



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

THE WESTFIELD LEADER

Ad Populos, Non Aditus, Perbenimus

OUR 122nd YEAR – ISSUE NO. 52-2012

USPS 680020
Periodical – Postage Paid at Rahway, N.J.

Thursday, December 27, 2012

Published Every Thursday Since September 3, 1890
www.goleader.com

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SEVENTY FIVE CENTS



12-02-23: MEDIA FRENZY...The media lined area streets early Sunday morning prior to Whitney Houston's interment at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield. News trucks arrived by 5:30 a.m. and were broadcasting live feeds starting at approximately 7 a.m.



12-02-02: YEE HAW...This year, the Washington School Show's couples' number featured a good old-fashioned hoedown as parents square-danced in blue jeans and checkered shirts to "Turkey in the Straw" during "Roadsters & Jokesters," the school's 65th annual show.



12-01-25: MUTUAL AID...The help of surrounding town's fire departments was required on Sunday when a six-alarm fire ripped through a row of businesses on South Avenue West in Westfield. The fire, which originated in Clyne & Murphy, completely destroyed the buildings, gutting them and rendering them uninhabitable.

2012 Year In Review: January Through May

JANUARY

Westfield

A New Year's tradition, the 30th annual Hangover Run at Tamaques Park, hosted by the Cranford-based Central Jersey Road Runners Club, had a record number of runners on January 1. More than 1,000 runners from the region participated, with the lead runner crossing the finish line in just over 15 minutes.

At the Westfield council's reorganization meeting, Mayor Andy Skibitsky recounted the many challenges faced by the town during 2011, from a blizzard and various multi-alarm fires to a hurricane and an earthquake. He said these events tested the town's mettle, and the public's patience, as everyone encountered inconveniences.

During the meeting, re-elected council members were sworn in to their new terms: Second Ward Councilwoman JoAnn Neylan and Fourth Ward Councilman Jim Foerst took turns swearing in each other. Appellate Judge Douglas Fasciale administered the oath to First Ward Councilman Frank Arena, and Third Ward Councilman Mark LoGrippe was sworn in by his predecessor, Mark Ciarrocca, now a Superior Court judge on the Union County bench.

After seven candidates were publicly interviewed, Gretchan Ohlig was appointed as the newest member of the board of education in early January, filling a seat left vacant by the resignation of Julia Walker in November 2011.

A six-alarm fire destroyed Clyne & Murphy Caterers and five other businesses located in a strip of one-level storefronts near the Westfield traffic circle on the town's south side. In addition to Clyne & Murphy, the two buildings involved were home to The Sound Station, Figaro's Hair Styling, Rocky the Taylor, Cobblers Bench Shoe Repair and Unmasked, a collectibles and comic book store. The buildings wrapped around the corner of South and Westfield Avenues. Authorities ruled out arson as a cause of the blaze, which fire officials traced to the dining room of the catering business.

Public safety became the focus at a town council meeting after the fire

and a fatal pedestrian accident on North Avenue, which claimed the life of Patricia Currie.

Later in the month, Washington Elementary School was the site of a good old-fashioned hoedown, as parents square-danced in blue jeans and checkered shirts to "Turkey in the Straw" during *Roadsters and Jokesters*, the school's 65th annual show.

Garwood

The borough council voted 4 to 2 to freeze longevity benefits for non-bargaining-unit employees. Councilman Victor DeFilippo and Councilwoman Sara Todisco dissented. Last year, the council put forth the same vote, and subsequently Mayor Patricia Quattrocchi vetoed the council vote to approve freezing longevity benefits.

Under the measure, the borough would no longer provide longevity benefits to any present or future non-bargaining-unit employee. Longevity benefits activate when a borough employee has been employed for five years.

The Garwood Board of Education approved a five-year lease agreement with the Westfield Area "Y" to lease Washington School. Superintendent of Schools Teresa Quigley said the "Y" would offer daycare, preschool, a fitness center, yoga, before- and after-school care, senior programs and youth programming. The lease is effective through February 28, 2017.

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) approved funding for the Westfield Senior Housing Corporation (WSHC) to build a 72-unit apartment complex for people age 62 and over on the former St. Anne's School property in Garwood.

Cranford

Cranford officials said they would seek to have the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) hold a public hearing on an application filed by a Birchwood Avenue developer so that township residents could voice their opposition to the proposed development of several hundred housing units.

The Union County Renewable Energy Program brought solar power to more than two dozen public build-

ings throughout the county, including rooftop installations at the Cranford Library and Cranford Community Center.

The year's first partisan flare-up occurred when, at the township committee's first formal meeting of 2012, Democratic Commissioner Ed O'Malley called for the resignation of newly named Township Attorney Phil Morin for what Mr. O'Malley said was a conflict of interest related to the appointment.

Scotch Plains

Mayor Nancy Malool said she supports – and urged her township council colleagues to do likewise – a study to look into the positives and negatives of a full consolidation between Scotch Plains and Fanwood. The mayor said that after more than three years of efforts to merge various municipal departments and services, "nothing has really happened."

Later in the month, the township council passed a resolution expressing support for consolidating services with Fanwood and initiating a study commission to look into the pros and cons of an outright merger between the two towns.

"What's the harm in looking at it?" asked Mayor Malool.

Fanwood

Mayor Colleen Mahr and Councilman Russell Huegel were sworn in to new terms of office during the borough's reorganization meeting, while Councilman Kevin Boris began his first term. Mayor Mahr entered her third four-year term, while Mr. Huegel began his second term. As Democrats, Mr. Huegel's and Mr. Boris' victory in the General Election ensured that the six-person council remained evenly divided between Democrats and Republicans for at least one more year. Mayor Mahr, also a Democrat, holds the deciding vote on propositions put before the council in the event of a split vote.

Later in the month, Mayor Mahr and the borough council unanimously approved a resolution that "renews the commitment" of the governing body to pursue a shared Fanwood-Scotch Plains police department. Mayor Mahr said a shared police department represents "what we see as our best opportunity for property-

tax relief in 2012."

Regarding downtown redevelopment, Mayor Mahr urged the planning board at its reorganization meeting to think in terms of mixed-use zoning and planning and to continue to support a retail, business and residential zone in the revitalization of Fanwood's downtown.

County

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders welcomed new Freeholder Vernell Wright of Union and named Freeholder Alexander Mirabella of Fanwood as chairman and Freeholder Linda Carter of Plainfield as vice-chairwoman for 2012 during the board's annual reorganization meeting. Freeholder Wright, a retired school principal from Union, replaced Nancy Ward of Westfield, who opted not to seek a third term.

Freeholder Chris Hudak, who was appointed to the board in December 2010 to replace Rick Proctor, who was elected Rahway mayor in 2010, was sworn in for a full three-year term. Freeholder Angel Estrada, who was first elected to the board in 1999, took the oath for a fifth term.

Region

State lawmakers of both political parties fondly remembered state Assembly Minority Leader Alex DeCrose, 75, the Republican leader of the lower house, after the long-time lawmaker died suddenly in January.

Mr. DeCrose died on January 9 after collapsing in a bathroom inside the Statehouse, just moments after the 214th Legislature held its final voting session. Mr. DeCrose, a Parsippany resident, had served as Republican leader since 2003 and had been in the Assembly since 1989 representing the 26th district, which covers Morris County.

Later in the month, Assembly Republicans elected Assemblyman Jon Bramnick (R-21) of Westfield as their new leader.

FEBRUARY

Westfield

In early February, members of the Westfield Board of Education unanimously voted to move the school-board election to November. This action was taken just weeks after



12-04-12: EGG HUNT...The Lions Club of Westfield sponsored the 77th annual Easter Egg Hunt held at Mindowaskin Park on Saturday. Over 1,200 eggs were collected in less than one minute by eager participants.



SOLDIER SALUTE...Veterans salute the flag during the singing of "God Bless America" on Monday at the start of the annual Westfield Memorial Day Parade.



12-05-10: SPRING FLING...Westfield's downtown streets were filled with area residents for the annual Spring Fling street fair. Booths offering everything from food and crafts to facepainting held something for all ages.

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George Kraus
Branch Vice President



2012-03-15: GOOD READ...Bruce Paterson of Garwood shows the Whitney Houston funeral article in *The Westfield Leader* to the wild horses on Assateague Island, Maryland.



12-05-24: CHIRP...The swallows returned to San Juan Capistrano, Calif., on March 19 to read *The Westfield Leader*. Some remained to sing and flit around the beautiful gardens and lily pond at the old mission. They enjoy greeting the visitors like Honey Corbin from Peach Tree City, Ga., shown above.



12-03-29: COZZABLANCA...Bob Cozzolina of Westfield recently traveled to Casablanca, Morocco, visiting Rick's Cafe, made famous by the film *Casablanca* starring Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman. He catches up on the news back home by reading a copy of *The Westfield Leader*.

2012 Year In Review, Part 1

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officials from both municipalities.

The mayor conceded that, "we still have questions" and are "still grappling" with how a joint police department would be structured. But, Mayor Mahr emphasized, "If we want to get this done, it can be done."

As progress continued on the mixed-use development, Fanwood Crossing, Mayor Mahr said completing the downtown redevelopment, along with updating zoning on South Avenue, were among her priorities over the next four years.

County

In her annual report, Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi said the economic recession continued to impact the housing market and foreclosure rate in the county in 2011. For all property documents, there was nearly a 6-percent decrease in volume, from 72,705 to 68,511.

This number also reflected a decrease in foreclosure recordings due to a court-ordered moratorium on foreclosures, Ms. Rajoppi reported.

Freeholder Dan Sullivan announced that a governmental-efficiency task force put together by Union County Manager Al Faella recommended changes that could save the county \$850,000 in the 2012 county budget.

One area where the task force was looking to save money was the upgrading of the county's telecommunications infrastructure.

Union County officials learned that dispatch services out of Overlook Medical Center in Summit, known as CenCom, would close on April 1. In response, the county offered to begin servicing towns served by CenCom through the county's 9-1-1 dispatch operation in Westfield.

Region

Kean University's Board of Trustees voted in favor of keeping its embattled president, Dawood Farahi. As a result, a group of students marched in the rain from the university, down Morris Avenue, to state Senator Ray Lesniak's Legislative District Office, speaking out against the retaining of Mr. Farahi despite numerous allegedly falsified claims on his resumé. Students held signs that read, "Even McDonald's Has Background Checks," "Fraudhi Must Step Down" and "I'm Tired of Paying for Farahi's Ferrari."

MARCH

Westfield

The town council took the first step in setting up a new fee for sewer usage in order to offset a budget gap of approximately \$1.5 million, passing an ordinance which allowed the town to bill single and multi-family housing units \$170 for the year; condominiums and townhouses \$135 per unit; commercial and industrial uses \$315 and each apartment unit \$100.

Charles Casiere, 84, and John Diaz, 73, both of Westfield, were charged with driving while intoxicated following a fatal pedestrian accident on North Avenue.

After 31 years with the Westfield Police Department, Chief John Parizeau announced his retirement effective August 1.

The council unanimously voted to introduce Westfield's \$36.95-million 2012 municipal budget.

Freeholder Chairman Alexander Mirabella declined to intervene in the controversy over installation of a HAWK designed mid-block pedestrian crossing signal on Central Avenue. His comments followed pleas by a retired Westfield police officer and resident who asked the county to replace the HAWK signal with a standard traffic signal at the intersection of Central and Clover Street.

The board of adjustment voted unanimously to grant several variances being requested to facilitate a lease agreement between Poly CLLC, Serf Realty LLC, and Urban Outfitters to renovate and occupy the historic Westfield Trust Company building at the corner of East Broad and Elm Streets.

The council heard an update on the progress of deterring geese from nesting in Mindowaskin Park from Alex Tkacenko of Goose Runners, who uses border collies to scare off the geese.

A discussion on whether to go forward with a bond referendum to replace approximately 80 percent of the school district's roofs was held. The possibility of a \$13,600,000, district-wide roof replacement project had been discussed twice before.

The BOE unanimously passed its 2012-2013 budget in addition to a resolution to seek a bond referendum to replace approximately 80 percent of the district's roofs. The district's budget of \$95,360,622 included a tax levy of \$87,194,608, representing a 1.9-percent increase over last year's budget.

The board of directors of the Downtown Westfield Corporation (DWC) ratified its 2012 budget of \$409,605, which was slightly greater than last year's budget of \$409,484.

Scotch Plains

It was revealed that by updating its insurance procedures last year to require organizers of township parks to complete hold harmless agreements, the township might have inadvertently caused the cancellation of St. Bart's Old-timers Softball League. The league has been in existence since 1978 and features 150-plus players.

Township Municipal Manager Chris Marion announced his resignation on March 12, effective March 30, to take the position of business administrator in Old Bridge Township.

Councilman Kevin Glover made a motion to move \$100,000 from the town's sewer utility surplus to its municipal operating budget. His motion passed by a 3 to 2 vote, with Mayor Nancy Malool and Councilman Mickey Marcus supporting, and Deputy Mayor Mary DePaola and Councilman Bo Vastine opposed.

The proposed 2012 municipal budget called for a \$34 increase to \$1,777 for the average assessed property of \$122,800.

The Scotch Plains Management Corp. (SPMC) announced that it would embark on a major business recruitment effort, including having a representative attend the premier retailing trade show in Las Vegas in May.

Members of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood BOE unanimously passed the 2012-2013 \$85,690,101 budget, which was up \$3 million from last year. The overall tax-levy increase was 1.6 percent, which was within the state-mandated 2-percent cap. Scotch Plains taxpayers pay 77.8 percent of the tax levy, while Fanwood residents pay 22.1 percent.

Fanwood

The Fanwood Planning Board talked about making changes to the existing ordinances in the borough, and explored ideas for the downtown commercial district.

While the mayors of Scotch Plains and Fanwood were discussing a merger of the towns' police departments, a citizens group pursued a study that could lead to a complete consolidation of the two municipalities.

The borough council introduced its \$8.8-million budget, which provided the same level of services and did not result in any municipal layoffs. Fanwood residents saw overall property-tax bills increase \$55.

Garwood

A recall petition was circulated throughout the borough to unseat Councilman Jim Mathieu following Borough Clerk Christina Ariemma's lawsuit against Councilman Mathieu.

The borough's planning board voted, 7 to 2, with Bill Nierstedt and Georgia MacIndoe dissenting, to approve the application of Andrea Lopez to operate a permanent cosmetics business.

The council unanimously introduced a \$7.16-million budget that managed to stay within the state-mandated 2-percent ceiling, but resulted in a \$105 municipal increase per household.

Borough resident Angelo Alimonte asked the borough council why Councilman Louis Petruzzelli was receiving \$22,000 in healthcare benefits. Mr. Alimonte stated his opposition to paying benefits to council members and the mayor.

Mountainside

The BOE asked parents to consider waiving district-provided transportation if it is not needed, or it would be forced to increase its budget by \$95,000.

Cranford

Two weeks after the surfacing of an eight-year-old Internet audiotape, in which he uttered an off-color joke in a telephone conversation with his son, township Police Chief Eric Mason said those comments were "not indicative of the career I have had or

the person that I am." He said he regretted if anyone had been offended by his remarks and lamented that a tape of "a private conversation" had been "exploited" by someone in order to "divide the community and to embarrass me."

After receiving comments from residents concerned about the scope of a proposed ordinance that would sharply limit the feeding of wildlife on public and private property, the township committee put off a vote on the ordinance so that its language could be more closely examined and fine-tuned.

County

The Board of Chosen Freeholders introduced two ordinances and passed a resolution regarding construction of a \$45-million, 78,000-square-foot family court building being constructed at 10 Cherry Street in Elizabeth. The new building will include a 150-space parking deck.

The first estimate for a skating center at Oak Ridge Park in Clark, which would replace the Warinanco Skating Center in Elizabeth, was \$8.8 million, according to a copy of a feasibility study recently completed.

Union County officials announced the cancellation of Union County MusicFest and Rhythm & Blues by the Brook for 2012 due to budgetary constraints.

Union County sent layoff notices out to 236 employees, on top of 44 notices delivered in February, as the county looked to trim its payroll by June 1 to close what Freeholder Fiscal Affairs Committee Chairman Dan Sullivan described as a "very significant budget deficit." In addition to the layoffs, another 72 vacant positions are being eliminated.

Region

Since CenCom, the medical 9-1-1 dispatch center for multiple area rescue squads and paramedic units, announced its impending closure, it was still unknown who would take the 9-1-1 calls in the region.

New Jersey is the least corruptible U.S. state, according to a report by the Center for Public Integrity. New Jersey merited a B-plus, the highest grade, ahead of Connecticut, which earned a B, and Washington, California and Nebraska, which each received B-minus. Nineteen states received C's and 18 received D's, while eight states received failing grades, according to news reports.

Union County Republicans gave the party line in the Tuesday, June 5, Primary Election to two-term Rep. Leonard Lance from the 7th District by a 139-16 vote over businessman David Larsen. Delegates also gave the Republican Party organizational line to former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney for president; to Monmouth County state Senator Joseph Kyrillos for United States Senate; and to Middlesex County businessman Eric Beck in the race for Congress from the 12th Congressional District. Also, Diane Barabas of Westfield, Chris Nowak of Cranford and Stephen Kozlovich of Union were selected to run for three seats on the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

The state Senate Judiciary Committee defeated Governor Chris Christie's nominee for the state Supreme Court, Executive Assistant Attorney General Phillip Kwon, in a 7-6 vote.

APRIL

Westfield

Union County Prosecutor Theodore Romankow announced the arrest of a 51-year-old man in connection to the brutal rape and murder of 57-year-old Lena Triano of Westfield that occurred in 1976. The twist in the case, however, is that the man arrested was 15 at the time and cannot be charged as an adult and his name was being withheld. In a report published by *The Star-Ledger*, the suspect had been identified as Carlton Franklin, Westfield High School Class of 1979, and at the time, a neighbor of the victim, who lived at 617 Stirling Place.

The board of adjustment granted preliminary approval, with conditions, for a new veterinary hospital at 562 Springfield Avenue. The current facility at that location will be demolished and replaced with a new, three-story, 6,800-square-foot building.

The town council voted unanimously to make Captain David Wayman Westfield's new police chief. Chief John Parizeau was honored for his 31 years of service with the department at a town council meeting.

Barbara Ball presented a report to

the BOE regarding the new statewide implementation of a teacher evaluation system. Mrs. Ball said the state had mandated that a new evaluation system must "be defined with a series of steps towards implementation in 2012-2013."

The BOE received \$44,000 from the State Attorney General's office for payment of damages incurred by the district as a result of illegal activities by former engineer Kenneth Disko. The money was awarded as restitution related to bidding irregularities by the former engineer contracted to oversee facility projects for the school district.

The Westfield Board of Health made a move to save the town nearly \$16,000 by entering into a shared-service contract with Animal Control Solutions. The town ended its contract with Associated Humane Societies, which was at a cost of \$83,148, and has entered into a joint contract with Summit and New Providence at a cost of \$67,200 per year.

The Westfield Historical Society continued to renegotiate its lease agreement with the town, as it made its transition to its new home in the Reeve History and Cultural Resource Center on Mountain Avenue.

After more than a decade of discussion, both the BOE and the town council announced plans to alleviate parking problems at Westfield High School.

Scotch Plains

Mayor Malool announced she would challenge Deputy Mayor Mary DePaola in the June 5 Primary Election for the Republican mayoral nomination, with the winner facing Democratic Councilman Kevin Glover in November. The mayor's move came after the township Republican Committee voted to endorse Mrs. DePaola as its mayoral candidate and Ed Saridaki as its candidate for township council.

The township council quickly dispatched a proposal from Councilman Glover to use more of the township's surplus as a revenue source in an effort to lessen the proposed increase in the municipal property-tax rate.

The BOE voted to award a bid for roof replacements.

Mayor Malool announced that she would resign from her position to take a post in state government, and also dropped her bid for mayor in the Primary Election.

The Scotch Plains Management Corp. announced that it would seek to hire an ambassador to serve as a liaison between the business community, the SPMC board of directors and the township government, as well as to enhance SPMC's communications with its membership.

The township council gave final approval to the 2012 municipal budget of \$23,594,546, an increase of \$103,465 over 2011. A total of \$15,774,203 would be raised in property taxes in support of the budget, an increase of \$230,890 over last year. For the average assessed home of \$121,800, that 1.96-percent increase would mean a municipal property-tax increase of \$34, from \$1,743 last year to \$1,777.

Fanwood

Mayor Mahr said Fanwood and Scotch Plains are ready to "move forward with the dialogue" on the proposed merger of the two municipal police departments. Mayor Mahr indicated Scotch Plains officials had concurred with a proposed "governing structure" for a merged department and a meeting was being planned between the financial officers and police chiefs from both towns, "to discuss more specifics" of the budgetary aspects of a potential merger.

Mayor Mahr said the borough had

received a \$180,000 award from the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) Municipal Aid Program for total road reconstruction work the borough will do on Farley Avenue.

It was announced that incumbent Republicans Robert Manduca and Mike Szuch would attempt to fend off the challenges of veteran Democrat Jack Molenaar and relative newcomer Daniel Levine in the November election.

Garwood

The BOE unanimously approved a proposed budget for the 2012-2013 school year totaling \$8,349,831, including a general fund of \$7,682,554 and special revenues of \$134,160, with \$7,258,780 to be raised in taxes.

The borough council adopted a \$7,160,257 municipal budget, with \$5,415,039 to be raised in taxes, in a 5 to 1 vote. Councilman Jim Mathieu was the sole dissenter. The tax levy is \$46,368 under the 2-percent mandated tax-levy cap. Homeowners saw a municipal tax hike of \$105 per \$100,000 of assessed value.

The borough council unanimously voted to approve a resolution to establish a compensation review procedure for the purposes of determining salaries and wages for full-time employees of the borough who are not the members of any employee bargaining unit, are not afforded compensation protection by law and whose compensation is solely within the discretion of the mayor and council.

Residents of The Pointe, a newly built condominium complex located along North Avenue in the borough, voiced their opposition to The Pointe residents paying what they said was double the taxes than the average taxpayer in the borough.

Mountainside

Residents who live near the new Triboro Sports Complex gave comments to the borough council in opposition to the new facility.

The BOE discussed the imminent departure of Acting Business Administrator Daniel Saragnese. Mr. Saragnese was appointed as the acting business administrator and board secretary for the district in June 2010.

Cranford

The township's zoning board of adjustment approved two applications from homeowners who decided to raise the height of their homes to avoid future flood damage to their first-floor living space, after floodwaters from Hurricane Irene last year destroyed their main living areas.

The township committee, under protest, introduced a court-ordered ordinance that would formally permit the Birchwood Avenue property to include multi-family affordable housing. The ordinance was part of the township's compliance with a state Superior Court Judge's December order allowing Paramus-based S. Hekemian Group, which owns the property, to move forward with its plans to build 360 housing units.

County

Union County Manager Al Faella released a proposed budget of \$483.9 million for 2012 with \$303.5 million to be raised in county taxes, an increase of \$12.4 million over last year. Last year's tax levy increase was \$13.8 million over 2010. The county is looking to reorganize and privatize Runnells Specialized Hospital, as well as privatize Watchung Stables, both of which the county reported were operating at deficits.

The county freeholders took action on a resolution to enter into a three-year shared-services agreement with the Borough of Roselle to provide fire and emergency medical basic life support dispatch services. The resolution followed the shutting down

of CenCom.

Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi threw the Democrats For Change's (DFC) proposed slate of candidates off the June 5 Primary Election ballot after questioning the authenticity of signatures on their nomination petitions.

MAY

Westfield

Board of Education (BOE) members unanimously voted to add a \$3.3-million additional turf field to a proposed \$13.6-million bond referendum going before voters in September.

The Westfield Town Council unanimously adopted its amended \$36.95-million 2012 municipal budget. The average assessed home of \$182,300 saw an increase of \$79 in the municipal portion of their property-tax bill. The state reviewed and approved the town's sewer utility ordinance and fees. Residents were charged a sewer fee, which is expected to generate over \$1.3 million to offset the town's \$3,548,584 bill from the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority (RVSA).

Following a house fire on Barchester Way, approximately 20 members of the Westfield Fire Department (WFD) were present at the Westfield Town Council meeting in support of increased staffing.

Scotch Plains

Michael Bennett, 44, of Scotch Plains was arrested after allegedly attacking a high-school baseball player who came onto his property to collect a foul ball. Bennett reportedly ran out of his home, located on Dutch Lane, adjacent to the field, and grabbed the 18-year-old Union Catholic High School student.

The township Republican Committee was set to decide on three names to submit to the township council to replace Nancy Malool as mayor until the November election. Republican Chairman William McClintock told *The Westfield Leader* that deputy mayor, and now acting mayor, Mary DePaola "will be on top of the list" of the three names to be submitted to the council.

In three separate pre-parade memorials, hundreds of residents of Scotch Plains and Fanwood expressed their gratitude to the many men and women who have given their lives in the defense of their country.

Fanwood

Mayor Colleen Mahr revealed that ongoing committee discussions regarding a potential joint Scotch Plains-Fanwood police department "have started to pick up steam," indicating that chief financial officers from both municipalities had met to review the two police departments' budgets and that they would next meet with the two police chiefs. Some of the topics still being discussed include department operational issues, potential development of a joint meeting budget and service levels.

Cranford

The township committee gave final approval to an ordinance regulating the feeding of wildlife on public and private property while admitting that enforcement of the new law, particularly the feeding of birds, will be somewhat vague.

The Cranford Planning Board adopted an ordinance amending its Master Plan to include a Housing Element and a Fair Share Plan. The move was the first step in complying with a court order issued by state Superior Court Judge Lisa F. Chrystal on December 20, 2011. The court order was issued in response to a builder's remedy suit brought against the township by Cranford Development Associates, L.L.C., a subsidiary of the S. Hekemian Group of Paramus.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



12-05-10: BREATHTAKING VIEWS...Ed and Kathy Sjonell of Scotch Plains took time to review *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* while on a recent trip to Chile, Argentina and Brazil. Uguassu Falls can be seen in the background. Magnificent!



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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TIMES

OUR 53rd YEAR - ISSUE NO. 52-2012

USPS 485200 Periodical - Postage Paid at Rahway, N.J.

Thursday, December 27, 2012

Published Every Thursday Since 1959 www.timesnj.com

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2012-04-05: ON YOUR MARK...Runners dart across the starting line at the St. Bart's second annual Pot of Gold 5K race held Saturday morning in Scotch Plains.



2012-03-29: SMILES...Fanwood Administrator Eleanor McGovern is congratulated by Mayor Colleen Mahr on being honored at the Union County 20th Annual Women of Excellence Awards Dinner on March 23 in Garwood.



2012-03-08: AMERICAN HERO...Anthony "Tony the Vet" LoBue marched through Scotch Plains, where he grew up, on Tuesday carrying an American flag, hoping to draw attention to the sacrifice and needs of veterans on his 100-mile trek from Allentown, Pa. to Grand Central Station in New York City. He is pictured with Scotch Plains Mayor Nancy Malool in front of the town's September 11th Memorial.

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The borough council voted 4 to 2 to freeze longevity benefits for non-bargaining-unit employees. Councilman Victor DeFilippo and Councilwoman Sara Todisco dissented. Last year, the council put forth the same vote, and subsequently Mayor Patricia Quattrocchi vetoed the council vote to approve freezing longevity benefits.

Under the measure, the borough would no longer provide longevity benefits to any present or future non-bargaining-unit employee. Longevity benefits activate when a borough employee has been employed for five years.

The Garwood Board of Education approved a five-year lease agreement with the Westfield Area "Y" to lease Washington School. Superintendent of Schools Teresa Quigley said the "Y" would offer daycare, preschool, a fitness center, yoga, before- and after-school care, senior programs and youth programming. The lease is effective through February 28, 2017.

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) approved funding for the Westfield Senior Housing Corporation (WSHC) to build a 72-unit apartment complex for people age 62 and over on the former St. Anne's School property in Garwood.

Cranford

Cranford officials said they would seek to have the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) hold a public hearing on an application filed by a Birchwood Avenue developer so that township residents could voice their opposition to the proposed development of several hundred housing units.

The Union County Renewable Energy Program brought solar power to more than two dozen public build-

ings throughout the county, including rooftop installations at the Cranford Library and Cranford Community Center.

The year's first partisan flare-up occurred when, at the township committee's first formal meeting of 2012, Democratic Commissioner Ed O'Malley called for the resignation of newly named Township Attorney Phil Morin for what Mr. O'Malley said was a conflict of interest related to the appointment.

Scotch Plains

Mayor Nancy Malool said she supports - and urged her township council colleagues to do likewise - a study to look into the positives and negatives of a full consolidation between Scotch Plains and Fanwood. The mayor said that after more than three years of efforts to merge various municipal departments and services, "nothing has really happened."

Later in the month, the township council passed a resolution expressing support for consolidating services with Fanwood and initiating a study commission to look into the pros and cons of an outright merger between the two towns.

"What's the harm in looking at it?" asked Mayor Malool.

Fanwood

Mayor Colleen Mahr and Councilman Russell Huegel were sworn in to new terms of office during the borough's reorganization meeting, while Councilman Kevin Boris began his first term. Mayor Mahr entered her third four-year term, while Mr. Huegel began his second term. As Democrats, Mr. Huegel's and Mr. Boris' victory in the General Election ensured that the six-person council remained evenly divided between Democrats and Republicans for at least one more year. Mayor Mahr, also a Democrat, holds the deciding vote on propositions put before the council in the event of a split vote.

Later in the month, Mayor Mahr and the borough council unanimously approved a resolution that "renews the commitment" of the governing body to pursue a shared Fanwood-Scotch Plains police department. Mayor Mahr said a shared police department represents "what we see as our best opportunity for property-

tax relief in 2012."

Regarding downtown redevelopment, Mayor Mahr urged the planning board at its reorganization meeting to think in terms of mixed-use zoning and planning and to continue to support a retail, business and residential zone in the revitalization of Fanwood's downtown.

County

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders welcomed new Freeholder Vernell Wright of Union and named Freeholder Alexander Mirabella of Fanwood as chairman and Freeholder Linda Carter of Plainfield as vice-chairwoman for 2012 during the board's annual reorganization meeting. Freeholder Wright, a retired school principal from Union, replaced Nancy Ward of Westfield, who opted not to seek a third term.

Freeholder Chris Hudak, who was appointed to the board in December 2010 to replace Rick Proctor, who was elected Rahway mayor in 2010, was sworn in for a full three-year term. Freeholder Angel Estrada, who was first elected to the board in 1999, took the oath for a fifth term.

Region

State lawmakers of both political parties fondly remembered state Assembly Minority Leader Alex DeCrocce, 75, the Republican leader of the lower house, after the long-time lawmaker died suddenly in January.

Mr. DeCrocce died on January 9 after collapsing in a bathroom inside the Statehouse, just moments after the 214th Legislature held its final voting session. Mr. DeCrocce, a Parsippany resident, had served as Republican leader since 2003 and had been in the Assembly since 1989 representing the 26th district, which covers Morris County.

Later in the month, Assembly Republicans elected Assemblyman Jon Bramnick (R-21) of Westfield as their new leader.

FEBRUARY

Westfield

In early February, members of the Westfield Board of Education unanimously voted to move the school board election to November. This action was taken just weeks after



2012-01-23: THE FUTURE...The Scotch Plains Township Council met on Tuesday night to reorganize the governing body and discuss the upcoming year. Pictured, left to right, are: Union County Republican Chairman Phil Morin, Councilman William Vastine, Mayor Nancy Malool and former Governor Donald DiFrancesco.



2012-02-02: STUDENT DELEGATES...Over 100 Student Delegates recommended by the faculty of Park and Terrill Middle Schools and St. Bartholomew's Academy (grades 5-8), participated in Leadership Training Conference 100 last Saturday. The conference develops and promotes leadership skills.



2012-03-29: SAVE OUR JOBS...One of the 280 Union County employees who have received layoff notices pleads with the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders last Thursday to reconsider their decision.

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Table with 2 columns: Page Number and Page Title. Includes categories like Regional, Editorial, Police, Community, Obituary, Education, Sports, Real Estate, Classifieds, and A&E.



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George Kraus Branch Vice President



10,000 FEET...The Staple family holds *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* on top of Haleakala crater in Maui. Pictured, left to right, are: Andy, Ethan and Noah.



2012-02-23: FRENZY...The media lined area streets early Sunday morning prior to Whitney Houston's interment at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield. News trucks arrived by 5:30 a.m. and were broadcasting live feeds.



2012-04-19: SEA...Who is reading *The Times*? While visiting Grand Cayman, Jake, Briella and Kapriana Payami of Scotch Plains toured the Turtle Farm. It is an internationally renowned research and conservation center for sea turtles. The interactive experience was fun and interesting — even for this turtle!

2012 Year In Review, Part 1

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

officials from both municipalities.

The mayor conceded that, “we still have questions” and are “still grappling” with how a joint police department would be structured. But, Mayor Mahr emphasized, “If we want to get this done, it can be done.”

As progress continued on the mixed-use development, Fanwood Crossing, Mayor Mahr said completing the downtown redevelopment, along with updating zoning on South Avenue, were among her priorities over the next four years.

County

In her annual report, Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi said the economic recession continued to impact the housing market and foreclosure rate in the county in 2011. For all property documents, there was nearly a 6-percent decrease in volume, from 72,705 to 68,511.

This number also reflected a decrease in foreclosure recordings due to a court-ordered moratorium on foreclosures, Ms. Rajoppi reported.

Freeholder Dan Sullivan announced that a governmental-efficiency task force put together by Union County Manager Al Faella recommended changes that could save the county \$850,000 in the 2012 county budget.

One area where the task force was looking to save money was the upgrading of the county’s telecommunications infrastructure.

Union County officials learned that dispatch services out of Overlook Medical Center in Summit, known as CenCom, would close on April 1. In response, the county offered to begin servicing towns served by CenCom through the county’s 9-1-1 dispatch operation in Westfield.

Region

Kean University’s Board of Trustees voted in favor of keeping its embattled president, Dawood Farahi. As a result, a group of students marched in the rain from the university, down Morris Avenue, to state Senator Ray Lesniak’s Legislative District Office, speaking out against the retaining of Mr. Farahi despite numerous allegedly falsified claims on his resumé. Students held signs that read, “Even McDonald’s Has Background Checks,” “Fraudhi Must Step Down” and “I’m Tired of Paying for Farahi’s Ferrari.”

MARCH

Westfield

The town council took the first step in setting up a new fee for sewer usage in order to offset a budget gap of approximately \$1.5 million, passing an ordinance which allowed the town to bill single and multi-family housing units \$170 for the year; condominiums and townhouses \$135 per unit; commercial and industrial uses \$315 and each apartment unit \$100.

Charles Casiere, 84, and John Diaz, 73, both of Westfield, were charged with driving while intoxicated following a fatal pedestrian accident on North Avenue.

After 31 years with the Westfield Police Department, Chief John Parizeau announced his retirement effective August 1.

The council unanimously voted to introduce Westfield’s \$36.95-million 2012 municipal budget.

Freeholder Chairman Alexander Mirabella declined to intervene in the controversy over installation of a HAWK designed mid-block pedestrian crossing signal on Central Avenue. His comments followed pleas by a retired Westfield police officer and resident who asked the county to replace the HAWK signal with a standard traffic signal at the intersection of Central and Clover Street.

The board of adjustment voted unanimously to grant several variances being requested to facilitate a lease agreement between Poly CLLC, Serf Realty LLC, and Urban Outfitters to renovate and occupy the historic Westfield Trust Company building at the corner of East Broad and Elm Streets.

The council heard an update on the progress of deterring geese from nesting in Mindowaskin Park from Alex Tkacenko of Goose Runners, who uses border collies to scare off the geese.

A discussion on whether to go forward with a bond referendum to replace approximately 80 percent of the school district’s roofs was held. The possibility of a \$13,600,000, district-wide roof replacement project had been discussed twice before.

The BOE unanimously passed its 2012-2013 budget in addition to a resolution to seek a bond referendum to replace approximately 80 percent of the district’s roofs. The district’s budget of \$95,360,622 included a tax levy of \$87,194,608, representing a 1.9-percent increase over last year’s budget.

The board of directors of the Downtown Westfield Corporation (DWC) ratified its 2012 budget of \$409,605, which was slightly greater than last year’s budget of \$409,484.

Scotch Plains

It was revealed that by updating its insurance procedures last year to require organizers of township parks to complete hold harmless agreements, the township might have inadvertently caused the cancellation of St. Bart’s Old-timers Softball League. The league has been in existence since 1978 and features 150-plus players.

Township Municipal Manager Chris Marion announced his resignation on March 12, effective March 30, to take the position of business administrator in Old Bridge Township.

Councilman Kevin Glover made a motion to move \$100,000 from the town’s sewer utility surplus to its municipal operating budget. His motion passed by a 3 to 2 vote, with Mayor Nancy Malool and Councilman Mickey Marcus supporting, and Deputy Mayor Mary DePaola and Councilman Bo Vastine opposed.

The proposed 2012 municipal budget called for a \$34 increase to \$1,777 for the average assessed property of \$122,800.

The Scotch Plains Management Corp. (SPMC) announced that it would embark on a major business recruitment effort, including having a representative attend the premier retailing trade show in Las Vegas in May.

Members of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood BOE unanimously passed the 2012-2013 \$85,690,101 budget, which was up \$3 million from last year. The overall tax-levy increase was 1.6 percent, which was within the state-mandated 2-percent cap. Scotch Plains taxpayers pay 77.8 percent of the tax levy, while Fanwood residents pay 22.1 percent.

Fanwood

The Fanwood Planning Board talked about making changes to the existing ordinances in the borough, and explored ideas for the downtown commercial district.

While the mayors of Scotch Plains and Fanwood were discussing a merger of the towns’ police departments, a citizens group pursued a study that could lead to a complete consolidation of the two municipalities.

The borough council introduced its \$8.8-million budget, which provided the same level of services and did not result in any municipal layoffs. Fanwood residents saw overall property-tax bills increase \$55.

Garwood

A recall petition was circulated throughout the borough to unseat Councilman Jim Mathieu following Borough Clerk Christina Ariemma’s lawsuit against Councilman Mathieu.

The borough’s planning board voted, 7 to 2, with Bill Nierstedt and Georgia MacIndoe dissenting, to approve the application of Andrea Lopez to operate a permanent cosmetics business.

The council unanimously introduced a \$7.16-million budget that managed to stay within the state-mandated 2-percent ceiling, but resulted in a \$105 municipal increase per household.

Borough resident Angelo Alimonte asked the borough council why Councilman Louis Petruzzelli was receiving \$22,000 in healthcare benefits. Mr. Alimonte stated his opposition to paying benefits to council members and the mayor.

Mountainside

The BOE asked parents to consider waiving district-provided transportation if it is not needed, or it would be forced to increase its budget by \$95,000.

Cranford

Two weeks after the surfacing of an eight-year-old Internet audiotape, in which he uttered an off-color joke in a telephone conversation with his son, township Police Chief Eric Mason said those comments were “not indicative of the career I have had or

the person that I am.” He said he regretted if anyone had been offended by his remarks and lamented that a tape of “a private conversation” had been “exploited” by someone in order to “divide the community and to embarrass me.”

After receiving comments from residents concerned about the scope of a proposed ordinance that would sharply limit the feeding of wildlife on public and private property, the township committee put off a vote on the ordinance so that its language could be more closely examined and fine-tuned.

County

The Board of Chosen Freeholders introduced two ordinances and passed a resolution regarding construction of a \$45-million, 78,000-square-foot family court building being constructed at 10 Cherry Street in Elizabeth. The new building will include a 150-space parking deck.

The first estimate for a skating center at Oak Ridge Park in Clark, which would replace the Warinanco Skating Center in Elizabeth, was \$8.8 million, according to a copy of a feasibility study recently completed.

Union County officials announced the cancellation of Union County MusicFest and Rhythm & Blues by the Brook for 2012 due to budgetary constraints.

Union County sent layoff notices out to 236 employees, on top of 44 notices delivered in February, as the county looked to trim its payroll by June 1 to close what Freeholder Fiscal Affairs Committee Chairman Dan Sullivan described as a “very significant budget deficit.” In addition to the layoffs, another 72 vacant positions are being eliminated.

Region

Since CenCom, the medical 9-1-1 dispatch center for multiple area rescue squads and paramedic units, announced its impending closure, it was still unknown who would take the 9-1-1 calls in the region.

New Jersey is the least corruptible U.S. state, according to a report by the Center for Public Integrity. New Jersey merited a B-plus, the highest grade, ahead of Connecticut, which earned a B, and Washington, California and Nebraska, which each received B-minus. Nineteen states received C’s and 18 received D’s, while eight states received failing grades, according to news reports.

Union County Republicans gave the party line in the Tuesday, June 5, Primary Election to the two-term Rep. Leonard Lance from the 7th District by a 139-16 vote over businessman David Larsen. Delegates also gave the Republican Party organizational line to former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney for president; to Monmouth County state Senator Joseph Kyrillos for United States Senate; and to Middlesex County businessman Eric Beck in the race for Congress from the 12th Congressional District. Also, Diane Barabas of Westfield, Chris Nowak of Cranford and Stephen Kozlovich of Union were selected to run for three seats on the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

The state Senate Judiciary Committee defeated Governor Chris Christie’s nominee for the state Supreme Court, Executive Assistant Attorney General Phillip Kwon, in a 7-6 vote.

APRIL

Westfield

Union County Prosecutor Theodore Romankow announced the arrest of a 51-year-old man in connection to the brutal rape and murder of 57-year-old Lena Triano of Westfield that occurred in 1976. The twist in the case, however, is that the man arrested was 15 at the time and cannot be charged as an adult and his name was being withheld. In a report published by *The Star-Ledger*, the suspect had been identified as Carlton Franklin, Westfield High School Class of 1979, and at the time, a neighbor of the victim, who lived at 617 Stirling Place.

The board of adjustment granted preliminary approval, with conditions, for a new veterinary hospital at 562 Springfield Avenue. The current facility at that location will be demolished and replaced with a new three-story, 6,800-square-foot building.

The town council voted unanimously to make Captain David Wayman Westfield’s new police chief. Chief John Parizeau was honored for his 31 years of service with the department at a town council meeting. Barbara Ball presented a report to

the BOE regarding the new statewide implementation of a teacher evaluation system. Mrs. Ball said the state had mandated that a new evaluation system must “be defined with a series of steps towards implementation in 2012-2013.”

The BOE received \$44,000 from the State Attorney General’s office for payment of damages incurred by the district as a result of illegal activities by former engineer Kenneth Disko. The money was awarded as restitution related to bidding irregularities by the former engineer contracted to oversee facility projects for the school district.

The Westfield Board of Health made a move to save the town nearly \$16,000 by entering into a shared-service contract with Animal Control Solutions. The town ended its contract with Associated Humane Societies, which was at a cost of \$83,148, and has entered into a joint contract with Summit and New Providence at a cost of \$67,200 per year.

The Westfield Historical Society continued to renegotiate its lease agreement with the town, as it made its transition to its new home in the Reeve History and Cultural Resource Center on Mountain Avenue.

After more than a decade of discussion, both the BOE and the town council announced plans to alleviate parking problems at Westfield High School.

Scotch Plains

Mayor Malool announced she would challenge Deputy Mayor Mary DePaola in the June 5 Primary Election for the Republican mayoral nomination, with the winner facing Democratic Councilman Kevin Glover in November. The mayor’s move came after the township Republican Committee voted to endorse Mrs. DePaola as its mayoral candidate and Ed Saridaki as its candidate for township council.

The township council quickly dispatched a proposal from Councilman Glover to use more of the township’s surplus as a revenue source in an effort to lessen the proposed increase in the municipal property-tax rate.

The BOE voted to award a bid for roof replacements.

Mayor Malool announced that she would resign from her position to take a position in state government, and also dropped her bid for mayor in the Primary Election.

The Scotch Plains Management Corp. announced that it would seek to hire an ambassador to serve as a liaison between the business community, the SPMC board of directors and the township government, as well as to enhance SPMC’s communications with its membership.

The township council gave final approval to the 2012 municipal budget of \$23,594,546, an increase of \$103,465 over 2011. A total of \$15,774,203 would be raised in property taxes in support of the budget, an increase of \$230,890 over last year. For the average assessed home of \$121,800, that 1.96-percent increase would mean a municipal property-tax increase of \$34, from \$1,743 last year to \$1,777.

Fanwood

Mayor Mahr said Fanwood and Scotch Plains are ready to “move forward with the dialogue” on the proposed merger of the two municipal police departments. Mayor Mahr indicated Scotch Plains officials had concurred with a proposed “governing structure” for a merged department and a meeting was being planned between the financial officers and police chiefs from both towns, “to discuss more specifics” of the budgetary aspects of a potential merger.

Mayor Mahr said the borough had

received a \$180,000 award from the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) Municipal Aid Program for total road reconstruction work the borough will do on Farley Avenue.

It was announced that incumbent Republicans Robert Manduca and Mike Szuch would attempt to fend off the challenges of veteran Democrat Jack Molenaar and relative newcomer Daniel Levine in the November election.

Garwood

The BOE unanimously approved a proposed budget for the 2012-2013 school year totaling \$8,349,831, including a general fund of \$7,682,554 and special revenues of \$134,160, with \$7,258,780 to be raised in taxes.

The borough council adopted a \$7,160,257 municipal budget, with \$5,415,039 to be raised in taxes, in a 5 to 1 vote. Councilman Jim Mathieu was the sole dissenter. The tax levy is \$46,368 under the 2-percent mandated tax-levy cap. Homeowners saw a municipal tax hike of \$105 per \$100,000 of assessed value.

The borough council unanimously voted to approve a resolution to establish a compensation review procedure for the purposes of determining salaries and wages for full-time employees of the borough who are not the members of any employee bargaining unit, are not afforded compensation protection by law and whose compensation is solely with the discretion of the mayor and council.

Residents of The Pointe, a newly built condominium complex located along North Avenue in the borough, voiced their opposition to The Pointe residents paying what they said was double the taxes than the average taxpayer in the borough.

Mountainside

Residents who live near the new Triboro Sports Complex gave comments to the borough council in opposition to the new facility.

The BOE discussed the imminent departure of Acting Business Administrator Daniel Saragnese. Mr. Saragnese was appointed as the acting business administrator and board secretary for the district in June 2010.

Cranford

The township’s zoning board of adjustment approved two applications from homeowners who decided to raise the height of their homes to avoid future flood damage to their first-floor living space, after floodwaters from Hurricane Irene last year destroyed their main living areas.

The township committee, under protest, introduced a court-ordered ordinance that would formally permit the Birchwood Avenue property to include multi-family affordable housing. The ordinance was part of the township’s compliance with a state Superior Court Judge’s December order allowing Paramus-based S. Hekemian Group, which owns the property, to move forward with its plans to build 360 housing units.

County

Union County Manager Al Faella released a proposed budget of \$483.9 million for 2012 with \$303.5 million to be raised in county taxes, an increase of \$12.4 million over last year. Last year’s tax levy increase was \$13.8 million over 2010. The county is looking to reorganize and privatize Runnells Specialized Hospital, as well as privatize Watchung Stables, both of which the county reported were operating at deficits.

The county freeholders took action on a resolution to enter into a three-year shared-services agreement with the Borough of Roselle to provide fire and emergency medical basic life support dispatch services. The resolution followed the shutting down

of CenCom. Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi threw the Democrats For Change’s (DFC) proposed slate of candidates off the June 5 Primary Election ballot after questioning the authenticity of signatures on their nomination petitions.

MAY

Westfield

Board of Education (BOE) members unanimously voted to add a \$3.3-million additional turf field to a proposed \$13.6-million bond referendum going before voters in September.

The Westfield Town Council unanimously adopted its amended \$36.95-million 2012 municipal budget. The average assessed home of \$182,300 saw an increase of \$79 in the municipal portion of its property-tax bill. The state reviewed and approved the town’s sewer utility ordinance and fees. Residents were charged a sewer fee, which is expected to generate over \$1.3 million to offset the town’s \$3,548,584 bill from the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority (RVSA).

Following a house fire on Barchester Way, approximately 20 members of the Westfield Fire Department (WFD) were present at the Westfield Town Council meeting in support of increased staffing.

Scotch Plains

Michael Bennett, 44, of Scotch Plains was arrested after allegedly attacking a high-school baseball player who came onto his property to collect a foul ball. Bennett reportedly ran out of his home, located on Dutch Lane, adjacent to the field, and grabbed the 18-year-old Union Catholic High School student.

The township Republican Committee was set to decide on three names to submit to the township council to replace Nancy Malool as mayor until the November election. Republican Chairman William McClintock told *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* that deputy mayor, and now acting mayor, Mary DePaola “will be on top of the list” of the three names to be submitted to the council.

In three separate pre-parade memorials, hundreds of residents of Scotch Plains and Fanwood expressed their gratitude to the many men and women who have given their lives in the defense of their country.

Fanwood

Mayor Colleen Mahr revealed that ongoing committee discussions regarding a potential joint Scotch Plains-Fanwood police department “have started to pick up steam,” indicating that chief financial officers from both municipalities had met to review the two police departments’ budgets and that they would next meet with the two police chiefs. Some of the topics still being discussed include department operational issues, potential development of a joint meeting budget and service levels.

Cranford

The township committee gave final approval to an ordinance regulating the feeding of wildlife on public and private property while admitting that enforcement of the new law, particularly the feeding of birds, will be somewhat vague.

The Cranford Planning Board adopted an ordinance amending its Master Plan to include a Housing Element and a Fair Share Plan. The move was the first step in complying with a court order issued by state Superior Court Judge Lisa F. Chrystal on December 20, 2011. The court order was issued in response to a builder’s remedy suit brought against the township by Cranford Development Associates, L.L.C., a subsidiary of the S. Hekemian Group of Paramus.

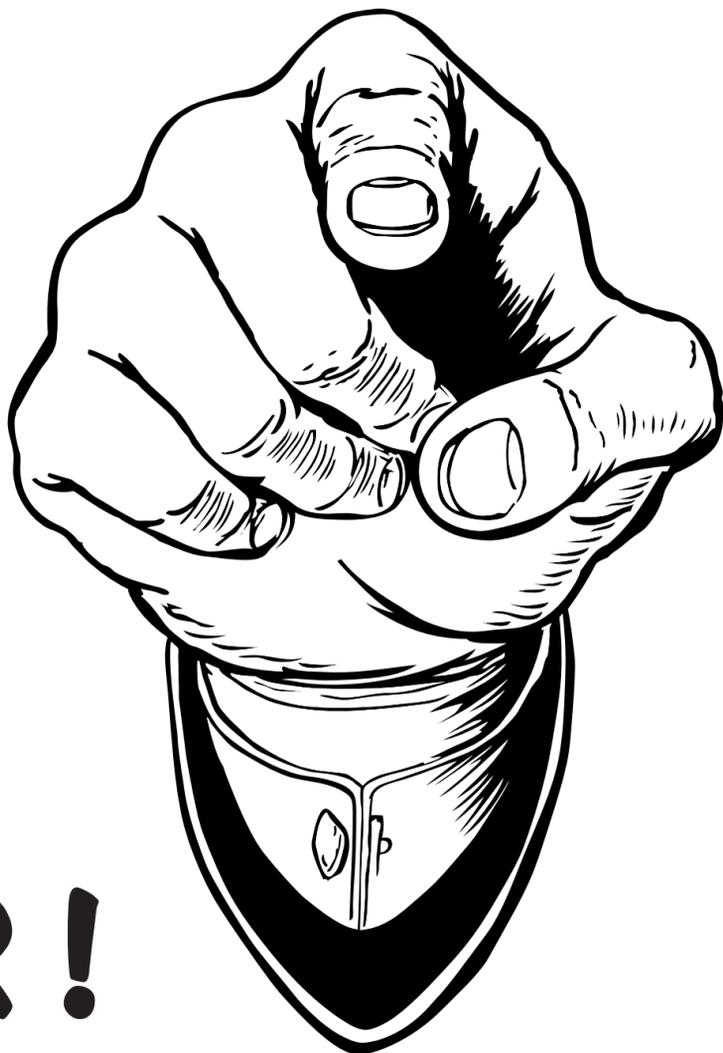
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



12-05-10: BREATHTAKING VIEWS...Ed and Kathy Sjonell of Scotch Plains took time to review *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* while on a recent trip to Chile, Argentina and Brazil. Uguassu Falls can be seen in the background. Magnificent!

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SP Mother Kills Self, Son By Setting Fire

By PAUL J. PEYTON

Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

SCOTCH PLAINS – A 32-year-old Scotch Plains woman was killed along with her 3-year-old son in a December 18 fire, which authorities said she set in their Church Street apartment. A neighbor reported the fire around 7 p.m.

During a December 19 press conference at the Scotch Plains Police Department, Union County Prosecutor Theodore Romankow said firefighters forced their way into the two-family home and proceeded to a second-floor bedroom, the door of which was closed. After pushing in the door, they discovered the bodies of Katherine Halverson and her son, Jeremy Scott McDonald, Jr., lying on the floor next to each other.

Scotch Plains Police Chief Brian Mahoney said members of the rescue squad attempted CPR on both victims at the scene, as well as en route to Overlook Medical Center in Summit. Both were pronounced dead at the hospital.

Upon further investigation by the township's police department and the Union County Homicide Task Force, Mr. Romankow said it was determined that Ms. Halverson used an accelerant on rags to set the fire.

"The mother spread this accelerant on these rags on the floor, lit it and it smoked the room. Obviously, she died of smoke poisoning. She wasn't badly burned," Mr. Romankow said. He said her son also succumbed to smoke inhalation.

The prosecutor said it took the county's medical examiner eight hours to perform the autopsies on the victims. A family dog also perished, although a cat was found unharmed

outside the residence.

Mr. Romankow said it was "very fortunate" that no one else was injured as there was another family residing in an attached home at the same Church Street location.

Chief Mahoney classified the case as an "arson, murder-suicide." He said the rags with accelerant were found inside the bedroom door. "The fire was quickly extinguished," he said, noting the blaze was put out within 20 to 30 minutes of the arrival of firefighters. He credited the quick response of the fire department, which is located a few blocks away, in preventing the fire from spreading.

The boy's father, Jeremy Scott McDonald, did not live with Ms. Halverson, although her mother did. The mother was not home when the fire occurred. Mr. Romankow said Ms. Halverson and Mr. McDonald had been involved in child-custody hearings over their son.

"Obviously, she was depressed over court proceedings," Mr. Romankow told *The Westfield Leader/Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*.

According to Jeremy's McDonald, Jr.'s 2009 birth announcement published in *The Leader/Times*, the couple had lived in Elizabeth. A neighbor interviewed by News12 said Ms. Halverson had resided on Church Street since April. She is from Scotch Plains, having graduated from Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School in 1998, where she was the only girl on the football team.

Ms. Halverson also had been an intern for *The Leader/Times*, where she archived stories regarding the John List murders.



Greg Ryan for The Westfield Leader and The Times

REMEMBERING VICTIMS...Thirty to 40 people gathered Friday morning at Mindowaskin Park in Westfield to remember the victims of Newtown/Sandy Hook, Conn. They were remembered with song poems and Ted Schlosberg playing Taps. The memorial was in coordination with churches ringing their bells across the country at 9:30 a.m., one week after the mass killing. The names and ages of those killed were read. The vigil was organized by residents Karen Egert and Lisa Alongi. Westfield parents came to show their support and talk about the need to make changes, legislatively and socially, in order to reduce gun violence. Thoughts and ideas were exchanged on ways to ban high powered assault weapons, magazine clips, etc. Anyone would like to get involved in future can e-mail Karen Egert at karenegert22@aol.com.



Peyton's Peek at the Week In Politics

By Paul Peyton of The Leader/Times

Sweeney Won't Support Gay Marriage Referendum

Senate President Steven Sweeney (D-3, Gloucester) has said he does not support a measure by Assemblyman Reed Gusciora (D-15, Trenton), the state's first openly gay legislator, that would give voters the chance to decide whether gay people should have the right to marry, the *Star-Ledger* has reported.

"I have firmly stated before and will say again now that I do not believe you put civil rights on the ballot, period," Sen. Sweeney told the paper.

Assemblyman Gusciora said, "I am the last person who believes civil rights should be on the ballot, but civil rights delayed is civil rights denied."

Republican State Senator Christopher "Kip" Bateman of Somerset County, the prime sponsor of referendum, SCR- 88, seeking voter approval to amend the state constitution to legalize same sex marriage in New Jersey, said he welcomed Asm. Gusciora's support of putting the question before voters.

"I'm glad that he now understands what I was saying in February: that this is the most pragmatic course of action. A straight up or down vote on legalizing same sex marriage in the Constitution, not a 'defense of marriage' law, gives finality to a matter that, if handled by simple legislation, could be repealed in the future or mired in litigation for years," Sen. Bateman said.

Broker Gets 15 Years for Stealing Money From BOE, City

A Maryland insurance broker has been sentenced to state prison for stealing nearly \$2.6 million from the Perth Amboy Board of Education by submitting fraudulent bills, and also stealing \$216,495 from the City of Perth Amboy by collecting payments for a non-existent "wellness program" for city employees, according to Attorney General Jeffrey Chiesa.

Francis X. Gartland, 71, of Baltimore, Md., was sentenced to 15 years in state prison, including seven and half years of parole ineligibility and a concurrent seven-year sentence on a theft by deception charge. Gartland pleaded guilty on April 10 to first-degree money laundering against the school district and second-degree theft by deception against the city.

Christie Replaces Morris Pros. With Acting Prosecutor

Morris County Prosecutor Robert Bianchi, a holdover since his term expired in June, was replaced on December 14 by attorney Frederic M. Knapp as acting county prosecutor by order of Governor Chris Christie, the *Daily Record* reported.

Mr. Knapp, a Republican, was nominated by Gov. Christie on June 7 to succeed Mr. Bianchi, a Democrat.

"I don't think there's any debate about the governor's ability to do it (remove Bianchi for Knapp)," Gov. Christie told *The Daily Record*. "We did it. But we waited for seven months for a hearing. The Senate cannot continue to be able, especially in sensitive law enforcement positions, to just sit in the corner and hold their breath because they lost the election in 2009. The Governor said the attorney general has also named acting prosecutors in Essex and Atlantic Counties." Senate Democrats last Thursday denied Mr. Knapp's nomination.

Senate Republican Leader Tom Kean, Jr. (R-21, Westfield) said of Thursday's action: "[The] rejection of Frederic Knapp's nomination, through a suspension of Senate rules and without so much as a Judiciary Committee hearing, can only be described as a temper tantrum. In so doing, the Democrats have denied the people of Morris County, for no good reason whatsoever, the opportunity to be served by a talented attorney, diligent public servant, and good man."

Judge Rejects Latest CF Motion In Birchwood Case

By DELL SIMEONE

Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

CRANFORD – Birchwood or the 360-apartment development to be built by the Cranford Development Associates (CDA) at 315 Birchwood Avenue in Cranford, which is in a flood plain, has caused Cranford Township a lot of headaches. Last year the township was victim to massive flooding. This is a factor in the township's opposition to the development.

CDA brought a builder's remedy lawsuit against the township, and won, in order to go forward with the apartments, which would contain 60 affordable units. Cranford had not complied with the New Jersey Mt. Laurel Agreement to provide the required amount of affordable housing in town.

Last year, the township was ordered by state Superior Court Judge Lisa Chrystal to change its zoning laws to prepare for the Birchwood development. Judge Chrystal also ordered the Birchwood site plan hearing to take place, in August, in Superior Court in Elizabeth and not by the Cranford Planning Board in the Cranford Municipal Building. The township objected to that order. Letters were sent to the judge requesting a change of venue. The requests were denied. Judge Chrystal appointed retired Judge Douglas Wolfson as the special hearing officer to preside, and appointed Elizabeth McKenzie as the special master for the hearing.

Judge Wolfson and Ms. McKenzie submitted their findings to Judge Chrystal this fall. Both findings were favorable to CDA. In October, Stephen Eisendorfer, of Hill Wallack, of Princeton, representing the CDA, requested that Judge Chrystal make a final judgement in the case. That has not happened.

At the December 17 hearing on a motion from Cranford, Judge Chrystal said that she had not received any objections from Cranford residents to Judge Wolfson's recommendations on Birchwood. Cranford then asked for, and was granted, an extension until December 31. Objections can be sent to Honorable Lisa F. Chrystal, J.S.C., Union County Courthouse, 2 Broad St., Tower Bldg., 11th floor, Elizabeth, N.J. 07207.

At the hearing, Cranford Township Attorney Philip Morin argued to have Ms. McKenzie disqualified from the case based on a statement she made in an e-mail (in a different case), calling herself an advocate of affordable housing. Cranford asked the trial court to disqualify Ms. McKenzie as special master in the site plan hearing, and that a new hearing be ordered. The request was denied by Judge Chrystal.

"It is a disappointment, but not a surprise," said Mr. Morin of the ruling.

He said Judge Chrystal said that the motion filed by the township did not meet the necessary criteria to

vacate her previous order. She scheduled a court hearing on the Birchwood site plan on Monday, February 4, at 10 a.m. in Superior Court in Elizabeth. At that time, the township's objections to the special hearing officer's recommendations will be heard and she will make the final order in the case.

Until new appointments are made by the township committee in January, it is uncertain whether Mr. Morin will continue as the township attorney. He stated that should an appeal, by Cranford, go forward on the Birchwood case, the question of Ms. McKenzie's possible bias would not be able to be brought up unless it had been addressed by the court at this time.

He said further, at this point, CDA has still not received a permit from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) to raise part of Birchwood Avenue a foot above the flood plain and provide an emergency exit from the development. If the CDA does not obtain the permit, it would be a large obstacle to the development.

Two Kids Hit By Car On Way to School

WESTFIELD – Two children on their way to Edison Intermediate School (EIS) last Thursday were struck by a car at the intersection of Rahway Avenue and Grove Street.

In an e-mail to parents, EIS Principal Matt Bolton said both students were transported to the hospital for observation. He said the motorist who hit them was blinded by the sun and did not see the crossing guard. One student returned to school Thursday while the other was expected to return last Friday.

Bramnick Calls for Schroeder to Resign

"In light of today's indictment [Friday by the state Attorney General] of Assemblyman [Robert] Schroeder [R-39th], I do not believe he can continue to properly serve his constituents while facing these serious charges. I believe it is in the best interest of his constituents that Assemblyman Schroeder immediately resign his seat in the General Assembly."

Assembly Republican Leader Jon Bramnick Westfield

Correction

In the article entitled "Westfield Settles Lawsuit; 24 Units Planned for Springfield Ave." in the December 20 edition, it was reported that Sunnyside Senior Housing, LLC is owned by Steve Needle and Ray Rodgers. While Mr. Needle did at one time own an interest in the project, he is no longer in partnership with Mr. Rodgers and is no longer involved in that project. We regret the error.

Second Birdsall Executive Indicted in Fraud Probe

TRENTON — Thomas Rospos, a former executive vice-president for Birdsall Services Group, a large Monmouth County-based engineering firm with an office in Cranford, has been indicted by a state grand jury for his alleged role in a scheme in which the firm fraudulently avoided the restrictions of New Jersey's Pay-to-Play Act by disguising illegal corporate political contributions as personal contributions of employees of the firm.

On November 30, Philip Angarone, 40, of Hamilton, the former marketing director for Birdsall, admitted in court that he took part in the scheme, plead guilty to third-degree tampering with public records or information and fourth-degree prohibited corporation contributions through employees. He faces up to 364 days in jail and a term of probation. Rospos, 60, of Belmar, has been charged with 2nd-degree counts of conspiracy, making false representations for government contracts, misconduct by a corporate official, and money laun-

dering. Each of the counts carries a sentence of five to 10 years in prison. He was also charged with tampering with public records or information (3rd degree), falsifying or tampering with records (4th degree), prohibited corporation contributions through employees (4th degree), and concealment or misrepresentation of contributions or expenditures (4th degree). Rospos allegedly made hundreds of personal contributions to campaigns and political organizations across the state, both Republican and Democratic, in excess of \$150,000 that were illegally reimbursed by Birdsall.

Under the scheme, Birdsall shareholders and employees would make personal political contributions of \$300 or less, which are deemed unreportable, and shareholders and employees would then be illegally reimbursed with bonus payments, and the firm would falsely omit the contributions in documents filed with the Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC).

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2012 Year In Review, Part 1

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

on December 20, 2011. The court order was issued in response to a builder's remedy suit brought against the township by Cranford Development Associates, L.L.C., a subsidiary of the S. Hekemian Group of Paramus.

After a two-hour public hearing during which members of the public begged, accused and challenged the Cranford Township Committee not to amend a supplement to the township's land-use ordinance to create an inclusionary multi-family residence zone, the committee adopted the ordinance.

Garwood

A committee of three borough residents began the process of recalling Garwood Councilman Jim Mathieu. The councilman, elected to a three-year term in November 2010, caused a storm locally for his actions: from allegations of harassment by Borough Clerk Christina Ariemma that is the subject of a lawsuit against the mayor and borough council, to his questioning of crossing guards regarding unemployment benefits they collect during summer months.

Litigation between The Pointe and the borough concerning snow and

garbage removal was concluded, after a hearing that lasted about eight months. Borough Attorney Joseph Triarsi expected to hear the judge's written decision in about two weeks.

Mountainside

At a board of education (BOE) meeting, Mountainside Education Association President Suzanne Jenks told the BOE, "We are here tonight to voice our frustration over not having an agreement for over two years." Approximately 40 members of the union stood behind Ms. Jenks. Most were attired in black as a symbol of solidarity.

County

The Freeholders voted 7-0 to privatize occupational, physical and speech therapy services at Runnells Specialized Hospital. The \$1.9-million, one-year contract was given to Kennett Square, Pa.-based Genesis ElderCare Rehabilitation Services, Inc. According to the resolution, the contract will save the county \$376,037 while also producing \$1.5 million in new revenues for the county.

The second half of the end-of-the-year review, June through November, will be published in the January 3 edition.

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Fred T. Rossi for *The Westfield Leader and The Times*
LAST MEETING...Scotch Plains Mayor Mary DePaola presided over her final township council meeting on December 18. Councilman Edward Saridaki, left, marked his final meeting as well. Both Republicans were defeated in municipal elections last month.

County Looking to Move Golf to Improvement Auth.

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

COUNTY – The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders last Thursday approved a memorandum understanding between the county and the Union County Improvement Authority (UCIA) relative to moving the county's gold operations under the umbrella of the UCIA. Golf operations currently fall under the Department of Parks and Community Renewal.

County Counsel Robert Barry said the agreement "is strictly opening up the discussion on whether or not [the county] would transfer the assets to the UCIA" as part of a public-private partnership.

He said improvement authorities "have the ability to enter into much longer-term relationships" with private entities that counties. Mr. Barry said the UCIA would have the flexibility to "react more to market conditions and operational changes" than the county could. He said those are factors the county would consider in the negotiations "on whether or not to move forward with this."

The freeholders also approved a \$3.8-million, one-year shared services agreement with Hudson County to transfer inmates from the Union County lockup to Hudson during renovations to the Union County jail.

Director of Corrections Brian Riordan said the county has to undertake a major "housing area refurbishment" at the jail beginning in January. He said an entire housing unit in the jail must be closed while inmate showers are refurbished to correct safety violations found by the state.

"The job does have to get done. We are under state mandate to meet certain standards by code," Mr. Riordan said. "We have a jail that was opened in 1989 and was built...for 517 prisoners. We've operated at times with close to 1,200 prisoners in that institution. So the present showers have been used, to a degree, much more than they were intended to be used by a population much higher than they were meant to sustain."

He said the county has been using a "band-aid" approach to repair the showers, which now need to be "gut-

ted and redone."

He said between 40 and 100 inmates would be temporarily moved to Hudson during the project, which is expected to take between 12 to 18 months to complete.

In other business, the board adopted an ordinance giving 2 percent raises to department directors. The salaries for 2013 will be: county manager, \$158,100; county counsel, \$152,504; engineering, public works and facilities director, \$121,685; public safety director, \$116,069; human services director, \$133,967; correctional services director, \$119,646; Runnells Specialized Hospital director, \$132,796; finance director, \$122,400; administrative services director, \$122,399, and parks and community renewal director, \$116,280.

During freeholder comments, Freeholders Chris Hudak and Mohamed Jalloh both made comments encouraging lawmakers to take action on gun control and related initiatives following the mass killing of 26 people, including 20 children, at a school in Newtown, Conn.

"If there was a need for smart, responsible reform involving weapons it's now," Freeholder Hudak said, noting that a national assault weapons ban was allowed by Congress to expire in 2004. He said automatic weapons "have no practical purpose" in people defending their homes.

Freeholder Jalloh said behavioral health, security and safety needs to be addressed as well.

Last Thursday's meeting marked the final meeting for Freeholder Deborah Scanlon of Union, who is retiring after 15 years on the board.

The freeholders will hold its reorganization meeting at noon on Sunday, December 20, in the Superior Court courtroom of Union County Assignment Judge Karen Cassidy in the Union County Courthouse.

Freeholder-elect Bruce Bergen of Springfield will be sworn into office along with incumbents Alexander Mirabella of Fanwood and Mohamed Jalloh of Roselle, who will begin their sixth and second terms, respectively.

Judge Finds Franklin Guilty of '76 WF Murder

By LAUREN S. BARR
Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

WESTFIELD – Last Thursday afternoon, nearly 37 years after the brutal rape and murder of Lena Triano in her Westfield home, Carlton Franklin, who was only 15 at the time, was found guilty of felony murder in the first degree.

Despite the fact that Franklin is now 51 years old, he was a juvenile at the time the crime was committed, and thus had to be treated as a juvenile by the court system and under the laws as they existed in 1976.

State Superior Court Judge Robert Kirsch issued a 51-page verdict and opinion, which he read from in part at the hearing. He said that Ms. Triano, who is only identified as L.T. in court papers, lived a "modest and somewhat solitary life," going to church and working as a legal secretary before her death at the age of 57.

In addition to the DNA evidence found at the scene, which Judge Kirsch called "powerfully incriminating" and said "indisputably" belonged to Franklin; the judge also called Franklin's taped conversation with investigators "disingenuous."

During the course of the trial the tape was admitted into evidence; on it Franklin denied knowledge of Ms. Triano as his backyard neighbor, that there had even been a murder in his neighborhood or the location of Ripley Place. Judge Kirsch noted, however, that Franklin claimed that people have "super duper memories, even...as a youngster..." Franklin went on in the interview to recall multiple names of former classmates, and other streets near Stirling Place, where he lived at the time of the murder.

While the defense had argued that Franklin and Ms. Triano had a consensual sexual relationship, allegedly taking place on the night before the murder, Judge Kirsch said in his verdict, "there appears credible scientific corroboration that the sexual event happened in or around the time of death."

Courage to Reconnect SP-FW Selects Commissioners for Panel

REGION – Courage to Reconnect (C2R) Scotch Plains and Fanwood, a non-partisan, grassroots group of citizens who has secured state approval for a municipal consolidation study for both towns, has selected its four commissioners and alternates for the 10-member municipal consolidation commission.

Fanwood and Scotch Plains must now each select two commissioners, as well as work with C2R to seat the final two commissioners. It is hoped the Commission can begin meeting by late January, according to a press release from C2R.

The appointed commissioners from Scotch Plains are: Fred Lange, founder of C2R Scotch Plains and Fanwood, has a MBA from Rutgers University and is retired from an extensive career in logistics; Don Parisi, a former member of the Scotch Plains/Fanwood Board of Education, who has been active with C2R since its

inception and who has met with state officials throughout the process to create the commission between the two towns. He is general counsel with Rider Insurance Company; and Sarah Dreikorn, alternate member, now completing her MBA at Stevens Institute of Technology. She is a microbiologist and project manager at Pracs Institute and holds seven patents in the area of pharmaceuticals.

Commissioners from Fanwood are: Daniel McCarey, owner of a general litigation law practice in Scotch Plains; Ann Saltzman, a retired psychology professor from Drew University, and Pat Hoynes, an alternate commission member who serves as the assistant to Mayor Colleen Mahr and as Fanwood's planning board secretary.

Franklin will be sentenced on Thursday, January 31. According to the Union County Prosecutor's Office, in 1976 the juvenile code allowed that sentencing for a homicide should be indeterminate not to exceed life.

According to *The Westfield Leader* and *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* archives, Franklin was appointed to a Youth Advisory Committee on Vandalism in September of 1977, just a year after he allegedly murdered Ms. Triano. He next appears in the archives in April of 1980 when he was arrested and charged with a Stirling Place burglary along with Ralph Petteyway. The two were held on \$10,000 bail.

Then on November 6, 1981, Franklin broke into the Garrigan home on Lawrence Avenue, holding three family members hostage. According to *The Leader/Times* archives, Franklin held the family hostage for several hours before instructing Donald Garrigan to withdraw money from two banks. While at the bank, Mr. Garrigan was able to alert an employee that he was being held hostage and police surrounded the home.

Westfield Police Detective Bernard Tracey, who would later become Westfield's police chief, broke through the door after a scuffle broke out between Franklin and Mr. Garrigan, after which the Garrigan family escaped the home. Franklin retreated to the basement, prompting several hours of negotiations between him and members of the police department that ultimately ended with his capture after Sergeant Owen McCabe subdued him when he reached for a pack of cigarettes.

Franklin pled guilty to kidnapping and robbery, for which he served 17 years before being paroled in 1999.

At the time of his arrest for the Triano murder, Franklin, a father of three, was residing in Newark and working as a home heating oil deliveryman.

A niece, who was not present at the hearing, survives Ms. Triano.



Tom Kranz for *The Westfield Leader and The Times*
THANK YOU, FANWOOD...Fanwood Councilman Robert Manduca makes farewell remarks at his last meeting as a councilman on December 18, as Councilman Mike Szych, who also is leaving the council dais, awaits his turn to say goodbye.

SPF OKs Asbestos Removal, Trans. Contract With WF

By DELL SIMEONE
Specialty for The Westfield Leader and The Times

SCOTCH PLAINS – The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education (BOE) last Thursday voted to authorize Environmental Management, Inc. to oversee the asbestos removal project at Brunner Elementary and McGinn Elementary Schools and at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School. The company will monitor costs and plans, bids, contractor solicitation and technology, for an estimated final cost of \$49,000.

The board also approved contracts to Shari Vayda of Scotch Plains for occupational therapy services at \$75 per hour, and to Dr. Laura E. Morse of the Institute of Neurology and Neurosurgery in Livingston at \$550 per hour for comprehensive neuro-developmental evaluations on an as needed basis.

The board also approved Creative Summer Workshops in the Arts for grades K through 8 for 2013. Classes will include acrobatics, arts and crafts, ceramics, Italian, a Glee Program and others.

A joint transportation contract with the Westfield Board of Education was approved for a bus route to include St. Joseph's High School in Metuchen and Bishop Ahr High School in Edison with a payment of \$4,369 due from Westfield.

Board member Douglas Layne introduced a resolution supporting Big Read, a program designed to revitalize the role of literature in American culture. The initiative is funded by the National Endowment for the Arts and will be launched on Thursday, January 10, at 7 p.m. at the Scotch Plains Public Library. Tropyband Orquesta, a 14-piece Latin music ensemble, with vocalists, and students from New Jersey City University, will entertain with music from the Caribbean and Latin America.

The revised school calendar, in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, will include: a single session to be held on Monday, January 21, which is Martin Luther King Jr. Day. A full session

will be held on Monday, February 18, Presidents' Day. A single session will be held for elementary students, grades Pre-K through grade 4, on Friday, June 21. A single session will be held for Pre-K through grade 4 students at School One and the J.A. Coles School on Monday, June 24. This schedule is posted on the district's website.

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Chamber Choir entertained the BOE at the start of the meeting, the board's last for the year. The choir is made up of junior and senior boys and girls led by music teacher Jan Allen. The choir performed three songs, in a cappella style, to celebrate the holidays.

BOE President Norman "Trip" Whitehouse praised the choir by saying, "There is talent and a breath of interest, and some high flyers academically in this choir." To Ms. Allen he said, "It is clear you love what you do. The talent speaks for itself."

"Your concert was wonderful. What they learn from the music is beautiful. What's best is the students love what they do," Superintendent of Schools Margaret Hayes added.

The board's annual reorganization meeting will be held Tuesday, January 8, at 7:30 p.m. An open agenda meeting will be held on Thursday, January 17, at 7:30 p.m. The regular meeting will be on Thursday, January 24, at 7:30 p.m. All meetings are held at the board's administration building, 2088 Evergreen Road in Scotch Plains.

Correction

A story on the special Monday, December 17 Scotch Plains Township Council meeting on the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy in last week's issue of *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* inadvertently included an editor's question towards the end of the story on Page 10. The story should have said, "Ethan Schoss and his wife presented the township council with current photographs of their yard, covered with tree trunks." We apologize for the error.

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 POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the offices of the newspapers at P. O. Box 250, Westfield, New Jersey 07091
 Published every Thursday by Watchung Communications, Inc.
Paul Peyton ASSIGNMENT EDITOR
Suzette F. Stalker COMMUNITY
Betsey Burgdorf EDUCATION & ARTS
Horace R. Corbin PUBLISHER
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- * - Merry Christmas and New Year Wishes

- * - Peace, Happiness and Prosperity: Wishing you all the best for the holidays and the coming year. Faten Mahran Coldwell Banker Westfield

- * - One of the Real Joys of the Holiday Season is the opportunity to say "Thank You" and to send wishes for Peace, Health and Happiness Throughout the New Year. All the Best, Grace Rappa

- * - Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Ron Basky & Associates Allstate Agency! Happy Holidays from our "Good Hands" to yours.

- * - Merry Christmas, Happy Holiday and a Happy Year! May the new year bring better fortune, joy and more happiness than 2012. Peter Louie, DMD plouiedmd@comcast.net

- * - Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Ron Basky & Associates Allstate Agency! Happy Holidays from our "Good Hands" to yours.

- * - Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from our house to yours! Wesley Hall School for Early Childhood First United Methodist Church 1 East Broad St. Westfield NJ

- * - Christmas comes but once a year. It's a special time filled with cheer. We hope your Christmas is filled with peace and happiness is never out of reach. Artisan Homecare staff

- * - Santa says to bake some yummy cookies for him in your oven from Top Line! Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from all of us at Top Line Appliance Center!

- * - We wish you a very Happy Holiday Season... and a prosperous, joyous, and Happy New Year. We enjoy helping you tell your brand story, promote your business, and ultimately insure your success. That's what we do best. We thank you for your kind support. Best Wishes. Jeff Stein & IncentivesUSA facebook.com/IncentivesUSA

- * - From all of us at COD ALMIGHTY CHIPPERY, we would like to wish our great patrons and Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year!

- * - Wishing all of our clients and volunteers a Happy Holiday Season and Happy New Year! Mobile Meals of Westfield

- * - Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of our clients and friends.... Fred Chemidlin, Peter Chemidlin, Joseph Chemidlin, Darraugh Valli, Matthew Chemidlin, Edna Trujillo, Emmy Salerno, Diana Cilluffo and Steve Goldberg, Family Investors Co.

- * - May this Christmas end the present year on a cheerful note and make way for a fresh and bright new year. Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Prosperous, and Healthy New Year! From Yolanda Escobar-Flores, Coldwell Banker West

- * - We wish everyone and their families a very happy and healthy holiday season from Congregation Beth Israel

- * - I am so very thankful for the blessings that have been given to me. May the spirit of this Christmas stay with you all year long. I wish a happy, healthy, prosperous and joyous year ahead to all. Wishing all a very Merry Christmas, and a very Happy New Year! Eileen Passananti

- * - On behalf of The Arc of Union County Board of Directors, staff, families, individuals served and volunteers, we THANK YOU for your community support throughout the year. Have a wonderful Holiday Season and a very Happy New Year

- * - Holiday Greetings from the Westfield Symphony Orchestra 2012-2013. Our Pearl Anniversary Season, celebrating 30 years of magnificent music

- * - Merry Christmas and a Healthy New Year from all of us at Johns Prime Meat Market, 389 Park Ave. Scotch Plains. Stay Safe and get ready to have Great 2013!

- * - Best Wishes from The Espeland Group for a Joyous and Safe Holiday Season

- * - Christmas in Westfield fills us with joy; We want to shout it out loud to each girl and boy. For Westfield's people always make us so proud; So Merry Christmas to all - Say it out loud! Teri Malone Ter@Westfield-Area-Homes.com

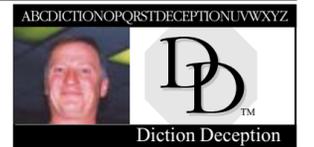
- * - We are so blessed with our families, nothing else matters. Enjoy whatever holiday you celebrate and be grateful. Camie

- * - Jim and his Staff at Galaxy Building Contractors would like to wish all of our customers and Leader readers a wonderful holiday and a Safe Prosperous New Year. CHEERS !!!

- * - Northfield Bank wishes you a happy and healthy holiday season. Northfield Bank Westfield Office 828 South Avenue West

- * - To all our Clients, Friends and Neighbors, Merry Christmas and Happy, Safe Holidays from all of us at Frank Smith Law, the Law Office of Francis M. Smith, Esq., your local personal injury law specialist-Frank, Betty, Joyce, Dick, Craig & Jean

- * - To all of my Real Estate customers and to those who I hope will one day be my customers, Best Wishes for your holidays, good health and prosperity in the new year. Frank



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

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

All words and correct definitions come from the board game Diction Deception.

Answers to last week's arcane words.
 1. Scray - The sea swallow
 2. Wachna - The little Alaskan cod
 3. Pselism - Any speech defect, as stammering
 4. Javel - A vagabond or lowly person

PTARMIC
 1. Producing smoke or soot
 2. Causing to sneeze
 3. Of an alien or foreign nature
 4. Pertaining to the final end or purpose

DAWPATE
 1. Putrid; foul-smelling
 2. In a relaxed state; resting
 3. Formed like a fan
 4. A simpleton; a fool

TELLURAL
 1. Pertaining to the earth
 2. Having wits; sense; understanding
 3. Round or oval in form
 4. Prophetic; oracular; mysterious

GOBBET
 1. A naked cell or mass of protoplasm
 2. A chunk of raw flesh
 3. A water wheel with buckets
 4. A tobacco or money pouch

My family to yours, best wishes! Mayor Colleen Mahr

- * - We would like to say, "thank you", to all of our wonderful customers for choosing the New Evalyn Dunn Gallery for your art and framing needs in 2012. Our Best Wishes for a Happy and Healthy 2013! Jaclyn Civins and Amy Walsh, daughters of Evalyn Dunn.

- * - Believe in the magic of Christmas. Believe in the magic of Friendship. Believe in the magic of love and the power of positive thoughts. Believe that anything is possible and watch the possibilities unfold like magic. Happy Holidays to all! Thank you for all of your business and referrals. Stephanie Smith Coldwell Banker, Westfield

- * - Celebrate the spirit of the season. May you soar into the New Year filled with Health, Happiness and Prosperity. - From all of us at Prominent Properties Sotheby's International Realty, Westfield Office.

- * - Warmest thoughts and best wishes for a wonderful holiday season, and my sincere thanks for your support and friendship. Happy New Year!! From Vivian Cortese-Strano, Weichert Realtors

- * - May your lives be filled with health, gratefulness, peace, creativity and the ability to just say "YES". Happy Holidays from the Contagious Drama Workshop

- * - From all of us at Jay's Cycle Center, have a happy holiday season and a joyous new year! Pedal on Dancer, Prancer, and Vixen! Pedal on Comet! Cupid! Donder and Blitzen!

- * - To all friend and family. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Joyous New Year. From Greg Ryan

- * - Happy Holidays from the new & improved Kearney family from East Westfield, NJ! From Vinnie Kearney

- * - I wish everyone to be filled with positive thoughts during the Christmas Holiday and that we all survive the Mayan Calendar (December 21) and land softly after facing the fiscal cliff. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! David Corbin

- * - Season's Greetings and Christmas blessings to all. May the New Year be filled with good health, prosperity, and peace. Marylou Morano, A&E Staff Writer

- * - May Peace, Love and Prosperity follow you throughout the year. Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!! Patty O'Connor, Weichert Realtors

- * - Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us at The Westfield School of Dance! Wishing you peace and happiness.

- * - We wish our patients, their loved ones and our community a peaceful holiday season. May 2013 bring you good health, happiness and prosperity. It is a privilege to have the opportunity to serve you and keep you smiling! ~ Dr. Merriman and the A Team at 229 Charles Street, Westfield

- * - One of the Real Joys of the Holiday Season is the opportunity to say "Thank You" and to send wishes for Peace, Health and Happiness Throughout the New Year. ~ The Westfield Foundation

- * - Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, From John de Sa.

- * - Best Wishes for Happy and Healthy Holidays from the Education Fund of Westfield. Thank you for your continued support!

- * - To our customers, It has been a pleasure and a privilege to serve you throughout the year. We thank you for your patronage and look forward to serve you in the coming years. Merry Christmas, Happy new year from all of us at Burger Palace; From Mohamed burgerpalace@verizon.net

- * - One of the real joys of the holiday season is the opportunity to say "Thank You" and to send wishes for Peace, Prosperity, Health and Happiness Throughout the New Year. All our best from the staff of the Mark F. Swingle Group from Ingrid McKinley ingridmcki@aol.com

New Year's Resolutions; Ones That You Achieve and How To Do It

Many of us make New Year's resolutions coupled with a soft commitment to actually achieve them. Do you remember any of the resolutions you made last year? Did you achieve any of them?

Though well intentioned, most of us failed in our resolutions as we look at the scorecard today.

For me, my past resolutions were too vague, too ambitious and too tough - or I was never intending to do anything about them in the first place. My number one resolution each year is to lose about 20 pounds (10 pounds would have been a big victory) and to get in better shape. Losing weight seems to be one of the most popular and failed resolutions of our times.

Well, I didn't fail in one of my resolutions for 2012 - I changed it to something achievable. I returned my shopping cart from the food store parking lot, rather than abandoning it in place as in the past. Each year I got better at disguising how to abandon the shopping cart and also came up with new and innovative excuses in my mind as to why I was doing the right thing.

As I practiced this New Year's resolution in 2012, I was pensive thinking I had bit off more than I could chew. As example, how does one deal with returning their shopping cart when the lot is full and someone is already behind you parked car with their blinkers on anxious to take your spot? Can you imagine the glares and looks you get?

If you happen to be waiting for a parking spot and someone delays you by returning their shopping cart, please have patience. It might be me.

It takes about two minutes to return a shopping cart, get back to one's car, and escape the fury. Come to think of it, the extra walking by returning the shopping carts may actually help me lose that 10 pounds.

The truth is that I returned an abandoned shopping cart by others before I entered the food store thinking that makes up for the times I didn't return mine.

In these days, many find it's more convenient to restate their promises, rather than actually keeping them. It worked for me!

Happy New Year everyone.



BOE Are Elected Officials; Citizens To Suggest That They Be Replaced Is Frivolous

I felt compelled to respond to Mr. Dreher's and Mr. Ryan's letters to the editor from last week which vilified both the Westfield Board of Education and Dr. Dolan for transgressions ranging from lying to the public to insufficient communication regarding the proposed (and passed) bond to finance replacement and repair work on the roofs of Westfield schools.

First, it is the duty of every responsible citizen to be fully informed about the issues that impact themselves and the town in which they reside. Similarly, it is incumbent upon our paid and elected officials to make available and disseminate accurate, timely and important information pertaining to Westfield residents.

To suggest that Dr. Dolan was deficient in this area regarding the bond is grossly incorrect as the lengths taken by our Superintendent to provide information to the community were comprehensive. A few examples should suffice to underscore the inaccuracy of Mr. Dreher's claim. First, a complete description of the details of the bond has been, and still is, on the front page of the district website, westfieldnj12.org, Bond Ref (left hand side, top). Likewise, details of the bond proposal have been presented at open public Board of Ed. meetings that are held every other Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Elm St Admin Bldg, (a schedule of BOE meetings is on the same website, under BOE and again under Synopsis).

Similarly, the bond proposal has been presented at open public Parent Teacher Committee meetings, held the third Thursday of every month at 9:15 a.m. in the same building. It was summarized in the BOE synopsis - which currently has more than 1,000 subscribers - and the PTC meeting minutes, both of which can be received via email by anyone (sign up on the website).

Each BOE meeting was aired 7 times per week on Westfield Blue Devil TV channel 36 and are still posted as videos in their entirety through a link on the website homepage. In addition, the Westfield YMCA and Westfield Public library received flyers to advertise the town of the bond information. Finally, the very paper in which Mr. Dreher chose to question Dr. Dolan's communication protocol ran length, accurate and complete information about the bond in letters from Mr. Bolton, Mr. Cullen, and Dr. Dolan using information extracted directly from public information available on the website as well as front page coverage by Leader reporters.

I surmise that the erroneous contention that Dr. Dolan's communication efforts were incomplete was due solely in disagreement with the bond passing - since the facts are overwhelmingly favorable to Dr. Dolan upholding her responsibility to the Westfield citizenry.

Secondly, it is both inflammatory and ignorant to suggest that the Board of Education and Dr. Dolan "lied" and "threatened" the citizens of Westfield. The members of the BOE apprise constituents of Westfield on educational matters and proposals intended to improve the quality of life in our community. In this case only the facts were delivered by the Dr. Dolan and the BOE, correctly asserting that there were 2 choices to fund the roof replacement: via bond which would increase taxes in year 1 or by reducing the operating budget which would cost teacher jobs. By highlighting these options, Dr. Dolan was not threatening Westfielders as Mr. Ryan suggests - she was simply reminding citizens of facts that they could draw upon when making the tough decision to vote yes or no on the bond.

Regarding the email letter from Dr. Dolan that went exclusively to parents, it is certainly understandable Dr. Dolan wasn't able to provide this document to all Westfield residents via email - to do so she would need emails for the entire town which to any reasonable person, is impossible. Mr. Ryan, if you wish to stay informed accurately, please see any of the modes of communication listed above, where intelligent, active members of the community get their information and seek to make positive contributions to the town and its schools.

As a contributing member to *The Westfield Leader* photography, it would make sense for you to carefully read the paper for which you are providing photography. Regarding the solar panels, see any of the past BOE synopses which are all listed on the website to educate yourself on the entire progression of solar panel discussions. And regarding your comment that the newspaper was not invited up to see the deteriorating roofs, the last time I checked, reporters from the *Leader* are active investigators and don't sit around waiting for invitations to do their reporting. In addition, on the bond website and in BOE meetings, actual photos of roof conditions - including standing water - was made public through Powerpoint presentations, which are still available on the website.

Finally, please remember once again, Mr. Ryan, that our BOE are elected officials. We voted for them and it is slanderous for disgruntled citizens to suggest they be replaced amid frivolous claims questioning their integrity.

John and Ellen Devin Westfield



Officials Assure Westfield That Town Is Prepared In Light of Newtown

Dear Friends, We are all unfortunately too well aware of the incident last Friday in Newtown, Connecticut. There are no words to describe the pain we all feel for the Newtown community, and the loss of innocent children and the adults who died while protecting them.

A loss of this magnitude, undertaken in such a manner, is unspeakable.

And while our thoughts and prayers go out to that community, it is also understandably human nature to think of our own vulnerabilities in circumstances such as this. As caring human beings, we want to protect our children and educators at all times and in all of our schools.

It is for that reason that we wanted to reach out to all members of our community to remind and reassure everyone that the Westfield Public School District, in collaboration with our Town's public safety professionals, and County and State authorities, has long had a comprehensive emergency plan in place, which is reviewed and practiced on a regular basis with our students, our educators, and the administration of each school building in the District.

And while our Superintendent of Schools undertakes an ongoing dialogue with our Chief of Police to ensure our plan remains current and viable, the Superintendent was in immediate contact with the Chief last Friday to ensure we were taking every immediate precaution in the near term. Our police professionals and school authorities, most of whom are parents themselves, have our children's and educators' well-being at the forefront of all deliberations and action plans.

Earlier this week, a joint meeting was held between the Town and the School District to discuss emergency preparedness in light of this recent tragedy. In attendance were Mayor Andrew Skibitsky, Public Safety Committee Chairwoman JoAnn Neylan, Police Chief David Wayman, Deputy Fire Chief David Kelly, Town Administrator Jim Gildea, Board of Education President Rich Mattessich, Board of Education Vice President Rosanne Kurstedt, Superintendent Dr. Margaret Dolan, and four members of the School District's Emergency Management Team, Mike Weissman, Jeanette Munoz, David Duelsks and Jim DeSarno.

Many good points were raised during the meeting, which is intended to be the first of many such meetings during which the Town and School District will continue to ensure our safety protocols remain appropriate and balanced. And although the safety protocol itself is maintained in a confidential manner, we do want to remind you of certain procedures that are currently in place and other actions that have been considered:

Dr. Dolan has spoken with every principal and reviewed safety procedures for all ten buildings. Some immediate steps were taken to secure all sections of all buildings. Staff and parents have been understanding of these changes, even when they make everyday arrivals more difficult. Remaining concerns or questions are being compiled with suggestions coming from principals, staff and parents. These suggestions are being investigated and will be reviewed with law enforcement.

Counselors have been at every school in the District to provide support and information to help teachers and students in dealing with their thoughts for those in Newtown, and in discussing their understandably heightened concerns for personal safety.

A few days before the Connecticut tragedy, the School District's Emergency Management Team met and had planned for security audits at every school building in the District to be undertaken in collaboration with the Police and Fire Departments. This Emergency Management Team meets on a monthly basis to ensure best practices are in place, and will make this meeting with Town officials a priority in January.

Members of law enforcement have always worked closely with officials from all of our schools and are very responsive and cooperative to issues that arise from time to time throughout

the school year. Members of law enforcement both from Westfield and Union County have also come and worked with and trained our principals and other professionals. The police also use our buildings to conduct their own trainings so that they are familiar with each building should an emergency situation arise. The New Jersey Department of Education has also provided training for all principals. The School District's nurses also have participated in specific training regarding crisis management.

Members of the Westfield Police and Fire Departments have overseen the various drills that are conducted in our schools and have from time to time helped to implement their suggestions for improving protocols.

We utilize doorway cameras with a two-way intercom in our schools and visitors have to be "buzzed in" for the door to open. We are looking at this protocol at each school building in the District to ensure that consistent practices are followed across the District. This has resulted in some immediate changes and we are considering additional actions in this regard.

While unfortunate, we must note that access to our school buildings will be a little more time consuming and cumbersome, and, perhaps, a little less friendly. We ask for your understanding in that regard and will note that all school personnel have been required to follow the "buzz in" process noted above. It is, and unfortunately needs to be, the accepted norm that we no longer prop open a door for convenience, or hold open a door out of kindness to others. While that has always been the policy, human nature is such that we want to be kind to each other by helping others in. Access to school buildings will have to be our exception and an area of zero tolerance.

School district staff is required to wear nametags. Visitors to the school are required to immediately report to the principal's office to sign in and to receive a visitor's badge which they must wear prominently while visiting the school and return upon their departure. This is another area where our practice may have become more lenient for convenience and one, which we will require going forward.

We are undertaking a review of our existing emergency alarm systems and communication methods in the event of an emergency. We already have some ideas for improvements, which will require research and follow up. That will occur in short order.

We are fortunate to have experts in public safety living within the Westfield community who have already volunteered to work with us as we continually review our safety protocols. These individuals come from various law enforcement backgrounds such as the FBI. We look forward to their input and will confidentially reach out for assistance where appropriate.

We always welcome suggestions from the public and we consider every one of them. We will continue the hard work of balancing the benefits of any such suggestion against both the tangible and intangible costs of its implementation. We all understand the unfortunate reality that no system can prevent every act of violence. Our actions will be guided by our concern for our children and educators and we will implement those suggestions that help to achieve their safety in the most appropriate fashion.

These are just some of the activities that are ongoing or that we are considering at this time.

As parents, guardians, and residents of Westfield, we all need to know that the safety of all Westfield students and educators is a top priority. The Westfield Public Schools and the Town of Westfield have a history of working together on crisis preparedness, to ensure the safety of all our citizens. That partnership today is stronger than ever.

With the school break beginning next week, we wish all of you a peaceful time off and a Happy New Year.

Mayor Andrew Skibitsky
Margaret Dolan, Superintendent,
Westfield Public Schools
Richard Mattessich, President,
Westfield Board of Education

Letters to the Editor

We All Have Responsibility to Act Following Sandy Hook Massacre

To fellow citizens and Congressmen:

1. We must look at ourselves and acknowledge that each of us (you and I) have some responsibility for the massacre at Sandy Hook.

2. I accept the following facts:
a. We live in a violent society.

b. We permit, promote and encourage violence through: i. Violent movies. ii. Violent computer games. iii. Violent video games. iv. Violent television. v. Violence preaching. vi. Violent behavior. vii. Permitting our profit making arms manufacturing and distribution businesses to go unregulated.

c. The U.S. is one of the most militant behaving major countries in the world.

d. We neglected or ignore the mental health of segments of our population.

i. We have intentionally cut back governmental budgets, which provided funds to address this problem.

ii. Active uniformed military and veterans are not getting timely help.

3. What should be done: (if you truly believe something should be done.)

a. As individuals:

i. Look at ourselves and our immediate society and try to discover what roll through commission and omission do we play.

ii. Should I petition my neighbors to get involved?

iii. Should I petition my governmental representatives to be pro-active by (?)

(1) Enforce laws and regulations.

(2) Chastise officials who aid, apologize or rationalize violence.

(3) Speak non-violence.

(4) Insist that my Congressmen enact legislation or be voted out of office.

(5) Demand the President lead by proposing legislation and enforcing laws.

iv. Boycott companies that manufacture, finance or support abusive firearms.

v. Make sure your investment portfolio (in stocks directly or through funds) do not include stocks or bonds in those companies that are involved in the abusive firearms industry.

b. As an institution or as a representative of an institution:

i. In the past religious institutions played a roll, but to a large measure they have become irrelevant. (That opinion is based on the major decline in attendance.) They do a good job after a disaster, but before one they have lost their way in preventing violence. Historically, they all have aided and abetted violence (in the name of God) without true acknowledgment (to my knowledge).

ii. Representatives (Congressmen and Senators) are aware of violence, but either they believe in violence or are being unduly influenced by special interests. There can be no other reasons.

iii. Consider indicting governmental officials as "aid and abettors" to a crime for their non-performances.

iv. I respect our Constitution and amendments with rights to own a gun and freedom of speech. It's beyond me that with all our government's brains they can't enact legislation that protect those rights, but limit the extreme violence.

v. Enact legislation that defines sports firearms from abusive firearms (i.e., automatic and semi-automatic guns, high powered and soft point bullets).

vi. Revoke those laws that go beyond protecting the right to have firearms or to have freedom of speech. We do have some laws that limit freedom of speech ("incorrectly yelling fire in a theater").

vii. The firearms industry is in interstate commerce. Under federal law the Congress can enact laws that can be enforced throughout our country.

4. Do Something Constructive.

Ralph Steinhart
Westfield

Country Run Amuck; Shootings, Violence

Dear Congressman Lance, This letter is about free education due all US citizens. However, our country has run amuck.

Mass shootings, violence, and other atrocities have been occurring in our public and private schools almost weekly. Isn't it time that our government secured the rights of our little citizens (and for all people) to education and life? The only way to begin to curb this violence is to pass gun control laws that stop people from getting these weapons of mass destruction.

As my Congressman, I expect you to stand up and lead the way in getting these laws passed! The time has come for you to make a difference in Congress.

Ellen Gottdenker
Mountainside

NRA Gets An F, Absurdity of Views

The Sandy Hook tragedy has no doubt made all of us grieve for the families whose lives have been permanently scarred by this terrible event. That the NRA bears indirect responsibility by always seeking 300 percent of what is really necessary to protect the legitimate rights of gun owners is so obvious it barely needs saying.

Fortunately Wayne Lapiere, the NRA's spokesman, highlighted the absurdity of their views more eloquently than any critic.

What wasn't obvious to me until recently is that Congressman Leonard Lance is rated A- by the NRA. Although I've always believed tighter gun control to be in our interests, it's now clear to me that it needs to be a priority.

Every one of our loved ones and us endures the risk of being the random victim of a shooting every day.

I hope Congressman Lance will regard his NRA rating as a Scarlet Letter carrying with it great shame, and will conduct his affairs accordingly.

The only grade worth receiving from the NRA is an F.

Simon Lack
Westfield

Tested Once Again, County Looks Forward to 2013

Between the global economic meltdown of 2008 and a series of natural disasters culminating in Hurricane Sandy, Union County has seen its share of crises over the past four years. We have also been touched by the sorrows borne by communities not so very far away; here in New Jersey, the devastation of shore towns by the storm, and in Newtown, Conn., a human tragedy from which no real recovery is ever possible.

While our hearts and minds reach out in sympathy, we can also look inward and prepare ourselves for the challenges ahead. And as this year comes to a close, there is cause for renewed hope in the future.

One cause for optimism has been the growth of new relationships all across the spectrum of our community. In this regard, Hurricane Sandy illustrates just how strong these ties have become.

The aftermath of the storm left an extremely hazardous situation in Union County that could have led to widespread, tragic results. Instead, injury and loss of life were minimal. For that, full credit is due to the countless thousands who exercised patience and perseverance, and who attended to their neighbors' well being.

A vital hub of the response effort was the countywide Regional Evacuation Center, for which the Township of Cranford provided its recreation center and personnel. Because they stepped up, a safe place to stay was guaranteed for anyone in need.

The Evacuation Center involved all levels of community engagement, starting with advance planning by county and local officials. Fifty Union County Medical Reserve Corps volunteers were at the ready to staff the Center, often taking leave from their jobs or shuttling straight between work and volunteering.

The Salvation Army played a critical role, as did the Red Cross, three dozen people who individually volunteered, and many volunteer employees from county and local offices. Even the children pitched in, many through school and Scout groups.

Hurricane Sandy also engendered a new growth of cooperation between county and local elected officials. That

included daily briefings during the aftermath and an after-action conference, and we intend to build on these new lines of communication.

Another kind of relationship has been illustrated by our new Union County Means Business initiative, which was supported by leaders in the business, academic and non-profit spheres. Built around a series of networking events, Union County Means Business has forged new partnerships that benefit the entire economic environment. It has been a heartening demonstration of the "we're all in this together" outlook that I have always cherished as a lifelong Union County resident.

This has been the pattern throughout these past four years. These crises have bound us more closely to each other. We are learning and adapting to new economic circumstances and a new environment, in which expecting the unexpected is the new normal.

From what I have witnessed this year especially, the residents of Union County are more than equal to any challenge that lies ahead, and we are a stronger community than ever before.

With that in mind, I wish you all a happy holiday season, and best wishes for the coming year.

Alexander Mirabella
Freeholder Chairman

Recycle Christmas Paper This Year

All of the wrapping paper that we receive is just that, paper. It all can and should be recycled: the toy and gift box packaging; Christmas cards and envelopes; plastic wrapping around our gifts.

Plastic comes from oil. Maybe we can reduce our oil use, dependency, cost and carbon imprint! You can bring the Styrofoam packing to the Cranford Recycling Center or Storo-Pak in Springfield. There is no reason for our Christmas week garbage to increase in any way.

We pay for garbage by weight and volume. If we reduce the amount, we pay less for it in taxes and become more environmentally responsible.

Bill Nierstedt
Garwood

DWI Charges?

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JANUARY 2013 EVENTS
AT THE WESTFIELD MEMORIAL LIBRARY
550 East Broad Street, Westfield 908.789.4090 www.wmlnj.org
Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:30 am - 9:00 pm Friday and Saturday 9:30 am - 5:00 pm Sunday 1:00 - 5:00 pm
Closed Monday, January 21 for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr Day

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS (Check website for all registration information)

1/4	1:30 pm	TGIF! Best of World Cruises (video)
1/7	7:00 pm	"Film Noir"-Talk by Chris Messineo
1/8	10:00 am	Computer Class: Beginning Word
1/9	7:00 pm	Story Slam-Tell your New Year's tale
1/10	7:00 pm	Computer Class: Photo Editing w/Gimp
1/11	1:30 pm	TGIF! History of Radio (video)
1/12	2:00 pm	FrostKings-Jazz and Blues Band
1/14	2 & 6:30 pm	Foreign Film: Best Exotic Marigold Hotel
1/16	7:00 pm	"Music in Films" Talk by Allen Cohen
1/18	1:30 pm	TGIF! Paul Cezanne (video)
1/25	1:30 pm	TGIF! Wilma Rudolph (video)

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN (Check website for more programs & sign up info)

1/4	3:45 pm	Chess Club for Kids some exp. needed
1/8, 15, 22, 29	10:30 am or 1:00 pm	Fun for 4's and 5's Storytime
1/9, 16, 23, 30	10:30 am	Time for 3's Storytime
1/10, 17, 24, 31	10:30 am	2's on Thursday Storytime
1/11, 18, 25	10:30 am	Little Listeners' Storytime up to 23 m'ths
1/13	10:30 am	Grupo ñ Spanish Language Storytime
1/16, 23, 30	3:45 pm	LEGO K Club (kindergarteners only)
1/18	3:45 pm	Creative Dramatics (kindergarten and up)



Your link to Jewish community

**Get connected to the Jewish community in Union County...
J Connection is here to help.**

THE MOTHERS CIRCLE

FREE Resources.
Education. Events.

Answering Your Jewish Children



A Program for Fathers of Other Religious Backgrounds
www.AnsweringYourJewishChildren.org

Mothers Circle, for non-Jewish moms raising Jewish children, is a free educational program empowering non-Jewish mothers to create Jewish homes. Explore Jewish holidays, practices, rituals and ethics.

Tuesday, January 8, January 22 and February 5 • 9:15 AM

Answering Your Jewish Children is a series which provides non-Jewish fathers, whose spouses/partners are Jewish, with practical information and guidance to help them raise Jewish children. Discuss answers to the "big" questions that children ask about life, death and God, holidays and rituals and Jewish values and ethics.

Tuesday, January 8, January 22 and February 5 • 7:00 PM

Both Programs Free!

at the JCC of Central NJ
1391 Martine Avenue, Scotch Plains

J Connection is a partnership between the Jewish Community Center of Central NJ and local synagogues and is funded by a grant from the Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ.

For more information and to register, contact Randi Zucker, J Connection Director, at 908-889-8800 x253 or rzucker@jccnj.org.
www.jccnj.org

Obituaries

Patricia Petersen, 58, WHS Graduate; Worked For ARC and Family Business

Patricia Petersen (née Fiorino), 58, of Westfield departed to be with Christ at her home on Wednesday, December 19, surrounded by her loving family.

Patti was the devoted daughter of Eleanor Dorf Fiorino and the late Joseph Fiorino (2007); the beloved wife of Doug Petersen for over 37 years; and the loving mother of Alek, Claire and Russell, as well as his wife, Jackie, and the loving grandmother of Vianca.

She was the cherished sister of Joanne Hughes and the late John Fiorino (1998); and the daughter-in-law of Helen Petersen and the late Eardly T. Petersen (2011).

Patti was born in New Brunswick and raised in Westfield, where she became a lifelong resident. She graduated from Westfield High School, where she was captain of the twirling

team. She later graduated from Katharine Gibbs Montclair in 1974.

Patti became secretary to the sales managers of both Muirhead, Inc. of Mountainside and Emeloid Operations of Hillside. After the birth of her first child, she became a homemaker - returning to work once her three children were grown. As well as being a program specialist working with the developmentally disadvantaged at The Arc of Union County, Patti also worked with her husband at the Eardly T. Petersen Co. in Westfield.

Services were held on Saturday, December 22, at the Dooley Colonial Home of Westfield. Burial followed at Fairview Cemetery, also in Westfield.

Memorial donations in her memory may be made to the Westfield Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 356, Westfield, N.J. 07090.

December 27, 2012

Walter S. Majewski, 90, Navy Veteran; Longtime Resident and Family Man

Walter S. Majewski, 90, of Scotch Plains, N.J. passed away on Friday, December 21, at Haven Hospice - JFK Medical Center.

Born and raised in Newark, N.J., Walter lived in Scotch Plains for 60 years, where he was active in the Scotch Plains Little League as a league official and coach.

He served in the United States Navy during World War II in the Pacific Theater, and was a member of American Legion Post No. 209 in Scotch Plains as well as of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 2636 in Selin, N.J.

He was employed with P. Ballantine & Sons and Pabst Brewing Company in Newark prior to retiring in 1985.

A loving and caring husband, father and grandfather, Walter was predeceased by his beloved wife of 54 years, Jean Majewski. Surviving are his two sons and their spouses, Ronald Majewski (Donna) of South Brunswick, N.J. and Glenn Majeski (Ellen) of Roxbury, N.J., and four loving grandchildren, Mrs. Lauren Carrillo of Houston, Tex., Kristen Majewski of Houston, Tex., Michael Majeski of Middleburg Heights, Ohio and Amy Majeski of Richmond, Va. He also is survived by a sister, Mrs. Stella Benn of Kearny, N.J.

A Funeral Mass was offered on Monday, December 24, at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Roman

Catholic Church in Scotch Plains. Interment followed at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in East Hanover.

Arrangements were by the Memorial Funeral Home, 155 South Avenue, Fanwood.

Donations in Walter's name can be made to Immaculate Heart of Mary Roman Catholic Church, 1571 Martine Avenue, Scotch Plains, N.J. 07076. For additional information or to express condolences, please visit www.fanwoodmemorial.com.

December 27, 2012

Sierra Club to Host Earth 2100 Screening

AREA - The Sierra Club Loantaka Group will present Eric Hausker, group co-chairman, who will screen and lead a discussion on *Earth 2100* at its Wednesday, January 9 meeting. First broadcast by ABC in 2009, the animated film reveals a woman's memories of being born in 2100 and experiencing everything that happened as the environment deteriorated in her lifetime.

The meeting will be from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at The Library of the Chatham, located at 214 Main Street in Chatham. It will be free and open to the public. For more information, call (908) 233-2414, go to newjersey.sierraclub.org/loantaka or e-mail loantakasc@gmail.com.

Westfield Library Sets Dates For Foreign Film Festival

WESTFIELD - The Westfield Memorial Library will present its lineup for the Winter Foreign Film Festival, running January through March, with all films shown on Mondays at 2 and 6:30 p.m. The library is located at 550 East Broad Street.

The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel will be featured on January 14. In this fish-out-of-water yarn, a group of British citizens plan to retire to a less expensive country, only to find their destination is shabby, antiquated and chaotic. Who can adapt to this very different experience, and who founders? This English

Resolve Offering Tragedy Counseling

SCOTCH PLAINS - The Resolve Community Counseling Center, a non-profit organization, is offering assistance to anyone who is having difficulty coping with the tragedy that occurred in Newtown, Conn.

Located at 1830 Front Street in Scotch Plains, Resolve serves persons of all ages who are experiencing emotional, social and other mental health issues. Accredited counselors work with individuals, local public and private schools, various agencies, Union County Family Court and Family Success Centers. Resolve accepts most health insurance plans and operates on a sliding scale for those with limited or no insurance.

Resolve is available to assist anyone who may need support and professional grief or crisis counseling. For an appointment, call (908) 322-9180. For further information, visit the Resolve website, ResolveNJ.com.

film runs 124 minutes.

Carnage, also a film in English, can be seen on February 11. The screenplay follows the thermo-nuclear differences of opinion that occur when an upper-crust New York pair invites another couple into their apartment in an attempt to resolve a scuffle between their children. Verbal dustups of all shapes and sizes quickly follow. It runs 80 minutes.

A Separation will be shown on February 25. In Farsi, this 122-minute film begins with a spiral of complications between a married couple. They agree to separate because the wife wants to give their 11-year-old daughter a better life abroad, while the husband wants to stay in Tehran to care for his father, who has Alzheimer's disease. Various twists and turns follow in this domestic drama.

The final film in the series will be *Monsieur Lazhar*, a French film that runs 94 minutes, which will be screened on March 4. At a Montreal public grade school, an Algerian immigrant is hired to replace a popular teacher who committed suicide in her classroom. While helping his students deal with their grief, his own recent loss is revealed.

These movies will be free and open to Westfield Memorial Library and MURAL cardholders. MURAL cardholders belong to libraries that are part of the Middlesex Union Reciprocal Agreement Libraries. For participating libraries, check the Westfield Memorial Library website, wmlnj.org. To register for the program, visit wmlnj.org and click on the Online Calendar, or call (908) 789-4090, extension 0.



William and Rita Villane

Mr. and Mrs. Villane Celebrate 60th Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. William Villane of Westfield are celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary today, December 27. They will enjoy a relaxing family-style dinner with their six boys and daughters-in-law at Ferraro's restaurant, then continue the celebration with more family and friends.

A native of Westfield, William Villane graduated from Indiana Tech with a degree in civil engineering. He was employed as a civil engineer with American Bridge, U.S. Steel and Harris Steel. He was always active in the family construction business (Dominick Villane and Sons, Inc.) with his father and brother. Never quite retired, just slowed down. William feels Westfield is the greatest place in the country to live - a true blue, genuine Westfielder.

Mrs. Villane, the former Miss Rita Gray, was born and raised in Plainfield. She put herself through school, after raising their eight sons, to earn a nursing degree. Rita had been employed as a nurse with the Meridian Nursing Home before re-

tiring in 1985. Rita Villane is well respected for her kindhearted nature, never complaining and forever patient. She had to with that many boys - what a saint.

Their romance began while Rita was going to Holy Trinity High School and William was a senior at Westfield High. They met through Rita's best friend, Rose (William's sister).

The couple is active with the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church in Westfield. The Villanes' family includes eight sons and four daughters-in-law, William Jr. of Toms River, Michael of Plainfield, James (deceased), Richard and Kerry of Scotch Plains, Don and Mary of Westfield, Dominick and Betty of Lanesboro, Mass., David and Nina of Westfield and Robert (deceased); 14 grandchildren, Brian (and Kerry), James, Jason, Breanna, Jaimee, Donielle (and Christopher), Shaina, Natasha, Tye, Zoe, Nicholas, Jaclyn, Kristen and Elizabeth, and two great-granddaughters, Caitlin and Aubrey Lynne.

Ron Banský of Allstate Gives Grant to Non-Profit

WESTFIELD - Allstate New Jersey Insurance Company Exclusive Agent Ron Banský of Westfield presented My Way Home with a \$1,000 grant as part of The Allstate Foundation's "Agency Hands in the Community" program.

The Agency Hands in the Community program, which began in 2003, recognizes Allstate New Jersey agents' volunteerism within the community and provides financial support to organizations through The Allstate Foundation.

My Way Home is a non-profit educational organization dedicated to promoting home ownership opportunities for working professionals from all income levels and economic backgrounds.

In September, Mr. Banský, who has been an Allstate New Jersey agent in Westfield for 12 years, also presented a \$1,000 grant for Safe Kids Union County, a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing

injury prevention directly to kids and their families.

"The very fabric of Allstate New Jersey consists of people who care about their local community," said Danny Jovic, spokesperson for Allstate New Jersey Insurance Company. "The Agency Hands in the Community program is a powerful way for Allstate New Jersey agents to get involved with their local non-profits and partner with them in making their communities stronger and safer places."

The Allstate Foundation awards \$2 million every year to non-profit organizations across the country in honor of dedicated Allstate agency owners who give back. To be eligible for nomination, Allstate New Jersey agents must be a current and active volunteer or lead a non-profit of their choice.

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HOME SWEET HOME...Joe Farella, president and founder of My Way Home, left, is pictured with Ron Banský, Allstate New Jersey Insurance Company Exclusive Agent, who recently presented My Way Home with a \$1,000 grant as part of The Allstate Foundation's "Agency Hands in the Community" program.

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POLICE BLOTTER

Westfield
Tuesday, December 18, Omar Roig, 39, of Westfield was arrested on an outstanding Woodbridge warrant for \$678 pursuant to a motor vehicle stop. Further investigation revealed Roig had an additional warrant from Elizabeth for \$400. He was processed and turned over to the Woodbridge Police Department.

Tuesday, December 18, a resident of the 200 block of Clifton Street reported being the victim of an act of fraud. Someone unknown used the victim's information and withdrew \$8,000 from the victim's bank account.

Tuesday, December 18, Brandon Phillips, 19, of Plainfield was arrested and charged with possession of a controlled dangerous substance (CDS) pursuant to a motor vehicle stop. Phillips, who also was issued two motor vehicle summonses, was processed and released.

Tuesday, December 18, a business located on the 100 block of Cardinal Drive reported an incident of fraud. Someone unknown gained access to the company checking account and created false checks.

Tuesday, December 18, a resi-

dent of Cherry Lane reported being the victim of fraud/theft. Someone unknown gained access to the victim's checking account and removed \$708.

Tuesday, December 18, a business located on the 100 block of Elm Street reported an incident of fraud/theft. According to the business owner, the suspect used a credit card to purchase items in the amount of \$422. It was discovered at a later time that the amount of money could not be paid to the business.

Wednesday, December 19, a business on the 300 block of East Broad Street turned in a found white iPod Touch in a Hello Kitty case. The property was being held for safekeeping until the owner could be notified.

Wednesday, December 19, a resident of the 500 block of Pierson Street reported the theft of an artificial red poinsettia Christmas decoration from the front porch sometime between December 17 and 19. The stolen item is valued at \$60.

Thursday, December 20, Andrew J. Kaufhold, 26, of Westfield was arrested on the 600 block of Boulevard and charged with driving while intoxicated (DWI). According to police, Kaufhold struck two parked motor vehicles while traveling south on Boulevard. He was transported to police headquarters, processed and released to a sober adult.

Probitas Verus Honos



Miss Taylor C. Biondi and Richard H. Tichenor, III

Miss Taylor Biondi to Wed Richard Tichenor, III

Mr. and Mrs. James Biondi, Jr. of Scotch Plains have announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Taylor Christine Biondi, to Richard H. Tichenor, III of Rockaway, N.J. He is the son of Ms. Susan Tichenor of Montville, N.J.

The bride-to-be graduated from Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School in 2010, and received her Associate's degree from Ocean County College in 2012. She is the owner of Basking

In The Sun, a tanning salon located in Bernardsville, N.J.

Her fiancé graduated from Montville High School in 2005. He proudly served his country in the United States Marine Corps, including deployments to both Iraq and Afghanistan. He is employed at W.J. Casey Trucking & Rigging in Branchburg, N.J.

The wedding is planned for May 2013.

Library Friends to Begin Book Sale Item Collection

SCOTCH PLAINS - The Friends of the Scotch Plains Public Library next month will begin collecting items for its upcoming Book Sale in March. The library is located at 1927 Bartle Avenue.

The organization is seeking clean, salable books with no torn or marked pages. Both hardcover and paperback books will be accepted, as well as books on CD, music CDs and DVDs. The Friends request that donations do not include older or time-sensitive materials such as videotapes, records, magazines and textbooks. The scheduled collection times are as follows:

Saturday, January 19, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Sunday, January 20, noon to 3 p.m.; Saturday, January 26, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Sunday, January 27, noon to 3 p.m.; Saturday, February 2, 9 a.m.

to 3 p.m.; Saturday, February 9, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturday, February 16, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Sunday, February 17, noon to 3 p.m.; Saturday, February 23, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Sunday, February 24, noon to 3 p.m.; and Saturday, March 2, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Members of the Friends will be available at each of these times to assist with transporting books and other materials from cars. The Friends are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization devoted to supporting the programming and development of the library. Donations are tax-deductible and receipts are available at the front desk.

Volunteers are more than welcome to aid with book sorting during any of these times. For more information, contact Friends of the Scotch Plains Public Library President Joe Quarto at joequarto@gmail.com.

DWC Announces Winners Of Dec. 1, 8, 15 Drawings

WESTFIELD - The annual "Miracle on Elm Street" shopping spree holiday promotion is in full swing. Sponsored by the Downtown Westfield Corporation (DWC) as part of the "Welcome Home to Westfield" holiday events, the promotion encourages people to enter a weekly drawing in downtown stores and restaurants and to place their entry forms in two special decorated mailboxes located at Elm and East Broad Streets and South and Summit Avenues. Participants also may enter online at WestfieldToday.com.

The weekly drawings consist of six \$50 gift-card prizes to downtown stores and restaurants of the winner's choice or one \$25 parking card. The winners were drawn at random on December 1, 8 and 15.

More than 1,325 entry forms were submitted during the first three weeks. The winners of the \$50 shopping spree were: Week One - Galina Polyanskaya of Cranford, Elizabeth Piedl of Springfield, Merina Fazliu of Roselle Park, Leslie Baier of Princeton, Melanie Schrieber of Westfield and Cheryl Bishop of Westfield; Week Two - Karen Schulhafer of Westfield, Michael Snizek of Westfield, Raphael Abella of Scotch Plains, Inger Donohue of Cranford, Linda Burns of Edison and Lina Isolda of Scotch Plains; Week Three - Justin Rosin of Westfield, Joseph Duvall of Scotch Plains, Karrie Hanson of Westfield, Mario Rapetti of Hopelawn, Jessica Mirassol of Clark and Cathy Buchman of Bridgewater. Angelo Arpaia of North Plainfield, Ed DeStefanis of Westfield and Csilla Laduanszky of Westfield won the \$25 parking gift cards.

Winners have chosen gift cards so far for Ferraro's, Acquaviva, Robert Treat Delicatessen, Victoria's Secret, Coldwater Creek, Knit-A-Bit, CoolVines, Williams-Sonoma, Thinka Dinka, Sweetwaters, Glamorous Girlz, Vicki's Diner, Trader Joe's, Hip Thrift and Art Gallery, and Sole. Robert Treat Delicatessen, located at 113 Quimby Street, is the business that has been the most active at encouraging customers to enter, according to the DWC.

"We are pleased with the level of participation, not only with the community but also the merchants and restaurants which have embraced this promotion and encouraged their customers to enter," said Sherry Cronin, executive director of the DWC. "We first started this promotion in 2008, and this year, we changed it to offer more shopping sprees to six winners a week at a lower amount versus three per week at higher amounts. "The entries have increased and

customers are really excited to learn that they have won one of the Miracle on Elm Street shopping sprees or a parking card," she continued. "With so many choices in downtown, Miracle on Elm Street also promotes shopping locally."

Established in 1996, the DWC is the management entity of the Special Improvement District. It is governed by a seven-member board of directors, has two full-time and one part-time staff members, and numerous volunteers serving on Design, Promotion, Economic Development and Organization Committees.

The vision of the DWC is for Westfield to be a preferred destination where people want to live, work and visit.

Westfield also is one of 26 designated Main Street communities in New Jersey, a program of the National Trust's National Main Street Center. The town won the 2010 America in Bloom national award for Landscaped Areas and won in its population category among all the towns entered in the America in Bloom 2010 competition.

For the latest happenings, event information and promotional offers from Westfield businesses, check out WestfieldToday.com.

Library to Feature Film Noir Program

WESTFIELD - The Westfield Memorial Library will present a talk entitled "Film Noir: The Stuff That Dreams Are Made Of" on Monday, January 7, at 7 p.m. The library is located at 550 East Broad Street.

Presented by Chris Messineo, director of the NJ Film School, this talk will focus on the emergence of the crime drama. During Hollywood's Golden Age, at the height of the studio system, these dark tales with an equally stark look told the stories of men and women living in the shadows and the underbelly of society. Classic films like *The Maltese Falcon*, *Double Indemnity*, *The Killers* and *Night and the City* changed filmmaking with characters who risked everything for "the stuff that dreams are made of."

The program is free and open to Westfield Memorial Library and MURAL cardholders. MURAL cardholders belong to libraries that are part of the Middlesex Union Reciprocal Agreement Libraries. For participating libraries, visit the Westfield Memorial Library website, wmlnj.org. To register for the program, visit wmlnj.org and click on the Online Calendar, or call (908) 789-4090, extension no. 0.



Ms. Sage Morghan and Michael Baly

Michael Baly to Wed Ms. Sage Morghan

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Baly of Waretown, N.J., formerly of Westfield, are pleased to announce the engagement of their son, Michael William Baly, to Ms. Sage Morghan of Charlottesville, Va. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. AbdulAzimi of Omaha, Neb.

The future bridegroom is a 1998 graduate of Westfield High School. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology and African-American Studies from Harvard University. Mr. Baly holds a Masters in Special Education degree from the College of Staten Island and a Master of Education in Psychology degree from the University of Virginia. He

has completed his doctoral studies at the University of Virginia and currently is an intern at the Institute of Living in Hartford, Conn.

A 1994 graduate of Burke High School in Omaha, the bride-to-be received a Bachelor of Arts degree in French Literature from the University of Colorado in Boulder. She also holds a Master of Science in Education degree from Long Island University and a Master of Arts degree in French from the University of Virginia. She presently is writing her doctoral dissertation at the University of Virginia.

The couple plans to be married in June of 2013.

Next Needle Nite Session On Tap For January 4

FANWOOD - The monthly Needle Nite program at the Fanwood Presbyterian Church will continue on Friday, January 4, at 7:30 p.m. in Westminster Hall on Marian Avenue.

At this meeting, the "Needle Nites" will make "Ditty Bags" for The Seamen's Church Institute at Port Newark. The members who quilt are asked to bring their sewing machines and cutting boards. Those who usually knit or crochet can bring a Bobbin or large safety pin to thread the pull cords into the bags.

Items that have been made throughout the past month will be collected for distribution to charities the Needle Nites support, including several local nursing homes, newborns at Newark Beth Israel Hospital, the "Christ-

mas at Sea" Seafarers projects, prayer shawls for those needing extra care and Children's Specialized Hospital.

If fabric, batting or yarn is needed, e-mail requests to needlenite@fanwoodpc.org. For further information about these projects or directions to the Fanwood Presbyterian Church, contact the church office at (908) 889-8891 or fanwoodpress@erols.com, or visit fanwoodpc.org or facebook.com/pages/Fanwood-PresbyterianChurch/311300160969.

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THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Sports Section
Pages 9-12

CRONIN, BALDWIN, REINHARDT, MATT DANIEL LEAD

Blue Devil Girls, Boys Stop Raider Swim Boys, Girls

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

Sarah Cronin, Ellie Reinhardt and Caroline Baldwin led the Westfield High School girls swim team to a 116-54 victory over Scotch Plains-Fanwood at Wallace Pool in Westfield (W) on December 21. Matt Daniel and John Lindros each won two individual events and swam on two winning relays to propel the Blue Devils boys to a 112-58 victory.

Cronin won two individual events and swam on two winning relays. First, she touched first in a Westfield sweep in the 200 Individual Medley at 2:13.77, followed by Gwyn Devin at 2:17.31 and Audrey Bangs at 2:25.61. She also touched first in the 500-freestyle at 5:23.67, followed by Emily McGann (W) at 5:49.66 and Raider Darby DeBiase at 6:02.41.

Cronin, Devin, Ally McBrearty and Reinhardt won the 200-free relay at 1:43.55, followed by Raiders Jodi Thompson, Kate Thompson, Kate Musso and Sarah Davis at 1:45.22, and Blue Devils Baldwin, Courtney

Han, Erika Daniel and Amy West at 1:45.65.

Cronin, McBrearty, Caroline Basil and Reinhardt touched first in the 400-free relay at 3:52.04. Raiders Musso, Amanda Banasiak, Casey Daudlin and Isabella Iacona touched second at 3:59.47, followed by Blue Devils McGann, Daniel, Han and Julia Diamontopolis at 4:03.52.

"I swam the fly and the 5. I won them both, so that was good. My times were pretty good. I swim for Scotch Plains Club team, so I swim against my friends. It's weird, but it's fun," Cronin said.

Reinhardt also touched first in the 200-free with a time of 1:59.31. Basil took second at 2:03.83 and Raider Iacona touched third at 2:03.99.

"I think we did a great job. This is obviously one of the most exciting meets, because it's a rival and it's also a lot of fun. It showed how well some of the younger girls do under stress. Personally, this is my last Scotch Plains meet. It's a lot of fun with all the hype and excitement,"

Reinhardt said.

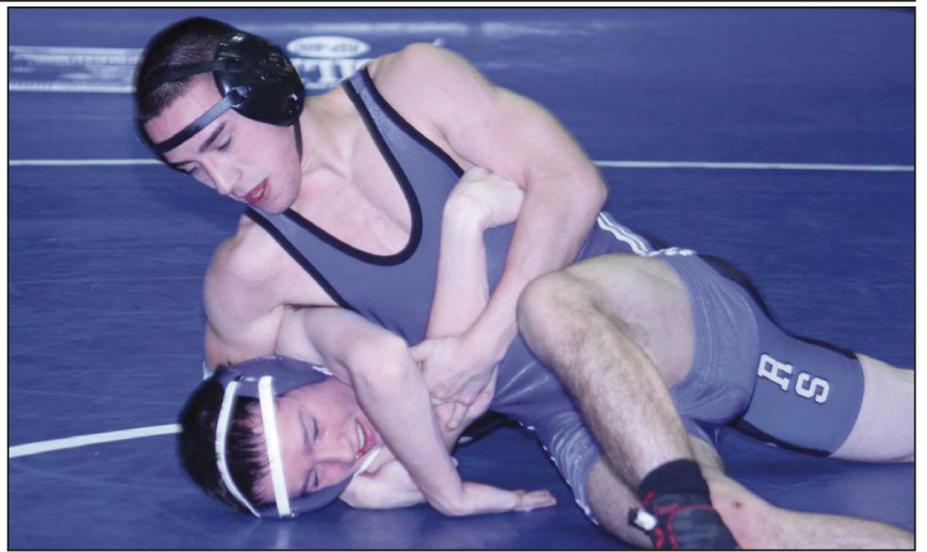
Baldwin led off the 200-medley relay followed by Kathleen Bond, Daniel and West to take first at 1:54.09. Raiders Iacona, Thompson, Melissa Harris and Davis touched second at 1:54.34. Diamontopolis, Becky Zhang, Devin and Lauren Schmeider touched third at 1:58.14.

Baldwin touched first in the 50-free at 24.21, followed by Raider Davis at 24.84 and McBrearty at 26.72. She also won the 100-free at 53.56. Davis was second at 55.12. Reinhardt was third at 55.52.

"I led off the 2-medley relay with backstroke, the 50-free, the 100-free and the 2-free relay. I was happy with them, because we are not rested or shaved," Baldwin said.

Raider Jodi Thompson took top honors in the 100-butterfly at 1:00.17, followed by Daniel at 1:01.46 and Devin at 1:02.18. Thompson also touched first in the 100-breaststroke at 1:07.08, followed by Zhang at 1:15.87 and Bond at 1:17.08.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



WORKING TO GET SOME BACK POINTS...Blue Devil Anthony Aldana works to get some back points on Raider Tommy Cunningham in his 126-lb bout. Aldana decisioned Cunningham, 6-2

VELEZ, ALDANA KEY WINS; KANIA, RICE PULL UPSETS

Devils Rock Raiders, 44-27, In Upset-Filled Mat Thriller

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

Outcomes of several key bouts and two upsets highlighted the Westfield High School wrestling team's thriller against rival Scotch Plains-Fanwood in the packed gym at Westfield High School on December 21.

In the end, the Blue Devils won the majority of the key bouts and split the

two upsets to emerge with a 44-27 victory over the Raiders. It was a bit of a contrast to their disappointing, 33-21, loss to Roselle Park just a few days earlier.

"Our game plan has been to just go hard, wear people down. I thought we did tonight what we didn't do against Roselle Park. We did tonight what Roselle Park did to us. We did

tonight what we usually do. This kind of takes a little of the sting out of the Roselle Park loss. We've shown that we have some toughness, we can mix it up and we can persevere," Blue Devil Coach Glen Kurz said.

The first of two key bouts that did go in favor of the Blue Devils came at 126-lbs when Anthony Aldana broke

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



TAKING TOP HONORS IN THE 200-FREESTYLE...Blue Devil Ellie Reinhardt touched first in the 200-freestyle with a time of 1:59.31. Reinhardt also swam on the winning 200-free relay and the 400-free relay.

KNAPP NETS 12 PTS, SCOTT SINKS 10, LUZZI LAYS UP 8

Basketball Blue Devils Rout Roselle Lady Rams, 54-15

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

Quick hands led to a multitude of steals that led to a multitude of assists that led to a 54-15 Westfield High School girls basketball team triumph over the visiting Roselle Rams on December 18.

"They worked really well together as a whole team. They looked for each other. They were not greedy. They were not afraid to pass it off and give another person the chance to get some points. And they were moving very well," Blue Devil Head Coach Joe Marino said.

With their fast-paced attack style,

the 1-1 Lady Blue Devils created no less than 14 steals and dished out no less than 17 assists. With the exception of six successful free throws, because of their ability to easily penetrate the Lady Rams' defense, the remainder of the Blue Devils' points were two-pointers.

Sophomore guard Jackie Knapp became the chief thief with six steals and led the team with 12 points, but she was also the leading helper with six assists. But Knapp, who was 2-for-3 from the free throw line, was not the only thief and only helper. The entire starting five and several players from the bench were getting

into the act.

"They definitely were. They were jumping at everything and turning them into points," Coach Marino said.

Sophomore Lil Scott, who had a pair of assists and a pair of steals, bucketed 10 points, including 2-for-2 from the line. Junior Carly Friedman led the team with five rebounds and added six points and two steals. Senior Colleen Gallagher pulled four boards and added a steal, and senior Emily Brucia put in two points. Sophomore guard Megan Mondon had four points, four assists and two steals.

The bench players, who played

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



DRIBBLING AROUND A RAM...Blue Devil Chrissy Ferrara, No. 4, dribbles around a Roselle Ram defender in Westfield on December 18. The Lady Blue Devils defeated the Rams, 54-15.

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WRESTLING FOR THE BALL...Blue Devil Scott Toresco, right, Raider Xavier Noel-Brooks, No. 14, and Blue Devil Danny Mitchell, left, wrestle for possession of the ball. The Blue Devils nipped the Raiders, 52-51, on December 18.

TORESCO NETS 24, HESS 4 3-POINTERS, RAMOS GETS 16

Blue Devil Cagers Win Clash With SPF Raider Boys, 52-51

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

Two rivals, two young teams and high emotions set the stage before a packed house at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School on December 18. Raider sophomore Lee Ramos had a good evening in the scoring column, however it was senior forward Scott Toresco's defensive intensity and offensive success that gave Westfield a 52-51 victory.

Toresco bucketed 24 points, senior guard Keegan Hess connected with four 3-pointers and finished with 12 points and Nick Mele sank seven points, including one 3-pointer. Danny Mitchell scored 10 points, while Dave Kane and Chris Sweeney contributed one point each.

Ramos, a point guard, came off the bench and chilled the Blue Devils with 16 points, including nine points from the stripe and a 3-pointer. Senior co-captain/forward Tom Bonacum followed with 12 points,

Roselle Catholic Stops Lady Raider Cagers

The Roselle Catholic high school girls basketball team improved to 3-0 with a 49-36 victory over Scotch Plains-Fanwood on December 20. Senior Taylor Sebolao led the 1-2 Raiders with 14 points.

Blue Devil Icemen Ice Summit Hilltoppers

The Westfield High School ice hockey team erupted with three goals in the second period and added another in the third period to sting the Summit Hilltoppers, 4-3, at Warinanco Rink in Roselle on December 18. Jeremy DeDea netted the 2-0 Blue Devils' first goal and Nick Grawehr (Chris Kattak assist) followed with the second goal. Jon Macik (Grawehr assist) made the score, 3-1. Macik then made the score, 4-1, early in the third period before the 4-1 Hilltoppers answered with a pair of goals to make the game tense.

including one 3-pointer. Forward Quaryee Bull bucketed eight points, while seniors Matt Greenberg, Xavier Noel-Brooks and Kevin Raszka combined for 15 points.

"I knew this would be a battle. These are two rivals, two very good teams. We struggled in our opener and won, but I knew we would be much better tonight. It's been a long emotional day for me, and I was hoping this would end on a nice note tonight, but we have to get better. We allowed them to stay in the game at the end, whereby we could have put it away and our guys know that. Tomorrow, we're going to focus on finishing games better and make things a little less stressful for me," said Blue Devil Head Coach Daryl Palmieri, who just became the proud father of a baby girl.

"I told them that they were going to get better, and we made steps already since the first game. We gave every single ounce. We left everything we could at the end and we just ran out of time. Defensively, we did a good job. They did a good job in the second half and tried to make sure they got him (Toresco) the ball; He's their key guy. Greenberg did a fabulous job; guards were excellent with 11 steals, so we were very active," Raider Head Coach Dan Doherty said.

An offensive drought and control of the boards in the opening quarter placed the 1-1 Raiders on the short side of a 12-9 score. Toresco sank a pair of lay-ups and Hess nailed a 3-banger.

Each team exercised a fast-break style of game in the second quarter, but the Raiders poured it on strong to gain a 15-9 edge to overtake the lead at the halfway mark, 24-21. Raszka banged a 3-pointer. Bull and Ramos combined for eight points.

The Blue Devils found the seams in the third quarter and outscored the Raiders, 15-10, to take a 36-34 lead. Toresco dominated the boards and stuffed in nine points. Hess banged a pair of 3-pointers.

The Blue Devils took a brief eight-

point lead in the fourth quarter. Bonacum then triggered a 3-pointer and a jumper. Ramos's fired successfully from long range and sank three from the stripe to narrow the gap to 50-48. Toresco hit inside, making the score 52-48. Ramos sank three free throws to make it a one-point game with seconds remaining.

"I thought the biggest thing was the scoring by our guard. Ramos played great as a sophomore. We have a younger team, they are all stepping up, growing, maturing. Our defense is our strongest point and, as you can see, we can play with anybody. Westfield is the favorite to win the conference; we lose to them by one. We are going to get stronger as the year goes on, so let's see what happens," said Bonacum.

"It's just having a good time playing basketball. It's a fun sport and it gives me smiles. Our defense was really good; we had a lot of blocked shots, but the fouls we ended up with really killed us. Offensively, there were a lot of gaps in the zone. I just got it, pushed up to the smaller defender, tried to draw the foul and finish. It was a barn burner; we got the win and that's all that matters," said Toresco.

"I think we were up seven at one point, but we are going to be a little hit and miss at times. Ramos stepped up and did a very good job. Bonacum; teams are just collapsing on him with two or three guys every single time, so it's going to be tough for other people to step up, but they're starting to get it," said Coach Doherty.

"The zone gave us some trouble early on. We regrouped at halftime and just went over how we had to be aggressive; we had to attack the middle of the zone and get some open looks. Eventually, we started to make some shots that were not going down in the first half, and then we turned it up defensively. Our press there bothered them a little bit and caused some turnovers that allowed us some easy baskets," concluded coach Palmieri.

Westfield	12	9	15	16	52
Sc. Pl-Fanwood	9	15	10	17	51

Blue Devil Swin Girls, Boys Stop Raiders

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

"I swam something a little bit different. I swam the 100-fly, which is different, so I was really pumped going into that. The breaststroke was fine. It normally feels good. I felt a little more comfortable in it and had fun," Thompson said.

The Blue Devils swept the 100-backstroke with Basil touching first at 1:01.82, followed by Diamontopolis at 1:06 and Bangs at 1:06.15.

"Scotch Plains is always our rival, but we have a lot of great young kids coming in. Our sophomores, juniors and seniors all got stronger. A lot of people had really great times today," Baldwin said.

"I think this year, we are looking pretty good. Hopefully, we will do good things. We definitely have a lot of work to do, but it's looking bright. If we keep up the hard work we could have a good run at the states," Cronin said.

"Our girls did an amazing job. We went in with high spirits. We really showed that as a whole with our energy. They [Westfield] are very good. Our girls are friends with them. We get to train with them during the season. It's great to see us compete against each other here," Thompson said.

The Raider boys won the first event, the 200-medley relay with Alex Skoog, Jeff Peart, Matt Marino and Ryan Gajdzisz touching in 1:40.12, followed by Blue Devils Stephen Husch, Aram Barmakian, Tyler Lessner and Max Shin at 1:40.41, and Jack Rose, Dan Myers, Noah Styles and Ryan Daniel at 1:44.35.

Lindros touched first in the 200-free at 1:45.51, followed by Raider Skoog at 1:49.03 and Luke McGrory at 1:49.42. Lindros also touched first in the 500-free at 5:05.23, followed by McGrory at 5:07.93 and Raider JB

Walling at 5:16.71.

Lessner, Lindros, McGrory and Matt Daniel touched first in the 200-free relay at 1:30.81, followed by Shin, Barmakian, Nick Constantine and Sean Beattie at 1:34.08, and Raiders Peart, Adam Bransky, Walling and Matt DeBiase at 1:37.87.

Lindros, Husch, McGrory and Daniel also touched first in the 400-free relay at 3:18.89, followed by Raiders Gajdzisz, Skoog, Walling and Bransky at 3:28.75, and Blue Devils Ryan Daniel, Alex Penn, Connor Moore and Constantine at 3:32.53.

Matt Daniel touched first in the 50-free at 22.27, followed by Shin at 23.36 and Beattie at 23.61. Daniel also touched first in the 100-free at 48.02, followed by Gajdzisz at 48.26 and Constantine at 52.73.

"Today was definitely an important win for our team. I think we really built a lot of momentum here

going into the county meet for another county title. We are part of a really impressive history of swimming. Not only are we defending our title from last year, we are defending 23 state titles and a lot of county titles," Daniel said.

Raider Skoog touched first in the 100-backstroke at 54.40, followed by Husch at 54.7 and Rose at 57.6. Gajdzisz touched first in the 200-Individual Medley at 1:59.45, followed by Lessner at 2:05.53 and Myers at 2:06.5. Husch took top honors in the 100-butterfly at 53.52, followed by Raiders Peart at 55.73 and Marino at 56.89. Lessner touched first in the 100-breaststroke at 1:02.03, followed by Peart at 1:03.43 and Barmakian at 1:03.82.

"It was definitely a team effort. Everyone swam well. Everyone swam 100 percent. That's something we can really be proud of," Daniel said.



WINNING THE 200IM...Raider Ryan Gajdzisz touched first in the 200-individual medley with a time of 1:59.45.

Lady Blue Devils Rout Roselle Cagers, 54-15

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

extensively from the second quarter on also made huge contributions. Junior Elizabeth Ponce sank six second-half points and added three rebounds, a steal and an assist. Freshman Olivia Luzzi, who played in every quarter, totaled eight points, three rebounds and two assists. Junior guard Chrissy

Ferrara, not only provided effective defense, but also added two points, two rebounds and a theft. Freshmen Rachel Mattessich scored four points and Sophie Koglin had three rebounds and a pair of assists.

"Everybody got in the game. It's good, because it gives them experi-

ence to play at the varsity level. We have our sophomores out there. We have two seniors out there. You have Colleen and Emily Brucia. They are big sisters to them," Coach Marino said.

On December 14, the Lady Blue Devils were stunned by New Providence, 47-36, with the hot shooting of Sydney Morang, who sank 32 points, so it must have been a wakeup call.

"She just was on. She was hitting everything. We were trying to slow her down a little bit, but she managed to get inside the paint on us and made things happen," Coach Marino explained.

So the Blue Devils wasted no time with the Rams and converted a pair of steals to four quick points within the first 30 seconds of the game. By the end of the first quarter, the Blue Devils seized a 19-7 lead with Knapp leading the way with seven points, and Scott and Friedman each netting four points.

The second quarter ended in a 15-1 wipeout. This time, Scott and Luzzi led the way with four points each to stretch the Blue Devils' lead to 34-8 at the half.

Knapp, Luzzi, Ponce and Mattessich each sank two points in the third quarter then the Blue Devils silenced the Rams with a 12-3 run in the fourth quarter.



LOOKING TO GET A PASS INSIDE...Blue Devil Carly Friedman, No. 22, attempts to get a pass inside against the Roselle Rams in Westfield on December 18.

Roselle	7	1	4	3	15
Westfield	19	15	8	12	54

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GREEN, DWYER LED ON 'O'; DIAZ, FOLINUSZ ON 'D'

Cranford Cougar Gridders Finish Successful 7-3 Season

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

Repeating as sectional champions may not have been in the cards, but this year's Cranford High School football team gave it a good run, winning its first playoff game before experiencing a set back at the hands of Palisades Park in the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 semifinals to finish with a 7-3 record.

"The expectations were unique to them. They were the first team ever to play the year after we won a state title since the 1958 team. They handled the pressure well. Unfortunately, we didn't get back to the championship game, but if we are

Matt Russo. He started on both sides. Jeff Weiss, Ryan Farrell, as good an offensive lineman you will see," Coach Rosenmeier said.

Diaz led the team with 86 total tackles and five sacks and added an interception.

"I don't know whether I coached a better linebacker than Nick Diaz and we've had some very good ones here from Chris Brown, Michael Klimek and so on. He played with a tremendous amount of intensity. He's as tough a kid as I coached," Coach Rosenmeier said.

The versatile Folinusz had 42 tackles, four sacks and an interception. "Folinusz is the same makeup, a

to stop him, and they still weren't able to do it. He's on the short list of best players ever to play here," Coach Rosenmeier said.

Senior running back Jimmy Dwyer carried 129 times for 653 yards, including 10 TDs. Evan Zoughy had 260 yards and a TD on 45 carries. Oblachinski carried five times for 59 yards, including a TD and a two-point conversion.

"Jimmy Dwyer stepped up and gave us an alternative for scoring," Coach Rosenmeier said.

But it also took the solid offensive line of Jack Davis, Rob Kessler and Rob O'Shaughnessy to open the holes.



David B. Corbin (October files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

COUGAR TOUCHDOWN LEADER...Senior Reggie Green, No. 7, led the Cougars with 19 rushing touchdowns this season. Green, who rushed for 1,712 yards, led the team with 116 points scored. More at Ballyhoo Sports page 1 and 2.

going to judge every team by whether they get to the championship game, we are going to be disappointed. We are going to lose sight of the accomplishments of what this team was actually able to do," Cougar Head Coach Erik Rosenmeier said.

The Cougars defeated several quality teams, including Scotch Plains-Fanwood, AL Johnson and Delaware Valley, and their three losses were to Summit, winners of the section, Ridge and Palisades Park.

"We had a good year. We lost to three good teams. We beat good teams. Of the 10 teams that we played, eight of them were playoff teams. Even though some of the stars were back, this really was a new team. We had only three starters back on offense and four on defense," Coach Rosenmeier said.

The Cougars' defense was spearheaded by the intense play of senior linebacker Nick Diaz and senior linebacker/lineman Chris Folinusz.

"Seven new people played on the defense, and they played together and played well besides Diaz and Folinusz. Johnny Oblachinski had a great year. Six interceptions! We had guys step in and do a great job, like

very tough kid. I don't know whether it's offense or defense if I've ever had a more versatile kid. He played 10 positions on offense. He played every position we had in the game. Defensively, he played multiple positions, and we found, basically, everywhere we put him, he was our best player," Coach Rosenmeier pointed out.

As a defensive back Joe DaSilva recorded 59 total tackles and an interception, Joe Vicci had 42 tackles, four sacks and an interception, Kevin Trotter had 49 tackles, Oblachinski had 32 and Reggie Green had three interceptions. Linemen Farrell had 30 tackles, Russo had 32 and Weiss had 23.

From his quarterback position, Green, who will be heading to the University of Pittsburgh, amassed 1,712 yards rushing, including 19 touchdowns (TD) and two two-point conversions, on 234 carries. He also completed 62 of 110 passes for 681 yards, including four TDs.

"The thing that was amazing was he was able to have a better year statistically than he did last year even though we had no other skill people returning. Every defense was geared

On the receiving end, Oblachinski was the man with 25 receptions for 235 yards, including a TD and a two-point conversion. Bobby Bruns had 13 receptions for 172 yards and a TD. Folinusz had seven receptions for 149 yards, including two TDs and four conversions. Matt DiMartino had five receptions for 51 yards, and Zoughy had nine receptions for 65 yards, including a TD and two conversions.

Junior Troy Ketler, who also did the kickoffs, kicked two field goals and 22 points after touchdowns. Folinusz was also very effective as a punter.

PUBLIC NOTICE

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION UNION COUNTY DOCKET NO. F-5825-12 FILE NO. 14200-12 NOTICE TO REDEEM

US BANK CUST FOR PRO CAPITAL I, LLC; PLAINTIFF VS. FERNANDO SANCHEZ; JUDY SANCHEZ; DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR MORGAN STANLEY HOME EQUITY LOAN TRUST 20072 MORTGAGE PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 20072; EURANIA CARABALLO; SAMER ZEINO; KELLIE M PETERSON; COUNTY OF CAMDEN; COUNTY OF MONMOUTH; WITHBERG LLC A/K/A WITBERG, LLC; STATE OF NEW JERSEY; DEFENDANT(S)

TO: EURANIA CARABALLO; KELLIE M PETERSON;

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that an order made on December 18, 2012, the Superior Court Fixed February 1, 2013 between the hours of nine o'clock in the forenoon and four o'clock in the afternoon, prevailing time, at the office of the Tax Collector of PLAINFIELD, located at 515 WATCHUNG AVENUE, PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY 07060, as the time and place when and where you may pay to the plaintiff the amount so found due for principal and interest on its certificate of tax sale as follows:

LOT 12 BLOCK 749 on the tax duplicate of PLAINFIELD. Total amount required to redeem tax sale certificate no. 10-609 is \$ 4,194.23, together with interest from September 15, 2012 and costs of \$1,167.99.

And that unless, at the same time and place, you or one of you redeem by paying the aforesaid sum so found due to plaintiff, then you, and each of you shall be debarred and foreclosed of and from all right and equity of redemption of, in and to the lands and premises above set out and described in the complaint and every part thereof, and that the plaintiff be vested with an absolute and indefeasible estate of inheritance in fee simple in said lands and premises.

Anything to the contrary notwithstanding, redemption shall be permitted until the entry of final judgment including the whole of the last date upon which judgment is entered.

Michael G. Pellegrino, Esq. Attorney for Plaintiff PELLEGRINO & FELDSTEIN, L.L.C. Denville Law Center 290 Route 46 West Denville, New Jersey 07834 (973) 586-2300

FSPY Men's 30+ Week 2 Basketball League Results:

The Fanwood-Scotch Plains "Y" Men's Basketball League's season continued with Week 2 match-ups, giving teams the chance to solidify their starting rosters as players become more familiar with each other.

In Game 1, Fast Break topped HoopTown, 60-42. Fast Break started slow but finished the first half with a lead that would be too big for HoopTown to recover. HoopTown's Brian Parker led all scoring with 28 points. Fast Break had multiple players finish with double-digit points, including Jason Holley with 22 and Tim Gray with 14.

Game 2 ended with Got Skillz mastering Court Masters, 49-39. The game was an up-and-down affair that ultimately was decided in the final 10

minutes. Although down by seven at the half, Got Skillz clawed their way back being led by Jason Shann's 19 points to forge ahead. A shining spot for Court Masters was Jason Pompeo's 24 points.

Game 3 closed with Double Dribble tipping Above The Rim, 42-38. What looked like a blowout ended up being a close contest down to the final minute. Above the Rim led 24-7 at halftime, but Marlon Brown's 16 points led a second-half charge to get Double Dribble within three points. In the end, foul shots and 21 points from Jam Berry allowed Above the Above to hold off the failed comeback.

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Municipal Council of the Township of Scotch Plains has scheduled their Reorganization Meeting for **Tuesday, January 1, 2013**. The Reorganization Meeting will begin at **12:30 P.M.** This meeting will be held at the Township Municipal Building, 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076.

The Township of Scotch Plains does not discriminate against persons with disabilities. Those individuals requiring auxiliary aids, and services where necessary, must notify the ADA Coordinator of the Township of Scotch Plains at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting. BOZENA LACINA, Municipal Clerk

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12/27/12, The Times Fee: \$37.74

PUBLIC NOTICE FAIRVIEW CEMETERY ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Lot Owners of Fairview Cemetery will be held at the American Legion Post No. 3, North Avenue at Crossway Place, Westfield, New Jersey, **Monday January 28, 2013 at 4:00 P.M.**, for the election of four Trustees each for a term of three years, to succeed **Frank J. Abella, Jr., Steven J. Burke, Franklin J. Sullebarger and Donald W. MacDonald**, whose terms will then expire and for the transaction of such other business as may be presented at the meeting. Richard M. Ralph Secretary/Treasurer 1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader Fee: \$16.32



David B. Corbin for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*
WORKING TO GET THE TAKEDOWN...Blue Devil Matt Barber attempts to get a single-leg takedown on Panther Matt Swain in his 132-lb bout in Roselle Park. Barber won, 4-0.

M. BARBER, VELEZ, BULGER, ARNOLD WIN KEY BOUTS

Roselle Park Panthers Chill Blue Devil Wrestlers, 33-21

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

Seven bouts apiece may have meant some form of equality, but the inequality came in distribution of bonus points, and the Roselle Park Panthers reaped them all to claim a 33-21 victory over the Westfield High School wrestling team in Roselle Park on December 19.

The 1-0 Panthers, while still a relatively young team, were well schooled in the art of not yielding bonus points, and three of their veterans, junior Phil Woods (170-lbs), senior Vinny Picarelli (220-lbs) and senior John DeVito (113-lbs) all harvested pins, while junior John Fulinello won by injury default at 152-lbs.

"We had some good efforts, but as a team, Roselle Park is tougher than we are. They had more mental and physical toughness, and they wanted it more than we did. We were very content to just hang around," Blue Devil Head Coach Glen Kurz said.

Woods put the Panthers up, 6-0, when he turned Kevin Frega to his back with a tight waist/arm bar in 1:08. Blue Devil Brian Bulger followed with three takedowns and an escape to defeat Allen Nunez, 7-2, at 182-lbs. Blue Devil Nick Arnold knotted the team score with a 3-0 decision over veteran Marc Signorello at 195-lbs.

"Nick Arnold gave a great effort. That kid is all guts! He's going to win matches for us this year," Coach Kurz said.

After Picarelli used a cradle to pin Cotter Spurlock in 1:57, the upset of the evening came when Panther Max Guerrier scored a five-point move in the final seconds to stun Kyle Kania, 8-2, at heavyweight. Panther Hugo Parraga scored a takedown with three seconds remaining to nip Nick Kalimtzis, 7-5, at 106-lbs then DeVito upped the Panthers' lead to 24-6 with a Turk/half nelson pin in 1:11.

The next bout at 120-lbs was a

thriller that went to three overtime periods. Blue Devil John Fuller deliberately ceded an escape to Andy Santamaria in the third overtime but was unable to take him down before time ran out. The result was a 5-4 win for Santamaria.

"John Fuller wrestled a great match. I will never complain about a loss when a kid gives his all, and John Fuller did that," Coach Kurz commented.

Blue Devil Anthony Aldana scored a headhunt reversal in the second period and added another reversal to grab a 4-2 victory over Josh Gergich at 126-lbs.

At 132-lbs, after a scoreless first period, Blue Devil Matt Barber peeled his way loose for an escape in the second period then used a Claw maneuver in the third period to gain three back points and a 4-0 decision

over Matt Swain.

"The first big move was the Claw when he stood up. I was almost like baiting him to stand straight up. Once I had all my weight on that shoulder, I lifted from the crotch almost head-over-heels straight to his back. That's how I got my first big back points," Barber explained.

Blue Devil Nick Velez went straight from a double-leg takedown to a Turk ride in the first period then after escaping in the second period, he went straight to a single-leg takedown to grab a 5-3 win over Bob Vail at 138-lbs.

"The first takedown was the double, and right after I got him to his hip, I went right into the Turk. I tried to bump him over. The second one, when I escaped, I went right after him and took the single takedown," Velez ex-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

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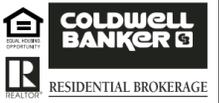
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PITCHING JAY COOK

A four-year letter winner for Montclair State, and Montclair State's pitching coach for two seasons. Jay is a tremendous teacher of the game. A scholastic standout at Westfield High School, Jay was a two-time All-County selection and was chosen Second-Team All-State during his career. He was named the 2002 Union County Player of the Year and led the Blue Devils to the 2002 Union County Championship.



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HITTING MIKE MURRAY

Mike retired in 2012 after a successful professional career with the San Francisco Giants. He was a unanimous All-Star selection in the Northwest League and a four-year starter, catcher and captain of the Wake Forest Baseball team. Mike was an All-Star in the Cape Cod Baseball League for the Chatham A's, hitting .347. He was a four-year starter at Westfield High School, a 2006 National All-American, 2005 and 2006 1st-team All-State selection, 2005 and 2006 Union County Player of the Year. Mike led the Westfield Blue Devils to the 2006 Union County Championship.

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David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
WORKING FOR A TILT...Blue Devil Mike Velez, left, attempts to tilt Panther Bob Vail towards his back in his 138-lb bout in Roselle Park. Velez recorded two takedowns and an escape to claim a 5-3 victory.

Devils Rock Raiders, 44-27, in Mat Thriller

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

a 2-2 tie with Raider Tommy Cunningham with a takedown and a two-point nearfall to record a 6-2 decision.

"I lost to him last year. He's a good wrestler. Last year, I cut a lot of weight. This year, I feel much better at the higher weight," Aldana said.

The second key victory came at 138-lbs when Nick Velez recorded a third-period reversal to defeat Brian Lapham, who won 32 matches last year. Velez's key to victory came with his ability to control Lapham from the top position.

"I knew he was good on neutral, so I kept attacking. I kept trying to find angles. Once I rode him out in the second period, I felt a lot more secure. Going into the third period, I got the reversal, and I rode him out again," Velez said.

"Nick Velez is on fire right now. I can't say I am surprised. He's not doing anything special, he's just wrestling hard and doing what he's prepared himself for. He believes in himself. It's easy to do that when you've spent the off-season preparing. We thought coming into this match Cunningham and Lapham are very good wrestlers. We definitely respect them," Coach Kurz said.

Unlike their very slow start against Roselle Park, when they found themselves trailing 24-6 after seven bouts, the Blue Devils zoomed to a 28-9 lead after seven bouts, beginning with Colin Barber, who pinned Matt Blank in 4:51 at 170-lbs. Westfield was awarded an additional team point for the opponent throwing his headgear.

Brian Bulger followed with a 54-second pin of Matt Ridge using a tight waist/half nelson combination at 182-lbs. Nick Arnold upped the team score to 16-0 with a 3-1 decision over Alex Mirabella at 195-lbs.

Blue Devil heavyweight Kyle Kania pulled off the upset of the evening when he shocked Anthony Tufaro once again with a Japanese Whizzer and pinned him in 31 seconds. Last year, Kania used the same move to defeat Tufaro, 8-5, in the District 11 semifinals. Tufaro did, however, rebound to win the Region 3 title and place eighth in the NJSIAA championship.

"What a better way to start off with Colin Barber and Bulger. They did what they didn't do two nights ago. They did a great job, and they started the fire. Arnold did what he always does. He gave it a good six minutes. It's tough to keep up with that kid for six minutes. No one is going to beat him on effort. Kania! Great win! Lightning struck twice," Coach Kurz said.

Raider Dan Van Brunt received a forfeit at 220-lbs. At 106-lbs, Blue Devil Nick Kalimtzis showed Josh Phillippe the lights in 1:28 then Raider JT Beirne recorded a double-leg takedown and two escapes to nip John Fuller, 4-3, at 113-lbs. The Raiders received a forfeit at 120-lbs.

After Aldana's win, Blue Devil Matt

Barber recorded three takedowns, a two-point arm bar/chin pullback nearfall, and a pancake nearfall off a side single takedown to earn a 12-0, majority decision over Steve Carrion at 132-lbs.

Blue Devil Vin DeFillippo, after recording a takedown and a reversal, put Jeff Leibrich to sleep in 4:22 at 145-lbs when he took him to the mat with an ankle pick takedown to a pin.

The second big upset went to the Raiders when Dein Rice stunned Nick Rotondo (17-2 record last year) with a pancake fall in 2:48 at 152-lbs. Raider

Dom Pigna won the final bout at 160-lbs when he used an arm bar and head smother to pin Pat Curry in 3:58.

- BOUQUET SEQUENCE:**
- 170: — Barber (W) p Blank, 4-51
 - 182: — Bulger (W) p Ridge, 5-3
 - 195: — Arnold (W) d Mirabella, 3-1
 - 220: — Van Brunt (S) won forfeit
 - Hwt: — Kania (W) p Tufaro, 3-1
 - 106: — Kalimtzis (W) p Phillippe, 1:28
 - 113: — Beirne (S) d Fuller, 4-3
 - 120: — Nadiem Korkmaz (S) won forfeit
 - 126: — Aldana (W) d Cunningham, 6-2
 - 132: — Barber (W) m Carrion, 12-0
 - 138: — Velez (W) d Lapham, 2-0
 - 145: — DeFillippo (W) p Leiblich, 4-22
 - 152: — Rice (S) p Rotondo, 2:48
 - 160: — Pigna (S) p Curry, 3:58



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
VERY CLOSE BOUT...Blue Devil John Fuller, front, struggles to get free from the grasp of Raider JT Beirne in his 113-lb bout. Beirne edged Fuller, 4-3.

Westfield PAL Matmen Stop S. Plainfield, Watchung Hills

The Westfield PAL White Team, in its inaugural season as a member of the Raritan Valley Midget Wrestling League, started on a strong note, scoring dual meet victories against South Plainfield and Watchung Hills.

On December 8, Westfield White kicked off its season with a visit to highly touted South Plainfield. The Westfield matmen escaped with a 43-39 victory, in a competitive and exciting match against a noteworthy opponent.

"Every wrestler in our lineup contributed to the outcome of this match," said Michael Price, the team's head coach. Even for those wrestlers that came up short, they fought hard to ensure the final team score tipped in our favor."

Noteworthy performances include Jackson Jordan, Quinn Gimblette and Michael Price, who each scored pins, with Jordan's coming in 0:38.

On December 15, White Team hosted Watchung Hills. The team, pumped up for their home opener, came out strong and determined. After dropping the opening match, Westfield won the next six bouts decisively, cruising to a 55-28 victory. Ethan Composto, CJ Maz, Jackson Jordan, Jack Martin, Russ Kobrin

and Michael Price each scored pins for Westfield.

- Westfield 43, South Plainfield 39**
- 45 - No Match
 - 53 - Composto (W) by forfeit
 - 57 - Amato (SP) by forfeit
 - 60 - Gimblette (W) p. Irizarry (SP) 0:38
 - 63 - Jordan (W) p. Robertson (SP) 0:38
 - 67 - Loniewski (SP) d. Martin (W) 3-0
 - 70 - Esporrin (SP) d. Holtzman (W) 4-0
 - 73 - Kobrin (W) md. Balent (SP) 10-0
 - 77 - M.Price (W) p. Santos (SP) 2:40
 - 80 - Kurlew (SP) p. Mesbah (W) 2:34
 - 85 - Scanlan (W) d. DiFrancesco (SP) 6-0
 - 90 - Hollis (SP) d. J. Price (W) 6-0
 - 95 - Greco (W) by forfeit
 - 100 - Clevenger (SP) p. Ondi (W) 0:48
 - 105 - Clancy (W) by forfeit
 - HWT - Padovanno (SP) p. Heard (W) 0:53

- Westfield 55, Watchung Hills 28**
- 45 - Scuderi (WH) p. Scalia (W) 1:11
 - 50 - Turnoff (W) by forfeit
 - 53 - Composto (W) p. Martignetti (WH) 1:46
 - 57 - Gimblette (W) d. Calvo (WH) 10-4
 - 60 - Maz (W) p. William (WH) 0:35
 - 63 - Jordan (W) p. Garcia (WH) 1:18
 - 67 - Martin (W) p. Evely (WH) 0:46
 - 70 - Claxton (WH) d. Holtzman (W) 5-3
 - 73 - Hurtt (W) d. Bash (WH) 5-2
 - 77 - Kobrin (W) p. Wilson (WH) 1:58
 - 80 - M.Price (W) p. Sharnow (WH) 0:58
 - 85 - Kang (WH) p. Scanlan (W) 0:25
 - 90 - Colantuano (WH) p. J.Price (W) 2:15
 - 95 - Greco (W) by Forfeit
 - 100 - Duza (WH) d. Ondi 8-0
 - 105 - Aroned (WH) d. Clancy 8-4
 - HWT - No Match

Panthers Chill Blue Devil Matmen, 33-21

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

plained. The jump in two weight classes since last year did not seem to bother Velez.

"It's a lot different wrestling bigger kids, but I like it better at the heavier weight classes," he said.

"They both beat quality opponents. Velez has been wrestling well all year. So is Matt Barber. I would like to see

Barber opening up his offense a little bit more. We beat two of their better kids. Those were two wins that we needed to have," Coach Kurz said.

"The whole match I was pushing him back, taking shots, but I couldn't seem to finish them on the edge," Barber added.

At 145-lbs, Blue Devil Nick Rotondo tallied two takedowns and an escape to earn a 5-2 decision over Brad Carle. At 152-lbs Blue Devil Jerk Gozdzieski and Fulinello were locked in a one-point bout, but with

18 seconds remaining in the second period, Gozdzieski was injured and could not continue.

In the final bout of the evening, Blue Devil senior Colin Barber claimed a 5-0 decision over Steve Loevsky at 160-lbs.

- BOUQUET SEQUENCE:**
- 170: — Woods (R) p Frega, 1:08
 - 182: — Bulger (W) d Nunez, 7-2
 - 195: — Arnold (W) d Signorello, 3-0
 - 220: — Picarelli (R) p Spurlock, 1:57
 - Hwt: — Guerrier (R) d Kania, 8-2
 - 106: — Parrotta (R) d Kalimtzism 7-5
 - 113: — DeVito (R) p Chris Hoerle, 1:11
 - 120: — Santamaria (R) d Fuller, 5-4 OT
 - 126: — Aldana (W) d Gergich, 4-2
 - 132: — M. Barber d Swain, 4-0
 - 138: — Velez (W) d Vail, 5-3
 - 145: — Rotondo (W) d Carle, 5-2
 - 152: — Fulinello (R) won by default
 - 160: — C. Barber (W) d Loevsky, 5-0

PUBLIC NOTICE

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS NOTICE OF CONTRACT AWARD
Date Adopted: 12/20/12

Public Notice is hereby given that the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders has awarded a contract without competitive bidding as an extraordinary unspecifiable service pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a) (11). This contract and the resolution authorizing it is available for public inspection in the Office of the Clerk of the Board.

RESOLUTION NO: 2012-1080
AWARDED TO: Funeral Services of New Jersey, Inc., Hillside, New Jersey
SERVICES: transportation for deceased person.

PERIOD: January 1, 2013-December 31, 2013

COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.00

James E. Pellettiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader Fee: \$21.93

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RESOLUTION NO: 2012-1032
AWARDED TO: Town & Country Veterinary Home Calls/Dr. Michael Aromando, DVM, Chester, New Jersey
SERVICES: to provide routine and emergency services for the horses at the Watchung Stables

PERIOD: January 1, 2013-December 31, 2013

COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$26,000.

James E. Pellettiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader Fee: \$22.95

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RESOLUTION NO: 2012-1081
AWARDED TO: Tanisha Malone, Newark, New Jersey
SERVICES: to the purpose of assisting during autopsies at a cost of \$175.00 per case, \$225.00 per homicide and/or autopsies performed on children under age of four years, \$75.00 per external examination and \$75.00 for being on call

PERIOD: January 1, 2013-December 31, 2013

COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00

James E. Pellettiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader Fee: \$24.48

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RESOLUTION NO: 2012-1064
AWARDED TO: Hartford Fire Insurance Company
SERVICES: Renew the Public Officials Bonds for the following employees
Joseph Bowe January 1, 2013-December 31, 2013 in the amount of \$740.00
Frank W. Padusniak, Jr. January 1, 2013-December 31, 2013 in the amount of \$350.00
Joann Rajoppi January 1, 2013-December 31, 2015 in the amount of \$680.00
Nicole L. DiRado January 1, 2013-December 31, 2015 in the amount of \$1,750.00
James LaCorte January 1, 2013-December 31, 2015 in the amount of \$680.00

COSTS: for a total combined amount not to exceed \$4,200.00

James E. Pellettiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader Fee: \$29.07

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RESOLUTION NO: 2012-1061
AWARDED TO: Hartford Fire Insurance Company
SERVICES: to renew the Insurance Policy for UC Marine 1 and 2 patrol vessels with the Marine Insurance policy

PERIOD: January 1, 2013- March 31, 2013

COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$ 22,229 per year

James E. Pellettiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader Fee: \$22.95

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RESOLUTION NO: 2012-1056
AWARDED TO: Intervention Strategies International, Inc., Midland Park, New Jersey
SERVICES: to provide a comprehensive Employee Assistance Program (EAP) TO County employees and their families

PERIOD: January 1, 2013-December 31, 2013

COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$57,120.00.

James E. Pellettiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader Fee: \$22.95

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RESOLUTION NO: 2012-1059
AWARDED TO: Vision Care for Life Insurance Company
SERVICES: to renew VSP

PERIOD: January 1, 2013- December 31, 2015

COSTS: this is a decrease of 25% from last year's premium

James E. Pellettiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader Fee: \$21.42

PUBLIC NOTICE

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RESOLUTION NO: 2012-1020
AWARDED TO: Various Agencies (SSH)
SERVICES: Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark \$120,391.00
Central Jersey Legal Services \$20,000.00
Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless \$76,000.00
FISH Hospitality \$9,000.00
Homefirst \$100,955
Plainfield Area YMCA \$90,079
Urban League \$195,095

PERIOD: January 1, 2013-December 31, 2013

COSTS: in the total amount of \$611,520

James E. Pellettiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader Fee: \$58.56

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RESOLUTION NO: 2012-1017
AWARDED TO: Jewish Family Services
SERVICES: for the purpose of providing ongoing care management services to clients eligible for the Global Options Program

PERIOD: January 1, 2013-December 31, 2013

COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$182,400.00

James E. Pellettiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader Fee: \$23.97

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RESOLUTION NO: 2012-1091
AWARDED TO: Antonelli Minichello, PC, Union, New Jersey
SERVICES: to provide Mental Health Patient Counsel Services

PERIOD: January 1, 2013-December 31, 2013

COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00

James E. Pellettiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader Fee: \$21.42

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RESOLUTION NO: 2012-1058
AWARDED TO: Complete Care, Scotch Plains, New Jersey
SERVICES: for the provision of Alcohol/ Drug Testing Procedures for Employees with Commercial Drivers Licenses

PERIOD: January 1, 2013-December 31, 2013

COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$12,500.00

James E. Pellettiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader Fee: \$21.93

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RESOLUTION NO: 2012-1067
AWARDED TO: Corizon Health of New Jersey, Brentwood, Tennessee
SERVICES: to provide mental health care services for inmate and residents of The Union County Jail and Juvenile Detention Center

PERIOD: January 1, 2013-December 31, 2013

COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$5,790,373.00.

James E. Pellettiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader Fee: \$22.95

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RESOLUTION NO: 2012-1044
AWARDED TO: Medical Practitioners
SERVICES: to provide professional medical services for the patients/residents of the Cornerstone Units at Runnells Specialized Hospital

PERIOD: January 1, 2013-December 31, 2013

COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$60,000.00

James E. Pellettiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader Fee: \$21.93

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RESOLUTION NO: 2012-1088
AWARDED TO: Judith L. DiAntonio, Clark, New Jersey
SERVICES: for Court Reporting Services

PERIOD: January 1, 2013-December 31, 2013

COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00

James E. Pellettiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader Fee: \$21.42

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RESOLUTION NO: 2012-1033
AWARDED TO: Dr. David Foster, DVM, Morganville, New Jersey
SERVICES: to provide routine and emergency dental services to the horses at The Watchung Stables

PERIOD: January 1, 2013-December 31, 2013

COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$6,500.

James E. Pellettiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader Fee: \$21.93

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RESOLUTION NO: 2012-1055
AWARDED TO: HUB International, Berkeley Heights, New Jersey
SERVICES: for Insurance Consultant/Broker Services

PERIOD: January 1, 2013-December 31, 2013

COSTS: at no cost to the County

James E. Pellettiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader Fee: \$21.42

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RESOLUTION NO: 2012-1057
AWARDED TO: Discovery Benefits, Fargo, North Dakota
SERVICES: to provide COBRA Administration and billing services

PERIOD: for 24 months

COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$76,000.00

James E. Pellettiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader Fee: \$21.42

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RESOLUTION NO: 2012-1021
AWARDED TO: Covenant House of New Jersey
SERVICES: for a new Supportive Housing Program project

PERIOD: December 14, 2012-December 13, 2015

COSTS: in the total amount of \$493,441.00

James E. Pellettiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader Fee: \$21.93

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RESOLUTION NO: 2012-1062
AWARDED TO: State National Insurance Company Oak Creek, Wisconsin
SERVICES: for Insurance Consultant/Broker Services

PERIOD: January 1, 2013-December 31, 2013

COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$214,074

James E. Pellettiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader Fee: \$22.95

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RESOLUTION NO: 2012-1090
AWARDED TO: Donald Smith, Esq., Elizabeth, New Jersey
SERVICES: to Provide Mental Health Patient Counsel Services

PERIOD: January 1, 2013-December 31, 2013

COSTS: in

Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School First Marking Period Distinguished Honor Roll Grade 9

Jamie Abar, Rebecca Ames, Jennifer Anclien, Andraya Annucci, Joshua Axelrod, Amanda Banasiak, Madison Banker, Sarah Barash, Brianna Becker, Molly Becker, Isabella Bernardo, Noah Bernstein, Shay Blechinger-Slocum, Emily Boyle, Allison Busa, Emma Calabrese, Nancy Canevari, Celeste Cappadoccia, Sean Cheney, Chloe Cimino, James Clarke, Aaron Cooper, Paige Crandall, Sarah Davis, Darby Debonis, Jack Defouw, Catherine Depaula, Edward Depaula, Madison Dieu, Kayla Diggs, Courtney Dreyfus, Maria Duque, Zakary Elseht, Ally Flynn, Kara Foley, Abigail Fossaceca, Alexander Frier, Darya Ganzha, Matthew Garber, Martha Garyfallos, Heather Goeller, Samantha Gorman, Ira Gotliboy, Ethan Graham, Nathaniel Graham, Dakota Halma, Nina Hernandez, Ani Hsu Obrock, Eva Isaacs, Shona Jain, Elizabeth Kaminoff, Selin Kargi, Annemarie Kearns, Sabrina Khan, Megan Kieytka, Madison Korteling, Jonathan Kriney, Kaavya Krishna Kumar, Liza Kussner, Rachel Lambert, Thomas Leistikow, Jake Longo, Stefany Lucas, Gabriela Macpherson, Kelly Magrino, Caitlyn Mannino, Michelle Marvosa, Darren Mascioli, Brett Mayerson, Rebecca Mehorter, Emily Morris, Sarika Mujumdar, Amenda Ni, Saleena Nival, Tyler O'brien, Madalyn Ostrander, Tyler Parizeau, Vito Petitti, Anne Pierce, Benjamin Powell, Ryan Radice, George Ramos, Harry Randazzo, Geneva Rata, Caroline Ringel, Olivia Roberts, Allison Roden, Samuel Sadel, Mariel Sass, Julianne Sawchuk, Hannah Simon, Kevin Sonpar, Mary Catherine Stovall, Rohan Suresh, Kiersten Swaak, Bridget Van Natta, Alexandra Velasquez, Zoe Verrico, Mercy Villacis, Samiksha Vittalraj, Connor Walsh, Grace Wayman, Benjamin Weiss, Jason Wendel, Amani Williams, Erik Willis, Michael Wright, Gali Zaborowski, Hang Zheng, Vivian Zhuang, Carly Zogg

Grade 10

Carl Acito, Andrew Barcia, Erica Berkowitz, Alexandra Bord, Samantha Bordman, Alexandra Boyarsky, Kayla Brady, Morgan Bransky, Bryan Buchanan, Megan Burke, Shannon Burns, Eric Calvo, Elizabeth Casserly, Christian Choi, Julia Cirincione, Caroline Cooke, Arianna Correa-Gomez, Roland Crystal, Steven Davies, Haley Demaria, Tyler Dencker, Ariana Donaldson, Mateusz Dzedzic, Alex Eckert, Emily Fidlou, Abigail Fontana, Christian Germano, Alyssa Gilman, Alexander Gugliotta, Jeremy Haas, Matthew Haas, Joseph Haverlock, Paige Heiden, Elizabeth Hom, Emily Isola, Amar Jain, Pierce Johnston, Amanda Karacsony, Doriane Kasper, Kaitlyn Killeen, Dongwoo Kim, Emma Klein, Michael Lange, Brian Lapham, Evelyn Logie, Samantha Loop, Grace Makowski, Arielle Margulies, Matthew Marino, Hannah Matysek, Kevin Maxwell, John McCall, Madeline Mcnichol, Sean Patrick Monteverde, John Musso, Grace O'brien, Derek Offitzer, Alan Payne, Mykala Porter, John Quigley, Megan Rickmers, Ryan Romaine, Jacob Salem, Danielle Scheu, Robert Scillieri, Shannon Shaw, John Sheehy, Nicole Skickova, Emma Sobel, Brett Stevens, Raina Tellado,

PUBLIC NOTICE

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS NOTICE OF CONTRACT AWARD Date Adopted: 12/20/12 Public Notice is hereby given that the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders has awarded a contract without competitive bidding as an extraordinary unspecifiable service pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a) (11). This contract and the resolution authorizing it is available for public inspection in the Office of the Clerk of the Board.

RESOLUTION NO: 2012-1023 amending (Resolution No. 2012-645) AWARDED TO: United Way of Greater Union County, Elizabeth, New Jersey SERVICES: to design and implement a framework and process for collaborative planning PERIOD: July 1, 2012-December 13, 2012 to July 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013 COSTS: with no change in contract amount James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders 1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader Fee: \$24.48

HONOR ROLL

Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School 1st Marking Period

Philip Tice, Leah White, Gillian Worley, Lina Zikas Grade 11

Casey Abramson, Leigh Abramson, Kelsey Ames, Judah Axelrod, Jessica Banasiak, Lea Barny, Samuel Bebout, Douglas Belcik, Kathryn Bumiller, Sara Calabrese, Allison Caramico, Angelo Chaia, Kayla Chisholm, Meghan Costello, Kelsey Coupe, Andrew Debiasse, Katherine Demarco, Brian Deutschmeister, Michael Dinizo, Brooke Enners, Sarah Fischmann, Carly Fleischer, Caitlin Flood, Gianni Garyfallos, Victoria Germano, Alicia Jiang, Nicole Johnson, Ryan Kalkstein, Jessica Kar, Lauren Kilcullen, Eunbin Ko, Isabella Krempa, Paul Kussner, Yi Lin, Constandinos Logus, Sara Lombardi, Joshua Lopez, Amanda Mach, Madison Maisel, Jasson Mazzetti, Madeline MCGovern, Jacob Monzella, Ross Mulcahy, Ryan Nival, Alexandra O'hara, Maria Pansulla, Nikhil Patel, Brendan Pierce, Stephanie Plant, Angela Rastelli, Erik Reiman, Alyssa Riporti, Alec Rodriguez, Ryan Romanowski, Hansel Romero, Caroline Ross, Mia Rossi, Kelly Ruggieri, Andrew Smith, Grant Sultatos, Ashley Taillon, Megan Voorhees, Andrew Warne, Cristian Williams, Elise Xu, Christian Zazzali, Arielle Zuaro

Grade 12

Ross Alexander, Cody Biondi, Krystyna Boczon, Emily Boruch, Zachary Brencons, Kaitlyn Budis, Brian Burns, Julie Busch, Mary Ellen Cagnassola, Benjamin Caldora, Nicole Campbell, Christopher Ciccarino, Andrew Citera, Theresa Clarke, Jackson Cochran-Carney, Kristen Arielle Collantes, Luke Crawford, Maria Didario, Sari Dorn, Colleen Farrell, Megan Fernandez, Scott Flanzman, Jason Fortunato, Sarah Freeman, Kristen Gerritsen, Jason Gerstenfeld, Gabrielle Gilles, Julie Glover, Paige Goldner, Shannon Healy, Emily Ho, Danielle Karacsony, Victoria Karakis, Marianne Khalil, Jessica Klein, Kelly Lapham, Caroline Leahy, David Leavitt, George Leavitt, Elsie Leistikow, Kelsey Meisch, Gabriela Mendes, Emily Miller, Enovi Molina-Chevez, Christine Monroy, Mitchell Naveh, Olivia Nelson, Valerie Neuhaus, Hannah Nizri, Kristen Northrup, Kelly O'leary, Lee Ann Orenczak, Benjamin Oster, Jesse Ozdamar, Tara Palkoski, Savvas Petridis, Kevin Raszka, Carly Redfield, Lyndsay Reed, Haley Regan, Corentin Rejaud, Michael Rempter, Bridget Reynolds, Elise Ringel, Faizah Romano, Michael Rosenheck, Leah Salituro, Dylan Sands, Michael Sangern, Ryan Sawchuk, Kristen Schiavo, Deirdre Sheridan, Tristan Sizemore, Jeremy Sonpar, Michelle Speth, Zoe-Nicole Stein, Taylor Swaak, Anthony Tufaro, Justine Valdes, Emily Vaslas, Andrew Wheeler, Lindsey Wilkinson, Nathaniel Woerner

Honor Roll Grade 9

Matthew Abdy, Catherine Acito, Brianna Acosta, Paola Almonte, Gabriel Alvarez, Caroline Babis, Emma Bagat, Madeleine Bebout, William Benavides, Samantha Broders, Jacob Brown, Joseph Buttighieri, Giovanna Carlino, Jordan Cheney, Paul Cherubini, Nichol Cimring, Zachary Cimring, Vincent

PUBLIC NOTICE

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS NOTICE OF CONTRACT AWARD Date Adopted: 12/20/12 Public Notice is hereby given that the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders has awarded a contract without competitive bidding as an extraordinary unspecifiable service pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a) (11). This contract and the resolution authorizing it is available for public inspection in the Office of the Clerk of the Board.

RESOLUTION NO: 2012-1078 AWARDED TO: Floriana Persecchino, MD., Metuchen, New Jersey SERVICES: to perform autopsies at a rate of \$700.00 per case, external examinations at a rate of \$100.00 per case, to be on call at a rate of \$250.00 per day (when there no autopsies) and \$600.00 for testimony in court PERIOD: January 1, 2013-December 31, 2013 COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$90,000.00 James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders 1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader Fee: \$24.48

Conti, Shannon Costello, Carly Daniele, Bianca Demaria, Margaret Desantis, James DiFrancesco, Margaret Divirgilio, Emma Duggan, Abraham Elseht, Jacqueline Fahrenholz, Samantha Ferrara, David Flores, Rebecca Freedman, Rashaan Gary, Adam Gelfand, Ian Gordon, Gabriela Guerrero, Joseph Guidi, Zachary Halma, Patrick Henkels, Zianne Hoover, Rachael Janssen, Maya Jegede, Sofia Jimenez, Nolan Kearns, Lisa Kline, Kristen Koederitz, Julian Korduba, Gayle Kosciolk, Aaron Lee, Xuying Liang, Tyler Litwin, Chloe Mansilla, Thomas Margaritondo, Andrew Mathews, Brian Mcmanus, Erin Mecca, Sean Meisch, Jocelyn Michnowski, Alyssa Miguelino, Zakary Miller, Meaghan Murphy, Scott Nizolak, Erin O'connor, Amanda O'hara, Shannon O'Neill, Annistona Pagano, Faegan Peck, Christina Peluso, Cara Provenzano, Dylan Redfield, Kaleb Rembert, Ulysses Reyes, Zoe Rodriguez, Leila Salgado, Caroline Scobee, Katherine Seeney, Stav Shadmi, Lauren Sjonell, Kelly Smeltzer, Abby Spector, Kimberly Spitzer, Jacob Sutterlin, Belal Syed, Lauren Szpond, James Taylor, Adesh Thanawala, Valentina Torres Pellens, Kate Traina, Tinnapat Triamarit, Mariah Weigel, Mariel Weigel, Melody Weigel, Victoria Williams, Joseph Witkowski, Jenni Zakarin, Natalie Zimmermann

Grade 10

Karly Abraham, Kayla Allen, Francesca Arvizzigno, Daniel Babis, Brianna Bardwil, Kimberly Barros, Andrew Bates, Jacob Beckerman, Corin Bell, Matthew Boczon, Olivia Brown, John Bruckman, Jamie Bush, Rachel Butler, Ayanna Casterlow, John Cavaliere, Allyson Cerini, Henry Chang, Morgan Chemidlin, Adam Cohen, Kellyann Colligan, Ryan Connors, Stephen Crawford, Mallory Cunningham, Thomas Cunningham, Nicole Cusmano, Connor Danik, Auva Dariani, Robert Dietze, Ali Dorn, Alexandra Duke, Elisabeth Duke, Allison Duret, Joseph Dzuback, Brendan Earl, Thomas Elliott, Daniel Federico, Lauren Frazier, Rachel Freeman, Alexandra Gale, Alyssa Gardner, Tyler Geissel, Christopher Gibbons, Steven Haverlock, Timothy Hesson, Sarah Iannaccone, Michael Illanovsky, Matthew Itzkowitz, Emma Jaczko, Helen Johns, Alexander Karakis, Brendan Kelly, Jacob Klapper, Marissa Lamastra, Elizabeth Lamorte -Wright, David Lange, Rachel Lavelle, Michael Lee, Alyssa Lopez, Brooke Lord, Anne Luongo, Sam Mahler, Eric Manfra, Morgan Mayo, William Mcduffie, Alyson Mcgrath, Josh Mineo, Maya Mitterhoff, Julia Napolitano, Nicole Nilssen, Kelsey O'connor, Danielle Owens, Diana Pak, Kayla Pennington, Brianna Peterson, Isabel Quinones, Hailey Rachko, Zachary Refinski, Jeffrey Rodgers, Jason Rosen, Brian Scharf, Anthony Schenone, Alexander Skoog, Connor Smith, Elissa Staniec, Amanda Suhovsky, Garrett Szeto, Tiana Thomas, Megan Tsipias, Marcus Valdez, Erica Waltask, Christopher Wasieczko, Katherine Westerlund, Kyle Westerlund, Zion Whitehall, Andrew Whitehouse, Rachel Williams, Lizette Zambri, Tyler Zeile, Jerry Zhu, Garrett Zito

Grade 11

Nada Amer, Jacob Arkin, Eduardo Arocha, Kelvin Ayora-Vargas, Frank Besson, Sal Bhakuni, Brennan Brady, Rachel Brody, Christopher Bubnov, Gabriella Buissereth, Gabriell Charschan, Thomas Clarke, Anna Close, Mary Coloney, Erin Connors, Mimi Contreras, Madison Cooper, Kathryn Cunningham, Jonathon

Dawson, Dariana De Vore, Tessa Demaria, Caroline Devito, Marissa Dibella, Panayiotis Dimopoulos, Josie Dunning, Sean Duthie, John Fabricatore, Christina Fasolas, Alexander Favreau, Elizabeth Gelling, Michael Gentile, Alyssa Goldsmith, Julie Haggan, Andrew Hall, Emma Hannis-Trowbridge, Katherine Harper, Eric Hogan, Michele Hom, Michael Hopkins, Nicole Horn, John Horre, Peter Hsiao, Justin Hudak, Gina Jadelis, Justin Kaufman, Bridget Kelly, Conor Kelly, Kayla Kocha, Austin Kwinta, Julia Lavelle, Jamie Levitt, Thomas Madan, Jenna Maizes, Amanda Marcus, Emily Margulies, Alex Mazursky, Laura MCGovern, Kayla Mckeown, Maurisha Mckinnie, Lauren Mcmorrow, Ailene Mcnamara, Andrea Mneely, Matthew Moran, Paige Morrison, Elizabeth Nardone, Nicole Nugent, Joseph Pagano, Olivia Paladino, Amy Palumbo, Reuben Perez, Matthew Picone, Jack Poillon, Jeffrey Ponzio, Lindsay Ratner, Shannon Reilly, Shayna Rogoff, Gabriella Rojas, Darek Rola-Zarzor, Hannah Rosado, Michael Rothman, Natalie Rothweiler, Brian Rubin, Rachel Schack, James Schetelich, Elizabeth Schwartz, Kyndal Scobee, Natasha Segulin, Eugene Siskoske, Trevor Skanes, Monica Squeri, Eric Tannenbaum, Alexandra Tevis, Jenny Tyler, Daniel Van Brunt, Emily Vaughn, Jaclyn Villane, Nah'rya Walker-Pierson, Olivia Wallden, Michael Walsh, Malik Watkins, Megan Welch, Olivia Whitehouse, Caitlin Williams, Mackenzie Wright, Andy Xu, James Zambri, Eve Zhurbinskiy

Grade 12

Margaret Appezzato, Lesley Aviles, Alexa Bergenfeld, Jeremy Berkowitz, Jordan Bernstein, Michael Blackman, Abigail Bridge, Glenisha Brown, Caitlin Bunin, Page-Ashley Campbell, Anna Cannone, Christine Charles, Zachary Ciabattari, Lucas Colafonte, Nathan Clark, Michael Colineri, Kathleen Colonna, Nasim Dariani, Matthew Debiasse, Nicholas Demmel, Andrew Dill, Phillip Donatelli, Emily Dzuback, Morgan Ellman, Erik Estrada, Dahlia Fioretti, Lonny Geller, Victoria Giamboni, Stephanie Giarretta, Najla Gilliam, Kerri Gilman, Kayla Giordanella, Justin Glock, Lia Gordon, Shauna Gordon, Justin Grambor, Jordan Greenberg, Emma Guidi, Jessica Howard, Emily Howarth, Christina Jackson, Hadley Jones, James Kaiser, Navroos Kaur, Grace Kelly, Jacob Kennedy, Lauren Koederitz, Emily Koprowski, Madeline Krema, Andrew Leischner, Christie Leist, Alyssa Leyden, Thomas Magelinski, Maxim Maltsev, Paige Mankin, Jacob Margulies, Francisco Marrero, Grace Mcalindin, Julia Mendes, Olivia Mendes, Jonathan Miksis, Gabriele Miller, Katherine Minski, Tessa Mitterhoff, Brianna Monaco, Rae Moses, Elyse Nadal, Rachel Naugle, Colin Okell, Alex Ozdamar, Ariana Paradiso, Meredith Parker, Lisa Peccarelli, Alexandra Peluso, Alexander Petersen, Megan Phelan, Annabelle Ponterdolph, Leya Quinones, Aidan Racaniello, Amanda Raphael, Chandler Reeson, Sasha Refinski, Dein Rice, Amanda Rimpici, Karla Rizzzi, Bridget Robinson, Kathryn Rodriguez, Andrew Schwartz, Hailee Sciarra, Merhan Shams, Kimberly Shaw, Marc Shlissel, Molly Solomon, Tyler Sorrentino, Kayla Spector, Christopher Stanton, Michael Stein, Alexandra Sullivan, Tara Sweeney, Jo Venice Uriarte, Martin Wasieczko, Hailey Weber, Caitlin Worthey, Amy Zhuang



CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE...Eagle Scout Ryan Vargo displays the Certificate of Excellence he received from the Mountaintop Board of Education (BOE) at its meeting on Tuesday night. Pictured, left to right, are: Chief School Administrator Nancy Lubarsky, Ryan and BOE President James Rubin, Jr.

Christopher Academy Celebrates 50th Year

WESTFIELD - In February of 1963 Christopher Academy opened its doors, the first Montessori school in the state of New Jersey and among the first in America. The school was started by four families, including three from Westfield, who wanted Montessori education for their eight children. Today the schools boasts an enrollment of more than 150 children from the ages of 2 to 8 years at two campuses in Westfield and Scotch Plains.

To help celebrate its 50th anniversary, the school will host an Open House on February 10, 2013 from 2 - 4:30 at our Westfield campus, 510 Hillcrest Avenue. All past students, parents, staff and friends of both campuses as well as the former Montessori School of Cranford are invited to attend. "We are hoping to reconnect with as many of our former students, staff and parents as possible." Amelia McTamany, Trustee Chair, stated. "Whether it's been a year or a generation since you visited the school, we hope our entire family will stop by to meet former staff and see old friends."

The Montessori method of education was developed in the early twentieth century by Dr. Maria Montessori, an Italian physician and scientist. Montessori classrooms revolutionized children's education, linking

teaching methods to children's unique development. Many of Montessori's innovations are now standard practice in early childhood settings. Further research in the workings of the brain and child development throughout the last century has demonstrate the lasting positive effects of the method, from increased academic achievement to distinctions in children's creativity, self-efficacy, and community contributions.

To RSVP to the Open House or for information on Christopher Academy, contact the school at (908) 322-4652, or by email at: party@christopheracademy.com.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

BOROUGH OF FANWOOD PLANNING BOARD

Notice is hereby given that the PLANNING BOARD OF THE BOROUGH OF FANWOOD, after public hearing of November 28, 2012 granted approval to T-Mobile Northeast LLC to construct a temporary wireless communications facility. The Board granted site plan approval, a use variance and variances for side yard setback, improved lot coverage, tower setbacks, accessory structure setback and tower height. The property in question is owned by Laurence and Elizabeth Andrews and has a street address of 1 South Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey and is known as Block 55 and Lot 1 on the Fanwood Tax Assessment Map.

Documents pertaining to this application are available for public inspection at the office of the Planning Board at Borough Hall, 75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood, New Jersey during normal business hours. Gregory D. Meese Price, Meese, Shulman & D'Armino, P.C. Attorneys for T-Mobile Northeast LLC 1 T - 12/27/12, The Times Fee: \$23.46

PUBLIC NOTICE

BOROUGH OF MOUNTAINSIDE BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

All meetings will be held in the Beechwood School Susan O. Collier Media Center located at 1497 Woodacres Drive, Mountainside, New Jersey 07092. All meetings will be regularly scheduled meetings of the Board to begin at 6:30 p.m. (except January 8th which will be at 6:00 p.m.). It is anticipated that the Board will adjourn to Executive Session immediately following the initial roll call to review matters appropriate for discussion in private under the Open Public Meetings Act. The Board will return from Executive Session to continue the public portion of the meeting at 7:30 p.m., at which time the Board will consider and act upon its public session agenda items.

Tuesday, January 8, 2013 Tuesday, January 22, 2013 Tuesday, February 26, 2013 Tuesday, March 26, 2013 Tuesday, April 23, 2013 Tuesday, May 28, 2013 Tuesday, June 25, 2013 Tuesday, July 23, 2013 Tuesday, August 27, 2013 Tuesday, September 24, 2013 Tuesday, October 22, 2013 Tuesday, November 19, 2013 Tuesday, December 17, 2013 1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader Fee: \$30.09

PUBLIC NOTICE

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS NOTICE OF CONTRACT AWARD Date Adopted: 12/20/12

Public Notice is hereby given that the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders has awarded a contract without competitive bidding as an extraordinary unspecifiable service pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a) (11). This contract and the resolution authorizing it is available for public inspection in the Office of the Clerk of the Board.

RESOLUTION NO: 2012-1019 AWARDED TO: Various Agencies SERVICES: ARC of Union County \$25,000.00 Brand New Day \$25,000.00 Elizabethport Presbyterian Center \$10,333.00 Homefirst \$64,667.00 Jewish Family Service of Central NJ \$25,000.00 PROCEED, Inc \$20,000.00 The Salvation Army-Elizabeth \$60,000.00 The Salvation Army-Plainfield \$25,000.00 Trinitas Regional Medical Center \$25,000.00 Unity Family & Children's Society \$40,000.00 Urban League of Union County \$125,000.00 COSTS: in the total amount of \$450,000.00 James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders 1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader Fee: \$33.15

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THE ACTION has been instituted for the purpose of foreclosing the following tax sale certificate: 1. A certain tax certificate 10-203, sold on 12/2/2009, dated 12/8/2009, and was recorded on 2/9/2010 in Book 12862 at Page 550, made by MARIA GLAVAN, Collector of Taxes of PLAINFIELD, and State of New Jersey to US BANK CUST FOR PRO CAPITAL I, LLC and subsequently assigned to plaintiff, US BANK CUST FOR PRO CAPITAL I, LLC. This covers real estate located in PLAINFIELD, County of UNION, and State of New Jersey, known as LOT 17 BLOCK 238 as shown on the Tax Assessment Map and Tax Map duplicate of PLAINFIELD and concerns premises commonly known as 436 WEST 2ND STREET, PLAINFIELD, New Jersey. YOU, ROSARIO MERA, are made party defendant to the above foreclosure action because you are the owner of a property which is the subject of the above entitled action. YOU, MRS. ROSARIO MERA, WIFE OF ROSARIO MERA, are made party defendant to the above foreclosure action because plaintiff has been unable to determine whether defendant ROSARIO MERA is married, and if married, the name of ROSARIO MERA's spouse. If ROSARIO MERA is married, the plaintiff joins MRS. ROSARIO MERA, WIFE OF ROSARIO MERA as a defendant for any possessory or marital rights you may have. YOU, HLB MORTGAGE, are made party defendant to the above foreclosure action because on September 29, 2006, Rosario Mera, executed a mortgage to HLB Mortgage in the amount of \$50,000.00, which mortgage was recorded on October 13, 2006 in the UNION County Clerk's/ Register's Office in Mortgage Book 11980 at page 307. Said mortgage is subordinate to the Plaintiff's lien. DATED: December 20, 2012 Jennifer M. Perez, Clerk of the Superior Court of New Jersey PELLEGRINO & FELDSTEIN, L.L.C. 290 Route 46 West Denville, New Jersey 07834 (973) 586-2300 1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader Fee: \$74.97



THANK YOU... Jane Clancy, who retired from the Westfield Board of Education after six years of service, was presented with a resolution at the Board's meeting of December 11 by Richard Mattessich, President. He noted Mrs. Clancy's dedication to the children, families and community members of Westfield and her countless volunteer hours as Chairperson of the Facilities Committee from 2010 - 2012 and an active member on that committee for her entire term on the Board as well as the Curriculum, Instruction and Program Committee. She also served on Long Range Planning; Policies; Negotiations; Ad Hoc Technology and Community Outreach; and as a liaison to the New Jersey and Union County School Boards Associations, the Westfield Recreation Commission and Green Team, Lincoln and Tamaques Schools, and the PTC Special Education Committee.

Westfield High School Principal, Peter Renwick, announced the first marking period honor roll for the 2012-2013 school year. Westfield High School recognizes student achievement every marking period at two levels: Honor Roll and Distinguished Honor Roll. Determination of inclusion on the Honor Roll is based on the following criteria: For the Distinguished Honor Roll, the GPA must be between 3.75 and 4.0 with no grade lower than a B. For the Honor Roll, the GPA must be between 3.5 and 3.74 with no grade lower than a B.

Distinguished Honor Roll

Grade 9

Isaac Amador, Devin Anderson, Matthew Baker, Steven Barmakian, Jake Barrow, Caroline Barry, Caroline Basil, Chloe Beauchamp, Noelle Blackford, Sarah Boyle, Cameron Bremer, Anna Browne, Lauren Busardo, Daniel Alex Campbell, Max Carle, Courtney Casale, John Cash, Claire Cassie, Albert Chen, John Ciarrocca, Gabrielle Cofone, David Collins, Owen Colwell, Santiago Correa, John Cote, Greta Crandall, Daniel Criscuolo, Ryan Daniel, Sarah Davis, Marina De Cottiis, Kayla Derman, Gwyneth Devin, Julia Di Bella, Elisabeth Diamantopoulos, Kelly Dorry, Jessica Doyle, Sidharth Eleswarapu, Edward Encinas, Lucas Fan, Alan Fang, Caroline Felix, Jack Fico, Cecile Fountaine-Jardim, Kevin Frega, Alexander Frisch, Julia Frontero, Danielle Gabuzda, Samantha Gargiulo, Isabella Gelfand, Rachel Geskin, Kelly Giaccone, Jonathan Gorczyca, Mary Gouldson, Jarek Gozdieski, Julia Gretskey, Alexander Grom, Veronica Grycan, Frankanthony Guerriero, Hannah Haar, Bridget Harrington, Hannah Hawkins, Emily Hecht, Eloise Hendricks, Jordan Hinds, Kenneth Hoerle, Abigail Hurwitz, Ana Ionescu, Paul Jakobovic, Alison Jaruzelski, Maya Jonsson, Stephanie Jung, Maxamillion Kaiser, Carly Kandel, Natalie Karter, Jessica Keenan, Yeoun Ju Kim, Catherine King, Jake Klofta, Ann-Sophie Koglin, Thomas Kohler, Marija Landeka, Kevin Law, Brandon Leuthold, Madeline Levy, Raquel Levy, Mackail Liederman, Cai Qing Lin, Jesse Liu, Celeste Loffredo, Olivia Loggia, Erin Mackenzie, Erin Malley, Jack Manning, Michael Masciale, Sara Massimo, Rachel Mattessich, Paige McCann, Katherine McDonald, Kyle McIntyre, Hannah McLane, Megan Melillo, Ben Meltzer, Felicia Mermer, Lillian Metzger, Carlee Miller, Jonathan Miller, Michael Mizus, Michael Mobarakai, Allyson Morgenthal, Sarah Morton, Nick Mueller, Ryan Munley, Hopper Murray, Julia Myers, Michael O'Connor, Kevin Palmer, Anthony Pericolo, Grace Pettit, Grace Pfeifer, Julia Pikaart, Danielle Pinney, Ethan Prevoznak, Hannah Priscoe, Nova Qi, Jenna Rediker, Jenna Reed, Hailey Reilly, Bryanna Reinhardt, J. Mack Rembisz, Tyler Ricci, Lauren Rigney, Christopher Rinaldi, Amelia Ritter, Jacob Ritter, Hallie Rosenburgh, Fiona Rosenthal, Madeleine Rosenthal, Tyler Roth, Andrejs Rumpeters, Drew Russo, Thomas Sabato, Alexandra Sacher, Isabella Salerno, Nicolas Salvato, Claudia Savickas, Brooke Schaeffer, Dylan Scott, Haley Sharlow, Emily Shields, Chanel Shum, Julia Simpson, Elizabeth Smith, Ryan Soldati, Helen Sparrow, Sarah Steiner, Pavel Stepaniuk, Emma Stierhoff, Alexa Stiles, Camryn Sullivan, Robert Suriano, Erik Swanson, Kelsey Swingle, Gary Taks, Katherine Tang, Blake Taylor, Shelby Taylor, Cassandra Teschner, Evan Trott, Megan Troutman, Scott Tupper, Katarina Von Der Wroge, Michael Vricella-Stokes, Matthias White, Marissa Whitford, Paige Whitman, Amanda Williams, Allison Worms,

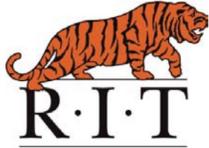
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Simon Stam Graduates From RIT

ROCHESTER, N.Y. - The following local resident graduated from Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) in the summer 2012 quarter: Simon Stam of Westfield, earned a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from RIT's Kate Gleason College of Engineering.

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Humen Performs In Orchestra Concert

NEW LONDON, Conn. - Lilas Humen, of Cranford and a senior at Connecticut College, played the violin in the Connecticut College Orchestra winter concert on December 6. Lilas, a 2009 graduate of Cranford High School, is the daughter of Nicholas and Anne Humen of Cranford.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following Ordinances were finally adopted by the Township Council of the Township of Scotch Plains, County of Union, New Jersey, on the 18th of December 2012.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-19

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER VII OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED, "TRAFFIC" BY REDUCING THE SPEED LIMIT ALONG PORTIONS OF TERRILL ROAD.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-20

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS TO INCREASE DOG LICENSE FEES.

BOZENA LACINA, RMC MUNICIPAL CLERK 1 T - 12/27/12, The Times Fee: \$22.95

HONOR ROLL

Westfield High School 1st Marking Period

Grade 10

Connie Wu, Diana Wu, Justin Yoon
Marissa Alvarez, Lauren Androconis, Phoebe Aronds, Sameena Asija, Meredith Bagger, Elise Ballan, Benjamin Bass, Sophie Bass, Jessica Bebel, Alexander Bennett, John Birle, Megan Blutfield, Valeria Bouchoueva, Samantha Bromberg, Kimberly Burns, Christopher Caminiti, Nicholas Cannone, Madeline Capodanno, Paige Carlin, Amanda Cheung, Bryan Chou, Daniel Coelho, Grace Cook, William Crenshaw, Katherine Crowley, Jacob Cruz, Michael Dazzo, Kayleigh Denner, Nicole DiGiorgio, Astha Dutta, Lauren Echausse, Bryan Evans, Zoe Federbusch, Justin Fernandez, Max Fleysh, Elizabeth Fox, Jane Franks, Andrew Frantz, Jennifer Frega, Catherine Frey, Matthew Friedman, John Fuller, Jared Geoghan, Lyaman Gilman, Harry Glasser-Baker, Hannah Goldring, Christina Griesmer, Jaime Gunchar, Erin Hart, Molly Hart, Andrew Harting-Smith, Eric Herber, Austin Hinel, Benjamin Howell, James Hunter, Isabella Ick, Leah Josif, Kyle Jason, Ansh Jhaveri, Amber Johnson, Brian Johnson, Norna Jules, Caroline Kacmarsky, Hasitha Kakileti, Carly Kalis, John Kirkland, Jacqueline Knapp, Katherine Ko, Alison Krakauer, Andrew Kuznetsov, Jorge Ledesma, Frances Ling, Ryan Lipschutz, Maria Lizzo, Kiera Loftus, Rachel Logan, Angel Lopez, Michael Maguire, Jameson Maher, Andrew Malacrea, Natalie Marcotullio, Leandra Margolies, Sara McCutcheon, Judy McDonald, Johanna Mermer, Mia Miller, Erica Millwater, Griffin Mooney, Maya Moritz, Kelly Morrison, Nicholas Moynihan, Rita Murphy, Jacqueline Napolitano, Melanie Nettle, Anna O'Brian, Charlie O'Brien, Corinne Petersen, Anthony Pirrone, Luke Prybylski, Chelsea Rader, Samantha Riley, Thomas Rohwetter, Christopher Romano, Claudia Romeo, Alexandra Rood, Jack Rose, Courtney Ryan, Emily Schuman, Logan Schwartz, Lillian Scott, Dana Seigelstein, Georgia Slater, Juliette Smith, Anastasia Smolenski, Bobbi Snyder, Evan Steinfield, Caroline Stocking, Lindsey Strauss, Hermes Suen, Meghan Summers, Michael Tivenan, Nina Wang, Amy West, Olivia Windorf, Eli Wirtshafter, Andrew Zale, Katelyn Zelko, Alexander Zornitsky

Grade 11

Tristen Abaya, Kaitlin Abrams, Nora Aronds, Audrey Bangs, Alexander Beals, William Bennett, Kathleen Bond, Jacob Boyle, Natalie Brennan, Gabrielle Buckman, Andrew Castellone, Anna Centrella, Philip Chapel, Matthew Cohen, Abigail Cook, Julia Criscuolo, Erika Daniel, Sarah Marie Davidson, Tyler Debbie, Jennifer Decandia, Olivia Dembiec, Alexa Derman, Nicole Deroux, Leia Descalzi, Nicole Devitt, Brandon Egert, Benjamin Eisenberg, Jared Ellner, Michael Esler, Rachel Fan, Christine Ferraro, Edwin Gee, Mark Gillespie, Elizabeth Gonzalez, David Gruskin, Melanie Grycan, Patrick Harris, Austin Hatch, Kristin Hauge, Michael Heffron, Sara Hoerner, Rachel Holtzman, Matthew Jenkins, Jake Katz, Jack Kessler, Caroline King, Alicia Kohl, David Kushner, Hongeun Lee, Lucia Liu, Matthew Lupino, Morgan Maloney, Emily Mastrocola,

Kathleen Mc Cutcheon, Luke McGrory, Nicholas Mennona, Stephanie Milan, Nora Moriarty, Christina Mosco, Alexandra Mossawir, Daniel Myers, Julia Napolitano, Monika Nemeth, Elisabeth Neylan, William Nisley, Lauren Nogan, Matthew Nuzzo, Shannon O'Brien, Alexandra Palatucci, Abigail Paone, Megan Pinna, Thomas Pyle, Mary Rippe, Michael Roggenburg, Jill Rosenfeld, Lauren Schneider, Amanda Schwarz, Lydia Anne Seaman, Sophia Shiffman, Emily Simpson, Lorena Souza, Andrew Stockwell, Gabrielle Stravach, Sean Tracey, Dara Tucker, Yixue Wang, Jacob Wasserman, Eric Weber, Fraser Weist, Aaron Wenta, Michaela Winberg, Francis Wong, Jingyan Xiao, Tiffany Youssef

Grade 12

Anthony Aldana, Steven Amato, Delia Annitsakis, Nicholas Arnold, Michael Aronson, Mariah Baker, Corinne Barrow, Sofia Beneroff, Max Bohall, Chloe Bryen, John Campbell, Madelyn Cannone, Kathryn Capodanno, Robert Cassie, Julia Cearsine, Grace Cerra, Andres Chang, Jessica Ciampa, Jonathan Clancy, Cassandra Clark, Meghan Clifford, Jessica Cobuzzi, Kathryn Contini, Betsy Crossland, David Cui, Elizabeth Cusick, Liam Deitz, Giana Di Giorgio, Ashley Dietz, Daniel Dougherty, Samuel Eliades, Ryan Esposito, Peter Fagan, Brian Farrell, Lisa Federico, Alyssa Fernandez, Christopher Fischer, Meaghan Fleck, Caroline Frankola, Parker Friedman, Kevin Galasso, Angela Gallagher, Colleen Gallagher, Daniel Gallagher, Marisa Garrity, Matthew Gates, Ashley Gerckens, Brittany Gould, Adam Greene, Elizabeth Griesmer, Alexandra Grosser, Christina Gulla, Edmund Han, Matthew Haner, Christopher Harris, Allison Hecht, Madison Heffron, Leigh Anne Heinbokel, Maura Heinbokel, Rachel Hertzberg, Kyle Hewett, Asher Horowitz, Lily Horowitz, Timothy Huber, Emily Hutchinson, Christopher Ick, Taylor Jackson, Aditi Jain, Alexander Jeffery, Pengju Jin, Alexandra Kapadia, Catherine Kerr, Sonya Khedr, Marina Kovalenko, Valerie La Porta, Alexander Laitamaki, Sarah Lampert, Caitlin Lawrie, Steven Lee, Adam Lupicki, Matthew Lynn, Emma Lysek, Olivia Mahoney, Jennifer Mandelblatt, Jeffrey Marino, Cassandra Masciale, Elizabeth Masciola, Emily Mc Bain, Catherine Meixner, Valerie Mennona, Eric Mikalaukas, Justin Mitchell, Olivia Mobarakai, Lea Moise Kleinman, Gregory Morano, Megan Mulrooney, Veronica Murphy, Jack Mustard, Michaela Nies, Joshua Norton, Eric Oberman, Sun Park, Elana Pascoguin, Juliana Pastuzyn, Jenna Perrotta, Chelsea Peterson, Molly Prybylski, Tara Reardon, Elinor Reinhardt, Katie Rembisz, Samantha Rembisz, Benjamin Ritter, Chandler Robertson, Robert Romano, Thomas Ross, Aaron Rubin, Sam Russak, Vittoria Sabba, Kyra Sagal, Rohit Saigal, Benjamin Schwartz, Alexandra Schwejce, Tara Sciortino, Sarah Seitz, Reilly Shiarella, Max Shin, Alison Simon, Anna Simon, Lilly Sisto, Clara Smith, Kaila Starita, Timothy Stroever, Emily Suriano, Connor Swingle, Annalyn Tanella, Austen Thien, Scott Thompson, Alexandra Tinfow, Katherine Towers, Kathryn Tracey, Jennifer Tresnan, Michaela Tropeano, Kristin Troutman, Natalie Tupper,

Kelly Vasel, Kirsten Von Der Wroge, Matthew Webb, Courtney Weiss, McKenna Wilson, Jimmy Yang, Alex Ying, Reece Zakarin, Allison Zale, Brianne Zelko, Rebecca Zhang, Nicole Zimmermann

Honor Roll Grade 9

Robert Abbott, Sophia Alvarez, Andrew Annitsakis, Jasper Baur, Sophia Bennett, Samantha Beurer, Christopher Boutsikaris, Ryan Bowman, Henry Brock, Kevin Bronander, Katherine Brown, Lauren Brumfield, Mitchell Bryk, Matthew Busardo, Ife Campbell, Amanda Canavan, Michael Carides, Christopher Cerrachio, Michelle Ciampa, Brendan Collum, Benjamin Cook, Nicole Cristiano, Isabella D'Olier-Lees, Theodore Dannevig, Evan Davis, Brian Decristofalo, Leo Delaney, Isabella Depalma, George Devaney, Carlie Fasano, Kyle Gabriel, Jared Glassman, Jessica Gold, Erin Hanlon, Michael Healey, Liam Heinbokel, Kathryn Helander, Samuel Karnofsky, John Anthony Katsingris, Nicholas Kay, Taylor Kirby, Max Landau, Justin Lankler, Tatiana Laregina, Briana Litchholt, Elise Lloyd, Claire Magnanini, Christian Mancheno, Emily McGann, Alyssa Meek, Emily Mordkovich, Owen Murray, Kathleen Nogan, Rebecca Pariente, Emilee Ramirez, Eric Reynolds, Sarai Rosenberg, Hope Rothenberg, Connor Russell, Jacob Sagal, Catherine Simon, Christina Sloan, Douglas Smith, William Stern, Aidan Sumner, Gillian Wadman, Abigail Wilson, Laine Yamano, Jessica Zimmermann, Devin Zrebiec

Grade 10

Sabra Anderson, Nicholas Barroqueiro, Miranda Bonina, Eliza Bryen, Bianca Buecklers, John Bunting, Katrina Carlin, Sabrina Cavanagh, William Chandler, William Chen, Taylor Cummings, Jacqueline Daaleman, Courtney Day, Bianca De Vito, Daniel Docampo, Molly Dombroski, Katherine Duffy, Brennan Erickson, Shelby Estevez, Adam Federbusch, Emily Forcht, Samantha Francisco, Erin Frankel, Jackson Frontero, Gregory Gao, Clarence Go, James Goldberg, Nicole Graf, Matthew Greco, Aisling Greene, Aidan Hamilton, Rachel Hayden, Kaelyn Heard, Alexandru Ionescu, Nicholas Kalimtzis, Christopher Kim, Jessica Koenigsberg, Austin Kronick, Connor Krueger, Corinne Lantz, Kaitlyn Larkin, Gabriel Kurta, David Lavelle, Jack Lee, Zachary Levan, John Lindros, Jason Liu, Jian Hong Liu, Meredith Luerssen, Catherine Massa, Kevin Miller, Helen Mizrach, Megan Mondon, Julian Mone, Alexander Monteiro, John Munley, Alberto Ortis, Samantha Paoletti, Leah Pesenson, Brooke Pfaus, Jason Previlon, Jacob Rabinowitz, Jordan Robertson, Amy Rosenzweig, Michela Sabba, Victoria Scognamiglio, Emily Serafin, Ellie Shirk, Alexander Shorrock, Lisa Simon, Kaelyn Smith, Melanie Snyder, Amanda Spiezio, Kevin Stelmach, Christopher Sullivan, Dhruv Tikku, Kristen Toth, Joseph Valles, Dominique Vo, Elli Warsh, Mallory Weiss, Bradley Whitman, Christopher Why, Mikayla Williams

Grade 11

Michael Androconis, Matthew Archambault, Elena Arida, Grace Aronds, Jane Aronds, Christopher Aslanian, Caroline Baldwin, Robert Ball, Benjamin Bass, Anna Ming Bauer, Julia Bieber, Gabrielle

Bleich, Sean Bohrod, Joan Bonilla, Harry Brafman, Brittany Bryant, Christopher Callahan, Eric Cantor, Andrew Capuano, Estelle Cervantes, Douglas Clarkson, Sarah Cronin, Brittany Cuellar, Kelly Culnan, Gianna De Vito, Patrick Decker, Anne Desantis, Jackson Dumont, Andersen Eckert, Philip Edwards, Cynthia Faris, Erica Fischer, Carly Friedman, Mara Friedman, Evan Garfinkel, Geneva Gleason, Oona Harrigan, Una Heinzerling, Justin Hertzberg, Dalton Herzog, Christopher Hogge, Andrew Hopper, Dane Huber, Ian Hutchinson, Daniel Juliao, Alexander Kalos, David Kane, Jake Kaplan, Christopher Kattak, Jonathan Kelly, Justin Killoran, Michelle Kim, Rebecca Kraus, Anna Labrozzi, Gemma Larche, Bernadette Latimer, Brendan Law, Christopher Lazzarotti, Mark Lazzarotti, Aaron Sang Lee, Allison Lee, Bryon Lessner, Carly Levine, Alexander Lopez, Theresa Lotano, Jordan Lukowiak, Hannah Mackenzie, Magda Magierski, Victor Magierski, Shannon Malley, Daniel Maran, Madeline McCready, Thomas McDonald, Christopher McGlynn, Emily McLane, Brittany Mccarthy, Tori Miller, Hannah Moloshok, Charles Mulrooney, William Murtishaw, Lauren Oates, Sophia Palia, Brianna Parkinson, Anthony Perconte, Kristin Ragoza, Thomas Randazzo, Pearl Reyes, Calvin Robertshaw, Noelle Rodriguez, Deirdre Romer, Kimberly Roth, Daniel Sanchez, Neldina Sandeep, Daniel Sanders, Amanda Santos, Joseph Santry, Daniel Savickas, Jonathan Savorgiannakis, James Schiano, Olivia Schiffer, Alex Schneider, Katherine Seery, Conor Sheridan, Andrea Silva, Karli Sottung, Drew Stierhoff, Noah Stiles, Matthew Storcks, Caroline Tanis, Anna Tanji, Maria Tata, Nicholas Velez, Isabella Vergara, Kristen Villane, Joseph Vricella-Stokes, Amy Wang, Amanda Womelsdorf, Matthew Wornow, Shawn Wu, Azad Zubair

Fishman, Michael Fitzhenry, Erin Fitzpatrick, Sean Flaherty, Kyla Gargiulo, Lee Goldberg, Jayne Gradel, Emily Greenberg, Tiffani Gregory, Courtney Han, Mark Hartzell, Jake Heroux, Aidan Hughes, Nadia Ibrahim, Molly Jennings, Matthew Kaveney, Jessica Kenny, Michael Kirkland, Hannah Knighton, Geoffrey Ko, Lauren Koenigsberg, Evan Komar, Tracy Kwok, Bradley Lankler, Sarah Leahy, Daniel Luzzi, Jonathan Macik, Megan Mc Cusker, Patrick Mc Cusker, Andrew Mellusi, Tyler Melofchik, Jessie Miller, Lisa Minotti, Connor Moore, Janet Morrison, Jessie Murray, Jonathan Nanna, Lydia Oquendo, Hannah Painter, Drew Palumbo, Victoria Parsloe, Grace Partridge, Paige Pavleszek, Elizabeth Pindilli, Cara Realmuto, Kendall Reid, Michael Reilly, Chaya Reiss, Brett Ripperger, Lindsay Ripperger, Samantha Rohwetter, Antony Rush, Catherine Sabatino, William Sanders, Brian Schor, Isabelle Smelkinson, David Solomon, Thanachai Sritthaninrat, Margaret Tanji, Halsey Urban, Garrett Williamson, Alana Zepka



Brian Mandel

Mandel Earns 1st Degree Black Belt

WESTFIELD - On December 15, Brian Mandel achieved his 1st Degree Black Belt (also called 1st Dan) in Taekwondo. His belt promotion was given at Martial Arts Institute of America with his teacher, Master Lim (a 8th Degree Black Belt and Olympian). This was in accordance with the World Taekwondo Association Inc. and was judged by Master Lim and three other Black Belt Masters. Brian is a junior at Westfield High School.

UC Student Accepted Into High School Symphonic Band

SCOTCHPLAINS - Jackie Quan of Edison, a freshman at Union Catholic High School (UC), recently auditioned for and was accepted into the elite Central Jersey High School Symphonic Band. Jackie was one of 110 students from five counties in the Central Jersey area who auditioned for the clarinet section.

The top 16 students went to the Wind Ensembles and Orchestra and the next 24 were selected for the Symphonic Band. Jackie was auditioning against other freshmen, as well as sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

To prepare for her audition, Jackie practiced for an hour a day and, as the day of the audition got closer, she practiced for two hours a day. The audition consisted of sight-reading, scales, and a solo. Jackie noted, "I always get very nervous and scared because you only get one chance to play." Jackie is thrilled that her fears were unfounded.

Jackie plans to play at regions every year, but hopes to be a part of the Wind Ensemble or Orchestra next year as a sophomore. Her goal is to be in the All Eastern Band as a senior. As a member



Jackie Quan

of the Honors and Accelerated academic programs at Union Catholic, Band does not currently fit into Jackie's schedule, but she plans to be a part of the UC Band with Mr. Don Frio during her junior and senior year.



GOOD NIGHT...Local residents participated in Triskelion's *To All A Goodnight II*. Pictured: front, is: Aubrey Johnson; left to right, are: Kyle Magee, Jovi Williams, Rosie Cuomo, Tommy Lepano, Erin Hernandez and Natalie Green.

Local Residents Perform in *To All A Goodnight II*

SCOTCH PLAINS - Local residents participated in Triskelion's *To All A Goodnight II*. Rosie Cuomo, Erin Hernandez, Kyle Magee and Aubrey Johnson of Terrill Middle School; Jovi Williams of Park Middle School, and Natalie Green of Brunner Elementary School appeared along with pianist, musician and actor Tommy Lepano of Fanwood in Triskelion's second annual holiday show presented at All Saints' Episcopal Church in Scotch Plains on December 14 and 15. Rounding out the

cast were professional actors Timothy Macht of Montclair and Mark Byrne of New York City.

Triskelion is a community based theatre company which aims to bring local, amateur, and professional talent together to create quality entertainment to Scotch Plains and its surrounds and in so doing create a sense of unity among our communities here and the greater community of man. Triskelion is a not-for-profit theatre company based in Scotch Plains and operating at All Saints' Church.



RESTORE THE SHORE...Students, parents, teachers, administrators and alumni of The Wardlaw-Hartridge School (W-H) community contributed time, energy, monetary donations and other resources to help victims of Hurricane Sandy "restore the shore" since the super storm ravaged the New Jersey coastline. Pictured, Lorianna Carlucci of Edison and her W-H cheer teammates present a check to the Union Beach Fire Department.

POPCORN
Hitchcock — A Psycho Drama

3 popcorns

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

By MICHAEL S. GOLDBERGER
Film Critic

I miss Alfred Hitchcock. The thought occurred with a nostalgic pang whilst viewing director Sacha Gervasi's solidly entertaining homage bearing the filmmaker's name. While Hollywood is flush with technically astute manipulators of suspense and scads of competent horror-meisters, Hitch's sheer and surprising inventiveness is lost to the ages.

However, thanks to Anthony Hopkins's witty and dedicated emulation of the title genius, we have the consolation of at least spending ninety-eight reminiscent and edifying minutes with Sir Alfred. The biographical sketch centers around the storm and drang he weathered in 1958 and '59 while wickedly working to shock the world with "Psycho."

You won't feel so bad that your brother-in-law wouldn't back you in that hot dog stand venture when it's impressed that Paramount didn't want to fund the film, believing it was farfetched, risky and just too terrifying. Gee, what slings and arrows we poor geniuses must endure. Of course, with no great challenge, there can be no great success story.

And thus, without a tribute to the romantic notion that behind every great man there is a great woman, there would be no love story here. But "Hitchcock" purveys on both fronts. Plus, if you count the battle of the sexes, it's also a war story. Helen Mirren's portrayal of Alma Reville, the filmmaker's wife and long suffering affluant, supplies plenty firepower.

A good supporting cast, featuring Scarlett Johansson as a very sexy Janet Leigh and James D'Arcy as an appropriately anxious Anthony Perkins, nicely establishes the aura and authenticity of the backstory. Appearances of the era, like a Formica kitchen table in the Bel Air manse where the artist often agonizes, help recall a time and place.

Interestingly, director Gervasi manages to delve into the intrigue and sinew that went into creating the classic film in question without detracting from the haunting cachet that has come to attend it. Imagined visits by Hitchcock to the heinous retreat where serial killer Ed Gein, the inspiration for the tale, plotted his butchery, add a disturbing eeriness.

Less gripping, but a necessary element to the intertwining accounts of love, marriage, devotion and a

dose of inescapable jealousy, is Alma's relationship with writer Whitfield Cook ("Strangers on a Train"), played by Danny Huston. Far more intriguing is the peek into the director's infatuation with what have become known as the Hitchcock blondes.

Depicted as an epicurean of large and diversified tastes, he is a bit of a naughty boy, aggravating his abiding, health conscious Alma with an insatiable appetite for rich foods and spirits. Hopkins impishly captures the essence of innocently unaware decadence when, told he must economize, rails against purchasing pâté sourced from lesser geese.

Recognized icon or not, Alma's attempts to rein in Hitch's excesses and keep his ego in check as concerns their relationship offer a telling glimpse into the artistic ethos. Implicit is the virtuoso's expectation of special privilege and dispensation from the mundane obligations of mere mortals. The polemical dance the two do is deliciously dull.

But while Hopkins handsomely fulfills the script's personality portrait, expect no deep look into the protagonist's life. The narrative moves briskly and exercises an impressive economy of detail. Still, it would be nice if, more than just the few allusions to his storied past, an elucidative checklist of his filmic contributions decorated the storyline.

Precluding the use of the term biopic to describe "Hitchcock," the accent on the narrow swath of events surrounding the making of "Psycho" iterates the cynical reality that is Tinseltown. Yep, even Alfred Hitchcock, the acknowledged Master of Suspense, is only as good as his last movie. We mull the tentative nature of fame, the rigors of commerce.

So it's capital vs. art and imagination, that conundrum unique to us humans, the internal competition hardwired into our nature, ostensibly programmed to improve the species. How would it have panned out for civilization and the commonweal if Paramount had just given Hitchcock carte blanche? Besides, this way we get to hate the corporate suits.

All of which makes for a high echelon David and Goliath. While practically everyone likes a good rags to riches saga, a variation on the theme to which we are perhaps even more sensitive is the potential fall from grace. We shudder when personalizing it: "Look, there's Mike...once a respected film critic, wrote that bad review, and now look

WCP Holds Auditions for *Olympus on My Mind*

WESTFIELD — Westfield Community Players will hold auditions for *Olympus on My Mind*, a musical comedy spoof about the mythical god Jupiter. Auditions are Sunday, January 6, from 2-6 p.m., Monday, January 7, from 7-10 p.m. with callbacks on Wednesday, January 9, from 7-9 p.m.

Character breakdown is as follows: Jupiter/Amphitryon - (eternal middle age) Greek god/Commander-in-Chief of Thebes; a dual role and male lead, strong high baritone; Mercury - (20s-30s) Jupiter's mischievous son, lyric baritone; Alceme - (20s-30s) beautiful wife of Amphitryon, soprano; Sosia - (30s-40s) clownish servant to

Amphitryon, baritone character voice; Charis - (middle aged) shrewish lusty maid to Alceme, strong alto belting voice; Tom, Dick and Horace - strong comedic singer/dancers; Tom doubles as Amphitryon in some scenes; all double as Theban Generals, slaves, etc.; Delores - (20s-30s) ditzy, curvy leading lady of the play whose furrier husband backed the play to get her in the chorus, strong mezzo belting voice.

Auditions will be held at the theater located at 1000 North Avenue, West, Westfield. The show runs May 4 through May 18, 2013. For submission of early audition forms and more information, visit www.westfieldcommunityplayers.org.



ON DISPLAY...The Westfield Art Association joined established Westfield galleries to host a three-day Westfield Art Galleries Show and Sale the weekend of December 14-16 to benefit the Westfield Volunteer Rescue Squad. Art work from the show adorns the walls of the Westfield Community Room in the Westfield Municipal Building. Close to 50 artists participated in the event.

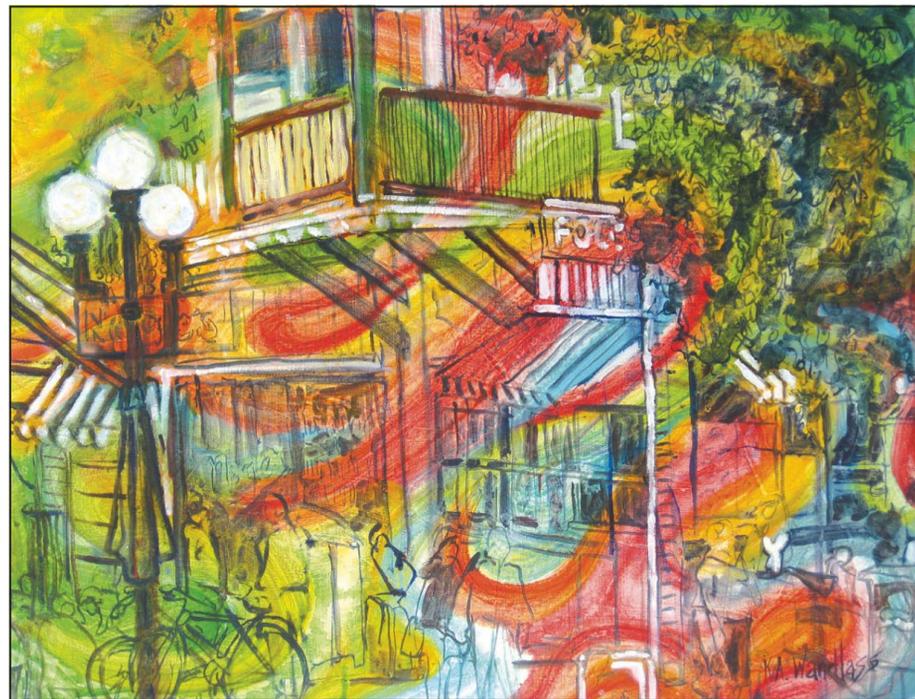
Westfield Art Assoc. Show

Ms. Delger explained that the she used the technique of layering to bring out the right colors in the tiger's coat. "You can't mix pastels the way you can oil and water paints," she explained. "Working with pastels is a slow process. You need to have a delicate touch."

"The show was wonderful," Ms. Delger continued. "There was something for everyone. I only wish it had lasted longer than three days because all the art was top-notch."

The WAA meets monthly in the Community Room. Meetings include lectures and demonstrations professional artists. The organization is accepting new members, and

anyone wishing more information or looking to join the WAA should visit www.westfieldartassoc.org/.



BURST OF COLOR... "Impressions and Expressions," an exhibit of paintings in acrylic and oil by Cranford artist Kerrie Ann Wandlass, will be held at the Scotch Plains Public Library January 3 to 31. A reception will be held at noon on Sunday, January 6, prior to a concert at the library by the Early Music Players at 2 p.m. The library is located at 1927 Bartle Avenue in Scotch Plains.

www.goleader.com

SHERIFF'S SALE
SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-12004935
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
CHANCERY DIVISION
UNION COUNTY
DOCKET NO. F-000771-12
Plaintiff: NEW YORK COMMUNITY BANK, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO PENN FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK
VS.
Defendant: ESTATE OF MALINI B. KAR, ES- TATE OF BHUPAL CHANDRA KAR, SHEELA G. KAR, AS LEGAL GUARDIAN OF INDRA NEAL KAR, INDRAJYTT KAR, AND JOHN AND JANE DOES 1 THROUGH 10
Sale Date: 01/09/2013
Writ of Execution: 06/06/2012
By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETH-TOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, New Jersey on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.

The judgment amount is: ***Three Hundred Seventy-Nine Thousand Three Hundred Fifty-Five and 89/100*** \$379,355.89
The property to be sold is located in: The Township of Scotch Plains in the County of Union, State of New Jersey.
Commonly known as: 1165 Washington Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076.
Tax Lot No.: 7 in Block 8802.
Dimensions of Lot: (Approximately) 50 feet x 100 feet
Nearest Cross Street: Evelyn Street
Subject to any open taxes, water/sewer, municipal or tax liens that may be due.
Tax and prior lien info: Taxes/sewer/water may be delinquent. You must check with the tax collector for exact amounts due.
Prior Mortgages and judgments, if any: The plaintiff has obtained a letter of indemnification which will insure the successful bidder at sale in respect to: Judgement # DJ-107972-199, Judgement # DJ-018315-1992.
Total Upset: ***Four Hundred Twenty-Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty-Two and 03/100*** \$429,722.03 together with lawful interest and costs.
Surplus Money: If after the sale and satisfaction of the mortgage debt, including costs and expenses, there remains any surplus money, the money will be deposited into the Superior Court Trust Fund and any person claiming the surplus, or any part thereof, may file a motion pursuant to Court Rules 4:64-3 and 4:57-2 stating the nature and extent of that person's claim and asking for an order directing payment of the surplus money. The Sheriff or other person conducting the sale will have information regarding the surplus, if any.

The Fair Housing Act prohibits "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make such preference, limitation or discrimination" in connection with any aspect of a residential real estate transaction. Zucker, Goldberg, and Ackerman, LLC encourages and supports the equal housing practices of the Fair Housing Act in the conduct of its business.
There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office.
The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale for any length of time without further advertisement.
Ralph Froehlich Sheriff

SHERIFF'S SALE
SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-12004935
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
CHANCERY DIVISION
UNION COUNTY
DOCKET NO. F-2054-12
Plaintiff: FLAGSTAR BANK, FSB
VS.
Defendant: RICHARD HARRINGTON, JUDY LEE HARRINGTON AND LOUISE LAI
Sale Date: 01/09/2013
Writ of Execution: 10/09/2012
By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETH-TOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, New Jersey on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.

The judgment amount is: ***Three Hundred Fifty-Two Thousand Twenty-Four and 47/100*** \$352,024.47
The property to be sold is located in the Town of Westfield, in the County of Union and the State of New Jersey.
Premises commonly known as: 528 West Broad Street, Block 2708, Lot 35.
Dimensions of Lot (approximately): 33 feet x 145 feet
Nearest Cross Street: Osborn Avenue
Subject to: 0.00
Total Upset: ***Three Hundred Sixty-One Thousand Five Hundred Nine and 75/100*** \$361,509.75 together with lawful interest and costs.
Surplus Money: If after the sale and satisfaction of the mortgage debt, including costs and expenses, there remains any surplus money, the money will be deposited into the Superior Court Trust Fund and any person claiming the surplus, or any part thereof, may file a motion pursuant to Court Rules 4:64-3 and 4:57-2 stating the nature and extent of that person's claim and asking for an order directing payment of the surplus money. The Sheriff or other person conducting the sale will have information regarding the surplus, if any.
There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office.
The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale for any length of time without further advertisement.
Ralph Froehlich Sheriff

Library to Feature Concert, Art Exhibit Reception Jan. 6

SCOTCH PLAINS - The Scotch Plains Public Library invites members of the public to attend its Sunday Sounds Concert Series and art exhibit reception. From Medieval chant to the slightly scandalous ditties of the English court to the haunting strains of Sephardic music, the Early Music Players will appear in elegant period garb at the library on Sunday, January 6, at 2 p.m. The program will feature an array of early instruments and songs in their original languages, as well as modern translations.

The ensemble of Kris Lamb, Joanna Hoty Russell, Andrew Koenig and Elizabeth Cabrera have been performing Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque music since 1972, entertaining audiences and garnering critical acclaim throughout the New York metropolitan area, from The 92nd Street Y, St. Bartholomew's Great Music Series and Music at St. Peter's in Morristown to housewarmings and weddings. The Early Music Players also have been featured on WNET/Channel 13 and on New Jersey Network's "State of the Arts." Their website is: earlymusicplayers.org.

A reception prior to the concert, "Impressions and Expressions," an eclectic mix of paintings in acrylic and oil by Cranford artist Kerrie Ann Wandlass, will begin at noon. The exhibit will open Thursday, January 3, and close on Thursday, January 31, in the Library Gallery.

Influenced by Impressionists such as Cezanne and Prendergast, Ms. Wandlass' interest lies in shape, color and outline rather than in the effects of light and shadow on an object. In her pieces on display, viewers are encouraged to look for the dark, bold outlines that enhance the relationships and con-

nectivity between the forms. According to the artist's statement, her work "strives to compel the viewer to notice what often goes unnoticed in our bustling, fast-paced society, and to acknowledge the serenity that can be found in the rustic, worn, and non-perfect things in our immediate surroundings in contrast to what we commonly deem beautiful or picturesque."

Ms. Wandlass earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the Fashion Institute of Technology. She has worked as an accessories designer in New York for more than 25 years and is a member of the Contemporary Art Group in central New Jersey. Her work has been displayed most recently in Totowa at the Lena DiGangi Gallery, and in Union County in such venues as Designers Gallery in Clark, The Donald Palmer Museum in Springfield, Les Malamut Art Gallery in Union, The Artist Frammer in Cranford, South Avenue Gallery in Scotch Plains, Overlook Medical Center in Summit and the Salem Roadhouse Cafe in Union.

She also has exhibited at the Watchung Arts Center and the Joseph Thomas Gallery in White Plains, N.Y. Her website is kerriannwandlassartspan.com.

The concert will be open to the public without charge. Registration is not required. Seating will begin at 1:30 p.m. on a first-come, first-served basis. The snow date is Sunday, January 13.

The Scotch Plains Public Library is located at 1927 Bartle Avenue, one block from Park Avenue, in the center of the township. Library hours are Monday and Thursday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Tuesday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 4 p.m.

WHS Choir Christmas Tree Pick Up Set For January 5

WESTFIELD - Westfield High School Concert Choir will once again be holding its popular Christmas tree pick up fundraiser. Proceeds will go towards scholarships and future choir department trips.

SHERIFF'S SALE
SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-12004931
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
CHANCERY DIVISION
UNION COUNTY
DOCKET NO. F-2054-12
Plaintiff: FLAGSTAR BANK, FSB
VS.
Defendant: RICHARD HARRINGTON, JUDY LEE HARRINGTON AND LOUISE LAI
Sale Date: 01/09/2013
Writ of Execution: 10/09/2012
By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETH-TOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, New Jersey on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.

The judgment amount is: ***Three Hundred Fifty-Two Thousand Twenty-Four and 47/100*** \$352,024.47
The property to be sold is located in the Town of Westfield, in the County of Union and the State of New Jersey.
Premises commonly known as: 528 West Broad Street, Block 2708, Lot 35.
Dimensions of Lot (approximately): 33 feet x 145 feet
Nearest Cross Street: Osborn Avenue
Subject to: 0.00
Total Upset: ***Three Hundred Sixty-One Thousand Five Hundred Nine and 75/100*** \$361,509.75 together with lawful interest and costs.
Surplus Money: If after the sale and satisfaction of the mortgage debt, including costs and expenses, there remains any surplus money, the money will be deposited into the Superior Court Trust Fund and any person claiming the surplus, or any part thereof, may file a motion pursuant to Court Rules 4:64-3 and 4:57-2 stating the nature and extent of that person's claim and asking for an order directing payment of the surplus money. The Sheriff or other person conducting the sale will have information regarding the surplus, if any.
There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office.
The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale for any length of time without further advertisement.
Ralph Froehlich Sheriff

At its free holiday concert on Thursday, December 20, the WHS Choir Department held a collection to benefit A Jersey Shore Christmas, an organization that helps families who have been devastated by Hurricane Sandy. The audience enjoyed two hours of holiday music performed by over 130 choir, orchestra, and band students.

Thanks to the support and generosity of the concert audience, \$924 was received and converted into gift cards. They were delivered to A Jersey Shore Christmas by Dr. Linda King, Supervisor of Fine Arts, and distributed, just in time for the holiday, to Sandy-displaced families that are being housed in the motels and hotels down in Wildwood.

Pick up is scheduled for Saturday, January 5, 2013.

Choir members will remove the tree from curb side and transport to the conservation center. This service is available to Westfield residents at \$10 per tree. Reservation can be made by January 2 via email to whschristmastrees@gmail.com with last name, address, and a phone number.

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Merry
Christmas!

Attorney:
ZUCKER, GOLDBERG & ACKERMAN, LLC
200 SHEFFIELD STREET
SUITE 301
MOUNTAINVIEW, NEW JERSEY 07092
(908) 293-8500
FAX NO.: XCZ-106257
4 T - 12/27/12, 01/03/13, 01/10/13
& 01/07/13
Fee: \$210.12

Attorney:
RIKER, DANZIG, SCHERER, HYLAND & PERRETTI LLP
HEADQUARTERS PLAZA
ONE SPEEDWELL AVENUE
MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY 07962
(973) 538-0800
4 T - 12/13/12, 12/20/12, 12/27/12
& 01/03/13
Fee: \$191.76

Attorney:
MCCABE, WEISBERG & CONWAY, P.C.
216 HADDON AVENUE
SUITE 300
WESTMONT, NEW JERSEY 08108
(856) 858-7080
4 T - 12/13/12, 12/20/12, 12/27/12
& 01/03/13
Fee: \$159.12

Arts & Entertainment

New Date Set For Free Latin Music Concert

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Scotch Plains Public Library has rescheduled its launch of the community's Big Read program, postponed due to Superstorm Sandy, for Thursday, January 10, at 7 p.m. at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School.

The library and its Big Read partners have planned a kickoff program of Latin American music performed by Tropyband Orquesta because the book chosen for this Big Read, *In the Time of the Butterflies*, by Julia Alvarez, is set in the Dominican Republic. Scotch Plains Public Library's Big Read partners include Scotch Plains-Fanwood Schools, Literacy Volunteers of Union County, Inc., New Jersey City University, and the Friends of Scotch Plains Public Library. Interested people in all communities are encouraged to take part in the many activities this Big Read will offer.

Tropyband Orquesta is a 14-piece Latin music ensemble, complete with vocalists. The band, comprised of professional musicians and students from New Jersey City University, will entertain the audience with merengue, salsa and more music of the Caribbean and Latin America. A dance space will be provided for audience

members who wish to move with the music

Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School is located at 667 Westfield Road in Scotch Plains. No registration is required for this free concert. Please call Scotch Plains Public Library for driving directions and further information.

The Big Read is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts designed to restore reading to the center of American culture. The Big Read is managed by Arts Midwest. Scotch Plains is one of 78 communities nationwide participating in the current Big Read. From January through mid-June, Big Read participants will celebrate *In the Time of the Butterflies*, by reading this book and participating in a full calendar of events including book discussions, guest speakers, poster and essay contests, video chats with Julia Alvarez, and a Festival of Latin American Culture.

The Big Read partners welcome all participants to the many events planned from January to June. More information may be found on the web sites of Scotch Plains Public Library (www.scotplib.org) and The Big Read (neabigread.org).



WINTER CONCERT...Middle School students at The Wardlaw-Hartridge School entertained parents, faculty and staff members and friends at the annual Winter Concert on December 13. Various bands and choirs performed beautifully under the direction of Sharon Byrne, vocal music teacher, and Rick Fontaine, instrumental music teacher. Pictured, Samantha Anastasiou of Scotch Plains, center, plays flute during the concert.



IRISH PIONEER...While visiting his daughter Kerry, who was studying abroad for a semester at the National University of Ireland, Tom Plante of Fanwood recently stopped at the Galway City Museum. Among the fine exhibits is this statue of Padraic O'Conaire (1881-1928), a pioneer in the Irish Literary Revival of the early 20th century, one of Galway's most cherished writers.



The Tropyband Orquesta

WAA Hosts Art Show, Sale to Benefit WF Rescue Squad

By MARYLOU MORANO
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

WESTFIELD — For over 90 years, the Westfield Art Association (WAA) has been giving back to the community by promoting the arts with its shows, demonstrations and sales.

During the weekend of December 14-16, however, WAA took giving back to the community to a new level when member artists joined established Westfield galleries to host a three-day Westfield Art Galleries Show and Sale to benefit the Westfield Volunteer Rescue Squad (WVRS).

The event was held in the Community Room of the Westfield Municipal Building.

Close to fifty artists participated, representing the complete spectrum of artistic expression.

Four Westfield Art Galleries — Evelyn Dunn's Gallery, Galleria West, Juxtapose Gallery and River Mill Gallery — participated in the event by exhibiting the work of featured artists alongside that of WAA members.

"The Show and Sale is a great way to promote the WAA and the galleries of Westfield," commented Paul Deroo, president of WAA. "It is also a nice way to show the community's appreciation for the WVRS, especially in light of the recent hurricane and its aftermath," he continued.

One hundred percent of the WAA's net proceeds from the show was donated to the WVRS.

Jaclyn Civins, the proprietor of Evalyn Dunn Gallery, was happy to see the galleries have an opportunity to work with WAA members. "The show was very well received by the public, and all the art was displayed well. Paul Deroo and his committee did an excellent job promoting and executing this event," she said.

One of Evalyn Dunn Gallery's featured artists was Ricardo Roig, a Westfield High School graduate and a Westfield art teacher whose series of screen prints depicting Westfield scenes were on display at the Show and Sale.

"Ricardo is an emerging artist who has become very successful in a short amount of time," said Ms. Civins, adding that she expects to see great things from him in the years to come.

The Town of Westfield was also the theme of Michael Chan's giclee

on canvas, "Mindowaskin Park," a combination of six photographic views of the park digitally stitched together and printed on canvas. Mr. Chan and his wife, Yi Yin, are the owners of the River Mill Gallery. Ms. Yin had several oil paintings on display, including an iconic portrait of Ronald Regan holding his pet dog, Rex.

Galleria West featured four artists: Magno Laracuente, Veronique Hahn, Jeanine Baum and Diana Cammack.

Juxtapose Gallery featured the hand-colored etching of Helen Frank, an original oil painting by Patrick Antonelle and landscapes by Trish Hurley and Ingrid Hunt.

"The show was a great way to get all the gallery owners in town together," said Gerri Gildea, the proprietor of Juxtapose Gallery.

The concern of new WAA member, Leslie Delgyer of North Plainfield, for endangered species was evident in an original pastel painting of a white tiger entitled "The Vanishing Act."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



Marylou Morano for The Leader and The Times 3-D ART...One of two sculptures in Westfield Art Association (WAA) member and Scotch Plains sculptor Toan Pham's "Form" series was displayed at WAA and Westfield Galleries Show and Sale the weekend of December 14-16. This piece is created from Indiana limestone.



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GREEN, DWYER LED ON 'OFFENSE'; NICK DIAZ, FOLINUSZ, OBLACHINSKI ON 'DEFENSE'

Cranford Cougar Gridders Finish Successful 7-3 Season

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

Repeating as sectional champions may not have been in the cards, but this year's Cranford High School football team gave it a good run, winning its first play-off game before experiencing a set back at the hands of Palisades Park in the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 semifinals to finish with a 7-3 record.

"The expectations were unique to them. They were the first team ever to play the year after we won a state title since the 1958 team. They handled the pressure well. Unfortunately, we didn't get back to the championship game, but if we are going to judge every team by whether they get to the championship game, we are going to be disappointed. We are going to lose sight of the accomplishments of what this team was actually able to do," Cougar Head Coach Erik Rosenmeier said.

The Cougars defeated several quality teams, including Scotch Plains-Fanwood, AL Johnson and Delaware Valley, and their three losses were to Summit, winners of the section, Ridge and Palisades Park.

"We had a good year. We lost to three good teams. We beat good teams. Of the 10 teams that we played, eight of them were play-off teams. Even though some of the stars were back, this really

was a new team. We had only three starters back on offense and four on defense," Coach Rosenmeier said.

The Cougars' defense was spearheaded by the intense play of senior linebacker Nick Diaz

and senior linebacker/lineman Chris Folinusz.

"Seven new people played on the defense, and they played together and played well besides Diaz and Folinusz. Johnny Oblachinski had a great year. Six

an offensive lineman you will see," Coach Rosenmeier said.

Diaz led the team with 86 total tackles and five sacks and added an interception

"I don't know whether I coached a better linebacker than Nick Diaz

Rosenmeier said.

The versatile Folinusz had 42 tackles, four sacks and an interception.

"Folinusz is the same makeup, a very tough kid. I don't know whether it's offense or defense if I've ever had a more versatile kid. He played 10 positions on offense. He played every position we had in the game. Defensively, he played multiple positions, and we found, basically, everywhere we put him, he was our best player," Coach Rosenmeier pointed out.

As a defensive back Joe DaSilva recorded 59 total tackles and an interception, Joe Vicci had 42 tackles, four sacks and an interception, Kevin Trotter had 49 tackles, Oblachinski had 32 and Reggie Green had three interceptions. Linemen Farrell had 30 tackles, Russo had 32 and Weiss had 23.

From his quarterback position, Green, who will be heading to the University of Pittsburgh, amassed 1,712 yards rushing, including 19 touchdowns (TD) and two two-point conversions, on 234 carries. He also completed 62 of 110 passes for 681 yards, including four TDs.

"The thing that was amazing

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



David B. Corbin (October files) for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

COUGAR TOUCHDOWN LEADER...Senior Reggie Green, No. 7, led the Cougars with 19 rushing touchdowns this season. Green, who rushed for 1,712 yards, led the team with 116 points scored. See page 11 of *The Westfield Leader*.

Probitas Verus Honos

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interceptions! We had guys step in and do a great job, like Matt Russo. He started on both sides. Jeff Weiss, Ryan Farrell, as good



and we've had some very good ones here from Chris Brown, Michael Klimek and so on. He played with a tremendous amount of intensity. He's as tough a kid as I coached," Coach

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Cranford Cougar Footballers Finish Season at 7-3

was he was able to have a better year statistically than he did last year even though we had no other skill people returning. Every defense was geared to stop him, and they still weren't able to do it. He's on the short list of best players ever to play here," Coach Rosenmeier said.

Senior running back Jimmy

Dwyer carried 129 times for 653 yards, including 10 TDs. Evan Zoughy had 260 yards and a TD on 45 carries. Oblachinski carried five times for 59 yards, including a TD and a two-point conversion.

"Jimmy Dwyer stepped up and gave us an alternative for scoring," Coach Rosenmeier said.

But it also took the solid offensive line of Jack Davis, Rob Kessler and Rob O'Shaughnessy to open the holes.

On the receiving end, Oblachinski was the man with 25 receptions for 235 yards, including a TD and a two-point conversion. Bobby Bruns had 13 receptions for 172 yards and a TD. Folinusz had seven receptions for 149 yards, including two TDs and four conversions. Matt DiMartino had five receptions for 51 yards, and Zoughy had nine receptions for 65 yards, including a TD and two conversions.

Junior Troy Ketler, who also did the kickoffs, kicked two field goals and 22 points after touchdowns. Folinusz was also very effective as a punter.





Cougar Matmen Tame Linden Tigers, 55-15

The Cranford High School wrestling team won 11 of 14 bouts to tame the Linden Tigers, 55-15, on December 21. Gavin Murray (132), Nick Capello (145), Cory Birch (152), Matt DiMartino (160), Corey Markovitch (182), Rob Kessler (195) and Jon El-Khoury (Hwt) all recorded pins. Jim Dwyer (170) recorded a majority decision, while Chase Gunther (106), David Busch (120) and Jeff Weiss (220) recorded decisions.

Cougar Cagers Down Lady Cardinals, 69-54

Senior Kaitlin McGovern rolled in 24 points, including six free throws, to lead the 3-0 Cranford High School girls basketball team past the Plainfield Cardinals on December 20. Senior Jenna Goeller sank 14 points, including three 3-pointers, and senior Jess McCoy scored 13 points. Carly Maucione put in 11 points, and Kerry Wischusen scored seven points.

Cougar Icemen Freeze Verona Icemen, 5-1

The Cranford High School ice hockey team defeated Verona, 5-1, at Codey Arena in West Orange on December 19. Senior Tom Fitzgerald flicked in a pair of goals to lead the 2-1-1 Cougars. Alex Ballas scored a first-period goal with an assist from Nick Collucci, who added an assist in the second period on Brett Nicholl's goal. Sean Feeney and Anthony Conte assisted on Fitzgerald's first goal. Feeney scored in the third period off an assist from Mark Pawlick then Fitzgerald added the finishing touch with his second goal.

Lady Cougars Topple Hilltoppers, 56-33

The Cranford High School girls basketball team humbled the Summit Hilltoppers, 56-33, on December 18. Jenna Goellers sank 15 points, including three 3-pointers. Jess McCoy had 12 points and Kaitlin McGovern sank six for the Lady Cougars.

Judge Rejects Latest CF Motion in Birchwood Case

By DELL SIMEONE
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

CRANFORD – Birchwood or the 360-apartment development to be built by the Cranford Development Associates (CDA) at 315 Birchwood Avenue in Cranford, which is in a flood plain, has caused Cranford Township a lot of headaches. Last year the township was victim to massive flooding. This is a factor in the

township's opposition to the development.

CDA brought a builder's remedy lawsuit against the township, and won, in order to go forward with the apartments, which would contain 60 affordable units. Cranford had not complied with the New Jersey Mt. Laurel Agreement to provide the required amount of affordable housing in town.

Last year, the township was ordered by state Superior Court Judge Lisa Chrystal to change its zoning laws to prepare for the Birchwood development. Judge Chrystal also ordered the Birchwood site plan hearing to take place, in August, in Superior Court in Elizabeth and not by the Cranford Planning Board in the Cranford Municipal Building. The township objected to that order. Letters were sent to the judge requesting a change of venue. The requests were denied. Judge Chrystal appointed retired Judge Douglas Wolfson as the special hearing officer to preside, and appointed Elizabeth McKenzie as the special master for the hearing.

Judge Wolfson and Ms. McKenzie submitted their findings to Judge Chrystal this fall. Both findings were favorable to CDA. In October, Stephen Eisendorfer, of Hill Wallack, of Princeton, representing the CDA, requested that Judge Chrystal make a final judgement in the case. That has not happened.

At the December 17 hearing on a motion from Cranford, Judge Chrystal said that she had not received any objections from Cranford residents to Judge Wolfson's recommendations on Birchwood. Cranford then asked for, and was granted, an extension until December 31. Objections can be sent to Honorable Lisa F. Chrystal, J.S.C., Union County Courthouse, 2 Broad St.,

Tower Bldg., 11th floor, Elizabeth, N.J. 07207.

At the hearing, Cranford Township Attorney Philip Morin argued to have Ms. McKenzie disqualified from the case based on a statement she made in an e-mail (in a different case), calling herself an advocate of affordable housing. Cranford asked the trial court to disqualify Ms. McKenzie as special master in the site plan hearing, and that a new hearing be ordered. The request was denied by Judge Chrystal.

"It is a disappointment, but not a surprise," said Mr. Morin of the ruling.

He said Judge Chrystal said that the motion filed by the township did not meet the necessary criteria to vacate her previous order. She scheduled a court hearing on the Birchwood site plan on Monday, February 4, at 10 a.m. in Superior Court in Elizabeth. At that time, the township's objections to the special hearing officer's recommendations will be heard and she will make the final order in the case.

Until new appointments are made by the township committee in January, it is uncertain whether Mr. Morin will continue as the township attorney. He stated that should an appeal, by Cranford, go forward on the Birchwood case, the question of Ms. McKenzie's possible bias would not be able to be brought up unless it had been addressed by the court at this time.

He said further, at this point, CDA has still not received a permit from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) to raise part of Birchwood Avenue a foot above the flood plain and provide an emergency exit from the development. If the CDA does not obtain the permit, it would be a large obstacle to the development.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

**UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS
ORDINANCE: 743-2012
FINAL READING: 12/20/2012**

Was introduced and passed on first reading by the Board of Chosen Freeholders at a REGULAR MEETING on **December 6th 2012**, and said Ordinance has been published with Notice of Introduction thereof and of the time and place fixed for its further consideration and the Board has duly held a hearing thereof and has given all persons interested an opportunity to be heard. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Chosen Freeholders that said Ordinance be and the same hereby is finally passed and adopted, and be it FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Ordinance published herewith has been finally adopted on **December 20th 2012**, and the 20 day period of limitations within which a suit, action or proceeding questioning the validity of such Ordinance can be commenced has begun to run from the date of first publication of this statement.

A copy of this ordinance has been posted on the Bulletin Board upon which public notices are customarily posted in the Administration Building of the County, and a copy is available up to and including the time of such meeting to the members of the general public of the County who shall request such copies, at the office of the Clerk of the Board in said County Administration Building in Elizabeth, New Jersey.

James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders

AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES OF DEPARTMENT HEADS AS AMENDED

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Union as follows:

Section 1. The salaries of the County Manager and the following Department Heads shall be as hereinafter set forth. The same shall be effective as of January 1, 2013.

Section 3. That this Ordinance shall take effect at the time and manner provided by law.

Section 4. That the Clerk of this Board be and she is hereby authorized to publish a notice in the appropriate newspaper of such introduction and of a public hearing on December 20, 2012, and shall forward one certified copy of final passage, to each Clerk of all Municipalities located within the County of Union.

COUNTY MANAGER/FAELLA	\$158,100.00
COUNTY COUNSEL/BARRY	\$152,504.00
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES/DI RADO	\$122,399.00
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL/ZUBER	\$116,280.00
ENGINEERING, PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES/GRAZIANO	\$121,685.00
PUBLIC SAFETY/MORAN	\$116,069.00
FINANCE/TAYLOR	\$122,400.00
HUMAN SERVICES/GUZZO	\$133,967.00
CORRECTIONAL SERVICES/RIORDAN	\$119,646.00
RUNNELLS SPECIALIZED HOSPITAL/WHEELER	\$132,796.00

1 T - 12/27/12, The Leader
Fee: \$0.00

* 2012 Year in Review January Through May *

JANUARY:

Garwood

The borough council voted 4 to 2 to freeze longevity benefits for non-bargaining-unit employees. Councilman Victor DeFilippo and Councilwoman Sara Todisco dissented. Last year, the council put forth the same vote, and subsequently Mayor Patricia Quattrocchi vetoed the council vote to approve freezing longevity benefits.

Under the measure, the borough would no longer provide longevity benefits to any present or future non-bargaining-unit employee. Longevity benefits activate when a borough employee has been employed for five years.

The Garwood Board of Education approved a five-year lease agreement with the Westfield Area "Y" to lease Washington School. Superintendent of Schools Teresa Quigley said the "Y" would offer daycare, preschool, a fitness center, yoga, before- and after-school care, senior programs and youth programming. The lease is effective through February 28, 2017.

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) approved funding for the Westfield Senior Housing Corporation (WSHC) to build a 72-unit apartment complex for people age 62 and over on the former St. Anne's School property in Garwood.

Cranford

Cranford officials said they would seek to have the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) hold a public hearing on an application filed by a Birchwood Avenue developer so that township residents could voice their opposition to the proposed development of several hundred housing units.

The Union County Renewable Energy Program brought solar power to more than two dozen

public buildings throughout the county, including rooftop installations at the Cranford Library and Cranford Community Center.

The year's first partisan flare-up occurred when, at the township committee's first formal meeting of 2012, Democratic Commissioner Ed O'Malley called for the resignation of newly named Township Attorney Phil Morin for what Mr. O'Malley said was a conflict of interest related to the appointment.

FEBRUARY:

Cranford

Mayor David Robinson announced that Police Chief Eric Mason, who had been serving as acting township administrator since the summer of 2011, would assume that position permanently. Mr. Mason is a 34-year veteran of the police department and its chief since 2003.

Garwood

The Garwood Board of Education voted 5 to 2 in favor, with board members Linda Koenig and Christine Guerriero dissenting, of moving the school board election from April to the November General Election.

Borough Administrator/Clerk Christina Ariemma filed a lawsuit against Councilman James Mathieu, the mayor and the borough council, claiming she had been harassed and intimidated by Mr. Mathieu and was denied raises the last two years as retaliation for being a whistleblower.

The Garwood BOE voted to approve a five-year lease agreement with the Westfield Area "Y" for use of the Washington School. The school district and the "Y," a non-profit organization, have agreed to a 50/50 split of the net revenues.

Garwood

A recall petition was circulated

throughout the borough to unseat Councilman Jim Mathieu following Borough Clerk Christina Ariemma's lawsuit against Councilman Mathieu.

The borough's planning board voted, 7 to 2, with Bill Nierstedt and Georgia MacIndoe dissenting, to approve the application of Andrea Lopez to operate a permanent cosmetics business.

The council unanimously introduced a \$7.16-million budget that managed to stay within the state-mandated 2-percent ceiling, but resulted in a \$105 municipal increase per household.

Borough resident Angelo Alimonte asked the borough council why Councilman Louis Petruzzelli was receiving \$22,000 in healthcare benefits. Mr. Alimonte stated his opposition to paying benefits to council members and the mayor.

Cranford

Two weeks after the surfacing of an eight-year-old Internet audiotape, in which he uttered an off-color joke in a telephone conversation with his son, township Police Chief Eric Mason said those comments were "not indicative of the career I have had or the person that I am." He said he regretted if anyone had been offended by his remarks and lamented that a tape of "a private conversation" had been "exploited" by someone in order to "divide the community and to embarrass me."

After receiving comments from residents concerned about the scope of a proposed ordinance that would sharply limit the feeding of wildlife on public and private property, the township committee put off a vote on the ordinance so that its language could be more closely examined and fine-tuned.

APRIL:

Garwood

The BOE unanimously approved

a proposed budget for the 2012-2013 school year totaling \$8,349,831, including a general fund of \$7,682,554 and special revenues of \$134,160, with \$7,258,780 to be raised in taxes.

The borough council adopted a \$7,160,257 municipal budget, with \$5,415,039 to be raised in taxes, in a 5 to 1 vote. Councilman Jim Mathieu was the sole dissenter. The tax levy is \$46,368 under the 2-percent mandated tax-levy cap. Homeowners saw a municipal tax hike of \$105 per \$100,000 of assessed value.

The borough council unanimously voted to approve a resolution to establish a compensation review procedure for the purposes of determining salaries and wages for full-time employees of the borough who are not the members of any employee bargaining unit, are not afforded compensation protection by law and whose compensation is solely with the discretion of the mayor and council.

Residents of The Pointe, a newly built condominium complex located along North Avenue in the borough, voiced their opposition to The Pointe residents paying what they said was double the taxes than the average taxpayer in the borough.

Cranford

The township's zoning board of adjustment approved two applications from homeowners who decided to raise the height of their homes to avoid future flood damage to their first-floor living space, after floodwaters from Hurricane Irene last year destroyed their main living areas.

The township committee, under protest, introduced a court-ordered ordinance that would formally permit the Birchwood Avenue property to include multi-family affordable housing. The ordinance was part of the township's compliance with a state Superior Court Judge's December order allowing Paramus-based S. Hekemian Group, which owns the property, to move forward with its plans to

build 360 housing units.

County

MAY

Cranford

The township committee gave final approval to an ordinance regulating the feeding of wildlife on public and private property while admitting that enforcement of the new law, particularly the feeding of birds, will be somewhat vague.

The Cranford Planning Board adopted an ordinance amending its Master Plan to include a Housing Element and a Fair Share Plan. The move was the first step in complying with a court order issued by state Superior Court Judge Lisa F. Chrystal on December 20, 2011. The court order was issued in response to a builder's remedy suit brought against the township by Cranford Development Associates, L.L.C., a subsidiary of the S. Hekemian Group of Paramus.

Garwood

A committee of three borough residents began the process of recalling Garwood Councilman Jim Mathieu. The councilman, elected to a three-year term in November 2010, caused a storm locally for his actions: from allegations of harassment by Borough Clerk Christina Ariemma that is the subject of a lawsuit against the mayor and borough council, to his questioning of crossing guards regarding unemployment benefits they collect during summer months.

Litigation between The Pointe and the borough concerning snow and garbage removal was concluded, after a hearing that lasted about eight months. Borough Attorney Joseph Triarsi expected to hear the judge's written decision in about two weeks.

The second half of the end-of-the-year review, June through November, will be published in the January 3 edition.

Probitas Verus Honos