Huber, who may have some additional offensive secrets up his sleeve. "We are going to rebound. We are going to defend."

Junior forward Kurt Rutmeyer and sophomore forward Reggie Green could help in the rebounding and inside shooting department, while junior guard Sean Babos could add

some defensive talent.

"Some of our new guys, who are going to step up, Sean Babos practiced with the varsity last year. He really didn't get a lot of time, but he is a tremendous player. He's coming into his own. Reggie Green came up, went through the year with the varsity program. The tremendous upside is Reggie's biggest thing is he has just got to get his own confidence. Kurt is an athlete. Pitcher on the baseball team, lineman [football]! He is a competitor. He does everything we say. He works hard. He plays hard," Coach Huber said.

Sophomore forward Chris Fulinosz, presently sidelined with a thumb injury, will add power under the board, while junior Eric Garguilo and sophomores Stephan Fevorchak and Chris Wills could add perimeter shooting and strong defense at the guard positions.

The Cougars will host Roselle in their season opener on Friday, December 17, at 7 p.m. Then on Wednesday, December 22, they will host Westfield at 7 p.m.

Lady Cougars Show Strength in Winter Track

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

places in different spots. Brianna Grant basically followed Kelly around all last year, so she is the next one to fill the shoes there. There will be opportunities. She will be triple jumping in the Armory in New York," Coach Kane said.

Juniors Gillian Burke, Rebecca Shimonov and Megan Schetelich, along with Grant, a sophomore, will compete in the 55 hurdles and shuttle hurdle events, as well as the 200 meters. In addition to Englese, juniors Kate Evans and Devon Cacchione, and sophomore Kacy Donohue will compete in the 200 and 400. Englese, Schetelich, Evans and sophomore Cara Costa are expected to be the primary runners in the 4x400 relay.

"Gillian Burke, who was part of our state championship relay team in the shuttle hurdles, Rebecca Shimonov was part of that team, Bryanna Grant was a part of that team. Back with us too with Rebecca, [are] Megan Schetelich and Bryanna were All-Americans at the outdoor nationals at Greenboro, North Caro-

lina," Coach Kane pointed out.

That group could be considered real workhorses.

"They will go as far as the 400 down to 4x4[00], 2x2[00], sprint medley, individual hurdles and shuttle hurdles," Coach Kane said. "Our 400/800 crew is very solid. Their goal is, as a team, to win the section championship, to win group championship. Two of our girls have gotten state and national awards. Winning is contagious, and they are all signing up."

Cougar Snack:

Chatham Icemen Chill Cougar Boys, 7-3

It was Cougars against Cougars on December 11 when the Chatham Cougars ice hockey team defeated the Cranford Cougars, 7-3, at the Union Sports Arena. Danny Casey flicked in three goals for 3-0-1 Chatham. Jake Zimmerman scored two goals and Eric Pawlick scored once for 3-1 Cranford.

The Cougars have beefed up their middle distance event with the addition of freshman Ana DiGiovanni to junior veterans Emily Lupin and Shannon Maher.

"Ana played soccer in the fall. You tell her how to do something once it's done. She is a very hard worker. She is very committed. The other girls have taken to her quite nicely. She is going to fit in very well to our relays and our individuals," Coach Kane noted.

The Lady Cougar are also quite strong in the distance events with seniors Bridget and Ronnie Miller in the 3,200 meters, and junior Megan Byrnes and sophomore Paulina Przydzial will compete in the shot put.

Grant and Schetelich will also compete in the high jump. Junior Kristen VanBenschoten, senior Nicole Somma and sophomore Paulina Przydzial will compete in the shot put.

The Cougars will be competing at the Bishop Loughlin Games at the New York City Armory this Saturday, December 18, beginning at 9 a.m.



David B. Corbin for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*
COUGAR ATHLETE OF THE WEEK....Nick Kalafatis, a sophomore on the varsity swim team, is currently undefeated in eight races this season.

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Barbara Jean Kaeding, 87, Was Artist, Teacher, Organist and Choir Director

Barbara Jean Watson Kaeding, 87, passed away peacefully at home on Thursday, December 9, 2010, after a brief illness. Her husband, Warren William Kaeding, preceded her in death.

She is survived by her sister, Joyce Shore; four daughters and their husbands, Jeanne Kaeding and John Kapecki, Jennifer and Kevin Blair, Carolyn and Louis Seivard and Margaret and Bucky Black; her grandchildren, Steven Seivard and his wife and daughter, April and Olivia, Jeffery Seivard and his wife, Rachel, William Black and Raymond Black; her brother-in-law and his wife, Harold and Jean Kaeding, and also nieces and nephews.

Her lifelong interest in art and music led her to earn a master's degree in music at UCLA. Although her primary goal was to raise her family, she also held positions of public school music teacher and organist and choir director at several churches. Later in life, she became a painter, and bought her first computer at age 80.

She developed an intense interest in her family history and history in general. Her warm personality and interest in life will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, December 14, at the West

Chapel of Bennett Funeral Home, 11020 West Broad Street in Glen Allen, Va. Interment followed at Greenwood Memorial Gardens.

Contributions may be made in Barbara's memory to Voice of the Martyrs, www.persecution.com or Samaritan's Purse, www.samaritanspurse.org.

December 16, 2010

Marie Harnett, 93

Marie Harnett, 93, died on Sunday, December 12, 2010, at Overlook Hospital in Summit, N.J.

Born in Jersey City, N.J. on June 29, 1917, Marie was a longtime resident of Westfield, N.J.

Marie was predeceased by her loving husband, John, in April 1985.

She is survived by her daughters, Virginia Holihan and Anne-Marie McCarthy; her son, John, and her grandchildren, Deirdre, Lauren, John William and Matthew.

Always an avid reader and music enthusiast, Marie was ready to discuss any topic, any book, any time. She will be greatly missed by all. Our favorite memory of Marie will always be her response to the question, "What would you like?" "Just a kind thought."

The Dooley Funeral Home of Cranford, N.J. is handling the arrangements.

December 16, 2010

Stephen P. Bredin, 88, Active Volunteer; Worked With UN and Darden School

Stephen Price Bredin, 88, of Charlottesville, Va. passed away on Monday, December 13, 2010, after a long battle with Parkinson's.

He was born September 17, 1922 in Philadelphia, Pa. to the late artist Rae Sloan Bredin and Alice Rachael Price Bredin, of New Hope, Pa. Also preceding him in death is his son, Stephen Denison Bredin.

Surviving him are his loving wife of nearly 60 years, Harriet Sanford Bredin, and their children, Alice Bredin-Karny and her children, Matthew and Meredith, of Vienna, Va.; Katherine Bredin Mazzocco, her husband, Raymond, and their children, Lindsay, Elizabeth, Carolyn and Raymond, of Winnetka, Ill.; Elizabeth Gresham Bredin Lowe, her husband, James, and their children, Katherine and James, of Takoma Park, Md.; John Sloan Bredin, his wife, Elizabeth, and their children, Phoebe, Stephen and David, of Cairo, Egypt, and Virginia Bredin Gillock, her husband, C. Buckley, and their children, Charles, Price and Harrison, of Staunton, Va.

Stephen was a veteran of World War II, when he served in the U.S.



Stephen P. Bredin

Army as a linguist. He later worked for the Creole Petroleum Corporation, which later became the Exxon Corporation. He worked with the United Nations in New York and later the Darden School at the University of Virginia. He also helped in the formation of Worksource Enterprises, which helped underprivileged children, where he was a board member for 10 years.

In addition to spending time with his beloved family, he enjoyed volunteering for the event staff at UVA football games, as well as with the Thomas Jefferson chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, of which he had been president. He also enjoyed painting watercolors of the mountains of western Virginia and sailing in the waters of the Chesapeake.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. tomorrow, Friday, December 17, 2010, at Saint Paul's Memorial Church in Charlottesville.

In lieu of flowers, Stephen requested that memorial contributions be made to the Saint Paul's Memorial Church Discretionary Fund, 1700 University Avenue, Charlottesville, Va. 22903.

December 16, 2010

Literacy Volunteers to Hold Tutor Training Workshop

AREA – Literacy Volunteers of Union County (LV-UC) is a non-profit organization that recruits and trains volunteers to work with adults seeking to improve their reading, writing or English conversation skills.

New Tutor Training Workshops provide new volunteers with the skills needed to work with adult learners in Union County. The next workshop will be held on Saturdays, January 29, February 5 and 12, at the Linden Public Library, located at 31 East Henry Street in Linden. A snow day of Saturday, February 26, is scheduled if needed. Each session will begin at 9:30 a.m. and conclude at 2:30 p.m.

Through LV-UC's network of volunteer tutors, adult learners in the program have been able to get better


jobs and become more productive members of the community, according to the organization. Although tutors meet at libraries throughout Union County, the greatest need for tutors is in the towns of Elizabeth and Plainfield.

To become a volunteer tutor, individuals must be at least 18 years old. Tutors need not have prior teaching experience, and knowledge of a foreign language is not required. For more information, visit lvaunion.org.

To register for the Linden workshop, click on the link in Upcoming Events. There is a \$40 non-refundable registration fee. Need-based scholarships are available to cover this charge. Individuals also may register by calling Susan at (908) 755-7998 or e-mailing susan@lvaunion.org.

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— Obituaries —

Lena Serratelli, 90, Played the Piano; Was Devoted to Family and Her Faith

Lena Rossi Serratelli passed away on Wednesday, December 8, 2010, peacefully at her home in Scotch Plains surrounded by her husband, Jack, and children.

Born on May 15, 1920 in Penna de Pescara, Abbruzzi, Italy, Lena was raised in Newark with her two sisters, Lydia Patti and Jennie Canale. She loved playing the piano, and as a young woman saved to buy herself a Steinway.

Lena worked as a dental assistant until she met her husband, Jack, and started a family, raising five children in East Orange before moving to Westfield in 1971 to raise a sixth.

Her greatest joys were her family and sharing her devout faith. She attended church daily and loved visiting with her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Lena is survived by her sister, Jennie Canale; her husband of 63 years, Jack Serratelli, Sr., and their children and spouses, Maria and Dr. William Smith of Binghamton, N.Y., Angela and Dr. Arthur Pecoraro of Westfield, Jacqueline and Thomas Lygate of Westfield, Jack Serratelli,



Lena Serratelli

Jr. of Pennsylvania, Peter and Sara Serratelli of Randolph and Dean and Christina Serratelli of Westfield.

She also leaves 11 grandchildren and their spouses, Anthony and Janice Pecoraro, Christine and Ryan Wolfram, Carolyn and Paul Tomasello, Alena Lygate, Pamela and Jeff Boccia, Mary Lygate, Peter and David Serratelli and Alex, Nicholas and Catherine Serratelli. Also surviving are her great-grandchildren, Zachary Boccia and Leo Tomasello.

In April, Lena and Jack jointly celebrated their 90th birthdays at a party at Echo Lake Country Club in Westfield with family and friends.

A Funeral Mass was held on Monday, December 13, at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Roman Catholic Church in Scotch Plains. Interment was at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in memory of Lena Serratelli to the Overlook Hospital Foundation.

December 16, 2010

Trinity Fund-raising to Aid Malaria Prevention Effort

CRANFORD – The Trinity Episcopal Church, located at the corner of North and Forest Avenues in Cranford, is raising funds to support the Episcopal Relief and Development's Malaria Prevention Program.

Every day, 2,000 children under 5 years of age die from malaria in sub-Saharan Africa, with nearly one million people dying each year from the disease. Malaria is caused by a parasite transmitted through the bite of an infected mosquito, usually at night while people are sleeping. Sleeping under insecticide-treated nets protect people from contracting malaria, yet most people do not have access to one.

The Episcopal Relief and Development's Malaria Prevention Program provides insecticide-treated nets, training on how to use them, and mosquito control techniques to remote African communities. This simple device, combined with training on how to effectively use it, costs only \$12.

Trinity Episcopal Church's Outreach Committee has decided that the holiday Giving Tree donations from parishioners will be given to the Episcopal Relief and Development Malaria Prevention Program.

"As Christians, we have made a commitment to God to serve one another," said the Reverend Dr. Gina Walsh-Minor, rector of Trinity Episcopal Church. "The Malaria Prevention Program gives us the opportunity

to live up to that commitment with a lifesaving gift to people who need it. We invite everyone to join us."

Contributions allow Episcopal Relief and Development to provide nets for people with the greatest need. So far, NetsforLife® has distributed more than one million nets across 12 countries. The goal is to deliver seven million more nets in the next seven years.

To contribute, individuals may mail their checks to: Trinity Episcopal Church, 205 North Avenue, East, Cranford, N.J. 07016. Checks should be made payable to "Trinity Episcopal Church," with the designation "Episcopal Relief and Development Mosquito Netting Project." Trinity asks that contributions be made prior to Christmas.

Baptist Church Posts Christmas Worship

SCOTCH PLAINS – The Terrill Road Baptist Church will celebrate Christmas with three special services this month.

The adult choir will present "What Child is This?/This is Our God" during morning worship this Sunday, December 19, at 10:45 a.m. Using narration and song, this program will tell the story of Jesus' birth. Prior to that service, a special breakfast will be served at 9:15 a.m. All are invited to come to breakfast and stay for the worship service.

A popular Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be held on Friday, December 24, at 7 p.m. with carol singing.

The day after Christmas, Sunday, December 26, the pastor and deacons will deliver a first-of-its-kind "tag-team" sermon at 10:45 a.m., looking at three ways all individuals should respond to Christmas.

For more information, call the church office at (908) 322-7151. The Terrill Road Baptist Church is located at 1340 Terrill Road in Scotch Plains. William C. Page is pastor.

Club is Saving Lives 'One Leaf at a Time'

WESTFIELD – The Westfield High School Oddjobs for Charity Club has been hard at work through the fall raking leaves to raise money for charity. The club was founded last year by a small group of sophomores looking to make a difference in the world. Through shoveling, raking and other chores, the club, with a variety of other fundraisers, raised almost \$2,000 last year.

The students' goal is to raise \$5,000 by the end of their senior year to fund the construction of a clean-water well in Africa. Although the raking season is almost over, the club is open to any miscellaneous chores and also offers a snow-shoveling service. Anyone interested in donating to the club or interested in its services may contact oddjobsforcharity@gmail.com.

Dorothy Ann Larner, Local Resident; Was Wife, Mother and Grandmother

Dorothy Ann Larner (née Burger) of Westfield passed away on Tuesday, December 7, 2010, at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital at Rahway, surrounded by her loving family.

Dorothy grew up in Yonkers, N.Y. and graduated from Roosevelt High School in 1942. While attending a USO dance in Yonkers during World War II, she met her future husband, John Edward Larner. They were married on June 19, 1948 while John completed his studies in chemical engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y. Together they moved to Staten Island, N.Y. before settling in Westfield in 1956, where they raised their family.

Her husband, John, her daughter,

Elizabeth Ann Larner, and her brother, James Burger, predeceased her.

Surviving are her children, John Francis Larner of Getxo, Spain, Jeanne Marie Sullivan of Warwick, R.I. and Robert Edward Larner of Westfield, N.J. She also will be deeply missed by her brother, Robert Burger of Vero Beach, Fla., and her beloved grandchildren, Kerry Jeanne Sullivan, Margaret Elizabeth Meder and Abigail Angelica Larner.

Services were held on Saturday, December 11, under the direction of the Dooley Colonial Home, 556 Westfield Avenue in Westfield.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Plainfield Area Humane Society, 75 Rock Avenue, North Plainfield, N.J. 07063.

December 16, 2010

Maria Mormile, Holy Trinity Member; Known For Her Sunday Family Meals

Maria Anna Mormile of Westfield passed away after a long illness on Monday, December 13, 2010, surrounded by her loving family.

Born and raised in Grottaminarda, Italy, Mrs. Mormile came to the United States in 1960 and resided with her family in Westfield. Maria was selflessly devoted to her family, and her Sunday family meals were legendary.

She was a parishioner of the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church in Westfield and leaves many friends who will miss her.

Maria was predeceased by her beloved husband, Antonio, and her dear son, Michael Angelo.

She is survived by her loving sons, John and his wife, Diane, and Anthony and his wife, Krupskaya. Maria also will be deeply missed by her grandchildren, Marisa, Anthony,

Maria Sophia and Gianna, and by her brothers, Antonio and Silvio, along with many nieces and nephews in Italy.

Relatives and friends are kindly invited to visit the Dooley Colonial Home, 556 Westfield Avenue in Westfield, today, Thursday, December 16, from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered tomorrow, Friday, December 17, at 10 a.m. at the Holy Trinity Church in Westfield. Entombment will follow at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield.

December 16, 2010

Fanwood Presbyterian Announces Services

FANWOOD – There will be two services on Christmas Eve, Friday, December 24, at the Fanwood Presbyterian Church. The Reverend David Jahnke, pastor, will officiate.

The family service will take place at 5 p.m., featuring the children from 4 years old to fifth grade singing and presenting a Christmas pageant.

At 11 p.m., a candlelight communion service will be held, preceded by special Christmas music beginning at 10:45 p.m. This program will feature a flute trio comprised of Amy Drewes, Jessica Knierim and Caroline Leahy, along with the Sanctuary Choir. Janice Haer will direct the pageant and other music.

The Fanwood Presbyterian Church welcomes all who would like to attend all or any of these services. The church is located at the corner of Martine, LaGrande and Marian Avenues. For more information, call the church office at (908) 889-8891 or e-mail fanwoodpress@erols.com.

Jerusalem Lego Project

Set Sunday at Temple

CRANFORD – Temple Beth El Mekor Chayim, located at 338 Walnut Avenue in Cranford, invites members of the community to its "Build the Gates of Jerusalem Gigantic Lego Project."

This activity will take place on Sunday, December 19, at 9:30 a.m. in the auditorium of the temple. Architect Stephen Schwartz will lead children and adults alike in transforming a mountain of Legos into a 400-square-foot model of the old city of Jerusalem.



Jenna Smith

Jenna Smith to Sign Books On Saturday

SCOTCH PLAINS – Scotch Plains resident Jenna Alexis Smith, the newly published author of "Beautiful Brown Girl," will have her debut book-signing event this Saturday, December 18, from 2 to 4 p.m. at Borders Books, located at 1511 Route 22, West, in Watchung.


Jenna will read passages from her book, which conveys a message of loving yourself and diversity from a child's perspective.

A quiet, reserved, yet playful child, Jenna has always loved books, and started reading and learning sight words at a very early age. "Beautiful Brown Girl" is not her only published work; Jenna's kindergarten teacher entered her class into a poetry-writing contest, and Jenna's poem was selected for publication in "A Celebration of Poets" (2009 Edition) when she was just 5 years old.

Jenna also enjoys making movies and playing with her friends and her little sister, Reina. She aspires to be an author/writer when she grows up. Jenna is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Smith and is in the second grade at Sandhush School in North Plainfield.

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A Total of 150 Voices Welcome the Winter Solstice

SCOTCH PLAINS – Six choral groups will entertain the community during the winter concert on Tuesday, December 21, at 7:30 p.m. in the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School auditorium.

Under the direction of Jan Allen, the full Concert Choir will set the mood with “Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening,” “Hanerot Halalu” and the Bruce Springsteen version of “Santa Claus is Coming to Town.”

Las Cantadoras, the women’s choir, will perform “Jing-A-Ling, Jing-A-Ling” by the Andrews Sisters, and the Select Choir will ring in the season with “Jingle Bells” and “The

Winter’s Night.” The Men’s Choir will feature “Sing Noel” and “Something” by The Beatles. Chamber Choir selections include “Pat-a-pan” and “O Magnum Mysterium,” and the Sensations group will entertain the audience with a *cappella* arrangements of several popular songs.

The evening program will close with the tradition of alumni joining with the Concert Choir on stage to sing “The Lord Bless You and Keep You.” Winter concert tickets are available at the door for a small donation. Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School is located at 667 Westfield Road in Scotch Plains.

Area Charities Wish for ‘Re-gifting’ This Christmas

AREA – There are more than 1,000 cause-based organizations registered on The Giving Effect (<http://thegivingeffect.com>) that are hoping to connect with new donors this holiday season, as they seek people’s unwanted gifts.

Local causes include the New Jersey Schnauzer Rescue Network of Fanwood, whose mission is to find new homes for miniature schnauzers throughout the northeastern United States, and Cause 4 Paws, Inc. of Westfield, which helps provide foster animals with food, beds and toys while they await a home.

In addition to helping animals, donors use The Giving Effect to connect with charities that need everything people can spare, from clothes, food, books and shoes, to cleaning supplies, cars, fencing and lumber.

“We are working to create a greater awareness of people in need, which is especially urgent during the holidays,” said Mitchell Silverman, co-founder

of The Giving Effect. “Each donation on our site becomes a living story that can be shared on Facebook or Twitter to spread the holiday spirit, encouraging friends to follow your lead.”

Donating is easy; a person can browse the site by needs, location, and categories to find causes with which one would like to connect. Then, a person completes a simple form to arrange a pick-up, drop-off or shipment. Tax receipts are issued via e-mail when the items are received.

The Giving Effect uses social media to help donors discover and connect with organizations that need items such as clothes, shoes and food. It is the first website to create stories around each in-kind donation that can be easily shared online to inspire others to give.

The goal is to create a national movement to get food, gently-used items and more to people in need. The Giving Effect is headquartered in Brooklyn.

SP Resident Featured In Young-Scientists Book

SCOTCH PLAINS – Scotch Plains resident Corky Valenti is featured in “Young Scientist Journeys,” a book mentoring students age 12 to 20 who are interested in science.

The book is dedicated to Phil Reeves, the International School Bangkok Science Club advisor in the 1960s and 1970s. Mr. Reeves inspired a generation of young scientists to pursue their passion for science in scientific or non-scientific careers.

Mr. Valenti consults in the technology of communications – technical writing, training design and development, marketing communications and corporate communications – for software companies and information-

technology departments of other business.

Mr. Valenti’s chapter traces his wonder of the stars in the skies over Thailand in high school to a wonder at all life has to offer. It is a journey that embraces diversity and serendipity. It is how he has applied his love of science and the tools of science in a non-scientific career – writing.

Mr. Valenti is one of the 20 book authors describing how they have used science in scientific and non-scientific careers to make the world a better place.

“Young Scientist Journeys” is available on Amazon.com.



SOUND THE HORNS...The New Jersey Workshop for the Arts International Alphorns Ensemble will once again return to downtown Westfield to entertain shoppers and diners this Saturday, December 18, from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. The rain date is Thursday, December 23. The alphorns are among multiple holiday entertainment performances sponsored by the Downtown Westfield Corporation as part of the Welcome Home to Westfield promotion.

NJWA Gift of the Arts Available for Holidays

WESTFIELD – Gift givers can extend the spirit of the holiday season throughout the year by choosing a meaningful present for the special people in their lives.

An enduring gift that will last beyond the holidays is a gift certificate from the New Jersey Workshop for the Arts (NJWA). For the fortunate recipient, it can be an opportunity to foster a new interest or perhaps increase a talent that already exists.

Issued in any financial amount, gift certificates can be used toward a variety of NJWA-sponsored programs. They may be used for instrumental or vocal music lessons, for both children and adults, at The Music Studio, or to enroll a 4- or 5-year-old in the Kids ‘n’ Arts program, where youngsters can experience art, music and theater crafts.

The gift certificate can apply to

lessons in foil, saber or epee in the Westfield Fencing Club, which provides lessons for all ages.

This coming summer, the Westfield Summer Workshop is opening its doors for the 40th season. An NJWA gift certificate can give a child an opportunity to participate in arts, crafts, communications, dance, drama, special interests, music and musical theater, and share in the excitement of this landmark year.

Another way this unique gift can be used is toward a purchase at the Music Store if the recipient is interested in an instrument or other musical items.

Available year-round, gift certificates can be purchased at the NJWA office at 150-152 East Broad Street in Westfield. To learn more, call (908) 789-9696 or visit njworkshopforthearts.com.



STRING THEORY...The 55-member Westfield High School String Orchestra performed on December 13 in the school’s auditorium. The Chamber Orchestra was also featured that evening. Both are conducted and instructed by Raymond Wojcik. All high-school concerts will be televised live on WHS-TV36. For a complete listing of winter concerts in the Westfield Public Schools, visit westfieldnj.k12.org/concerts.

Concerts Ring in Winter Holidays in WF Schools

WESTFIELD – More than 2,500 students either have been or are continuing to rehearse for a total of 21 winter concerts that are scheduled in the Westfield Public Schools from December through February. Some have already occurred, but others are still on the horizon.

All concerts begin at 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted. A daytime dress rehearsal performance of the Westfield High School (WHS) Choral Concert will take place at 10:45 a.m. on December 22 to which senior citizens are invited.

The WHS evening concert on December 22 will be televised live on Blue Devils TV36. The public is welcome to attend the evening concerts. School addresses are listed on the district website at westfieldnj.k12.org.

“I have been attending wonderful rehearsals and I’m looking forward to great holiday programs,” said Linda King, supervisor of fine arts.

The concert schedule is as follows for the remainder of December through the New Year:

December 16: Jefferson Band and Chorus; Washington Band and Chorus, 7 p.m. start; Roosevelt sixth and eighth instrumental groups, Jazz Band and a.m. Orchestra.

December 20: Roosevelt seventh instrumental groups, Jazz Band and a.m. Orchestra.

December 21: Elementary Stringfest at Edison Intermediate School – fifth graders only.

December 22: Westfield High School Choral Concert.

December 23: Auditioned Groups Tour to Elementary Schools.

January 13: Edison Intermediate School seventh- and eighth-grades band and jazz band.

January 25: Lincoln Sing-A-Long (during school hours)

February 9: Elementary Stringfest at Edison Intermediate School – fourth graders only.

WESTFIELD FOOD 4 THOUGHT

Santa Claus Is Coming to Town

By JAYNE BOOK SALOMON
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

NORTH POLE – Santa Claus loves Westfield! As a matter of fact, he loves Westfield so much that he has already visited us several times since Thanksgiving Day.

His first visit, the very day after Thanksgiving, was to Lord & Taylor, where he and Mrs. Claus posed for pictures and took holiday requests from wide-eyed, excited children. Again on Saturday and Sunday, he and his wife were back at the department store posing for photographs and taking more requests.

When they left Lord & Taylor on Sunday, they did not return to the North Pole as one would expect, but instead they hopped on a Westfield Fire Truck that drove them through town to the annual tree-lighting ceremony on North Avenue. Of course, their presence was the highlight of this most anticipated event.

And last Saturday, December 11, he and Mrs. Claus boarded a train at the Westfield Train Station headed to High Bridge, where they were accompanied by some of their most devoted helpers, who cheerfully handed out candy canes and coloring books to all on board.

One lucky child per car was chosen to receive a special pre-Christmas gift of a train set in true Santa Claus-style. Santa hasn’t shown up since then, and it’s no wonder. Hopefully, he and his wife have not misjudged the amount of last-minute work left while they were busy making the boys and girls of Westfield happy. And that they surely did.

Unlike prior years, this year, Santa brought Mrs. Claus with him to help bring smiles and cheer to all. It just makes sense since we all know that behind every good Santa Claus, there is a Mrs. Claus telling him what to do and how to do it.

With Christmas Day rapidly approaching, Santa is surely very busy getting all his last-minute ducks in order. He certainly doesn’t have much time to eat these days. Let’s face it, Santa enjoys his vitals. If he doesn’t make time to eat, he will exist on the cookies and milk we leave for him on Christmas Eve, as he always does.

We all love Santa and want him to

be around for a long time, but his diet is definitely not a healthy one, and we are not helping him by leaving him fattening cookies and milk.

This year, let’s rethink what we leave for Santa to sustain him on his busiest night of the year. Undoubtedly, he will get hungry riding his sleigh all through the cold winter night, and he obviously has no time to grab a salad or a nutritious snack, and probably wouldn’t if he could.

However, I am sure he will enjoy

these low-fat, reduced sugar oatmeal cookies. I do not think he will even notice the difference since they have all the flavor of a high-caloric dessert.

Santa certainly deserves a treat, too, but more importantly, he deserves to be healthy. Remember to leave low-fat or skim milk to go along with these cookies.

Low-Fat Oatmeal Cookies For Santa

INGREDIENTS

1 cup 100 percent whole-wheat flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
½ teaspoon baking soda
½ teaspoon kosher salt
½ teaspoon cinnamon
4 tablespoons butter
½ cup organic sugar
¼ cup dark brown sugar
1 egg
¼ cup applesauce
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
2 cups quick cooking oats
½ cup organic raisins
Garnish: confectionery sugar

PROCEDURE

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees. In a medium bowl, combine the flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt and cinnamon. In a large bowl, cream the butter with the sugars. Beat in the egg. Add the applesauce and vanilla and blend. Gradually pour in the flour mixture and the oats. Add the raisins. Drop heaping tablespoons of the batter onto un-greased cookie sheets. Flatten with a spatula or the palm of your hand. The cookies will not spread, so the size of the cookie is determined at this point.

Bake for 12 – 15 minutes, watching carefully. The tops will not brown, but the bottoms can easily brown. Let cool and sprinkle with confectionery sugar.

Yield: Approximately 12, three-inch-diameter cookies

Note: many of the ingredients for this recipe can be found at Trader Joe’s along with these cookies.

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Love and Other Drugs: Prescription for Romance

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By MICHAEL S. GOLDBERGER
3 popcorns

Does anyone really ever love anyone the way they do in the movies, the way Rick loved Ilsa in *Casablanca* (1942)? Jake Gyllenhaal’s Jamie Randall, cynical ladies man extraordinaire in Edward Zwick’s *Love and Other Drugs*, surely doesn’t think so. Neither does Anne Hathaway’s Maggie Murdock. And then they meet.

Unless this is the first romantic dramedy you’ve ever seen, you could easily fill in most of the blanks on the letters of transit Cupid has issued these two likeable characters. But, proving what distinguishes one gushy saga from another, it’s what you didn’t fathom that throws you for an engaging loop. Good love stories define the indefinable.

It’s done by example, a whirlwind of intoxicating samples unleashed as the vicarious you and the perfect mate intersect in a cloud of carefree confusion. Just yesterday, it was only you, alone in a world of 6.7 billion. Now there are two, cutting the odds of loneliness in half. It seemed so improbable.

And as time goes by, unless you are the exception that proves the rule, you find that now and again it is totally impossible. But that’s what makes it genuine: realism clashing with idealism. Achieving just the right mixture of these elements, director Zwick has us enthusiastically buying his bill of goods. We are ennobled. Yeah for us humans.

Epitomizing the idea, Anne Hathaway and Jake Gyllenhaal sustain a winning credibility. Whether basking in the glow of their optimistic epiphany or reacting to the hard facts that loom once the steaminess of new love clears, the portrayals are seamless. Miss Hathaway could very possibly hand herself a statuette when she hosts the Oscars February 27.

But first, courtesy of a scene worthy of Woody Allen, we learn about Gyllenhaal’s spoiled brat of a Lothario. It’s a family at war around the dinner table. No embarrassment goes unturned, no button unpushed. Dad (George Segal) and sister are big doctors and fat little brother is a dot.com millionaire. Unexplainably, handsome Jamie is a dropout.

Perhaps it’s the same skepticism that precludes the remote possibility of true love and spurs a steady diet of sexual conquests. Set in the mid 1990s, it makes him a seriocomic Tom Jones for the X Generation. But it isn’t until his philandering ways lose him his job at an electronics store that he finds how to truly capitalize on his charisma: drugs.

Oh, it’s all fully legal and purportedly above board, mind you. Choosing to sell pharmaceuticals, Jamie is assigned to the tutelage of journeyman hawker Bruce Winston (Oliver Platt), a pill pusher in the Ohio Valley since time immemorial. And therein lies the edgy, muckraking subplot that deliriously educates and abashes.

Intertwining its complementing narratives, both interspersed with alternating portions of light and dark, *Love and Other Drugs* strides a challenging course. And like real life itself, things don’t always integrate the way you’d like...without pain, fear and mystification. But then love conquers all, doesn’t it? Well, we’ll just have to see.

So here’s the rub. Established right from the get-go, Maggie has Parkinson’s disease. But as this rare manifestation of the condition is still in an early stage, Jamie isn’t prepared for what complications might lie ahead. Maggie knows better. No matter. The lovers have their defense shields up, supported by a steady banter of carefree bravado.

Quicker than you can say contemporary update of *Love Story* (1970), the script ushers in an eye opening bevy of scandalous information about Big Pharma as its comedy relief. Jamie’s career becomes a case in point as he seeks to inveigle his way into the good graces of those docs who will hopefully prescribe his plethora of panaceas.

Hank Azaria as the swaggeringly sarcastic Dr. Stan Knight does a nice job of capsuling the conundrum today’s physicians find themselves in whilst trying to practice medicine. At a party, bemoaning the vise grip of HMOs determined not to pay and drug companies dangling bribes, he snivels of corruptness and the death of once held principles.

While prompted to wonder if our own doctor got a kickback for that last Rx we had filled, it’s a tribute to our better nature that we nonetheless sympathize with Dr. Knight, and hence, with humankind itself. Charging back into the arms of the tale’s romantic puzzle, we seek purity of purpose. Surely everything can’t be a deal.

Which may be why we invest so much hope and emotion in what my mom would have called a nice young couple. Sure, those powers that be might sully the atmosphere with snake oil promises. But we’ve a sneaking suspicion that we come equipped with our own, life defining potions, nicely compounded and dispensed in *Love and Other Drugs*.

Love and Other Drugs, rated R, is a Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation release directed by Edward Zwick and stars Anne Hathaway, Jake Gyllenhaal and Oliver Platt. Running time: 112 minutes.

Abbott Holds Educational Concert

SCOTCH PLAINS – Brian Abbott, a local musician who teaches in Scotch Plains, is putting on an educational concert, catered to children, concerning musical improvisation next week. The performance will take place in the basement of the Scotch Plains Township Municipal Building on Monday, December 20, at 7 p.m.



VOICES OF ANGELS...After viewing a delightful art show in the hallways of the school foyer and Upper School, audiences enjoyed hearing the songs of the holiday season during the Upper School Holiday Concert at The Wardlaw-Hartridge School in North Edison on December 8. Some of the selections included: “Lo, How A Rose E’er Blooming” by the Brass Ensemble, “On This Day Earth Shall Ring from Winter Suite” by the Concert Band and “Deck the Halls in Seven-Eight” by the MadJazz Ensemble. The Upper School Band and Concert Choir concluded the concert with the “Hallelujah Chorus.” Pictured above, Caroline McNamara, a freshman from Westfield, played “Greensleeves” on the piano as music teachers Shannon Caldwell and Jane Brown look on.

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Arts & Entertainment



CHRISTMAS IS SAVED...The students of Holy Trinity Interparochial School's Drama Club presented *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, directed by Paul O'Connor, on December 10 and 11 to rave reviews. The students portrayed how the horrible Herdman children steal, burn down buildings and generally terrorize the neighborhood until an innocent comment brings them into church. The Herdmans find themselves starring in the annual Christmas pageant. Soon, even the congregation may find themselves running for cover. Who would have guessed that the parents, teachers, children and especially the Herdmans could end up discovering the true meaning of Christmas? A series of disasters turned into what everyone comes to agree was *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. Pictured, from left to right, are Russell Weber, Daniel Scalia, Shannon Wieszczyk, Kristen Hughes, Nicole Ferrer and Nina Dixon.



"Red Balloon"



"Ombrello's Nature's World"

Manhattan Gallery Selects Cranford Artist's Work

CRANFORD – Cranford artist Theodosia Tamborlane has been selected to exhibit her painting "Red Balloon" (image at left) at the Manhattan Borough President's Office Gal-

Silverman Stars In Saratoga Springs

WESTFIELD – Westfield's Dara Silverman, a sophomore theater major at Skidmore College, was recently featured in the college's fall production of *Beckettshorts, Six Short Plays by Samuel Beckett*.

Considered one of the key writers in the "Theatre of the Absurd," Beckett might have particularly enjoyed the creative staging of the production in the college's Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery. Ms. Silverman was featured in three of the six short plays, including a solo performance in Beckett's 1963 piece entitled, "Breath." She also appeared in Skidmore's main stage fall 2009 drama, *The Women*, and the spring 2010 world premiere of *Nunky Gruel*. A 2009 graduate of Westfield High School, she is the daughter of Trudy and Marty Silverman.

lery. The exhibit will run through January 17, 2011.

This exhibit is an annual show sponsored by the Art Students League of New York City, with which Ms. Tamborlane is currently affiliated. Exhibition Director Leah McCloskey chose "Red Balloon," an abstract painting comprised of oil and acrylic on wood, which was designed by Ms. Tamborlane to recall one of her favorite children's stories, "The Red Balloon."

This story encourages children to follow their dreams even if adults seem to disapprove. Through her painting, Ms. Tamborlane asks the viewer to recall childhood dreams realized and unrealized.

Ms. Tamborlane has her paintings in personal collections in the United States and the Netherlands. She is a selected member of the New Century Artists Gallery and a member of the Pen and Brush gallery in New York City, the Contemporary Art Group of New Jersey, the Woodbridge Artisan Guild, and Studio Montclair.

She accepts commissions and can be reached at Tamborlane@aol.com, Tamborlane.com and (908) 276-4967.

DiNizio at Crossroads: Putting The Beatles at 'Top of the Pops'

By ERIC NIERSTEDT
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

GARWOOD — The Garwood Crossroads was filled with the sounds of the Beatles and one of their great followers, as Smithereens front man (and longtime Beatles enthusiast) Pat DiNizio performed a two-hour acoustic set last week.

Backed by guitarist Tommy Frangione, DiNizio literally made his way through the Beatles songbook, throwing in The Smithereens, The Kinks and The Who songs along the way.

The intimate show, one of four this month, was inspired by DiNizio's "living-room tours," in which he travels the country playing at the homes

of Smithereens fans.

"The whole thing came about when another artist I knew needed some money for her touring vehicle," DiNizio, a Scotch Plains resident,



Pat DiNizio /patdinizio.com

explained in an interview with *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*. "She mentioned the idea of house shows,

Ring in the New Year With Westfield Symphony

WESTFIELD – On Friday, December 31, at 7 p.m., under the baton of Maestro David Wroe, the Westfield Symphony Orchestra (WSO) will again present its New Year's Eve musical celebration. This year's performance, "The Great American Songbook," offers a revue of American musical theater classics presented in symphonic splendor.

A host of renowned guest vocalists from Broadway and beyond will join WSO to perform a range of showstoppers such as "The Pink Panther" and Cab Calloway's "Minnie The Moocher," as well as a variety of hits and some surprises from timeless musicals that have captivated successive generations, including *Chicago*, *Jekyll and Hyde*, *Les Miserables*, *Phantom*, *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, *Sweet Adeline*, *Carousel*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Company* and more.

An event for the whole family, this is a friendly cabaret-style concert for

adults to reminisce to songs they all know, for kids to enjoy some of the more peculiar characters to grace Broadway's stage and for all to revel in some of America's finest musical theater composers, outstanding guest vocal performers and a fully professional orchestrated by Maestro Wroe.

The WSO recommends that audience members make reservations as soon as possible, as tickets are selling fast, and last year's concert was a sell-out.

Tickets in advance are \$35 for general admission and \$65 for preferred seating (\$40 and \$70 at the door, if available.) Tickets may be purchased directly from the WSO by calling (908) 232-9400 or visiting the office at 224 East Broad Street in Westfield, between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., on weekdays. Tickets are also available from The Town Bookstore in Westfield and Martin Jewelers in Cranford.



SANTA'S ON A DIET?...Santa certainly deserves a treat this Christmas, but as our resident food columnist writes, "more importantly, he deserves to be healthy." Remember to leave low-fat or skim milk to go along with these delicious low-fat oatmeal cookies. To learn how they are made, see page 17 and read Ms. Salomon's food column.

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Jewelry Trunk Show December 18th
Diane Pinder from Donna Toscana will box up loose chocolates of your choice at our store. Let's all say hello and once again enjoy her specialties!
December 18th & 19th, 11am-5pm
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