

Neighbors Sign Petition Opposing Kehler Lights

By SARAH McGRAIL
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — Westfield residents living near Kehler Stadium are coming out in opposition to plans to place temporary lights on the turf field.

Westfield Soccer Association (WSA) has asked the board of education, which owns the stadium, for permission to use lights from the beginning of March to the middle of May to enable soccer and lacrosse teams to practice during the evenings.

The field would be used by Westfield High School until 7 p.m. and then the soccer and lacrosse associations from 7 p.m. until 9.30 p.m.,

with the lights switched off at 9.40 p.m.

But residents of houses in the same area as the stadium will petition the board of education to turn down the application.

Gregg and Jean Lehmborg, whose home overlooks the stadium, will be sending the petition to the board this week to demonstrate that there is "a groundswell of negativity towards the idea."

Mr. and Mrs. Lehmborg say they have children who are and have been involved in sports so they do understand the WSA's position, but that the use of Kehler Stadium has increased to a point where it impacts on their

quality of life.

Mr. Lehmborg said, "There has been an explosive increase in use over the time we've lived here and especially since the field was turfed in 2005. The field was once limited to high school and other school-related sports, but has now been expanded to other sports programs outside the school system, so it is used seven days a week for many hours each day."

The petition will highlight what signatories say is the negative impact of the increased use, including "constant noise from players, coaches, fans, whistles, etc." and "pump-it-up music and amateur announcers on the booming PA system."

Residents also are concerned about increased traffic and inconsiderate parking.

But WSA Trustee Peter Franks sought to allay the fears of residents, saying the noise from the closest generator to their homes would be equivalent to hearing a human conversation, according to government guidelines. He said he would not expect light to reach as far as homes surrounding the stadium.

Mr. Franks said it was impossible to get all of the 70 WSA teams on grass fields in daylight in the spring and this meant that some children were having to travel to train on "out-of-town, substandard fields," some of them starting sessions at 9 p.m.

"There is simply not enough field space in Westfield to meet the demands of spring users across all sectors of athletics (high school, youth groups and the general public)," he said.

"Having the field at Kehler from 7 to 9:30 at night during the week would allow many of those teams to be closer to home, at a decent hour and on a quality surface. I think that is enough reason to run a test," he added.

Mr. Franks stressed that this was a pilot program, completely funded by the sports associations, and that he hoped the community would see it as an opportunity to test out the impact on the sports programs and the community.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Berkeley BOE Seeks \$900K For MS Students' Tuition

By KATE BROWNE
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

MOUNTAINSIDE — A standing-room only crowd packed the Beechwood School's library on Tuesday night to review a architectural presentation on the proposed renovations to Deerfield School and to discuss the Berkeley Heights' school district's request for a tuition payment of more than \$900,000 pursuant to a send - receive agreement under which Mountainside high school students attend Governor Livingston High School in Berkeley Heights.

According to Mountainside Chief School Administrator Nancy Lubarsky, state law requires communities involved in send-receive relationships to estimate tuition rates each school year and then calculate the actual tuition rates two years later when the state Department of Education's software system calculates what are known as "certified" tuition rates. Earlier this month Berkeley Heights advised the Mountainside Board of Education that there was a \$914,572.30 shortfall in the estimated rates for the 2013-2014 school year, an amount which significantly exceeds the 2 percent state budget cap.

Ms. Lubarsky gave a detailed power-point presentation on the contractual relationship between the two communities and the legal and regulatory framework which governs the current agreement which expires in



WAS ELSA VISITING CRANFORD?... This ice sculpture of Olaf was a creation of Robert Scott of Springfield Avenue in Cranford.

Christina M. Hinke for The Westfield Leader

Westfield Police Make Promotions At Town Council Ceremony

By DOMINIC A. LAGANO
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — At its regular public meeting Tuesday evening, the town council held a special swearing-in ceremony for new and veteran members of the Westfield Police Department.

In the course of the past year, the Westfield Police Department hired five new members for its force. As all five recently completed the requirements for graduation from their respective police academies, they were subsequently sworn in as law enforcement officers assigned to the town.

The council and Westfield Police Chief David Wayman also honored four veteran members of the police force with promotions.

As Mayor Andy Skibitsky was unavailable due to business commitments, the officers were sworn in by Acting Mayor JoAnn Neylan.

"I am honored to preside over tonight's police promotions and swearing-in ceremonies," began Ms.

Neylan. "I have served as the chair of the Public Safety Committee for many years now and I've had the opportunity to work with our public safety professionals on a regular basis.

"In doing so, I have been able to gain insight into the job we ask them to perform, day in and day out, on weekends and every holiday, and in every type of weather condition," Ms. Neylan stated. "The one thing the mayor and I have learned is that due to the boundless nature of the police officers here, no day in police work is ever alike.

"The officers that are being promoted this evening are highly trained and experienced individuals who have dedicated their lives to serve and to protect. And the recruits that are being sworn in this evening are beginning an essential and esteemed professional career in law enforcement and public safety," Ms. Neylan stated.

Chief Wayman introduced each officer with a brief history of their prior work before Ms. Neylan led the swearing-in. A friend or family member then pinned the officer's badge to his uniform.

The five new officers hired by the Westfield Police Department are Eric Carrero, Robert Desiato, Jr., Aaron Doherty, Kristopher Jackus and Ryan Weiss.

The veteran officers were promoted as follows: Marcin Kapka was promoted to sergeant, Leonard Lugo and

Jason Mc Erlean were both promoted to lieutenant and John Riccerca was promoted to captain.

Chief Wayman also shared some remarks about the nature of police work and the quality of the officers who were honored. "We are taking a step forward tonight. We are developing and preparing one aspect of the Westfield Police Department for the future.

"We are preparing and planning for the unknown. As we all know, crime, man-made disasters, natural disasters, do not recognize jurisdictional boundaries. And here in Westfield, we are as susceptible as anyone, anywhere else. The Westfield Police Department must be prepared to meet and address any and all challenges brought our way," Chief Wayman stated. "These officers here tonight will play a vital role in the planning and the preparing for the challenging future ahead."

In other news, the council awarded a contract to Integrated Technical Systems, Incorporated, a purveyor of electronic and computerized systems based out of Wallingford, Conn. The contract was awarded for the purchase of extended hardware and software warranties for the 25 "smart" parking pay stations installed last year.

The next town council conference session open to the public is scheduled for Tuesday, March 10, at 7p.m.,

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Dominic A. Lagano for The Westfield Leader

NEW MEN IN BLUE...Five new officers joined the ranks of the Westfield Police Department and were sworn in at Tuesday night's Westfield Town Council meeting. The five new officers pictured with Chief Dave Wayman, right, are Eric Carrero, Robert Desiato, Jr., Aaron Doherty, Kristopher Jackus and Ryan Weiss.

CF Budget Review Continues; Building Coverage Discussed

By CHRISTINA M. HINKE
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

CRANFORD — The township committee continued its 2015 departmental budget review Monday at its workshop meeting, hearing budgets from police, recreation, engineering and the Special Improvement District.

Township Engineer Carl O'Brien presented an option to include an additional 20 hours a week by having senior-level inspectors available. Mr. O'Brien is in-house 12 hours a week at a salary of \$87,500 per year, he said.

An additional 20 hours weekly for an inspector to be available would cost an additional \$65,000 per year. "They might not be sitting in the office 10 or 20 hours a week, but they will be in town," Mr. O'Brien said.

Last year, the township committee

did away with its in-house engineering department in favor of a consultant. The in-house departmental salaries were about \$230,000, plus benefits. Mayor Andis Kalnins told The Westfield Leader. There also were costs to run the department.

After being asked at the last meeting about the number of parking spaces lost due to the North Avenue Train Station Plaza Pedestrian Improvements Project, Mr. O'Brien said a total of 22 spaces on North Avenue in front of the Cranford Train Station would be lost. The parking plan for the project has not changed in the past two years, since it was initially drafted.

The project paid partly by grant funds is for beautification of the North Avenue train station, as well as creating safe traffic patterns for pedestrian, vehicular and bus traffic, Mr.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



Christina Hinke for The Westfield Leader

THE NEXT GENERATION...Cranford Fire Chief Leonard Dolan's son, Patrick Dolan, was appointed as a firefighter for the Cranford Fire Department. Mr. Dolan is a third generation firefighter. Mr. Dolan's girlfriend, Nora Walsh, stands by his side. Chief Dolan will be retiring from the department on March 1.



Dominic A. Lagano for The Westfield Leader

ANOTHER FLAT BUDGET... The Downtown Westfield Corp. Board of Directors review another flat budget at their meeting Monday night. Pictured are DWC Chairman Dominic Verdic, left, and Town Administrator Jim Glidea, right, as other board members look on. Please see story on Page 3.

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CADET NURSES DESERVE RECOGNITION... Rep. Leonard Lance (R-7th) welcomes Westfield resident Diana Taylor to his district office to discuss the United States Cadet Nurse Corps Equity Act, which Mr. Lance will soon introduce in Congress. The measure would formally recognize the U.S. cadet nurses for their service to the nation during World War II. For years, Ms. Taylor has advocated for her fellow cadet nurses to have the honor of formal recognition by the military. Mr. Lance will soon sponsor the legislation in the U.S. House to ensure their rightful salute in history.

Scotch Plains Begins Dept. Hearings on ‘15 Budget

By DELL SIMEONE
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

SCOTCH PLAINS – The township council held the first of two budget workshop meetings on Tuesday evening. Officials heard the requests of the police and fire departments, the engineering department and also from the administration.

The meeting started with a difference of opinion between Town Manager Al Mirabella, who wished to make a draft of the budget requests available to the public, and Mayor Kevin Glover and Deputy Mayor Colleen Gialanella, who wanted to keep release of the information until there is a finished budget. It was agreed to table the matter and revisit it later in the evening.

Fire Chief John Ellis requested \$750,000 for the department’s operating budget. The chief said the department needed to replace a 20-year-old vehicle pumper which pumps 1,500 gallons of water a minute with one that can pump 3,000 a minute. The chief also said that it would cost \$95,000 to upgrade and consolidate the red alert system. It would also pay for a mobile video camera (MVC). He also said it would cost \$50,000 to replace his (the chief’s) vehicle, which has 50,000 miles on it.

Chief Ellis also said he would like to purchase new pagers. Mr. Mirabella suggested looking for funding to accomplish some of the projects the chief would like done. The chief said that up until now the department had enough clothing, but now personnel are in need of purchasing pants and coats. He also said the northside firehouse needs a new roof and that the leaders and gutters have to be replaced.

“We have a building that leaks; we’re not going to replace the building until five years out,” Chief Ellis said. The chief ended his presentation by saying they were looking for a grant to replace the department’s radio system.

The next department head to speak was Police Chief Brian Mahoney. He requested \$5,971,650 for the operating budget and said that \$5,625,000 was for salaries and wages. The chief said the budget had been reduced by 25 percent.

“We’ve cut it to the bare bones,” he said. He said the department has 46 officers this year as opposed to 41 in 2014. He said most of the budget is taken up by salaries and wages. Other expenses, he said, were uniform allowances, phones and other replacement costs. Chief Mahoney said the police vehicles are aging and broken down.

“Our fleet is largely falling apart,” he said. “The usual standard is 80,000 to 100,000 miles,” he added. He said that

the usual police car is a four-wheel drive and there are six to eight cars on the road every shift.

Answering a question from Councilman John Del Sordi, Jr. about a motorcycle, the chief said there are four officers who use it.

The chief said \$32,000 would be used for protective equipment such as handcuffs. The chief said medical supplies, blankets and pillows would cost \$9,000. He said the department pays to outfit the crossing guards and for their equipment. He said uniforms, which include two summer shirts, two winter shirts, and two pairs of pants, cost \$1,000.

Chief Mahoney said a new technology plan would cost \$39,000 for work stations, lights, cameras, sirens and radios. He finished by saying it is now the law, as of March 1, that police cars must have MVCs (Mobile Vehicle Cameras). He said the department is working on a grant now to offset the costs of cameras. He cautioned, however, that there will be only five or six grants given across the country. The chief said the Comcast bill is \$120 per month for phones and Internet at the police department.

“We should be looking at budgeting with a five-year plan for some of these expenditures,” Mayor Glover said.

The next department head to speak was Joe Timko, an assistant engineer of the engineering department. His total request for the operating budget was \$41,944. Other expenses, such as salaries and wages, he said, would come from the capital budget. He said that the town’s contribution to a paving project on West Broad Street would be \$20,000. It is a New Jersey Department of Transportation project, he said. He also said that \$15,000 would go to getting a survey of Byrd Avenue.

Mr. Mirabella was the last speaker, and said that his departmental budget request was for \$381,950.

As the meeting was about to end, Councilman Llewellyn Jones asked to revisit the question of making a draft of the budget public. Again, Mayor Glover and Deputy Mayor Gialanella were not in favor of it until the hearing process is complete.

“The budget is still a work in progress,” Mayor Glover said. Mr. Mirabella had a different opinion but deferred to the mayor.

The next council budget workshop meeting will be Tuesday, March 3, at 5 p.m., in the council conference room on the second floor of the municipal building, when the budgets of the Parks and Recreation and Public Property Departments will be presented.



ZONING TALK... Gerry Grillo, manager of Jeffs Landscaping of Cranford, speaks to the township committee Monday at the workshop meeting about his disapproval of the maximum building coverage that was adopted as part of the land development ordinance last year. The committee on Tuesday amended the ordinance to reflect the recommendations by the township zoning officer that increased the maximum allowable building coverage. The township amended its Land Development ordinance after Zoning Officer Bob Hudak realized the allowable maximum building coverages made it nearly impossible for homeowners to make an addition to a home without having to apply for a variance.

Cranford Amends Land Development Ordinance

By CHRISTINA M. HINKE
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

Cranford — The township committee Tuesday at its official meeting recognized the 37 years of service Fire Chief Leonard Dolan, III has contributed to the Cranford Fire Department. Fire Chief Dolan is to retire this Sunday, March 1, and Fire Captain Dean Russamano was appointed as acting fire chief for a term not to exceed 60 days.

Chief Dolan’s son, Patrick Dolan, was appointed as a firefighter within the Cranford Fire Department. Mr. Dolan is a third-generation firefighter. “It is an awesome experience for me as well as for him,” Chief Dolan said of his son following in his footsteps.

Chief Dolan recounted his son’s experiences as a youth in the firehouse, then as an adult interning at a volunteer fire department where he experienced his first real fire to fight. “He got his first taste of firefighting...from that point on it was a no-brainer to me that was going to be his career,” Chief Dolan said.

The township amended its Land

Development ordinance after Zoning Officer Bob Hudak realized the allowable maximum building coverages made it nearly impossible for homeowners to make an addition to a home without having to apply for a variance. Mr. Hudak’s building coverage recommendations were changed per the following: from 18 percent to 25 percent in the R-1 and R-2 zones; 19 percent to 28 percent in the R-3 zones, and 20 percent to 30 percent in the R-4 and R-5 (single- and two-family homes) zones.

Florio, Perrucci, Steinhardt & Fader was approved, 4-to-1, by the township committee to provide affordable-housing legal services to not exceed \$10,000 in the year 2015. Commissioner Tom Hannen, Jr. voted against the resolution.

Phil Morin is an attorney of the firm, and has previously represented the township in the Birchwood litigation. Mr. Morin previously served as Union County Republican chairman and is a former mayor of Cranford.

Residents of Cranford, in the past, had said they thought hiring this firm represented a conflict of interest. A partner of the firm, Florio Perrucci Steinhardt & Fader, was alleged to be connected to Lehigh Acquisition Corp. and Woodmont Properties, which is the new development at 555 South Avenue that was the result of a builder’s remedy lawsuit.

Resident Rita La Brutto said in the conference session held prior to the official meeting that she believed hiring this firm would be “throwing good money after bad.”

The township had submitted an RFQ twice, and both times only one law firm bid, Mayor Andis Kalnins said. He also said it was sent directly to the township’s appeal attorney, and the attorney did not bid.

“It’s pretty unfortunate what has gone on here, especially since we are concerned of conflict,” Ms. La Brutto said.

Ms. La Brutto also has voiced her opinion on affordable-housing credits that she believes exist currently in Cranford but are not accounted for, and has asked the committee on multiple occasions to pursue those credits.

During public comment at the official meeting, resident Frank Krause asked again to have the committee extend an offer to Governor Chris Christie to come and speak at a town hall meeting in Cranford.

Kehler Lights

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“I truly think this will be a step off the curb as opposed to a jump off the cliff,” he said.

A decision will be made by the board of education at its meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 3, in the Board Room (Room 105) of the administration building, located at 302 Elm Street, Westfield. The meeting will be open to the public.

MS BOE

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presented conceptual plans including 3D images of the proposed redesign of the entrance way and media center at Deerfield School.

The proposed renovations at the Deerfield entrance way include larger signage and improved ADA (Americans With Disabilities) access as well as the installation of a small concrete plaza. Improvements for the interior of the building will include reorganization of the main office with additional windows which will increase visibility for visitor access. The renovations at the media center will involve a new ADA entrance, improved signage, a collaborative computer area and six different instructional spaces including a reading area with riser seating and improved shelving for younger students.

Mr. Ruban reminded the public that detailed spreadsheets of each week’s expenditures and updates on the progress of the renovations are posted on the Board of Education website and noted, based on the work done so far, it appears the renovations may be completed for less than the amount budgeted.



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GET YOUR HOT CHOCOLATE... These youngsters sell hot chocolate in the snow in Westfield on Saturday. Pictured, from left to right, are: Finn O’Keefe, Eamon Mason, and Riley O’Keefe.



PACKED HOUSE...Scores of business members and area leaders filled the Rooster Spin Restaurant in Westfield on Monday night for the monthly “Networking” of the Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce.

Garwood Sees 16-Percent Hike In RVSA Assessment

By BRIAN TRUDELLE
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

GARWOOD – Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority (RVSA) officials told the borough council Tuesday that Garwood’s waste flow has remained flat, but its proportion among the 14 municipalities within the coalition has jumped, resulting in a 16-percent increase in the borough’s assessment this year.

The spike of \$86,428 equates to an approximately \$45 increase per home assessed at \$100,000, Councilwoman Sara Todisco said, \$6 more than the total tax increase passed by the council last year.

The charge is \$26,000 more than last year’s increase, and returns the RVSA assessment to 2008 levels, according to Councilman Jim Mathieu.

RVSA Executive Director James Meehan explained that while the agency’s budget has remained static, the costs are adjusted by percentage depending on use among the 11 members and three user municipalities from Springfield to Woodbridge.

Although the borough’s waste flow has remained at about an average of 0.81 million gallons per day (mgd) over the past few years, since the RVSA’s total has dropped from 30

mgd to 26 mgd, Garwood’s share has jumped.

The reduction, he said, was due to other towns, like Rahway, making improvements in their system to reduce things such as inflow and infiltration. I-and-I, as it is called, includes water leaching into the sewer pipes through cracks and holes.

He said because Garwood is so small, and its waste water flow likewise, similar expenditures probably would not be economically beneficial to the borough.

“It’s a little scary to sit here and realize that there’s nothing we can do other than pay the bill,” Ms. Todisco said.

Mr. Meehan said that since the assessments are based on a five-year average, Garwood should expect to see 5- to 7-percent increases “for another year or two.”

The matter is of particular importance to the finance committee, chaired by Councilman Louis Petruzzelli, who stated the panel has already met twice. The council has scheduled two special meetings, on consecutive Thursdays, March 12 and March 19, for a public hearing of the budget.

The council also heard from Garwood’s financial officials, who briefed the members on a proposed bond sale, the borough’s first in 12 years.

The bond would consolidate about \$2.74 million of existing debt, accrued since 2004 and now financed through short-term lending, into an 11-year note that municipal auditor Warren Korecky projected would be bought at 2.25 percent. At that rate, the bond would result in \$389,373.50 in interest payments over the 11 years.

Among the items that would be included for the March 31 sale are \$851,086 from the athletic field complex – or the Recreation and Sports Complex – that opened in November; \$342,615 for the new dump truck that was purchased last year, and 15 other various road and capital projects, vehicles and equipment.

The new bond would add to the current debt service remaining on the 2003 note and raise the borough’s total debt liability to \$4.88 million.

In action taken by the council, the members – after a more than one-hour executive session during the workshop portion of the meeting – unanimously voted to seek arbitration in the governing body’s negotiations with the police officers’ union. The most recent contract expired December 31 and the negotiating committee and union have been unable to come to an agreement after six months of talks, police negotiation committee chairwoman Ann Tarantino said.

Additionally, officials voted to spend \$21,500 to purchase finance and tax software from Edmunds & Associates of Northfield, N.J., that will allow residents or business owners to remit tax payments via computer.

The purchase was necessitated because the borough’s current software provider, First Byte of Teaneck, N.J., is unable to continue support due to a health condition of one of the principals.

Additionally, the council amended its regulations regarding parks, playgrounds and facilities to remove the clause that permitted the killing of snakes on sight. It also abolished the construction board of appeals and removed the cost-of-living index provision from the ordinance regulating political contributions.

WF Council

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at the municipal building, located at 425 East Broad Street. The conference session will be immediately followed by the council’s regular public meeting at 7:45 p.m.

“This state code has so many problems. We have a responsibility to address it, especially since these units are in our community in large numbers,” Mrs. Krause said.

Fanwood CFO Tompkins Adds Role of Deputy Administrator

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

FANWOOD — At the borough council official meeting last Wednesday, Borough Chief Financial Officer Fred Tompkins was appointed to the newly created position of deputy administrator at a salary of \$20,000 a year.

Councilman Daniel Levine said one of the hardest working people in the borough is Eleanor McGovern, who serves as both the borough administrator and the borough clerk. “We have a second gifted professional and that is our CFO, Fred Tompkins. He is part-time now and is able to add more

hours,” Mr. Levine added. “It is an opportunity to create a role for Fred under Eleanor to help Eleanor.”

In other business, the borough was awarded a \$200,000 grant from the Safe Routes to School Program from the New Jersey Department of Transportation (DOT). The funds will be put towards Madison Avenue, which serves Park Middle School and School 1. This is the first time the borough has received the grant money, after applying each of the last three years, Mayor Colleen Mahr said.

The program’s main objectives, according to the DOT website, are to enable and encourage children in

Kindergarten to grade 8, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school; to make bicycling and walking to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, thereby encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age; and to facilitate the planning, development and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption and air pollution in the vicinity of schools.

In his health report, Councilman Tom Kranz said the Westfield Regional Health Department, which serves Fanwood, told him that New Jersey has a 96-percent compliance of children having the measles vaccine, which is above the national average of 91 percent. Mr. Kranz reported that 99 to 100 percent of children in all Fanwood daycare centers and schools have been vaccinated for measles.

The Fanwood Recreation Commission, at its first meeting of the year, presented a new, scaled down proposal for the skateboard park, Mr. Kranz said. Last year the budget was \$259,000 to build the skateboard park at Forest Road Park, Mr. Kranz said. He said the project went out to bid twice and came in too high and that the lowest bidder refused to negotiate unless he was given a new proposal. So, the commission prepared a new proposal that cut \$88,000 from the original design by reducing the number of skating elements and ramps, and eliminating landscaping, paint, a timed magnetic lock, and a wrought iron fence. A chain-link fence was proposed to replace the wrought iron version. The new proposal has a projected cost of \$248,000.

“There is some skepticism that is
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Fred T. Rossi for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times
WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT...New Jersey American Water Co.'s 10-week project to replace nearly one mile of a 48-inch water main on Madison Avenue and Portland Avenue between Willow Avenue and Westfield Road in Scotch Plains continues and is expected to be completed by the end of April.

BOE OK's Partnership With Kean U. to Train Teachers

By DELL SIMEONE
Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

SCOTCH PLAINS — The board of education, last Thursday evening, adopted a resolution approving partnering with Kean University to train teachers on how to teach lessons on the Holocaust and tolerance.

In another action taken by the board, it voted to approve the acceptance of \$300 from Atlantic Health Care Systems to McGinn Elementary School for its submission of the McGinn Garden Grant.

The board also voted to approve a resolution allocating \$32,000 for Potter Architects to oversee security upgrades. The project will be partially funded by a grant (60 percent) with the remainder (40 percent) by the district. The project involves installing security systems at Brunner, \$5,060; Coles, \$5,060; School One, \$5,060; Park Middle School, \$8,910, and Terrill Middle School, \$8,910.

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Photo courtesy of Gene Jannotti
PACKED HOUSE...Scores of business members and area leaders filled the Rooster Spin Restaurant in Westfield on Monday night for the monthly “Networking” of the Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce.

Fanwood Rec. Commission Reviews Survey Results

By THOMAS VAN DUYN
Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

FANWOOD — The Fanwood Recreation Commission convened at its regular time on Tuesday night to discuss the results from a recent survey that had been posted on its website. Commission members hoped to use the results to check their progress against a five-year plan that had been created in 2011, and also to craft a new direction. Ninety-eight surveys were completed and compiled into a report for the commissioners to review. Amongst the most popular feedback received was for an interest in the construction of a pavilion at Forest Road Park, which was met with support from the mayor’s office, and to have the playground rebuilt at LaGrande Park.

The existing playground, built in 1995, is 20 years old. When built, it had a life expectancy of only 10 years. Recreation Director Bob Budiansky said that the playground had been “gently used” and was “not falling apart,” which is why the borough has gotten so much more use out of it. According to the commission, a plan to update the facilities at the playground had been discussed before, and that was a contributing factor in not replacing some of the large trees that have come down around the playground in the last few years.

In order to update the space, the borough would have to rip up the footprint of the existing playground and completely start over. This would allow for new landscaping and construction of completely new elements. A proposal of a train station theme was thrown around as a possibility for the design.

There was some discussion about whether the playground should be a priority over the repaving of the ten-



Christina M. Hinke for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times
WAS ELSA VISITING CRANFORD?... This ice sculpture of Olaf was a creation of Robert Scott of Springfield Avenue in Cranford.

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The next department head to speak was Police Chief Brian Mahoney. He requested \$5,971,650 for the operating budget and said that \$5,625,000 was for salaries and wages. The chief said the budget had been reduced by 25 percent.

“We’ve cut it to the bare bones,” he said. He said the department has 46 officers this year as opposed to 41 in 2014. He said most of the budget is taken up by salaries and wages. Other expenses, he said, were uniform allowances, phones and other replacement costs. Chief Mahoney said the police vehicles are aging and broken down.

“Our fleet is largely falling apart,” he said. “The usual standard is 80,000 to 100,000 miles,” he added. He said that the usual police car is a four-wheel drive and there are six to eight cars on the road every shift.

Answering a question from Councilman John Del Sordi, Jr. about a motorcycle, the chief said there are four officers who use it.

The chief said \$32,000 would be used for protective equipment such as handcuffs. The chief said medical supplies, blankets and pillows would cost \$9,000. He said the department pays to outfit the crossing guards and for their equipment. He said uniforms, which include two summer shirts, two winter shirts, and two pairs of pants, cost \$1,000.

Chief Mahoney said a new technology plan would cost \$39,000 for work stations, lights, cameras, sirens and radios. He finished by saying it is now the law, as of March 1, that police cars must have MVCs (Mobile Vehicle Cameras). He said the department is working on a grant now to offset the costs of cameras. He cautioned, however, that there will be

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



LUCK OF THE IRISH...The Fifth Annual St. Patrick’s Day Fundraiser will be held on Saturday, March 7, from 12:30 to 9:30 p.m., at the Fanwood Train Station. The fundraiser is jointly sponsored by O’Brian’s Pourhouse and the Fanwood Business and Professional Association to benefit the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Music Boosters. Shown above are Irish dancers from last year’s event.

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CADET NURSES DESERVE RECOGNITION... Rep. Leonard Lance (R-7th) welcomes Westfield resident Diana Taylor to his district office to discuss the United States Cadet Nurse Corps Equity Act, which Mr. Lance will soon introduce in Congress. The measure would formally recognize the U.S. cadet nurses for their service to the nation during World War II. For years, Ms. Taylor has advocated for her fellow cadet nurses to have the honor of formal recognition by the military. Mr. Lance will soon sponsor the legislation in the U.S. House to ensure their rightful salute in history.

Neighbors Sign Petition Opposing Kehler Lights

By SARAH McGRAIL
Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

WESTFIELD — Westfield residents living near Kehler Stadium are coming out in opposition to plans to place temporary lights on the turf field.

Westfield Soccer Association (WSA) has asked the board of education, which owns the stadium, for permission to use lights from the beginning of March to the middle of May to enable soccer and lacrosse teams to practice during the evenings.

The field would be used by Westfield High School until 7 p.m. and then the soccer and lacrosse associations from 7 p.m. until 9:30 p.m., with the lights switched off at 9:40 p.m.

But residents of houses in the same area as the stadium will petition the board of education to turn down the application.

Gregg and Jean Lehmborg, whose home overlooks the stadium, will be sending the petition to the board this week to demonstrate that there is “a groundswell of negativity towards the idea.”

Mr. and Mrs. Lehmborg say they have children who are and have been involved in sports so they do understand the WSA’s position, but that the use of Kehler Stadium has increased to a point where it impacts on their quality of life.

Mr. Lehmborg said, “There has been an explosive increase in use over the time we’ve lived here and especially since the field was turfed in 2005. The field was once limited to high school and other school-related sports, but has now been expanded to other sports programs outside the school system, so it is used seven days a week for many hours each day.”

The petition will highlight what signatories say is the negative impact of the increased use, including “constant noise from players, coaches, fans, whistles, etc.” and “pump-it-up music and amateur announcers on the booming PA system.”

Residents also are concerned about increased traffic and inconsiderate parking.

But WSA Trustee Peter Franks sought to allay the fears of resi-

dents, saying the noise from the closest generator to their homes would be equivalent to hearing a human conversation, according to government guidelines. He said he would not expect light to reach as far as homes surrounding the stadium.

Mr. Franks said it was impossible to get all of the 70 WSA teams on grass fields in daylight in the spring and this meant that some children were having to travel to train on “out-of-town, substandard fields,” some of them starting sessions at 9 p.m.

“There is simply not enough field space in Westfield to meet the demands of spring users across all sectors of athletics (high school, youth groups and the general public),” he said.

“Having the field at Kehler from 7 to 9:30 at night during the week would allow many of those teams to be closer to home, at a decent hour and on a quality surface. I think that is enough reason to run a test,” he added.

Mr. Franks stressed that this was a pilot program, completely funded by the sports associations, and that he hoped the community would see it as an opportunity to test out the impact on the sports programs and the community.

“I truly think this will be a step off the curb as opposed to a jump off the cliff,” he said.

A decision will be made by the board of education at its meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 3, in the Board Room (Room 105) of the administration building, located at 302 Elm Street, Westfield. The meeting will be open to the public.

FW CFO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

deserved here,” Mr. Kranz said. But given that, he said, “The recreation commission wants to go ahead. They are happy with this design.”

The borough council approved a resolution to receive bids for the paving projects for Burns Way and La Grande Avenue. A resolution also was passed to award a contract to tax appeal attorney Palumbo and Renaud not to exceed \$10,000.

Three resolutions were passed to award contracts to environmental engineering firm CTM, Lighttower for a right-of-way use agreement, and a special environmental engineer, Prestige Environmental.

The borough council approved a resolution to allow Oh’ Brian’s Pour House the use of the northside rail station for the St. Patrick’s Day 5th Annual Fundraiser on Saturday, March 7, from 12:30 to 9:30 p.m., to benefit the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Raiders Music Boosters. Tickets are \$7 per adult.

A resolution was passed authorizing the mayor to sign the Police Benevolent Association contract for the term 2015 to 2017. The contract remains under negotiation, Mrs. McGovern told *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*.

Mike Venezia, a volunteer and member of the Senior Citizens Club, was named the Volunteer of the Month.

Resident Michael Lewis encouraged residents to pick up a copy of “Taking Charge, What to Do if Your Identity is Stolen,” an informational packet that defines how to avoid scams and identity theft, that is available in the lobby of the police department.

The council also asked residents to shovel sidewalks and keep them clear.

The month of February was proclaimed Black History Month in Fanwood.

SP-F BOE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

spring of 2016. The classes will be held in district and at no cost other than to release teachers to visit the U.S. Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. Additionally, there will be the cost of release time for district participants to attend a Distinguished Scholar Lecture at Kean University.

In other business, board member Trip Whitehouse said that on Saturday, March 14, there will be an exhibition game between the St. John’s University Women’s Soccer Team and the Sky Blue, a New Jersey professional women’s soccer team. It will be played on the upper soccer field at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, he said. He also said the district will be able to run a concession stand at the game. The tentative start time is 2 p.m., said Ms. Saridaki. The game is free.

Mr. Whitehouse, who is on the finance committee, said the budget process is moving forward and the tentative budget will be discussed on Thursday, March 19, at an open agenda meeting at the administration building.

The next meeting of the board of education will take place this evening, Thursday, February 26, at 7:30 p.m., at the administration building in Scotch Plains.



WATER MAINS...New Jersey American Water Co.’s project to replace nearly one mile of a 48-inch water main on Madison Avenue and Portland Avenue is expected to be completed by the end of April.



NEW MEN IN BLUE...Five new officers joined the ranks of the Westfield Police Department and were sworn in at Tuesday night’s Westfield Town Council meeting. The five new officers, pictured with Chief Dave Wayman, right, are: Eric Carrero, Robert Desiato, Jr., Aaron Doherty, Kristopher Jackus and Ryan Weiss.

WF Police Make Promotions At Town Council Ceremony

By DOMINIC A. LAGANO
Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

WESTFIELD—At its regular public meeting Tuesday evening, the town council held a special swearing-in ceremony for new and veteran members of the Westfield Police Department.

In the course of the past year, the Westfield Police Department hired five new members for its force. As all five recently completed the requirements for graduation from their respective police academies, they were subsequently sworn in as law enforcement officers assigned to the town.

The council and Westfield Police Chief David Wayman also honored four veteran members of the police force with promotions.

As Mayor Andy Skibitsky was unavailable due to business commitments, the officers were sworn in by Acting Mayor JoAnn Neylan.

“I am honored to preside over tonight’s police promotions and swearing-in ceremonies,” began Ms. Neylan. “I have served as the chair of the Public Safety Committee for many years now and I’ve had the opportunity to work with our public safety professionals on a regular basis.

“In doing so, I have been able to gain insight into the job we ask them to perform, day in and day out, on weekends and every holiday, and in every type of weather condition,” Ms. Neylan stated. “The one thing the mayor and I have learned is that due to the boundless nature of the police officers here, no day in police work is ever alike.

“The officers that are being promoted this evening are highly trained and experienced individuals who have dedicated their lives to serve and to protect. And the recruits that are being sworn in this evening are beginning an essential and esteemed professional career in law enforcement and public safety,” Ms. Neylan stated.

Chief Wayman introduced each officer with a brief history of their

prior work before Ms. Neylan led the swearing-in. A friend or family member then pinned the officer’s badge to his uniform.

The five new officers hired by the Westfield Police Department are Eric Carrero, Robert Desiato, Jr., Aaron Doherty, Kristopher Jackus and Ryan Weiss.

The veteran officers were promoted as follows: Marcin Kapka was promoted to sergeant, Leonard Lugo and Jason Mc Erlean were both promoted to lieutenant and John Ricerca was promoted to captain.

Chief Wayman also shared some remarks about the nature of police work and the quality of the officers who were honored. “We are taking a step forward tonight. We are developing and preparing one aspect of the Westfield Police Department for the future.

“We are preparing and planning for the unknown. As we all know, crime, man-made disasters, natural disasters, do not recognize jurisdictional boundaries. And here in Westfield, we are as susceptible as anyone, anywhere else. The Westfield Police Department must be prepared to meet and address any and all challenges brought our way,” Chief Wayman stated. “These officers here tonight will play a vital role in the planning and the preparing for the challenging future ahead.”

In other news, the council awarded a contract to Integrated Technical Systems, Incorporated, a purveyor of electronic and computerized systems based out of Wallingford, Conn. The contract was awarded for the purchase of extended hardware and software warranties for the 25 “smart” parking pay stations installed last year.

The next town council conference session open to the public is scheduled for Tuesday, March 10, at 7 p.m., at the municipal building, located at 425 East Broad Street. The conference session will be immediately followed by the council’s regular public meeting at 7:45 p.m.



GET YOUR HOT CHOCOLATE...These youngsters sell hot chocolate in the snow in Westfield on Saturday. Pictured, from left to right, are: Finn O’Keefe, Eamon Mason and Riley O’Keefe.

Garwood Sees 16-Percent Hike In RVSA Assessment

By BRIAN TRUSDELL
Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

GARWOOD — Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority (RVSA) officials told the borough council Tuesday that Garwood’s waste flow has remained flat, but its proportion among the 14 municipalities within the coalition has jumped, resulting in a 16-percent increase in the borough’s assessment this year.

The spike of \$86,428 equates to an approximately \$45 increase per home assessed at \$100,000, Councilwoman Sara Todisco said, \$6 more than the total tax increase passed by the council last year.

The charge is \$26,000 more than last year’s increase, and returns the RVSA assessment to 2008 levels, according to Councilman Jim Mathieu.

RVSA Executive Director James Meehan explained that while the agency’s budget has remained static, the costs are adjusted by percentage depending on use among the 11 members and three user municipalities of Springfield to Woodbridge.

Although the borough’s waste flow has remained at about an average of 0.81 million gallons per day (mgd)

over the past few years, since the RVSA’s total has dropped from 30 mgd to 26 mgd, Garwood’s share has jumped.

The reduction, he said, was due to other towns, like Rahway, making improvements in their system to reduce things such as inflow and infiltration. I-and-I, as it is called, includes water leaching into the sewer pipes through cracks and holes.

He said because Garwood is so small, and its waste water flow like-wise, similar expenditures probably would not be economically beneficial to the borough.

“It’s a little scary to sit here and realize that there’s nothing we can do other than pay the bill,” Ms. Todisco said.

Mr. Meehan said that since the assessments are based on a five-year average, Garwood should expect to see 5- to 7-percent increases “for another year or two.”

The matter is of particular importance to the finance committee, chaired by Councilman Louis Petruzzelli, who stated the panel has already met twice. The council has scheduled two special meetings, on consecutive Thursdays, March 12 and March 19, for a public hearing of the budget.

The council also heard from Garwood’s financial officials, who briefed the members on a proposed bond sale, the borough’s first in 12 years.

The bond would consolidate about \$2.74 million of existing debt, accrued since 2004 and now financed through short-term lending, into an 11-year note that municipal auditor Warren Korecky projected would be bought at 2.25 percent. At that rate, the bond would result in \$389,373.50 in interest payments over the 11 years.

Among the items that would be included for the March 31 sale are \$851,086 from the athletic field complex — or the Recreation and Sports Complex — that opened in November; \$342,615 for the new dump truck that was purchased last year, and 15 other various road and capital projects, vehicles and equipment.

The new bond would add to the current debt service remaining on the 2003 note and raise the borough’s total debt liability to \$4.88 million.

In action taken by the council, the members — after a more than one-hour executive session during the workshop portion of the meeting — unanimously voted to seek arbitration in the governing body’s negotiations with the police officers’ union. The most recent contract expired December 31 and the negotiating committee and union have been unable to come to an agreement after six months of talks, police negotiation committee chairwoman Ann Tarantino said.

Additionally, officials voted to spend \$21,500 to purchase finance and tax software from Edmunds & Associates of Northfield, N.J., that will allow residents or business owners to remit tax payments via computer.

The purchase was necessitated because the borough’s current software provider, First Byte of Teaneck, N.J., is unable to continue support due to a health condition of one of the principals.

Additionally, the council amended its regulations regarding parks, playgrounds and facilities to remove the clause that permitted the killing of snakes on sight. It also abolished the construction board of appeals and removed the cost-of-living index provision from the ordinance regulating political contributions.

SP Budget

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only five or six grants given across the country. The chief said the Comcast bill is \$120 per month for phones and Internet at the police department.

“We should be looking at budgeting with a five-year plan for some of these expenditures,” Mayor Glover said.

The next department head to speak was Joe Timko, an assistant engineer of the engineering department. His total request for the operating budget was \$41,944. Other expenses, such as salaries and wages, he said, would come from the capital budget. He said that the town’s contribution to a paving project on West Broad Street would be \$20,000. It is a New Jersey Department of Transportation project, he said. He also said that \$15,000 would go to getting a survey of Byrd Avenue.

Mr. Mirabella was the last speaker, and said that his departmental budget request was for \$381,950.

As the meeting was about to end, Councilman Llewellyn Jones asked to revisit the question of making a draft of the budget public. Again, Mayor Glover and Deputy Mayor Gialanella were not in favor of it until the hearing process is complete.

“The budget is still a work in progress,” Mayor Glover said. Mr. Mirabella had a different opinion but deferred to the mayor.

The next council budget workshop meeting will be Tuesday, March 3, at 5 p.m., in the council conference room on the second floor of the municipal building, when the budgets of the Parks and Recreation and Public Property Departments will be presented.

FW Rec.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

19, according to the recreation commission website, and will feature an egg-decorating competition with prizes for those who bring their own eggs. Additionally, summer day camp signups began last week and are filling up fast. Already 640 registrations have been processed and several weeks of the camp are filled up.

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Panel to Vote March 23 on Walnut Hist. Designation

By DELL SIMEONE
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

WESTFIELD—The Westfield Historic Preservation Commission held a meeting on Monday evening which took place in the conference room adjacent to the Town Council Chambers at the municipal building. Ten residents of Walnut Street showed up to what they thought was a continuation of the public hearing on the ordinance which would set rules for the newly proposed historic district for Walnut Street between Elm Street and Mountain Avenue.

In November, there was a public hearing on a proposed ordinance to define the rules of declaring a neighborhood a historic district. At that meeting, many of the homeowners on Walnut Street said they wanted to opt out. They said they did not want to be told what they could or could not do with their homes. In the prevailing ordinance at the time there was no set provision for homeowners to opt out. That meeting ended with frustration on the part of the homeowners and ambiguity on the part of the commission which had no answers for the dissenters. The December and January meetings were cancelled.

On Monday evening, 10 Walnut Street residents braved the 20-degree temperature in an effort to continue expressing their opposition to the designation of Walnut Street as a historic district to the commission. The homeowners were under the impression that the meeting was a continuation of the public hearing which had left them with more questions instead of answers.

The homeowners were met with more ambiguity when told by commission chairperson Kelly Kessler that the meeting being held was not a public hearing but a just a meeting of the commission.

The room's lights could only be found for the area where there is a dais. The audience portion of the courtroom was in dimness. Although the commission meeting was also a

public meeting, there was not enough seating to accommodate the residents who showed up in the council conference room. Ms. Kessler told the crowd that if they had something to say, the commission would listen to them only after the regular commission meeting. The Walnut Street residents sat in dimness for over an hour before they were invited to come into the conference room to have their say, "but be brief," Ms. Kessler told the residents.

Meanwhile, the ordinance defining the rights of the neighbors in the establishment of a historic district has been amended to preclude an opt-out provision and has already had a first hearing, before the town council. It is likely to be adopted before the continuation of the November public hearing which will be Monday, March 23. In the amended ordinance there is no provision for residents which allows them to opt out. Ms. Kessler, on Monday evening, told the residents that on March 23 the commission will listen to their concerns and then vote on adopting the ordinance.

The Walnut Street residents said that two years ago they were concerned when a home was razed and a newer style home was built in its place. However, they said, they are now satisfied and do not want to be part of the historic district. They also objected to residents of the Park Edge condos, having been built in 1949, having any say in the matter since the condos are non-contributing. They were told by the commission that 80 percent of the residents of the 26 homes in the district had agreed to be in the historic district.

Casagrande Seeks to Ban Antique Firearms From State Gun Laws

TRENTON — Assemblywoman Caroline Casagrande (R-11th, Freehold) said she will introduce legislation exempting antique firearms from the state's gun laws.

A retired Millville teacher is facing a 2nd degree felony charge for the possession of a handgun when police discovered his 1760s "Queen Anne" flintlock pistol during a traffic stop last November.

"There is a complete lack of common sense when a 72-year-old man is facing a decade in prison for possessing an unloaded, 300-year-old antique pistol," Ms. Casagrande said. "Granting this exemption will put New Jersey in line with federal law that already exempts the possession of historic firearms manufactured prior to 1898. Hopefully, the Cumberland County prosecutor will acknowledge the ludicrous nature of charging a man with no prior history and simply dismiss this case."



Peyton's Peek at the Week In Politics

By Paul Peyton of The Leader/Times

State AG Investigating Stender Over Shore Home Dispute

The state Attorney General's Office is investigating whether Assemblywoman Linda Stender's husband, Richard Stender, tried to take advantage of Coastal Habitat for Humanity, a Monmouth County charity, to transform a damaged a luxury shore home, NJ Advance Media has reported.

The report said the Attorney General is looking into whether Mr. Stender misrepresented his claim that his home in Manasquan, which was damaged during Hurricane Sandy, qualified for help as a primary residence.

Coastal Habitat helps homeowners fix or build only primary residences if their household income equals up to 80 percent of \$84,526, Monmouth County's median income. The Stenders' combined income in 2012 and 2013 exceeded that amount, according to the report. The charity demanded that Mr. Stender reimburse them \$11,000 for demolishing the home.

Vastine to Run for Assembly Against Stender, Green

Former Republican Scotch Plains councilman William "Bo" Vastine has decided to run for the state Assembly in the 22nd Legislative District, according to a Facebook post.

Mr. Vastine, who lost re-election for his council seat last year, previously ran for the Assembly in 2009.

Lesniak Allies to Form PAC for Run for Governor

PolitickerNJ has reported that allies of state Senator Ray Lesniak (D-20th, Elizabeth) are preparing to launch a Political Action Committee (PAC) in support of a bid by Sen. Lesniak for the 2017 Democratic gubernatorial nomination.

Sen. Lesniak would join a Democratic field that includes Jersey City Mayor Steve Fulop, state Senate President Steve Sweeney (D-3rd, Gloucester) and former U.S. Ambassador to Germany Phil Murphy.

Christie Poorest Performing Republican in Poll of '16 Cands.

New Jersey Governor Chris Christie is the poorest performing Republican candidate for president in 2016, trailing Hillary Clinton by margins of 5 to 10 percentage points in the critical swing states of Colorado, Iowa and Virginia, according to a Quinnipiac University Swing State Poll released last week.

Mrs. Clinton runs best overall against leading Republican White House contenders in the swing states, but U.S. Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky is in a virtual tie with her in Colorado and Virginia, according to the Quinnipiac poll.

Former Florida Governor Jeb Bush ties her in Virginia, the largest of the three states, and Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker is in a virtual tie with Mrs. Clinton in Colorado.

Fed. Judge Temporarily Blocks Obama Immigration Actions
A U.S. District Court judge in Texas has temporarily blocked President Barack Obama's controversial executive actions on immigration — announced in November — to ease the deportation threats to millions of eligible immigrants, CNN has reported.

Judge Andrew Hanen's ruling, in a lawsuit brought by 26 states including Texas, said President Obama lacks the authority to carry out his initiative and is "creating laws from scratch."

The Washington Post reported that the legal fight was likely next headed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit after the White House vowed to

appeal Judge Hanen's ruling.

Group Pushing to Legalize Marijuana in New Jersey
A group of local prosecutors, civil rights leaders, medical experts and activists are seeking to legalize, tax and regulate the distribution and use of marijuana in New Jersey, WCBS 880 has reported.

The campaign, called New Jersey United for Marijuana Reform, would legalize pot smoking for those 21 and over and would not support smoking marijuana and driving.

"The time has come to begin fixing our criminal justice system by ending unjust marijuana arrests," New Jersey ACLU Executive Director Udi Ofer told WCBS 880.

Governor Chris Christie has said he opposes legalizing marijuana and would veto any bill that came to his desk on the matter, according to news reports.

State Senator Nicholas Scutari (D-22nd, Linden), who sponsored a bill to legalize pot last year, told *The Wall Street Journal* that the next governor should consider the impact that tax revenue collected from legalized marijuana would have on the state's budget. Sen. Scutari's bill included a 7 percent sales tax on marijuana sales in New Jersey.

Prieto Said He Won't Take Part In Republican 'Side Show'

Assembly Speaker Vinnie Prieto (D-32nd, Secaucus) said last week that he will not take part in any "side-show" of debates Republicans have challenged him to, politickernj.com has reported.

"When they come up with good ideas and all that I'll consider them," Mr. Prieto told politickernj.com. "But listen, I'm not going to get caught up in any side show."

Assembly Minority Leader Jon Bramnick (R-21st, Westfield) has challenged Mr. Prieto to six debates, saying after 15 years as the majority party in the Assembly that Democrats don't deserve re-election.

Jamel Holley Sworn In As New Dist. 20 Assemblyman

Former Roselle mayor Jamel Holley received the oath of office from Assembly Speaker Vincent Prieto (D-32nd, Secaucus) on Monday to become a member of the New Jersey General Assembly.

He is the first African-American to represent the 20th legislative district, which includes Elizabeth, Hillside, Roselle and Union Township in Union County. He replaces Joseph Cryan, who resigned from the Legislature to become Union County sheriff.

A graduate of Abraham Clark High School in Roselle, he holds a bachelor's degree from New Jersey City University and a master's in public administration from Kean University. He is employed as director of the Department of Public Works in Irvington.

State Appoints Monitor For Atlantic City Schools

New Jersey Commissioner of Education David C. Hespe has appointed Gary P. McCartney as state monitor to the Atlantic City Board of Education who are seeking to maintain quality educational programs despite a dramatic drop in local revenue.

In recent years, Atlantic City has experienced a significant decline in the assessed value of property for taxation, which has severely hampered the city's ability to raise local revenue required to maintain both municipal and school services. The value of all taxable property in Atlantic City fell from \$20.4 billion in 2010 to \$11.3 billion in 2014, according to a Department of Education press release.

DWC Holds Reorganization, Meeting, OK's 2015 Budget

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

WESTFIELD — The Downtown Westfield Corporation (DWC), management entity of the Special Improvement District (SID), held its first board of directors' meeting of 2015 this past Monday evening. January's scheduled meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather.

As a result, the board's first order of business was to hold its annual reorganization meeting to install the board members for 2015. A unanimous vote determined that there would be no changes on the board for the new year.

Dominick Verdic will remain the board's chairman, with Alan De Rose retaining his position of co-chairman. Shawn Hanna will remain the board's treasurer, with Lisa Bertone retaining the position of recording secretary.

Westfield Councilman Sam Della Fera will remain the town council liaison to the board and Stephanie Walsh will continue to serve as Mayor Andrew Skibitsky's designee to the board.

Robert Centrella and Frank Isoldi will both continue to serve as resident members of the board and James Gildea, Westfield's town administrator, also will continue to serve as a liaison to the town council.

The board next voted to approve the DWC's budget for 2015.

Sherry Cronin, executive director of the DWC, announced the proposed budget would be \$409,757.19. "We're proposing this 2015 budget on a flat basis," Ms. Cronin stated. "So last year our budget was \$409,247 and this year's proposed budget is \$409,757."

The DWC budget includes the salaries of DWC employees, new equipment such as benches or decorations, and events sponsored by the DWC such as the Sweet Sounds Downtown Jazz Festival and the Downtown

Westfield 5K Run and Pizza Extravaganza.

The next step in the budget process is for the board to present it to the town council for its approval.

"Sherry and I are going on the 26th for financial review," Mr. Verdic stated. "Just because we vote on it doesn't mean that the budget is approved. It still has to be approved by the town council."

In other news, Ms. Cronin presented the 2014 Main Street New Jersey Statewide Reinvestment Summary to the board. Ms. Cronin must complete this report every year and forward it to the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, the department that oversees the Main Street NJ project.

Twenty businesses closed in the past year and 33 new ones were created in Westfield's downtown area for a net gain of 13 businesses.

Similarly, 59 jobs were lost in town in the past year while 122 were created, for a net gain of 63 new jobs.

There was an average 2.59 percent vacancy rate last year, accounting for 42,918 square feet of retail space that was available, Ms. Cronin said.

The DWC provided \$4,135 last year in grants to local businesses for signage replacement or enhancement. In turn, the private investors' portion amounted to \$29,500 for signage replacement or enhancement.

Eighty-four building rehabilitation and one new construction project were completed last year. In all, the SID investments and reinvestments, including new purchases, accounted for \$4,841,404 last year.

Ms. Cronin also reported that over 172,000 people visited Westfield last year as a direct result of DWC events.

The DWC's next board of directors meeting open to the general public is scheduled for Monday, April 27, at 7:30 p.m. The DWC office is located at 105 Elm Street, basement level.

Airport Employer Announces 150 Jobs for UC Residents

COUNTY — For AirServ, it started last fall with a phone call inquiry to the Union County Workforce Innovation Business Center: how can we collaborate with Union County to hire residents for full-time jobs at Liberty International Airport in Newark?

The call resulted in the hiring of 66 residents for new jobs last year, and just a few weeks ago it continued with another commitment from the airport services company to hire 150 more county residents for jobs in cargo, cleaning, ground transportation, passenger services, ramp handling and security sectors at the airport.

The Workforce Innovation Business Center, a program through the Union County Workforce Investment Board and Union County College, held a job fair to screen applicants this past Thursday and Friday at Union County College in Elizabeth.

The Innovation Business Center not only coordinated the job fair and screening for the latest round of jobs, but will also provide subsequent training to the new hires through the college's employability skills curriculum, a 40-day program.

Designed with demands of today's business environment in mind, the terms "employability skills" refer to a cluster of personal qualities, habits and attitudes that constitute a good employee at all levels of the workforce, and include skills such as work ethics, time management, attention to detail, written and oral communication skills, teamwork, decision-making and problem solving.

The employability skills curriculum has been developed to ensure successful entry and retention.

Freeholder Sergio Granados, a resident of Elizabeth who also serves as a liaison to the Workforce Investment Board, thanked AirServ for their partnership and hailed the creation of new jobs.

"One of our highest priorities is providing jobs for residents and this

is an outstanding example of how the public sector can work with the private sector in not only coordinating job placements but also providing the proper training," Mr. Granados said. "We certainly urge businesses looking to hire residents to coordinate their efforts through the Workforce Investment Board."

Businesses looking to hire should contact Antonio Rivera, director of the Union County Workforce Investment Board, at (908) 527-4195 or e-mail arivera@ucnj.org. and/or visit ucnj.org/wib.

AirServ, whose 8,000-plus employees support the world's leading airlines and freight companies at airports throughout the United States and United Kingdom, announced the hirings as part of a plan creating 500 new positions.

"We had a very positive experience and outcome with coordinating our first round of hirings through the county, and we are pleased to continue this partnership," said Martin C. Blake, Jr., senior vice-president for AirServ. "The Union County Workforce Innovation Business Center acted quickly, efficiently and effectively in fulfilling our requirements."

Once the latest round of Union County employees are hired, AirServ will realize another benefit through the Innovation Business Center's On-The-Job (OJT) program, which allows for employers to have the wages of the new hires subsidized up to 50 percent during the first six months on the job. Under the OJT program, this can go on for up to 26 weeks to help defray the costs of their employment training. The OJT initiative is funded by the county Freeholder Board through the Workforce Investment Board.

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Freeholders Reappoint D.C. Gov. Relations Firm

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

COUNTY — The Union County Freeholder Board last Thursday passed a number of resolutions including approving a \$138,000, one-year agreement with Washington, D.C.-based Winning Strategies. The firm has worked for the county for a number of years.

According to its website, the company was founded over a decade ago "as a solution to the one-size-fits-all D.C. government relations firm." Donna Mullins, listed as the firm's managing partner, previously was chief of staff for the late Rep. Dean Gallo and Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen, both Republicans from New Jersey, and more recently Senator Jeff Chiesa, also a Republican, in 2013. Michael Merola, founding partner, previously worked for former U.S. Senator Robert Torricelli, a Democrat from New Jersey.

Pat Moschetti of New Providence questioned the expenditure, asking what the county was receiving for the money.

He said the firm gives information to the county about federal programs, noting the firm gets this information before the general public and helps the county go after federal grants and "opportunities that are beneficial to our residents and obviously the county and municipalities."

Among the issues with which the firm has assisted the county is the Pilgrim Pipeline, a proposed project consisting of two adjacent 179-mile pipes which would carry unrefined oil via one pipeline from Albany, N.Y. to the Bayway Refinery, located in Linden. Mr. Reyes also said Winning Strategies has helped get legislators to be part of the Union County Means Breakfast series.

He said the company also "provide us access to our legislators on a yearly basis when we go and meet with our senators and sit down with them and discuss issues that pertain to Union County and our municipalities." Mr. Reyes said the firm assists the county with issues on the state and national level.

"Without them we literally would have to do a lot of leg work and go through a lot of hoops when they are the ones that can provide the information and guide us through and give us a helpful strategy," Mr. Reyes said.

In other business, Mr. Moschetti said he felt the \$160,000 being spent on the Code Blue program was "a very good, generous offer" and was a "worthwhile thing to do." The county works with non-profit agencies to offer homeless persons shelter in extremely cold weather.

He also commented on the county spending \$600,000 on postage. "Just off the top of my head, it sounds like a lot of money," he said. He asked when the last audit was done on the purchase of postage, noting that there might be "a certain amount of fraud and abuse going on."

Norman Albert, director of administrative services, said the county's mail cost is done through the mail room and not the individual departments. He said the county spent \$529,000 on mailings in 2014.

"A large degree of the mailings is required. We certainly can look into it (the cost)," Mr. Albert said, noting that the county monitors county postal costs.

Mr. Moschetti called the funding of legal defense for the county in four lawsuits listed on Thursday's agenda, totaling \$70,000, "a complete waste of money and time."

One of the cases was for representation of former Union County Juvenile Detention Center officer Sherrie Brown-Braswell in a lawsuit entitled Shiquon Fowler versus County of Union, at a cost of \$20,000. The guard has been charged with sexually assaulting a teenage boy at the facility and the boy's family is now suing the county. The board also approved a resolution to increase funding to \$40,000 to represent the county in the same case.

Another case, Barbara Eggar versus Union County, is a class-action lawsuit against the county whereby 43 employees have alleged the county failed to pay overtime over a three-year period for employees at Runnels Specialized Hospital. Runnels was sold in December to a private nursing home operator. The board approved increasing funds by \$20,000 for outside counsel in the case for a total appropriation of \$40,000 to date.

Tina Renna, president of the Union County Watchdog Association, again questioned the board on recent employee raises. She said 117 employees received raises totaling over a half-million dollars over a three-week period.

County Manager Al Faella said last month that the raises were "based on recommendations and evaluations from department heads and division heads" while Freeholder Chairman Mohamed Jalloh said the raises were "inclusive" of the 2-percent cap on salary increases.

At the February 19th meeting Mrs. Renna responded to Mr. Jalloh that "the numbers obtained from public records clearly point out that your statement was not true." She said many of the raises ranged from \$6,000 and up. "Something is wrong with these raises. Someone in authority needs to look at what happened here and how it related to your campaigning."

"This is unprecedented.... This isn't just a one-time half a million added to our tax (base), but this will be a recurring half-a-million expense compounded annually," Mrs. Renna said. She said Mr. Faella has refused to give her the "written justifications" from department heads for the raises. "I haven't ruled out filing a lawsuit to gain access to them."

Bramnick to Perform At Stress Factory

WESTFIELD — Assembly Minority Leader Jon Bramnick (R-21st, Westfield) will open for comedian Rich Vos at the Stress Factory in New Brunswick on Thursday, March 26.

Mr. Bramnick has held the title of the Funniest Lawyer in New Jersey for 20 years after going undefeated at Rascals Comedy Club.

"It is an election year and I will take the night off for a few laughs, I hope," Mr. Bramnick said.

Mr. Vos has been producer and star of Women Aren't Funny on Netflix, Last Comic Standing, Comedy Central, and has written for the Oscars.



NEW BUILDING CODES...At the request of the New Jersey State League of Municipalities (NJLOM), a meeting was held at NJLOM headquarters in Trenton on February 18th to discuss new proposed building codes with several executive board members of the New Jersey Building Officials Association (NJBOA), and any issues that may relate to light weight construction and the recent fire at Avalon Bay in Edgewater. Pictured, from left to right, are: Ed Purcell, staff attorney, and Michael Darcy, assistant executive director, both with NJLOM; James Zaconie, immediate past president, and Larry Scorzelli, treasurer, both with NJBOA; seated, John Scialla, chairman, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Building Subcode Committee, and Robert LaCosta, construction official and president of the NJBOA.

Groups Push for Funding of Transportation Trust Fund

TRENTON — The Transportation Trust Fund, which covers the costs of maintenance, repair, and expansion for New Jersey's road, bridge and transit infrastructure, will run out of money July 1, 2015. For years, many groups have highlighted the impact of an insolvent transportation fund and the burden of debt on the economy of the state.

In advance of Governor Chris Christie's budget address last on February 24, groups have come together to call on the governor and the State Legislature to find a new, sustainable and long-term revenue source dedicated to the Transportation Trust Fund. They say this revenue source should be adequate to support a more robust capital program than has been enacted over the past 10 years, a figure estimated by many to be closer to \$3 billion annually; a current proposal would raise \$2 billion annually. Currently, spending levels hover at \$1.6 billion a year.

While this dire situation has drawn massive attention by policy makers, advocacy organizations, trade unions and other groups spanning the entire spectrum of interests in the state, most of the dialog has been around

funding sources and not funding priorities.

"Restoring solvency to the Transportation Trust Fund will address only half of the problem; how the state spends these funds is the other half," said Veronica Vanterpool, executive director of the Tri-State Transportation Campaign. "Reducing the backlog of deficient bridges, improving pavement conditions on roadways, and investing in bus, rail, pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure must be funding priorities for a replenished and revamped TTF."

With the governor and the Legislature expected to adopt a final funding solution to identify increased funding for the Transportation Trust Fund in the coming weeks, the Campaign says it is imperative that those funds be used to address New Jersey's most pressing transportation needs. The groups listed the following funding priorities: Focus on "fix-it-first;" transit expansion projects, especially cross-Hudson; identify dedicated funding stream for NJ Transit's operating needs; investment in freight rail; and increase investment in projects that support bicycling and walking.

Lance Announces 2015 Congressional Art Contest

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Rep. Leonard Lance (R-7th) is inviting high school students in the 7th Congressional District to participate in the 2015 Congressional Art Contest.

Mr. Lance's contest is free and open to all high school students in grades 9 through 12 who reside in the 7th Congressional District of New Jersey. All artwork must be original in concept, design and execution.

The Congressional Art Contest began in 1982 to provide an opportunity for members of Congress to encourage and recognize the artistic talents of their young constituents. Since that time more than 650,000 high school students have been involved in the competition. The winning art work will hang in a corridor in the United States Capitol Building

for one year along with art from similar art contests held in congressional districts across the country. The winner will have the opportunity to travel to Washington, D.C. and see the art on display during a special ceremony.

All entries must be submitted to Mr. Lance's Flemington or Westfield district office no later than Friday, April 3. Entries will then be formally displayed in a public ceremony on Saturday, April 18, at Merck's Kenilworth facility, located at 2000 Galloping Hill Road, Kenilworth, N.J. 07033.

Students who would like to participate should contact Anna Pellecchia in Mr. Lance's Flemington office for further details at (908) 788-6900 or visit lance.house.gov/services/art-competition.

BPU OKs Basic Generation Service Auction Results

TRENTON — The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities Board has unanimously approved the results of the state's 14th annual electricity auction for Basic Generation Service (BGS), which will result in slightly lower or stable prices for the electricity supplied to residents and small- to medium-sized businesses supplied by three of the four Electric Distribution Companies (EDCs). The auction determines, in part, the cost of electricity for most New Jersey residents and many businesses for the 12-month period starting June 1, 2015.

"For a seventh year in a row many residents and small- to medium-sized businesses will see lower or stable electricity prices as a result of New Jersey's competitive electricity supply auction, which was reflective of relevant market conditions," said Richard S. Mroz, president of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities. "While the auctions held over the course of the Christie Administration have resulted in benefits for ratepayers, the board will continue to advocate when appropriate before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and PJM in an effort to continue to drive down energy prices and improve the state's economic competitiveness."

Typical residential and business ratepayers who have not shopped for electricity service supplied by a third party supplier and continue to be served by default service supplied through Atlantic City Electric (ACE) and Rockland Electric Company (RECO) will see further decreases in prices of 2.97 percent and 3.2 percent, respectively. Those ratepayers supplied through Jersey Central Power and Light (JCP&L) will have stable prices with a 0.0 percent change. Prices for ratepayers who receive their electricity supply through PSE&G will be the exception with an increase of 5.1 percent, which reflects an increase in transmission costs factored into the costs of electric delivered into that system.

A component of all the prices, which shows an increase, is the cost of new transmission facilities. New transmission projects are deemed necessary by PJM, the regional transmission organization (RTO) that coordinates the movement of whole-

sale electricity in all or part of 13 states and the District of Columbia, and the resulting transmission rate is approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

PJM submitted the Capacity Performance Proposal to FERC in response to the extremely cold temperatures that sent demand soaring during the 2014 polar vortex while also causing generator outages due to cold weather-related problems. The uncertainty and higher risk of additional costs facing the BGS bidders in response to PJM's proposal to acquire additional capacity may have resulted in a significant number of bidders choosing not to participate in the BGS auction or participate with significantly higher prices.

The board's approval of the BGS results covers two separate descending clock auctions conducted by NERA Economic Consulting over three business days. The auction for Commercial and Industrial Energy Price (CIEP) service used by large commercial and industrial customers began on February 6 and concluded on February 9. The auction for Fixed Price (FP) service used primarily by residential and small to medium sized commercial customers began on February 9 and concluded on February 10. Both auctions secured commitments for as much as \$7 billion worth of purchases covering approximately 8,400 megawatts (MWs) of customer requirements.

The energy secured in the FP auction will meet one-third of the state's residential and small business electric load requirements for the next three energy years, starting Monday, June 1. The remaining two-thirds of customer supply requirements for the 12-month time period beginning June 1 will be met by electric supply secured in the auctions of 2013 and 2014.

The state's four regulated electric distribution companies (EDCs) do not earn a profit on the cost of the electric supply secured in the auctions. These costs are passed through directly to ratepayers.

As of December 2014, approximately 86 percent of the CIEP load is being provided through individual contracts with third-party suppliers.

Assembly Advances Bill to Protect Assault Victims

TRENTON — Legislation sponsored by Assemblywoman Nancy F. Muñoz (R-21st, Summit) that provides sexual assault victims with protection against their offenders has won General Assembly approval.

The "Sexual Assault Survivor Protection Act of 2015" (A-4078), would allow victims to obtain protection without filing criminal charges.

"Sexual assault is physically and psychologically devastating; and victims too often are embarrassed or feel they are in some way to blame for the attack," Asw. Muñoz said. "As a result, only a very small percentage of victims file criminal charges. Unless they report the crime, they cannot obtain a restraining order. This leaves their attacker free to harass or assault them again."

The bill would allow the court to issue a temporary protective order regardless of whether the alleged victim has filed criminal charges. It pro-

hibits the alleged offender from having any contact or communication, including personal, written, telephone or via electronic device, with victims and their family members, employers, and employees.

Under current law, restraining orders are predominately used for victims of domestic violence.

In addition, the measure prohibits stalking, following or harassing, including cyber-harassing, the alleged victim.



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Letters to the Editor

Scotch Plains Wants Big Government With No Community Input

Why volunteer in a town that has no respect for its citizens who volunteer their time and efforts to make this a nice place to live. The governing body wants only hand-picked friends and family members to control our town's future and little or no input from the community. In other words, Big Government with patronage and no community input.

Look at what's happening. We are turning into a county-run town without any independence. We don't need a party boss system to ruin our town by draining our coffers with excessive salaries, to spend above needed caps (look at the county government), to protect our well being by destroying our credit rating and leading us down the path to lawsuits and federal investigations (look at all those northern New Jersey towns where politicians were arrested and Christie made a name for himself). A good town needs checks and balances in place such as independent commissions to protect itself... a bad town needs a dictator!

Bob Fox
 Scotch Plains

ABCDIJKLMNOPQRSTUWXYZ



Diction Deception

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. Patas - The West African red monkey
2. Achromasia - Lack of pigment in the skin
3. Cappadine - Waste silk sheared from silkworm's cocoons after the good silk has been reeled off
4. Exsiccate - To dry up or evaporate

INCHOATION

1. Shame; humiliation
2. Revenge
3. Renewal or restoration
4. An early stage or beginning

INAURATION

1. The process of covering with gold ore
2. The process of extracting gold from ore
3. The ceremony of Sainthood
4. The ceremony of crowning or proclaiming an emperor

YPERITE

1. Topsoil
2. A deposit of pebbles, gravel and sand in which diamonds are found
3. Mustard gas
4. A translucent quartz of leek-green color

VARIOLOID

1. A mild form of smallpox
2. In botany, furnished with branches in pairs
3. An astringent or repellent
4. A scar or ulcer underneath the skin

Should Westfield Approve Temporary Lights at Kehler?

In a controversial proposal, the Westfield Board of Education is set to vote in early March on whether to allow portable lights at Kehler Stadium on Rahway Avenue. The Westfield Soccer Association, which would pay for the cost of the lights, recently came before the town's recreation commission seeking to have the lights put in on a trial basis from March through May.

The lights would only be used during practices for soccer and lacrosse teams. No games would be played under the lights. The BOE would have the use of the field from dusk until 7 p.m. and the soccer and lacrosse associations from 7 p.m. until 9:40 p.m. with practices commencing at 9:30 p.m.

As pointed out by the soccer association to the recreation commission, this would provide a total of 127 hours and five minutes extra playing time for the soccer and lacrosse teams.

When anyone hears lights at an outdoor athletic facility they think of late night games, screaming fans and bright lights and jump on opposition wagon known as NIMBY (Not in My Back Yard). Already we have heard of a petition drive to oppose the lights.

Also, Recreation Commission Chairman Peter Echausse has said temporary lights are not as strong as regular lights and therefore will not likely project an enormous amount of light.

In our opinion, the school board should restrict any approval of the lights to only that of a trial basis. This would be an opportunity to weigh negative impacts on surrounding neighborhoods versus more practice time for the soccer and lacrosse teams. If down the road the school board were decide to make the lights a permanent fixture at Kehler, there would have to be more discussion and a clear review of any problems, costs or concerns the surrounding community raises during the initial trial period.

Temporary lighting equipment really doesn't do a very pleasing job for athletic activities. They aren't perfect. Sooner or later, will there be a push for permanent, expensive lighting?

But right now, the lights proposed are only to be utilized during practices. Westfield's fields are busy and it makes it difficult to schedule practices. So, will portable lighting enable our athletes to have more practices as practice makes perfect?

Let Me Provide A Balance to Mr. Schoeman About Lying Public Figures

In his letter to the editor about lying public figures, Mr. Schoeman leaves quite a gap between modern times and World War II. Let me fill in part of the gap with some examples - and provide some balance.

"In spite of the wildly speculative and false stories of arms for hostages and alleged ransom payments, we did not, repeat, did not, trade weapons or anything else for hostages. Nor will we."

"Intelligence gathered by this and other governments leaves no doubt that the Iraq regime continues to pos-

sess and conceal some of the most lethal weapons ever devised."

"Saddam Hussein is a threat because he is dealing with al Qaeda."

"We do know, with absolute certainty, that Saddam is using his procurement system to acquire the equipment he needs in order to enrich uranium to build a nuclear weapon."

"I don't think that [the war in Iraq] damaged our reputation around the world."

John Robison
 Westfield

Is It Too Much to Ask to Clear Curb Cut of Snow at WF Train Station?

I live in Fanwood and I use a wheelchair when I travel. I use NJ Transit to travel into NYC - usually I use the train from Westfield to go into NYC and then either the train or the bus back home.

When everything is right, I have no issue hopping on or off the train or bus. The way things are laid out in the parking lot and the street, with curb cuts, etc., I can make it all work.

The issue I have is that when we have snow, sometimes, the snow is pushed into the curb cut, effectively blocking my access. Note I said "sometimes" - I've seen it where we've had a foot of snow and the lot is plowed and curb cuts are clear. I've also seen when we've had just a few inches of snow where the lot is clear, but curb cuts are blocked.

Earlier this week we got a small amount of snow but the roads were clear by late afternoon so I drove to the train to head into NYC. When I got to the train station the handicap

spots and the rest of the lot was cleared, but all the snow had been pushed to the front of the parking spots, completing covering the curb cut.

Now, having lived with this issue for most of my life, I'm pretty resourceful and with the help of a passerby was able to get it done but... is it too much to ask that when the lot is cleared that the curb cut is cleared as well and not used as a holding area for snow?

This is not the first time I've had the issue, just the first time I'm letting you know. Last year one time I needed to call the Westfield police because there were no passersby. The police responded quickly and got me over the mound of snow but really?

Anyway, thanks for listening. Hopefully you can get some attention to this and maybe resolved going forward.

Angelo Mongiovi
 Fanwood

\$85 Billion Problem Can No Longer Be Swept Under the Rug

The Christie Administration and State Legislature will have to get serious on fixing the state pension system now that a judge has ruled that Governor Chris Christie must increase funding by \$1.57 billion in the Fiscal Year 2016 budget.

State employee unions had sued the Governor, arguing the pension cuts he did the last budget cycle were unconstitutional.

Both sides reached an agreement in 2011 to fund employee pensions. But the Governor slashed funding for 2014 from \$1.7 billion to \$700 million and wanted to contribute \$681 million rather \$2.25 billion this year after state revenues fell well below what had been anticipated; but has now put \$1.3 billion in the FY 2016 budget for pensions. The state, based on the 2011 agreement, should be funding pensions to the tune of \$2.9 million for the next fiscal year based on the 2011 agreement.

While trying to fully fund pensions, the Governor

must also come up with a funding solution for the state's Transportation Trust Fund which currently is only bringing in enough money to pay off its debt.

Finding sufficient revenue and cutting entitlements to fix these two issues will not be easy. Democrats, which control both houses of the Legislature, favor an income tax surcharge on millionaires which the Governor has opposed. We would like to see the priorities listed and ranked so that rational decisions can be made. No more "Hocus Pocus."

The New Jersey Education Association has agreed to work with the Governor whereby the state would transfer control of pensions to a trust to be overseen by the NJEA. Would this be a good thing or a scary prospect?

The Governor's reform plan would require an amendment to the state Constitution to be voted on in November.

Why Not Publish Police Blotter for Scotch Plains and Fanwood?

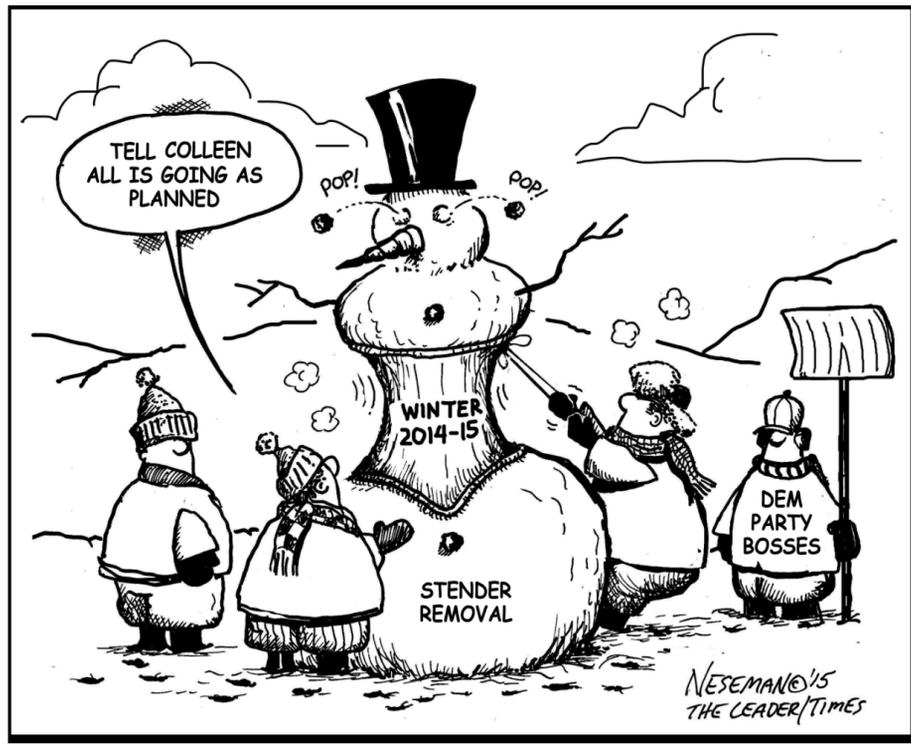
Today's issue [last week] of *The Times* apparently had no room for police reports from Fanwood or Scotch Plains, but only from Westfield. This is odd since the name of the paper is *The Scotch Plains - Fanwood Times*, and if space is limited, one would expect information from those towns instead of Westfield.

Moreover, the paper found room for criticism of Hillary Clinton (letter, page 4), a report that the mayor of Newark hired two relatives (page 3), pending legislation to allow nurse practitioners to determine cause of death (page 2) and an effort by the lieutenant governor to curb texting while driving (page 3). None of these

have any particular relevance to Fanwood or Scotch Plains. If it is necessary to cut for lack of space, why not cut these and include news that pertains directly to the towns the paper is named for?

David Harris
 Fanwood

Publisher's Response:
 Hello David,
 We're having problems getting the information from Scotch Plains and Fanwood police departments lately (as well as a few others). It seems to do with all the changes in their departments. We're trying to rectify the situation.



Westfield Soccer Clarifies Proposal For Lighting Trial at Kehler Stadium

The Westfield Soccer Association's (WSA) proposal for a pilot program asks for temporary lighting to be placed at Kehler Stadium. The proposal was made to the Board of Education (BOE) facilities committee on February 12th and the facilities committee invited the WSA to make the proposal to the full BOE and the public on February 17th. That said, the facts reported last Thursday in *The Leader* were inaccurate as to duration of the pilot and the hours of use by both the Westfield High School (WHS) and the youth programs involved.

The WSA proposes to put four Wanco temporary light generators at Kehler to be used from dusk till 9:30 p.m. on weekdays only for practice only; 3 to 7 p.m. for the high school teams and 7 to 9:30 p.m. for youth soccer or lacrosse (Lax). Lights off at 9:40 to allow for safe egress from the field area. The trial period will run from early March till mid May. These are the key points not reported correctly. I have included below the bullet points as presented to the BOE and the public at the meeting February 17, 2015.

The Wanco units generate noise levels at 71db at 23 feet, the equivalent of standing next to a vacuum cleaner - Decibel chart shows comparative sounds at 71 db (decibel levels drop 6db for every added 23 feet of distance.) In our placement configuration, the unit's noise level would be equivalent to human conversation with just the unit on the northwest corner, the other units would be hundreds of feet away from the property line. The generators are not without sound, they are, however, efficient and should not create noise pollution. (www.osha.gov). An added note, these night time hours

are for weekdays only, not weekends. These hours will be for practices only, not games with spectators, buzzers and whistles.

The units will run for 60 to 70 hours before refueling. The units will be taken off the premises for refueling probably needed just once during the pilot. The fuel tank is incorporated into the generator housing with locked access.

The units will be turned on at dusk by WHS staff and turned off at 9:40 p.m. by WSA staff with a WSA board member present at each training session. (Labor chart to be provided prior to the pilot inception). All costs associated for the rental, insurance, and fuel will be provided by the WSA and Lax youth programs. There will be no direct costs borne by the BOE. The only indirect cost will be some additional minimal wear and tear on the turf field, which will come in part from school use and in part from town program use. The BOE will have to accept this normal wear and tear as a consequence of additional field usage, which is a desired goal. The sports associations have, in the past, contributed to the cost of turf at Kehler. The pilot is not conditioned on future funding of replacement turf. Operating keys to be held by WHS staff and returned to lock box each evening.

Tutorial on unit operation to be provided by equipment supplier.

Duration of pilot March through May 15th - The Westfield Recreation Dept. issues permits to all recognized user groups and works in conjunction with the athletic office at WHS.

Neither the rec. dept. nor WHS will issue permits to any user other than WSA/LAX during this pilot.

Peter Franks
 WSA Board Trustee, Westfield

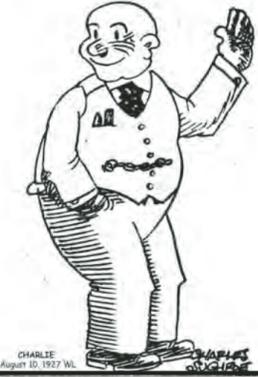
Our Elected Officials

Every day, our elected leaders make choices, which affect everyone. As Governor of New Jersey, I've been faced with difficult decisions regarding hurricane recovery, taxes, and, this week, pension reform. It's a job I don't take lightly. Like you, I respect a leader who has the fortitude to make the hard choices - especially those who can put what's best for our long-term interests ahead of what is politically expedient.

Our leaders should be focused on creating opportunities for every citizen to succeed. It's time to make tough choices and encourage leaders across the country to tackle big issues like pension reform and benefit reform to get back on the right track to create a growing national economy. We can do better.

Governor Chris Christie
 New Jersey

BRR... CAN'T WAIT TIL WE GET BACK TO GLOBAL WARMING



Union County Freeholders
 Elizabeth, New Jersey
 (908) 527-4200
 Al Faella, Mgr. afaella@ucnj.org
 Mohamed Jalloh, chair
 mjalloh@ucnj.org
 Sebastian D'Elia, Public Info.
 (908) 527-4419
 sdelia@ucnj.org

State LD-21 Sen. Thomas Kean, Jr. (R) 425 North Ave. E. Westfield, N.J. 07090 (908) 232-3673 Asm. Jon Bramnick (R) 251 North Ave. West Westfield, N.J. 07090 (908) 232-2073 Asm. Nancy Munoz (R) 57 Union Place, Suite 310 Summit, N.J. 07901 (908) 918-0414	State LD-22 Sen. Nicholas Scutari (D) 1514 E. Saint Georges Ave. Linden, N.J. 07036 (908) 587-0404 Asm. Linda Stender (D) 1801 East Second St. Scotch Plains, N.J. 07076 (908) 668-1900 Asm. Jerry Green (D) 17 Watchung Ave. Plainfield, N.J. 07060 (908) 561-5757	7th Congressional District Representative Leonard Lance (R) 425 North Avenue E., Westfield, NJ 07090 (908) 518-7733 [Westfield, Mountainside, Garwood, Summit and Cranford are in the 7th Congressional District] 12th Congressional District Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman (D) 850 Bear Tavern Road, Suite 201, Ewing, NJ 08628 (609) 883-0026 [Fanwood, Plainfield and most of Scotch Plains are in the 12th Congressional District]
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senkean@njleg.org, senscutari@njleg.org
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Letters to the Editor

Last Time Lights at Kehler Were Proposed, BOE Was Trounced

I was shocked to see a proposal which seems to have the blessing of the Board of Education to erect lights at Kehler Stadium to allow use from 4:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Do those proposing this have any memory of the vote a few years ago which roundly trashed the duplicitous proposal of Ms. Mamory and the Board to light the fields and erect seating? Did they all forget the reaction of those who lived in the area?

It would be interesting to know how long this proposal has been worked on before it became public. For a member of the board to admit he had already looked into solar lighting shows this has been "quietly" discussed for some time.

It would also be interesting to see where the vocal proponents live in relation to the field. Has anyone from the board taken a poll of the neighbors?

I live on Carleton (Place) and can hear the public address system and the cheering, (not to mention the music) when I'm in my house. I have no doubt there will be heavy promises that all the children will be mute, that the generators will purr like kittens and will emit only attar of roses and that the lights will magically illuminate only the field, not the surrounding property. They will also

guarantee that the cars dropping off and picking up children will be silent and unobtrusive. While listening to these promises, please remember how truthful and candid these proponents of lighting were the last time they tried to dupe us.

Do you really believe that the present limitations being promised will last more than 10 minutes after the first lights are lit?

Do you really believe that teams can practice without loud voices? These are children. Since when are they quiet while playing?

May I suggest that the board has again decided it wants lighted fields, has worked hand-in-glove with its strawmen to have the facade that the board is being asked, "out of the blue," for just a little leeway to light just one little field for quiet practice. If the board were deferential to the voters, it would have told the first proponent to forget about lighting and night games. It would have referred the proponent to the trouncing the board took the last time it suggested this and it should have remembered that it would be far better for the board not to remind the public of the duplicity of which it was found guilty the last time around.

A. John Blake
Westfield



In 2014, 23 cents of every dollar paid in real estate taxes by Westfield homeowners went to Union County, where under one-party rule the Freeholder Board runs a bloated annual budget of half a billion dollars as if it were their personal political fiefdom. Last week *The Westfield Leader* published an excellent commentary on one of their pig troughs, the Union County Improvement Authority (UCIA). The UCIA is an open secret: a county agency where under-qualified cronies are hired in executive positions at taxpayer expense.

In Union County hiring other office holders and cronies (friends, family, supporters and donors) or awarding them government contracts can take many forms, but two recent ones actually take something else — they take the cake. As reported by the *Leader*, Linda Stender, a former county freeholder, ex-Fanwood mayor and current state assemblywoman (at a salary of \$49,000) was recently hired by a unanimous Freeholder vote as "deputy director and project manager" of the UCIA at a salary of \$90,000. It is hard to believe this hire was an "arms-length" transaction. It is hard to believe that no one with extensive project management experience in the public or private sector, and thus more qualified, applied for the job. And it is worrisome to see that for full-time pay, our Freeholders did not hesitate to hire a crony who already has, and will continue to hold, another demanding government job. The fact is in Union County a second and higher paying job is the ultimate crony paycheck; it often comes near the end of a government employee's career to boost their three-year income average upon which a public pension is based. And guess who is paying that inflated bill?

The other recent crony hiring was even more audacious, and that was current Democratic Freeholder Al Mirabella as the new town manager of Scotch Plains. As noted by resident Albert Muller in a letter-to-the-editor last week, Mirabella was hired by the Town Council without any town manager experience at a salary of \$145,000, which was \$25,000 more than the previous manager. Add in his current Freeholder salary of \$30,000 and at \$175,000 Mr. Mirabella is now in pension-padding hog heaven. Once again, it is hard to believe this hire was at arm's-length,

and that no one with actual town administrator experience applied for the job. As bad as that smells, the stench from the new conflict of interest is even worse.

At the county level of government there are times when the Freeholder Board must consider taking an action that will have an adversarial impact on an individual town. As Freeholder, will Mr. Mirabella recuse himself from every issue that involves the Town Of Scotch Plains? Well, all county-wide business also impacts his town, in addition any issues that may be specific to Scotch Plains. The better question is: what county business is there that Mirabella can actually vote on that is conflict free?

As we all know, "no man cannot serve two masters" and a county Freeholder who now has a fiduciary duty to an individual town cannot fairly, equally and effectively serve the other 500,000 residents of Union County who live outside his town, as he was duly elected to do. Mr. Mirabella should rethink and resign his Freeholder position before the New Jersey State Ethics Commission pays him a visit. And why not? No doubt his generous friends on the Democratic Scotch Plains Town Council will be glad to make up a chunk of his lost \$30,000 Freeholder salary in a pay raise next year. That's what cronies do for cronies, and with your tax dollars, in the Union County Democratic cesspool.

NJFMBMA President Eddie Donnelly

RAHWAY — "Yesterday (Monday) the court ordered Governor Christie to pay his bills but instead he is asking firefighters, teachers, social workers; all those that make our state work to balance his checkbook. Governor, pay your bills!"

"The NJEA leadership should be ashamed of allowing Governor Christie to slash the terms of retirement their members' have earned. We cannot allow the rules impacting people's lives to change midstream, once again. Standing shoulder to shoulder with my members, I will not allow that. WE will not allow that."

"We have seen the results of Christie's previous 'reforms', increased obligations to our members, while New Jersey taxpayers' burden continues to be even greater. Instead of more deceptive backroom deals, now is the time for us to stand together to bring about meaningful changes that save our pension system without further burdening taxpayers."

George Washington, Where Are You? Your Country Needs You Again

Your editorial about President George Washington is excellent. There is much to admire about him! He did not relish power, was not a career politician, and was reluctant to be President! He resigned command of the Continental Army. He served two terms as President, though he could have served for life given his enormous popularity!

He wanted the planned presidential residence to be called "The White House" and not "The Presidential Palace." Refreshing!

He was relieved the Senate decided to call him "Mr. President" and not "His Majesty the President," "His Illustrious and Excellent President" or "His Highness, the President of the United States." Refreshing!

He thought it was undignified for the President to shake hands and no one dared to slap him on the back! Refreshing!

His State of the Union Addresses were shorter than most others.

His military knowledge and skill served the country well. He is the only President who as President personally led troops into battle! He commanded 13,000 militia, successfully ending the Whiskey Rebellion. President Washington in his farewell address (a letter to the American people) stated, "It is our true policy to steer clear of permanent alliance with any portion of the foreign world."

"I hold the maxim no less applicable to public than to private affairs, that honesty is always the best policy."

President Washington called for "the unity of government...for it is a main pillar in the edifice of your real independence, the support of your tranquility at home, your peace abroad; of your safety; of your prosperity; of that liberty you so highly prize."

The Constitution "is sacredly obligatory upon all." Avoid "the necessity of...overgrown military establishments." He warned against "the baneful effects of the spirit of party generally." He called for "avoiding in the exercise of the powers of one department to encroach upon another."

"Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political stability, religion and morality are indispensable supports." "...it is essential that public opinion should be enlightened."

"...cherish public credit...to use it as sparingly as possible...not ungenerously throwing upon posterity the burden which we ourselves ought to bear."

The conclusion to his address is a masterpiece in humility! "I am nevertheless too sensible of my defects not to think it probable that I may have committed many errors!" He hoped that "the fault of incompetent abilities will be consigned to oblivion".

Most refreshing!

Congressman Henry Lee gave the eulogy for George Washington. "First in war - first in peace - first in the hearts of his countrymen...pious, just, humane, temperate, and sincere; uniform, dignified, and commanding, his example was as edifying to all around him as were the effects of that example everlasting...virtue always felt his fostering hand...Such was the man America has lost - such was the man for whom the nation mourns."

George Washington, where are you now that your country needs you once again?

Stephen Schoeman
Westfield

GOP and Dem Differences Obvious at Budget Address

TRENTON - Deputy Assembly Republican Leader Anthony Bucco, R-Morris and Somerset, who is a member of the Assembly Budget Committee, issued the following statement after Gov. Christie delivered his budget address before a joint session of the Legislature:

"One doesn't have to look any further than today's budget address to realize the differences between Republicans and Democrats. When Governor Christie said 'no new taxes' in his address, not one member of the Democratic Party stood in support."



HAPPY WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY...Bill Sanders, formerly of Mountainside and director of Portraits of Patriots, made a George Washington Portrait presentation to The Garrison School in Garrison, N.Y. next to West Point. It was a joint gift and presentation by Friends of the American Revolution at West Point, Inc. and the Portraits of Patriots Project. Pictured, from left to right, are: Mr. Sanders, Craig Watters, FAR, and Betsey Blakeslee, Ph.D, president, Friends of the American Revolution at West Point, Inc.

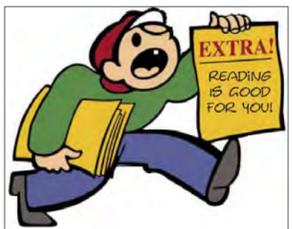
Lance: Obama Vetoes Bipartisanship Re Keystone Pipeline Project

WASHINGTON, DC - Rep. Leonard Lance (R-7th) on Tuesday released the following statement in response to the President's veto of the Keystone Pipeline Approval Act, which passed both the U.S. House and Senate with significant bipartisan majorities.

"I am disappointed the President vetoed one of the first bipartisan jobs bill passed by the new 114th Congress. The Keystone XL pipeline project enjoys broad, bipartisan support from Republicans and Democrats, labor unions and small business owners, not to mention an overwhelming majority of the American public."

"Today's veto action, done quietly

without fanfare, shows that the Obama Administration has not yet engaged in bipartisan cooperation with the new Congress. I hope the President will do so in the near future, on this and other issues important to the nation."



MARCH 2015 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 & Saturday 9:30 am - 5:00 pm Sunday 1:00 - 5:00 pm		
PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS (Check website for sign up information)		
3/5	7:00 pm	Computer Class: Advanced Word
3/6	1:30 pm	TGIF! Da Vinci and the Code He Lived By (video)
3/7	2:00 pm	"Hotter than a Pepper Sprout" American Music by Nina Et cetera duo
3/9	2 & 6:30 pm	Foreign Film: Le Chef (French, 84 minutes)
3/13	1:30 pm	TGIF! Satchmo-Louis Armstrong (video)
3/14	2:00 pm	Computer Class: Genealogy on the Web
3/18	7:00 pm	Linda Kenyon presents Babe Didrikson
3/20	1:30 pm	TGIF! Travel-Inside the Vatican (video)
3/27	1:30 pm	TGIF! Classic Movie Week: "Sabrina"
PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN (Check website for sign up information)		
3/6	3:45 pm	Chess Club (no age limit, must know how the pieces move)
3/10	6:30 pm	LEGO Club (grades 1-5)
3/13, 20, 27	10:00 am	Playgroup for Babies (0-23 months. Parent/caregiver attends.)
3/24 & 31	1:00 pm	Afternoon Fun for 4's and 5's Storytime (Story, crafts & fun)
3/25	10:30 am	Time for 3's Storytime (songs & rhymes)
3/26	10:30 am	2's on Thursday Storytime

Westfield Pediatric Dental Group Celebrates Children's Dental Health Month

Dentistry for Infants, Children Adolescents, and Special Needs



Dentistry for Infants, Children Adolescents, and Special Needs

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- Laser Dentistry
- In Office General Anesthesia

Timothy P. McCabe, D.M.D.
Board Certified

Julie Jong, D.M.D.
Board Certified

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Hugh Gleason, 70, Earned Bronze Star; Enjoyed Boating, Fishing at N.J. Shore

Hugh Gleason, 70, of Westfield and Point Pleasant Borough, died on Thursday, February 19, 2015, of a sudden illness at Overlook Medical Center in Summit with his family by his side.

Born in Orange, N.J., he had lived in Maplewood before moving to Westfield in 1974.

Hugh was a graduate of St. Patrick's High School and a veteran of the Vietnam War, having served in the U.S. Army, where he was a recipient of the Bronze Star. He enjoyed a 35-year career as owner of a Snap On Tools franchise before retiring in 2008.

His love of the warm weather and the outdoors led him to spend most of his summers at the Jersey Shore, where he shared his passion for water, boating and fishing with his family and friends.

He is survived by his best friend and wife of 45 years, June (Moriello); his daughter, Colleen Dupuis (Andrew); his sister, Geraldine Turinchak (Michael); and his grandchildren, Riley and Cooper Dupuis.

A Funeral Mass was offered on Monday, February 23, at Saint Helen's Roman Catholic Church in Westfield. Interment with military honors followed at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Saint Helen's Helping Hands or to The Pride Program of Florham Park.

Arrangements were by Memorial Funeral Home, 155 South Avenue, Fanwood. For additional information or to sign the guestbook, visit fanwoodmemorial.com.

February 26, 2015

Gladys Marie Essex, 95, Had Owned Florida Fruit Shoppe In Fanwood

Gladys Marie Essex, 95, of Scotch Plains went to be with the Lord on Saturday, February 21, 2015.

Born in Windsor, Ontario, Canada, she was a longtime resident of Scotch Plains.

As a young woman, Mrs. Essex worked as a supervisor in the payroll department at the Ford Motor Co. in Windsor, Canada. Later in life, she and her husband, Walter, owned and operated the Florida Fruit Shoppe in Fanwood.

A devoted Christian, she was a longtime member of the Terrill Road Bible Chapel.

She is survived by her husband of 58 years, Walter; her sons, David (and his wife, Renee) and Stephen; her sister, Kathleen Erlanson, and her grand-

sons, Timothy, Daniel and Andrew. Visitation will be held tomorrow, Friday, February 27, from 5 to 8 p.m., at Memorial Funeral Home, 155 South Avenue, Fanwood.

A memorial service will take place on Saturday, February 28, at 11:30 a.m., at the Terrill Road Bible Chapel, 535 Terrill Road, Fanwood. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to www.greenwoodhills.net; Greenwood Hills Bible Camp, 7062 Lincoln Way East, Fayetteville, Pa. 17222. For additional information or to sign the guestbook, visit fanwoodmemorial.com.

February 26, 2015

Deutscher Club Posts Blood Drive

CLARK — The Deutscher Club, located at 787 Featherbed Lane, Clark, has scheduled its next blood drive for Saturday, March 21, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The ALYX system for collection will again be available. Donations will take place inside the club's ballroom and will support local hospitals. A free continental breakfast or a light lunch, consisting of bratwurst, potato salad, sauerkraut and beverage, will be offered to all donors.

AARP Offers Trip To Casino March 5

AREA — The Rahway AARP will hold a trip to Atlantic City's Resorts Casino on Thursday, March 5. The cost is \$25 and participants will receive a \$25 voucher. The departure time is 8:30 a.m., with participants returning home at 6:30 p.m. Interested persons are asked to call Irene at (732) 499-7740.

SHERIFF'S SALE
SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-15000342
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
CHANCERY DIVISION
UNION COUNTY
DOCKET NO. F-031399-13
Plaintiff: RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2013-TT2, BY U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY, BUT SOLELY AS LEGAL TITLE TRUSTEE, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS VS.
Defendant: HOWARD F. BELL; JEAN MARIE JACKSON-BELL; STATE OF NEW JERSEY; BENEFICIAL NEW JERSEY INC D/B/A BENEFICIAL MORTGAGE CO.
Sale Date: 03/11/2015
Writ of Execution: 12/02/2014
By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETH-TOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, New Jersey on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.
The judgment amount is: ***Four Hundred Sixty-Five Thousand Five Hundred Forty-Eight and 44/100*** \$465,548.44.
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD IS LOCATED IN: Borough of Fanwood, County of Union, in the State of New Jersey.
PREMISES COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 1 Pandick Court, Fanwood, New Jersey 07023.
TAX LOT #26 BL 0102 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 76 feet x 105 feet.
NEAREST CROSS STREET: n/a
*Also subject to subsequent taxes, water and sewer plus interest through date of payoff.
Total Upset: ***Four Hundred Seventy-Nine Thousand Eight Hundred Forty-Five and 10/100*** \$479,845.10 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.
Joseph Cryan Sheriff

SHERIFF'S SALE
SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-15000103
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
CHANCERY DIVISION
UNION COUNTY
DOCKET NO. F-030950-12
Plaintiff: BANVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC, A DELAWARE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY VS.
Defendant: 354 NORTH GARWOOD ASSOC., LLC; GIUSEPPE AMATO A/K/A JOSEPH AMATO, INDIVIDUALLY; WACHOVIA BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION N/K/A WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.; GARWOOD KITCHENS & BATHS AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY
Sale Date: 03/04/2015
Writ of Execution: 12/04/2013
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: ***Eight Hundred Fifty-Nine Thousand Two Hundred Thirty-Nine and 01/100*** \$859,239.01
Property to be sold is located in: Borough of Garwood, County of Union, in State of New Jersey.
Premises Commonly Known As: 354 North Avenue, Garwood, New Jersey 07027.
Tax Lot # 26, Block # 111
Approximate Dimensions: 50 feet x 150 feet.
Nearest Cross Street: Walnut Street.
*Also subject to subsequent taxes, water and sewer plus interest through date of payoff.
Total Upset: ***Eight Hundred Ninety-Seven Thousand Two Hundred Twenty-Six and 79/100*** \$897,226.79 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.
Joseph Cryan Sheriff

Obituaries

Elly E. Risch, 89, Active Volunteer; Had Worked as Translator/Secretary

Elly E. Risch, 89, born Elfriede Nitsch, passed away on Friday, February 20, in North Wales, Pa. Mrs. Risch was born in Krakow, Poland and grew up in Europe during the tumultuous times surrounding World War II. She was an only child and as a teenager, her family escaped Poland to avoid Nazi occupation and moved to Vienna, Austria. There they found shelter with other family members and Elly became an Austrian citizen. Times were not easy in post-war Vienna, which was divided into four sections, each run by different World War II allies.



Elly E. Risch

In Vienna, Elly worked as a translator/secretary at a construction equipment distributor using her command of six languages — German, Polish, Russian, English, French and Czech. She later added Turkish to her impressive list of languages. While working there she met her future husband, Grant, to whom she remained married for 63 years until his recent passing. They raised four sons, each born in a different country, while Grant often traveled to surrounding countries and overseas during his career with Ingersoll-Rand. She exhibited remarkable resilience while taking care of her four boys in countries throughout Europe and the Middle East. She was often faced with making difficult family decisions by herself in the days when lack of available communications made it impossible to reach Grant. The family eventually settled in Westfield, N.J. and she and Grant remained in New Jersey for many years. Elly was active in volunteer organizations such as Meals on Wheels and was well-respected in her community. Although Elly became an American citizen, she always considered herself to be Austrian at

heart. In Austria, Elly developed a great appreciation for the Alps, where she enjoyed hiking. Her passion for hiking was rekindled later in life when she and Grant bought a lake house in the Adirondack Mountains, where they spent many happy summers together. Despite all the challenges life brought Elly, she always kept her keen sense of humor and pleasant outlook, which made it a special joy to be with her. She recently moved with Grant to Pennsylvania, near their son, Victor.

She is survived by her four sons and eight grandchildren, son Victor and wife Mary Jane, their children, Laura (fiancé Matt Vitale), Grant and wife Kathryn, and Martin; son Robert and wife Patricia, their children, Lillian, Peter (wife Sara and expected child) and Jesse; son John and wife Barbara West, and son Thomas and wife Catherine and their children, Emily Weiss and Hannah Weiss. She is predeceased by her husband, Grant; her father, Viktor Nitsch, and her mother, Leopoldine Sermiak.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend Elly's Funeral Mass at 11 a.m. on Monday, March 2, at Mary Mother of the Redeemer Catholic Church, 1325 Upper State Road, North Wales, Pa., where her viewing will begin at 10:30 a.m. Interment will follow at St. John Neumann Cemetery, Chalfont, Pa., followed by a family gathering. In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the National Audubon Society, www.audubon.org. Arrangements are by Scanlin Funeral Home of Chalfont, Pa. To send condolences to the family, please visit the funeral home website, www.scanlinfuneralhome.com.

February 26, 2015

Dorothy Foulds Mayo, Was Active In Music and Choir Groups, WCP, DAR

Dorothy Foulds Mayo of Matthews, N.C. died on Thursday, February 19, 2015.

Born June 24, 1917 in Passaic, N.J., Mrs. Mayo was the daughter of the late Raymond Thomas Foulds and Florence Magee Foulds. Following graduation from Passaic High School, she furthered her education at Centenary College and Syracuse University, from which she graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree and was then employed by the Bamberger Corporation.

Among her numerous contributions, Mrs. Mayo was active in the Community Concert Association of Westfield, N.J., the Musical Club of Westfield, the Westfield Community Players and the State Opera of New Jersey. She was a member of The Presbyterian Church in Westfield, N.J., where she sang in the Chancel Choir; member of the River Hills Community Church in Lake Wylie, S.C., where she sang in the choir; member of River Hills Country Club; member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Battle of Char-

lotte Chapter and the Fuller Society. She is survived by her daughter, Pamela M. Brownlee-Cooper (Fritz A. Cooper) of Charlotte, N.C.; grandsons, Andrew T. Groh of Detroit, Mich. and Andrew J.H. Liebchen (Chelsea DeSantis) of Mountain View, Calif.; granddaughter, Margaret E. F. Brownlee of Charlotte, and step-grandchildren, Quentin A. Cooper and Faith A. Cooper of Charlotte, as well as many nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her husband, Erskine B. Mayo, Jr.; her brothers, Raymond T. Foulds, Jr. and William R. Foulds; her daughter, Ann Elizabeth M. Groh, and her son, Jonathan E. Mayo.

A memorial service and interment will be held at a later date in Westfield, N.J. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, N.Y. Condolences may be offered at www.HaryandBryantFuneralHome.com.

February 26, 2015

Louise Scherzo, 88, Westfield Resident; Was Member of Holy Trinity Seniors

Louise "Lou Lou" Scherzo (née DiFonzo), 88, of Westfield passed away peacefully on Friday, February 20, 2015.

Louise was a homemaker who resided in Westfield her entire life and was a member of the Holy Trinity Seniors.

She was the beloved wife of 64 years to James V. Scherzo. She was the devoted mother of Marie Rizkalla and her husband, Paul, and Arlene McDevitt and her husband, Mike, and the loving sister of Sam DiFonzo, Angelina Migliozzi, Gilda Battaglia

and the late Pete DiFonzo. Louise also will be deeply missed by her four grandchildren, Krista, Kyley, Paul Jr. and Jenna.

Funeral services were held yesterday, Wednesday, February 25, at the Dooley Colonial Home, 556 Westfield Avenue, Westfield. Entombment followed at Saint Gertrude Cemetery in Colonia.

Memorial contributions to the Westfield Rescue Squad would be appreciated.

February 26, 2015

Harlan M. Smith, 93, Research Chemist; Active In Church Choir and Glee Club

Harlan Millard Smith, 93, passed away on Sunday, February 22, 2015, at his home in Fanwood. Born in Iowa, he had lived in Roselle before moving to Fanwood in 1954.

Harlan graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry from Carroll University in 1942, before serving as a captain with the U.S. Air Force from 1943 to 1945, earning a Bronze Star. He then graduated with a Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry from the University of Chicago. Harlan worked as a research chemist with Exxon Research and Development in Linden and New York City, and as a senior research associate in Florham Park, retiring in 1985.

He was a past member and Senior Warden of the Grace Episcopal Church in Plainfield, where he also served on the vestry and was a member of the choir. He also was a member of the church choir at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Westfield, the

American Chemical Society, the Westfield Glee Club and the English Speaking Union.

He was predeceased by his wife, Nancy Sinclair Smith, who died in 2005. He is survived by his three sons, Harlan II, Gregory and Donald, as well as his three granddaughters. He also is survived by his brother, Stephen Smith, and his sister, Jean Rowland.

A memorial service will be held at St. Paul's Church in Westfield at a later date. Arrangements are by Memorial Funeral Home in Fanwood. For additional information or to express condolences, visit www.fanwoodmemorial.com.

February 26, 2015

Sierra Club to Show Film About Activism

AREA — The Sierra Club Loantaka Group will screen the 2012 film *A Fierce Green Fire: The Battle for a Living Planet* at the club's meeting on Wednesday, March 11, from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Free and open to the public, the meeting will take place at the Library of the Chathams, located at 214 Main Street, Chatham.

The film features reports from past years of environmental activism, including footage of Greenpeace protesters in speedboats interfering with whaling and seal-hunting vessels. Eric Hausker, Loantaka co-chairman, will lead a discussion afterwards.

For more information, call (908) 233-2414, go to newjersey.sierraclub.org/loantaka or e-mail loantakasc@gmail.com.

Ms. Seufert to Exhibit Digital Montages

ROSSELLE PARK — Roselle Park resident Leona M. Seufert will exhibit her digital montages in "Soulscapes - A 10 Year Retrospective" at the Art and Soul Galleries in Roselle Park. The exhibit will run through Friday, March 13, 2015. A reception to meet the artist will be this Saturday, February 28, from 2 to 4 p.m. Art and Soul Galleries is located at 128 Chestnut Street. For hours, call (908) 245-5900.

Book Discussion at Library To Spotlight Harper Lee

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Memorial Library has announced that the book club will discuss "The Mockingbird Next Door" by Marja Mills on Wednesday, April 8, at 7 p.m. The library is located at 550 East Broad Street.

"The Mockingbird Next Door" chronicles the true story of *Chicago Tribune* reporter Marja Mills and Harper Lee, author of "To Kill a Mockingbird." After its enormous success, Ms. Lee withdrew from the relentless vortex of fame and never published another book.

But when "To Kill a Mockingbird" was chosen for "One Book, One Chicago" in 2001, Ms. Mills traveled to Ms. Lee's Alabama hometown, certain that she would never get anywhere near the author. Instead, Ms. Mills found herself living a literary fairy tale, as Alice, Harper's older sister by 15 years, and still working as an attorney in her 90s, ushered Ms. Mills into their book-filled home. Soon Ms. Mills, much to her astonishment, was watching football

games, going fishing and sharing meals with Alice, Nelle (Harper is her middle name) and their friends. When the Lees expressed their hope that Ms. Mills would record their reminiscences and "set the record straight," she rented the house next door and wrote a biographical memoir that illuminated the Lee women within their modest, slow-paced world.

Copies of the book are available at the library. Interested Westfield Memorial Library and MURAL cardholders may ask for one at the library's Circulation Desk. MURAL cardholders belong to libraries that are part of the Middlesex Union Reciprocal Agreement Libraries. For participating libraries, visit wmlnj.org.

Books for future discussions include "The Invention of Wings" by Sue Monk Kidd on Wednesday, September 9, and "All the Light We Cannot See" by Anthony Doerr on Wednesday, December 2. Both discussions will take place at 7 p.m. The book club is free and open to the public. For more information, visit wmlnj.org and click on the Online Calendar, or call (908) 789-4090, option 0.

SHERIFF'S SALE
SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-15000492
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
CHANCERY DIVISION
UNION COUNTY
DOCKET NO. F-016584-14
Plaintiff: WEICHERT FINANCIAL SERVICES VS.
Defendant: YVONNE J. ROSE
Sale Date: 03/25/2015
Writ of Execution: 10/29/2014
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 Thirty-Three Thousand Three Hundred Seventy-Five and 68/100*** \$333,375.68.
The property to be sold is located in the BOROUGH OF FANWOOD, County of Union and State of New Jersey.
It is commonly known as 4 CECILIA PLACE, FANWOOD BOROUGH, NEW JERSEY 07023
It is known and designated as Block 3, Lot 5.
The dimensions are approximately 71 feet wide by 125 feet long.
Nearest cross street: Midway Avenue.
Prior lien(s): NONE
*Subject to any unpaid taxes, municipal liens or other charges, and any such taxes, charges, liens, insurance premiums or other advances made by plaintiff prior to this sale. All interested parties are to conduct and rely upon their own independent investigation to ascertain whether or not any outstanding interest remain of record and/or have priority over the lien being foreclosed and, if so the current amount due thereon.
Total Upset: ***Three Hundred Forty-Three Thousand Five Hundred Nineteen and 33/100*** \$343,519.33 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 or 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.
Joseph Cryan Sheriff

SHERIFF'S SALE
SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-15000379
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
CHANCERY DIVISION
UNION COUNTY
DOCKET NO. F-009769-14
Plaintiff: HUDSON CITY SAVINGS BANK VS.
Defendant: ANDRE WIGGINS; SHEILA WIGGINS; BANK OF AMERICA, NA
Sale Date: 03/18/2015
Writ of Execution: 09/15/2014
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: ***Seven Hundred Forty-Nine Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty-Nine and 91/100*** \$743,859.91
The property to be sold is located in: The Township of Scotch Plains, County of Union, State of New Jersey.
Commonly known as: 812 Cleveland Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076-2022
Tax Lot No 5.02 in Block 6303
Dimensions (approximately) 90 x 62
Nearest Cross Street: Smith Street
Subject to any open taxes, water/sewer, municipal or tax liens that may be due.
*Also subject to subsequent taxes, water/sewer/water may be delinquent; you must check with the tax collector for exact amounts due.
Subject to Prior Mortgages and Judgments (if any). None.
Total Upset: ***Seven Hundred Seventy-Six Thousand Six Hundred Eighty-One and 13/100*** \$776,681.13 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 or 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.
Joseph Cryan Sheriff

SHERIFF'S SALE
SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-15000417
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
CHANCERY DIVISION
UNION COUNTY
DOCKET NO. F-0922-13
Plaintiff: DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY AS TRUSTEE FOR WAMU MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATE SERIES 2004-AR(1) VS.
Defendant: TIMOTHY J. SCHETELICH; LAURE SCHETELICH; HUSBAND AND WIFE; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY
Sale Date: 03/18/2015
Writ of Execution: 09/23/2014
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: ***Five Hundred Thirty-Five Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety-Two and 10/100*** \$535,892.07.
The property to be sold is located in the TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS, County of UNION and State of New Jersey.
Commonly known as: 2426 HILL ROAD, SCOTCH PLAINS, NEW JERSEY 07076.
Tax Lot No. 4 in Block No. 7703
Dimension of Lot Approximately: .000,233 AC
Nearest Cross Street: MARLBORO ROAD.
BEGINNING at a point in the southeasterly line of Hill Road, distant therein northeasterly 264.60 feet from a concrete monument at the beginning of a curve bearing southeasterly to the northerly line of Marlboro Road; from thence running
PRIOR LIENS/ENCUMBRANCES
SEWER OPEN PLUS PENALTY \$313.13
2013 3RD PARTY UTILITY LIEN SOLD ON 10/28/2014 CERT NO. 1491 \$320.76
TOTAL AS OF November 26, 2014: \$633.89
Total Upset: ***Five Hundred Fifty-Eight Thousand Six Hundred Eighty-Two and 75/100*** \$558,682.75 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.
Joseph Cryan Sheriff

SHERIFF'S SALE
SHERIFF'S FILE NO.: CH-15000500
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
CHANCERY DIVISION
UNION COUNTY
DOCKET NO. F-12932-13
Plaintiff: FIRST HORIZON HOME LOANS A DIVISION OF FIRST TENNESSEE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION VS.
Defendant: KARA SCHWERDTFEGE, BERNARD M. SCHWERDTFEGE, WIFE AND HUSBAND
Sale Date: 03/25/2015
Writ of Execution: 12/05/2014
By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, at the UNION COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 10 ELIZABETH-TOWN PLAZA, Elizabeth, New Jersey on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.
The judgment amount is: ***Four Hundred Seventy-Two Thousand Sixty-Eight and 70/100*** \$472,068.70.
The property to be sold is located in the TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS, County of UNION and State of New Jersey.
Commonly known as: 2335 CAROL PLACE, SCOTCH PLAINS, NEW JERSEY 07076.
Tax Lot No. 14 in Block No. 3402
Dimension of Lot Approximately: 83 x 108
Nearest Cross Street: CEDAR STREET.
BEGINNING at a point on the northeasterly line of Hill Road, distant therein southeasterly 249.00 feet from the corner formed by the intersection of the northeasterly line of Cedar Street (if extended) (60 feet wide) with the said northwestwesterly line of Hill Road (if extended) (50 feet wide); thence running
PRIOR LIENS/ENCUMBRANCES
SEWER OPEN PLUS PENALTY \$263.13
TOTAL AS OF November 26, 2014: \$263.13
Total Upset: ***Three Hundred Forty-Three Thousand Five Hundred Nineteen and 33/100*** \$343,519.33 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.
Joseph Cryan Sheriff

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Attorney: STERN, LAVINTHAL, FRANKENBERG, LLC
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SUITE 302
ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY 07068
(973) 797-1100
4 T - 02/26, 03/05, 03/12 & 03/19/15
Fee: \$212.16

Attorney: ZUCKER, GOLDBERG & ACKERMAN, LLC
200 SHEFFIELD STREET
SUITE 301
MOUNTAINSIDE, NEW JERSEY 07092
SUITE 201
PARISPANY, NEW JERSEY 07054
(908) 238-8500
File No. XCZ-161379
4 T - 02/19, 02/26, 03/05 & 03/12/15
Fee: \$197.88

Attorney: FEIN, SUCH, KAHN & SHEPARD, PC
7 CENTURY DRIVE
SUITE 201
PARISPANY, NEW JERSEY 07054
(973) 538-4700
4 T - 02/19, 02/26, 03/05 & 03/12/15
Fee: \$193.80

Attorney: FEIN, SUCH, KAHN & SHEPARD, PC
7 CENTURY DRIVE
SUITE 201
PARISPANY, NEW JERSEY 07054
(973) 538-4700
4 T - 02/26, 03/05, 03/12 & 03/19/15
Fee: \$185.64

First Baptist Course to Focus On Church History Events

WESTFIELD — The First Baptist Church of Westfield, located at 170 Elm Street, plans to offer a course to the community in March entitled "An Introduction to Church History: The 100 Most Important Events." The class will consist of six sessions. Each hour-long meeting will feature a lecture and time for group discussion. Course lectures will be supplemented with readings from "The 100 Most Important Events in Christian History" and a variety of other primary source documents.

age and human potential. Lastly, Pastor Kadin will lead a group to Rhode Island between May 28 and 31. In the course of this excursion, participants will visit the First Baptist Church in America, Roger Williams National Memorial and Brown University before departing for Block Island to perform a variety of service projects with the Migrant Worker Center based in New Shoreham's Harbor Church. Interested persons are asked to contact Reverend Williams by e-mail at kadinw@verizon.net or (908) 233-2278, or Nancy Lambros, church administrator, by e-mail at firstbaptist.westfield@verizon.net or (908) 233-2278.

Caregivers Meeting To Be Held Monday

WESTFIELD — A support group for people who are caring for elderly or chronically ill loved ones meets on the first non-holiday Monday of each month at the parish center of St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church on Lamberts Mill Road in Westfield. The next meeting will take place on March 2. These meetings are information and sharing sessions. For more information about this support group, call Marilyn Ryan at (908) 232-1214.



SCOUTS EARN AWARDS...Students from Cub Scout Pack No. 73 of Holy Trinity Interparochial School received The Light of Christ and Parvuli Dei awards at the annual Boy Scout Mass on Sunday, February 8, at the Roman Catholic Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark. Pictured with Coadjutor Archbishop Bernard Hebbda, from left to right, are: Daniel Fannick, Henry Hiel, Thomas Fecowycz, Patrick McGovern, David Lovato and Conleth Gorham. Michael Preite also was honored. Conleth Gorham additionally was selected to assist Archbishop Hebbda during the ceremony, in which Scouts from the three counties of the archdiocese received various awards.

Senior Advisory Comm. Lists Members, Upcoming Trips

SCOTCH PLAINS — Mayor Kevin Glover has appointed the following members to the Scotch Plains Senior Citizens Advisory Committee for 2015: Ilse Heinemeyer, Elsie LeStrange, Dominic and Phyllis Lisanti, Terry DiGiacomo, Marge Van Duyme, Ted Ziolkowski and Laura Swidersky, chairwoman.

Members are dedicated to planning trips, and to being available to residents for suggestions, ideas or questions of any kind regarding Scotch Plains senior citizens' concerns or individual problems. Committee meetings are held the last Monday of the month, except for July, August and December, in the Scotch Plains Municipal Building.

The first bus trip will be on Tuesday, April 28, to the Thayer Hotel at West Point, New York. The cost includes a buffet luncheon and show, "The Big City Jamboree" music from Broadway to Down Home. Registration will begin on Monday, March 9, for Scotch Plains and Fanwood residents, at a cost of \$50. Registration for all other senior citizens begins the following Monday, March 16, at a cost of \$52.

Registration may be done in person at the Scotch Plains Recreation Office, Room 113, 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, Monday through Friday, between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Online registration will begin March 9 at scotchplainsnj.gov.

The second trip, set for Wednesday, August 19, is a cruise on the Delaware River leaving from Penns Landing in Philadelphia. Pricing and registration information will be available in May.

For more details, call (908) 322-6700, extension no. 221, or (908) 322-2084.

Torah Center Welcomes All For Purim Celebrations

TORAH CENTER — The Union County Torah Center will present multiple Family Purim Celebrations this coming Holiday of Purim at the center, located at 111 Laurel Place, Westfield. On Wednesday, March 4, at 6:30 p.m., there will be a Megillah reading followed by Hamantashen and refreshments, open to the public free of charge.

The Torah Center will have another Megillah reading on Thursday, March 5, at 7:45 a.m., as it is a Mitzvah to hear it being read on Purim day as well. The center will host a family Purim Bash that afternoon. There will be a Megillah reading at 5 p.m. with a simultaneous slide show for children that will take them through the entire story of Purim as it is written in the Megillah.

The Megillah relates the Purim story in which Queen Esther was instrumental in the deliverance of the Jewish people from the threat of annihilation at the hands of Haman and the inhabitants of the Persian Empire 23 centuries ago.

Children also are invited to participate in a masquerade contest. All children dressed in costume will receive a prize, and a \$100 gift certificate to Toys "R" Us will be awarded for the best costume.

At 6 p.m., there will be a Purim Dinner followed by Tom D and his Purim Ventriloquist Comedy Show.

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Memorial Library will present "Hotter than a Pepper Sprout" by the musical duo Nina Et cetera on Saturday, March 7, at 2 p.m. The library is located at 550 East Broad Street.

Nina and Tim of Nina Et cetera will play the music of Johnny Cash, Billie Holiday, Hank Williams, Patsy Cline, Peggy Lee, Gershwin and many others. The instrumentation includes guitar, vocals, bass, percussion, harmonica and much more. The duo also will entertain the audience with a sprinkling of anecdotes highlighting the diversity and rich history of American music spanning jazz, blues, gospel, folk and rock and roll.

Nina Et cetera to Perform At Westfield Library

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Memorial Library will present "Hotter than a Pepper Sprout" by the musical duo Nina Et cetera on Saturday, March 7, at 2 p.m. The library is located at 550 East Broad Street.

Nina and Tim of Nina Et cetera will play the music of Johnny Cash, Billie Holiday, Hank Williams, Patsy Cline, Peggy Lee, Gershwin and many others. The instrumentation includes guitar, vocals, bass, percussion, harmonica and much more. The duo also will entertain the audience with a sprinkling of anecdotes highlighting the diversity and rich history of American music spanning jazz, blues, gospel, folk and rock and roll.

Nina began studying guitar and singing at the age of 7 with her current bass player, Tim. Since then, she has studied at Berklee College of Music and has played in numerous bands. Tim studied North Indian vocal music in New Delhi and music theory at Long Island University. In addition to performing, Nina and Tim teach privately.

Needle Nite to Take Place At Local Church March 6

FANWOOD — The monthly Needle Nite program at the Fanwood Presbyterian Church is scheduled for Friday, March 6, at 7:30 p.m., in Westminister Hall. Visitors are asked to enter from Marian Avenue.

The quilters should bring all finished quilts, identified with quilt name and quilter, in preparation for the Harvest Quilt Show on Saturday, March 28. Knitters and those who crochet will bring projects they make for charity to be shown at the Quilt Show.

During this meeting, all participants will make "Ditty Bags" for the Seamen's Church Institute's Christmas at Sea project.

All are welcome to come and see what is being done and to join the group. If fabric, batting or yarn is needed, Needle Niteers may e-mail their requests to needlenite@fanwoodpc.org.

Donated materials end up in many forms usable by the charities that receive them. Needle Nite participants then take their newly-learned skills for use at home. For further information about these projects or directions to the Fanwood Presbyterian Church, call the office at (908) 889-8891, e-mail admin@fanwoodpc.org or check the website fanwoodpc.org.

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

Real estate listings for Sheriff's Sale in Scotch Plains, NJ, featuring property details, legal descriptions, and contact information for Joseph Cryan Sheriff.

Real estate listings for Sheriff's Sale in Chancery Division, Union County, NJ, featuring property details, legal descriptions, and contact information for Joseph Cryan Sheriff.

Westfield Hist. Soc. to Hear About Triangle Factory Fire

WESTFIELD — The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire, which occurred in Manhattan on March 25, 1911, will be the program topic at the Westfield Historical Society's First Wednesday Luncheon on March 4. The luncheon will begin at noon at the Echo Lake Country Club, located at 515 Springfield Avenue, Westfield.

The fire was the deadliest industrial disaster in the history of the city and one of the deadliest in U.S. history. It caused the deaths of 146 garment workers — 123 women and 23 men — who died from the fire and smoke inhalation or from falling or jumping from the building. Most of the victims were recent Jewish or Italian immigrant women aged 16 to 23.

Abbott Gorin will be the guest speaker. Mr. Gorin is a staff attorney with Essex Newark Legal Services, representing indigent clients in protecting their housing rights. Prior to this, he served for almost 30 years as an attorney with the Department of Housing Preservation and Development of the City of New York enforcing the city's Housing Maintenance Code. Mr. Gorin was deeply influenced by the American Labor Movement, which had been part of his family's history as well.

All those wishing to attend the luncheon are asked to make a reservation by calling (908) 233-2930 by noon on Monday, March 2.

The cost of the luncheon is \$30 for Westfield Historical Society mem-

bers and \$35 for non-members. It includes a three-course meal, coffee or tea and gratuity.

To learn about upcoming community-oriented events or luncheons, visit westfieldhistoricalsociety.org or "like" the Westfield Historical Society's Facebook page, which has the latest events listed.

AARP Chapter Posts Meeting For Monday

WESTFIELD AREA — Westfield Area AARP Chapter 4137 will meet on Monday, March 2, at 1 p.m., at the Scotch Hills Country Club, located at Jerusalem Road and Plainfield Avenue, Scotch Plains. Debbie Price, executive director in charge of all the exercise programs offered at the Jewish Community Center (JCC) of Central New Jersey in Scotch Plains, will demonstrate and talk about exercises that participants can do at home for maintaining balance.

Members are asked to bring to the meeting a non-perishable food item or personal item, which will then be delivered to the Westfield Food Pantry, the chapter's main charitable endeavor. The Westfield Food Pantry helps families throughout Union County, and through members' generosity this past year, the chapter was able to give \$500 in ShopRite food certificates to the Food Pantry for use at the Thanksgiving holiday.

Refreshments and fellowship will follow the business meeting. If there is a question about the meeting being held because of weather conditions, call one of the chapter officers.

Westfield Y Reveals Return Of Healthy Back Program

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Area Y has announced that it will bring back the four-week "Way to a Healthy Back Program" at the Main Y Facility, located at 220 Clark Street, Westfield. The program will run on Thursdays, March 5 to March 26, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. each session.

AmeriCare Physical Therapy will provide the knowledge and tools participants need to put them in control of their back and neck. Participants will learn posture tips and proper body mechanics, including safety with lifting, bending, sitting and standing. The goal of the program is for attendees to leave after four weeks with the ability to help prevent pain and injury and to participate safely in their home, work and gym activities.

Leading this series will be certified physical therapists from AmeriCare Physical Therapy in Mountainside: Dr. Susan Rele, a longtime member of the American Physical Therapy Association and a certified McKenzie Method therapist, and Marianne Luckenbach, a board-certified hand therapist specializing in the treatment of upper extremity conditions and injuries. Physical therapists are licensed professionals and experts in fitness, injury prevention and post-injury rehabilitation.

Registration is mandatory and can be done online at westfieldynj.org or in person at the Welcome Center at the Main Y Facility. Anyone with questions is asked to contact Jean White, Health and Wellness director, at (908) 233-2700, extension no. 246, or by e-mail at jwhite@westfieldynj.org.

To learn more about Westfield Area Y programs, visit westfieldynj.org. Financial assistance is available for those who qualify.

Anthony James Construction of Westfield Receives Best Of Houzz 2015 Award

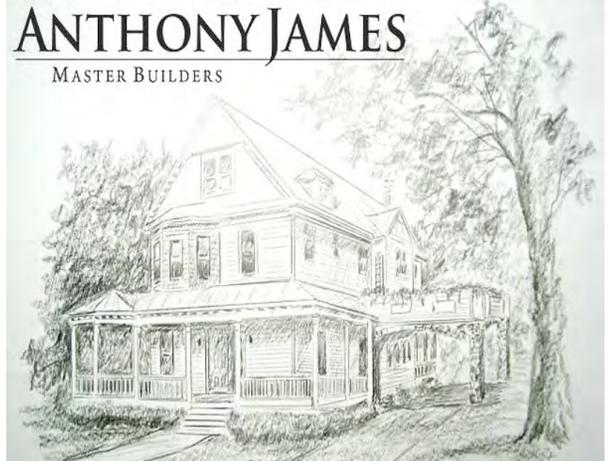
WESTFIELD — Anthony James Construction of Westfield, N.J., has been awarded "Best Of Houzz" in two categories: Design & Customer Satisfaction by Houzz, the leading platform for home remodeling and design. The hometown Master Builder, who is celebrating their 25-year anniversary, was chosen by the more than 25 million monthly unique users that comprise the Houzz community from among more than 500,000 active home building, remodeling and design industry professionals.

Design award winners' work was the most popular among monthly users on Houzz, known as "Houzzers." Customer Satisfaction honors are determined by a variety of factors, including the number and quality of client reviews a professional received in 2014. Visit An-

thony James Construction on Houzz at houzz.com/pro/hammers.

Houzz is the leading platform for home remodeling and design, with everything they need to improve their homes from start to finish — online or from a mobile device. From decorating a room to building a custom home, Houzz is the easiest way for homeowners, home design enthusiasts and home improvement professionals across the country and around the world. People find inspiration, get advice, buy products and hire the professionals they need to help turn their ideas into reality. Headquartered in Palo Alto, Calif., Houzz also has international offices in London, Berlin and Sydney. For more information, visit www.houzz.com.

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Celebrating 25 Years!

Attorney: POWERS KIRN - COUNSELLORS 728 MARINE HWY PO BOX 848 SUITE 200 MOORESTOWN, NEW JERSEY 08057 (856) 802-1000 4 T - 02/26, 03/05, 03/12 & 03/19/15 Fee: \$175.44

Attorney: FEIN, SUCH, KAHN & SHEPARD, PC 7 CENTURY DRIVE SUITE 201 PARSIPPANY, NEW JERSEY 07054 (973) 538-4700 4 T - 02/19, 02/26, 03/05 & 03/12/15 Fee: \$187.68

Attorney: POWERS KIRN - COUNSELLORS 728 MARINE HWY PO BOX 848 SUITE 200 MOORESTOWN, NEW JERSEY 08057 (856) 802-1000 4 T - 02/19, 02/26, 03/05 & 03/12/15 Fee: \$191.76

Lady Devils Stun Roselle Catholic
In UCT Semi - story next week

THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Sports Section
Pages 9-13

WF's MITCHELL NETS 16 PTS, COUGAR REMLEY 15 PTS

Blue Devil Boys Sprint Past Cougar Cagers in UCT, 58-40

By DAVID B. CORBIN
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times
Free throws may have dominated the fourth quarter, but the Westfield High School boys basketball team began to separate itself from the Cranford Cougars late in the second quarter with back-to-back 3-pointers en route to a 58-40 victory in the

second round of the Union County Tournament in Westfield on February 18.
The two 3-pointers just before the half snapped a 20-20 tie and came off the hands of Blue Devils Parker Hess and Matt LaCorte, respectively. Hess finished the game with eight points, including a second 3-pointer, and

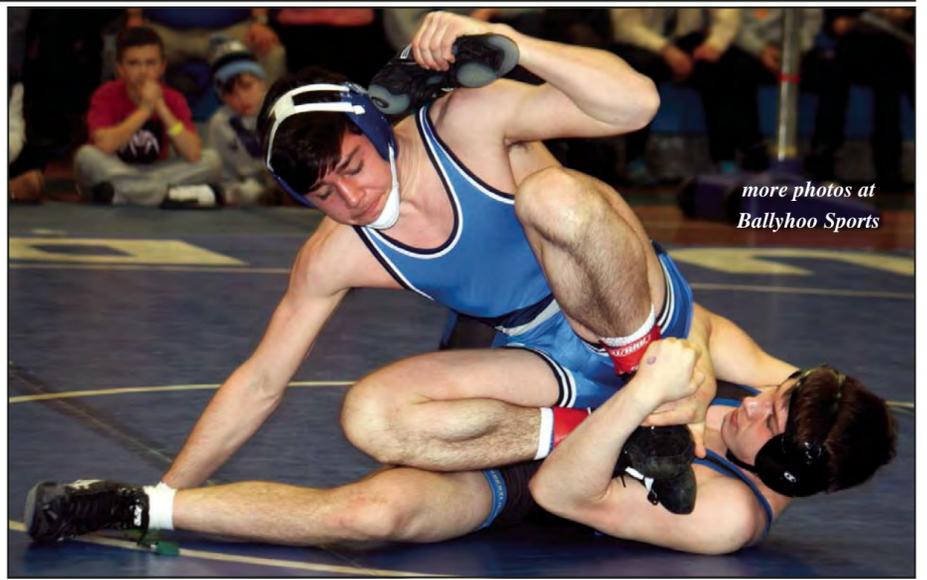
LaCorte finished with 10 points, including another 3-pointer.
"We didn't play well in the second half. That's all it is," Cougar Head Coach Ryan Huber said. "They made some shots. We didn't. They hit two threes right before the half and that made it a six-point game. In the sec-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



more photos at
Ballyhoo Sports

ALWAYS ON GUARD...Blue Devil Danny Mitchell, No. 13, guards Cougar Sean Leonard, No. 23, in the Union County second round game at Westfield on February 18. The Blue Devils won, 58-40, to advance to the quarterfinal round.



more photos at
Ballyhoo Sports

DISTRICT 11 OUTSTANDING WRESTLER...Raider JT Beirne, top, won the 138-lb crown at the District 11 Tournament in Westfield on February 21 and was named the Outstanding Wrestler.

BEIRNE GETS 'OW', LAPHAM BREAKS SPF WIN RECORD

Cougars Repeat, Raiders 2nd At District 11 Mat Tournament

By DAVID B. CORBIN
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times
Nine Cougars reached the finals and six emerged with individual titles to earn the Cranford High School wrestling team its second straight District 11 Championship in Westfield on February 21. The Cougars, who had five champions and totaled 189.5 last year, finished with 203 points this time, followed by the Scotch Plains-Fanwood (S) Raiders with three indi-

vidual champions and 169 points. Rahway (R) took third at 122.5, Linden (L) was fourth at 118, Westfield (W) took fifth at 97 and Elizabeth (E) took sixth at 86 followed by Brearley (B) at 60.
Raider JT Beirne recorded pins over Kevin Harrison (Shabazz) and Blue Devil Nick Kalimtzis to reach the 138-lb title bout with Cougar Dave Busch. Kalimtzis took third with a 7-4 win over Philippe Lovensky (R).

In a wild first period where it appeared that Beirne got a takedown and a three-point tilt, he discovered that he was awarded no points, because Busch was still clinging to his foot. Beirne regrouped, got a double-leg takedown then added a fireman's takedown before pinning Busch in 3:08 with a double-leg to half nelson. After the tournament, Beirne was voted Outstanding Wrestler.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

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LINDROS WINS 2, HUSCH WINS; TEAM 5,118 POWER PTS

Cherry Hill East Boys Halt Westfield's Swim Reign, 86-84

By J.B. RAYMOND
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

EWING - Westfield and Cherry Hill East have been heated rivals in the swimming pools of New Jersey since the height of the Vietnam War. The 45-year rivalry has often seemed like a New Jersey version of the Civil War - the North against the South.

The latest version took place Saturday in the state Public A championship meet at the College of New Jersey, and it ranked right up there with the often-bitter rivalry's best.

The NJSIAA may have charged \$9 a ticket, but nobody asked for a refund. As one Westfield fan said afterward, "I'm pretty sure everybody got their money's worth from that meet."

The Cougars (14-0) won five of the eight individual events, including a 1-2-3 sweep of the 50-free, and all three relays. But the Blue Devils (13-2) - who broke the school record with 5,118 power points - kept the meet within range, as they had in their 90-80 sectional final victory over Hillsborough. After a 2-3-4 in the 100-back and a 1-2-3 sweep of their own in the 100-breast, WHS had surged back from a 14-point deficit into a 78-78 tie with just the 400-free relay left.

With eight points for first place, four for second and two for third, this was literally a winner-take-all swim.

John Lindros, who had won the 200 (1:44.32) and 500 (4:42.79), led off the last relay for WHS with a 47.43 and a two-body length lead. Ryan Bebel (50.21) was second and he held on to the lead for Kevin Claus (48.72), who maintained the narrow lead as anchors Aedan Collins and East's Duncan Brookover took the pool. With bedlam in the stands and on the pool deck, the two anchors flipped basically even at the end of their first 50. Brookover, who had earlier won the 200IM (1:55.36) and 100-back (51.51), pulled slightly ahead at the 75. But as they neared the finish he started to fade, while Collins (47.97) finished with a huge burst of energy. When they hit the wall, it was impossible to tell who had touched first until the scoreboard showed Lane 5 (East) with a 3:13.89 and lane 4 (WHS) in 3:14.01.

That gave East an 86-84 victory, and ended WHS's three-year reign as Public A champions. It also denied the Blue Devils their 26th state title. For East it was their 10th state crown, the first was in 1971 and the most recent was 2002. (See Devil's Den on page 12)

It was especially disappointing for the seniors, who were looking to become the first WHS boys team to win four straight state titles. Since freshmen weren't eligible for varsity sports until 1978, the class of 2015 could have been the first four-time state champions in school history.

"It was a great meet," WHS coach Jeff Knight said. "It came down to a tenth of a second here and a tenth of a second there. We've won meets like that, just not this time."

East started the meet with a victory in the medley relay, dropping nearly three seconds from its time in the semifinals. Brookover, Nick Rosa, David Rowe and Pat Gillooly won in 1:35.35. When WHS was 2-3 in 1:36.84 and 1:39.98, you knew it was going to be an extremely fast meet.

A 1-2 by Lindros and Collins (1:45.78), along with a fifth by Griff Morgan (1:47.56), gave WHS a 17-13 advantage after the 200-free. Then a 2-3-4 in the 200IM by Claus (1:57.62), Jack Rose (2:02.64) and Lucas Fan (2:03.13) provided the Devils with their final lead at 26-20.

There were some minor problems with the timing system in Lane 7, and the Cougars were the beneficiary both times. East finished 1-2 in the 50-free, but its third swimmer mishit the touchpads and was sixth according to the scoreboard. The officials checked the backup timers and awarded East the third place in what would have had to be a very splashy four-man photo finish.

After the break, East appeared to go 1-3 in the 100-butterfly with the Devils 2-4-5. But East's Lane 7 swimmer was given the fifth place when the officials ruled the touchpad had malfunctioned again.

Both of these point switches would prove critical in an 86-84 meet.

East seemingly put the hammer down at that point with a 1-3-4 finish in the 100-free - Quinn's 47.85 avoided another sweep - for its largest lead at 54-40.

But Lindros, Morgan (4:58.34) and Nick Youssef (5:03.98) went 1-3-5,

cutting the lead to 60-50.

The Cougars loaded their 200-free relay, using Rowe and Gillooly for their fourth (and final) swim. But that proved a good move as they were needed to pull off a narrow 1:28.95 to 1:29.99 victory, leaving East with a 68-56 advantage and just three events remaining.

It was around this time that former Blue Devil star Matt Meserole ('10) did what a captain (or former captain) does in tough times. Up from Baltimore to watch the meet, he started a "Field ... West ... Field ... West" chant that pumped some life into the Westfield crowd. When East's fans tried to drown them out with their own cheers, the noise level was off the charts.

Brookover won the 100-back in 51.51, but Dave Lindros (53.60), Claus (53.93) and Rose (55.25) finished 2-3-4 and it was 75-65 East.

Stephen Husch (58.62), Steve Warren (59.98) and Stefan Crigler (1.81) delivered a 1-2-3 sweep of their own in the 100-breaststroke. All of a sudden the meet was down to a winner-take-all 400-free relay. It was 194 seconds that won't soon be forgotten by anyone who was there.

"This is atop five moment in Cherry Hill East history," East coach Joe Cucinotti told *The Star-Ledger*. "If you want to be the best, you have to beat the best. And Westfield has been the best for years."

- 200 medley relay:** 1. C (Duncan Brookover, Nick Rosa, David Rowe, Pat Gillooly) 1:35.35, 2. W 1:36.84, 3. W 1:39.98.
- 200 free:** 1. John Lindros (W) 1:44.32, 2. Collins (W) 1:45.78, 3. Aronson (C) 1:47.10.
- 200 IM:** 1. Brookover (C) 1:55.36, 2. Claus (W) 1:57.62, 3. Rose (W) 2:02.64.
- 50 free:** 1. P. Gillooly (C) 21.40, 2. Rowe (C) 21.76, 3. Mogil (C) 21.98.
- 100 fly:** 1. Rowe (C) 51.05, 2. Husch (W) 53.12, 3. Finias (C) 54.00.
- 100 free:** 1. P. Gillooly (C) 47.12, 2. Collins (W) 47.85, 3. Aronson (C) 48.62.
- 500 free:** 1. J. Lindros (W) 4:42.79, 2. Rosa (C) 4:45.47, 3. Morgan (W) 4:58.34.
- 200 free relay:** 1. C (Rowe, Josh Mogil, Dan Aronson, P. Gillooly) 1:28.95, 2. W 1:29.99, 3. W 1:30.66.
- 100 back:** 1. Brookover (C) 51.51, 2. D. Lindros (W) 53.60, 3. Claus (W) 53.93.
- 100 breast:** 1. Stephen Husch (W) 58.62, 2. Warren (W) 59.98, 3. Crigler (W) 1.81.
- 400 free relay:** 1. C (Aronson, Sean Finias, Mogil, Brookover) 3:13.89, 2. W 3:14.01, 3. W 3:21.24.

Devil's Den

Westfield-CH East Rivalry Is An Oldie But Goodie

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



It began in 1971. That was the year Cherry Hill East ended WHS's 10-year reign as state swimming champions. That was the year the rivalry started.

WHS had rung up 102 points to capture the 1970 state title. That was more than Columbia, CH East, CH West and Seton Hall Prep - the 2-3-4-5 finishers - had combined!

Then in 1971 Cherry Hill East put up 91 points, WHS was a distant second with 42 ... and the times were a'changing.

For the past 55 years, New Jersey's dominant public school swimming programs have been Westfield ('60s, '90s and '00s) and Cherry Hill East ('70s and '80s), with breakthroughs by Vineland ('80s and '90s), Bridgewater-Raritan ('90s and '00s), Hillsborough ('00s), Mountain Lakes ('60s, '90s, '00s) and Moorestown ('70s, '00s).

Last Saturday at the College of New Jersey, ancient rivals WHS and Cherry Hill East were at it again, meeting in the Public A final for the second straight year. And they put on a classic show for the ages. Before a capacity crowd that roared wildly with each finish, East edged the Blue Devils by .12 of a second in the decisive 400 freestyle relay to post an 86-84 victory and capture its first state title since 2002, and 10th overall; WHS has won 25 state titles.

Maybe it's my age, and not knowing how many more of these epic moments I'll be around to enjoy, but as I walked through the snowy CNJ campus Saturday, those 1970 state championship meets were on my mind. CNJ is a nice school, with a very fast pool. But my mind was on those old battles at Princeton's ancient Dillon Pool, with its concrete bleachers and tiny little warmdown pool. Walking across the Princeton campus as the students blasted Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, Fleetwood Mac or Genesis out of giant speakers from their dorm windows onto the quads would get anybody pumped.

On several snow-filled weekends, I remember driving down Route 1 with my good buddy the late Charlie (the Scorekeeper) Hansen and getting a room in a motel across from what is now Princeton Market Fair and staying the weekend.

There was Joe Wilson's memorable three gold-medal performance at the 1972 championships, in a heartbreaking loss to Cherry Hill East. And 1974, when East won 88-81 after Westfield's winning medley relay disqualified for an early start. To top it off, the Devils lost the 400-free relay to Moorestown by .02 of a second. Sherb Naulty and Mark Vejnoska, along with divers Steve Schramm and John Krakora, helped Westfield regain the top championship in 1975, but then followed three more years of heartbreak - 1976-77-78 - when East narrowly edged Westfield for state titles despite the efforts of Paul Healy and Co.

I moved out of Westfield for a job in Philly, and St. Joe's started its "Decade of Dominance" in 1980, with Cherry Hill East coming in second every time through 1986. In 1987 the state switched to the current Team Tournament format. Westfield spent the 1980s with plenty of good teams and good swimmers - Art Schmidt, Chris Nolan, Chris McFadden, Aaron Weber, Rich Andrews, Austin Burkett - but no state titles.

The tide started to change in 1990, when Darren Hertell, Dave Schwartz, Tom Mann and some others got to WHS. In 1991 WHS beat St. Joe's in a memorable regular-season down-

to-the-last-relay meet at the Y. The next year they ended St. Joe's 12-year reign (of terror?). Since those two events, the Blue Devils have been relevant in New Jersey swimming for the past quarter-century.

The WHS-East rivalry re-ignited earlier this century when the teams met in the 2000, 2001, 2003 and 2004 state Public A finals, the Blue Devils winning three of the four.

And that basically brings things to the present time. The two giants have met in the last two Public A finals, and things have come full circle, back to where they began in 1971.

B-BALL UPDATE

The boys and girls basketball teams will open play in the state tournament on Monday with a home double-header.

The girls (14-7) earned the fifth seed and will host No. 12 Dickinson at 5:30 p.m. Seniors Lil Scott and Jackie Knapp have led the way, as they have the past four winters. Scott has 316 points, 58 assists and 44 steals, while Knapp has 270 points, 49 assists and 58 steals. Shannon Devitt (75 points, 95 rebounds), Amelia Montes (73, 88) and Hannah Liddy (75, 71) help out on the boards, while Olivia Luzzi (68), Danielle Rinaldi (55), Grace Elliott (43), Abby Demers (34) and Jamie Miller round out the regulars.

The boys (12-9) are seeded seventh in North 2 Group 4 and will host

WRESTLING UPDATE

Junior Jarek Gozdieski was the lone WHS wrestler to capture a District 11 title last weekend, but he'll be joined by five teammates in the Region 3 tournament that began last night and continues this weekend at Union.

Gozdieski became WHS's 189th district champion since 1960, taking the 160-pound title. Also advancing were runnerup Chris Hoerle (106), and third-place finishers John Fuller (126), Nick Kalimtzis (138), Jack Miller (152) and Cotter Spurlock (220).

Westfield finished fifth, behind three teams they beat during the dual-meet season, and first-place Cranford.

Kevin Frega, who wrestled two years at WHS before moving to upstate New York, finished his junior season with a 31-5 record for Cazenovia High. The 195-pounder lost to eventual champion Jack Buell of Sherburne-Earlville, 9-4, in the quarterfinals of the Section III, Division II championships.

HOCKEY UPDATE

Two familiar foes went at it in the final of the Union County Cup, with Summit topping WHS 3-0. It was the fifth time they've met in the championship game of the seven-year history of the tournament. WHS won in 2013.

WHS advanced to the title game with a 3-2 shootout victory over



The 1985 WHS JV basketball team had a reunion Saturday night to celebrate the 35th anniversary of its Union County Tournament championship victory. Center (with ball) coach Stew Carey; front row (from left): Mark Nelson, Scott Blackmon, Neil Horne, Rick Ham; back row: Louis Russell, Rob Gladden, Matt Cowell, Ron Tate, Glenn McSweeney.

No. 10 Watchung Hills at 7 p.m. Owen Murray, Nick Mele, and Parker Hess lead the team in scoring with 177, 171 and 150 points. But the team's balanced attack features sophomore Matt Lacorte (132), seniors Sean Elliott (124) and Danny Mitchell (109), and junior Chris Boutsikaris (90). The Blue Devils defeated Chung 72-46 at the Ridge Holiday Tournament.

Both teams also advanced to the quarterfinal round of Union County Tournament last week, although only one survived. After beating Berkeley Heights, 58-45, in the quarterfinals on Friday, they were to play top-seeded and unbeaten Roselle Catholic in the semis on Tuesday. If they won, they would play in the title game tomorrow at Kean.

The boys eliminated Roselle, 71-44, and Cranford, 58-40, before coming up short against the Patrick School Saturday.

AND BABY MAKES A 'W'

Boys basketball coach Daryl Palmieri became a father for the second time, when Emmie Grace was born on Feb. 7. She joins big sister Avery. Coincidentally, Emmie was born on the same day WHS beat Scotch Plains, while Avery was born on the day WHS beat Rahway. That's 2-0 on birth days.

Cranford. Goalie Dan DoCampo, named the co-Most Valuable Player by the Union County League coaches, broke his own single-game school record for saves with 41.

WHS is seeded 10th in Public A in the state tournament and opened play this past Monday against Passaic Valley. If they won they'll play again today, likely against Hunterdon Central.

'FLASHBACK'

Have you "liked" the new "Flashback" feature on Facebook. Just go to the Varsity Vantage page and you'll find a daily "On This Date in Westfield Sports" history.

IN PASSING

Gary Owen, who was the announcer for the highly irreverent and totally cool "Rowan and Martin's Laugh-In" TV show in the 1960s, passed away on Feb. 12 at age 80.

Leslie Gore, who battled with the Beatles for the top of the music charts in the 1960s, passed away on Feb. 16 at age 68. She wrote and sang such teenage angst classics as "It's My Party," "You Don't Own Me," "Maybe I Know," "That's the Way Boys Are," and "Judy's Turn to Cry."

Sam Andrew, the founder and lead guitarist for San Francisco-based Big Brother and the Holding Company, Janis Joplin's band, passed away on Feb. 18 at age 73.

Remember to sign your children up for Westfield Lacrosse this spring.
www.westfieldlacrosse.com

The WHS Boys Team won the NJ Group IV State Championship in 2014.
The WHS Girls and Boys teams both competed in the Union County Finals in 2014.

Below is a list of current WHS Lacrosse players committed to playing sports in college.

- Girls -**
- Sophie Bass - Albright
 - Alyssa Cox - Virginia Tech
 - Lauren D'Amico - Dartmouth
 - Sam Paoletti - Boston College
 - Mallory Weisse - Northwestern
 - Claire Cassie - Penn State
 - Gwyn Devin - Vanderbilt
 - Maria Nemeth - Gettysburg
 - Hallie Rosenburgh - Virginia Tech
 - Emily Shields - USC
 - Shelby Taylor - Dartmouth
 - Haley Farella - Colorado
 - Hannah Liddy - Denver

- Boys -**
- Patrick Aslanian - Georgetown
 - Luke Prybylski - Villanova
 - Jack Simcox - Princeton (Football)
 - Jack Cash - Providence
 - Owen Colwell - John Hopkins
 - Matt McIlroy - Denver
 - Kyle Dombroski - Denver
 - Owen Prybylski - Villanova
 - Patrick McIlroy - Denver

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****This Story was set up for last week's Paper but inadvertently not placed****

SKOOG WINS 200-F, 200-BK; DAVIS SETS SPF RECORD

Raider Boys, Girls Capture North Public B Swim Crowns

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

Just two days after crushing West Windsor Plainsboro South (WWPS), 103-67, in the semifinals, the 15th-ranked Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys swim team stunned 11th-ranked Morristown, 105-65, for the North Jersey, Section 2, Public B championship in Perth Amboy on February 12. On February 13, the 14-0, No. 9 Raider girls, who defeated Mendham, 94-76, three days earlier in the semifinals in Scotch Plains, also doused Morristown, 100-70, for their respective title.

"It was two epic meets. On the boys side, we knew Morristown was very fast and we came out so strong in the first four events scoring in double digits on those events," Raider Head Coach Jess Hulnik said.

But on February 10 against WWPS, the Raiders touched first in all but four events, which included the first event when Chris Bondarowicz, Nick Heath, Matt Marino and Alex Skoog took top honors in the 200-medley relay with a time of 1:43.84.

Nolan Kearns won the 200-individual medley in 2:04.06 and Skoog won the 100-freestyle in 52.63. Eric Chang touched first in the 200-free at 1:50.97 and Heath won the 50-free in 23.13. Chang, Heath, JB Walling and Mike Rash won the 200-free relay in 1:36.45. Matt Auda, Henry Chang, Kevin Fleck and Brian Kenny won the 400-free relay in 3:39.2.

Against the Mo-town Colonials, the Raiders won six of the eight individual events, the opening 200-medley relay and the closing 400-freestyle relay. Skoog, who won two individual events, teamed with Marino, Heath and Bondarowicz to win the 200-medley relay in 1:38.1 then in the 400-free relay he teamed with Eric Chang, Rash and Walling to touch first in 3:25.97. Raiders Eric Chang, Nolan Kearns, Brian Kenny and Henry Chang finishing third in the 200-medley relay.

Skoog won the 200-free with a time of 1:45.19 and took top honors in the 100-backstroke at 53.24, while Eric Chang and Mark Mital took 3-5.

"Alex stepped right out of the medley relay to win the 200-free in a best time of 1:45:19 and Kevin Fleck and JB Walling added the 3 and 4 finish," Coach Hulnik noted.

Kearns got under two minutes at 1:58.99 to win the 200-IM, while Chris Bondarowicz and Henry Chang placed 3-5. The Raiders swept the 50-free with Marino touching first in 22.57, followed by Heath and Rash.

Rash came from behind out of lane six to win the 100-free in 49.62, while Eric Chang and Heath took 3-4. Bondarowicz won the 100-breaststroke at 59.38. Nolan Kearns took second and Max Kearns took fifth. Mo-town's Matt Critchley won the 100-butterfly in 52.88 and Jamie Viotto won the 500-free in 4:51.67. Owen Breslin, Derek He, Viotto and Mike Macchia won the 200-free relay in 1:31.45.

"Even in the events where we were outscored, we held our own and turned in some great times. It was an entire team effort in the victory," Coach Hulnik said.

In their win over Mendham, depth made the difference. Mendham placed first in seven of the 11 events. Raiders Sarah Davis, Erika Frasier, Stephanie Judge and Rachel Maizes touched first in the 200-medley relay with a time of 1:52.68. DeeDee Maizes won the 200-individual medley at 2:05.82. Rachel Maizes won the 100-freestyle in 56.51 and Grace Lesce won the 100-breaststroke in 1:16.21.

Depth came in handy against Morristown although the Raiders touched first in nine of the 11 events. Davis broke an SPF record set in 1978 when she finished first in the 200-free in 1:53.26, followed by Izzy Iacona and DeeDee Maizes.

"The Morristown girls presented as much of a challenge as their boys did with many very fast swimmers," Coach Hulnik said.

But the Raiders did get a good jump by finishing 1-3 in the opening 200-medley relay with Erika Frasier, Rachel Maizes, Judge and Amanda Banasiak going first at 1:48.84 and Sydney VonOehsen, Ann Marie Kearns, Olivia Barcia and Maya

Dunchus finishing third. Rachel Maizes won the 200IM in 2:14.23. Then the Raiders added a 1-3-4 finish in the 50-free led by Banasiak at 24.76, Dunchus and Megan Small. The 100-fly worked out well with Judge (58.58) and Erika Frasier going under the 1:00 mark for a 1-2 finish.

Davis (52.69), Bansiak and DeeDee Maizes joined forces for a 1-3-5 finish in the 100-free. Iacona won the 500-free in 5:23.16 then the Raiders had a 1-2 finish in the 200-free relay with Frasier, Banasiak, Dunchus and Davis touching first, followed by Small, Lauren Sjonell, DeeDee Maizes and Casey Daudelin. Judge (59.61) and VonOehsen went 1-3 in the 100-back. Morristown's only individual winner was Meghan Crowley, who won the 100-breaststroke in 1:10.41. Morristown also won the 400-free relay.

"I cannot emphasize enough how important it is to have depth in every event and how everyone on this team plays an important role in every victory," Coach Hulnik concluded.

Lady Raiders Top Princeton For Public B Swim Crown

The No. 9 Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School girls swim team certainly took advantage of its depth to defeat the No. 15 Princeton Tigers, 100-70, in the Public B championship meet held at The College of New Jersey in Ewing on February. It was the first state title for the Lady Raiders swim team.

The Raiders won only one of the eight individual events but came through with several second and third touches. They also won two of the three relay events, beginning with the 200-medley relay when Sara Davis, Rachel Maizes, Erika Frasier and Stephanie Judge finished in 1:47.37. Isabella Iacona at 5:24.83 led a 1-2-3 sweep in the 500-freestyle, followed by Olivia Barcia and Rachel Braun, respectively. In the 200-free relay, Rachel Maizes, Amanda Banasiak, Maya Dunchus and Davis touched first in 1:38.9.

Princeton Tiger Melinda Tang won

the 200-free in 1:57.15 and the 100-butterfly in 56.36. Tang, Abby Berloco, Madeleine Deardorff and Brianna Romaine took first in the 400-free relay at 3:38.7. Berloco won the 50-free in 23.7 and the 100-free in 51.48. Deardorff won the 200-IM in 2:09.63 and the 100-breaststroke in 1:09.35. Romaine won the 100-backstroke in 58.73.

The Lady Raiders finished the season with a perfect 16-0 record.

Probitas Verus Honos

SCOTT SCORES 17 POINTS; DWUNFOUR 14, BATTLE 10

Blue Devils Nip Lady Raiders In UCT 1st Round Hoops, 46-42

By ALEX LOWE
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Westfield rallied from a seven-point, first half deficit to overtake a feisty Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School girls basketball team, 46-42, in the first round Union County Tournament on February 17 in Westfield. Blue Devil senior Lillian Scott led the way with 17 points, three steals and eight rebounds. Raider center Thabitha Dwunfour netted 14 points, 10 rebounds and three blocks.

The 12-7 Blue Devils were without the services of Amalia Montes (injury) and Lizzie Brucia (illness), while the 9-12 Raiders entered having won six in a row. Early on, the Raiders served notice that they were a far better team than the one that lost to Westfield, 55-40, on January 22.

"Whenever we play Scotch Plains, it is a big rivalry game," said Westfield



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David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
FOULED WHILE ATTEMPTING A LAY-UP...Raider senior Leo Ramos, No. 15, gets fouled while attempting a lay-up against the ALJ Crusaders in Scotch Plains on February 19. Ramos made the free throw and finished with 24 points.

RAMOS NOTCHES 24 POINTS, EDWARDS PULLS 10 RBs

Raider Boys' Thefts Crumble Crusader Basketball, 79-65

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

Vicious acts of thievery beginning midway through the first quarter and extending through the second quarter that were all quickly converted to scores plus the rebounding strength of Bryce Edwards separated the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys basketball team from the A.L. Johnson Crusaders on its journey to a 79-65 victory in Scotch Plains on February 19.

The Raiders trailed the Crusaders, 8-2, in the first quarter until senior Leo Ramos (5 rebounds, 3 assists) came through with three steals that he converted to scores either by lay-ups or by drawing fouls then sinking the free throws. Ramos, who finished with 24 points, netted 10 points in the

quarter that the Raiders won, 14-12. Crusader Mitch Becker sank six of his 10 points in the quarter.

In the second quarter, Raider Tajir Taylor joined Ramos in the thievery act and helped catapult their team to a 38-22 lead by halftime. Ramos added seven more points and teammate Aaron Lee (2 steals, 2 rebounds, 2 assists) bucketed all 10 of his points in the quarter. Taylor would finish with five steals, 12 points and three assists.

"I think that we were able to pass the ball around well enough and get our shooters open. And we were able to hit down shots. Everything was dropping for us and that helped us pull away," Ramos said.

However, throughout the game Edwards was the "King of the Boards" and pulled 10 rebounds, while scor-

ing four points, including a 3-pointer and blocking a pair of shots.

With a degree of joviality, Edwards said, "I'm in the weight room. I lift. If anyone tries to out-rebound me, they can't. That's what I am trying to prove. And I proved it."

With a 16-point lead, the Raiders enjoyed mixing the strength of their bench with their starters. Ramos sank his final seven points, including a 3-pointer, and added an assist on Tajir Taylor's 3-pointer at the end of the third quarter before taking a seat in the fourth quarter. Raider Dan Balico hit four of his seven points in the quarter and Marquel Taylor (4 points, steal, 2 rebounds) sank a 2-pointer. George Visconti sank nine of his game-leading 28 points for the Crusaders and Dan O'Donnell hit seven of his 10 points.

The fourth quarter was a scoring free-for-all but the Raiders got the best of it, 25-23. Due to extensive fouling on the part of the Crusaders, the final two minutes seemed drawn out to an eternity, but the Raiders sank nine of 11 free throws down the stretch. Raider senior Emendo Thomas got into the act with five rebounds, three assists and two steals. He also netted all five of his points in the quarter.

"It was all hustle, just trying to make extra possessions for the team. Anything for the team, I do. Defense was a lockdown all day. I'm a scrap player, so you got to do what you got to do when you can't shoot," Thomas said while chuckling. "If you can't shoot, you got to pass."

Chris Lisojo (3 rebounds, steal) scored all seven of his points in the quarter. Cobi Silverstein scored four points and Tajir Taylor added three in the quarter. Visconti scored 11 more points in the quarter. Crusader Trevor McSorley finished with eight points and Brendon Stanzilone finished with seven points.

The Raiders' final home game would be Senior Night, February 20, against Oratory Prep.

AL Johnson	12	10	20	23	65
Sc PI-Fanwood	14	24	16	25	79

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

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Alex Lowe for The Westfield Leader and The Times

TRYING TO OBSTRUCT HER VISION...Cougar Sarah Ross, No. 11, tries to prevent Blue Devil Lil Scott from making a good inbound pass. The Westfield girls defeated the Cougars, 48-39, in Cranford on February 18.

SCOTT SINKS 20 POINTS, MacLELLAND SCORES 16 PTS

Blue Devil Cagers Dash Past Cranford Cougar Girls, 48-39

By ALEX LOWE
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Westfield High School senior Lillian Scott scored 20 points and grabbed six rebounds to power the Blue Devil girls basketball team past Cranford, 48-39, in regular season action on February 18 in Cranford. The Blue Devils led from wire to wire in successfully navigating a classic trap game. Westfield, already short-handed due to injuries to Amalia Montes and Liz Brucia, was playing

distance by scoring eight points in the first quarter. MacLelland's inside bucket with 1:15 remaining cut the deficit to 13-11. But Scott answered on the other end with a drive to the basket on which she was fouled. Scott would convert the free throw for a 16-11 Blue Devil lead heading into the second quarter.

"That was sort of the story of this game," said Cougar Head Coach Jackie Dyer. "Westfield would catch us and take advantage in situations

stake them to a 40-29 lead early in the fourth quarter.

"We are playing well right now," said Westfield senior Jamie Miller. "We have a couple of players hurt for us right now, so we are a little short on the bench, but our little girls in the backcourt have done a really nice job for us."

Despite some nice offensive sequences, Cranford could draw no closer than nine feet of the way. Westfield just never allowed the Cougars to get on a run without answering.

"I think we have a very talented group of girls on this team," said Cougar freshman Camryn Wichelns. "We just seem to lose our focus at certain points in games. Westfield exploited that today."

Devitt finished with six points, 10 rebounds and two blocks. Knapp netted eight points and Abby Demers had five points. Cougar Sarah Ross finished with seven points, while Lindsay Pace and Caroline McCaffrey each had five points.

The Blue Devils were set to play Governor Livingston next in the Quarterfinals of the Union County Tournament. Cranford was eliminated earlier by Summit, 55-51. If Westfield managed to get past Governor Livingston, it would likely mean a showdown in the semifinal round against Roselle Catholic.

Cranford meanwhile will set its sights on a trip to Voorhees in Glen Gardner for their first round match up in the state playoffs scheduled for March 3. Westfield, the fifth seed in the North 2, Group IV bracket will host 12th seeded Dickinson on March 2.

Westfield	16	12	8	12	48
Cranford	11	6	12	10	39



Alex Lowe for The Westfield Leader and The Times

ON GUARD...Blue Devil Danielle Rinaldi, No. 1, guards Cougar Lindsay Pace, No. 13, as Cougar Bela Speers, No. 24, tries to get open.

its second game in less than 24 hours, having just defeated Scotch Plains-Fanwood in a physical Union County Tournament first round contest.

"A fast turn around is definitely a challenge," said Westfield Head Coach Liz McKeon. "But our girls show a lot of heart and played well today. I really don't know when we'll have our girls back at full strength. We just have to keep playing hard in their absence."

Westfield (13-7) got off to a fast start in building a 7-2 lead midway through the opening period. Cerys MacLaelland (16 points, 6 rebounds) kept Cranford (4-16) within hailing

where we got a little lax on defense. And it has really been the story of our season so far. Four consistent quarters of play is what we need to win games and that has eluded us this season."

Westfield gradually built the advantage to 10 points after Jacqueline Knapp hit a three-point basket to make it 23-13, midway through the second period. Another 3-point bomb, this time from Olivia Luzzi with :11 to play made it 28-17 heading into the halftime break.

One thing that makes Westfield successful is that they rarely give the opponent a chance to get back into the game once they've established control. The Blue Devils kept the pressure on in the third quarter with Scott scoring on a jump shot and Shannon Devitt scoring on an inside move to the basket to stretch the lead to 32-17.

From there, the Cougars were in chase mode. Cranford managed to draw within seven points at 34-27 after back-to-back three point baskets by Sarah Ross and Lindsay Pace late in the quarter. But Scott would score Westfield's next six points to

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Blue Devils Nip Raiders in UCT 1st Round, 46-42

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

The Blue Devils answered with back-to-back 3-pointers from Danielle Rinaldi and Scott to make the score 24-23 then Grace Elliott hit a pair of free throws to give the Blue Devils the lead. The Raiders, however, closed the half with four straight points to grab a 28-25 lead.

The two teams slogged through a defensive minded third quarter which ended fittingly with the score tied at 34-34. The back and forth continued well into the final quarter with the score tied at 38-38 until Scott stepped to the foul line for a pair of free throws with 2:02 remaining and sank both.

Dwunfour then drew a foul with 1:50 left and missed her first shot but sank the second.

The Blue Devils executed a stall offense, milking over a minute off the clock as the Raiders scrambled to steal the ball and ultimately had to resort to fouling. The Raiders tried to foul four times before Westfield was in the bonus. Finally, they got Luzzi

with :38 to play. "We were trying to foul them earlier, we just did not get the calls as fast as we would have liked," said Mammolite. "It was a tough position to be in because we did not want to get called for an intentional and have them shooting two and getting the ball afterwards."

Luzzi missed her free throw but Devitt grabbed the rebound. Downing quickly fouled Devitt, who drained both free throws, making the score, 42-39, with 0:34 remaining. The Raiders were forced to foul again with :22 remaining. Jacqueline Knapp nailed both free throws for a 44-39 lead.

"I think in the final quarter we got a little sloppy with the ball," said Raider junior guard Myasia Taylor. "We turned it over in some key spots and I think we lost our composure. I don't know why it happened. We'd been playing so well lately. It is disappointing."

From there, the Raiders raced down

the floor and freshman guard Brianna O'Brien hit a 3-pointer tightening the score, 44-42, with :11 to play. Scott was fouled and delivered the finishing blow by sinking both free throws.

"We definitely gutted this one out," said Scott. "In the second half, our girls, Shannon (Devitt) and Olivia (Luzzi), did a great job of shutting down their two big girls inside. Still we needed to execute well in the ball control offense and hit our free throws in the final minute to seal the win. It was a great game."

Devitt (7 rebounds, 3 blocks), Knapp (4 steals, 3 assists) and Luzzi (4 assists) each finished with eight points. Battle finished with 10 points and nine rebounds, Taylor had eight points and Downing had seven rebounds.

Sc PI-Fanwood	13	15	6	8	42
Westfield	14	11	9	12	46

Probitas Verus Honos

HESS PUMPS IN 17 POINTS, INCLUDING 4 3-POINTERS

Patrick School Cagers Crush Blue Devil Boys in UCT, 74-53

By ALEX LOWE
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

An upset victory over the Patrick School proved to be too tall an order for the Westfield High School boys basketball team to fill. The Blue Devils were trounced, 74-53, in the quarterfinal round of the Union County Tournament (UCT) held on February 21 at A.L. Johnson High School in Clark. With a starting frontcourt that featured players like 6'10" Bul Ajang, 6'11" Nicholas Richards and 6'11" Samson George, the Patrick School towered over their counterparts from Westfield.

Making matters worse, the Celtics could shoot the ball from long range too. In a nightmare scenario for Westfield, the Patrick School players combined to hit seven 3-pointers for the game. They also proved to be every bit as quick, if not quicker than the smaller Blue Devil ball handlers, constantly harassing them into poor passes and turnovers that led to easy transition lay-ups and thunderous dunks. All things considered it was a small victory that Westfield managed to stay as close as they did.

"We knew going in that it was going to be a hard game for us," said Westfield junior Jelani Pierre. "The Patrick School gets a lot of great players on their team. They are big and strong and fast. But we played them before. We played our hearts out tonight but we made a lot of mistakes on offense that caused the game to get away from us early."

If the Blue Devils were going to hang tough in this game it would have to be through their 3-point shooting prowess. Parker Hess did not disappoint as he nailed four of his team's eight 3-pointers. But it was nowhere near enough to compensate for the overall size and talent advantages held by the Patrick School team.

Westfield actually pulled ahead 10-8 late in the first period after Hess connected on a 3-pointer. But that would be it for the Blue Devils. The Patrick School answered with an inside basket by George, followed by a 3-pointer from Jamir Harris to reclaim the lead at 13-10. The Celtics exploded for seven points in the final 15 seconds of the quarter. The run was fueled by a pair of steals and lay-ups and a buzzer-beating 3-pointer

by Marcus McCleary which gave the Celtics a 22-12 lead by the end of the opening quarter.

"We got sloppy at the end of the first quarter and that did not help," said Pierre. "You can't make those mistakes and expect to win against anyone and especially not against this team."

For all their height and size up front, the Patrick School really did do most of the damage with their

Devils would never pull within a single digit deficit the rest of the way.

Hess finished with 17 points. Harris had 19 points to lead The Patrick School. Aiken added 16 points. The Blue Devils dropped to 12-9 and they will look to prepare for Watchung Hills, their first round opponent in the upcoming state playoffs set for today, February 26, at Hillsborough.

"We have to put it behind us," said Pierre. "It's over. Nothing you can do



Alex Lowe for The Westfield Leader and The Times

TOUGH ASSIGNMENT...Blue Devil Nick Mele, No. 23, has his work cut out for him as he tries to contain Celtic Jamir Harris, No. 4.

backcourt. Guards Harris, Aiken and Darius Roundtree wreaked havoc throughout the game with their combination of pressure defense and deadly shooting.

When the Patrick School went on a 9-0 run midway through the second quarter it was these three backcourt players who scored all of the points. Three baskets came via lay-ups, two of which were fast breaks started by steals. When Harris dialed up another long distance 3-pointer, the Celtics had a 39-21 lead with just under two minutes left in the half.

To their credit, Westfield players continued to fire away in the second half. Hess and Matt LaCorte connected on 3-pointers whenever the game threatened to become a rout. Nick Mele and Owen Murray had surprising success navigating in between the Celtics' giant interior defenders for lay-ups. But the Blue

about it now. Hillsborough is up next and they are a good team. Gotta get ready for Watchung Hills."

For the Patrick School (16-5), which is easily one of the top four or five teams in the state, the UCT represents their chance to make a statement as they are banned from post-season play in the state tournament due to their role in a controversial bench-clearing melee that occurred in December during a tournament they played in California. Whether fair or not, the Celtics will have to make do with a potential UCT championship. It will not be easy for the Celtics though as they are set to face Linden in the semis.

"We have played Linden before," said Celtic forward Bul Ajang. "They are very good too. We feel like we can beat them though."

Westfield	12	14	12	15	53
Patrick School	22	19	19	14	74

Blue Devil Boys Sprint Past Cougar Cagers, 58-40

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

ond half, we came out flat and didn't get it done."

Free throw shooting had been a problem for the 12-8 Blue Devils but not this time as they combined to sink 20 of 28 shots (71 percent) and 15 of their 17 points in the fourth quarter came from the charity line and the primary shooter was senior point guard Dan Mitchell (3 assists, 6 re-

added a block and two deflections. Chris Boutsikaris (4 points) had five rebounds, two blocks and a deflection.

"I try to contribute as much as I can. It may not be points, but I get assists, rebounds as much as I can," Murray said.

Speaking of fair share, Cougar junior guard Hunter Remley had more

Devils not only maintained their lead but expanded it to 41-31 by winning the third quarter. LaCorte began the quarter with a 3-pointer and Remley ended it with a 3-pointer.

The fourth quarter began with a 2-pointer from Cougar Mike Smith (7 points, 5 rebounds) then LaCorte matched it. From that point, the Blue Devils' remaining 15 points were all



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times

ALWAYS ON GUARD...Blue Devil Owen Murray, No. 15, guards Cougar Luke Christiano, No. 11, while Blue Devil Danny Mitchell, No. 13, watches Cougar Will Smith in the Union County Tournament second round game.

bounds), who hit 12 in the quarter and finished with 16 points.

"It's honestly been a struggle of ours this season, and it's good coming down the stretch to be able to hit free throws. We are going to need them, because if we don't hit free throws, we are not going to beat any of these powerhouses," Mitchell said. "So it's good to get some confidence from the line this game."

Blue Devil junior Owen Murray had a field night finding the right teammate to pass the ball to and finished with eight assists.

"Basically we try to get to the rim as much as we can. With the shooters that we have. If I am getting played hard, I can always trust the guys on the outside and get it out to them for the three [pointer]," Murray said.

Murray also had his share of rebounds with nine and points with 12. Sean Elliott (4 points) added six rebounds, two blocked shots and three deflections. Nick Mele (4 points, 2 assists) pulled five rebounds and

than his share with 11 rebounds and 15 points, including a pair of 3-pointers.

"He knocked down some shots early. He rebounded well for us. He played a pretty good game," Coach Huber said.

"He can jump a little bit. You just got to get a body on him," Murray said.

Cougar junior Sean Leonard began the game with a 3-pointer and Remley hit a three and a pair of free throws, but the Blue Devils took a three-point lead in the quarter until Cougar Luke Christiano banged a 2-pointer at the buzzer to make the score, 11-10.

Murray scored five points in the second quarter and so did Remley, but Hess' and LaCorte's back-to-back threes gave Westfield the 26-20 lead at the half.

Unlike in their first meeting on January 8 when the Cougars crawled back from a 20-3, first-quarter deficit to close within three points late in the game before losing, 45-37, the Blue

from the charity line, which included Mitchell's 12 and three from Murray. The Cougars added seven more points in the quarter, five from the charity line.

"We struggled shooting the ball. We were only up six at the half, but it's good to show that we stayed in this game. We didn't lose focus coming out at the half. We came out strong and we were able to finish this game early into that half, whereas earlier in the year, we would probably have let them hang around. It shows the maturity of the team being able to finish them in the second half," Mitchell said.

"You make free throws and lay-ups, you are going to win a lot of games and that's what they did in the second half," Coach Huber said. "They are a good team."

Next on the UCT agenda for the Blue Devil would be a showdown with the Patrick School in the quarterfinal round.

Cranford	10	10	11	9	40
Westfield	11	15	15	17	58



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
DISTRICT 11 CHAMP AT 160-LBS...Blue Devil Jarek Gozdieski, left, squares off with Cougar Andrew Tompkins in the 160-lb championship bout. Gozdieski won the 160-lb crown with a 7-0 decision over Tompkins.



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
BAR AND A HALF...Raider senior Brian Lapham, top, works Cougar sophomore Brian McGovern to his back using an arm bar/half nelson in the 145-lb title bout. Lapham also won the 145-lb title last year.



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
DISTRICT 11 CHAMP AT 152-LBS...Cougar senior Gavin Murray, top, won his third District 11 title when he pinned Majid Abdur-Rahman (Rahway) in 2:53. In the photo above, Murray controls Gerson Gonzalez (Linden) in the semis.

Cougars Repeat as Champs, Raiders Second, Blue Devils Fifth at District 11 Mat Tournament

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

"I was really confused how I didn't get any points. You just got to keep wrestling. You can't change what's already happened," Beirne said. "He's lanky. It's always close between us. I am happy to win my first district title."

As to his sights to qualify for the NJSIAA Tournament, Beirne said. "That's the plan. The number 1 goal is to stand on the podium. I am amped for regions."

Raider Brian Lapham won his second title at 145-lbs when he pinned Cougar Brian McGovern in 5:26 using an arm bar/half nelson stack. In his semifinal bout, Lapham broke the

Blue Devil Chris Hoerle, after recording a quick 45 second pin in the quarterfinals, earned a trip to the 113-lb title bout when he edged Rony Rutere (R), 1-0. After a scoreless first period, Hoerle escaped in the second then controlled Rutere the entire third period, constantly trying to turn him to his back.

"I am always trying to look to score. Put the most points on the board, so whatever I can do to put the most points, I go with it. So top, I am trying to pin him in the last period," Hoerle said.

Although the first period was scoreless, Hoerle explained, "I was attack-

Raider Jack Cannon.

Cannon reached the title bout with a 2-0 decision over Antonio Santoni (R). Cannon made several attempts to turn Santoni to his back.

"I tried to grind it out. I knew I had the lead. I was trying to work for more points, so I could get a comfortable lead and wrestle from there. I figured why not try a spalde or half or bar. Mix it up. I was trying to keep him guessing and make him uncomfortable," Cannon said after his bout with Santoni.

His only points came from a takedown. Cannon explained, "I ran a front head, went to the backside and made sure I was on top and got the two [points]."

Looking ahead to his title bout with DiGiovanni with the realization that he qualified for the region, Cannon said, "I am looking to win, but it's awesome that I already punched my ticket."

Cougar Chris Scorese claimed his second title when he tallied a 9-0, major decision over Raider Jashmar Philippe in the 126-lb finals. Philippe stunned Blue Devil John Fuller, 3-1, in the semis when he performed a leaping, spinning takedown with 0:05 remaining. Fuller, however, pinned Javier Arrendondo (L) in 1:53 with a half nelson/smother to take third.

Cougar Vince Concina decided Devin Jefferson (R), 8-2, for the 132-lb crown. Cougar senior Gavin Murray won his third district title in fashion when he stretched Majid Abdur-Rahman (R) to the mat in 2:53 using a double front grapevine at 152-lbs.

In a way, Murray could be consid-

ered a pioneer with this recent success in Cranford wrestling. "It's cool, because my dad started the PAL in third grade and now it's just a monster with 100 kids in PAL. To get to the section finals, I think that last time was 1985, so it cool to be the captain of this team with my best friend Nick Ballas and to have so much success," said Murray, who added, "this is my third district title, but I will take a state title any day over four districts."

Blue Devil Jack Miller, who lost an 8-7 heartbreaker to Abdur-Rahman in the semis, grabbed third with a 3-

1 decision over Gerson Gonzalez (L). Cougar Niko Cappello claimed his third district title with a 9-3 decision over Raider Jaylen Bryant at 182-lbs. Cappello used his patented single-leg back-trip takedowns en route to the victory.

"I have been here three times, so I wasn't really nervous. I knew I'm better on my feet. My original plan was take him down, let him up right away, but I thought I could get that hammerlock across to hook the head, but he was a strong kid, so I went back to my single, high crotch," Cappello explained. "It's a big statement for Cranford, making it to the sectional finals, winning the county tournament. Pushing nine out of 14 people to the finals is awesome."

Bryant reached the finals with a wild, 11-8 decision over Hendrix Vernot (L). Cappello pinned Mike Rojas (E) in 1:46 with an arm bar/half nelson in the semis.

Alex Mirabella became the third Raider senior to win a title when he used a pullback cradle to rock Khalil Burns (L) to sleep in 1:31 at 195-lbs. Mirabella, whose record rose to 29-2, also won the 170-lb title last year.

"It's my go to move. It's been a move I can really rely on. Even if I don't get it the first time, I can get it as the match goes on. If it ain't broke, don't fix it," Mirabella said.

Mirabella began his bout with a spin-around takedown. "It's all hard work in the room. Coach [Nick] Giannaci and coach [Marc] Fabiano go with me on our feet," he said.

Having been the third Raider senior to win a title, Mirabella added, "I am so proud of them. We have been

120: — DiGiovanni (C) md Cannon (S) 9-0

126: — Scorese (C) md Philippe (S), 9-0

132: — Concina (C) d Jefferson (R), 8-2

138: — Beirne (S) p Busch (C), 3:08

145: — Lapham (S) p McGovern (C), 5:26

152: — Murray (C) p Abdur-Rahman (R), 2:53

160: — Gozdieski (W) d Tompkins (C), 7-0

170: — Goodridge (R) d Savona (B), 10-3

182: — Cappello (C) d Bryant (S), 9-3

195: — Mirabella (S) p Burns (L), 1:31

220: — Saverio Salicas (B) d Tobe (E), 4-3

Hwt: — Jackson (E) d Burgos (L), 6-4

THIRD PLACE:

106: — Anaya (E) p Montero (B), 6:00

113: — Korkmaz (S) d Rutere (R), 5-3

120: — Stuckey (E) won inj. default

126: — Fuller (W) p Arrendondo (L), 1:53

132: — Murphy (B) d Cunningham (S), 7-2

138: — Kalimtzis (W) d Lovensky (R), 7-4

145: — Winters (W) d Wright (L), 20-3, 5:25

152: — Miller (W) d Gonzalez (L), 3-1

160: — McCall (L) d Devia (S), 13-12

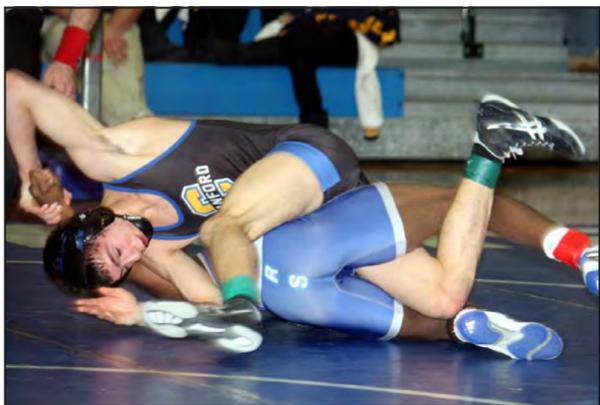
170: — Pierre (L) d Anderson (W), 5-4

182: — Rojas (E) d Vernot (L), 4-3

195: — McCallon (E) d Ballas (C), 8-7

220: — Spurlock (W) d Drake (R), 11-5

Hwt: — Doran (C) d Webb (S), 3-1



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
SEVERING RELATIONSHIPS...Cougar Chris Scorese, top, sets up a guillotine in his 126-lb title bout with Raider Jashmar Philippe. Scorese won, 9-0.

Raiders' all-time record for wins (125) when he pinned Jatece Wright (L) in 3:44 with a headlock.

"I was confident I was going to win. I remember in December, I was sitting on 99 wins and I lost that match going for 100, but I knew that I had to focus more on wrestling than the number," Lapham said.

With reference to his bout with McGovern and his stack pin, Lapham said, "That really wasn't something I was looking to. I was looking to ride him out, get a tilt, but I saw him put his arm out when I had a one-on-one. I barred it up and went for it. I really wanted to build on a counter offense. I saw a lot of opportunities off bad shots, move to the side, try to get a leg and score, create my own offense on theirs."

Cougar Anthony Capece won the 106-lb title when he blended three takedowns, two nearfalls via cradle and an escape to claim a 14-3, major decision over Sabri Murray (E).

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF WESTFIELD BOND ORDINANCE-SO 2202 STATEMENT AND SUMMARY

The bond ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, has been finally adopted by the Town Council of the Town of Westfield, in the County of Union, State of New Jersey, on February 24, 2015, and the 20-day period of limitation within which a suit, action or proceeding questioning the validity of such ordinance can be commenced, as provided in the Local Bond Law, has begun to run from the date of the first publication of this statement. Copies of the full ordinance are available, at no cost and during regular business hours, at the Clerk's office for members of the general public who request the same. The summary of the terms of such bond ordinance follows:

TITLE: BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE UNDERTAKING OF THE TAMAKES PARK TENNIS COURT RENOVATION PROJECT IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$510,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO APPROPRIATE A COUNTY GRANT, A CONTRIBUTION FROM THE WESTFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION AND TOWN TRUST FUND MONIES, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.

Purpose(s): Undertaking of the Tamakes Park Tennis Court Renovation Project in, by and for the Town.

Appropriation: \$510,000
Bonds/Notes Authorized: \$235,000
Grants (if any) Appropriated: \$85,000
Section 20 Costs: \$10,000
Useful Life: 15 years

Claire J. Gray
 Town Clerk
 Town of Westfield
 County of Union
 State of New Jersey

1 T - 2/26/15, The Leader Fee: \$52.02

ing the whole time. He was playing defense. I was trying to get a leg. He wasn't attacking much."

Looking to his title bout with Dom Robinson (L), who he beat early in the season but dropped a 7-6 decision in the section quarterfinal, Hoerle said, "I beat him the first time I wrestled him. Last time I got a little sloppy at the end."

Aware that he already qualified for the Region 3 Tournament, Hoerle said, "I feel pretty good. Last year I came one place short. It's good to make it this year."

In the title bout, Robinson recorded three takedowns to grab a 6-3 decision.

At 160-lbs, Blue Devil Jarek Gozdieski pinned Rahison McCall in 4:59 with a Fireman's takedown to back to reach the finals to face Cougar Andrew Tompkins, who he beat in an overtime squeaker a few weeks ago. This time, Gozdieski made good on his front headlock/walk-around takedowns to grab a 7-0 victory.

"He shot a nice shot, luckily I was able to defend with a front headlock. He tried to spin away, I got the leg and got two. He was doing pretty well defending the front headlock but I was able to counter everything he did," Gozdieski said. "I think I did a lot of good things, but there's still stuff I can improve on if I want to continue this season."

Cougar Tom DiGiovanni won his second district crown when he topped off his 120-lb title bout with a single grapevine/Jacob's hook nearfall to claim a 9-0, major decision over



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
PULLBACK CRADLE...Raider Alex Mirabella, top, sets up a cradle on Cougar Nick Ballas in his 195-lb semifinal bout. Mirabella won his second District title.

ered a pioneer with this recent success in Cranford wrestling. "It's cool, because my dad started the PAL in third grade and now it's just a monster with 100 kids in PAL. To get to the section finals, I think that last time was 1985, so it cool to be the captain of this team with my best friend Nick Ballas and to have so much success," said Murray, who added, "this is my third district title, but I will take a state title any day over four districts."

Blue Devil Jack Miller, who lost an 8-7 heartbreaker to Abdur-Rahman in the semis, grabbed third with a 3-

wrestling together for a long time. This is incredible that we can do this at a high level."

Blue Devil Cotter Spurlock, after pinning Cougar Alex Esposito in 1:57, dropped a 3-1 decision to Dave Tobe (E) in the 220-lb semis but came back to claim third with an 11-5 decision over Justin Drake (R). Cougar heavy-weight Kevin Doran recorded a 3-1 decision over Raider JT Webb to place third.

CHAMPIONSHIP BOUTS:

106: — Capece (C) md Murray (R), 14-3

113: — Robinson (R) d Hoerle (W), 6-3

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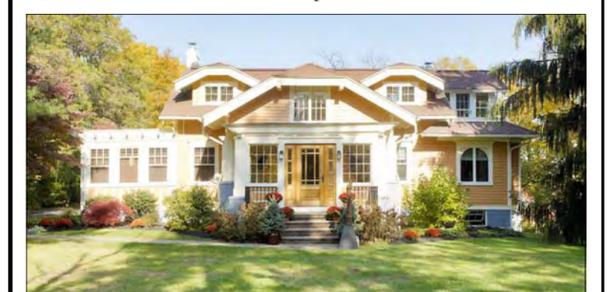
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827 Lambert's Mill Road, Westfield \$1,250,000

A circular driveway leads to the covered front entry of this stunning Center Hall Colonial. Nestled on professionally landscaped grounds, across from the Shackamaxon Country Club, this fabulous and expansive home is loaded with amenities - sure to impress.



128 Woodland Ave, Westfield \$1,395,000

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PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following Ordinance was passed on first reading by the Township Council of the Township of Scotch Plains, County of Union, New Jersey on the 17th of February 2015, and that said Ordinance will be considered for final adoption at a meeting of the said Township Council to be held in the Council Chambers, 430 Park Avenue, on the 17th day of March 2015 at 7:00 p.m., at which time and place a public hearing will be held prior to final passage of said Ordinance and all interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the same. Copies of said Ordinance can be obtained from the Township Clerk's Office at any time prior to final adoption at no cost to any member of the general public who requests same.

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-1

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION IN THE TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS OF THE "FIVE YEAR TAX EXEMPTION AND ABATEMENT LAW" PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:21-1, ET. SEQ.

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-2

AN ORDINANCE ABOLISHING THE RECREATION COMMISSION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS AND ESTABLISHING A DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS.

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-3

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 2-20 (FIRE DEPARTMENT, ESTABLISHMENT AND REGULATIONS) IN CHAPTER II (ADMINISTRATION) OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A DEPUTY CHIEF AND TO AMEND THE PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO SMOKE-SENSITIVE ALARM DEVICES.

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-4

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 17-4 (UNIFORM FIRE CODE ENFORCEMENT) IN CHAPTER XVII (FIRE PREVENTION) OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS TO PROVIDE FOR THE REVISION OF THE FEE FOR A CERTIFICATE OF FIRE INSPECTION AND TO REVISE CERTAIN PERMIT FEES.

BOZENA LACINA, RMC
Municipal Clerk
1 T - 2/26/15, The Times Fee: \$60.69

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF WESTFIELD BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

The Board of Adjustment of the Town of Westfield, New Jersey will meet on March 9, 2015 in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Building, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey at 7:30 p.m. to hear and consider the following appeal for bulk (c) and/or (d) variance relief from requirements of the Westfield Land Use Ordinance.

David & Hilary Crall, 1005 Kimball Avenue, East. Applicant is seeking approval to construct two two-story additions contrary to Section 12.04G of the Land Use Ordinance. Ordinance allows a maximum all improvement coverage of 20%/ 9,765 square feet. Proposed is 28.84%/ 14,048 square feet.

Rachel & Mark Lipschutz, 181 Lincoln Road. Applicant is seeking approval to construct a pool enclosure contrary to Section 13.02D5 of the Land Use Ordinance. Ordinance requires a 6 foot solid fence for a pool enclosure. Proposed is a 6 foot tongue and groove wood fence with a lattice topper, a 5 foot high wrought iron style aluminum gate across the driveway and a 5 foot high wrought iron style aluminum section connecting the 6 foot wood fence to the house.

Michael Amaroso & Lisa Saverd, 465 Topping Hill Road. Applicant is seeking approval to install a fence on a corner property contrary to section 12.07C of the Land Use Ordinance. Ordinance allows a maximum fence height 4 feet on a corner property where the fence is located closer to the street than the principal structure. Proposed is a fence height of 5 feet.

Jacqueline Stelling, 146 Harrison Avenue. Applicant is seeking approval to construct a single story addition contrary to Section 11.09E14 of the Land Use Ordinance. Ordinance requires a one car garage. Existing and proposed is no garage.

Brad & Mary Schwarz, 409 Harrison Avenue. Applicant is seeking approval to construct a rear attic dormer addition contrary to Section 11.09E8 of the Land Use Ordinance. Ordinance allows a maximum building height of 2.5 stories. Proposed is a building height of 3 stories.

Erika & Erik Qualben, 739 Coleman Place. Applicant is seeking approval to construct a two story addition contrary to Sections 11.09E6 and 11.09E14 of the Land Use Ordinance. Ordinance requires a side yard setback of 10 feet. Proposed is 9.4 feet. Ordinance requires a one car garage. Proposed is no garage.

Ronald Snyder, 839 Nancy Way. Applicant is seeking approval to construct an addition to the garage contrary to Section 11.06E6 and 11.06E13 of the Land Use Ordinance. Ordinance requires a side yard setback of 12.5 feet. Proposed is 11.58 feet. Ordinance allows a maximum continuous wall length in a zoning side of 25 feet. Proposed is 38.17 feet.

Variances, waivers or exceptions from certain site plan details or relief from requirements may be sought as appropriate. Plans and application are on file in the office of the Town Engineer, 959 North Avenue West, Westfield, New Jersey and may be seen Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Kathleen Nemeth
Board Secretary
1 T - 2/26/15, The Leader Fee: \$69.87

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PUBLIC NOTICE

SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION NOTICE OF MEETINGS
(In Compliance with OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT - Chapter 231)
ADDENDUM TO REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS

A Board/PTA Roundtable Discussion will be held on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at Terrill Middle School, 1301 Terrill Road, Scotch Plains at 7:30 p.m. for a "Meet & Greet" coffee and question/answer and discussion period on various topics of concern.

1 T - 2/26/15, The Times Fee: \$14.79

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE is hereby given that sealed bids will be received by the Township of Scotch Plains, in the County of Union, State of New Jersey, at the office of the Township Clerk, Scotch Plains Municipal Building, 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey, 07076 (ATTN: Bozena Lacina, Township Clerk) on or before **Tuesday, April 28, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.** prevailing time or as soon thereafter as the matter may be reached, for "BULKY WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL" in accordance with the Specifications and Information to Bidders prepared by the Township. At that time and place, such bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. No bids shall be received other than at the time and place herein designated for their receipt, unless mailed to the Township Clerk for receipt at the designated time and place.

Copies of the Bid Documents may be obtained during regular business hours from the Township Clerk upon payment of \$50 for each complete set of documents, which sum is non-refundable. Written questions regarding the bid specifications may be submitted to the Bozena Lacina, Township Clerk, at 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076 on or before April 17, 2015.

A certified check, cashier's check or bid bond in the amount of ten per cent (10%) of the bid, but in no case in excess of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000), must be submitted with the bid guaranteeing that if a contract is awarded, the bidder shall execute the contract. Bidders must also submit a Consent of Surety with the bid, wherein the Surety agrees to furnish a performance bond if the Bidder is awarded the contract. Based on historical information, and not as a projection of the number of permits that may be included in the 2015 Spring Cleanup program, in 2014 the Township issued 933 permits for bulky waste pickup and disposal. There is no guarantee that the number of pickups for the 2015 Spring Cleanup will be greater or lesser than 2014. However, for the purposes of determining the amount of the contract for bonding purposes, Bidder should multiply its Total Bid Price times the number of permits issued in 2014.

The successful bidder shall be required to submit a Performance Bond in a sum equal to one hundred per cent (100%) of the full amount of the contract. Such Performance Bond must be furnished by the successful bidder simultaneously with the delivery of the executed contract.

Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 17:27 and all other applicable statutes, laws or regulations.

Bidders are required to submit a valid Business Registration Certificate from the State of New Jersey Department of Treasury, Division of Revenue.

Each bid shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope addressed to the Township Clerk, bearing the name and address of the bidder, upon which shall be designated:

"BID - BULKY WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL"

The Township reserves the right to reject any and all bids under the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-13.2.

By Order of the Township of Scotch Plains, in the County of Union and State of New Jersey.

Alexander Mirabella
Township Manager
1 T - 2/26/15, The Times Fee: \$70.89



TRENTON TRIP...Members and friends of the College Women's Club of Westfield's "Museum Mavens" interest group visited the New Jersey State House November 12 for a guided tour that featured several behind-the-scenes stops, including the governor's offices, annex and the floors of the senate and assembly, pictured. Afterwards, the group enjoyed lunch at Grounds for Sculpture in nearby Hamilton. The club's annual luncheon fundraiser to benefit its scholarship program will be held on Wednesday, March 25, at Westfield's Echo Lake Country Club. For more information on membership or scholarships, visit wcclubwestfield.com.

Westfield Area Y to Hold Annual Achievers Banquet

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Area Y will host its 17th Annual Achievers Fundraising and Recognition Banquet on Friday, March 6, from 7 to 11 p.m., at L'Affaire Fine Catering, located at 1099 Route 22 East, Mountainside. This year the banquet will feature "Words of Wisdom: Travel as a Supplement to Education," presented by Professional Triple Threat Artist Mansa K. Mussa and the keynote speaker, WNBA All Star Tamecka Dixon.



Tamecka Dixon

Mr. Mussa is a visual artist, arts educator and arts consultant. A native of Paterson, he has used the camera to document the unfolding of human events in the United States, the Caribbean, Africa and Europe for the past 38 years. He currently teaches various arts courses for Arts Horizons, the Newark Museum, Global Arts to Go, Art for Kids and Arts Unbound, and has developed a system for teaching art to adolescents, special-needs students and adults.

In addition to playing in the WNBA,

PUBLIC NOTICE

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION UNION COUNTY
DOCKET NO. F-048276-14
FILE NO. 19303-14

NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANT (L.S.) STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO: JAMES GANTT; MRS. JAMES GANTT, WIFE OF JAMES GANTT; ALMAR;

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND REQUIRED to serve upon PELLEGRINO AND FELDSTEIN, LLC, plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is 290 Route 46 West, Denville, New Jersey, an Answer to the Complaint filed in a Civil Action, in which FWDSL & ASSOCIATES L.P. is the plaintiff and JAMES GANTT, ET AL.; are defendants, pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, UNION County and bearing Docket No. F-048276-14 within thirty-five (35) days after February 26, 2015 exclusive of such date. If you fail to answer or appear in accordance with Rule 4:4-6. Judgment by Default may be rendered against you for relief demanded in the Complaint. You shall file your Answer and Proof of Service in duplicate with the Clerk of the Superior Court of New Jersey, Hughes Justice Complex - CN 971, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, in accordance with the Rules of Civil Practice and Procedure.

You are further advised that if you are unable to obtain an attorney you may communicate with the Lawyer Referral Service of the County of Venue and that if you cannot afford an attorney, you may communicate with the Legal Services Office of the County of Venue. The telephone number of such agencies are as follows: Lawyer Referral Service 908-353-4715 - Legal Services Office 908-354-4340.

THE ACTION has been instituted for the purpose of foreclosing the following tax sale certificate:

1. A certain tax certificate 12-201, sold on 12/6/2011, dated 12/8/2011, and was recorded on 12/28/2011 in Book 13237 at Page 662, made by MARIA GLAVAN, Collector of Taxes of PLAINFIELD, and State of New Jersey to FWDSL & ASSOCIATES L.P. and subsequently assigned to plaintiff, FWDSL & ASSOCIATES L.P.. This covers real estate located in PLAINFIELD, County of UNION, and State of New Jersey, known as LOT 30 BLOCK 550 as shown on the Tax Assessment Map and Tax Map duplicate of PLAINFIELD, and concerns premises commonly known as 922-24 WEST 6TH STREET, PLAINFIELD, New Jersey.

YOU, JAMES GANTT, 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. JAMES GANTT, WIFE OF JAMES GANTT, are made party defendant to the above foreclosure action because plaintiff has been unable to determine whether defendant JAMES GANTT is married, and if married, the name of JAMES GANTT's spouse. If JAMES GANTT is married, the plaintiff joins MRS. JAMES GANTT, WIFE OF JAMES GANTT as a defendant for any possessory or marital rights you may have.

YOU, ALMAR, are made party defendant to the above foreclosure action because on May 26, 2005, Almar, recorded a Tax Sale Certificate against Gantt, James, for a debt of \$ 845.62, sold on April 1, 2005 for unpaid taxes/utility charges for the year(s) 2004 recorded in the UNION County Clerk's Register's Office in Mortgage Book 11177 at page 578, dated April 11, 2005. Said lien is subordinate to the Tax Sale Certificate being foreclosed herewith.

Michelle M. Smith, Clerk
Superior Court of New Jersey
PELLEGRINO & FELDSTEIN, L.L.C.
290 Route 46 West
Denville, New Jersey 07834
(973) 586-2300
1 T - 2/26/15, The Leader Fee: \$82.11

Ms. Dixon played professionally in Europe. She also helped the U.S. World Championship Team collect a Gold Medal and qualified for the Olympics in 2002. She was on her way to becoming an Olympian but was cut short by an injury during the Olympic year. She is now retired from the WNBA and is a successful entrepreneur.

The original Black Achievers, now the Westfield Y Achievers program, began at the Westfield Area Y 17 years ago and matches youth with achieving African-American and other minority professionals as role models in an effort to raise the academic standards of young people, expose students to diverse career options and inspire them to reach their goals. Achievers also participate in community service activities, celebrate their history, culture and traditions and receive college prep tutoring and essay assistance.

The Achievers program is funded in large part by this annual banquet. Funds raised by the banquet go directly to the program and scholarships, enabling youth to participate for little or no cost. The cost for this event is \$75 for general admission; Neighboring Achievers, \$25, and college students, \$50. Journal ads can be purchased in all sizes and need to be submitted with camera-ready artwork or a business card no later than Tuesday, March 3.

For advertising details, to reserve a seat at the banquet, or to learn how to support the program, contact Janice A. Carthens at (908) 233-2700, extension no. 227, or by e-mail at jcarthens@westfieldnj.org or Nadya Lawrence at (908) 456-6409 or by e-mail at nlawrence@westfieldnj.org.

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS 2015 MUNICIPAL PROSECUTOR

In accordance with the N.J. Local Public Contracts Law and N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq., the Township of Scotch Plains ("Township"), County of Union, a municipal corporation of the State of New Jersey, is soliciting professional service proposals through a fair and open process. The Township will require the following services for the balance of the 2015 calendar year prorated at an annual salary of \$18,000.00:

Municipal Prosecutor
An original and eight (8) copies of your sealed responses to this request for proposals must be submitted to the Township of Scotch Plains, Office of the Municipal Clerk, 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076 by no later than 10:00 AM local prevailing time on Friday, March 13, 2015 at which time and place responses are scheduled to be opened by the Municipal Manager or his designee.

Each sealed envelope containing a proposal shall be plainly marked on the outside to clearly show the specific service for which an individual or firm is submitting a proposal. The proposals will be evaluated by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Scotch Plains and contracts awarded based on (1) individual or firm experience and reputation in the field (a copy of the resume of each individual performing the work is to be included), (2) knowledge of the Township of Scotch Plains and subject matters to be addressed under the contract; (3) availability to accommodate any required meetings; (4) compensation proposal; (5) at least 2 references with address and phone number; (6) a certification that no immediate relatives of any principal of the firm is employed by, or serve as elected officials of the Township of Scotch Plains; (7) an explanation as to when each individual performing work received his or her license to practice in this State; (8) a copy of the firm's Certificate of Liability Insurance; (9) a copy of the firm's Business Registration Certificate; and (10) Submission of the information required in this RFP.

All contracts pursuant to the fair and open process will be awarded by resolution and require a majority vote of the Township Council at a public meeting. In addition to full compliance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. ("Pay to Play"), individuals or firms awarded contracts under these procedures will be required to comply with N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 and N.J.A.C. 17:27-4 (Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity), 42 U.S.C. Section 12101 et seq. (American with Disabilities Act of 1990), N.J.S.A. 52:25-24.2 (Disclosure of Ownership) and N.J.S.A. 52:32-44 (Business Registration).

Any questions regarding this notice should be directed to the Township of Scotch Plains, Office of the Municipal Manager, 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076, (908) 322-6700.
Alexander Mirabella
Township Manager
1 T - 2/26/15, The Times Fee: \$62.22

Fanwood Recreation to Begin String Orchestra Program

FANWOOD — The Fanwood Recreation Department will launch a new music program starting Friday, March 6. This 12-session program will offer different levels of orchestral instruction in violin, viola, cello and bass for everyone from third graders to adults. The program will conclude with a concert in the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School auditorium.

"String Orchestra is not offered in the local public schools, so this program would provide a new outlet for music education for community members," said Fanwood Recreation Director Bob Budiansky.

Scotch Plains resident Hsin-Ting Feng will direct the program. Ms. Feng directs the nationally recognized orchestra program at

the Highland Park Public Schools. She has an extensive background in both conducting and performing music and has taught elementary- to high-school students as well as adults. Her High School Orchestra has performed at Carnegie Hall and at Lincoln Center.

"As a community orchestra, our mission is to inspire children and adults through the love of music, encouraging one another to show love and do good works as a way to strengthen and give back to our community," said Ms. Feng.

The 12-session course fee is \$250. Some students may qualify for a scholarship to the program. For more information and to register, interested community members can visit fanwoodrecreation.org.

St. Pat's Day Fundraiser Is March 7 In Fanwood

FANWOOD — The fifth annual St. Patrick's Day Fundraiser will be held on Saturday, March 7, at the Fanwood Train Station from 12:30 to 9:30 p.m., jointly sponsored by O'Brian's Pourhouse and the Fanwood Business and Professional Association to benefit the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Music Boosters.

This family event will highlight Irish food, music and dancing, including the Moonglowers, Brian Kennedy and the Bloody Callans Irish Band. The event will be held in a large, heated tent on the North Avenue side of the Fanwood Train Station. Various vendors will offer hot food, Irish and domestic beers, and there will be a silent auction with prizes donated by many local businesses. Local officials, the Emerald Society and Sons of St. Patrick will be on hand to participate.

Tickets are available at Oh'Brian's Pourhouse, Seafare Chippery, Scotch

Plains/Fanwood Raiders Booster Club, Mara's Café and Bakery, Be Craftful and many other downtown Fanwood businesses. Tickets are \$7 in advance and \$10 at the door; children under the age of 5 will be admitted for free.

"While this event has been sponsored by one business for the past four years, I really wanted to make this a true community event," said Brian Walter, owner of Oh'Brian's Pourhouse and president of the Fanwood Business and Professional Association. "Having the Fanwood BPA as a co-sponsor seemed the best way to do that."

"This is an event that the whole town can enjoy," Mayor Colleen Mahr said. "We can all come out and be 'Irish,' support the SP-F Music Boosters, and enjoy all the family activities. This is a very successful event and we hope to break attendance records this year."

Wednesday Morning Club Plans Salute to the Irish

CRANFORD — St. Patrick's Day will be celebrated a little early when the Wednesday Morning Club meets on March 4, at 10 a.m., at the Cranford Community Center, located at 220 Walnut Avenue. A program celebrating the Irish will be presented by the Literature Department, chaired by Edith Coogan. The board will meet at 9:30 a.m. Co-presidents Dot Conheehey and Barbara Jackson will conduct both meetings.

Bernadette Murphy, director of Project Ready at St. Joseph Social Service Center in Elizabeth, will be the guest speaker when the club's Public Affairs Department meets on Tuesday, March 10, in the home of Dot Conheehey at 1 p.m.

The club's American Arts and

Crafts Department will meet on Tuesday, March 17, at 10 a.m., at the Cranford Community Center. Member Anne Castellano will demonstrate art techniques.

Coming on Wednesday, March 18, members will meet at 1 p.m. at Kilkenny House, where they will hear about "Barry's Journey to America."

The Wednesday Morning Club is geared toward mature women living in Union County who have recently retired or left the workplace and are seeking new activities. Participants enjoy getting together several times a month to exchange ideas and explore areas of interest in the arts, literature and public affairs. For more information and to attend a meeting, call Diane Hickey at (908) 272-8665.

The Westfield Adult School Seeks Community Support

WESTFIELD — Established in 1938, the Westfield Adult School (WAS), a non-profit organization serving Westfield and more than 20 surrounding communities, offers individuals the chance to learn in a relaxed and enjoyable setting at a reasonable price. Its Spring 2015 semester catalog, available at WestfieldAdultSchool.com, lists over 125 courses on various topics such as Business and Finance, Arts and Crafts, Fun and Games, Cuisine and Cooking, and Music and Photography.

Among the new WAS classes for Spring 2015 are Golf for Beginners, Table Tennis, Internet Security, and How to Organize Your Home. Most classes are held on Monday nights at Westfield High School, and course lengths vary from one to eight sessions. The semester will begin Monday, March 9.

To operate, the WAS relies solely on class fees, registration fees and donations. As revenues have not kept up with rising expenses, WAS urgently needs the financial support of the community in order to continue. Many area adult schools, unable to

meet their expenses, have been forced to close, and WAS is working hard to keep its doors open.

To reinventorize itself, the Westfield Adult School is asking for help in the following ways: signing up for a class or two; talented and civic-minded members with expertise in marketing, fund-raising, public relations and with computer expertise, as well as interested community members with other skills, to serve on the board; new instructors (volunteer and paid) and new course ideas; and financial donations.

For more information about joining the board, contact Randy Rosenfeld at (908) 789-1419 or by e-mail at randyrosenfeld@comcast.net. Those interested in teaching a course are asked to send an e-mail to [wasnjdirector@gmail.com](mailto:wasnjdiretor@gmail.com) or call (908) 232-4050.

Donations can be mailed to: Westfield Adult School Association, P.O. Box 606, Westfield, N.J. 07091. Donors should indicate whether they wish to have their support noted in the WAS Fall 2015 "Donor Acknowledgment" section of the catalog or would prefer to remain anonymous.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT, BUREAU OF CONSTRUCTION SERVICES 1035 PARKWAY AVENUE, PO BOX 600 TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

Notice is hereby given that bid proposals will be received via the Internet until 10:00:59 A.M. on 3/17/15, downloaded, and publicly opened and read, from Bidders classified under N.J.S.A. 27:7-35.1 et seq.; in the CONFERENCE ROOM-A, 1st Floor F & A Building, New Jersey Department of Transportation, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Trenton, New Jersey 08625; for:

Traffic Signal Relamping North Region-2015, Various Locations Including Counties of Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union and Warren, 100% State, DP NO: 15411

Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 (P.L. 1975, c. 127); N.J.A.C. 17:27.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.19, contractors must provide a Certification and Disclosure of Political Contribution Form prior to contract award.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:32-44, contractor must submit the Department of Treasury, Division of Revenue Business Registration of the contractor and any named subcontractors prior to contract award or authorization.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 34:11-56.51, contractors must be registered with the New Jersey Department of Labor, Division of Wage and Hour Compliance at the time of bid.

Plans, specifications, and bidding information for the proposed work are available at Bid Express website www.bid.com. You must subscribe to use this service. To subscribe follow the instructions on the website. Fees apply to downloading documents and plans and bidding access. The fee schedule is available on the web site. All fees are directly payable to Bid Express. Plans, specifications, and bidding information may be inspected (BUT NOT OBTAINED) by contracting organizations at our Design Field Offices at the following locations:

200 Sterli Court
Mt. Arlington, New Jersey 07856
973-601-6690
One Executive Campus Rt 70 West
Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08002
856-486-6623
1 T - 2/26/15, 3/5/15 and 3/12/15, The Leader Fee: \$165.24

HONOR ROLL

Edison Intermediate School - 2nd Marking Period

Grade 7

Distinguished Honor Roll

Kaleb Amarante, Matthew Arndt, Kathryn Bartlett, Evan Branagan, Carly Burke, Rachel Centurion-Rocha, Eliana Cestero, Valerie Chang, Matthew Chen, Helen Chinn, Thomas Chirichella, Gabrielle Cho, Madeline Cohen, Julia Colleran, Christopher Composto, John Czarniecki, Tyler Devitt, Taylor Dombalis, Caroline Dwyer, Eric Elizes, Colin Elliott, Mark Falletta, Daniel Fox, Steven Freidenrich, Daniel Friedman, Ethan Friedman, Julia Gagliardi, Harshita Garg, Lauren Gaudin, Talia Gold, Cecilia Guarnuccio, Matthew Guarnuccio, Allison Hess, Kurt Hu, Grace Hutchinson, Emily Isaacman, Angelina John, Alexander Joseph, Andrew Kapadia, Aidan Kilbourn, Jeremy Kronheimer, Arun Lakshman, Nathan Lam, Jason Lee, Andrew Li, Diana Li, Alison Lisanti, Anni Liu, Connie Liu, Theresa Lizzo, Thomas Lupicki, Rachel Markowitz, Laura Masciola, Dominic Maurillo, Max McKenna, Greta McLaughlin, Raaka Mukhopadhyay, Lydia Nisita, Emily O'Connell, Deborah Obiajulu, Roberto Panora, Luke Pardo, Ronit Rao, Talia Remba, Emily Rossi, Spencer Rothfleisch, Jack Ruckman, Elisa Saint-Denis, Jessica Schlewitz, Anna Schwartz, Remi Shendell, Samantha Shih, Grayson Shovlin, Jeremy Silber, Daniel Singh, Alan Solovey, Zachary Spergel, Julia Tompkins, Sophie Tsekov, Sumana Turimella, Brooke Walden, Angela Wang, Rebecca White, Alissa Witzel, Brianna Worms, Kevin Yucetepe, Abbey Zidel

Grade 7 Honor Roll

Karen Abaya, Inti Araya, Jonathan Audino, Marcela Avans, Katherine Billing, Sebastian Blasi, Jonathan Bracco, Katelyn Bromberg, David Broughton, Sierra Byrne, Julia Campbell, Sean Canavan, Camilo Cardenas-Caceres, Annabella Cerria, Marcus Chin, Jack Coffi, Gregory Claiborne, Elise Colannino, Olivia Conti, Julia Corba, Jason Currie, John DeSena, Theresa DiFalco, Abhijay Dutta, Omay Edekar, Eric Ellner, Emily Ensslin, Aliyah Feinberg, Spencer Feinstein, Bryan Felter, Aidan Fink, Anastasia Fowler, Robert Frankfort, Bennett Galindo, William Gamba, Quinn Gimblett, Jacob Harnisher, Faith Heffron, Lauren Henkel, Benjamin Honig, Maya Hooy, Katherine Hynes, Uzezi Ijoma, Amayia Johnson, Gabriella Kaplun, Jessica Karlin, Derek Kingsley, Ashley Klein, Mia Kochis, Natasha Koetje, Daniel Kohler, Jacob Larue, Kaitlin Laskaris, Noelle Laskaris, Jessica Lisanti, William Litchholt, Anna Liu, Leopold Loffredo, John Love, Michael Magnotti, Margaret Maguire, Tara Makhija, Casimir Malak, Isabelle McGovern, Abigail McKinney, Anthony Merlo, Stephanie Michael, Sumner Migot, Claudia Millwater, Emma Mioviski, Havana Mohr-Ramirez, Christopher Mulholland, Patrick Mullen, Joseph Muselli, Jack Musho, Declan O'Connor, Anna Obsgarten, Christian Pansini, Ava Paul, Gianni Pizzi, Andrew Principato, Leanna Prip, Colin Rees, Zachary Rever, Anthony Ricerca, Joseph Rigney, Madeline Ripper, Matthew Rock, Jessica Roitman, Jessica Rokhsar, Emma Roth, Nicholas Rubinetti, Brooke Russitano, Franco Saglio, Emma Sarrazin-Boespflug, Rachel Saxon, Ian Scheurer, Giavanna Schifano, Joseph Schoen, Rachel Seiden, Rachel Seigerman, Nicholas Senyk, Henry Shapiro, Carly Sherman, Lindsay Sherman, Sarah Simon, Eden Siskind, Abigail

Sternberg, Ashley Stone, Dylan Sturdevant, Hasumi Tanemori, Jakob Tannenbaum, Katherine Troutman, Sivaji Turimella, Roberto Uehara, Brianna Vaca, Brian Viscido, Kevin Vricella-Stokes, Tristan Waddell, Jake Waldman, Connor Walsh, Sophia Wayner, Alex Weinberg, Jakob White, Ari Wolf, Ryan Zadrozny

Grade 8

Distinguished Honor Roll

Tahani Ahmed, Kathryn Armstrong, Julianne Aronson, Natalie Becker, Flora Blandi, Nicole Boutsikaris, Julia Burk, Kayla Butera, Andrew Caminiti, Katherine Ceraso, Austin Chen, Colby Chen, Casey Cohen, Jack Colby, Isabella Cuccaro, Jenna Daniel, Jillian DeBenedetto, Daniella Deis, Massimo Del Pizzo, Juliette Duguid, Mackenzie Dulski, Morgan Eng, Corinne Flaherty, Sean Flynn, Gayatri Ganesan, Sarah Hacker, Megan Hanlon, Kyle Henderson, Julia Hollosi, Zachary Hom, Anthony Iacoponi, Elisha Israel, Michelle Israel, Ethan Jaffee, Hannah Jepsen, Justin Joseph, Margaret Kelly, Jackson Kirsch, Emma Krueger, Celia Lanza, Amanda Lee, Yan Leyzerovych, Alexa Linsky, Kamryn Lombardi, Thomas Mcguire, Ronald Melao, Jenna Miller, Sophia Morales, Jason Orenberg, Lillian Paone, James Peretz, Adam Perry, Jordan Phillips, Ashley Postaski, Roseline Reyes, Madeline Reynders, Julia Rickert, Rachel Rothenberg, John Sandstedt, Bridget Scaglione, Sara Shen, Sarah Silva, Jacob Singman, Matthew Siroty, Brady Smith, Makenzie Stratton, Samantha Stravach, Brooke Sullivan, Lauren Sullivan, Amanda Szaro, Caroline Tan, Ethan Useloff, Lia Varga, Sophia Vera, Jordan Wallis, Glen Warner, Andrew Wellnitz, Edward Xing, Jeffrey Yang, Eric Yoon, Irving Zhao

Grade 8 Honor Roll

Jillian Alvarado, Samuel Arkin, Hannah Bass, Jezeiah Benaoin, Nicholas Bencivenga, Jeffrey Bennett, Maria Biegler, Danielle Bonelli, Anna Bowman, Rachel Bowman, Cooper Brennan, Briana Brown, Jeffry Cabrera, Devin Cahery, Aaron Camacho, Lindsey Casale, Charlotte Clausen, Julie Dannevig, Jaimie De Dea, Yuliana De Los Rios, Zoe DelVecchio, Sydney Dobson, Taylor Dobson, Matthew Eagan, Allison Escaldi, Gabriella Estrada, Emily Figueroa, Amy Forbes, Michael Fuccillo, Fady Galal, Andy Garcia, Haley Gasson, Jack Garris, Jolene Ghal, Logan Gibbs, Fiona Gillen, Kamil Gonzalez, Elizabeth Gotz, Thalia Grandinetti, Ryan Grochan, Rachel Haar, Connor Hach, Alana Hammond, Daniel Han, Sydney Harding, Sophie Hendricks, Joe Herzog, Ethan Hom, Meghan Johnson, Koury Kania, Dorothy Kaplan, Jesse Katz, Evan Krishnamurthy, Chloe Landau, Kellie Leuthold, Noah Levy, Douglas Logan, Lauren Logozzo, Declan Luka, Julia Mancheno, Megan McCabe, Andrew McCarthy, Evan Meade, Sara Mehta, Charlotte Moore, Tomas Moore, John Mulholland, Nicole Murray, Leah Norton, Justin O'Boyle, Jackson O'Brien, Anthony Oliveri, Luke Orioli, John Ossman, Abigail Painter, Kelly Pikaart, Cooper Prieto, Marshall Roberson, Gabriella Russitano, Aidan Schaefer, Henry Schwartz, Emily Serpico, Catarina Silva, Sloane Silverman, Angelina Silvester, Alan Souza, Julia Souza, Ashlen Suen, Pierre Sulmont, Julian Trott, Justin Venturina, Brian Vergilis, Bridget Warren, Eliza Weiniger, Zachary Weiss, Camryn Williams, Emily Wistner, Zachary Youssef, Allison Zager, Brian Zale



PERFECT SCORES... Westfield High School has been notified that eight students have achieved perfect scores in November and December 2014 on the SAT and ACT standardized tests widely used for college admission criteria. This brings the total of perfect scores so far this school year to 24. The November SAT high scorers include, from left: Soo Min Chung - Korean with Listening; and Jian Hong Liu - Chinese with Listening; and Daniel Mitchell - Math; December SAT - Jake Barrow - Math 2 and Julia Simpson - Writing; and December ACT - Jordan Hindes - Reading and Sarah Steiner - Reading. Missing from photo is Diana Wu - ACT Science.

Un. Cath. Students Nominated For NHS Scholarship Prog

SCOTCH PLAINS - Elise Morano of Westfield, Tonna Obaze of Iselin, and Brianne Trollo of Fanwood, Union Catholic seniors and members of the Union Catholic National Honor Society, have been nominated to compete in the National Honor Society (NHS) scholarship program for this school year.

Sister Percylee Hart, RSM, principal of Union Catholic, announced the nominations, which place Elise, Tonna, and Brianne in the national competition. This year, the program will award more than \$250,000 in college scholarships. Special recognition and additional awards will be presented to state and regional winners. One national recipient will receive a \$13,000 award.

National Honor Society chapters from across the country were eligible to nominate a limited number of senior NHS members to compete. Applicants are selected on the basis of their leadership skills, participation in service organizations and clubs, achievements in the arts and sciences, and general academic record.

"Students selected to participate in the NHS scholarship program not

only demonstrate academic excellence, but also excel in the areas of service, leadership, and character," said NHS Associate Director David Cordts. "In recognizing leadership in co-curricular activities as well as academic performance, the NHS Scholarship program highlights the importance of a well-rounded education."

The NHS Scholarship program, in existence since 1946, annually recognizes 200 of the nation's top high school seniors who are members of NHS.

NHS is a program of NASSP, the nation's preeminent school leadership organization. NASSP serves as the national voice for middle level and high school principals, assistant principals, and aspiring school leaders. NASSP promotes the intellectual growth, academic achievement, character development, leadership development, and physical well-being of youth through its programs and student leadership services. NASSP administers the National Honor Society, National Junior Honor Society, National Elementary Honor Society, and the National Association of Student Councils. For more information, visit www.nassp.org or www.nhs.us.

WHS Newspaper Captures Two Journalism Awards

WESTFIELD - Westfield High School's student run newspaper, *Hi's Eye*, now in its 81st year and one of the only weekly, independent high school news programs in the country, was recognized by both the Columbia Scholastic Press Association and the National Scholastic Press Association.

The Columbia Scholastic Press Association awarded *Hi's Eye* a Silver Medal in Hybrid Print and Digital Critique, recognizing both the online and print versions. The judge noted: "Excellent job coming out every week in print and so frequently online as well. You report on newsworthy events."

Hi's Eye was awarded a Second Class Honor Rating by the National Scholastic Press Association based on critique of the digital version. In two categories (Site Design and Writing/Editing), *Hi's Eye* earned a perfect score. "*Hi's Eye* has an at-

tractive graphical design and a few eye-catching animated presentations that can attract readers...The staff seems to have a good instinct for what might interest readers," noted the NSPA judge.

"We are extremely proud of our news staff," stated Nicole Scimone, one of the *Hi's Eye* Journalism advisers at Westfield High School. "The students consistently rise to meet the challenges of producing a well-written, relevant paper for our students and community. They also impress us with their dedication to innovation as our program shifts into the age of digital journalism. Those interested in our program's new features can visit our new blog, which is linked to our website -- whshiseye.com, or follow our social media accounts on Facebook (Westfield High School *Hi's Eye*), Twitter (@hiseynews), and Instagram (@whshiseye)."

MS Education Association Seeks Volunteers for Barclays

MOUNTAINSIDE - The Mountainside Education Foundation (MEF) is partnering with The Barclays 2015 golf tournament to help raise much-needed funds for enrichment programs to benefit the Mountainside School District. The Barclays golf tournament will be played at Plainfield Country Club from August 25 to 30. The Barclays is the first playoff event in the FedEx Cup.

Through its partnership with The Barclays, the MEF is offering a chance to volunteer with the tournament. A \$75 registration fee includes daily access to the tournament for you and a guest, a logoed polo shirt and cap, and an invitation to the Volunteer Appreciation Party. Volunteers are expected to work three six-hour shifts on their respective committees over the course of the tournament.

To register, visit <https://events.r2it.com/volunteer/barclays/2015/> and be sure to select Mountainside Education Foundation as your "Affiliation/Organization" from the drop-down menu. For more information about volunteer duties, visit barclaysvolunteers.pgatourhq.com.

The Barclays is proud to have donated over \$45 million to charity since its inception in 1967. All tournament proceeds are donated back to local charities. The Mountainside Education Foundation supports the Mountainside public schools. During the 2014-2015 school year, some of the programs the MEF funded or partially funded include: Blankets for Babies, Raz-Kids/Reading A to Z, Chromebooks, and a Keyboard Lab for the Middle School. For more information on the MEF, visit mountainsideeducationfoundation.org.

Westfield Bd. of Ed. March Mtgs. to Discuss Budget

WESTFIELD - The next meetings of the Westfield Board of Education will be Tuesday, March 3 and March 17, at 7:30 p.m. The March 3 meeting will be a board workshop which will be held in the second floor conference room at 302 Elm Street. The March 17 regular meeting will be held in Room 105, the board room. The public is welcome to attend both meetings at which the budget for 2015-2016 will be discussed. Comments from the public can be heard on March 17. Questions or comments also can be addressed to the Westfield Board of

Education at wboe@westfieldnj12.org.

A complete agenda of the March 17 meeting will be available at www.westfieldnj12.org (on the Board of Education tab) and in the Board Secretary's Office at 302 Elm Street on Friday, March 13.

All general Board meetings are taped and televised on Blue Devils TV36 on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Saturdays at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.; and Sundays at 10 a.m. Videos of meetings also can be viewed on the Board of Education page of the district's web site.

RIS Eighth Graders Win Place First in Science Olympiad

WESTFIELD - Eighth graders from Roosevelt Intermediate School in Westfield were awarded first place in Robocross at the Science Olympiad regional competition held at New Jersey Institute of Technology on January 15.

Matt Leone and Brandon Hipp now have the opportunity to have their robot compete in the state tournament March 10 through 12 at Middlesex County College.

"It was a great experience winning first place," recalled Matt, "because that award was announced last so it was a big surprise."

"It was pretty cool," added Brandon. "We were able to score the most amount of points in the shortest amount of time."

Science teacher Jeffrey Robbins stated, "All of our students did great and in total, we placed 6th out of 20 teams. We medaled in six of the 12 events and in addition to a first place medal in Robocross, we placed third in Green Generation, fourth in Dynamic Planet, and fifth in Elastic Launched Glider. Air Trajectory, and Picture This. In three of the other events, we also placed in the top 10."

Senior Citizens Day Is Set For March 12 at SPFHS

SCOTCH PLAINS - The Student Government Association's annual Senior Citizens Day will be held on Thursday, March 12, at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School (SPFHS). The day's activities begin at 10 a.m. and end at 1 p.m. This is a fun-filled day for student volunteers and senior citizens alike. The day will start off with a complimentary breakfast, and guests will enjoy performances by the Moonglowers, dance team, Irish step dancers, and step squad. Attendees will also participate in games such as Name that Tune and Bingo, as well as view scenes from the school's spring musical, *Grease*. A delicious catered lunch by the SPFHS lunch staff will con-

clude this wonderful day.

Two transportation options are being offered for seniors to get to the high school. At 9:30 a.m. a bus will depart from the Senior Citizens Community Group in Scotch Plains on Lake Avenue. Alternatively a shuttle will depart from Scotch Hills Country Club at 9:30 a.m. to transport seniors to the high school.

Buses will return to the high school at 1 pm and will bring back guests to their respective locations.

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

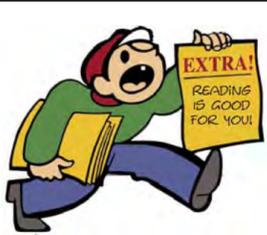
Raising a Beautiful Girl Workshop to be Held at EIS

WESTFIELD - The Edison Intermediate School Counseling Department of the Westfield Public Schools invites parents, caregivers and the community to attend "Raising a Beautiful Girl" on Wednesday, February 25, at 7 p.m. in the school's auditorium, 800 Rahway Ave, Westfield.

This seminar - presented by the Hance Family Foundation -- is designed to provide adults with practical tools that can be used to nurture and educate their girls, while enhancing their self-esteem and coping skills. There is no fee associated with this program; it is provided as a gift from the Hance Family Foundation.

The Hance Family Foundation was founded by Jackie and Warren Hance whose three daughters were tragically killed in a car accident on July 26, 2009. They established the foundation with the intention to honor their daughters through the gift of education. The foundation's central project is called Beautiful Me...The Emma, Alyson and Katie Hance Project. The mission of the project is to extend the lessons that their daughters taught through their examples. These lessons include being comfortable with who you are, increased positive body awareness, improved problem solving skills and to help

build healthy relationship skills. For more information, contact the Edison Intermediate School Counseling Department at (908) 789-4470, ext. no. 4480.



See it all in Color!
www.goleader.com

ST. BARTHOLOMEW ACADEMY

The Catholic Academy that makes a difference in your child's life.

Now Accepting Registrations for 2015 - 2016

- 21st Century Learning
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Westfield Hist. Soc. to Raise Funds For Archive Facility

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Historical Society invites past and present Westfield residents and business owners to participate in a year-long effort to raise \$800,000 to build an archive facility adjacent to the Reeve History and Cultural Resource Center, the Historical Society's headquarters, located at 314 Mountain Avenue, Westfield.

Upon completion, Westfield's historical artifacts will be stored in the new state-of-the-art, environmentally-controlled facility. It will be designed in keeping with the architecture of the original Reeve House.

The new archive space will feature permanent and semi-permanent exhibit areas; multi-media presentations; wall space for displaying large collections and artwork, and additional room for growth of the Society's archives collection. It will be able to accommodate 80 patrons at one time, and also will be able to serve as a meeting space for local groups.

A sampling of the Historical Society's collection to be on display at the center includes genealogies of Westfield's founding families; wills; deeds; census, church, civic group and business records; original historical photographs;

maps; clothing and other textiles; and most recently, audio and video recordings of current and former residents sharing their memories of living in Westfield. More items are continually being added through the generosity of Westfield families.

Since 1968, the artifacts have been saved to tell the history of Westfield. The items currently are kept in two rooms provided by the board of education in its building on Elm Street. While anyone can make an appointment to visit the archives, items are not displayed in a museum-quality setting. Many items are kept in archival file boxes containing more than 1,900 individual file folders.

"We have so many wonderful pieces of art, furniture, pictures and historical documents to share with the public," said Robert Wendel, vice-president of Community Relations for the Historical Society.

"With the new archival space, we will be able to display many more items that the public currently doesn't see," said current Westfield Historical Society President Nancy Priest. Led by Sherry Cronin and the fund-raising committee, the Society will hold fund-raising campaigns and events to raise money to build the archival space, and is seeking the public's support and involvement.

The archive construction project represents Phase Two of the Reeve History and Cultural Resource Center's two-stage development plan. Between 2005 and 2010, money was raised to restore the Reeve House property; that restoration is still ongoing, but drawing to completion this year.

To contribute to the archive building fund-raising effort, visit the Westfield Historical Society's website at westfieldhistoricalsociety.org and click on the "Donate" link. Checks also can be made out and mailed to the Westfield Historical Society, P.O. Box 613, Westfield, N.J. 07091. To learn about upcoming community-oriented fund-raising events, "like" the Historical Society's Facebook page.



SONGS OF SUBSTANCE... Al Shorts, pictured, along with Saul Broudy, will perform a concert on Wednesday, March 4, at 7 p.m., entitled "False Freedom: African American Songs of Work, Struggle and Salvation, from the Civil War to WW II," at the Fanwood Memorial Library. The concert will be part of the ongoing Created Equal series of programming being presented at the Fanwood Memorial Library and the Scotch Plains Public Library.

Library to Feature Music About Freedom Struggle

FANWOOD — The Created Equal series of programming at the Fanwood and Scotch Plains libraries will continue in early March with two special presentations. More activities will follow later in the month.

Folklorists and performers Saul Broudy and Al Shorts will appear at the Fanwood Memorial Library on Wednesday, March 4, at 7 p.m. During a concert entitled "False Freedom: African American Songs of Work, Struggle and Salvation, from the Civil War to World War II," they will present a broad palette of music from the time period covered in the film *Slavery by Another Name*.

The following Wednesday, March 11, at 7 p.m., also at the Fanwood

Memorial Library, the libraries will present the second of three community conversations on racial relations: "How Did We Get to Today? Awareness, Acknowledgement and Advancement."

Community members are invited to come together to follow up on the successful initial conversation on Martin Luther King Day, and to explore acknowledgement of current issues of race and civil rights through their parallels and connections to historical events. Dr. Linda Caldwell Epps, Bishop Kevin C. Brooks and Rabbi Joel Abraham of Social Justice Matters will facilitate this conversation and dialogue.

The Scotch Plains Public Library and the Fanwood Memorial Library have received a grant from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History along with 473 other communities nationwide to present a series of programming called Created Equal: America's Civil Rights Struggle.

Created Equal: America's Civil Rights Struggle is made possible through a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, as part of its Bridging Cultures initiative, in partnership with the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. This series also is supported in part by the Friends groups of both the Fanwood Memorial Library and the Scotch Plains Public Library.

Along with multiple screenings of four films and discussions about them at both libraries, events will include community conversations, lectures, concerts, book discussions and other activities.

The Fanwood Memorial Library is located at 5 Forest Road, while the Scotch Plains Public Library is located at 1927 Bartle Avenue. Details about screenings and other programs in the Created Equal: America's Civil Rights Struggle series are available at thejointlibrary.org/createdequal/.

POLICE BLOTTER

Westfield Monday, February 16, a resident of the 1400 block of Lamberts Mill Road reported being the victim of identity theft. Someone unknown used the victim's Social Security number to file a federal tax return.

Wednesday, February 18, Derek Wanfried, 23, of Westfield was arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated (DWI) pursuant to a motor vehicle stop at North Euclid Avenue and East Broad Street. He was transported to police headquarters, processed and released to a sober adult.

Wednesday, February 18, James O'Donnell, 20, of Short Hills was arrested and charged with possession of less than 50 grams of suspected marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia pursuant to a motor vehicle stop in the area of Clifton Street and Cherokee Court. He was transported to police headquarters, where he was processed and released with a summons.

Wednesday, February 18, a business representative from the 800 block of Central Avenue reported a burglary at the establishment. One or more individuals entered the business and caused a variety of damage to the interior. There were no suspects at the time of the report, according to police.

Wednesday, February 18, Thomas Macken, 21, of Scotch Plains was arrested at Watchung police headquarters on outstanding Westfield criminal and traffic warrants with bail totaling \$3,021. Macken was unable to post bail, according to police.

Thursday, February 19, Stephanie J. DeGrazio, 19, of Westfield was arrested subsequent to a motor vehicle stop on an outstanding West Orange traffic warrant. She was transported to police headquarters, processed and released after posting \$250 cash bail.

Thursday, February 19, Naimah K. Muhammad, 22, of Newark was arrested at Milltown police headquarters on an outstanding Westfield criminal warrant. Muhammad was transported to Westfield police headquarters, processed and committed to the Union County jail in lieu of \$5,000 bail (no 10-percent alternative).

Friday, February 20, Keeya N. Boone, 24, of Roselle responded to police headquarters to satisfy an outstanding Westfield traffic warrant for \$500. Boone was processed and released after posting the full cash bail.

Saturday, February 21, Abraham Berkowitz, 64, of Mountaintop was arrested on two outstanding Westfield warrants in the amount of \$144. He was processed and released after posting bail.

Sunday, February 22, Zaveta S. Papis, 30, of Kenilworth responded to police headquarters to satisfy two outstanding Westfield traffic warrants in the amount of \$134. She was processed and released after posting the full cash bail.

Sunday, February 22, Jimmy Castellano, 18, of Newark was arrested and charged with possession of less than 50 grams of suspected marijuana pursuant to a motor vehicle stop in the area of Tamaques Park. He was transported to police headquarters, where he was processed and released with a summons.

Fanwood Wednesday, January 28, James Riddles, 26, and Najem Sheppard, 27, of South Plainfield were arrested on outstanding warrants following a motor vehicle stop. Riddles had outstanding warrants out of Wanauque and Bridgewater; he was turned over to the Wanauque police. Sheppard had an outstanding warrant out of Union and was released after posting bail.

Thursday, January 29, police received a report that a female suspect had left a gas station on South Martine Avenue without paying for gasoline. Friday, January 30, Michael Miskovich, 30, of Colonia was arrested following a motor vehicle stop on an outstanding warrant out of Edison. He was turned over to the Edison police.

Monday, February 2, officers responded to a report of a house fire on the 80 block of Kempshall Terrace. Upon the officers' arrival the house was on fire. The Fanwood Volunteer Fire Department responded and put the fire out. The house sustained fire, smoke and water damage. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

Monday, February 9, Yemis Rodriguez, 34, of Union was arrested following a motor vehicle stop on an outstanding warrant out of Clark. She was released after posting bail.

Monday, February 9, a home burglary was reported on the 200 block of Belvidere Avenue. According to police, an unknown person entered the house and removed jewelry and a small safe.

Tuesday, February 10, an incident of criminal mischief in which a parked car was targeted was reported at the north-side train station.

Wednesday, February 11, Marc Umstead, 22, of Plainfield was arrested following a motor vehicle stop on an outstanding Union County Sheriff's Office warrant. He was turned over to the sheriff's office.

Friday, February 13, Sean Roseland, 37, of Plainfield was arrested following a motor vehicle stop and charged with receiving stolen property after a check of the vehicle's registration showed that the vehicle was reported stolen out of Watchung. Roseland was released after posting bail.

Friday, February 13, Darren Scuggs, 55, of Plainfield was arrested following a motor vehicle stop on an outstanding warrant out of Newark. He was processed and released.

Friday, February 13, Latasha Burgess, 30, of Linden was arrested following a motor vehicle stop on an outstanding warrant out of Garwood. She was released after posting bail.

Scotch Plains Sunday, February 1, a resident of Golf Street reported that sometime overnight his motor vehicle tire was slashed. The victim said this occurred sometime between 11 p.m. and 10:30 a.m. The resident said another tire had been slashed two nights prior but he did not report it at the time.

Tuesday, February 3, a resident of Haven Avenue reported being a victim of fraud. Someone withdrew more than \$4,800 from two different bank accounts belonging to the victim.

Tuesday, February 3, a resident of Watchung Terrace reported being a victim of fraud. Someone took out a \$4,000 loan in her name.

Thursday, February 5, Jose Perez-Arriaga, 40, of North Plainfield was arrested on a warrant out of Plainfield.

Friday, February 6, Carlos Correia-Marques, 40, of Scotch Plains was arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated (DWI) after a motor vehicle stop.

Saturday, February 7, the owner of a business on Park Avenue reported being a victim of possible check fraud.

Tuesday, February 10, Matthew Williams, 23, of Plainfield was arrested on motor vehicle warrants from multiple jurisdictions.

Thursday, February 12, Julio Rodriguez, 26, of Plainfield was arrested on outstanding warrants issued by multiple jurisdictions following a motor vehicle stop. Rodriguez was transported to police headquarters, where he was processed and released.

Friday, February 13, a resident of Algonquin Drive reported being a victim of fraud. Someone opened a financial account using the victim's Social Security number.

Sunday, February 15, a resident of Lake Avenue reported being the victim of credit card fraud. More than \$11,000 of unauthorized charges had been made on the card.

Monday, February 16, Patrick Daly, 30, of Scotch Plains was arrested and charged with DWI after a motor vehicle stop.

PUBLIC NOTICE

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS NOTICE OF CONTRACT AWARD
Date Adopted: 02/19/15

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) (i). This contract and the resolution authorizing it is available for public inspection in the Office of the Clerk of the Board.

RESOLUTION NO: 2015-137
AWARDED TO: **Bauch, Zucker Hatfield, LLC of Springfield, New Jersey**

SERVICES: in the matter entitled Barbara Egger v. UC, et als
COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 for a sum not to exceed \$40,000.00
James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 02/26/15, The Leader Fee: \$21.93

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RESOLUTION NO: 2015-122
AWARDED TO: **Great America Insurance Company, Cincinnati, Ohio**

SERVICES: to cover accidental death of horses by fire, electrocution or transportation vehicle overturn
PERIOD: January 16, 2015-January 16, 2016
COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$1,578.00
James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 02/26/15, The Leader Fee: \$22.95

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RESOLUTION NO: 2015-117
AWARDED TO: **Westfield Veterinary Group, Westfield, New Jersey**

SERVICES: to provide veterinary services and specialized meals to the Sheriff's K-9 Unit
PERIOD: January 1, 2015- December 31, 2015
COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00
James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 02/26/15, The Leader Fee: \$21.93

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RESOLUTION NO: 2015-136
amending **(Resolution No. 2014-928)**
AWARDED TO: **Florio & Kenny of Hoboken, New Jersey**

SERVICES: in the matter entitled Shiqun Fowler v. UC, et als
COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 for a sum not to exceed \$40,000.00
James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 02/26/15, The Leader Fee: \$21.42

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RESOLUTION NO: 2015-139
AWARDED TO: **Winning Strategies Washington, DC**

SERVICES: to provide services for comprehensive federal government relations and lobbying services
PERIOD: January 1, 2015-January 22, 2015
COSTS: in the amount of \$138,000.00
James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 02/26/15, The Leader Fee: \$21.93

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RESOLUTION NO: 2015-318
AWARDED TO: **Maser Consulting, P.A., of Red Bank, New Jersey**

SERVICES: to provide Design, Construction Administration and Inspection Services for the Replacement of Mountain Avenue Minor Bridge
COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$207,170.00
James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 02/26/15, The Leader Fee: \$21.42

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RESOLUTION NO: 2015-114
amending **(Resolution No. 2014-799)**
AWARDED TO: **Code Blue Emergency Shelter**

SERVICES: to address the needs of the homeless during periods of extreme weather conditions
COSTS: in an additional amount not to exceed \$80,000.00 for a total amount not to exceed \$160,000.00
James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 02/26/15, The Leader Fee: \$22.95

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RESOLUTION NO: 2015-130
AWARDED TO: **Remington Vernick & Arango Engineers, of Secaucus, New Jersey**

SERVICES: to provide Design, Construction Administration and Inspection Services for the Replacement of Hazelwood Avenue
COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$186,500.00
James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 02/26/15, The Leader Fee: \$21.93

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RESOLUTION NO: 2015-119
AWARDED TO: **Kristen Balsamo-Kleinbach, Paramus, New Jersey**

SERVICES: to serve as a DNA Analyst for the Union County Prosecutor's Office Forensic Laboratory
PERIOD: February 1, 2015- January 31, 2016
COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$45,000.00
James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 02/26/15, The Leader Fee: \$21.93

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RESOLUTION NO: 2015-115
AWARDED TO: **Tritinas Regional Medical Center of Elizabeth New Jersey**

SERVICES: to provide Psychiatric physical services for the residents/patients at the Cornerstone Hospital at Runnells Specialized Hospital
PERIOD: December 1, 2014- June 30, 2015
COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$225,000.00
James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 02/26/15, The Leader Fee: \$23.97

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RESOLUTION NO: 2015-133
AWARDED TO: **Neglia Associates, of Lyndhurst, New Jersey**

SERVICES: to provide Design, Construction Administration and Inspection Services for the Replacement of Central Avenue Bridge, Town of Westfield
COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$115,504.00
James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 02/26/15, The Leader Fee: \$21.42

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RESOLUTION NO: 2015-113
AWARDED TO: **Various Agencies Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark**

Center for Hope Hospice \$446,482.00
Center Jersey Legal Service Inc. \$17,500.00
\$98,634.00
City of Plainfield \$11,291.00
Community Health Law Project \$40,072.00
Elizabethport Presbyterian Center \$28,271.00
Jewish Community Center \$47,352.00
Jewish Family Services \$470,727.00
JFK Adult Medical Day Program \$25,000.00
Nutrition Program (UCDOA and/or Meals On Wheels, Inc) \$2,161,664.00
Plainfield Senior Citizens Services Center \$88,547.00
P.R.O.C.E.E.D., Inc \$98,978.00
Rutgers Cooperative Extension \$83,319.00
SAGE Eldericare \$81,381.00
Union County Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs \$16,000.00
Union County Paratransit System \$91,292.00
Union Township Community Action Organization \$57,165.00
Visiting Nurse & Health Services (Holy Redeemer) \$83,162.00
Westfield Community Center \$25,114.00
YMCA/Wise Center \$67,510.00
YM-YWHA of Union County \$50,611.00

SERVICES: to provide Union County residents 60 years of age or older and/or their caregivers
PERIOD: January 1, 2015- December 31, 2015
COSTS: in the amount not to exceed \$4,090,072.00
James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 02/26/15, The Leader Fee: \$49.98

PUBLIC NOTICE

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RESOLUTION NO: 2015-121
AWARDED TO: **Hartford Insurance Company, Hartford, Connecticut**

SERVICES: Renewing the Public Bond for Alfred J. Faella
PERIOD: April 1, 2015-March 31, 2016
COSTS: in the amount of \$274.00
James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 02/26/15, The Leader Fee: \$20.40

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RESOLUTION NO: 2015-121
AWARDED TO: **Hartford Insurance Company, Hartford, Connecticut**

SERVICES: Renewing the Public Bond for Alfred J. Faella
PERIOD: April 1, 2015-March 31, 2016
COSTS: in the amount of \$274.00
James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 02/26/15, The Leader Fee: \$20.40

PUBLIC NOTICE

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RESOLUTION NO: 2015-132
AWARDED TO: **CME Associates, of Parlin, New Jersey**

SERVICES: to provide Design, Construction Administration and Inspection Services for the Replacement of Martine Avenue Bridge
COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$152,444.50
James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 02/26/15, The Leader Fee: \$21.42

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RESOLUTION NO: 2015-138
amending **(Resolution No. 2014-938)**
AWARDED TO: **Palumbo & Renaud of Cranford, New Jersey**

SERVICES: in the matter entitled Richard Lapolla v. UC, et als
COSTS: in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 for a sum not to exceed \$65,000.00
James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board Chosen Freeholders
1 T - 02/26/15, The Leader Fee: \$21.42

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RESOLUTION NO: 2015-135
AWARDED TO

“Shadows and Memories” on Display at Les Malamut Gallery

UNION – The New Art Group will be exhibiting a variety of works in painting, encaustic wax, mixed media and photography at the Les Malamut Gallery on the lower level of the Union Library from Monday, March 2 through Friday, April 24. The library is located at 1980 Morris Ave in downtown Union. The exhibit will be open during library hours: Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Wednesdays 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Fridays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Each exhibit the New Art Group puts up is designed to elicit a variety of responses from the audience. Susan Ahlstrom's paintings and mixed media works are about memories of places and important times. In Nancy Ori's photographs from Bodie, California, she reveals a place that held importance at one time and is now abandoned. The memories left behind are visceral in the shadows and hint at stories of the people who once lived there during the Gold Rush. Jane Caminos explores the themes that penetrate the lives of women in a way we can almost not fathom and helps us realize that violence against women doesn't discriminate.

The exhibit also offers exploration into how shadows and shades, along with real and imagined memories, can create new stories or narratives that give us a view we didn't expect to see. Mr. Pinkman's monotype,

Auschwitz of Memory, is a glimpse at a soul that is left behind after great atrocity. Heidi Sussman presents ideas in her work about the concept of time and whether time actually exists. Is it possible to see the invisible line separating now and then? Hurricane Sandy left an indelible impression on Francesca Azzara, whose work brings to the surface the loss and anxiety it represented for so many and one we will not soon forget.

The roster of artists in the show includes Susan Ahlstrom from Stirling, Francesca Azzara from Westfield, Jane Caminos from Watchung, Nancy Ori from Berkeley Heights, Paul XO Pinkman from Plainfield, and Heidi Sussman from West Orange. All are professional visual artists with many years of exhibiting and teaching experience. Visit www.newartgroup.com for more info about other local exhibits or workshops being taught by the various members.

The Les Malamut Gallery has a feeling of a special space, an inner sanctum providing for a thoughtful viewing of each exhibit. The gallery was originally created so that the residents of Union Township would have easy access to art. Over the years, interest in the gallery has grown way beyond the boundaries of the township. For more info visit www.lesmalamutgallery.wordpress.com or call (908) 851-5450. The space is handicapped accessible.



LENAPE LEARNING...The fourth grade class at The Wardlaw-Hartridge School in Edison learned about the Lenape Indians during an interactive presentation on February 5. Beverly Friend, a Native American, made her annual presentation to the students, who sat in a large circle and listened carefully. Some even enjoyed the opportunity to try on items worn by the Lenape Indians. Ms. Friend brought many artifacts with her including bear, deer, and fox skins. She emphasized how the Lenape were among the very first environmentalists who used almost every part of the animals they killed and they respected the land.

NJFO and Opera at Florham in Operatic Double-Bill on March 8

BASKING RIDGE – On Sunday, March 8 at 3 p.m. at Ridge Performing Arts Center, Basking Ridge, New Jersey Festival Orchestra (NJFO) and Opera at Florham present Love Triangles – Comic and Deadly, a sensational in-concert operatic double-bill of tales of love, jealousy and passion, featuring a host of renowned international guest soloists.

Love can inspire the human spirit to soar skyward, but it is the corrosive element of jealousy that plunges it into the depths of darkness. Guest soloists from the New York Metropolitan Opera and beyond join NJFO and Opera at Florham to present two interpretations on jealousy: Scarmolin's Interrupted Serenade, a lighthearted farce in the tradition of Mozart and Mascagni's Cavalleria Rusticana, a renowned serious love triangle, where the only resolution is murder. Maestro David Wroe leads the orchestra and soloists through the stunning scores.

"We are bringing the dull winter months to life with a truly grand afternoon of opera," explained Maestro Wroe. "Love is complicated as we all know, and these two highly accessible operas come together to provide two completely different in-concert takes on the theme of jealousy. One is lighthearted – the other deadly serious. I think audiences will find each interpretation both fascinating and compelling."

Cavalleria Rusticana is a favorite razor-sharp thriller with a rich melodic score that made composer Pietro Mascagni famous overnight. Set in a remote Sicilian village on Easter day, the story flares with conflict between love, honor, justice and violence. Although loaded with bold confronta-

tional scenes, the opera also contains one of the most blissfully romantic pieces of music ever written – the serene "Intermezzo". Scarmolin's Interrupted Serenade, a rarely performed lighthearted masterpiece in the tradition of an Opera Buffa, counterpoints Mascagni's renowned drama.

Music Director David Wroe blends international soloists of the first magnitude to bring these two exciting operas to life.

Starring as Turridu in Cavalleria Rusticana and Alfred in The Interrupted Serenade is celebrated NY Metropolitan Opera Tenor, Raúl Melo. Starring as the scheming Santuzza in Cavalleria Rusticana is soprano Kristin Sampson who has been praised by The New York Times as a "plush-voiced soprano" and a "rich and ample dramatic soprano" by Opera Insider. Acclaimed baritone, Joshua Jeremiah sings the roles of Alfio (Cavalleria) and Arnaldo (Interrupted Serenade). Mr. Jeremiah has been described by critics across the country as "splendid", "other-worldly", and "exuding of confidence".

A short lecture and pre-opera chat designed to enhance the opera experience will be conducted by musicologist Dr. John Sichel at 2:15 p.m.

This not-to-be-missed production has been made possible through the generous support of the A Louis Scarmolin Trust, the NJ State Council on the Arts and the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation.

Tickets range from \$26 to \$75; student tickets are \$13 and are available online at www.njfestivalorchestra.org and www.operaatflorham.org. Tickets may also be purchased by calling the box office at (973) 408-3978.

Woman's Club of WF Names Poetry, Short Story Winners

WESTFIELD – The Woman's Club of Westfield has announced the winners of its 2015 Youth Poetry and Short Story Contest.

The winners for poetry are: Katie Mc Dermott daughter of Laurie and Patrick McDermott for her poem, "The Bear." Katie is a second grade student at Washington Elementary School in Westfield.

Grace Kibourn, daughter of Tara McGroddy and Bret Kilbourn for her poem, "Fire." Grace is a fourth grade student at Washington Elementary School in Westfield.

Lee Rosenthal, son of Pam and Stu Rosenthal for his poem, "Intimidation." Lee is a sixth grade student at Orange Avenue Elementary School in Cranford.

Cassie Teschner, daughter of Dona and Michael Teschner for her poem "Touched" Cassie is an eleventh grade student at Westfield High School in Westfield..

Short Story winners are: Ciara Weber, daughter of Dona and Michael Weber for her short story, "The Mouse Gingerbread House." Ciara is a fifth grade student at Washington Elementary School in Westfield.

Mark Falletta, son of Linda and Charlie Falletta for his short story, "A Realistic Fiction story." Mark is a seventh grade student at Edison Intermediate School in Westfield.

Ashley Rosen, daughter of Cheryl and Phil Rosen for her short story "The Spark". Ashley is a ninth grade student at Union County Vocational Technical High School in Scotch Plains.

These winning poems and short stories will go on to be entered in the

New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs' statewide contest First place winners will then go on to be judged on the national level.

The ladies of The Woman's Club of Westfield congratulate the winning students and their families on the wonderful work they submitted to this contest and encourage the young authors to continue writing.

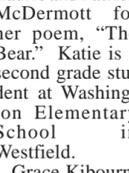
The Woman's Club of Westfield held its first meeting in the Westfield Public Library. The second meeting was held on March 8, 1895 in the social hall of the Standard Building with forty members present. By 1901 membership increased to 100 ladies and more space was found at the Parish House of the Presbyterian Church until more room was found at the lower lounge of the Masonic Temple, then to The First Baptist Church and back to the Masonic Temple. In 1955 total WCW membership reached five hundred ladies and in 1955 the Towle house and grounds on South Euclid Avenue were purchased becoming the club's home for many years.

Meetings are now held at the Masonic Lodge in Westfield. Through the years, The Woman's Club has had a keen interest in education, being involved in the founding of Douglass College and always awarding college scholarships. The club happily continues today to award ten spring general scholarships and eight Gray fall scholarships to Westfield High School Senior boys and girls.

WCW is ever donating time, effort and means to the community, while reaching out to our Veterans, Wounded Warriors, Bridges (feeding the needy) and battered women to name a few. For more information on the Woman's Club of Westfield, please call Dolores Geisow at (908) 233-2339.



Katie McDermott



Grace Kibourn



Ashley Rosen



Lee Rosenthal



Ciara Weber



Mark Falletta



Cassie Teschner



Ashley Rosen

POPCORN Fifty Shades of Grey Black & Blue and in it for the Green 2 popcorns

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

By Michael S. Goldberg film critic

The only film I ever walked out on was "In Cold Blood" (1967), about the gruesome murder of four members of the Clutter family in Holcomb, Kansas, circa 1959. I was in college, had no readers to answer to, and, as testament to writer/director Richard Brooks' accurate adaptation of Truman Capote's book, the film seethed with unsettling depravity. Alas, I might as well have been tied down while viewing "Fifty Shades of Grey," a disingenuously marketed bore no matter how you color it. I was on the clock, and could only hope some great surprise awaited.

But there was no call from the governor's office in the 11th hour, no reprieve from the ennu that I was destined to suffer until the closing credits offered, at long last, their merciful release. Now I just had to figure out why I so disliked director Sam Taylor-Johnson's filmic reworking of author E.L. James's novel by the same title, write the criticism, and be done with it. Or so I thought.

For starters, to borrow from my earliest critical terminology, it's icky...a decidedly gratuitous delve into a psychological malady profoundly bereft of any redeeming enlightenment. If, like Jamie Dornan's Christian Grey, you're an intelligent billionaire in your twenties tormented by a sexual proclivity far afield of the graph, it's not enough for me to learn that you were born in squalor and then, in your teens, fixed to your disorder by a predator of similar tastes.

No sir. Having introduced the topic of sadomasochism to a mainstream audience for the most part ignorant of the subject, it behooves to educate beyond the thumbnailed pabulum our young, helicopter-flying tycoon feeds Anastasia Steele, the college co-ed who falls for him. For one, it's simplistically dismissive and unfair to the afflicted. But in the grander, sociocultural picture, it is bamboozlement and emotional piracy on the high seas of movie entertainment. For gosh sakes, the thing is being sold as hearts and flowers, a promise of romance, released on Valentine's Day.

Thus, one must feel almost as bad for the hopeful, starry-eyed viewers pining for a couple hours of vicarious amour as for innocent Anastasia, passably emoted by Dakota Johnson. Waiting for the right guy to come along, she just happens to meet the communications industry wunderkind whilst substitute-interviewing him for her sick roommate.

It is serendipity turned upside down and inside out, and in some sad ways a

metaphor for all the star-crossed love affairs in human history. She is soon smitten, ready to submit her every being to this Marquis de Sade in knight's clothing, unaware that his definition of commitment differs exponentially from hers.

She is Alice in S & M Land, initially open-minded and, in the tolerantly wishful ways of some women, hopes that she might "cure" him, change his spots and, as they both come to euphemize, live like "normal people." But he tells her right off it's no use. He's hardwired to it. So if she wants to still see him, she must sign a non-disclosure agreement. Following that is a consent form outlining which pain-inflicting activities she's willing to endure in the elaborate torture chamber that's his divergent idea of a man cave.

Maybe it's my naiveté. Isn't this guy a sort of Dracula? What a place. Sure seems like an awful lot of trouble, and expensive, too...all those whips, chains, handcuffs and leather goods. Yet wealth and orderliness sanitizes it a bit, almost deflecting the sordidness. Furthermore, his affluence is seductive to the winsome victim. He informs that he "doesn't do romance," doesn't make love per se, but only, well, you know. There'll be no wedding bells or white picket fence.

Folks who in good faith expected a hot love story with some steamy sex may swear to never again see a film without first reading a review. (I hate to get you that way.) Moms and Dads with offspring of dating age will have yet another reason to shudder. Still, whether you can't skip out because you're a film critic or because your dinner date with Todd and Ginny isn't for two hours yet, the hopeless romantic in you is offered no option but to root for our damsel in distress.

Doubtless, the niche audience whose numbers, I think, couldn't possibly support the box office requirements of a major film release, will find this a rather dumbed down foray into their world...a mere primer with no elucidation. But for the rest, who are sure to feel as jilted as Dickens's Miss Havisham in "Great Expectation" if they squander ten bucks to see "Fifty Shades of Grey," I echo the advice offered by King Arthur in "Monty Python and the Holy Grail" (1975): "Run away, run away!" As for me, the occupational hazard is over...until the sequel.

"Fifty Shades of Grey," rated R, is a Focus Features release directed by Sam Taylor-Johnson and stars Jamie Dornan, Dakota Johnson and Jennifer Ehle. Running time: 125 minutes



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY...Lower School students at The Wardlaw-Hartridge School in Edison enjoyed the annual Valentine's Day Dance Party in Laidlaw Gym on February 12. The children participated in group dances and hula contests and enjoyed tasty treats and refreshments, compliments of the Wardlaw-Hartridge Parents' Association.

The Westfield Memorial Library presents
"Hotter than a Pepper Sprout"
 American Music by Nina Et Cetera
 Saturday, March 7 at 2:00 pm



Nina and Tim of Nina Et Cetera will play the music of Johnny Cash, Billie Holiday, Hank Williams, Patsy Cline, Peggy Lee, Gershwin and many others. The instrumentation includes guitar, vocals, bass, percussion, harmonica, and much more. Learn about blues, gospel, folk, and rock and roll, and have a wonderful evening. Make sure you sign up as this duo will fill the house!

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“High School Musical” to be Performed at Westfield’s EIS

WESTFIELD – Disney Channel's smash hit movie musical comes to life on Edison Intermediate School's stage in "Disney's High School Musical!" With such famous songs as "Getcha Head in the Game", "We're All in This Together", "Stick to the Status Quo", and "Breaking Free" this musical promises to be a showstopper.

Troy, Gabriella, and the students of East High must deal with issues of first love, friends, and family while balancing their classes and extra-curricular activities. It's the first day after winter break at East High. The Jocks, Brainiacs, Thespians, Skater Dudes, and the rest of East High find their cliques, recount their vacations, and look forward to the New Year. Basketball

team captain and resident jock Troy discovers that the brainy Gabriella, a girl he met singing karaoke on his ski trip, has just enrolled at East High. They cause an upheaval when they decide to audition for the high school musical, led by Ms. Darbus. Although many students resent the threat posed to the "status quo," Troy and Gabriella's alliance might just open the door for others to shine as well.

Disney's High School Musical is fun for the whole family. Starring a large cast of Edison Intermediate School students. Show dates are Friday, March 6 and Saturday, March 7 at 7:30 p.m. with a special performance on Thursday, March 5 at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$8 pre-sale and \$10 at the door.

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GO RAMS...Upper and Middle School teams at The Wardlaw-Hartridge School (W-H) in Edison were recognized at the Winter Pep Rally on February 12 in Laidlaw Gym. The cheerleading teams from both divisions ignited the student body to show support for the W-H teams. The event also featured students and faculty and staff members competing in an array of games. The camaraderie and spirit provided a good start to the Presidents' Day weekend.

Arts & Entertainment

Westfield High School Setting the Scene for *Urinetown* March 12 to 14

WESTFIELD – Preparations for Westfield High School's (WHS) upcoming production of *Urinetown: The Musical* March Thursday, March 12 through Saturday, March 14 are well underway. While the show's 49-member cast attends daily after-school rehearsals under the guidance of director Daniel Devlin, the 20-member set construction crew is hard at work building the dystopian town that establishes the show's setting.

A satirical musical comedy nominated for nine Tony Awards, *Urinetown* imagines a world in which private toilets have been banned, and its citizens must pay for the "privilege" of using the bathroom — until some people decide to fight back.

Along the way, there is romance, murder, and plenty of laughs — and a variety of musical styles ranging from gospel to jazz.

Tickets for *Urinetown*, which are reserved seating, are \$13 each. They can be purchased in advance at www.wfhs.booktix.com, or at the door.

Urinetown will feature an innovative, two-level set that serves as an urban backdrop for the show's characters, which include the greedy corporate mogul Caldwell B. Cladwell (Frank Guerriero), his beautiful daughter Hope (Madeleine Rosenthal), her idealistic beau Bobby Strong (Julian Mone), the jaded bathroom warden Penelope Pennywise (Madeline Hudelson), the tough-talking Officer Lockstock (Michael Poyntz), and a street urchin named Little Sally (Lauren Echausse).

Designing, creating and managing the set is the job of scenic designer Roy Chambers, now in his 16th year at the high school. He is assisted by juniors Sarah Morton and Jack Frankola, who are the show's Assistant Technical Directors. Members of the set construction crew also help plan how the set will be built, gather materials, paint and build the set, among many other projects.

Mr. Chambers described the *Urinetown* set as futuristic, but with historical elements of the Great Depression incorporated, since most of the citizens are poor and suffering the effects of seemingly endless drought.

The *Urinetown* set is unique from other WHS productions in several ways. Scaffolding had to be rented from professional contracting companies in order to create an industrial and metallic skeleton to build upon. Also, the back wall of the stage will be completely exposed to represent a steel wall. Mr. Chambers hopes the combination of the back wall and the scaffolding will create the illusion that the city is enclosed.

In addition, the set construction crew is emphasizing a lot of texture, such as rust, bricks, rivets and corrugated roofing material. "Texture will be used throughout to help separate things and give it an interesting look that's weathered," Mr. Chambers said.

In order to create the illusion that the stage is bigger than it is, one side of the stage will extend into the audience from a staircase. Also, an extended center stage will have a working manhole that serves as a trap door so that actors can have an alternative way of entering and exiting scenes.

"A lot of the time the set stops at the curtain, but in this case we're incorporating aspects of the set down into the pit area to surround the musicians," said Mr. Chambers.

Mr. Chambers, who has designed approximately 30 shows at WHS, has gained a reputation for innovative sets. In the 2013 fall play, *Metamorphoses*, the front of the stage was transformed into a fully-functioning pool. In 2011,

Mr. Chambers won a Paper Mill Rising Star Award for his work on *Sweeney Todd*, which had a barber's chair that doubled as a chute that took actors off the stage once they died.

Working with Mr. Chambers on *Sweeney Todd* was WHS student Jill Salisbury, who is now a senior at Lawrence College in Wisconsin. Ms. Salisbury is just one example of a WHS student who went on to pursue a career in technical theatre. Although technical theatre is less popular than general art or design, Mr. Chambers said a lot of his students pursue something in the creative realm after high school.

In college, Mr. Chambers was a commercial art and graphic design major. After working in advertising for a few years, he wanted a career that was more rewarding, so he got his teaching certificate for graphic art and design. At



BROADWAY KIDS... A cast of 160 third, fourth and fifth-graders at McKinley Elementary School in Westfield recently took part in the school's annual Kapers musical production. This year's story, *I Am Kapernicus*, took the school to New York City and the bright lights of Broadway in search of their runaway mascot, the Kapers Dude, and taught the students that each person is an important piece of the puzzle. The students, along with almost 50 parents and members of the McKinley faculty, performed in front of an audience of 800 across three nights. The production was written, choreographed and directed by McKinley parents Jenny Tananbaum and Jackie Weiner. Pictured, third-grade boys perform the musical number "Together Wherever We Go".



BATHROOM PASS NEEDED... Director Daniel Devlin, left, guides senior Lauren Echausse, far right, and other cast members at a recent rehearsal for *Urinetown: The Musical* to be presented March 12 through 14 at Westfield High School.

WF Community Players to Present *A Thousand Clowns*

WESTFIELD – Westfield Community Players continues its 2014-2015 season with the warm-hearted comedy *A Thousand Clowns* by Herb Gardner. It is being directed by Steve Lemenille and produced by Garry Tamburro. The production opens Saturday, March 7 and runs Saturdays, March 14, 21, 27, 28 at 8 p.m. with a matinee performance on Sunday, March 22 at 3 p.m.

A Thousand Clowns, a benchmark of Broadway comedy, produced one of the theatre's most beloved roles: unconventional Murray Burns, uncle to precocious nephew, Nick. Tired of writing cheap comedy gags for "Chuckles the Chipmunk", a children's television star, Murray finds himself unemployed with plenty of free time with which to pursue his...pursuits. Lured by his conventional brother Arnold and hounded by "the system", Murray is paid a visit by bickering, uptight social workers, Sandra and Albert, and finds himself solving their problems as well as most of his own.

Russ Ortiz (Iselin) stars as Murray Burns, along with Jacob Lesser

(Gillette) as Nick. In the role of Sandra Markowitz is Debbie Lingel (Basking Ridge) and Bobby Marusiefski (Rahway) as Albert Admunson. Paul Arafanis (Westfield) and Abe Vorensky (Metuchen) round out the cast as Arnold (Murray's brother) and Leo Herman (Chuckles, the Chipmunk) respectively.

For tickets, call (908) 232-1221 or visit us on-line at www.westfieldcommunityplayers.org. Tickets are \$20; \$10 for students and active military personnel.

Westfield HS Student's Photos on Exhibit

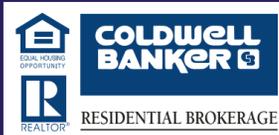
WESTFIELD – Westfield high school sophomore, Neil Becker's photographs are currently being exhibited at Galeria West art gallery on Quimby Street in Westfield.

Mr. Becker's photographs, ranging from striking moon-shots to frozen winter creeks, fog-shrouded trees, multi-colored skies and sunset-soaked waters, have been compelling growing interest according to the gallery owner.



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BLUE DEVIL MITCHELL NETS 16 POINTS, 12 FREE THROWS; COUGAR REMLEY 15 POINTS**Blue Devil Boys Sprint Past Cougar Cagers in UCT, 58-40**

By DAVID B. CORBIN

Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Free throws may have dominated the fourth quarter, but the Westfield High School boys basketball team began to separate itself from the Cranford Cougars late in the second quarter with back-to-back 3-pointers en route to a 58-40 victory in the second round of the Union County Tournament in Westfield on February 18.

The two 3-pointers just before the half snapped a 20-20 tie and came off the hands of Blue Devils Parker Hess and Matt LaCorte, respectively. Hess finished the game with eight points, including a second 3-pointer, and LaCorte finished with 10 points, including another 3-pointer.

"We didn't play well in the second half. That's all it is," Cougar Head Coach Ryan Huber said. "They made some shots. We didn't. They hit two threes right before the half and that made it a six-point game. In the second half, we came out flat and didn't get it done."

Free throw shooting had been a problem for the 12-8 Blue Devils but not this time as they combined to sink 20 of 28 shots (71 percent) and 15 of their 17 points in the fourth quarter came from the charity line and the primary shooter was senior point guard Dan Mitchell (3 assists, 6 re-

bounds), who hit 12 in the quarter and finished with 16 points.

"It's honestly been a struggle of ours this season, and it's good coming down the stretch to be

able to hit free throws. We are going to need them, because if we don't hit free throws, we are not going to beat any of these powerhouses," Mitchell said. "So

teammate to pass the ball to and finished with eight assists.

"Basically we try to get to the rim as much as we can. With the shooters that we have. If I am

added six rebounds, two blocked shots and three deflections. Nick Mele (4 points, 2 assists) pulled five rebounds and added a block and two deflections. Chris Boutsikaris (4 points) had five rebounds, two blocks and a deflection.

"I try to contribute as much as I can. It may not be points, but I get assists, rebounds as much as I can," Murray said.

Speaking of fair share, Cougar junior guard Hunter Remley had more than his share with 11 rebounds and 15 points, including a pair of 3-pointers.

"He knocked down some shots early. He rebounded well for us. He played a pretty good game," Coach Huber said.

"He can jump a little bit. You just got to get a body on him," Murray said.

Cougar junior Sean Leonard began the game with a 3-pointer and Remley hit a three and a pair of free throws, but the Blue Devils took a three-point lead in the quarter until Cougar Luke Christiano banged a 2-pointer at the buzzer to make the score, 11-10.

Murray scored five points in the second quarter and so did Remley, but Hess' and LaCorte's back-to-back threes gave Westfield the 26-20 lead at the half.

Unlike in their first meeting on January 8 when the Cougars crawled back from a 20-3, first-quarter deficit to close within three points late in the game before losing, 45-37, the Blue Devils not only maintained their lead but expanded it to 41-31 by winning the third quarter. LaCorte began the quarter with a 3-pointer and Remley ended it with a 3-pointer.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



GUARDING A COUGAR CLOSELY...Blue Devil Danny Mitchell, No. 13, keeps close tabs on Cougar Luke Christiano, No. 11, as Blue Devil Owen Murray, No. 15, holds his position. Westfield topped the Cougars, 58-40.

David B. Corbin for *The Westfield Leader and The Times***Probitas Verus Honos**

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it's good to get some confidence from the line this game."

Blue Devil junior Owen Murray had a field night finding the right

Google l'ennemi du journaliste

getting played hard, I can always trust the guys on the outside and get it out to them for the three [pointer]," Murray said.

Murray also had his share of rebounds with nine and points with 12. Sean Elliott (4 points)



The fourth quarter began with a 2-pointer from Cougar Mike Smith (7 points, 5 rebounds) then LaCorte matched it. From that point, the Blue Devils' remaining 15 points were all from the charity line, which included

Mitchell's 12 and three from Murray. The Cougars added seven more points in the quarter, five from the charity line.

"We struggled shooting the ball. We were only up six at the half, but it's good to show that we

stayed in this game. We didn't lose focus coming out at the half. We came out strong and we were able to finish this game early into that half, whereas earlier in the year, we would probably have let them hang around. It shows the

maturity of the team being able to finish them in the second half," Mitchell said.

"You make free throws and lay-ups, you are going to win a lot of games and that's what they did in the second half," Coach Huber

said. "They are a good team."

Next on the UCT agenda for the Blue Devil would be a showdown with the Patrick School in the quarterfinal round.

Cranford	10	10	11	9	40
Westfield	11	15	15	17	58

SCOTT SINKS 20 POINTS, DEVITT GRABS 10 REBOUNDS; MacLELLAND PUMPS IN 16 POINTS

Blue Devil Cagers Dash Past Cranford Cougar Girls, 48-39

By ALEX LOWE

Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Westfield High School senior Lillian Scott scored 20 points and grabbed six rebounds to power the Blue Devil girls basketball team past Cranford, 48-39, in regular season action on February 18 in Cranford. The Blue Devils led from wire to wire in successfully navigating a classic trap game. Westfield, already short-handed due to injuries to Amalia Montes and Liz Brucia, was playing its second game in less than 24 hours, having just defeated

Scotch Plains-Fanwood in a physical Union County Tournament first round contest.

"A fast turn around is definitely a challenge," said Westfield Head Coach Liz McKeon. "But our girls show a lot of heart and played well today. I really don't know when we'll have our girls back at full strength. We just have to keep playing hard in their absence."

Westfield (13-7) got off to a fast start in building a 7-2 lead midway through the opening period. Cerys MacLaelland (16 points, 6 rebounds) kept Cranford

(4-16) within hailing distance by scoring eight points in the first

quarter. MacLelland's inside bucket with 1:15 remaining cut the deficit to 13-11. But Scott answered on the other end with a drive to the basket on which she was fouled. Scott would convert the free throw for a 16-11 Blue Devil lead heading into the second quarter.

"That was sort of the story of this game," said Cougar Head Coach Jackie Dyer. "Westfield would catch us and take advantage in situations where we got a little lax on defense. And it has really been the story of our season so far. Four consistent quar-

ters of play is what we need to win games and that has eluded us this season."

Westfield gradually built the advantage to 10 points after Jacqueline Knapp hit a three-point basket to make it 23-13, midway through the second period. Another 3-point bomb, this time from Olivia Luzzi with :11 to play made it 28-17 heading into the halftime break.

One thing that makes Westfield successful is that they rarely give the opponent a chance to get back into the game once they've

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** Westfield Basketball Blue Devils Dash Past Cranford Cougar Girls, 48-39 **

established control. The Blue Devils kept the pressure on in the third quarter with Scott scoring on a jump shot and Shannon Devitt scoring on an inside move to the basket to stretch the lead to 32-17.

From there, the Cougars were in chase mode. Cranford managed to draw within seven points at 34-27 after back-to-back three point baskets by Sarah Ross and Lindsay Pace late in the quarter. But Scott would score Westfield's next six points to stake them to a 40-29 lead early in the fourth quarter.

"We are playing well right now," said Westfield senior Jamie Miller,

"We have a couple of players hurt for us right now, so we are a little short on the bench, but our little girls in the backcourt have done a really nice job for us."

Despite some nice offensive sequences, Cranford could draw no closer than nine the rest of the way. Westfield just never allowed the Cougars to get on a run without answering.

"I think we have a very talented group of girls on this team," said Cougar freshman Camryn Wichelns. "We just seem to lose our focus at certain points in games. Westfield exploited that today."

Devitt finished with six points, 10 rebounds and two blocks, Knapp netted eight points and Abby Demers had five points. Cougar Sarah Ross finished with

seven points, while Lindsay Pace and Caroline McCaffrey each had five points.

The Blue Devils were set to play Governor Livingston next in the Quarterfinals of the Union County Tournament. Cranford was eliminated earlier by Summit, 55-51. If Westfield managed to get past Governor Livingston, it would likely mean a showdown in the semifinal round against Roselle Catholic.

Cranford meanwhile will set its sights on a trip to Voorhees in Glen Gardner for their first round match up in the state playoffs scheduled for March 3. Westfield, the fifth seed in the North 2, Group IV bracket will host 12th seeded Dickinson on March 2.

Westfield	16	12	8	12	48
Cranford	11	6	12	10	39



Probitas Verus Honos

Cougars Repeat, Raiders Second, Blue Devils Fifth at District 11 Mat Tournament





Cougars Repeat, Raiders Second, Blue Devils Fifth at District 11 Mat Tournament



More on next page



Cougars Repeat, Raiders Second, Blue Devils Fifth at District 11 Mat Tournament





Cougars Repeat, Raiders Second, Blue Devils Fifth at District 11 Mat Tournament



More on next page



Cougars Repeat, Raiders Second, Blue Devils Fifth at District 11 Mat Tournament





*** SPF Raiders Reject Arthur L. Johnson Crusader Boys, 79-65, in Basketball ***



Garwood Sees 16-Percent Hike In RVSA Assessment

By **BRIAN TRUSDELL**

Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader

GARWOOD — Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority (RVSA) officials told the borough council Tuesday that Garwood's waste flow has remained flat, but its proportion among the 14 municipalities within the coalition has jumped, resulting in a 16-percent increase in the borough's assessment this year.

The spike of \$86,428 equates to an approximately \$45 increase per home assessed at \$100,000, Councilwoman Sara Todisco said, \$6 more than the total tax increase passed by the council last year.

The charge is \$26,000 more than last year's increase, and returns the RVSA assessment to 2008 levels, according to Councilman Jim Mathieu.

RVSA Executive Director James Meehan explained that while the agency's budget has remained static, the costs are adjusted by percentage depending on use among the 11 members and three user municipalities from Springfield to Woodbridge.

Although the borough's waste flow has remained at about an average of 0.81 million gallons per day (mgd) over the past few years, since the RVSA's total has dropped from 30 mgd to 26 mgd, Garwood's share has jumped.

The reduction, he said, was due to other towns, like Rahway, making improvements in their system to reduce things such as inflow and infiltration. I-and-I, as it is called, includes water leaching into the sewer pipes through cracks and holes.

He said because Garwood is so small, and its waste water flow likewise, similar expenditures probably would not be economi-

cally beneficial to the borough.

"It's a little scary to sit here and realize that there's nothing we can do other than pay the bill," Ms. Todisco said.

Mr. Meehan said that since the assessments are based on a five-year average, Garwood should expect to see 5- to 7-percent increases "for another year or two."

The matter is of particular importance to the finance committee, chaired by Councilman Louis Petruzzelli, who stated the panel has already met twice. The council has scheduled two special meetings, on consecutive Thursdays, March 12 and March 19, for a public hearing of the budget.

The council also heard from Garwood's financial officials, who briefed the members on a proposed bond sale, the borough's first in 12 years.

The bond would consolidate about \$2.74 million of existing debt, accrued since 2004 and now financed through short-term lending, into an 11-year note that municipal auditor Warren Korecky projected would be bought at 2.25 percent. At that rate, the bond would result in \$389,373.50 in interest payments over the 11 years.

Among the items that would be included for the March 31 sale are \$851,086 from the athletic field complex — or the Recreation and Sports Complex — that opened in November; \$342,615 for the new dump truck that was purchased last year, and 15 other various road and capital projects, vehicles and equipment.

The new bond would add to the current debt service remaining on the 2003 note and raise the borough's total debt liability to \$4.88 million.

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Christina M. Hinke for *The Westfield Leader*

WAS ELSA VISITING CRANFORD?... This ice sculpture of Olaf was a creation of Robert Scott of Springfield Avenue in Cranford.

Cranford Budget Review Continues; Building Coverage Is Discussed

By **CHRISTINA M. HINKE**

Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader

CRANFORD — The township committee continued its 2015 departmental budget review Monday at its workshop meeting, hearing budgets from police, recreation, engineering and the Special Improvement District.

Township Engineer Carl O'Brien presented an option to include an additional 20 hours a week by having senior-level inspectors available. Mr. O'Brien is in-house 12 hours a week at a salary of \$87,500 per year, he said.

An additional 20 hours weekly for an inspector to be available would cost an additional \$65,000 per year. "They might not be

sitting in the office 10 or 20 hours a week, but they will be in town," Mr. O'Brien said.

Last year, the township committee did away with its in-house engineering department in favor of a consultant. The in-house departmental salaries were about \$230,000, plus benefits, Mayor Andis Kalnins told *The Westfield Leader*. There also were costs to run the department.

After being asked at the last meeting about the number of parking spaces lost due to the North Avenue Train Station Plaza Pedestrian Improvements Project, Mr. O'Brien said a total of 22 spaces on North Avenue in front of the Cranford Train Station would be lost. The parking plan for the project has not

changed in the past two years, since it was initially drafted.

The project paid partly by grant funds is for beautification of the North Avenue train station, as well as creating safe traffic patterns for pedestrian, vehicular and bus traffic, Mr. O'Brien said. Commissioner Thomas Hannen, Jr. asked how many parking spots would be lost, and Mr. O'Brien said he would find out.

During public comment, the manager of Jeff's Landscaping, Gerry Grillo, brought up the changes in the building coverages when the master plan was adopted last year. "This part of this ordinance is extremely important to this town. The way they are in the law has now put a

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Christina Hinke for *The Westfield Leader*

THE NEXT GENERATION...Cranford Fire Chief Leonard Dolan's son, Patrick Dolan, was appointed as a firefighter for the Cranford Fire Department. Mr. Dolan is a third generation firefighter. Mr. Dolan's girlfriend, Nora Walsh, stands by his side. Chief Dolan will be retiring from the department on March 1.

CR Budget Review Continues

chokehold on everyone in this town and anyone looking to move in to make an investment," Mr. Grillo said.

Zoning Officer Bob Hudak made recommendations to the committee regarding the building coverage.

The recreation department had an increase in salaries, Recreation Director Steve Robertazzi said, after the department hired staff last year. He also said the public pool membership decreased after the department raised pool fees last year.

The police department is requesting an additional parking enforcement officer and two new police officers be added to the force for a total police force of 51 officers.

"Another part-time or full-time person (parking enforcement officer) would optimize the parking system we have," Police Chief James Wozniak said.

Last year, the township upgraded its parking meter system at a cost of about \$463,000.

Resident Barbara Krause urged the committee to support the fire and police departments in their requests for additional staff. When asked by Mrs. Krause about the fire department's request for eight additional firefighters, Mayor Kalnins said, "I don't think that is realistic."

"I think we have to put our financial resources in the most important areas," Mrs. Krause said.

Mrs. Krause also noted the fire department's recent presentation on fire, as well as the fire that collapsed a building in Edgewater. In light of the highly flammable materials used in modern-day construction, and that type of building materials being used in newly built apartment complexes in Cranford, she asked the township to lobby for stricter construction codes.

"This state code has so many problems. We have a responsibility to address it, especially since these units are in our community in large numbers," Mrs. Krause said.

Cranford Amends Land Development Ordinance

By **CHRISTINA M. HINKE**

Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

CRANFORD — The township committee Tuesday at its official meeting recognized the 37 years of service Fire Chief Leonard Dolan, III has contributed to the Cranford Fire Department. Fire Chief Dolan is to retire this Sunday, March 1, and Fire Captain Dean Russamano was appointed as acting fire chief for a term not to exceed 60 days.

Chief Dolan's son, Patrick Dolan, was appointed as a firefighter within the Cranford Fire Department. Mr. Dolan is a third-generation firefighter. "It is an awesome experience for me as well as for him," Chief Dolan said of his son following in his footsteps.

Chief Dolan recounted his son's experiences as a youth in the firehouse, then as an adult interning at a volunteer fire department where he experienced his first real fire to fight. "He got

his first taste of firefighting...from that point on it was a no-brainer to me that was going to be his career," Chief Dolan said.

The township amended its Land Development ordinance after Zoning Officer Bob Hudak realized the allowable maximum building coverages made it nearly impossible for homeowners to make an addition to a home without having to apply for a variance. Mr. Hudak's building coverage recommendations were changed per the following: from 18 percent to 25 percent in the R-1 and R-2 zones; 19 percent to 28 percent in the R-3 zones, and 20 percent to 30 percent in the R-4 and R-5 (single- and two-family homes) zones.

Florio, Perrucci, Steinhardt & Fader was approved, 4-to-1, by the township committee to provide affordable-housing legal services to not exceed \$10,000 in the year 2015. Commissioner Tom Hannen, Jr. voted against

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Garwood Sees 16-Percent Hike

In action taken by the council, the members — after a more than one-hour executive session during the workshop portion of the meeting — unanimously voted to seek arbitration in the governing body's negotiations with the police officers' union. The most recent contract expired December 31 and the negotiating committee and union have been unable to come to an agreement after six months of talks, police negotiation committee chairwoman Ann Tarantino said.

Additionally, officials voted to spend \$21,500 to purchase finance and tax software from Edmunds & Associates of

Northfield, N.J., that will allow residents or business owners to remit tax payments via computer.

The purchase was necessitated because the borough's current software provider, First Byte of Teaneck, N.J., is unable to continue support due to a health condition of one of the principals.

Additionally, the council amended its regulations regarding parks, playgrounds and facilities to remove the clause that permitted the killing of snakes on sight. It also abolished the construction board of appeals and removed the cost-of-living index provision from the ordinance regulating political contributions.

Teen Dance on Tap In Cranford March 6

CRANFORD — The Cranford Recreation and Parks Department has announced that its teen dance for sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade Cranford students will be held on Friday, March 6. It will take place from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Cranford Community Center, located at 220 Walnut Avenue.

Students will be able to purchase a ticket at the school they attend on Wednesday or Thursday, the week of the dance. The cost of a ticket is \$5. Cranford students who attend a private school may purchase a ticket at the Community Center on Wednesday or Thursday, the week of the dance, between 3 and 4:30 p.m. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

Further questions may be directed to the Recreation and Parks Department at (908) 709-7283.

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AARP Offers Trip To Casino March 5

AREA — The Rahway AARP will hold a trip to Atlantic City's Resorts Casino on Thursday, March 5. The cost is \$25 and participants will receive a \$25 voucher. The departure time is 8:30 a.m., with participants returning home at 6:30 p.m. Interested persons are asked to call Irene at (732) 499-7740.

Christina Hinke for *The Westfield Leader*

ZONING TALK...Gerry Grillo, manager of Jeffs Landscaping of Cranford, speaks to the township committee Monday at the workshop meeting about his disapproval of the maximum building coverage that was adopted as part of the land development ordinance last year. The committee on Tuesday amended the ordinance to reflect the recommendations by the township zoning officer that increased the maximum allowable building coverage. The township amended its Land Development ordinance after Zoning Officer Bob Hudak realized the allowable maximum building coverages made it nearly impossible for homeowners to make an addition to a home without having to apply for a variance.

Cranford Amends Land Development Ordinance

the resolution.

Phil Morin is an attorney of the firm, and has previously represented the township in the Birchwood litigation. Mr. Morin previously served as Union County Republican chairman and is a former mayor of Cranford.

Residents of Cranford, in the past, had said they thought hiring this firm represented a conflict of interest. A partner of the firm, Florio Perrucci Steinhardt & Fader, was alleged to be connected to Lehigh Acquisition Corp. and Woodmont Proper-

ties, which is the new development at 555 South Avenue that was the result of a builder's remedy lawsuit.

Resident Rita La Brutto said in the conference session held prior to the official meeting that she believed hiring this firm would be "throwing good money after bad."

The township had submitted an RFQ twice, and both times only one law firm bid, Mayor Andis Kalnins said. He also said it was sent directly to the township's appeal attorney, and the attorney did not bid.

"It's pretty unfortunate what

has gone on here, especially since we are concerned of conflict," Ms. La Brutto said.

Ms. La Brutto also has voiced her opinion on affordable-housing credits that she believes exist currently in Cranford but are not accounted for, and has asked the committee on multiple occasions to pursue those credits.

During public comment at the official meeting, resident Frank Krause asked again to have the committee extend an offer to Governor Chris Christie to come and speak at a town hall meeting in Cranford.

Wednesday Morning Club Plans Salute to the Irish

CRANFORD — St. Patrick's Day will be celebrated a little early when the Wednesday Morning Club meets on March 4, at 10 a.m., at the Cranford Community Center, located at 220 Walnut Avenue. A program celebrating the Irish will be presented by the Literature Department, chaired by Edith Coogan. The board will meet at 9:30 a.m. Copresidents Dot Conheaney and Barbara Jackson will conduct both meetings.

Bernadette Murphy, director of Project Ready at St. Joseph Social Service Center in Elizabeth, will be the guest speaker when the club's Public Affairs Department meets on Tuesday, March 10, in the home of Dot Conheaney at 1 p.m.

The club's American Arts and Crafts Department will meet on Tuesday, March 17, at 10 a.m., at the Cranford Community Center. Member Anne Castellano will demonstrate art techniques.

Coming on Wednesday, March 18, members will meet at 1 p.m.

at Kilkenny House, where they will hear about "Barry's Journey to America."

The Wednesday Morning Club is geared toward mature women living in Union County who have recently retired or left the workplace and are seeking new activities. Participants enjoy getting together several times a month to exchange ideas and explore areas of interest in the arts, literature and public affairs. For more information and to attend a meeting, call Diane Hickey at (908) 272-8665.

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Ms. Seufert to Exhibit Digital Montages

ROSELLE PARK — Roselle Park resident Leona M. Seufert will exhibit her digital montages in "Soulsapes - A 10 Year Retrospective" at the Art and Soul Galleries in Roselle Park. The exhibit will run through Friday, March 13, 2015. A reception to meet the artist will be this Saturday, February 28, from 2 to 4 p.m. Art and Soul Galleries is located at 128 Chestnut Street. For hours, call (908) 245-5900.

Deutscher Club Posts Blood Drive

CLARK — The Deutscher Club, located at 787 Featherbed Lane, Clark, has scheduled its next blood drive for Saturday, March 21, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The ALYX system for collection will again be available.

Donations will take place inside the club's ballroom and will support local hospitals. A free continental breakfast or a light lunch, consisting of bratwurst, potato salad, sauerkraut and beverage, will be offered to all donors.

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