

## Tamaques Parents Address Westfield BOE on Class Size

By **KIMBERLY A. BROADWELL**  
Specially Written for *The Westfield Leader*

WESTFIELD - Dozens of concerned Tamaques Elementary School second-grade parents came to the June 28 Westfield Board of Education meeting looking for class-size relief.

Beth Hirsch spoke out with concerns for her daughter entering second grade at the school. She stated that within the past year her daughter was in a class of 24, and "did not learn as much as she could have if the class size was smaller." She noted that from September until December there was an additional student-teacher in the room, which was helpful. She added that in January, when the teacher was alone, her daughter asked her why her teacher "seemed mad all the time."

Parent Robin Abrams stated that she had moved to Westfield two years ago from Mountainside, where her son came from a class of 17. "This was a vast difference from his first-grade class of 25," Ms. Abrams said.

Parent after parent came to address the board on the swelling class size, noting that time was taken away from learning for more disciplinary actions and that the noise level and crowding of desks made for a compromising learning environment. It also was mentioned that at times there could be up to 27 or 28 children in a class due to mainstreaming special-education students at certain times of the day.

Board member Ann Cary voiced her concerns regarding overcrowd-

ing at all "southside elementary schools."

Superintendent of Schools Margaret Dolan noted that the board "was not deaf to parents' concerns" but that the board was "putting off staffing decisions until they see more concrete enrollment numbers for September." She added that the board was planning one or two special meetings over the summer to discuss "all the needs of the district." She added that McKinley, Jefferson and Tamaques schools are all having class-size issues.

Board Vice-President Richard Mattessich asked that when the board meets if it could be given the numbers for classes that includes the additional students for mainstreaming, "to get a more accurate feeling of class size."

Board President Julia Walker stated, "All these issues comes down to funding."

Board member Mitchell Slater said he thought when it came down to additional funding, the Westfield teachers and staff should consider a "shared sacrifice."

In related business, board member David Finn announced the first meeting of the newly created ad-hoc committee made up of board members and community members. He stated that the purpose of the committee was to "find alternative funding for public education." He noted that through this committee an endowment fund would be set up. "We want to ensure students in Westfield have a bright future," Mr. Finn said.

In other business, the board unanimously approved, upon first reading, the new H.I.B. (Harassment Intimidation and Bullying) policy. A newly-amended policy is required of all of New Jersey public schools.

The new policy is a revised version of an already existing regulation. The 19-page policy includes pages defining harassment, intimidation and bullying, as well as pupil expectations, examples of consequences and bullying reporting procedures. A second reading of the policy will be on the board's agenda for adoption in August.

## Senate OKs Ciarrocca Nomination as Judge

By **LAUREN S. BARR**  
Specially Written for *The Westfield Leader*

WESTFIELD - Third Ward Councilman Mark Ciarrocca sailed through a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on June 29 and received full Senate confirmation on his nomination to the state Superior Court in Union County by Governor Chris Christie. It is anticipated that he will be sworn in to the Union County bench at the end of the month.

State Senator Nick Scutari (D-22, Linden), who chairs the Senate Judiciary Committee, said at Mr. Ciarrocca's hearing, "I'm proud to support his nomination...I know he's going to enjoy a stellar career in Union County."

Senator Tom Kean, Jr. (R-21, Westfield) said Mr. Ciarrocca is "an extraordinary attorney" and "a real benefit to the Union County bench" when introducing him at the hearing.

The judiciary committee had no questions for Mr. Ciarrocca and gave him unanimous approval.

"I appreciate the honor of the governor nominating me," Mr. Ciarrocca told *The Westfield Leader*. "I look forward to serving the people of Union County as a judge of the Superior Court."

First elected to the Third Ward in 2003 and reelected in 2007, Mr. Ciarrocca will have to resign his seat on the Westfield Town Council prior to taking the bench. Two weeks ago, following his nomination by the governor, he announced that he would not seek reelection this November. Mr. Ciarrocca currently serves as acting mayor in the absence of Mayor Andy



APCALYPSE NOW, Smell of napalm in the morning?...The crowd enjoys the dramatic conclusion of the fireworks Monday night at Nomahegan Park in Cranford.

## Shackamaxon Challenges SP Over Redevelopment of Golf Course

By **LAUREN S. BARR**  
Specially Written for *The Westfield Leader*

SCOTCH PLAINS - Shackamaxon Golf and Country Club and NJ Golf Partners have filed two lawsuits against the Township of Scotch Plains. The lawsuits challenge the township's designation of the golf club property as an area in need of rehabilitation and the redevelopment plan that was set forth.

When township officials learned in January that the 146-acre club was for sale, the mayor and council began considering moving the municipal building, library and other buildings to the property. At the time, Mayor Nancy Malool proposed a land swap where a developer would purchase the club property, build the township government's buildings there and in

return be given the township's current property in the downtown area.

NJ Golf Partners entered into a contract to purchase the club in March of this year. According to the lawsuits, they approached the mayor and township was not inclined to work with the purchaser. According to the suits, NJ Golf Partners also offered to either sell the land to the township, or enter into a "sale and lease back," offers that were also refused. NJ Golf Partners is an affiliate of the RDC Golf Group, which owns Forsgate Country Club in Monroe and the Tusawilla Country Club in Winter Springs, Fla.

The suits allege that the mayor and council and the planning board failed to provide notice to Shackamaxon on the resolutions designating the area as one in need of redevelopment, or in need of rehabilitation. The suits also allege that the designation as an area in need of rehabilitation was done "solely based on who owned the property" and not on the condition of the property, which would not be in compliance with state law.

The suits also charge "the rehabilitation resolution was adopted for the purpose of bullying plaintiffs into accepting the land swap or illegally devaluing the country club property to the point where the township could afford to purchase the property or take it through eminent domain."

Included in the suits are accusa-

tions that the mayor and council violated the open public meetings act - a charge which Mayor Malool told *The Westfield Leader* is "absolutely untrue."

The suits allege that a council meeting held on February 15 was not adequately noticed to newspapers, nor did the notice state whether formal action would be taken. The plaintiffs also allege that a special meeting of the planning board, on President's Day, was not adequately noticed. Additionally, the suit alleges that the mayor and council entered into executive session under the pretense that they were discussing the "potential sale of property," which "was not within one of the exceptions" as the council "never intended to purchase the country club property from Shackamaxon."

Mayor Malool told *The Leader* that there were a number of false allegations in the suit and that "what was true was totally taken out of context." She said that the township "really want(s) to get it resolved." She said the township is in negotiations, and while they are not offering anything financially, officials are discussing the redevelopment plan. According to Mayor Malool, township officials were to meet last night to discuss the issue.

The current redevelopment plan, as set by the council, allows for the club to continue as is but would require the

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JAZZ NITE...Performers on Central Avenue in downtown Westfield Tuesday night initiate the summer series entertainment.

## WF Resident Stable After Brightwood Park Incident

By **BETSEY BURGENDORF**  
Specially Written for *The Westfield Leader*

WESTFIELD - After an investigation into the events following a 9-1-1 call made from Brightwood Park last Thursday, Westfield Police Captain David Wayman told *The Westfield Leader* that at this time the events do not appear to be criminal in nature.

According to Captain Wayman, at approximately 10:30 a.m. police received a 9-1-1 call from an individual stating she was walking in the park and was experiencing difficulty in breathing. Response units located the individual, identified only as a Westfield resident in her early 20s, in a remote wooded section of the park adjacent to Fanwood Avenue and John Street. Upon the arrival of the response units, the individual was conscious, but lost consciousness shortly thereafter. Captain Wayman reported. It was determined she had come in contact with hazardous chemical materials found at the scene.

In close proximity to the individual was a makeshift structure, described by Captain Wayman as tent-like, which contained a bucket of chemicals, later identified as a combination

of bleach and ammonia.

Union County Director of Emergency Management Chris Scaturro said the bleach and ammonia mixture removed from the scene was a combination of household ingredients amounting to approximately two gallons worth of fluid. According to Mr. Scaturro, when combined, the ingredients create a noxious gas that "makes you sick and could be fatal if inhaled."

Captain Wayman stated that the structure containing the deadly mixture had most likely been erected earlier that morning or the day before. The individual, as well as two officers who came in contact with the chemicals, were decontaminated at the scene. The female individual and one officer were transported to Overlook Medical Center for treatment. The officer was treated and released; as of Tuesday, the female was reported to be in stable condition.

John Street was lined with emergency response vehicles, including Union County HAZMAT, Westfield's Emergency Services Unit (ESU), as well as the Westfield Fire Department.

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POLICE EMERGENCY...HAZMAT personnel suit up to investigate possible dangerous chemicals being present during an incident at Brightwood Park last Thursday.



SUMMER TIME...Residents take a splash at Memorial Pool in Westfield last Friday as they have fun while beating the heat.

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## Ironbound Muscle Cars: Exotic With a Fascinating Flair

By **ROBERT COZZOLINA**  
*Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times*

Tuesday evening July 28, 2011, I attended a private showing for exotic car enthusiasts at 58 Avenue A, Newark. Two childhood friends hosted the event. They grew up together in the Ironbound Section of Newark and are planning on opening a dinner club for private events this coming fall.

The two purchased the building in the mid 90's and used it for warehousing when, a little over two years ago they decided to renovate it for their car collections. The building has a fascinating history; in 1905 it housed a Horse and Carriage Station

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It's a unique location that everyone can enjoy as it highlights a bit of history and showcases America's love of the automobile.



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By Bob Cozzolina for The Westfield Leader and The Times



## Brightwood Park Incident

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ment and police units from both Westfield and Scotch Plains. The surrounding area was closed to residents and traffic for the majority of the day.

As the HAZMAT response team was seen entering the park in full protective gear, several officers from ESU were seen on Fanwood Avenue

loading rifles. Captain Wayman told *The Leader* that ESU was on hand as a precaution after screams were heard within the park, the source of which could not be determined.

By approximately 3 p.m., the area was cleared and reopened to residents and park-goers.

"In essence, after the subject was removed from the woods for medical treatment, HAZMAT secured the area, the DEP (Department of Environmental Protection) removed the chemical mixture in the bucket, as well as the makeshift tent," Captain Wayman said. "The area was made safe and, after the woods were searched, no other victims were reported."

Speculation into whether the series of events was related to a suicide attempt were unconfirmed, although Captain Wayman stated, "Anything is possible."

The investigation is ongoing and Captain Wayman reported officials continue to question the female individual. "It has not been determined if anything criminal has taken place," he said.

## Cranford Board Turns Down Sunoco Convenience Store

By **THOMAS FORTUNATO**  
*Specially Written for The Westfield Leader*

**CRANFORD** — The Zoning Board of Adjustment on June 27 turned down by a 6-1 vote an application by Parkway Sunoco, located at 401 North Avenue, East, to make renovations to its facility, including incorporating a new convenience store that would be open between the hours of 5 a.m. and 10 p.m.

Sunoco was applying for a list of use variances required to convert the facility's repair garages into a convenience store. Currently, Sunoco illegally operates a small convenience store on the premises, as both gas stations and convenience stores are prohibited uses in that zone and require "D" variances to operate. The gas station has existed and operated in that location since 1970.

Sunoco's application originally stated that it wished to operate a 24-hour store, which it later changed to have the store operate between the hours of 5 a.m. and midnight, then finally to between 5 a.m. and 10 p.m. in a last-minute effort to sway the board into accepting the application.

Sunoco's application faced opposition from not only most of the board members, but also township residents.



Thomas Fortunato for The Westfield Leader  
**STORE REJECTED...Orthodontist Dr. Frank Kraus, left, addresses the Cranford Board of Adjustment, as township planning expert Marcia Shiffman looks on. The board rejected the application by Sunoco to convert a garage into a convenience store.**

One point that was repeatedly made was that the addition of a late-night operating convenience store would lead to an increase of criminal activity in the area.

"A growing number of individuals we read in the police blotter of our local newspaper are stopped in that area for possessing drug paraphernalia," stated board member William Montani.

Board Chairman Robert Hellenbrecht was not just the only member who voted in favor of the application, but remained staunchly in favor of the application from the beginning, even going so far as to attempt to filibuster the opposition with an approximately 40-minute-long speech during the closing comments section of the meeting.

Halfway through Mr. Hellenbrecht's closing comments, former mayor Mark Smith started clapping very loudly from his seat in the audience, attempting to cut Mr. Hellenbrecht off.

"Oh, I'm sorry, I thought you were done," said Mr. Smith. "[You] should've been done a long time ago."

"Be quiet, or I'm going to go next door and get the police!" Board Attorney David Weeks interjected. "[Mr. Hellenbrecht has] spoken for 15 minutes and hasn't mentioned a municipal land-use law once," Mr. Smith explained.

"You should not be speaking, and you know better," Mr. Weeks stated as he got up to leave the room.

Mr. Weeks returned a few minutes later by himself, and sat down in his regular seat.



Photo courtesy of Patty O'Connor  
**KICKING BACK...After a tough day of yachting on the Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake Bay in Rock Hall, Md., Suzanne Taylor of Scotch Plains takes a few quiet moments to catch up on the local news.**

## Shackamaxon

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

township to approve any changes or additions. However, the plan also includes an option where the township could force the owner to surrender its rights to the property should it no longer function as a golf course.

The suits are seeking damages, attorney fees, a repeal of the designation and an order preventing the township from enforcing any redevelopment plans. Prior to the council taking action, the club was zoned for one-acre residential properties should it have been sold to a developer.

A representative from Gibbons said that they were unable to speak on Shackamaxon's behalf and a phone call to Matt Galvin of NJ Golf Partners was not returned as of press time.

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## Shackamaxon Challenges Township Over Redevelopment of Golf Course

By LAUREN S. BARR  
Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

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government's buildings there and in return be given the township's current property in the downtown area.

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APOCALYPSE NOW, Smell of napalm in the morning?...The crowd enjoys the dramatic conclusion of the fireworks Monday night at Nomahegan Park in Cranford.

Paul Lachenauer for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

## SP Council to Make Renewed Push On Developing Zoo Property

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

**SCOTCH PLAINS** - The township council appears determined to make a renewed push to develop the former Terry-Lou Zoo property on Raritan Road more than a decade after the municipal government purchased the six-acre tract to prevent it from being turned into residential housing.

At its conference meeting on Tuesday, the council spent an hour discussing various aspects of the property, including a soil remediation strategy that will involve the excavation and removal of several tons of soil that was found to have been contaminated by oil and other storage tanks that were situated on the property

when the zoo was in operation. Tony Pedro of engineering consultant Hatch Mott McDonald told the council that his firm had identified nine locations at the site as being potential environmental concerns; of those, five were ultimately singled out for soil excavation.

The affected soil is located mostly in the area of the historic Frazee House near the intersection of Raritan and Terrill Roads. The total cost of this effort will be around \$90,000, but all but about \$17,000 of the expense will be defrayed by state funding, according to Mr. Pedro. Mayor Nancy Malool expressed some surprise that the township was unaware of potential environmental problems when it bought the property in the late 1990s, saying such knowledge might have reduced the ultimate purchase price. Mr. Pedro told her the first studies of the soil were conducted in the early 2000s.

Councilman William Vastine expressed some concern that the zoo property is basically unsecured, leaving it vulnerable to illegal dumping. He said he worried that after the township spent money to clean up the site, someone would dump hazardous materials on the grounds or into the stream that traverses the property, thus necessitating a new round of remediation.

Mayor Malool urged the council to

move forward with plans for a community garden at the zoo property, an initiative she has championed since taking office in 2009. The proposed site of the garden, which would be on a 250-foot by 250-foot piece of land at the property's western side, has a "very steep grade," cautioned assistant township engineer Joseph Timko. He said the problem could be alleviated by installing individual raised beds; in effect, a step-like pattern.

The mayor envisioned leasing pieces of land to residents interested in organic gardening, with a board of directors appointed to oversee its operations.

Decisions regarding the fate of the Frazee House also may be at hand, given that the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club, which is refurbishing the Frazee House, has received a planning grant from the state that will allow the group to secure a planner to recommend what to do about the rehabilitation project at the nearly 300-year-old house.

The club's efforts have been ongoing since the mid-2000s, and Mayor Malool said the public has not seen "visible progress." She said she has told Rotary officials she favored "some kind of a replica or other way to pay homage to the history that's there." Fundraising has been difficult and the costs of restoration have

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GOING GREEN...On Saturday, residents stocked up on fresh produce at the Scotch Plains Farmers' Marketplace, which will be in the municipal building parking lot on Park Avenue every Saturday through the fall.

Betsy Burgdorf for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

## WF Resident Stable After Brightwood Park Incident

By BETSEY BURGENDORF  
Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

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In close proximity to the individual was a makeshift structure, described by Captain Wayman as tent-like, which contained a bucket of chemi-

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POLICE EMERGENCY...HAZMAT personnel suit up to investigate possible dangerous chemicals being present during an incident at Brightwood Park last Thursday.

David B. Corbin for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

## Fanwood Discusses Traffic, OKs Shady Lane Crosswalks

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

**FANWOOD** - Councilwoman Kathy Mitchell and Councilman Anthony Parenti indicated Fanwood's willingness to take incremental steps to allay the concerns of those who live on Shady Lane and Poplar Place.

Both roads run perpendicular to Martine Avenue, where they begin, and serve as filters for Hetfield and La Grande Avenues, respectively, at their far ends. Many younger pedestrians walk in this area, which is in the vicinity of McGinn Elementary School.

Both Shady Lane and Poplar Place have experienced higher rates of traffic since construction began on the multi-year bridge project at the New Providence Road arc over Route 22. Traffic backup on Park Avenue has become routine in Scotch Plains since construction began; during peak hours, it spreads to Fanwood along Martine Avenue. Both Shady Lane and Poplar Place allow drivers to link up with South Avenue and avoid delays in the center of the borough.

As a first step, the borough will place crosswalks, curb to curb, along Shady Lane at the intersections of Clement and Winfield Places. Further traffic counts will occur in September in order to get more accurate readings. By that point, Councilman Parenti noted, school will return to session and the overpass construction should cease. Mr. Parenti reminded the public that drivers may not park their cars within 25 feet of a crosswalk on either side. No ordinances are needed to place crosswalks in the borough.

If this does not "stem the tide," as

Ms. Mitchell said, Fanwood could seek to restrict right turns onto Shady Lane and Poplar Place from northbound Martine Avenue, as well as curtail left turns from Shady and Poplar onto southbound Martine, during the peak hours of 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Mr. Parenti also publicly stated his desire for the county's cooperation in helping to synchronize the traffic lights along Park and Martine Avenue from Raritan Road in Clark all the way to Route 22. This, he said, would only result in a "smoother flow through Fanwood" after the construction ends.

The borough council will conduct first reading, at its next public meeting, on an ordinance that would create a "No-Knock List."

Borough Attorney Dennis Estes said the borough had passed anti-soliciting measures earlier, but this ordinance "would go to the next step." Any resident who does not want to be bothered can be added to the "do-not-knock" list and place signage outside their doors.

Mr. Estes joked that the list will not prevent politicians - "as much as we may want it to" - from knocking on doors. Also, charitable causes and "public interests" - anything from religious to environmental-awareness groups - would not be limited by the new ordinance.

Signing up for the "no-knock" list would simply stop all groups or individuals that require licenses or registration from soliciting at that residence.

On a separate topic, Mr. Parenti stated his displeasure with NJ Transit's intention to eventually move

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PASSING THE GAVEL...The Fanwood Seniors Club recently ended its year with a picnic at which members bid a fond farewell to Jim Peeney, who has served as club president for the past five years, and his wife, Dorothy. During Mr. Peeney's tenure, the club grew to more than 100 members. The couple is moving to the shore area but still intends to remain in touch with the club. Pictured, Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr passes the gavel to new Club President Joe Bruno, left, as Mr. Peeney looks on.

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## Brightwood Park Incident

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Speculation into whether the series of events was related to a suicide attempt was unconfirmed, although Captain Wayman stated, "Anything is possible."

The investigation is ongoing and Captain Wayman reported officials continue to question the female individual. "It has not been determined if anything criminal has taken place," he said.

## Senate OKs Ciarrocca Nomination for Judge

By **LAUREN S. BARR**

*Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*

WESTFIELD – Third Ward Councilman Mark Ciarrocca sailed through a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on June 29 and received full Senate confirmation on his nomination to the state Superior Court in Union County by Governor Chris Christie. It is anticipated that he will be sworn in to the Union County bench at the end of the month.

State Senator Nick Scutari (D-22, Linden), who chairs the Senate Judiciary Committee, said at Mr. Ciarrocca's hearing, "I'm proud to support his nomination...I know he's going to enjoy a stellar career in Union County."

Senator Tom Kean, Jr. (R-21, Westfield) said Mr. Ciarrocca is "an extraordinary attorney" and "a real ben-

efit to the Union County bench" when introducing him at the hearing.

The judiciary committee had no questions for Mr. Ciarrocca and gave him unanimous approval.

"I appreciate the honor of the governor nominating me," Mr. Ciarrocca told *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*. "I look forward to serving the people of Union County as a judge of the Superior Court."

First elected to the Third Ward in 2003 and reelected in 2007, Mr. Ciarrocca will have to resign his seat on the Westfield Town Council prior to taking the bench. Two weeks ago, following his nomination by the governor, he announced that he would not seek reelection this November. Mr. Ciarrocca currently serves as acting mayor in the absence of Mayor Andy Skibitsky, chairman of the council's Finance Committee and as a member of the Public Safety Committee.

From the time of his resignation, the Republicans will have 15 days to present a list of three names to the council from which they will choose Mr. Ciarrocca's council successor. Two weeks ago Westfield Republican committee Chairman Jon Bramnick, who also serves as a state assemblyman, implied that whoever was chosen to fill the vacancy on council would also run for election in November.

The Third Ward council election will be a three-way race between the GOP nominee Democrat Matt Sontz and Independent candidate Greg Kasko.

Mr. Ciarrocca was raised in Westfield and graduated from Westfield High School. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Virginia Military Institute and a Juris Doctorate from Washington and Lee University. Mr. Ciarrocca also served active duty in the U.S. Army and eight years in the Army Reserves, where he served as a commander. Upon graduation from law school, he clerked for state Superior Court Judge Peter Ciolino, the assignment judge in Bergen County, and then began practicing law in Union Township. He is the principal in the law firm of Ciarrocca & Ciarrocca in Union. Mr. Ciarrocca will be required to leave his practice upon taking the bench.

Mr. Ciarrocca and his wife, Janet, have two sons: Robby, a sophomore in college, and Jack, a student at Edison Intermediate School.

## FW Council

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the South Avenue bus stop mid-block between 2nd Street and Martine Avenue, near the Enchantments store.

Mr. Parenti said, "Parking is at a premium in Fanwood. Putting a bus stop in front of Enchantments ... is going to [result in] the loss of four to five spaces. To put it in the central business district is wrong."

He suggested moving the bus stop to the corner of Martine and South Avenues, near the cleaners and sushi restaurant. Doing so, Councilman Mike Szuch noted, would also make it easier for residents of The Chelsea, who could simply cross the street to board the bus.

In the wake of a 3-2 May ruling by the New Jersey Supreme Court that the state must fund schools in its poorest districts to the tune of an extra \$500 million, Councilman Robert Manduca is introducing a measure in Fanwood asking the governor and the state Legislature to "fulfill their Constitutional responsibility" to distribute state educational aid in a "fair and equitable manner," while seeking to do all in their power to offer property-tax relief to the entire public.

The executive and legislative branches, he said, must serve as "co-equal entities" to the court. Mr. Manduca found the court ruling to be a "clear violation" of the state Constitution, and the upcoming resolution "urges" the other two branches of government to "more carefully and jealously guard their prerogatives than they have to date."

## SP Council

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

jumped, she noted.

Deputy Mayor Mary DePaola said "we all need to work together" with the Rotary and Frazee officials, noting that the issue of the house's restoration "has been languishing. We can't let it get lost in the shuffle any longer."

Councilman Michael Marcus agreed, saying he wanted to "see some resolution to this." Regarding the zoo property in general, he said he was open to any options, including its possible sale. "I'd like to see something good happen there, whatever it might be."

Township Manager Chris Marion said "everyone wants to see something happen at that site," and said he will schedule a workshop meeting in August with Rotary Club officials.

But Mr. Marion also was optimistic about development of the property as a whole, saying that the "stars seem to be aligning across the board" now that the soil remediation effort will soon get underway in conjunction with intensified discussions about the garden and the fate of the Frazee House property. It's important, he said, that, "we tie this whole site together."

## Shackamaxon

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to meet last night to discuss the issue.

The current redevelopment plan, as set by the council, allows for the club to continue as is but would require the township to approve any changes or additions. However, the plan also includes an option where the township could force the owner to surrender its rights to the property should it no longer function as a golf course.

The suits are seeking damages, attorney fees, a repeal of the designation as an area in need of rehabilitation and an order preventing the township from enforcing any redevelopment plans. Prior to the council taking action, the club was zoned for one-acre residential properties should it have been sold to a developer.

A representative from Gibbons said that they were unable to speak on Shackamaxon's behalf and a phone call to Matt Galvin of NJ Golf Partners was not returned as of press time.

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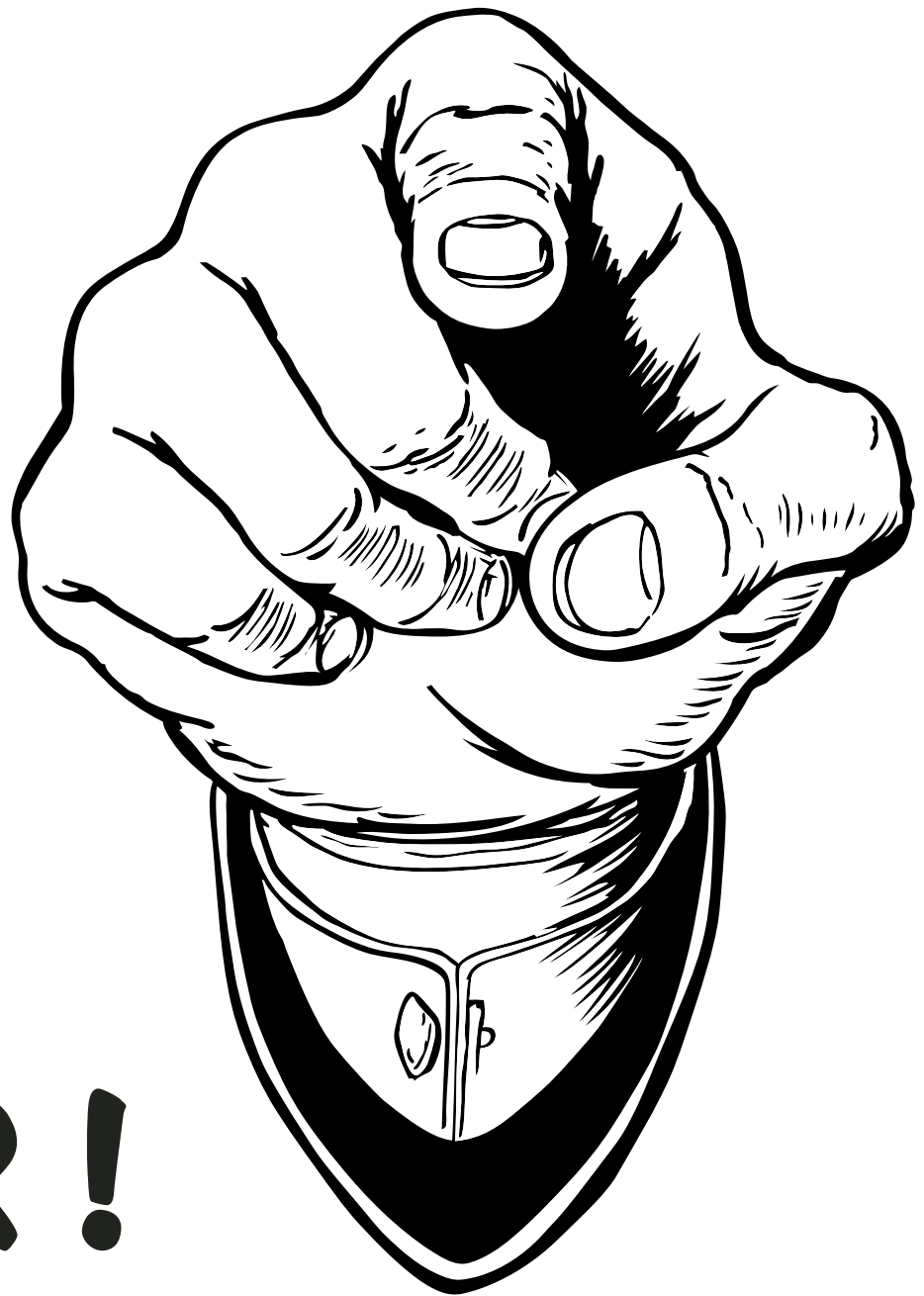


By Betsey Burgdorf

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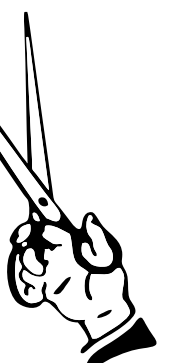
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# Linker Chastises Obama, Menendez on Afghanistan

RIDGEWOOD — Conservative Republican U.S. Senate candidate from New Jersey Ian Linker has criticized President Barack Obama's plan to withdraw from Afghanistan 10,000 troops by the end of the year and another 23,000 by the summer of 2012. He said President's announcement comes "just in time for the Presidential election against the advice of his military commanders, and Senator Robert Menendez's (D-N.J.) support of President Obama's plan."

"This is a political decision plain and simple. The American people and our men and women in uniform deserve better than this. Withdrawing in such a manner may be popular and it may even save money and lives in the short run, but leaving Afghanistan in such a precarious situation in the east along the border with Pakistan and south could cost us far more if President Karzai's government falls and the insurgent Taliban fill the void, again allowing al Qaeda to use the country as a base to plot terrorist attacks against us," Mr. Linker explained.

Mr. Linker, a Bergen County attorney who announced his campaign in May, said he is "all for ending our mission in Afghanistan, but only after we have achieved our goals: The Afghan security forces must be sufficiently prepared to protect the country and the government must be stable enough to survive on its own. Only then can we leave knowing that Afghanistan is stable and closed for business to al Qaeda."

He said Sen. Menendez supports the President's "politically expedient plan to withdraw troops."

"We have drained the swamp and our task now is not nation-building in Afghanistan, but ensuring that the

swamp does not fill again. We can accomplish that mission with a fraction of the current force," Sen. Menendez said in an op-ed on June 21, 2011, according to Mr. Linker's press release.

Mr. Linker responded that, "Ensuring the swamp doesn't fill up again as Bob Menendez suggests absolutely requires that we stay as long as necessary to stabilize the country. Anything less would be patently irresponsible."

Mr. Linker further stated that "withdrawing, as the President plans and as Bob Menendez suggests, could surrender our sizable achievements in Afghanistan and leave us vulnerable to a terrorist attack. The President should spend less time acting as campaigner in chief and defer in this situation to his commanders. Arbitrary withdrawal timeframes will not help us achieve our goals."

## Assembly OK's Bill To Crackdown on Sale of Bath Salts

TRENTON — A measure sponsored by Assemblywoman Linda Stender (D-20, Scotch Plains) to crackdown on the practice of selling illegal drugs disguised as "bath salts" received final legislative approval by the Assembly on June 29 and now heads to the Governor's desk for consideration.

The legislation (A-3984), known as "Pamela's Law," was first announced by Assemblyman John McKeon (D-27, West Orange) and Asw. Stender in March after the body of Pamela Schmidt, a Rutgers student and resident of Warren Township, was discovered in the basement of her boyfriend's parent's home in Cranford.

According to newspaper articles, the boyfriend, who has been charged with murder, may have been using "bath salts" and consequently suffering from paranoia and mania.

The measure, which was approved by the Senate earlier this month, passed the Assembly by a vote of 74-2.

According to Assembly Majority Office, some of the after affects of using these products, which are believed to be highly addictive, include high blood pressure, increased heart rate, agitation, hallucinations, extreme paranoia, delusions, and suicidal thoughts.

Users experience an intense high, extreme energy, hallucinations, insomnia and are easily provoked to anger, according to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), which is currently investigating the drugs.



STOP TEXTING... Assemblywoman Linda Stender (D-22, Scotch Plains) discusses the "No Texting While Driving Campaign" with Rich Diab, center, regional operations director, and Mike Baker, marketing director, of Smith & Solomon Commercial Driver Training of Linden. Smith and Solomon has launched a campaign to discourage motorists from texting while driving with signage on the side and back of all its tractor trailer training trucks that says "Stop Texting...Just Drive."

# MS Council Reviews Budget Audit and Proclamations

By DOMINIC A. LAGANO  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

MOUNTAINSIDE — The borough council at its bimonthly meeting Tuesday evening passed resolutions to apply for grants with the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) and with the three-year Cooperative Agreement (CAUC) with Union County.

The CDBG program of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides money for construction projects.

The CAUC program also by HUD qualifies participants as part of an "urban county." As such, Elizabeth and Union Township qualify for a direct grant from HUD. For Mountainside to qualify, the borough must enter the cooperative and be combined in name with the other municipalities in Union County.

The board reviewed the audit for the 2011-2012 municipal budget with no changes necessary. Mountainside Mayor Paul Mirabelli noted he was pleased with the audit review's results. "I'm happy to say the recommendation, which they (the borough's auditors) usually find problems that need to be corrected, there are none...so we don't have to discuss any corrective plan." The budget for the borough is \$11,223,629 — an increase of 3 percent over last year.

The council authorized the Mountainside Historic Preservation Committee (MHPC) to apply for a grant to make repairs to the Hetfield House. The Deacon Andrew Hetfield House from the late eighteenth century is used today as a museum and a meetinghouse.

According to Councilman Jeffrey Wass, the money will be used for a new water heater and other "systematic improvements."

At the next council meeting, the council will honor the Governor Livingston High School baseball team, winners of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) Group 2 state final. It is the school's first state championship since 1999. The team had a record of 27 wins and 6 losses this year. The council will also recognize Head Coach Chris Roof.

In August, the council plans to honor the Governor Livingston Girls Softball team, winners of the Union County tournament title. The team lost to Robbinsville High School in the state tournament.

Coach Rick Iacono led the team to a record of 24 wins, with only three losses for the year. Seven members of the team are from Mountainside.

## Non-Residential Dev. Fees Extended In Bill

TRENTON — Legislation extending the suspension of non-residential development fees until July 1, 2013 was overwhelmingly passed by the Assembly on June 29. The original moratorium on non-residential development fees expired on June 30, 2010 and since that time the fee has been re-imposed by municipalities.

In addition to the two-year freeze on non-residential development fees, the legislation provides that payments on or after July 1, 2010 should be refunded, unless a town has spent the money.



# Peyton's Peek at the Week In Politics

By Paul Peyton of The Leader/Times

## Ex-PVSC Administrators, Northvale Mayor Indicted

Three former administrators and a former shop foreman from the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners (PVSC) were indicted last week on charges of using subordinates to help with home repairs while they were supposed to be at work, according to a nj.com report.

Charged were Anthony Ardis, 57, of Paterson; Kevin Keogh, 45, of Roseland; Chester Mazza, 70, of Totowa; and Paul Bazela, 44, mayor of Northvale and former foreman of the PVSC carpenter's shop.

Ardis, Keogh and Mazza were terminated following their arrests in February while Bazela was fired earlier this year. If convicted, he would be required to forfeit his job as mayor, according to the report.

## As Crowley Returns as CEO, Kyrillos Considers U.S. Sen. Run

Biotech executive John Crowley is returning as chief executive officer of Amicus Therapeutics reducing speculation that he's considering a run for U.S. Senate next year in New Jersey. He is finishing temporary active duty with the United States Navy Reserve.

State Sen. Joseph Kyrillos (R-13, Middletown) has set up an exploratory committee to consider a run for the same seat. U.S. Sen. Robert Menendez (D-N.J.), who defeated State Senator Tom Kean Jr. (R-21, Westfield) in 2006, is up for reelection in 2012. Also in the mix is Conservative Ian Linker who said he filed papers to run in May.

## Millburn Providing Shared Service for Animal Control

Millburn has been providing animal control services to Florham Park and Chatham Township since earlier this year and is now in discussions with New Providence and Springfield to extend the service to those towns as well, according to the Independent Press.

The report said Millburn charges \$43.02 an hour for the service. Florham Park had been paying St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center \$19,000 a year to provide animal control services, but faced an increase to \$37,000. They will pay no more than \$20,000 with Millburn.

Homeowners in Florham Park and Chatham Township call their local police to report any animal control issues and the local police call the incident to Millburn Police who then dispatch one of the township's two animal control officers, according to the report.

## Stender Rips Christie for Vetoing \$7.5 Mil. for Women's Care

Assemblywoman Linda Stender (D-22, Scotch Plains) criticized Governor Chris Christie's decision to once again veto \$7.5 million for women's health care. "Once again, the Governor has made it clear that it is more important for him to pander to the conservative right wing media than to support programs that benefit some of the most vulnerable residents he was elected to represent," Asw. Stender said. "Restoring this funding would have saved lives and money and protected low-and-middle-income women from being relegated to the shadows under the Governor's agenda."

## Doherty Bill Would Remove Court From School Aid Decisions

State Sen. Michael Doherty (R-23, Washington) has introduced a constitutional amendment that would remove the State Supreme Court from decisions on how the state funds schools. His said proposal would provide equal school aid for each student, regardless of where the student resides.

## Asm. Green Welcomes Abolishment of COAH

TRENTON — Assemblyman Jerry Green (D-22, Plainfield) welcomed Governor Chris Christie's plan to abolish the Council on Affordable Housing (COAH) and again asked the governor to work cooperatively to improve affordable housing in New Jersey.

Asm. Green recommended COAH be abolished in legislation he sponsored earlier this legislative session (A-3447) that was conditionally vetoed by the Governor in January that would have abolished COAH and provided housing obligation reductions for municipalities.

"I'm pleased to see the Governor do the right thing and devise a responsible plan to abolish the Council on Affordable Housing. This bureaucracy had long become unworkable and never fulfilled the goal of responsibly providing affordable housing throughout our state. That's why I proposed abolishing it in my legislation. But this is only half the battle," Asm. Green said.

"I continue to hope to work cooperatively with the Governor to devise reform legislation that meets the needs of economic development and affordable housing. New Jersey needs a viable housing plan for its hard-working families that is also good for business and workable for mayors," he said.

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# Christie Signs \$29.7-Bil. Budget; Slashes Democrats' Proposal By \$900 Million

TRENTON — Governor Chris Christie took the budget ax to the Democratic-proposed state budget by trimming \$900 million for a total final budget of \$29.7 billion.

"My budget increases state aid to school districts by \$850 million over last year. This means we have restored every dollar of the cuts we made last year and increased it by an additional \$30 million," the Governor said at a news conference last Thursday. "I told the people of New Jersey last year that I made the cuts to K-12 education funding as a last resort. The very next year we restored every dollar of that funding and, in fact, increased it. We are keeping faith with our commitment to New Jersey's children and families."

He said the budget doubles the Homestead benefit to provide property tax relief for New Jersey families; increases and secures funding for New Jersey hospitals by an additional \$20 million; provides full funding for women's healthcare by increasing the administration's "commitment to those with low incomes and the uninsured through Federally Qualified Health Centers in every county in New Jersey."

"We are keeping faith with women in need of health care," Governor Christie said. "My budget flatly refuses to raise taxes on individuals and small businesses at a time when New Jerseyans are already subject to the third highest state income tax rates in the nation."

"The Democrats will criticize us for not raising taxes, but they had their chance at the helm of our economy for eight years, all by themselves. What did they do? They raised taxes and fees 115 times, increased spending exponentially and created unemployment over 10 percent, worse than any of our neighboring states," the Governor said.

"My budget fulfills New Jersey's commitment to make the state's pension fund payment, keeping faith with our public employees in a way that governors of both parties have failed to do over the last two decades; and finally my budget protects our seniors by funding critical spending for prescription drug aid for our seniors and the disabled," he said.

"In contrast, the budget that passed out of the Democratic Senate and Assembly is a reckless and irresponsible homage to the past, putting election year politics ahead of reform and ahead of the taxpayers' best interests. Their unbalanced, unconstitutional budget relied on phantom revenues, a penchant for political giveaways, unchecked spending and an unconstitutional approach that we will not go back to," the Governor said. He said Democrats over estimated revenues by \$365 million. "Simply put, they just made it up so they could spend it."

"I will not allow all the hard work and tough decisions, made on the bipartisan basis over the last 18 months to be undone by last-minute political gamesmanship of the legislative majority," the Governor said.

Assembly Majority Leader Joseph Cryan (D-20, Union) responded that,

"This governor just doesn't get it. New Jerseyans don't want tax breaks for millionaires. They want meaningful property tax relief, protections for senior citizens, investments in education and access to health care, especially for working families and women. The Governor has once again proven that he does not stand with working-class New Jerseyans, whether they live in our cities, rural areas or suburbs. Millionaires continue to be the only ones living the good life under Gov. Christie. This governor, with some strokes of his pen, has ensured another painful year for middle-class and poor residents struggling to make ends meet."

Senate Republican Leader Tom Kean, Jr. (R-21, Westfield) and Senate Republican Budget Officer Anthony Bucco (R-25, Denville) praised Governor Christie's changes to the Democrats budget proposal.

"The budget passed by legislative Democrats was political, partisan, and unbalanced from the minute it was introduced," Senator Kean said. "I commend the Governor for taking the bold action necessary to fill the more than \$700-million hole he was handed [June 29] by the Majority, and for doing so while increasing aid for suburban districts that are treated unfairly by current school funding law."

"His changes to the budget will provide a doubling of this year's suburban school aid increase and unfreeze the 'Senior Freeze' program without raising taxes and hurting job creation to pay for it," Sen. Kean said.

Sen. Bucco commented that, "Governor Christie made the crucial changes to return fiscal discipline to a budget document that was fundamentally flawed and fiscally indefensible. The document that he returned to the Legislature [Thursday], increases property tax relief and continues the essential reforms that will create more private sector jobs and return all New Jerseyans to prosperity."

State Senator Jim Whelan (D-2, Atlantic) said he was "disappointed that the Governor couldn't overcome his blatant political aspirations to even consider some of the many great proposals we put forward for the people of the Garden State. The Democrats' proposal would have increased pub-

lic safety funding by \$50 million... expanded school aid across the board and finally realized the promise of the 2008 school funding reform act by fully funding all schools - urban, rural and suburban."

New Jersey Republican Committee Chairman Samuel Raia said, "Trenton Democrats sent an unbalanced and unconstitutional budget to Governor Christie that increased spending and taxes. But the Governor took out his veto pen and stood up for the taxpayers of New Jersey. Democrats just can't help themselves. By using accounting gimmicks, inflated revenue projections and tax hikes, Trenton Democrats [have tried] to find a way to increase spending regardless of the economic realities that face our state."

New Jersey Democratic State Committee Chairman John Wisniewski also commented on the Governor's veto. "There he goes again, standing up for the special interests and millionaires, while turning his back on the middle class. With his veto pen [on June 30], the Governor said more than any YouTube video ever will about shared sacrifice being nothing more than a political talking point."

"Maybe that's why his poll numbers are upside down, most notably with women and independent voters abandoning him. While his act may play well for the national crowd in Des Moines, but not well in Dumont where his actions have real consequences to middle-class families."

Assembly Republican Leader Alex DeCroce (R-26, Whippany) commended Governor Christie for "maintaining the sound and disciplined fiscal budgeting approach which he implemented with the 2011 budget."

"The hastily-crafted Democrat budget was based on hope and the wishful thinking that Governor Christie would cave in to their irresponsible plan that failed to properly allocate spending priorities," Asm. DeCroce said. "Unfortunately the Democrats keep challenging his commitment to keep that promise. It is time for the majority party to understand they can't ramrod their tax and spend policies any longer without someone stopping them."



**BEST SHOTS...** Union County Sheriff Ralph Froehlich, left, and retired Elizabeth Police Chief Gene Mirabella, second from right, congratulate the winners of the Union County Sheriff's First Annual Police Pistol Competition at the new Union County Sheriff's Firearms Training Facility in Springfield. Jerry Plum, second from left, of the Plainfield Police Department, won first place; Sean Dougherty, right, of the Union County Police, won second place and Dan Sims of the Kenilworth Police Department won third place.

## County Fair Returns With Fun, Flair and MusicFest

UNION COUNTY — The 2011 Union County Fair will return this fall as part of the 14th annual Union County MusicFest. The five-day event starts on Wednesday, September 14, and runs through Sunday, September 18, at Oak Ridge Park in Clark.

Overlook Medical Center returns as the presenting sponsor for the third year. Other major sponsors include Kean University, TD Bank, Crossroads, Union County Performing Arts Center, Crown Plaza, Elizabethtown Gas, Verizon Wireless, and Union County College.

For the fourth year in a row, the Union County Fair will partner with the Love Hope Strength Foundation to raise funds to fight cancer, and to register potential bone marrow donors. The Union County Fair has already registered over 1,000 people on the international bone marrow registry with 23 potential life-saving matches identified.

Many popular Union County Fair attractions are returning this year will include: Kids Kingdom Traveling Jubilee featuring free and modestly priced children's activities and free children's performances; the Love Hope Strength 5-K Rock 'n' Run and Rock On! Walkathon, raising funds to fight cancer; Daredevil bike stunts from the Hell on Wheels BMX bike team; the Rutgers Cooperative Ex-

tension of Union County with an expanded Harvest Contest and community information on gardening, wellness, and 4-H youth clubs; more crafts and unique items for sale at The Marketplace; an expanded Green Village featuring interactive exhibits on energy and resource conservation; dozens of food vendors and displays by local businesses.

Band announcements will be ongoing. For continuous updates visit theucfair.org. For information on the Love Hope Strength 5-K Rock 'n' Run, Rock On! Marathon, and bone marrow registry, visit the Union County Love Hope Strength Association, uclovehopestrength.com.

Prospective vendors and sponsors can contact Cherron Rountree, director, Union County Division of Intergovernmental Policy and Planning, at (908) 527-4200 or crountree@ucnj.org

### Assembly OKs Bill for POLST Registry


TRENTON — Bipartisan legislation sponsored by Asw. Nancy Muñoz (R-21, Summit), establishing a "Physician Order for Life-Sustaining Treatment" (POLST) registry in New Jersey, was approved by the Assembly and Senate on June 29.



**TRIO OF TRUSTEES...**The Westfield Foundation has announced its executive board for 2011-2012, including Anthony J.R. Cook, president; William Foley, vice-president; Alice Fertig, treasurer, and Donnell Carr, secretary. Additionally, the Foundation has named three new trustees, installed in May, who will serve six years with the organization. They are, pictured left to right outside of the Foundation's office located at the Westfield train station, Beth Cassie, Howard Cohen and Michelle Mattessich.

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## Letters to the Editor

### Thank You Westfield Police and EMS for A Job Well Done

I saw first hand today [last Friday] the wonderful job our Westfield police and EMS do in a moment's notice without all the fanfare, but with 100 percent dedication. We all take time to snap a cell photo or You Tube negative items in attempt to obtain fatten minutes of fame. This is not the case. This morning my wife and I were having breakfast at Vicki's Diner and when a young man started to experience chest pains. Our wonderful host Helen immediately called the police. Helen is a gem. In a manner of minutes two police officers were on site, seconds letter EMS arrived. We were sitting across from the young man and heard and saw the immediate help and care that go unnoticed from our professionals. The young man was capable of walking to the waiting ambulance. Our thoughts and best wishes are with him. I was so impressed with the life-saving timing and caring that I went out to say thanks to the two police officers and EMS who were gone in a "heart" beat before I had the chance to say thank you. I didn't get their names, but hope you print this with the hope they have the opportunity to read my thank you note.

**Fred Posniak**  
**Westfield**



### Lincoln School to Lehigh To Germany and Now

Thanks for the reminder [to renew my subscription]. I have enjoyed the Leader since 1942 through Lincoln School, RJHS [Roosevelt], and Westfield High. I read it on weekends home from Lehigh University.

My parents mailed it to me when I was in the Army in Germany; then raising a family in Westfield through retirement.

**Donn Williams**  
**Bridgewater**

### Why Isn't There A Flag In Each Room Of All of Westfield Schools

The letter [to the editor, June 30] by Judy Catania regarding the missing of the flag in the auditorium in the High School really caught me by surprise. I have two children who went through the Westfield school system. The flag was always there when we attended concerts, plays, award ceremonies, etc. Why is the flag removed from the auditorium to another room of the high school because of another function?

My question is: Why isn't there a flag in each room of each school or at least in each meeting room? Since Westfield can afford the nice salaries for the teachers and superintendent, we certainly can afford a U.S. flag in each room in each school. I am sure if there is a problem with the expenses, many Westfielders will be happy to fundraise for it.

**Lilian Louie**  
**Westfield**

## Why Are They So Worried? An Incumbent Never Loses

New Jersey Senate President Stephen Sweeney went on a tirade last week and called Governor Chris Christie names seldom heard of in a public political forum. Perhaps it would make piquant "paparazzi press" to repeat Sen. Sweeney's screed — though we don't think it's appropriate — nor do we think Mr. Sweeney acted appropriately either. Mr. Sweeney's vanity must be exceeded only by his ego.

We teach our children to respect and look up to our leaders. We'd like to believe it ourselves. But, actions like Mr. Sweeney's anchor the notion that New Jersey has a dysfunctional state government brought about by the acrimony within the two legislative bodies. It's everyone for themselves in Trenton — and no one for the citizens and the taxpayers — regardless of the self-serving rhetoric that reviles from their "read my lips."

Mr. Sweeney, though, has the perfect opportunity to proffer his spite made opportune by one of the Governor's line-item vetoes — that of cutting some of the funding for legislative staffers. Mr. Sweeney, as Senate president, decides who gets the money for staffers. He could just as well give all the money to his pals and none to the Governor's cohorts. It will be interesting to see what he actually does on this matter once his heads clears (presumably) from his harangue.

Warning - from now to Election Day in November expect to only hear, "Vote for me as I will fight for you." They are all up for election — 40 State Senators and 80 Assemblypersons. Why are they so worried? An incumbent never loses.

From the Governor's Office: "The Governor believes the language used [by Sen. Sweeney] was inappropriate and disrespectful to the office, but he continues to stand ready to work with Senator Sweeney and the Legislature in a bipartisan manner to get things done for the people of New Jersey." Assembly Republican Leader: "Over the course of the last week, many of us have been engaged in a highly spirited and sometimes contentious debate on important public policy issues. In the heat of battle, I believe the remarks by Sen. Sweeney about Governor Christie were made in anger. We all have made public comments that we wish we could take back, including myself.

"I urge Sen. Sweeney to reach out to the Governor and work out their differences. Over the past year, these two great leaders have put aside partisanship and done what's best for the people of New Jersey. Without their willingness to compromise, we never would have realized the most significant bipartisan reforms our state has ever seen. It is time for cooler heads to prevail and for the two leaders to resolve their differences." - Asm. Alex DeCrose (R-Morris).

## Should School Districts Merge Assistant Super Positions?

The Westfield Board of Education will meet tonight, July 7, to appoint a new assistant superintendent of pupil personnel services, replacing recently retired Theodore Kozlik. Is this being rushed?

School districts around the state are faced with mountains of retirements spurred by upcoming changes to the pension system — Westfield and Scotch Plains-Fanwood are included in this parsing. Mr. Kozlik is among some 22 Westfield BOE retirees while Scotch Plains-Fanwood Business Administrator Anthony Del Sordi is among a dozen retirees in SPF.

At least some discussion should be had, in our opinion, of merging job functions of assistant positions — or sharing functions with other districts. Westfield has a superintendent and two assistant superintendents along with a business administrator. Anita O'Neal is assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction. Westfield and other districts should examine sharing these positions and duties.

While there are office staff that could be reorganized for the work, we wonder if it's the best priority that one of them, or an out-of-district candidate, be elevated to assistant superintendent — with a higher salary and benefits. The state doesn't have the money and has trimmed funding to school districts — not to mention the 2 percent cap on spending and the 4 percent per year salary increase given to the teachers' union. How are all these consistent, we wonder.

Likewise, we believe the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education should evaluate whether they need to hire another assistant principal at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Ed Braun.

In our opinion, this is not the time to be replacing administrators just because there are vacancies. If the positions are not vital and if there are greater priorities, should they be filled?



### Your State Legislators

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425 North Ave. E.  
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(908) 232-3673  
Asm. Jon Bramnick (R)  
251 North Ave. West  
Westfield, N.J. 07090  
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Asm. Nancy Munoz (R)  
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**---LD-22---**  
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**LD-21** includes Westfield, Mountainside, Garwood, Summit and Cranford.  
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sencutari@njleg.org  
asmbarnick@njleg.org  
aswmunoz@njleg.org  
aswstender@njleg.org  
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### Credit Christie for Keeping Prop. Tax Reimbursement

The debate is over in the Statehouse. After making cuts of \$1.3 billion to the budget passed by legislators, Governor Christie signed into law the new state budget. Governor Christie slashed funding from Medicaid, nursing homes, and impoverished municipalities; however, once the ink from his veto pen dried, the Senior Property Tax Reimbursement Program remained intact and got the funding Democrats set aside for it.

Over the past month, AARP and its members have worked tirelessly to make their voices heard. They have written letters, made phone calls and kept constant pressure on state legislators to provide full funding for the Property Tax Reimbursement Program. Many state newspapers also contributed to this effort by publishing editorials and features about the program. This media presence did not go unnoticed. The power of the press prevailed.

In the face of devastating cuts elsewhere, Governor Christie deserves credit for sticking to his word and preserving funding for the Property Tax Reimbursement Program and increasing the Homestead credit.

**Kevin Hawryluk**  
**Princeton Junction**

### COAH is Abolished by the Legislature

As the original sponsor of legislation to end the failed Council on Affordable Housing, I applaud the Governor's decision. By abolishing COAH, we are helping to protect municipalities from heavy-handed state oversight, and duplicative government services.

Hardworking people need and deserve a safe, affordable place where they can raise their families, rest their heads and be proud to call their home. Unworkable affordable housing rules implemented by COAH have hurt that laudable goal. Moving forward we need to provide for a smart growth approach to development focused on results rather than ideology and I am optimistic that is the direction we are headed.

I also applaud the Legislature for passing a bipartisan bill that removes a 2.5 percent commercial development fee that hindered job growth and economic development. This fee made it infinitely more difficult to convince potential employers to move to or expand their operations in New Jersey.

Both of these steps will go a long way to fixing New Jersey's antiquated affordable housing rules.

**Senator Christopher Bateman**  
**(R-16, Somerset)**

### AARP Opposes Deregulation of Phone, Cable TV Services in N.J.

*Editor's Note: The following concerns an effort by Trenton lawmakers last week to revise S-2664, a bill that would deregulate New Jersey telephone and cable television services.*

AARP opposes this anti-consumer telephone and cable deregulation legislation that fails to protect the interests of consumers. We are concerned that the bill's sponsors are trying to rush this bill through the final days and hours of a very hectic budget process without the benefit of adequate public scrutiny.

While AARP appreciates that Senators Sweeney and Lesniak have come to understand that residents 65 and older need regulatory protection against skyrocketing rate increases, the proposed amendment to the bill still fails to adequately protect AARP members and all consumers from unwarranted price increases and quality shortcomings. Even if amended as proposed, the bill ignores the poor track record of deregulation in other states. Specifically, the proposed amendments

DO NOT restore:  
Verizon's obligation to serve as carrier of last resort.  
Any consumer protections for either telephone or cable.  
Any rate protection for middle-class seniors and others who rely on landlines for medical alerts and alarm systems.  
The ability of people under 65 to get stand-alone basic residential service.

The Board of Public Utilities' jurisdiction to ensure safe, adequate and proper service.  
The BPU's jurisdiction over terms and conditions of service.  
The BPU's ability to review whether an exchange is "competitive" (still defined as the whole state and requires only a filing with the Secretary of State).

Any ability of municipalities, Rate Counsel or the BPU to object to or review a system-wide franchise renewal.


All consumers, including older residents, warrant the protections of our current regulatory system that requires the provision of affordable, quality service, protection from slamming, credit for service outages, have our billing errors corrected and prohibitions against being refused service without reason or suffer discrimination in rates. S-2664, if passed, would wipe out all of these consumer protections.

New Jersey's flexible regulatory structure works for consumers and the industry alike, and is a system we need to keep. Our strong track record of keeping basic phone service rates affordable and high quality has not undermined industry expansion into new and higher end services. S-2664, even if amended as proposed, represents an unwarranted shift in current state policy and should be rejected.

**Douglas Johnston**  
**AARP**  
**Plainsboro**

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gdevaney@ucnj.org  
Sebastian D'Elia, Public Info.  
(908) 527-4419  
sdelia@ucnj.org  
Deborah Scanlon, Bd. Chair  
dscanlon@ucnj.org



### Answers to last week's arcane words.

1. Titar - The gray partridge  
2. Darque - Scottish for a day's work  
3. Partan - Scottish for crab  
4. Frumentaceous - Of or made of cereals

**THIRLING**  
1. Whirling or spinning  
2. The act of deriding or ridiculing  
3. The act of boring, drilling, etc.  
4. Twisting or distorting

**TURSIO**  
1. A large dolphin of the North Atlantic having few teeth  
2. Unsubstantial, slight or flimsy  
3. A genus of acridian grasshoppers; a cicada  
4. A sharp spear used in harpooning sea turtles

**OUZEL**  
1. The European blackbird  
2. A calcareous deposit found in the sacs of the ear  
3. A type of Greek alcoholic beverage flavored with the seeds of the anise plant  
4. A concealed dungeon with a trap door at the top

**TITUBATE**  
1. To stumble or stagger  
2. To tickle or stimulate pleasurable  
3. To make or look smart; to dress up  
4. Existing in title or name only; nominal

### Letters to the Editor

**Credit Christie for Keeping Prop. Tax Reimbursement**

**Kevin Hawryluk**  
**Princeton Junction**

### COAH is Abolished by the Legislature

**Senator Christopher Bateman**  
**(R-16, Somerset)**

### Unitary County Freeholders

**Douglas Johnston**  
**AARP**  
**Plainsboro**

### Deadlines

General News - Friday 4pm  
Weekend Sports - Monday 12pm  
Classifieds - Tuesday 12pm  
Ad Reservation - Friday 4pm  
Ad Submittal - Monday 12pm

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David Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
FULLY PREPARED...During last Thursday's police action at Brightwood Park in Westfield, officers were prepared for almost anything. The incident ended calmly. See page one.

Vandalism Rises at GW's Vacant Washington School

By MICHAEL J. POLLACK
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

GARWOOD - A Garwood Board of Education member reported that vandalism is on the rise at the now-vacant Washington School.

Last year, the borough decided to take Washington School "off-line" and consolidate its efforts into its lone school, the K-8 Lincoln School.

Building and Grounds Committee Chairman Russell Graham detailed the damage to the building.

"Damage seems to be accelerating, like the kids know the building is not being used, so they're emboldened to be a little more adventuresome," he said.

"We're seeing some pretty creative vandalism," Mr. Graham said. The water also had to be shut off after one of the faucets was left on.

He suggested putting up no-trespassing signs and said the borough "needs the community to step up and keep an eye on everything."

In other Washington School business, Superintendent of Schools Teresa Quigley also spoke about the school and said the board wants to "retain ownership of the building."

"Everyone would love for it to be a pre-school center," she said. "It just has to be a self-sustaining center."

Washington School, on East Street, closed after deep state-aid-funding cuts last year; it had housed four classes of about 80 students in pre-school and kindergarten.

Mrs. Quigley spoke privately with The Westfield Leader and The Scotch Plains-FanwoodTimes after the meeting and recapped the history of Washington's closing.

"We had one week to find \$400,000," she said. "To try to save

County MusicFest

Blondie will perform at the Union County Fair featuring the 14th annual MusicFest this fall on Saturday, September 17.

MS BOE Wraps Up Year, Discusses Supervisor's Duties

By DOMINIC A. LAGANO
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

MOUNTAINSIDE — The Mountainside Board of Education (BOE) held its bimonthly meeting on June 28. As the school year came to a close last week, this meeting served as the unofficial finale for the 2010-2011 school year.

Reporting on their many successes during the school year were Susan Buchner and Judy Wargaski, co-presidents of the Mountainside Education Foundation (MEF). The MEF is a non-profit organization devoted to improving the quality of the school life of the students through fund-raising efforts.

This past year, the MEF approved grants totaling \$13,859. These funds contributed to several different programs such as the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJAC) Poetry Program, a four-day "celebration of poetry" and the Create Real Books Program, where students learned the process of writing a book.

Also providing a summary on the successful end of the school year were Kelly Jurczak and Vanessa Rittman, co-presidents of the Mountainside Parent-Teacher Association (PTA). As a non-profit organization affiliated with the Mountainside school district, the PTA also works to "provide children with opportunities for success."

The PTA organized events such as the Family Fun Bingo Night to enhance community relations and accepted donations of board games to the district so students would remain "active" even in inclement weather. The PTA also organized the annual Fashion Show in order to raise funds for field trips to the Camden Aquarium and The Bronx Zoo.

Chief School Administrator Jeannette Baubles praised the efforts of the MEF and the PTA. "Thank you, ladies, from both the Mountainside Education Foundation and the Parent-Teacher Association. I think I echo what everyone in attendance tonight is thinking in saying that you truly make a difference in the lives of each and every student. We applaud you," she said.

School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary Daniel Saragnese then provided a brief report on the subscription bussing program.

At this time, the deadline for registration for subscription bussing has passed, with 85 families requesting bussing, "significantly less than we anticipated," according to Mr. Saragnese.

Mr. Saragnese continued, "We will be transporting approximately half of the number of students that we transported in the past." Mr. Saragnese cautioned that this 50 percent reduction may not necessarily translate into cutting transportation costs in half, but he stated there would be some savings to the district.

Several members of the audience came forward to voice their concerns regarding the potential for the increased safety risk to students due to more of them walking to school.

Ms. Baubles responded that she and Mr. Saragnese would be meeting with the Mountainside Police Department to address these concerns.

The board then approved several personnel appointments to the district. The appointments of Antoinette Lubrano, pre-kindergarten teacher at Beechwood School; Amanda Znutas,

kindergarten teacher at Beechwood School; Jennifer Sabbagh, first-grade teacher at Beechwood School, and Lauren Rosenhaft, third-grade teacher at Deerfield School, were all approved. All of the appointments were approved as replacements for other personnel currently on leave.

In other news, the position of Thomas Conroy, the former supervisor of curriculum and instruction, who submitted his resignation at the end of the school year, was again discussed, albeit in a more staid tone.

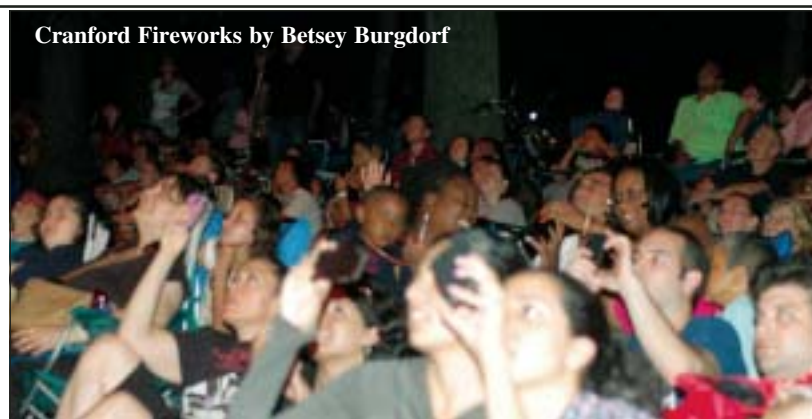
An intense discussion resulted during the last board meeting following a presentation submitted by Mr. Conroy regarding the sharing of his duties among several personnel in lieu of a full-time replacement.

During his presentation, Mr. Conroy implored the board members not to allocate his duties among several staff members with a "shared services" system, but proposed instead a full-time staff position replacement.

Again, several members of the public spoke up and questioned the board's intentions regarding the position.

Board Vice-President Christopher Minks responded that the board's discussion on the position was preliminary and the public would be kept informed of new developments.

The next BOE meeting open to the public is scheduled for Tuesday, July 26, at 7:30 p.m., in the Deerfield School's Media Center.



Westfield BOE Sets Goals For Coming Year

WESTFIELD — Superintendent of Schools Margaret Dolan met with the entire Board of Education on June 29 in the Westfield High School Library to develop goals for the coming school year. The annual evening retreat began with Mrs. Dolan's recognition of the significance of the district's five-year strategic plan (www.westfieldnj.org/strategicplan2010), referring to it as a "living document" from which goals are established.

The board agreed to the following three goals for the 2011-2012 school year:

- 1. Develop increased opportunities in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields;
- 2. Establish, communicate and model standards for respect and responsibility at all levels; and

3. Ensure the continued success of Westfield High School throughout the period of growing enrollment over the next four years.

Board members agreed with goals one and two including "global citizen readiness" of Westfield students and bullying prevention.

Board President Julia Walker initiated the third item regarding enrollment at Westfield High School, which she projects will reach close to 2,000 students in 2014.

Other suggestions by board members included increased communication, improved data collection, measuring effectiveness of teaching, virtual curriculum offerings, establishing a fee program for facilities use and exploring a new approach to budget development.

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# THE WEEK IN SPORTS

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Pages 9-13

## SUMMIT'S LIM 3-FOR-3; SPF'S KELLY & VALLI 1B, BB

### Summit Blanks Raiders, 5-0, In Ripken District Tourney

By DAVID B. CORBIN  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
WESTFIELD – Aggressiveness with success on the base paths combined with timely hitting earned the second-seeded Summit Hilltoppers a 5-0 victory over the third-seeded Scotch Plains-Fanwood Raiders in the quarterfinal round of the 12U Cal Ripken District 12 Tournament at Gumbert 3 Field in Westfield on July 2.

Both teams, however, displayed focus, strong pitching and quality play. Among some of the teams that

the Hilltoppers defeated in the tournament were Millburn White and South Orange/Maplewood, with their only loss being a 3-2 thriller to top-seeded Cranford. The Raiders beat Mountainside and Millburn and lost to Westfield Blue and Warren.

"It has been a great summer. I told them three things the first practice. Listen, hustle and be good teammates! And that's what they've been doing. I don't think they really needed me for that either. They have been well coached before I started working with them. I have four great assistants. The parents are outstanding. They want their kids to do well, but they let their kids play," Raider Head Coach

Joe Higgins said. "This time around, we were a little more focused on our base running. We missed a few times the last time [Cranford]. This time, we finally got the signals down and we were able to be aggressive," Summit Head Coach Vince Donatucci said. "We ran at the right time."

The Hilltoppers totaled nine hits, and seven of those hits blended very well with their hit-and-run and base-stealing efforts in the first three innings when they scored all five of their runs. The Raiders were aggressive also but could only muster three hits, and when they did make their moves, they

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

Probitas Verus Honos



More Summit/SPF Photos – goleader.com – Online Cranford Sports

GRABBING THE THROW FROM HOME...Raider shortstop John Vinci, center, grabs the throw from home, and Jake Canavan, left, backs up the throw as Summit's Ben Lim steals second base in the first inning at Gumbert 3 Field.

## HAUGE GETS 2 HITS, DAALEMAN SLAPS RBI SINGLE

### Warren 12s Defeat WF Black In N. P. Green League, 17-4

By DAVID B. CORBIN  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
Offense worked very well for the Warren Warriors, who banged out 20 hits, in a 17-4, five-inning victory over the Westfield Black 12s in a New Providence Green League game at Gumbert 2 Field in Westfield on June 29.

Adding to the little Warriors' offensive longevity was their very aggressive behavior on the base paths, along with several successful hit-and-run plays. The Warriors totaled eight stolen bases and caused numerous overthrows, which allowed for more advancement on the base paths.

"That's the way I like to play ball. I like to have them run. The more we

run, the better chance that the other team will make a mistake," Warren Head Coach Jorge Cortes explained. In the meantime, the Warriors' talented No. 1 catcher Eric Plesko kept Westfield Black in check, yielding only a pair of stolen bases to John Laide, before switching to centerfield in the fourth inning. Westfield Black added two more stolen bases, one from Mike Hauge, who went 2-for-3 with a run scored, and Eric Storms, who drew walks in both of his plate appearances.

"Our starting catcher always does a great job for us. He's got a great arm. It makes a big difference. When you have a catcher, who can throw, nobody wants to steal," Coach

Cortes said. Westfield starting pitcher Miles Marotta struck out four and walked two in his four innings on the mound. Hauge relieved in the fifth inning. Warren starting pitcher Nick Cortes tossed three innings and recorded five strikeouts, while allowing three hits and three walks. Alex Yang pitched the fourth inning and fanned three Blue Devils, while walking one and yielding one hit. Arjun Mahal closed out in the fifth and recorded one strikeout, while allowing two singles and a walk.

At the plate, Cortes had a pair of RBI doubles, an RBI single and an RBI groundout to finish with four

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



More Westfield/Warren Photos – goleader.com – Online Cranford Sports

GETTING THE THROW A LITTLE LATE...Westfield Black first baseman Mike Hauge, No. 4, gets the throw a little late as Warren's Ross Sheitelman beats out an infield single at Gumbert 3 Field in Westfield.



More Westfield/Summit Photos – goleader.com – Online Cranford Sports

SUCCESSFULLY STEALING SECOND...Summit's Thomas Walker, No. 53, steals second base as Westfield shortstop Robbie Faktor, center, goes for the ball. Westfield scored a run in the bottom of the sixth inning to pull out a 14-13 win.

## REYES RIPS WINNING RBI, CETLIN DRILLS 3 SINGLES

### Westfield 11s Score 1 in 6th To Scorch Hilltoppers, 14-13

By DAVID B. CORBIN  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
Anything can happen in 11-year-old baseball, and the fireworks began early in a showdown between Summit and Westfield in New Providence Green League play at Gumbert 1 Field in Westfield on July 1. In addition to the fireworks, what did show up was the spirit of the players on both teams.

Westfield provided a 21-hit bombardment, while the Hilltoppers added five walks and a hit batter to their 14-hit attack. But the spirited showdown, which had two huge momentum shifts, ended when Westfield's Nate Reyes ripped a single to leftfield to bring Miles Brancatella home with the winning run to secure a 14-13 victory.

Reyes, who finished 2-for-4 with three RBI and a run scored, and Matt Cetlin, who went 3-for-3 with three runs scored and three RBI, helped to lead the Westfield offensive. Brancatella (2 runs scored) and Jack Johnson (run scored) each went 2-for-3 with two RBI. Robby Faktor, Jake Obsgarten and Matt Feinberg

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Prominent Properties

Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY



Prominent Properties Sotheby's International Realty Names William J. "Bill" Hanley, Westfield Regional Office Manager



Prominent Properties Sotheby's International Realty with 10 offices and 400 agents serving Northern and Central New Jersey has named William J. "Bill" Hanley as manager of their Westfield Regional Marketing Center office in Westfield. Mr. Hanley, Past President of the New Jersey Association of Realtors in 2007 and the current President of the Middlesex County Association of Realtors, is one of the most respected names in all of New Jersey real estate. "We are absolutely thrilled to have someone of Bill's experience, expertise, reputation and quality join Prominent Properties Sotheby's International Realty. As we expand our presence, Bill certainly will attract some of the top agents in the marketplace and help our Westfield location become one of our premier offices" said Chief Operating Officer and Co-Owner, Charles Oppier. Most recently, Bill has managed the Metuchen office of Weichert, Realtors and is 28 year veteran of the real estate business having started his career in 1983 as a sales associate. Mr. Hanley has been managing since 1987.

Prominent Properties Sotheby's International Realty (PPSIR) has recently expanded their operations to open in Union County and Essex County with offices in Westfield and Montclair. In 2010, PPSIR was named by Real Trends as the top company in New Jersey with an average sale price of \$719,000.

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**MAKING GREAT CONTACT...**Westfield Black's Jack Gerris rips a two-run double into right-center in the first inning in the 9-2 victory over the Somerset Hills 10U baseball team.

## Warren Defeats WF Black, 17-4

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

RBI. Plesko went 3-for-3 with an RBI and three runs scored. Yang also went 3-for-3 with a double and four runs scored. Mahal had an RBI double, and RBI single and scored twice. Matt Lampert went 3-for-3 with a run scored and an RBI. Ross Sheitelman and Julian Bisci each had two hits, a run scored and an RBI. Mike Snyder tripled, singled, scored twice and had two RBI. Logan Smith scored twice.

"We struggled in the spring, but we came around. We gelled pretty well. The guys are hitting the ball consistently," Coach Cortes explained. "I have been coaching most of these kids for four years. Some of them are new to me this year, so that is why it took a little bit to gel. What positions to play! Where in the lineup they belong! Whether or not I can run them! We are rolling. We are 6-0, and we hope to go all the way!"

Westfield totaled six hits. Connor Root went 1-for-1, was hit-by-a-pitch, drew a walk and scored once. Mark Daaleman ripped an RBI single. Tom Fuccillo (run scored) and Justin Elbert each added a single. Ryan Childs scored a run, and Matt Schiff drew a walk in his two plate appearances.

Warren plated four runs on five hits in the top of the first inning, highlighted by Cortes' and Mahal's RBI doubles. Westfield answered with two runs in the bottom of the inning. Childs reached base on an error, and Fuccillo singled to centerfield. Childs scored on an errant pickoff attempt, and

**Probitas Verus Honos**

Fuccillo alertly scored when Root was caught in a rundown between first and second base.

In the second inning, Plesko singled and scored then Yang walked and scored on Cortes' double off the centerfield screen. Six more Warriors scuffed the plate in the third to seize a 12-2 lead.

After Warrior Chris Drakiwicz lined out sharply to pitcher Marotta, who quickly threw to first for an inning-ending double play, Westfield Black scored a run in the bottom of the fourth when Hauge drilled a lead-off single, swiped a pair of bases and scored on a passed ball. The Warriors whipped up five more runs on six hits, which included three infield singles, in the fifth inning to extend their lead to 17-3. Westfield's final run came when Root walked and later scored on Daaleman's RBI single.

Westfield Black Head Coach Max Fusaro, who played second base last year for the Westfield High School (WHS) varsity baseball team found situations a bit different by being a coach instead of being coached.

"It's a lot different. You have to be way more of a leader out there. Getting the players to do the simple things is pretty rough right now. Get the fundamentals down, really drill them on cutoffs, getting down on grounders, what to do on like a 3-1 count and getting them ready for the next level. Being coach is a very different perspective," he said.

Brett Johnson, also a 2010 WHS graduate and outfielder on the varsity baseball team, was Fusaro's Assistant Coach.

"Brett was a really good centerfielder for our team, and he's doing a good job coaching these kids and keeping them motivated. Since we have played different positions in high school, Brett usually works with the kids in the outfield, and I usually do the infield," said Coach Fusaro, who added, "I usually work with the pitchers, because I was a catcher when I was little. We are just trying to get them to play their best and learn the basics of the game."

Warren	426	05	17
Westfield Black	200	11	4



**TRYING TO AVOID THE TAG...**Summit's Trevor Donatacci, right, tries to avoid the tag at home, but Raider catcher Peter Warren, No. 45, corrals him in the fourth inning.

## Summit Blanks Raiders, 5-0

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

became victims of unfortunate hit-and-run results or outstanding plays by the Summit infielders.

"We just didn't get as many guys on base to be able to do it. We just couldn't string anything together. And a couple of times we were running, we made contact, but they [Summit] did a really good job on the bases. We have an excellent catcher, Peter Warren. Our pitcher, Henry Lewand, does a nice job of holding runners, but you can tell they [Summit] work on it a lot," Coach Higgins said.

"They were unfortunate. They made contact, but it was right at us. We lucked out a little bit there, and we were able to make some plays," Coach Donatacci said.

Summit pitchers Ben Lim, Grant Douglas and Trevor Donatacci combined to record 10 strikeouts, but they did allow six walks and hit a batter. Fortunately, they managed to spread out the free passes, except for a hiccup in the fifth inning. Donatacci, who pitched the fifth and sixth innings, recorded five strikeouts.

"We were a little inconsistent, but we are trying to pick that up. We were fortunate to have a good pitching

staff today," Coach Donatacci said.

The Raiders threatened in the top of the first inning. With one man out, Kyle Kelly and Matt Fox each singled, but Lim struck out the next batter then Raider Warren launched a shot to center that Hilltopper Matt Murdock hauled in.

Lim (3-for-3, 2 RBI) led off in the bottom of the first and ripped a single to right. He stole second and third base then scored on Douglas' chopping single over second.

More misfortune struck the Raiders in the second inning. Sean Valli (1-for-2) worked a leadoff walk then dashed towards second on a hit-and-run play. Unfortunately, Lewand's low popup landed in the glove of Lim, who tossed to first baseman Pat Tully for the double play.

After Sean Crotty grounded out to third, Hilltoppers Christian Fusco (2-for-2, 2 RBI) and David Medina tapped back-to-back infield singles. Donatacci reached first base on a fielder's choice then Lim lashed a two-run single to right, making the score, 3-0.

In the third, Raider John Vinci drew a leadoff walk and stole second base, but Douglas fanned the next batter and got the following two Raiders to ground out. Summit upped its lead to 5-0 in the bottom of the inning. Tully walked and stole second, Jack Washburn singled and Fusco drilled a two-run single to center.

Raider relief pitcher Matt Newman silenced the Hilltoppers in the fourth and fifth innings, although he did yield singles to Lim and Matt Murdock in the fourth. In the meantime, the Raiders mounted their biggest threat in the fifth when Vinci walked, Jake Canavan absorbed a fastball on the arm and Kelly walked to load the bases with one man out, but Donatacci fanned the next two batters to escape the inning.

The Raiders tried one more time in the sixth. Valli dribbled an infield single and Newman walked to offer a scoring threat with only one out, but Donatacci rose to the occasion once again and struck out the final two Raiders.

Sc. Pl.-Fanwood	000	000	0
Summit	122	00x	5

## Westfield Black 10U Defeats Somerset Hills 10Us, 9-2

The Westfield Black 10U baseball team posted a 9-2 win over Somerset Hills at Gumbert 2 Field in Westfield on June 30.

Westfield jumped out to an 8-0 lead in the first inning with a hitting barrage. Jack Gerris whacked a two-run double that scored Andrew Zanfagna and Sean O'Brien. Michael Charlton rapped an RBI single that scored Thomas DeRosa and Brian Hinkel. Sandy Miller tapped an RBI single that brought home Adam Holtzman. Hinkel also had a two-run hit that drove in Gerris and Miller.

Somerset Hills clamped down, and Westfield managed to put just one more run on the board when Jeremy Cha lined a two-out RBI single to left in the second.

On the mound, Westfield Black team starter Hinkel opened the game with a no-hit, no-run frame. Westfield's head coach Jeff Gerris then brought in DeRosa, who threw three innings of one-run ball. Miller closed the game down, allowing just one run over the fifth and sixth innings to seal the victory.

Among the many sure-handed plays in the field, Westfield's SportsCenter moment was a fourth-inning double play that started when DeRosa fielded a come-backer to the mound and threw to first for the out. As he was did, the runner on third broke for home only to be gunned down by Zanfagna, who threw a bullet to catcher Kyle Campanello, who applied the tag to end the inning.



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## Verona Swim Team Skims Mountainside Team, 200-198

The Mountainside Swim team came out strong by winning 18 races but fell just short of toppling Verona at home on June 29 in a meet that came down to the last relay.

Aidan Donadio broke the Mountainside team record in the 13/14 boys 50-meter breaststroke with a time of 36:50. Katherine Seoney, Sarah Montagna and Jenna Attanasio swept the girls 11/12 50-freestyle. Additional freestyle victories went to Jimmy O'Brien [13/14 50-meter (30:75)] and Abby Pires [15/18 girls (30:57)].

Donahue (43:65) and Nicole Biegel (48:28) took 1-2 in the girls 11/12 50-meter breaststroke. Pires won the 15/18 girls 50-breaststroke (38:44). Claire Hannan (NT) won the girls 8U 25-backstroke. Abby Erasmus (46:04)

and Attanasio (48:82) placed 1-2 in the girls 11/12 50-backstroke as did Aidan Herrightly (45:10) and Ted Hannan (45:44) in the boys age group. Nick Cahill (43:19) won the backstroke for the 13/14 boys. Catlin Carroll (36:94) won the backstroke for the 15/18 girls.

Alyssa Corvelli (24:97) and Anna Freer (27:50) took 1-2 in the 8U 25-butterfly. James Maloney (48) placed first in the 8U 25-butterfly, while William Mebes (24:59) did the same in the 9/10 age group. The 13+ medley relay team of Aidan Donadio, Pires, Zoe Verrico and Nicandro Donadio came from behind to win (2:24:12), while Michael Bittner, Claire Hannan, Corvelli and Maloney crushed the competition in the 8U free relay (1:36:12).

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**DEITCH HRs, DBL, 4 RBI; MAVRAKIS 3-RUN HR, 4 RBI**

# St. John Boys Rumble Early To Crumble St. Killian, 16-6

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

Discrepancies over the proper spelling of Captain Harry Semple's team was put to rest—maybe—at Brookside Park in Scotch Plains on June 30. The back-and-forth tug-of-war ended when Semple emphatically stated that the proper spelling was St. Killian, not St. Killian. Besides, the spelling on the players' uniforms are "St. Killian". However, that was the least of the Killians' worries when they took a hard thump early from the jolting St. John boys, who rumbled on to a 16-6

fensive pain also with a two-run double, an RBI double and a single, while scoring three times. Rookie Joe Elias found open territory in all three of his at-bats, going 3-for-3, including a triple, with an RBI and three runs scored.

John's Kevin Spellman went 2-for-3, including a double, with two runs scored and two RBI. Mike Cuccurullo ripped a pair of singles, scored twice and added an RBI. Mike Abram (run scored) had an RBI double and a single, while Corey Woodring singled twice and scored once. Dave Hill had

scoring twice. Ben Loblance, who scored twice, contributed to Killian's 14-hit total with a pair of singles. Jason Semple and Paul Leso each rapped a pair of singles. Scott Curtis went 1-for-2 with two runs scored. Harry Semple poked a single and added an RBI sacrifice fly. Dan Margolis slashed an RBI single, while Karl Grossmann, Howie Bialos and Jim D'Arecca each singled.

Defensively, each team recorded a double play (DP). St. John's Lesniewski initiated a 4-6 (Spellman)-3 (Roberts) DP in the fourth inning. Roberts also added a leaping grab to prevent runs in the sixth inning. Killian's Mavrakis, Lou Balestriere and Grossmann teamed to record a DP in the sixth.

The John Boys jumped on St. Killian with five runs on six hits in the top of the first inning. In the bottom of the inning, Killian had Loblance and Curtis on base when Mavrakis sliced a shot down the right field line that took a quick hop to the right, which resulted in a three-run homer.

The John Boys answered sharply in the second with four more runs to seize a 9-3 lead. In the bottom of the inning, Deitch, from his mound position robbed Bialos with a leaping stab of his lined shot.

DiProspero punched an RBI single in the third to get St. John's lead to 10-3. In the bottom of the inning, a peculiar conversation took place. As the veteran lefthander Grossmann stepped to the plate, an unidentified St. John infielder hollered to his outfield, "Play back!"

Killian first base coach Paul Morrello chuckled and uttered, "Play back? He's an old man."

Grossmann grounded out to third for the second out, which brought Rich Polhamus to the plate. He popped a little looper on the foul side of third base. Alvarez, who was playing leftfield, sprinted toward the ball but could not get to it in time.

Cucurullo, who was manning first, yelled, "Last year, you would have had that Gus."

Well, Alvarez, while a little fired up, chopped a single to right to lead off the fifth inning. Spellman fol-

LOWE'S  
CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



DEFINITELY GETTING TO SECOND BASE...Westfield's Matt Cetlin, right, plops safely into second base as Summit second baseman Tyler Chicules goes for the ball in the first inning at Gumbert 1 Field in Westfield.



HOPING TO GET TO FIRST BASE...St. Killian slugger Steve Pirella hoped to get a solid base hit, but instead he lined out to the pitcher in the fifth inning.

victory in St. Bart's Oldtimers Men's Softball League action.

The biggest thumper for the "John Boys" was pitcher John Deitch, who hammered a two-run homer, an RBI double and an RBI single, while scoring twice in the 21-hit bombardment. Gus Alvarez inflicted plenty of of-

an RBI single and scored twice. Stan Lesniewski, John DeProspero (RBI) and Floyd Roberts (run scored) each singled. Frank Littero scored once and Larry Fleischman had an RBI.

Killian's clouting king was Steve Mavrakis, who sliced a three-run homer and added an RBI single, while

## Westfield 11s Scorch Hilltoppers, 14-13

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

had two hits and two runs scored apiece. Chris O'Connor and Hunter Hagen each went 2-for-3 with an RBI and a run scored. Kevin Fuller (2 RBI) and Lee Papadopoulos each had a hit, while Jason Glickstein added a key RBI.

Brad Klein led the Hilltoppers with three singles, three RBI and a run scored. Sam Goldstein, who had two hits, scored in all three of his plate appearances and added an RBI. Will Gibson thumped an RBI double and an RBI single. Dylan Ingerman (2 runs scored, RBI) and Adam Klein each had two hits. Addison Drone (2 runs scored, RBI), Tyler Chicules (RBI, run scored) and Sterling Hildebrand (run scored) each had a hit. Thomas Walker walked twice and scored twice, Ian Filiault scored once, and Joe Shepard connected sharply in two of his three plate appearances.

Summit scored a run in the top of the first, but Westfield took a 2-1 lead in the bottom of the inning on RBI from Brancatella and O'Connor. The Hilltoppers, however, exploded with an eight-run merry-go-round in the second to seize a 9-2 lead. Cetlin poked an RBI single in the bottom of the inning then Summit added a run in the third on Brad Klein's infield grounder to make the score, 10-3.

But Westfield grabbed the momentum in the third with a seven-run outburst to tie the score, 10-10. Reyes and Johnson each contributed a two-run single in the inning.

"We had a big lead in the second inning, and it's 11-year-old baseball. It cometh and it goes. You never know! They [Westfield] fought well too. It was a never say die attitude by both teams. I liked the way the kids played, the enthusiasm. It is summer baseball, and they should be having fun," Summit Coach Hank Gibson said.

After a silent fourth inning, the Hilltoppers plated three runs in the fifth when Gibson hammered an RBI double and Brad Klein slapped a two-run single, but Westfield tied the score, 13-13, on RBI from Cetlin, Fuller and Glickstein.

Summit had runners on second and third base with one out in the sixth, but Reyes, who was on the mound, struck out the next batter then got the next to ground out to the shortstop.

Westfield came to bat in the bottom of the sixth, and leadoff hitter Feinberg drilled a shot to center that looked like a sure hit, but centerfielder Drone made a spectacular, diving catch for the first out. Brancatella slashed a single to right field and Faktor followed with a chopping single past short. Reyes

stepped to the plate and drilled his game-winning RBI single to leftfield.

"It's 11-year-old baseball. Anything can happen. We have had innings where we had some problems in the field, but we always managed to, somehow, come back, make an exciting game, and tonight was another one of those comeback games," Westfield Head Coach Scott Faktor said. "We probably won three or four of our games where we came from behind."

"It's a great game, especially for 11-year-old kids. Some people say, 'walk that last batter.' I say no! Let 11-year-old kids play the game. The game was won or lost not on that one pitch, but many plays before that could have been made to make a difference in the game," Coach Gibson said.

"The guys were hitting, and the other team made some great plays out there. In the sixth inning, our leadoff guy drove a shot into centerfield, and we think we were all set, and the kid makes a great catch out there. These guys don't give up. That is what's nice about coaching these guys. They are a fun bunch of guys. They have a good time, and that's what it's all about," Coach Faktor said.

Summit	181	030	13
Westfield	217	031	14

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Kerry McDevitt

### COLONIAL



Westfield. This charming Colonial features a large LR with Hardwood floors, Brick wood burning Fireplace and unique built in bookcases topped by stained-glass windows. FDR leads to cozy Den with sliders to patio and private yard. The EIK is a gourmet's delight. A comfortable FR and newer Powder Room complete the 1st floor. The 2nd floor boasts 3 Bedrooms, full bath, and ample closet space. Full basement and attic provide considerable storage to complement living space.

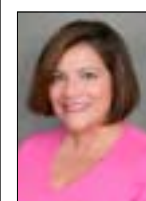


Vivian Cortese-Strano

### SPLIT



Westfield. Space, comfort and location come together beautifully in this spectacular custom 5 Bedroom, 3 Bath Split. This home has been renovated and updated tastefully with granite in the kitchen, charming crown moldings, and wainscoting in the DR; MBR suite with luxurious bath and walk-in closet; gas fireplace in LR; wood-burning fireplace in FR; ground floor bedroom near full bath which could be for guest or parent. Professionally landscaped & great neighborhood!



Rosemarie Hughes

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# CRANFORD COUGAR YOUTH SPORTS PAGES

\*\*\*\*\* During the Summer Months, Area Youth Baseball Games Will Be Displayed on the Cranford Youth Sports Pages \*\*\*\*\*



A COMING HOME CELEBRATION...Cougar Ryan Bakie, right, is greeted by a host of teammates after blasting a solo home run against Millburn in the Cal Ripken District 12 Tournament in Westfield on July 5. See complete story in the July 14 written issue of *The Westfield Leader*.



SUCCESSFULLY STEALING THIRD BASE...Westfield 11s' Miles Brancatella, No. 4, successfully swipes third base as Summit's Adam Klein attempts to make a tag. Westfield scored once in the bottom of the sixth to win, 14-13, at Gumbert 1 Field in Westfield on July 1.

## SUMMIT'S LIM 3-FOR-3; SPF'S KELLY & VALLI 1B, BB Summit Blanks Raiders, 5-0, In Ripken District Tourney

By DAVID B. CORBIN  
*Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times*  
WESTFIELD—Aggressiveness with success on the base paths combined with timely hitting earned the second-seeded Summit Hilltoppers a 5-0 victory over the third-seeded Scotch Plains-Fanwood Raiders in the quarterfinal round of the 12U Cal Ripken District 12 Tournament at Gumbert 3 Field in Westfield on July 2.

Both teams, however, displayed focus, strong pitching and quality play. Among some of the teams that the Hilltoppers defeated in the tournament were Millburn White and South Orange/Maplewood, with their only loss being a 3-2 thriller to top-seeded Cranford. The Raiders beat Mountainside and Millburn and lost to Westfield Blue and Warren.

“It has been a great summer. I told them three things the first practice. Listen, hustle and be good teammates! And that’s what they’ve been doing. I don’t think they really needed me for that either. They have been well coached before I started working with them. I have four great assistants. The parents are outstanding. They want their kids to do well, but they let their kids play,” Raider Head Coach Joe Higgins said.

“This time around, we were a little more focused on our base running. We missed a few times the last time [Cranford]. This time, we finally got the signals down and we were able to be aggressive,” Summit Head Coach Vince Donatucci said. “We ran at the right time.”

The Hilltoppers totaled nine hits, and seven of those hits blended very well with their hit-and-run and base-stealing efforts in the first three innings when they scored all five of their runs. The Raiders were aggress-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## REYES RIPS WINNING RBI, CETLIN DRILLS 3 SINGLES

# Westfield 11s Score 1 in 6th To Scorch Hilltoppers, 14-13

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

Anything can happen in 11-year-old baseball, and the fireworks began early in a showdown between Summit and Westfield in New Providence Green League play at Gumbert 1 Field in Westfield on July 1. In addition to the fireworks, what did show up was the spirit of the players on both teams.

Westfield provided a 21-hit bombardment, while the Hilltoppers added five walks and a hit batter to their 14-hit attack. But the spirited showdown, which had two huge momentum shifts, ended when Westfield's Nate Reyes ripped a single to leftfield to

bring Miles Brancatella home with the winning run to secure a 14-13 victory.

Reyes, who finished 2-for-4 with three RBI and a run scored, and Matt Cetlin, who went 3-for-3 with three runs scored and three RBI, helped to lead the Westfield offensive. Brancatella (2 runs scored) and Jack Johnson (run scored) each went 2-for-3 with two RBI. Robby Faktor, Jake Obsgarten and Matt Feinberg had two hits and two runs scored apiece. Chris O'Connor and Hunter Hagen each went 2-for-3 with an RBI and a run scored. Kevin Fuller (2 RBI) and Lee Papadopoulos each had a hit, while Jason Glickstein added a key RBI.

Brad Klein led the Hilltoppers with

three singles, three RBI and a run scored. Sam Goldstein, who had two hits, scored in all three of his plate appearances and added an RBI. Will Gibson thumped an RBI double and an RBI single. Dylan Ingerman (2 runs scored, RBI) and Adam Klein each had two hits. Addison Drone (2 runs scored, RBI), Tyler Chicules (RBI, run scored) and Sterling Hildebrand (run scored) each had a hit. Thomas Walker walked twice and scored twice. Ian Filaault scored once, and Joe Shepard connected sharply in two of his three plate appearances.

Summit scored a run in the top of the first, but Westfield took a 2-1 lead in the bottom of the inning on RBI from Brancatella and O'Connor. The

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

*Probitas Verus Honos*

**Cranford Youth Sports**  
Want your Cranford Youth baseball team covered? e-mail David B. Corbin dcorbin@goleader.com  
Cranford High School Sports Archives From September 2009 are available.



More photos - click "Photo Library" - click 11jul02-spf - sum - base

NAILED AT THIRD BASE...Summit Hilltopper Christian Fusco gets nailed at third after being tagged by Scotch Plains-Fanwood Raider third baseman George Mueller at Gumbert 3 Field in Westfield on July 2.

## HAUGE GETS 2 HITS, DAALEMAN SLAPS RBI SINGLE Warren 12s Defeat WF Black In N. P. Green League, 17-4

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

Offense worked very well for the Warren Warriors, who banged out 20 hits, in a 17-4, five-inning victory over the Westfield Black 12s in a New Providence Green League game at Gumbert 2 Field in Westfield on June 29.

Adding to the little Warriors' offensive longevity was their very aggressive behavior on the base paths, along with several successful hit-and-run plays. The Warriors totaled eight stolen bases and caused numerous overthrows, which allowed for more advancement on the base paths.

“That’s the way I like to play ball. I like to have them run. The more we run, the better chance that the other team will make a mistake,” Warren Head Coach Jorge Cortes explained.

In the meantime, the Warriors' talented No. 1 catcher Eric Plesko kept Westfield Black in check, yielding only a pair of stolen bases to John Laide, before switching to centerfield in the fourth inning. Westfield Black added two more stolen bases, one from Mike Hauge, who went 2-for-3 with a run scored, and Eric Storms, who drew walks in both of his plate appearances.

“Our starting catcher always does a great job for us. He’s got a great arm. It makes a big difference. When you have a catcher, who can throw, nobody wants to steal,” Coach Cortes said.

Westfield starting pitcher Miles Marotta struck out four and walked two in his four innings on the mound. Hauge relieved in the fifth inning. Warren starting pitcher Nick Cortes tossed three innings and recorded five strikeouts, while allowing three

hits and three walks. Alex Yang pitched the fourth inning and fanned three Blue Devils, while walking one and yielding one hit. Arjun Mahal closed out in the fifth and recorded one strikeout, while allowing two singles and a walk.

At the plate, Cortes had a pair of RBI doubles, an RBI single and an RBI groundout to finish with four RBI. Plesko went 3-for-3 with an RBI and three runs scored. Yang also went 3-for-3 with a double and four runs scored. Mahal had an RBI double, and RBI single and scored twice. Matt Lampert went 3-for-3 with a run scored and an RBI. Ross Sheitelman and Julian Bisci each had two hits, a run scored and an RBI. Mike Snyder tripled, singled, scored twice and had two RBI. Logan Smith

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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## Westfield 11s Scorch Hilltoppers in Sixth, 14-13

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Hilltoppers, however, exploded with an eight-run merry-go-round in the second to seize a 9-2 lead. Cetlin poked an RBI single in the bottom of the inning then Summit added a run in the third on Brad Klein's infield grounder to make the score, 10-3.

But Westfield grabbed the momentum in the third with a seven-run outburst to tie the score, 10-10. Reyes and Johnson each contributed a two-run single in the inning.

"We had a big lead in the second inning, and it's 11-year-old baseball. It cometh and it goes. You never know! They [Westfield] fought well too. It was a never say die attitude by both teams. I liked the way the kids played, the enthusiasm. It is summer baseball, and they should be having fun," Summit Coach Hank Gibson said.

After a silent fourth inning, the Hilltoppers plated three runs in the fifth when Gibson hammered an RBI double and Brad Klein slapped a two-run single, but Westfield tied the score,

13-13, on RBI from Cetlin, Fuller and Glickstein.

Summit had runners on second and third base with one out in the sixth, but Reyes, who was on the mound, struck out the next batter then got the next to ground out to the shortstop.

Westfield came to bat in the bottom of the sixth, and leadoff hitter Feinberg drilled a shot to center that looked like a sure hit, but centerfielder Drone made a spectacular, diving catch for the first out. Brancatella slashed a single to right field and Faktor followed with a chopping single past short. Reyes stepped to the plate and drilled his game-winning RBI single to leftfield.

"It's 11-year-old baseball. Anything can happen. We have had innings where we had some problems in the field, but we always managed to, somehow, come back, make an exciting game, and tonight was another one of those comeback games," Westfield Head Coach Scott Faktor

said. "We probably won three or four of our games where we came from behind."

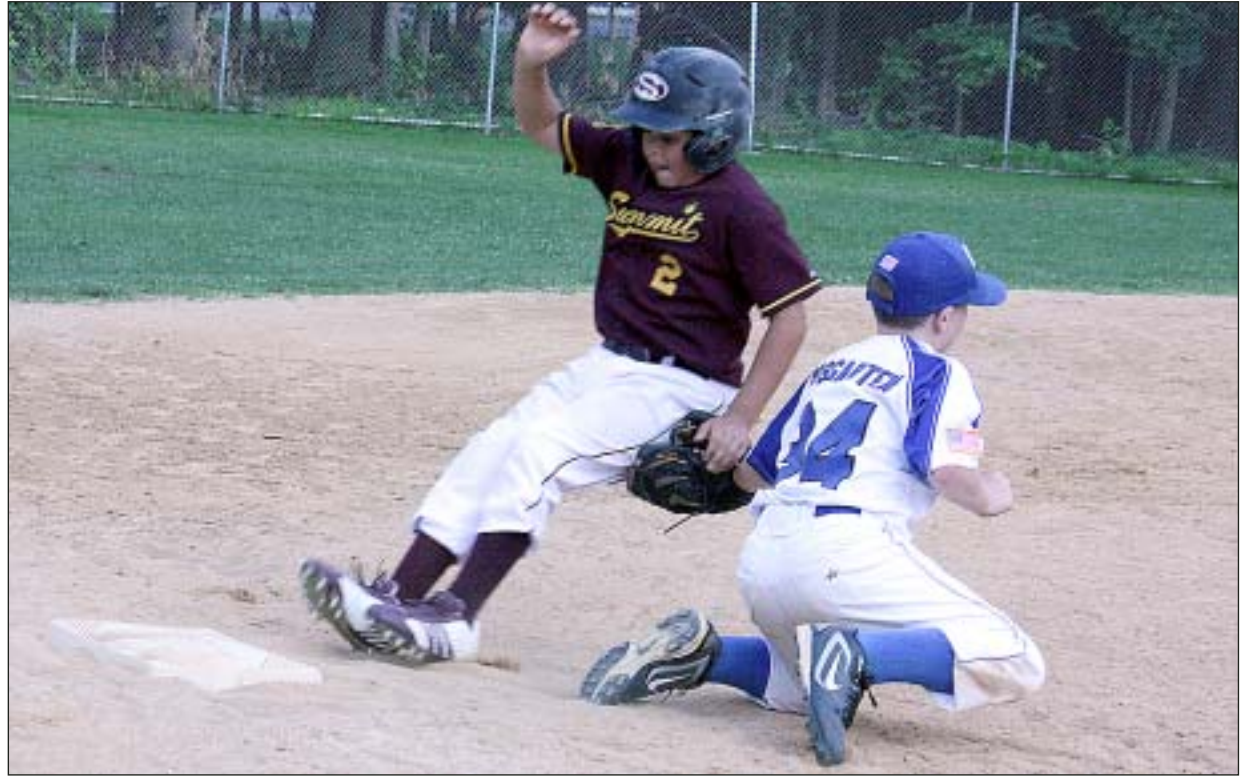
"It's a great game, especially for 11-year-old kids. Some people say, 'walk that last batter.' I say no! Let 11-year-old kids play the game. The game was won or lost not on that one pitch, but many plays before that could have been made to make a difference in the game," Coach Gibson said.

"The guys were hitting, and the other team made some great plays out there. In the sixth inning, our leadoff guy drove a shot into centerfield, and we think we were all set, and the kid makes a great catch out there. These guys don't give up. That is what's nice about coaching these guys. They are a fun bunch of guys. They have a good time, and that's what it's all about," Coach Faktor said.

Summit	181	030	13
Westfield	217	031	14



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
GETTING TO SECOND IN THE NICK OF TIME...Summit Hilltopper Pat Tully, No. 16, steals second before Raider second baseman Jake Canavan can make the tag in the third inning at Gumbert 3 Field in Westfield on July 2.



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
MAKING THE TAG FOR THE PUTOUT...Westfield third baseman Jake Obsgarten, No. 34, puts the tag on Summit Hilltopper Will Gibson, No. 2, as he attempts to swipe third in the fifth inning at Gumbert 1 Field in Westfield during a New Providence Green League game on July 1.

## Summit Blanks Raiders in District Tourney, 5-0

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

sive also but could only muster three hits, and when they did make their moves, they became victims of unfortunate hit-and-run results or outstanding plays by the Summit infielders.

"We just didn't get as many guys on base to be able to do it. We just couldn't string anything together. And a couple of times we were running, we made contact, but they [Summit] did a really good job on the bases. We have an excellent catcher, Peter Warren. Our pitcher, Henry Lewand, does a nice job of holding runners, but you can tell they [Summit] work on it a lot," Coach Higgins said.

"They were unfortunate. They made contact, but it was right at us. We lucked out a little bit there, and we were able to make some plays," Coach Donatacci said.

Summit pitchers Ben Lim, Grant Douglas and Trevor Donatacci combined to record 10 strikeouts, but they did allow six walks and hit a batter. Fortunately, they managed to spread out the free passes, except for a hiccup in the fifth inning. Donatacci,

who pitched the fifth and sixth innings, recorded five strikeouts.

"We were a little inconsistent, but we are trying to pick that up. We were fortunate to have a good pitching staff today," Coach Donatacci said.

The Raiders threatened in the top of the first inning. With one man out, Kyle Kelly and Matt Fox each singled, but Lim struck out the next batter then Raider Warren launched a shot to center that Hilltopper Matt Murdock hauled in.

Lim (3-for-3, 2 RBI) led off in the bottom of the first and ripped a single to right. He stole second and third base then scored on Douglas' chopping single over second.

More misfortune struck the Raiders in the second inning. Sean Valli (1-for-2) worked a leadoff walk then dashed towards second on a hit-and-run play. Unfortunately, Lewand's low popup landed in the glove of Lim, who tossed to first baseman Pat Tully for the double play.

After Sean Crotty grounded out to third, Hilltoppers Christian Fusco (2-for-2, 2 RBI) and David Medina tapped back-to-back infield singles. Donatacci reached first base on a fielder's choice then Lim lashed a

two-run single to right, making the score, 3-0.

In the third, Raider John Vinci drew a leadoff walk and stole second base, but Douglas fanned the next batter and got the following two Raiders to ground out. Summit upped its lead to 5-0 in the bottom of the inning. Tully walked and stole second, Jack Washburn singled and Fusco drilled a two-run single to center.

Raider relief pitcher Matt Newman silenced the Hilltoppers in the fourth and fifth innings, although he did yield singles to Lim and Matt Murdock in the fourth. In the meantime, the Raiders mounted their biggest threat in the fifth when Vinci walked, Jake Canavan absorbed a fastball on the arm and Kelly walked to load the bases with one man out, but Donatacci fanned the next two batters to escape the inning.

The Raiders tried one more time in the sixth. Valli dribbled an infield single and Newman walked to offer a scoring threat with only one out, but Donatacci rose to the occasion once again and struck out the final two Raiders.

Sc. Pl.-Fanwood	000	000	0
Summit	122	00x	5

### Probitas Verus Honos

## Warren 12s Defeat Westfield Black, 17-4

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

scored twice.

"We struggled in the spring, but we came around. We gelled pretty well. The guys are hitting the ball consistently," Coach Cortes explained. "I have been coaching most of these kids for four years. Some of them are new to me this year, so that is why it took a little bit to gel. What positions to play! Where in the lineup they belong! Whether or not I can run them! We are rolling. We are 6-0, and we hope to go all the way."

Westfield totaled six hits. Connor Root went 1-for-1, was hit-by-a-pitch, drew a walk and scored once. Mark Daaleman ripped an RBI single. Tom Fuccillo (run scored) and Justin Elbert each added a single. Ryan Childs scored a run, and Matt Schiff drew a walk in his two plate appearances.

Warren plated four runs on five hits in the top of the first inning, highlighted by Cortes' and Mahal's RBI doubles. Westfield answered with two runs in the bottom of the inning. Childs reached base on an error, and Fuccillo singled to centerfield. Childs scored on an errant pickoff attempt,

and Fuccillo alertly scored when Root was caught in a rundown between first and second base.

In the second inning, Plesko singled and scored then Yang walked and scored on Cortes' double off the centerfield screen. Six more Warriors scuffed the plate in the third to seize a 12-2 lead.

After Warrior Chris Draikiwicz lined out sharply to pitcher Marotta, who quickly threw to first for an inning-ending double play, Westfield Black scored a run in the bottom of the fourth when Hauge drilled a leadoff single, swiped a pair of bases and scored on a passed ball. The Warriors whipped up five more runs on six hits, which included three infield singles, in the fifth inning to extend their lead to 17-3. Westfield's final run came when Root walked and later scored on Daaleman's RBI single.

Westfield Black Head Coach Max Fusaro, who played second base last year for the Westfield High School (WHS) varsity baseball team found situations a bit different by being a coach instead of being coached.

"It's a lot different. You have to be way more of a leader out there. Getting the players to do the simple things is pretty rough right now. Get the fundamentals down, really drill them on cutoffs, getting down on grounders, what to do on like a 3-1 count and getting them ready for the next level. Being coach is a very different perspective," he said.

Brett Johnson, also a 2010 WHS graduate and outfielder on the varsity baseball team, was Fusaro's Assistant Coach.

"Brett was a really good centerfielder for our team, and he's doing a good job coaching these kids and keeping them motivated. Since we have played different positions in high school, Brett usually works with the kids in the outfield, and I usually do the infield," said Coach Fusaro, who added, "I usually work with the pitchers, because I was a catcher when I was little. We are just trying to get them to play their best and learn the basics of the game."

Warren	426	05	17
Westfield Black	200	11	4



More photos - click "Photo Library"  
- click 11jun29-wf-blk-war

David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
EASILY STEALING SECOND BASE...Warren's Arjun Mahal, right, swipes second base as Westfield Black second baseman Matt Schiff covers in the first inning at Gumbert 2 Field in Westfield on June 29.

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\*\*\*\*\* The Fourth of July is celebrated all day long in Cranford. – Photos by Paul Lachenauer and Betsey Burgdorf \*\*\*\*\*

## Cranford Bd. Turns Down Sunoco Convenience Store

**By THOMAS FORTUNATO**  
*Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*

CRANFORD — The Zoning Board of Adjustment on Monday turned down by a 6-1 vote an application by Parkway Sunoco, located at 401 North Avenue, East, to its renovations to their facility, including incorporating a new convenience store that would be open between the hours of 5 a.m. and 10 p.m.

Sunoco was applying for a list of use variances required to convert the facility's repair garages into a convenience store. Currently, Sunoco illegally operates a small convenience store on the premises, as both gas stations and convenience stores are prohibited uses in that zone and require "D" variances to operate. The gas station has existed and operated in that location since 1970.

Sunoco's application originally stated that it wished to operate a 24-hour store, which it later changed to have the store operate between the hours of 5 a.m. and midnight, then finally to between 5 a.m. and 10 p.m. in a last-minute effort to sway the board into accepting the application.

Sunoco's application faced opposition from not only most of the board members but also township residents. One point that was repeatedly made was that the addition of a late-night operating convenience store would lead to an increase of criminal activity in the area.

"A growing number of individuals we read in the police blotter of our local newspaper are stopped in that area for possessing drug paraphernalia," stated board member William Montani.

Board Chairman Robert Hellenbrecht was not just the only member who voted in favor of the application, but remained staunchly in favor of the application from the beginning, even going so far as to attempt to filibuster the opposition with an approximately 40-minute-long continuous speech during the closing comments section of the meeting.

Halfway through Mr. Hellenbrecht's closing comments, former mayor Mark Smith started clapping very loudly from his seat in the audience, attempting to cut Mr. Hellenbrecht off.

"Oh, I'm sorry, I thought you were done," said Mr. Smith. "[You] should've been done a long time ago."

"Be quiet, or I'm going to go next door and get the police!" Board Attorney David Weeks interjected.

"[Mr. Hellenbrecht has] spoken for 15 minutes and hasn't mentioned a municipal land-use law once," Mr. Smith explained.

"You should not be speaking, and you know better," Mr. Weeks stated as he got up to leave the room.

Mr. Weeks returned a few minutes later by himself, and sat down in his regular seat.

## Cranford/Garwood News

### Vandalism Rises at GW's Vacant Washington School

**By MICHAEL J. POLLACK**  
*Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times*

GARWOOD — A Garwood Board of Education member reported that vandalism is on the rise at the now-vacant Washington School.

Last year, the borough decided to take Washington School "off-line" and consolidate its efforts into its lone school, the K-8 Lincoln School.

Building and Grounds Committee Chairman Russell Graham detailed the damage to the building.

"Damage seems to be accelerating, like the kids know the building is not being used, so they're emboldened to be a little more adventuresome," he said. "They've gone as far as kicking in windows...and they're jumping on the cages over the exhaust fans."

One of the trespassers, he said, actually made it into the vacant building through a window. Since then, a Garwood staff member had to screw all the windows closed.

"We're seeing some pretty creative vandalism," Mr. Graham said.

The water also had to be shut off after one of the faucets was left on. A staff member, he said, could have inadvertently done this.

He suggested putting up no-trespassing signs and said the borough "needs the community to step up and keep an eye on everything."

In other Washington School business, Superintendent of Schools Teresa Quigley also spoke about the school and said the board wants to "retain ownership of the building."

"Everyone would love for it to be a pre-school center," she said. "It just has to be a self-sustaining center."

Washington School, on East Street, closed after deep state-aid funding cuts last year; it had housed four classes of about 80 students in pre-school and kindergarten.

Mrs. Quigley spoke privately with *The Westfield Leader* and *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* after the meeting and recapped the history of Washington's closing.

"We had one week to find \$400,000," she said. "To try to save programs, we moved everyone from Washington School, here (Lincoln). Washington was taken off-line. It was not closed."

She said the primary objective had been to seek a party who would rent the facility and continue to operate a school from within it.

"Now," she said, "as [an ad-hoc] committee, we're saying, 'Maybe that's not feasible,' and we're going out to look at our other options. For example, should we go to the town council because the municipal government has outgrown its building?"

Regardless, she said, "The Garwood Board of Education wants to retain ownership of this school. That's definite. We're not selling it. We would just rent it."

In her Superintendent's Report, Mrs. Quigley said New Jersey's anti-bullying legislation would force new standards to be in place as of September 1. She said parents must be "re-educated" as to what bullying is.

She also said teachers, come September, must operate under new core-curriculum standards. Staffing, she said, is already at "bare-bones" levels.

New Jersey State Senator Michael Doherty (R-Hunterdon) has contacted the district to enlist its support in an effort to "restore equity into the distribution of state aid" to New Jersey schools.

In the letter, sent to Ms. Quigley, it says the Garwood school district is "one of the many that are unfairly treated by the state." Mr. Doherty claims that the borough gets back 7 cents for each dollar it sends to Trenton.

Garwood currently receives \$229,710 in state aid. Given student-enrollment projections, adoption of Mr. Doherty's plan would "result in an increase in state school aid for [Garwood] of \$3,777,905 annually."

The Senator would like to visit the borough and have a town-hall meeting to discuss the topic. The BOE stated its intention of contacting his office to learn more.

The BOE entered executive session following the meeting to continue discussions on a contract with the 35-member Garwood Education Association (GEA), the teachers' union. Negotiations Chairman John Sullivan said the GEA cancelled the last meeting. The contract expired June 30.

## Library Posts July Offerings For Adults and Youngsters

GARWOOD — Young readers at the Garwood Public Library have begun to participate in this year's Summer Reading Club, featuring the theme "One World, Many Stories." Children are encouraged to read a variety of books with multicultural themes, and their "passports" will reflect the amount of time they have spent reading.

The summer reading program began on June 27 will run through Monday, August 8. Closing activities for participants and an ice cream party will take place on Thursday, August 11.

Additionally, the library encourages all adults who check out books during the summer to enter their names into a weekly random drawing for prizes, with a grand prize chosen from all entries to be offered at the end of the summer on Friday, September 2.

The library currently is displaying a selection from its extensive collection of various cookbooks, highlighting grilling and outdoor activities, as well as its collection of travel guidebooks.

Craft Days will be held Tuesdays at 3 p.m. during July. Included will be a Fan Craft on July 12 and a Decoupage Craft on July 26. There will be no craft activity on July 19. Movies for children will be offered on Thursdays at 2 p.m. Youngsters may bring a snack, but all drinks must be in closeable containers. For the schedule, check the library's website.

On July 12, at 6:30 p.m., crafter Diana Moore will demonstrate how to make a beaded ankle bracelet. Registration is required for this event, which is limited to 10 adults. All materials will be supplied.

Snakes 'n Scales will present a program for children on July 19 at 2 p.m. entitled "The Good, the Icky, and the Slimy," featuring live "creepy crawlies" and bugs. Registration is required. A parent or adult caregiver must accompany children under age 8.

On Wednesday, July 27, at 3 p.m., magician Mark Zacharia will entertain children and their parents/caregivers. Registration is also required for this event, and a parent or adult caregiver must accompany children under age 8.

Preference will be given to Garwood residents first for both the Snakes 'n Scales program and the magic program.

The Garwood Public Library is located at the corner of Third Avenue and Walnut Street, behind the Lincoln School complex. Registration for these programs may be done by calling (908) 789-1670, in person, or at the library's interactive calendar found on its website, [yousemore.com/garwood](http://yousemore.com/garwood).

## Education News

### CHS Graduation Hits All the Right Notes

**By PETER GRIESMER**  
*Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times*

CRANFORD — Cranford High School (CHS) said goodbye to 266 of its 272 graduating seniors on June 22 at Memorial Field.

Following the event's conclusion, CHS Principal Rui Dionisio said, "This was one of our finest performances and a testament to our wonderful students and staff."

Having just completed his first school year as a high school principal, Mr. Dionisio noted that he watched the past four or five Cranford High School graduation ceremonies in preparation for this year's event. In an address that followed that of Class President Colleen Jones, Mr. Dionisio alluded to his own high school graduation and words regarding the occasion that his grandfather offered him.

Gayle Carrick, Cranford superintendent of schools, presented the graduating class to the Board of Education with her own speech in which she spoke about the necessity of aligning one's actions with one's inner sense of self, and the value of determining for oneself what strategies work best during life's more trying chapters.

Board of Education President Mary Venditti also honored the ceremony with an address before conferring diplomas alongside fellow Vice-President Cathy Morgese. After the ceremony, Ms. Morgese was quick to make note of the speeches offered by the salutatorian and valedictorian, saying, "They were both entertaining, fun, and serious."

Salutatorian Kimberly La Fronz's speech revisited the subject of her college application essay — the Backstreet Boys. For his part, Valedictorian Bryan Santos offered his fellow students some advice about the future and managed to make reference to both Albert Camus and Dav Pilkey's book series "Captain Underpants" along the way.

Between the two speeches, Cranford High School Concert Choir Director Anthony Rafaniello conducted his group in singing Joseph Martin's "The Quest Unending" (with text taken from Alfred Lord Tennyson's poem, "Ulysses") and Peter Lutkin's "The Lord Bless You and Keep You."

The four class officers — Colleen, Vice-President Joseph Papanicolaou, Secretary Sarah Quinn, and Treasurer Eric Walano — were brought onstage for the tassel ceremony, thus concluding the four straight years the four officers spent serving their high school class. Mr. Papanicolaou invited his classmates in moving their tassels from the left side of their mortarboards to the right. Sarah and Eric led the Pledge of Allegiance earlier in the ceremony.

Families and friends alike greeted students with hugs, kisses, high fives, congratulations, and photos following the recession. Amidst all the commotion, several students expressed feeling a mixture of enthusiasm and anticipation as they waited for the event to impact them fully. "I'm really excited," said newly graduated Mark Roberts. "It still hasn't hit me yet."

Kimberly concurred with Mr. Dionisio in his belief that the event was a success. "I don't think it could have run much better with 300 high school students," she said.

### Azure Chapter 87 Reveals 2011-2012 Slate of Officers

CRANFORD — Azure Chapter 87, Order of the Eastern Star, began its 2011-2012 year in April with a new slate of officers. Elected officers include Marie J. Donnelly, Worthy Matron; Philip A. Donnelly, Worthy Patron; Cheryl Vroom, Associate Matron; Kathy Anderson, Conduress; Debra Persing, Associate Conduress; Marion Puglisi, Secretary, and Hettie McKinney, Treasurer.

In addition, the following are the appointed officers for the ensuing year: Susan Forster, Kathy Melnick, Patricia Ledger, Judith Burlew, Patricia Zatko, Judy Gay, Dorothy Johnson, Norman Persing, Terry Zahorchak, Ruth Mega, Genevieve Yachnik, Carol MacFadyen and John Dziedzic.

The Order of the Eastern Star, open to men and women, is one of the largest fraternal organizations in the world. The Eastern Star is a charitable and educational association that provides support to both members and non-members.

The Star Chapter in Cranford is located at the Azure/Masada Masonic Lodge and has more than 100 members. It sponsors various fund-raising events to support its multiple charitable projects, including its Eastern Star Home in Bridgewater.

The chapter meets the first and third Fridays of each month at the Masonic Lodge at 478 South Avenue in Cranford. For more information about the Order of the Eastern Star and membership, contact Marie Donnelly, Worthy Matron, at (908) 789-0813 or [oesazure87@comcast.net](mailto:oesazure87@comcast.net).

**Prominent Properties** | **Sotheby's**  
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

**Prominent Properties Sotheby's International Realty Names William J. "Bill" Hanley, Westfield Regional Office Manager**

Prominent Properties Sotheby's International Realty with 10 offices and 400 agents serving Northern and Central New Jersey has named William J. "Bill" Hanley as manager of their Westfield Regional Marketing Center office in Westfield. Mr. Hanley, Past President of the New Jersey Association of Realtors in 2007 and the current President of the Middlesex County Association of Realtors, is one of the most respected names in all of New Jersey real estate. "We are absolutely thrilled to have someone of Bill's experience, expertise, reputation and quality join Prominent Properties Sotheby's International Realty. As we expand our presence, Bill certainly will attract some of the top agents in the marketplace and help our Westfield location become one of our premier offices," said Chief Operating Officer and Co-Owner, Charles Oppler.

Most recently, Bill has managed the Metuchen office of Weichert, Realtors and is 28 year veteran of the real estate business having started his career in 1983 as a sales associate. Mr. Hanley has been managing since 1987.

Prominent Properties Sotheby's International Realty (PPSIR) has recently expanded their operations to open in Union County and Essex County with offices in Westfield and Montclair. In 2010, PPSIR was named by Real Trends as the top company in New Jersey with an average sale price of \$719,000.

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*Dir: Westfield Rd to Old Farm Road*

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**County MusicFest**  
Blondie will perform at the Union County Fair featuring the 14th annual MusicFest this fall on Saturday, September 17.

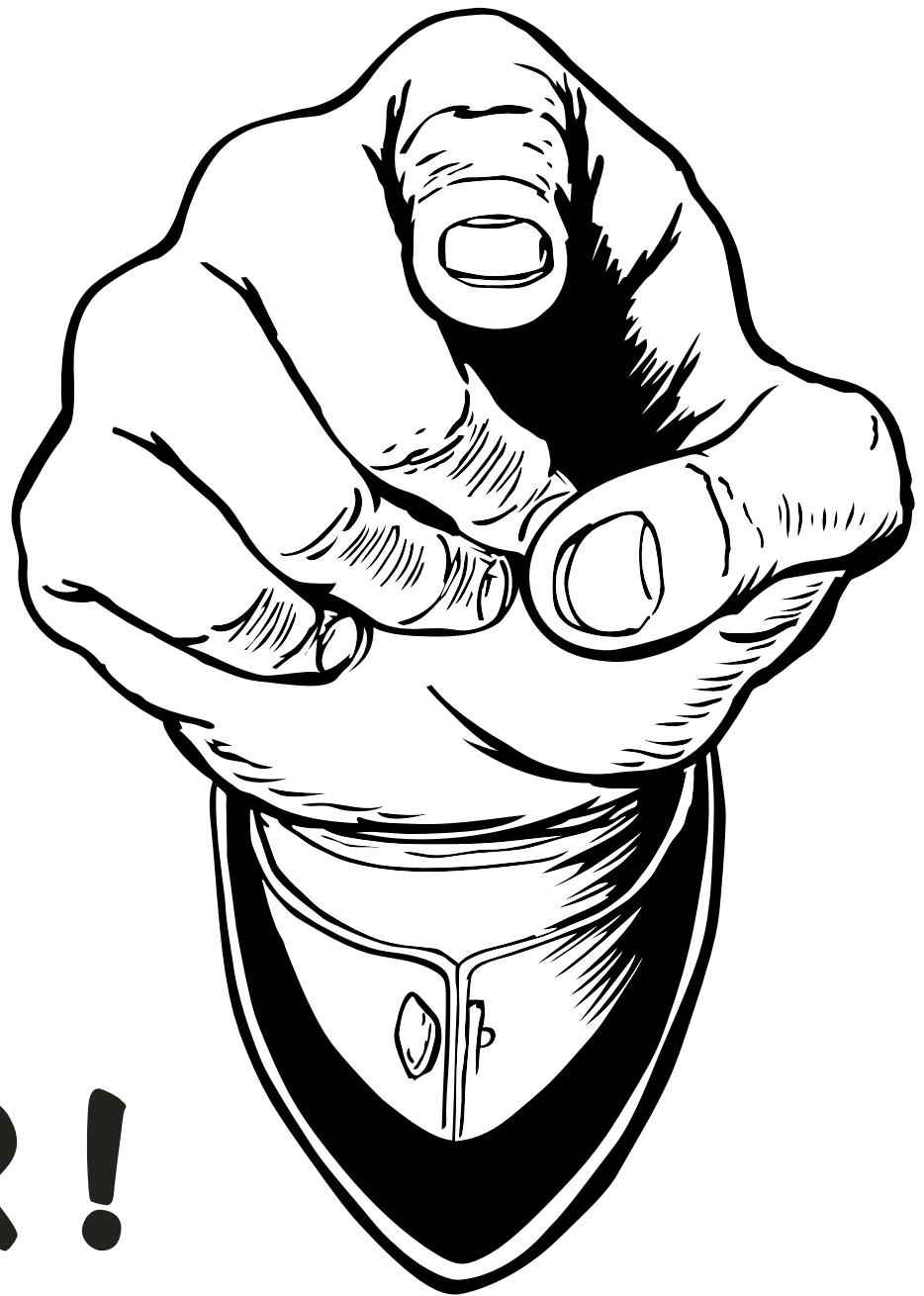
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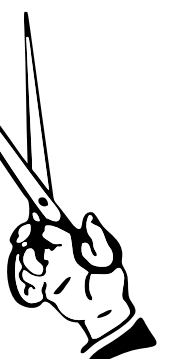
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# Westfield Tennis Association Open Singles Ladder Told:

The fourth reporting period has come to a close with 22 matches played (81 for the season) and more changes to the top five. Joe Buda relinquished the top spot to Richard Perez for the second time this season. Due to inactivity, Buda dropped to the fourth position.

Perez assumed the top spot with wins over Tuyen Diep (6-2, 7-5) and Robert Errazo (10-7). Andrew Federbusch regained the second spot he occupied in reporting period one with a 6-4, 6-1 win over Ren Gao. Diep moved up to the third position, his highest position of the season. He sandwiched a 7-6 (2), 1-6, 6-1 loss to Gao, with wins over Joshua Suri 3-6, 6-1, 6-1 and Gao 6-2, 6-7 (3), 1-2 (retired).

Gao occupies the fifth position after his results against Diep and a 6-2, 6-2 win over Doug Loffredo. Joshua Suri continues to be the most active

player with 18 on the season (three for the period). The fifth reporting period ends on July 17. Please report all match activity to Richard Pardo at rspardo531@msn.com.

1. Rich Perez(5)*	21. Jeff Brinker (3)
2. Federbusch(3)*	22. David Lennon(1)
3. Tuyen Diep (15)*	23. Chris Miller (4)*
4. Joe Buda (5)	24. Mitch Mankin(3)*
5. Ren Gao (10)*	25. Nate Weiss (7)*
6. Rob Errazo (3)*	26. Nate Suri (3)*
7. Rich Pardo(7)*	27. Chris Bonn (2)
8. Aaron Keith(5)*	28. R McKinley(4)*
9. Josh Suri(18)*	29. Steven Lee (1)*
10. M Rappoport(6)*	30. Morgan Willis(6)*
11. D Loffredo(11)*	31. Olga Yee (2)
12. David Ferio(4)*	32. Manny Erlich(2)*
13. I Bouchouev(5)	33. Daniel Ives (1)
14. Weldon Chin(7)	34. Don Beal (3)
15. Fran Adriaens(5)	35. Scott Berman(1)
16. Tyler Becker (3)*	37. Chris Wendel(1)
17. Mike Muroff(3)*	38. Don Dohm
18. T Bigosinski(5)*	38. Chris Fischer
19. Chris Farella(11)*	39. Ted Moss
20. Mike Manders(3)*	40. J Tannenbaum

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

## WTA Open Masters Singles Ladder Results:

At the midway point in the season and at the end of the fourth reporting period, Mike McGlynn has the number one spot on the WTA masters ladder with wins versus Joe Donnolo, 8-6, Janice Honymar, 8-5, and Chris Wendel, 8-4. Honymar, later in the period, notched the two spot on the ladder with an 8-4 victory over Joe Donnolo.

1. Mike McGlynn (7) \*
  2. Jan Honymar (3) \*
  3. Joe Donnolo (9) \*
  4. Chris Wendel (6)
  5. Peter Lee (6)
  6. Dave Zagorski (4)
  7. Don Dohm (3)
  8. John Mancini (1)
  9. Ted Moss (4)
  10. Nancy Freundlich
- \* active in reporting period
- Check the WTA website at www.westfieldnj.com/wta for complete details. Report matches to mcglynn.mike@gmail.com until July 31 and to Peter Lee thereafter. The next reporting period ends on July 17.

## Union Catholic Teacher to Attend Education Forum

SCOTCH PLAINS—Union Catholic High School is proud to announce that Humanities teacher Kimberly Leegan has been selected to attend the 2011 Microsoft U.S. Innovative Education Forum (IEF) to be held from July 28-29 on the Microsoft campus in Redmond, Wash. Managed by Microsoft Partners in Learning, the IEFs are a series of regional events held globally celebrating the achievements of innovative K-12 teachers and school leaders improving education by creatively implementing technology in the curriculum.



Kim Leegan

Mrs. Leegan, a resident of Fanwood, was one of only 102 finalists selected from applicants from

across the country. Chosen by a panel made up of Microsoft Partners in Learning staff and external education leaders, the projects submitted by teachers are evaluated in their respective categories based on project collaboration, knowledge building, extended learning beyond the classroom, and the use of Microsoft technology to support the project. Winners from this regional event are invited to move onto the Worldwide Innovative Education Forum being held this year in Washington, D.C. in November.

Mrs. Leegan entered the competition by submitting the "Adopt a Country" lesson, which is used in her World Studies courses. With this lesson, each student selects a country, conducts independent research about that country utilizing Word and One Note to chronicle their work in an electronic journal.

The project also helps to familiarize the students on how to properly manage online research and source citation. The project includes shorter research projects using Microsoft's Encarta Encyclopedia and other online resources as well as two longer research projects, and a "Passport Project" in which students use Microsoft Publisher to create a pamphlet or book about their adopted countries discussing the country's main cities, government, religion, food, music, language, geography and climate. When the booklets are completed students share their information by taking a "virtual tour around the world" through the construction of exhibit booths complete presentation pieces and media displays that represent their countries. Fellow students "visit" each booth to learn about their classmates' countries and projects.



### Korunow Earns Academic Honors

WORCESTER, Mass. - Stephanie G. Korunow, a resident of Westfield, has been named to first honors on the Clark University Dean's List. This selection marks outstanding academic achievement during the Spring 2011 semester.

To be eligible for first honors, students must have a grade point average of 3.8 or higher, of a maximum of 4.3 (all A+s).

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**LARGE YARD SALE 07/09**  
Multi-generational sale. Household items, vintage clothes, books, etc. 428 Everson Place, Westfield Saturday, 7/9, 9am-1pm

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## Education News Pages 13-14



VIRTUAL TRAVEL...Students from the Honors World Studies class proudly display their passport books after successfully completing their "visits" during the classroom "Adopt a Country" exhibition.

## SPF BOE Announces Retirees and Resignations

SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD - The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education announced the following administrative retirees: Anthony Del Sordi, Business Administrator - retiring effective November 1, 2011; Ed Braun, Assistant Principal, Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School (SPFHS) re-

tiring on, or before August 2, 2011; Brad Siegel, Social Studies Supervisor - resigned on June 28, 2011 effective August 1.

The following teachers retired effective June 30, 2011: Stephen Ciccotelli, SPFHS Health and PE; James Mason, SPFHS English; Sandra King, SPFHS Health;

Ronnie Siegel, SPFHS Art; Terene Lebreque, School One Librarian; Bernadette Hoyer, Brunner Preschool; Diane McGovern, SPFHS English; Marguerite Fitzgerald, Park Middle School Language Arts; Lois Glaster, School Social Worker (retired 3/1/11).

## Mini BootCampWF Session To Get Underway Monday

WESTFIELD - Summer is in full swing and it's time to get a taste of BootCampWF, Westfield's premier, healthy-living outdoor fitness training program, with MiniBCWF. The MiniBCWF session will run July 11 to 28 and workouts will be held Monday through Thursday at 5:45 and 9:15 a.m. over the three weeks in Tamaques Park.

BootCampWF welcomes Mari Melao to the team, who will be heading up the 5:45 a.m. workouts. You may choose to commit to the whole session, four days/week, or try a three-, two- or one-day/week package. We can pro-rate to accommodate vacation schedules. Babysitting is offered during the 9:15 a.m. workout for \$3/

child/day.

MiniBCWF is a specially designed fitness program held for one hour, four days a week over three weeks. Similar to the six-week BootCampWF sessions, MiniBCWF starts off with a fitness assessment. On the first (and last!) day we see how many sit-ups and pushups you can do without stopping, and how long it takes for you to walk/run a half mile. These assessments allow for the measurement of progress over the course of the program.

So ENLIST NOW! For more information, visit [www.BootCampWF.com!](http://www.BootCampWF.com!)

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**OPEN HOUSE: Sunday, July 10th • 1-4 PM**

**711 East Broad Street, Westfield \$859,000**  
Stunning, beautifully renovated 10 room, 4 BR, 2 1/2 bath Colonial w/gracious entry Foyer, LR w/plc. & crown molding; a sunken FDR; a wonderful Center Island Kitchen which opens to the FR; a 1st floor Laundry, Powder Room & Office w/custom built-in's. Upstairs, the MBR features a walk-in closet & private bath. CAC & hdwd. floors. Nestled on a magnificently landscaped property w/custom lighting, sprinkler system & mahogany front porch this home is convenient to town, park and Wilson School. Dir: on E. Broad Street, near N. Chestnut St.

**OPEN HOUSE: Sunday, July 10th • 1-4 PM**

**2346 Marlboro Road, Scotch Plains \$449,000**  
Extensively renovated inside & out! This Cape Cod has been completely updated for you to move in & enjoy. The first floor offers: a Formal LR w/plc & French door to Den with tray ceiling; a gorgeous New EIK w/ss appliances, undermounted ss sink, built-in microwave & custom tiled backsplash; 2 BR's & a new full bath complete the first floor. Upstairs, you'll find 2 additional BR's & a new full bath. The LL has a finished rec. rm, a laundry & utility room. Numerous other improvements include new: hdwd floors 1st floor; HVAC, windows, paver front walkway, front landscape & more! Dir: Seneca to Marlboro.

**OPEN HOUSE: Sunday, July 10th • 1-4 PM**

**Westfield... Unique opportunity for extended family, great for entertaining with gracious floor plan. 6 BR, 4 1/2 BTH expanded ranch offers style & elegance w/hardwood floors throughout, generous room sizes, abundant closets/storage, 2 master bedroom suites, & finished basement w/media area w/surround sound and pool table. Living room w/French drs to patio, formal dining room, gourmet kitchen w/stainless steel appliance, granite counters, sunny dining area with bay wndw, brick walled cozy den w/frplc, & private bedroom wing with master & two bedrooms. Additional living space 2nd floor/2 bath/ 2/3 bedrooms. Home has unobtrusive handicap access - easily removable. Cac, 2 car garage, private backyard. \$899,000.**

**Westfield... Gorgeous 2009 new home, over 3400 sq ft w/5 bedrooms & 3 full baths. Farm house front porch, 2 story foyer, w/Palladian window, library/bedroom, living room, formal dining room and gourmet granite kitchen, center island, breakfast area w/slider to paver patio & adjacent family room w/fireplace. Private master suite w/his & her walk-in closets, sitting area, and luxurious bath. 2nd flr laundry. Hardwood floors, inlaid borders, 9 ft. ceiling, multi zone HEAT/CAC, oversize 2 car garage. Close to schools. \$899,000.**

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# Arts & Entertainment

## Shopping, Dining and the Blue Jays Make Toronto More Than Just a Tall Tower

By FRED T. ROSSI  
Specially Written for the Summer Adventure Series

One thing about Toronto that may most surprise the first-time visitor is not astonishment over just how tall that CN Tower is, or what a wide variety of neighborhoods there are to explore in this truly cosmopolitan city of 2.5 million.

For me, it was Toronto Islands, a mini-archipelago about two-thirds the size of Central Park that sits just offshore in Lake Ontario. Especially on weekends in the summer, it is a major gathering spot for city dwellers, their kids and tourists. Vast expanses of lawn fill up with picnickers, sunbathers and informal softball, soccer and other games, cyclists ride along paved paths, snacks and drinks are available from vendors and a small restaurant, and some amusement rides are available for the youngsters. There are several beaches as well along the southern shore of this well-tended 570-acre property. No cars are allowed on the island, so access is just a breezy 15-minute ferry ride away.

But there's much more to see in Canada's largest city, which is a quick 90-minute flight from Newark. Toronto Pearson International Airport is not accessible via subway so be ready to shell out about \$20 for a shuttle bus or \$65 for a taxi ride for the 30-minute trip into downtown.

Let's start with the CN Tower, which stretches 1,815 feet into the sky and offers eye-popping—and for some, vertigo-inducing—views from its observation deck at 1,122 feet. Getting up there means riding a windowed elevator that hugs the outside of the tower. And if that isn't thrilling enough, the observation deck features several glass floors that the braver souls not only stand on and lie on, with the ground visible nearly a quarter mile below, but also jump up and down on to give the rest of us shivers up our spines. One level up is "360," a revolving restaurant that boasts the world's highest wine cellar.

Across the street is the massive Rogers Centre, home to major league baseball's Blue Jays and the

2015 Pan American Games. It features a retractable roof that was the first of its kind when it was built two decades ago, which keeps the venue busy year round.

There's an underground subway system that's easy to navigate, but if the weather's agreeable and your feet can endure it, walking Toronto's many and varied neighborhoods is not dissimilar to strolling Manhattan and crossing from Murray Hill to Gramercy Park to Chelsea to Greenwich Village and then to SoHo and Tribeca. About a mile and a half east of the CN Tower, on the other side of the Financial District, is the Distillery District, a cluster of former distilleries and warehouse-like structures from the Victorian Era that was refurbished a decade ago and now houses numerous interesting restaurants, cafes and shops.

A 30-minute walk to the north brings you to Yorkville, a major shopping area with many upscale retailers, especially along Bloor Street. If you've spent money on Fifth Avenue, or Rodeo Drive, you'll feel right at home here. Nearby is the University of Toronto, one of those rare pretty urban campuses, and the Discovery District, a small neighborhood of hospitals and research institutions. Rest your feet in Queen's Park, a large oblong-shaped expanse of trees, grassy areas and fountains located on the university campus a block west of Bay Street.

Then head south on University Avenue, through Chinatown and into the Entertainment and Fashion Districts. The main east-west thoroughfare here is Queen Street West, my favorite neighborhood with its artsy and bohemian mix of Greenwich Village and SoHo, lots of small shops sprinkled with a few pricey national retailers, hole-in-the-wall cafes and bars, galleries, music and a population dominated by 20-somethings. With so many options for fun shop-

ping, eating and strolling, one can easily kill an afternoon that drifts into the evening in this multi-block neighborhood.

Like any city worth its salt, Toronto has numerous restaurants offering food from around the world at prices ranging from cheap to expensive. Check [opentable.com](http://opentable.com), a great site even for non-members looking to find a great dinner spot. All the major hotel chains have a presence in downtown Toronto, including Marriott, Hilton, Westin and Sheraton. While daytime temperatures tend to linger in the 20s in January and February, by the summer months, the thermometer in Toronto ranges from the upper 70s to low 80s.

If you're a cineaste, don't forget that the Toronto International Film Festival—which has showcased such films as "Slumdog Millionaire," "American Beauty" and "The King's Speech," is held for 11 days every September.

For visitors with a day to spare, Niagara Falls is only a two-hour train ride away. VIA Rail Canada is more comfortable than New Jersey Transit, but less so than Amtrak; round-trip fare to the falls is about \$20 for an adult on weekends. As kitschy as its image may be, the falls themselves are truly an amazing and powerful sight to see. The Canadian side of the falls offers more than the U.S. in terms of stunning views, places to eat and drink, gambling and other touristy attractions, including the famed Maiden of the Mist boat ride that takes you right into the churning waters beneath the falls. From the train station to the falls, it is either a very long walk or about a 10-minute taxi ride.

The great thing about the T-Dot, as some call it, is that it's close enough that travel to, and from does not consume too much of a day. As a result, a vacation in Toronto can be done easily over a long weekend, flying up on a Friday morning and returning later on Sunday, leaving the first-time visitor the better part of three days to explore a city that instantly became one of my all-time favorites.

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*This vacation story is part of a summer series featuring actual vacations submitted by our readers. To have your vacation adventure considered for an upcoming edition of the newspaper, please submit your story, along with high resolution photos to: [Betsey Burgdorf at AE@goleader.com](mailto:Betsey.Burgdorf@AE@goleader.com).*



GOOD TIMES...Richie and Chet of the Booglerizers, an acoustic ragtime and blues band, entertain the crowd at the Corbin annual Fourth of July BBQ.

## Westfield Farmers' Market Returns July 9

WESTFIELD - The Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce (WACC) announced the Westfield Farmers' Market will return beginning Saturday, July 9. The WACC welcomes Two River Community Bank as the new sponsor of the Farmers' Market.

The Farmers' Market will operate every Saturday in the South Avenue Train Station parking lot from 8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. until October 29. There is easy access and plenty of parking. The WACC suggests bringing the family and enjoy strolling the market.

The WACC is very excited to have several new vendors at the market. One new vendor is a local favorite—Alan's Orchards. Alan will bring a great variety of treats. Also new this year, Paolo's Kitchen brings a delicious variety of prepared meals, and Charley's Toffee—how sweet it is.

This year the WACC is excited to have Donaldson Farms returning, as well as Peaceful Valley and Skeba Farms. They will be carrying Jersey Fresh corn on the cob, beans, potatoes, and multiple varieties of lettuce, blueberries, and squash. As the summer moves along, they will also have local tomatoes and

peaches followed by pumpkins and apples in the fall.

High Mountain Foods will bring back their assortment of pastas, ravioli and fresh mozzarella. Saturday night is a great night to enjoy their delicious pizza.

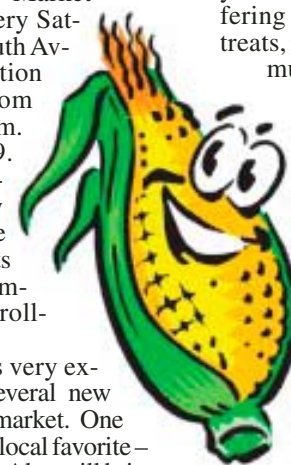
Your choices, and enjoyment, don't end there. Also, back this year is the Lithuanian Bakery offering European-style breads and treats, including Jewish rye bread, multi-grain breads, a variety of babkas and deep-dish fruit pies.

Gourmet Nuts and Dried Fruits will offer a variety of snacks.

The Farmers' Market is a combination of town and country, affording regional farmers an opportunity to sell their products, and offering local residents the availability of fresh "just picked" produce. The New Jersey Department of Agriculture fully endorses the local "Jersey Fresh" Farmers Market program and encourages you to experience the difference.

The Westfield Farmers' Market is the highlight of the summer season in downtown Westfield, and the Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce is proud to be able to bring it to you once again.

For more information, or if you would like to participate as a vendor, please call (908) 233-3021 and speak to Neil Pinkman, Executive Director.



EYE POPPING...The views from Toronto's CN Tower—its observation deck is 1,122 feet in the sky—are breathtaking and, in some cases, vertigo-inducing.

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## Downtown Jazz Festival Tuesday, July 12

Mike Kaplan Nonet - Central Avenue;  
Jerry Topinka - East Broad St. and North Avenue;  
La Balteuband - Elm Street;  
Roxy Perry - North Avenue.



FARM FRESH...The Scotch Plains Farmers' Marketplace, held Saturday's through October in the municipal building parking lot, was overflowing with flowers, fresh produce, baked goods, nuts and more this past Saturday.



## Vintage Jewelry Sale

from the private collection of  
2-time Tony Award Winner

Christine Ebersole

Friday July 8th 6 - 8 pm

Meet Christine and hear her first-hand stories of how she came to acquire each of these unique pieces. Includes pieces worn on Stage, and in TV, Movies & Concerts.

*"It's very difficult to keep the line between the past and the present"*

Little Edie Beale - Grey Gardens

## The Farmhouse Store

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